



Free Issue

# Bulletin

## Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County NJ



January 2017

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

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



**Lou Castellano with a nice catch of Fluke & Sea Bass**

### Stories & Events

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*fishing, good friends.*

*That's what SWABC is all about*

*The Best Fishing Club in NJ*

The regular meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of the month, at 8:00 P.M. The only meeting that is not held at the Legion Hall on Tuesday will be the night of the Past President Dinner. That month is March. A \$5 fee is required, for non-members, this entitles them to the 50/50 drawing, refreshments, snacks, and some new tricks about fishing. Welcome all; we hope you enjoy the evening.

## President's Corner

**First of all, I want to wish all of you a Happy New Year and Good Fishing Throughout 2017!**

I also want to **THANK** our club's Board Members for doing all the jobs they do in running our events like the Past President's Dinner, printing our raffle tickets (and getting the approvals for it which is a pain), selling 50/50 and Dark Horse tickets, running our club's auction and other activities. Also, I want to **THANK all of you** for supporting our club in so many ways.

**Christmas /Hanukkah Party** - What a good time we had with plenty of food for all! So many members brought in all types of food & desserts and they are: Jim Piobino, Mark Capalbo, Chuck Santoro, Marvin Oresky, Mike Peluso, Harold Gusterson, John Toth, Mike Cargill, Kevin Morgan, Steve Totten, Fred Villanova, Harry Vogt, Jim Zimmer, Don Lohse, Jim Galanaugh, Dan Eberle, Jack O'Hara, Dave Nicholson, Jack Walker, Rob Callen, Nico Lecourieux, Jim Catanzaro- and this food was coming so fast that there may have been other members not named here that contributed. But **Thank All of You** for your contributions and it was a nice party with members chatting at tables and just enjoying each other!

We were so lucky to have Santa Claus to visit us and hand out gifts. He yelled out loudly HO, HO, HO! Incredibly, one of our members, **Kevin Morgan**, bears a striking resemblance to Santa Claus and many of us thought that it was Kevin in that Santa outfit! But, whether it was the real Santa or Kevin, he did a great job with the gifts and the HO, HO!

One of our members came up to me and told me that the food we had was so good that our members should share their recipes with us members so that we all could make their tasty dishes. If you feel like sharing your culinary expertise, please email your recipes to me at: tothjohn@verizon.net, or print them up and hand them to me at one of our meetings. I will include your recipe in our bulletins and give you the appropriate credit.

### 2017 Membership Dues are Due

Club membership dues are now payable and the dues for members are **\$35**. For an individual joining the first time it is **\$40 and \$35** for each year thereafter. The cost for a family membership is \$40. Please see Membership Chairman, Jack O'Hara at our meetings to pay your dues or mail it to the American Legion Post # 170, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, NJ 07622. Make the check payable to the Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County or just **SWABC** (our membership list is **NOT** shared with anybody). Thank You!

"God never did make a more calm, quiet, innocent, recreation than fishing" - Izaak Walton

**Big Fish Contest** - The latest submission of affidavits to enter our club's Big Fish Contest is at our **January 17th meeting**. After this meeting, **no more affidavits will be accepted**. Please return them to me and also check the listings in the Big Fish Contest to make sure your fish is entered correctly and let me know if it isn't. Winners of our Big Fish Contest will be recognized at our past President's Dinner.

### January 17, 2017 Meeting Speaker

#### Kevin Morgan

A presentation on tagging fish; how to do it, its importance and resulting benefits to the recreational community will be given. Jeff Dement from the Littoral Society tags fish that kids catch on our annual Youth Fishing trips and the kids get so excited watching him do it. Kevin thinks tagging fish is important and he wants to share his knowledge of it with us.

### Speaker for our February 21 Meeting

#### Carl Bruger

Carl received the JCAA's Youth Education Award in 2016 for all of the work Carl has done to promote the sport of fishing to our youth. The future of fishing belongs to our youth and Carl wants to share his ideas with us on how we can further promote fishing for our younger generations.

### April 18th Meeting - Dave Lilly to give "Fishing Smarter" Presentation

Dave's seminar will include topics that affect fishing such as: wind, tides, water temperature, drifting conditions, moon phases, and other factors critical to **"Smarter Fishing"**.

### Past President's Dinner - March 21, 2017 - Mountainside Inn

Save this date! We had a very good time at this dinner in March of last year with a nice crowd and food served **Family Style** with roast beef, chicken, salad, pasta, potatoes and dessert **all for \$25**. The price for this year's Past President's Dinner **remains the same at \$25**, in spite of inflation! Can't beat the price for what you get! 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 the winners of the Big Fish contest! Tickets are now on sale for this dinner at **\$25** and will remain at the \$25 price **until our February 21, 2017 club meeting**. After this February meeting, the price for the dinner will go to **\$30**. We are making this change in the hope that members will buy their dinner tickets at an earlier date. By doing this, we can have a better head count of how many members are coming to the dinner. For more information about this dinner or to order them for you and your friends, please call Harold Gusterson, our Dinner Chairman) at (201) 337-6490.

