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Fish Hawks was founded in 1977 as a non-profit fishing club whose objectives are to foster and promote:

The development of the coastal and estuaries of Barnegat Bay and to improve the aquatic environment for the general public; To promote fish stocks in cooperation with the Division of Fish and Game and Wildlife of the state of New Jersey; To provide social and recreational activities to its members. Meetings 1st Thursday of each month, 7:30 pm, at Lacey Elks Lodge, 900 Beach Blvd., Forked River, NJ 08731.

Visit our Website at:
<http://www.fishhawksnj.com>
for a list of our monthly speakers.

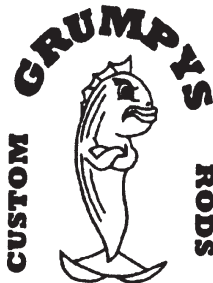
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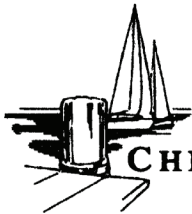
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AUGUST 2026 FISH HAWKS NEWSLETTER

FISH HAWKS OFFICIAL WEB SITE www.fishhawksnj.com



FISH HAWKS OFFICERS & All BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESIDENT: David Bye 908-892-1385
VICE PRESIDENT: Paul Schell 609-440-0907
C.F.O.: Tony Guadagnino 609-242-9471
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Bob Dunlap 609-276-1899
Frank Genty 732-604-0591
Kevin O'Rourke 908-300-2427
Karl Dahl 201-240-3679

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 did not receive an email issue of the newsletter, please contact the new Membership Chairwoman, Ruth Fizzarotti.
Ruth's cell phone is 201-618-5206 or send an email to Ruth at mamafizz56@aol.com

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 be 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 Now offers 12 months and an additional \$50.00 off the yearly membership for Fish Hawk members!"

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

Presidents Message

AUGUST 2026

Fellow Fish Hawks,

As we move into August, we're right in the heart of the summer fishing season. The days are long, the water is warm, and there are plenty of opportunities to get out on the bay and ocean in pursuit of our favorite species. Whether you've been chasing fluke, bluefish, weakfish, tuna offshore, or simply enjoying an evening on the water with family and friends, I hope you've been able to take advantage of the great fishing opportunities this season has provided.

✓ Club Updates and Highlights

July was another busy and rewarding month for the Fish Hawks. Our **Youth Fishing Seminar** was a tremendous success, and I want to extend my sincere thanks to **Chairman Kevin O'Rourke** and the many volunteers who generously gave their time, shared their fishing knowledge, and helped introduce the next generation to the sport we all love. We welcomed more than 30 children from Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, and from everything I saw, they had an unforgettable day. The smiles on their faces said it all. One of the biggest highlights was the Mr. Softee Ice Cream Truck, which was a huge hit with both the kids and the volunteers! To top it all off, every child received a rod and reel to take home, creating even more excitement and plenty of happy smiles!

This event is made possible by donations that we receive from **Holtec International**, a longtime supporter, and most recently from the **Lacey Elks Lodge**, who were able to apply to the **Elks National Foundation** for a grant that helped fund the program.

Of course, events like this don't happen without the dedication and teamwork of our members. Once again, the Fish Hawks demonstrated what our club is all about—giving back to the community, sharing our passion for fishing, and helping inspire the next generation of anglers.

✓ Looking Forward

As we head into August, we have plenty to look forward to. Our monthly contests and tournaments continue to provide friendly competition, and I encourage everyone to participate.

The Joe Matuska Memorial Tri-Club Fluke Tournament was on August 1st and 2nd. Fishing took place on the 1st and the Awards Picnic on the 2nd
See the "Hawk" in the Newsletter for all the details.

Our next meeting is on **August 4, 2026**. We will have one of our favorite guest Speakers, Anthony Arcabascio aka "MAJA". Anthony will tell us about the new direction Maja Products are taking and show us some of the products. Make sure you don't miss it!

