

Bulletin

Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ

Free Issue

April 2024

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

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The Winners of the SWABC 2024 Big Fish Contest

Frank Rella, Barry Paull, double winner Kevin Kozlowicz, Rich Swarthe & Chuck Routar



Stories & Events

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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

Our club had a very busy month during March with it participating in the Salt Water Expo from March 15-17th and our holding the Past President's Dinner on March 19th at the Mountainside Inn. Both events required volunteerism on the part of our members to make them successful. I have written detailed reports about both events that are in other sections of this newsletter.

Pictures – with the upcoming start of the 2024 fishing season, please send me pictures of the fish that you catch. I like to place them in our club newsletters and pictures make our newsletters more dynamic and interesting! Please send them to me at tothjohn@verizon.net.

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 become 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 of his 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 still procrastinating in paying dues and want to remain club members, please make your checks payable to **SWABC** and mail your check to:

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

Upcoming Club Events

May 18th - Club Charter on the Bingo for sea bass sailing from Atlantic Highlands. This trip is currently filled.

July 18th – Club Charter on the MiJo to take youths from Garfield YMCA

Fluke Trip - club charter trip on the Bingo. Date is to be determined.

Past President's Dinner Recap

By John Toth

We had our Past President's Dinner on March 19th at the Mountainside Inn in Clifton, and it was not only successful but it was also enjoyed by all of us! This event did not happen by magic but was put together by members who are dedicated to making our club successful and dynamic!

Tom Tyls and Dave Nicholson arrived early, around 4:30 p.m. to help out putting tables and other things in place along with Lou Castellano. We had a great Dark Horse thanks to **Don Lohse** who solicited prizes and also club members who donated prizes to it like **Bob Goldstein and John Farrell** with their jigs. **Mark Fuduli from Tackle World** donated **2 beautiful rods** worth several hundred dollars (\$300). **Frank Tenore** donated a trip for **2** on his Fins on Feathers. Rick Swarthe sold Trick Tray tickets and Fred Villanova sold our club's raffle tickets. Gary Gusterson and Art Vlola handled the payment of dinner tickets at the door. Jim Galanaugh Jr. sold 50/50 tickets and settled payment with the restaurant's management at the close of the dinner. Chuck Santoro presented the plaques and gift cards to the winners of our Big Fish contest. **Barry Paull** called out the winners of our Tricky Trays, 50/50 and the special prize of a trip on the Fins on Feather for 6 anglers. **Who could do this better than Barry!** All prize tickets were pulled from a 5-gallon container so that they were really mixed up. Kevin Kozlowicz brought the Tricky Tray prizes to Barry and brought them to the lucky winners. **Lucky Tom Bornemann** won our 50/50 prize.

Rick Reitano, a long time –time supporter of our club, donated **\$200** to our club at this dinner and also a basket of cheer for a Dark Horse prize. **Thank you much for your continued support Rick!**

It was a very good dinner and I was told by a number of attendees that they really enjoyed themselves and that we had a great array of Tricky Tray prizes!

I want to **THANK** all of our club members who made this event possible and to all of you members who supported our club by coming this dinner.

A Tuna Goes for \$800,000

The most expensive piece of seafood at Tokyo's largest fish sold for nearly **\$800,000** at auction on the first day of the season.

A mammoth bluefin tuna weighing nearly **525 pounds** was purchased January 4th by a wholesale dealer (Yamayuki) who has taken home the season's priciest fish four years running.

It was the fourth priciest fish on record at the Toyosu market and the highest for a tuna since the pandemic (NY Post, January 8, 2024).

New 2024 -2025 Fishing Regulations for Fluke, Sea Bass and Porgies

By John Toth

Our quota for fluke was reduced by **28%** by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) on the grounds that we overfished this species and a cutback in or quota for fluke had to be made. Of course, this reduction in our quota for fluke by the ASMFC is based on faulty data.

On March 7th, a meeting was held in Galloway Twp. by the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council to determine the regulations for fluke, sea bass and porgies (Scup) and the following regulations were set for each of these species:

Fluke – 3 Fluke at 18 inches or greater with the season starting May 4th and ending on September 25th.

