

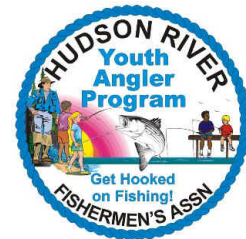
River Views

The Official Newsletter of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association



Hudson River Fishermen's Association

July 2019



E-07-19

July 9th General Meeting

Guest Speaker: Donald "Doc" Bayne
Topic: The Chain that Saved the Colonies



Ever since he was 8-years old Donald "Doc" Bayne had a passion for history. Doc has a very impressive resume. Among his many accomplishments Doc has worked as a commercial pilot. He also traveled the world for Minolta as a photographer which gave him opportunities to pursue his passions for archeology, paleontology and world history. Later in life he became a full-time Park Ranger, Environmental Educator and Historian at Sterling Forest State Park.

Doc is a passionate researcher and educator who has the ability to 'feel' the history of the land and transmit it to the people. He is often referred to as a "walking encyclopedia". He lectures to various groups on 22 different historical subjects. He also

Next General Meeting

July 9, 2019 at 7:30 pm at
Ridgefield Park Elks

Guest Speaker
Donald "Doc" Bayne

Executive Meeting

1st Tuesday of every month
Ridgefield Park Elks at 7:30 pm

HRFA Officers

President

Dan Harrison

Vice President

Aram Setian

Treasurer

Frank Wisniewski

Secretary

Joseph Albanese

Membership Secretary

Arnold Ulrich

Directors

Scholarship

Carl Bruger

Chairman Youth Anglers

Wayne Geider

Hooked on the Hudson

Pete Musse

Environmental

Gil Hawkins

Publicity

Miguel Sardinas

Fishing Contests

Scott Havner

Outdoors Shows

Dave Mercer

Janice Soto

leads nature and historic hikes. In 2014 his many contributions were recognized by the New York State Archaeological Association when he received their Meritorious Award.

The Chain that Saved the Colonies



To stop the British invasion of the New England colonies during the American Revolution, Peter Townsend manufactured a

Great Chain for the Continental Army at Sterling Forest. It was placed across the Hudson River at West Point.

Please join Doc Bayne for a presentation on how he discovered the Forge that made the Great Chain in the Sterling Forest. Doc will share the history of the iron industry that started in 1736 at Sterling Forest, and how the Sterling Forge was used to create the Great Chain that was placed across the Hudson River at West Point.

Education Outreach

John Ponticorvo

Director Emeritus

Tony Evangelista

Trustees

Ivan Garcia (2021)

Fred Rung (2019)

Antony Carbone (2020)

Nominating Committee:

John Golon

Gil Hawkins

Aram setian

Send Comments to:

Riverviews@hrfanj.org

From our President



Hi All,

We have a very interesting speaker this month. Nothing about fishing or the environment but a history lesson. I am looking forward to hear Doc Bayne give his talk about the great chain. Please bring a friend that may have some interest in American

history.

I would like to thank Whitney Dearden with the Riverside Park and Melissa Cohen with New York DEC for making the first HRFA trip in Manhattan a huge success. Along with Wayne's crew we helped almost 60 adults and children fish on the pier on 125th street. With the George Washington bridge in the background this was truly a special day on the water. The HRFA like the fish that swim in the river are all over the place. We have been on both sides of the river from Hoboken to Waterford. In a few weeks we will also be back in Yonkers for their riverfest celebration. See Wayne if you would like to get involved.

The EBoard is exploring the possibility of restoring the original HRFA riverkeeper boat, the world's first, now falling apart in upstate NY. Read "The Pride of the H.R.F.A" section by **Joe Albanese** below.

Registration for the 3rd Annual Catfish Chaos Derby is now open. The date for the one-day Derby is August 17th. Scroll down to find details and the entry form. On-line registration will open soon. Thanks go to Derby organizer **Scott Havner** for bringing back this popular fundraising event.

Curious to know who's ahead in our Annual Fishing Contest? Scroll down to the bottom of every issue of *River Views* and you will see an updated list of current leaders. You will find it below our Events Calendar for the month ahead.

This issue of *River Views* also has great new articles contributed by many of our regulars - **Carl Bruger, Arnie Ulrich, Joe Albanese** and **Tony Evangelista**. Also, see the latest submission from **Sergio Radossi**.

Right below our July Events Calendar there is information about the special exhibit "Hudson Rising" now running until August 4th at the New-York Historical Society located at 170 Central Park West (77th Street).

Bee Well
Dan H

The Pride of the H.R.F.A.

A Motion to Save the Historical Heritage of the HRFA

By **Joe Albanese**



President Dan Harrison has spoken in the past about a boat sitting in the woods that at one time was the centerpiece of our organization. Read the captions of the photographs below that talk about the "Little Boat that Changed the World". Then read about the resurrected Solaris now in operation. Can we find the momentum and funding to bring our 'little patrol boat that changed the world' back to life? Or will we watch it continue to disintegrate to be forgotten for all time?

To read more about the Solaris and The Hudson River Maritime Museum visit their website or click on their logo below.
<http://www.hrmm.org>



Hudson River Maritime Museum

Riverport Wooden Boat School | Riverport Sailing & Rowing School
KINGSTON, NEW YORK

"The Little Patrol Boat that Changed the World"



THEN

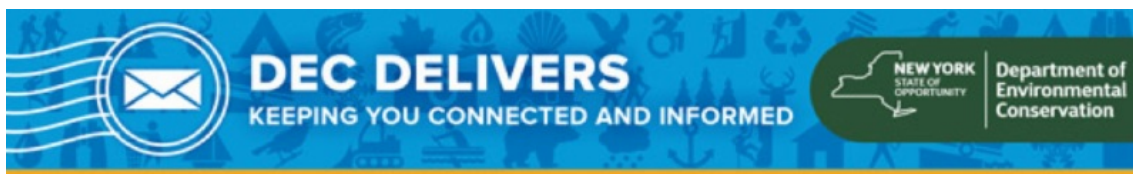
The H.R.F.A., founded in 1966, is credited with creating *the world's first* Waterkeeper Organization. In the black & white photo above is its 25-foot wooden Riverkeeper boat. It launched in 1983. Piloted by John Cronin, it was tasked with patrolling the Hudson for polluters. The current patrol boat, the "R. Ian Fletcher", has Capt. John Lipscomb at the helm. Its mission has been expanded to also serve as a floating lab testing water quality and research vessel.

