

# JCAA NEWSPAPER DECEMBER 2007

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*  
(Published on November 20th, 2007)

Remember New Monthly Meeting Room  
**"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"**

## JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

**Tuesday, November 29th, 2007**  
**Starting at 7:30 PM**

**Brick Plaza at 270 Chambers Bridge Rd**  
**NEXT JCAA EXECUTIVE MEETING**

**Thursday, December 13th, 2007**  
**Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office**

## **OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.**

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**JCAA Newspaper Publisher Tom Fote**  
**JCAA Newspaper Editor Paul Turi**

This publication is printed and mailed one week prior to each regular monthly meeting of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association. One of the prime goals of JCAA is to get accurate information into public hands as soon as possible.

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**JCAA General Membership Meetings are for club representatives and invited guests only. These meetings are not open to the general public. If you would like to attend as a guest, call the President at 732-446-6298 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
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**Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page**

## Important Meeting Dates

**November 27<sup>th</sup> JCAA General Meeting**  
**December 11-13 MAFMC & ASMFC Joint meeting on summer flounder, scup and black sea bass.**

**December 12 JCAA Board Meeting**  
**December 17<sup>th</sup> JCAA General Meeting**  
**January 10—13 Garden State Sportsmen Show**  
**January 12 Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series**

## **Sportsperson of the Year Dinner/Dance**

*By Paul Turi*

On Sunday, November 18th, JCAA held its annual Sportsperson-of-the-Year award dinner/dance at the beautiful Crystal Pt. Yacht Club in Pt. Pleasant. This year's honoree was Bill Figley. Bill was nominated for this award by the Berkeley Striper Club and was elected by JCAA member clubs at our general membership meeting in October. On behalf of the JCAA and its member clubs, I would like to congratulate Bill Figley on being elected this year's sportsperson-of-the-year.

Bill graduated from Lafayette College with a B.A. Degree in Wildlife Biology in 1971 and from Syracuse University with an M.S. Degree in Wildlife Biology in 1974. He worked as a Fisheries Biologist for the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife starting in 1976. In 1984 Bill Figley began the Artificial Reef Program within the Division of Fish and Wildlife. The goal was to create habitat off the New Jersey coastline for various marine species which could then be enjoyed by recreational fishermen and divers. By the end of 2005 over 140 wrecks, 3500 patch reefs and 14 million tons of various materials have been sunken on the ocean

bottom. The vast majority of money used to purchase materials for the reefs was donated by local clubs, associations, communities and individuals. It was Bill who helped make the program successful by making people aware of it. He spent countless hours speaking at local clubs and organizations, getting them to understand the program, teaching them how to find and fish the reefs, and gaining support as well as donations for the program.

Bill retired in 2005 after 30 years of service to the people of NJ and Division of Fish and Wildlife. Over the years, he has published numerous fishing-related pamphlets and is an avid angler and hunter. Currently, Bill has taken a very active role in Reef Rescue which is a coalition of organizations seeking to eliminate the commercial pots that have taken over our reefs. Reef Rescue includes organizations like the JCAA, RFA, Beach Haven Charter Fishing Association, Beach Haven Marlin & Tuna Club, Greater Point Pleasant Charter Association, and the New Jersey Council of Diving Clubs. Recreational fishermen will be forever indebted to Bill for all the work he has done.

Our guest speaker this year was **Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr.** A text of his speech is printed in another part of this newsletter.

JCAA's Youth Education Committee presented this year's Youth Education Award to the Hi-Mar Striper Club.

Past presidents in attendance were Joe Melillo, Don Marantz, John Toth, Tom Fote, Paul Smith, Frank Richetti, and Bruce Smith.

Former sportspersons-of-the-year in attendance were Joe Melillo, Congressman Frank Pallone, Jr., Al Ristori, The Fisherman Magazine represented by John Debona and Bruce Freeman.

This affair is JCAA's second largest fundraiser, and as of this writing I can report that it was very successful. Having said that, it should be noted that this event could not have taken place without the generosity of the many people and companies that donated the many different items, which were auctioned off and given away as door prizes. I would be remiss if I did not mention each and every one of them because JCAA could not exist without their generosity and support.

The following is a listing of all our sponsors who donated prizes, and on behalf of JCAA, I would like to thank each and every one of them:

Jersey Coast Shark Anglers, Tom Siciliano, Ed Cherry, Frank Tenore-"Fins on Feathers Charters", Burford Books, Bimini Bay, Folsom Corp., Tony "Maja's" E-Z Out-Rudder, Shimano, Blakemore Sales, "Ocean Explorer", "Golden Eagle", "Miss Belmar Princess", "Suzie Girl," "Big Mohawk," "Capt. Cal", Schneider's Restaurant, Hummingbird, Belvedere Plumbing, Minn Kota, Tom Fote, Lou Grazioso-"Striper Mania", Gene Nigro-"The Phantom", Don Hagar-"Sea Fox" Forked River Tuna Club, Boaters World, Carlson Machine & Tool Co., Inc., New Jersey Angler Magazine, The Fisherman Magazine, George Poveromo, Roger & Janice Staib, Chambliss Marine, Canyon Gear, Hi-Seas, JCAA, Julian's Bait & Tackle, Rat-L-Trap, John Foti, Joe Kennedy, Suffix Line, Navionics, American Rod & Gun, Fisherman's Den, Scotts Bait & Tackle in Bradley Beach, Eastern Design and a special thanks to [www.fishermansheadquarters.com](http://www.fishermansheadquarters.com).

Special thanks also to **Dr. Pat Donnelly** for the terrific job he did again this year as our Master of Ceremonies. I would also like to thank all the fishing clubs that took a table. I would also like to thank the many individuals and organizations who also attended and who have shown their support of the JCAA.

Also, special thanks to Dan & Heather Miller who handled the ticket sales and Ed Cherry who helped me with the many donations that came in. I would also like to thank Don & Al Marantz, Tom Fote, Tom Siciliano, Frank Richetti, Rich Pasko, Phil Celmer and Bruce Smith.

I hope I have gotten everyone and every company and organization that participated to make this event a successful one this year. If anyone has fallen through the cracks and I have neglected to mention them, I apologize in advance. I have made every effort to keep accurate records, but, unfortunately, not everything gets into my hands the way I would like it to.

Again, on behalf of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association, thank you, everyone!

### **Congressman Frank Pallone's Statement at JCAA Sportsperson of the Year Dinner**

Let me first express my congratulations to Bill Figley for his efforts to promote the artificial reef program in the State of New Jersey.

He started the first artificial reef program within the Division of Fish and Wildlife in 1984 and by the end of 2005 over 140 wrecks, 3500 patch reefs and 14 million tons of various materials have sunk to the ocean bottom.

For over 20 years, Bill has successfully worked to create healthy reef ecosystems off the New Jersey coastline for various marine species, which have been enjoyed by recreational fishermen and divers throughout the state.

I also want to thank Tom Fote and the Jersey Coast Anglers Association for all they do to protect the rights of fishermen and for your diligence to the preservation of our environment.

Throughout my career, the JCAA has been there with me, working to make New Jersey's environment cleaner and healthier for our fishermen and their children.

As you all know without clean and healthy habitats for fish to breed and grow we wouldn't have such a robust fishing community.

I want to talk a little bit about a couple of fisheries that I know are important to everyone in the room.

