JCAA REGULAR MEETING
April 26th, 2022 via Zoom Meeting
Starting at 7:30 PM
NEXT JCAA BOARD MEETING
Thursday, May 12th, 2022
Via Zoom Meeting

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER OF THE JERSEY COAST ANGLERS ASSOC.
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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.

2022 OFFICERS
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Tournament Dir.  Scott Thomas  609-709-9215
Committee and Chairpersons listed on last page

IMPORTANT DATES
April 26th JCAA General Meeting
May 2nd-5th ASMFC Spring Meeting
May 10th-12th MAFAC Meeting
May 12th JCAA Board Meeting
May 15th Governor’s Surf Fishing Tournament
May 31st JCAA General Meeting
June 11th JCAA Fluke Tournament
June 17th JCAA Tournament Awards Ceremony

President’s Report
By Mark Taylor

As spring is upon us, everyone is getting excited about the upcoming fishing season. There have been a few things going on in fisheries management that affect us in New Jersey. For those of you who have their figure on the pulse may or may not happy with the recent New Jersey regulations. For those who don’t know what I am talking about, shame on you. There have been numerous articles written, social media posts and tackle stores talking about this for months. As the current President of the JCAA, I am on a mission to get the recreational fishing community motivated, more aware and how to get involved. I know this is a major undertaking, but I am going to try my best. I am not going to be able to succeed without the people that care about the fishery for the future and you. I was told by my grandparents and parents many years ago, “things start with you”. I am putting that concept in to motion. So JCAA through our Membership Chairman, John Toth, is reaching out to member clubs. By doing this we are trying to get all the clubs motivated again. John is currently setting up dates for him and /or another board member to speak at their meeting. As of writing this column, we were invited to speak and gave a presentation to Hi-Mar Fishing Club and Raritan Bay Anglers Fishing Club. I believe there is more motivation and new life in those clubs. They will be
getting even more involved and stay more in tune with what is happening in our fisheries. I would like to thank both those clubs for this opportunity. If you or a club would like JCAA to come and speak, reach out to John Toth.

JCAA currently has some fundraiser going on. We have our High Roller Raffle with some great prizes being sold. Paul Haertel did an outstanding job putting this together. If you would like to get some tickets, call 732-506-6565 and leave a message. We are also having our Annual Fluke Tournament June 11th. Online applications are on the JCAA website, fill one out and don’t miss out. Or you can enter through our on-line entry system via Eventbrite which you can access on our website. Yes, we are having the awards ceremony back in Atlantic City at Resorts. For more information read the article in this newsletter or go to the JCAA website.

I will be working to get all of the recreational community motivated. So, if you don’t belong to a club for whatever the reason and want to get involved, reach out to me at mtspot64@aol.com or 732-245-9445. I will work with you to see how you can get more involved for the future of our sport.

JCAA Comments on ASMFC/MAFMC Harvest Control Rule

The Jersey Coast Anglers Association represents approximately 75 fishing clubs throughout our state. We strongly support making a change in the way our summer flounder, scup, black sea bass and bluefish are managed. We believe that very few, if any, of our fisheries managers believe that the MRIP numbers are accurate and should be the only data used in determining quotas, seasons, bag limits and size limits. Until this point, their hands have been tied but now there is an opportunity for change that we hope will result in better fisheries management and fairer regulations for our recreational fishermen.

Of the options available to consider, we strongly oppose option A which is status quo. We believe any of the other options would be better than that. Options C, D, and E are not fully developed so we cannot support them at this time. Therefore, we urge you to implement Option B at this time and consider the other options once they are fully developed.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Taylor, JCAA President

Fisheries Management & Legislative Report

By Tom Fote

Traveling Report

Things have opened up and I am back at in-person meetings. The two meetings I attended, ASA Government Affairs and NOAA Recreational Summit. Both were during the same week in DC. The ASA meeting was very good and we had an excellent meeting with Congressional staff. Miranda Peterson, from Congressman Pallone’s Office, joined us at the meeting at the Recreational Summit. She also attended the Capitol Hill meeting. For all these years, Congressman Pallone has been a supporter and even though he is no longer on the Natural Resource Committee, he uses his position on the Commerce Committee to help us on important issues. I have attended four NOAA Summits and this is the third Recreational Summit. I appreciate their intent in creating this Summit but at this Summit there were a lot of presentations but little opportunity to interact with staff. ASA did a fantastic job putting together the Government Affairs meeting covering diverse topics for both fresh water and saltwater and focusing on what is important to the industry.

