

JCAA NEWSPAPER NOVEMBER 2011

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*
(Published on October 17th, 2011)

Monthly Meeting Room Brick Plaza at 270 Chambers Bridge Rd
"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, October 25th, 2011

Starting at 7:30 PM

At Brick Plaza at 270 Chambers Bridge Rd

NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 10th, 2011

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) 929-2591 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
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2011 OFFICERS

President	Eileen Smith	732-899-2681
1st V.P.	Joe Puntasecca	908-913-0551
2nd V.P.	Don Marantz	609-259-6368
Treasurer	Doug Tegeder	732-341-5674
Rec. Sec.	Tom Siciliano	609-296-3774
Cors. Sec.	Paul Turi	609-660-2126
Mem. Sec.	Bruce Smith	732-695-3431

Tournament Dir.

Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page

IMPORTANT DATES

October 25th JCAA General Meeting
November 7th-10th ASMFC Annual Meeting
November 10th JCAA Board Meeting
November 13th JCAA Dinner

2012

January 12th-15th Garden State Sportsmen Show
February 1st-5th AC Boat Show
February 11th NJ's Salt Water Sportsman Magazine's National Seminar
March 16th-18th Saltwater Expo

Sportsperson-of-the-Year Dinner

By Paul Turi, co-chairman

Mark your calendar for **November 13th**, the night of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association annual Sportsperson-of-the-Year Awards Dinner. Now is the time to buy your tickets. It is one of our major JCAA fundraisers. It takes place on Sunday, November 13, 2011 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's and past years' recipients of the 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. As soon as we secure a speaker I will let everyone know in a future issue of our paper.

At our October general membership meeting we will be taking nominations for this year's sportsperson of the year and selling tickets. So, if you or your club would like to nominate someone as this year's honoree, please present a short biography,

no more than 100 words, as to why you or your club feels this person should receive this year's award.

Individual tickets are \$75 each and tables of 10 are \$600, which is a \$150 savings. This gala event will accommodate 300 supporters and friends for a semi-formal sit-down dinner with choice of entrees and cash bar. There will also be a cocktail hour prior to dinner. So get a group together from your club or organization and come to the dinner and have a great time. Don't forget your significant other and treating him or her to an evening to remember at the beautiful Crystal Point Yacht Club. Enjoy an excellent three-course meal, Door Prizes and share stories of fishing and bid on one of the many fantastic theme baskets on display.

This year due to economic conditions it is difficult obtaining donations from the different vendors who have helped us in the past. We are in desperate need of prizes for this year's dinner. We need prizes in value of at least \$25.00 or more. We need door prizes, Chinese auction and silent auction prizes.

Every club and their members patronize different bait and tackle shops up and down the coast. If each club solicited a donation from the shops that their members patronize on a regular basis, I am sure these shops will help us out as many of them have in the past. Jersey Coast doesn't have the manpower to solicit these shops ourselves. It would be greatly appreciated if your club could solicit these different shops for us and obtain a prize.

In addition to fishing & boating equipment, we do need prizes for the many women who are in attendance at the dinner. Many clubs have a women's auxiliary. It would help us out a lot if the women solicited prizes from stores they frequent on a regular basis also.

If you obtain a donation, please make arrangements with either myself or someone from Jersey Coast to have these prizes picked up. We need these prizes well in advance of the November 13th dinner. **I am in desperate need of Chinese Auction prizes. I need prizes from \$50.00 to \$100.00 or more. As an example, I can use a few tackle boxes, filet knives or sets, rod & reel combos of a value of \$100.00 or more, outerwear, etc. I can also use items for the ladies such as cookers, turkey roasters, wine sets, dinnerware sets, etc.**

I can be reached at (609) 660-2126. **Dan Miller** will be co-chairing the event and **tickets** for

the dinner can be obtained by calling Dan at (609) 641-7821.

President's Report

By Eileen Smith

Member clubs should be aware that there is an upcoming vote on Draft Addendum V to Amendment I to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Menhaden. Be sure to have your representative attend the next JCAA meeting to vote on this issue for your club.

Help Wanted

We are still accepting applications for the Fluke Tournament Director Position. If you are interested in meeting great people and running a state-wide tournament, while helping the cause of JCAA, this is for you. Applications can be sent to the JCAA office attention John Toth.

The beautiful Crystal Point Yacht Club in Point Pleasant will be hosting this year's Sportsman-of-the-Year dinner to be held on November 13, 2011. This is a wonderful evening to honor this year's JCAA Sportsman-of-the-Year and hear our keynote speaker talk about issues that are important to all of us. A Chinese auction, door prizes and a silent auction all make for a fun night. Tickets are \$75.00 per person or \$600.00 for a table of ten. Get a table of 10 together and give Dan Miller a call for tickets at (609) 641-7821. **Paul Turi, co-chairman of the event, is in need of prizes for the event. If you or your club can donate something, contact Paul at (609) 660-2126 or email at pturi6@comcast.net.**

Nominations for Sportsman-of-the-Year can be sent to me at eileen-at-the-sea@comcast.net and we will also be accepting nominations from the floor at our next General Membership Meeting on October 25th. A short bio of approximately 100-150 words must accompany the nomination.