### **Atlantic Striped Bass**

The first fishery I'd like to talk about is the Atlantic striped bass. The Atlantic striped bass is a valuable resource along the Atlantic coast and is one of the most important fisheries for recreational anglers in New Jersey.

It is in this spirit that I introduced legislation that would prohibit the commercial harvesting of Atlantic Striped Bass in the coastal waters and the exclusive economic zone of the United States in order to enable coastal populations to return to historical abundances.

H.R. 2625 designates the striped bass as a federal game fish by prohibiting the commercial harvesting of striped bass and reserving the resource exclusively for recreational catches. New Jersey is one of six states along the Atlantic Coast that already classifies striped bass as a game fish.

Recently President Bush announced an Executive Order that would move to prohibit the sale of striped bass and red drum caught in federal waters.

Currently, there are limitations on catching striped bass and red drum fish in federal waters because of significant population decline. If and when those prohibitions are removed, the executive order would ensure that striped bass and red drum

are reserved for recreational catch as a conservation measure.

It's encouraging to see President Bush engage in an issue that is so important to recreational fishermen here in New Jersey. My hope is that this will spur Congress to move my more comprehensive legislation that provides a long lasting solution to the problem and addresses state waters as well as federal waters.

### **Summer Flounder**

Summer flounder is another fish that we have been working for years to protect.

National Marine Fisheries Service is going to cut the summer flounder quota from 17.1 million pounds in 2007 to 15.77 million pounds in 2008.

The reason for the decrease in quota stems from the council's overestimation of increases in spawning stock biomass and an underestimation in mortality rates in 2006. These factors, along with others, were used in a retrospective analysis of the fluke quota leading to the substantial cut.

We are going to need to work together to ensure that we rebuild the summer flounder fishery in a way that doesn't shut down this critical component of the state's coastal economy.

This summer, I called on NMFS to immediately request that the National Research Center of the National Academy of Science conduct an independent peer review of the summer flounder stock assessment, including targets and methodology.

On August 2, 2007 the Director of NMFS, Dr. William Hogarth assured me that he shared my concerns regarding summer flounder and would consider requesting an independent peer review depending upon the findings of the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (MAFMC) Scientific and Statistical Committee.

I have also requested that the House Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife and Oceans hold a hearing to discuss the rebuilding targets set forth in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2007 and relevant issues.

This hearing would give recreational and commercial fisherman a chance to testify before Congress and make their case that the current rebuilding targets are unattainable. It will also give members of Congress the opportunity to question NMFS about the "best available science" used in

creating the yearly total allowable landing (TAL) limits.

I am happy to report that the Subcommittee has committed to having a hearing in early December. I hope that your organization will be helpful as we begin the process of organizing this important hearing.

In the past few weeks it has become clear to me that we have to be more aggressive in protecting the summer flounder fishery. A recent letter from Dr. Hogarth to MAFMC Chairman W. Peter Jensen, described drastic actions that NMFS would be willing to take if states do not implement effective measures to ensure that summer flounder stocks reach their rebuilding targets mandated by the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act.

Based on Dr. Hogarth's letter, Congress will likely have to pass legislation to fix the summer flounder problem. This could include writing flexibility into the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act or extending the rebuilding deadlines for the summer flounder fishery. I plan on meeting with you and other leaders in the recreational fishing community to discuss legislative remedies in the coming weeks.

This is going to be an uphill fight, but it's a fight worth waging. I hope that we can, as we have in the past, work together on all of these issues, from clean and healthy ecosystems for you to fish to protecting the most important fisheries to the recreational community.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

*By John Toth*

This year is rapidly coming to a close and the holidays are already on us. We are already looking at what 2008 will mean in regard to what we can catch with all of those upcoming management restrictions. We will soon learn on or about December 12<sup>th</sup> what our fisheries management representatives have in mind when they meet at the Holiday Inn in Secaucus, NJ to announce what they believe our fluke regulations should be for 2008. Your JCAA staff will be fighting for you to keep these restrictions to a minimum. There is talk about a possible shutdown of fluke for 2009 to meet the

quota established by the Magnuson-Stevens Act. We have been in touch with congressional staff to argue against these possible reductions and we will keep you updated on the latest fluke developments. This is a serious issue and we will need your support. You can support us by sending the representative(s) of your club to our general meetings so that you can learn firsthand about the fluke situation and other important issues that we face so that your club can be aware of the issues and be involved in helping us to resolve them.

Before I forget, we always have our general meetings on the last Tuesday of the month and the last Tuesday in December falls on December 25<sup>th</sup>. Now, I know that you all are committed to the JCAA, but meeting on Christmas Eve is stretching your JCAA loyalty! **So, we have changed our December meeting to December 18<sup>th</sup>** and we will meet at the same time and at the same place. We will certainly discuss the results of the management decisions that come out of their December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. **Also, we will not be publishing the next newsletter until after the holidays.**

### **JCAA Dinner Dance**

We had a very nice turnout and the Crystal Point Yacht Club was almost filled to capacity! Senator Frank Pallone, always a friend of saltwater anglers, indicated that he will use his office to help us fight the harmful and even useless restrictions that management officials have in store for us in regard to fluke.

**Congratulations go to Bill Figley for JCAA Sportsperson of the Year** due to all of his hard work in developing our state's artificial reef program that is the envy of other states. More recently, he has spurred us to fight off the dominance of the reefs by commercial interests and we are now at the point where we may receive legislation that mandates hook and line fishing only at these reefs. Bill is certainly deserving of this award!

**Thank you all for coming to the JCAA Dinner Dance!** Your continued support motivates us to devote our time to protecting the rights of all anglers who fish in New Jersey!

Before I forget again, I recently moved into a new residence and my new address is 24 Kings Mill Road, Monroe Township, NJ 08831. My new telephone number is (732) 656-0139.

In my new community, I learned through a newsletter that it has a fishing club and I called to go on one of their trips. We went out for striped bass. I

had a great time and enjoyed myself with my new found friends. Prior to going out, I left a JCAA newsletter with one of the members so that they could be familiar with the JCAA and what it does. While on the fishing trip, I was handed a check for \$100 by members of the **Regency Fishing Club** without my asking or even mentioning it! They said that the JCAA is an important organization and that they need to be a part of it. Needless to say, I was surprised and gratified to receive the money. However, more importantly, their support was so encouraging to me to continue my work with the JCAA. We face so many issues that sometimes are so discouraging to me and members of the fishing community. When I receive this type of support **without asking** lifts my spirits and my resolve to work for the JCAA. **So welcome to the JCAA Regency Fishing Club!**

**On the political scene**, it has been an interesting election. The Open Space ballot issue passed and many of us were glad to see it pass even though many voters were hesitant to approve spending more money given our state's budgetary problems. A **very hot button** issue for both anglers and hunters was the legislation advanced by Assemblyman Panter and Senator Karcher to change the composition of NJ's Fish & Game Council. The proposed changes could make appointments to this Council susceptible to political hijacking by special interests groups, most notably animal right activists who would end fishing and hunting in this state as we know it if they ever took control of the Council. Both anglers and hunters of NJ became aware of and increasing alarmed of this proposed legislation and they expressed their concern over this threat to their way of life at the voting booths, which is guaranteed by our Constitution. The two articles below detail this hot voting issue that stirred up anglers and hunters in this state to go to the voting booths:

**Saxton 2009 exit a loss for anglers**  
**Sunday, November 11, 2007**  
**By Al Ristori**

The announcement Friday evening that Rep. Jim Saxton will retire in January of 2009 (after his current term) is a setback for anglers all along the coast. The N.J. Republican was a former chairman of the House Fisheries Conservation Subcommittee, and remains a senior member of that subcommittee. The announcement noted that Saxton is fighting prostate cancer and other ailments.

