

# JCAA NEWSPAPER NOVEMBER 2015

Official Newspaper of the *JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOCIATION*

(Published on October 19th, 2015)

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

## **JCAA REGULAR MEETING:**

**Tuesday, October 27th, 2015**

**Starting at 7:30 PM**

**At Jersey Coast Shark Anglers**

## **NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING**

**Thursday, November 12th, 2015**

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

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

1594 Lakewood Road (Rt. 9), Victoria Plaza Unit 13  
Toms River, NJ 08755

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.

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

## **2015 OFFICERS**

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

**Committee & Chairpersons listed on last page**

## **IMPORTANT DATES**

**Nov. 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> ASMFC Annual Meeting**

**Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> JCAA Sportsperson of the Year Dinner**

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

**November 24<sup>th</sup> JCAA General Meeting**

**December 8<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> ASMFC & MAFMC Joint Meeting**

**December 10<sup>th</sup> JCAA General Meeting**

## **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 will be **12/10/2015** at the JCAA office.

## **JCAA New Office Location**

*By Tom Fote*

The JCAA has moved to a new office in the Victoria Plaza Unit 13 1594 Lakewood Road (Route 9), Toms River, NJ 08755. The Mailing address is:

**JCAA**

**1594 Lakewood Road,**

**Unit 13**

**Toms River, NJ 08755**

That is the reason we did not Publish an October JCAA Newspaper. We had to move the printers and everything else in the office during September. The new location is a ground level store front in the Victoria Plaza. There are no stairs and it is handicap accessible. When everything is unpacked we will have a grand opening and this is where our Board Meetings will be. This would not have happened without Paul Turi organizing the move doing all of the packing. Don Marantz found us the new office and chased a lot of the paperwork so we could move in. John Toth, Don Marantz, Al Marantz, Ken Warchal and Bill Browne were instrumental in helping with the move. We were at the old office for almost 25 years and I remember that I moved most of the stuff out of my house into the office. This time because of my back and other issues I felt bad that I was no help. Hopefully, JCAA will be at this new office for another 25 years.

## **Sportsperson of the Year Award Dinner**

*By Paul Turi, Co-Chairman*

Don't forget our annual Sportsperson-of-the-year dinner. This is a major fundraiser for the JCAA. The dinner is Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup>, again being held at the beautiful Crystal Point Yacht Club in Pt. Pleasant. Ticket prices will be the same as last year. Individual tickets are \$75 each and tables of 10 are \$600, which is a \$150 savings. We will start at 4:00PM with a cocktail hour and a full course dinner will be served immediately after the cocktail hour

and we will go until we finish which is around 8:00 or 8:30PM. There will also be a cash bar.

As you know, every year JCAA honors an individual or organization that has done outstanding work to enhance sport fishing or the environment. At our June General Membership Meeting, Bill Mackintosh was elected this year's sportsperson of the year and will be honored at this year's dinner. Our keynote speaker will be announced shortly.

Also, it would help us out with prizes if each club could donate a gift for a door prize or Chinese or Silent auction prize. Some clubs have been very generous over the years donating some very expensive gifts. Even a small gift worth \$10.00 would be greatly appreciated. Many times we can package several gifts together to make a nice door prize or Chinese Auction prize. It can be a fishing or non-fishing related gift. Remember, I also need gifts for the ladies too.

If anyone has any questions or would like to donate something, I can be reached via email at [pturi6@comcast.net](mailto:pturi6@comcast.net) or at (609) 660-2126. If you would like to reserve your tickets for the dinner, contact Dan Miller at (609) 641-7821.

