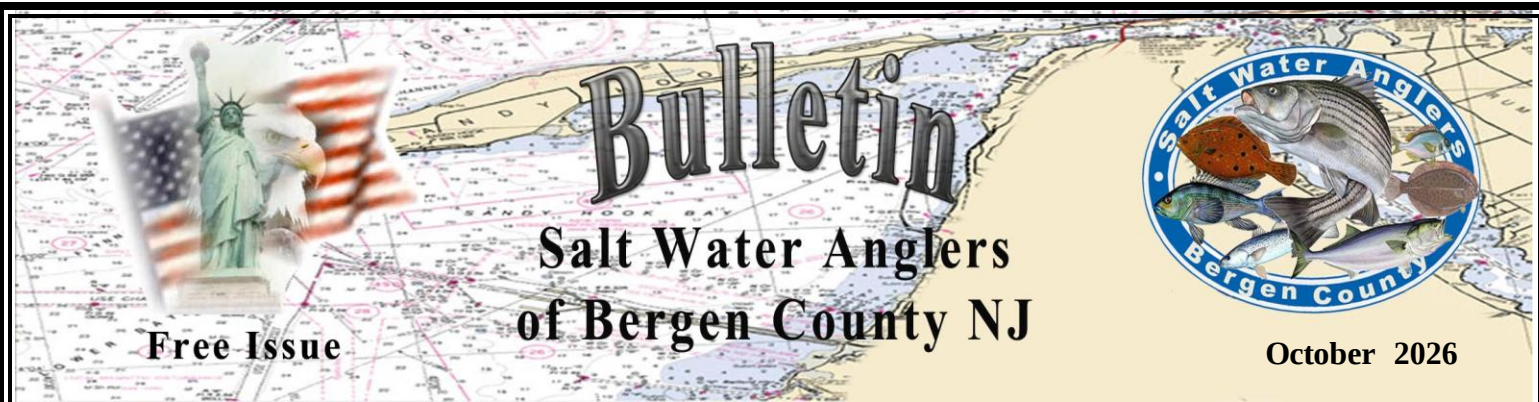




At The American Legion Hall, Post # 170, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, N. J.

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Visit our revised Web page & try some of the new functions

www.swabc.org

Ebbtide Too September 28, 2026 SWABC Charter Trip



A LOT OF HAPPY FACES

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

We had Pedro Ildefonso at our September 15th meeting to give us a presentation on which tackle to use for catching blackfish. His presentation covered fishing from boats and at the shore. As always, his presentation is very professional and very instructive.

There were a lot of fish caught on the September 12th fishing trip on the Ebbitide Too and a further report on this trip is in another section of this newsletter along with the remaining charter trips for this year.

In 2027, our club will celebrate its **90th anniversary!** I think we will do something special for it at our Past President's Dinner scheduled for March 16th at the Brownstone Restaurant in Patterson. Plans to celebrate our anniversary are under further discussion with our Board members.

September 11th marked the 25th anniversary of 9/11. I worked on the 65th floor of the North Tower, the first tower to get hit by the terrorists and I gave a report of my experiences of the tower being hit by the jet and my exiting the tower. I was lucky to be alive on that fateful day.

We found out at the last minute that the Legion's kitchen was closed that our chef, Nico uses to cook/warm up food. I was able to contact Nico before he left his house to tell him about the kitchen. He had prepared French fries, salad, and brownies and he brought them to the meeting. Chuck Santoro ordered pizza for us and that complemented our refreshments for the meeting.

Jack Babin was very lucky this night by not only winning Dark Horse prizes but also our 50/50.

Please send me photos of your fishing trips so that I can publish them in our newsletter. Email them to me at tothjohn@verizon.net

Hailey & Michelle Idrovo



October 20th Meeting –

Doug Zemeckis-

Biology & Movements of Summer Flounder

Summer flounder is one of if not the most popular fish our anglers go after during the summer months. Professor Doug Zemeckis from Rutgers University will give us a power point presentation on their biology, movement patterns, preferred habitats, growth rates, and reproduction. His presentation will also cover how they move around our coastal bays throughout New Jersey. Learn more about the fish you like to catch through this informative seminar!

90th Anniversary

of the SWABC Is Coming Up !

By John Toth

Our club was founded in 1937 and in 2027 it will have a distinction of 90 years in existence! We have to do something special to celebrate it. While talking to some of our members, the thought was to celebrate it at our Past President's Dinner on March 16th and show pictures on a screen of photos of our club members and their early days of fishing. Both members, T.J. Taber and Bobby Jones, are working on this project. If you have pictures of club members from years ago, contact T.J. at taber24@gmail.com. Member Bobby Jones showed me pictures of our club members many years ago holding fish. You will be surprised at seeing so many and big fish that were caught during those good days of fishing. This effort to celebrate our club's anniversary is still in the planning stage. If you have any ideas how to make our anniversary special, please contact me at tothjohn@verizon.net

Jim Zimmer Fluke Contest

This contest is in memory of Jim Zimmer who liked to fish for fluke. He passed away a number of years ago and we have fond memories of him. Don Lohse organized this contest giving \$50 to a member who caught the biggest fluke in July and August. The winner for August is Sal Crochiola with his 6lb. 12 oz fluke. The winner in July was Jim Catanzaro with his 3.88 lbs. fluke. Congratulations to both Sal & Jim for winning this contest and **Thanks** to Don for organizing it.

