

JCAA NEWSPAPER NOVEMBER 2008

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*
(Published on October 22, 2008)

Remember New Monthly Meeting Room
"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:
Tuesday, October 28th, 2008
Starting at 7:30 PM
At the JCAA OFFICE
NEXT JCAA EXECUTIVE MEETING
Thursday, November 13th, 2008
Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office

**OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE
JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.**
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JCAA Newspaper Publisher Tom Fote
JCAA Newspaper Editor Paul Turi

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 732-446-6298 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
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2008 OFFICERS

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Mem. Sec.	Bruce Smith	732-695-3431

Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page

**October 28th JCAA General Meeting
at the JCAA Office**

Brick is doing construction at its community center and until its finish we will be holding the JCAA General meetings at JCAA Office

IMPORTANT DATES

November 13th JCAA Board meeting
November 16th JCAA Dinner

**SPORTSPERSON OF THE
YEAR DINNER/DANCE**
BY PAUL TURI

Mark you calendar for November 16th, the night of Jersey Coast Anglers Association annual Sportsperson-of-the-Year Awards Dinner/Dance. Now is the time to buy your tickets. It is one of the major JCAA fundraisers. It takes place on Sunday, November 16, 2008 from 4:00-9:00 p.m. at the beautiful Crystal Point Yacht Club, RT. 70 & River Rd, Point Pleasant, NJ. We will honor this year and past years' recipients of JCAA "Sportsperson-of-the-Year" award. Past honorees include legislators, environmental leaders, outdoor writers and other worthy recipients.

As of this writing we do not yet have a keynote speaker.

At our October general membership meeting we will be voting for this year's sportsperson of the year and selling tickets. In another part of the newspaper are the bios of those nominated for this year's sportsperson of the year award.

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/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) 660-2126. **Dan Miller** will be co-chairing the event and tickets can be obtained by calling Dan at (609) 641-7821.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By John Toth

IMPORTANT – GENERAL MEETING LOCATION CHANGE - We will **NOT** be having our October 28th meeting at our regular location in Brick because there are major renovations going on at this municipal complex and that includes our regular meeting room. In the interim, we will have our October 28th meeting at the JCAA Office located at 1201 Route 37 East, Suite 9, in Toms River. The JCAA office can be easily found by looking for a Saturn car dealership while driving East on Route 37. Make the first right after the Saturn dealer and the JCAA office is immediately on your left. Walk up the stairs to our second floor office. If you take the Parkway, take exit #82 for Route 37 East and the JCAA office is about 2 to 3 miles away on your right side. The number for the JCAA office is (732) 506-6565. We were only recently informed of this development or we would have given you a better advance notice. If you need additional information or directions, call me at (732) 656-0139.

17th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament, Island Beach State Park, October 5th – It was a very beautiful day for a surf tournament with a nice breeze. Governor Corzine came by early in the morning to greet the anglers on the beach. However, the fish decided that they were going to enjoy the day too and decided not to bite. It was one of the slowest fishing days since the tournament was started 16 years ago with only 27 eligible fish caught and with pesky bergals in super abundance. However, it did not dampen the spirits of the 900 participants who enjoyed the day with

their families and friends. I handed out prizes to the winners and really enjoyed seeing the smiles on their faces! What made me really laugh is when one young boy won a raffle prize and pulled the next winning ticket that turned out to be his brother! Those two boys had such big grins on their faces that made them look like they won Fort Knox! We are looking forward to next year's Governor's Surf Tournament!

Operations Manager Update – I placed ads for our new Operations Manager position in the Asbury Park Press, the Star Ledger, the New York Times and The Fisherman to run on every Sunday until October 19th. So far the response to these ads has been very positive with many resumes showing the type of person we are looking for. We have a cut-off date of October 25th for the receipt of all resumes. On October 30th, we will sort through all of the resumes and narrow down those that we want to have an interview with on the tentative dates of November 21st and November 22nd. In the interim before our interviews, we plan to send follow-up questions and check the credentials of the applicants. There has been a lot of effort going into this entire process so that we can get the best person on JCAA's staff. I will continue to update you on the progress of our bringing the new JCAA Operations Manager on board. If you are interested in applying go to our web page for that information.

JCAA Dinner Dance – Will be held at the Crystal Point Yacht Club on November 16th starting at 4:00 p.m. with good food and many prizes to be won at our great Dark Horse. This is a good opportunity to rub elbows with your fishing buddies and dance with your sweetie to the sounds of our DJ. More information on the dinner follows in our newsletter on the dinner, but come on out to support your JCAA and have fun while doing it!