Since I did get reappointed to MAFAC for three more years, I will be traveling to the Spring MAFAC meeting the second week in May. The first week in May I will be at the ASMFC meeting as NJ’s Governor’s Appointee. The agenda for that meeting is in the newspaper but you really need to go to the webpage to get the full agenda.

Where Were You?

I have received many inquiries about what has been happening at the MidAtlantic Council and the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. People have been complaining that we did not get a fair shake on the quota reallocation or on black sea bass or scup. The question I ask is “Where were you?” Except for a few people attending the hearings for NJ and sharing their views, the other states don’t seem to be getting pushback from the recreational sector. Even in NJ when it comes to the actual board meetings, if it wasn’t for Paul Haertel, Mike Waine, and Jim Hutchinson, there would be no one asking questions
for the recreational sector. The commercial industry shows up in force in their states and at the board meetings, putting a great deal of pressure on their individual states. The only pressure I have seen from the recreational sector is the catch and release fishermen pushing for greater restrictions on the recreational sector. Not once did I hear one of the catch and release fishermen talk about striped bass gamefish or restricting the commercial catch. Also, not surprisingly, the catch and release community wants to restrict the anglers who want to take a fish home to eat but want no further restrictions on their catch and release fishery. This really surprises me since the catch and release fishery makes up 49% of the overall mortality and 52% of the recreational mortality. I am waiting for them to come up with some suggestions on how to reduce that mortality figure.

I have gotten a little off track but I needed to let you know what is happening. If you care about your fisheries and the recreational sector you need to attend the hearings and board meetings. Since these meetings are still virtual you don’t need to travel, there is no expense, you just need to attend. You need to reach out to friends and family from other states and get them involved as well.

**Sportfishing Leaders Go to Washington**

*ASA Press Release*

Last week, members of the American Sportfishing Association’s Government Affairs committee traveled to Washington, D.C. for the annual spring government affairs meeting. The meeting provided sportfishing industry leaders with a chance to engage with Congress and federal agency leaders about policy issues affecting natural resources and the industry.

During the committee sessions, some of the issues discussed include legislative priorities such as the Recovering America’s Wildlife Act (RAWA), federal excise tax issues, import duty relief and conservation initiatives around the country.

Additionally, ASA members traveled to Capitol Hill to meet with a bipartisan group of members of Congress that serve on committees overseeing fisheries and natural resources. In total, the committee held briefings with five members of Congress: Representatives Debbie Dingell (D-Mich.), Bruce Westerman (R-Ark.), Jared Huffman (D-Calif.), Garrett Graves (R-La.) and Senator Martin Heinrich (D-N.M.).

ASA and the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation co-hosted an evening reception, attended by approximately 150 individuals including Members of Congress, Congressional staff, partner organizations and sportfishing industry leaders.

“After two years of being unable to meet in person in D.C., it was great to reconvene and share our message with members of Congress and federal agency officials,” said Mike Leonard, ASA’s Vice President of Government Affairs. “We had a productive two days in Washington and were able to advance our priorities while advocating on behalf of sportfishing before federal officials. Our committee is made up of leaders across the sportfishing industry, and we were able to ensure that we are heard on Capitol Hill. I would also like to thank Representatives Dingell, Huffman, Graves, Westerman and Senator Heinrich for their participation.”

Beyond government affairs issues, the committee discussed ASA’s communications efforts and new angler retention initiatives. We look forward to working with our members on both.

