

# River Views

The Official Newsletter of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association



## Hudson River Fishermen's Association

August  
2019



E-08-19



### August 13th General Meeting

#### Guest Speaker:

Ira Gershenhorn

**Topic:** Restoring  
Oysters at West  
Harlem Piers

Ira Gershenhorn is a computer programmer whose hobbies include gardening and swimming in the Hudson River. Yes, you read that right.

His passion is nature and clean water advocacy. So, he attends many meetings on NYC DEC's Long Term Control Plans (LTCP) for Combined Sewer Outflow (CSO) management. He also works with many clean water advocacy organizations like Riverkeeper, Stormwater Infrastructure Matters (S.W.I.M.), the Harbor Estuary Program (HEP), the Waterfront Alliance, the Billion Oyster Project (BOP), Plus Pool, the River Project, Newtown Creek Alliance, Bronx River Alliance and many more. He observes and comments on nature as part of a group called the Upper West Side Neighborhood Naturalists which was created by Daniel Atha of the New York Botanical Garden (NYBG) using the iNaturalist project.

As part of his work with the Billion Oyster Project (BOP) he maintains several Oyster Research Stations (ORSs) on the Baylander IX-514 in West Harlem Piers and one ORS on Newtown Creek at HarborLab. He takes water samples at three locations for 20 weeks during the summer as part of a Citizens Water Quality Testing program run by NYC Watertrail.

#### Next General Meeting

August 13, 2019 at 7:30 pm at

Ridgefield Park Elks

#### Guest Speaker

Ira Gershenhorn

#### Executive Meeting

1st Tuesday of every month Ridgefield

Park Elks at 7:30 pm

#### HRFA Officers

##### President

Dan Harrison

##### Vice President

Aram Setian

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##### Hooked on the Hudson

Pete Musse

##### Environmental

Gil Hawkins

##### Publicity

Miguel Sardinas

##### Fishing Contests

Scott Havner

##### Outdoors Shows

Dave Mercer

Janice Soto



In conjunction with the Baylander museum ship and the advice of the Billion Oyster Project Ira is currently working on creating permits with NYS DEC, NYC DEP and NYC Parks to restore oysters in West Harlem Piers.

Ira can be reached at [ira@gershenvorn.com](mailto:ira@gershenvorn.com).



## Museum Ships

Preserving the past for the future



### The Baylander on active duty



### The Baylander is now a museum

Baylander (IX-514) was a United States Navy Helicopter Landing Trainer (HLT), billed as the world's smallest aircraft carrier. It served as a practice landing site for helicopter pilots in the United States Navy, Army, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and National Guard.

#### Educational 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](mailto:Riverviews@hrfanj.org)

## From our President



Hi All,

Lets start with the weather, has this been the best summer so far for weekend weather? We have been on the water every weekend so far this summer. An over night trip to Catskill and a weekend in Kingston and a few over nights in Croton has



really made this boating and fishing season so far. I am writing this a little more than a week away from our catfish chaos tournament on August 17th. I hope I'm not going to jinx the weather for this great event. See below and get in touch with **Scott Havner** and get involved in the fun event.

This year we will be giving seven young adults scholarships to start their collage experience. This year we will have a new award in the name of past member **Peter Rudolph**. With the help of Peter's fishing buddies we have been able to invest in a CD that will help for future scholarships. This idea was inspired by **John Golon** past president and the Elks. The names of the recipients are **Jessica Crean, Christopher Bazela, Gali Fish, Thomas Freda, Sarah Rodrick, Brandan Chin, and Timothy Horan**. Come Tuesday night and see these young people before they start their collage career. Congrats to these young scholars.

We are trying something different with the newsletter. Non members will be getting an abbreviated news letter. The thought is to get some people that are on the fence about joining to jump in and spend the 25 dollars to support this growing organization. I was going to report on the boat in the woods but **Joe Albanese** beat me to the punch. See below

After last month's speaker Doc Bayne spoke, a lot of members came up to me and said he was the best speaker we have had in years, I have to agree he had everyone's attention. This month may be the same. Come out Tuesday night and listen to our speaker and maybe win the growing 50/50 money.

We have added a new section to *River Views*. You will find "Fish Recipes" at the very end of this issue.

If you have a recipe, article, photograph, event, whatever, to share with our members in this newsletter please email your contribution to **Joe Albanese** at [joealbanese2@gmail.com](mailto:joealbanese2@gmail.com) or [riverviews@hrfanj.org](mailto:riverviews@hrfanj.org).

Bee Well  
Dan H

## Public Access

Here we go again. Yet another township trying to prevent or limit public access to tidal waters. Denying the rights of others from enjoying the same opportunities afforded their own privileged residents who live in town or on the waterfront. Which, by the way, is illegal. Please see photos and the open letter sent to officials by HRFA President **Dan Harrison** on behalf of all who want to be able to enjoy the Hudson River, which is the undeniable right of all Americans.





