

JCAA NEWSPAPER JANUARY 2014

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on December 22nd, 2013)

Monthly Meeting at Jersey Coast Shark Anglers, 385 Herbertsville Road, Brick
"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, January 28th, 2014

Starting at 7:30 PM

AT JERSEY COAST SHARK ANGLERS

NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING

Thursday, January 9th, 2014

Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.

1201 Route 37 East, Suite 9, Toms River, NJ 08753

Phone 732-506-6565 Fax 732-506-6975

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.

Anyone wishing to reproduce any part of this newsletter has the permission of the JCAA and the authors. Wherever possible, please credit the JCAA Newsletter as your information source.

~~~~~  
**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 908-913-0551 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
~~~~~

2013 OFFICERS

President	Paul Haertel	973-943-8201
1st V.P.	Don Marantz	908-3471434
2nd V.P.	Mark Taylor	732-245-9445
Treasurer	Doug Tegeder	732-341-5674
Rec. Sec.	Tom Siciliano	609-296-3774
Cors. Sec.	Paul Turi	609-660-2126
Mem. Sec.	John Toth	732-656-0139
Tournament Dir.	Paul Turi	609-660-2126

Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page

High Roller Raffle

The JCAA High Roller Raffle for 2014 is now ready! Below is a list of this year's prizes. For 2014 we have added a 9th prize to the raffle donated by Oliso, Inc. Oliso, makers of vacuum food sealers, was kind enough to donate 4 machines to JCAA for use in our fluke tournament, our sportsperson of the year dinner, the Saltwater Sportsman Show raffle and our High Roller Raffle. The drawing will be held on **May 27th, 2014** at the JCAA offices located at 1201 Rt. 37 East, Suite 9, Toms River. JCAA will be selling tickets at our booth at the shows listed below or call the office and we will send you a book.

You do not have to be present to win

9 chances to win a great package

Support JCAA

Only \$2.00 a Ticket

1. Fin-Nor Sportfisher FSSU 5950RS Rod & Avet HX 2 Speed Reel, Value **\$580** *Donated by Fin-Nor & JCAA*
2. Lamiglas XTC 704 Travel Rod & Penn 975 International Reel, Value **\$560** *Donated by Penn & Lamiglas*
3. \$500 Gift Certificate to Fisherman's Headquarters, Value **\$500** *Donated by Fisherman's Headquarters*
4. 2 Cans of Interlux Micron CF Pain, Value **\$440** *Donated by Interlux*
5. 2 Cans of Interlux Micron CF Paint, Value **\$440** *Donated by Interlux*
6. Yukon 50qt. Cold Locker Cooler, Value **\$330** *Donated by Igloo/Yukon*
7. Shakespeare Ugly Stik SP1166 1MH 6' 6" Rod & Penn Battle BTL 4000 Reel, Value **\$160** *Donated by Penn & Shakespeare*
8. Shakespeare Ugly Stik SP1166 1MH 6' 6" Rod & Penn Battle BTL 4000 Reel, Value **\$160** *Donated by Penn & Shakespeare*
9. Oliso, Inc. Vacuum Food Sealer, Value **\$150** *Donated by Oliso, Inc.*

Total Value \$3,320

IMPORTANT DATES

January 9th JCAA Board Meeting
January 9th-12th Garden State Outdoor Show
January 25th Saltwater Sportsmen Seminar
January 28th JCAA General Meeting
February 3rd-6th ASMFC Week
February 5th-9th Atlantic City Boat Show
March 14th-16th Saltwater Expo

President's Report

By Joseph Puntasecca

For the first time in a long time we had a quorum at our December General Meeting and held elections. Congratulations to Paul Haertel, your new President of Jersey Coast Anglers Association for 2014! Your 2014 Officers are:

President: **Paul Haertel**
First Vice: **Don Marantz**
Second: **Mark Taylor**
Treasurer: **Doug Tegeder**
Recording Secretary: **Tom Siciliano**
Corresponding Secretary: **Paul Turi**
Membership Secretary: **John Toth**

I would like to thank everyone for their support over the past two years as I leave the helm of Jersey Coast Anglers Association in the very capable hands of Paul Haertel, your new President. I will continue to fight to protect our sport and resources and to protect it for future generations. It is an honor to work with this organization for so many years. The JCAA works very hard to distribute correct and accurate information to its members and the public. JCAA works with many groups for the good of the resource. The fight is not over and we still need your help. If you would like to volunteer or learn more about the JCAA, please call myself, Paul Haertel or any of the other officers listed on the inside front or back covers of this newspaper.

A motion was made to change the date of the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament to May 18th in 2014. That motion passed. This should provide more opportunity for anglers to catch bigger bluefish, striped bass and possibly summer flounder depending on the regulations for 2014 as well as a shot a trophy weakfish. Good luck to all who fish the GSFT in 2014!

With the New Year upon us don't forget to register or re-register with the NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry Program in the New Year. You can register or renew your registration for 2014 by going to: www.saltwaterregistry.nj.gov. If you do go fishing please consider filling out the NJ Volunteer Angler Survey to help the Bureau of Marine Fisheries better manage our resources by going to [this link](#).