The ASA Government Affairs Committee is comprised of 35 individuals, representing a wide array of industry members from across the country. The committee meets twice a year to discuss key legislative and regulatory issues affecting the industry and to guide ASA’s positions and activities regarding these issues.
I have edited this agenda to fit in the newspaper. This will be a hybrid meeting (both in-person and remote) to allow for remote participation by Commissioners and interested stakeholders (meeting process details are provided later in this memo). The full agenda and meeting materials are available on the Commission website at this link. Supplemental materials will be posted to the website on Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

**Monday, May 2**

10:00am - Noon: Atlantic Coastal Cooperative Statistics Program Coordinating Council  
1. Welcome/Call to Order (J. Carmichael)  
2. Council Consent  
   - Approval of Agenda  
   - Approval of Proceedings from October 2021  
3. Public Comment  
4. Consider Funding Decision Document and FY2023 Request for Proposals (J. Simpson)  
5. Committee Updates  
   - 2022 Data Accountability Report – Completed  
   - Status Update on 2023-2027 Atlantic Recreational Implementation Plan  
   - Status Update on Methodology for Logbook Estimates of Catch and Effort with Dockside Validation  
6. Program Updates  
7. Other Business/Adjourn  

Noon - 1:00pm: Lunch Break

1:00 - 2:00pm: Coastal Pelagics Management Board  
1. Consider Quota Block Timeframe for Cobia Possible Final Action  
   - Technical Committee Report (A. Giuliano)  
   - Consider Changes to the Three-Year Quota Block for Harvest Specifications for Cobia (J. Cimino)  
2. Updates on Spanish Mackerel Stock Assessment Timeline and Federal Waters Management (E. Franke)  

2:15 - 4:15pm: Sciaenids Management Board  
4. Consider Red Drum Simulation Assessment and Peer Review Report Action  
   - Presentation of Red Drum Simulation Assessment Report (J. Ballanger)  
   - Presentation of Peer Review Panel Report (A. Schueller)  
5. Progress Update on Black Drum Benchmark Stock Assessment (J. Kipp)  
6. Other Business/Adjourn

**Tuesday, May 3**

8:30 - 10:00am: Horseshoe Crab Management Board  
1. Progress Update on Draft Addendum VIII (C. Starks)  
   - Review Recommendations on Options for Implementing the Adaptive Resource Management Framework Revision  
   - Provide Guidance to the Plan Development Team  
2. Update on PDT Review of Biomedical Mortality and Best Management Practices for Biomedical Collections (C. Starks)  
3. Other Business/Adjourn

10:15 - 11:45pm: Shad and River Herring Management Board  
4. Consider American Shad Habitat Plans/Updates (B. Neilan) Action  
   - Connecticut River  
   - Merrimack River  
5. Consider American Shad and River Herring Sustainable Fishery Management Plan Updates (B. Neilan) Action  
   - New York (River Herring)  
   - Delaware River Basin Cooperative (American Shad)  
6. Consider Technical Committee Report from Board Task on Prioritizing Systems for Shad Recovery and Developing Inventory of Available Data to Support Development of Fish Passage Criteria (B. Neilan)  
7. Consider Fishery Management Plan Review and State Compliance for 2020 Fishing Year (J. Boyle) Action  
8. Update on the 2023 River Herring Benchmark Stock Assessment  
   - Discuss Stock Assessment Subcommittee Membership (K. Drew)
11:45am - 12:45pm: Lunch Break

12:45 - 5:15pm: Atlantic Menhaden Management Board
1. 2021 Landings Data Update (J. Boyle)
2. Consider Draft Addendum I to Amendment 3 for Public Comment (T. Kerns) Action
   • Review 2020 Landings Proposal
3. Other Business/Adjourn

6:30 - 8:00pm: 2020 and 2021 Annual Awards of Excellence Reception

Wednesday, May 4

8:00 - 10:00am: Executive Committee
1. Review and Consider Approval of the Commission Budget for Fiscal Year 2023 (L. Leach) Action
2. Consider Changes to the Commission’s Appeals Policy (R. Beal)
3. Discuss Use of De Minimis in Interstate Fishery Management Plans (T. Kerns)
4. Conduct the Executive Director’s Performance Review (Closed Session)
5. Other Business/Adjourn

8:30am - 3:00pm: Law Enforcement Committee
5. Review Enforceability Guidelines and Consider Updates, as Needed
6. Review and Discuss ASMFC Species
   • Trackers in the American Lobster Fishery
   • Atlantic Herring: Update on Regulation Changes in Federal Waters
7. State Agency Reports

