

JCAA NEWSPAPER DECEMBER 2015

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on November 16th, 2015)

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

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, November 24th, 2015

Starting at 7:30 PM

At Jersey Coast Shark Anglers

NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING

Thursday, December 10th, 2015

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 908-913-0551 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
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2015 OFFICERS

President	Paul Haertel	973-943-8201
1st V.P.	Mark Taylor	732-245-9445
2nd V.P.	Ken Warchal	908-715-0791
Treasurer	Doug Tegeder	732-575-2661
Rec. Sec.	Tom Siciliano	609-296-3774
Cors. Sec.	Mary McElroy	732-773-9210
Mem. Sec.	John Toth	732-656-0139
Tournament Dir.	Paul Turi	609-660-2126

Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page

IMPORTANT DATES

November 24th JCAA General Meeting

Dec. 8th-10th ASMFC & MAFMC Joint Meeting

Dec. 10th JCAA Board Meeting & Raffle Drawing

December 29th JCAA General Meeting

January 7th-10th Garden State Outdoor Sports Show

Jan 14th JCAA Board Meeting

February 3rd-7th Atlantic City Boat Show

February 11th JCAA Board Meeting

February 20th Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series

February 23rd JCAA General Meeting

JCAA Super 50/50 Raffle

By Don Marantz, Chairman Ways & Means

On December 10th the Super 50/50 raffle ticket winners will be drawn. If you need tickets call the JCAA office at (732) 506-6565 and our office manager, Paul Turi, will mail you tickets or stop by and pick them up. But call first to make sure Paul will be there on a day you want to pick them up. You can also call me at (908) 347-1434 or by email at donmarantz@optonline.net.

Tickets are \$10.00 each and 50% of the amount received for all tickets sold will benefit JCAA and 50% will benefit the winners. Of the money paid out the winners will receive:

1st ticket drawn 50%

2nd ticket drawn 30%

3rd ticket drawn 20%

Drawing date is 12/10/2015 at the 1201 Route 37 Parking lot at 7:30PM. The drawing will be promptly held 7:30PM and we will be gone by 7:45PM to go to the board meeting at the new office location.

President's Report

By Paul Haertel

Well, the JCAA dinner was a big success and I would like to thank dinner co-chairmen, Dan Miller and Paul Turi for the great job they did in putting this event together. Thanks, too, to the other committee members who helped out, all of our generous sponsors and to all those who supported JCAA in one way or another at the affair. Again, congratulations to our Sportsperson of the Year Award Recipient, Bill Mackintosh and to our Youth Education Award winner, Tim Burden.

Don Marantz has been doing a great job with our super 50/50 as well. We have collected approximately \$4000 so far so there will be some really nice payouts for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes. The drawing will be held on 12/10/15 so there is still time to purchase tickets. For tickets call our office at 732-506-6565 or contact Don at donmarantz@optonline.net.

Thankfully, reef regulations are now in effect that prohibit pots from being placed on over 80% of the Axel Carlson and Sandy Hook Reefs. For the exact coordinates and more information please read Ken Warchal's article. I have not been out to the Axel Carlson to see if the pots have been removed because I have been concentrating on stripers. We have had a pretty good run so far this fall. However, I encourage those who see pots on the reefs where they are no longer allowed or people fishing for stripers in the EEZ or any other violations to contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife Bureau of Law Enforcement at 609-259-2120 for violations in Monmouth and Ocean Counties and 856-629-0555 for violations in southern New Jersey.

The next step is to seek SMZ status for our reefs in federal waters. This will be another battle as the commercial fishing groups will strongly oppose this. Below is a portion of an email I received from Captain Pete Grimbilas of Reef Rescue: As promised by the Christie administration, Assistant Commissioner Rich Boornazian sent a letter petitioning the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council (MAFMC) to remove all fixed gear traps from NJ's remaining (13) reefs that lie in federal waters. See [this link](#) to the DEP letter petitioning for Pots Off Reefs in NJ federal waters.

The state has also started the permit process needed to commence construction of the new 'compromise reef' that is charted just two miles due east of Manasquan Inlet. The proposed reef site, which was agreed to by both recreational and commercial fishermen, will encompass one square mile and will actually be larger than the small dual-use portions of state reefs where fixed gear trapping will still be permitted. The new reef will be restricted to hook, line and spear fishing only.

So congratulate everyone who was part of the 'traps off the reef' effort, slap each other on the back, great job, and thank the Commissioner and Governor but get braced for the next battle at the MAFMC federal level.

There's a real need to stay vigilant and involved! The commercial industry has already vowed to strongly oppose any SMZ request on NJ's offshore reefs. Delaware achieved SMZ status last year and now it's our turn! So to fortify our position, continue to collect signed petitions, get ready to write some letters, watch for Reef Rescue and NJOA's action alerts, and above all, plan to attend and be vocal at the MAFMC hearings.

At the next MAFMC meeting, Assistant Commissioner Boornazian has asked for time to request SMZs thereby starting the 2-4 year process. Please try to attend this most important kick-off meeting. The dates are next month, December 7-10, 2015 in Annapolis, MD. Reef Rescue will publicize the date and time scheduled for SMZ discussions. Your involvement could make the difference.

