



Bulletin

Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ



Free Issue

November 2020

At The American Legion Hall, Post # 170, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, N. J.

President/ Writer/ Editor

Visit our revised Web page & try some of the new functions

www.swabc.org

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**Dominic
Catalano**
with a tuna
we all would
love to land -
272 lbs.
(est.)
&
72 inches
long

Stories & Events

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Good fishing, good friends.

That's what SWABC is all about

The Best Fishing Club in NJ

The regular meetings will be held every third Tuesday of the month, (except March) at 7:30 PM at the Legion Hall. A \$5 fee is required, for non-members. This entitles you to refreshments, snacks, and some new tricks about fishing and participation if you choose in our 50/50 and dark horse drawings. Welcome all; we hope you enjoy the evening.

President's Corner

For our October 20th meeting, we had Eddie Godell as our guest speaker and he gave an excellent power point presentation on catching blackfish. Eddie manufactures special rigs to catch these fish and they were on sale at very reasonable prices. His overall message was to go light as possible and he advocates using 15 lb. braid along with 25 lb. of fluorocarbon. While this may not be everybody's way to catch blackfish, I am sure that our members came away from this meeting with a few pointers to catch these fish.

There was a major traffic accident at the intersection just up from the Legion with a tractor type vehicle that brought down a light pole that closed access to West Passaic Street. Traffic headed down to the Legion were turned away by the police and a number of our members possibly gave up attending our club meeting since this was a huge traffic mess! This is not what we wanted to happen while we were having our meeting, but it did and we just have to roll with the punches!

Nico made a delicious beef stew with rice, salad and brownies to keep us happy and well fed – Thanks Nico! Jeff Criswell Sr. was very lucky by winning a number of Dark Horse prizes and he even won the 50/50 prize of **\$117!** What a night for Jeff!

In this newsletter there is an article that I wrote about postponing a Roundtable meeting with Mr. Mike Pentony who is NOAA's Regional Administrator, Greater Atlantic Region, to discuss a number of issues that are having a negative impact with our recreational industry. It is with reluctance that I postponed it, but I did not want to have a meeting in a ZOOM format that is not conducive to the back & forth discussion needed with Mike Pentony and members of the recreational industry to address a number of issues like the punitive quotas we have on our fisheries that are produced by faulty data.

Speakers for our Club meetings

I am always looking for speakers to come to our meetings to talk about a variety of subjects. The topics can be the "how to" fish for a variety of species, environmental issues, scientific topics such as data on fluke migrations etc. With the New Year coming up, I want to set up a schedule of good speakers for our 2021 meetings. Because of COVID-19, a number of potential speakers will only do a presentation for our club only in a ZOOM format and that limits the number of speakers that I can invite for our meetings. For example, I have access to speakers from Rutgers University, but Rutgers will not allow their scientists to come to our meetings because of COVID-19 and only do it by ZOOM.

All you have to do is to give me the name and telephone number of your contact and let me take it from there to set up the meeting date and details. My telephone number is (732) 656-0139 and email address is tothjohn@verizon.net. **Thanks!**

November 17th Meeting – Dennis Kuntz –

2nd Chance Tackle

Our November 17 speaker will be Dennis Kuntz from his 2nd Chance Tackle to give us a presentation on what we need to do to keep our reels in good shape, especially as we put them away for the upcoming winter season. Dennis also repairs and does the necessary work to make sure our reels are cleaned and properly lubricated so that they will work when we want to land fish. To have your reels serviced, place them in a Zip Lock bag with a note with what you want Dennis this do with them with a specific repair item or just to clean them. You can leave a note like "Repair as necessary". Also, make sure your note to Dennis has your name, address, and telephone number in case Dennis needs to contact you on a repair issue. Also, Dennis will have reels on sale that he has reconditioned at very reasonable prices.

Also, at this meeting, we will have our traditional turkey and ham raffle. Cards will be on hand; you simply write your name in a numbered box for a \$1 dollar a box. At the end of the meeting, we will draw a number for each card and if you have the winning number you get to take home a turkey or a ham to start the holiday.

If you pay your **2021** dues at this meeting, you will also receive a numbered ticket. At the end of the meeting, we will have a special raffle just for those anglers who pay their **2021** dues. The prize is a turkey or a ham! So, pay your **2021** dues at the meeting and get another chance to win a nice prize!