Consider a donation to JCAA when you make preparations for your income taxes for 2013. Jersey Coast Anglers Association is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Donations to JCAA are tax deductible and are a wonderful way to secure your fishing future and protect the rights of anglers.

It is very important for the Presidents of our member clubs to please take the time to see that your annual JCAA membership dues are paid promptly in 2014. We also need updated information on your club's delegates to JCAA meetings with contact information including phone number and email address.

It's time for everyone to get more involved with the issues that face us. I am asking for more people to step up and be even more active in this organization. We are looking for volunteers to help out with printing our newspaper and at the upcoming shows. If you are interested, please contact Mark Taylor at (732) 245-9445 or mtsport64@aol.com. There are many different ways that you can get more active in JCAA, as an individual or a club. Please attend the next meeting for more details.

NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry Program / NJ Volunteer Angler Survey

Don't forget to register or re-register with the NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry Program for 2014. You can start re-registering now for 2014. You can register or renew your registration for 2014 by going to www.saltwaterregistry.nj.gov. If you do go fishing please consider filling out the NJ Volunteer Angler Survey to help the Bureau of Marine Fisheries better manage our resources by going to [this link](#).

You can also check regulations changes, get current advisories, check launch ramp and park locations, report violations, as well as fill out the NJ Voluntary Angler Survey now on your smartphone or tablet with the new Official NJ Fishing, Hunting & Wildlife [application!](#)

REMINDER

Our January General Meeting, on January 28, 2014, will be held at the Jersey Coast Shark Anglers Clubhouse, 385 Herbertsville Road, Brick, NJ.

Fisheries Management & Legislative Report

By Thomas Fote

Summer Flounder: Another NOAA (NMFS) Disaster

A little history is in order. The Marine Recreational Fisheries Statistical Survey (MRFSS) was started to show trends in recreational fishing. With the passage of the Striped Bass Conservation Act and the Atlantic Coast Conservation Act, we began using MRSS for fisheries management. MRFSS was never designed for use as a fisheries management tool and that use began to create problems with the flaws in the data. In the 2006 reauthorization of the Magnuson/Stevens Act, NOAA and NMFS were required to reform the system and develop a more accurate count of recreational catch by 2009. For almost 3 years there was much talk and some planning meetings but little results. Recently they have been working on the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) to reform the system and have a more accurate count of the recreational catch. We have been told this new system would correct the problem. There have been many more meetings, much bureaucratic staff time, lots of conference calls and press releases talking about all the progress being made.

Remember the movie line, “Show me the money.” So far they have not. The data they produced for New Jersey’s 2013 summer flounder catch shows how flawed the system is. The wave 4 preliminary data was so bad even NMFS admitted an error and did the figures again, lowering the catch figures to what we might have seen during a normal year with high catches. Then they review wave 3 and increased the numbers again. This puts New Jersey about 12 1/2% over our quota and then there is going to be an additional 8% coast wide cut for 2014. Therefore, we are looking at a 21% cut. 2013 was clearly not a normal year for recreational anglers in New Jersey. It is amazing that they could increase the numbers in wave 3 when many anglers had lost

their boats or had not put their boats in the water, when many marinas were not open and many anglers were still repairing their homes rather than fishing. These issues continue through the end of 2013. I have not gotten the numbers for boat registrations in New Jersey for 2013 but I do know that New Jersey’s Saltwater Registry was down by 42%. The party and charter boat registrations were also down by 34%. I would imagine private boat registrations will be similar and I will have the exact figures soon. The ironic part is that when we set the management measures for 2013, those measures were based on a normal year, without any of the consequences of Sandy. Sandy is a fact. Our exact catch figures should have been well below the measures put in place. New York’s figures should have been lower as well. We need for Congress to call in NMFS and ask them how they have been spending our tax dollars. It is not possible to believe they are spending our money wisely when they ask us to believe their figures are getting more accurate. I might sound bitter but I am tired of hearing the excuse that this is the best available data. If this is the best data, we could save money and just pick a number out of a hat.

With this history in mind, we are now in the process going to public hearings for Addendum XXV. New York has been pushing for mandatory regionalization with New Jersey for the last few years. New Jersey and the Commission have rejected this course of action saying it should be voluntary. Given the differences in the fisheries among New Jersey, New York, Connecticut and Rhode Island, I have difficulty imagining how this would benefit New Jersey. I have also seen this as a veiled attempt to reallocate New Jersey’s larger share of the summer flounder to the benefit of the other states. This Addendum attempts to circumvent this concern by calling for a one year trial period. There are no provisions that I have seen that would deal with overages by the region. This Addendum is being pushed through at a very quick pace. New York has been threatening to sue the Commission and this may be an attempt to forestall that action. Perhaps New Jersey needs to threaten a legal action of our own if our allocation is moved to other states without a total reallocation process that impacts on all the states involved in summer flounder management. Maybe I’m cynical but if it walks and quacks like a duck, I believe it is a duck. We will have a February ASMFC meeting to act on this

Addendum. The hearing information where to get a copy of the addendum is below. You need to read the articles by Chris Zeman and Paul Haertel included in this newspaper. JCAA will send an alert with our position soon. I will be listening to all the public comments before the meeting in February. It is important that you get involved in this issue.

Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board Approves Draft Addendum XXV for Public Comment and the Draft addendum is posted at the (www.asafc.org) under quick links. Public comment will be accepted until 5:00 PM (EST) on January 24, 2014 and should be forwarded to Kirby Rootes-Murdy, Fishery Management Plan Coordinator, 1050 N. Highland St., Suite 200 A-N, Arlington, VA 22201; 703.842.0741 (fax) or via email at krootes-murdy@asmfc.org (Subject line: Draft Addendum XXV).

ASMFC Winter Meeting February 4-6, 2013

Preliminary Agenda

Crowne Plaza Hotel Old Town,
Alexandria, Virginia

Tuesday, February 4, 2014

8:00 – 9:00 a.m. Atlantic Herring Section
9:15 – 10:00 a.m. Winter Flounder Management Board
10:15 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board
1:15 – 4:15 p.m. Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Management Board
3:00 – 4:00 p.m. Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program (ACCSP) Executive Committee
4:30 – 6:00 p.m. ACCSP Coordinating Council

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

8:00 – 10:00 a.m. Executive Committee
8:30 – Noon Northeast Area Monitoring and Assessment Program Board
10:15 – 11:45 a.m. Atlantic Menhaden Management Board
12:45 – 1:45 p.m. Weakfish Management Board
2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Business Session (Strategic Planning)
3:15 – 5:45 p.m. Interstate Fisheries Management Program Policy Board

Thursday, February 6, 2014

8:00 – 9:30 a.m. American Eel Management Board

9:45 – 10:45 a.m. Shad and River Herring Management Board

11:00 – 11:45 a.m. Sturgeon Management Board

12:15 – 1:15 p.m. Spiny Dogfish and Coastal Sharks Management Board

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Horseshoe Crab Management Board

3:45 – 5:15 p.m. South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board

Joint MAFMC & ASMFC Update - December Meeting

By Chris Zeman

Summer Flounder

The Mid-Atlantic Council approved conservation-equivalency for 2014 and rejected coastwide management. However, that does not mean that states will get to develop measures like past years because the Board may approve regional management instead of state-by-state management. New York is driving this process, which continues to be very political and very rushed because New York is threatening litigation and federal legislation.

The poor quality of Draft Addendum XXV is strong evidence of why fisheries management should not be rushed to appease the political interests of one state. The Board initiated this plan in mid-October 2013 and a working group of state representatives compiled regional management options. The draft plan does not explain what happens if a region goes over its regional allocation. Several of these plans were automatically rejected because states within a proposed region had different bag and size limits – a violation of Framework Adjustment 6 of the Summer Flounder Plan.

If regional management is approved, states will be forced to enter into regions, even if they vote against regional management. Regional management will be similar to coastwide management and states' allocations will be meaningless. If one state within a region overfishes, all states will have to implement similar restrictions throughout the region because no state can have different regulations within a region.

Coastwide management led in part to the Black sea bass closure of 2009 and almost led to a shutdown of the scup fishery in 2010 even though

the stock was very healthy and not overfished. If regional management will be similar to coastwide management, New Jersey should be concerned it will lose the flexibility to regulate its summer flounder fishery and control its own fishing future.

The Board approved draft Addendum XXV for public comment. The public comment period will end on January 24th and there is a public hearing in Tom's River on January 13th. The Board is planning to take final action on Addendum XXV at its February meeting in Washington DC. New Jersey groups need to actively comment during this public comment period and contact their state and federal representatives and let them know their feelings about these proposed measures.

Black Sea Bass and Scup measures

The Council implemented conservation equivalency for the 2014 Black sea bass fishery. The fishery was looking at a complete closure this year due to the 2012 overage which mainly occurred in Massachusetts state waters in Wave 3. However, the Mid-Atlantic Council passed a plan amendment to revise the accountability measures required when overfishing occurs. The Council limited the payback option to only apply in cases where the fishery is overfished and under a rebuilding plan. Also, the Council eliminated NOAA's in-season closure authority. NOAA partially approved these measures in December. As a result, the Black sea bass fishery will face a 7% reduction in federal waters. Wave 1 will likely reopen as long as there is adequate reporting. The Board will likely implement regional management similar to prior years under its Addendum XXV.

The Council implemented coastwide management for the scup fishery and reduced the size limit from 10-inches to 9-inches and maintained a 30-fish bag limit.

NOAA has decided that recreational fishing for sea bass in federal waters for January and February of 2014 will be prohibited

Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series Returns to the Jersey Shore on January 25, 2014

For Immediate Release
Contact 1-800-448-7360

Tickets for the January 25, Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series, to be held at the Performing Arts Theater inside Long Branch Middle School (350 Indiana Avenue, Long Branch), have officially gone on sale.

The 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. presentation will be hosted by **George Poveromo** – Host of George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing on the NBC Sports Network, and Editor-At-Large for Salt Water Sportsman, and **Nick Honachefsky** – Noted fishing writer and authority on New Jersey's coastal fisheries.