Thanks to all for your continued support and for our recent successes! Hope to see you in Annapolis, Captain Pete Grimbilas.

The next general meeting will be held on 11/24. Nominations for officers will be accepted at that time. Please consider running for one of the positions. Those interested may contact Nominations Chairman Don Marantz. Also, feel free to bring a guest from your club or another club to this meeting as we need to get some new people involved. Happy Thanksgiving to all!

SEASONS GREETINGS

Dear JCAA Supporter,

JCAA Wishes you and your family Happy Holidays!

JCAA Letter on Amendment 1 to the IFMP

We thank you for your continuing support of the JCAA! Without it we could not have accomplished all of our objectives during this year.

This has been a challenging year for JCAA. There are ongoing costs associated with trips that are required for JCAA volunteers to represent anglers at fishing-related meetings in Washington and other locations throughout the country, especially in Trenton where legislation affecting our fisheries and environmental issues is passed. In addition to the administrative costs associated with mailings, office rentals, etc., the JCAA actively supports youth educational programs and staff show youths how to fish and enjoy this sport. The JCAA also supports scientific research that is sorely needed by the recreational community. All of the activities of the JCAA are done by volunteer staff, with the exception of an Office Manager who is needed to handle required administrative activities.

The JCAA is a 501.C3 organization and donations that are given to it are eligible for tax deduction purposes. The year 2015 is rapidly coming to a close and during this time period individuals and businesses often make contributions to charities and organizations that provide a tax deduction benefit.

Please consider providing a donation to the JCAA. Your donation will help us to fight for and protect the fishing rights for all recreational anglers who fish in New Jersey. You also benefit since your donation can be used to reduce your 2015 tax assessment. If your company provides for a matching donation, you may be able to double your contribution.

Please make your check out to the Jersey Coast Anglers Association and mail it to:

JCAA
1594 Lakewood Road
Victoria Plaza Unit 13
Toms River, NJ 08755

Thank you so much for your continued support! May your holidays be joyful and may you have a very **Prosperous** and a **Healthy** New Year!

Paul Haertel
President, JCAA

Ashton Harp
10/22/15
ASMFC
1050 North Highland St., Suite 200 A-N
Arlington, Va. 22201

Dear Ashton,

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association represents approximately 75 clubs throughout our state. We appreciate this opportunity to comment on the public information document for Amendment 1 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Tautog.

It is very disheartening to be told that tautog are overfished and that overfishing is occurring in most areas of the east coast. In fact from the perspective of most tautog fishermen in New Jersey, it is unbelievable. They report stellar fishing with some truly monster tog to over 20 lbs being caught as well as good representation of tog of all sizes. Most of us believe that our regulations are already far too restrictive.

Regarding the PID, JCAA supports Option 1, status quo with the fishery being managed as one stock from Massachusetts to Virginia. However, we would support the fishery being managed on a regional basis provided it could be done correctly. We urge you to further develop science to better determine the boundaries of the various stocks. By your own admission, options 2, 3 and 4 all present problems of some sort. Let's hold off on regionalization for now until you can get it right.

Many New Jersey fishermen are very skeptical of any regionalization plan for good reason. We were forced into a region against our will for fluke in 2014. The plan was supposed to alleviate the problem of neighboring states fishing essentially the same waters but having vastly different regulations. This was done to appease New York fishermen who had a higher size limit than New Jersey fishermen both of whom were fishing the NY bight area. However, in reality all the regionalization plan did was to transfer the problem to the Delaware Bay area. Now fishermen from Delaware fishing essentially the same waters as fishermen from NJ have only a 16" size limit and a much longer

season, while NJ fishermen have an 18" size limit. How is that fair?

Regarding tautog, options 2 and 3 are unacceptable primarily because there is little biological connectivity between New Jersey and Connecticut and we would be fishing on different stocks.

As previously stated, we prefer option one but of the current regionalized plans, option 4 is the only one that makes some sense. However, at this time complete data is missing for this option which makes it hard to endorse. Additionally, if we were to endorse this option, it would be on a conditional basis. New York's regulations are far more restrictive than New Jersey's and we vehemently oppose our regulations being made more restrictive so that theirs can be relaxed. While it is nice to have compatible regulations between bordering states it is more important for each state to have the right to choose the regulations that are best for their fishermen. We suggest that if we do have regionalization it should be with State-by-State measures. Each region would be given a quota and within that region each state would be given a target quota. Target quotas would be set and then adjusted accordingly when necessary to ensure that each state would continue to be allowed to harvest its traditional percentage share of the harvest. If the regional quota was exceeded, the state most responsible for causing it would have borne the brunt of it having more restrictive regulations the following year. However, states would be encouraged to work together on this so that perhaps a longer term agreement could be reached.

Regarding other parts of the PID most of New Jersey's fishermen would be happy if the tautog fishery in the future remains as good as it is now. Of course we would like it to be even better. We are opposed to more restrictive regulations but urge that the environment and habitat be improved. For example we strongly support the creation, maintenance and expansion of artificial reefs. This is particularly important at this time as our government is destroying the marine environment. They are replenishing our beaches and in doing so are burying sand and calico crabs while at the same time they are also burying, notching or completely removing many of our jetties that were prime habitat for blackfish and other species. Worse still, they are using sand from many of our inshore lumps which are designated as "prime fishing areas" and are of crucial importance to forage and game fish alike.