## **President's Report**

*By Paul Haertel*

It seems like we have been constantly bombarded with bad news pertaining to reduced quotas resulting in tighter regulations for many of our fisheries. For 2016, we are facing a mandated 29% cut in the fluke quota for the east coast. That could result in smaller bag limits, an increased size limit, and a shorter season. That would be devastating to many of the businesses as well as fishermen who depend on this fish. It may seem like a little bit of convoluted logic here but the fact that many fishermen experienced a very poor year of fluke fishing may turn out to be a good thing. Lo and behold, the recently released preliminary MRIP numbers for wave 4 (July and August) show just that. More specifically, the numbers show that just about every state in the North and Mid-Atlantic Region have harvested significantly less than they did in 2014. Last year we were right on target with our quota so under fishing this year's similar quota would allow us to relax our regulations if the quota remained the same. However, as stated above, we have a mandated 29% cut in the quota for

2016. While I can't list all the various numbers, I can tell you that the total number of fluke harvested for the North and Mid-Atlantic recreational fishermen in 2014 was 2,413,497 compared to only 1,422,226 so far this year. That number will increase when the wave 6 (September and October) data is released in mid-December but the numbers from that period are normally not too significant. The numbers for New Jersey as well as our region which also included Connecticut and New York are also down by a similar percentage. Projected out to when the wave 5 data comes out, my guess is that we will have under fished our quota by at least 30%. To me that would seem to negate the 29% mandated cut and could result in our regulations for 2016 being similar to those we had this year. However, you never know what stunts our fisheries managers might pull next and they could very well opt for a more conservative approach. However, it seems clear that our regulations for next year won't be as severe as many of us feared.

Still though there is much work to be done. We need to get better data so that our fisheries can be better managed. In regards to fluke, the Save the Summer Flounder Fishery Fund (SSFFF) is doing just that. They have hired scientists and are working on a project that will take into account other factors that they hope will result in a new model that will better manage our fluke population. Please read John Toth's article in this issue that further explains exactly what they intend to accomplish. SSFFF has requested financial assistance from JCAA and other groups. Our board is recommending that we make a donation of \$2000 at this time but we will have to vote on that at our general membership meeting on Tuesday, 10/27.

We also have some good news regarding striped bass in that the Maryland juvenile striped bass index for 2015 was double what it normally is. The survey found an average of 24.2 fish per sample which is the 8th highest on record. Here is a [link](#) to the full article.

Things are not looking as good for sea bass and blackfish. I have not studied the MRIP numbers in depth but it appears that we will have over fished our quota again this year. There may be some relief in the way of an increased quota for next year but I don't know how this will all pan out. What I do know though is these fish are rapidly expanding their population and range to the point where they are

becoming a nuisance as I explained in the September newsletter.

The news regarding tautog is not good either. The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission is developing a new amendment for tautog. A meeting was recently held in Toms River where the public information document was discussed. This was a prelude to the amendment and it does not look good. The ASMFC is claiming that the stock is over fished and that over fishing is occurring. This will result in tighter regulations for next year. It seems they are bent on creating regionalization for this species as well. Worse still is that New Jersey might be forced into a region that will be detrimental to us. The JCAA blackfish committee is working on this and we will submit our comments in the near future.

There are a couple other things I want to mention as well. JCAA has moved its office and we are now located at 1594 Lakewood Rd (Rt. 9), Victoria Plaza Unit 13, Toms River, N.J.08755. Our dinner is coming up on Sunday, November 8th at the Crystal Point Yacht Club. Please see Paul Turi's article for further details.

Our super 50/50 raffle will be drawn on December 10th. We have collected over \$2000 for the raffle so far so there will be some nice prizes. Please support the aforementioned fund raisers as we really do need your help.

## **Fisheries Management & Legislative Report**

*By Thomas Fote*

I was lucky this month since John Toth covered most of my topics. I will have much more information after the ASMFC meeting and the ASA summit for the next JCAA newspaper. John covered the meeting in Cape May to discuss the Science Center for Marine Fisheries that was attended by John, Bruce Freeman and me. This is a research center under the National Science Foundation. John worked hard with Eric Powell to complete a brochure on the center. I have included the brochure without the pictures in this report. We will be discussing this further at the next general meeting to determine if there is an opportunity for JCAA to become a member, partnering with other organizations.

## 74<sup>th</sup> ASMFC Annual Meeting

Final Agenda, November 2<sup>nd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>

This meeting will be held at the World Golf Village Renaissance Resort in St. Augustine, FL. Remember you can listen to all the board meeting by going to the ASMFC Web page and signing up for the Webinar.

