

# Bulletin

## Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ

Free Issue

March 2024

At The American Legion Hall, Post # 170, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, N. J.

President/ Writer/ Editor

**John Toth**

tothjohn@verizon.net



1st Vice President

**Don Lohse**



2nd Vice President

**Gary Gusterson**

Gus54@optonline.net



Membership Secretary.

**Art Vrola**

Art@ajvrola.com



Treasurer

**Jim Galanaugh Jr.**

Jgalan4962@aol.com

Assistant Treasurer

**Charles Santoro**

[Boats62@aol.com](mailto:Boats62@aol.com)



Assistant Writer/Editor

**Fred Villanova**



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[www.swabc.org](http://www.swabc.org)

Bob Goldstein with his Fluke Glow Jigs next to John Farrell's Killer Fluke Rigs.



### Stories & Events

**Page 2** – Presidents Corner, Upcoming Meetings & Membership Dues

**Page 3** – Trade Shows, Raffle Info & Saltwater Registry

**Page 4** – Flea Market Report by John Toth

**Page 5** – Fishing Flea Market pictures

**Page 6** – More pictures & application form

*Good fishing, good friends.*

*That's what SWABC is all about*

*The Best Fishing Club in NJ*

The regular meetings will be held every third Tuesday of the month, (except March) at 7:30 PM at the Legion Hall. A \$5 fee is required, for non-members. This entitles you to refreshments, snacks, and some new tricks about fishing plus participation if you choose in our dark horse drawings. Welcome all; we hope you enjoy the evening.

## President's Corner

At our February 20th meeting, we had Peter Clarke, a biologist from the NJ DEP, who gave us a very informative power point presentation on our state's artificial reef program. These reefs were started in the 1980's and they expanded to 17 of them today and are one of the best, if not the best, in our country. Fish need to hide from predators and reefs provide them with the protection they need and they also create good fishing opportunities for us anglers. A number of our members told me that Peter was one of the best speakers we had at our club and I have to agree with them!

We completed our Flea Market on February 4th and our Boat Show on February 15th to the 18th. I have written reports about both of them and they are in another section of this newsletter.

What we have coming up now is the Salt Water Expo that starts from March 15th to the 17th. This is a great salt water fishing show and our club has a booth at it to sell our raffle tickets.

Also coming up is our Past President's Dinner on March 19th and this dinner is not to be missed since it has a lot of good food served Family Style and a huge Dark Horse. Details of it are in another section of this newsletter.

Our first club charter trip this year is May 18th on the Bingo sailing out of **Atlantic Highlands**. This trip is full.

Finally, we are going to take youths on a club charter trip on the MiJo from the Garfield YMCA during July. The date is to be determined to coincide with the schedule of the YMCA.

Nico made a Cuban style dish with pork, beans & rice, salad and a nice cake. I loved it and Thanks Nico!  
Rick Swarthe handles the selling of our Dark Horse tickets and he had to leave early because of a personal issue. John Fatuzzo took Rick's place, and he did a fine job selling our tickets. Thanks John!

Glenn Peckel won our rather nice 50/50 prize at the meeting and then Glenn donated \$50 of his prize money back to our club. **Thanks Glenn!**

### **March 19th Club Meeting – Past President's Dinner at Mountainside Inn**

Our club will host this annual event on **March 19th at 7:00 p.m.** to honor all the presidents who have served our club over its many years. Food is served **Family Style** with roast beef, chicken, salad, pasta, potatoes, veggies and dessert. Beer, wine and soda are also included with the dinner. The price for this year's Past President's Dinner with all of the above is **s \$35 even in spite of this high inflation!** We will have speakers to touch briefly on a variety of fishing-related topics, a **huge Dark Horse**, door prizes, and certificates/gift cards to be presented to all of the winners of the Big Fish contest! We will also have a **special raffle** for a **6-pack charter trip** on the Fins on Feathers!

The Mountainside Inn is located at 509 Hazel Street, Clifton, NJ To purchase tickets and to receive more information about this dinner, please call Art Vrola, our Dinner Chairman, at (201) 280-8612.

**We do not meet at the Legion** for our March 19th meeting. The Past President's Dinner is our March club meeting.

### **April 16th Meeting –**

#### **Save the East Coast**

**Save the East Coast** is an organization that is totally against the implementation of windmills off our coast. They will give a power point presentation on the many problems these windmills will create if they are ever operational. They have updated information on windmills that makes their implementation more problematical for our environment. Don't miss this one if you want to be aware of how windmills can damage our fisheries.

### **May 21st Meeting – Dave Lilly-**

#### **Fluke Presentation**

Dave has been to our meetings to tell us how to catch fluke. This presentation is more geared on telling us how to fish for fluke in a more economical fashion to save us from spending so much money buying tackle to do it.