Elections – We are still looking for individuals to step up and be nominated for the positions of President and First Vice President of the JCAA. These are very important positions and we need dedicated individuals to recreational fishing to fill them. Also, don't forget that you also have dedicated members on the JCAA Board to assist you and we all work together as a team to advance our agenda for recreational anglers.

Donations to the JCAA – Time is moving very fast and before you know it, we will be welcoming in

year 2009. The end of the year also ushers in strategies on lowering your 2008 taxes by various financial moves including giving special contributions to non-profit or charitable organizations. Consider giving a financial gift to the JCAA since it is a non-profit entity and your contribution is tax deductible. Your contribution also goes to a good cause since the JCAA is dedicated to promote and protect all anglers who fish in New Jersey.

Sportsperson of the Year Nomination – Last Call
– At our dinner dance, we recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to our sport. So far we have received 3 nominations from our member clubs. Those nominations and short bios are below. If your club wants to nominate someone that deserves this type of honor you can bring that nomination to the JCAA General meeting and make that nomination from the floor. Please bring a short bio of that individual to read at our General Meeting. We will then vote on nominee and select the 2008 Sportsperson of the year!

Berkeley Striper Club Nominates Paul Harris for JCAA Sportsperson of the year

Berkeley Striper Club nominates Paul Harris for Sportsperson of the year. He joined N.J.B.B.A in 1968 and Board of Directors in the 70s and again for the last 8 years. He has been coordinator of Courtesy Patrol #3 for the past 3 years. He has volunteered to help teach a fishing clinic in the summer at I.B.S.P for the past 5 years. He is on the committee for the youth fishing tournament (Hooked on Fishing). He is a volunteer to teach Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts fishing and safety so they can get their fishing merit badges. He is a volunteer to teach fishing to the becoming an out door woman program. He is a Member of Berkeley Striper Club and Delegate to United Mobile Sport Fishing Association for the Berkeley Striper club. He has organized beach clean-ups at I.B.S.P. He has worked the Somerset Fishing Show promoting mobile sport fishing. He is chairperson for Hunting and Fishing day (taking challenged people fishing on the beach). He is also a volunteer to take disabled vets fishing twice a year. He has received N J volunteer of the year award for 2005. He is a delegate to A.S.A.C for the N.J.B.B.A. He has also volunteered for many committees for all of the above clubs and associations and is behind the

scenes in fighting for fishing rights and open beaches.

Manasquan Fishing Club Is Proud To Nominate Dr. Pat Donnelly For The JCAA Sportsperson Of The Year.

Pat has been a member of the Manasquan Fishing Club since 1983 and served as President from 1987-1989. He also served as the Tournament Chairman from 198 - 2004.

Pat has been a member of the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council since 2001 where he has chaired the Black Sea Bass, Tautog and Reef Committees. He was an advisor to the council from 1998 - 2001 and is a member of the TRAC Artificial Reef Committee.

In addition he has been an advisor to the Tautog Committee from 1994-2005 and also chaired the Advisory Panel from 1996-2001.

As a member of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association he served as Vice President in 1999 and 2000. He also chaired the Reef, Tautog and Habitat committees. He has been the Fluke Tournament Award Ceremony MC and the JCAA Dinner Dance MC for the past few years. Pat and his wife Deanna live in Brick with their three children.

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 numbers 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!

FISHERIES MANAGEMENT & LEGISLATIVE REPORT

By Thomas Fote

Federal Registry and Saltwater Fishing License

I received a few emails asking why JCAA was against posting a federal registry or a saltwater fishing license bill at this time. One email suggested we would have to pay \$35 for a Federal registry in 2009 if NJ doesn't act now. For a complete copy of the Magnusson/Stevens Fisheries Conservation Act, email me and I will send it as a PDF file. Here is the email I sent in response to this false information.

I do not know where you got your information but you have received some misinformation and do not have the facts straight. It states in the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006 on page 95:

The program, which shall not require a fee before January 1, 2011, shall provide for—

(A) the registration (including identification and contact information) of individuals who engage in recreational fishing—

(i) in the Exclusive Economic Zone;

(ii) for anadromous species; or

(iii) for Continental Shelf fishery resources beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone; and

(B) if appropriate, the registration (including the ownership, operator, and identification of the vessel) of vessels used in such fishing.

When the Federal Registry goes in place sometime in 2009 there will be no charge. The law clearly states that the Federal Government may not charge before 2011. In 2009 and 2010 the Federal Registry is free and it does not say they have to charge in 2011. So we have until at least January of 2011 to get something in place. We are not even sure what the Federal Government will put in place in 2009 since they are still working on it and they have not done any of the requirements of the 2006 M/S Act on time. Over 2 years is plenty of time to make sure we get things right and address all the issues.