It was Saxton who introduced and pushed through the amendment to the reauthorization of the

Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management Act, when Republicans were in the majority. That action extended the summer flounder rebuilding period by three years, saving this year's fluke season. If it hadn't been passed, there would be no hope at all for next year and beyond.

Saxton, who received the annual award from the Metropolitan Outdoor Press Association in 2006, has long been a force for responsible conservation in the House since replacing another great conservationist, the late Rep. Ed Forsythe, in his mid-state congressional district. Anglers owe Saxton a debt of gratitude for his efforts on behalf of marine conservation and their rights.

The Sportsmen's Alliance flexed its muscles on Election Day and came up a big winner as Sen. Ellen Karcher (D-District 12) was handily defeated by Assemblywoman Jennifer Beck despite the fact that Karcher had a huge advantage in funding as the state Democratic party poured millions into the Monmouth County race. Karcher drew the ire of the state's sportsmen by introducing a bill that would politicize the State Fish and Game Council by allowing the Governor to appoint anyone to it rather than only those with knowledge of fish and game. This was an attempt to replace qualified individuals with those representing animal rights groups, and was a big enough threat that even normally complacent sportsmen were forced to act. The favored Karcher was beaten by a surprisingly solid 54 percent to 46 percent margin.

Her running mate and Assembly sponsor of the bill, Michael Panter (D-Dist. 12), was also defeated in a much closer race that may well have been decided by the votes generated by Sportsmen's Alliance efforts and advertisements. Republicans Declan O'Scanlon and Caroline Casagrande captured the District's two seats, with the latter finishing only 333 votes ahead of Panter.

**Anglers, hunters, farmers had say at**  
**Tuesday's election**  
**Posted by the Asbury Park Press on 11/11/07**  
**By John Geiser,**

Anglers, hunters and farmers are amused at the spin that political analysts put on the defeat of the two state legislators who sponsored legislation that would have stripped sportsmen and farmers from representation on the state Fish and Game Council.

Sen. Ellen Karcher, D-Monmouth, and Assemblyman Michael Panter, D-Monmouth, introduced bills (S-2041 and A-3275) that would have replaced hunters, anglers and farmers with political appointees of the governor.

Further, the bills would have removed the statement of fish and game management purpose "for recreation and food." Additionally the bills would have directed the council to investigate non-lethal wildlife

management options prior to setting hunting, fishing or trapping programs.

The academics who weighed in on the defeat of the legislators on Tuesday claimed that the big issue was Karcher's Christmas tree farm tax break. It was said that polls reflected the change in public sentiment at the time the story of her tree farm broke.

Ask a hunter or fisherman in any bait and tackle shop or sporting goods store in Monmouth County what the real issue was: the future of hunting and fishing.

Ask a farmer anywhere in New Jersey what one of his or her major problems is: wildlife damage.

A newly formed, one-issue movement — the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance — got under way as soon as Karcher and Panter introduced their legislation, and it attracted Republicans, Democrats and independents who hunt, fish and till the soil like iron filings to a magnet.

Anthony P. Mauro, a hunter and fisherman from Belmar, practically gave up sleeping in an effort to attract support for the alliance. It came from all over the state, thousands of hunters, anglers and farmers responded.

If they could not vote in the 12th Legislative District, or even in New Jersey, they still sent money or lent their vocal support.

"These may well have been the most important votes ever cast by a sportsman in New Jersey," Mauro said. "They were votes to protect your rights as outdoorsmen and women."

The state Fish and Game Council was created by the state Legislature in 1945, and is made up of hunters, anglers and farmers who are responsible for adopting the annual Fish and Game Codes as well as overseeing the Hunters and Anglers Fund, which supports the conservation and protection of fish and wildlife in the state.

It has done an outstanding job of balancing wildlife populations with the available habitat and the everyday lives of the state's citizens.

The drivers who hit thousands of deer on the state's roads every year or the golfers who wade through acres of Canada goose evidence may think the council should do more, but it does its best within the political climate that exists.

Hunters and anglers recognized that the measures introduced by Karcher and Panter would have destroyed this traditional management, and, under an animal rights administration, could have ended hunting and fishing in the state.

The political analysts who thought Karcher's tree farm was the big issue apparently never talked to a hunter or fisherman. They are not hard to find. There are an estimated 80,000 in Monmouth County and over one million in New Jersey, and they are eligible to vote.

They throw political labels aside when their favorite recreation is threatened. The campaign heated up at the same time as the tree farm discussion, but there was

probably not one bass fisherman or deer hunter in 2007 cared about the tree farm issue.

They cared about the threat to the future of hunting and fishing, though. They rose up and went to the polls as bowlers would fight a proposal to close all bowling lanes or tennis players would oppose a ban on the game.

The political climate, in fact, was ideal on Tuesday for a rebellion. Saltwater fishermen, especially summer flounder anglers, are seeing their favorite fishery destroyed by protectionists. They wanted to lash out.

It is well known by sportsmen that the council and the state Division of Fish and Wildlife rely primarily on funds derived from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses, stamps and permits, and from money from the Federal Sport Fish Restoration and Wildlife Restoration programs that come from taxes on hunters, anglers, boaters and shooters.

They demonstrated on Tuesday that they are not ready to turn the use of these funds and control of the future of hunting and fishing over to unfriendly administration.

## **FISHERIES MANAGEMENT & LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

*By Thomas Fote*

Some of the articles are repeats from the November newspaper. Things haven't changed with Pots Off Reef and Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs bills. You still need to contact your legislators. Bruce Freeman and I met with some Congressional aides and discussed more of our concerns with the present form of Oceans 21. We will be working with other groups and give you more information as it becomes available. We understand there will be a Congressional Hearing on December 5<sup>th</sup> to look at stock assessments throughout the country. I hope we will be discussing the failure to use ecosystem management and the faulty science on which many targets are based. I have also included an article about the disposal of prescription drugs. The Federal Government is finally encouraging people to dispose of any drugs in responsible manner, not by flushing.

I have been doing a lot of traveling this month. Bruce Freeman and I attended a Congressional briefing on summer flounder. We would like to thank Congressman Saxton and Andy Oliver for inviting us to attend.

## **SUMMER FLOUNDER AND PEW**

I received an email from someone who works at the PEW Foundation. The writer questions the science that backs up a quote from Bruce Freeman that appeared in the Asbury Park Press. The quote came from a statement made at the New Jersey Outdoor Writers Workshop on November 15th. The entirety of his statement was not included, just this quote. "Historically, we have more summer flounder now than we've seen in living memory, at least 60 years," Freeman said. "We're going to destroy the fishery, and in three or four years the stock will be doubled, and people can't rationalize that. . . . People won't accept it."

Rather than just respond to the writer of the email, I am compiling information that I want to share more broadly.