We agree with most if not all of the listed goals and objectives. It is difficult to determine exactly which are the most important. However, Objectives A, B, E and I are near the top of the list. We are aware that there is a very significant problem with the illegal sale of live tautog primarily in Asian markets in large cities like New York. There is insufficient law enforcement there and we urge that more officers be hired and/or a special task force be created to combat this illegal activity. We also urge that harsher penalties should be created for all illegal fishing activity. For example a fish market that is selling illegal tautog should be shut down for a period of time rather than just being fined. To many of those who break our fisheries laws, fines are accepted just as a cost of doing business. This needs to change.

We disagree with your statement that law enforcement noted a significant number of hook and line fishermen using undersized tautog as live bait for striped bass. Statements like that hurt your credibility. Striper fishermen who use live bait prefer menhaden, mackerel, herring and eels. Tautog are rarely used and the amount that are used is miniscule. We suggest that this statement be removed from the Amendment or that proof be provided if you still believe it is a problem.

There are many other factors that are impacting the tautog population far more than striped fishermen using them for bait. Probably the most significant is the explosion and expansion of our sea bass populations. They are not only competing with tautog for food such as crabs but they are eating juvenile tautog. I have noted this in the sea bass I clean. Perhaps, a study should be done to see just how prevalent this problem is. Sea bass are negatively impacting our fluke fishery as well. Spiny dogfish have been "restored" and are negatively impacting the populations of more desirable species as well. We can't have all the desirable species at peak periods of abundance at the same time as there is simply not enough food for all of them. We favor a more sensible eco-system approach to fisheries management.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,
Paul Haertel, President
Jersey Coast Anglers Association

Fisheries Management & Legislative Report

By Thomas Fote

ASMFC Audio

You don't have to attend a meeting to find out what happens at the ASFMC meeting. The press release below states that the audio files and all the presentations and meeting materials are now available at the ASMFC webpage. The links are in the report below. It is up to you to put in the time at your convenience. The striped bass board met for 2 hours. The audio of the striped bass technical report is only 40 minutes. You can listen at your convenience so there is no real excuse for not knowing what science is being used to make decisions. These audio files are available for every meeting. You really need to use this resource before you ask questions or make comments. Unlike the internet bloggers and the "internet experts," you can make comments based on the same information that is available to commissioners. In the past you needed to attend the meeting. Now all you need to do is make some time.

Striped Bass

We all know that for striped bass, like summer flounder, the recruitment is not totally dependent on the size of the spawning stock biomass. If you listened to the audio, the Technical Committee Chair giving the presentation pointed out that some of the highest on record spawning stock biomass produced the lowest recruitment numbers, especially since 2009. And the lowest spawning stock biomass during the 90's produced some of the highest recruitment in the Chesapeake Bay.

When we were discussing the most recent addendum, I made two points; the spawning stock biomass was 40 million pounds greater and produced the highest young of the year and the regression analysis will show that the mortality is lower than what we are using. If you listen to the audio, you will hear the Technical Committee's report that we overestimated the mortality rate when we did the amendment and the release below states that Maryland has produced the 8th highest young of the year since 1955.

When the Technical Committee ran the regression analysis on the predictions for the outgoing years, they found that there was much less confidence in the numbers used to restrict fishing in the previous amendment. This convinces me that there is very little probability that we will exceed our targets in future years that would have supported a dramatic reduction. These numbers confirm that I was correct in questioning the need for a reduction in the most recent amendment.

Even with the 4th highest young of the year index in 2011 and the 8th highest young of the year index in 2015, we cannot confidently predict that we will have the same type of fishery we had in the early 2000's. There are other factors that have a huge impact. All the other young of the year indexes are at least average or above average in 2015. This leaves me with many questions. Where are the necessary forage species to feed this increase in the young of the year class, not only for striped bass but also summer flounder and other fish that use the bays and estuaries as a nursery? What impact does the huge increase in the seal and porpoise populations have on the striped bass fishery? We know in Cape Cod the number of seals has gone from zero to tens of thousands in the past 20 years. How does the degradation of the water quality and quantity impact on the number of fish? Will we ever adequately account for the impact of higher water temperature and air temperature on the hook and release mortality for striped bass? Concerned anglers have long known not to catch and release when the air or water temperature is high.

It is important that we recognize that a high spawning stock biomass cannot be the only factor considered in making management decisions. If you really care about striped bass you need to get involved in protecting the bays, rivers and estuaries. There are many programs in existence that work to restore the bays and estuaries to their former glory. This is a lifetime's worth of work. That is why JCAA continues our commitment to environmental issues and protecting the bays, estuaries and rivers in New Jersey.

Maryland Striped Bass Year-over-Year 8th Highest on Record

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) announced today that the 2015 striped bass juvenile index is the eighth highest on record. The survey, a measure of spawning success,

found an average of 24.2 juvenile fish per sample, approximately double the long-term average of 11.9.

“This year’s survey demonstrates that striped bass are a very resilient species when given favorable environmental conditions for reproduction and survival,” DNR Secretary Mark Belton said. “The robust reproduction should give Maryland anglers hope for a successful striped bass season in a few years time.”

