

JCAA NEWSPAPER FEBRUARY 2019

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on January 22nd, 2019)

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

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, January 29th, 2019

Starting at 7:30 PM

385 Herbertsville Rd, Brick

NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING

Thursday, February 14th, 2019

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.**

## **2018 OFFICERS**

|                            |              |              |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| <b>President</b>           | Mark Taylor  | 732-245-9445 |
| <b>1<sup>st</sup> V.P.</b> | John Toth    | 732-656-0139 |
| <b>2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.</b> | Bill Browne  | 732-929-9112 |
| <b>Treasurer</b>           | Doug Tegeder | 732-575-2661 |
| <b>Rec. Sec.</b>           |              |              |
| <b>Cors. Sec.</b>          | Paul Turi    | 609-660-2126 |
| <b>Mem. Sec.</b>           | Kyren Dooley | 609-713-7712 |
| <b>Tournament Dir.</b>     |              |              |

**Committee and Chairpersons listed on last page**

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**January 29<sup>th</sup>** JCAA General Meeting

**February 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>** ASMFC Winter Meeting

**February 9<sup>th</sup>** Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series NJ

**February 14<sup>th</sup>** JCAA Board Meeting

**February 16<sup>th</sup>** JCAA Beefsteak Dinner and Fishing Seminar

**February 26<sup>th</sup>** JCAA General Meeting

**February 27<sup>th</sup>-March 3<sup>rd</sup>** Atlantic City Boat Show

**March 15<sup>th</sup>-March 17<sup>th</sup>** Saltwater Expo

**June 15<sup>th</sup>** JCAA 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Fluke Tournament

## **JCAA 25th Anniversary Fluke Tournament - June 15th**

*By Paul Turi, Tournament Director*

This year will be the **25<sup>th</sup> anniversary** of the JCAA Fluke Tournament. When we started this tournament 25 years ago, we held the tournament in the middle of June every year. For our anniversary tournament this year we have decided to move the tournament back to June. The tournament will be held on Saturday, **June 15<sup>th</sup>** and the Awards Presentations will be held on Thursday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at the Clarion Hotel in Toms River, NJ.

Five years ago, we moved the tournament to August based on a very unscientific survey sent to members, and based on the replies, we moved it to August. However, after five years it is clearly not working as we had hoped. By having the tournament in August we were competing with many other fluke tournaments. By moving it back to June we will be the first fluke tournament of the year and not competing with other tournaments as in the past.

Last year, we combined Great Bay, Ocean City, Atlantic City, Cape May and Fortescue into one region with one set of 10 prizes for that region. We

could no longer continue to pay out all the prize money for those five ports individually. We do not have a 1<sup>st</sup> place prize sponsor for any of those five ports who is willing to donate the \$1,200 1<sup>st</sup> place prize. Last year we only had three sponsors who donated the \$1200 1<sup>st</sup> place prize for their regions/ports: Fisherman's Headquarters for the LBI port/region, Liberty Landing Marina for the Jersey City port/region and South Harbor Marina in Waretown for the Barnegat Bay port/region. JCAA has to payout the \$1200 1<sup>st</sup> place prize money for each of the other regions.

There were a few people in the Southern Region who were not happy with combining those five ports into one region. Here are the entries by region for each port in the southern region so you understand why we had to do it.

|                          |            |
|--------------------------|------------|
| Manasquan Region         | 43 entries |
| Sandy Hook Region        | 41 entries |
| Barnegat Bay Region      | 35 entries |
| Shark River Region       | 25 entries |
| Long Beach Island Region | 18 entries |
| Jersey City Region       | 18 entries |
| Southern Region          | 43 entries |
| ▪ Great Bay (16)         |            |
| ▪ Ocean City (15)        |            |
| ▪ Cape May (9)           |            |
| ▪ Atlantic City (3)      |            |
| ▪ Fortescue (0)          |            |

As you can see, not one of those five ports in the Southern Region brings in enough entries to justify paying out the \$1,200 for the 1<sup>st</sup> place prize money and also any money we have to spend on any of the 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 10<sup>th</sup> place prizes we have to purchase if we don't have a sponsor.

Jersey City only had 18 entries last year but Liberty Landing Marina donated the \$1,200 1<sup>st</sup> place prize. Long Beach Island only had 18 entries but Fisherman's Headquarters has been donating the \$1,200 1<sup>st</sup> place prize money for as long as I can remember and I've been with JCAA 21 years.