Christmas & Hanukkah Party- December 15th

This party is our December meeting and no speakers are scheduled. We will do a little club business and then have a good time with our fishing friends and enjoy eating a lot of good food and forget about any dieting! Members can also bring their favorite food items to this meeting and we will eat very well because that is what we are supposed to do for the holidays! We may also have some food items catered. Please tell member Don Lohse what you are bringing so that we do not have duplicate food items. He can be reached at (201) 832-1298 and also at email ddllohse@yahoo.com.

We will also have an exchange of gifts and Santa Claus will hand them out. If you want to participate in this exchange of gifts, please bring an item (preferably a fishing-related one) that is approximately **\$10** in value.

Also, at this meeting, we will again have our traditional turkey and ham raffle. Our club will have cards on hand and you can simply write your name in a numbered box for a \$1 dollar chance. At the end of the meeting, we will draw a number for each card and if you have the matching number you get to take home a turkey or a ham to start the holiday.

Also, pay your **2021** dues at this meeting and you will also receive a numbered ticket. At the end of the meeting, we will have a special raffle just for those anglers who pay their dues.

Club Dues Policy

Our club membership dues are **\$55 for an individual and \$60 for family membership**. Included in the dues are two club raffle books with a value of \$20. Each book has ten tickets. Each ticket cost \$1. Members can use these raffle tickets for their own chance to win or sell them to friends & neighbors, and pocket this money from their sale. All tickets must be returned to the club so they can be placed into the raffle drum.

This membership policy was adopted by the club's Board to have an ongoing revenue stream to cover the club's expenses relating to insurance fees, hall rentals, speaker fees, postage, refreshments for our meetings and other expenses. In regard to refreshments, our club puts out quite a spread of food each meeting, courtesy of our Grand Chef, Nico, along with free beer and soda. Members have an opportunity while eating their food to sit down at the various tables and chat with each other to hear about fishing and, consequently, developing new friendships. This is what our club is all about!

Election Time - Board Members for 2021

At our November 17th meeting, the current slate of officers will be read and club members will be asked if they want to run for any of these positions. The following is the slate of our club's Board members for 2021. If you are interested in running for any of these positions, please see member Don Lohse at our November meeting so that he can include your name to run for one of these offices. Don can also be reached at (201) 832-1298. The current positions and the members who occupy them follow:

President – John Toth

1st Vice President – Craig Zincavage

2nd Vice President- Mark Capalbo

Treasurer – Jim Galanaugh Jr.

Assistant Treasurer – Chuck Santoro

Recording Secretary – Chuck Santoro

Assistant Recording Secretary – Don Lohse

Corresponding Secretary – Fred Villanova

Assistant Corresponding Secretary – Jeff Schwarz

Membership Secretary – Art Vrola

Assistant Membership Secretary – Charles Altman

Sergeant at Arms- Gary Gusterson

Assistant Sergeant at Arms- Rick Swarthe

Chaplin – Rick Swarthe

Publicity Officer – John Toth

Assistant Publicity Officer – Fred Villanova

At our December 15th meeting, we will have a final vote on these positions.

Give a man a fish, and you feed him for the day.

Teach a man to fish, and he is going to spend a fortune on gear he'll use only twice a year. (American Legion Newsletter, February 2019)

Upcoming Fishing Shows for 2021

The Garden State Outdoor Sportsmen's Show scheduled for January 7th to the 10th has been **cancelled!** The reason given is COVID and the safety issues involved with the crowds of people.

Our club has a booth at this show and we do quite well in selling our club's raffle tickets and meeting anglers who express interest in joining our club. It is unfortunate that this show was cancelled, but hopefully, it will return in 2022!

At this time, two of these shows are still scheduled to go on, but COVID-19 may change them with social distancing or outright cancellation. Our club has a booth at these two shows and volunteers are needed to staff it. Volunteers do **not pay** a fee to enter these shows.

Garden State Outdoor Sportsmen's Show-

January 7-10 - **Cancelled**

NJ Boat Show – February 18-21

Salt Water Expo – March 19-21

All two shows are at the NJ Convention Center (Raritan Expo) 97 Sunfield Ave., Edison, NJ

Club Event – Blackfish charter on the Waterproof out of Point Pleasant, 2 spots are available – Craig Zincavage Trip Captain

New JCAA Blackfish Tournament

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA) is holding its 1st Annual Blackfish Tournament during November 16th to November 22nd. Anglers can fish only two days during this week and win by entering the weight of their largest blackfish. There are 5 prizes with the 1st prize at \$2,000, 2nd at \$1,000 the third at \$750 and the 4th & 5th place receiving Magic Tog Jigs valued at \$150 and \$100 respectively. The angler catching the largest **sea bass** will receive Magictail Tog Jigs valued at \$100. The entry for this tournament is \$125 per boat with a maximum of 6 anglers.

