

# JCAA NEWSPAPER NOVEMBER 2006

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on October 23, 2006)

## Remember New Monthly Meeting Room

**"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"**

### **JCAA REGULAR MEETING:**

**Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006**

**Starting at 7:30 PM**

**Brick Plaza at 270 Chambers Bridge Rd**

**NEXT JCAA EXECUTIVE MEETING**

**Thursday, November 9, 2006**

**Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office**

### **OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.**

1201 Route 37 East, Suite 9, Toms River, NJ 08753

Phone 732-506-6565 Fax 732-506-6975

**JCAA Newspaper Publisher Tom Fote**

**JCAA Newspaper Editor Paul Turi**

**Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page**

### **Meetings And Other Dates**

**October 31<sup>st</sup> JCAA General Meeting**

**November 2<sup>nd</sup> NJ Marine Fisheries Council Meeting**

**November 7<sup>th</sup> Election Day and Ballot Question**

**November 9<sup>th</sup> JCAA Board Meeting**

**November 12<sup>th</sup> JCAA Board Retreat**

**November 19<sup>th</sup> JCAA Dinner**

**November 28 JCAA General Meeting**

### **Ballot Question # 2**

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 (732) 506-6565 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
~~~~~

### **2006 OFFICERS**

<b>President</b>	Bruce Smith	732-695-3431
<b>1<sup>st</sup> V.P.</b>	John Toth	732-446-6298
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> V.P.</b>	Dan Miller	609-641-7821
<b>Treasurer</b>	Doug Tegeder	732-341-5674
<b>Rec. Sec.</b>	Paul Turi	609-597-3193
<b>Cors. Sec.</b>	Tom Sicilano	609-296-3774
<b>Mem. Sec.</b>	Mike Tutela	732-793-5748

The Outdoor Recreational Alliance funding initiative for fiscal year 2007 for the divisions of Fish and Wildlife and Parks and Forestry is gathering momentum

The Outdoor Recreation Alliance (ORA) now represents over 55 environmental organizations, sportsmen's groups, affordable housing advocates and environmental justice advocates working to secure a long-term stable source of funding for capital projects and operation, maintenance, stewardship and acquisition of New Jersey's state and local parks and natural heritage conservation.

There will be a Public Question (Question #2) on the November 7, 2006 General Election Ballot. The purpose of this referendum is to create a stable source of funding for improvements and facilities for recreation and conservation purposes, etc. This does not create new taxes but uses existing funds. You can View the Notice of Public Question and the Interpretative Statement on the ORA website. (njsos.org)

You will be seeing and hearing a lot about this in the next few weeks. One of the objectives of ORA is to obtain increased appropriations for the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection's Divisions of Fish and Wildlife and

Parks and Forestry and the Office of Natural Resources Restoration in the state budget.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

*By Bruce Smith*

### **SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR AWARD CEREMONY AND DINNER**

Associate clubs in good standing are encouraged to submit, in writing, their nomination for Sportsperson of the Year Award. The letter of nomination should be approximately 150 words detailing the nominee's activities that have contributed to the improvement of recreational fishing.

Letters may be mailed to the JCAA office or hand carried to the October 31<sup>st</sup> general meeting to be submitted from the floor. After nominations are closed, club members in attendance will vote for the JCAA Sportsperson of the Year. The biographies of nominees already submitted so far.

#### **Newark Bait and Flycasting Club is nominating Dr. Eleanor Bochenek for JCAA's Sportsperson of the Year for 2006.**

Dr. Bochenek came to work for New Jersey Seagrant to deal with recreational fishing and marine trades. She also worked on environmental issues and helped the Barnegat Bay Estuary Program do a video and lesson plan called Guardians of the Bay. She proved a valuable asset to both recreational fishing and the boating industry. After leaving Seagrant for a position at Haskin Shellfish Research Laboratory, she began doing research on a variety of fisheries issues. Eleanor has volunteered hundreds of hours to the Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs Program. She has put together a youth fishing book. She has never been a "9 - 5" person. She is always available for JCAA events and is a valuable resource for us whenever science is involved. In her role as a research scientist for Haskin Laboratory she has worked on projects that help stock assessment. The JCAA Fluke Tournament Survey only happens because of Eleanor's hard work. JCAA occasionally pay her for some of her time but they get so many more volunteer hours from Eleanor than the bill would suggest. She makes herself available well beyond the time JCAA could ever afford to pay her for. Eleanor is an avid hunter and angler so she

understands these issues from many different points of view. Newark Bait and Flycasting Club is honored to nominate Eleanor Bochenek for JCAA's Sportsperson of the Year.

#### **Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County Nominates Al Lorenzo for Sportsperson of the Year**

Since it was founded in 1937, the Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County have been taking out orphans/disadvantaged children on an annual fishing trip. While many of its club members have chaired the committee for this event over time, club member Al Lorenzo has been doing it for 27 years! He charts the boat for the event and does all of the preparation for the trip which includes all of the refreshments, contacting the orphanages, giving them directions, and making sure that all goes well on the fishing trip for the children. For over 27 years, Al has brought joy and happiness to untold number of children who need one day in their lives for sure fun and enjoyment. Al has been a club member for 43 years! For all of his tireless efforts in bringing joy to disadvantaged youths over 27 years, the Salt Water Anglers of Bergen County nominates Al Lorenzo for the JCAA'S prestigious Sportsperson of the Year award!

The successful nominee will receive the Sportsperson of the Year Award at the Awards Dinner at Crystal Point Marina on Sunday, November 19th. Tickets are now available at \$60.00 each or a table of ten for \$500.00. Tickets can be obtained at the General Membership meeting or by calling the JCAA Office or by contacting Dan Miller at 609-641-7821

#### **Tom Fote Receives Volunteer Of The Year Award From Urban Coast Institute, Monmouth University.**

*By Bruce Smith*

At the Second Annual Champion of the Ocean Awards Luncheon Thursday, October 5, 2006, following the Second Annual Ocean Future Symposium presented by the Urban Coast Institute, Monmouth University, Tom Fote received the Volunteer of the Year award.

The biography printed in the program read

“Tom Fote is Legislative Chairman of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association. The Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA) is an association of more than 75 saltwater fishing clubs that represents the position of marine sport anglers, champions their causes and protects their rights in matters pertaining to fishing, fisheries and environmental quality. He has also been on the board of the American Sportsfishing Association. His efforts were instrumental in the formation and continued support for the Barnegat Bay National Estuary Program. Tom has given tirelessly of his time, energy and passion to support enhanced fishing opportunities and marine conservation in New Jersey.”

## **SPORTSPERSON OF THE YEAR DINNER/DANCE**

*By Paul Turi*

It's getting to that time of year again. The Jersey Coast Anglers Association will be hosting its annual "Sportsperson-of-the-Year" awards dinner/dance as a fundraiser on Sunday, November 19, 2006 from 4:00-9:00 p.m. at the Crystal Point Yacht Club, RT. 70 & River Rd, Point Pleasant, NJ. We will honor this year and past years' recipients of our "Sportsperson-of-the-Year" award. Past honorees include legislators, environmental leaders, outdoor writers and other worthy recipients.

This year's keynote speaker will be Lisa Jackson, Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection.