SOURCE: "The Little Patrol Boat that Changed the World" by Waterkeeper Alliance, Vol. 14, Issue 2.



NOW

Sadly, the original Hudson River Fishermen's Assn's Riverkeeper boat lies all but forgotten; rotting away in the woods in Garrison, NY. We would like to refurbish her to her glory days when she became *the world's first* Riverkeeper vessel.



Access Grant Helps Launch Solar-Powered Boat for Education and Tours

05/21/2019

Hudson RiverNet

News from the Hudson River Estuary Program

The **Hudson River Maritime Museum** recently launched a completely solar-powered 44-foot tour boat named the Solaris. Built by the museum's restoration crew in the Riverport Wooden Boat School under the direction of Jim Kricker, the vessel is the only all-solar powered



People stand on a dock next to a new solar-powered boat

The Solaris was partially funded through DEC's Hudson River Estuary Grant Program which administers annual competitive grants to help communities in the Hudson River Estuary design create new and expanded recreation opportunities for people of all abilities. Additional support came from Scenic Hudson and Sustainable Energy Corporation.

The boat accommodates up to 25 passengers and will allow the **Hudson River Maritime Museum** to expand water-based tour offerings, including lighthouse tours and school field trips.

commercial boat in operation on the Hudson River. In fact, the Solaris is the first-in-the-nation completely solar-powered vessel certified and inspected by the U.S. Coast Guard for passenger service. This unique vessel can travel up to 50 miles at night without the use of her solar panels which are so efficient that even on cloudy days, they continue to power the batteries.



June Meeting Featured Carl Bruger & Scott Havner As They Covered Awesome Lake Ontario Fishing

By **Carl Bruger**

The Tuesday night general meeting in June was a chance for members and guests to get a real earful of facts on the incredible, fantastic fishery that is available for all twelve months of the year on Lake Ontario. It's the smallest of the five Great Lakes yet the closest to us at less than 300 miles away in the southeast corner.

Scott Havner shared how enthusiastic we all were when huge groups, as many as 24 HRFA members, spouses and friends, flocked up to the Western Niagara region to fish out of Lewiston on the Niagara to fish for awesome trophy catches that included steelhead, coho salmon Chinook salmon, lake trout, brown trout, small mouth bass, walleye, pike, muskellunge, and other surprise catches.

The chartering of small boats is easy with Scott in the know about the top guides on the lake and river such as Chris Cinelli, brother Joe, Lloyd Schrack, Ted Kessler and other professionals. They will give you the best odds of a great day on the water and maybe even a trophy catch. Three folks can fish for 175\$-200 per day with tip. Most days I have had limit catches of the target species plus many more released not to mention scads of by-catch bonus fish. This scribe would have won two Ontario derbies with catches from their craft had I been entered. They are that good at putting you over fabulous fishing areas. I have been fishing with the Cinelli group since the 1990s when the late great Darren Cardinal ran large

groups of HRFA men up to the Niagara like we are doing now. The places we've booked have always been clean, yet inexpensive. They also have been close to the water, a major boon to the early morning needs of angler departure.

You have the option of bringing your own gear, but the equipment supplied by these captains is top of the line and geared for the exact type of targeted fishing you have paid for. There is no such thing as a down season as the dead of winter can see awesome monster steelhead catches while spring can still have them mixed with lakere browns and walleyes. Special trips for smallmouth bass commonly see hook-ups of over thirty fish per angler with three to five pound beauties the typical released fish. You can specialize in pursuit of musky or walleye in season as well.

The Bruger's side of the lake is straight up Interstate 81 through Binghamton, then Syracuse and finally, Watertown. Fishing here can be awesome and magnificent as well, but more enjoyable right from the dock, shoreline and in the streams themselves! There are 43 specific rivers, streams, creeks, and inlets that I have identified since the 1980's on the ESLO side (East Side of Lake Ontario). That's also why the current record flooding is having such a terrible effect on our low lying areas as you read this very article! Too bad the creeks are so high now because the salmon will not be in them until the beginning of September. From then until November the anglers with spinning and fly rods will have a ball having monster salmon up to forty pounds right at their feet or even swimming through them!

The joy of nailing a king on a purple fly or even taking one on a spinning rod with an egg sack is impossible to just put into words compared to having the handle of that rod pulsating and vibrating in your shocked hand!

Hopefully you were one of the wise members and guests who picked up copies of my notes on the fish habits and hideouts as salmon head upstream for the coho and king spawning run every autumn. Those thirteen holding areas may not be found on every body of water that you wade, but you sure will encounter most of them as you wade through the shallows or along the shoreline looking for fish to cast your fly or egg sack.

It also is quite a thrill to fight it out with the bullish channel catfish of spring and early summer that I described could be readily caught on fresh filleted perch chunks. All anglers had to do was "seed" the area hours before with cheap oily canned cat food to draw in the curious hungry monsters. Their awesome sense of smell is their undoing as it leads them to the perch chunk baits with the circle hooks imbedded within. All summer there are perch schools both yellow and white that can be caught so fast two can fill a bucket in an hour for a neighborhood fish fry. Go get you some!!!

