

Bulletin

Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ



Free Issue

June 2023

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

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

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Chuck Routar with his 17 lb. Blackfish



Stories & Events

- Page 2** – Presidents Corner, June Meetings, Raffle Winners
- Page 3** – Fishing Trips, Club’s Youth Outreach Trip, Sale items
- Page 4** – NJ Saltwater Registry, Updated Striped Bass Emergency Action Plan
- Page 5** – 2023 Big Fish Derby entries, rules & Affidavit
- Page 6** – Sponsors, Rick’s sailfish, Membership form,

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 50/50 and dark horse drawings. Welcome all; we hope you enjoy the evening.

President's Corner

For our May 16th meeting, we had Dave Lilly, who has so much fishing experience, give us a presentation on how to catch fluke. He covered his tips on catching fluke with live bait and artificial lures. When Dave was finished, there were not many questions asked since he is so good on this subject.

We pulled the winners of our club raffle tickets and the list of winners is in another section of this newsletter. However, I do have to point out that member **Ralph DeJulia** was one lucky guy at this meeting! He won the second prize of our raffle of a JW Night Ranger Rod, 701H Saltiga Reel that has a value of \$560! Then he won one of our Dark Horse prizes. Finally, he won our 50/50 drawing that had \$180 in it! That comes up to \$740 without counting his Dark Horse prize! Rub some of that luck on us Ralph!

I want to **THANK all of you members** who participated in our club's raffle and especially to **Fred Villanova** who managed all of the tickets involved in it. Think of all of those tickets that had to be separated so that they could be pulled from the drum holding our tickets! The list of prize winners is in another section of this newsletter.

I gave our members an update at this May 16th meeting on the new striped bass regulations proposed by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission restricting our catch of striped bass from 28 to 31 inches. However, member Ken Leshenko, reported that he read in a local paper that we could keep a striped bass from 28 to 31 inches. Initially, I thought that Ken was wrong, but on further checking on this Ken was right! To end this confusion, I wrote the text for a Striped Bass Update that was emailed on May 17th to all of our members indicating that one striped bass from 28 to 28 inches can be kept until such time that we are not allowed to do so. In another section of this newsletter, I give more detailed information on this issue and what we can expect to happen with this new regulation.

Nico made delicious spare ribs with a nice salad, a Mac & Cheese type dish along with a strudel type dessert! What a meal! Thanks again Nico!

Please send me pictures of the fish that you caught so that I can place them in our club's newsletter. Pictures of members catching fish make the newsletter more dynamic. Send them by email to me at tothjohn@verizon.net. Also, if you are entering your fish in our Big Fish Derby, you need to submit an affidavit to me either by email or give to me at one of our club meetings. The affidavits can be downloaded from our website at www.swabc.org.

Finally, **Congratulations goes to Chuck Routar** for catching a **17 lb. Blackfish** on Allison's Nightmare that sails out of Cape May. Chuck also caught a 9 lb. blackfish that was successfully released. He caught the 17.0 blackfish on the smallest white legger he picked out of a basket, but was unable to revive this fish for release. Picture of Chuck's fish is on the cover of this newsletter.

Speaker for our June 20 Meeting – Peter Clarke

New Jersey has one of if not the best artificial reef programs along our east coast. Fish are always trying to evade their predators and the artificial reefs give them the cover to do it. Peter Clarke is the NJ DEP's Director of its artificial reef program and his presentation will show how valuable our reefs are to our fishing opportunities. This will be a very interesting topic for us anglers and don't miss it!