The survey also documented healthy reproduction of other species. DNR fisheries biologists counted record numbers of juvenile American shad, which have been under a harvest ban in Maryland since 1980. The white perch juvenile index was the third-highest on record. River herring reproduction was also above average.

The annual survey is conducted throughout the summer to track the reproductive success of Maryland’s state fish. Annual reproductive success can be highly variable due to environmental factors, such as water temperature, precipitation and river flow. This year, DNR collected more than 70,000 fish of 50 different species, including 3,194 young-of-year (less than one year of age) striped bass in 132 sweeps of a 100-foot beach seine at 22 sites.

DNR has monitored the reproductive success of striped bass and other species in Maryland’s portion of the Chesapeake Bay every year since 1954. The present day survey covers sites in the four major spawning systems—the Choptank, Potomac and Nanticoke rivers, and the Upper Bay. Biologists visit each site monthly from July through September to collect samples.

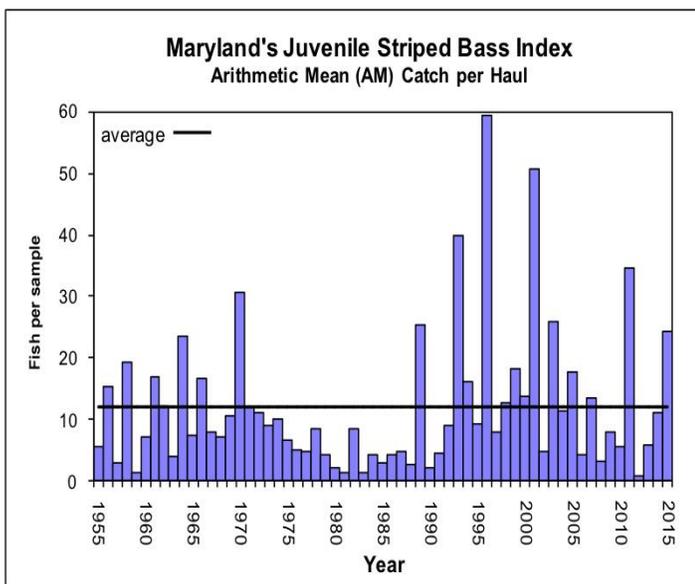
Summer Flounder

As always there is good news and bad news! The bad news is we have to do a needless 25% reduction in the harvest of summer flounder. The good news is that it looks like New Jersey will be at least 40% below our projected catch for 2015. The bad news is that we put in fisheries regulations for 2015 that did not allow our fishermen to catch our allowable catch. The further bad news is that if we were doing state by state regulations, with our 40% below catch we could actually increase our catch. However, because of regionalization, we will have to wait to see what the wave data shows for all of 2015. The good news is that it looks as though coast wide we may be below the necessary reduction. The bad news is the National Marine Fisheries Service and the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council did a 29% reduction based on poor recruitment knowing that the benchmark stock assessment says the poor recruitment is not based on spawning stock biomass. As I was discussing in the article on striped bass, there are many environmental factors that have a huge impact on the recruitment. Some of the highest recruitment has come with the lowest spawning stock biomass.

The really good news is that the ASMFC is considering an addendum that will address the problems created when New Jersey was placed into regionalization with Connecticut and New York. This created an unfair situation in the Delaware Bay and we hope this addendum will address this issue in 2016. Thankfully, many of the members of the Summer Flounder Board realize this is a serious situation and are committed to looking for a solution. See the summary below for the proposed addendum.

The Board initiated development of Draft Addendum XXVII to the Summer Flounder and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plans (FMP) to consider extending use of regional management approaches for the 2016 recreational summer flounder fishery, including an option that would allow for a Delaware Bay specific region. The Draft Addendum also will propose extending use of ad-hoc regional management approaches for black sea bass recreational fisheries in 2016 and 2017. In the event the options in Draft Addendum XXVII are not approved for management, the Board extended the current summer flounder regional management approach for use in 2016.

Press releases, meeting summaries and motions from the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission’s



74th Annual Meeting are now available at [this link](#). The meeting summary, as well as summaries and materials for past meetings, can also be found on the commission website [archive page](#). Presentations and audio files for the Boards/Sections that met during the Annual Meeting will be posted to the website early next week to [this page](#).

NJ Outdoor Alliance Report

By John Toth

On behalf of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA), I attended an October 26th meeting of the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA), and I also chaired this meeting in the capacity of Acting NJOA - CF President. The following issues were discussed.

NJ's DEP closed a number of roadways in Wharton State Park to protect a number of environmental sensitive areas and these closures cut off easy access for hunters and anglers to their favorite spots to hunt and fish. These closures were done without the input of user groups and that sparked a lot of angry backlash toward the DEP. The NJOA has met with the DEP to help resolve this issue and the DEP is holding off its final plan to change this park until it receives more input from its users.

Artificial Reefs - Pete Grimbilas reported that he expected to see new regulations from the NJ's DEP on the two reefs in NJ's waters (Axel Carlson & Sandy Hook) to be on record by November 17th. Pete expressed the frustration that all of us have on the lengthy delay of DEP's legal staff to review these regulations. However, persistence in contacting the DEP by NJOA staff to get these regulations published paid off! Pete said our Governor signed off on them and once they are published, DEP staff will focus on obtaining Special Management Zone (SMZ) status on the 13 artificial reefs that are in federal waters that would prohibit commercial use of them. (The new artificial reef regulations were made public on November 2nd).