We have a number of upcoming shows this winter and we need volunteers to help man the booths on behalf of JCAA. If you are interested in helping out, contact Mark Taylor at (732) 245-9445 or email Mark at MTSPORT64@aol.com.

We also have an election coming up for officers and directors of JCAA. If you are interested in getting involved with JCAA and are interested in

becoming an officer or director, please give me a call at 732-899-2681 or email at eileen-at-the-sea@comcast.net.

The Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament took place on Sunday, October 2nd, at Island Beach State Park. It was a great day and everyone had a great time. For details and winners of the tournament, see the Division of Fish & Wildlife press release below.

**Berkeley Striper Club Nominates
Senator Bob Smith for JCAA
Sportsperson of the Year**

Berkeley Striper Club is proud to nominate Senator Bob Smith for the JCAA Sportsperson of the Year. Senator Smith represents the 17th Legislative District and all the citizens of New Jersey. Having served in the New Jersey State Legislature since 1986, first as a State Assemblyman and in 2002 as State Senator, Bob Smith is considered one of the State's leading environmental lawmakers. Currently, Senator Smith is the Chairman of the Senate Environment and Energy Committee and a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee as well as a member of the State House Commission.

As Chairman of the Senate Environment Committee, Senator Smith has ensured that legislation important to recreational fishing, hunting and environmental communities move efficiently through his committee and to the Senate. He works in a bipartisan manner and is more concerned with getting the job done than in gathering credit for himself or his party. When the Berkeley Striper Club or JCAA have asked his support in posting bills before his committee, he never asks which party is the sponsor. He asks the right questions to gather information about the impact of the legislation on all of the citizens of New Jersey. For the past 3 sessions he has moved the Pots Off the Reef Bill through his committee and onto the Senate for a vote. For 4 sessions he has done the same for Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs legislation. Along with Assemblyman John McKeon, he brings the Senate and Assembly Environment Committees to the shore for hearings on important shore-based issues. He also will bring together people with diverse perspectives to find ways to address environmental issues. He has done

that for Barnegat Bay, on forestry issues and fertilizer concerns.

Senator Smith's legislative accomplishments include the Highlands Preservation Act, Site Remediation Reform (LSRP), Barnegat Bay cleanup, including the most stringent fertilizer law in the United States, the Recycling Enhancement Act, Electronic Waste Management Act, the most recent \$400 million Green Acres Initiative (approved by New Jersey voters in 2009) and a host of legislation stimulating solar and alternative energy in New Jersey.

Senator Bob Smith is a uniquely qualified legislator. Prior to becoming an attorney in private practice, Senator Smith was a Professor of Chemistry and Environmental Science at Middlesex County College. He holds Master's degrees in Chemistry from the University of Scranton and Environmental Science from Rutgers University, as well as a J.D. in law from Seton Hall University.

He and his wife Ellen live and work in Piscataway Township. They are parents to two grown daughters and are proud grandparents of seven grandchildren. Senator Smith owns a home at the shore and is now teaching his grandchildren to be stewards of the environment through fishing and other outdoor activities.

We all spend a good deal of time complaining about gridlock and partisan politics. It is refreshing and reaffirms our faith in the political process to find someone of the caliber of Senator Smith. Berkeley Striper Club is proud to nominate Senator Bob Smith as JCAA Sportsperson of the Year.

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Fisheries Management & Legislative Report

By Thomas Fote

Menhaden

The NJ Menhaden Hearing took place in Toms River. Those in attendance represented recreational anglers and the menhaden bait industry. I was not surprised to hear that the recreational sector wanted to move ahead with the amendments and see cutbacks on the reduction fishery. The commercial bait fishery, fearing any changes that would affect them, supported status quo. It will be interesting to learn what took place at the other state hearings. You can go to the <http://www.asmfc.org/> and click on the heading Breaking News to read Draft Addendum V to Amendment I to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Menhaden. You can go to the last two last month's JCAA Newspaper on the web to see some other newspaper articles and my articles about the amendment. The ASMFC will accept public comment until **5PM (EST) on November 2, 2011.**

Striped Bass

I have not seen the technical committee report but, from what I have been told, it will not suggest any changes. This will not make some people happy, especially the people in Maine, New Hampshire and other northern jurisdictions. The recreational fishing industry is going through tough times in New Jersey and other states. The failure of the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council and the National Marine Fisheries Service to address the rebuilt stocks of summer flounder, scup and black sea bass creates low quotas and unnecessary closures. This leaves little to fish for in large parts of the season along the coast. The only fishery open year round is striped bass. This places considerable pressure on the striped bass stocks. When the striped bass fishery reopened there were many anglers who did catch and release. The people who fished for dinner targeted black sea bass, summer flounder and scup. It was not long ago that 40% of the directed trips in New Jersey were for summer flounder. That is no longer true. Even when the season is open, anglers have to catch 30 – 40 summer flounder fish to have one to take home to eat because of

unnecessary large size limits. This drives them to direct their attention to other species like striped bass. This is what happens where you do single species management. Every change in one species has a consequence on another. This is one of the reasons why I will not support unnecessary changes unless the stock assessment proves the changes are necessary and considers the impact on other species and on the industries that depend on them. We need to consider the economic impact in every decision.

Pots Off the Reefs

Since I wrote the articles below the only thing that has changed is that there are now 50 co-sponsors in the Assembly for the Pots Off the Reef Bills, A1152/S221. We need to keep the pressure on since we want this passed in the Lame Duck Session. I just updated these Pots Off the Reef Articles.