*About the Commissioner by Tom Fote*

*The first time I met Lisa Jackson, she and her husband were fishing with their children at Pequest Hatchery on the opening day of trout season. Mark Taylor and I had an opportunity to fish with her and her family. This year at the Governor's Tournament Lisa brought not only her own family but seven more children and their parents. What a treat to have a commissioner who understands that fishing is a great family activity!*

*As Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP), Lisa P. Jackson leads a staff of 3,400 professionals dedicated to protecting, sustaining and enhancing New Jersey's*

*water, air and land, and preserving its wealth of natural and historic resources.*

*Before her nomination by Governor Jon S. Corzine, Jackson served as the DEP's Assistant Commissioner for Land Use Management during 2005. Jackson joined the DEP in March 2002 as Assistant Commissioner of Compliance and Enforcement after 16 years with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), initially at its headquarters in Washington and more recently at its regional office in New York City.*

*As the state's chief environmental enforcer, Jackson led groundbreaking compliance sweeps in Camden and Paterson, communities in which the effects of pollution on public health had long been neglected. She launched the environmental initiative following multicultural outreach efforts to inform and involve community residents and businesses. Working with county officials, State Police and the EPA, the DEP then mobilized more than 70 inspectors to conduct upward of 1,000 compliance investigations in the two cities, the first of a series of enforcement sweeps. During her tenure at the EPA, Jackson worked in the federal Superfund site remediation program, developing key hazardous waste cleanup regulations, overseeing hazardous waste cleanup projects throughout central New Jersey and directing multimillion-dollar cleanup operations.*

*A native of New Orleans, Jackson earned a master's degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University. She is a summa cum laude graduate of Tulane University's School of Chemical Engineering. Jackson resides in East Windsor. She is married to Kenny Jackson and is the proud mother of two wonderful sons.*

Individual tickets are \$60 each and tables of 10 are \$500, which is a \$100 savings. This gala event will accommodate 300 supporters and friends for a semi-formal sit-down dinner with choice of entrees and cash bar. So get a group together from your club or organization and come to the dinner/dance and have a great time. Don't forget your partner. That's right. Treat your mate (you know the one who waits for you at home or on the dock all summer) to an evening to remember at the beautiful Crystal Point Yacht Club. Enjoy an excellent three-course meal, Door Prizes and a DJ.

Share stories of fishing and bid on one of the many fantastic theme baskets on display.

We need door prizes and Chinese Auction and Silent Auction prizes, so if you or your club would like to donate a prize, please contact me, Paul Turi, at (609) 597-3193. Dan Miller will be co-chairing the event and tickets can be obtained by calling Dan at (609) 641-7821.

## **FISHERIES MANAGEMENT & LEGISLATIVE REPORT**

*By Thomas Fote*

### **Association of Natural Estuary Program Meeting**

I attended the meeting in San Francisco representing the Barnegat Bay Estuary Program. I get depressed at these meetings thinking about the loss of wetlands and what we are doing to our environment. Besides the destruction of wetlands and the water quality issues, there is another big problem that is not receiving the national and international attention it is due. This problem is the impact of the growing number of contaminants. We are seeing an increasing negative impact on reproduction across species from the various contaminants present in our environment. I attended a meeting where information was given about a species of fish present in San Francisco Bay. This fish does not migrate. The current area under study is heavily contaminated with PCBs. The fish that migrate in and remain throughout their life grows to maturity but does not produce any young. They become infertile. That means this area of San Francisco Bay no longer adds to the spawning stock biomass for this species. This is not an isolated incident. In last month's JCAA newspaper there was an article about the problem in the Potomac River. There have been studies throughout the world about fish close to sewer plant discharges. Remember, some of this is because of the medications we take that enter the water system and are not filtered by the present sewage systems. It doesn't take much insight to realize that if these contaminants are passing through the food chain, we're at the end of the line. We have no idea yet how this will impact on humans over the long haul. But we surely know how this impacts on fish. And we're next!

Under the Magnuson Stevens Act we are trying to rebuild stocks in 10-year time frames but we are assuming an environment that no longer exists. Read the articles on summer flounder in the past few newspapers. We need to know all the impacts on the system and we are just learning the consequences of a lack of ecosystem management. The other issue that is not getting much publicity is the impact of hypoxia, a lack of oxygen in the system. I have been meeting with many of our national environmental groups on summer flounder but have taken the time to urge them to join us is a commitment to begin a national campaign to look at these two issues. What I am proposing is that we join together in a working group to develop a workshop and then a symposium to educate ourselves and the public about these issues. After looking at the estuary programs around the country and becoming aware of the data they have available, the estuary programs are a natural vehicle for working throughout the country. I think we also need to have EPA and NMFS become part of the working group and support some pilot projects. The agencies have developed a system for controlling the impact of fishing pressure on the stocks. But as we have found out, there are other problems and hidden mortality that cannot be accounted for by fishing. Those are the issues not being addressed and I believe the issues that have a greater impact on the stocks of fish available.

### **SUMMER FLOUNDER**

As this newspaper goes to press, we will not know what action ASMFC will take on summer flounder. Hopefully, ASMFC will do the right thing and approve 19.9 million pounds as recommended by the Mid-Atlantic Council. I will know that information on October 25<sup>th</sup>. No matter what happens, this will not be the end of the battle. NMFS has proposed quotas but have not posted official notice. After the ASMFC meeting we will continue to need your support. Below are the letters to the commissioners from JCAA, Governor Jon Corzine and Senators Menendez and Lautenberg and Congressman Pallone. I will update you at the JCAA meeting on October 31<sup>st</sup> after I return from North Carolina.

**JERSEY COAST ANGLERS  
ASSOCIATION**  
**Letter to ASMFC Commissioners**  
**10/15/2006**

Dear ASMFC Commissioners:

The last few months have been disturbing for all of us in dealing with the crisis in summer flounder created by NMFS. NMFS dropped a bombshell at the Monitoring Committee meeting and insisted that the Council and the Commission support a 5.2 million quota for summer flounder. This quota supposedly was designed to reach a goal of 204 million pounds biomass for summer flounder by 2010. The timing could not have been more interesting since the proposal was announced just before Congress was supposed to vote on the reauthorization of the Magnuson Act. I testified at a Congressional hearing right after the announcement. Dr. Holgarth stated that an additional 3 years of flexibility would allow us to rebuild summer flounder to 204 million pounds without the drastic cut in the quota. My testimony included a statement that a 3-year extension would not solve the problem since there are problems with recruitment and background mortality that are not linked to fishing mortality. I believe that unless we can identify the cause of the background mortality and deal with that problem there is no possibility that we will reach an imaginary quota in any given number of years.