[Click here to read the open letter from HRFA President Dan Harrison to state & local officials and the Riverkeeper organization.](#)  
Subject: Croton North Access

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

### A Motion to Save the Historical Heritage of the HRFA

By Joe Albanese



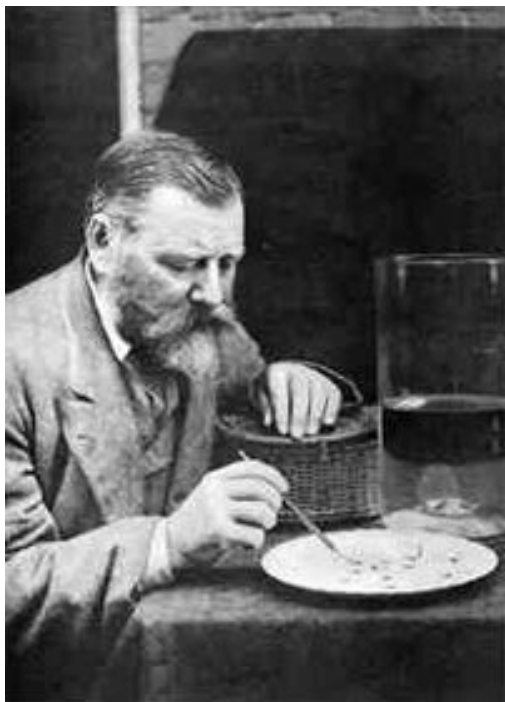
Those of you who attended the July meeting heard President **Dan Harrison** and **John Malool**, AMS® speak about our boat rotting away in the woods in Garrison, NY.

The significance of this boat to the history of our organization cannot be underestimated. The very idea for it originated from no less a visionary, and perhaps no one more important to the founding of the HRFA and its guiding principles, than Robert H. Boyle. Read the following excerpt taken from his book, "The HUDSON RIVER - A natural and unnatural history", published in 1969. In the last chapter, called "The Future of the River", Boyle reasons that it would be better if a naturalist or conservationist, rather than engineers, be put in charge of the river. He goes on to say:

"Whatever naturalist or conservationist is the director, I would like to see him out on the river the length of the year, nailing polluters on the spot, telling the highwaymen they cannot build the road here but over there, talking to schoolchildren, telling anglers where the stripers or sturgeon are running, in essence, giving a sense of time, place and purpose to people who live in or visit the valley. In my mind's eye, I imagine the job to be somewhat like an expanded version of the role played by the late William James Lunn, river keeper for the Houghton Club on the Test, the most famous British trout stream. For almost fifty years, Lunn worked on the river, restocking it with aquatic insects, cutting weed, hatching trout. There is a marvelous photograph of him, elderly and bewhiskered, tweezers in hand, sorting out insects, in the biography by John Waller Hills. So, I like to imagine, will appear the river keeper of the Hudson in future years, a no-nonsense naturalist, with the idiosyncrasies, migrations, and workings of the Hudson engrained in his mind. We need someone like this on the Hudson and on every major river in the country." - Robert H. Boyle



The questions now are can we find sufficient enthusiasm 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?



William James Lunn - The first riverkeeper on the Test trout stream, England



John Cronin - The first Hudson River riverkeeper.

Robert H. Boyle's dream, envisioned in 1969, eventually became a reality when the Hudson River Fishermen's Association (formed in 1966) launched its *Riverkeeper* boat in 1983.



### THEN

The H.R.F.A. created *the world's first* Waterkeeper Organization. The photo above shows the 1983 maiden-launch of its 25-foot wooden boat tasked with patrolling the Hudson for polluters. It was initially piloted by John Cronin.



### 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.





On July 5th a small cadre made its way up to Garrison, NY to "assess the situation". From l. to r. **Joe Albanese, Dan Harrison, Aram Setian** and **John M. Malool**. **John** is an Accredited Marine Surveyor (AMS) of Yachts & Small Craft. Taking the photo was **Dave Mercer**. **John's** expert opinion is, "It's better than I expected. The hull is in good shape. It is worth doing."



**Capt. Aram Setian & John Malool** looking things over. It could be worse. It could be raining.

If she cannot be made seaworthy again then at the very least we hope to refurbish her good enough to become a permanent exhibit at the Hudson River Maritime Museum. To read more about The Hudson River Maritime Museum visit their website at <http://www.hrmm.org> or simply click on their logo below.



**Hudson River Maritime Museum**

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



## July Meeting Recap

By **Joe Albanese**

We were enthralled listening to historian Donald "Doc" Bayne as he took us with him along his personal journey leading to his eventual discovery of the forge in Sterling Forest that made "The Chain that Saved the Colonies". Doc's PowerPoint presentation was not a stodgy history lesson. Rather, his enthusiasm and passion for his work were contagious. As a result, we sat spellbound as each new discovery of his added another piece of evidence until eventually, after years of detective work, the puzzle was solved.

