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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.

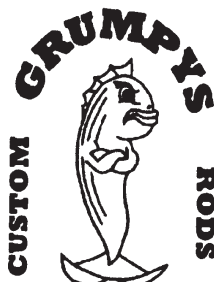
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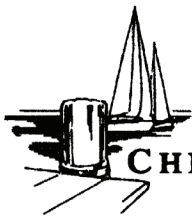


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JANUARY – FEBRUARY 2026 FISH HAWKS NEWSLETTER

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
TRESURER: Mickey Sherry 732-421-6668
SECRETARY: George Royston 908-456-3132

Bob Dunlap 609-276-1899
Frank Genty 732-604-0591
Ken Rylak 609-575-7477
Karl Dahl 201-240-3676

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. 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.

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

Happy New Year, Fish Hawks!

Tight lines and high tides to everyone as we kick off a brand-new year on the water. I hope your holidays were filled with family, friends, and perhaps you got the new fishing gear you were wishing for! As we look ahead to the 2026 season, there is much to be excited about.

Welcoming Our 2026 Leadership

Please join me in giving a warm welcome to our elected club officers! These members have stepped up to help steer the ship, and keep our Club the best in N.J.

- **President:** Dave Bye
- **Vice President:** Paul Schell
- **Secretary:** George Royston
- **CFO:** Tony Guadagnino
- **Treasurer:** Mickey Sherry

We also want to extend a massive **thank you** to our returning Board Members, Bob, “Whitey” Dunlap, Ken Rylak, Frank Genty and Karl Dahl, for their tireless dedication over the past year. Our club is stronger because of their hard work.

What’s on the Horizon?

The board is already busy charting our course for the coming months. Here is a sneak peek at what you can look forward to:

- **Monthly Meetings:** Our first gathering of the year will be held on February 5, 2026, at the Lacey Elks Lodge. We will meet downstairs in the river room. Come hear the latest fishing news and club updates.
- **Upcoming Tournaments:** Sharpen your hooks! Our Monthly Fishing Contest and Tournament Days are scheduled to begin after our April Meeting. Contact our Fishing Contest Chairpersons, Ken & Val Seefelt with any questions.
- **Guest Speakers:** Speaker Chairman Ken Kawalek is lining up local experts to discuss everything from fishing tactics and gear to the latest in the marine industry.
- **Fishing Trips:** Whitey is getting our fishing trip schedule together so keep a lookout for it soon.
- **Flea Market:** Our first event in 2026 is on March 7th. Everything is coming along nicely. Tables are sold out and we are looking forward to a great event! Chairman Rich Leahy will be looking for help, so please contact him if you are available.

A Note to Our Membership

Whether you are a seasoned offshore pro or a weekend pier angler, the **Fish Hawks Saltwater Anglers Club** thrives because of your passion. This year, we encourage everyone to get involved—bring a friend to a meeting, volunteer for a committee or just help at one of our many events.

Let’s make 2026 our best year yet, with calm seas and full coolers.

Reminder: Annual dues are late after December 31st. If you didn’t renew, please do so asap. Please see the Treasurer Mickey Sherry or CFO Tony G. at the next meeting for how to renew your membership.

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

“THE HAWK” JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026

**THE YEAR OF THE “WINDS” IS FINALLY OVER. I DON’T REMEMBER A 2026 HERE WE COME “RODS TO THE READY”
WISHING YOU ALL A HAPPY, HEALTHY, CATCHING “NEW YEAR”**

**THE BIRD: “AS USUAL WE DO NOT HAVE A MEMBERS MEETING IN JANUARY”
WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO OUR THURSDAY FEBRUARY 5th MEETING !**

Where does the time go? Another Pizza & Beer meeting is behind us. All the members that did attend had a “fantastic” night. We had excellent participation in our 50/50, Rod & Reel & our Auction. DAVE BYE won the BAZILLION \$ TREASURE CHEST. DAVE was pretty happy with the contents of the treasure chest.! JOE REGATTS, Won the Yearly “Custom Rod & Reel”. **Reminder:** Participation in purchasing tickets for the 50/50; Rod & Reel and our Auctions help pay for all of our activities & functions like our “FREE” Pizza & Beer meeting; our Annual \$15 Picnic; Subsidizing the cost of our “Awards Banquet” etc., When you participate in our drawings you are doing it not only to WIN but to keep our clubs’ activities & functions “FIRST CLASS”.

There were four first place MONTHLY CONTEST winners in November.

KENN SEEFELT won the \$25 Bonus with a 1.46 lb. PORGY!!! He also had a 2.41 lb. SEABASS, & a third place 2.64 lb. Blackfish. (WOW)! That’s 3 out of 4 contest fish. DOUG ITJEN had the 1st pl. BLACKFISH at 4.09 lbs. PAUL SCHELL had the largest STRIPED BASS at 12.98 lbs. We will draw the \$25 Bonus for December at the February members meeting. The November Boat trip was cancelled due to “lack of participation”

“THE LARGEST FISH OF THE YEAR” AS OF DECEMBER 31ST.