At the joint ASMFC and Mid-Atlantic Marine Fisheries Management Council meeting NMFS admitted that there was a problem with some of the data and agreed to a review including a peer review. The Northeast Regional Director said we needed to have the Council and the Commission and the states involved in the review and an additional outside peer review should be mandated. There was a review. It was done by the same people from NMFS who made the original recommendation. The outside peer review was done by two NMFS employees and a former employee. This makes me wonder how they define "outside." I am also amazed that they feel no obligation to justify the lack of a transparent and open process. It was interesting that when they briefed Congress staff on their new proposal for 12.98 and 14.154 million pounds, they said this newly recommended quota would rebuild the stocks by 2010. I was told that when the Congressional staff asked what the quota would be in 2008 and 2009, NMFS response was a suggested quota of 13 million pounds for 2007, 15 million pounds for 2008 and 17 million pounds for 2009. The complete hypocrisy is that NMFS said that by 2010 we would have a quota of 47 million pounds. One can only wonder where they get these numbers

and, if they believe these numbers, why the quota could not be spread across the four years rather than handed out in one lump sum in 2010. NMFS also told Congressional staff that a change in the Magnuson Act to allow additional 3-year flexibility would have prevented this dramatic drop in the quota.

I have watched political games long enough to know that summer flounder is simply a pawn in a much bigger political game. NMFS wants 3-year flexibility and is using summer flounder as a bargaining chip. This is the species they know will generate the most dismay among both commercial and recreational fishermen. Summer flounder is particularly important to the constituents of some of the members of the Natural Resources Committee. This puts enormous pressure on these Congressmen who have the authority and the responsibility to deal with the Magnuson Act. The discussion about 3-year flexibility should take place outside of the discussion about summer flounder. The problem with summer flounder is not 3-year flexibility. The problem is setting reasonable targets that take into consideration a variety of factors including ecosystem management. The present system does not include any data about the interaction of predator and prey, loss of habitat, competing stocks and water degradation. It takes someone with a broader view of the problem than the number crunchers at NMFS.

As a former commissioner I have come to respect the process at ASMFC. I am asking you to not get caught up in NMFS' political games. I am asking you to use your common sense and look at the numbers below. Please ask yourself the question, "Can I, in all honesty, believe that we will reach 204 million pounds by 2010 and have a 47 million pound quota?" I am asking you to respect the decisions made by your brothers and sisters on the MAFMC who looked at the social and economic impact of the draconian recommendations from NMFS and opted for a more balanced and reasonable approach. This resulted in their recommendation for a quota of 19.9 million pounds. NMFS obviously does not care about the social and economic impact of their decisions. They don't care if people go out of business or lose their boats. Remember, this stock is not overfished even by NMFS crazy standards. They are willing to destroy the livelihood and quality of life for the people you represent without any hope that the sacrifice will reap any gains in the long run. This is not an ASMFC or MAFMC problem. This is

a problem NMFS created. However, it is up to you to exercise your authority and send NMFS a clear message. My hope is the message will be, "We're not playing your political games. We're going to represent the resource first and the citizens we represent."

I pulled the following from NMFS' SARC Documents (all numbers in pounds):

Spawning Stock Biomass(SSB)		
1993	2000	2005
20,460,000	42,680,000	67,320,000

Total Biomass		
1993	2000	2005
46,860,000	61,380,000	104,060,000

Why did I pick these years? 1993 was first year of management under the current allocation system. 2000 was first year under SFA requirements (the 10 year clock started). 2005 is the most recent year for which we have data.

Since 1993 the stock's SSB has gone up a multiple of 3.29 and its biomass has gone up a multiple of 2.22.

Although overfishing is occurring given our F target rate of 0.276, the stock is not overfished as it's more than one half the current Bmsy target of 204,000,000. Remember, overfishing is only taking place because NMFS gave us incorrect target figures in 2004. In 2004 the stock assessment committee told us we could go to a quota of over 30 million pounds for 2005 and 33 million pounds for 2006 with a 75% probability of meeting our targets. The Council and Commission did not have to use 75% but chose to be more conservative. The following year NMFS changed the figures and recommended 23.6 million pounds and announced ASMFC and MAFMC had allowed overfishing in 2005. They expected ASMFC and MAFMC to be fortunetellers and reject NMFS science in 2004.

Here are the quotas approved by NMFS from 1993 until 2005 and also the total Biomass and Spawning Stock Biomass:

Year	Quota Pounds	Total Biomass <sup>1</sup> number of fish	SSB <sup>2</sup> number of fish
1993	20.73	21227	9249
1994	26.68	28205	11960
1995	19.40	35222	15608

<sup>1</sup> NEFSC RD 06-17 TABLE 56 PAGE 6  
<sup>2</sup> NEFSC RD 06-17 TABLE 56 PAGE

1996	18.52	35182	15874
1997	18.52	29384	15641
1998	18.52	31907	17710
1999	18.52	28887	16328
2000	18.52	27352	18951
2001	17.91 <sup>3</sup>	30520	24603
2002	24.3	37379	27314
2003	23.3	42660	32493
2004	28.2	47996	32608
2005	30.3	47275	30558
2006	23.6	47789	?

Sincerely,  
 Thomas Fote  
 Legislative Chairman JCAA  
 22 Cruiser Court  
 Toms River, NJ 08753  
 Phone 732-270-9102  
 Fax 732-506-6409  
[tfote@jcaa.org](mailto:tfote@jcaa.org)

**Congress of the United States  
 Washington DC 20015  
 October 13, 2006**

Dr William T. Hogarth  
 National Marine Fisheries Service  
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
 1315 East-West Highway  
 Silver Springs, MD 20910

Dear Dr. Hogarth:

We are writing to urge you to use your authority under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) to bring a sensible resolution to the current conflict over the pending 2007 catch limits for summer flounder. We believe the Act provides you with adequate authority and flexibility to endorse the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council's (MAFMC) plan to provide a Total Allowable Landings (TAL) level of 19.9 million pounds, which would prevent overfishing of the stock while also providing a short but realistic extension to the rebuilding time frame. Such an extension is necessary because of previous ill-advised management approval decisions made by the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) earlier in the rebuilding schedule.

We are sending copies of this letter to the members of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) to concurrently urge that

<sup>3</sup> Lawsuit payback

they approve the MAFMC's recommended TAL of 19.9 million pounds during their meeting at the end of this month.

Your agency has approved and proposed a series of jarringly inconsistent quotas for this incredibly valuable recreational and commercial fishery. After approving a quota of 30.3 million pounds for 2005, you insisted on lowering the TAL to 23.6 million pounds under a plan that would have led to a TAL of 27.5 million pounds in 2007. Yet earlier this year, NMFS recommended a 2007 TAL of 5.2 million pounds, which would have caused a virtual shutdown of the recreational fishery in our home state.

After a great deal of protest, including a previous letter we sent and numerous comments from fishermen, your agency decided to update the stock assessment using an internal peer review. That review changed many of the numbers currently under discussion for fishing mortality rates, biomass levels, and possible TALs. Based upon the revised numbers, it appears that a 2007 quota of 19.9 million pounds would be below the level estimated to result in overfishing. This would be in contrast to many of the previous years of the rebuilding plan, when NMFS approved TAL levels that were overly optimistic and led to the current situation, where the stock is still nearly 95 million pounds short of the rebuilding target. In approving a final TAL consistent with the MAFMC's recommendation as well as the new assessment, we would expect the agency to confirm that the TAL would end overfishing of the stock, so that we may be assured of its continued rebuilding.