Further Complications for the Artificial Reef Bill

The status of the artificial reef program is the commercial pots are still on the reefs. The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife cannot use Wallop-Breaux funding because the commercial pots deny recreational access to the reefs. The legislation to remove the pots has passed the Senate and is being held up in the Assembly. Assemblyman Albano invited the RFA, Garden State Seafood and NJOA to a meeting in Trenton to find a compromise that will allow the Division of Fish and Wildlife to fund the artificial reef program while still allowing fish pots on the artificial reefs. JCAA sees this as another delaying tactic. We have always been clear that the only way to resolve the issue and make any legislation enforceable is to totally remove the pots from the artificial reefs. That is the only position that JCAA, the NJOA, Reef Rescue and NJ State Federation of Sportsmens Club and our member organizations have ever taken. For 6 years other interests have been looking for a compromise that would allow the pots to continue on the reefs. We have been steadfast in our refusal to consider any compromise that does not totally remove the pots from the artificial reefs. This is what our members have voted on and I don't imagine their vote will ever change. Assemblyman Albano understands how to satisfy the US Fish and Wildlife Service and return the use of Wallop-Breaux money. All he needs to do is to move the existing legislation that has already passed the Senate to the Assembly for a vote. As of October 16, this legislation is co-

sponsored by 50 of members of the Assembly, both Democrats and Republicans. He and Speaker Oliver need to listen to the 50 co-sponsors and get this bill to the Assembly floor for a vote. You need to contact Assemblyman Albano and Speaker Oliver immediately. See the information below in the NJOA report listing the co-sponsors and telling you how to contact them through NJOA web page.. You need to contact the Assembly members who are not co-sponsors. Again, see below.

Please contact Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver to get this bill moving. Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver has the power to tell Assemblyman Nelson Albano to post the bill in the Assembly Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee for a vote. Please contact her and let her know that you want her to tell Assemblyman Nelson Albano to post this bill for a vote in his committee or move the bill to another committee. Then we want Speaker Oliver to post it for a full vote in the Assembly. Tell her that the Senate has shown the way and we will be judging the Assembly on its action on this bill. This bill contains no compromise and should not be amended. There are currently 50 co-sponsors for the present bill in the Assembly. Below is a letter that JCAA is sending to Speaker Oliver and all New Jersey Assemblymen/women. It is crucial that you write Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver and your own Assemblymen and women immediately. All Assemblymen and women need to hear from everyone. Please use the letter below to Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver and the cover letter to your assemblymen/women as a guide in creating your own letter.

To find the appropriate addresses, go to <http://www.njleg.state.nj.us/>. You can find the names and addresses of your legislators. You can also check their votes on important legislation. JCAA, Reef Rescue and other member organizations will keep you posted. For more information go to Pots off the Reefs at <http://www.njreefrescue.com/> or at <http://www.jcaa.org/> newspaper archives.

Letter to Assembly Speaker Sheila Oliver

Dear Speaker Sheila Oliver:

JCAA is writing to request your support for Assembly and Senate Bills A1152/S221 which prohibits the use of traps on artificial reefs. This legislation has 50 co-sponsors in the Assembly. You need to tell Assemblyman Nelson Albano to post this

bill for a vote in his committee or move the bill to another committee. Then we want you to post it for a full vote in the Assembly. We will not accept any compromises or amendments to this bill. This bill was passed by the full Senate on Monday, March 21st by a vote of 31 yes and 4 no. Now is the time for the Assembly to pass this legislation. JCAA wants this legislation passed before the end of this year. JCAA and the fishing clubs throughout New Jersey will be watching your actions on this matter and we will be judging you and the Assembly on its action or inaction. Our members and 800,000 New Jersey anglers are in support of this issue. Your action will matter to us in the upcoming election.

New Jersey's artificial reef system is one of the nation's most successful reef building programs. Though it occupied just 0.3 percent of the sea floor off New Jersey's coast, a 2000 study by the state's Division of Fish and Wildlife revealed that 20 percent of New Jersey's recreationally landed fish come from the state's 15 reefs. As more and more severe fisheries restrictions are placed on the more than 800,000 New Jersey anglers and the more than 500,000 out-of-state anglers who fish New Jersey's waters, the reef sites have become even more important to the state's recreational anglers. In the case of summer flounder, aka fluke, the reefs are the best opportunity for most recreational anglers who target fluke to catch one that meets the new minimum size of 18 inches.

This fishing effort provides a tremendous trickle-down economic effect in both shore and inland communities, as these anglers support marinas, boat liveries, bait and tackle stores, fuel stations, restaurants, convenience stores, sporting goods stores, toll highways, hotels/motels, real estate rentals, etc. These considerations add \$4 billion to New Jersey's economy, \$150,000 in sales taxes, and provide for 37,000 jobs.

At issue here is the very legality of the use of traps on the artificial reef sites. According to the state-approved 2005 Artificial Reef Plan, the intent of the reef sites is for "hook-and-line" angling activities. Continuing to allow fixed gear on the reefs is in complete disregard for this Department of Environmental Protection-approved measure.