Club Raffle Prizes

The drawing of our club's raffle tickets was held on **May 16th** at our club meeting at the American Legion Post # 170. The winners of our raffle prizes follow:

1. **Charter Fishing Trip on the Fins on Feathers Charters - \$800 value**
Captain Frank Tenore – Kelly Hernon from Rochelle Park
2. **JW Night Ranger Rod, Diawa 701H Saltiga Star Reel – \$560 Value –**
Jigging World, - Ralph DeJulia, Saddle Brook, NJ
3. **JW Nexus Rod, Diawa, Lexa Reel – Jigging World, -175 Rt. 17 – Rochelle Park, NJ - \$410 value – Bob Bown – Bayonne, NJ**
4. **Apple iPad MK 223LL/A + 2 yr. Apple Care – PC Richards Rt. 17-Paramus, NJ - \$398 value – Jeff Criswell, Flanders, NJ**
5. **Fishing Trip – 2 Tickets for the Party Boat “Fisherman”- \$200 value – Kristen Herman, Wantage, NJ**
6. **Gift Certificate – Jigging World, 175 Rt.17, Rochelle Park, NJ 07667 - \$100 value – Hector Chacon,, Riverdale, NJ**
7. **Gift Certificate – Jigging World, 175 Rt. 17, Rochelle Park, NJ – 07667- \$100 value – Joseph Ruggerio, Waldwick, NJ**

JCAA Fluke Tournament and Awards Ceremony June 17th and Awards Ceremony on June 23rd

The JCAA Fluke Tournament on June 17th has 10 weigh-in stations from Jersey City to Cape May. In addition to individual port prizes for the top seven places, it also has a **\$50,000 doormat fluke category** for the largest fluke over **12 lbs.** It also has a drawing for a 16-foot Godfrey pontoon boat with a Load Rite trailer and a 25-horsepower motor donated by Yamaha valued at \$31,000. Calcuttas, door prizes and more at the Awards Ceremony at the Resorts Casino on June 23rd. Entry fee of \$175. Register at www.jcaa.org or call at (732) 506-6565

Welcome Aboard!

We are happy to have

Mark B.Havespian

from Blauvelt, NY to join our club!

Fishing Trips – 2023

John Piazza is running a black fishing trip on the Fins on Feathers Nov. 18th and is looking for members to join him. If interested call (201) 647-5350 or at swabc@verizon.net.

The May 27th – Club Charter Trip for sea bass on the Bingo was cancelled due to engine problems.

Another trip will be scheduled with the Bingo at a later date. Ralph DeJulia is the Trip Captain and will keep us informed, next trip most likely for fluke.

An inter-club fishing trip between our club and the Hudson River Fishermen's club (HRFA) is being planned in August aboard the Last Lady.

Youth Outreach Trip – July 19th with the Garfield YMCA Youth group on the MiJo.

More trips are in the process of being pulled together and they will be announced at our meetings or in our club's newsletter.

Our Club Youth Outreach Trip – July 19th

We will be taking boys & girls from the Garfield YMCA on the MiJo that leaves from Atlantic Highlands starting around 8:00 a.m. Our club sponsors this trip and our members show the children how to catch fluke. Many of these children become quite good at it! These kids have a day of fun and get in touch with nature instead of being glued with their phones and computers. They get so excited while even catching a skate or a shark! Hopefully, they will become involved in fishing and we need young people to take up with this sport!

The MiJo has a nice galley and you can get a good breakfast sandwich. Hot dogs/burgers for lunch or you can bring your own food. **Do not bring any alcohol.** We do not want to show them that drinking alcohol is OK. Member Tom Tyls is taking names of club members who want to volunteer their time to assist. Contact Tom to sign up at (201) 575-3740 or at tatys@aol.com.

Our club has received \$2,000 from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous and we are certainly grateful to receive this generous donation that will bring joy to the many youths that will be on this trip. This donation will essentially cover the cost of this trip.

Sick Call

Jeff Criswell Jr. & John Piazza

Jeff Criswell Jr., Captain of his fishing charter Christina, severely injured his foot that will prevent him from operating his boat for an indefinite period. We all wish you a **speedy recovery Jeff!**

John Piazza suffered a heart attack last week & was taken to Valley Hospital. There's a good chance he'll be home by the time you read this. **Speedy Recovery, John!**

Shirts on Sale

Steve Totten has been taking orders at our meetings for a **Solar Performance Long Sleeve Shirt** that is 100% Polyester, Vapor Solar, UPF 50 Sun Protection, Moisture Wicking, and Odor Resistant.

We expect to have them available for pick up at our June 20th meeting.

John Piazza is selling our club T shirts at our June meeting and that this shirt has a handy pocket and is of good quality.