The final agenda is available from the ASMFC website at this [link](#) or in a downloadable PDF at this [link](#).

### Science Center for Marine Fisheries

Contact: Dr. Eric Powell, USM,  
[eric.n.powell@usm.edu](mailto:eric.n.powell@usm.edu), 609-432-0872

#### Mission Statement

The Science Center for Marine Fisheries (SCeMFiS) uses academic, recreational, and commercial fisheries resources to address urgent scientific problems limiting sustainable fisheries, provides academic research products essential for the sustainable management of shellfish and finfish resources, and seeks to simultaneously achieve the goals of sustainable fish and shellfish stocks and sustainable fish and shellfish fisheries.

#### Why Join?

**There's no end in sight to the continual and senseless reductions in the allowable quotas for our fishing industry. Something has to be done to reverse this trend that is damaging business opportunities in the fishing industry.** We are facing a drastic reduction in our fluke quota for 2016 and following years to come that will result in decreasing participation by recreational anglers resulting in reduction of sales in the businesses that rely on their income from both recreational and commercial anglers. The recent reductions of the black sea bass quotas during 2015 and years to come is another major concern.

The SCeMFiS science program: is **Industry Partner driven**, operates under Industry Partner oversight, provides products directly to Industry Partners, and

distributes products to support Industry Partners' needs.

- No other program receiving federal support permits **full industry ownership** of the science agenda.
- Academic partners are **University of Southern Mississippi** and **Virginia Institute of Marine Science**; but SCeMFiS accesses academic expertise from throughout the U.S. and Canada.
- SCeMFiS can position the best academic expertise available to analyze data to reduce the risks and uncertainty factors that **affect quotas** and also establish **better reference points** for managing stocks.
- SCeMFiS funds targeted research projects, but also **fields research teams** that can develop management strategies, add expertise to benchmark assessments, and evaluate frameworks for stock limits.

#### Recent SCeMFiS Accomplishments

- SCeMFiS has co-funded the development of a **new assessment model for summer flounder**. This is singularly the most important first step in addressing the decrease in fluke ACL.
- The stock assessment team is playing a leading role in developing a new assessment model for the **black sea bass benchmark assessment in 2016**.
- SCeMFiS has conducted a **management strategy evaluation for surfclams** to identify ways to improve stock productivity. The most promising option is being tested in the field now. SCeMFiS estimates that this option will resolve any probability of a quota reduction.
- SCeMFiS is developing a **recruitment index for ocean quahogs** for the 2016 benchmark assessment to prevent a quota reduction due to recruitment uncertainty.
- The stock assessment team of SCeMFiS provided data and expertise in the **scup assessment** that resulted in maintaining the present quota.

#### How Does the Science Center Operate and What Does it Cost to Join?

- SCeMFiS Industry Partners form the Industry Advisory Board (IAB)
- Membership fees provide the science funding for the center: Full Partner: \$50,000, Associate Partner: \$25,000
- The IAB operates as the **Board of Directors** for SCeMFiS.
- The IAB plans and approves the science agenda and evaluates performance of participating research.
- SCeMFiS has National Science Foundation (NSF) support and review so that its findings are not biased thus increasing the level of confidence and acceptance of its findings. NSF supports administration of the center: \$150,000 per year.

NSF limits the university indirect cost rate to 10%. No other program permits access of academic expertise this inexpensively. SCeMFiS is the only NSF fisheries science center in the country.

*For more information, contact: Dr. Eric Powell, USM, [eric.n.powell@usm.edu](mailto:eric.n.powell@usm.edu), (609) 432-0872, [SCeMFiS.org](http://SCeMFiS.org)*

## Selling Out the Hudson River

New York Times Editorial, 10/9/2015

You would expect a polluter like General Electric to favor its interests over those of a damaged environment. But you should not expect similar behavior from the governor of New York, especially when the damage is to the Hudson River, contaminated by generations of toxic chemical dumping from G.E. factories north of Albany.