Furthermore, the continually increasing use of fixed gear for commercial fishing purposes on New Jersey's reef system may directly violate federal law. For more than 20 years, the administration of the reef program has been funded

by Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish (Wallop-Breaux) Restoration Funds. These funds are derived from an excise tax on recreational fishing purchases, and as a “user pay, user benefit” program, federal law requires that these funds be used to benefit recreational fisheries. Under 50 CRF 80.14 and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Federal Assistance Toolkit, Part 521, Section 2.9 lists ineligible activities for the use of these funds, with paragraph C specifically disallowing their use for “*Providing services or property of material value to individuals or groups for commercial purposes or to benefit such individuals or groups.*” Violation of these rules is subject to repayment of funds.

The majority of states that have artificial reef programs, including New York, Virginia, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida, have identified traps as incompatible with their reef programs and no longer allow traps on their reefs. Furthermore, this action has been supported federally by classifying reefs in federal waters for a number of those states as Special Management Zones (SMZs), restricting the use of traps on those sites.

The issues are clear and the precedent has been set: Traps are not compatible with the purpose or the laws governing New Jersey’s artificial reefs. JCAA looks forward to your support in enforcing this mandate and voting for Bill S221 and A1152. If you have any questions, please contact our legislative chairman, Tom Fote, at 732-270-9102 or tfote@jcaa.org.

Sincerely,
YOUR NAME

Letter to your Assemblyman/woman

Dear _____ (Your Assemblyman or woman):

We are asking for to join 50 of your colleagues and co-sponsor A1152 without amendments. The attached letter to Assembly Speaker Oliver states the reasons this bill is crucial to the recreational fishing community. We are asking you to let Speaker Oliver know that you support this legislation and want it voted on in the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee or moved to another committee. Then you want Speaker Oliver to post it for a vote by the entire Assembly. We are asking you to also contact Assemblyman Albano, Chairman of the Agriculture and Natural Resources Committee to request his

immediate action to post this bill. Jersey Coast Anglers Association, our member clubs and the 800,000 recreational anglers want this legislation passed before the summer recess. Since the Senate has passed this bill in three sessions and the Assembly has refused to post this bill for a vote, we clearly know that the problem is in the Assembly. We will be watching and hold you accountable for your action or inaction.

Sincerely,
YOUR NAME

**Artificial Reefs Part 2:
The Governor and DEP**

At this time, we need for Governor Christie to become involved in the artificial reef program. During the campaign, the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance hosted a meeting with candidate Christie. At that time we asked for his support for removing the pots from the artificial reefs. He made a commitment to us to resolve this issue and protect the funding for the reefs. Governor Christie will either sign the legislation if it ever reaches his desk or he has the power to create an executive order that will remove the pots. There are a block of regulations that were developed by DEP in 2007. None of these regulations have been implemented. The Governor could finally request the implementation of all of these regulations including the ones that would get the pots off the reefs. The former Governor and Commissioner supported removing the pots. It is now up to Governor Christie and Commissioner Martin to make their commitment a reality. The Governor has options. We don’t care which option he chooses as long as the pots are removed from the reefs. We have the most powerful Governor in the nation. Time for action! Governor Christie does not need to wait for the Assembly. Please contact the Governor’s Office and ask for his immediate action to remove the pots off the reefs and insure the Wallop-Breaux funding will be available for the artificial reefs.

Foundations Funding Fisheries

Last month I discussed my disappointment at grants funded by Walmart, PEW, Dodge and other foundations. Some of these grants focus on restricting the ability of fishermen to fish but never get to the underlying problems. They punish the

people who are sometimes the least cause of the problem and ignore the factors that have the greater impact. When we look at the source of funding that provided their original money, we sometimes see that the big polluters are where the big funders got their money. I looked at Walmart's quote, *"Within the Marine Conservation initiative the foundation also works to create economic incentives for ocean conservation. The foundation supports projects that reverse the incentives to fish unsustainably that exist in "open access fisheries" by creating catch share programs. In addition, the foundation's grantees work with major seafood buyers to encourage improvements in fisheries sustainability through partnerships with fishermen and by encouraging fisheries to apply for certification by the Marine Stewardship Council."* It truly disappoints me that they never mention the recreational anglers who spend their money at Walmart, buying more than just tackle. The quality of life issue is completely ignored by any of these foundations. Recreational fishing is part of the outdoor experience. Families take their children camping, boating, fishing, hiking or just enjoying nature. In a time when our children are more sedentary and we worry about their tech time, getting families into the outdoors should be a priority. I fell in love with the outdoors through fishing and that has driven many of my decisions to become involved with fisheries management and environmental issues. There will not be another generation of children interested in being stewards of the environment if they never spend any time outdoors.

With the extreme cutbacks that the states and the federal government are making in money spent on parks, fisheries research and personnel, it is even more crucial that the foundations spend their money wisely in support of building this new generation of children who love the outdoors. They also need to fund the research that government at all levels is failing to do. We need proper stock assessments and basic science to manage stocks appropriately, not just cut or close fisheries.

Another area for funding is research into the impact of endocrine disruptors. There is money available for climate change because that is in the public eye. We see the evidence in storms and a rise in sea levels. But endocrine disruptors are already quietly having a huge negative impact on all species, not just fish. Because this issue is receiving less attention, it is a less glamorous, headline grabbing

thing to fund. But the long-term impact can be even more damaging.