The cost is only \$15

Chuck Santoro with his 11lb. 4 oz. bluefish Caught on Hector Chacon's boat with Hector's wife Debbie.



For Sale

1999 Seaswirl Striper 21' Cuddy Cabin Johnson 150 Outboard, Sea Lion 2-Axle Trailer. All Equipment You'll Need-- Plus Extras

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Please contact by email (Jonesy is deaf) and he'll call you back. talumijo@gmail.com



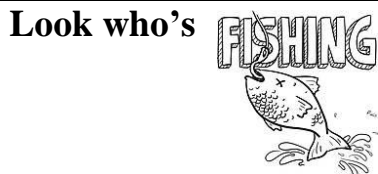
NJ Saltwater Registry

When it comes to distributing federal funding or having political clout during discussions with members of other states during fishing management meetings, our state is under represented since it only has about **140,000 registered** anglers. Other states with lower populations than New Jersey have more registered anglers and receive more federal funding than ours. When it comes to political clout, New Jersey can claim it has only 140,000 anglers while other states can show it has much more anglers than us even though we have a much larger population.

Some anglers are under the mistaken perception that they only need to register once with our state. Registration in New Jersey is required **each year** and it is free.

There are fines if anglers are not registered properly and information about why anglers need to be registered can be found at the registry's website.

To register for New Jersey go to:
www.saltwaterregistry.nj.gov.



been fishing!

Hector Chacon and his daughter Natasha
holding nice stripers



Update on Striped Bass Emergency Action Plan

By John Toth

At our May 16th club meeting, I gave a quick update on the recent action of the Atlantic States Commission (ASMFC) to limit the sizes of the striped bass that we could keep from 28 to 31 inches. I presumed that new regulation was in force, but member Ken Lesenko interrupted me and said that he read in the Bergen Record that we could still keep striped bass from 28 to 38 inches. Ken was right and I **Thank Ken** for giving us the right information!

This is a confusing situation and I will try to explain it better without going into too much detail. While we have great striped bass fishing in our area, other coastal states do not, especially in the Chesapeake area. This issue was taken up by the ASMFC and 14 states voted to approve the Emergency Action Plan to limit the new size of striped bass to 28 to 31 inches. Only New Jersey, a member of the ASMFC, voted against this new regulation. All states have to comply with this new striped bass regulation by July 2nd.

The New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council along with the NJ DEP has to sign off on accepting this new striped bass regulation and there was a Marine Fisheries Council meeting on May 11th to take public opinion on whether this Council should approve it. This was a contentious meeting with anglers for and against it. I was told that this Council voted to accept it, but it did not. This Council voted to accept more input from its Striped Bass Advisory committee on whether New Jersey should accept this new ASMFC regulation limiting us to catching bass at 28 to 31 inches. The New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council will set up meetings with its Striped Bass Advisory committee during June.

If our state accepts the ASMFC restriction on striped bass, it will be in effect for 180 days until October 28th. What happens after this date is undecided.












In my opinion, we will be killing more striped bass that we keep while trying to catch a legal bass within that 28 to 31 inch restriction. While many of us I think are opposed to this new regulation, other anglers are strongly for it since they are in the only catch and release crowd. They are the anglers who will catch many striped bass, 40 or so, and will think they are saving bass by throwing them all back when in fact a number of them will die by stress or by mishandling them.

Until we hear differently, **you can legally catch striped bass from 28 to 38 inches until July 2nd**. If that changes, I will immediately send out a Club Email Blast advising you of any new changes.



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.

FISH	SPECIES	MIN. WEIGHT	ENTRY WEIGHT	ANGLER
	BLACKFISH	4	17 lbs.	Chuck Rutar
	BLUEFISH	12	11 lbs. 4 oz.	Chuck Santoro
	COD FISH	10		
	FLOUNDER	1.5 lbs.		
	FLUKE	4		
	LING	2		
	POLLOCK	10		
	PORGY	1.5 lbs.		
	SEA BASS	2		
	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. _____



*Captain
Art Lein*

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Rick Reitano with 1 of the 2 sailfish he caught in Islamorada Florida on May 1st.



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: _____