G.E. has spent the last six years and \$1 billion dredging up much but not all of the toxic chemicals it put in the riverbed, and it is now getting ready to dismantle its cleanup operation. Environmental advocates and scientists are making urgent pleas to the federal Environmental Protection Agency and to New York State to make sure G.E. does not leave before the river job is finished.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo, who should be leading this battle, is a nonparticipant. He has bowed out, kept his Department of Environmental Conservation on the sidelines, and tossed the ball to the feds.

“It’s an issue that the E.P.A. governs, the federal E.P.A.,” Mr. Cuomo said on Wednesday. “They’re the ones who are in charge, they have jurisdiction, and we’re waiting to see what they say in terms of any future plans.” Does he really want no say in counteracting the degradation of a precious state resource? So it appears.

G.E. says, rightly, that it has fulfilled the terms of the settlement it agreed to with the federal government — a job it spent years trying to evade — and that the river is better off now that 300,000 pounds of polychlorinated biphenyls, or PCBs, have been removed. But it is refusing to spend a day or a penny more than it has to, and alarms are going off. Two of the three government agencies tasked with guarding the health of the Hudson as the river’s “natural resource trustees” — the federal Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration — wrote the Environmental Protection Agency in late September urging that the dismantling be postponed until the E.P.A. conducts a review.

The river and fish are still contaminated, the federal trustees said, echoing the concerns of advocates dismayed that the cleanup won’t reach 136 contaminated acres that lie outside the area covered by the dredging agreement. This includes a silted-up stretch of the Champlain Canal, beside the Hudson, that is unusable for deepwater commercial shipping but cannot be safely dredged until the PCBs are removed.

Oddly, and conspicuously, the third trustee, New York State’s Department of Environmental Conservation, did not sign the letter.

The department answers to Mr. Cuomo, who has absented himself from the clamor against G.E.’s departure. Mr. Cuomo has other priorities — he is trying to persuade G.E. to move its headquarters back to New York. He evidently would rather disappoint New Yorkers who love the river than jeopardize a corporate courtship.

E.P.A. officials say that their options are limited — that the agency can’t reopen the original agreement with G.E., and that the trustees’ letter is not the right tool to compel G.E. to stick around and finish the job. But limited legal recourse does not preclude old-fashioned pressure and moral argument. If New York and Mr. Cuomo went after G.E. over the crippled Champlain Canal — an economic burden on taxpayers and citizens — it could get results.

Pete Grannis, who used to run the Department of Environmental Conservation, told The Times that

the state agency's refusal to sign onto the federal trustees' letter was disheartening.

It "weakens the message," he said. "PCBs left in the Hudson pose generations of risk to the well-being of the river and those that depend on and enjoy it. The benefits of G.E. executives working back in N.Y., while nice, pale by many magnitudes against the value of a clean and healthy Hudson River. While keeping G.E.'s cleanup facility in place and operating may be a long shot, the effort needs all hands on deck and pulling together for the greater good."

Mr. Grannis is right. If Mr. Cuomo were a more committed environmental steward, he would side with the Hudson River against a powerful corporation. He would step up the pressure on G.E., and use his formidable political clout to at least get the Champlain Canal dredged.

## No Liquefied Natural Gas Project

*Clean Ocean Action*

The time is now!!! This is the final chance to Stop Port Ambrose - a Dangerous, Harmful, and Unnecessary Offshore Industrial Project!

After months of delay, the Port Ambrose LNG import facility is back and the battle is on! This project is dangerous for our marine ecosystem, economy, and security.

You can help save our ocean, quality of life, and peace of mind by contacting Governor Christie today and attending a public hearing on November 4th and 5th in NJ.

### 1. Urge Governor Christie to use his pen to Veto Port Ambrose!

"As long as I am Governor I will oppose any application for any type of liquefied natural gas project," Governor Christie, Earth Day 2010.

Governor Christie has said multiple times that his position has not changed. Beginning on November 4th Governor Christie can, with a swipe of the pen, stop the project. Use the easy "how to" below to contact Governor Christie.