It would be patently unfair to approve a TAL imposing a drastic cut on fishermen simply because NMFS was unwilling to take action earlier in the rebuilding time frame. Your agency's staff has yet to offer any kind of coherent explanation as to why NMFS approved these overly optimistic quotas or why they have suddenly decided to push for such drastic quotas—especially in proposing an initial TAL of 5.2 million pounds.

It is true that a TAL of 19.9 million pounds may not necessarily achieve the projected rebuilding by 2010, but your agency has the flexibility necessary under the law to extend the rebuilding period by a few years under certain circumstances. In fact, Susan Buchanan, a spokeswoman for NMFS, recently told the Press of Atlantic City that the MSA, as amended in 1996, does not require all stocks to be

rebuilt in 10 years and that the government could extend the rebuilding time frame to avoid imposing undue economic hardships on fishermen.

Moreover, NMFS has indicated, through proposed changes to National Standard 1 published in June 2005, that the agency does have flexibility under the MSA with respect to extending rebuilding time frames, adjusting target biomass levels, or even using alternative measures as a rebuilding target. Congress intended to give your agency flexibility to deal with situations where management decisions could have disproportionate economic impacts or are subject to other unexpected factors, and while various groups may differ on the merits of your proposed changes to NS1, your agency has clearly recognized it has the flexibility needed to address the situation we face in the summer flounder fishery.

We also encourage you to be innovative in working with the MAFMC and the ASMFC to refine the summer flounder FMP, as you were able to do with Amendment 13 to the Northeast Multispecies FMP for groundfish. Under Amendment 13, NMFS approved an FMP that established an adaptive approach toward ending overfishing that also provided flexibility in the rebuilding timelines in recognition of new information about the inadequacy of previous mortality controls. That plan enabled managers to achieve the long-term conservation goals of the Act by establishing responsible mortality limits without imposing the most draconian of measures that would have created short-term hardships for affected fishing communities.

It is clear that the Secretary of Commerce, acting through NMFS, has the authority and the legal precedent to use flexibility in ensuring that conservation goals are met without causing serious harm to fishing communities. We believe that you have the flexibility under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, as amended by the SFA, to extend the rebuilding time frame and approve a 2007 TAL that would end overfishing of summer flounder, consistent with the information provided in the updated assessment and the MAFMC's recommendation of 19.9 million pounds while ensuring continued progress to a fully rebuilt stock by no later than 2013.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to discussing this with you further.

Senator Robert Menendez  
Senator Frank Lautenberg  
Congressman Frank Pallone

**OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**  
**PO Box 001**  
**TRENTON NJ 08625-0001**  
**JON S. CORZINE**  
**Governor**

October 4, 2006

Carlos Gutierrez, Secretary  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
Office of the Secretary  
Mailstop 61  
14th & Constitution Ave. NW  
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Secretary Gutierrez:

I am writing to you regarding the management of summer flounder with particular attention to the quota for the 2007 fishing year.

As you are aware the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is proposing a coastwide quota of 5.2 million pounds for 2007. The Mid Atlantic Fisheries Management Council (MAFMC) recommended a quota of 19.9 million pounds. I understand that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) will be adopting a quota at their October meeting. In 2006, the quota was 23.5 million pounds. If the NMFS recommendation is implemented it will be devastating for the summer flounder fishery coastwide, especially New Jersey.

New Jersey's marine resources contribute over \$2 billion a year to New Jersey's economy. Summer flounder is an extremely important contributor to this value. It ranks first in terms of commercial value for all finfish species landed in New Jersey. On the recreational side, summer flounder ranks first both in terms of harvest and number of directed trips. It goes without saying that there are numerous businesses directly and indirectly linked to these key New Jersey fisheries. The proposed quota of 5.2 million pounds would be devastating to New Jersey businesses and economy.

I understand the NMFS recommendation is based on the rebuilding period and target biomass established in the Summer Flounder Fishery Management Plan. It should be noted that since implementation of this Plan in 1993 the summer flounder biomass has doubled and the spawning stock biomass has tripled. The stock is well on its way to recovery. The MAFMC debated the

appropriate quota level for 2007 at their August meeting and recommended a reasonable quota (19.9 million pounds) that will not jeopardize stock rebuilding and will not adversely impact socio-economic aspects of the fishery. Adoption of a 19.9 million pound quota in 2007 represents a significant reduction from 2006 but still protects the summer flounder resource and provides for the continuation of the fisheries and other businesses dependant on summer flounder.

I ask you to accept the MAFMC recommendation and adopt the 19.9 million pound quota for summer flounder in 2007.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Sincerely,

Jon S. Corzine

cc.

J. Saxton, NJ Congressman

W. Hogarth, NOAA/NMFS Assistant Administrator

V. O'Shea, ASMFC Executive Director

D. Furlong, MAFMC Executive Director

Governors, Maine to Florida

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**October 5, 2006**

**Contact: Elaine Makatura (609) 292-2994**

**Darlene Yuhas (609) 984-1795**

**SOUTH AMBOY MAN EARNS TOP HONORS  
AT GOVERNOR'S SURF FISHING  
TOURNAMENT**

(06/55) TRENTON - An angler from South Amboy hooked a 33 ¾-inch striped bass and reeled in the prestigious Governor's Cup at the 15th annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament at Island Beach State Park in Berkeley Township.

By catching the biggest fish of the day, David Salvagno, bested 925 anglers who competed Sunday in the annual event, which raises funds for marine-resource conservation and education in and around Island Beach State Park and encourages youngsters and adults to learn more about surf fishing. More than two dozen other anglers also won prizes in various species categories. All 115 entries were judged for overall length of the fish.

Presiding over the tournament, Governor Jon S. Corzine and DEP Commissioner Lisa P. Jackson reminded participants that the Nov. 7 ballot offers all New Jersey voters an opportunity to demonstrate their concern for the quality of the state's parks,



wildlife areas and historic sites. Public Question 2 asks voters to consider a constitutional amendment that would provide a dedicated source of funding for long-overdue maintenance and capital improvements at these treasured sites - without requiring any new taxes.

As grand-prize winner, Salvagno will have his name engraved on the Governor's Cup, permanently on display at Island Beach State Park, and received a plaque and two rod-and-reel combinations. In 2005, Jackson Township resident Carl Kogel earned top honors with a 34 1/2-inch bluefish.

To date, the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament has raised more than \$120,000. The funds have helped purchase specialized balloon-tire beach wheelchairs to provide beach access for the disabled and elderly, educational displays for the park's Interpretive Center, an access ramp connecting parking area A7 to the beach, an automatic heart defibrillator unit, two mobile fishing equipment trailers for fishing-education programs statewide, educational materials and field-study equipment for various environmental education programs.