For example, Delaware already has a saltwater license and New York is talking about doing one next year. Do we want to put something in place so we can get a reciprocal agreement with these two states? There are many of us who fish in Delaware Bay, Raritan Bay and New York bight that will be required to buy one of those states' licenses if we do not have an acceptable alternative. Those are the type of things that need to be discussed by the people who are going to be affected by this requirement.

There are many groups and people in this state who have different positions and ideas on what should be done and they all need to be heard. This is why I am hoping for a task force made up of recreational fishing groups, members of the recreational fishing industry, legislators and the Governor's office. This task force would be charged with resolving all the issues and coming up with an acceptable solution. JCAA does not panic when there is plenty of time to get it right. I have included the final version of the Magnusson/Stevens Fisheries Conservation Act for your information. If you have any questions, please let me know.

Page 95

H.R. 5946 Amdt.

1 TITLE II—INFORMATION AND

2 RESEARCH

3 SEC. 201. RECREATIONAL FISHERIES INFORMATION

4 Section 401 (16 U.S.C. 1881) is amended by striking

5 subsection (g) and inserting the following:

6 (g) RECREATIONAL FISHERIES.—

7 (1) FEDERAL PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall establish and implement a regionally based registry program for recreational fishermen in each of the fishery management regions. The program, which shall not require a fee before January 1, 2011, shall provide for—
(A) the registration (including identification and contact information) of individuals who engage in recreational fishing—

(i) in the Exclusive Economic Zone;

(ii) for anadromous species; or

(iii) for Continental Shelf fishery resources beyond the Exclusive Economic Zone; and

(B) if appropriate, the registration (including the ownership, operator, and identification of the vessel) of vessels used in such fishing.

Page 96

H.R. 5946 Amdt.

1 (2) STATE PROGRAMS.—The Secretary shall exempt from registration under the program recreational fishermen and charter fishing vessels licensed, permitted,

or registered under the laws of a State if the Secretary determines that information from the State program is suitable for the Secretary's use or is used to assist in completing marine recreational fisheries statistical surveys, or evaluating the effects of proposed conservation and management measures for marine recreational fisheries.

11 (3) DATA COLLECTION.—

12 (A) IMPROVEMENT OF THE MARINE RECREATIONAL FISHERY STATISTICS SURVEY.—

Within 24 months after the date of enactment of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Reauthorization Act of 2006, the Secretary, in consultation with representatives of the recreational fishing industry and experts in statistics, technology, and other appropriate fields, shall establish a program to improve the quality and accuracy of information generated by the Marine Recreational Fishery Statistics Survey, with a goal of achieving acceptable accuracy and utility for each individual fishery.

Page 97

H.R. 5946 Amdt.

1 (B) NRC REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS.—

2 The program shall take into consideration and, to the extent feasible, implement the recommendations of the National Research Council in its report Review of Recreational Fisheries Survey Methods (2006), including—

(i) redesigning the Survey to improve the effectiveness and appropriateness of sampling and estimation procedures, its applicability to various kinds of management decisions, and its usefulness for social and economic analyses; and

(ii) providing for ongoing technical evaluation and modification as needed to meet emerging management needs.

(C) METHODOLOGY.—Unless the Secretary determines.....

Research Set-asides the Growing Problem

The Councils and the ASMFC were looking for ways to fund research that is outside the box. They wanted a system in place where recreational and commercial fishermen and universities could fund important research that could not be funded otherwise. They came up with the idea of a research set-aside. This would take up to 3% of the fisheries quota and use those fish for scientific research. This helped fund the side-by-side trawl surveys, gear modification, some recreational statistics and many other projects. This was a success in funding projects typically unfunded that would benefit the fishing community. As usual, the bureaucracy at NMFS has corrupted the system. When they can't get funds to do the research required by their Federal mandate, they are seeing the set-aside funds as easy

pickings. They are doing NEAMAP using these funds and that was not the original intent of the program. Remember, this 3% comes from the recreational and commercial quota. We give up millions of pounds of fish so that this research can be done. We should not be using our quota to support work already mandated for NMFS. Redirecting that money for their pet projects is obscene. I am calling on the Federal Councils and ASMFC to refuse to do set-asides until this problem is corrected. This is another example of why commercial and recreational fishermen have absolutely no trust in NMFS and the states in the way they handles things like this. This only reaffirms the concern about the funds that will be generated by a saltwater license. Good intentions don't hold up against NMFS and the states' continued money grabs.

Legislative and Fisheries Management Agenda

The New Jersey Legislature is back in session. There are many bills that need to be moved through the NJ Legislature in the next few months. Among the bills are Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs and Pots Off the Reef. At the Federal level we need to keep an eye on the lame duck session to make sure there are no surprises. We will be coordinating our State and Federal efforts with other NJ groups.

