

# Bulletin

## Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ



Free Issue

August 2024

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

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### Garfield's YMCA Youth Fishing Trip On the MiJo out of the Atlantic Highlands



#### Stories & Events

**Page 2** – Presidents Corner, Upcoming Meetings, 2 Articles

**Page 3** – Recap of Youth Fishing Trip & SWABC / HRFC results

**Page 4** – Article – Court Fight by John Toth

**Page 5** – Pictures of Garfield YMCA Youth Fishing Trip

**Page 6** – Pictures of YMCA members with their fish and BIG SMILES

*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

As I headed up to Bergen County (I live by Englishtown) it was 104 degrees on my car's thermometer! Even with this hot day, many of our members still showed up at our July 16th meeting to hear Ryan Burlew and Jay Sullivan to talk about their new charter trip that includes catching lobsters during the first half of the trip, and then catching fluke or sea bass during the remainder of their charter trip. They even brought 3 lobsters to give away and everybody in the room got a ticket so we could raffle them off. The winning tickets were pulled and Paul Keppel, Bob Goldstein and Jay Lesenko drew the lucky numbers and went home with a nice lobster. Additionally, Ryan gave us shirts designed for fishermen for our Dark Horse. I received them toward the end of our meeting and it was too late to place in our Dark Horse. They will be on display at our next meetings on the Dark Horse table.

It was an enjoyable meeting and Nico made it more so by preparing delicious chicken, salad and brownies. Rick Reitano won the 50/50 and went home with a little extra cash in his pocket.

Board member Gary Gusterson's birthday was coming up and Chuck Santoro brought a nice cake for us to celebrate with him. We all sang "Happy Birthday" to Gary and two voluptuous women from the bar on hearing us rushed over to give Gary a big hug! We did not know Gary is so popular with the Legion's ladies! You know what they say about those quiet ones!

With our fishing season in full gear, please send me pictures of your fishing trips so I can place them in our club's newsletter. Send them to [tothjohn@verizon.net](mailto:tothjohn@verizon.net).

### August 20th Meeting – Michael Sardinas

#### Surf Fishing Presentation

Michael Sardinas gives an excellent presentation on surf fishing and he will get us prepared to fish the surf for the upcoming fall season. A lot of what Michael covers can also be applied to fishing by boat.

### September 17th Meeting –

#### Captain Bob Henn –

#### Catching Striped Bass & Blackfish

Captain Bob Henn gave a very informative seminar at the Salt Water Expo in March of this year on catching striped bass. He has been invited to be to our September 17th meeting and he will do a presentation that covers both striped bass and blackfish so we can be better prepared to catch these fish during the fall season that is fast approaching. Captain Bob operates the Ebbtide Fishing Charter that is based in South Amboy, NJ. John Toth saw his presentation on striped bass at the Salt Water Expo and invited him to come to our club meeting since his presentation on striped bass was done so well and we all can pick up some pointers to catch these fish.

## Catching a 135 - Pound Tuna in Raritan Bay Turns Out to be a Hoax

It appears Steve Nostri, a 29-year old from Holmdel, fabricated a story that he caught a 135- pound bluefin tuna in Raritan Bay to get a few laughs on his Facebook account. He gave his catching this tuna story to the Asbury Park Press and it showed a picture of him with his big fish in their July 25th edition.

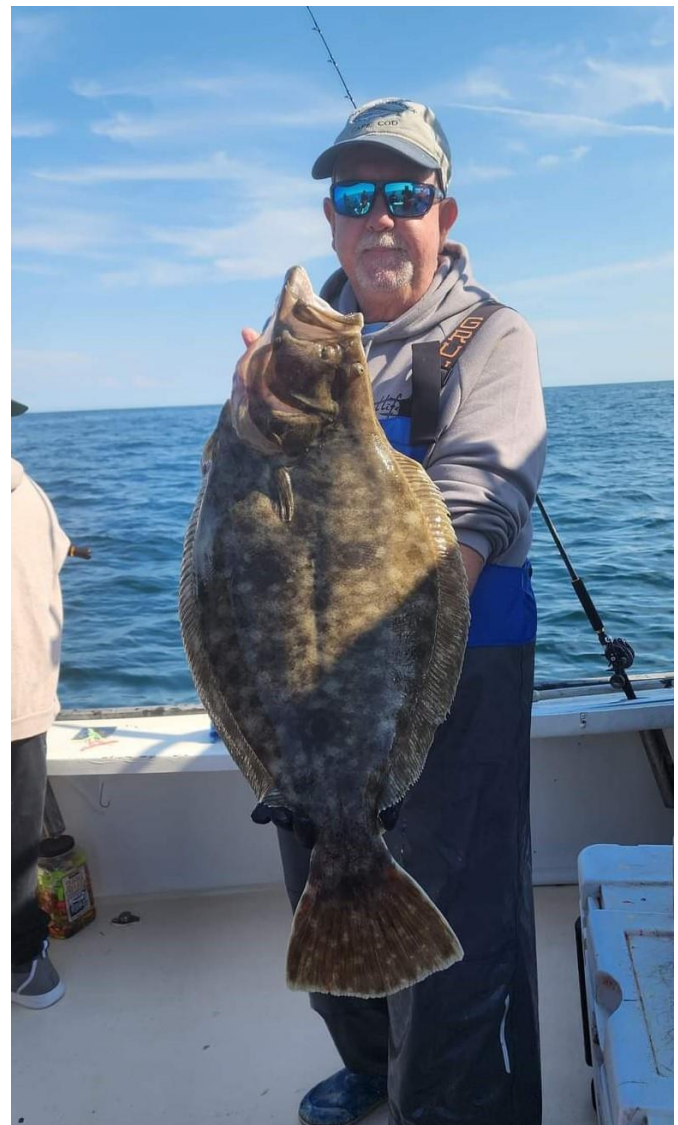
This story did not sit well with many members of the recreational community. "This was a hoax that was taken too far. It should have never been taken to the press" said Paul Haertel a member of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association.