So, since we are celebrating our 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this year, we decided to move the tournament back to June.

For our fluke tournament over the last five years we have been paying out over \$60,000 in money and merchandize prizes. Starcraft Boats,

Yamaha Motors and Yacht Club Trailers have donated a boat, motor and trailer and you don't even have to catch a fish to win the prize. We give it away in a raffle drawing at our awards presentations.

We offer \$50,000 for the largest fish over 12lbs. Last year we had a boat weigh in an 11.78lb fluke in Atlantic City and we had another fish 12.4lbs. out of Sandy Hook, but, unfortunately, the contestant did not enter the Big Fish Category. **Someone is going to win that \$50,000!**

So if you want to help recreational fishing in NJ, help JCAA help you and the other 1,000,000 fishermen in NJ by getting involved and fishing in the tournament this year.

## President's Report

*By Mark Taylor*

As 2018 has come to end and the start of 2019, it's that time of the year for new officers to be elected to lead this great Association. First, I would like to take this time to thank all of the 2018 Officers for working so hard and countless hours for this Association plus being a huge asset to me. It was an honor to be your 2018 President and I will always work hard to make this Association the best in New Jersey. The December JCAA meeting was canceled due to being so close to the holiday and everyone were very busy with their families during this time. The election of 2019 Officers will be at the January 29th meeting. It is very important for your club representative to be present at this meeting so they can voice your club's vote. The 2019 Officers will be leading this great Association for the next year. There is still time if you are interested in becoming one of these leaders so be at the meeting and be nominated by your club in good standing. We are always looking for new people to get involved. The 2018 Nominating Committee put forward a slate of 2019 Officers at the November 27th meeting which is as follows.

President – **Mark A. Taylor**

1st Vice President – **John Toth**

2nd Vice President – **Bill Browne**

Treasurer – **Doug Tegeder**

Recording Secretary –

Corresponding Secretary – **Paul Turi**

Membership Secretary – **Paul Haertel**

As you can see the nominating committee is looking for a recording secretary. If you are interested please contact me before the January Meeting. This is a great position to start getting involved.

It is time for the flea markets and outdoor shows. JCAA will have a table at the 2019 Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series on February 9th. We will also have a booth at the Atlantic City Boat Show (February 27th to March 3rd) and Salt Water Fishing Expo (March 15th to 17th). As always, we are looking for volunteers to work the booth on those dates. If you or a member of your club can volunteer some hours to promote JCAA, please contact me ASAP. I am putting a volunteer list together now. My contact information is [mtsport64@aol](mailto:mtsport64@aol) (subject: Show Volunteer) and 732-245-9445.

JCAA has a fundraiser fast approaching. This is our 2nd Annual Beefsteak Dinner on February 16th. This is a great event being coordinated again by Past President Paul Haertel. Paul is doing a great job promoting this event on social media, JCAA Facebook and Newsletter. Check out one of these sources and contact Paul. Last year's event is still being talked about so don't miss this year's.

JCAA had its Sportsperson of the Year Dinner on November 11th at Crystal Pt. Yacht Club in Pt. Pleasant. This event went very well and everyone that attended it is looking forward to this year's. This event would not have happened without the coordination of the Co-Chairmen Paul Turi and Dan Miller along with the help of others. I would like to thank the sponsors along with gentlemen and women that worked hard for JCAA.

JCAA is looking at ways to cut expenses. As you know, a dollar is not going as far as it used to. One of the areas that we are looking at is the newsletter. The cost of print has gone up and a lot of other originations are going to an electronic Newsletter. We are looking to go more electronic on the newsletter and only print the necessary copies. If you are currently getting a hard copy and would like to help by getting an electronic copy, email us at [JCAA@JCAA.org](mailto:JCAA@JCAA.org) or calling the office at 732-506-6565.

The Fluke Tournament Committee is already working on this year's Annual Fluke Tournament. There are some changes that are being discussed such as a date change. Stay tuned as the committee finalizes the details of tournament.

I have been at some of the member clubs to speak. If you would like me or an officer to speak at your club, please send an email to [mtsport64@aol.com](mailto:mtsport64@aol.com) and in the subject put "Speak at Club."

