



*Fish Hawks Celebrates 48 years.*

## **APRIL 2025 FISH HAWKS NEWSLETTER**

**FISH HAWKS OFFICIAL WEB SITE [www.fishhawksnj.com](http://www.fishhawksnj.com)**



### **FISH HAWKS OFFICERS & All BOARD MEMBERS:**

**PRESIDENT:** Karl Dahl 609-693-4674  
**VICE PRESIDENT:** David Bye 908-892-1385  
**C.F.O.:** Tony Guadagnino 609-242-9471  
**TRESURER:** Mickey Sherry 732-421-6668  
**SECRETARY:** George Royston 908-456-3132

**Bob Dunlap 609-242-3745**  
**Frank Genty 732-604-0591**  
**Ken Rylak 609-575-7477**  
**Paul Schell 609-440-0907**

### **SHORE CASTS**

**MEMBERS ARE REMINDED TO PATRONIZE ALL OF OUR SPONSORS.**

**Our Club radio channel is 19. We ask our members to please monitor it at all times.**

If you have changed your mailing address, phone number, e-mail address, or you do not receive or miss an issue of the newsletter, please contact Membership Chairwoman, Sandi Roy. Sandi's cell phone is 609-618-6211 or an email can be sent to [robandsandi@yahoo.com](mailto:robandsandi@yahoo.com). Please do not leave a message on her home phone.

Please call Good & Welfare Chairwoman Marilyn Dahl if you know of any member who is ill or has been hospitalized. Marilyn can be reached on her cell phone at 201-232-6896 or home phone at 609-693-4674. You may also email her at [marilynjd@comcast.net](mailto:marilynjd@comcast.net).

Yearly membership cards for those current in dues are available at the meeting. If you have paid your dues and have not received a current dues card, please see Mickey Sherry Treasurer, at the meeting. If you have or want a speaker on a specific subject, please contact our Guest Speaker Chairman Ken Kawalek at 609-575-1230

“SEA TOW offers 13 months for the price of 12 and an additional \$20.00 off for a yearly membership for Fish Hawk members!”

Boat US membership discount code is **GA83831B**. Ask for new member applications.

## *Presidents Message*

Hi all

What a month.... Do you think the wind will ever subside??? If you're like me you are chomping at the bit to get out on the water. Well, I guess the one good thing about all this wind is that I had plenty of time to select my fishing contest choices and marked on the slip and I can hand it in on the deadline April 3. The form is in this newsletter. Make sure you check off the box for April stripers cause that's what our first fishing trip of the year on April 29 will be targeting. The water in New Jersey is starting to warm up and the first of the migratory stripers will be running along our coast. Whitey still has a few spots open so contact Bob Merkle if you are interested in going. Hopefully the sun will stay out and the Back Bay Flounder Pounders will get some action too.

At our annual budget meeting of the Executive board, we decided what organizations that we have in the past, and will again donate to in 2025 and as promised here is the list; Vet works Org, Lacey Food Bank, Lacey High School fishing club, Lacey Dive and Rescue team, Lacey Lunch Program, Wreaths across America, Mullikin Org, troop mailing, Marine Mammal Stranding Center, Jr. Mates Program, and BHCFA Reef program. If you know of any worthwhile local organization that could use a donation, speak to any board member and we will take it under advisement.

Don't forget our upcoming birthdays this month, Ricky Barratt 2<sup>nd</sup>, Kevin O'Rourke 2<sup>nd</sup>, Rich Leahy 3<sup>rd</sup>, Bruce Schwartz 5<sup>th</sup>, Dave Bye 13<sup>th</sup>, Walt Bohn 15<sup>th</sup>, Georger Royston 16<sup>th</sup>, Cy Guadagnino 19<sup>th</sup>, Bob Merkle 19<sup>th</sup>, Clifford DiLea 24<sup>th</sup>, Kenneth Dominguez 25<sup>th</sup>, Cindy Ward 25<sup>th</sup>, and Raymond Sebecke 26<sup>th</sup>! Happy Birthday Everyone.