Jim Hutchinson Jr., managing editor of the Fisherman Magazine, said "lying to a reporter to perpetuate a joke is, in my opinion, a criminal attack on the media itself."

What type of criminal punishment, if any, Steve Nostri faces remains to be seen. (Dan Radel, August 1, 2024)

## Jeff Criswell Sr. 12.5lb. fluke-

current Derby Leader



## Youth Trip Report

By John Toth

Our club took kids from Garfield's YMCA on the MiJo on July 18th as part of our annual club - sponsored trips that we have been doing for many years. We had reports that we might have rain in the morning, but luckily the rain did not materialize. Member Jim Galanaugh brought rain gear for all the kids just in case it came.

We had 24 youths and 4 YMCA counselors on board for this trip. We also had our club members on hand to help the kids catch fish and they included: Tom Tyls, Chuck Santoro, Jim Galanaugh, Don Lohse, Barry Paull, Harry Vogt, Rich Melton, Mark Hovsepian, Lou Castellano, Bill Lessimore, Dennis Kuntz, Rich Melton, Hector Chacon, Jim Piobono, Tony Lill, Bobby Jones and myself. I want to **THANK** all our members who helped the kids have a fun day of fishing and especially **Tom Tyls** who organized the roster of our members to help the kids on the MiJo. Member **Alex Robino**, who made a generous donation to sponsor this trip, was on board to help the kids catch fish.

Regarding fishing, Tom Tyls recorded 62 fluke were caught, but there were no keepers. In addition to fluke, sharks, sting rays and a huge cow nose ray was caught that tangled up many lines. Emily Mc Glucken and her intern, Jay, were on hand to tag fluke and talk to kids who brought their fish to her for tagging and why it is needed.

Chuck Santoro had 4 trophies prepared and they were given to the kids who caught the biggest fluke in the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place categories and also the 4th trophy for most fish caught. These trophies were a big hit with the kids and they told me that they wanted to win one! **Alex Robino** presented the trophies to the winners.

It is a lot of fun to watch kids become so excited when they catch any type of fish! What also struck me was that they did not want to stop fishing! When the captain moved from one spot to another, they ran out of the cabin and to the rails to get their bait back in the water.

Not only are we taking these children to have a nice day of fishing and enjoy nature, but I know we are making them into future anglers by introducing them to a sport we love so well. They are the future of saltwater fishing!

### Tom Tyls talking about crabs to the group



## Report on Interclub Fishing Trip –

SWABC vs. HRFA

By John Toth

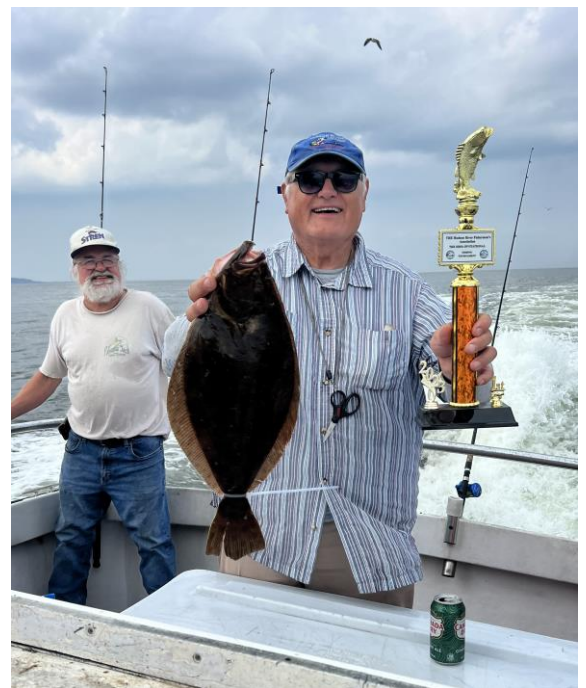
Our club had a fishing contest against the Hudson River Fishermen's Association (HRFA) on the Last Lady on July 25th to see which club could catch the biggest fluke. There were 7 members from our club and 7 members from the HRFA in this competition. Arnie Ulrich from the HRFA caught the biggest fluke at 20.5 inches to win this contest for the HRFA.

