



Free Issue

Bulletin

Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ



December 2023

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

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Visit our revised Web page & try some of the new functions www.swabc.org

Some of the fish from Quincy Bay Bad Dog Fishing Charter
In October for Winter Flounder & Blackfish
Don Lohse, Barry Paull, Harry Vogt, Chuck Santoro,
Lou Castellano & Fred Villanova



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 plus participation if you choose in our dark horse drawings. Welcome all; we hope you enjoy the evening.

President's Corner

The weather was terrible during our November 21st meeting with heavy rain and wind that kept a number of our members from attending it. My coming up to the Legion from the Englishtown area was all stop and go with rain and the approaching holiday traffic. Our speaker, Frank Tenore, from Fins on Feathers Charters, ran into the same type of traffic and we were glad to see him arrive and give us his tips on catching blackfish. Captain Frank, who I have fished with for quite some time over a span of about 20 years or more, excels at bottom fishing for blacks,, sea bass and also striped bass. I know we all learned more pointers on catching blackfish from Captain Frank. His ad is on the back page of our bulletin.

We had our raffle for members who paid their 2024 dues and the winner received a free turkey. We had raffles for turkeys and hams and they were nice Butter Ball ones and nice-sized hams! I want to Thank Chuck Santoro for buying them and Gary Gusterson for storing them in his freezer until the time of our meeting. Also, a thank you goes to Steve Totten for preparing the raffle cards for us. Chuck Santoro won the 50/50 prize of **\$162** and Nico outdid himself preparing a tasty beef stew with mashed potatoes, salad and apple pie. Another good show Nico!

Fishing Photos – keep sending me your fishing photos to me so I can put them in our newsletter. Send them to tothjohn@verizon.net.

Club Speakers – I arrange speakers for our meetings and I am always looking for speakers who are involved in fishing-related topics to be at our 2024 club meetings. If you have a speaker in mind, let me know and I can do the necessary follow up. I can be reached at the above email or at (732) 656-0139.

Christmas & Hanukkah Party- December 19th

This party is our December 19th 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! Our club will also have some food items catered. Please tell member John Toth what you are bringing to this dinner so that we do not have duplicate food items. He can be reached at (732) 656-0139 and also at email tothjohn@verizon.net.

Gift Exchange

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 or more** in value.

Other Traditions

We will again have our traditional turkey and ham raffle again. We will have cards on hand and you can

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 winning number you get to take home a turkey or a ham for the holiday.

Members paying their **2024** dues at this meeting you will receive a numbered ticket to win a turkey or a ham. At the end of the meeting, we will have a special raffle just for those anglers who pay their 2024 dues.

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 in it at a cost of \$1 for each ticket). Members can buy these raffle tickets for their own use to possibly win one of our raffle prizes, or sell the tickets and keep the \$20 from selling their two raffle books.

Big Fish Derby

The latest submission of affidavits to enter our club's Big Fish Derby is at our **January 16th 2024 meeting**. (Affidavits can be downloaded at our club's web – www.swabc.org). After this January 17th meeting, **no more affidavits will be accepted**. Please return them to John Toth at our January 16th 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 Derby will be given out at our **Past President's Dinner** that is scheduled for **March 19, 2024** at the **Mountainside Inn in Clifton, NJ**. Food at this dinner will be served Family Style along with beer and soda and a Huge Dark Horse will be available. This is our club meeting during March and it will **not** be held at our regular meeting place at the American legion Post in Rochelle Park.

Mark Capalbo with an 8 lb. Blackfish on his Rhode Island trip



Election Time - Board Members for 2024

At our November 21st meeting, the current slate of officers was 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 2024. 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 – Don Lohse

2nd Vice President- Gary Gusterson

Treasurer – Jim Galanaugh Jr.

Assistant Treasurer – Chuck Santoro

Recording Secretary – Chuck Santoro

-Assistant Recording Secretary – Don Lohse

Corresponding Secretary – Fred Villanova

Assistant Corresponding Secretary – Gary Gusterson

Membership Secretary – Art Vrola

Assistant Membership Secretary – Fred Villanova

Sergeant at Arms- Gary Gusterson

Assistant Sergeant at Arms- Rick Swarthe

Chaplin – Rick Swarthe

Publicity Officer – John Toth

Assistant Publicity Officer – Fred Villanova

Club Orientation Director – Steve Totten

Assistant Club Orientation Director – Lou Castellano

At our December 19th meeting, we will have a final vote on these positions. If there are no new nominations, our Secretary, Chuck Santoro, will cast his vote to accept this new slate of officers for 2024.