### 2. Please attend these final public hearings!

### New York:

Monday, November 2nd & Tuesday, November 3rd - Long Beach Hotel in Long Beach

Open house: 4:30 - 5:30pm

Hearing 6 - 10pm

[Click here to RSVP](#)

### New Jersey

Wednesday, November 4th & Thursday, November 5th - Sheraton in Eatontown

Open house: 4:30 - 5:30pm

Hearing: 6 - 10pm

[Click here to RSVP](#)

Back in January we had over 1,000 people attend hearings against Port Ambrose and we need even more for the final battle! They have doubled the days -- let's double the number of citizens!

How to contact Governor Christie:

Call the Governor: 609-292-6000

[E-mail Governor](#)

### Sample Phone Message:

Hi, my name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am a voter/student/resident from \_\_\_\_\_ and I am calling to urge Governor Christie to veto the Port Ambrose liquefied natural gas project.

In 2010 Governor Christie promised as long as he is Governor he would veto any LNG application off our coast. I urge Governor Christie to keep his word and veto Port Ambrose.

This project is bad for New Jersey, harmful to the marine environment and threatens our safety. Governor Christie must put an end to this project once and for all by vetoing Port Ambrose. Thank you.

### Sample Email Message:

Dear Governor Christie,

Back in 2010 you strongly stated that you would oppose any application for any type of liquefied natural gas project off our coast. I urge you to keep your promise and veto the proposed Port Ambrose LNG facility.

The national and regional safety issues, environmental and economic concerns that prompted your first veto are the same concerns for Port Ambrose. This project is bad for New Jersey, bad for

the marine environment and bad for the future of our planet. Please put an end to this project once and for all.

Veto Port Ambrose! Thank you.

Sincerely,  
Your Name

Sign up to get more involved in the final battle including phone banking, outreach and more!

For more information please call 732-872-0111 or email [outreach@cleanoceanaction.org](mailto:outreach@cleanoceanaction.org).

## **Report on Save Our Summer Flounder (SSFFF)**

*By John Toth*

With our facing a 29% reduction in our fluke quota for 2016, the Save Our Summer Fishing Fund (SSFFF) is becoming active again. A closure for a fluke season was averted several years ago when SSFFF hired Dr. Maunder who demonstrated how sex-specific mortality rates affects the fluke stocks. Greg Hueth, Chairman of the SSFFF, called for a meeting on September 25th at the Reel Seat Tackle Shop in Brielle with members of the fishing community that included boat captains, outdoor groups, commercial and recreational anglers to get an update on a new SSFFF effort designed to get a more accurate picture of the summer flounder stock. (Paul Haertel, Tom Fote and myself were invited to attend with my representing the NJOA. Dr. Patrick Sullivan of Cornell University was introduced to us by Greg Hueth. Dr. Sullivan proceeded to give us a presentation on how he intends to develop a model that gives a better status of fluke stocks and this data would be used for development of an improved quota for this fishery.

Without going into too much specifics of this presentation (that can at times be difficult to comprehend with so many elements that go into a model like this) Dr. Sullivan's new model will include sex, age and length of fluke. The current model only takes age into consideration. All of these components will be in the new model so that it better projects the status of fluke stocks. Another factor that is currently missing in the current model is discards, how many fluke are thrown overboard. While we have data on landings, there is little to no

data of how many fluke go over the side of the boat. Two scientists from Rutgers and their teams will be working at six ports from Cape May north to Rhode Island with special permits to collect sex information on recreational discards during the 2016 fluke season. All of this effort is to offer hope or a more accurate assessment of fluke stocks. Without better science, we will continue with the status quo that is becoming more injurious to all anglers with increasing cutbacks on fluke and other stocks.

Dr. Sullivan also pointed out that he is receiving more cooperation from the National Marine Fisheries Services (NMFS) in receiving data from them to help him build his new model. This is a positive sign since NMFS has not been that responsive to similar requests in the past from Dr. Maunder, a scientist who SSFFF hired in the past to do similar work like Dr. Sullivan. Also, in an unprecedented effort, members of the recreational and commercial communities are working together with university scientists to develop a better way to count fluke.

