



Patchogue Fishing Club

P.O. Box 808; Patchogue, NY 11772 www.pfc1938.com

March 2008 Newsletter

Editor/Publisher Jason Remien



Welcome to the start of the 2008 fishing season! Some of us have already started to ply our local waters in search of fish. However, for most of us, the middle of March signals the start of the season. I myself hope to get out this weekend to try for some Trout up in Yaphank, but let us see if the weather holds out. Most of the local freshwater lakes and rivers have been stocked, so get out and try your luck.

Still there is still no definitive news as of yet in regards to the 2008 Fluke regulations. There have been several rumors going around about the possible 2008 regulations but the NYSDEC has not made any official statements regarding this issue. The Marine Resources Advisory Council (MRAC) held a meeting at the NYSDEC building in Setauket. This meeting filled the room to capacity, which was 90 persons, and another 40 people were forced to stand vigil outside of the facility. The MRAC has by a very large majority endorsed the NYSDEC proposal number 10. Proposal number 10 reads as follows, four (4) fish per day at 20.5 inches with an open season from May 15 to September 1. Even though this proposal is a decrease of 44% of last year's regulations, the DEC is still concerned this option is going to allow New York anglers to exceed the 2008 quota. If the 2008 fluke quota is exceeded, a mandatory shutdown of the 2009 fluke season would occur. In the mean time, the MRAC is hoping that by the time we exceed this years Fluke quota, a bill before the senate named HR5425 is passed. This bill would give NOAA some flexibility in the management of rebuilding plans of certain fish stocks. This has the full endorsement of the RFA and quite a few Senators. As more information becomes available on this subject, it will be passed on through the web site and future president's messages.

In last weeks Long Island Fishermen, Al Ristori is again reporting that a New York State Marine Fishing License is a very real possibility in the near future. A federally mandated marine angler registration is scheduled to become a reality by the year 2011. Many states along the east coast are starting their own state marine licensing program, which would allow each individual state that has a license in affect to keep the funds generated by their marine fishing license. Those states that are without a marine license at the time any fund is generated would be included into a federally controlled fund. There are no plans at present for New York to implement the Marine Fishing License but it seems very likely that in the very near future this could become a reality. Again, as information becomes available, I will keep everyone posted.

Tight Lines

James Smith

NEXT REGULAR CLUB MEETING WILL BE HELD ON:

March 27, 2008



Where: Blue Point Cottage
Time: 8:00 p.m.

Coffee and donuts will be served.

Committee Reports



Scales

Bill Rockwell will be at the March meeting calibrating scales. He will have the scales ready to go for those members that dropped them off at the February meeting. Please clean off and lubricate your scales prior to having them calibrated.



Good & Welfare

We are sorry to report the Jim Belmonte's wife has been diagnosed with cancer and is not doing well at this time. Jim, we all wish you and your wife the best.



Historian

John is continuing to do an outstanding job keeping our scrapbooks up to date. Pictures from the 2008 Annual Dinner Dance will be added soon.



Indoor

March

Al Goldberg is scheduled to speak at the March 27th meeting. This year Al will be providing tips on striped bass fishing and will have handouts available, which will summarize all of the key points. As usual, Al will be auctioning off a custom fishing rod at the meeting. However, this time he plans on really making it custom! The winner of the raffle drawing will sit with Al after the meeting and together, decide exactly what type of rod to build. This includes size, color, monogram, etc. Raffle tickets will be \$10/each or 2 for \$25. All proceeds will benefit "Send a Kid Fishing". Please make sure you get to the meeting on time (8:00 p.m.) so that we can give Al as much time as possible. See you then!

April

I'm happy to report that Captain Jerry McGrath will be joining us again. Capt. McGrath is an avid fisherman, an award winning adult education instructor, and a former Montauk charter boat skipper. He has authored articles for sportfishing publications, given numerous lectures throughout the Long Island and New York Metropolitan Area, and has produced an instructional video titled "Sportfishing On Long Island". Join us on Thurs, April 24, 2008 for what should be a fun-filled, educational and exciting experience.



Capt. McGrath will be providing a Blackfish Seminar. See below for details:

Bottom fishing is a fun and popular activity practiced by many Long Island anglers. Blackfish, also known as tautog, have earned a reputation as one of the most pugnacious and challenging fish to catch from the sea bottoms of our Long Island waters. Jerry McGrath will give a multimedia presentation on everything you need to know to reel in the elusive tautog. During the program Jerry will discuss bait selection, rigging, and tackle choices, as well as how to locate large "bulldog" blackfish.

May

Patrick Maloit from the NOAA Weather Bureau in Upton, New York will be speaking at the May 22nd regular meeting. Thanks to John Tighe for arranging this indoor activity. One possible topic for discussion may be clarification of the Marine Reporting Criteria (i.e., Small Craft Warning, Gale Warning, Storm Warning, etc.).