Our Annual Veterans Blow Fish Trip is on **August 22nd** & Our Members Picnic is on **September 12th**

Presidents Message Continued

✓ Safety

As boat traffic remains heavy during the peak summer season, please continue to make safety your top priority. Check your equipment before leaving the dock, wear your life jackets when appropriate, keep a close eye on changing weather conditions, and always show courtesy to fellow boaters and anglers. A safe day on the water is always a successful day! Remember, it's not always about bringing home the biggest fish. Some of the best memories are made simply by spending time on the water and sharing stories with fellow club members.

I look forward to seeing everyone at our August meeting.

Fair winds and following seas.... see you out on the water

Dave

FISH HAWKS BOAT TRIPS

Don't miss out! on our great club fishing trips.
We still have 3 boat trips cost \$100.00 per person.

All bait included for targeted fish

MONEY FOR AUGUST 17th BOAT TRIP HAS TO BE IN BY AUGUST 7TH

Please, only one check or cash for each trip, checks for multiple trips will be returned.

2026 Special Tournament Day Boat Fishing Trips*

All Boat trips leave the dock at 6:30 sharp

Monday Aug. 17, Fluke / Bottom fish, Miss Michelle III - Point Pleasant

Thursday September 10, Fluke / Bottom fish, Miss Michelle III - Point Pleasant

Thursday Oct. 15, Sea Bass & all Bottom fish, Miss Michelle III - Point Pleasant

*A reminder every club boat trip has its own Tournament Day Prizes w/no buy-in's,
There is a cash prize for 1st, 2nd & 3rd size fish. *See Club Trip Tournament Days.

Whitey and the Club provide all the sandwiches, condiments, soft drinks & snacks and

It's nice to include a generous tip for the mate(s)

TRADERS CORNER

Notice: Place your ads to run for three (3) months. A new ad or renewal of a current ad(s)
No later than 10 days before the next Fish Hawks meeting.

Call Bob Merkle 609-902-7394 or send an Email UBFishing@comcast.net

“THE HAWK”

AUGUST 2026

THE BIRD: The July Ocean Fluke fishery was good for some of us, Dave & Tony, (they limited out on fluke & Seabass by noon & were tossing back keeper sized fish). The Tri-Club tournament was Saturday August 1st & the Awards Picnic Sunday the 2nd. Those of us who went offshore 8 to 10 miles were rewarded with a good catch of Sea Bass & Fluke.

JOE MATUSKA TRI-CLUB FLUKE TOURNAMENT

The Tournament results were: VILLAGE HARBOUR: 1st. Pl. 30.22 lbs. (10 fish). 2nd Pl. FISH HAWKS: 27.79 lbs. (8 fish) “all we needed was 2 more”. 3rd. PL. TUNA CLUB: 25.2 lbs. (10 fish). The top 5 fish were: KEVIN LANE: 4.22 lbs. VILLAGE HARBOUR. 2nd TONY GUADAGNINO: 3.84 lbs. FISH HAWKS. 3rd DAVE BYE: 3.74 lbs. FISH HAWKS. 4th MARTIN FRIEDRICH: 3.49 lbs. VILLAGE HARBOUR, 5th TREVOR MARTINSON: 3.45 lbs. TUNA CLUB.

SPECIAL THANKS to Liza from Creekside who sponsors this Tournament & provides all the Gift Cards for our winners. Liza it's truly appreciated.

TOURNAMENT DAYS: T-D #10, Saturday August 8th; T-D #11 Monday August 17th & T-D #12 Sunday August 30st.

TOURNAMENT DAYS: We had 5 first place fish in June.

Bluefish: June 6th: 3.88 lbs. & 8.91lbs. Striped Bass Tom Kowitski; Sea Bass: 1.26 lbs. Doug Itjen June 29th: Sea Bass 1.54 lbs. Dawn Itjen; Fluke 2.65 lbs. Doug Itjen

CLUB FISHING TRIP:

See Whitey to sign up for AUGUST 17th Fluke/Sea at the meeting.