We also need to focus on both the Federal and State budgets for fisheries and environmental issues. Both levels will have budgets that are very short on funds and we need to keep a watchful eye.

Summer Flounder and the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament

Summer flounder were an allowable catch during the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament even though the season was closed. This was done using the research set-aside. For some reason, a couple of people took offense. The letter below is in response to a letter sent to Governor Corzine and ASMFC and the Mid-Atlantic Marine Fisheries Council. I was not planning to make this letter public except the original author decided to expand his point of view in the newspapers. I was hoping for a personal response and a correction of the false information. Since none was forthcoming and the articles based on his letter are appearing in the newspaper, I felt it was important to publish our initial reply. Remember, this decision was made by

our 3 commissioners to ASMFC at the urging of New Jersey. This was for research purposes. JCAA supports this research as we did last year when certain party and charter boats were allowed to keep 14 inch summer flounder for another research study using the same research set asides.

JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION
Working For the Saltwater Resource & Marine Anglers

Dear Milt Rosko,

I was forwarded an email with your letters about the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament. I was really disappointed in your letter and you had not checked your facts. I was surprised that you would deny kids the opportunity to keep the fish they caught. These summer flounder would have suffered hook and release mortality anyway since the kids were fishing for other species and would have caught them as an incidental catch. I cannot believe I received this from a man who wrote numerous paid articles years ago about taking his own wife and kids on fishing trips and keeping fluke. This sounds a little hypocritical to me. As a writer you need to check your facts since most of things you are upset about are not true. This plainly shows you do not know anything about the tournament but were willing to attack it not knowing the facts. The so-called "sports" you are talking about are mainly young kids who do not pay to fish the tournament. I guess you would deny other families the same opportunity your children had. Remember when your kids were this age there were almost no regulations. There is no fee charged on Island Beach State Park the day of the Tournament. It has been that way for the 17 year history of the tournament. Even if you did not want to pay the 10 dollars to fish the tournament and participate, you could have volunteered your time and taken a couple of kids fishing who never fished and giving them an opportunity to win a rod and reel, since there is no charge for kids under 12. I wrote the piece below to better explain the tournament. Maybe now you can get your facts straight and send a different letter to the people that you misinformed.

The Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament was designed as a family tournament. This was the 17th year. The tournament has had as many as 1,400 participants. This year it was over 900. The money raised goes for handicapped access and teaching kids and adults to surf fish. The majority of the entrants

are kids who do not pay anything to fish. Registration Fees: Ages 18 & over - \$10 for early entry if postmarked by Sept. 14 (\$15.00 fee on Tournament Day) \$5.00 – Ages 13-17 Children 12 & under are FREE! The Tournament supplies rods and reels to people who have never fished before in the surf and do not have gear. We also run clinics to teach adults and kids how to fish the surf. Special arrangements are made for handicapped anglers. Balloon tire equipped beach wheelchairs are available for anglers with disabilities. These chairs were bought and are maintained with money raised from the tournament and the chairs are available year round for handicapped anglers. The handicapped access ramp at Island Beach State Park got its start with money raised from the tournament.

The sponsors are the NJ DEP, NJ Division on Parks, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, New Jersey Beach Buggy Association, JCAA and New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen Clubs. Not one of the sponsors gets any money from the tournament.

The Tournament was set up as so you can catch and release fish. Judges volunteer their time and gas riding up and down the beach measuring fish that are caught. Summer flounder was allowed from the first year of the tournament. Seventeen years ago, when the tournament was started, summer flounder was not a problem but we were still very concerned about striped bass. That is why we set it up so you could catch and release and still win a prize. Last year the summer flounder season was closed and there were no fluke allowed. The tournament participants were going to catch a small number of fluke anyway and some hook and release mortality was going to take place. At a summer flounder board meeting, the State, through its three ASMFC Commissioners, asked that the participants be allowed to keep fluke for this tournament for scientific study. The state suspected few legal fluke would be landed and that judges would record every fluke. The number was a big 5 with over 900 participants fishing about 6 hours. That means that there were over 4800 angling hours to catch 5 fluke from the surf. This is a state sponsored Tournament.

The tournament sponsors want to give away rods and reels to the kids and other participants. We were very disappointed that we could not give away another 20 rods and reels this year since there were no qualifying fish. There were no bass and no big bluefish this year. I would never have guessed that the longest fish would have been a fluke.

It takes about 50 volunteers to judge and do other things during the tournament. None of them are able to fish. Most of them are the same people who have been doing this for 17 years. They enjoy sharing their sport with others

I helped start planning this tournament over 19 years ago to promote surf fishing, create a family experience and show the importance of surf fishing to the Governor and other state personnel. Every elected governor has shown up at the tournament at least once and some of them every year they were in office. This year Governor Corzine rode the beach and talked to anglers at 6:30am. It was his third trip to the tournament. He talked to three blind girls fishing the tournament and also two people using the big wheelchairs. It showcased our sport and the sport I love in a very positive way.