Concerning seismic testing, I reported that Megan Brunatti from the DEP requested that I make anglers (both recreational and commercial) aware that our state wants information concerning catch rates or other problems that they may have seen that could be possibly linked to seismic testing. If there

is a movement in 2016 and beyond to start seismic testing again, our state will have this information to show that it should not be done. (An article to this effect was placed in the November edition of the JCAA newsletter)

LNG was discussed and I indicated that I would represent the NJOA and the JCAA at a public hearing at the Sheraton in Eatontown on November 4th. I read the points that I was going to raise at this hearing for their information. (My testimony is included in my LNG report in this newsletter).

The 29% reduction of our fluke quota for 2106 was raised and its negative effects that it will have on the boats that target fluke, tackle shops and all related industries. Fluke is the most sought-after fish by anglers and if anglers face severe restrictions on this fishery, then they will not go fishing for fluke and that will have a severe impact on all industries related to it.

JCAA's President, Paul Haertel, reported that even though we face this 29% cutback in 2016, it appears that we may have under fished our quota by 1 million pounds in our region with New York and Connecticut. If this statistic holds up, we may not be penalized so severely in 2016 and the regulations we have for fluke this year may be somewhat similar to what we have in 2015. Let's all hope that Paul is right!

Liquefied Natural Gas Report

By John Toth

I attended a public hearing to comment on the proposal of Canadian - based Liberty Natural Gas LLC to develop a deep water docking station known as Port Ambrose that would be a transfer point for ships carrying liquefied natural gas (LNG) to unload and pump gas to points in New Jersey and New York. While noble in its intent to provide more energy to consumers, this LNG project poses a number of problems for our environment and safety. A large number of groups, including the JCAA and the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA) opposed the LNG project and a public hearing was held on November 4th to take testimony from advocates and opponents of LNG. The US Coast Guard and the federal Maritime Administration presided over this hearing that was attended by a large number of people. This hearing was held at the Sheraton Hotel in Eatontown at 6:00 p.m. Many of you, if not most, are familiar with this issue since it has been covered in prior JCAA

newsletters. I, and all present, had **exactly three (3) minutes** to present their comments, and I had to talk fast to cover mine!. Those people who had lengthy statements to read could not do it in that 3 minute timeframe and they talked so fast to cover their points that it was somewhat comical to hear them! I gave these written comments to the public hearing officers, and also presented this oral testimony:

Statement by John Toth, representing the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA) and the Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA)

As a Trustee of the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA) and the Membership Secretary of the JCAA, I want to go on record that I am representing the NJOA and the JCAA and we are strongly against the proposed LNG project. We are against LNG for going forward for a number of reasons and they include but are not limited to the following:

The proposed LNG port will be located at the Gateway to the NY/NJ harbor, approximately 18 miles off Long Island and 28 miles off New Jersey. This is a highly trafficked area with thousands of boats and ships moving into and out of the New York/ New Jersey marine facilities. Under these conditions, the LNG port can pose a serious hazard to the navigation of the many ships large and small that use this important waterway system.

As we all know, Super Storm Sandy caused tremendous damage with waves nearly 30 feet high. Acting on warnings to this approaching storm, ships moved to different locations to avoid this super storm or took actions to better secure their craft. A storm like Sandy can come again and can the LNG port be adequately secured from the effect of this type of storm? If not, it will be tossed into the ocean with devastating economic effects on our entire region, including loss of life.

Exclusion zones will extend two miles from each docking buoy, eliminating the ability of fishing vessels to access or anchor in the affected area. Commercial and recreational fishermen will be excluded from these important fishing grounds. Anglers are excluded similarly from the present Earle naval fishing port and are chased away by inadvertently entering it. While it is needed for security of the naval vessels being repaired there, it is a nuisance for anglers and one that we do not want to experience again by the proposed LNG port.

A LNG facility would be a prime target for those groups of people who want to see a 9/11 type of disaster happening again. An exploding LNG port in our populous metropolitan area would be disastrous for the resulting damage it would cause to our entire region.

Notwithstanding terrorists, gas is in itself presents challenges to issues of safety. A small leakage or rupture to a line or valve can have major safety consequences. What if the gas lines from the LNG port to their shore locations rupture from some mechanical or pressure problem and spill into the ocean. What kind of damage can it cause and how easily can a rupture like this be repaired. The BP problem in the Gulf showed that repairs to mechanical systems in the deep sea can be problematic.

The construction of new pipe lines will dredge up to 20 miles of sea floor resulting in damage to some areas of prime fishing grounds and fish breeding areas. Super Storm Sandy caused enough damage to sea floor and the resulting dredging needed for beach replenishment due to this storm. More damage to the sea floor is not what we want to see.

Instead of reducing the price of natural gas for US citizens, LNG may in fact increase the cost due to the selling of it to foreign markets.

Because of the above reasons and more that will be expressed by other groups at this hearing, the NJOA and the JCAA urges Governor Christie to veto this LNG effort.

On November 12th, Governor Cuomo Veto the LNG project, effectively stopping it from going forward. JCAA thanks Governor for taking the lead and stopping the project.