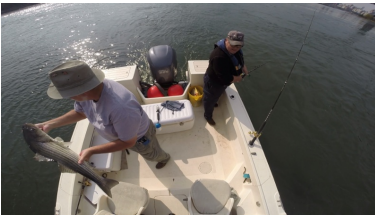


How you can help take the GUESS WORK out of Marine Fisheries Management (Part Deux)

By **Sergio Radossi**

There's nothing wrong with the practice of "catch n' fillet" for the dinner table. However, if you're not planning on

eating your catch then try to get in the habit of tagging and then throwing a fish back more frequently. Regardless of what you decide to do with your catch, or even if you've caught nothing at all, please take the time to report your fishing activities by completing New Jersey's Recreational Saltwater Angler Survey. Future generations will thank you for it.



This is me releasing a
striper (thank you
GOPRO).... **Joe
Spaccavento** is in the
back ground, we are on **Al
White's** boat.



This is me working a
Striper tag and release
production linelol



Pete Orenzo reviving a
bass to insure a good
release at a past HRFA
Striper tournament.

The two videos below support my article covering NJ's Recreational Saltwater Angler Survey, which ran in the June issue of *River Views*. The article stressed the importance of angler participation to provide critical data necessary to establish quotas on marine fish stocks. Tagging fish for science is another important contribution to the effort of saltwater fisheries management. The brief video, in 2-parts, show **Howie Leeman** catch, tag and release of a very nice 25.5 inch fluke.



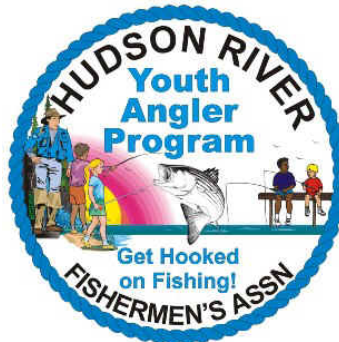
Part 1



Part 2

The Kiddie Rod Challenge

The results are in!



From all accounts the first annual Kiddie Rod Challenge this past June 1st successfully met its objectives of being a fun competitive event designed to raise a few extra bucks for our Youth Angler Program. See the photos below for proof of the "fun" part. It is obvious from all the smiling faces that a good time was had by everyone who participated. Thanks **Scott Havner** for creating and running all aspects of the event.

Andrew Ward reported, "Lots of fish caught, and released. First and second place were the same length largemouth bass! Although **Alex Spindelman** caught his about two hours before me, giving him first place.(Time of catch determines winner in the event of a tie). I finished second and **Peter Chiavelli** took home third. It was a fantastic day!"



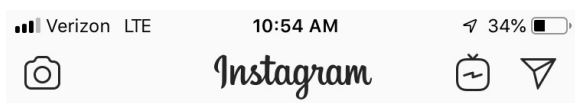
The happy philanthropic competitors on the shore at Lake Sebago. From left to right: **Marius Behr, Brendan Chiavelli, Carl Bruger, Peter Chiavelli, Dan Harrison, Jeff Christie, Alex Spindelman, Branden Havner, Scott Havner, Andrew Ward, Stephanie Hess and Linda Havner.** Not shown **Eileen Harrison & Aram Setian** both of whom had to leave earlier.



Here are the winners with their trophies. From left to right: 3rd Place **Peter Chiavelli**, 1st Place **Alex Spindelman**, 2nd Place **Andrew Ward**



Andrew Ward is all smiles in this self-serving selfie showing off his second place largemouth bass. Show off!



h.r.f.a._

...



8 likes

h.r.f.a._ Some entries this week for the photo contest! Keep sending more! Keep up the good work guys 🙌

h.r.f.a._ American Littoral Society tag number 914797 gets its freedom! ❤️

isn't he handsome? Great photos indeed!



Follow us on Instagram

Thanks go to **Dalas Musse** for volunteering to set up and maintain the Instagram app for the HRFA. Click **here**, the Instagram post on the left, or the Instagram icon. Photos can be emailed to dalasmusse@yahoo.com.

The photo by **Keith Baez** on the left was shared on Instagram. It captures the release of one of the stripers tagged in the Striper Derby. Oh, and by the way, it won him a \$25 gift certificate from Jigging World.



Instagram

Upcoming Events



Save the date: August 17 2019

Catfish Chaos Derby
Organizer: **Scott Havner**

Now accepting snail mail registrations. Print and complete the Entry Form below then mail it in with your check ASAP. On-line registration opens July 9th.

GRAND PRIZES
\$500 First Place
\$250 Second Place
\$125 Third Place
Kids' Prizes to 3rd Place

Additional prizes awarded at each weigh station the day of the Derby.

All proceeds to benefit the HRFA Scholarship Fund and Youth Angler Program.

Hudson River Fishermen's Association
3rd Annual Catfish Chaos Derby
Saturday August 17, 2019
Starts 12:01am & Ends 3:00pm

Entry Form
(Please Print Clearly)

Name: _____

Address
Street: _____

Town: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Cell Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Please indicate desired Entry Fee option:

_____ Adult: \$20.00
_____ Child under age 16: \$10.00
_____ Sponsor a child: \$10

Make Checks Payable to: "HRFA Catfish Chaos Derby"

Mail to: H.R.F.A. H.R.F.A.

P.O. Box 421 or P.O. Box 421

Cresskill, NJ 07626 Piermont, NY 10968

Full Disclaimer

The undersigned angler ("Angler") on behalf of himself/herself and personal representatives, assigns, heirs, executors, and successors hereby fully and forever releases, waives, and discharges the H.R.F.A. and all sponsoring or cosponsoring companies, organizations or individuals related to the Derby (collectively "Releasees") from all liability to the Angler and his/her personal representatives, assigns, heirs, executors and successors for loss(es), damage(s), claims thereof on account of injury to Angler or his/her property or the resultant death of Angler whether caused by active or passive negligence of the Releasees or otherwise, in connection with the Angler's participation in the Derby ("Losses"), and further covenants not to sue any of the aforementioned parties for such Losses. Angler is fully aware of the risks and hazards inherent in participating in the Derby and elects to voluntarily participate. Angler hereby assumes all risks of loss(es), damage(s), or injury(ies) that may be sustained by him/her while participating in the Derby. Angler represents and warrants to the Releasees that he/she is in good physical condition and is able to safely participate in the Derby. Angler warrants that all statements made herein are true and accurate and understands that Releasees have relied on them in allowing Angler to participate in the Derby.