Next JCAA General Meeting is January 29th at 385 Herbertsville Road, Brick NJ, 08724. Remember, JCAA is always here for you, but we need more people to get involved.

## **Fisheries Management & Legislative Report**

*By Tom Fote*

### **Government Shutdown and its Effect on Fisheries Management**

It is hard enough to manage fisheries by itself without having to deal with a government shutdown. The ASMFC meeting will go on as scheduled in mid-February because we are not under the same rules and regulations that govern the MidAtlantic Fisheries Management Council. The second week in February there is a MAFMC meeting scheduled that will be impacted by the shutdown even if it is over by then. Read the email below sent out on January 15 by Chris Moore, Executive Director. By law MAFMC must post notices in the Federal Registry well in advance of the meeting but we have passed the January 18<sup>th</sup> deadline while those responsible were furloughed. The shutdown will also have an impact on information available at the ASMFC meeting since some of their employees are furloughed as well. The decisions on summer flounder, scup and black sea bass that we hoped were settled by spring might take even longer. Before you travel to any of the February meetings, check to see if agendas have been changed or if any meeting has been cancelled. As I am writing this, I am almost positive there will be no joint ASMFC/MAFMC meeting at the February meeting since I been told to not book rooms or buy plane tickets. There will be discussions on striped bass and other species at the ASMFC meeting and I will be sharing that information in the next newspaper. Of course, you can go on line and listen to all these ASMFC Board meetings taking place from February 5<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>.

## Windmill Question Response

I received an email from a commercial fishery advocate and harvester who is upset and surprised at the NWF press release quoting my support for windmills which is shared by JCAA. The JCAA position on renewable energy was developed in the 1990's. We recognized then that the ocean temperatures were getting warmer and the way we produced energy contributed to the problem. But an even bigger concern at the time was the pollution being generated by fossil fuel power plants, the cars we were driving and other processes that put contaminants into the atmosphere. JCAA has never taken a position against nuclear power but we opposed the nuclear power plants and fossil fuel plants in New Jersey because they did not have cooling towers. The lack of cooling towers was producing higher temperatures around their discharge and killing fish. We continue to look at sources of renewable energy that will not impact fish populations and create long-term problems. Please read my response to the email below.

"I wanted to think about your email for a few days before I answered. I have known you for many years and respect you, so this is my long answer.

"As you know, I am a 100% disabled vet who was exposed to Agent Orange. I know the effects that chemical contamination has on the human body. For the last 40 years of my life I have dealt with not only fish issues but environmental issues as well. One of the reasons I started volunteering with JCAA was because we handle environmental issues first and fish issues second. Without clean water we cannot have clean fish.

"JCAA has looked over the years at the problems with fossil fuel production and the contaminants that their production releases into the air. Every one of NJ's streams and lakes are contaminated with mercury from air deposition that comes from the coal, gas and oil fired plants to our west and a higher levels of acidity in our water bodies. That means we have an advisory on every fish that you can catch in NJ's lakes and streams. JCAA and I have long been a supporter of renewal energy. I remember testifying on solar panels many years ago and looking at all renewable energy options. Thirty years ago, I began researching the impact of wind generation, solar panel generation and energy conservation. One of those options is wind mills. After careful consideration JCAA and

its member clubs voted to support renewable energy in the form of wind mills, both on land and in the ocean.

"Let's look at the reasons why we need to move ahead with wind power and other forms of renewable energy.

"Climate change is one of the main reasons. As fishermen we have seen what has happened in the past 25 years with the warming of the ocean and the warming of the air. Just look at the drop in production of surf clams and lobsters in the Mid-Atlantic region. Some politicians are still burying their heads in the sand, but fishermen cannot afford to ignore the impact. Besides raising the temperature of the water and water levels, climate change has also produced more frequent and more dangerous storms. Sandy was an example but just the extreme amount of rain this year can be tied to climate change. Just look at the effects all that fresh water has on the salinity of the bays, estuaries and rivers. The rise of the water levels in the bays and rivers are causing flooding in areas that never flooded before and it is only getting worse every year.

"Contaminants in the air which eventually end up in the water have been increasing since the industrial revolution. It is now affecting the acidity of the ocean. Clams, oysters, and lobsters need a certain PH factor to produce healthy shells. The change in acidity also has an impact on coral and other sea creatures. We are affecting not only what we can harvest but the entire food chain. The contaminants in the atmosphere also contribute to the high rate of asthma and other respiratory diseases and certain cancers. There is certainly an element of environmental justice since many of the generators of air contaminants are in poor, urban areas.