The people who write grants are sophisticated enough to know where the money is and to target their grant writing to the current hot topic. Personally, I have seen scientists tailor their proposals to what they think will sell rather than what they know is important. In the academic world funding is big business. Tenure and salaries are tied to getting and keeping grant money.

Let me restate their point. The foundations need a larger vision. They need to stop grabbing attention and headlines by funding the "latest thing" or the "image builder" and look at the bigger picture and fund for the long term.

ASMFC Meeting Week

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission will meet in Boston November 6 – 10. The agenda is below. The agenda is full and many important subjects are included. You can periodically check the ASMFC webpage since the agenda may change. The fisheries management plans that will be up for discussion can be found under "Breaking News". If you read these documents and send your commissioners your comments, you can be represented at the meeting. You must read the plans first and comment directly on the proposals that are under consideration. Sometimes I get emails from people who have not done their homework. While their comments may be valid and I am pleased they have taken the time to contact me, we can only work with the plans that are listed for consideration at a specific meeting. It is important that your comments focus directly and specifically on the options listed in the plans.

**ASMFC 70th Annual Meeting
Preliminary Agenda for the Commission's
70th Annual Meeting in Boston,
Massachusetts
November 6 - 10, 2011**

Langham Hotel
250 Franklin Street
Boston, MA
Phone: 617.451.1992

The agenda may also be viewed at
<http://www.asmf.org/70thAnnualMeeting.htm>

Preliminary Agenda

The preliminary agenda is subject to change. The agenda reflects the current estimate of time required for scheduled Board meetings. The Commission may adjust this agenda in accordance with the actual duration of Board meetings. Interested parties should anticipate Boards starting earlier or later than indicated herein.

Sunday, November 6, 2011

2:00 – 5:30 PM Registration
6:00 – 7:00 PM Welcome Reception

Monday, November 7, 2011

7:00 AM – 1:00 PM Registration
8:00 – 10:30 AM Atlantic Herring Section
10:45 AM – 12:30 PM American Lobster Management Board
1:00 – 5:00 PM Law Enforcement Committee
1:00 – 5:00 PM Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership Steering Committee
1:45 – 3:00 PM American Lobster Management Board (continued)
2:30 – 4:00 PM Registration
3:15 – 5:30 PM Meeting with Massachusetts Marine Fisheries Advisory Commission
6:00 – 9:00 PM Reception at UMASS Club

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

7:00 AM – 1:00 PM Registration
8:00 – 10:00 AM Law Enforcement Committee (continued)
8:00 – 11:00 AM Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board
8:00 AM - Noon Atlantic Coastal Fish Habitat Partnership Steering Committee (continued)
11:00 AM – 1:00 PM Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council
11:15 AM – 1:00 PM Legislators/Governors Appointees Luncheon
12:30 – 5:30 PM Management and Science Committee
1:15 – 3:15 PM Tautog Management Board
2:30 – 4:00 PM Registration
3:30 – 5:30 PM Action Plan Workshop
6:00 – 9:00 PM Dinner on Odyssey

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

8:00 – 9:30 AM & Horseshoe Crab Management Board
8:00 AM – Noon NEAMAP Board
8:30 AM – Noon Habitat Committee
9:45 – 10:45 AM South Atlantic State/Federal Fisheries Management Board
10:30 AM – 12:30 PM Registration
11:00 AM – 12:15 PM Atlantic Menhaden Management Board
12:30 – 1:30 PM Captain David H. Hart Award Luncheon
1:45 – 3:00 PM Atlantic Menhaden Management Board (continued)
3:15 – 3:45 PM Business Session
3:45 – 6:15 PM ISFMP Policy Board

Thursday, November 10, 2011

7:00 – 8:30 AM Executive Committee
8:45 – 10:45 AM Shad & River Herring Management Board
11:00 AM – 12:30 PM Winter Flounder Management Board
12:30 – 1:00 PM Buffet Lunch for Commissioners and Proxies
1:00 – 3:30 PM ; Spiny Dogfish and Coastal Sharks Management Board
3:45 – 4:15 PM ISFMP Policy Board (continued)
4:15 – 4:45 PM Business Session (continued)

New JCAA Fluke Tournament Director Position Open

The JCAA is seeking a person who will manage its JCAA Fluke Tournament in 2012. This person in this position will promote the tournament with press releases, interacting with tournament sponsors to obtain prizes and recognition in promotional materials, handle promotional mailings to anglers concerning the tournament, distribute promotional material to tackle shops and port locations, enter tournament applicants in the JCAA's data base and be responsible for the overall management of the tournament for its successful result. This position requires the following skills:

- Effective writing skills
- Computer expertise skills with Microsoft Office
- Good verbal skills
- Experience dealing with the public
- Ability to be a self-starter to complete tasks.
- Organizational abilities to prioritize tasks
- Prior experience in managing an event is desirable

The JCAA Fluke tournament will take place in June of 2012. This position **requires** the applicant to work part time starting November 1st and attend Board and General meetings. Starting in April the position becomes almost full time. It becomes full time throughout the month of May 2012 and part of June up to the Awards Ceremony in the Golden Nugget in Atlantic City on June 15th. (Salary ranges from \$3,000 up to \$5,000 with possible bonuses dependent on the Tournament Director's ability to increase the number of anglers entering the tournament.)