For more information on this tournament and regulations go to www.jcaa.org or visit JCAA's Facebook page. For additional information, call Paul at (973) 943-8201. Completed entry forms can be faxed to the JCAA office at (732) 506-6975 or mailed to JCAA, 1594 Lakewood Road, Suite 13, Toms River, NJ 08755

Because of COVID, there is no Captain's Meeting or Award Ceremony. This tournament is held strictly as a fundraiser for the JCAA.

Quick News Blasts

Joe Julian, a longtime owner of Julian's Tackle Shop on Route 36 has passed away

The Dorothy B in Atlantic Highlands will no longer be sailing from this port as its captain, Kevin Bradshaw, has decided to retire.

Menhaden/Bunker Report

This fish is considered to be the most important fish in the sea since so many species such as stripers and bluefish depend on them for subsistence. If there are no menhaden around, neither will be bluefish and stripers to catch. There was pressure from the commercial industry to raise their quota. Especially from the makers of fish oil supplements based in the state of Virginia. The JCAA has worked with other associations to successfully reduce the present commercial quota of menhaden by 10%.

Closure of the False Hook at Sandy Hook, NJ

The False Hook at Sandy Hook has been closed effective October 1, 2020 by the Army Corps of Engineers to dredge sand from that location. This closure has completely cut off surf fishing access to the northern end of Sandy Hook just as striped bass, false albacore and bluefish exit Raritan Bay on their southerly migration. These same fish are migrating south from the Hudson River and Long Island and a great opportunity for some good surf fishing has been lost because of this closure that was done without any notice. The Army Corps may finish this dredging by the end of February next year.

George Browne is the Access Chairman of the JCAA and has taken up this issue along with John Toth to Congressman Pallone's office and has been in touch with Pallone's staff member, Miranda Peterson. There are a number of concerns that include but not limited to: lack of advance notice of the closure, the long time to do this work, and the loss of surf fishing during a prime time of fishing.

Miranda has been in contact with the Army Corps and at the time of the writing of this newsletter. She will issue a progress report in the near future to both George and John on her discussions with the Army Corps to address a number of problems resulting from this dredging project. In talking to the Army Corps, she thinks that the Corps may speed up their dredging work so that their project can be completed by December instead of February of 2021.

Holy Carp – 75 Pounds!

An angler in England caught what may be Britain's biggest carp ever – but he refuses to claim the record due to threats. Wayne Mansford, 38, says he scared of backlash from competitive anglers, who lashed out at him online after he caught the **75 pounder**. The current record holder weighs 68 pounds. (Weird but True, New York Post, October 10, 2020).

Giant Jellyfish Found!

A rare **4-foot wide jellyfish** has been found on a Florida beach. Anatoli Smirinov of Naples spotted the giant creature while jogging along Vanderbilt Beach in Collier County. Smirinov quipped to local media that he "almost got eaten by the giant jellyfish". (Weird but True, New York Post, October 28, 2020).

Big Fish Derby

The latest submission of affidavits to enter our club's Big Fish Derby is at our **January 19th, 2021 meeting**. (Affidavits can be downloaded at our club's web – www.swabc.org). After this January 19th meeting, **no affidavits will be accepted**. Please return them to John Toth at our January 19th meeting or email your affidavits to John at (tothjohn@verizon.net) Also, check the listings in the Big Fish Derby to make sure your entries are correct.

Prizes for the winners of our Big Fish Contest will be given at our Past President's Dinner that is scheduled for **March 16, 2021** at the Mountainside Inn in Clifton, NJ. Given COVID-19, this dinner may possibly cancel and Big Fish Contest prizes given at another venue.

Craig Zincavage says it's Tautog season.

Go out and get them.



Boat for sale

Club member **Hector Chacon** is selling a 2006 27-foot Polar Walkaround - \$62,000 – Excellent for fishing & Family fun! – Well maintained – 27.6 foot long & 9.6 feet wide – Beautiful condition inside and out – Nothing to be done – Super Clean - 2 225 Yamahas- 400 hours. Call (973) 960-5740.