Some of the things we learned included the following from my 'class notes':

The first iron ore was discovered in Sterling Forest in 1736. Deposits of magnetite sticking above ground really are the tip of the iceberg because they can extend miles deep into the



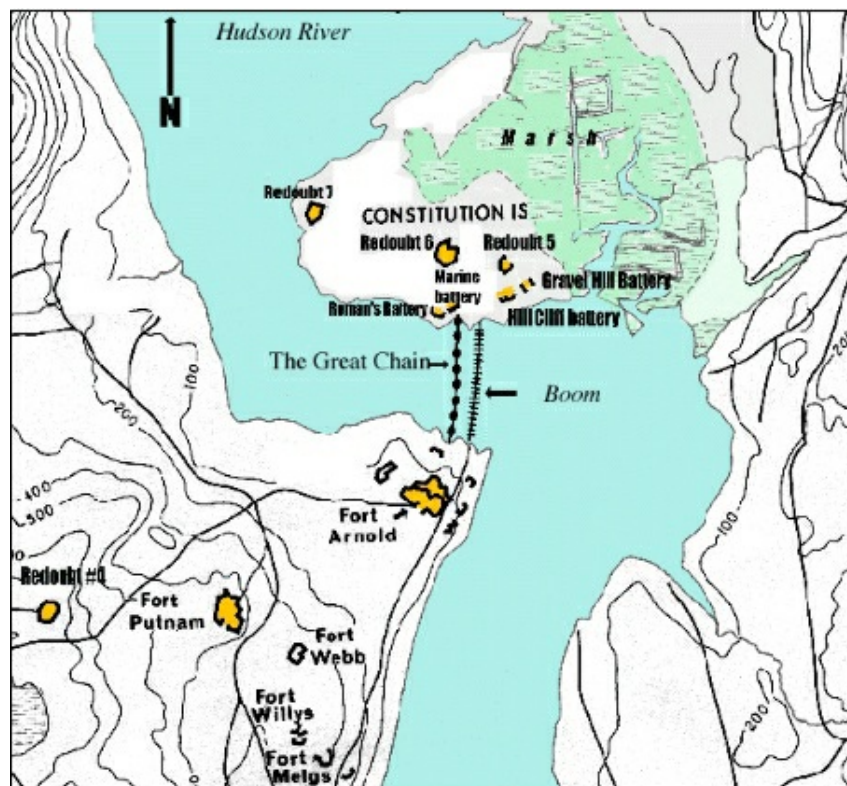
earth. In 1738 the Bloomery was built. (From Wikipedia - A bloomery is a type of furnace once used widely for smelting iron from its oxides. The bloomery was the earliest form of smelter capable of smelting iron. A bloomery's product is a porous mass of iron and slag called a bloom.)

Through the process of purifying iron ore a new industry blossomed. That is the making of charcoal. It was the job of colliers to work in 12-hour shifts 24 hours a day to combine the magnetite with limestone (a fluxing agent) and charcoal in blast furnaces. At this time England had much iron ore, but had depleted all of its forests. Therefore, through the Iron Act of 1750, England petitioned the Colonies (who had both iron ore *and* wood) to make pig-iron for them (and only them) in this way. In essence, the Iron Act also made it illegal for the Colonies to make any products from pig iron for themselves. In the year 1751 the first blast furnace at Sterling was built.

The chain effectively prevented British General Burgoyne from realizing his plan of attack on West Point. His plan was to have British troops descend the river from Lake Champlain to meet up with others advancing northward from New York harbor.

There are 13 links of the original chain on display at Trophy Point on the grounds of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. The dimensions of each link were not precise. Which is one reason why it is uncertain exactly how many links were needed to stretch strategically across the 1,500-foot wide Hudson River at West Point. Doc has searched high and low for the missing links. In this quest he has exposed many outright fakes, false claims and innocent mis-identifications. Many of the bogus originals were the result of one Westminster Abby, a charlatan, who fraudulently sold extruded chains made somewhere other than the forge at Sterling Forest. These are discernible from the original rough hand-hammered chain links by their smooth surface and precise dimensions. Doc's search for additional original links continues. One new lead is to uncover whatever became of the 30 tons of the origin chain reportedly sold to Governor's Island in 1829.

Happy hunting Doc!



Map showing the location of the Great Chain and Boom placed strategically across the



Hudson River at West Point. I have learned (Wikipedia again) that the traitor Benedict Arnold attempted to tell the British how to circumvent the chain. What a creep.



Doc started the **Friends of Sterling Forest** in partnership with the state of NY. It is a "non-profit organization established to preserve, protect and foster an appreciation of the natural resources and historical treasures that make up Sterling Forest State Park." Doc conducts Sunday lectures and hikes. Be sure to visit their website to learn more. Then go take a hike.