Our guest speakers this month Are Capt. John Lewis and Capt. Bill Figley from Jr. Mates program and BHCFA reef programs, who will inform us about their programs to recruit younger people and train them to be successful mates on charter boats and about their reef ball program. After hearing about their program, I am signing up my grandson. See you at the meeting on the 3, and as always, remember,

*"You Have to Hook Em to Cook Em!"*

*Karl*

### **"THE HAWK"**

**(APRIL 2024)**

**THE BIRD:** Spring has finally arrived & with that we kick-off our clubs **MONTHLY CONTESTS & TOURNAMENTS. Thursday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> is our monthly meeting & that's the FINAL day that your entry form & fee are due. Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> is the start of our MONTHLY CONTESTS. Our first tournament day is Saturday April 19<sup>th</sup>. NEW MEMBERS who join in 2025 can enter at any time.**

**Val & Kenn Seefelt committee chairs will be collecting your entry forms & checks at the meeting. If you have any questions please contact Val, Kenn or Tony G. Up-dated forms & rules are available on our website, enclosed in this month newsletter & will also be available at Thursday's meeting.**

## **FLEA MARKET**

**Our March Flea Market had to be cancelled due to the construction of their main meeting room. (a major financial loss to our club).**

## **FISH BITES**

**Our first club fishing trip is scheduled for Tuesday April 29<sup>th</sup> for Striped Bass. Any questions contact Whitey @ (609)276-1899**

**Our club ROSTER for 2024 will be mailed out in the month of April. A whole lot of thanks to SANDI ROY who puts a lot of time & effort in putting the roster together. Sandi, we appreciate all that you do!!!**

**NOTE: The ROSTER is only for your personal use to contact club members & NOT TO BE COPIED OR DISTRIBUTED!!!!!!!**

**REGULATIONS: BLACKFISH: OPENS April 1<sup>st</sup> thru April 30<sup>th</sup>, (4 Fish; 15") Fishery is CLOSED from May 1<sup>st</sup> to July 31<sup>st</sup>. Re-opens August 1<sup>st</sup> thru November 15<sup>th</sup> 1 fish & from November 16<sup>th</sup> thru December 31<sup>st</sup> 5 fish.**

**STRIPED BASS: Is OPEN; 1 fish at 28" to 31" You can sign -up for the Striper BONUS program which allows 1 fish @ 24" but less than 28". If interested go on-line to N.J. FISH & WILDLIFE.**

**SEABASS: 10 fish (5/17 to 6/19): 1 fish (7/1 to 8/31): 10 fish (10/1 to 10/31): 15 fish (11/1 to (12/31). (All Waves has a size limit of 12 ½")**

**FLUKE: Opens May 4<sup>th</sup> thru September 25<sup>th</sup> 3 fish: 18" & up**

**(WE HAD A WIN) Thanks to all the recreational fisherman who sent in their surveys & those that attended the meetings.**

**PORGY'S: OPEN I/I to 6/30 CLOSED 7/1 to 8/31, re-opens 9/1 to 12/31. (30 fish @ 10").**

**BLUEFISH: No closed season or size limit. 3 fish for Private anglers and 5 for Head Boat anglers**

**"YOUR NOT FAT, YOUR JUST EASIER TO SEE"  
"BE SAFE OUT THERE"  
"THE HAWK"**

**\*\*\*\*\*LACEY FOOD BANK\*\*\*\*\***  
**APRIL 2025**

**Lacey Food Bank looking for Food & Monetary Donations:** We all know that food and daily life is costing so much extra these days.... and the Lacey Food Bank appreciates your donations more than ever. As it was stated last month, the amount of people that are being provided for each month only goes up. Let's not forget the needs of the less fortunate who are in need of grocery items and our support. Your food and monetary donations are always appreciated.

Let's make our April meeting food and monetary donations the best one yet.

Below is a list of items that are always in need at the Food Bank:

Peanut butter

Jelly

Macaroni and cheese

Pasta and Spaghetti sauce

Cereals

Chicken noodle soup

SpaghettiOs

Snacks like pretzels, peanut butter crackers, Goldfish crackers, fruit snacks, cookies, etc.

Juice boxes

Apple juice

Applesauce

Should you forget to bring some food items to our April meeting, there is a jar by the Lacey Food Bank bin where you can place both checks made out to the Lacey Food Bank or money into.

Thanks again for your support.