## February 16 - 19th - New Jersey Boat Show

It is fun to be at a boat show and see new boats and dream about owning one. This show will also provide us with an excellent opportunity to promote our club, sell raffle tickets and especially to advertise our upcoming fluke tournament! The location is one that we are familiar with since we were just at it – the Raritan show in Edison, NJ Convention Center. Here is the schedule for this show and the shifts we need to have volunteers to work at it. Volunteers do not pay an entrance fee.

### February 16<sup>th</sup> - February 19<sup>th</sup> 2017

#### Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup>

Noon. to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed

#### Friday, February 17<sup>th</sup>

Noon to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed

#### Saturday, February 18<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. John Piazza & Steve Totten

3:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed

#### Sunday, February 19<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. John Piazza & Steve Totten

1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed

We always have at least two members in a time slots to allow for breaks and the opportunity to see the show.

See John Toth at our meetings to sign up for it or call him at (732) 656-0139 or email him at

[tothjohn@verizon.net](mailto:tothjohn@verizon.net).

## March 17-19th - The Saltwater Fishing Expo

(NJ Convention Center Somerset, NJ)

This is a show that is focused on saltwater fishing and it should not be missed since it has so much fishing tackle for sale. Our club will also have a booth at this show to promote our club and sell raffle tickets. We will need volunteers (who do not pay an entrance fee) to work at it and as mentioned earlier, see John Toth at our meetings. Call him at (732) 656-0139 or email him at [tothjohn@verizon.net](mailto:tothjohn@verizon.net)

### Friday, March 17<sup>th</sup>

Noon to 4:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed

4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed

### Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. John Piazza & Steve Totten

2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed

### Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>

10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. John Piazza & Steve Totten

1:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. Volunteers Needed

## SWABC Fund Raising Raffle

Tickets are now on sale for our fund raising raffle that helps to support the many activities of our club and to essentially help pay our club bills related to hall rental, food and beverages for our meetings, printing and mailing of our newsletters and other related expenses. Please see member **Fred Villanova** at our meetings and **take at least two raffle books or more to sell or buy!** Each book has 10 raffle tickets in it and at a cost of \$1 for each ticket. We have some very nice prizes to offer and they are:

1. **Charter Fishing Trip on the Reel Fun Sport Fishing - \$600 value**
2. **Micro Jigging Reel and Black Widow Rod - \$500 value**
3. **Canyon Reel HS 15 and Shimano Teramar Rod - \$450 value**
4. **32 inch LCD High Definition TV - \$300 value**
5. **Fishing Trip – 2 Tickets for the Party Boat “Fisherman”- \$150 value**
6. **Gift Certificate – Ramsey Outdoor- RT 17 Ramsey, NJ - \$100 value**
7. **Gift Certificate – Ramsey Outdoor - RT 17, Ramsey, NJ - \$100 value**

The drawing of the winning raffle tickets will be held on the night of our club's **May 16, 2017 meeting** and the tickets will be pulled at 9:00 p.m.

## Record Trigger Fish in Hermine's Wake

After nearly a week of rough swell created by Tropical Storm Hermine, anglers got back on the water not knowing what to expect. There was excitement created when Jimmy Massimino brought in a potential state record breaking trigger fish to the Fishermen Den in Belmar. The fish weighed **6 pounds, 11 ounces**, nearly a pound more than the previous record held by Ronald Pires who caught a 5 pound 12-ounce trigger fish in 2008. Bobby Matthews, manager at Fishermen's Den, will submit this fish to NJ Division of Fish & Wildlife to be officially certified as the new record holder for a trigger fish.

## Big Halibut Caught -Nearly 400 Pounds!

A big **396 - pound halibut** was caught in St Petersburg Alaska by fishermen Brian Matterson and Doug Corl. The fish was **eight feet long!** It is not the average fish, but certainly a big one that generated a large crowd at the dock. The record catch is a 459 lb. halibut caught in Dutch harbor in 1996.

"No angler merely watches nature in a passive way. He enters into its very existence". - John Bailey



## Fishing Management Issues – Good News & Bad News

By John Toth

**First the Good News** - I attended a December 12th Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAMFC) meeting in Baltimore Maryland that had on its agenda the removal of commercial traps on the 13 artificial reefs off New Jersey's coast in **federal waters**. After a close vote, the MAMFC voted to have these traps removed from these reefs, making them effectively Special Management Zones (SMZ's). These 13 reefs can be used by **ALL** anglers who only use **hook and line**.