This effort takes money to do the necessary research and Greg Hueth said that there have been grants from the Science Center for Marine Fisheries, the commercial industry and other groups. Hopefully, Dr. Sullivan can also receive grants from various sources for this research. Greg said, "We are all in this together, without this I don't think we are going to survive in the long term." It is estimated that at least \$50,000 will be needed to fund this effort in 2016. For those interested in donating to this project, visit the website at [www.ssfff.net](http://www.ssfff.net) or mail a contribution to SSFFF, P.O. Box 86, Brielle, NJ 08730.

## **NJ Outdoor Alliance Report**

*By John Toth*

On behalf of the Jersey Coast Anglers Association (JCAA), I attended a September 28th meeting of the New Jersey Outdoor Alliance (NJOA), and I also chaired this meeting in the capacity of Acting NJOA- CF President. The following issues were discussed.

Ron Jones, Chairman of the NJ Trappers Association, gave a demonstration of the Leg Hold Trap that his association wants to be approved by our legislators, and he requested NJOA to help support this trap for approval by our legislators. It is specifically designed to catch raccoons that are carriers of rabies.

It is not injurious like former traps that caused injuries to all types of animals.

NJ's DEP closed a number of roadways in Wharton State Park to protect a number of environmental sensitive areas and these closures cut off easy access for hunters and anglers to their favorite spots to hunt and fish. These closures were done without the input of these two groups and others and that sparked a lot of backlash toward the DEP. The NJOA has met with the DEP to help resolve this issue and the DEP is holding off its plans to change this park until it receives more input from its users.

NJ Outdoor Expo (September 12th & 13th) attracted approximately **7,200 attendees** who came to see the hunting and fishing exhibitors among the many other organizations that were there. It is a free event and a great way for families to take their children and have a day of fun, and to also become acquainted with many hunting and fishing opportunities that are available to them.

Glenn Arthur (NJ Divers Association) reported that Liberty Natural Gas (LNG) is again proposing to build the deepwater port (Port Ambrose) in federal waters to import gas in a liquid state. The location is near the entrance of New York harbor, 28 miles east of Monmouth Beach and 18.5 miles southeast of Jones Beach, NY. The port would consist of permanent anchored buoys where tankers would dock and vaporize the gas. A proposed 21-mile underwater pipeline would transport the gas to another pipeline to a location in lower New York harbor. The U.S Coast Guard and the U.S. Maritime Administration are the federal agencies that process the applications for this deepwater port. In March, the Coast Guard suspended this application due to thousands of public comments during the environmental impact study. The Coast Guard says that the revised application is now back on track. The JCAA, NJOA and many other organizations are on record against LNG for a number of reasons including the possible dangers inherent with any gas lines. So, when you thought that this issue went away awhile ago, it has come back and we have to be vigilant about its progress. I will keep you updated on this issue as it unfolds and I am also in contact with Clean Ocean Action that also is against this pipeline.

The 29% reduction of our fluke quota for 2016 was raised and its negative effects that it will have on the boats that target fluke, tackle shops and

all related industries. Fluke is the most sought after fish by anglers and if anglers face severe restrictions on this fishery, then they will not go fishing for fluke and that will have a severe impact on all industries related to it.

I reported on a September 10th meeting held in Cape May that I attended with Tom Fote and Bruce Freeman with the RFA also in attendance. We were invited to this meeting by commercial fishermen with the purpose of our working together to get better data to challenge the data used to justify the 29 % reduction in 2016 and beyond. We were asked to consider joining the Science Center for Marine Fisheries (there are 70 of these science centers across our nation) and this one is the only one in the country that focuses on fishing- related issues. At this meeting, I recommended that major companies like Berkley, Pure Fishing and others should also be asked to consider joining the Science Center since reduced sales means less revenue for them. Tom Fote indicated that the American Sportfishing Association (ASA) show is coming up in October and that he would take Science Center staff (Roger Mann & Eric Powell) around with him so that the show attendees could hear what the Science Center is all about and why they should join it to challenge the faulty data causing the reductions we are facing. I mentioned that the handout used by the Science Center staff is too busy and needs modification to better get its messages across. I volunteered to help the Science Center staff to improve their handout and I will work with them on this effort. I will provide an update on the results of the ASA show at its completion in the next NJOA report in November.