2020 BIG FISH OF THE YEAR DERBY Rules

1. Fish have to be in season to be entered.
2. The fish can be caught anywhere, not in just New Jersey's waters.
3. The fish entered has to be verified by the boat captain or another club member or at an official weigh station. A picture of the fish is a much-preferred way to verify an entry into the Big Fish contest done by a cell phone or a regular camera. A club member can win more than one Big Fish contest prize.
4. Dues card number must be on the submitted application (Dues number can be obtained from our Membership Secretary)
5. Affidavits must be received within 30 days after the fish is caught. Entries for fish caught after 12/15 of a given year must be received by January 15th of the following year.

| FISH | SPECIES | MIN. WEIGHT | ENTRY WEIGHT | ANGLER |
|---|--------------|-------------|---------------|-------------------|
|  | BLACKFISH | 4 | 8.5 lbs. | Bob Goldstein |
|  | BLUEFISH | 12 | | |
|  | COD FISH | 10 | | |
|  | FLOUNDER | 1lb.8oz. | 2.8 lbs. | Bill Fish |
|  | FLUKE | 4 | 10 lbs. 2 oz. | Jeff Criswell Jr. |
|  | LING | 2 | | |
|  | POLLOCK | 10 | | |
|  | PORGY | 1lb.8oz. | 2.8 lbs. | Barry Paull |
|  | SEA BASS | 2 | 4 lb. 7 oz. | Jeff Criswell Sr. |
|  | STRIPED BASS | 12 | | |
|  | WEAKFISH | 2 | | |

Any member submitting a false affidavit will be disqualified from entering the contest during the year. If disqualified twice, the member will be expelled from the club.



SALT WATER ANGLERS OF BERGEN COUNTY FISHING CONTEST AFFIDAVIT



ANGLERS NAME: _____

Date submitted with picture: _____

I certify that the following statements are true and that all contest rules were complied with and the witness actually witnessed the weighing and the measuring of the fish.

Caught from: ___ Boat ___ Surf - Date: _____

Name of Boat: _____

Port: _____

Where caught: _____

Signature of Angler _____

SPECIES

LBS. OZS

Witnessed by: _____

1. _____

Address: _____

2. _____

Phone No. _____

3. _____



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 (973) 584-7798

Mike Pentony Meeting Postponed

By John Toth

As recreational anglers, we are continually frustrated over the poor management of our fisheries. Examples include: a three fish bag limit for bluefish, the elimination of catching snappers which is the pathway for many kids to become anglers, the confusing seasons we have to catch sea bass, and the restricted blackfish seasons. It seems that more and more restrictions are placed on us resulting in more recreational anglers giving up fishing. How do I know this? My fishing club, the Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County, has a booth at the three winter trade shows at the NJ Convention Center and a number of anglers stop by and tell me that they are not coming home with three fluke at 18 inches so why should they spend money to go fluke fishing! There are other examples of poor management of our fisheries but the bottom line is that our recreational fishery is dying a slow death. We all can see this by the many party/charter boats and tackle shops that have been or are in the process of going out of business.

To address these and other management issues, I invited Mr. Michael Pentony, Regional Administrator, Greater Atlantic Region, to a Roundtable meeting with representatives from other recreational associations so that we can discuss these issues and others that are having a negative impact on our recreational fishing industry. This meeting would have taken place during the week of October 19th. Unfortunately, because of COVID-19, this meeting was canceled since it had to be done through ZOOM. It would be very difficult to have a very productive meeting with these types of issues on the agenda and with approximately 24 stakeholders who should be in attendance for it. This meeting is not only for JCAA representatives to attend but for other associations like the RFA, NJOA and the NJ Federation of NJ Sportsmen's Clubs. After much thought, I reluctantly came to the conclusion to cancel this October meeting along with Mike Pentony's Fisheries Coordinator, Moira Kelly. It will be postponed until next year when we can have this meeting in an open environment so that frank discussions and questions over these issues can take place with Mr. Pentony that is not easily done by using ZOOM.

While I was working up a draft agenda for this meeting with Moira Kelly, one of the major issues that would be on it would include MRIP, (Marine Recreational Informational Program) that yields so much incorrect information that results in punitive quotas for various species of fish. Incredibly, MRIP indicated that we exceeded our fluke quota even after Sandy destroyed so much of our fishing boats! Another issue for consideration is staggered regulations so that when one fishery closes, it is closely followed by another one so that we have something to fish for and that party/charter boats do not sit idly by their docks. Also, consideration would be given to having multi-year regulations instead of yearly to give the party/charter boat industry a better handle on planning their schedules with their customers.

This meeting is still on our radar and will, hopefully, take place as conditions with COVID-19 allow it.

Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County
#1 Salt Water Fishing Club

Enclose a check in the amount of \$60 for a one-year membership, into New Jersey's #1 Salt Water Fishing Club
 Mail To: **American Legion Hall Post # 170, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, N.J. 07622**

Name: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