Sincerely,

Ken Rylak

**Fish Hawks Boat Trips**

**All payments for the Boat Trips must be in 10 days before the scheduled trip.**

Boat trips are on the Miss Michelle, Point Pleasant NJ. We sail at 6:30 AM sharp.

Cost is \$100.00 per person for about a 8 eight-hour trip, Fish Hawks Club funds & "Whitey" procures Sandwiches, condiments, snacks, soft beverages for your enjoyment.

April 29, Stripers

June 10, Sea Bass

July 15, Fluke.

Oct 7, Sea Bass & Blackfish/Tog

Please be generous with a tip for the mate, they can make you have a better day fishing.

Any Questions call Bob Merkle 609.902.7394 or Whitey 609-242-3745

Monthly Contest and Tournament Day Entry Form

PLEASE NOTE: MONTHLY CONTEST BEGINS THE  
FRIDAY AFTER APRIL'S MEMBERSHIP MEETING



Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	# Of Months	Totals Dollars
Blackfish*****	X				X	X	X	X	X		
Bluefish*****	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Fluke*****		X	X	X	X	X					
Sea Bass*****		X	X	X	X		X	X	X		
Striped Bass*****	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Weakfish*****	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		

Blowfish		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Kingfish		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
COD	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Flounder	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Ling	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X		
Porgy	X	X	X			X	X	X	X		
Triggerfish		X	X	X	X	X	X	X			

Place a circle around the X in the box for the species and months that you wish to enter the monthly contest for a cost of \$2 per month.  
Or you can ***go all in*** for all species denoted by an X (100 months) for \$100.

Additionally the cost for up to 20 scheduled tournament days is \$30

Entries and all money must be received by the first Thursday in April at our monthly meeting.

Monthly Contest Total at \$2 per Circled X Box

Make Checks payable to the Fish Hawks.

Buy All X Boxes For \$100

Give the completed form to Kenn or Val Seefelt at our monthly

\$ 30 Tournament Day Buy In

Mail: Fish Hawks P.O. Box 700  
Forked River 08731

Total Amount

Contest Chairman Signature

\*\*\*\*\* Only 6 Species eligible for Tournament Days and Largest Fish of The Year \*\*\*\*\*

Only fish caught in New Jersey waters are eligible for Monthly Contests, Tournament Days and Largest Fish of The Year.  
Entry into Tournament day also enters you into "Largest Fish of Year" contest.

New Members can participate at any time once after becoming a new member.

Note: To view all contest rules please go to <http://www.fishhawksnj.com> and select contest form and rules.

	A	B	C	D
1		<b>FISH HAWKS</b>		
2			<b>2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS</b>	
3	<b>January</b>	XXX	XXX	NO GENERAL MEETING    **BOD Mtg.(Ops Rev) Thurs. 1/30
4	<b>February</b>	6th	Thursday	General Meeting    **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 2/27
5	<b>March</b>	1st ***	Saturday	***CANCELLED F.H. FLEA MARKET LACEY ELKS CLUB
6		6th	Thursday	General Meeting    **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 3/27
7	<b>April</b>	3rd	Thursday	General Meeting    **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 4/24
8		19 & 28	Sat & Mon	Tournament Day # 1 & 2
9	<b>May</b>	1st	Thursday	General Meeting    **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 5/29
10		9th	Friday	Tournament Day # 3
11		25th	SUNDAY	Tournament Day # 4
12	<b>June</b>	1st	SUNDAY	ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET (Captains Inn)
13		5th	Thursday	General Meeting    **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 6/26
14		7th	Saturday	Tournament Day # 5
15		13 & 14	Fri & Sat	LADIES 2 Day Fluke Tournament
16		20th	Friday	Tournament Day # 6
17		30th	Monday	Tournament Day # 7
18	<b>July</b>	3rd	Thursday	General Meeting    **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 7/31
19		11th	Friday	Tournament Day # 8
20		19th	Saturday	FISH HAWKS YOUTH SEMINAR
21		26 & 27	Sat & Sun	Sat TD #9 Tri Club T.    Sun Awards Picnic Tuna Club
22	<b>August</b>	7th	Thursday	General Meeting    **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 8/28
23		9th	Saturday	Tournament Day # 10
24		16th	Saturday	MA 22 VETS FISHING TRIP (rain day Sun. 17th)
25		18 & 31	Mon & Sun	Tournament Days # 11 12
26	<b>September</b>	4th	Thursday	General Meeting    **BOD Mtg. Thur. 9/25
27		8th	Monday	Tournament Day # 13
28		13th	Saturday	ANNUAL PICNIC (Gille Park) 1 PM TO ????
29		21st	Sunday	Tournament Day # 14
30	<b>October</b>	2nd	Thursday	General Meeting    **BOD Mtg. Thur. 10/30
31		5/17/27	Sun/Fri/Mon	Tournament Days 15,16 ,& 17
32	<b>November</b>	6th	Thursday	General Mtg/Nom. Of Off. **BOD Mtg. Thur 11/20
33		7 & 22	Fri & Sat	Tournament Day # 18 & 19
34	<b>December</b>	4th	Thursday	PIZZA & BEER Night / Election of Officers
36		5th	Friday	Tournament Day # 20
37	<b>1/1/25</b>	(Tony G)		NO BOD Mtg. in December    **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 1/29/26

