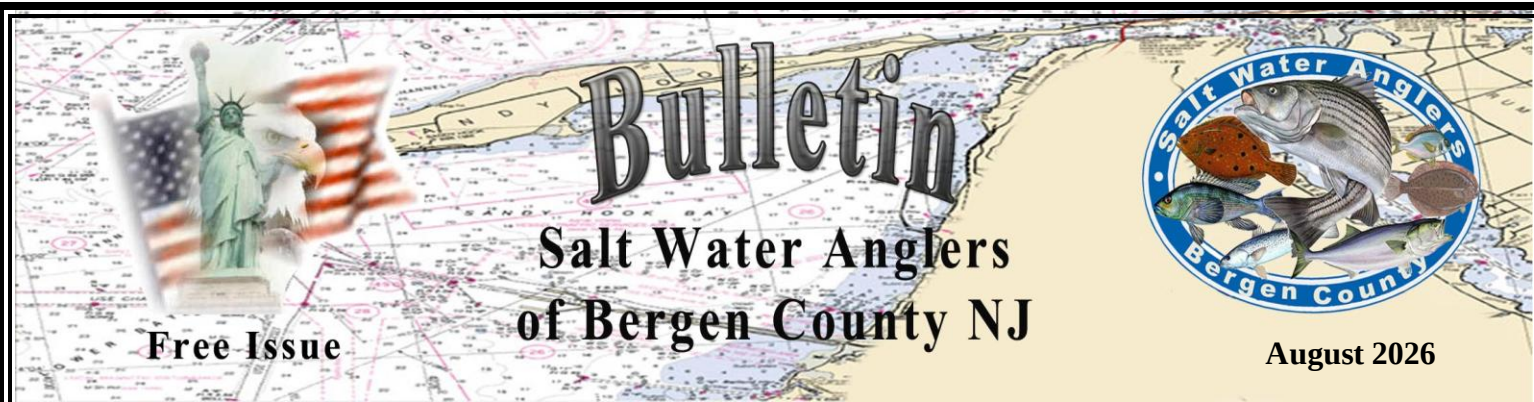




Free Issue

Bulletin

Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ



August 2026

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

SWABC's Youth Outreach Trip For 2026 with the Garfield YMCA



Thumbs up for a great fishing trip

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 Report

The weather was terrible during our July 21st meeting with flash floods, hail and even a tornado touched down in Caldwell. It is difficult to cancel a club meeting since if I send out an Email Blast to all members notifying them of a cancellation, some members may not read it and still show up for the meeting.

Due to the ongoing renovations in progress at our meeting hall in the Legion, we met at the pavilion and it was quite comfortable with a slight breeze and the ceiling fans moving. While gloomy, the rain held off and due to the bad weather and we had a light turnout with about 30 -35 members. Sam Panko was our speaker and he gave an excellent presentation on surf fishing which covered lures, clothing to wear, how to read the beach for spots to fish, tides and just about everything you need to know about how to fish the surf.

We have new club hats that Sal Crochiola ordered and they are on sale for \$25. They are very colorful with our new club logo. Sal will bring them to our August 18th meeting for sale

Ralph DeJulia ordered new club shirts and members who bought them picked them up at our meeting. For those members who did not come to our July meeting because of the bad weather, please pick them up at our August meeting.

I received about 45 surf lures from a friend of mine who was an avid surf angler in Montauk, NY, and I donated them to our club that was on sale at this meeting. I also received about 40 polarized sunglasses from a vendor and they were also on sale at this meeting. Both surf lures and sunglasses **cost only \$1** and the proceeds of this sale go to our club treasury. Member Don Bums sold them at this meeting and Thanks Don! There are still some sunglasses and surf lures left and they will be on sale at our August meeting.

Nico made tasty spareribs accompanied by salad, potato salad and delicious cake. Thanks Nico!

Chuck Santoro called out the tickets for our Dark Horse and 50/50 as usual. Chuck asked Jim Galanaugh, our treasurer, to pull the winning ticket for our 50/50. Jim pulled the ticket and ironically it was his own ticket. So he took home the cash.

