

JCAA NEWSPAPER JULY 2015

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*
(Published on June 23rd, 2015)

Monthly Meeting at Jersey Coast Shark Anglers, 385 Herbertsville Road, Brick
"WORKING FOR MARINE RECREATIONAL ANGLERS"

JCAA REGULAR MEETING:

Tuesday, June 30th, 2015

Starting at 7:30 PM

AT THE JCAA OFFICE

NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING

Thursday, July 9th, 2015

Starting at 7:30 PM at JCAA Office

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.

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

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

JCAA Newspaper Publisher Tom Fote

JCAA Newspaper Editor Paul Turi

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.

Anyone wishing to reproduce any part of this newsletter has the permission of the JCAA and the authors. Wherever possible, please credit the JCAA Newsletter as your information source.

~~~~~  
**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 908-913-0551 or Tom Fote at (732) 270-9102 before the meeting date to ask permission.**  
~~~~~

2015 OFFICERS

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| President | Paul Haertel | 973-943-8201 |
| 1st V.P. | Mark Taylor | 732-245-9445 |
| 2nd V.P. | Ken Warchal | 908-715-0791 |
| Treasurer | Doug Tegeder | 732-575-2661 |
| Rec. Sec. | Tom Siciliano | 609-296-3774 |
| Cors. Sec. | Mary McElroy | 732-773-9210 |
| Mem. Sec. | John Toth | 732-656-0139 |
| Tournament Dir. | Paul Turi | 609-660-2126 |

Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page

IMPORTANT DATES

June 30th JCAA General Meeting and vote on JCAA Sportsmen of the Year

July 9th JCAA Board Meeting

July 20th Last day to qualify for the \$25,000 Big Fluke Prize in the JCAA Tournament

August 1st JCAA Fluke Tournament

August 4th-6th ASMFC Summer Meeting Week (VA)

August 10th-13th MAFMC Meeting (NYC)

August 12th Awards Ceremony for JCAA Fluke Tournament

August 13th JCAA Board Meeting

No JCAA General meetings in July and August

JCAA 21st Annual Fluke Tournament

By Paul Turi, Tournament Director

Well, it's starting to get busy in the office now that we are getting closer to the tournament. Entries are starting to come in on a steady basis. As you know, the tournament is Saturday, August 1st and if you enter by July 20th you qualify for the \$25,000 Big Fluke Prize. Catch the largest fluke over 12lbs by at least 1/100 of a pound and you will win the \$25,000 prize. We've had some 14 pounders weighed in in the past. In last year's tournament we had some 11 plus pounders weighed in. I know there has already been a 14 pounder caught so it is not impossible to do. Also don't forget the calcuttas that we put in this year. We have a \$50.00 and \$100.00 calcutta for each port and we have a \$50.00 and \$100.00 calcutta for the overall tournament. Some guys are joining all four calcuttas. The cost for that if you total up the entry fee and all four calcuttas is \$425.00. Remember, we will pay out 7/8ths of the money to each calcutta category. JCAA will retain 1/8th of the

money to help us fund our expenses of running our office and other expenses for what we do on behalf of recreational fishermen.

The Tournament this year will be held on Saturday, August 1st and our awards presentations will be held on the evening of Wednesday, August 12th again at the Holiday Inn in Manahawkin (Stafford Township), NJ. If we have a hurricane on August 1st we will hold the tournament on August 8th. Otherwise, we fish rain or shine.

Remember, this tournament is a major fundraiser for JCAA and keeps us going year after year to do what we do on behalf of you, the recreational angler. A lot of volunteers put in a lot of time and a lot of their own money to do what we do not only on behalf of the recreational angler, but also the environment, youth education, access, etc.

Also new for this year will be vendor booths at our awards presentations for our major sponsors.

Again, this year we will be offering in a **Grand Prize Drawing a boat, motor & trailer package**. Remember, you do not have to weigh in a fish to be eligible to win the Grand Prize. You just have to be registered in the tournament and be present the night of the awards presentations on the evening of Wednesday, August 12th. And as always there will be thousands of dollars in door prizes given out also. There will also be a 50/50 drawing. Last year was the first time we had a 50/50 and the winner walked off with over \$2,000 in cash!

The boat this year will be a 14' G3 boat. The boat is being donated to JCAA by **G3 Boats** and four G3 dealers: **Salem Boat Exchange, Spring Garden Marine, Mercer Marine Supply and Mayberry Sales and Service**. **Yamaha** is again donating the engine.

In addition, the four G3 dealers are offering an additional \$500 off one of their boats to anyone who enters the tournament and attends the awards presentations. So make your best deal on one of their boats and present the \$500 coupon and receive an additional \$500 off. I am mailing the coupon out with the affidavits so if you enter the tournament look for the coupon with your affidavit. They will also be available at the awards presentations on August 12th.

Our T-shirts and hats are in so we've started mailing those out.

Major sponsors so far this year are: Interlux, Yamaha, G3, the four G3 dealers mentioned above, Salem Boat Exchange, Spring

Garden Marine, Mercer Marine Supply and Mayberry Sales and Service, Costa Sunglasses, Underwater Green Fishing Lights & Canyon Reels & Tica Fishing Tackle.

Port sponsors so far this year are Fisherman's Headquarters for the LBI port; RJ Marine Service for the Cape May port, South Harbor Marine for the Barnegat Bay port and Hoffman's Marina is back on board again this year for the Manasquan port.