"As fishermen we know we must protect the planet from the consequence of our actions. Renewable energy is a 'no brainer' for anyone who cares about the environment. That is why federal and state governments are all looking for ways to move to renewable energy to get us off fossil fuel. That is the reason NY, NJ and the rest of the east coast are moving ahead with windmills. Right now, wind and solar are the only viable options to the fossil fuel plants. Do these systems have drawbacks? Yes. But in looking at the alternatives, wind and solar are clearly preferable. As commercial and recreational fishermen, we need to be vigilant in the placement of these windmills to have the least impact on the fish and on the people who harvest them. We also need to insist that the latest, cleanest technology is used, and that continued research is done to lessen any negative

impact. Twenty-five years ago, we would have needed multiple windmills to produce what one windmill can today. We need to continue to look at ways to mitigate any impact on the lives and incomes of fishermen by investigating addition artificial reefs and compensation for lost fisheries.

“Renewable energy is the future. This is going to happen. We can participate in the process to guarantee the best outcome or we can stand on the sidelines and just yell. JCAA opts to be participants and have a seat at the table.

“On a personal note, twelve years ago my wife and I put solar panels on our roof. Then after Sandy we added 4 more to make us almost self-sufficient. We are looking at the storage units, so we can share the excess of our solar with others and run off them at night. We both drive a Prius and are hoping our next cars will be electric. We have also changed our light bulbs from incandescent to florescence and now LED. All the appliances have been changed to High Energy Efficient ones. I know this is a long response, but I wanted to be respectful of your opinion and share my views. I hope I have given you a better understanding why JCAA and I are in support of the windmills. As you know, Danny Cohen just passed away. He formed the fishermen's wind project so he would be part of the process and we talked about that move over the years.”

## **JCAA 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Beefsteak Dinner and Fishing Seminar**

*By Paul Haertel*

On Saturday, **February 16<sup>th</sup>**, 2019 the JCAA will be holding its second annual all you can eat Beefsteak Dinner and Fishing Seminar. The event will be held at the Forked River Tuna Club located at 18 Bay Av., Forked River, NJ. Doors will open at 5 PM with seminars beginning at 6 PM. Come in early to look around the club, have a drink, socialize and check out our silent auction prizes. At 6 PM, Paul Haertel will talk briefly about the JCAA and also give an update on what our fishing regulations might look like for 2019. Then Anthony Arcabascio, son of the famed Tony Maja, will give a power point presentation on wire line trolling for stripers. Then at 7 PM an all you can eat beefsteak dinner will be

served by Nightingale Catering. Salad, French fries, beefsteak and dessert will be served along with soft drinks, coffee and tea. A cash bar will also be available. The silent auction winners will be determined and then the affair will be concluded with a 50/50 drawing.

Tickets are just \$50 per person and may be reserved by contacting Paul Haertel at 973-943-8201 or [anglerpmh@aol.com](mailto:anglerpmh@aol.com). Tickets can also be ordered online from [this link](#).

## **Asbury Park's North End - Beginning of a New Error**

*By Capt. Paul Eidman, Board member &  
Forage Fish Committee Chairman*

If you haven't been to Asbury Park in a while, you would be shocked to see the direction things are taking. Yes, AP has had its challenges over the years, but as of late, it seemed to all be coming together. I for one was truly looking forward to the new open-minded Asbury, same old place, with down to earth people of all ages, varieties, and classes, forming a stew of liberal coolness, all hanging out and having fun. Throw in a cool mix of music, bars, restaurants, beach and layer it gently over an air of old school nostalgia at the base of it all.

Unexpectedly, I am seeing an emerging style that I am not thrilled with and it goes against the image of Asbury that I saw developing. After a decade of lurking behind the scenes, a smooth, slippery slithering snake has raised its head to convert this potential wonderfulness into a new metropolis of sanitized concrete, polished stone with plenty of stainless and AstroTurf thrown in for good measure. The elites will be very happy with this for sure.