Instead of complaining about five fluke, why don't you come and help us out next year. We are always looking for volunteers to teach people our great sport. JCAA is holding off sending this letter to everyone you sent your letter to until we hear your response to address the misinformation in your letter. I am cc my board on this email.

Sincerely,
Thomas Fote Legislative Chairman

Loss Of Fisheries Advocates

Within the past 3 years, we lost four giants and friends to recreational fishing. Al Goetze, Bill Perry, Keith Walters and Clay Gooch shared many common interests, a love of fishing, a protection on the environment and their passion for striped bass. Keith Walters passed away in the beginning of October. In speaking with Denise Reilly, Bill Perry's daughter, I learned about the loss of all four.

When I first started going to Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council meetings in the mid 80's, I met a few conservation-minded recreational anglers. One I held in the highest regard was Al Goetze. At the time, Al was pushing for the establishment of a habitat committee. Earlier than many others, Al made the connection between clean water, habitat and fish. Along with other Council members, he continued to work to make the habitat committee a reality. When I became the Governor's Appointee to ASMFC in 1990, Al Goetze was the Governor's Appointee from Maryland. We became even closer friends as we worked to open up the

process to all of the citizens. But his real passion was the establishment of the habitat committee for ASMFC. Al and I worked in those early years until this became a reality. Bringing in the Federal and State agencies (EPA, Army Corp of Engineers and others) that controlled habitat issues was one of our first accomplishments. His other passion was striped bass. He wanted to see striped bass made a game fish along the entire coast. He introduced me to his friends who shared his passion for striped bass and their protection. The Fearsome Foursome were Al, Keith Walters, Clay Gooch and Bill Perry.

Keith Walters was a photographer, writer and outdoor columnist for The Star Democrat. He also wrote Chesapeake Boogaloo, Catching Striped Bass and Chesapeake Stripers. I would see Keith at many of the meetings concerning striped bass management in the late 80's and early 90's. His endless passion for the Chesapeake and the striped bass that resided there made him a successful advocate and strong voice at meetings. He was involved with the Maryland Sportfishing Association and helped start the Maryland CCA with his buddies Al, Clay and Bill. Until his death, he served on the board of Stripers Forever. He was also a decorated Korean War veteran.

I met Clay Gooch and Bill Perry when they decided to invite the New kid (me) to lunch in 1994. They wanted to discuss striped bass and the environment and did I ever learn a lot! I learned that Bill and Al were both veterans of the Battle of the Bulge in WWII. Bill was an outdoor writer for the Star Democrat and director of the DNR Maryland Sportfishing Tournament. Bill's many columns stressed the importance of striped bass conservation and the protection of the waters of the Chesapeake Bay.

Clay was a retired businessman and was the first chairman of the Maryland CCA. He put his time and money into his passion for fishing and protecting the fish for the next generation.

I was the kid when we became friends. I respected them as mentors. They shared their knowledge without reservation and welcomed me to the fight. They left their egos at home, never worried about the credit and just focused on the getting the job done. Al is the perfect example. He was passionate about the habitat committee for ASMFC. I wanted Al to be our first chairman but he insisted I take the job.

At this point in my life, I'm looking for the next "new kids". They set the standard for mentoring the next generation. We need to live up to their ideals.

Oyster Creek

It is interesting that Millstone Nuclear Power Complex plans to meet their responsibility to fisheries and habitat by installing cooling towers. When are the officials from Oyster Creek going to acknowledge their responsibilities and make cooling towers a reality? We are hoping Governor Corzine and DEP Commissioner Jackson hold firm with the cooling tower requirement for the re-licensing.

Millstone makes deal with environmental groups **September 30, 2008** **Newsday.com WATERFORD, Conn.**

State officials and environmental groups have reached an agreement with the Millstone nuclear power complex to expedite plans aimed at reducing the facility's effect on Long Island Sound.

Virginia-based Dominion, Millstone's owner, agreed Monday to immediately begin studying technologies and measures that would better protect fish and other sea creatures from Millstone's water-based system for cooling its reactors.

Millstone now pumps more than 2 billion gallons a water a day from Long Island Sound to cool the reactors at its two operating reactors. Environmental activists say the process kills billions of fish and other marine life.

Dominion has been working to renew its state permit to use water from the sound, which is used to cool steam from the turbines that generate electricity. The study is part of the permit process.

Millstone officials will accelerate the timetable of the study, which is now due in January 2012, according to the agreement submitted to a hearing officer with the state Department of Environmental Protection.

