

# Bulletin

## Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ



Free Issue

July 2023

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

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### John Farrell, Carmen Bufardecì & Ron Stewart



#### Stories & Events

- Page 2** – Presidents Corner, Upcoming Meetings, Outreach trip & New Regulations
- Page 3** – Fishing Trips, Tournaments, Shirt sale
- Page 4** – Noise can hurt Fisheries article, Marlin Tournament
- Page 5** – 2023 Big Fish Derby entries, rules & Affidavit
- Page 6** – Membership form, Pictures of catches

*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 June 20th meeting, we originally had Peter Clarke as our scheduled speaker, but he had to cancel his artificial reef presentation with us because he had to manage the addition of reef material on a reef with the US Army Corps of Engineers that came up unexpectedly. I will try to have him scheduled for another meeting with us since I know that you will find his presentation on artificial reefs very interesting.

This cancelation with Peter Clarke caught me by surprise and I had to scramble to get another speaker for our June meeting. I called member Bob Goldstein and he got in touch with John Farrell who agreed to give us his best techniques on catching fluke along with member Joe Sproviero. John gave us a short but on the point presentation on catching fluke that he uses so well. I have watched John & Bob Goldstein catch fluke on the Fish Monger and they come up with big fluke! I want to Thank Bob Goldstein, John Farrell and Joe Sproviero for stepping up to help me, and our club, when we needed to have an informative meeting on fluke. Members like them make our club run so well!

Tom Tyls was at our meeting to take names of members who will assist the kids fishing on our Youth Outreach trip on July 19th on the MiJo. Tom signed up 10 members who will be on the MiJo to bring up fish for the kids. More information on this trip is in another section of the newsletter.

I gave a brief report on the Striped Bass Emergency Action Plan presented by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC). Under this Plan we will most likely kill more fish than we will be keeping and I wrote a column about this in another section of the newsletter.

Member Art Vrola, who does a great job as our Membership Secretary, won the 50/50 prize of **\$172**.

I smelled something that made me feel hungry and that was Nico putting out his Shrimp Scampi, along with salad and a delicious cake for us to eat. You feed us well Nico and Thank You!

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### Speaker for July 18th Meeting –

#### Michael Sardinias on Surf Fishing

Michael is a huge enthusiast for surf fishing and he loves to share his tips on the best ways to do it! He has a power point presentation to share with us on what tackle you should have on hand to do it and the best ways to use it.

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### Speaker for August 15th Meeting –

A representative from **Shimano** will give a presentation on tuna & striper fishing.

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### Speaker for September 19th Meeting –

**Kaitlen Gannon** – Presentation on Ghost Traps

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### Speaker for October 17th Meeting –

**Tony Maja** on Striped Bass

## Our Club Youth Outreach Trip –

### July 19th

We will be taking youths 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 youths how to catch fluke and many of these youths become quite good at it! These kids have a day of fun and also get in touch with nature instead of being glued to their phones and computers. Hopefully, they will become involved in fishing and we need young people to take up with this sport! We also will be having Emily McGuckin from the American Littoral Society to tag the fish and explain the importance of it to the youths. She was at one of our club meetings to give a presentation on tagging fish. It is going to be a day of Fun!

The MiJo has a nice galley and you can get good breakfast sandwiches and hot dogs/burgers for lunch or you can bring your own food. **Do not bring any alcohol on board!** 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 these youths in catching fish. Contact Tom to sign up for this trip at (201) 575-3740 or at [tatys@aol.com](mailto:tatys@aol.com).

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### New Striped Bass Regulations

The Emergency Striped Bass Limit was reluctantly approved by the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council by a vote of 5-2. This Action Plan limits the taking of striped bass to **28 to 31 inches** and is in effect as of **July 2nd**.

This Action Plan was instituted by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) to protect the 2015 class of striped bass, which is the 4th highest year class on record as recruitment goes. The bulk of that class has now reached 31 or more inches in length.

The ASMFC instituted this regulation without any input from the recreational community and without a report on its impact on the fishing industry. This Emergency Action Plan will be in effect until October 28th and it may be extended by the ASMFC.

New Jersey's Bonus Tag Program is **NOT** impacted by this ASMFC regulation and anglers can apply for it.

The effectiveness of this ASMFC Action Plan is questionable since anglers will discard those striped bass that do not meet the 28 to 31 inches regulation.

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### 12-Year Old Boy

#### Catches a Great White Shark

Campbell Keenan from Massachusetts caught a Great White Shark off Florida's coast that weighed about **400 lbs**. He used tuna as bait and fought it for 45 minutes to bring it in. The shark was tagged and set free. The boy will remember that fishing experience for a lifetime!

### Fishing Trips – 2023

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 sailing from Neptune.