The snake, I mean developer, IStar has kept everything quiet with no planning transparency, that is until one day last week when tall fences were put up from the convention center, north all the way to the end of fisherman's lot. I could not access the beach unable to get to my fishing spot and was completely prevented from fishing the north end, right in the middle of Striped bass season. Overnight, they rolled the bull dozers in and ripped up Asbury's famous boardwalk with zero public notice to area residents.

Last week there was an Asbury Park city council meeting. The developer was supposed to do a

public update plans for the north end, which were supposed to include a private pool club, cleverly placed sand dunes and taking the existing herringbone 60 ft wide boardwalk down to a “meandering 15 ft wide walkway thru the dunes”.

The future of the North end has been an ongoing issue since 2002 but that was when the only plan was to construct townhouses at the north end and remove the dirt lot completely. It seems as if overnight the north end project came alive in a major way. Over 400 people showed up to speak out and stop the development of the north end of the Boardwalk, but many were prevented from entering due to the 150 person room capacity. Important to note that many of the attendees were locals from the surrounding neighborhoods as well as surfers and beachgoers. Besides myself, I am unaware of any other fisherman in attendance or speaking out in objection to the project. This has got to change!

After waiting outside with everybody for almost 2 hours, I finally got my three-minute chance at the microphone to express my views for the record and this is what I said,

I live about 6 miles away from here in Tinton Falls, and I visit this cool little area that folks have renamed “Bradley Cove,” but I just know it as the dirt lot. I park to go surf fishing here, run my dogs and sometimes just to watch the sea. Up until recently, this lot has always been the last little free and organic spot at the beach.

We need to make sure that everyone feels welcome here in Asbury and not excluded. I for one feel that we need to have the north end reserved as a natural area and make it a retreat from the center of town. At the same time, we need to have extra sensitivity to the non-human residents around here.

Deal Lake is one of three area coastal lakes that is an historic spawning site for Alewife and Blueback Herring which are collectively known as river herring. Developer ISTAR plans to pave/extend the parking lot and boardwalk right next to the especially constructed Herring flume that we spent 7 million dollars on back in 2005 to make sure that migratory species can get to and from Deal Lake.

The population of river herring is in trouble and pretty much circling the drain. Every single fish counts right now on the east coast. That makes this an even more important issue.

There are also American eel and several types of shad that need to migrate in and out of this flume. I am concerned that this new development is

being done without consideration for the ecology of this diverse little ecosystem we have here in the middle of all this civilization.

Adding more pavement and possibly townhomes will clearly encroach upon this area, and the roadway runoff, fertilizer, weed killer and more will pollute the waters around this area. Increased sediments & sand could block the entrance to the flume even more than they do now. All these factors could deter what’s left of the returning river herring from spawning and migrating.

We need to make sure the dunes that are going to be rebuilt are done with the needs of the Least Terns, Black Skimmers, Piping Plovers and Sea Beach Amaranth in mind.

Let’s not forget that this is home to others that aren’t as threatened... Great Blue Heron, Black Crowned night heron, Great Egret, Snowy Egret, Osprey, Grebes, Merganser and countless other fish-eating birds that depend upon this very area as a food source.

Important to remember that this area is a floodplain. Have we not learned anything from the past decade of superstorms? The other two lakes (Lake Takanasee & Wreck Pond) just miles away from here got completely ripped open by the storms and ran out to the sea just like it did when the Indians were here.

**There should be no construction of hard structures in front of a coastal lake.** In the event of a storm the lake rises and flows over the roadway, across the beach and out to the ocean. This is not an area that should be under consideration for townhomes. Deal lake will flow right through them! Give us a seat at the table and let’s develop the north end together and make it open accessible natural space.

At the end of the meeting that night, many people had already left, but we were alerted by the mayor, “please don’t leave.” They adjourned for 10 minutes, returned and advised us that they had decided to HALT the development plan as it stands and redesign with public input. The night was a great example of what happens when a community activates, steps up to the plate and speaks out. We are grateful to Asbury’s city council and hope that they will keep the promises made to improve the design and resilience to storms in the future.

# Request for a New Recreational Fishing Roundtable Meeting

*By John Toth*

On April 3, 2017, John Bullard, the former Regional Administrator of the Greater Atlantic Regional Office, held a Roundtable Meeting to hear firsthand the problems facing recreational anglers. I recorded the major issues that emerged from this meeting, and I sent an April 6<sup>th</sup> letter (below) to John Bullard as a follow up to this meeting requesting the next steps for resolution of them. While an Action Plan was offered by Mr. Bullard's staff on June 8, 2017 in an attempt to address the issues of the April 3<sup>rd</sup> Roundtable meeting, no movement on this Action Plan has taken place to date.