Joining **Poveromo** and **Honachefsky** at the Jersey Shore will be **Dave Schunke** – Innovative trophy striped bass fishing authority who also excels at catching sharks and tunas; **Dr. Mitchell Roffer** – Noted authority on locating productive water surface temperature breaks and ocean-circulation features that hold fish; **Harry Vernon III** – Distinguished southern offshore fishing pro who specializes in live-baiting, trolling and day-dropping for swordfish; **Captain Lou Grazioso** - Veteran expert at catching trophy striped bass and fluke, bluefin and yellowfin tunas; **Captain Steve Purul** – Noted striped bass, fluke, and wreck fishing authority who runs Reel Fantasea Fishing Charters from Barnegat; **Captain Tom Daffin** – Veteran South Jersey specialist who excels at catching trophy striped bass, fluke, blackfish and sea bass, as well as bluefin and yellowfin tuna; **Captain Austin Perilli** – Noted trophy fluke fishing authority and innovative light tackle striped bass angler; **Captain Bryan DiLeo** – Renowned back bay and ICW fishing authority; and **Captain David Wicker** – Noted authority on using modern electronics to locate and catch more fish.

Courses for the January 25 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; Flutter-jigging for stripers and bluefish; Sure-fire weakfish tactics; 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

More Stringent Fluke Regulations Loom on the Horizon

By Paul Haertel

fluke tactics; Southern flounder tactics that will take more and bigger Jersey fluke; 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; Flutter-jigging for tuna; How to choose, rig and fish the best lures and natural baits for tuna; How to catch wahoo off New Jersey; 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; Daytime swordfishing off New Jersey.

A ticket to the Seminar Series costs \$ 55.00, and includes a course textbook, one year subscription or extension to Salt Water Sportsman, one Roffers Ocean Fishing Forecast Analysis, one bottle of OrPine Wash & Wax, one bottle of Corrosion Block, one spool of Sufix fishing line, one bottle of Star Tron Fuel Treatment, \$20 off on any purchase of \$150 or more from Capt. Harry's Fishing Supply, and chances to win thousands of dollars worth of door prizes.

At the conclusion of the Jersey Shore seminar, there will be a drawing for a chance to win an incredible Bahamas bonefishing excursion to the Bimini Sands Resort and Marina. The drawing will consist of the names of the attendees on hand that day, and one lucky person will win the trip for two!

In addition, the names of all attendees from the 2014 National Seminar Series Tour will be entered into the drawing for the Super Grand Prize - a brand new Mako ProSkiff 17! 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. A New Jersey angler, incidentally, won the boat after the completion of the 2013 Tour!

There will also be drawings from pre-registered anglers, for VIP All-Access Pass upgrades; The winners will be permitted back stage at any time, to join the faculty for lunch in the Green Room.

For more information, visit: www.nationalseminarseries.com, or call 1-800-448-7360.

Just when it seemed that New Jersey had dodged a bullet aimed at significantly reducing our recreational fluke catch, things have changed once again. The preliminary MRIP figures had shown that we over fished our quota by approximately 47% and that did not even include the wave 5 data (September-October). Under the state conservation equivalency format that we have been utilizing since 2001, each state is given a quota. Each state is then allowed to develop regulations pertaining to size, possession and season limits. After years when the quota is exceeded, regulations must be made more stringent the following year. Therefore, had the preliminary MRIP numbers been allowed to stand, draconian measures would have had to be taken in 2014.

The good news was that the wave 4 data (July-August) was recently revised. More specifically, the wave 4 data was changed from 1,159,303 to 730,086 fish, which resulted in a reduction of 429,217 fish. That was welcome news but even more recently, the MRIP numbers were also revised for wave 3 (May-June). Unfortunately they showed an increase from 279,658 fish to 337,983 fish which is an increase of 58,325 fish. Further, the preliminary wave 5 data (September-October) was just released on 12/16 and it shows that an additional 129,388 fluke were harvested. That makes our total harvest for the year 1,197,457 fish. Our original quota was for 977,998 fish but ASMF later approved an extra 88,000 fish so our total quota for the year ended up being 1,065,998 fish. That makes us 131,459 fish over our quota which equates to having over fished our quota by approximately 12.3%. That would not be too bad except for the fact that the overall coast wide quota is being reduced by about 8%. That means that if we continue to use conservation equivalency and the MRIP numbers do not change yet again, we are looking at a cut of close to 21%. Under this scenario I anticipate that the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council would develop various options for the public to consider. Most

likely there will once again be a battle between those who prefer a shorter season so the size limit can remain at 17.5” and those who favor a longer season with an 18” size limit.

Under this scenario there is also a possibility that the ASMFC could approve some extra fish for us in 2014 once all the states have set their regulations as they did in 2013. It is also possible that the NJMFC could use data from our own state’s recreational saltwater angler survey to develop more favorable regulations.