ANGLER HAS READ THE FOREGOING AND INTENTIONALLY AND VOLUNTARILY SIGNS THE GENREAL RELEASE, WAIVER OF LIABILITY AND PARTICIPATION AGREEMENT.

Angler's Signature: _____

Date: _____

2019 HRFA CATFISH CHAOS DERBY RULES

1. Fishing in the Hudson River and tributaries only.
2. Event will be held rain or shine.
3. Only channel catfish, white catfish, and bullheads will be counted.
4. Fish can only be caught using a rod and reel.
5. Fish will be checked-in by length.
6. Fishing from shore and boat allowed.
7. Fish must be alive at check-in. The HRFA promotes catch and release therefore dead fish count at half the length.
8. One entry per angler. Largest fish checked-in counts.
9. Fishing starts at 12:01am and ends at 3:00pm. You must be at weigh station by 3:15pm.
10. Ties are determined by time of catch. Early fish wins.
11. Check-in starts at 8:00am. Fish caught prior to 8:00am send photo of fish to

- 845-300-1562 for time stamp of catch. You must still check fish in to count.
12. Registration ends at 8:00pm Friday August 16th .
13. Prize structure is subject to change.
14. All New York and New Jersey rules and regulations apply depending on state fished.
15. The Hudson River Fishermen's Association and all sponsors are released from any and all claims, demands, or causes of action arising out of or resulting from any participation in this derby.
16. All decisions of the derby committee are final.
-

2019 Catfish Chaos Derby Sponsors



Be sure to check out the [Events Calendar](#) for July 2019 (below) for member birthday notices, holidays and events.

From our Membership Chair



HRFA Members / just show up and win money.

Regarding the HRFA free money June 11th, there was \$44.00 not claimed from May, plus an additional \$20.00 from the split 50/50 (June 11th), totaling \$64.00 HRFA free money. New member **Billy Dixon's** name was picked June 11th, from the jar. Unfortunately, **Billy Dixon** was not there, so \$64.00 goes into the jar for July's pick.

Arnie Ulrich
Membership Chair

HRFA welcomes new member **Manuel Hamalian**, River Vale, New Jersey

HRFA 2019 Membership Form

Date: _____
Name: _____
Address: _____
Zip: _____
Work #: _____ Home #: _____

Fishing Licenses and Saltwater Registry for NJ & NY, Hudson River Regulations, etc.

Click on the buttons below for the:



E-Mail Address _____
Please note: Your E-Mail address is private and no spam or solicitations will be intentionally sent
Date of Birth: _____
Annual Dues: \$25.00.
All Donations are Tax Deductible

Enclosed is my check for annual membership.

Please circle the desired selections:
Renewal Gift New member

Optional Information:
Suggestions: Guest Speakers?
Projects? Activities?

How many children under 18 are in your family? _____
What is your current profession? _____

a) Scholarship Fund _____
b) Youth Angler Fund _____
c) Other _____

Mail to:
HRFA, P.O. Box 421, Cresskill, New Jersey, 07626

You can also join/renew online at www.hrfa.us. Just click on Members in the left hand column

If you have any questions, suggestions, or want to help (time, skills, or financially) on any particular club projects or events, feel free to email me, Arnie Ulrich (kavester@aol.com) or call me at 1-201-304-4691

NEW JERSEY FRESHWATER
LICENSE

NEW JERSEY SALTWATER
REGISTRY

NEW YORK FRESHWATER
LICENSE

NOTE: To order your NY State Fishing License by phone call 866-933-2257

NEW YORK SALTWATER
REGISTRY

NOTE: To get the New York Saltwater Registry you must first register for a free Citizen Access account, then log in and Buy Sporting License(s) (the Saltwater license is free)

NEW YORK HUDSON RIVER
FISHING REGULATIONS

NEW JERSEY 2019 MARINE
DIGEST

NEW JERSEY
RECREATIONAL
SALTWATER ANGLER
SURVEY

NEW JERSEY
RECREATIONAL
SALTWATER ANGLER FAQ
SHEET

New Jersey 2019 Fluke, Seabass and Porgy Regulations

Fluke

May 24–Sept 21, 3 fish at 18”
Island Beach State Park only - 16”

Sea Bass

May 15 - June 22, 10 fish at 12.5”
July 1 - Aug. 31, 2 fish at 12.5”
Oct. 8 - Oct. 31, 10 fish at 12.5”
Nov. 1 - Dec. 31, 15 fish at 13”

Porgy

Open all year - 50 fish 9+ inches

Grandpa Carl's Column

Carl Bruger has been a writer for this newsletter for a long time.
Here are his latest gems . . .



Circles for Success

By **Carl Bruger**

Using various hook designs and configurations over the years, this veteran angler has chosen many eclectic types for multiple purposes. The circle hook is a prime example and the focus of this report.

If I am targeting a fish that I do not intend to keep to eat but wish to enjoy battling without gut hooking the quarry, there is no better version of terminal tackle on the market than a circle hook in my humble opinion. (I do believe that a few million other fisherpersons would back me on this view too!)

There have been hundreds of studies done on the mortality rates of released fish species both in fresh and salt water comparing circle hooks to many other hook designs and in almost all the tests the circle hooks have given each species the best chance of survival of any design configuration!

The engineering and physics behind this type of shank and barb is such that when it is engulfed by a feeding fish it somehow finds itself working its way so it becomes lodged in the corner of the quarry's jaw. When the angler merely applies steady pressure on the line until it tightens, the barb will drive through the cartilage or bone on the side of the jaw of the fish and minimal damage will be done when landing the target species.