February 4th – SWABC Flea Market at the Hasbrouck Heights Hilton

Our club is doing a new Flea Market at the Hasbrouck Heights Hilton and Don Lohse is our chairman for this 2024 flea market. Our club members chipped in to make our last flea market successful and Don will need your help in making our 2024 flea market even more successful! We will need volunteers to take entry fees at the door selling Dark Horse tickets, 50/50 tickets, security, and selling our club's raffle tickets. We also need club members to promote our raffle by telling Don of vendors you know that would be interested in being a vendor at our February 5th Flea Market. The cost is **\$35 for a table**. The entry fee is **\$5 for adults and kids under 10 years free**.

Flea market will start at **8:30 a.m. and ends at 2:00 p.m.**

If you know of vendors that would be interested in our flea market, direct them to Don Lohse at (201) 832-1298 or at ddlohse@yahoo.com.

Don would much appreciate any help that you can provide to him and ultimately make our new flea market a fun and successful event!

Winter Trade Shows

Our fishing club will have a booth at two different trade shows during the winter/spring months to sell our club's raffle tickets and to talk to potential members about joining our club. These two trade shows follow:

NJ Boat Sale & Expo – February 15- 18th

Salt Water Fishing Expo – March 15 - 17th

All two shows will be held at the **New Jersey Convention Center (Raritan Center)**

97 Sunfield Ave. Edison, NJ.

Club Members who volunteer to staff our booth at these shows do **NOT** pay an entrance fee. Our booth will be staffed with at least 2 club members to provide for restroom breaks and the opportunity to see the show.

The first show for 2024 is the NJ Boat Sale & Expo and the staffing schedule for this show will be listed in our **January 2024** newsletter.

Jersey Coast Anglers (JCAA) Sportsperson of the Year Dinner Report

The JCAA Sportsperson of the Year Dinner was held on November 11th at the Captains Inn in Forked River. Our club supports the JCAA by attending this dinner by buying a table of 10 for our members. Approximately 116 people attended it and there were numerous door prizes and a huge Tricky Tray.

The Captains Inn offers very good seafood and can be reached by taking Exit 74 on the Garden State Parkway, turn right and drive straight ahead with no turns.

10,000 Sharks Killed for Asia Market

Brazilian authorities seized 28.7 metric tons of illegally obtained shark fins that would be exported to to Asia in what was called the world's largest confiscation of its kind at the origin.

Environmental protection agency Ibama estimated the consignment represented **10,000 sharks** of two different species – the blue shark and the shortfin mako – both of which entered Brazil's national list of endangered species in May, 2023. (New York Post, June, 20, 2023).

Comment by John Toth: Shark Fin Soup is a delicacy in China and the Chinese will pay a very high price to obtain these fins from poachers who make enormous profits from this illegal business. Having shark fin soup at weddings or other events is even a sign of status, meaning that they can afford to pay a high price for this soup. The damage to the environment is of no consequence to them. The Chinese government claims it is against the sale of these fins, but turns a blind eye to it.



Report on Striped Bass Regulations

By John Toth

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) has extended its emergency size limit of striped bass from 28 to 31 inches for another year until **October 28th of 2024**. The ASMFC wants to protect the strong the strong year class of 2015 and reach a stock rebuilding goal of striped bass by **2029**.

This emergency rule can be replaced by one of the options of Addendum II and that includes what we have now at 28 to 31 inches. Another one is what we had in the past at 28 to 35 inches, but the ASMFC most likely will not approve it since this will not achieve its rebuilding goal in 2029. Other options maintain a narrow slot limit like 30 to 33 inches.

There is an option to divide the recreational sector into a for-hire category and a private vessel/shore angler category. In that scenario, the for-hire fleet would get a bigger 28 to 33 inches size limit while the private sector would not. This divides the recreational anglers and pits one group against another. The Jersey Coast Anglers Association has already said it would oppose separating the recreational sector in two.

The ASMFC is receiving public comment on Addendum I until December 22nd and will make a decision on what our 2024 striped regulation will be when it meets in January of 2024.

The ASMFC is relying on data that is so faulty to justify its 28 to 31 inches emergency action plan. The ASAMFC did this while not even reaching out to the recreational community to see if this action was warranted. In my opinion, the ASMFC is not saving striped bass through **conservation**, but by **preservation** to reach some artificial goal it has decided to be set for 2029.

In the meantime, we are killing so many striped bass that do not comply with the 28 to 31 inches we have today. If the new striped bass regulation for 2024 is the same we have now or something similar to it like 30 to 33 inches, this slaughter of striped bass will continue. In my opinion, this is not sound management of this important fishery.

Orsted Cancels 2 of Their Offshore Wind Projects

Financial Loses May Reach \$5.6 Billion!