Of course all of the above assumes that fluke will be managed the same way as they have been in the past and we are not changed to a regional approach. New York’s Senator Charles Schumer has introduced the “Fluke Fairness Act” which would result in New Jersey being placed in a region with New York and other states. Further the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Council has now developed addendum XXV to the Summer Flounder, Scup, Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan. The addendum also includes options for regionalization and again New Jersey would be placed in a region with New York and other states. The end result would most likely be that New York’s regulations would become more lenient and New Jersey’s more stringent. Still all options should be considered. Those interested in reviewing the addendum which also addresses managerial options for sea bass may do so by going to [this link](#). There is plenty of time to review the addendum though it contains various options that may be somewhat difficult to understand. However, no decision on any of these options will be made until the ASMFC meets in early February.

Public Comment Process and Proposed Timeline

At the December 2013 Commission meeting, the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board approved a motion to initiate the development of an addendum to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan (FMP) for Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass. The addendum will address the recreational management of the Summer Flounder and Black Sea Bass FMP. The Board is developing recreational management options for Summer Flounder and Black Sea Bass. This draft addendum presents background on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission’s (ASMFC) management of summer flounder, scup, and black sea bass; the addendum process and

timeline; and a statement of the problem. This document also provides options of management for public consideration and comment.

The public is encouraged to submit comments regarding this document at any time during the public comment period. The final date comments will be accepted is **January 24, 2014 at 5:00 p.m.** You may submit public comment in one or more of the following ways:

1. Attend public hearings in your state or jurisdiction.
2. Refer comments to your state’s members on the Summer Flounder, Scup, and Black Sea Bass Management Board or Advisory Panel, if applicable.
3. Mail, fax or email written comment to the following address:

Mail: Kirby Rootes-Murdy

Email: krootes-murdy@asmfc.org

Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission
1050 North Highland Street, Suite 200A-N
Arlington, VA 22201
Phone: (703) 842-0740
Fax: (703) 842-0741

A public hearing will be held on the addendum as listed below:

New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife

January 13, 2014 at 7 PM

Ocean County Administration Building

Public Hearing Room 119

101 Hooper Avenue

Toms River, New Jersey

Contact: Tom Baum at 609.748.2020

Wreck Pond: Wrecked but now Recovering

By Capt. Paul Eidman

Capt. Paul Eidman, JCAA forage fish committee chairman, Don Marantz and Ken Warchal and John Collins of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association attended yesterday’s Wreck Pond Brook Regional storm water management plan meeting in Wall Township. The majority of the people in attendance were concerned homeowners that live near the pond and were badly flooded out in recent storms Irene and Sandy. Unfortunately, Wreck Pond

has long been known to the general public as the source of flooding and bacterial contamination of local beaches in Sea Girt and Spring Lake. These two storm events have emphasized beyond doubt that coastal lakes cannot be ignored and need to be rebuilt with resilient, natural methods to be a success.

Participation by anglers early on in this decision-making process is important to insure that restoration methods include fish in the master plan. I can't emphasize enough that the continued presence of these bait fish along our coastline is imperative to keeping local gamefish well fed, healthy and holding along our shoreline. Unfortunately, this old school hotspot has faded into oblivion recently due to the construction of a seven million dollar, ill-conceived outfall discharge pipe. This pipe was completed with zero consideration for migrating baitfish entering the waterway and as residents found out firsthand during Irene, failed to permit adequate storm water escape. And just recently a \$250,000 sluice gate was approved to be built on the pipe to allow manual opening and closing to either let water out or prevent water from coming in during a tidal event. Nothing like putting yet another band aid on a broken bone.

While protecting the residences from storm water runoff, overflowing the banks of Wreck Pond is of paramount importance to many. It's important to remember the ecological role that Wreck Pond plays. Wreck Pond and its upstream tributaries are a historical spawning location and provide nursery habitat of vital forage fish (food for bigger fish and wildlife predators). Fish species like Alewife and Blueback herring (aka River Herring), several types of shad, American eel and others have historically migrated in and out of Wreck Pond and local fishermen have relied on the oceanfront entrance of Wreck Pond to attract gamefish like striped bass, bluefish, weakfish and more.

The big news of the meeting was a briefing by Eric Shrading of the US fish and wildlife service. Thankfully, Eric was able to uncover and apply for a grant and was successful in landing two million dollars to make sure that "aquatic connectivity" is improved and Wreck Pond's river herring and other anadromous species are able to enter from the ocean and reach the headwaters, spawn and return to sea. This is great news!! Thank you, Eric!

Note that we are currently in the conceptual phases of this project, but the two-year clock started ticking down as soon as the grant was released. This

means that work to help fish migrating here should start soon. It's not known yet exactly how this will be accomplished, but we do know that many different entities, i.e.: Monmouth County, US Army Corp of engineers, etc., will need to work together to accomplish this project in a timely manner. Note that there is other grant money available and we are hopeful that this will be used to build a "Maritime Forest" to add yet another layer of insulation to the front end of Wreck pond so that it will be even more resistant to future tidal surges. This concept was also discussed and presented at the meeting by Capt. Alek Modjeski.

For those of you interested in this you can visit his prototype example that was just completed at Fletcher Lake along the boardwalk, another coastal lake just north of Wreck Pond in between Bradley Beach from Ocean Grove. This is clearly a natural, progressive and affordable concept that should become the norm behind the dunes of every part of our coastline.