## ALL FISHING CONTEST RULES: AND CHANGES

### 1-Monthly Fishing Contest:

You must enter the contest by submitting this form and paying the entrance fee of **\$2.00 per fish per month or you can go all-in for all species for all months that are denoted by an X for a \$100 buy-in. The Monthly Contest Form must be submitted no later than our April Members Club meeting. The Monthly Contest begins on the Friday after the April Club Meeting.** Phone-ins are no longer accepted, (Hard Copy Only). Example: \$20.00 is received for a specific fish ie. Bluefish, 3 blues were caught and entered (weighed in). The total money in this category is \$20.00. 1st place 50% or \$10.00, 2nd place 30% or \$6.00, 3<sup>rd</sup> place 20% or \$4.00. **NOTE: For the Monthly Fishing Contest and Tournament Days, Bluefish MUST WEIGH a minimum of 2 lbs.** **NOW:** If only one fish is weighed in, **ALL** the money collected (100%) goes to the 1st place fish. If there is only a 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> place fish entered, the split is 60-40. Winners for both the Monthly Fishing contest and Tournament Days can only win one place in each category. **NOTE: If you have a Commercial License, you are not eligible to fish tournament days or monthly contest for the species listed on the license.**

**2-Each month** our Chairperson or Designee for the Fishing Contest will inform the club members of the winners for the monthly contest and tournament days.

**3-Bonus Money:** For the 9 contest months (April-December), an additional \$25.00 (cash bonus) will be awarded each month to just **ONE** of the 1<sup>st</sup> place monthly contest winners for that month. **All 13 species are eligible.** The 1<sup>st</sup> place winner that is drawn at the meeting will receive \$25.00 (cash). **NOTE: All fish species listed on the front side of this form that are entered in the monthly contest for that month are eligible for a chance to win the \$25 cash bonus.**

**4-Tournament Days have a \$30 ENTRY FEE:** This fee enters you into **20 Tournament days** and it makes you eligible for the **LARGEST FISH OF THE YEAR** for the six species listed on front with an asterisk (\*\*\*\*\*). **The Contest Days Form for Tournament Days must be submitted no later than our April Members Club Meeting.** Cash payouts are as follows 1<sup>st</sup> (\$25), 2<sup>nd</sup> (\$15), and 3<sup>rd</sup> (\$10) **NOTE:**

### 5 – Club Fishing Trips Tournament Days:

All club organized Fishing Trips held on a Head Boat for club Members will be considered a **FREE TOURNAMENT DAY**. Only members who participate in these club trips will be eligible for the **FREE TOURNAMENT DAY PAYOUTS**. There are 6 species eligible for tournament day payouts, as noted on the front side by an asterisk (\*\*\*\*\*). All fish will be weighed in while on board the boat and the tournament winners will be announced at that time. **Note: If you are also entered in the monthly contest and want your fish to qualify for the monthly contest, you must weigh in your fish at one of the club's official weigh stations.**

**6-THE LARGEST FISH OF THE YEAR** for the following six species, **WEAKFISH, BLUEFISH, STRIPED BASS, FLUKE, SEA BASS and BLACKFISH**, winners will receive \$75 (cash) at our annual AWARDS BANQUET. **Note: You must be entered in the Tournament Days contest to be eligible for the largest fish of the year.**