"What would have likely taken over 15 years is now a three-year process," said Roger Reynolds, senior staff attorney for Connecticut Fund for the Environment.

"By avoiding a protracted court battle, we can spend resources on moving toward an updated cooling system that will protect the ecosystem, instead of on attorneys' fees and further delay," he said.

Connecticut Fund for the Environment and Soundkeeper Inc. were parties to the agreement with Millstone and the state.

One of the options being discussed is a "closed cycle" system that would recirculate seawater within the plants instead of drawing it continuously from the sound.

A federal appeals court ruled in November that power plants, including nuclear facilities, must use the best technology available to avoid harming aquatic life.

Connecticut Fund for the Environment, Soundkeeper and the Connecticut Coalition Against Millstone intervened in Millstone's permit process and alleged that the DEP is violating the Federal Clean Water Act by failing to require a closed-cycle cooling system.

The DEP is delaying a final decision on the permit renewal pending further study of environmental issues.

Dominion and Millstone's previous owner have twice concluded that the closed-cycle technology is feasible, but did not look into specifics about using it at Millstone.

Reynolds said one of the goals is to determine what kind of closed system would be the most feasible and affordable. But Dominion disputes that.

Dominion spokesman Pete Hyde said the company trying to determine what would be the best way to protect aquatic life and operate the station safely.

Fluke wins Governor's tourney **Asbury Park Press October 10, 2008** **By JOHN H. OSWALD**

A summer flounder landed by Richard Abdill of Delran took top honors at the 17th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament. It was the first time a fluke won the event. Everyone else caught a good time.

It seemed only fitting that the embattled summer flounder, coming off a tough year due to size limits and an abbreviated season, should come out on top at the 17th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament.

That's what happened when Richard Abdill of Delran took top honors with a 21-inch fluke he caught on a whole mullet on Sunday morning at around 10 a.m. at Area 8 at Island Beach State Park.

"I was trying for bluefish with mullet on a mullet rig," said Abdill, who will soon have his name engraved on the Governor's Cup. "You just never know what's going to bite."

The fact that fluke were even eligible for the tournament was unusual in that the season closed nearly a month ago. Approval for the inclusion of summer flounder was obtained from the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission for participants to keep legal-sized fluke on the day of the tournament.

As part of the special agreement, participants were asked to record all fluke catches on a survey form that was provided when they registered.

"We're very happy they're allowing fluke to be part of the tournament this year," said Frank Dara,

chairman of the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament and a director of the NJ Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs.

As for the rest of the tournament, conditions could not have been better.

Clear skies and balmy temperatures welcomed an eager turnout of more than 900 anglers, all vying for the honor of getting their name inscribed on one of the most coveted of New Jersey's trophies.

All that was missing were the fish. Even with all the lines in the water, only 27 fish eligible for the competition were caught. There was no dearth of sea robins, however, as most anglers seemed to have caught at least one.

The lack of fish didn't seem to matter. "It's a great tournament for a good cause," said Bob Jeffrey, who, with his wife, Barb, were visiting from Wisconsin and saltwater fishing for the the first time. "We freshwater fish all the time back home," Barb Jeffrey said. "This is a little different."

The Jeffreys were visiting their son, Chris, his wife, Jessica, and their two children, Marian, 4, and Noah, 8, who live in Princeton.

Chris Jeffrey, who also freshwater fishes, agrees this is different. "For one thing, the body of water is a little larger," he said.

And it is all for a good cause.

To date, the tournament has raised more than \$120,000 for conservation projects and improved beach access, including the purchase of specialized beach wheelchairs that provide access for the elderly and the disabled. Funds also are used for educational programs and displays at the Interpretive Center at IBSP, equipment and material for environmental and fishing education programs and much more.

Above all, it is a great day of fun in the sun and surf.

The event was sponsored by the NJDEP's Division of Fish and Wildlife and Division of Parks and Forstry, the New Jersey State Federation of Sportmen's Clubs, Jersey Coast Anglers Association and the New Jersey Beach Buggy Association.

"Look at all the people," said David Chanda, director, New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife. "And it's not just fishermen. It's kids and families, and that's what this event is all about."

Gordon Edison, Middletown, couldn't agree more. "It's a family thing," he said. "I've been coming for seven or eight years, first with my older son, Christopher, and now, Patrick, who is 14. It's a bonding thing."

Edison grew up in Coney Island and started fishing there. He now fishes in the Belford section of Middletown and Sea Bright.

The tournament also provides for people who don't normally get a chance to fish, an opportunity to surf fish.