Even in spite of the threatening weather, we still had a good meeting with a lot going on with sale of new hats, sale of sunglasses, surf lures, pick up of new shirts, an excellent speaker and good food to end the meeting I looked at the hall where we meet in the Legion and it has been painted with new flooring and it looks very nice. I expect we will meet there at our August 18th meeting. Finally, please send me the pictures of the fish you are catching so I can place them in our newsletter at tothjohn@verizon.net. Also, send them to Sal Crochiola at salcrochiola@verizon.net. Sal will place them in our club's Facebook page. Please include the boat that you fish on.

August 18th Meeting – Justin Saginor –

Fish Tagging Program

Justin Saginor is in charge of the American Littoral Society (AOL) Fish Tagging program and he will give us a power point presentation on their important efforts to keep track of fish movements in our waters. It is amazing and surprising how fish move around in our bays and ocean and it will be very interesting experience to see how far they travel. Justin will also explain how we can tag fish to assist them in assessing where fish migrate.

Sam Panko

giving us the facts about Surf Fishing



Fishing Fact

We all saw and heard the fuss over the FIFA World Cup, but did you know that “Fishing is the biggest participant sport in the world”!

Alex Rubin awarding the Trophies on board the Mijo



Club Charter trips for 2026

Trip Captain Ralph DeJulia wants full payment in **Cash** for all trips (**Not Checks**) so that he can pay captains with hard cash. Paying in cash makes it easier for Ralph to handle all of these trips. Also, when you sign up for one of these charters, you **are also responsible for payment of the trip** so that our club does not have to absorb your cost if you decide to not show up at the boat for any reason. **Also, if you have any questions about the trip, please do not call the captain of the boat, call Ralph since he is the Trip Captain for all of our trips.**

August 15th – Club Charter trip on the Debra Ann for fluke in Belmar – Cost \$115 includes tip – (trip full)

New Charter Trips:

September 12th – Club Charter trip for fluke on the Ebbtide – Cost \$125

October 11th – Club Charter on the Debra Ann for sea bass – Cost \$125

November 21st – Club Charter trip for blackfish on the Debra Ann – Cost \$125

Note: even though these trips may be full, you may want to be added to a standby roster in the event a member has to cancel due to a schedule conflict. Contact Ralph DeJulia to be to be on it.

The trip captain for all of these trips is **Ralph DeJulia** who has done a great job in setting them up! Ralph can be reached at **(201) 206-4506** or at newknee22@yahoo.com

The Big Fish Contest standings has been omitted this month to show-off the Youth Trip. However, that doesn't mean there hasn't been a few entries – **Jeff Chriswell Sr.** has been hard at Work (Fishing), he has two (2) entries. A Sea Bass at 2.65 lbs. and a Progy weighing in at 3 lbs.

Here's Jeff's Porgy



Report - Debra Ann Fluke Trip on July 11th

By John Toth

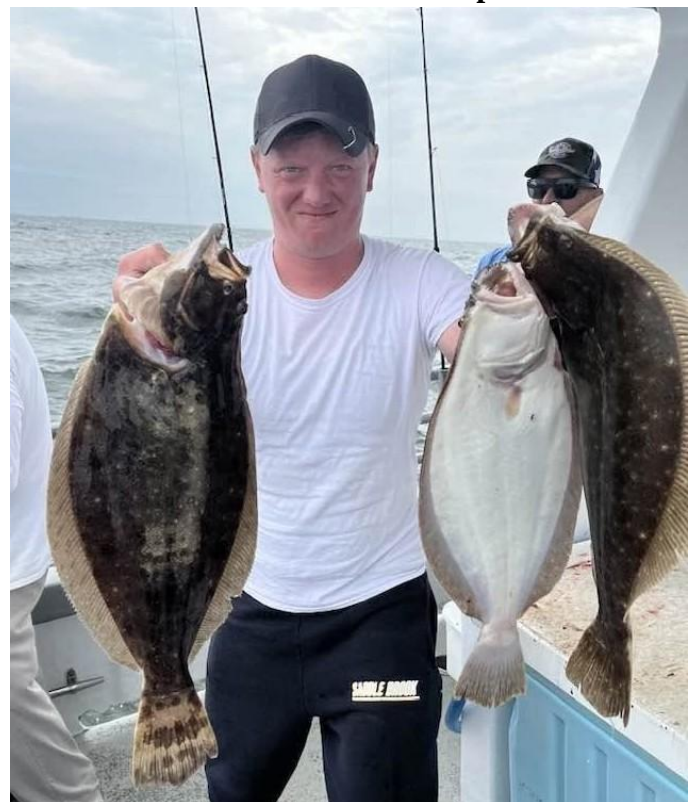
We had about 21 of our club members on this club charter trip and the weather started off OK with a northeast wind about 10-12 knots. Even though there were reports of rain (50%) it turned about to be sunny.