Following is a complete list of winners:

**Blackfish Category**

Adult (Male)

First Place - John Salato, Toms River; 22"

Second Place - Zoltan Egyed, Trenton; 20"

**Fluke Category**

Child (Male)

First Place - Jonathan Owens, Tinton Falls; 16 5/8"

**Teen (Male)**

First Place - Brian Coopersmith, Washington; 17 5/8"

Second Place - Alex Showell, Sweetwater; 16 1/2"

**Adult (Male)**

First Place - Ron Shock Jr., Dumont; 17 5/8"

Second Place - Kevin Martin, Bayonne; 17 1/2"

**Kingfish Category**

Child (Male)

First Place - Nicolas Spadaro, Rutherford; 14 7/8"

Second Place - Noah McDonald, Williamstown; 14 3/4"

**Teen (Male)**

First Place - George Leager, Philadelphia; 14 3/4"

Second Place - Dante Fusco, Mercerville; 13 1/4"

**Adult (Male)**

First Place - Paul Maden, Pitman; 15 1/2"

Second Place - Eric Polovina, Pompton Plains; 15 1/8"

**Bluefish Category**

Child (Female)

First Place - Samantha Silva, Edison; 19 1/2"

Second Place - Rachael Vincent, Jackson; 15 7/8"

**Child (Male)**

First Place - Noah Marcus, Berkeley Heights; 18"

Second Place - Nick Miraglia, Somerset; 17 1/2"

**Teen (Female)**

First Place - Rachael Wohl, Voorhees; 19 3/4"

Second Place - Danielle McGoldrick, Pocono Lake, Pa.; 17"

**Teen (Male)**

First Place - Paul Dippold, Toms River; 18"

Second Place - Troy Beyrouy, Dayton; 15 1/2"

**Adult (Female)**

First Place - Beverly Dwyer, Whiting; 21 1/4"

Second Place - Michelle Pullen, Bordentown; 18 1/8"

**Adult (Male)**

First Place - Brian Koenig, Mount Laurel; 21 1/2"

Second Place - Gregory Rasar, Burlington; 21"

**Striped Bass Category**

Adult (Female)

First Place - Debbie Burlingame, Neptune City; 28 1/2"

**Adult (Male)**

First Place - David Salvagno, South Amboy; 33 3/4" 2006 Governor's Cup Winner

Second Place - Mark Newhart, Brown Mills; 33 1/4"

The event was sponsored by the DEP's Division of Fish and Wildlife and Division of Parks & Forestry, the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, Jersey Coast Anglers Association and the New Jersey Beach Buggy Association.

**15th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing  
Tournament**

***ANOTHER SUCCESS !!!***

*By Paul Smith, Tournament Committee*

This annual event continues to be tradition for many surf anglers at the start of the fall fishing season. Quite a few of the registered anglers participate in this tournament every year. Some fished at the inception of the event, competing in the youth divisions, and now years later enter with their own children.

Some individuals donate a considerable amount of time to make this tournament a success each year. Participant anglers and observers only see the activities on the day of the tournament, but a great amount of work and planning goes on throughout the year. It is up the volunteers from the NJBBA, JCAA, and NJ Federation of Sportsmen's clubs to make it happen!

Unfortunately, sponsoring state agencies do not currently have the financial resources to do everything that is needed for a successful event.

This has put an increased burden on the importance of volunteers to carry the work load.

This year we had ample help with registration and other administration duties on the day of the tournament, but we saw the possibility of a breakdown in another aspect of the event. The beach judges, who measure fish caught by the participating anglers, are probably the most important group of volunteers on tournament day. There are usually between 25 and 40 judges to cover the length of the beach in the park. This year only 10 persons showed up to volunteer as judges.

It was fortunate that there were a good number of fish caught, and measured, and that the pace was steady. Judging procedures could have turned into a real disaster if there had been any kind of fast paced catch rate, such as a wide spread bluefish blitz. All of the tournament sponsors must be aware that this type of problem could sour the public, and the Governor of the State of New Jersey, on future participation.

The joint committee, who plans and expedites each year's tournament, meets several times during each year. Issues such as rules, entry fees, tournament brochures and posters, mailings, prizes, tournament hats and shirts, and judging procedures must be decided many months prior to each tournament.

The three sportsmen's organizations that co-sponsor the tournament each have large statewide memberships. If the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament is going to continue to be a success, more year round participation from these organizations is a necessity. This high profile event has provided great publicity for all of the groups involved for 15 years. There has never been any incident that has tarnished the tournament in the eyes of the public. Now is not the time for our organizations to drop the ball and ruin a proven success.

**SEA BRIGHT, PRIVATE CLUBS SUED:**  
**State cites 1993 deal in call for complete public**  
**access to the borough's beaches**  
**Public cash, public sand**  
**Posted by the Asbury Park Press on 09/23/06**  
**BY KEITH BROWN**  
**COASTAL MONMOUTH**  
**BUREAU**

In a major lawsuit filed in Superior Court on Friday, the state is seeking to unlock nine private beaches along Sea Bright's coast in hopes of securing unfettered

public access by Memorial Day, according to the Attorney General's Office.

The lawsuit contends that the private beach clubs and the borough benefited from a \$29 million beach replenishment project that began more than a decade ago and was paid for with public money, and that everyone — not just club members — should have unrestricted access to those shores.

The state is suing the Borough of Sea Bright; Chapel Beach Club; Donovan's Reef Beach Club; Driftwood Beach Club; The Sands Beach Club of Sea Bright; Sea Bright Beach Club; Ship Ahoy Beach Club; Surf Rider Beach Club; the former Trade Winds Beach Club (now Kara Homes), and Water's Edge Beach Club.

"Sea Bright beaches were created with public funds, and it's particularly unfair that the public is being denied access to these beaches," said Peter Aseltine, spokesman for the state Attorney General's Office. "We think this is a very good case to further establish the public's right to beach access."

The move was immediately hailed by environmental groups.

Jeff Tittel, executive director of the New Jersey chapter of the Sierra Club, said it was about time the state "is finally taking on the Berlin Wall of the Shore."

"I've always thought these people (private beach clubs) have a lot of chutzpah to get all this public money to keep their beaches private," Tittel said.

Tim Dillingham, executive director of the American Littoral Society, said the state's argument is a straightforward one.

"It's only because of the public's help, the public's investment, that those buildings (private beach clubs) are even there — otherwise they would be under water," Dillingham said. "I think that's a pretty strong argument for public use."

None of the beach club owners who were contacted Friday had gotten word of the suit, filed in Freehold, and declined to comment. Sea Bright Mayor JoAnn Kalaka-Adams had not heard of the suit and referred comment to Scott Arnette, borough attorney.

Arnette, who also had not yet read the complaint, declined to comment on it specifically. But he said the borough does provide public beach access in accordance with a 1993 agreement among the Army Corps Engineers, the borough and the nine private club owners. Public beach access, he said, was key to securing the multimillion dollar beach replenishment project, which began in 1995 and included another replenishment in 2003.

"It is important to note that there is a reasonable area of dry sand above the high-water line that is used for public access," Arnette said.

The beaches are resources that belong to the people of the state, and "we will continue to take whatever action is necessary to protect the people's right

to access these natural resources and enjoy them," Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Lisa P. Jackson said in a statement released late Friday afternoon.