It takes discipline and concerted attention to remind yourself NOT to set the hook with authority on a strike when using circle hooks like you normally would do with a typical "J" hook or some other typical hook design. You are wasting energy and lessening the chance of hooking and landing your target by this aggressive seemingly expected gesture. The sheer power of the fish exerted against the tension on the line will drive the point of the circle hook into the side of its mouth almost every time without you striking but just holding tight to the rod and reel as the line comes taut.

My favorite use is on channel catfish off our dock on Lake Ontario every spring when the behemoths spawn and feed on the flats just in front of our summer home. Unless we have orders to bring back fillets to feed folks in Paterson from

the CUMAC food bank or friends want a monster to go with a hushpuppy feast for a classic Deep South fish fry, these big bellied bruisers belong back in the lake attaining sizes that can reach over thirty pounds!

My HRFA record at the Bruger dock is over 26 pounds and Wayne Geider Tim Burden and Peter Musse have all tickled the twenty five pound mark with big mammas full of eggs ready to spawn. The Catfish Chaos last year recorded 362 pounds of fish caught from our shores and I believe every single fish was released alive! Even in this year's new record lake flooding I landed on my second cast and released a 33" 19 1/2 pound specimen in early June just in front of our flooded walls where the waters stood at all-time record heights and still rising as you read this article!

A long needle nose pliers can make short work of hook removal when a circle hook is lodged in the corner of the jaw of any fish. The fleshy, gummy rubbery lips of a catfish cover very strong jaws that can clamp down like a vice so two men should attempt hook removal, one with a wet towel to hold the cat and prevent dorsal and pectoral fin spikes from puncturing either angler by thrashing and wiggling. Meanwhile the "dentist" can back out the circle hook just the way it bored its way in and the fish can be slid back into the lake after a quick photo or two.

These fish are tough and I have yet to see one of our releases wash up dead in the days after our tournaments have concluded. That can't be said for many bass tournaments and even panfish kids competitions I've run at camps where the fish 'buy the farm' too many times even when you give them their freedom. Other hooks had higher release mortality.

Almost every species of fish can be caught on a circle hook. Some types of mouths don't lend themselves to a high percentage of hook-ups. I want a Chesterton for my winter flounder, thank you! I will be tying my purple nurples on Gamagatsu size 1/0 octopus hooks until arthritis gets worse than it is now at the vise.

Until I quit, the salmon will hate me for that.

You get it, not all fish must be caught with circles, but what about bluefish, stripers, black drum, weakfish, and so many of the bottom feeders that have big enough mouths that the hook movement could do the shifting described above? You are the reader who holds the determination in your knot tying to the hook hands.



Grandpa Carl's Kids' Column

By Carl Bruger

This month I devote full effort to identify "Scrooges against future anglers", folks who in some diverse ways, shapes or forms are preventing our present day youth from hitting the streams, shores, lakes and oceans of our world. So many kids in the world have no

exposure to fishing because their parents, parent, or guardians have no interest, time, or even access to the resources that would make the experience possible.

They are additionally “damaged” by the incessant brainwashing of PETA type media hype that portrays fish anthropomorphically down to personalities that make cartoon hits a success (witness that clownfish, Nemo and Dory) For God’s sake they even had a vegetarian shark in one scene!!!

While this is cute and adorable for viewing it skews reality and needs to be balanced. If the child is not educated in the realities of actual nature he or she could be directed away forever from being an outdoors person who harvests the fruits of nature that God has freely given us.

One incident flipped me this winter when a frail little kid told me he “beat Pro bass fishing legend from New Jersey, Mike Iaconelli.” “How did you manage that”? I inquired with grave doubt. “I got real good playing every day on my video Bassmaster game!” The little guy enthusiastically responded.

When his parents showed up at our booth moments later a lot became clearer when they said they preferred him playing video fishing indoors where there were no bugs to bite him or other dangers like drowning or poison ivy. I’m sure I was not too tactful when I told them they were doing a fine job of turning their kid into a boy in the bubble. I don’t think they were HRFA prospects anyhow. Sadly these parents love their child but the mother’s smother love and the overprotective dad robbed their child of the outdoors that is free in our great country to all who would breath the fresh air, swim in the waters, and maybe even ski or skate on the frozen versions. That’s being a scrooge in a weird way in my philosophy of living.

All through the media and in education there are those who would teach our young people that fishing is cruel and barbaric and that fish feel pain like we do! Some of these people have doctorates and are in positions of great power. They would like nothing better than to turn our nation into a bunch of non-competitive, (fishing contests banned), Kale consuming vegans, where God forbid, you kill a life form that just might supply the best proteins your body could ever absorb! I don’t even want to get started on how awesome most species of fish taste when well prepared so many ways from sushi sashimi, and smoked to baked, broiled and fried!

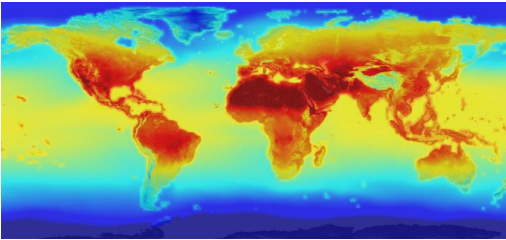
Too many older people in good health are on the sidelines doing nothing with their idle time. Many like kids. Where can you help? Offer to aid with your local Scouts. Teach or demonstrate toward their badges. Offer mentorship Be they Boys scouts, Girl scouts, Cub scouts, Brownies, or any similar organization, a group awaits your patient needed sage advice and guidance.

Special needs children are even more rewarding to help catch fish and require a truly compassionate person willing to be a one on one helper who will do almost all of the angling casting, worm hooking, untangling, teaching, etc. One giant smile or shriek of joy and your incredible reward will speak for itself.

Another way to not be a Scrooge is to unburden yourself of some of that fishing gear you have accumulated over the years. (No man or woman is worse than me, after giving away hundreds of rods and reels to kids I still have hundreds more to donate to them and wounded warriors etc!) Remember that even if they jam your favorite rod and reel into the casket, I seriously doubt if you are going to do much casting with it there.