Mr. Pentony has replaced John Bullard and he was the guest speaker at the Jersey Coast Anglers Sportsman of the Year Dinner held on November 11<sup>th</sup> at the Crystal Point Yacht Club. On hearing his presentation concerning the problems we face as recreational anglers at this dinner, I thought that a new Roundtable Meeting should be held with this change in leadership so that possibly new and fresh ideas can emerge to help resolve the issues in my letter to John Bullard. My request (mailed on JCAA letterhead) for this Roundtable Meeting follows:

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December 1, 2018

Regional Administrator  
Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office  
55 Great Republic Drive  
Gloucester, MA 01930

Dear Mr. Pentony,

I want to thank you for coming to the Jersey Coast Anglers Association Sportsman of the Year Dinner. It was interesting and even refreshing to hear you talk about your early fishing experiences in New Jersey's waters. While listening to you, I felt that you have a direct connection with us recreational anglers and that you are in tune with and have an understanding of the issues facing the recreational community.

On April 3, 2017, John Bullard held a Recreational Fishing Regional Roundtable meeting at the Manasquan Reservoir Visitor Center. I attended this meeting along with others to express our concerns on a number of issues that are important to the recreational fishing industry. I wrote a summary of this meeting (attached) and sent it to Mr. Bullard asking for his comments and, more importantly, how we can partner together to resolve them. I did receive a Meeting Summary on June 8, 2017 with a proposed Action Plan, but there has been no movement on this Action Plan to date.

I, and the JCAA Board Members, request that you hold another Regional Round Table meeting in 2019 to hear our concerns regarding the issues of the recreational community. While the issues raised in the 2017 Round Table Meeting have not changed, let us have a fresh start in looking at them and developing a plan to address and resolve them. I understand that NOAA has three Roundtable meetings planned for the **New England Region**, but none yet for our Mid-Atlantic region.

Thank you for considering this request!

John Toth  
JCAA, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Cc: Mark Taylor, President  
Tom Fote, Legislative Chairman

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April 6, 2017

U.S. Department of Commerce, NOAA  
Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries office  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
55 Great Republic Dr.  
Gloucester, MA 01930

Mr. Bullard,

I want to thank you and your staff for meeting with representatives from fishing organizations and related industries on April 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Manasquan Reservoir Visitor's Center as part of NOAA's Round Table Discussion to listen to the concerns of anglers. A number of major issues were raised at this meeting and I would like to have your comments on just a few of them.

We have been experiencing cutbacks on our fishing quotas for just about every fishery with the

resulting loss of related fishing industries such as tackle shops, charter/party boats and even the loss of anglers buying new boats since they have diminished fishing opportunities. The 19-inch fluke New Jersey's anglers are currently contesting comes to mind. When we protest these continual cutbacks, the reply we always receive is that these quota reductions are based "**On the Best Science Available.**" At this meeting, it was pointed out to you **your own statistics** show that black sea bass stocks have increased **230%**, yet we have not received a commensurate increase in the quota. An increased quota would allow us to target sea bass for a longer season thereby reducing pressure on other species such as fluke. It seems to us that this is a "**Tails you lose and heads you lose**" no matter how the coin is tossed! If your own statistics tell you that the quota for sea bass can be easily raised, then why has this not been done? I understand that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission is going to consider raising this quota in the near future. As one person indicated at this meeting, NOAA has a "**Loud Voice**" when it comes to fishing managers making these types of decisions. We all would appreciate your using NOAA's voice to significantly increase the black sea bass quota for our fishing industry.

The data used to justify cutbacks in our fisheries is seriously flawed and this was pointed out to you. As an example, the data showed that New Jersey's anglers caught a lot of fish after Hurricane Sandy, even though a large number of our boats were destroyed and many marinas closed. Other examples like this abound such as days with high winds that keep boats in the marinas, yet high catches of fish are recorded. This bad data goes into the models used for quota development and bad data in the models produces bad data out. This is a continuing and major problem that needs serious attention by your staff.