Our second mailing for the tournament has gone out with an entry form along with a T-shirt ordering form.

If you have any questions, you can contact me at the JCAA office at (732) 506-6565 or email me at jcaa@jcaa.org.

President's Report

By Paul Haertel

At our last meeting we discussed the special fluke regulations for Island Beach State Park. Someone pointed out that fishermen will no longer have to check in their fish as they did last year and that is correct. Another person stated that in the marine fisheries digest it stated that fishermen could keep 2 fluke from 16" to under 18" and fill out the rest of their 5 fish limit with fluke 18" or greater while at Island Beach. That is incorrect. What it said was that upon leaving Island Beach with one or two fish, fishermen could fill out their bag limits by fishing outside the park.

Regardless, this has been a confusing issue with many of us being given different answers by different people. My answer to situations like that is to just read the law itself which may be different from what people tell you or even what is written in various press releases. Below is a copy of the actual law:

NJAC 7:25-18.1(C)5 - At Island Beach State Park (IBSP), an angler fishing from a pier, jetty, beach, bank, or marsh utilizing a hook and line and who has a date and time stamped proof of IBSP entry receipt may possess no more than two summer flounder greater than or equal to 16 inches (total length) on the day of entry during the summer flounder open season. The proof of entry receipt shall be presented upon the request of a State Conservation Officer or

New Jersey Park Police Officer. The proof of entry to IBSP must be retained with the fish until just prior to utilization. The one or two fish harvested at IBSP shall count toward the five fish possession limit applicable in waters outside IBSP.

However, in this case the law itself does not answer all the questions we had about the program. Since our last meeting, I was in touch with very high ranking officials from our Bureau of Marine Fisheries and the Bureau of Law Enforcement. I received somewhat different answers from each. However, they resolved their differences and the following press release was issued a few days ago:

"The Shore Based Enhanced Fishing Opportunity Program for summer flounder will continue for 2015 at Island Beach State Park (IBSP). This Program permits anglers to retain only 2 fish per day (NOT 5 fish) greater than or equal to 16 inches (total length) only at IBSP during the current 2015 New Jersey summer flounder fishing season, which opens on May 22, and remains open until September 26. The Program will be available to "shore-based" anglers only, defined as fishing from a pier, jetty, beach, bank, or marsh. These modified regulations do not apply to anglers fishing from a boat, kayak, canoe, personal water craft, or fish arriving to the shore by means of water craft. Shore-based angling shall be by hook and line only. Unlike the 2014 fluke season, there will not be a check station for fluke measuring 16 to less than 18 inches. Anglers are required to retain proof of legal entry to IBSP (park receipt) until returning home or until just prior to consumption if the fish are to be consumed prior to the angler returning home. Those holding Mobile Sportfishing Vehicle Permits are required to request a receipt at the front entrance gate of IBSP. The two fish at 16 inches or greater for shore-based anglers are the regulations on IBSP - anglers cannot choose to retain 2 fish at 16 inches or 5 fish at 18 inches. Anglers that possess summer flounder harvested at IBSP may harvest summer flounder outside IBSP provided they abide to the 18-inch size limit and 5-fish possession limit applicable to all other waters (for example, if 1 fish is harvested at IBSP, 4 fish 18 inches or greater may be harvested in waters outside of IBSP)."

While that certainly resolves the vast majority of our questions, the law says that to possess fluke at Island Beach State Park fishermen must have an

entrance receipt that is dated and timed and is good for that day only. Therefore, I asked what about all the people such as campers with an annual pass who come in Friday night but do not leave until Sunday. I asked if it would be acceptable for them to ask for another entrance receipt as they were leaving the park. I was told that it would be acceptable to do that and that it would only be necessary if the fluke were from 16" to under 18". I was also asked to remind everyone that it is a possession limit so fishermen may only possess two fluke at any one time at Island Beach. For example, they cannot possess two from Saturday and two from Sunday at the same time.

I hope that this resolves the matter for the time being and next year I will suggest incorporating all this into the actual law. For now though, happy fluking!

We will be voting for the 2015 Sportsperson of the Year at our meeting on 6/30. As far as I know we have received only one nomination so far. However, nominations will also be accepted from the floor so please try to come up with a couple more worthy candidates.

Our super 50/50 will be drawn on 12/9 but already has a fair amount of cash in it. Please get your tickets early as having a lot of cash in it will make the tickets easier to sell. The super 50/50 will have three cash prizes. Of the money paid out, the first place winner will receive 50% of the money, 2nd place 30% and third place 20%. Tickets are \$10.00 each and the drawing will be held on 12/10/15. Tickets will be mailed along with our fluke tournament applications. However, if anyone else would like tickets for either raffle, just call the JCAA office at 732-506-6975.

Our fluke tournament is rapidly approaching and we are in need of door prizes. If each club could just bring one prize to the next meeting it would help a great deal. We have some exciting new features for our fluke tournament which will be held on 8/1/15. One is that there will be a 25K cash prize to the early entrant who catches the largest fluke in the tournament, provided it is over 12 lbs. We will also be having port and overall Calcuttas. All told, cash and merchandise prizes could exceed 80K. Be sure to read Paul Turi's article for more details. You may register on line or print out an application by going to www.jcaa.org.

Also if you did not already do so, don't forget to register your NJ saltwater recreational registration for 2015. Don't risk not qualifying with a record fish or being disqualified from a tournament because you

were not legally registered. Registration is free and only takes a couple of minutes.