The Visitors' Center at **Sterling Forest State Park** holds multiple historical artifacts discovered by Doc Bayne. I think the metal object on the left is called a 'gudgeon' and that it was embedded into one end of the wooden shaft that operated the bellows that blew air into the blast furnace providing the oxygen needed for combustion. But don't quote me on that either.

## Upcoming Events



Catfish Chaos Derby  
Organizer: **Scott Havner**

It's baaaaaack . . .



**August 17 2019**

Catfish Chaos Derby Entry  
Form

**Adults Win Cash Prizes**  
1<sup>st</sup> Place - \$500.00 min

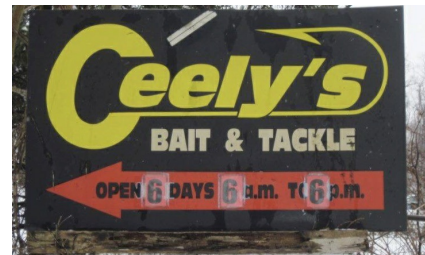
**Additional Prizes**  
Kids' prizes awarded up to 3<sup>rd</sup> place



2<sup>nd</sup> Place - \$250.00 min.  
3<sup>rd</sup> Place - \$150.00 min

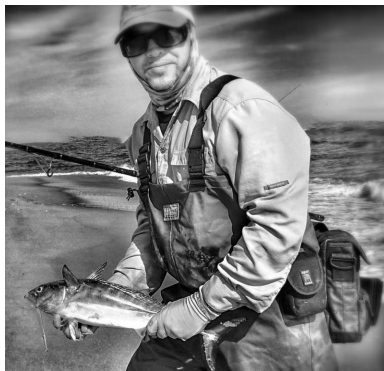
Prizes awarded at each weigh station  
More prizes at Separate Awards  
Ceremony

**Be sure to support the businesses that are supporting  
the HRFA Catfish Chaos Derby by shopping with them**



**Westerly Marina, Inc.**

**matt's** sporting goods



## Surf Fishing Clinic

New to surfcasting? If so, be sure to join us at 7AM on the beaches of Sandy Hook September 14th and learn from one of the HRFA's most experienced surfcasters, **Miguel Sardinas**.

Be sure to check your email inbox for a separate announcement on this event and HRFA Surf Fishing Team(s) now forming.

## 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** at [joealbanese2@gmail.com](mailto:joealbanese2@gmail.com) or **Pete Musse** at [petemusse@gmail.com](mailto:petemusse@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

*Be sure to check out the [H.R.F.A. Events Calendar](#) for August 2019 (below) for member birthday notices, holidays and events.*

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## Just FYI . . .

This upcoming NY DEC event (August 10th) may be of interest to our members. Watch the video. Also, click on the article below to find out details of where and timing. Just sharing.





## Great Hudson River Fish Count August 10: Save the Date!

*The New York State Department of Environmental Conservation sent this bulletin on 07/16/2019 09:13 AM EDT*

### Hudson RiverNet

*News from the Hudson River Estuary Program*

## Great Hudson River Fish Count August 10

Have you ever wondered what lives beneath the waters of the Hudson River? Join us for the Great Hudson River Estuary Fish Count on Saturday, **August 10th** to find out! The Fish Count will take place at 19 sites along the banks and piers of the Hudson from Staten Island in New York City to Peebles Island State Park in the Capital Region. Fresh upriver and salty at New York City, the Hudson estuary and its watershed are home to more than 200 fish species. During this family-friendly event, participants are invited to explore the amazing variety of slippery, wriggly, and fascinating creatures usually hidden below the river's surface. Depending on the site, seines, minnow traps, and rods and reels are used. Participants may don waders to help haul a seine - a curtain of net used in shallow water - or try their luck with a fishing rod. After naturalists display and discuss the catch, the fish are released back to the river.



The Great Hudson River Estuary Fish Count is *free*. For details on sites, locations, and times, please visit [DEC's website](#). The event is sponsored by DEC's Hudson River Estuary Program.



**NOAA**  
**FISHERIES**

### Also of interest ...

In recent past issues of *River Views* **Sergio Radossi** has written about the importance of participating in NJDEP's **volunteer Recreational Saltwater Angler Survey**.

Click on the NOAA Fisheries logo to read their recent announcement (July 26, 2019) of possibly going to "Electronic Reporting as Supplemental Source of Recreational Fishing Data" and their report to Congress describing the Marine Recreational Information Program's work toward its four-part electronic reporting action plan.

## From our Membership Chair

### H.R.F.A. Merchandise

Newly redesigned HRFA baseball caps are now available. Pick one up at the next monthly meeting. Or, click on the photo to





order yours today.

Wear it proudly!