The Army Corps replenished beaches in Sea Bright — using federal funds — in 1995 and again in 2003, according to the suit, expanding the beaches from a "narrow strip" to "approximately 250 feet" from the water line.

The suit calls for agreements signed by the state with the beach clubs in 1993 to be reformed to reflect the state of the law and for the clubs to "provide unrestricted public access to and use of all beaches built with public sand and funded through public monies."

"This request is utterly appropriate in light of the long succession of court decisions striking down exclusive practices on municipal and private beaches and the extensive, long-term investment of public money that has been made in these beach areas," Acting Attorney General Anne Milgram said in a statement from the Attorney General's Office.

The suit also is seeking monetary damages from the borough, saying it violated the 1993 agreement by not paying its fair share — \$556,270 — of the 2003 replenishment, that it did not open a portion of its municipal beach for public access and that it failed to provide sufficient public parking.

The lawsuit also seeks records of all beach fees Sea Bright has collected since 1992. The state alleges that Sea Bright kept \$17.7 million in beach fees in 2004 that was never used as required by law for maintaining beaches and providing services related to beach maintenance.

The municipality charges a daily beach access fee of \$7, and a seasonal fee of \$95.

The Associated Press contributed to this story. Keith Brown: (732) 643-4076 or kbrown@app.com

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## **N.J. fights to open up the beaches**

**By Jacqueline L. Urgo**

**Inquirer Staff Writer**

SEA BRIGHT, N.J. - It's been called the "Berlin Wall of the Shore," and unless you are a card-carrying member of one of the nine private beach clubs in this Monmouth County shore town - forking over as much as \$12,000 a year to sit on the sand - you can almost forget going to the beach here.

In fact, you can't even see the ocean over the three-story, fortress like wall that stretches for nearly a mile along Ocean Drive, separating the beach clubs - with

their pools, fitness centers and beachside cabanas - from everybody else.

Trouble is, according to New Jersey's attorney general, everybody else helped pay for these Monmouth County beaches. Taxpayers shelled out \$29 million in the last decade to replenish the sand upon Sea Bright's eroding beaches, according to a lawsuit filed by the attorney general last month, but the town and the beach clubs failed to make those beaches accessible to the public.

The 35-page lawsuit, filed Sept. 22, also contends that recent court decisions have clarified the public's legal right to unrestricted access to the privately operated beaches named in the suit. The suit seeks to reform 1993 agreements between the state and the beach clubs to reflect current law, said Lee Moore, a spokesman for the attorney general.

Acting Attorney General Anne Milgram called the lawsuit an "utterly appropriate" response to a succession of court decisions "striking down exclusive practices on municipal and private beaches and the extensive, long-term investment of public money that has been made in these beach areas."

Beach access has been a sore issue up and down the Shore.

Four years ago, the owners of a private condominium complex in the Diamond Beach section of Wildwood Crest and Lower Township, called the Atlantis Beach Club, tried to raise its annual beach fees for residents from about \$300 a season to \$10,000 for a lifetime membership.

At the same time, owners of the beach club began restricting public access through their property to an area of the beach that had been open to the public.

A court order in 2003 reopened the public access, saying that Atlantis couldn't block the public from a dry-sand area above the high-water line on that beach. Another court ruling later ordered Atlantis to establish daily, weekly, monthly and seasonal fees instead of a "lifetime" fee.

Another beach-access standoff continues in the Loveladies and North Beach sections of Long Beach Township on Long Beach Island. The state refuses to allow a \$71 million sand replenishment project unless about 600 township residents agree to allow public access to their beachfront properties. So far, fewer than half the residents have agreed to the demand.

In the Sea Bright lawsuit, the state seeks to force the borough to honor commitments to operate borough-owned properties as public beaches. The borough promised to open public beaches, the lawsuit says, in exchange for the beach replenishment project.

The state also wants Sea Bright to pay \$556,270 - the cost of the 2003 beach replenishment.

"New Jersey's lands, waters and living resources belong to the people of our state, and we will continue to

take whatever action is necessary to protect the people's right to access these natural resources and enjoy them," said Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Lisa P. Jackson in a statement.

Besides the borough, the lawsuit names the Seabright Beach Club, Chapel Beach Club, Donovan's Reef Beach Club, Driftwood Beach Club, Sands Beach Club, Ship Ahoy Beach Club, Surf Rider Beach Club, Trade Winds Beach Club (now Kara Homes), and Water's Edge Beach Club.

Management or the owners of each of the clubs were contacted. They either declined to comment or did not return telephone calls.

Environmental groups applaud the lawsuit.

"When you drive down Ocean Avenue in Sea Bright, there seems to be this Berlin Wall between you and a beach that public money paid to replenish - a wall that is so high that you can't even see the ocean," said Jeff Tittel, executive director of the New Jersey chapter of the Sierra Club.

Tittel called "selfish and outrageous" the actions of Sea Bright Borough to limit public access to its beaches with what he called hidden access points and public parking limited to a lot two miles from the shoreline.

On a recent afternoon, Cathy Hoffman, a resident of the nearby mainland town of Fair Haven, said she was lucky to have a friend who lives close to the beach so she had a place to park her car while she took a walk with her 3-year-old daughter.

"Not there, sweetie, over here," said Hoffman as she directed the child from one particular patch of sand to another as they walked.

Hoffman said she knew better than to set foot beyond a sign reading "members only," posted near the Ship Ahoy Beach Club on Ocean Avenue.

"I've lived around here all my life, so I'm used to this very have-and-have-not system they have going here," said Hoffman, 29. "But my family doesn't have thousands of dollars a year to spend on going to the beach, so we just usually go down to Monmouth Beach or Long Branch, where it's friendlier to outsiders."

Northern Monmouth County, with at least 15 private beach clubs in towns from Sea Bright to Long Branch, has more private beach clubs than anywhere else in the state, according to the Surfrider Foundation, a national beach watchdog group.

Most of the private beach clubs have lengthy waiting lists for membership or require referral by a current member to join.

One of the least expensive, the Ship Ahoy, offers a bare-bones, locker-only membership for about \$2,000 a season. At the Driftwood Cabana Club, it'll cost you about \$12,000 a season to obtain key card access to one of its larger cabanas, a 50-meter swimming pool, a lap pool, indoor and outdoor hot tubs, and valet parking.

## Highly Migratory Species

*By John Koegler*

### Bluefin Tuna

The Europeans have so over fished their bluefin tuna stocks that the Eastern fishery is collapsing. During the last few years their catches have remained huge but only because of a major increase in their fishing effort. At the same time, they had a massive increase in bluefin tuna farming, where their quota counting is questionable.

Their young of the year tuna fishery accounted for 50% of the European total landings totals in 2001. In their 2005 annual ICCAT report they stated their small bluefin landings had decreased to zero. US ICCAT participants while in Spain for the yearly ICCAT meeting went to a local fish market and purchased small bluefin. This suggested that European reporting of zero landings of baby bluefin was a total lie. Understand the Europeans did this because their landings of larger bluefin had far exceeded their assigned ICCAT bluefin landing quotas and they did not want to be over quota.