**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.

### Update on Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA) Fluke Tournament By John Toth

The JCAA Fluke Tournament was held on June 17th and 122 boats were entered in it. In addition to a number of prizes, a **\$50,000 prize** was offered to any angler who caught a fish 12 lbs. or over. A angler pulled in a 12.4 lb. fluke and won this prize! According to tournament rules, he had to take a polygraph test and he passed it with flying colors! His prize money and other prizes were given to him at the JCAA Awards Ceremony that was held at the Resorts Casino in Atlantic City on Friday, June 23rd.

I was the weigh master for this tournament at Hoffman's marina in Brielle and the wind was brutal (30 mph?) making it very hard for me to record data on the fish I was weighing. I was fearful of having my paperwork fly into the water which would have ruined this tournament!

The tournament ended at 5:00 p.m. and the weather was looking nasty by then. I was lucky to have the tournament end since the skies opened up around 5:10 p.m. and I got drenched taking my tournament scales etc. back to my car. Back to the \$50,000 prize money, I think it was 2021 when an angler caught a 12 lb. fluke, but he did not pay the **\$25 fee** to enter this prize money category. I am sure he will not forget this mistake that cost him \$50,000!

### Frank Rella with his 42 lbs. Striped Bass



### Shirts on Sale & Pick Up

The Solar Performance Long Sleeve Shirts for our club have been delivered and Steve Totten gave them to members who paid for them at our June meeting. Steve still has these shirts that have not been picked up from members who were not at our June meeting. Please see Steve at our July 18th meeting to receive the shirt that you ordered.

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

**The cost is only \$15.**

### Sandy Hook Bay Anglers Annual Fluke Tournament – July 15th - July 16th, 2023

Guaranteed \$5,700 in Cash Prizes - \$200 Bonus for Saturday's Largest Fluke

6 Anglers per boat - Rain or Shine Go to:

[www.sandyhookbayanglers.org](http://www.sandyhookbayanglers.org).

### Solar Panel Problems

In Scotts Bluff, Nebraska, 14,000 solar panels installed in 2019 at a cost of millions were destroyed by a huge hail storm! What a costly mess! (Source Youtube).

### Jeff Criswell Sr. with his 5.2 lb. Sea Bass (right Hand) & Friend



**Bill Fish with a nice Haddock  
Caught on the Eastman's Fleet, NH**



**Steven Weinstein with a Rooster Fish  
Caught in Costa Rica**



**NJ fishermen told to return \$7 million in  
COVID-19 aid.**

Over three dozen New Jersey fishery-related businesses are being asked to return about **\$7 million** in federal COVID-19 funds that was doled out by the state Department of Environmental Protection. That number represents 49% of the money that the DEP awarded to fishery businesses for relief money during the peak of the pandemic and that money came out of the CARES Act Marine Fisheries Assistant Grant Program administered by the NJ DEP.

To qualify, applicants must have experienced a 35% loss between March and June of 2020. Some of the applicants received monies even if they did not meet the qualifications for it or did not submit supporting documents to qualify for it plus others were simply overpaid. Other applicants submitted two applications and received money for both of them of \$377,000, but only suffered a loss of \$188,000. (Asbury Park Press, June 23, 2023).

**Note:** Good Luck - NJ DEP in getting that money back!

**\$3.5 million Loss at Marlin Tournament**

Anglers on the boat Sensation brought in a 619 pound marlin while participating in the Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament in North Carolina on June 18th. The crew knew that this fish would clinch the \$3.5 million in prize money. There was a lot excitement and the crowd going wild when the Sensation pulled into port and proudly displayed their huge marlin that took 6 hours to be pulled in.

However, it was determined by tournament officials that this huge mako was bitten by other sharks and was determined to be “mutilated” before it was landed and, therefore, was disqualified to win the tournament and its \$3.5 million prize money. This decision came after “careful deliberation and discussions with tournament officials and experts.” The decision to disqualify Sensation’s catch was consistent with past rulings and in line with the International Game Fish Association rulebook.

A crew named “Sushi” ended up winning this tournament landing a 484.5 lb. blue marlin. (New York Post, June 20th).

**Note:** Maybe it is time for the IGFA to change their mutilation ruling since the crew of the Sensation did not mutilate it, nature did.

**Daffynition: Fishing dock**—A surgeon on vacation.












**Thomas:** How do you communicate with a fish?

**Russ:** I don't know.

**Thomas:** Drop it a line!

# 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	5.2 lbs	Jeff Criswell Sr.
	STRIPED BASS	12	42 lbs.	Frank Rella
	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. \_\_\_\_\_

**Jeff Chriswell with a nice Fluke**



**Joe Sproviero with a couple of nice Fluke**



**Bob Goldstein with his Striper**



**Bill Fish with a 61" 150 lbs. Porbeagle Shark**



## **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: \_\_\_\_\_