Bruce Freeman has a lot more history in the fishery than anyone I know. His work goes back to the sixties and the seventies when he was responsible for compiling the recreational catch figures for summer flounder at the Federal Bureau of Sportfishing. When it was merged into NMFS he continued that work. Nobody on the current MAFMC staff who is dealing with this issue has been involved for more than a couple of years. Bruce's comments, taken in total, reflected exactly what NMFS has been saying by setting these targets. At various times in public forums, NMFS has been asked, "Will these low quotas actually result in reaching these imaginary targets?" We know NMFS is required by law to set a quota that will meet the rebuilding targets. For summer flounder, this means setting targets that will reach a doubling of the present spawning stock biomass and biomass. Yet, when asked the question, the answer has been a refusal to guarantee any specific outcome. However, NMFS continues to set targets using imaginary numbers and refusing to adjust these targets when actual data is available. Even if we consider that slight overages or the contention that the regression analysis would have called for a smaller target, there is no way this minimal difference would have had a dramatic impact on the total outcome. We are talking about a stock that was producing 33 million fish into the system in 1993 with a spawning stock biomass of 20 million pounds. We now have a spawning stock of between 80 and 109 million pounds, yet the actual production has averaged 27 million fish, a drop of 5 million fish per year in recruitment. That is fish, not pounds! The total

spawning stock biomass, even with the 3 year increase from 2005 to 2007 of 30 million pounds, the total biomass went down by 1 million pounds. NMFS admits that their targets, using their questionable science, are not producing desired results. Their solution is to blame some unforeseen background mortality. Even though they admit this problem is not due to fishing pressure, reducing fishing pressure is their only solution. We all know the definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.

PEW and some other environmental organizations are pushing for compliance with the newly passed Magnuson/Stevens Act based on their interpretations of the Act. The Magnuson/Stevens Act requires that the Federal Management Council's Science & Statistical Committee (SSC) sets the targets. PEW never questions that Mid-Atlantic Marine Fisheries Council (MAFMC) and NMFS refuse to send the monitoring committee report to the MAFMC Science & Statistical Committee (SSC) as required by the M/S Act. The MAFMC gave the excuse to Congress and the fishing community that it could not be done before their meeting in early August. That was three months ago and there have been opportunities to be in compliance and send the report to SSC to set the quota. The SSC has a different makeup than the ASMFC and MAFMC Monitoring Committee. We rely on SSC to look at a variety of factors. Why hasn't PEW joined with Congress and the commercial and recreational fishing communities to demand this is done?

Under this act, NMFS is required to set quotas that will rebuild any stock within 10 years. In looking at summer flounder, NMFS is restricting the quota with the intention of reaching their imaginary target for the spawning stock and the biomass during the ten year rebuilding period using targets that are based on assumptions rather than facts. If you read the Magnuson/Stevens Act, the clear intention is that the targets and quotas are developed using actual data, not the personal assumptions made by the modelers. What PEW and other groups are doing is basing their decisions on the assumption that NMFS uses actual data. What PEW and other groups fail to do is question the recent failures of the projections. When NMFS sets up an unrealistic target and fails to meet that target, we need to be asking about other factors (environmental, competition for habitat and prey, poor data) rather than repeating the same mistake again and again. When PEW questions

Bruce Freeman's statement that the stocks will double in the rebuilding period, you are, in effect, questioning everything NMFS has done. Has PEW come to the realization that what NMFS is projecting won't happen? Does PEW believe that we cannot increase this stock to 197 million pound spawning stock biomass and 215 million pound biomass from its present level of 93 million spawning stock biomass and 104 million pound biomass? I think that looks like doubling the stock to me. I was at the Congressional briefing with Bruce Freeman when NMFS said this is the largest spawning stock biomass and biomass they have on record. That is what the facts show. I can only imagine that PEW believes we will actually meet some imaginary target set by projections that have not considered any ecosystem management. It makes no sense to me when so-called environmental groups totally ignore environmental concerns when decisions are made. That is bizarre!

I need to mention that, according to the newspapers, PEW is suggesting we should implement a moratorium on summer flounder fishing like we did on striped bass without any regard for how many small family businesses will go bankrupt and how many people will lose businesses and jobs. I guess PEW wants people to do something else besides fish. That is how it looks to me and a lot of the fishing community. PEW has never questioned NMFS refusal to do an economic study of the effects of the regulations on the recreational fishing community as required by Magnuson/Stevens. Striped bass and summer flounder were two completely different plans. There was never a ten year rebuilding plan with striped bass. The striped bass plan called for us to protect the 82 year class until they spawned at least once which took almost 7 years. If you understand summer flounder, you know they spawn after one year. The plan required that we look at a specific three year running average for the young of the year index. This was based on actual sample and data collected, not on assumptions. There was never a target for SSB or total biomass. We were also striving for good age class distribution in striped bass just like we have with summer flounder now. The older age class distribution is just as good as or better than on striped bass. Is that what PEW wants to do on summer flounder? JCAA would love those criteria for summer flounder. If that plan was in effect right now for summer flounder, we would be basing the

quotas on fishing mortality and I am sure the quotas would be much larger than anything proposed by NMFS for 2007 or 2008. For the record, there was no coastwide moratorium on striped bass. Maryland and Virginia put in a moratorium after a period of time and were in discussions how to reopen the fishery before the good YOY Index that allowed the ASMFC to relax regulations. There were large striped bass being sold during that entire period. I was at all those striped bass board meetings back then and I know PEW was not represented. I don't believe PEW was even involved in fisheries management during that time period.

JCAA has always supported rebuilding stocks and our membership has been willing to make hard choices for the greater good. However, JCAA has never supported developing targets or quotas based on faulty science. We have always supported looking at all of the science, not just the models. We understand ecosystem management and have been supporting making decisions with the environment in mind for over 25 years. It was JCAA that pushed for predator/prey information in 1995 that led to an ongoing study of these relationships. Right now, I see a group of NGOs that have lost sight of environmental causes and have made the fishermen the "bad guys" and blamed us for all of the environmental problems. Before these NGOs point the finger at us, they need to look at their own practices. JCAA leaves a small footprint. Some of these NGOs spend more on décor than JCAA has ever raised or spent. I guarantee their rent on their fancy offices is greater than JCAA's and other fisheries organizations' 25 year budgets. Of course, we don't have huge foundations' oil money funding us. In fact, we pride ourselves in not funding with polluters' money. JCAA has been offered but refused to do that for all the years that I have been involved with it. We fund ourselves from contributions from people who fish and care about the environment. Think about who stands on the higher ground!

**NOAA FISHERIES SERVICE**  
**PROPOSED QUOTAS FOR SUMMER**  
**FLOUNDER, BLACK SEA BASS AND**  
**SCUP QUOTA FOR 2008.**

I received this document for public comment on the 2008 quota on for summer flounder, black sea bass and scup. I have already been told that there will be written comments sent in by certain Environmental



NGO's calling for the smaller quota on summer flounder because of the recommendations of the Monitoring Committee. You need to send in your comments supporting the higher quota of 15.77 million. Even though 15.77 million pounds is a disaster it is better than 12.90 to 11.64 million pounds recommended by the Monitoring Committee. The NMFS will probably publish the rule before the joint meeting of the MAFMC and ASMFC on December 12 at Holiday Inn, Harmon Meadows, 300 Plaza Dr., Secaucus, New Jersey 07094. I just received the agenda and it is below also. I will keep you posted on the exact date of summer flounder meeting. After NMFS decides which quota to go with, we will contact you, if necessary, to show up in force in Secaucus. If they publish 15.77 as the final recommendation to bring all of you to the meeting as that's the best we can do right now. JCAA will be represented no matter which quota NMFS chooses.