The removal of these traps over 15 reefs (two also in state waters) that have snagged recreational gear for many years has been spearheaded by the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA) along with the Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA), our club, HRFA members, and other clubs and associations connected with the NJOA and JCAA. The removal of these commercial traps has been almost a **10 year** undertaking and it was finally accomplished through our letter writing to legislators, sending them post cards (even as late from our club's November 2016 meeting), attending council meetings, signing **thousands of petitions** and even picketing the office of a Cape May legislator who was politically undermining our efforts for trap removal, especially in NJ's Assembly. We accomplished this through patience and steadfastness to see this problem resolved so that recreational anglers will not get their gear, anchors and even propellers hung up in these traps again!

**Second Good News** - A Mr. Rick Van Hemmen withdrew his request to make the Sandy Hook/Navesink rivers a Marine Protected Area (SMZ) due to our state's DEP's efforts to detect and repair leaky sewer lines in nearby municipalities that have been the primary source of pollutants in this watershed. He initially announced his intention to make this area a SMZ at the public library in Red Bank in 2016 that drew about 200 + angry anglers. Police had to be called in to keep order. As a SMZ, fishing would be much curtailed in this very productive fishing area.

**Now the BAD NEWS** - It appears that we are looking at possible minimum size for fluke in 2017 at **19 INCHES, with a 2 - 3 fish bag limit and a season of 99 days!** Discussions for the new 2017 fluke regulations were held by the MAMFC and the Atlantic State Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) in Maryland on December 14th. I also attended this Baltimore meeting and listened to these two councils recommend why such drastic action is needed. Essentially, these managers have set a target of having **62, 394 metric tons** in the stock biomass (SSB) but it has **never been achieved!** If this number was adjusted lower, we would most likely not be forced into the draconian restrictions that are being proposed.

At this November 14th meeting, I testified that many party/charter boats, and tackle shops will go out business with this 19 inch fish. Many anglers find it hard to catch a, 18 inch fluke and 19 inches makes it that much harder. Anglers want to take home fish and captains want that to happen so clients return. If not, these captains and related industries go out of business. Sad to say, I think my testimony just fell on deaf ears, even though I kept my comments brief and to the point.

**What's next?** There was a January 5th meeting that was held in Galloway Twp's. Public library to take public comments on these proposed fluke regulations for 2017. Many of us attended it to complain about it. I can assure you that the NJOA, JCAA and other recreational anglers will be trying to change these terrible numbers. I will keep you advised of our progress.

### 2017 Calendar of Events

With the two shows coming up (Boat & Fishing Expo) plus other club events going on, it is easy to become confused and the following gives a quick snapshot of our 2017 activities. It is **preliminary** since fishing trips are in the planning stages and have to be added at a later time.

January 17th - Club Meeting - Kevin Morgan to talk about tagging fish

February 16th-19th- NJ Boat & Sale Expo - NJ Convention Center (Raritan)

February 19th - NJOA Fundraiser at the Black Forest Inn (Stanhope)

February 21st - Club Meeting - Carl Bruger - getting youth involved in fishing.

March 17th- 19th - Saltwater Fishing Expo - Somerset, NJ

March 21st - Past President's Dinner - Mountainside Inn - Clifton, NJ

April 18th - Club Meeting - Dave Lilly to talk about "Fishing Smarter"

April 23rd - rescheduled date for the November 20, 2016 blackfish trip on the Skylarker that was cancelled








May 16th - Club Meeting - Captain Kloss (Butch) - fishing in Costa Rica

June 12th - Club Charter Fish Trip for Ranch Hope Youths on the MiJo

August 12th - 6th Annual Club Fluke Tournament

# SWABC 2016 BIG FISH OF THE YEAR DERBY

Last Call for Entries Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>

Fish	Species	Min. weight	Entry weight	Angler
	Blackfish	4 lbs	10.2 lbs.	Barry Paull
	Bluefish	12 lbs	16 lbs. 4 oz.	Jim Catanzaro
	Cod Fish	10 lbs	14.6 lbs.	Dan Tobia
	Flounder	1.5 lbs	3.5 lbs.	Bill Fish
	Fluke	4 lbs	11 lbs. 4 oz.	Bob Cameron
	Ling	2 lbs	3 lbs.	Don Lohse
	Pollock	10 lbs		
	Porgy	1.5 lbs		
	Sea Bass	2 lbs	4.5 lbs.	Bill Fish
	Striped Bass	12 lbs	32.3 lbs.	Jim Catanzaro
	Weakfish	2 lbs		



## 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

Name of Boat: \_\_\_\_\_

Port: \_\_\_\_\_

Where caught: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Caught: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Angler \_\_\_\_\_

**SPECIES**

**LBS.**

**OZS**

Witnessed by: \_\_\_\_\_

1. \_\_\_\_\_

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

2. \_\_\_\_\_

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

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**Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County, New Jersey Sponsors**  
**Membership Application for the Saltwater Anglers of Bergen County**  
 Mail To: American Legion Hall Post # 170, 33 West Passaic Street, Rochelle Park, N.J. 07622  
 Please enclose a check or money order in the amount of \$40.00 for a one-year membership, into New Jersey's #1 Salt Water Fishing Club.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home/Business Ph #. \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_