## **Update on Seismic Testing**

*By John Toth*

Seismic Testing is over and done with, but did it cause any damage to our fisheries? Did anybody (recreational and commercial anglers) see something out of the ordinary, like large swaths of dead fish, dead whales, porpoises or anything that just did not look right? Additionally, did anybody notice catches of fish drop off precipitously or even disappear in areas where they are usually abundant during certain time periods?

The NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) is following up on this issue to see if seismic testing caused damage to our fisheries that went undetected, but needs to be documented so that if



seismic testing tries to be repeated in 2016 or later, our DEP will have specific data it can use to stop it from happening.

I was requested by the office of NJ DEP to place this information in our JCAA newsletter:

The New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection is collecting information from recreational and commercial fishermen regarding catch rates and other observations made during and after the Rutgers seismic survey that was conducted from June 1, 2015 - July 6, 2015. Please contact Megan Brunatti at (609) 292-3600 or Megan.Brunatti@dep.nj.gov.

Megan Brunatti  
Office of Permit Coordination & Environmental Review  
401 East State Street  
PO Box 420  
Mail Code 401-071  
Trenton, NJ 08625  
Tel: (609) 292-3600  
Direct: (609) 984-2462  
Fax: (609) 292-1921  
megan.brunati@dep.nj.gov

Thank you for your cooperation!

## Membership Report

*By John Toth*

A number of clubs still have not paid their club dues to the JCAA. At this point, I have not heard from a number of clubs who have paid their dues in 2014, but not in 2015. These clubs include: Silverton Fishing Club, Thousand Fathom Club, Central Jersey Anglers, Central Trout Unlimited, Picatinny Saltwater Sports Club, Spring Lake Liveliners, and the Asbury Park Fishing Club. However, we received two checks from individuals without any identification to club affiliation, so our records may be in error. If you are uncertain if your club dues have been paid, please check with your club treasurer.. Your cooperation is most appreciated! The Lake Ridge fishing club paid their club dues and I inadvertently forgot to give them confirmation of it. **Thank You Lake Ridge!**

*Please note that our JCAA address has changed!! The JCAA has moved to a new location and this new address is as follows:*

**Jersey Coast Anglers Association**  
**1594 Lakewood Road**  
**Unit 13**  
**Toms River, NJ 08755**

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](mailto:tothjohn@verizon.net).

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

## Youth Education Report

*By Greg Kucharewski*

### 2015 JCAA AWARDS CEREMONY

Make your reservations now to attend the JCAA Annual Sportsperson of the Year and JCAA Youth Education Awards Ceremony. The dinner is held at the Crystal Pt. Yacht Club on Sunday, November 8th, 2015 from 4:00 PM to 8:00 PM. We always have plenty of door prizes, Chinese auction and a great selection of silent auction items to bid on. Tickets are again \$75.00 per ticket or \$600 for a table of 10.

Come out and celebrate with honoree Bill Mackintosh. Bill was nominated by the NJBBA and elected at our June general membership meeting to receive the Sports Person of the Year Award.

The Youth Education Award will be presented at the dinner to Tim Burden who was selected by the JCAA Youth Education Committee.

If you need tickets please contact Dan Miller at (609) 641-7821 or by email at [blueangray@comcast.net](mailto:blueangray@comcast.net).

### BRICK TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL FISHING CLUB

Brick Township High School Fishing Club students returned to school in September after participating in the NJ HOFNOD summer fishing event. Jessica Mallonee, 10<sup>th</sup> grade, won the rod and reel prize for catching a summer flounder. Joanna Freedley, Math Educator, stated, "students are excited about learning to fish and are gearing up for this year."

The JCAA Youth Education Committee will work with Brick High School and support their High School Fishing Club.