#### **EXCERPTS FROM NOAA'S RELEASE ON PROPOSED QUOTAS.**

NOAA Fisheries Service today proposed limits on fishing three key species in order to end overfishing and promote rebuilding of the stocks. The proposed 2008 total allowable landing limits are:

- Summer Flounder – 15.77 million pounds, 8 percent less than the 2007 limit of 17.11 million pounds;
- Scup – 7.34 million pounds, 39 percent less than the 2007 limit of 12 million pounds; and
- Black Sea Bass – 4.22 million pounds, 16 percent less than the 2007 limit of 5 million pounds.

Since 2000, recreational fishery harvests have exceeded their annual limit in most years. NOAA recently urged the Council and the Commission to look for more effective approaches for constraining recreational harvests in 2008. Currently, each state implements its own recreational measures: usually a combination of seasons, minimum fish size and bag limits. The proposed limits are based on calculations that assume the states will no longer exceed their recreational harvests.

“If recreational harvests appear likely to exceed the annual limit before the end of the 2008 fishing year, NOAA will look at options to ensure

the rebuilding effort is not jeopardized, including closing the recreational fishery in federal waters,” added Hogarth.

The proposed rule, which includes recreational and commercial fishery and state allocations, may be viewed [online](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/com.htm) at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov/nero/regs/com.htm>.

Public comments on the proposed rule will be accepted through December 3, 2007. NOAA will implement the 2008 annual landing limits in December.

Electronic Submissions: Submit all electronic public comments via the Federal eRulemaking Portal <http://www.regulations.gov>.

Mail and hand delivery: Patricia A. Kurkul, Regional Administrator, NMFS, Northeast Regional Office, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930. Mark the outside of the envelope: “Comments on 2008 Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Specifications.” Fax: (978) 281-9135.

Instructions: All comments received are a part of the public record and will generally be posted to <http://www.regulations.gov> without change. All Personal Identifying Information (for example, name, address, etc.) voluntarily submitted by the commenter may be publicly accessible. Do not submit Confidential Business Information or otherwise sensitive or protected information. NMFS will accept anonymous comments. Attachments to electronic comments will be accepted in Microsoft Word, Excel, WordPerfect, or Adobe PDF file formats only.

Copies of the specifications document, including the Environmental Assessment, Regulatory Impact Review, and Initial Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (EA/RIR/IRFA) and other supporting documents for the specifications are available from Daniel Furlong, Executive Director, Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, Room 2115, Federal Building, 300 South Street, Dover, DE 19901-6790. These documents are also accessible via the Internet at <http://www.nero.noaa.gov>. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael Ruccio, Fishery Policy Analyst, (978) 281-9104.

Council Meeting Secaucus, NJ: December 10-13, 2007 at Holiday Inn Harmon Meadow, 300 Plaza Drive, Secaucus, NJ 07094 (telephone 201-348-2000). Below is the meeting agenda.

Tuesday December 11  
8:30 Council convenes jointly with Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission's Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Board

8:30 - 11:00 Summer Flounder: 2008 Recreational Management Measures

- Review and discuss Monitoring Committee's recommendations on summer flounder management measures
- Review and discuss Advisory Panel's recommendations on summer flounder management measures
- Develop and approve management measures for 2008 summer flounder recreational fishery

11:00 - 12:00 Scup: 2008 Recreational Management Measures

- Review and discuss Monitoring Committee's recommendations on scup management measures
- Review and discuss Advisory Panel's recommendations on scup management measures
- Develop and approve management measures for 2008 scup recreational fishery

12:00 - 1:00 Lunch

1:00 - 2:30 Scup: 2008 Recreational Management Measures - Continued

- Review and discuss Monitoring Committee's recommendations on scup management measures
- Review and discuss Advisory Panel's recommendations on scup management measures
- Develop and approve management measures for 2008 scup recreational fishery

2:30 - 4:30 Black Sea Bass: 2008 Recreational Management Measures

- Review and discuss Monitoring Committee's recommendations on black sea bass management measures
- Review and discuss Advisory Panel's recommendations on black sea bass management measures
- Develop and approve management measures for 2008 black sea bass recreational fishery

### **POTS OF REEF BILL**

The bill (S 2635) that would rid New Jersey artificial reefs of pots that interfere with drifting, anchoring and even additional reef-building passed through the Senate Environmental Committee on Thursday, October 18<sup>th</sup>. JCAA would like to thank Senator Robert Smith, chairman of the Environmental Committee for holding a special hearing on this bill and for all of his support. Other Senators who

supported this bill are Senators Adler, Sweeney, and McNamara. We would also like to thank Senate President Codey for allowing this special hearing. His continued support is needed to get this bill posted and passed by the full Senate. We also need Assembly Speaker Joseph Roberts to post this bill for passage by the Assembly. Governor Corzine, Senate President Codey and Assembly Speaker Joseph Roberts know how important this bill is to you. We want this bill posted during the session following the November election. There is no reason to begin this process again in the next legislature to reach the same outcome. Call or write them now.

### **S138/A636 HOOKED ON FISHING-NOT ON DRUGS BILL**

JCAA, NJSFSC and I have been working hard to get S138/A636 Hooked on Fishing-Not on Drugs Bill passed. It was heard by the Senate Environmental Committee on Monday, September 17 and was moved out of committee. JCAA would like to thank Senator Robert Smith, Chairman of the Senate Environmental Committee for posting this bill for hearing. We would like to thank Senator John Adler and Senator Andy Ciesla for their support. This bill has already passed the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee with a unanimous vote. We now need to work on getting the Assembly Appropriations Committee and Senate Appropriations Committee to hear the bill after the elections and then get the bill passed by the full Assembly and Senate.

Assemblyman Herb Conaway is a Co-sponsor and a member of the Assembly Appropriations Committee. In the Senate there are two members of the Senate Appropriations Committee who are co-sponsors, Senator Barbara Buono and Senator Nick Asselta. We will need their help to get this bill posted for a vote and out of the Appropriations Committee in their houses. These are the committee members that we need to contact to have the next hearing on S138/A636.

Assembly Appropriations Committee members are;

Nellie Pou – Chair, Joseph Cryan, - Vice-Chair  
Herb Conaway, Michael J. Doherty, Robert Gordon, Louis Greenwald, Reed Gusciora, Marcia A. Karrow, Richard A. Merkt, Joseph Pennacchio, Valerie Huttler Vainieri, John S. Wisniewski.

Senate Budget and Appropriations  
Bernard F. Kenny – Chair, Sharpe James - Vice-Chair, Nicholas Asselta, Martha W Bark, Anthony R. Bucco, Barbara Buono, Joseph Coniglio, Joseph V. Doria, Walter J Kavanaugh, Leonard Lance, Robert E Littell, Paul A. Sarlo, Stephen M. Sweeney  
Shirley K. Turner, Joseph F. Vitale.