Advisors to the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council (which I am one of them) favored this option so that we could catch fluke until late September and other species like striped bass become in season. Another option that would allow 3 fluke at **17.5 inches** was considered that would also start in early May, but would end on September 4th. If we went with that option, party and charter boats would sit idle in their marinas with a huge loss in business since they would not be able to fish for fluke even though fluke are still around in September.

The problems with going for fluke at 18 inches are twofold – we have to throw back fluke under 18 inches that results in their mortality, estimated to be around 10%. Also, at 18 inches most of these fish are female and in essence we are killing breeders. Given that we have a 28% reduction in our fluke quota, this really limits our ability to arrive at good regulations for this species and we had to make the best out of a bad situation.

Also, this new regulation for fluke will be in effect for two years – **2024 & 2025.**

Sea Bass – the regulation for sea bass remains the same as last year – **12. 5 inches for all seasons – 5/17 - 6/19 (10 fish), 7/1 - 8/31 (1 fish), 10/1 - 10/31 (10 fish), 11/1-12/31 (15 fish).**

Unlike the regulation for fluke which is in effect for 2 years, the sea bass regulations may be adjusted in 2025 and may result (hopefully) that we may be able to catch more of them. Sea bass are voracious eaters and eat baby fluke, lobsters and just about anything around them. Reducing the stocks of sea bass most likely will result in the increase the stocks of fluke, striped bass and other species.

Porgies/Scup – 10 inch minimum size for seasons January 1st to June 30th and September 1st until December 31st.

These regulations for porgies will be in effect during 2024 & 2025.

Winter Trade Shows

Our club participated in the NJ Boat Show February (15-18) and the recent Salt Water Expo that was held on March 13th to the 18th. The Salt water Expo drew a good crowd and the club members who worked at it included: **John Piazza, Steve Totten, Rick Swarthe, John Toth, Tom Bornemann, Art Lein, Bob Goldstein, John Farrell, Ralph DeJulia, Dave Nicholson and Tom Tyls.** **Thank all of you** for supporting our club by donating your time to participate in these shows to promote our club!

Club Raffle Info

Our club's raffle tickets will be available to be picked up at our April 16th meeting. All members with paid dues for 2024 should see Fred Villanova and pick up your two raffle books.

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

Gift Certificate – Jigging World, 175 Rt. 17, Rochelle Park, NJ – 07667- \$100 value

You have to be in it to win it....



The Earth Was Once Warmer Then it is Today

By John Toth

I wondered how Greenland got its name since it is cold and covered mostly with ice. It had to be green sometime in its history to get that name. I read the 2024 edition of the Old Farmer's Almanac and I got my answer. The Almanac comments on the weather for each month of the year and this is what it has to say about the month of February 2024.

"Identifying past weather patterns is always controversial, but history seems to show that in a thousand years ago, the weather was very warm in Europe compared to today. Greenland really had some green pastures, and Vikings ran cattle. During this period, springtime in Italy frequently began in mid-February.

The Medieval Warm Period (MWP), which roughly coincided with the Middle Ages in Europe, lasted from c. 950 to 1250. It was a time of relatively warm conditions said to have prevailed in various parts of the world, though predominately in the northern hemisphere from Greenland eastward through Europe and parts of Asia. Possible causes of the Medieval Warm Period include: increased solar activity, decreased volcanic activity and changes to ocean circulation.

The warm period was followed by a decline in temperature levels. This was called the "Little Ice Age" because it was the coldest phase since the last ice age occurred.

I also recall watching an episode on the History Channel about this warm period in Europe. During the Warm Period, England was producing so much wine that France put a tax on it to keep English wine from flooding the Continent! That came to a stop with the advent of the Little Ice Age and England could no longer cultivate the grapes it needed to produce wine in such quantity. European countries switched to growing ground crops like potatoes, carrots and cabbage, crops to withstand this cold.