A lot is going on here and at other NJ coastal areas that requires active angler participation. Please do your best to spread the word and get involved. Fishermen can and do make a difference! Clearly, there is a silver lining to Superstorm Sandy. If the storm surge and winds didn't rip thru the face of the Wreck Pond dunes, this surfcasters jewel would have just become a memory of the past. Now, with any luck, we have a chance to get back to the good old days. If the baitfish return, our stripers and bluefish will eat them up and cheer our success.

Wreck Pond meetings are held 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Wall Twp. municipal bldg.

Show Time

By Mark Taylor

Jersey Coast Anglers Association will be at the following shows in 2014.

- **Garden State Outdoor Sports Show** at the NJ Convention Center in Edison on January 9th to 12th
- **Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar** in Long Branch on January 25th
- **Atlantic City Boat Show** February 5th to 9th
- **The Saltwater Fishing Expo** in Somerset on March 14th to 16th

We are coming to the end of 2013 and I hope everyone had a great year. It's time to start thinking of things we need to do before the start of 2014. Some of them may be winterizing the boat, going through all the rods, reels and tackle boxes and inspecting everything and making a list to see what needs to be replaced or repaired. Once you have that list together then you start thinking which show am I going to get the best bargains at. By going to the shows you have the best chances of getting what you need from the best manufactures and vendors that attend these shows. So mark the dates in your calendar of each of the shows so you don't miss them. While you are at the shows stop by and say hello to the volunteers at the JCAA Booth. Don't forget to pick up your High Roller Raffle ticket for a chance on some very nice prizes. If you are wondering how to become a volunteer at one of the shows or get more involved with JCAA, please contact me at mtsport64@aol.com. I will answer every email that is sent to me. I am looking forward to hearing from you. Something about each of the shows below:

Garden State Outdoor Sports Show

NJ Convention Center in Edison on Jan 9th to 12th

Link: www.gsooss.com

Garden State Deer Classic

The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's "Garden State Deer Classic" has been part of this sportsmen's show since 1999. This statewide competition is open to all New Jersey Deer hunters and is one of the most prestigious contests in the state. The classic draws more exceptional displays each year with several awards given out on Sunday, January 13th at 2:30 pm to the most outstanding entries. The Deer Classic is jointly sponsored by the Division of Fish and Wildlife, New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, United Bowhunters of New Jersey, New Jersey Outdoor Alliance Conservation Foundation and the Garden state Outdoor Sportsmen's Show.

Saltwater Sportsman National Seminar Series

Long Branch on January 25th 2014

Link: www.nationalseminarseries.com

This seminar is six hours of intense fishing instruction from George Poveromo, leading national and local angling authorities.

Atlantic City Boat Show

February 5th to 9th

Link: www.acboatshow.com

There will be a lot of great boats on display to tour. At the show they have seminars and a lot of vendors. So if you are in a mood to buy a new boat this is the place to be. This show will take you a whole day to see everything. Hope to see you there.

The Saltwater Fishing Expo

Somerset on March 14th to 16th

Link: www.sportshows.com

Over the past nine years this show has grown to become the fishing destination that kicks off the New Jersey and Tri-State coastline's saltwater fishing season. It's where avid anglers congregate to plot out their season and buy the gear they've been dreaming about all winter. With many of the major tackle manufacturers here to answer all your questions and local tackle retailers available to fill your orders, this is truly one-stop shopping. Meet face-to-face with guides and charters, compare and buy saltwater fishing boats and kayaks, and learn the latest techniques from local experts. Whether your saltwater fishing passion is surf casting, inshore or offshore, all are well represented through large and small manufacturers based up and down the east coast. Mark your calendars now and don't miss the 9th Annual Saltwater Fishing Expo in Somerset, NJ.

Membership Report

By John Toth

May I first wish your fishing members a **Happy and Healthy New Year!** May it also be a **great year** for fishing and all the enjoyment it brings to you all! And may you win a lot of fishing tournaments, including our 2014 JCAA Fluke Tournament that will be held on August 23, 2014!

Club membership dues are payable at the beginning of the year. Invoices will be sent out to all member clubs in the very near future. Please make every effort to send in your club dues in a timely manner.

If there are problems with the JCAA sending newsletters to the wrong addresses or to the wrong club members, please let me know so that corrections can be made. I can be reached at (732) 656-0139 or at tothjohn@verizon.net.

As always, **Thank You** for your continued support of the JCAA!