The key is also to get the leadership to make sure the Assembly Appropriations Committee and the Senate Appropriations Committee hear and pass these bills. Senate President Richard Cody and Assembly Speaker Joseph Roberts need to make sure this happens and that the bills are posted for a vote by the full Senate and Assembly. To make sure this happens we need to get a commitment from them before the elections to post and pass the bill. Here is their contact information.

**Senate President Richard Cody**  
449 Mount Pleasant Ave.  
West Orange, NJ 07052  
Phone Number: (973) 731-6770  
Fax Number 973-731-0647

**Assemblyman Speaker Joseph J. Roberts Jr**  
Brooklawn Shopping Plaza,  
Route 130 & Browning Rd,  
Brooklawn, NJ 08030  
Phone Number: (856) 742-7600  
Fax Number 856-742-1831

## **ASBURY PARK PRESS TUESDAY, NOV. 6,**

**2007**

**Rx for. dumping pills: Mix with kitty litter**

**Experts rescind advice to flush meds**

**THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

**WASHINGTON**

**It's time to pooper-scoop your leftover medicine.**

Mixing cough syrup, Vicodin or Lipitor with cat litter is the new advice on getting rid of unused medications. We prefer the use of used cat litter.

It's a compromise, better for the environment than flushing - and one that renders dangerous medicines too yucky to try if children, pets or drug abusers stumble through the trash.

A government experiment is about to send that advice straight to thousands of patients who use potent painkillers, sleeping pills and other controlled substances.

Why? Prescription drug abuse is on the rise, and research suggests more than half of people who misuse those drugs get them for free from a friend or relative. In other words, having leftovers in the medicine cabinet is a risky idea. Anyone visiting your house could swipe them.

So far 6,300 pharmacies around the country have signed up for a pilot project with the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. When patients fill prescriptions for a list of abuse-prone medicines, from Ambien to Vicodin, the pharmacist also will hand over a flier urging them to take the cat-litter step if they don't wind up using all their pills.

Not a cat owner? Old coffee grounds work, or doggie doo, even sawdust. Just seal the meds and the, er, goop in a plastic bag before tossing in the trash.

"We don't want to assert that- this is a panacea for the larger problem," says SAMHSA's Dr. H. Westley Clark. "It just provides them with a caveat that these are: not things you can just lay: around."

But the concern isn't only about controlled substances. How to best dispose of any medicine, whether prescription or over-the-counter, is a growing issue.

No one knows just how many unused drugs Americans dump each year or how many are hoarded because patients simply don't know what to do with them or properly dispose of them.

## **Fluke Stock Assessment Update**

*By Bruce Freeman*

Anyone following the summer flounder (fluke) fishery is very concerned about the allowable catch quota for 2008. The federal law mandates that the Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council develop annual quotas for federal waters, i.e. from three to 200 miles offshore. Annual fluke stock assessments are used as a basis to set the yearly quotas. Because of the importance of the stock assessments, it is extremely important that they include all of the most complete and accurate fishery information as well as having the assessments use the most complete analytical techniques, referred to as modeling

As stock assessment scientists gain experience and the biological data being collected becomes more extensive and complete, some of the analytical techniques are continually modified or new ones applied in order to provide the very best scientific advice possible. Because of the important nature of the fluke stock assessments, the JCAA has requested that a totally independent scientific review be done this year by the National Academy of Science. At the same time, we requested that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) support this request. The Commission voted to fund such a review, but at its August meeting it was persuaded to change its position and instead support what is called a benchmark assessment. This process will involve the use of three federal scientists and a fourth independent scientist to serve on the Stock Assessment Workshop this coming June.

Because of the importance of the stock assessment for fluke and the reluctance to have a truly independent stock review, the JCAA, RFA,

United Boatman of NY and NJ, and the Garden State Seafood Association and the NY Tackle Trades Association have formed an ad hoc group to determine how best to be involved in the Benchmark Stock Assessment Workshop scheduled for June 2008. We have agreed that we need several independent stock assessment scientists to be involved not only with the June meeting but also in several preliminary meetings leading up to the June workshop. We are in touch with scientists from Rutgers University and we will be looking for other scientists from New York and Virginia. In addition, we will need to hire a highly respected stock assessment scientist to lead this effort. We have contacted a highly qualified scientist and we are getting cost estimates to form a budget to pay for his services and travel expenses.

We will present this budget to our membership clubs for final approval and action. I will become directly involved in the stock assessment process and I have already contacted the Mid Atlantic Council to have my name added to the Workshop group roster and plan to attend the preliminary meetings and the June workshop in Woods Hole in MA.

I will keep you continually updated on the progress of this most important and urgent study which is so crucial to the problems we face with the fluke fishery.

## **HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES**

*BY JOHN KOEGLER*

### **Are Bluefin Tuna in danger of extinction?**

In previous HMS reports there were signs that the Atlantic Bluefin tuna population is in serious trouble. The Europeans and African countries have refused over the last 27 years to impose and enforce bluefin tuna restrictions on their countries' fishermen in the Western Atlantic. In addition, they ignore the impact of their giant bluefin tuna fish farming. They file totally false landing reports that are as much as 50% below their actual landings so that no ICCAT restrictions are imposed on their fishermen.

The worst reporting farce is their reporting of "0" age class of bluefin tuna. Two years ago the European members reported that as a conservation measure they had stopped all landing of "0" age fish. A sample check of local fish markets in Europe found abundant supplies of these "0" age fish

available. The reason this item is so important is because over 50% of previous years' Eastern Atlantic landings were bluefin of this age class.

The reported 2005 European and African giant bluefin landings have clearly exceeded their quotas. Various conservation groups have gotten the European Union management to insist that their member states stop their 2007 bluefin landings because they were over their agreed quotas. This request from both ICCAT and the EU were mostly ignored.

As a result, the current head of ICCAT, Bill Hogarth has requested that ICCAT at this year's (2007) November meeting impose a TOTAL Moratorium on bluefin tuna landings from their Eastern Atlantic members. Bill's statement in part said; "Given continued blatant violations of catch limits, closed areas, and reporting requirements, a moratorium is the best hope if we want to avert disaster for eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean bluefin tuna stocks. Our western stock of bluefin tuna intermixes with the much larger eastern stock and there is real concern about the impact of uncontrolled eastern bluefin catches on western Atlantic bluefin stocks caught by our fishermen."

### **How bad is the bluefin population problem?**

US total giant and medium in 2007 landings as of November 1 were reported at 146.4 Mt. The US 2007 bluefin quota is 1391.2 MT. In ALL years before 2000 the US fishery was closed before November 1 because the entire US giant quota had been landed.

US 2007 November 1 landings of 146.4 MT are only 10% of the US quota! It is now very evident that something disastrous has happened to US giant bluefin tuna landings!

Changing from full quota landings before 2000 and to 10% in seven years is just not a problem of tuna moving to find food. Such numbers represent a COLLAPSE of the US giant bluefin tuna fishery. What happens next? Does anyone expect ICCAT to change and impose bluefin saving regulations on the Europeans and Africans as requested? **Who** will enforce them, even if they do impose tough new regulations?

### **Planet in Peril?**

Is our fishing future in peril? The Arctic Ocean's ICE is shrinking so rapidly that scientists have determined that their future thirty year reduced ice estimates are occurring this year.