The JCAA is now accepting resumes for this position. All resumes should be sent to JCAA Board member John Toth by November 1, 2011 at the following address or at his email: tothjohn@verizon.net.

John Toth
24 Kings Mill Road
Monroe Township, NJ 08831

New Jersey Outdoor Alliance Report *By John Toth*

On behalf of the JCAA, I attended a September 26th meeting of the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA) and the following issues were discussed.

NJOA Board member Jerry Natale gave a report on the NJ Outdoor Exposition that was held in Colliers Mills State Park on September 17th & 18th. This show is sponsored by NJ's Division of Fish & Wildlife to show New Jersey's residents the many fishing (fresh & salt) and hunting opportunities that our state has for its residents and guests. There were numerous booths that people could go to learn about

hunting, fishing, environmental issues, and other exhibits that showed blacksmiths and women spinning wool in colonial era attire. Members of the JCAA worked at the NJOA booth to answer questions that people had on fishing issues. Approximately, 4,000 to 5,000 people attended this event that was coupled with beautiful weather.

Tom Fote reported that he and NJOA Executive Chairman Anthony Mauro met recently with DEP Commissioner Robert Martin to talk about a number of issues affecting hunters and anglers including the Pots Off the Reef legislation. Another important issue that was raised was the ongoing lack of funding for the Division of Fish & Wildlife. Tom also commented that Commissioner Martin would get back to both him and Anthony Mauro on the issues that were raised at this meeting.

Tom Fote also reported that he had a discussion with Assemblyman Benson about dedicated funding for various programs and the concern that these funds, even though they had dedicated status, could be raided in the future to raise money for possible budgetary shortfalls. Assemblyman Benson indicated that specific legislation could be inserted in the dedicated funds so that these funds could not be touched in future discussions concerning the development of state budgets or other state programs. There has always been concern about the security of possible dedicated funds for future fishing and hunting issues. This legal maneuver may be the way to resolve this issue.

Discussion turned to issue of menhaden stocks and their ongoing decline. Menhaden stocks are so important as a forage fish for a variety of species and the stocks are being depleted for a variety of reasons, especially the Omega industry based in Virginia, NJOA members were encouraged to voice their concern about this issue at a September 29th hearing in Toms River held by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission concerning Draft Addendum V that may place restrictions on the amount of menhaden that can be harvested.

A Beautiful Fall Day Greet Anglers at the 20th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament

Division of Fish & Wildlife – Press Release

More than 700 anglers celebrated the 20th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament on Sunday, October 2 at Island Beach State Park. The

beautiful fall day added to the enthusiasm as anglers reeled in sixty-seven eligible fish in the kingfish, blackfish, bluefish and striped bass categories.

NJ Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bob Martin was on site to greet tournament participants and to take part in the awards ceremony. Michael Nightingale of East Windsor, NJ took the grand prize and NJ Governor's Cup by catching a 33 3/8" striped bass. Mr. Nightingale received two rod and reel combinations, a plaque, and will have his name engraved on the Governor's Cup, which is permanently on display at Island Beach State Park.

In addition to the grand prize, twenty-two anglers received rod and reel combos for their prize-winning fish in the various species categories. Everyone who registered for the tournament was also entered into a raffle drawing, which was held prior to the awards ceremony. Pre-registrant entrants were entered into a raffle to win a Surf Rocket, which is a specially designed compressed air casting cannon. This year Sherman Chin won the surf rocket.

Overall fish length determined the grand prize winner, as well as place winners for each of the species categories. There were categories for children, teen and adult anglers, including sub-categories for male and female anglers.

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

More than \$130,000 has been raised since the inception of the tournament for conservation and education projects and improved beach access.

A complete list of winners follows:

Kingfish Category

Child (Female)

First Place * Tiffany Bates, Jackson, 10 3/4"

Teen (Female)

Second Place * Lindsey Nordaby, Mays Landing, 10 1/2"

First Place * Kimberly Mazar, Brick, 12"

Teen (Male)

Second Place * Billy Bates, Jackson, 10 3/4"

First Place * Nathan Hagaman, Egg Harbor City, 11"

Adult (Female)

First Place * Kaitlin Mazar, Brick, 13"

Adult (Male)

Third Place * Jared Talarico, Sicklerville, 14 3/8"
Second Place * Penrose Hallowell, Ottsville, PA 14 3/4"

First Place * Abel Paroski, Elizabeth, 15"

Blackfish Category

Teen (Female)

First Place * Kaitlyn Bach, Toms River, 14"

Teen (Male)

First Place * Justin Subramanian, Pennington, 17 1/4"

Adult (Male)

Third Place * Zoltan Egyed, Trenton, 18"

Second Place * Robert Campi, Flemington, 19"

First Place * Russ Knapp, Middlesex, 20"

Bluefish Category

Teen (Female)

First Place * Peyton Waters, Robbinsville, 16 3/4"

Teen (Male)

First Place * Vincent Altamari, Tabernacle, 21 1/2"

Adult (Female)

Second Place * Amanda Caskey, Harrisonburg, VA 15"

First Place * Janet Stone, Succasunna, 20"

Adult (Male)