Greg Kucharewski, education director for the Jersey Coast Anglers Association, was on the beach before dawn making sure special needs fishermen and women had a clear spot to fish. "We want to encourage people who may not consider fishing, to come here and give it a try. We held a casting demonstration for the New Jersey Outdoors program here (on Saturday) to teach people how to cast," he said.

Kucharewski's daughter, Adrian McCauley, of Brick, who suffers from rheumatoid arthritis, was among those who took advantage of the opportunity to fish.

Special beach chairs, purchased with funds raised by the tournament, also were available for those who needed them, including wounded veterans, cancer patients and the elderly.

On site to help those who might need an assist in getting their line into the ocean was Surf Rocket, a company from Jackson, that has patented a device that shoots a fisherman's line between 600 and 900 feet from the beach using compressed air.

"We've been shooting bait out there all morning for those who need a hand," said Ken Jelnicki, one of the owners of Surf Rocket.

Bait frozen in one of the Surf Rocket molds is inserted into the tube while the line from the fishing rod is attached to a swivel connected to the bait. Then, a switch is flipped and — whooosh — the bait is on its way.

Jelnicki said the Surf Rocket can be used with live and frozen bait as well as plugs and lures, although he did say some live bait doesn't fare too well.

One happy angler who did fare well was Amelia Valdes, 8, Toms River, who took first place in the female child blackfish category. "Everyone told me I was stuck on a rock, but I knew it was a fish," Amelia said. She was fishing with her family and was using green crabs for bait.

"It's really a tremendous event," Kucharewski said. "Everybody works together so well and we've been doing this for 17 years."

Kucharewski especially wanted to acknowledge Tom Fote of the JCAA, who was instrumental in getting the tournament started.

17th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament Winners

Bluefish Category (9 Caught)

Adult (Female)

First Place

Pat Polovina, Silver Beach 18 Inches

Adult (Male)

Third Place

Phil Rosso, Lambertville 18 ½ Inches

Second Place

Frank Fairchild, Westampton 19 Inches

First Place

Michael Clinton, Carlisle, PA 20 1/8 Inches

Blackfish Category (13 Caught)

Child (Female)

Second Place

Kaitlyn Bach (age 11), Toms River 14 1/2 Inches

Overall Child 2nd Place

First Place

Amelia Valdes (age 8), Toms River 20 1/2 Inches

Overall Child 1st Place

Teen (Male)

First Place

Chris Rosetti, Bloomfield 14 7/8 Inches

Overall Teen 1st Place

Adult (Male)

Third Place

Claus Faller, Beachwood 17 Inches

Tiebreaker

Second Place

Larry Margiotta, Theills, NY 17 1/2 Inches

First Place

Zoltan Egyed, Trenton 19 1/2 Inches

Fluke Category (5 Caught)

Adult (Female)

First Place

Maryann Batten, Kenilworth 18 1/2 Inches

Adult (Male)

Third Place

Joe DeMarie, Neptune City 18 1/4Inches

2nd Place

Steven Rudkin, Willow Grove 19 3/4 Inches

First Place

Richard Abdill, Delran 21 Inches

(2008 Governor's Cup Winner)

dogfish. He asked to the meeting the key scientists and all major players who will have an impact on the future of Spiny Dogfish.

The meeting emphasized that not only is there a problem but a pending ecosystem catastrophe. The problem is not only the huge size of the dogfish population but the terrible impact they are having on ALL other managed fisheries. This issue is in need of immediate regulatory and management action.

ASMFC is moving ahead with their proposed 8,000,000 pound yearly dogfish fishery. The problem is immediate action is needed immediately! This was illustrated by the data presented at the meeting which is summarized below:

Spiny Dogfish NMFS data sheet:

Current NMFS Spiny Dogfish population estimates:

Female 155,800 MT

Male 468,000 MT

Total 623,800 MT Total S/D Population

MT converted to Pounds

623,800 MT X 2,200 pounds = 137,236,000 pounds

NMFS data has serious Spiny Dogfish catch ability issues which suggests a much larger biomass.

Estimated S/D food eaten in pounds is 6 times Dogfish weight yearly: Seems low to me! 137,236,000 S/D population in pounds X 6 times body weight food eaten estimate = 823,386,000 pounds food consumed yearly

Scientist's estimate 93% of dogfish food consumed yearly is fish.

823,386,000 S/D lbs food consumed X 93. % is fish=765,748,980 lbs fish consumed year

Current NMFS data states Spiny Dogfish consume over 25% of Fluke and Cod YOY. NMFS Scientists estimate the Spiny Dogfish population doubles every 9 years

or 15,250,000 pounds yearly additional Spiny Dogfish YOY.

NMFS Catchability issues!

NMFS performs trawl surveys in the spring, summer and fall each year. They treat Spiny Dogfish as if they were bottom feeding species like fluke or winter flounder. New satellite tags document that these dogfish spend only 10% of their day on the bottom.