10:15 - 11:15am: Coastal Sharks Management Board
4. Consider Zero Retention Limit/Closure of the Shortfin Mako Fishery Final Action
   • Overview of the NOAA Fisheries Proposed Rule (K. Brewster-Geisz)
7. Other Business/Adjourn

11:30am - 5:15pm: Atlantic Striped Bass Management Board
1. Welcome/Call to Order (M. Gary)
2. Board Consent
   • Approval of Agenda
   • Approval of Proceedings from January 2022
3. Public Comment

4. Draft Amendment 7 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Final Approval Final Action
   • Review Options and Public Comment Summary (E. Franke)
   • Advisory Panel Report (E. Franke)
   • Law Enforcement Committee Report (K. Blanchard)
   • Consider Final Approval of Draft Amendment 7
5. Review 2022 Stock Assessment Update Projection Scenarios (K. Brewster)
6. Consider Next Steps for Draft Addendum VII to Amendment 6 Possible Action
   • Motion from October 2021: Move to defer until May 2022 consideration by the Atlantic Striped Bass Board of Draft Addendum VII to Amendment 6 to allow further development and review of the transfer options
7. Review and Populate Advisory Panel Membership (T. Berger) Action
8. Elect Vice-Chair Action
9. Other Business/Adjourn

Thursday, May 5

8:30 - 11:00am: Interstate Fisheries Management Program Policy Board
3. Public Comment
4. Executive Committee Report (S. Woodward)
5. Consider Changes to the Appeals Policy (R. Beal) Final Action
6. Update on Mode Split Work Group (R. Beal)
7. Report from De Minimis Work Group (T. Kerns) Possible Action
8. Update on East Coast Climate Change Scenario Planning (T. Kerns)
9. Committee Reports
   • Law Enforcement Committee (T. Kerns)
10. NOAA Report on Sea Turtle Bycatch in Trawl Fisheries (C. Upite)
   • Review Stakeholder Outreach on Action to Develop Bycatch Reduction Measure to Reduce Sea Turtle Takes
11. Update on MAFMC’s Consideration of Re-initiating the Research Set Aside Program (R. Beal)
12. Review Information Related to Tautog Commercial Tagging Program (J. Boyle)
13. Review Noncompliance Findings (if necessary)  
Action  
14. Other Business/Recess  

11:00 - 11:15am: Business Session  
1. Consider Approval of Amendment 7 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Striped Bass (M. Gary) Final Action  
2. Consider Noncompliance Recommendations (if necessary)  
3. Other Business/Adjourn  

11:30am - Noon: Interstate Fisheries Management Program Policy Board and Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council  
15. Reconvene with the MAFMC  
16. Initial Discussion on Commission Harvest Control Rule Draft Addenda and MAFMC Framework (D. Colson Leaning, J. Beatty)  
17. Other Business/Adjourn  

JCAA 26th Annual Fluke Tournament  
By Paul Turi  

This year the JCAA 26th Annual Fluke Tournament will be held on Saturday, June 11th. The Awards Presentations will be held on Friday night, June 17th at the Resorts Casino/Hotel.  
The tournament will follow the same format as in previous years, with 7 regions and 7 prizes for each region. In addition to fluke calcutta we will also be having two seabass calcutta.  

In next month’s column we will be outlining the package we will be receiving from Resorts for a tournament prize for each region and what, if anything, they will be offering for room rates for anyone desiring to stay over.  
Tournament entry forms went in the mail last week. If you have fished the tournament any year from 2013 onward, you will receive an Express Entry Form. We will also shortly have our entry forms on line and our online entry system through Eventbrite is now up and running.  
We are hoping to have a good turnout this year, so mark your calendars and we will see you in Atlantic City.  

JCAA High Roller Raffle  
By Paul Haertel  

JCAA now has its Hi Roller Raffle tickets on sale. We will be giving away prizes that have a total value exceeding $2500. We will be selling them at the AC Boat Show, the Saltwater Fishing Expo and also by mail. This is one of our major fundraisers so please help us out if you can. Stop by our booth to buy a few or just say hello and talk fishing.  
To purchase tickets by mail, make out a check to JCAA and mail it to: JCAA, 1594 Lakewood Rd., Unit 13, Toms River, NJ 08755. We can fill out the ticket stubs for you and mail them to you or we can mail you books of tickets and you may fill them out and return them to us with your payment. Either way is fine and we appreciate your anticipated support. We also accept PayPal and credit cards. For more information call our office at 732-506-6565. Please leave a message if no one answers and we will get back to you.  