The World Wildlife Fund recently completed an independent study of all Eastern Atlantic catches. They documented that the Eastern Atlantic 2004 catches were over 100% above the sustainable limit recommended by ICCAT scientists. Europeans have been way over their sustainable limit quota for the last 15 years. But now their huge fishery is rapidly collapsing.

Northeast giant bluefin tuna fishermen's 2006 season has been a complete bust. Not just a drop in landings but a total collapse. As of October 6, 2006 General Category reported 89.2 tons, harpoon 22.2 tons and purse seine 3.5 tons. The total US GC landings are 114.9 MT while the GC quota is over 900 MT. As of October 6, The GC has only landed 114.9 MT. of their 2006 assigned commercial quota!

Are there other reasons for such a US catch collapse? There is reason to believe this since Canada has not experienced a similar catch collapse that there is a problem with the US environment. One possible cause could be the new massive catches of herring using pair trawls. This fishery has devastated the New England inshore herring population. Bluefin are known to send scouts into an

area to check out the food supply before the main body of the fish enters that area to feed. When the scouts return and report no food the main body of bluefin stays away.

Locally for 40 years we had enjoyed a mud-hole giant bluefin tuna fishery. About 10 years ago the commercial dragger fleet began to target squid inshore using small mesh nets. These small net mesh draggers caught and discarded huge amounts of young fish. During August you can follow the dragger discard trail. You will see tens of thousands of small dead fish. Are these vast discards destroying the tuna food supply in the mud hole area? A proven fact is that the giant bluefin tuna fishery in the mud-hole has ceased to exist.

Naturally, you can use the now famous excuse that global warming has heated the ocean to such a degree that bluefin tuna find New England waters too warm and they swim north to find more comfortable water temperatures.

Despite having caught only a few bluefin toward the US commercial quota, the NMFS has yet to transfer ANY part of the uncaught US bluefin commercial quota to recreational fishermen. Understand NMFS allocates the US-ICCAT quota any way they see fit. What do the US regulators desire to accomplish, give up the US quota to the EC? What nonsense.

When recreational anglers see such incompetent fishery regulations they know that managers deserve to be eliminated. Anglers get a 3 week seasons for school fish and NMFS has yet to get ANY EC or African country to observe their agreed to ICCAT quota after 28 years of trying. When will the Europeans follow the rules? When the bluefin tuna goes extinct?

If the US cannot get real and verified compliance from the EC and the African nations at their 2006 ICCAT meeting, then the US MUST withdraw from ICCAT. Why is there any reason to belong to an international organization where ALL other members are tuna pirates?

As the bluefin species slides towards extinction, the vast fishing power of the EC will quickly finish off the other tunas as well. East coast anglers know that today's canyon fishing for Yellowfin, Bigeye and Longfin tuna is a shadow of what they enjoyed 20 years ago.

The EC has all kinds of ICCAT limits on the other tunas, but so far they do not observe their commitments on any of these fisheries either.

Why should the US support with US dues dollars a group of ICCAT nations that refuse to follow any rules and quotas they have agreed to observe?

### **Canyon Fishing**

Canyon fishing is slowing downward zero for most anglers. The big head boats will continue to fish until early November or the tuna depart for warmer areas. The NJ canyon fishing was acceptable this year. There were tuna to be caught trolling from early July until late August and later. Normally, the high late summer ocean temperatures will end trolling for tuna by mid-August. But for whatever reason canyon tuna trolling has remained good for the entire 2006 season.

### **SWORDFISH**

Swordfishing has been good for many anglers this year. Another plus is the number of swordfish landed by anglers that weighed over 200 pounds. NMFS states that they expect ICCAT will report at this year's meeting that swordfish have recovered from over fishing. The US commercial swordfish catches is way down, only 25% of their assigned quota.

NMFS held a series of meetings in September to ask fishermen what they could do to increase US swordfish landings. It is well known that massive imports of Asian caught swordfish have kept the commercial dockside prices too low. A few swords per trip plus other fish resulted in a trip cash loss. Since most longline crews are paid with a percentage share of the boats catch profit, their desire to go fishing and not be paid is zero

Not often considered is the fact that most large HMS fish have high levels of Mercury in their flesh. Mercury health advisories have only been recently easily available to those who want to know about the Mercury content in HMS species. How much less tuna and swordfish are being consumed because of these health warnings?

At the same time NMFS has NEVER made ANY attempt to know or estimate the recreational landings of recreational caught swordfish. They reported South Atlantic angler catches of 7,000 pounds for last year. Our local catches were reported as 125 pounds for the entire 2005 season. Both numbers are absurd on the low side. You can buy any magazine such as "The Fisherman" and count 10 times that amount of fish reported in the magazine. In 2006 for the first time anglers HMS permit required reporting of swordfish landings just like bluefin reporting. It will be interesting to see if the

total angler numbers leap to high totals or if anglers forget to report their swordfish landings.

It is great to see swordfish rebuilding and have a large enough recovered population so that anglers can catch one every few canyon chunking trips.

### **Wahoo/Dolphin**

Closure of the Straits of Florida to commercial longline fishing has resulted in a major increase of Mahi-mahi and Wahoo angler catches during the east coast canyon season. In fact, there were anglers who caught more than one Wahoo on a canyon trip this year for the first time in their lives. Since almost no anglers use wire leaders, the number of Wahoo being landed is a small fraction of the number that are actually hooked. Wahoo have super sharp teeth and cut off almost all leaders shortly after being hooked.

Many large dolphin fish over 20 pounds were caught in the canyons during the entire 2006 season. Larger dolphins are great to catch because of their strong fight and bright colors. Finally they are fantastic table food.

It is now early fall and it's striper time, who cares about Tuna, Wahoo and Dolphin. Let's go catch a striper for dinner. Would you enjoy striper for thanksgiving?

## **SALT WATER SPORTSMAN NATIONAL SEMINAR SERIES 20- YEAR ANNIVERSARY TOUR COMES TO ATLANTIC CITY! January 6, 2007**

Circle Saturday, January 6, 2007, on your calendar! That's when the Salt Water Sportsman National Seminar Series comes to the Trump Marina Hotel and Casino's Grand Cayman Ballroom! Hosting this special 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition seminar will be **George Poveromo** – Host of George Poveromo's World of Saltwater Fishing on ESPN2, and a Senior Editor for Salt Water Sportsman, and **David DiBenedetto** – Editor for Salt Water Sportsman. The tour is being presented by Boater's World Marine Centers.

Regarded as the most comprehensive seminar on recreational marine fishing tactics, the New Jersey edition will be crammed full of the latest "how-to" and "where-to" information and techniques. Joining Poveromo and DiBenedetto in Atlantic City will be **Captain Fred Archer** – legendary pioneer of Southern California shark and tuna-fishing techniques, and author of 11 books on big game fishing; **Captain Frank Crescitelli** – renowned South Jersey tuna, marlin and striped bass authority and owner of Fin Chaser Charters; **Captain John Oughton** – veteran offshore skipper with over 27 years of experience in catching tuna, billfish, wahoo and dolphin. Oughton skippers the Over Under Adventures charter boat;