Third Place * Andrew Ciok, Seaside Park, 19" caught at 9:00 am

Second Place * Marcio Broday. Elizabeth, 19" caught at 7:30 am

First Place * Joe Ccenteri, Columbus, 23 1/8"

Striped Bass Category

Adult (Male)

Second Place * Patrick Mickles, Maple Shade, 32 1/4"

First Place and 2011 Governor's Cup Winner *
Michael Nightingale, East Windsor: 33 3/8" Striped Bass

Electronic Press Releases, Alerts and the JCAA Newspaper By Joseph Puntasecca

We recently upgraded our e-mail alerts, press releases and monthly e-mailing of the *JCAA Newspaper*. You may have noticed a new look and feel to the last few *Press Releases* and *Alerts* we sent

out. If you don't already receive our monthly newspaper electronically or you don't receive our *Press Releases* and *Alerts*, you can sign up to receive them at www.jcaa.org. Just click on the *subscribe* link near the top of the page.

On the *Registration* screen just enter your e-mail address. The system will ask you to confirm your e-mail address and you can then select your areas of interest. You can select to receive our monthly newspaper electronically or to receive press releases or notices on environmental issues. We will also be updating our alert categories in the future and will notify you via e-mail and in the monthly newspaper.

You don't have to worry about spam, the contact information you submit to us is secure and is never sold or shared, and if you so choose you can opt-out at any time.

EPIRBs and You

By John Koegler

EPIRB units are designed to provide quick rescue assistance in cases of a disaster. Last year Congress added a paragraph to the US Coast Guard funding bill that gave the agency the new authority to require that all boats traveling offshore carry EPIRBs and/or Personal Locator Beacons.

A big issue is their definition of offshore. Their boundary line is three miles off the shore. Once you leave state waters you are offshore as far as they are concerned. This means any boat fishing at all but two NJ artificial reefs are offshore!

The USCG and others always inflate the costs of these search and rescue events to absurd numbers. They never consider that their personnel are on the payroll anyway. The fixed cost of the equipment is also there, even if not being used. So they are double counting their two most expensive costs.

EPIRBs transmit two different signals. One signal is to the earth satellite system. The second signal is a homing transmission so that rescue units can quickly find your beacon unit. EPIRBs are activated two ways; one is manually when you flip the switch and, two, if the unit hits the water it is automatically activated. Some newer units have their own internal GPS which is sent to the satellite system for an exact location. GPS units cost about

\$100 additional but it sharply reduces your rescue time. The exact same EPIRB system is used world wide.

These units have a stated useful life of 5 years. Their special lithium batteries will operate for over 10 years if you take care of them. Worldwide these units save many lives. Most nations have no organization like the USCG. How many additional lives would be saved in US waters is believed to be few.

Busy offshore areas like the US canyon areas have other boats in them most of the offshore fishing season between June 1 and October 1. In these areas Sea Tow is the primary responder for most boating emergencies. The USCG responds only when a life is threatened.

Standard EPIRBs weigh a pound and retail for \$700 to \$800 each. Newer EPIRBs are both smaller and cheaper. ACR Electronics has a new unit called ResQLink. It is only 4 inches long and weighs just 4.6 ounces. Their retail list price is \$325.

An alternative unit is called Spot. This gives you a limited message capacity of 40 letters plus rescue capability but they charge a yearly fee of \$99. Regular EPIRBs have no annual fee. As prices of all these units continue to fall, it will be difficult to justify not owning one. Your life is worth many times \$325. Saving your boat, engines and equipment makes not owning an EPIRB system impossible to justify.

2011 Fishery Science Improvement Act Fact Sheet

by ASA, IGFA, TBF, CCA,
CSC, NMMA, CCC

The 2011 Fishery Science Improvement Act (FSIA), H.R. 2304, enables the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) to manage marine fisheries based on sound science. Scientific management should be the cornerstone of fisheries management at NOAA. However, the agency has felt compelled by statutory deadlines to make major fishery management decisions using inadequate data and incomplete analysis. NOAA Fisheries is simply making guesses in many cases when setting catch limits and in determining other

management parameters, and guesswork should have no place in federal fisheries management.

The bi-partisan legislation, introduced by Rep. Rob Wittman (R-VA), is endorsed by the Congressional Sportsmen's Caucus as well as a broad coalition of conservation, sportfishing and marine industry groups. Original co-sponsors of H.R. 2304 include Rep. Wittman's colleagues Reps. Mike Ross (D-AR); Jeff Miller (R-FL); Heath Shuler (D-NC); Bob Latta (R-OH); Jo Bonner (R-AL.); Dan Boren (D-OK); Charles Boustany (R-LA); Bill Cassidy (R-LA); Jeff Duncan (R-SC); John Fleming (R-LA); Frank Guinta (R-NH); Andy Harris (R-MD); Martin Heinrich (D-NM); Duncan Hunter (R-CA); Jeff Landry (R-LA); Scott Rigell (R-VA); and Steve Southerland (R-FL).

As amended in 2006, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA) requires Regional Fishery Management Councils to put in place annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs) for every fishery by December 31, 2011. NOAA has interpreted this requirement to apply to every stock of fish under management, leaving Councils with the conundrum of either deleting stocks from management or applying highly restrictive ACLs based on very poor – or in some cases non-existent – data. NOAA presently has about 528 stocks or complexes of fish under management. But they do not have updated stock assessment data on even half of them.