## **NJ HOFNOD TRAINING**

On November 6th the JCAA Youth Education Committee will support the New Jersey DEP Division of Fish and Wildlife's NJ Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs (HOFNOD) training by presenting a fly tying session at Lighthouse Point in Waretown, NJ. The Jersey Coast Anglers Association will provide training funds for two members from each member club of JCAA that would like to participate in the HOFNOD training. To receive an application from JCAA email: [gkucharews@jcaa.org](mailto:gkucharews@jcaa.org).

NJ HOFNOD is coordinated by Liz Jackson, HOFNOD Coordinator, DEP Fish & Wildlife. Please contact Liz to learn more about the benefits of becoming a NJ HOFNOD instructor at 908-637-4125 x122 or e-mail at [liz.jackson@dep.nj.gov](mailto:liz.jackson@dep.nj.gov)

## **BRICK MEMORIAL HIGH SCHOOL**

Brick Memorial High School is seeking approval from the Brick Board of Education to add recreational fishing and aquatic education to their curriculum. If approved both high schools in Brick, NJ will have fishing programs.

Aquatic resources in Ocean County are excellent for a school fishing program. Freshwater, saltwater, stream, and bay fishing are a short distance from Brick schools. The JCAA Youth Education Committee plans to assist with the fishing programs in both high schools.

This is a great opportunity for both high schools to have educators become NJ HOFNOD certified instructors.

## **FISHING SEMINARS FOR VETERAN'S AND THEIR FAMILIES**

The veteran fishing seminars are sponsored by the Vietnam Veterans of America (Chapter 12) and VFW Post 2226 and held at VFW Post 2226, 212 Norwood Ave., Oakhurst, NJ.

The program is geared towards veterans struggling with PTSD & TBI but all veterans and their families are welcome to attend. The goal is to connect veterans and their families to VA Service Offices/Outreach Centers, NJ Coastal Parks, Fishing Clubs, Veteran Organizations, and help Veteran men and women take time to heal by utilizing healthy outdoor activities, such as fishing with their family and friends. Attendees will learn how and where to catch that fish of a lifetime. Topics include: - Tackle Tricks and Surf casting techniques - Know how to use bait rigs and artificial lures - Identify productive

fishing areas along the beach - Understand NJ rules and marine regulations - Learn about fishing tips and other items you might need to have an enjoyable surf fishing experience

Refreshments, door prizes, and printed handouts are FREE.

Greg K, Shore Surf Club President, Jersey Coast Anglers Association's Youth Education Chair, and Member # 164 New Jersey Beach Buggy Association will be the speaker. To Register: Phone: 732-785-9278 or email mail to: [gkucharews@jcaa.org](mailto:gkucharews@jcaa.org)

Many thanks, to Paul and Carole Harris and Al Dolce for getting the word out about the veteran fishing programs.

Ken Scaramo was the winner of the surf rod and reel at our October "Striped Bass Tackle Tricks" seminar.

## **NJBBA KIDS FISHING SUCCESS**

NJBBA members completed another successful Youth Surf Fishing Tournament at Island Beach State Park.

Chris LeLong, Tournament Chair and the many NJBBA volunteers did a great job of hosting a successful tournament with 113 youth participants. Free water, snacks and drinks are always provided for participants. Children registered to fish visited learning stations and received free tee shirts with all the supporting sponsor's logos.

Visit the NJBBA website to see a list of the sponsors and photos of the event. This year NJ HOFNOD had their mobile fishing equipment cart available at the tournament for children that did not have a suitable rod and reel to fish the tournament. NJBBA also provided loaner rods and reels for novice young anglers.

## **PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES OUTING**

Newark Bait and Fly Casting Club held their fishing outing for People with Disabilities at Echo Lake in Mountainside, N. J. on September 19, 2015 in conjunction with the Union County Parks and Recreation Department which is also sponsored by the Tedesco Group. The annual event is always a good time for participants and volunteers. Fishing was free for participants and their chaperones.

This was a fun-filled day with fishing, entertainment, lunch and prizes being awarded to participants. Cane fishing poles and bait were provided along with fishing assistance from the NB&FCC members. Visit the JCAA website [youth fishing gallery](#) to view photos.