New Hats for our Club

Member Sal Crochiola has worked with a vendor to develop new club hats that look sharp and have a nice club logo on its front. They are on sale at \$25 and Sal will have them on hand for sale at this meeting.

Club Charter trips for 2026

Trip Captain Ralph DeJulia wants full payment in **Cash** for all trips (**No Checks**) so that he can pay captains with hard cash. Paying in cash makes it easier for Ralph to handle all of these trips.

When you sign up for one of these charters, you **are also responsible for payment of the trip** so that our club does not have to absorb your cost if you decide not to show up at the boat for any reason. **Also, if you have any questions about the trip, please do not call the captain of the boat, call Ralph since he is the Trip Captain for all of our trips.**

New Charter Trips:

October 11th – Club Charter Trip on the Debra Ann for sea bass – Cost \$125 (full)

November 21st – Club Charter trip for blackfish on the Debra Ann – Cost \$125 (full).

Note: even though these trips may be full, you may want to be added to a standby roster in the event a member has to cancel due to a schedule conflict. Contact Ralph DeJulia to be to be on it.

The trip captain for all of these tips is **Ralph DeJulia** who has done a great job in setting them up! Ralph can be reached at (201) 206-4506 or at newknee22@yahoo.com

Steve Blumenfeld with the pool winner!



Recap of September 12th Trip on the Ebbtide Too

Unlike other trips when the winds pick up and we have to go to port quickly; it turned out to be a very nice day with relatively calm seas. The bite started early on and big fish were caught along with plenty of shorts, sea bass, and even a small albacore. The small fluke not only put on a good fight, but they were also fat and most probably ready to head out to sea soon with their annual migration. Captain Bob Henn placed us where the fish were and there was plenty of action and that makes the day most enjoyable. With nice weather and plenty of action, we had a good time and fishing with our fellow club members.

Ghost Fishing Nets Need Removal

Five miles from Barnegat Inlet is an old sunken wooded barge that has sparked two recreational divers to start production of a documentary about derelict fishing gear littering ship wrecks and rock piles off the Jersey shore. The divers, Harry Roecker and Joe Fiorentino, said that their goal is to submit this documentary by November 1st to the Garden State Film festival to raise public awareness of the problems these abandoned gear is having on marine life. "As divers, nobody sees what we see. If what we saw was at a park, there would be a lot more interest to remove the gear". The divers are working with a professional videographer to record the abandoned gear on this wreck.

On this wreck, 65 feet under water, is a net that is so big that it registers on a fish finder. It is a 1/4 mile long gill net that is stuck on the barge and hangs in the water column using floats and weights and is made of monofilament or monofilament nylon. This net is still trapping thousands of bluefish, dogfish sharks, lobsters and crabs and the bones of these fish are scattered all over the ocean floor. The divers tried to cut the big net off, but it is a too dangerous job for them alone as they could be entangled by it.

The divers are trying to engage with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) which funds projects across the country to fund the removal of ghost fishing traps. Rutgers and Stockton Universities manage marine debris removal programs though this funding, ghost nets can also be included for removal.

The divers have removed some of the net, but a lot more of it needs to be removed. "Usually, these nets, they ball up and get rolled in the sand. But this one was put in a bad spot on the wreck".

(Asbury Park Press, September 13, 2026)\

Ospreys face breeding crisis due to lack of Menhaden

By John Toth

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) believes that menhaden is currently not overfished and overfishing is not occurring. We anglers know better! A number of our tackle shops did not have menhaden (bunker) this summer season and they were not around the ocean as they have been in the past. We used to see schools of them swimming by and splashing the surface of the water, but not lately. When seen, they are not 10 to 12 inches, but in the six inches to sometimes 8 inches. At that small size, many of them have not spawned at least once.

Ben Wurst, Senior Wildlife Biologist with the Conserve Wildlife Foundation of the New Jersey Osprey Project, has documented that 2026 is the worst breeding season in 30 years. Ospreys were officially taken off from New Jersey's endangered species in January 2025. However, during the breeding season that followed, Conserve Wildlife Foundation of New Jersey saw statewide osprey productivity fall by 56% compared with the previous five-year average, and 57% of monitored nests failed to produce any young. Wurst also indicated that some female ospreys were unable to get into egg laying condition to begin with due to lack of food. Due to the lack of food, females had to leave the nest in search of food, exposing their eggs to the elements and potential predators. In extreme cases, the young ospreys die of starvation after the adults abandon the nests because there simply is not enough food. The remains of the dead young ospreys are seen in the nests or underneath the nests. New Jersey is not the only place having an osprey problem. There are 10,000 osprey nests in the Chesapeake and ospreys are sharing a similar fate as their counterparts in New Jersey.