Also pointed out at this meeting, it is the continuing loss of marinas, decline in boat registrations, etc., that shows our fishing industry is in a downward spiral over the years. NOAA has to take a serious look at this decline in fishing - related businesses and examine its role in contributing to this decline by its management that continually pursues decisions that damage the recreational and commercial fishing industries. What can NOAA do to reverse this downward trend? As also mentioned at this meeting, we are looking to be a Partner with

you and we are looking for a **Roadmap** from you to follow so that we can both work together on resolving these outstanding issues.

John Toth  
President, Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA)  
President, New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA)  
President, Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County (SWABC)  
CC: Mr. Wilbur Ross, US Commerce Secretary

## JCAA Seeks New Members – Open House Feb-26

*By Paul Haertel*

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association is seeking new member clubs as well as associate (individual) members. For the first time ever, JCAA is opening its general membership meeting to those who may be interested in joining or learning more about how JCAA operates. The meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on **February 26** at the Jersey Coast Shark Anglers Club located at 385 Herbertsville Rd., Brick, NJ. Annual dues for club membership are \$50 while associate memberships cost \$25. Light refreshments will be served beginning at 7 PM. Seating is limited and we also want to order the appropriate amount of food, so please contact our membership secretary, Paul Haertel at 973-943-8201 or [anglerpmh@aol.com](mailto:anglerpmh@aol.com) if you plan on attending.

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association is a charitable non-profit 501(c)3 organization that was formed in 1981. The original objective of the JCAA, that continues today, was to combine a group of marine sportfishing clubs in order to form and promote a united consensus on issues relevant to saltwater anglers in New Jersey. Amongst the topics likely to be discussed at this meeting are the recently signed Modern Fishing Act, the proposed windmills off our coast, sand mining, the new striped bass stock assessment, forage species, youth education activities, and what our regulations might look like this year for fluke, sea bass, stripers and perhaps other species.



## Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series in New Atlantic City Venue!

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact 1-800-448-7360

The Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series 2019 tour will again land in New Jersey, but at a new venue. The February 9 presentation will be held inside the Crown Ballroom of the Sheraton Atlantic City Convention Center Hotel (Two Convention Boulevard, Atlantic City). 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*. **Nick Honachefsky**, a noted writer, author, TV personality and New Jersey fishing authority, will serve as co-host. The Tour is being presented by Bass Pro Shops.

Joining **Poveromo** and **Honachefsky** in Linwood will be:

- **Captain Alan Lee** – Veteran canyon- and bottom fishing pro with over 40 years of experience at catching game fish off the Jersey coast, with *Mushin Sportfishing!*
- **Melissa Toro** – Authority on fishing South Jersey's back bays and a specialist at catching fluke and blackfish in and around the waters of Atlantic City!
- **Captain Dan Ponzio** – Atlantic City-based specialist at catching trophy striped bass and canyon fishing for tunas with *War Dance Charter Fishing!*
- **Captain Nick Stanczyk** – Noted Islamorada, Florida Keys-based offshore pro and a pioneer of catching day time swordfish aboard his charter boat "*Broad Minded!*"
- **Jason Szabo** – Distinguished specialist at fishing New Jersey's back bays/rivers, inshore and mid-range waters as well as deep-dropping and tuna fishing at the canyons!
- **Captain Tyler Fruits** – Noted offshore pro and a renowned authority on fishing South Jersey's

back bays and oceanside waters for fluke, blackfish and striped bass!

- **Captain Rick Lamb** – Noted Barnegat Bay-based authority on catching trophy striped bass!
- **Captain Mike Goodwine** – Renowned Florida-based guide who specializes in catching trophy flounder and black drum with *Blackneck Adventures Fishing Charters!*
- **Captain David Wicker** – Noted authority on using marine electronics to locate and catch more fish!
- **Captain Alan Wenzel** – South Florida-based authority on offshore live-baiting and trolling as well as conventional- and deep-drop bottom-fishing!

Courses for the February 9th 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; Day swordfishing!

**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, 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 2019 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 has sold out in advance the previous five years. To pay with Visa, MasterCard or American Express, call 800-448-7360, or to register on-line visit: [www.nationalseminarseries.com](http://www.nationalseminarseries.com).

## Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

### NJ HOFNOD NEWS

Members of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association Committee encourage member clubs to attend 2019 New Jersey HOFNOD, facilitator training hosted by the DEP Division of Fish and Wildlife at Lighthouse Center for Natural Resource Education in Waretown, NJ. The training date is May 7-19, 2019 and it is well worth the time to learn creative aquatic activities to teach youngsters the importance of becoming environmental stewards. During the training session you will learn the following activities: Conservation & Experiential Education Concept Mapping - Ecological Awareness & Wildlife Interdependence - First Impressions, exploring our “perception” about wildlife and ourselves, Rods and Reels - Know your Lures & bait, Exploring the water (hydrologic) cycle, and Fly Tying. If you are interested in attending a NJ HOFNOD workshop, please phone or email Liz

Jackson, NJ HOFNOD Coordinator Phone: 908- 637-4125 x 122 email: [liz.jackson@dep.state.nj.us](mailto:liz.jackson@dep.state.nj.us).

Adam Aguiar, Professor of Biology, Stockton University and NJ HOFNOD Instructor, visited Brick High Schools Fishing class to present anatomy and biology of Striped Bass. Adam explained the importance of tagging/releasing fish and conservation. He reviewed species like fluke, bluefish, weakfish and the similarities and differences in feeding techniques and behaviors. I enjoyed Adam’s presentation as much as the students. He gave us great insight into how and why Striped Bass feed and behaviors which will help the class target them during future fishing trips. Students were engaged and asked lots of questions. Adam explained the importance of knowing how water temperature affects Striped Bass and attack baits.



Tim Brennan is doing an excellent job of bringing in knowledgeable speakers to teach his students about conservation and sport fishing.

Adam is also a friend of JCAA and worked on the JCAA fluke tournament surveys with Dr. Eleanor Bochenek of Rutgers, The State University, Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory.

I just happened to be driving on Ocean Ave. Point Pleasant Beach, on Thursday, December 13<sup>th</sup> when students exited a Brick School bus at Jenkinson’s Aquarium. Tim Brennan, Health and Physical Education teacher, scheduled Brick, NJ HOFNOD fishing students for a tour at Jenkinson's Aquarium. Students were able to visit the aquarium and enter special access areas where employees care for animals. Students learned first-hand what was needed to make the aquarium run smoothly and tend to the aquatic residents. Every week Brick High Schools NJ HOFNOD students get to learn something new and travel to water resources in Ocean County.



## 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 2019. 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.

## OUTDOORS SPORT SHOWS

As fishing slows with the cooler weather and winter starts to settle in, it's time to start looking for great fishing deals at upcoming boating and outdoor sport shows. While you're at the shows, stop by the JCAA booth to learn what is new with the JCAA Fluke Tournament and ask about becoming a JCAA volunteer. We will also have the latest information about what recreational anglers are concerned about.

Outdoor sport shows start in January and it's the perfect time of the year to check over your fishing equipment. I always check the following just to make sure I am ready: Inspect rain gear boots/waders for wear, fishing line condition, reel-

roller guide/bail spring/handle/drag washers/lubrication, rod tiptop, reel seat, guides, lures, sharpen hooks, check split rings, lure cracks, nose wire bent, touch-up paint, replace deer hair teasers and tubes. You might want to also go through your terminal tackle and sharpen hooks and discard any connecting snaps that are worn. Remember to support your local tackle dealer; they can help with reel and rod repairs. Don't wait until spring is here, tackle dealers start getting busy just before it starts to warm up.

## UPCOMING 2019 EVENTS

We received a request from Boating Education and Rescue to conduct fly tying and equipment maintenance for their youth fishing club. We will introduce F3's new Color On's and youngsters can design their own tee shirts.

A request from Newark Bait and Fly Casters was received to conduct a HOFNOD learning station for their March 2019 Kids Fishing Night.

During April we will assist with the Play HOOK-e Take a Veteran Fishing at Ponderosa Estates Farm, Lake Julianna, Millstone, NJ.

Free Veteran Surf Fishing Clinics will resume in May 2019, Funded by Vietnam Veterans Chapter 12 and VFW Post 2226, Oakhurst, NJ. Please phone 732-785-9278 to register.

Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament May 19, 2019. Who will win the Governor's Cup and the High School Team Competition trophy?

# Save the Date

# JCAA 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Fluke Tournament

# Saturday June 15

# Please Support Our Sponsors

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