Find any neighborhood kid who doesn't own a fishing rod and give him/her one of yours and teach that kid how to fish and I promise you St Peter will meet you at the gates of heaven with bonus points! You will also be beloved and respected in the neighborhood.

I end with the hope that more even nasty curmudgeons could at least take the strategy and tone that one elderly donor did at our booth a few years back when I asked him to give a few bucks to put some kids on a boat, and he generously forked over a crisp twenty and with a mischievous twinkle in his heavily browed eyes growled, "Take out a few and drown a couple"! Those "drowning victims" had a great time catching sea robins and fluke on one of the finest 1/2 day party boat trips we ever had!



Carl's Corner for July 2019

By Carl Bruger

Last month many of you got to read my article about climate change and Lake Ontario's resultant response to increased precipitation, higher temperatures and more radical wind patterns. Currently we are sitting witness to a daily resetting of the all-time flood record high water mark as I pen this missive! My property is almost totally under water except for my home which has water into the concrete slab. All the out buildings have some to three feet of water in them.

The only good news is that the fishing is great everywhere I check. I caught a 19 1/2 pound channel cat fish just past my wall on a second cast with a perch chunk and popped her right back after a quick photo. Those who have taken a break to fish from flood work sand bagging have caught small mouth & largemouth bass white & yellow perch, pike, walleye, and one dude nailed a 22 pound carp.

Besides Mother Nature and her 65 days of rain out of the last 75 days, who is to blame? The six alleged "experts" who were on the plan 2014 committee, (that is the two country group in charge of flooding both nations by sitting on their hands and doing nothing at the Moses Saunders dam on the St. Lawrence River during the winter when water could have been released). It became too late in the spring with heavy snow melt; torrential record rains each month and a flooded Ottawa River that precluded increasing more dam flow lest Montreal be destroyed by flood downriver. Millions understand what these cretins would not do; act before nature floods the lake shoreline for the second time in three years in the exact same way they said would never happen again!

Now you have the new six doing too little too late with maximum dam flows going out of this nightmare bottleneck on the St. Lawrence. To mix a metaphor, the horse is already out of the barn. In this case I think the horse drowned and the carcass stinks!

This despicable 2014 plan should get deep-sixed under the damn flood it created and we should go back to the plan 1958DD that never caused a ripple at least in the 27 other years that my wife and I owned lake front property! All we can do this summer is rebuild destroyed walls again and try to fill in our eroded property

so that the next flood can't undo what we again have tried to buttress. Some #^@\$ing summer this turned out to be.

H.R.F.A. Photo Gallery

Have a photograph and/or fishing story you would like to share with the club? Email it to Joe Albanese at joealbanese2@gmail.com and we will do our very best to squeeze it into an upcoming issue of *River Views*.



Haddock Hopefuls. From l. to r. **Dan Blackly, Marvin Oresky, Pete Musse, Dalas Musse & Joe Albanese** fished together out of Plymouth, MA on Capt. John Boats. **Marvin's** large cusk fish was the only legal keeper after two 8-hour days of effort. Hey, it happens to the best of us.



On June 8th the HRFA joined the Hackensack Riverkeeper organization to run the fishing competition part of their Reservoir Challenge event over at the SUEZ Water Company's Oradell Reservoir in Haworth. That's **Scott Havner** holding the lucky lady angler's pumpkinseed sunfish.



This one falls under the heading of "Better Late than Never".
Captured in this photo from our

Annual Awards Dinner are the winners of the 2018 Fishing Contest. From l. to r. **Dan Harrison, Carl Bruger, Tim Burden, Joe Marchese, John Fancesconi, Aram Setian,** Youth Angler **Brandon Chiavelli, Gil Hawkins** and **Scott Havner.**



That's HRFA President and First Lady, **Dan & Eileen Harrison**, with two great fish captured on the Niagara River.

Stay connected!

Follow us on Social Media.



Instagram

Share your photos on *Instagram*. Simply click **here** or on the icon above.



We're on Facebook too. Follow HRFA Fishermen (Boat & Surf).

Coming soon ...



Andy Ward caught this nice striper fishing aboard **SOUND BOUND CHARTERS**. **Feby Philip** caught two stripers that night. **Scott Havner & Joe Albanese** were aboard too and they drowned just as many bunker chunks as the other two guys but to no avail. Just goes to prove it's all luck.

Several HRFA members made their annual trip to Vermont to fish Lake Champlain. Below are some of their photos gleaned from their Facebook post to HRFA Fishermen (Boat and Surf).



A beautiful sunset on Lake Champlain.



Capt. Aram Setian with a nice largemouth bass.



That's **Mr. Wayne Geider** with a northern pike in the foreground.



Mr. Tony Carbone with a sweet 4.5 lb largemouth bass.



Mr. Geider again.



Banana Boat

By Joe Albanese

All of the fishing guides on the Niagara River have a thing about bananas. They hate them on their boat. They're bad mojo. It's a deeply rooted superstition based upon some historical incident from long ago that no one quite seems to agree upon. Most likely related to a bite from a banana spider which, I Googled, is mildly poisonous to humans.

On this past trip to Lewiston, NY the two newbies destined to fish the Niagara River in the same boat as I worried about having to go to the bathroom because there is no nautical 'head' on board. I said, "You just pee over the side or in a piss-jug". They asked, "What about number two? Or worse, diarrhea?" I said, "They will bring you ashore and we will simply lose a little fishing time." To further address their concern, I casually mentioned the binding power of bananas. I suggested eating one before we boarded the boat in the morning if they were still at all concerned. I added, "Whatever you do, just don't bring one on the boat with you because these guys are very superstitious about that." We went to the Tops supermarket in town and purchased not one, or two, but a whole bunch of ripe bananas.