To renew:

- Go to [this link](#). Then scroll down and click on "Access current year"
- Enter requested info.
- Click on your ID number
- Click on renew

For those who were not previously registered, initial registrations may be completed at this same link. The registry is free and there is an explanation as to who needs to register on the web site.

Fisheries Management & Legislative Report

By Thomas Fote

After looking over the articles included in this edition of the JCAA Newspaper by Paul Turi, John Toth, Paul Haertel, Ken Warchal and Don Marantz, I realize my job will be easy this month. Please read their articles on sand mining, seismic testing and the articles about JCAA's upcoming events and raffles.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission will be meeting the first week in August and the agenda is already posted on the webpage. The Mid-Atlantic Council will meet the second week in August in New York City. That is where decisions will be made on summer flounder, black sea bass, scup and bluefish for the following year. I know it is a long trip for the anglers from Delaware Bay to come to New York City but it is important that you make every effort to get a representative in attendance. The best way is by train from Delaware. That will probably be on Wednesday. I am looking forward to working with the representatives from Delaware to develop a proposal that will solve the problem with the inequities between Delaware and New Jersey in Delaware Bay. This problem was created by the National Marine Fisheries Service and US Fish and Wildlife when they attempted to remedy the problems in Raritan Bay between New York and New Jersey. I am now looking for NMFS and US Fish and Wildlife to participate in finding a solution.

They were the deciding votes and it was NMFS that pushed for the regionalization.

JCAA has kept the dues the same for both member clubs and associate members for almost 20 years. Our expenses have increased and since 2007 our income has greatly decreased. Most of the decrease in income has been the result of decreasing participation in the fluke tournament. Remember, this is your association and it represents many of the saltwater clubs in New Jersey. To keep JCAA viable we need you to help promote our fundraisers, the JCAA Fluke Tournament and the new 50/50 Raffle. We also need your members to become involved in species committees like striped bass, menhaden, HMS and summer flounder to name a few. So please support your organization.

Sportsperson of the Year

By Paul Turi, Co-Chairman

We are now accepting nominations for our sportsperson of the year and will have a vote at our General Membership Meeting in June. The reason for this is because we don't meet in July & August and we vote at the October meeting, which is very close to our honoring dinner date and it does not give our honoree too much time to contact family and friends who may want to be present at the dinner presentation. A lot of family and friends may be out of town and it does not leave much time to make travel plans. In addition to that, it does not leave us much time to order our plaques for our Sportsperson-of-the-Year honoree and the Youth Education Award honoree. So all in all it seems to make sense to have the nomination and election process much earlier.

If you wish to nominate someone, please submit a bio of at least 250 words. Don't worry about typing and spelling, etc. When we have elected a nominee, if I need more or less words to make the bio fit in our brochure, I will work with the nominating club to accomplish this.

The dinner again this year will be held at the Crystal Pt. Yacht Club in Pt. Pleasant on Sunday, November 9th, 2015. Ticket prices are the same as last year, \$75 per head or \$600 for a table of 10.

If you have any questions, please contact me at the JCAA office or by email at pturi6@comcast.net.

I have received the following nomination from the NJBBA for Sportsman-of-the-Year.

The NJBBA wishes to nominate **Bill Mackintosh** for Sportsman of the Year. Bill has been an active member of the NJBBA for 35 years and currently is a lifetime member. During his 35 years he has been involved in the following activities:

- Bill has volunteered for 25 plus years at National Hunting & Fishing Day, a day at the beach for special needs children. He has also participated in the New Egypt School district's annual fishing trip for challenged kids at IBSP for 12 yrs.
- For the past five years, he has volunteered weekly at the IBSP beginner's surf fishing clinic. Also, as a disabled vet himself, Bill has been privileged to volunteer at the NJBBA's (2) fishing trips each year for the men and women from the NJ Veterans Memorial Home in Vineland.
- For the past 22 years he has shared his knowledge at the NJBBA Children's Surf Fishing tournament as a teacher of knots, casting and water safety. He has also volunteered as a judge for the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament for 17 years.
- Bill has served on the Board of Directors of the NJBBA, holding multiple positions of director and corresponding secretary over his 12 year tenure. He is a member of the Courtesy Patrol for 15 years as well as coordinating the President's Fishing Club Tournament and annual NJBBA fishing contest.
- Bill has also volunteered for three years to help clean up Holgate. He has also qualified for certification as a Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs instructor. He has also been a critical participant in helping to restore the NJBBA Model "A" mascot. Bill has also helped represent the NJBBA in the Pots Off the Reefs campaign. He has also for 12 plus years helped to preserve an area for the Piping Plover and helped to keep access to the Brigantine northern beach open for fishing.
- Bill is also an instructor for the NJBBA Beach Driving Clinic. He was also instrumental in

the rebuild of Island Beach State Park after Hurricane Sandy, and also helped in the recovery of the civilian devastation of homes after the storm.

Because of his many years of prolonged volunteer work that Bill has selflessly given to both the environment and as an instructor, the NJBBA proudly nominates **Bill Mackintosh** for the prestigious JCAA Sportsman-of-the-Year award.

JCAA Super 50/50 Raffle

By Don Marantz, Chairman Ways & Means

How would you like to make a difference and support the organization that for over 30 years effectively fights for New Jersey's recreational fishermen?