I and others quickly picked up sea robins that we have not seen for quite some time. They were small, but it was nice to see them again. Then the fluke started to bite and many small ones came over the rail. An angler next to me caught at least 20 of them, if not more, and he was definitely the high hook for the boat, but incredibly with all those fish he caught, not one was a keeper of 18 inches.

Kevin Kozlowski must have had some good tutoring from his friend Ralph DeJulia on how to catch fluke since Kevin caught 4 keepers. Dominic Caiazza caught a nice fluke but it was not big enough to be the pool winner since Harry Vogt caught the biggest one of about 4-5 pounds and won \$105. When members paid their \$115 fare, I asked if they wanted to be in the pool of \$5 and everybody signed up to be in the pool. There were 6 keepers caught on this trip. While the trip started OK, around noon the wind and water started to churn up making it difficult to fish and even walk around the boat. I told the captain to head back to port around 1:00 p.m. since fishing was not fun anymore and we did not need to have any accidents on board. Safety is paramount in this sport and all others.

Finally, Thanks goes to **Ralph DeJulia** for putting this trip together!

Kevin Kozlowski's keepers



Recap of Youth Trip on July 17th

By John Toth

On the day before our trip (Thursday) we had thick smoke in our area coming down to us from burning Canadian forest fires and I was worried that we would have to cancel our trip because of it. I told the Garfield YMCA staff that we would go and if the smoke was still bad, we would not sail on the MiJo or cut our trip short. As it turned out, the weather was fine and we had a nice west wind for a pleasant trip.

Usually, the captain stays in the bay area, but there were no fluke and the captain sailed out to the Monmouth Beach area and Sea Bright so we could catch fish or otherwise the kids would become bored in the bay with no action. This was a good move and we caught about close to **300 fluke**, but only one keeper! Included with fluke were skates, sea robins, and sharks to keep the kids busy with a lot of action. Just about everything the kids brought up kept them amazed at their catch. Some of the kids caught over 20 fluke! All in all it was great day for all of us! Lots of fish coupled with great weather conditions and that is a winning combo!

We had 26 youths along with 8 of their chaperones, along with 14 of our club members to help them bring fish into the boat. Club members included: Jim Galanaugh, Mike Hovespian, Ken Lysenko, Bobby Jones, Tony Lill, Don Lohse, Frank Rella, Rick Reitano, Alex Rubino, Chuck Santoro, John Toth, Dave Slater and John Fatuzzo.

A Big **Thank You** goes to Tom Tyls who organized the trip by taking names of our members who volunteered to be on the trip and he had names tags made for our members and the kids. Thanks also go to **Chuck Santoro** who made up four trophies to go to first place, 2nd, 3rd and catching the most fish, along with nice medallions to make the day special for the kids!

Taking youths on a charter fishing trip is one of the best thing our club does not only for others, but also ourselves!

Jose's Skate



Jim Zimmer Fluke Contest

This contest is being held in memory of Jim Zimmer who liked catching fluke. He passed away a number of years ago. A **\$50 prize in cash** will be given to a member who catches the biggest fluke in July and in August. The rules of our Big Fish Derby apply for this contest. The entry fee is only \$1. Please see Don Lohse to enter this contest at our meetings or call him at (201) 832 - 1298.