Location:  
At the JCAA office located at:  
1594 Lakewood Rd., Unit 13, Toms River, NJ 08755  
Drawing Date: August 12, 2022 at 7:30 pm  
NJLGCCCC Identification: #475-4-32152  
Municipal Raffle License: #9265  
Beneficiary: Jersey Coast Anglers Association  
Price of Ticket: $2 each, 3 for $5, or a book of 7 for $10  
List of Prizes (retail values)  
1. Jersey Nutz Six Man Charter (6 hour, 6 man inshore weekday charter) – $1100, Donated by Captains Robert and Cody Melton  
2. $500 gift Certificate from Fisherman’s Headquarters – $500, Donated by Fisherman’s Headquarters  
3. St. Croix Triumph 10’ TSRS100M2 Spinning Rod/Penn Spinfisher V 650LL Headquarters – $250, Donated by JCAA
4. Shimano Tallus 7’ TLC70M Conv. Rod/Montauk Cerebus CER210 Headquarters – $233, Donated by JCAA

5. Collection of Custom Striper Plugs Headquarters – $200, Donated by Various Plug Builders

6. Tica 9’ UEHA4290025 Spinning Rod/ Tica Galant 4500 Reel Headquarters – $155, Donated by Tica

7. Tsunami 7’ TSTSS702M Spinning Rod/Tsunami Shield TSSHD4000 Reel Headquarters – $154, Donated by Bimini Bay Outfitters

Note: No substitution of the offered prize may be made and no cash will be given in lieu of the prize.

JCAA Membership Report
By John Toth

Please pay your club dues for 2022! Club membership forms have been sent out and along with your dues payment, please fill out the information requested such as the name of your president, treasurer and who will be your club’s representative(s) at the JCAA General Membership meetings that are held on the last Tuesday of every month. Our next JCAA General Membership meeting will be held on April 26th by ZOOM starting at 7:30 p.m.

President Mark Taylor and I visited the Hi-Mar Striper Fishing Club on April 5th to present our new JCAA power point presentation to their members. The purpose of our giving this presentation is to provide our member clubs with information about the JCAA and its involvement with the so many fishing issues that confront us. Also, visiting member clubs gives us the opportunity to interact with them and to hear their feedback on the issues that are important to them. Finally, our going to clubs provides a person-to-person forum and this shows members who we are instead of some faceless organization. Both Mark and I enjoyed our meeting with this club and its President John Azzinaro and Steve Machalba who invited us to this meeting. I also got to see and enjoy talking to Len Fantasia and Captain Robby who I have not seen for quite some time.

Also at this meeting was the president of the Raritan Bay fishing club, Don Beyer who invited us to give this JCAA presentation on April 14th to his members. I could not attend this meeting because of a schedule conflict. However, Mark Taylor did attend it and from what I heard from Mark is that it was enjoyable and he was well received by the Raritan Bay members.

We plan to attend the meetings of other clubs to give our JCAA presentation, especially to clubs that we have not heard from for quite some time. If you are interested in having us do an in-person presentation at your meeting or by ZOOM, please let me know at (732) 656-0139 or by tothjohn@verizon.net.

Youth Education Report
By Greg Kucharewski

31st ANNUAL GOVERNOR’S SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT

The 31st Annual Governor’s Surf Fishing Tournament (GSFT) will be held at Island Beach State Park on Sunday, May 15, 2022. Get ready to enter the largest surf fishing tournament along the Jersey Shore. Don’t miss a day of family fishing fun! Pick up a brochure about the tournament at Island Beach State Park or at your favorite tackle dealer. Remember, admission to the park is FREE for the tournament.

Tournament officials and sponsoring organizations are excited about the tournament and are looking forward to another successful event. This year, Yamaha Motors has joined us to set up an outdoor booth to support the tournament and provide items for the high school and NJ HOFNOD fishing teams and veterans.