Later that evening, we met up with some of the other HRFA members that will fish the next morning. We told them we bought some bananas and why. They too mentioned the superstition about having the yellow fruit aboard a fishing guide's boat in the Niagara River and cautioned against bringing any with us.

Midway through the next day's outing me and my two novice fishing companions were doing quite well. Their names and my personal relationship to them will remain strictly confidential. At that point, we already landed and released two nice steelies and maybe 20 smallies between us. That's when one of them, let's call him "Guy #1", was laughing with his iPhone aimed at the action aboard as "Guy #2" landed yet another hefty smallmouth bass. As our fishing guide unhooked the smallie it slipped out of his hands and flopped onto the deck. Guy #1 nonchalantly comments "Nice bananas." That's when I noticed that the entire bunch of bananas that we purchased the night before were aboard. Lying there on the deck in full view, right next to the fish. No immediate response from the guide. Did he not hear? Could he not see? I quietly and incredulously asked Guy #2 "You brought the bananas on the boat?!"

THAT the guide heard. He spun around, spied the bananas, immediately dropped what he was doing and raced to pick them up. With all his might he threw the entire bunch into the river as far away from the boat as he possibly could. He looked like Eli Manning passing a 60-yard TD bomb. He wasn't happy. He excitedly explained why he simply had no choice but to get rid of them.

Guy #1 wasn't having any of it. In his mind it simply isn't possible for a rational thinking person to actually, and truly, believe that a banana, or even an entire bunch of bananas, was bad luck. Nothing the guide provided as evidence of a bad luck situation caused by the presence of a banana on somebody's boat made any sense. There was not an iota of sound scientific data substantiating such a wild notion that bananas could possibly have had anything to do with the unfortunate

circumstances the guide enumerated. “Besides,” Guy #1 reasoned, “look how many fish we already caught, despite there being an entire bunch of bananas aboard.” “It has nothing to do with fish being caught or not”, the guide countered, “it has to do with the condition of the boat and engine.”

For the next 10 minutes the debate raged on, half-serious half-joking. During that time, I don’t think we landed a single fish. That’s when we noticed that the bunch of bananas were following us. Ten minutes after being tossed overboard they were still floating alongside at the same rate as our downstream drift. At this even the guide had to laugh. (Though I detected a slight nervousness in his attempted lightheartedness.) Eventually, all was well again, and everyone aboard fully appreciated and respected the guide’s position on the subject. It was either that, outright mutiny, or being tossed overboard to follow the bananas heading straight for Lake Ontario.

As the distance between our boat and the floating flotilla of fruit increased our good fishing luck gradually resumed. Mere coincidence? Or, is there a nugget of truth in the superstition? In total, we boated 34 smallmouth bass; plus, those two steelhead trout. All released to swim and fight again. More importantly, we would finish the day without a single bad incident. So, for this trip at least, there was no ‘banana curse’ levied against our captain/guide, his vessel or his customers.

To conclude, no one had to rely upon the binding power of bananas. In fact, I don’t think a single one was ever eaten. Certainly, the mistake of bringing bananas on board did provide some comic levity, added to the enjoyment of the day and made the trip all the more memorable. However, I don’t recommend it to anyone. Not that I’m superstitious or anything.

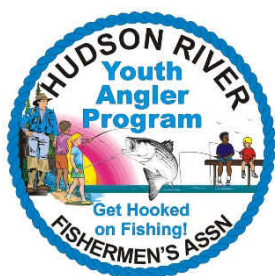


Hiding in plain sight.



Triple header! From left to right: Guy #2, **Joe Albanese**, Guy #1.
No matter what, I will always love these two guys.

H.R.F.A. Youth Angler Program



Youth Angler Program

By **Wayne Geider**

On Friday June 7 a band of HRFA volunteers (**Wayne Geider, Scott Havner, Linda Havner, Marius Behr, Aram Setian, Al Miller & Joe Albanese**) were at it again. This time meeting kids from Rockland Boards of Cooperative Educational Services (a.k.a Rockland BOCES) out on the Piermont Pier for a few hours of fishing fun. So glad we were able to play a small part in helping these kids reach their full potential.

Click on their logo below to watch a great video about the Rockland BOCES Special Education program.



From our Historian



PHOTO 1999 Fort Lee, NJ Restaurant (Awards Dinner): The Sterlacci family Theresa, Gail, Tom Sr. Anthony and Tom Jr (Top).



HRFA History LOOKING BACK IN TIME

By Tony Evangelista

The Sterlacci family are long time HRFA members. For the past 20 years they have been attending our General Meetings, Hooked on the Hudson events & Annual Awards Dinners. Plus both sons, Anthony and Tom Jr., have fished in a lot of our surf tournaments over the past years. Thanks to this wonderful HRFA family.

Calling all surfcasters

Come join the fun fishing with family and friends under the H.R.F.A. banner. Team (Teams?) now forming to fish in the ASAC Tournaments. See Fall Schedule below. If interested, please contact **Joe Albanese**. joealbanese2@gmail.com



Association of Surf Angling Clubs Fall Tournament Schedule

Sept. 7: 57th Annual H.W. Shaner Tournament by the Association of Surf Angling Clubs, Avalon, NJ

Sept. 21: 35th Annual Women's Surf Fishing Club of NJ Tournament, Brigantine, NJ

Sept. 28: 73rd Annual Long Beach Island Fishing Club Tournament, Harvey Cedars, NJ

Oct. 5: 65th Annual Pennsauken Surf Fishing Club Tournament North Wildwood, NJ

Oct. 12: 41st Annual New Jersey Beach Buggy Association Great Fall Classic Tournament, Seaside Park, NJ

Oct. 19: 3rd Annual Merchantville Fishing Club Surf Fishing Tournament, Long

Beach Island, NJ

Oct. 26: 51st Annual Ocean City Fishing Club Surf Fishing Tournament, Ocean City, NJ

Nov. 2: 2nd Annual American Angler Surf Fishing Tournament, Long Beach Island, NJ