Other apparel with our logo are also available.



## HRFA Members >>> Free money New Total = \$89.00+

Regarding the HRFA free money at the July 9<sup>th</sup> meeting: There was \$64.00 not claimed from the previous month, plus an additional \$25.00 from the split 50/50 (July 9<sup>th</sup>), totaling \$89.00 HRFA free dollars. HRFA paid member **John Wilms'** (Ringwood) name was picked July 9<sup>th</sup>, from the jar. Unfortunately, **John Wilms** was not there to get the HRFA free money, so \$89.00 goes into the jar for the August HRFA meeting pick. Will you be there?

## Summer Dog Days Fishing Tips

During the Summer Dog Days it's hard to have fresh bait handy at a moments notice for the myriad of summer visitors available in the bays, rivers and surf. Keep two packages of Fishbites in your bag or box. I like to carry the Sand Flea strips and the Bag O Worms strips for those unexpected opportunities. These are made in St Augustine Florida so they know a thing or two about the hot weather. You won't be disappointed.

Also don't forget to carry one of those cheap little bench brushes you can get at the discount stores to clean the sand off of your equipment before putting stuff back in your vehicle. It's the first thing I look for when getting back to the car to head home.

HRFA Membership  
Application

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

**Click on the buttons below for the:**

NEW JERSEY FRESHWATER  
LICENSE

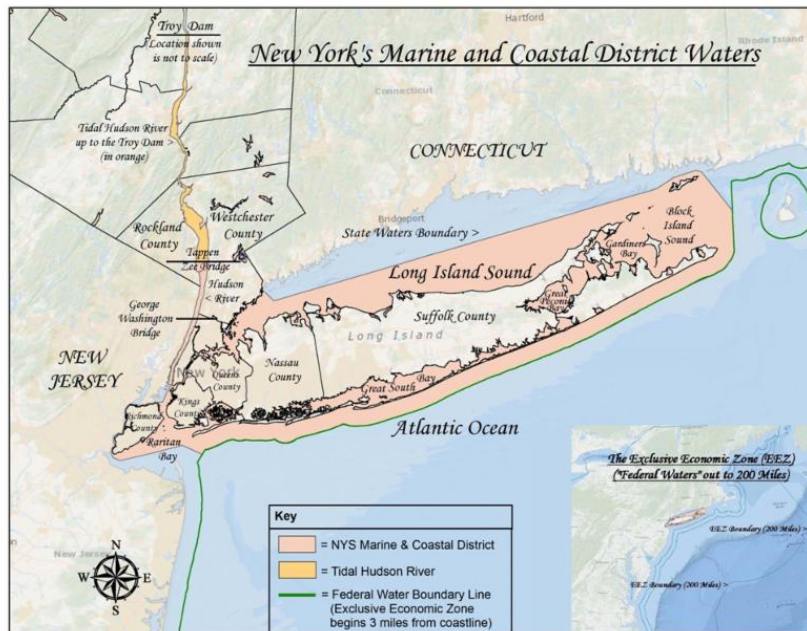
NEW JERSEY SALTWATER  
REGISTRY



## 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

# Grandpa Carl's Column

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



## CATFISH CATCHING = RECORDS RECORDED

By **Carl Bruger**



The annals of HRFA records have shown for decades that most of the annual winning catfish weights caught by members of the organization were captured by men who were guests of Carl and Pat Bruger at their home on Black River Bay on Lake Ontario or the hosts themselves. The 2008 club record I hold at 26.2 pounds is closely trailed by three monsters in the 25 pound class that close buddies **Wayne Geider, Tim Burden** and **Peter Musse** nailed from the same forty four foot aluminum dock jutting out into the Perch river side of Black river Bay. Dozens of other hefty cats that tipped the scales over twenty pounds were caught through the years and many weekends and stretches of time saw hundreds of pounds of fish landed. (362lbs. documented in the 2017 contest).

This copious pattern of success has been demonstrated by the local populace as well as evidenced by the achievements of Watertown pro angler Eric Scordo. Using the same cut perch bait that our club members utilize for success, Scordo broke his old statemark and set a new world International Game Fish Association Record with a behemoth at 35 pounds and nearly forty inches. He had held the old state mark since 2017 and has been a Charter boat captain specializing in connecting Eastern Lake Ontario clients to channel catfish up to thirty pounds! He is a true expert at his craft and all the tricks that he shared in his article for the Watertown newspaper were in line with the tricks and techniques we do off our dock to draw in the cats so well. Chumming with cat food is also a big draw.

Scordo has a United States Coast Guard License for captaining tour boats over the summer so he knows every nook and cranny of the ESLO coastline. Spring is the time to catch the giant cats when they spawn and go on the big feeding binges on the clear flats before all the weeds build up to foul your bait and hooks on the bottom. Bays like the Black River, Chaumont, Guffin and Mud Bay are loaded with 5 to 15 foot depths that have mud and sandy flat bottoms that draw channel cats and of course all the smaller fish that they feed on.