The Fishery Science Improvement Act removes the requirement to implement annual catch limits and accountability measures on stocks for which there is inadequate data and no evidence of overfishing. The legislation has three key areas which allow NOAA Fisheries to better conform to the intent of the 2006 reauthorization of Magnuson Stevens: ending overfishing based on sound scientific management.

Scientific Stock Assessments

The legislation directs NOAA Fisheries to set annual catch limits (ACLs) and accountability measures (AMs) only on those stocks of fish for which they have up-to-date scientific information to inform that decision. The two conditions exempting a fishery from the ACL requirements are: 1) the lack of a stock assessment in the prior five years and 2) the absence of any indication that overfishing is occurring. Under the agency's interpretation of current law, it is planning to establish ACLs on **all**

stocks under management whether or not any information exists on the health of the stock. FSIA ensures the agency can manage to the science they have.

Ecosystem Stocks

FSIA transitions NOAA Fisheries and the Regional Fishery Management Councils to a science-based fishery management framework. With so many stocks of fish lacking sound scientific data, the agency is currently forced to either remove individual stocks from management or move only selected stocks to an administratively created ecosystem management category. This bill authorizes the Administration's informal guidance and broadens the criteria for the designation of a stock's inclusion in the ecosystem category.

Extension of Deadline for Non-overfished Stocks

NOAA Fisheries is preparing to set ACLs and AMs for some 550 stocks of fish to meet the deadline of December 31, 2011. FSIA extends the 2011 deadline to 2014 for stocks of fish that are not overfished and allows the agency to implement the Act.

Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

GSFT GREAT SUCCESS

The 20th Annual Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament (GSFT) was a great success. The JCAA Youth Education Committee assisted with teaching youngsters distance casting on the beach, how to set up a bait rig and surf fishing bag. We had several children participate at our "Catch A Fish" booth and they received "Hooked On Fishing Not On Drugs" stickers and prizes for catching plastic fish in our JCAA cement pond. We thank the many volunteers, judges and sponsors of the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament that make the tournament a great success.

2011 JCAA YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD

There is still time to submit nominations for the JCAA Youth Education Award. It takes the support of many volunteers to bring successes to the fishing community but sometimes individuals and

sport-fishing organizations go above and beyond to make the future of fishing better for our youngsters. The JCAA Youth Education Committee is accepting nominations for the 2011 Youth Education Award. All nominations will be reviewed for the following criteria: Promoting "Hooked On Fishing Not On Drugs (HOFNOD)," Certified HOFNOD instructors, number of fishing or aquatic education events, materials used from the JCAA lending library, and creativity for promoting youth fishing events. Please submit your nominations by October 25, 2011. Submit your nominations in writing to the JCAA Youth Education Committee, gkucharews@aol.com and place HOFNOD in the subject line. The JCAA Youth Education Award will be presented at the JCAA Sportsman-of-the-Year Awards Ceremony on Sunday, November 13, 2011 from 4:00-9:00 p.m. at Crystal Point Yacht Club, RT. 70 & River Rd, Point Pleasant, NJ.

254th REGIMENT SOLDIERS ASSOCIATION SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT

New Jersey Beach Buggy Association is proud to be helping the 254th Regiment with their 1st Surf Fishing Tournament open to everybody. Location: Sea Girt, NJ. Date: October 23, 2011. Registration: 0500 – 0600 hours. Tournament starts at 0600 and ends at 1400 hours. Cost of tournament will be \$20.00 and they project to have 150-200 anglers. There is a youth category for \$10.00. So bring the kids and enjoy this family event. The surf fishing tournament will be at no cost to the 254th Soldiers Association, state, or the 254th Regiment. Keep in mind there will be no fishing from the jetty. For more information please visit:

http://www.njbba.org/docs/1st_Annual_254th_Regiment.pdf

HOFNOD TRAINING & TRAVEL OPPORTUNITY

Press Release:

The Future Fisherman Foundation and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission have announced a regional training seminar for all parties interested in aquatic education training. The site of this year's event will be Camp Ocala, located at 18533 NFS 535 Altoona, Fl. 32702. This seminar is open to not only teachers from around the state but also 4H leaders, Boy/Girls Scout leaders, FFA personnel and anyone interested in getting students

involved with aquatic education. Learning the principles of such successful programs as Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs will be the focus of this two-day seminar. "The intent of this seminar is to give everyone a good working knowledge of aquatic education and instill confidence in them to train others in their respective organizations," F3 Executive Director, Mark Gintert, commented. "We also intend to show them a host of other available resources and the 'next steps' for their programs once they get established." Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission will also be participating in this event, which will cover a wide variety of topics including biology, habitat, conservation, equipment operation and life skills. "The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission is always interested in finding ways to reach out to, not only schools, but other organizations who deal directly with students across the state," commented the FWC's Angler and Aquatic Education Coordinator, Steve Marshall. "This event will bring together a diverse group who share the same goals of getting students involved with the great outdoors and learning to be stewards of Florida's aquatic environments," echoed Marshall, who will also help lead the seminar. A travel stipend is available for participants through a Recreational Boating and Fishing Foundation (RBFF) grant making the cost minimal. Visit www.futurefisherman.org for more information.

Share Your Fun Take Someone New Fishing