They are clearly a true mid-range species. The current trawl surveys are reporting only part of the total population size.

In addition, the satellite tags found they often move offshore into the 1,000 FATHOM area and feed as far down as 1,800 feet. Any of these species in these areas are never counted by NMFS trawl surveys which end at 100 fathoms. Currently Spiny Dogfish are the most abundant species caught in the NMFS trawl survey by a huge percentage.

**HIGHLY MIGRATORY SPECIES
BY JOHN KOEGLER**

As you all know, Spiny Dogfish have become a huge and increasing difficult problem. I attended an excellent presentation put together by Nils Stolpe on

ASMFC planned 8 million pound proposed directed fishery will not stop YOY increases.

To sacrifice ALL economically far more valuable species to build a larger Spiny Dogfish population is a total violation of the ecosystem management concept or any other fishery management guidelines you desire to apply.

The commercial dogfish fishery must be immediately increased to more than 15 Million pounds per year PLUS an additional major directed harvest of the male dogfish component.

The Atlantic shelf ecosystem will support only so many tons of biomass. You can have an ocean biomass dominated by dogfish or you can have a balanced ecosystem biomass. **You cannot have both.**

The Atlantic Ocean's shelf ecosystem supports only a finite number of biomass tons. The proposed 8 million pound fishery will not even dent the current biomass imbalance. To return S/D to where they are less than 10% of the Atlantic biomass as estimated by NMFS 1980 fishery data you must reduce the current Spiny Dogfish population by more than 80%.

The need for action is immediate but the system is caught in politics and misplaced conservation issues. It must change immediately or all will lose their most desired fisheries.

JCAA Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD NOMINATIONS

There is still time to submit nominations for the JCAA Youth Education Award at the next JCAA meeting. Nominations can also be e-mailed to gkucharews@aol.com.

GOVERNOR'S SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT

Over 300 children received "Hooked On Fishing Not On Drugs" goodie bags for participating at the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife and Jersey Coast Anglers Association's drug awareness activity booth at the Governor's 17th Annual Surf Fishing Tournament. Special thanks go out to my wife Catherine Kucharewski and Eileen Smith for assisting at the Jersey Coast Anglers Association's "Knot Tying" booth. Children received a spool of STREN line for tying an improved clinch knot on a knot tying board. We also thank the many volunteers, judges and sponsors of the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament that make the tournament a great success. This year children and their families had an opportunity to catch Fluke during the tournament. If they caught an eligible Fluke they could release or keep the fish for table fare and win a prize. Judges measured all

fish caught and recorded length and amount of fish caught. All the data was recorded as during the past seventeen years to use as an historical fishing snapshot for the GSFT.

SURF ROCKET

This year we had extra help to cast baits out beyond the sandbar thanks to Ken Jelnicki and Al Harrison. Ken and Al donated their time to assist disabled anglers fishing the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament to cast a line more than 500 feet with the use of their Surf Rocket. The Surf Rocket works with compressed air and shoots frozen prepared baits out past the sandbar to give anglers extra casting distance. The Surf Rocket system worked very well for the physically challenged anglers and gave them the extra edge to get their bait into the strike zone. Maurice Neely III has fished the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament for ten years and always assisted his fishing buddy Clarence with casting and getting him to the waters edge. Due to a pulmonary disorder, Clarence has difficulty walking in the sand and the IBSP beach wheelchairs also assist Clarence with getting him within a safe distance of the surf. This year Clarence had the opportunity of utilizing the Surf Rocket to get his bait in the strike zone. Other disabled anglers also enjoyed the use of the Surf Rocket and had a chance to reel in some fish. They caught mostly Sea Robins but had a chance to reel in a fish. One disabled angler commented that she planned to purchase the Surf Rocket because she had difficulty casting. She mentioned she would not need waders and could fish from the comfort of a beach chair because of the casting distance the Surf Rocket got her line out to where the fish were feeding.

MANASQUAN CHALLENGE NIGHT

I just wanted to mention that the Shore Surf Club managed to win the Manasquan and Shore Surf Club Challenge Night. Morgan Murphy managed to catch a Striped Bass and 33" Bluefish that won the challenge night on October 10, 2008. Captain Morgan is the Shore Surf Club's youngest member and has been known to fish harder than any of our members. When he was five years old he caught me in the seat of my pants and I have the scars to prove it. Morgan worked very hard on the Norma K III as a mate and set his goals to receive his captain's license. He is a dedicated angler and we are very proud of his achievements. He is one of the few youngsters that loves fishing and provides for his family. Morgan, thanks for helping us win the Manasquan Challenge night.

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.

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 _____

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

Ph. # _____

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