



PATCHOGUE FISHING CLUB

P.O. Box 808

Patchogue, N.Y. 11772

www.pfc1938.com



FEBRUARY 2004 NEWSLETTER

One way to beat the winter blues is to attend one of the many Sportfishing and Boat shows around Long Island and New York. Several have come and gone over the past couple of months and I hope everyone had a chance to catch one of them. If you didn't, and are still interested in learning something new before the 2004 season kicks off, I've got some good news. The Suffolk County Department of Parks, Recreation and Conservation is offering a 10-week instructional course about sportfishing on Long Island. Classes will be held on Tuesday nights from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m. beginning March 2nd, in the media room of the H. Lee Dennison Building in Hauppauge. Registration is \$115 per person. Field trips are an additional fee. For registration information call 854-0903. This course is obviously a bit more intense than your typical boat show but if you have the time I'll bet you learn a great deal.

2004 DINNER DANCE

When: Saturday, March 13, 2004
Where: SUNSET HARBOR
Time: 7:00 - 12:00 p.m.
Cost: \$45 *(Includes dinner, music and dance, as well as open bar 4 of the 5 hours)*

Let's celebrate the 2003 fishing year together with great music, dinner and dance, prizes and trophies, and of course great company. Don't miss out on the fun. If you have not done so already get your response cards back to David Knieriemen as soon as possible.

NEXT REGULAR CLUB MEETING WILL BE HELD ON:

February 26, 2004

Where: Blue Point Cottage
Time: 8:00 p.m.
Indoor: Marquetry by Jim Belmonte

Coffee and Donuts will be served

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Outdoor

No official dates are set for the 2004 season yet although we have been getting some great suggestions! We will discuss some proposed dates at the February meeting.

I am happy to say that George Dietz will once again be organizing this year's surf tournaments and Harvey Holmes has been busy trying to set up our annual blackfish tournament.

As many of you know I asked Harvey Holmes, an avid blackfish fisherman, to help the club organize a black fishing trip next fall. If you attended the January meeting you were part of our discussions regarding this subject. The idea was to try and get the club together on one boat (a charter) to fish the tournament. The real challenge, however, was to get a boat that was not already booked and had a captain that really knew how to catch fish.

Well, it seems that Harvey came through for the club...

Harvey informed me that we are all set to fish off of the **Celtic Quest (Mount Sinai) on Friday, October 29**. If you're not lucky enough to be retired you have plenty of time to schedule that day off. Remember, at the January meeting we all pretty much agreed that a weekday tournament would be possible. I'm very excited about it!



The captain requested that we (PFC) must, at least, get enough people to pay for his "minimum charter amount", which is \$1,380. What does that mean? If we get, let's say, 20 members to fish the tournament it would cost \$80/person (including a 15% tip). If you typically give the mates more you can do that on an individual basis. If we can get more than 20 members, the trip will be less per person and of course, if we get less the trip will cost more per person.



members

mind, we request a \$40 deposit from each member (1/2 the total cost of the trip). If we get at least 12 members to put a deposit down we will get close enough to minimum amount (A stretch, I know).

Now, the captain would like a deposit as soon as possible (He requested \$500). If we start collecting deposit money from members interested in fishing the tournament at the Regular Meeting (2/26/04) we should be able to gather enough for the deposit. I figure we assume that 20 will fish and the cost will be \$80/person. With that in

We will discuss this trip further and start collecting the deposits at the February meeting so please be prepared to pay if you are interested.

Indoor

Jim Belmonte will be showing off some of his beautiful Marquetry artwork at the February meeting. Not only is Jim a great fisherman but I understand his Marquetry skills are even better. Marquetry is the art and craft of producing pictures and decorative designs by the skilful use of the grain, figure and color of thin veneers of wood and other materials. Don't miss out on this indoor activity!

COMMITTEE REPORTS - continued

March

Harvey Holmes arranged for Harvey Cooper to speak to the club during the March meeting. Harvey is a very experienced fluke and blackfish fisherman but he is most known for his excellent salt water fly tying ability. Harvey will speak on how best to use the flies while saltwater fishing for fluke and during our break will sell some of his famous flies if anyone is interested.

April

Al Goldberg will speak to the club once again! I'm excited to say that he also agreed to raffle off one of his famous fishing rods. More details to come.

New York Surf Tournament – (Report provided by Heidi LeLaidier)

The Patchogue Fishing Club Placed 16 out of 18 overall this year. In the women's division for striped bass, Heidi LeLaidier took first place with an impressive 23 pound 8 ounce bass caught in early November. Heidi also secured a fourth place standing in the women's division for bluefish with a 12 pound 15 ounce bluefish caught again in early November. Beau LeLaidier managed an eighth place standing in the children's bluefish division with his 7 pound 12 ounce fish.

Congratulations are in order for all the members of our club who fished and turned in their weigh slips. Below are the final individual standings for 2003.

Out of 192 reporting anglers, here are where our angler's stood:

188.	Beau LeLaidier	7. points
135.	Dallas Bengel	35. points
125.	Sal Matos	40. points
121.	Heidi LeLaidier	41. points
106.	Guy LeLaidier	55. points
28.	Artie Yarrington	286. points
14.	Peter Cilento	388. points

Artie Yarrington and Pete Cilento are to be congratulated for earning silver achievement pins. This is quite an achievement to accomplish.

Award plaques and achievement pins will hopefully be handed out at our annual dinner dance in March. Let's make 2004 an even better one for our club.

Scales

Please clean up and lubricate your scales so they will be ready for calibration. Bill Rockwell will be at the February meeting.

Jackets

Tom Wasilewicz still has some T-shirts and hats for the 2004 season. Make sure you have some of each and wear them proudly when you go fishing or just around town.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - continued

Fish of the Month

Cheryl reported that no slips were handed in this year yet and therefore we have no fish of the month winner for January. It has been a bit brutal outside!

Don't Forget: Fish of the month winners are not required to pick up their prize within 2 meetings; however, the club continues to encourage all members to make meetings regularly. If a fish of the month winner does not pick up their prize within 2 meetings, the prize will be mailed to that member.

Prizes

All of the 2003 prize winners have been identified and George Remien is now busy preparing the trophies, plaques, and prizes for the annual dinner dance on March 13th. Congratulations to all winners ahead of time! (The few gift certificates left over from the 2003 fishing season will be used up in 2004 season).

Good & Welfare

I am very sorry to inform you that John Tighe's stepfather recently passed away. Our thoughts and prayers go out to John and his family.

Congratulations to Tom and Elizabeth Wasilewicz as they are expecting their first child in July 2004.



Dues

Don't forget all dues must be paid before the April meeting. Dues will continue to be collected at the February meeting. Below, you will find the dues for 2004:

Adult member:	\$45.
Senior member:	\$30.
Spouse of adult member:	\$25.
Junior member:	\$10.
Child of member:	\$5.

150 Club

Please don't wait till the last minute to buy and/or sell your required (2) 150 Club tickets. 2004 drawings will occur as soon as all 150 tickets are sold.

Picnic

I know it's early but I want to make sure everyone marks their calendars for the 2004 George Dietz Annual Patchogue Fishing Club Picnic. Thanks to Ron Pfister we are all set for

Sunday, July 25.

New Members (2004)

A big welcome goes out to David Kazmark who joined the club at the January meeting. He was brought in by Tom Ganetis. Let me be the first to wish David many years of "tight lines".

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!!

JASON