Like a significant number of our HRFA members, Scordo likes to practice catch and release. Many of his record monsters might still be putting on weight and length as you read this article! The use of a large #5 to #9 circle hook, for this scribe a red Gamagatsu is tops, will put the barb right in the far corner of the huge fleshy and gummy maw of a trophy channel cat making a needle nose pliers plus a minor surgical grip and twist being the simple step of sending a fine fighting fish back until he can do battle again a few pounds heavier the next time.

These fish are super tough and can live out of water longer than most fish for pictures. Still, when you practice CPR, Catch, Photograph and Release, the quicker you get the fish back in the water the better its chances are for survival. The same goes for keeping the fish moist and not damaging the slime coat or holding the fish so the gills are damaged or internal organs are shifted and ruptured.

The cold waters of Lake Ontario mean that a fish this size has taken well over a decade to attain such length girth and weight. The channel catfish has become an apex predator in the lake food chain and will strike at spinning lures if they are slow reeled along the bottom where the fish are seeking forage of similar hues. Mid-sized channels from two to six pounds fight like a bulldogging bass when lure hooked and the much bigger fish will but a bend in any rod and pull out drag and take line for several minutes before they give an inch. Watch your



fingers if you chose to insert them in a fish's mouth over twenty pounds and it clamps down! I fail to see the joy folks see in the southern pastime of noodling for monster cats when these creatures seem to have the strength and grip to be capable of stripping the skin right off your forearm! I'll stick with my rod, reel and 20 pound test, thank you very much!

I hope many HRFA members help or enter in our 2019 Catfish Chaos Derby headed up by chairman **Scott Havner** planned for Saturday, August 17th. It will involve nine weigh stations along the Hudson River and should see many channel and white catfish hitting the scales. Reports of fish in the Hudson of over thirty pounds have also been reported just like in the Great Lakes so folks better have sturdy tackle and a wide net ready to do battle. Sometime soon I will not be at all surprised to see a new record set for the HRFA and maybe a state, national or world mark considering all the line classes and categories. Go for it folks!

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## Grandpa Carl's Kids' Column

By Carl Bruger



Summer fish tank fun is a mixed tank of adventurous potential that can entertain, educate and excite young folks and old alike! This article will just gloss over the surface of the potential you can uncover by filling a small aerated tank in your home or out on the porch or in the garage. Garage sales are full of old tanks if you don't own one so

it's easy to get started with minimal expense.

All it takes is a few eclectic specimens that have been caught by net, seine, hand or even barbless hook or a stringed worm trick. The latter is an awesome way to collect newts, crayfish and small fish without injury because the specimens hold on to the night-crawlers and are captured without injury when the kids or adults gingerly lift the line tied annelid out of the water and into a waiting capture bucket. This is half the fun!! A two pound mono line cast with a full night crawler whacky worm knotted in the middle and dragged on a pond/lake bottom will elicit gobbles of greed that capture all of the above and more! (Also baby turtles, eels, hellbenders, etc.).

Through the years I have had the joy of observing countless fish, mollusks, crayfish, and amphibians cavort in front of four generations of our family. My favorite has to be the beautiful and active little sunfish known as the pumpkinseed. This rainbow hued pallet of colors makes a school of neon tetras look mundane by comparison for those who know their tropical fish. They are fast and feisty and quick to jump on the worms that little hands drop in the tank to watch them greedily grab each squiggling morsel before it ever as a chance to reach the bottom of the tank!

Newts are another remarkable guest I've appreciated knowing that are in the aquatic phase that would become the land based salamander we call the red eft. Kids were shocked that they were able to polish off worms that were equal to them in length without even a burp!

Once you have your collection established and in a place that you are comfortable observing, be sure that there is a screen or Plexiglas covering to prevent any "escapes" or "entrances" by felines or canines with a curiosity or appetite. Have the display is a place that is not in direct sunlight or subject to extreme temperature fluctuations.

Please understand and make clear to children, Nature can be cruel. The myriad species do NOT "play" well together. Crayfish eat the tails off all their "neighbors". Turtles eat all of their



neighbors. The only mixed groups that will work are fish of the approximate same size. Try to specialize in a tank with just one species of observable specimen.

The best tank I ever had one summer was one with small perch, sunnies and baby bullheads sharing the large 20 gallons of Lake Ontario recycled water. Each species seemed to hang out together as a segregated school, eschewing intermingling until it was feeding time when all bets were off and bedlam ensued! It was every fish for itself and there were awesome tugs of war for every hapless worm in the tank! When the mud cleared nary a worm was to be found and all the three species were back in their three corners minding their own fishy business.