Scientists that study the island of Greenland are finding that this huge island that has ice over one mile deep is melting at an astronomical rate. Scientists have documented that the air temperature over Greenland has risen by 4.5 degrees C in the last 10 years. That is an increase of  $4.5C \times 2.2$  (C conversion to F) = 9.0 F. The impact of 9 F temperature increase on Northern frozen latitudes is shocking even to the scientists. Not only is Greenland ice rapidly melting but the Arctic Ocean's ice cover is disappearing.

The Arctic Ocean's sea ice summer cover is now 50% of what it was just 10 years ago! As more of the ocean is exposed to summer sunlight the melt is increasing dramatically. In the 2006 summer it was documented that an ADDITIONAL ONE MILLION square miles of ARCTIC sea ice had melted! Ice that had retreated from Alaska's northern coast by ONLY 10 miles each summer is now 200 miles away. This much ocean without a protective ice cover will cause the Arctic Ocean's remaining ice cover to rapidly disappear.

When fresh water from melting ice mixes with the salty ocean there is an impact above the total amount of fresh water melt. This increase is called Thermal Expansion. Fresh ice water expands by an additional 10% above the actual amount when combined with ocean water. This raises world-wide sea levels much faster than scientists had estimated.

New Jersey has documented that the average high tide from the start of the century in 1900 to 2000 was 16 inches. Most of that occurred after 1950. The impact on our ocean coastline is dramatic. In addition to the sea level change there is a climate component. Scientists have informed us that the biggest impact of Global warming is not just the increases in temperature. The REAL difference is more weather extremes. It is now documented that the 10 warmest East Coast summers have occurred since 1990.

Will US land that was marginally dry revert to desert because there is less rain and too much heat? There is solid evidence for this in the southern part of our country. The city of Atlanta, Georgia rainfall so far in 2007 was 20 inches below normal. Its water reservoirs are lower than in any time over the last 100 years. On October 10, they reported that Atlanta had only 90 days of water left in their primary water reservoir.

California is another example of a drought's impact. During 2007 southern California had only

20% of their normal rainfall. Recent horrible wildfires there became unstoppable. Vast areas of southern California have burned. Fire damage to California homes climbed above the billion dollar mark.

Hurricane force Santa Ana winds caused flames to jump fire barriers. These winds lifted the fire embers and blew them way beyond the actual fire front. This enabled fire to leap from one canyon to another only stopping when the fire reached the Pacific Ocean.

Northern Plain states in 2007 had flooding conditions several times during this summer. Locally we had a very dry late summer. A drought declaration for the eastern US was only days away when extended late October rains arrived.

Remember the terrible winter storm on March 15 of this year. I remember because one of my boat's good winter tarps was shredded by that storm. The Saltwater Fishing Expo was greatly affected by the untimely Friday night March blizzard.

October 2007 was the warmest October on record. It was not just a degree or two above normal but averaged 7 degrees F above normal for the entire month! It is now early November and in many areas the trees still have their leaves. When can you remember the trees still having their leaves on November 1?

Our Political leaders can deny Global Warming all they want but it is clear to everyone else that our weather is changing rapidly. What is more distressing is the rate of change is increasing at a rate never before experienced in the US.

Now What Happens? Will we land weakfish and croakers during Christmas instead of stripers? Given the current fishery management nonsense will we be forced to eat spiny dogfish in place of fluke? Hey, fishermen, you better get involved because the entire fishery management process is out of control.

Have a healthy holiday as a great New Year.

## **YOUTH EDUCATION** **BY GREG KUCHAREWSKI**

### **2007 YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD**

The Hi-Mar Striper Club will receive the Jersey Coast Anglers Association 2007 Youth Education Award for their continued promotion of family

fishing and providing "Hooked On Fishing Not On Drugs" programs at fishing events. The award will be presented at the JCAA Annual Sportsman of the Year Award Dinner on November 18, 2007. This year the Hi-Mar membership worked on several youth fishing programs and assisted Jeff Johns with the Father Time outdoor fishing exposition for children and their families. Mike McLean, Youth Boat Trip Chairperson, organized several youth fishing boat trips. Mike and the membership of the Hi-Mar Striper Club work hard to promote youth sport fishing and protect our saltwater resources. Great job, guys!

### **KIDS FLY CASTING COMPETITION**

Hey kids, now is the time to start practicing your fly casting skills. A few weeks ago, I had the pleasure to speak with Capt. Mike Corblies, National Director of American Fly-Fishing Schools (AFFS) about the latest addition to the AFFS "SIMUL-CAST" exhibit. AFFS is hosting a fly casting contest for kids ages 10 - 17 with lots of competitive fun and great prizes that participants will have an opportunity to win. The contest is for young anglers to demonstrate and improve their fly fishing skills and possibly advance to the National competition. During 2007, AFFS sponsored several local and regional competitions around the United States. The competitions are held at Sportsmen and Boating Shows and youngsters have a chance to qualify around the country before the National Finals take place in Florida, May 2008. Contestants compete by age groups of 10-12, 13-15, and 16-17 years old with prize winning champions from each group. An overall Junior Grand Champion will emerge from this contest and recognized for his or her accomplishments. So, get ready, the next New Jersey qualifier and semi-final will take place at the Garden State Sportsmen's Show, Raritan Center Exposition Hall - Edison, NJ on January 2008. For more information AFFS <http://americanflyfishingschools.com/homepage/kidscastingtournament.html>

Word has it there is a young lady that can really cast accurately. So peruse the web site and look over the competition. Who knows, you may make it to the finals in Florida. Capt. Mike Corblies is doing a great job of getting young anglers interested in sportfishing and teaching them the art of fly-fishing. In my opinion, if you ever have the opportunity to attend one of Mike's fly-fishing classes you will learn more in one day than you will with others in a week. Mike pours his heart and soul into teaching

youngsters about the art of fly-fishing. Capt. Mike and I go back a long time and as he put it, "Everyone knows we're not in this for the money. We just want to keep kids on the right path in life."

### **"TAKE'EM BOATING" 2008**

The JCAA Youth Education Committee has offered to assist with the "Take'm Boating" program if the project funding is awarded. The program is a watershed education program entitled Boat & Bobbers in Barnegat Bay. It will consist of taking children on a boat, many whom would not have the opportunity to go on a boat. They will be exposed to an enjoyable and informative learning experience. Middle school students will receive proper instruction about the history of Barnegat Bay, pollution prevention, boater/water safety, and species identification. Instructors supporting the program are, Lynette Lurig, Research Scientist, Division of Science, Research & Technology, Bureau of Natural Resources Science, (NJDEP) - Eleanor Bochenek, Ph. D, Marine Scientist, Haskin Shellfish Laboratory, Rutgers University - Harold Nebling, Principal Environmental Specialist, Division of Watershed Management, NJ DEP and the JCAA Youth Education Committee.

### **YOUTH FISHING ACTIVITY BULLETIN BOARD**

The JCAA Youth Education Committee is invited to support the Keansburg Father Time indoor fishing stations on January 26, 2008. It's the third year Jeff Johnson; Keansburg Father Time will organize the event for the Bolger Middle School. As we get closer to the date we will have more about this event and fishing clubs that volunteer their time at the fishing learning stations. For more information on the Father Time organization, call Johnson at (732) 787-2007, ext. 2554.