### **Club Membership Dues**

Club dues were payable by the **end of February**. For those members who are late in paying dues and want to remain members, make your checks payable to **SWABC** and mail your check to:

American Legion Post # 170  
33 West Passaic Street  
Co /SWABC  
Rochelle Park, NJ 07662

### **Winter Trade Shows**

The New Jersey Boat Show lasted 4 days (February 15th-18th). This Boat show had a good crowd to see beautiful boats that also had high prices. Our members who worked at included: John Piazza, John Toth, Steve Totten, Bobby Jones, Fred Villanova, Rick Swarthe, Jim Catanzaro, Tom Tyls, Don Lohse, Art Lein, Rich Melton and Jim Galanaugh Jr. Thanks so Much for volunteering to help at this show!

## **New Members!**

## **Welcome Aboard**

**Steven Blumefeld – Rockaway, NJ**  
**Joshua Liberman – New Milford, NJ**  
**Ken Griffin – Garfield, NJ**



## Salt Water Expo – March 15th – March 17<sup>th</sup>

### NJ Convention Center

This is the next show on our horizon and the schedule for our members to work at it follows

#### Friday, March 15th

Noon – 4:00 p.m. – John Piazza, Steve Totten, John Toth, Rick Swarthe

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Tom Bornemann, Art Lein

#### Saturday, March 16th

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. John Piazza, Steve Totten, Rick Swarthe

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. – Bob Goldstein, John Farrell, Ralph DeJulia

#### Sunday, March 17th

10:00 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. John Piazza, Steve Totten, John Toth

1:45 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. – John Toth & 1 Volunteer

### Club Raffle Info

The raffle tickets will be available at the Past President Dinner and at the April meeting. All members with paid dues for 2024 may see Fred Villanova and pick up their two free books.

Any member wishing to purchase additional books can also do so, however payment of \$10.00 per book needs to be paid in advance. Any unsold tickets will be refunded with the return of any unsold tickets.

### Club Raffle Prizes

The drawing of raffle tickets will be held on **May 21st** at our regularly scheduled club meeting at the American Legion Post # 170. Our club has some very nice prizes to offer and they are:

1. **Charter Fishing Trip on the Fins on Feathers Charters - \$800 value**  
Captain Frank Tenore - 125 Concord Ave., Leonardo, NJ. (Gratuity not included).
2. **JW Night Ranger Rod, Diawa & Saltiga Star Reel – \$690 Value –**
3. **JW Nexus Rod & Diawa, Lexa Reel - \$380 value**
4. **Apple, I Pad (Generation 10) 64 gig with wifi –\$400value**
5. **2 Tickets for the Party Boat “Fisherman”- \$200 value**
6. **Gift Certificate – Jigging World, 175 Rt.17, Rochelle Park, NJ 07667 - \$100 value**
7. **Gift Certificate – Jigging World, 175 Rt. 17, Rochelle Park, NJ – 07667- \$100 value**

## NJ Saltwater Registry Program for 2024

Beginning December 15th, NJ saltwater recreational registration for 2024 will be available on the NJDEPFISH&WildlifeLicensing webpage.

This webpage gives detailed information on our state’s registration program and the cost to register is still free.

For more information on registration call (609) 748-2020.

### Monster Grouper Caught!

A Florida high school student reeled in a **250 lb. Grouper** from the beach!

Isaac Francis, a 17-year student, caught this Goliath while fishing from Turtle Beach in Sarasota, Florida. His father said although he was “lucky” his son has lots of experience in catching fish and that experience enabled him to catch this Big One!

## Art Lein and his daughter Kate Marie Raising funds for MA22 Short for MA Deuce Deuce Their goal is raise funds to support Veterans & take them fishing.



## SWABC Flea Market Report

By John Toth

February is a tricky month when it comes to snowy weather and **THANK GOD** that we had a sunny day with temperatures in the mid-forties for our February 4th Flea Market at the Hasbrouck Heights Hilton! At our club meetings, Flea Market Chairman, Don Lohse, asked for volunteers to help him with this event to: accept payment from visitors entering the Hilton, selling raffle tickets for a charter trip with Captain John Koliass (Reel Fun Fishing), selling 50/50 tickets, our club's raffle tickets and Make Your Best Offer on an assortment of articles that were on a table donated by members as a fund raiser for our club, and to act as Security Guards.

These are the members who responded to Don's need for volunteers and they include: Paul Keppel, John Ward, Jim Piobino, Gene Snyder, Lou Castellano, Rick Swarthe, Gary Gusterson, Fred Villanova, Chuck Santoro, Steve Totten, Rick Reitano, Nick Cassamassimo, Art Vrola, T.J. Taber, Ralph DeJulia, Bill Lessemore, Jim Glanaugh Jr., Bill Goodsir, Art Vrola, Frank Rella, Ken Lesenko, Jim Catanzaro, Bobby Jones, Tom Bornemann, Chuck Routar, Harry Vogt, Barry Paull and myself. Over two dozen members answered Don's plea for help at our Flea Market! **Just remarkable!**