Unfortunately, the fluke were way off their bite and while we all fished hard, only 4 legal fluke were caught with 14 of us on board! Now that is 14 guys who are skilled anglers who know how to fish. Three fluke were caught by our club and only one by the HRFA, but that fish turned out to be the winning fish. A few mackerel were caught and all of us caught legal sea bass which we took home.

The captain of the Last Lady tried hard to put us on fish, but it could not be done. The ocean seemed to be devoid of fish that we wanted to take home. A lot of skates were caught and sharks. I pulled up a big shark that was 5 to six feet in length and the mate estimated to be about 20-25 lbs. When I hooked it, I initially thought that I was stuck on the rocky bottom since it did not move. But when it did, I knew I was in something big, but unfortunately it was not a fluke. The HRFA guys breathed a sigh of relief when it turned out to be a shark!

While the day did not turn out to be a day for us to win this tournament and the fishing was very slow, we still had fun teasing each other and having fun and that is what this trip is all about!

### Arnie Ulrich's 20.5 inches fluke won the interclub fishing contest for the HRFA



**Supreme Court Rules in Favor of  
New Jersey Herring Fishermen  
Decision will impact how federal agencies make rules  
By John Toth**

Before I explain this recent Supreme Court decision, some background information is needed:

Several NJ Commercial herring fisherman say they don't think it's fair that a federal rule forces them to pay over **20% of their earnings** to cover the salary of the government's at-sea monitors who ride on their boats. They took their case to the U.S. Supreme Court and it ruled in favor of commercial fishermen so that they do not have to pay for the fees of monitors imposed on them by the federal government.

The at-sea monitors collect scientific, management, and regulatory compliance and economic data and report back to the government. They also focus on the discarded fish catch, or fish thrown back because they are not the target species or are undersized. This data is used for the management and monitoring of the annual catch limits.

The fishermen concede federal law allows the government to require at-sea monitors on their boats, but they argued Congress never gave the executive branch further authority to pass monitoring costs to the herring fishermen. They contend that the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), which manages the nation's fisheries, have abused its power. NOAA expects these herring fishermen to pay for these monitors as much as **\$700 per day**, in some cases, making them the highest paid person on the boat!

Their case overturned a long-standing precedent set in a 1984 Chevron USA Inc. vs. Natural Defense Council Inc. that allowed NOAA to pass on these monitoring costs to fishermen. However, lawyers representing the fishermen contend that this case was legally flawed and did not give NOAA the right to pass on monitoring costs to fishermen.

In the short term, these commercial fishermen probably will be reimbursed by our federal government for the money they have paid to have these monitors on board that comes to \$700 a day. However, what are the long-term effects of this U.S. Supreme court decision for us recreational anglers?

I believe this decision favoring fishing businesses will have far reaching consequences. For about 40 years, people from all walks of life have been denied a fair hearing in federal court due to the Chevron case that put tremendous power in the hands of regulatory agencies. During this time, we have been at the mercy of federal bureaucrats making fishing management decisions that have resulted in so many charter/party boats and tackle shops going out of business. Our concerns about their decisions affecting us have largely been ignored. Their decision to impose the 28-to-31-inch size limit on stripers was done without any input from us. The 10-knot rule restriction on vessels to protect Right Whales needs

modifications, but our concerns about it are ignored. Fishing regulations are developed by using the seriously flawed Marine Recreation Information Program (MRIP) and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) continues to use it even though it results in restrictive regulations harming recreational businesses. This list can go on and many of us have been angered and frustrated over the mismanagement of our fisheries for these many years.

However, I do believe that because of this recent U.S. Supreme Court ruling, we have the ability to challenge decisions made by fishing managers that make regulations that are not in our favor. In the past, fishing managers told us that we had to accept their decisions with no recourse because of the Chevron case. Now, that has changed and if we don't agree with their decisions, we can take them to court. They have not listened to us in the past, but I think they will listen to us now!

(New York Times, June 19, 2024)

(Asbury Park Press, July 7, 2024)

**Not only Fluke were caught  
Here's Hailey with a Sting Ray  
Being held by Mate**



# Lots of happy Faces from the Garfield YMCA Youth Fishing Trip

**Ella**



**Isabella**



**Markus With Mate & Bobby J.**



**Ava Working Hard at reeling in**



**Hailey**



**Margo & new Friend Alex**



**Margo, Jonah & Richard**



**Alex Rubino giving out trophies**



**Isabella with her trophy**



**Isabella**



**Ava**



**Jonah**



**Margo**



**Richard**



**Paige**



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

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