Re: Artificial Reef Regulations

By Ken Warchal

Congratulations to Commissioner Martin and his staff on the Artificial Reef regulation effective November 2nd. After many years of conflict and wrangling amongst the interested parties, this difficult and complicated dispute has finally been resolved. Commercial potting will be allowed in designated areas only on reefs located in State waters i.e. the Axel Carlson and Sandy Hook Reefs. These limited areas are identified as the full access zones. Pot lines will be required to be marked with high flyer flags or buoys to

be clearly visible to all boaters and anglers so they can easily be avoided.

There are two full access zones in the Axel Carlson Reef. The north zone lies within a continuous line beginning at 40 04.180' 73 59.750' to 40 04.110' 73 59.600' then south to 40 03.500' 73 59.600' then west to 40 03.500' 73 59.906'. The south zone lies within 40 00.900' 74 00.499' to 40 00.900' 74 00.000' then south to 40 00.060' 74 00.000' then west to 40 00.350' 74 00.650'.

At the Sandy Hook Reef there is one zone which lies within 40 22.800' 73 56.600' to 40 22.800' 73 55.880' then south to 40 22.500' 73 55.880' then west to 40 22.400' 73 56.600'.

Also, as part of the plan, a new reef located just outside of Manasquan Inlet and one in Delaware Bay will be built. The Manasquan reef will be over a square mile in size and limited to recreational angler use only. No potting will be permitted.

The announcement of the construction of two new reefs in NJ waters is very encouraging. This is especially important now and in the future since the increasing demand for sand to replenish NJ beaches and to build dune systems is having a negative effect on existing marine habitat. Several designated "Prime Fishing Areas" and other inshore lumps are being adversely impacted by sand mining projects. Building reefs will create new, valuable habitat to help offset any loss of existing habitat diminished by these projects.

The next objective is to rid the remaining 13 NJ reefs located in federal waters of fixed gear. Assistant DEP Commissioner Richard Boornazian has petitioned the Mid-Atlantic Marine Fisheries Council (MAMFC) for SMZ status in a letter dated Nov 6th to remove all pots from these reefs. A copy of his letter is attached. This is an involved process and will be complicated by the fact that the commercial fishing interests have vowed to fight this.

While JCAA favors elimination of all pots from 100% of all reefs, we see this regulation as a partial solution to the conflict. We're very pleased to be able to start building new reefs and get back to adding deployments to the Axel Carlson and Sandy Hook Reefs. Many thanks go to the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance and to Reef Rescue for their unrelenting efforts in bringing this issue to the forefront.

Sportsperson of the Year Award Dinner

By Paul Turi, Co-Chairman

On Sunday, November 8th, we held our annual Sportsperson-of-the-Year dinner. This year's honoree was Bill Mackintosh. Bill was nominated by the New Jersey Beach Buggy Association. Bill has been an active member of the NBBA for 35 years and currently is a lifetime member. During his 35 years he has been involved in the following activities:

- Bill has volunteered for 25 plus years at National Hunting & Fishing Day, a day at the beach for special needs children. He has also participated in the New Egypt School district's annual fishing trip for challenged kids at Island Beach State Park for 12 years.
- For the past five years, he has volunteered weekly at the IBSP beginner's surf fishing clinic. Also, as a disabled vet himself, Bill has been privileged to volunteer at the NJBBA's (2) fishing trips each year for the men and women from the NJ Veterans Memorial Home in Vineland.
- For the past 22 years he has shared his knowledge at the NJBBA Children's Surf Fishing tournament as a teacher of knots, casting and water safety. He has also volunteered as a judge for the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament for 17 years.
- Bill has served on the Board of Directors of the NJBBA, holding multiple positions of director and corresponding secretary over his 12 year tenure. He is a member of the Courtesy Patrol for 15 years as well as coordinating the President's Fishing Club Tournament and annual NJBBA fishing contest.
- Bill has also volunteered for three years to help clean up Holgate. He has also qualified for certification as a Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs instructor. He has also been a critical participant in helping to restore the NJBBA Model "A" mascot. Bill has also helped represent the NJBBA in the Pots Off the Reefs campaign. He has also for 12 plus years helped to preserve an area for the Piping Plover and helped to keep access to the Brigantine northern beach open for fishing.

- Bill is also an instructor for the NJBBA Beach Driving Clinic. He was also instrumental in the rebuild of Island Beach State Park after Hurricane Sandy, and also helped in the recovery of the civilian devastation of homes after the storm.

Because of his many years of prolonged volunteer work that Bill has selflessly given to both the environment and as an instructor, the NJBBA proudly nominated Bill Mackintosh for the prestigious JCAA Sportsperson-of-the-Year award.

Again, congratulations to Bill on being elected this year's JCAA sportsperson of the year. In addition to Bill receiving the JCAA Sportsperson of the Year award, Tim Burden received the JCAA Youth Education Award. Congratulations to Tim also.

There were 157 attendees this year. There were over 50 door prizes handed out, over 50 Chinese auction prizes, and 11 silent auction prizes. There were items not only for the men to try and win but also for the ladies.