### **OUTDOOR SPORTSMEN SHOWS**

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association's, Youth Education Committee, will feature special youth education seminars at upcoming sportsmen shows. Participating merchants at the hunting and fishing expositions will offer promotions at their booths for children attending the Jersey Coast Anglers Association's, Youth Fishing Seminars. Parents are also welcome to attend.

## **SHARE YOUR FUN TEACH & TAKE SOMEONE FISHING**

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**contact 1-800-448-7360**

## **SALT WATER SPORTSMAN NATIONAL SEMINAR SERIES**

### **RETURNS TO WEST LONG BRANCH!**

Circle Saturday, January 12, on your calendar! That's when the Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series returns to the Jersey Shore with an entertaining and information-packed day on how to catch more and bigger saltwater fish off New Jersey - inshore and offshore. Now into its 21<sup>st</sup> year of touring and regarded as the most popular educational course on marine sportfishing tactics, the Seminar Series New Jersey leg will be held inside Monmouth University's Pollak Theatre (400 Cedar Avenue, West Long Branch). The event will be hosted by George Poveromo – Host of George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing on ESPN2, and a Senior Editor for Salt Water Sportsman, and Gary Caputi – Offshore Editor for Salt Water Sportsman. The 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. presentation is being brought to you by Boater's World Marine Centers.

Joining Poveromo and Caputi in West Long Branch will be Captain Sal Cursi – Legendary Raritan Bay expert with over 35-years experience at catching trophy stripers, weakfish, bluefish and fluke aboard his vessel – Cathy Sea; Captain Melanie Boytos – Premier Barnegat Bay weakfish and trophy fluke specialist. Boytos is also a noted light tackle striper and bluefish pro; Captain Trey Rhyne – Nationally-recognized big game captain and noted Northeast canyon-fishing specialist. Rhyne heads up Over-Under Charters; Captain Lou Grazioso – Trophy striped bass authority and a specialist at catching jumbo fluke and weakfish. Grazioso has over 20 years experience at fishing Raritan Bay/New York Harbor waters; Dr. Mitchell Roffer – the nation's leading authority on locating surface temperature breaks and ocean-circulation features that hold fish; Captain Ken "The Big Kid" Gallop – Distinguished canyon fishing pro and tuna specialist. Gallop is also an accomplished shark and trophy striped bass angler; and Captain Nick Neuberg – Renowned skipper of the charter vessel "Benchmark" and specialist at fishing offshore and in the canyons for tuna, marlin and swordfish. Neuberg also excels at catching striped bass, bluefish and bottom fish.

Courses for the January 12 presentation will focus on Trophy stripers on ultra-light tackle;

- Live-lining for trophy stripers;
- Top trolling tactics for stripers; Secrets of fishing Raritan, Sandy Hook, Silver and Barnegat Bays; Sure-fire weakfish tactics;
- How to target and catch trophy weakfish; Chunking for bluefish; Bluefish on surface lures;

- Inshore wire-line techniques;
- Jetty tactics; How to catch more and bigger fluke; Targeting trophy fluke; Cutting-edge fluke tactics; Top tactics for big blackfish;
- Catching blackfish by the score;
- Variety fishing in and around inlets;
- How to locate and fish productive bottom (blackfish, sea bass, spot and fluke); Back-bay stripers;
- Can't miss tuna-trolling patterns; Cutting-edge tuna chunking tactics;
- Live-baiting for tunas;
- Advanced methods for bluefin and yellowfin tuna; Zeroing in on big eye tuna; How to choose, rig and fish the best lures and natural baits for tuna; Tournament winning offshore trolling tactics;
- Subsurface offshore trolling tactics; Cutting edge spreader bar and dredge tactics;
- Secrets for catching more inshore tuna; Reading water temperature charts;
- Targeting trophy makos; Basic and advanced sharking techniques;
- Offshore kite fishing for sharks and tuna;
- Florida tactics for daytime swordfish!

A ticket to the Seminar Series costs \$ 55.00, and includes a \$ 50.00 Boater's World Gift Card (Via mail-in rebate with your next purchase of \$ 150.00), a Boater's World Duffle Bag, a One-Year subscription or extension to Salt Water Sportsman Magazine, One Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecast Analysis (offshore tuna, dolphin and marlin only), a 16-ounce bottle of OrPine Wash & Wax, One 330-yard spool of Sufix fishing line, and one tub of Feeding Frenzy Chum.

The names of all attendees of the Jersey Shore seminar will be entered into the Grand Prize drawing to win an incredible bonefishing excursion to the Bimini Sands Resort and Marina. The drawing will be held at the conclusion of the seminar that day, and one lucky person will win the trip for two! In addition, the names of all attendees from the 2008 Seminar Series Tour will be entered into the drawing for the Super Grand Prize - a brand new Mako 212 Center Console complete with a FLOAT-ON trailer! The drawing for the boat will take place one week after the completion of the final seminar on the tour, and one lucky winner will take home the boat!

To order tickets by phone with a major credit card, call 1-800-448-7360. To order tickets on-line – and for more information – visit: [www.nationalseminarseries.com](http://www.nationalseminarseries.com)

Remember to order your tickets early, as this seminar sells out quickly!

## We need the support of your club and its members

Your club should be a member of JCAA and make a difference for only \$50 a year. Your club will have a voice in all JCAA positions that affect your fishing future. Your club will receive up-to-date info on vital issues each month.

### Club Membership Application

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

President's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pres. Address: Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Ph. # \_\_\_\_\_

Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check \$50 payable to JCAA

## **JCAA SPONSORSHIP**

The JCAA has four levels of sponsorship, \$50, \$100, \$250 & \$500.

Sponsors are recognized in our newspaper. For more information call JCAA at 732-506-6565. Become a JCAA sponsor and help our cause. As you can see by our newspaper many our member clubs are also JCAA sponsors, if your club is not contact us today to become one. With all the new battles we are engaged in we need to raise more funds in order to be effective. Become a sponsor now and help us to continue the fight.

## Join JCAA as an Associate Member

Only \$25 per year! Support the Goals of JCAA and receive a subscription to JCAA NEWS that gives you the Most Up-To-Date News about Fisheries Management and Environmental Issues

### JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATE MEMBER APPLICATION

Date \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check if you would rather receive newspaper by email instead of by regular mail. Yes \_\_\_

Ph. # \_\_\_\_\_

Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

## **COMMITTEES & CHAIRPERSONS**

Legislative	Tom Fote	732-270-9102 tfote@jcaa.org
Office Manager	Phil Celmer	609-693-3414 jcaa@jcaa.org
Access: (North)	Ray Marione	201-843-1711
Access: (South)	Robert DeLeonard	732-793-8080
Blackfish	Pat Donnelly	732-295-1755
Blue claw Crab	Jack Miktus	732-477-5184
Blue Fish	Al Marantz	732-280-2643
Habitat	Pat Donnelly	732-206-1407
Large Pelagic	John Koegler	610-687-2208
Menhaden	Len Fantasia	732-872-1862
Science & Research	Bruce Freeman	732-793-7871
Sponsorship	Frank Richetti	732-477-3120
Striped Bass	Ed Cherry	edwardwc@verizon.net
Webmaster	Phil V. Celmer	philipc@highlandstech.net
Youth Education	Greg Kucharewski	732-840-9197

If you would like to receive JCAA Email alerts email your Name, Club, if you belong to one, and your interest to <tfote@jcaa.org> or just go to the JCAA Web and subscribe from there.