June

If no other speakers are identified, the PFC will hold its annual Chinese Auction in June. By this time everyone should have gone through and organized all of their fishing gear collected over the years. Hopefully, while organizing, everybody can find a couple of "articles" they could donate to the club for the Chinese Auction. Proceeds will be used to supplement various club committees.

150 Club



Don reported that 93 tickets have been sold so far. We still have several members who have not paid their dues as of yet so hopefully, we will have no problem meeting the 150 mark.



Prizes

Please let George Remien know if you have any suggestions for new places to get gift certificates and other prizes for the club.

Rules & Records

Don't forget that we will be voting on the proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Patchogue Fishing Club at the March meeting. All changes were included in the February newsletter and discussed at the last regular meeting.



2009 Dinner

We need a volunteer to organize the 2009 Dinner Dance. Please let Jim Smith know as soon as possible if you are willing to help out. Thanks!



Dues

Carl will continue collecting dues at the March meeting.

Similar to last year, we will be collecting dues and the obligatory 150 tickets together. So be prepared to pay for both. Dues are due as of January 1st. So if you want to avoid being considered "not in good standing" you have to pay before or at the April Meeting. Here are the rates for 2008:

| | |
|--|---------|
| Adult Member + two 150 Club Tickets | \$80.00 |
| Senior Member + two 150 Club Tickets | \$65.00 |
| Spouse + two 150 Club Tickets | \$60.00 |
| Life + two 150 Club Tickets..... | \$20.00 |
| Junior Member | \$25.00 |

Additional 150 Club tickets will be available.

Junior members are not obliged to purchase 150 Club tickets.



Newsletter

Anyone without internet access will receive their newsletter in the mail. If you have any problems with the electronic delivery please call Carl at 289-6934. He will be happy to help you.

Website



Since we are no longer reading the minutes during the meetings, look for them on the website:

March Birthdays



23rd Lorry Mangan

Happy Birthday Lorry! If we forgot a birthday please let Cheryl Dippel know and we'll make sure to recognize this special occasion in the next newsletter.

Fish of the Month



March's prize goes to Chuck Moffett with a 2 pound 8 ounce Trout. Congratulations Chuck!

Outdoor



UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS



COD AND POLLOCK TOURNAMENT

Date: Saturday, April 12, 2008
Time: TBD
Place: Montauk, NY – Viking Fleet
Weigh in: On Boat
Prizes: 1st and 2nd Largest Cod, 1st Largest Pollock, 1st Largest Lingcod



PECONIC BAY TOURNAMENT

Date: Saturday, May 10, 2009 (Date subject to Season Opening Date)
Time: Sunrise – 4pm
Place: Peconic Bay
Weigh in: From 4 – 4:30pm at the Manhasset Avenue Launching Ramp (Gull Pond)
Prizes: TBD

Details on the Cod Tournament will be provided at the March meeting. Matt Werner will be contacting the Viking Fleet to see if the club can get a discounted group rate for the tournament. If you plan on fishing this tournament please make sure you attend the March meeting. If you have any questions or comments regarding any of the scheduled tournaments please contact:

Matt Werner
mwerner1@optonline.net
 H: 631 207 9400
 M: 516 527 2803
 W: 516 671 2215 x 110

Outdoor Committee Members:
 John Caruso, Gary Look

Picnic & Casting



Cathedral Pines Park has been reserved for Sunday, July 27th for the annual George Dietz PFC Picnic and Jim Belmonte Casting Tournament. Please mark your calendars!

Upcoming Meetings



Regular Meetings

| Type | Date | Time | Location |
|----------------------|--------|-------------|--------------------|
| Informal | 28-Feb | 8pm | Blue Point Cottage |
| Informal | 27-Mar | 8pm | Blue Point Cottage |
| Business | 24-Apr | 8pm | Blue Point Cottage |
| Informal | 22-May | 8pm | Blue Point Cottage |
| Informal | 26-Jun | 8pm | Blue Point Cottage |
| Casting Picnic | 27-Jul | 8am Noon | Cathedral Pines |
| no meeting in August | | | |
| Business | 25-Sep | 8pm | Blue Point Cottage |
| Informal | 23-Oct | 8pm | Blue Point Cottage |
| Ladies Night | TBD | TBD | TBD |
| Business | 18-Dec | 8pm | Blue Point Cottage |

Directors' Meetings

| Day | Date | Time | Location |
|------------------------|--------|------|-----------------|
| Wed | 19-Mar | 8pm | Heidi LeLaidier |
| Wed | 16-Apr | 8pm | Matt Werner |
| Wed | 14-May | 8pm | Mark Tutrani |
| Wed | 18-Jun | 8pm | Ron Pfister |
| no meeting in July | | | |
| no meeting in August | | | |
| Wed | 17-Sep | 8pm | Don Schaefer |
| Wed | 15-Oct | 8pm | Tom Ganetis |
| Wed | 19-Nov | 8pm | John Tighe |
| no meeting in December | | | |