New Hats for our Club

Member Sal Crochiola has been working with a vendor to come with new design for our club hats that he may have a prototype of it at our July meeting and take orders for them

Member Ralph DeJulia has taken orders for a new club shirt that has a black sea bass on the back and they may be available for pick up at this meeting.

We still have some red club shirts left with various sizes and they have a pocket. The shirts will also be on sale at this meeting at a cost of \$10.

New Projector for our Club -Thanks to TJ!

Tom Taber (TJ) was able to receive a projector from his company that it no longer needed. It has a value of about \$700 and a number of times speakers scheduled for our club ask for one and now we can provide if needed. Thanks to TJ!

With this new projector, we may be able to set up new educational videos or other programs. One member may work on a presentation that shows the history of our club. There are other possibilities that we can explore since we have a projector for our use.

Myra's Fluke



Lots of happy Faces from the Garfield YMCA Youth Fishing Trip

Fishing Buddies



Mya



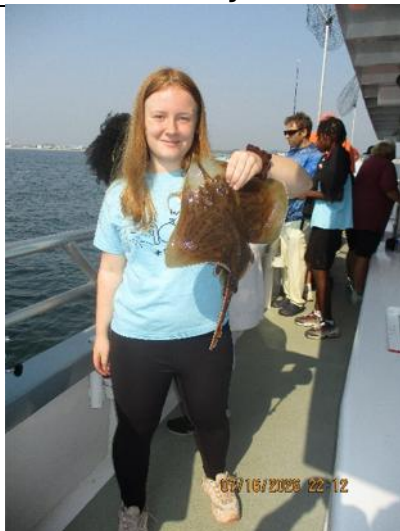
Timothy



Matey



Haley



Annabella



Leon

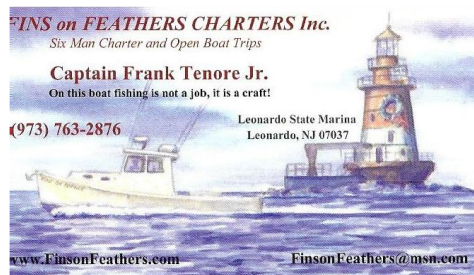


Jose



Jhordanny





Less Blackfish to catch in 2027 – like 40% less!

By John Toth

On July 7th, a meeting was held by the New Jersey DEP to hear comments from advisors on an impending 40% cut of our blackish quota during 2027. Jeff Brust, Bureau Chief, NJ Marine Fisheries, hosted this meeting to hear input from anglers who have an extensive background on this fishery.

A recent stock assessment provided by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) indicated that overfishing for blackfish in our New York and New Jersey region has been occurring and that a severe cutback of 40% is necessary to bring back the stocks of these fish to a better level.

How can a 40% reduction of this fishery be achieved? There are basically three ways to do it and that involves bag limits, size limit and season adjustments. For example, if we change the 15 inch size to 16 inches, we would possibly achieve a 26 % reduction of our blackfish quota. The downside of this approach is that anglers are already having difficulty in catching blackfish that are 15 inch in size and 16 inches only makes keeping a legal blackfish more difficult. Trying to catch a legal size blackfish means that we have to throw back so many undersized fish back with some resulting in their mortality.

Changing the bag limit from 5 fish to 4 fish in the November 15th to 12/31 is another way to address this issue. However this option makes it less attractive for anglers to go fishing given the cost of the trip and gas. The same goes for reducing the seasons for anglers to catch these fish.

The bottom line is that there are no easy answers to achieve a 40% reduction in our quota to catch blackfish! There has to be some pain in the recreational community to absorb this type of reduction.

There will be more meetings hosted by the DEP with advisors to determine how this reduction can be met with the least damage to the recreational community. Advisors will be shown various options to reach the 40% reduction and then recommend which option they prefer. I will keep you posted on the results of these meetings.

Fishy Quotes:

“Fishing consists of a series of misadventures interspersed by occasional moments of glory” –
Howard Marshall

“We are haunted day and night by the knowledge that the amount of time we spend fishing is inconsequential in comparison with the amount of time we spend doing things we do not love” –
Howell Raines

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

Enclose a check in the amount of \$55 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: _____