Some of our members were directly involved with the above tasks, while other members were there to help wherever needed. Like Rick Reitano and Nick Cassamassimo helped one of our vendors move his tackle to his table because the vendor had a leg injury and would have struggled to bring all of his gear to his tables. Barry Paull and Harry Vogt and Rick Swarthe hustled selling our 50/50 tickets resulting in a total of **\$1420 tickets sold** with our club receiving half of this amount. Jim Piobino and Steve Totten sold over **900 tickets** on a raffle for a charter trip on the Reel Fun charter by Captain John Koliass and Art Vrola sold our club's raffle tickets. At our Make Me an Offer Table, T.J. Taber, Bobby Jones and other members sold an assortment of things (some of them odd) that even made us a profit of several hundred dollars! Gene Snyder, Gary Gusterson, Ken Lesenko, Ralph DeJulia, Bill Lessemore and other members walked around the vendors as Security Guards. A vendor told Gene Snyder how much he appreciated the security we provided. Lou Castellano made up the signing needed to inform the public about the cost to buy tickets for everything, including the sign showing the start of our Blackfish seminar and its speaker, Chuck Santoro picked up Dunkin Donuts and coffee for our volunteers, Lou Castellano also made sausage & pepper sandwiches for us and Rick Reitano's wife, Sue, even made muffins for us volunteers! **Thank You Sue!**

We also had Frank Mihalic as our seminar speaker to talk about how to fish for Blackfish. Frank is **top shelf** when it comes to talking about blackfish and he is also an

excellent speaker. I heard people exiting our seminar saying, "he is amazing" and they told me how much they learned from his seminar. We gave this crowd an excellent seminar!

A **Big Thanks** goes to **Don Lohse (and his wife Dottie)** for all of their efforts and time in organizing this Flea Market for us! **My Thanks also goes to all of you** who gave up your time to help make our Flea market a success! With this huge show of support by our members for this event, this proves to me that we have a very vibrant club and one that has a lot going for it!

Our Hero for the day for this years  
Flea Market is

# Don Lohse

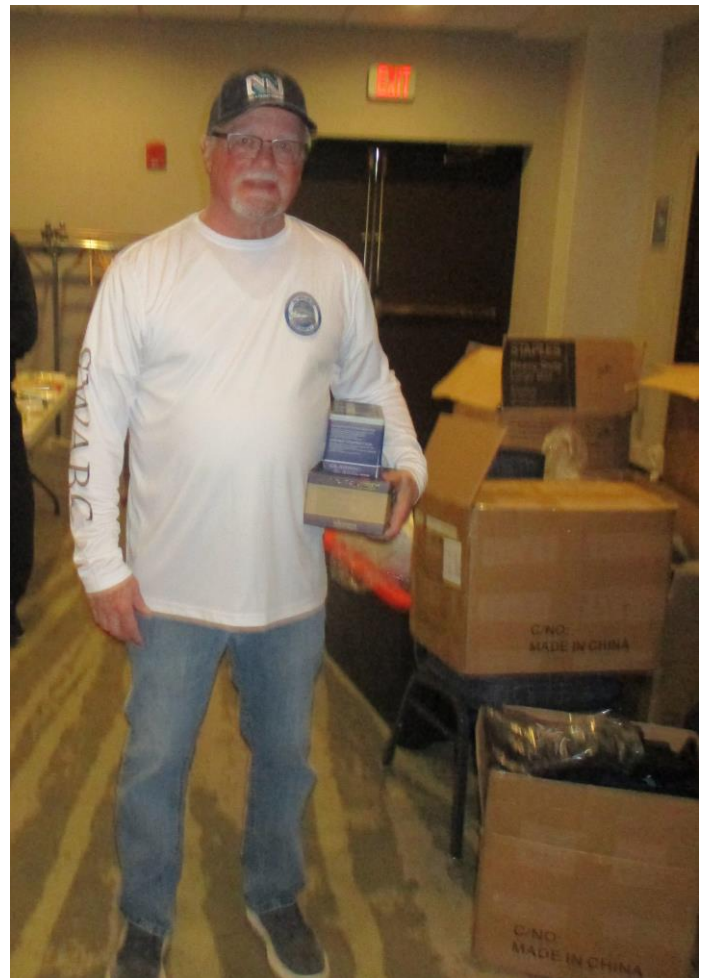
who did the

## Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County

Proud in putting this whole thing together.

He did the planning, advertizing, organizing,  
plus finding and placing Vendors.

### Great Job Don!





Some of our Members  
hard at work to make our  
“Fishing Flea Market”  
a Success

Welcome Committee: Chuck Santoro,  
Jim Galanaught Jr. Gary Gusterson &  
Lou Castellano



Gene Synder one of our Security Personnel



Rick Swarthe working the 50/50



Rich Melton working his table



Bill Goodsir separating tickets





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One Vendors Booth displaying plugs and lures



As the day wore on and we got into mid-afternoon, there were still fishing enthusiast looking for good buys as well as our members Nick Casamassimo and Rick Reitano (lower right picture) still helping out.

Thinning aisles as the day came to a close



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

Enclose a check in the amount of \$55 for a one-year membership, into New Jersey's #1 Salt Water Fishing Club  
Mail To: **American Legion Hall Post # 170, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, N.J. 07622**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_