NJ Outdoor Alliance Report

By John Toth

November 25, 2013 Meeting Summary

Issues discussed:

1. This month's invited speaker to the NJOA was Mr. Eric Olsen from the Nature Conservancy, an environmental group with a mission statement of "to conserve land and waters on which all life depends on." This group, the largest environmental group in the world, was formed about 60 years ago by ecologists who saw the degradation of land and water quality and its negative effect on animal life and decided to do something about it. Among its many environmental initiatives, it purchases huge tracts of lands to preserve the forests and its water and animal life. Currently, it has purchased 120 million acres worldwide and has approximately one million members. Eric's presentation focused primarily on his work in preserving the Delaware River watershed and also obtaining funding to improve its water quality and spawning grounds of its many fisheries including shad, river herring, and Atlantic Sturgeon. The purpose of Eric's presentation was to make NJOA members aware of what the Nature Conservancy does and to possibly enlist the support of the NJOA in areas where we have common interests in preserving and enhancing the quality of our forests and its inhabitants, water and our fisheries.
2. The next speaker was Pat Donnelly who is interested in becoming a member of the NJ Marine Fishery Council. Pat first commented on Eric Olsen's presentation by saying that we may think that what happens on the Delaware does not affect New Jersey's anglers, but it does and we are all connected to the nature around us. For example, if river herring is down in population, then commercial anglers target bunker and that affects all of us. Pat has served on the NJ Marine Fisheries Council from 2001 to 2010 and chaired its Black Sea Bass, Tautog and Artificial Reef committees. The NJOA is trying to increase recreational presence on this council that is presently dominated by commercial interests. The NJOA will support Pat Donnelly for a seat

on this Council since Pat is very familiar how this Council functions and he also knows the issues that are important to both recreational and commercial anglers as well.

3. Assemblyman Albano was defeated in the last election and he was responsible for not posting the bill on the Assembly's floor to remove traps on the reefs that was strongly supported by both the NJOA and the JCAA. The issue now is who will replace Assemblyman Albano on the important Natural Resources and Agricultural Committee that he chaired. Discussion followed on who could become the next Chairperson.
4. Senator Lesniak used his position as Chairman, NJ Senate Committee to push through a bill to ban baiting of deer and bear in NJ to appease the animal rights activists. The NJOA will work with legislators to ensure that that this does not receive final approval and become law. The animal rights activists are continually using every tactic they can to effectively reduce and ban hunting and fishing opportunities in our state.

Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

TEN TIPS FOR ATTENDING BOATING & OUTDOOR SPORT SHOWS

This is the time to start looking for great fishing deals at upcoming boating and outdoor sport shows. Stop by the JCAA booth to learn what is new with Fluke management data and other marine wildlife. Outdoor sport shows start in January and usually last till June but don't forget the fall fishing flea markets and remember to support your local tackle dealer.

1. **Arrive early.** It's always best to beat the crowds, you'll be able to see everything before others and have plenty of time to go back to a vendor to make a deal.
2. **Wear comfortable shoes.** I can't stress this enough, since you're likely to be on your feet for a good part of the day. Concrete floors are tough to walk and stand on without proper footwear. After working all week, you don't want your dogs barking and ruining your day. If you are with your family make sure they are comfortable.

GOVERNOR'S SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT DATE CHANGE

There will be a major date change to the 23rd Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament (GSFT). For the last twenty-two years the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament was held at Island Beach State Park on the first Sunday in October. The Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament could take place on Sunday, May 18, 2014.

Why? The GSFT committee, that consists of, DEP Division Fish and Wildlife, NJ Parks and Forestry, NJ Federation of Sportsmen Clubs, NJ Beach Buggy Association, and the Jersey Coast Anglers Association, decided to change the date of the GSFT due to the following reasons: To offer better fish catching opportunities for novice anglers, increase size of GSFT Cup trophy fish, possibly have Fluke as an eligible species for the tournament, to promote Island Beach State Park, surf fishing clinics/outdoor events early in the season, and the month of May usually offers better weather for families to get out and fish after a long winter.

The date change will also get anglers geared up for National Fishing and Boating Week (NFBW), June 1-8, 2014 and allow promoters to revitalize the GSFT with fishing promotional material for family fishing events for the remainder of 2014.

So if this happens, get out and fish this spring with your family and try to catch a trophy fish that will win the 2014 Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament and win PRIZES. Don't forget, if you catch the largest fish your name will be inscribed on the Governor's Cup with the other twenty-two anglers that previously won the GSFT.

SEND US YOUR EVENT INFORMATION

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Committee is asking JCAA member clubs/organizations for a listing of scheduled youth and family events that are going to be held by your club or organization during 2014. The purpose of this request is to alert other fishing clubs and organizations that would like to participate in your youth and family event. The JCAA Newspaper is a way to get the word out about what's happening in your club. Use this opportunity to inform others about events your fishing club/organization is doing to promote fishing. The Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Committee will support your event with "Hook on Fishing Not on Drugs" materials. Please contact Greg Kucharewski with your listing of youth and