LADIES FLUKE TOURNAMENT: WINNERS

1st Place: Renee Dubiel-Hornung

2nd Place: Renee Dubiel-Hornung (SISTER)

MAC 22 (HOOK-IT)

We're planning to take 14 Veterans out for a day of Blow fishing on Saturday August 22nd. We have 7 boats signed up for the day's activities. We will share the day's highlights in the September newsletter. Mac 22 is an organization that supports our Veterans, the 22 is the average number of Vets that commit suicide every day. “GOD BLESS OUR VETS”

ANNUAL PICNIC SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12TH.

The cost is \$15 per member & \$20 per guest; each member is allowed 2 guests (additional guests \$25). Walk-in will be charged \$25 per person. We will be collecting at this month meeting, but we need to know the number of people attending by no later than Monday September 7th so we can order the food. Please call Tony G @ (609)242-9471 if you have any questions and to let him know if you are attending.

“FORGET TO PAY YOUR ELECTRIC BILL” YOU WILL BE “DELIGHTED”
“BE SAFE OUT THERE
“THE HAWK”

*******LACEY FOOD BANK*******
AUGUST 2026



Summertime changes the needs of the Food Bank. Children are still out of school and will not receive lunch normally given through the school system. As I reported last month, easy lunch meals are needed

Peanut butter, jelly, canned lunch meat and packaged treats will be appreciated.

In researching food banks in general, while groceries are the main donation, cash allows them to maximize efforts in that they can buy at wholesale prices.

Sincerely **Joe Regatts**



HOOK IT

In case you are wondering about that “**Green Box**” that’s at all our meetings. It’s a reminder of those who stepped up to keep us safe from harm. Now it’s our time to keep them safe from harm. We Fish Hawks are planning another one-day fishing trip for those veterans on Saturday August 22nd rain date August 23rd. Your donations can offset our costs and the costs of the Gold Star Mothers that provide Food & Refreshments.

PLEASE DONATE WHAT YOU CAN, JUST ONE DOLLAR A MONTH HELPS TO TAKE MANY VETS FISHING.

THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT. Larry Hannawacker

2026 Fishing Contest Rules

Monthly Fishing Contest

- Entry: \$2 per species, per month, **or** \$100 all-in (all species, all months marked “X”).
- Deadline: Submit entry form and payment **by the April Club Meeting**.
- Contest Period: Begins the Friday after the April meeting and ends **December 15** (close of final weigh-in station).
- **No phone-ins** — hard copy weigh-ins only.

Payouts (Monthly Contest prize payout per species per month):

- 1st: 50%
- 2nd: 30%
- 3rd: 20%
- If only 1 fish: 100% to 1st
- If 2 fish: 60% / 40% split
- **One win per angler per category**

Rules:

- Bluefish must weigh **minimum 2 lbs.**
- Commercial license holders are **ineligible** for listed species
- Winners announced monthly by Contest Chair

Monthly Bonus

- Each month (April–December), **one** 1st-place winner (random draw from all species) receives a **\$25 cash bonus**

Tournament Days

- **Entry Fee: \$30** (covers 20 days + **eligibility for Largest Fish of the Year**)
- Deadline: Submit form by April Club Meeting

Payouts (per species per month)

- 1st: \$25
- 2nd: \$15
- 3rd: \$10

Club Trip Tournament Days

- All club head boat trips = **FREE Tournament Day**
- Open only to trip participants
- Weigh-ins and winners determined **onboard**
- **To qualify for Monthly Contest, fish must also be weighed at an official station**

2026 Fishing Contest Rules continued

Largest Fish of the Year

- Eligible Species: Weakfish, Bluefish, Striped Bass, Fluke, Sea Bass, Blackfish
- Prize: **\$75 cash per species** (awarded at Annual Banquet)
- **Must be entered in Tournament Days to qualify**

Official Weigh-In Stations

- Creekside Outfitters (Waretown)
- Grizz's Bait & Tackle (Forked River)
- Grumpy's Tackle (Seaside Park)

Procedures

- Angler must verify: **Name, Date, Species, Weight**
- Initial sheet — **once signed, it is final**
- Fish must be caught in **New Jersey waters** for contests

Club Records

- No location restrictions
- Out-of-state fish require certified weigh slip
- Submit Club Record Form with documentation
- Subject to Board of Directors approval

Catch & Release Formula (all species):

Weight = (Length × Girth²) ÷ 800

- Length: tip of lower jaw to fork of tail
- Girth: widest point

Sportsmanship Rule

- **You must personally catch the fish you enter**
- No entering fish caught by others

Good luck, fish hard, and stay safe!