We understand most of you cannot devote the time to attend fisheries meetings in and out of New Jersey because of work and family commitments. Here is your opportunity to help fund the organization that does it for you.

Sending representatives to attend fisheries meetings, supporting our youth education committee, Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs program, running our office, and printing our up-to-date informative newspaper is costly. We have been operating in the red for many years now and the success of the Super 50/50 raffle can help put us back in the black but we need your help to do it.

This is your chance to not only help, but if everyone gets involved the payout will be huge. Let's make it happen.

50% of the amount received for all tickets sold will benefit JCAA and 50% will benefit the winners. Of the money paid out the winners will receive:

- 1st ticket drawn 50%
- 2nd ticket drawn 30%
- 3rd ticket drawn 20%

Drawing date 12/10/2015 at the JCAA office. JCAA is a 501(c)3 organization and therefore any donation is tax deductible.

US Army Cop of Engineers and NJ DEP Continue with Plans to Sand Mine Prime Fishing Areas

Harvey Cedars Lump is almost destroyed. A portion of the **Sea Isle Lump** Sea is slated for sand mining this year. **Borrow Area B** (a 360 acre lump just inshore of the Axel Carlson Reef) is slated for sand mining in 2016. **Manasquan Ridge** has been identified as a future site to sand mine. For many years recreational anglers have been subject to increased size limits, reduced possession limits as well as shorter and irregular fishing seasons. Most have abided by these restrictions in the name of conservation. Now the ACOE and DEP are destroying important historical fishing structures, the very habitat of our fishery.

The DEP is charged to protect the marine environment. These structures are identified as NJ Specific Sport Ocean Fishing Grounds and **Prime Fishing Areas** within the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Rules. The rules were established specifically to protect these areas. JCAA, other fishing organizations and clubs have voiced their objections and requested that locations other than Prime Fishing Areas be used as sources of sand. The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and American Littoral Society (ALS) have objected. Our legislative representatives, Senator Corey Booker, Congressman Chris Smith and Congressman Frank Pallone have met or corresponded with the DEP attempting to resolve this issue. Still the project moves forward.

Below is a copy of the latest letter sent by the JCAA to the NJ DEP. Feel free to forward it to any contacts you have who may be helpful in assisting in this effort. For more details, please contact Ken Warchal at 908-715-0791.

June 18, 2015

Richard Boornazian
Office of the Assistant Commissioner
PO Box 420
Trenton, NJ 08625
Re: Manasquan Inlet to Barnegat Inlet Storm
Reduction Project

Dear Mr. Boornazian,

Thanks very much for your letter of May 15th. We appreciate the history of the project as cited as well as its importance to the shore community. While we understand the purpose of the project, our concern is the destruction of an especially important natural resource, locations where fish populations concentrate. Our desire is to have the sand mined from other than "Prime Fishing Areas." These designated areas are supposed to be protected by the Coastal Zone Management Rules. You state that a positive consistency determination was made on March 21, 2014 after coordination between the DEP and ACOE to "minimize impacts to **Borrow Area B** to the maximum extent possible." We feel strongly that removing 5,300,000 cubic yards of sand from a structure that consists of 7,500,000 cubic yards of sand fails to "minimize impacts to the maximum extent possible."

The coastal zone rules state, **7:7E-3.4, Prime fishing areas:** "2. Prohibited uses include sand or gravel submarine mining which would alter existing bathymetry to a significant degree so as to reduce the high fishery productivity of these areas," and in **7:7E-4.12, Sand and gravel mining:** "(c) Sand and gravel mining for the purposes of beach nourishment is conditionally acceptable provided: 1. Direct and indirect impacts to special areas and marine fish and fisheries are minimized."

This project is inconsistent with these rules. The bathymetry of Borrow Area B will be significantly altered and its high fishery productivity will be reduced. Since Borrow Area B is slated for dune construction and not beach nourishment, 7:7E-4.12 may not apply. Even if it did, the impacts are not minimized as previously stated. We question the validity of the consistency determination given and formally request a copy be forwarded to us.

We are also dismayed at the sand-mining work that has occurred on the Prime Fishing Areas known as "**Harvey Cedars Lump**" as well as the current project affecting the "**Sea Isle Lump**." We formally request copies of the environmental evaluations and impact studies made prior to commencement of operations at both those locations as well as Borrow Area B. We also request a copy of the current monitoring report for Harvey Cedars Lump.

Local bait and tackle shops and commercial fishermen are telling us that negative economic conditions are currently being experienced. Reducing the size and bathymetry of prime fishing areas and

marine habitat will diminish fisheries stock. Less fish will in turn reduce interest in fishing creating future economic declines. The recreational and commercial fisheries which have yet to recover from Superstorm Sandy can hardly afford this.

We urge the DEP and ACOE to reconsider their position and avoid prime fishing areas as sources of sand for this project. In the process of weighing public safety and environmental resources, prime fishing areas must be protected. Areas having less importance can be utilized.

Please forward the consistency determination, environmental evaluations, impact studies and monitoring reports mentioned above. We are hopeful to amicably resolve this issue with your department and await your response.

Respectfully yours,
Kenneth F. Warchal
Vice President

NJ Outdoor Alliance Report

By John Toth

On behalf of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA), I attended a May 18th meeting of the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA), and I also chaired this meeting in the capacity of Acting NJOA CF President. The NJOA Council meetings are usually held on the 4th Monday of the month, but it was changed to May 18th since Memorial Day fell on May 25th, the 4th Monday in May. The following issues were discussed.

Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) - that provides a better structure of getting artificial reefs built with the state, material providers and contractors was discussed. The details of it were presented to various stakeholders at an April 15th meeting chaired by DEP. By June, the final regulations of this MOU are expected to be finalized and presented to the public.

Artificial Reefs - Regulations concerning the use of the Sandy Hook and Axel Carlson reefs between recreational and commercial anglers will be posted in June for public comment.

Hooked on Hudson Fishing Derby - I and members of the Hudson Fishermen's Association gave a report

on their May 9th fishing derby that has as its objective to get more kids/youths involved in fishing. The kids had a great time and a lot of fun was had by all. I and Jerry Natale staffed an NJOA booth to give out NJOA literature and answer questions.

Hudson Farm Charity Clay Shoot - was held on May 17th and this event was successful for the NJOA. Hudson Farms in Andover, NJ, is recognized as a premier shooting facility in our country.

Governor's Surf Tournament - I gave a report on this tournament. I also worked at the JCAA booth in the pavilion along with Fish Hawk's member Bill Browne giving out information on JCAA's upcoming fluke tournament. The weather was unusually cold causing less fish to be caught than expected. However, the cold did not dampen the fun and enthusiasm the participants had in participating in this event. I represented the JCAA, along with Tim Burden (NJ Beach Buggy Assoc.) and Pola Galie (NJ Federation of Sportsman's Club) in giving out prizes and awards to the winners of this tournament.

Island Beach State Walkway issue - NJBBA's Paul Harris reported that the NJBBA supports a \$3 fee for boaters to use this walkway to access the beach to help pay for lifeguards in the area they use for swimming. This location does not have lifeguards and when there is a report of a drowning, lifeguards from other locations in the park have to rush down to respond to it, leaving other areas on the beach unprotected.

Assembly Bill (4340) sponsored by Assemblyman Bob Andrzejczak (District 1) - was discussed and the synopsis of it is: **Directs DEP to establish a three-year pilot program to permit for-hire vessels to fish for summer flounder in Delaware waters pursuant to Delaware regulations.** This bill is **intended** to help the recreational fishing fleet in southern NJ to better compete with Delaware's 16 inch size limit. NJ's anglers are going to Delaware since NJ has an 18 inch size limit for summer flounder. This bill generated a lot of discussion and while the bill's intention is good, a number of issues were raised about it. It is unlikely that the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) will approve of it since the number of fluke caught will quickly cause an increase over the quota of fluke we can catch. Private NJ boats will not be included in this bill and will **not** be allowed to catch 16 inch

flake. We will monitor this bill as it moves through our legislature.

Membership Report

By John Toth

A number of clubs still have not paid their club dues to the JCAA. Invoices were mailed to club addresses in January. If you are uncertain if your club dues have been paid, please check with your club treasurer. Please spare me the job of contacting your club to secure payment. Your cooperation is most appreciated!

Please send in your payments to our address: JCAA, 1201 Route 37 East, Suite 9, Toms River, NJ 08753.

Correction, the JCAA received dues from the Sandy Hook Bay Anglers for \$500, not \$100.

If there are problems with the JCAA sending newsletters to the wrong addresses or to the wrong club members, please let me know so that corrections can be made. I can be reached at (732) 656-0139 or at tothjohn@verizon.net.

As always, **Thank You**, for your continued support of the JCAA!

Update on Seismic Testing

By John Toth

Seismic Testing - Background and Update

Rutgers University and a few other universities have received funding from the National Science Foundation to conduct seismic ocean blasting tests about 20 miles east from the Barnegat Inlet in a 230 square mile area as part of a climate change study. The stated purpose of this testing is to assess deep-sea sediment from **60 million years ago** to better understand climate change! (Maybe looking for oil too?) Ships will blast sound waves louder than a jet taking off (230 decibels) every 5 seconds continuously for about a month. Loud sound waves like that cannot have a positive effect on sea life, especially like whales and dolphins that are known to emit their own sounds. Our fishing season can be disrupted since these sound blasts can move them away from their usual fishing locations. Last year, in spite of protests from our state's DEP,

the Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA), the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA), Clean Ocean Action and other groups, this testing began in July 2014. However, it had to be stopped after only several days because the ship doing the blasting ran into mechanical problems.

On **June 1st** of this year, this testing started again. The same groups who tried to stop it last year tried to stop it again. I and JCAA's Paul Turi have attended meetings, been on conference calls and talked to various groups, but our attempts to stop this testing seem to be of no avail. Our state DEP Commissioner, Bob Martin, said at a recent NJOA meeting that his office tried to reach out to federal management agencies to stop this testing, but they will not talk to him or return any of his calls. **Just plain and simple arrogance!** The prestigious law firm of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer is filing a court action on behalf of JCAA, the NJOA, the RFA and the Garden State Seafood Association. At the time of this writing, this firm will file a **Public Nuisance** claim through our state's court system by June 22nd or June 23rd. This law firm wanted to make a stronger case that this blasting is causing "**irreparable damage**," but this is very hard to prove since the court will ask questions such as how many fish, whales or dolphins, etc., have been killed? Have you seen them floating on the water? Has fishing stopped completely in the affected areas?

It's hard to quantify and provide proof of the economic losses that may be claimed by commercial and recreational businesses. Existing studies that point to damages caused by this blasting can be entered into court, but they do not constitute immediate and irreparable damage that this law firm will be trying to convince the court to stop this testing immediately. Damages caused by seismic testing may occur months or years from now, but the courts want to see it **NOW** and not later.