HRFA Calendar

July 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30	1	2	3 Happy Birthday Marius Behr	4 Happy Birthday USA Arthur Dalton Anthony Luongo	5 Happy Birthday Dan Blackley	6 Happy Birthday Tony Goodson
7	8 Happy Birthday Charles Spindelman	9 HRFA General Meeting at Elks, Ridgefield Park	10 Happy Birthday Alvin Miller Jr	11	12	13
14	15	16	17 Happy Birthday Hugh Hennessy	18 Happy Birthday Gary Petrie	19	20
21 Happy Birthday Henry Pruitt	22	23 Happy Birthday James DeSalvatore Bob Fanslau Scott Havner	24	25	26	27
28 Happy Birthday Michelle Ulrich Kevin Quarles	29 Happy Birthday Kevin Munson	30	31 Happy Birthday Harvey Karp	1	2	3

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history
matters*

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HUDSON RISING An Environmental Odyssey



"Much more than a body of water, the Hudson and its surroundings have been

"*Hudson Rising* explores 200 years of ecological change and environmental activism along "the most interesting river in America" through artifacts, media, and celebrated Hudson River School paintings. The exhibition reflects on how human activity has impacted the river and, in turn, how the river environment has shaped industrial development, commerce, tourism, and environmental awareness. The exhibition also explores how experts in various fields are currently creating ways to restore and re-engineer areas

the home for humans and hundreds of species of fish, birds, and plants; offered an escape for city-dwellers; and witnessed battles over the uses of the river valley and its resources. For over 200 years, writers and artists have captured the river in paintings, drawings, literature, and photographs, and surveyors and scientists have mapped and measured its every parcel."

of the river in response to climate change."

[Click here to learn more.](#)

Fishing Contest Leader Boards (only listing 1st, 2nd & 3rd place)

The HRFA NJ hosts an annual fishing contest which runs from January through December and is open to all HRFA NJ members. Various divisions are available for prizes. You have 30 days from the day you catch a fish to send in your entries. As a member of the HRFA you and your immediate family are eligible to enter fish in any of our categories.

Saltwater Species



**Striped Bass Released
Caught From Boat
(leaders determined by length)**
No Entries



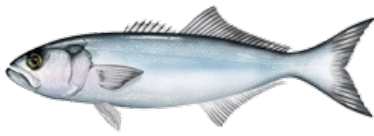
**Striped Bass Kept
Caught From Boat
(leaders determined by weight)**
Butch Pawson - 22 Lbs



**Striped Bass Released
Caught From Shoreline
(leaders determined by length)**
John Francesconi - 34"
John Francesconi - 30"



**Striped Bass Kept
Caught From Shoreline
(leaders determined by weight)**
Carl Hartmann - 18 Lbs
Butch Pawson - 15 Lbs. 14.4 oz.
Butch Pawson - 10 Lbs



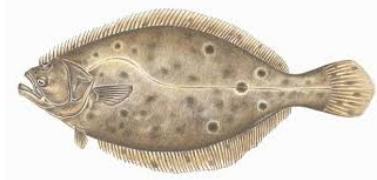
Bluefish

Butch Pawson - 9 Lbs. 12 oz.
Carl Hartmann - 7 Lbs



Flounder

Butch Pawson - 2 Lbs 0.3 oz
Butch Pawson - 1 Lb. 3 oz
Butch Pawson - 8 oz.



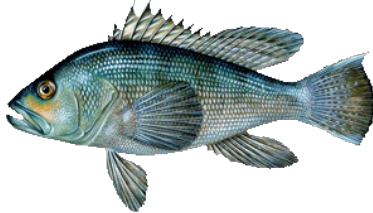
Fluke

Ed Christensen - 4 Lbs 2 oz.



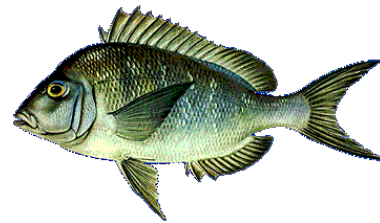
Blackfish

No Entries



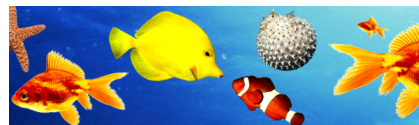
Black Sea Bass

No Entries



Scup (Porgy)

No Entries



Open Category Salt Water

No Entries

Freshwater Species



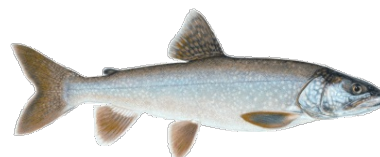
Catfish

Scott Havner - 8 lbs 11 oz
Bill Greene - 7 Lbs
John Francesconi - 5 Lbs



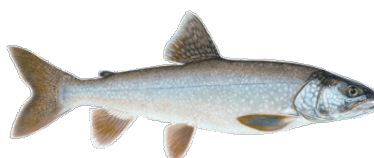
Carp

Bill Greene - 13 Lbs 1 oz
Bill Greene - 12 Lbs. 7 oz
Bill Greene - 12 Lbs 1 oz



Trout - Local

Scott Havner - 2 Lbs 6 oz
Marvin Oresky - 1 Lbs 14 oz



Trout - Great Lakes

Aram Setian - 14 lb 8 oz
Steelhead
Released! - Niagara River
35"
Mona Mak - 14 Lbs.



Smallmouth Bass

Linda Havner - 6 Lbs 5 oz.
Scott Havner - 3 Lbs. 4 oz.



Largemouth Bass

Andrew Ward - 5 Lbs 7 oz
Scott Havner - 4 lbs 4oz



Salmon
No Entries



Open Category
Fresh Water
No Entries

Partial list of Friends of the HRFA
(Click on any image below to visit their website.)



AMERICAN LITTORAL SOCIETY
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Visit our website

Hudson River Fishermen's Association
PO Box 421, Cresskill, NJ 07626 • PO Box 421, Piermont, NY 10968