Fish Hawks Saltwater Anglers

RULES AND REGULATIONS BEACH, BAY & JETTY TOURNAMENT

Fishing Time: Beginning Day Break 8/1/26 to 9/30/26

1. ALL FISHING ON BEACHES, JETTIES, PIERS & DOCKS ON THE OCEAN OR IN BARNEGAT BAY.
2. NO BOAT/ WATERCRAFT FISHING FROM THE OCEAN SIDE IS PERMITTED.
3. All boating and Angling methods must comply with current New Jersey State Laws.
4. Only Northern Puffer (Blowfish) & Northern Kingfish are allowed in tournament.
5. All Fish must be weighed in at an official weigh-in station.
**Check weigh-in stations hours to avoid not having fish weighed in on day of the catch
** • _Creekside Outfitters 609-242-1812 • _Grizz's 609-693-9298 • _Grumpy's 732-830-1900
- 5a. In case of a tie for weight, the earliest weigh-in and initialed time will count.
6. Weigh-ins must be initialed by Fisherman or Representee on proper Tournament form, PLEASE CHECK YOUR INFORMATION! It is final once signed!
7. Fishing by Boat/Watercraft permitted in the Bay only. **Walk-on Beach, Jetty, Pier, Dock, Sod Bank, Marsh from Ocean or Bayside is permitted.
8. No Boat/Watercraft fishing in the Ocean can enter a fish in this Tournament.
Also, no fish/cast nets, trapping devices and spearfishing permitted.
9. All fish must be caught by hook & line fishing.

DEFINITIONS OF MEANINGS:

The use of the word entrant(s) shall mean the same as I, me, they, their or them, Vise versa

Entrants understand that in conjunction with engaging in the TOURNAMENT they could experience certain hazards and become involved in certain risks. They further recognize that it would be impractical as well as unfair for the TOURNAMENT, its administrators, officers, directors, agents, committee members, sponsors and any/ all persons or boat owners and their crew directly or in-directly involved in connection the TOURNAMENT to be liable or responsible in any way for the entrant's safety.

Entrants also understand that they are entered the TOURNAMENT at their own risk and hereby assume all risks, which may be involved in participating in the TOURNAMENT, particularly hazards due to weather conditions, fishing locations and fully understand that at any time during their participation they may elect to not participate when they think weather or fishing hazards/ locations could be too extreme.

NO REFUNDS WILL BE PAID TO ENTRANTS FOR ANY REASONS.

Entrants on reverse side; hereby, release, hold harmless and forever discharge the Fish Hawks TOURNAMENT administrators, officers, directors, agents, committee members and sponsors from any liability and/or libel. Slander, loss, damage, harm, injury or death suffered by any entrant, or which may occur during the TOURNAMENT. Entrants understand this includes any claims based upon any act of negligent or omission. Entrants, by entering this tournament, do hereby agree to all the terms and conditions of this General Release above and agree to abide by the rules and regulations prescribed for competition in the BEACH, BAY & JETTY TOURNAMENT.



2026 BEACH, BAY & JETTY FISHING TOURNAMENT **August 1st through September 30th**

SPECIES: NORTHERN PUFFER (BLOWFISH) & NORTHERN KINGFISH

DIVISIONS: ADULTS & YOUTHS (Under 17 Years of Age-Proof of age needed to claim prizes)

\$20 entry fee for each ADULT entered. YOUTHS less than 17 yrs. old FREE (Fee Includes Entry for BOTH Species)

CASH PRIZES: FOR THE HEAVIEST OVERALL BLOWFISH & KINGFISH

	<u>ADULTS</u>	<u>YOUTHS</u>
1st Place	\$100	\$20
2nd "	\$75	\$15
3rd	\$50	\$10

For August and September a \$25 PAYOUT PRIZE will be awarded FOR THE HEAVIEST BLOWFISH & KINGFISH WEIGHED IN FOR ADULTS ONLY.