Menhaden are not only important to the life of ospreys, they are also important in the ecosystem to feed striped bass, tuna, whales, dolphins and other marine species. The oil in menhaden provides energy and calories that marine life needs to survive. "When they become scarce in inshore waters during the breeding season, the effects ripple throughout the ecosystem".

The Menhaden fishery is the largest industrial fishery by volume on the East Coast. They are not caught for human consumption, but are processed for aquaculture feed, fertilizer, nutritional supplements, and a wide variety of industrial products.

Because of their value, Omega Protein, a company based in Virginia, uses spotter planes and large boats to scoop up large schools of menhaden especially in the Chesapeake and also in our New York Bight. Pounding this resource over and over again has resulted in less menhaden and smaller fish that have not had the ability to spawn at least once. That is why we are seeing smaller menhaden in our waters.

The ASMFC is responsible for managing this fishery and has a draft addendum open for public comment that would reduce the Chesapeake reduction fishery cap up to 50% and create quota periods to distribute the menhaden harvest more evenly throughout the fishing season. This action taken by the ASMFC is due to the input it has received from the recreational and commercial industries. This addendum will receive a lot of comments from recreational anglers, including the Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA) and other organizations and individual anglers. Public comments on this addendum are due on October 9th.

Hopefully, the AMFC will listen to the comments and take measures for menhaden to bounce back to its former healthy level and provide enough food for ospreys and marine life that depend on them.

(Asbury Park Press, September 13, 2026)

Chuck Santoro's two nice Fluke



2026 Big Fish Contest

1. Fish must be in season.
2. **The fish can only be caught in New Jersey & New York waters.**
3. The fish entered must 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 the Dec. meeting of a given year must be received by the January meeting of the following year.

Any member who knowingly submits a false affidavit, faces expulsion from the club.

FISH	SPECIES	MIN. WEIGHT	ENTRY WEIGHT	ANGLER
	BLACKFISH	4		
	BLUEFISH	12		
	COD FISH	10		
	FLOUNDER	1lb.8oz.	3.6 lbs.	Don Lohse
	FLUKE	4	7.5 lbs.	John Farrell
	LING	2		
	POLLOCK	10		
	PORGY	1lb.8oz.	3 lbs	Jeff Criswell Sr.
	SEA BASS	2	2.65 lbs	Jeff Criswell Sr.
	STRIPED BASS	12	38 lbs. 6 oz.	Hamza Issa
	Trigger Fish	1lb. 8 oz.		
	WEAKFISH	2		



SALT WATER ANGLERS OF BERGEN COUNTY FISHING CONTEST AFFIDAVIT



ANGLERS NAME: _____
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.

Date submitted with picture: _____

Caught from: ____Boat ____Surf - Date: _____

Name of Boat: _____

Port: _____

Where caught: _____

Signature of Angler _____

SPECIES

LBS.

OZS

Witnessed by: _____

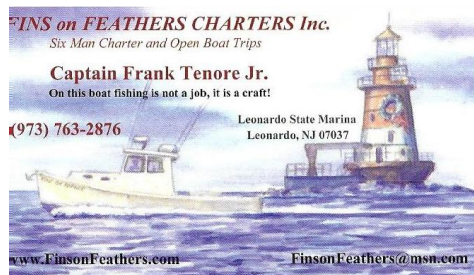
1. _____

Address: _____

2. _____

Phone No. _____

3. _____



Ed & Carly Canavan



TJ Tabor



Hamza's Fluke limit



JCAA Sportsman of the Year Dinner

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA) hosts an annual dinner to honor a person who has made a significant contribution to the recreational fishing industry. The recipient of this award will be honored at the JCAA dinner starting at 6:00 p.m. on November 14th at the Spring Lake Manor located at 415 Highway 71, Spring Lake NJ. The cost for a table of 10 for this dinner is \$850 and our club, as a member of the JCAA, subsidizes this dinner so the cost to attend this dinner is only **\$40 per person**. This dinner starts at 6:00 p.m. with appetizers, and 1 complimentary drink for beer, wine, San Gria and unlimited soft drinks. Dinner will be buffet style including Grilled salmon, Sausage & Peppers, Eggplant Rollatini, Chicken Francese, Penne Vodka, and a carving station for Roast Beef & Turkey. Dessert trays will be at each table along with coffee and tea. A cash bar will be available. A huge tricky tray will offer an assortment of tackle along with door prizes.

Let John Toth know if you want to attend this dinner and John can be reached at (732) 656-0139 or at tothjohn@verizon.net. John is in charge of this event for the JCAA.

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: _____