Orsted stunned the offshore wind industry by announcing on October 31st that it was stopping work on its two New Jersey wind projects. Ocean Wind 1 was supposed to be New Jersey's first offshore wind project, opening the door for more to follow. The 98-wind turbine would have been located southeast of Ocean City and would have powered about 500,000 homes once complete. A second Orsted project, Ocean Wind 2, would also have powered another half-million homes and was under development in waters south and west of the first project.

Years of work had already been completed, designs approved and permits secured from various agencies.

There was outreach to various communities to explain the projects and the numerous job offers that would result during construction of them, also explaining the sites where they would be installed.

Financial losses also include payments to equipment suppliers for goods already ordered or delivered and penalties for walking away from contracts. Additionally, New Jersey's legislature and Governor Murphy approved giving Orsted a \$1 billion tax break to give Orsted financial support through their difficult financial times.

Now Senator Vin Gopal is calling on our state's Attorney General to sue Orsted for fraud and negligence and to get every penny returned to our state. On the day after Orsted walked away from their NJ Windmill projects, Governor Murphy said that Orsted was a "dishonest broker".

While many of us have tried our best to pause or stop offshore wind development, our many questions went unanswered by Orsted and their windmill project seemed to be unstoppable. What did stop them was basically that their windmill projects would cause Orsted to lose a lot of money due to supply chain problems, inflation, high interest rates and increasing labor costs. Orsted's windmills would have been 850 feet high. Building that high of a structure would require a huge amount of steel and high labor costs to erect them along with blades over 300 feet long. Because of these issues, Orsted's CEO, Mads Nipper, decided to cancel their windmill projects in New Jersey since going forward with them would result in more financial losses over time.

The same issues that caused Orsted's financial losses to stop construction have spread to other windmill companies. Equinor has written its value down by \$300 million. Its partner, BP (British Petroleum), \$500 million and Eversource sliced \$300 million from its portfolio. All of this chaos caused a BP executive to lament that the offshore wind industry is "fundamentally broken". Hopefully, they will also follow Orsted's example and also cancel their offshore windmill projects.

If the offshore wind industry is going to move forward, it will require subsidies and tax breaks. Orsted's CEO, Mads Nipper, said that "Consumers will also have to pay more in their electric bills for power generated from offshore wind, as developers demand higher prices and protection from inflation". Do we really need to pay more for our electric bills so that these developers can make a profit? However, governmental agencies in Washington and Trenton will probably throw good money after bad since it is of no cost to them and it also hurts to publicly admit that windmills are not a good investment to fight Climate Change.











In speaking of Climate Change, it has gone on for millions of years and about several hundreds of years ago the world even had a mini Ice Age. Our world's temperature is not run by a thermostat and nature will go where it wants to go. (Continued on Page 6)

2023 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. 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.

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.

FISH	SPECIES	MIN. WEIGHT	ENTRY WEIGHT	ANGLER
	BLACKFISH	4	17 lbs.	Chuck Rutar
	BLUEFISH	12		
	COD FISH	10	10 lbs. 6 oz.	Kevin Kozlowicz
	FLOUNDER	1.5 lbs.		
	FLUKE	4	9 lbs. 6 oz.	Joe Antiorio
	LING	2	4.0 lbs.	Kevin Kozlowicz
	POLLOCK	10		
	PORGY	1.5 lbs.	2 lbs. 2 oz.	Rick Swarthe
	SEA BASS	2	5.2 lbs	Jeff Criswell Sr.
	STRIPED BASS	12	42 lbs.	Frank Rella
	WEAKFISH	2		



SALT WATER ANGLERS OF BERGEN COUNTY FISHING CONTEST AFFIDAVIT



ANGLERS NAME: _____
 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.

Date submitted with picture: _____

Caught from: ___ Boat ___ Surf - Date: _____

Name of Boat: _____

Port: _____

Where caught: _____

Signature of Angler
 OZS

SPECIES

LBS.

Witnessed by: _____

1. _____

Address: _____

2. _____

Phone No. _____

3. _____

Captain Art Lein
Katie James Sport Fishing
 201.696.7592
 KatieJamesFish@aol.com
 www.KatieJamesSportFishing.com

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(Continued from page 4) We are not going to change it by outlawing gas stoves and replacing them with electric ones. Mandating new homes to be heated by electric is more costly and not as efficient as natural gas. How our electric grid can handle more demand for home heating and electric vehicles is a question that needs more attention if we are to move forward with these measures to reduce Climate Change. What will change are the increased and needless costs we will be paying in our electric bills to finance all of them, including offshore windmills. Sources: New York Times, November 2, 2023; Asbury Park Press, November 2, 2023; New York Post, November 3, 2023

Steve Totten with a 55 lb. Stripper that was too big to handle. Capt. Frank Tenore & friend are lending a hand.



John Farrell with a nice blackfish



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: _____