I'd like to thank Pat Donnelly again for another great job this year as our Master of Ceremonies. He always does a terrific job. I'd also like to thank those JCAA members who helped me make the dinner a success. Many thanks to Paul Haertel, Mark Taylor, Don & Al Marantz, John Toth, Frank Richetti, co-chairman Dan Miller and his wife Heather Miller, Tom Fote, Greg Kucharewski.

I'd also like to thank our many sponsors for the donations they made to make the dinner a success. And, remember, these sponsors support you, the recreational fisherman, and in return we should support them. The following is a list of our sponsors this year:

Atlantic Bait & Tackle	Bimini Bay
Butch's Bait & Tackle	Canyon Reels
Carol Magnatta	Fred Bogue
Capt. Seagull's Nautical Charts	
Chuck Santoro (San Del Insurance)	
Costa Sunglasses	Capt. Cal
Creekside Outfitters	Dave Arnold
Dock Outfitters	Fisherman's Den
Fisherman's Headquarters	Guy Harvey
Grumpy's Bait & Tackle	JCAA
Hoffman's Marina	J. R. Smith
Jersey Coast Shark Anglers	Jersey Hooker
Jigging World	Johnny's Tackle

Key Harbor Marina	Lacey Marine
Miss Belmar	Ocean Explorer
Paul & Linda Haertel	Pell's Fish & Sport
Pete & Elda's Restaurant	Pure Fishing
Tica Fishing Tackle	Tim Burden
Tony Maja	Yamaha Motors
Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County	
Underwater Green Fishing Lights	

I'd also like to thank those clubs and individuals who took a table of 10 or more:

Newark Bait & Fly Casters
Berkley Striper
Forked river Tuna Club
Greater Point Pleasant Charter Boat Association
Sandy Hook Bay Anglers
Jersey Coast Shark Anglers
Mark Taylor
Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County
NJ Beach Buggy Association (3 tables)
Tim Burden
Manasquan Fishing club
Hi-Mar Striper Club

And as always, I hope I haven't missed anyone. Donations don't always come to me the way I would like them to come to me. People hand me things at meetings or drop things off at the office and don't tell me or bring them to the dinner and hand them to me or someone else and in the confusion of the day things don't get recorded. If I have missed anyone I apologize in advance. Thank you one and all for all your help. Without your support and the support of our many sponsors the dinner would not be a success.

Saltwater Sportsman National Seminar Series Returns to Linwood

February 20th

The Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series will bring its 2016 New Jersey presentation to the Linwood Country Club (500 Shore Road, Linwood) on Saturday, February 20. The host of the 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. presentation will be **George Poveromo** – of George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing on the NBC Sports Network, and Contributing Editor for Salt Water Sportsman, with **Nick Honachefsky** serving in the co-host position, a noted writer, author, TV personality and New Jersey fishing authority. The Tour is being presented by Bass Pro Shops.

Joining **Poveromo** and **Honachefsky** in Linwood will be: **Crazy Alberto Knie** - Innovative authority on fishing the Northeast who excels at catching trophy striped bass, fluke and tautog; **Captain Steve Purul** – Noted Barnegat-based striped bass, fluke, and wreck fishing authority with *Reel Fantasea Fishing Charters*; **Captain Corey Solomon** – Margate-based authority on fishing southern Jersey's back bays and noted offshore pro; **Gina Lawrenson** – Renowned bottom fishing authority with the fabled Barnegat Light drift boat *Carolyn Ann III*; **Captain Mike McConlogue** – Premier authority on fishing the canyons off New Jersey with *Tuna-Tic Sportfishing*; **Captain Al Crudele III** – Veteran south Jersey wreck and offshore fishing authority with *Bayhound Charters*; **Captain Darren Dorris** – Noted offshore and canyon pro who specializes in sharks, wahoo, bluefin and big eye tunas with *Salty Lady Sportfishing*; **Captain David Wicker** - King mackerel tournament pro who also excels at near shore bottom fishing and marine electronics, and **Captain Jimmy Price** - Legendary Southport, North Carolina-based authority on catching trophy flounder!

Courses for the February 20 presentation will focus on: Trophy stripers on ultra-light tackle; Live-lining for trophy stripers; Top trolling tactics for stripers; Chunking for bluefish; Bluefish on surface lures; Inshore wire-line techniques; Jetty tactics; How to catch more and bigger fluke; Targeting trophy fluke; Top southern tactics for jumbo fluke; Secrets of fishing the Cape May Rips; Trophy drum in Delaware Bay; Secrets of fishing Delaware Bay; Top tactics for big blackfish; Catching blackfish by the score; Jigging for blackfish; No-nonsense weakfish tactics; How and where to locate weakfish; 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; Chunking for tunas; Live-baiting for tunas; Advanced methods for bluefin and yellowfin tuna; Cutting edge lure-trolling tactics; Subsurface offshore trolling; 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; Specialized tactics that take more big-eye tuna; How to troll up more wahoo and white marlin!

Such a deal! - The Seminar Series kicks off at 9:00 a.m. and will conclude by 3:00 p.m. Long

considered the best bargain in sportfishing, a Seminar Series ticket is only \$ 55.00.