Seismic Testing

By Paul Turi

Plenty has been written recently on the seismic study going on off Long Beach Island both in the press and in JCAA newspapers and elsewhere. There certainly is a disagreement between the scientists conducting the study and recreational fishermen, commercial fishermen, the NJ DEP,

politicians representing NJ, and others. Positions seem to be intractable and both sides have dug their heels in.

In everything I've seen written and have written myself in support of opposing the study at this time, I don't recall anyone from the recreational side or the commercial side making this personal with personal attacks on the scientists conducting this study or being involved somehow in the study. However, the same can't be said for the scientific community. Tom Fote has been called a liar and I have been attacked. It just makes me wonder why they would have to stoop to these personal attacks? Could it be the science doesn't support their position and they have to resort to these sorts of tactics? Or could it be out of fear they may lose their grant monies which they rely on? There has to be some motivation to resort to these kinds of tactics.

The position that JCAA has taken is no different than the Governor has taken, the NJ DEP has taken, the politicians have taken, the environmental groups have taken and everyone else opposing the study has taken. Is the Governor a liar? Is Bob Martin, the commissioner of the DEP, and his staff liars? Is Senator Booker a liar? Is Congressman Pallone a liar? Is Senate President Stephen Sweeney a liar? Is Clean Ocean Action lying? Is the RFA lying? Is the Garden State Seafood Association lying? Is the Marine Mammal Stranding Center lying?

I've said what I have to say. I'm not going to resort to their arrogant and irresponsible type of tactics. Anyway, it's out of our hands. The matter is going to court and we'll let the courts handle it from here on. But there is a positive side; the scientists have managed to drive the recreational groups, commercial groups and environmental groups together to work together for a common goal. And that is no easy feat.

Christie Administration Seeks Federal Court Ruling to Stop Seismic Research Project

State Argues Project Will Harm Fish and Marine Mammal Populations in Study Area off Long Beach Island

(15/P54) TRENTON - The Christie Administration today filed a complaint in U.S. District Court arguing that a federally funded research project using

strong seismic blasts to map ocean sediment deposits should be stopped because it will adversely impact economically vital commercial and recreational fisheries and harm marine mammals.

The complaint filed by the Attorney General's Office this morning in U.S. District Court in Trenton argues the project violates federal laws protecting marine animals and requests the National Science Foundation (NSF) to perform an area-specific environmental impact study before proceeding any further.

Rutgers University, the NSF's contractor, launched the project this week, despite objections from Governor Christie, state and federal lawmakers, and advocacy groups.

"We are not going to give up this fight," Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) Commissioner Bob Martin said. "It is extremely disappointing that the federal government is moving ahead with this misguided project despite widespread objection from all quarters and without regard to the negative impacts on New Jersey.

"Starting the project now, with the summer tourism and fishing seasons shifting into full gear, is simply wrong," Commissioner Martin added. "We must take no chances when it comes to protecting our ocean resources, our commercial and recreational fishing industries, and our state's \$42 billion tourism economy, which depends heavily on the shore."

The State's action today follows a letter Commissioner Martin sent this week to NSF Director Dr. France A. Córdova "strongly condemning" the project and asserting that the "timing of the study callously disregards the welfare of our coastal resources and all of the people whose jobs depend on the health of those resources."

Commercial and recreational fishing support about \$1 billion in revenues in New Jersey. The testing is being done in federal waters in a 230-square-mile area southeast of Long Beach Island, an area well-established for fishing. Among the many species of fish that are available off the Jersey coast in the summer are bluefish, black sea bass, summer flounder, black drum, herring and mackerel.

Those who have publicly expressed strong opposition to the project include U.S. Senator Cory Booker, U.S. Representative Frank Pallone, State Senate President Stephen M. Sweeney, Clean Ocean Action, the Marine Mammal Stranding Center, the Recreational Fishing Alliance, the Jersey Coast

Anglers Association and the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance.

“Clean Ocean Action is shocked and disappointed at the lack of concern the geological community has shown toward the living marine resources,” said Cindy Zipf, the environmental group’s Executive Director. “At the same time, it is inspiring to see the incredible outpouring of support including federal, state, and local elected officials, the fishing community, and all citizens in defense of the ocean’s marine life. This indeed is a powerful statement about the importance of the ocean to New Jersey.”

“The testing could not come at a worse time of year for recreational fishermen, commercial fishermen and bait and tackle shops that depend on the summer fishing season for their livelihood,” said Paul Turi, corresponding secretary for the Jersey Coast Anglers Association. “The JCAA and its member clubs see no justifiable value for this study. We believe the potential negative effects far outweigh any potential positive effects.”

Bob Schoelkopf, Executive Director of the Marine Mammal Stranding Center in Brigantine, said the testing could result in deaths of dolphins and whales by disrupting feeding patterns. The waters off New Jersey provide prime birthing areas for bottlenose dolphins over the summer, Schoelkopf said. Humpback whales are also migrating from birthing areas off the Dominican Republic to North Atlantic waters.

“Both species rely heavily on being able to prey on tightly bunched schools of fish,” Schoelkopf said. “Seismic testing disperses these schools and disrupts marine mammals’ sonar needed to track prey.”