Blackfish: 4.64 lbs. Doug Itjen	Bluefish: 6.31 lbs. Doug Itjen
Fluke: 10.01 lbs. Chuck Lanzerotti	Seabass: 3.08 lbs. Doug Itjen
Striped Bass: 13.05 lbs. Doug Itjen	Weakfish: none entered

LADIES DAY FLUKE TOURNMENT: WINNERS

**1st Place: CAMILLE CARUSO 4.26 lbs. 2nd Place RENEE HORNUNG 4.05lbs.
3rd Place: MICHELE LANZEROTTI 2.85 lbs.**

Kenn & Valarie Seefelt, Chairpersons for this program (Monthly Contests & Tournaments) if you have any questions, please contact them.

***The forms & your Entry Fee must be sent to our P.O. box address**

*** The DEADLINE for you to submit your ENTRY FORM & CHECK will be at the APRIL meeting (Thursday the 5th). The first Contest fishing day will be Friday the 6th.**

Note: all fish entries for all contest & tournaments MUST meet the minimum size for that species. (do not weigh in under sized fish!!!) * Up-dated forms & Rules have been posted on our Web site & will be available at the February, March & April members meetings.

FISH BITES: Please be advised; if you haven't submitted your dues by December 31st, you have until January 31st to submit your dues \$40 + a \$10 late fee to maintain your club membership. If your dues are not received, you will be voted out of the club by the B.O.D.

“MONEY TALKS.... BUT ALL MINE EVER SAYS IS GOODBY”

“BE SAFE OUT THERE”

“THE HAWK”

*******LACEY FOOD BANK*******

February 2026

Congratulations to the Fish Hawks Membership:

As I sat this morning drinking my coffee, I was thinking about how amazing our Fish Hawk Membership and the Lacey township community truly are. Over the course of a three-month campaign to collect presents and monetary donations for the children s' XMAS Gifts, our membership truly answered the call from the Lacey Food Bank.

Here is a small list of gifts that were received. The list includes toys, games, sports equipment, fishing equipment, arts and crafts, books, puzzles, blankets, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, pajamas, coats and children's clothing, but not just clothing they also received monetary donations and gift cards.

Our membership alone contributed monetary donations of \$1,597, a job well done. As we start a new year, I want to thank all of you for another year of support for the Lacey Food Bank Children's Christmas Gifts and for helping us keep **“The PROMISE OF CHRISTMAS”** alive. Our membership has made a lot of families very happy this past year.

As we start our first Fish Hawks monthly meeting in February, please remember to bring some food items from your pantry. Should you forget, there's always a jar near the food bin where you can place both checks made out to the Lacey Food Bank or place your money into. Thanks again for your support.

Sincerely,

Ken Rylak

FISH HAWKS

CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2026

<i>Month</i>	<i>DATE</i>	<i>Day</i>	NO GENERAL MTG **BOD Mtg.(Ops Rev) Thurs.1/29
February	5th	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 2/26
March	5th	Thursday	General Meeting ** BOD Mtg. Thurs. 3/26
	7th	Saturday	F.H. FLEA MARKET LACEY ELKS CLUB
April	2nd	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 4/30
	18 & 27	Sat & Mon	Tournament Days #1 & #2
May	7th	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 5/28
	8th	Friday	Tournament Day #3
	17th	Sunday	ANNUAL AWARDS BANQUET (Captains Inn)
	24th	Sunday	Tournament Day #4
June	4th	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thur 6/25
	6th	Saturday	Tournament Day #5
	12/13th	Fri/Sat	Ladies Day Fluke Tournament
	19th	Friday	Tournament Day #6
	29th	Monday	Tournament Day #7
July	2nd	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs. 7/30 "OPS RE
	10th	Friday	Tournament Day #8
	18th	Saturday	FISH HAWKS YOUTH SEMINAR ?
	25/26th	Sat/Sun	Sat TD #9 /Tri Club T. Sun Awards Picnic Tuna Club
August	6th	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thurs.8/27
	8th	Saturday	Tournament Day #10
	22nd	Saturday	MA 22 VETS FISHING TRIP (rain day Sun. 23rd)
	17th/30th	Mon/Sun	Tournament Days #11 & #12
September	3rd	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg Thurs. 9/24
	7th	Monday	Tournament Day #13
	12th	Saturday	ANNUAL PICNIC (Gille Park) 1 PM TO ????
	20th	Sunday	Tournament Day #14
October	1st	Thursday	General Meeting **BOD Mtg. Thur 10/29
	4/16/26th	Sun/Fri/Mon	Tournament Days #15, #16 & #17
November	5th	Thursday	General Mtg/Nom. Of Off. **BOD Mtg. Thur 11/19
	6th/21st	Fri/Sat	Tournament Day #18 & #19
December	3rd	Thursday	PIZZA & BEER Night / Election of Officers
	6th	Sunday	Tournament Day #20
NOTE: BOD meets the Thursday PRIOR to General Meeting, NO BOD Mtg. in Dec,			
			**BOD Mtg. Thurs. 1/28/27



Saltwater Angler's Club's 22nd Annual Fisherman's Indoor Fishing Flea Market

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