**Weigh-in Station Procedures** The three official club weigh-in stations are: *Creek Side Outfitters, Grizz's Forked River Bait & Tackle and Grumpys*. It is the Angler's responsibility, when weighing in a fish, to verify that all of the information on the weigh-in sheet is accurate i.e. NAME, DATE, SPECIES and WEIGHT. The angler will initial the weigh-in sheet verifying that all of the information is correct. If you are weighing a fish in for another angler, the same rules apply. **ONCE INITIALED, THE WEIGH-IN IS FINAL! All fish caught from Ports & Beaches in New Jersey Waters must be weighed in at one of the above stations.** CAUGHT FISH, ONLY IN NEW JERSEY WATERS, ARE ELIGIBLE FOR MONTHLY CONTEST, TOURNAMENT DAYS AND LARGEST FISH OF THE YEAR.

### **Club Record**

A fish submitted for a club record may be taken from any location, there are no geographical limitations. For fish caught out of state you must submit a weigh-in slip including species name, length and weight on letterhead, or business card or invoice from that station signed by the weigh master, tournament chairman, or Captain of the vessel. A Club Record Form must be submitted to Ken Rylak and attached to the weigh-in slip from one of our official stations or other documentation as described above. The BOD shall approve all records before becoming official. Here are the guidelines for all "Catch & Release" Club Record submissions. Measurement formula for (ALL SPECIES) as follows: Length X Girth squared divided by 800. Example: Length 60" X 25" Girth squared = 37,500 Divided by 800 = 46.875 Lbs. Please Note: LENGTH is measured from the tip of the lower jaw to the fork of the tail and GIRTH is measured (circumference) at the widest part of the fish, usually behind the gill plate.

**One final note:** Perhaps this rule has not been properly communicated in the past but **you personally** have to catch the fish you enter in all of these contests/tournaments and not enter a fish caught by someone else on your boat. This is an **individual** contest and besides we are all friends and family and we expect **GOOD SPORTSMENSHIP**. Thank you, Good Fishing and be Safe out there.



## FISH HAWKS SALTWATER ANGLER'S CLUB

### 29<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET

Sunday June 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 at 6:00 PM

Location: CAPTAIN'S INN, 304 East Lacey Rd. Forked River, N.J. 08731

#### AGENDA

The Fish Hawks Annual Awards Banquet is a **casual** evening of socializing, dining, telling fish stories, and extended truths. The purpose of this event is to present Monetary Awards to the winners of our various fishing events held during the year such as, Ladies Day Fluke Tournament, Bay Tournament, Largest Fish of the Year, Monthly Fishing Contest and Tournament Days. We will have a "Gift Auction", and 50/50 raffle. Tickets will be available throughout the event.

**This is always a fun evening! We hope to see many members and guests in attendance.**

#### EVENT

Doors Open: **6:00 pm**

Program Start: **6:30 pm**

**Use Rear Entrance for Check-In Purposes!!!!**

#### **Our Buffet Dinner Includes:**

Carved Prime Rib

Shrimp and Scallop Scampi

Herb Crusted Chicken

Rolled Lasagna with Vodka Sauce

Garlic Mashed Potatoes

Mixed Vegetables

Asian and Caesar salads

Dessert: Tartufo

Coffee, Tea and Soda are included

**Cash Bar**

***Cost is \$70.00 per person for Members and Guests Tax and Gratuity included***

Seating will be set up with tables for ten (10)

#### Detach and Return This Section

Make checks payable to "Fish Hawks" and mail to: David Bye, 1413 Tamiami Rd. Forked River, N.J. 08731.

**Deadline is May 25, 2025.** Dave will also take money or checks, along with the form at meetings.

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_

Member Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Name \_\_\_\_\_ Fee \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_



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meet at 7:30 p.m. **SHARP**  
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Forked River  
1st Thursday of each month.  
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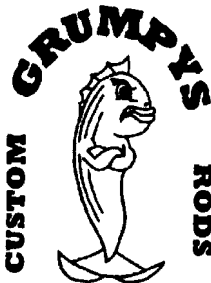


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