I presume most people do not know that the earth was warmer a thousand years ago than it is today. Yet the media continually blames any flood or storm today on Climate Change. Unless something is done to combat it, the earth is doomed. That is why two young women recently threw soup at the Mona Lisa painting to bring our attention to stop using fossil fuel. The phones these two women have in their back pockets are made of plastic and if they have ever driven a car they have used fossil fuel many times in their life. If we discontinued the use of oil that makes products like phones, cars and many other products, our country would grind to a halt with catastrophic results. It would be much better if we balanced our energy consumption by using a combination of gas, oil and especially nuclear energy instead of focusing only on solar and wind to satisfy our energy needs. Wind and solar are green, but they cannot handle the energy demands of our country.

Some of our states, including New Jersey, want to ban the

use of gas powered vehicles. Governor Murphy announced in November that our state will require car manufactures to offer a percentage of zero-emissions vehicles beginning with new model year 2027, and increasing that number until 2035 when all new light duty vehicles sold will have zero emissions. However, most New Jersey residents (56%) say they are not very likely to buy an electric vehicle due to cost, range anxiety and the fact that they do not work well in cold weather.

A New York Times article dated February 9, 2024 detailed woes of a buyer of the Ford's F-150 Lightning truck costing \$79,000 that is supposed to have a range of 300 miles. This owner claims he never got 300 miles and as cold weather arrived and while driving 35 miles to an ice rink, his range fell by 73 miles! Another time, a 60-mile jaunt reduced his range by 110 miles! The Biden administration is expected to complete new emission rules in March 2024. Its proposal in effect would require battery-operated cars to make up to two thirds of all light vehicles.

Is Climate Change real? The answer is certainly yes! However, the temperature of the earth is not set by a button that we can press to regulate it. We are now in a warm period, but the earth was warmer then it is today during 950 to 1250! In a panic and hysteria, we are trying to cool the earth by mandating people to buy vehicles they don't want to buy or even afford.

Mother Nature determines the temperature of the earth. Some of our efforts to change it like by using windmills, heating homes by electric instead of gas and switching to electric to cook food instead of gas will have little to no effect in changing our weather patterns. These changes will increase our energy bills and in the case of windmills cause environmental damage to our ocean, especially for future generations.

(The Old Farmer's 2024 Almanac)

(The New York Times, February 9, 2024)












(Asbury Park Press, February 26, 2024)

PPD - Our Master of Ceremony – Mr. John Toth



2024 BIG FISH OF THE YEAR DERBY Rules

1. Fish have to be in season to be entered.
2. The fish can be caught anywhere, not in just New Jersey's waters.
3. The fish entered has to be verified by the boat captain or another club member or at an official weigh station. A picture of the fish is a much-preferred way to verify an entry into the Big Fish contest done by a cell phone or a regular camera. A club member can win more than one Big Fish contest prize.
4. Affidavits must be received within 30 days after the fish is caught. Entries for fish caught after 12/15 of a given year must be received by January 15th of the following year.

FISH	SPECIES	MIN. WEIGHT	ENTRY WEIGHT	ANGLER
	BLACKFISH	4	13 lbs.	Bob Goldstein
	BLUEFISH	12		
	COD FISH	10		
	FLOUNDER	1.5 lbs.		
	FLUKE	4		
	LING	2		
	POLLOCK	10		
	PORGY	1.5 lbs.		
	SEA BASS	2		
	STRIPED BASS	12		
	WEAKFISH	2		

Any member submitting a false affidavit will be disqualified from entering the contest during the year. If disqualified twice, the member will be expelled from the club.



SALT WATER ANGLERS OF BERGEN COUNTY FISHING CONTEST AFFIDAVIT



ANGLERS NAME: _____

Date submitted with picture: _____

I certify that the following statements are true and that all contest rules were complied with and the witness actually witnessed the weighing and the measuring of the fish.

Caught from: ___ Boat ___ Surf - Date: _____

Name of Boat: _____

Port: _____

Where caught: _____

Signature of Angler _____

SPECIES

LBS.

OZS

Witnessed by: _____

1. _____

Address: _____

2. _____

Phone No. _____

3. _____

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Our Members enjoying themselves at the Past Presidents Dinner



**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: _____