You do not have to be limited by water in the tank. Amphibians such as frogs and toads can be kept in a terrarium with just a minimal dish of water. (Do not keep frogs and toads together due to the secretions from a toad's skin. Frogs of various sizes don't mix unless you feed them very well. Big brother will slurp up little brother in a sticky tongue second if there are not enough crickets, meal worms, and other foods to satisfy all hunger pangs.

If you enjoy terrariums this can be an item that can be kept year round and enjoyed for the varieties of mosses, lichen, drift woods, rocks, shells, cones, and other ground covers that can festoon a bowl and make a country centerpiece a real conversation piece and one of a kind personal piece of craftsmanship that the young people can have a hand in helping you put together.

In conclusion the absolute beauty of this tank is that when it is time for the kids to go home or vacation is over, all the creatures can be released back into their natural environment from where they came, maybe even a bit better fed than if they were fending for themselves out in nature instead of that time in captivity. Everyone will have gained a bit of knowledge and appreciation for the miracles and magnificence of nature. This was done on a smaller observable scale that a family or group did together. We need a lot more of that being done in the outdoors today.



## **Carl's Corner for August**

**By Carl Bruger**

This is a flash back to the good old days of the 1950's and 1960's when I was just a kid going down to the Jersey shore to fish for the ubiquitous blowfish off any dock that would seat my butt. I'm hearing the sea

squab has made somewhat of a comeback for the folks fishing the bays and rivers from Belmar to Cape May so this article just might be well worth reading and putting into action AGAIN!

So, you want to fill a peach basket with volleyballs kid? A wise old captain, I believe his name was Martinett, told me to take all the legs off the squid baits and use each one at a time and thread it on a flounder hook (those old style black skinny Carlyle type long shanked jobs). The big blowfish would bite those hooks with those mini parrot beak mouths and get hooked better than with any other gap hook.

My dad also taught me the countdown trick for the bait stealing and hook setting. When you where missing fish on a steady nibble, count the seconds and then strike the second before so if you lost the bait on seventh second, strike on sixth, it was that specific and accurate in the cloudy tidal bay waters of Barnegat and elsewhere. We also caught blowfish in our crab traps when they were really thick. If you run out of squid legs it would behoove you to cut strips of



white squid not much thicker than the legs and thread them up the narrow hooks leaving an enticing little trailer that will be the lethal kiss of death for the next volleyball.

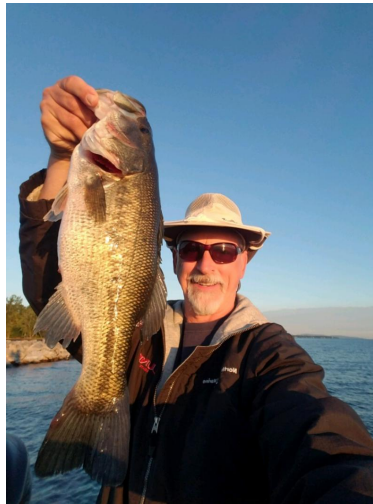
Today an ice filled cooler better be part of your angling arsenal rather than my archaic peach basket but the old nail through a board, a cut behind the head, and a sock to grab the sand paper skin when cleaning Mr. Blowfish hasn't changed for this old scribe in half a century of eating this awesome delicacy. My not-so-secret-recipe is an HRFA classic with a health warning for all heart patients and cholesterol whiners out there. Serve with hot corn-on-the-cob, cold potato salad, ice cold beer, and many fearless fishing friends. Roll the skinned drumettes in a stirred egg, then a crushed sugar frosted flakes and Old Bay & flour mix. Deep fry in peanut oil (or other oil if you prefer) at 380 to 400 degrees until golden brown and crispy. Eat until you drop from culinary joy or heart blockage. You know damn well this stuff is going to be served in heaven!!

## H.R.F.A. Photo Gallery

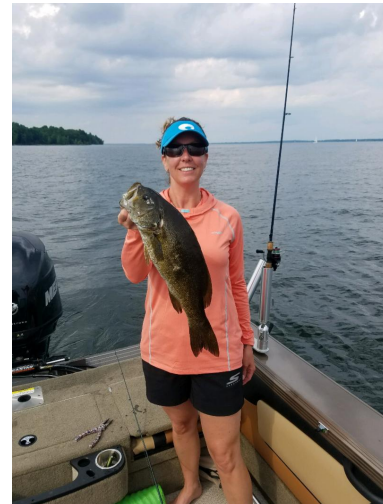
Have a photograph and/or fishing story you would like to share with the club? Email it to **Joe Albanese** at [joealbanese2@gmail.com](mailto:joealbanese2@gmail.com) and we will do our very best to squeeze it into an upcoming issue of *River Views*.



Overkill? Or, never enough? "If you can't catch fish on this boat, take up golf!", says **Skip Wizniewski** whose son took the photo while vacationing in Jackson Harbor located on Washington Island, Wisconsin.