The DEP provided the NSF with peer-reviewed studies that show that underwater seismic blasts cause fish to move out of areas where this type of testing is done, causing shifts in distribution and declines in numbers of fish that can be caught, and may even cause immediate mortality.

Rutgers is conducting seismic ocean blasting tests to examine changes in layers of deep-sea sediments. The project is taking place in waters 18 to 45 miles southeast of Barnegat Inlet.

The process involves repeated underwater blasts of compressed air that can generate up to 250 decibels. In comparison, a jet engine generates about 160 decibels.

The U.S. District Court and the U.S. Court of Appeals last year ruled against the State in its efforts seeking an injunction to block the work, which was initially scheduled to take place last summer. The project did not move forward at that time due to mechanical problems with the research vessel.

For a copy of the State’s complaint, please visit [this link](#). For a copy of the letter to the National Science Foundation, please visit [this link](#).

In Memory of Dr. Edward W. Cherry

By Paul Turi

On May 26th my longtime friend and fishing mentor for over 30 years, Ed Cherry, passed away. Ed was well known in fishing circles and obtained a reputation as one of the best fishermen in South Jersey. He could do it all, offshore and inshore fishing, bay fishing, surf fishing, fly fishing; and he was a master of them all.

I first met Ed in 1984. At the time we both just moved into our new homes in Village Harbour in Manahawkin. He approached me one day and said I see you always going out fishing, we need a fishing club here in Village Harbour. He said there is very little information down here about fishing, so we need to form a club and teach fishing to others and learn from others and exchange information with one another. Shortly thereafter, 13 of us met in Ed’s garage and the Village Harbour Fishing Club was born. Ed insisted right from the start the club had to be a teaching club and over the years he guided and nurtured the club to what it is today, a very large active club and a great supporter of JCAA. Even after he was long gone from Village Harbour, Ed always made sure to attend VHFC meetings and advise club members what was going on in fisheries matters.

When I retired Ed got me involved in JCAA. We eventually both became board members and Ed chaired the JCAA striped bass committee and also represented New Jersey on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the Atlantic Menhaden Advisory Panel. Ed attended NJ Marine Fishery Council meetings on behalf of JCAA and wrote a number of position papers on behalf of JCAA.

Ed was a man of many talents and one of the most brilliant men I have ever met. He was a dentist, a fisherman, a stamp collector, a fly tier and indulged

in several other hobbies he casually made reference to over the years. Anything he did he did with passion. If you told Ed something once, he never forgot it. If he read something once, he never forgot it. His memory was incredible. He knew things where you would wonder why he would even know it.

Ed was a teacher. He taught many of us from the VHFC many things about fishing over the years. Ed taught me how to fish the bay. He taught me how to fly fish for weakfish and bluefish with the fly rod. He taught me how to fish for striped bass in the bay and offshore. He taught me how to surf fish with bait and artificials. We also used to fish together in Florida and he taught me how to fish for trout, redfish and snook. The list goes on and on.

Ed had a saying, "observe a little, learn a lot." He had keen eyesight and always had his eyes on the water observing. I owe him so much for what he has taught me over the years and I will miss him very much. I'm sure he's in heaven looking down at us and "observing."

It was an honor to have known him and to have him as a friend.

**Obituary:
Edward W. Cherry,
Waretown**

Edward W. Cherry was born in Bridgeport, CT on March 12, 1935 to Thomas and Helen Cherry. Ed spent his childhood in Fairfield, CT where he developed his lifelong passion for fishing. Ed moved with his family to Clifton in 1948 and attended high school at St. Peters Prep in Jersey City NJ where he played Varsity Football. Ed later studied at Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI where he earned a Bachelor of Science in 1956 and then Fairleigh Dickinson University where he earned a DDS.

At Marquette, he met Marilyn Puetz of Skokie, Illinois and they married in 1959 in Evanston, IL. Ed practiced dentistry in Oak Ridge (Milton), NJ from 1964 until his retirement in 1996. Ed served on the Board of Health for Jefferson Township and was a devoted fan of the Jefferson Township Falcon Football and Track teams for many years. Ed spent his retirement in Manahawkin and then Waretown, NJ as well as winters in Englewood, Florida. During his retirement, he became known as

one of the best weakfish fishermen in Barnegat Bay. He was a championship caliber recreational fisherman, winning or placing in numerous fishing tournaments during his retirement. Ed was a multiple honoree of the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife Skillful Angler Award Winners. Ed helped form the Village Harbor Fishing Club, was a Board Member of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association, Chairman JCAA striped bass committee, and advised on fishery conservation issues by representing New Jersey on the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, Atlantic Menhaden Advisory Panel, amongst others.

Ed is survived by his wife of 55 years, Marilyn and their four sons and wives and children, Christopher and Carolyn Cherry of Chatham, James and Christina Cherry of Hillsborough, Timothy and Elin Cherry of Westfield, and Joseph and Ali Cherry of Metuchen; and 9 grandchildren, Lauren, T.J., Marissa, Madison, Margo, Andrew, Hannah, Jakob, Alex and Clifford Cherry, his brother, of Vero Beach, FL.

A memorial service will be held 10:30 a.m. Wednesday, June 3, 2015 at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 502 Raritan Ave., Highland Park, NJ 08904. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in memory of Edward Cherry to the Strippers Forever, PO Box 2781, South Portland, ME 04116. Arrangements are by Bridgewater Funeral Home, 707 East Main St., Bridgewater.