Please use the special tournament weigh in sheets at these weigh stations: CREEKSIDE, GRIZZ'S and GRUMPY'S.

PAY METHOD: CASH OR CHECK (made to "FISH HAWKS") MUST Sign up 24 hours prior to weigh in.

ENTRY FORM: DETACH & MAIL TO OR SUBMIT AT CLUB MEETING

Fish Hawks P.O. Box 700 Forked River, NJ 08731

Any Questions contact Kenn or Val @ 609-423-8982

FISH HAWKS WEBSITE: www.fishhawksnj.com (leader results posted monthly)

A Winner can only win one category prize for each species!

ELIGIBILITY: CLUB MEMBERS & FAMILY MEMBERS ONLY, Grandkids, Daughters, Sons, Nieces, Nephews, Cousins.

*****Ocean caught fish from boat are not eligible. See rules for additional information.**

"ALL PRIZES WILL BE AWARDED AT OUR ANNUAL BANQUET"

ANGLERS FISH AT THEIR OWN RISK

Main Member

Contact.....Email:

Address.....Phone #.....

NAMES OF additional ADULT ANGLERS (\$20.00 ea.)

NAMES OF YOUTHS (under 17 FREE) Date of Birth

1.....

1...../...../.....

2.....

2...../...../.....

3.....

3...../...../.....

TOTAL PAYMENT \$..... Method of Payment: Cash.....Check #.....

MEMBERS ANNUAL PICNIC

DATE/TIME: SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 12th, 2026, 1:00pm TILL ???

LOCATION: GILLE PARK, Manchester Ave. Forked River N.J.

SMOKE & PET FREE

EVENT EVENT EVENT

Our Picnic continues to get BIGGER & BETTER every year. Don't Miss out on this GREAT event. We will be serving the following:

Southern Fried Chicken

Sausage, Peppers & Onions (homemade)

Hot Dogs & Hamburgers (1/3 pounders)

Linguine with White Clam Sauce

Potato & Macaroni Salads, Cole slaw, Beans

Clams: Half shell & Steamed w. butter

Fresh Jersey Corn on the Cob w/ butter

Clams and/or Mussels in Mediterranean Sauce (homemade)

Water, Beer Soda, Wine & Coffee

Watermelon

DESSERTS: Bring a dessert so we can Enjoy your **SPECIALTY**. (If possible, place your name with it, so we can share recipes). **THANK-YOU!**

THIS EVENT IS RAIN OR SHINE

The MEMBERS cost is \$15.00; FAMILY MEMBERS IS \$20.00:(each member is allowed 2 FAMILY GUESTS) ADDITIONAL FAMILY GUESTS is \$25.00 each. (NO NEIGHBORS OR FRIENDS).

This is a Members Picnic & due to the huge expense per person this rule is necessary.

Children below the age of 13 are FREE !!

[illegible]

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

MEMBERS NAME:_____

GUEST NAME:

NAME: _____

NAME: _____

NAME: _____

MEMBERS X \$15.00 ea.

NAME :

FAMILY GUESTS: X \$20.00 ea.

***NAME :**

ADDITIONAL *FAMILY GUESTS: X \$25.00 ea.

TOTAL \$\$\$ ENCLOSED:

NOTE: Your payment must be accompanied with this form. Pay by mail. MAIL TO: "FISH HAWKS, P.O. BOX 700, Forked River, N.J. 08731. Payments **must be received by **September 7th**. (so we can order food) Checks will be accepted at the **August 6TH** members meeting. **ALL WALK INS WILL BE CHARGED****

\$25.00. Any questions Contact Tony Guadagnino @ (609) 242-9471 rev. 6-22-2025 Tony G

NOTE: There will be a CHECK IN TABLE; PICK UP YOUR NAME TAGS PRIOR TO ENTERING PICNIC AREA