- Strollers for small children are a must and they also help carry your stuff.
3. **Bring reusable shopping bags or a small cart.** It's always good idea to have reusable bags that can rest on your shoulder. Most merchants at the shows have small bags so bring a portable means to carry your purchases through the show.
 4. **Don't be afraid to ask for a seller's best price.** Talk to the seller and get as much information as you can about the item. This is all part of the buying dance. Most of the time you can make your best deals at the end of the show. Make a reasonable offer and see if the seller will accept it.
 5. **And don't be afraid to walk away.** If the price isn't right or a seller isn't being responsive, don't be afraid to walk away. Nine times out of 10, they'll say "I can do better!" And if they don't, move on and enjoy shopping for other stuff. Remember they are in business. When haggling, please be polite.
 6. **Pack a lunch.** Eat healthy this will keep your energy up. Food courts and trucks usually offer fried food. If you're looking for an alternative to fried anything pack a lunch or look for healthy food choices at the show.
 7. **Most people forget to bring water.** Stay hydrated and save another few dollars that can be spent on outdoor gear.
 8. **Stay in touch with vendors.** If you find a vendor that carries a lot of items that you're interested in, grab their business card or contact information. If you ever regret walking away from that perfect find, you can reach out to them and it's likely that they'll be back at the show next year. Most vendors have websites but remember you will have shipping charges.
 9. **Ask dealers about their products.** If you have no idea what you're buying, ask the vendor. Most of the time, vendors will be experts on what they're selling and can give you insight into their merchandise.
 10. **Learning Opportunities.** Remember to stop at some of the organizations that can teach you about your sport. Many organization members have a lot of knowledge about boating, hunting, fishing, and the outdoors. Spend time talking at their booth, they will keep you well informed about your sport of choice and environmental issues.

family events and don't forget the Sportsmen Shows. Include your booth location, fishing club or organization that will attend. By providing this information you're fishing club or organization can improve membership and increase consumer participation.

NJ HOFNOD WORKSHOPS

Members of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association attended the New Jersey HOFNOD, facilitator workshop hosted by the DEP Division of Fish and Wildlife at Island Beach State Park and it was well worth the time to learn creative aquatic activities to teach youngsters the importance becoming environmental stewards. During the 1.5 day program, we learned the following activities: Conservation & Experiential Education Concept Mapping - What do you know about fish and/or fishing, Mermaids & Manatee, human impression/expression & alcohol use; Ecological Awareness & Wildlife Interdependence - First Impressions, exploring our "perception" about wildlife and ourselves, All living things need food, water, shelter and appropriate space to survive; Fish Biology - Anatomy, Fins & Feelings: Parts of a Fish, How You Are Unique, Fashion a Fish & Thicket Game, Growth and change: A Fish Scale Tale, Family Dynamics: Schools, Shoals And Soloists; Rods and Reels - Know your Lures & bait; Are You Me? & Water Canaries; Watershed Ambassador Presentation - Enviroscene, Wetland Metaphor, Incredible Journey: Exploring the water (hydrologic) cycle, Wetland In A Pan (Point & non-Point Pollution); Surf Fishing 101; Fly Tying; Environmental Action and Stewardship - Dragonfly Pond, Choices & Feelings, Rules & Regulations: Angler Ethics, Ethi-Reasoning, The Power of Song - exploring environmental and interpersonal attitudes, Standing Up for What you Believe, Water We Eating. This workshop was one of the best learning experiences I attended for HOFNOD. If you are interested in attending a NJ HOFNOD workshop, please phone or email Liz Jackson, NJ HOFNOD Coordinator. Phone: 908-637-4125 x122, email: liz.jackson@dep.state.nj.us

YOUTH ACTIVITIES

During January, we will meet with faculty members from Brick High School to plan "Hooked on Fishing not on Drugs" learning station dates for their high school fishing club. We are also looking into working with Fishing's Future to introduce

BERKLEY's high school fishing club that is really getting youngsters interested in fishing and the outdoors. The program is free and open to all high school students in the US and Canada.

To get started you must have a high school fishing coach. Talk to your principal and explain you would like to start a high school fishing club or enhance an existing fishing club. This is really taking off in other states and I know young NJ anglers would have fun winning free BERKLEY products. They have prizes, fishing gear, and custom items and a school prize of \$4000.00. There is also a BERKLEY challenge and if your school wins the challenge BERKLEY will host an awards presentation at your school. So get started and visit "Fishing's Future" [website](#).

The JCAA Youth Education Committee is looking to work with New Jersey high schools that are interested in starting a high school fishing club. We will improve your club's fishing team skills and provide fishing workshops. Remember only one coach per school can register at [this link](#).

UPCOMING 2014 EVENTS

This past February Tim Burden, NJBBA and I presented information about HOFNOD to Urban Promise High School, Pennsauken, NJ and we received a request to present a NJ HOFNOD Aquatic Education and Fly Tying Session for forty students during the spring of 2014.

We received a request from Damon Lofton, President, Kids Outdoors, Morris Plains, NJ to conduct fly tying and rod building session for 2014 summer campers.

A request from Newark Bait and Fly Casters was received to conduct a HOFNOD learning station for their March 2014 Kids Fishing Night.

During June we will conduct a three day HOFNOD program for inner city students attending the National Youth Sports Program at the University of Toledo's summer camp.

During August the JCAA Youth Education Committee will assist Dr. Eleanor Bochenek, Director, Fisheries Cooperative Center, Institute of Marine and Coastal Sciences, Rutgers University with teaching children about fishing at the New Jersey Audubon Society's Nature Center of Cape May.

Free Veteran Surf Fishing Clinics will resume in March 2014, Funded by Vietnam Veterans Chapter 12 and VFW Post 2226, Oakhurst, NJ. Please phone 732-785-9278 to register.