Youth Education Report

By Greg Kucharewski

NJ HOFNOD SUMMER FISHING EVENT

By promoting a "NJ HOFNOD Summer Fishing Event," we can foster an understanding of the natural environment and instill a conservation ethic at a young age by demonstrating the joys of recreational fishing rather than using drugs and alcohol.

The Brick Township High School Fishing Club (BTHSFC), 346 Chambers Bridge Rd., Brick, NJ completed a second year of NJ HOFNOD classroom instruction and fishing workshops. Students wanted to increase their fishing experience throughout the summer months and fishing club faculty advisors decided to make it happen. Faculty advisors also thought it would be a good idea for all

students attending BTHS to participate in the summer fishing event. Students can register at [this link](#).

With the assistance from local merchants and sponsors we can help our youngsters make good choices. The summer fishing event is designed to introduce youngsters to fishing and boating as an alternative to gangs, bullying, drugs, alcohol, and violence. Ultimately we would like to expand the program to other New Jersey high schools and host an intra-scholastic NJ HOFNOD fishing competition next year. BTHS alumni and local businesses, if you would like to support this worthwhile event, please phone Greg at 732-785-9278 or email to either of the following and place HOFNOD in the subject line:
gkucharews@jcaa.org
jfreedley@brickschools.org

2015 JCAA YOUTH EDUCATION AWARD

We received the following nomination from the New Jersey Beach Buggy Association: The New Jersey Beach Buggy Association is nominating Tim Burden for the Jersey Coast Anglers Association's 2015 Youth Education Award. Tim has been a devoted youth angler advocate, promoting and assisting in youth fishing and education programs for almost four decades. His willingness to help youngsters and families learn about the fresh or salt water fishing environment in New Jersey, New York, or other traveled locations have made those anglers more informed and experienced to pay it forward.

Before joining any fishing clubs in his early fishing years, Tim worked in newspaper home delivery departments and brought paperboys freshwater fishing, promoting Catch & Release. To this day, some of those youngsters (who are now parents & grandparents) call him to go fishing with their families!

Joining the Hudson River Fishermen's Association in 1996 and some years later pushing for more youth involvement, Tim and a couple of other Board members co-chaired the start of the HRFA Youth Angler Committee (Program). The expansion of the HRFA Youth Program and further involvement by other members ultimately led to the HRFA being JCAA Youth Education Award recipient in 2006. As a Berkeley Striper Club member, Tim has volunteered annually to help at their Youth Education Day and was on their BSC Youth Ed Committee for a couple of years, until he

became NJBBA's Children's Surf Fishing Tournament Chairman in 2010. During this time, his involvement has included speaking at Boy Scout/Cub Scout Troop outings, High School Fishing Clubs, arranging donations to support different youth programs, helping at Special Needs Children fishing events, and coordinating IBSP's "Beginning Surf Fishing Clinic" where most of the attendees are youngsters. Other related endeavors include: working with different fishing clubs, conservation groups, the IGFA-Jr Angler Program (NJ Chapter), Big Brothers Big Sisters, and Kids Outdoors.

Tim's first "Hooked on Fishing-Not on Drugs" certification was as a member of the HRFA and he was recertified upon its revival in recent years. As an active supporter of HOFNOD, Tim's affiliations have resulted in countless aquatic and fishing educational sessions.

Tim Burden also serves on the JCAA Youth Education Committee for the past several years.

Nominations will close after the JCAA July General Membership meeting.

BLUE FUTURE FUND

The JCAA Youth Education Committee is submitting a grant to the Blue Future Fund that is providing grants to non-profit organizations. On World Oceans Day, West Marine donated 5% of sales to the Blue Future Fund (up to \$70,000). Through the fund they will ensure that future generations can enjoy the beauty and exhilaration of boating, fishing, and paddling as they do.

Their first grants will be made to youth boating programs. Much thanks to Dennis West, Jersey Coast Shark Anglers Association for sending the information to us.

TAKE ME FISHING

With the help of state fish and wildlife agencies Take Me Fishing has identified more than 250 family-friendly places to fish and boat across the country. The list was voted on by more than 23,000 outdoor enthusiasts to select the top 100 places to fish and boat in the U.S. Check out the 2015 [list here](#) and find the best fishing spots near you.

NEW EGYPT SCHOOL SYSTEM

Members from the New Jersey Beach Buggy Association assisted Island Beach State Park staff on June 8-10-11-12 with teaching second through fifth graders learn the joy of surf fishing. NJBBA supplied

rod/reels and bait for all the youngsters that participated from 8 a.m. till 1 p.m. NJBBA is also supporting Toms River High School fishing club with their classroom instruction.

BAY FISHING TOURNAMENT

The Fish Hawks Saltwater Angler's Club will kick off their Annual Bay Fishing Tournament on August 1, 2015. It will end on August 31, 2015. The tournament will have two divisions, adults and children (under 16 years of age.) Entrance fee is very reasonable, \$20.00 for adults and \$10.00 for youngsters. All proceeds go to the Fish Hawks Youth Education & Training programs.

I suggest you get some fishing practice in before the Annual Bay Fishing Tournament and learn as much as you can about Kingfish and Blowfish. The tournament is geared towards family fun fishing in the bay. Results will be posted weekly on the Fish Hawks Web Site: www.fishhawksnj.com.

2015 Offshore Open



\$175,000 in prize money*

August 28 to September 6

***Manasquan River
Marlin & Tuna Club***

Visit www.mrmtc.com for details