The ticket price covers five hours of instruction from the best pros in the business, a course textbook, a one-year subscription or extension to Salt Water Sportsman, one Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecast Analysis, bottle of OrPine Wash & Wax, bottle of Star tron fuel treatment, bottle of Star brite Xtreme Clean, bottle of Corrosion Block, a \$ 10.00 Bass Pro Shops discount card (off any purchase of \$ 75.00 or more), and chances to win thousands of dollars worth of door prizes! The Grand Prize at the conclusion of the Jersey seminar is a Florida Keys fishing trip! The Super Grand Prize, to be awarded two weeks after the conclusion of the 2016 series, is a new Mako Pro Skiff 17 cc!

A rocking good time! - As an added bonus, attendees of the New Jersey seminar are entitled to attend the After Seminar Party at the Bass Pro Shops in Atlantic City. A special area will be set aside for the 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. party. Seminar attendees must show their Seminar Series name badge to gain entry, and are entitled to bring one additional guest regardless if they attended the seminar. Complimentary food, refreshments and live music will be provided. George Poveromo and several other faculty members will be present at the party.

How to register - Get your tickets now, as the New Jersey seminar sold out last year. To pay with Visa, MasterCard and American Express, call **(800) 448-7360**, or register on-line, visit: www.nationalseminarseries.com.

Membership Report

By John Toth

A number of clubs still have not paid their 2015 club dues to the JCAA. At this point, I have not heard from a number of clubs who have paid their dues in 2014, but not in 2015. These clubs include: Silverton Fishing Club, Central Trout Unlimited, Picatinny Saltwater Sports Club, Spring Lake Liveliners, and the Asbury Park Fishing Club. If you are uncertain if your club dues have been paid, please check with your club treasurer. Your cooperation is most appreciated! Thank you club 4 B' s for paying your dues!

Please note that our JCAA office and address *has changed!* The JCAA has moved to a new location and the new address is as follows:

Jersey Coast Anglers Association
1594 Lakewood Road
Unit 13
Toms River, NJ 08755

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!

Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

NJ HOFNOD TRAINING

On November 6th the JCAA Youth Education Committee supported the New Jersey DEP Division of Fish and Wildlife's NJ Hooked on Fishing not on Drugs (HOFNOD) training by presenting a fly tying session at Lighthouse Point in Waretown, NJ. The workshop was a great success and over twenty attendees participated at the three day training.

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association will provide training funds for upcoming NJ HOFNOD workshops. To receive an application from JCAA email: gkucharews@jcaa.org.

NJ HOFNOD is coordinated by Liz Jackson, HOFNOD Coordinator, DEP Fish & Wildlife. Please contact Liz to learn more about the benefits of becoming a NJ HOFNOD instructor. 908-637-4125 x122 or e-mail at liz.jackson@dep.nj.gov.

JCAA YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD

This year Mr. Tim Burden, President of the New Jersey Beach Buggy Association, was selected by the JCAA Youth Education Committee, to receive the 2015 JCAA Youth Education Award.

For the past 6 years, Tim has helped teach fishing clinics during the summer at Island Beach State Park (I.B.S.P) and serves on the JCAA Youth Education committee and is a Certified NJ HOFNOD instructor.

Over the years, Tim has volunteered to teach Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts about fishing so they could earn their fishing merit badges.

Tim and NJBBA work closely with New Jersey State Agencies to promote beach access and environmental enhancements along the coast of New Jersey.

Tim has worked with different fishing clubs, conservation groups, the IGFA Jr Angler Program (NJ Chapter), Big Brothers Big Sisters, and Kids Outdoors.

He has given countless volunteer hours so children will have opportunities to enjoy fishing in the future. The JCAA Sportsperson of the Year Dinner was very well attended. We appreciate all the support from our sponsors and friends that joined us for an evening of celebration and fun.

FISHING SEMINARS FOR VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES

Our next fishing seminar for veterans and their family will be during December. The veteran fishing seminars are sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans of America (Chapter 12) and VFW Post 2226 and held at VFW Post 2226, 212 Norwood Ave., Oakhurst, NJ.

The program is geared towards veterans struggling with PTSD & TBI but all veterans and their families are welcome to attend. The goal is to connect veterans and their families to VA Service Offices/Outreach Centers, NJ Coastal Parks, Fishing Clubs, Veteran Organizations, and help Veteran men and women take time to heal by utilizing healthy outdoor activities, such as fishing with their family and friends. Attendees will learn how and where to catch that fish of a lifetime.

We promote veterans to go fishing with their family and have fun while enjoying the outdoors.

Refreshments, door prizes, and printed handouts are FREE.

Greg K, Shore Surf Club President, Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Chair, and Member # 164 New Jersey Beach Buggy Association will be the speaker. To Register: Phone: 732-785-9278 or email mail to: gkucharews@jcaa.org

Tony Mantuano was the winner of the surf rod and reel at our October "How To Catch Blackfish and Striped Bass" seminar.

NJBBA KIDS FISHING SUCCESS

NJBBA members are volunteering time each week at Toms River South High School. Paul Harris and other members of NJBBA are making sure

youngsters at the high school learn the basics of surf fishing.

The JCAA Youth Education Committee is supporting the high school program by supplying books and equipment for the students that are committed to learning about recreational fishing and conservation.

YOUTH FISHING NEWS

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 2016.

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 family events and don't forget the Sportsmen Shows and 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.

**Sign up for JCAA
Alerts at
WWW.JCAA.ORG**