This is the time to start preparing your fish catching strategies so that you can catch a trophy fish that will win the 2022 Governor’s Surf Fishing Tournament and win PRIZES. If you catch the largest fish, your name will be inscribed on the Governor’s Cup, with previous winners and displayed at the IBSP for all to see. High school fishing clubs, along with other school-based fishing teams and veterans.

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Suggested list of what you might need to fish if you walk to your location on the beach. Surf bag
with prepared assorted baits & soft cooler pack, terminal tackle for targeted fish- sinkers, hooks, snaps/swivels etc., Lure assortment, casting metal/jigs- small variety of swimming, diving, surface poppers that mimic local bait. Other gear - pliers w/line cutter, knife, measuring tape to record catch and release, dry bag for camera/phone, waders/boots, foul weather gear, extra small first aid kit, water, sunscreen, sunglasses, cap, sand spikes, stringer/plastic bag, and a towel. Packing your fishing equipment in advance will allow you to carry everything compactly. If you must walk to another fishing location, it is especially important to pack your fishing gear, so you can move easily through the sand.

We would like to remind our physically challenged anglers that there is an area at OBA 1 with beach wheelchairs available. Anglers that are not able to walk in the sand can now get to the water and try surf fishing. The JCAA Youth Education Committee is helping novice and physically challenged anglers at the Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament. World Jeep – Chrysler – Dodge - Ram, Shrewsbury, NJ will assist physically challenged anglers with a NEW 2022 4x4 VIP vehicle to transport anglers that will be fishing the reserved area in front of OBA 1. Members of the Vietnam Veterans of America (Chapter 12) and volunteer anglers from various fishing clubs will also assist physically challenged anglers. If you know a disabled veteran or angler that would like to fish the tournament, please phone Greg K at 732-785-9278 or email gkucharews@jcaa.org.

**HIGH SCHOOL TEAM COMPETITION 31st ANNUAL GOVERNOR’S SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT**

High school fishing teams are gearing up for the Governor’s Surf Fishing Tournament five students per team plus a high school representative must go with each high school team. The Governor’s Surf Fishing Tournament Committee is encouraging high school fishing clubs, along with other school-based fishing teams to get ready for the Annual Governor’s Cup School team competition. If you know a school team that would like to register for this event, please email Karen Byrne at: karen.byrne@dep.nj.gov. To register your High School team follow instructions at this link.

Please visit the JCAA Website for updates and don’t forget to register for the Free NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry Program.

**YOUTH FISHING CHALLENGE**

The DEP Division of Fish and Wildlife NJ Fishing Challenge is scheduled for Sunday, June 5, 2022. NJ HOFNOD will support fishing teams at the Governor’s Surf Fishing Tournament. For more info visit their website. If you are interested in attending a NJ HOFNOD workshop, please email or phone Liz Jackson, NJ HOFNOD Coordinator, at liz.jackson@dep.state.nj.us or 908-637-4125 x122. Youth Fishing Challenge - The HOFNOD Program's Youth Fishing Challenge is a statewide event to promote fishing among youths and their families. It is being held on the first of the state's two Free Fishing Days, when no license is required to fish regardless of age. For more information and to register your group location visit: Youth Fishing Challenge.

**6th ANNUAL KID’S WISH’N TO GO FISH’N TAKE A VETERAN FISHING DAY**

Registration for the 6th Annual Kid’s Wish’n to go Fish’n and Play HOOK-e Take a Veteran Fishing Day at Ponderosa Estates Farm will open soon. Don Marantz, Event Chairman, Vito Cardinale, Cardinale Enterprises, and Randy Johnson, Laurita Winery always make this a fun event for children with disabilities and special needs. Play HOOK-e Take a Veteran Fishing Day and the Kid’s Wish’n to go Fish’n event is always a fun day at Lake Julianna. Keep an eye on the JCAA website for more details.

Visit the JCAA Youth Education webpage to make a donation for this worthwhile event.

Please visit the JCAA Website for updates and don’t forget to register for the Free NJ Saltwater Recreational Registry Program.