**Captain Andy Duffy** – Ocean City-based back-bay, beach and wreck fishing authority who specializes in catching trophy stripers, weakfish, bluefish, fluke and blackfish; **Captain Ray Szulczewski** – "Cape May Ray" has over 26 years of experience in fishing the back bays, inlets and beachfront areas around South Jersey; **Captain Al Crudele III** – a noted South Jersey trophy fluke and weakfish specialist, Crudele is also a premier shark, tuna and marlin pro aboard his Sea Isle City-based Bayhound Charters; **Dr. Mitchell Roffer** – the nation's leading authority on locating surface temperature breaks and ocean-circulation features that hold fish; and **Captain Bob Cope** – premier authority on catching trophy fluke and striped bass, monster drum, and weakfish by the score in Delaware Bay aboard his Full Ahead Sportfishing charter boat.

Courses for the January 6 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 top water 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, no-nonsense weakfish tactics, how and where to catch 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 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, Southern California trolling tactics for sharks, specialized tactics that take more big-eye tuna.

A ticket to the Seminar Series costs \$ 55.00, and includes a \$ 50.00 Boater's World Gift Card (Via mail-in rebate with your next purchase of \$ 150.00), a Boater's World Duffle Bag, a One-Year subscription or extension to Salt Water Sportsman Magazine, One Roffer's Ocean Fishing Forecast Analysis (offshore tuna, dolphin and marlin only), One year membership to the International Game Fish Association (new members only), a 16-ounce bottle of OrPine Wash & Wax, and One spool of Sufix Elite, Clear Blue, 14-lb. test line.

The names of all attendees of the Atlantic City seminar will be entered into the Grand Prize drawing to win an incredible bonefishing excursion to the Bimini Sands Resort and Marina. The drawing will be held at the conclusion of the seminar that day, and one lucky person will win the trip for two! In addition, the names of all attendees from the 2007 Seminar Series Tour will be entered into the drawing for the Super Grand Prize - a brand new Mako 212 Center Console powered by a

Mercury 200 hp OptiMax Outboard and complete with a FLOAT-ON trailer! The drawing for the boat will take place one week after the completion of the final seminar on the tour, and one lucky winner will take home the boat!

To order tickets by phone with a major credit card, call 1-800-448-7360. To order tickets on-line or for more information visit: [www.nationalseminarseries.com](http://www.nationalseminarseries.com)

Remember to order your tickets early, as this seminar sells out quickly!

## **YOUTH EDUCATION BY GREG KUCHAREWSKI**

### **2006 YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD**

The JCAA Youth Education Committee reviewed nominations for the 2006 Youth Education Award and selected the Hudson River Fishing Association to receive the award. They completed the following criteria: Promoted several HOFNOD events throughout 2006, four members were HOFNOD certified as instructors through a JCAA grant, and HRFA utilized materials from the JCAA lending library. The HRFA submitted a list of their youth programs and accomplishments that meets all aspects of the 2006 Youth Education Award criteria. We look forward to presenting the award to their group at the JCAA Awards Dinner Dance on November 19, 2006. Come to the Awards Dinner Dance and learn how the HRFA members work to promote HOFNOD and youth fishing. Past Youth Education Awards were presented to: Absecon Saltwater Sportsmen, Shark River Surf Anglers, Rosemary Beales Marine and Environmental Science, Shore Surf Club, Friends of Island Beach State Park, Tom Fote, New Jersey Beach Buggy Association, Newark Bait and Fly Casters, and Dr. Eleanor Bochenek.

### **NJ DIVISION F&W MARINE DIGEST**

The JCAA Youth Education Committee is working on an article for the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife's 2007 Marine Digest. It will feature information about marine fishing programs that are open to children and their families, crabbing, and plenty of how-to's.

### **JCAA MEMBER CLUB YOUTH FISHING PROFILE**

This is a new bullet for the JCAA Youth Education Report. Each month the JCAA Youth Education

Report will write about JCAA member clubs, marine organizations, and individuals that support aquatic education youth fishing programs. This month we will tell you about some accomplishments of the Hi-Mar Striper Club. This is also posted on their website. Hi-Mar sponsored five trips for 2006 and the last one was just completed. After all the small craft warnings and everything else this trip turned out to be one of the best. No, I didn't try to talk Captain Dave into running to Shark River for Porgies. But we did find some Weakfish, Porgies and Croakers around the TC Buoy. It was a very slow start, actually a very slow day, but the kids from the Arthur Johnson H.S. Fishing Club Loved it. We had about 16 kids, and 6 adults that put together a catch of two nice size Weakfish, maybe a dozen Porgies and half a dozen Croakers. You would have thought that every fish was made of gold by the smiles when they reeled one in, keeper or not. Wish we could do more but to do that we have to raise more funds. We had 6 trips scheduled but, unfortunately, the veterans had to cancel the two trips we had for them. Seems they couldn't find funding for transportation to Atlantic Highlands. So we had to make some hasty phone calls and found a group from the Essex County Salvation Army to fill a slot. Other groups we hosted included: Big Brothers - Big Sisters of Monmouth County, Pt Pleasant Fire Explorers, and a group from Hooked on Fishing Not Drugs with C.O. Wayne Tonneson. All are great groups and very appreciative. These members work hard to get things done. Special thanks goes out to Captain Dave Dzielak, Big Ralph from Slater's Deli, and Gene Nigro for chairing the committee, and the Hi-Mar members that took the time to go on the trips and offer some help and encouraging words. The Hi-Mar Striper Club also made donations to other groups that are involved with getting kids into fishing. Gene Nigro has resigned as chairman of the Committee but Mike McLean stepped right up to fill his spot along with assistance from Mark Stanick. As you can see, this is a good example of hard work that promotes youth fishing. Good job everyone, keep it going for 2007.

If you would like to help with our youth education efforts and offer some of your time to teach children the joy of fishing, please phone 732-785-9278 or e-mail [Gkucharews@aol.com](mailto:Gkucharews@aol.com).

## We need the support of your club and its members!

Your club should be a member of JCAA and make a difference for only \$50 a year. Your club will have a voice in all JCAA positions that affect your fishing future. Your club will receive up-to-date info on vital issues each month.

**Club Membership Application**

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_

President's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pres. Address: Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Ph. # \_\_\_\_\_

Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check \$50 payable to JCAA

### JCAA SPONSORSHIP

The JCAA has four levels of sponsorship, \$50, \$100, \$250 & \$500.

The sponsors are recognized in our newspaper. For more information call JCAA at 732-506-6565. Become a JCAA sponsor and help our cause. As you can see by our newspaper many our member clubs are also JCAA sponsors, if your club is not contact us today to become one. With all the new battles we are engaged in we need to raise more funds in order to be effective. Become a sponsor now and help us to continue the fight.

## Join JCAA as an Associate Member

Only \$25 per year! Support the Goals of JCAA and receive a subscription to JCAA NEWS that gives you the Most Up-To-Date News about Fisheries Management and Environmental Issues

**JERSEY COAST ANGLERS**  
**ASSOCIATE MEMBER APPLICATION**

Date \_\_\_\_\_ New \_\_\_ Renewal \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check if you would rather receive newspaper by email instead of by regular mail. Yes \_\_\_

Ph. # \_\_\_\_\_

Fax # \_\_\_\_\_

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Blue Fish	Al Marantz	732-280-2643
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