Fishing was pretty good up on Lake Champlain this past 4th of July weekend for **Scott Havner**.



**Stephanie Hess** did ~~alright~~\*all right herself up there on Lake Champlain. I'll bet she probably even out-fished **Scott**. I'll check on that and report back.

\* Live and learn: "The form alright is a one-word spelling of the phrase all right. Alright is commonly used in written dialogue and informal writing, but all right is the only acceptable form in edited writing. Basically, it is not all right to use alright in standard English."





Sakes alive!  
**Scott's** fish finder sure was working well this day. Impressive catch **Andy**.



Because there was a dearth of photo submissions from our members the Editor himself was forced to spend an hour and a half on the beaches at Sandy Hook to bring in three underaged fluke (12"-14"). Just so he could share this photo with you. You're welcome.



This nice walleye was captured by **Andy Ward** who was fishing on Greenwood Lake with **Scott Havner**.

## Our Summer Vacation

By **Peter Musse**



Our recent trip to Carolina beach was great. The weather was great too. It was hot the first couple days. As you can see in the photo, my wife **Michele**, fishing from the surf, did OK. She caught a small whiting. We went out on a boat Friday with northeast winds. That day the fishing was not good at all; but at least we caught something. My older son **Peter** caught a ribbon fish (see photo) which have unbelievably strong long teeth but they're not edible, I caught a small sea bass (a throw back) and my other son **Dalas** caught a sting ray. But that was about it. Nonetheless we had a blast on the water and quality time with my boys. We all had a great vacation!!!



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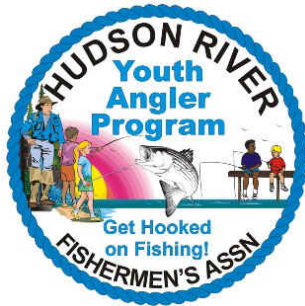


We're on Facebook too.  
Follow HRFA Fishermen  
(Boat & Surf).



Maybe one day.

## H.R.F.A. Youth Angler Program



### Youth Angler Program

By Wayne Geider

The event with Spectrum for Living has been postponed from July 20 to a date yet to be determined in August.

## From our Historian





Photo **Al Sternberg**  
holding up a nice striper.  
1998 Sea Girt, NJ

HRFA member volunteers like **Al Sternberg** keep our club going strong. They are our often unsung heroes. Thank you **Al** for all you do.

How can you help? It's your club. Get involved.



## **HRFA History** **LOOKING BACK IN TIME**

By **Tony Evangelista**

**Al Sternberg** has always been there to help out at most of our club activities. For many years he ran the discount table at our annual club auctions. At our general meeting workshops **Al** would show members how to tie flies and jig heads. As for fishing, **Al** loves to fish at the Hudson County Park Lake for spring Trout and Bass. You could also find him down the Hudson River P.I.P. fishing for a few stripers. In the past, **Al** fished in our inter-club surf tournaments at the Jersey shore.

## **HRFA Calendar**



# August 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1 Happy Birthday James Tarabocchia	2 Happy Birthday Kevin Morgan	3 Happy Birthday Tim Burden Miguel Sardinas
4	5 Happy Birthday David Tunis Frank Wisniewski	6 HRFA EBoard Meeting Happy Birthday Michael Melvin Andrew Ward	7 Happy Birthday Amy Mateja Nico Lecourieux	8	9 Happy Birthday Rick Englesbe	10
11	12 Happy Birthday Carl Eibl	13 HRFA General Meeting Happy Birthday Anthony Chinni	14	15 Full Sturgeon Moon Happy Birthday Fred Rung	16 	17 HRFA Catfish Chaos Derby Happy Birthday Jonah Castellucci Art Hulme
18 Happy Birthday Ron Serafin	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 	26	27	28 Happy Birthday Todd Schmitt	29 Happy Birthday Robert Geider Richard Tully	30 New Moon Happy Birthday Walter Engelhardt Craig Nugent A.R. Swan	31

© Calendar-12.com

## Fish Recipes



### The Trout Burger

By Joe Albanese

Some (including myself) are of the opinion that big brown trout while fun to catch are not the

best tasting fish that swims. That's why our fishing guide on the Niagara River, 'Matt' of Wet Net Charters, suggested we give this recipe from Alton Brown a try. We did. (See the photo.) Paired with a nice white wine it was w-o-n-d-e-r-f-u-l.

#### PREPARATION

1. Chop trout into 1/4 inch cubes & transfer to mixing bowl
2. Add panko, scallions, red bell pepper, horseradish, egg white, Kosher salt and black pepper
3. Divide the mixture into 4 equal portions & shape into burger patties
4. Cover and place into the refrigerator

"Is everything OK? You haven't photographed your food yet."



#### INGREDIENTS

- 1 pound of skinless rainbow trout fillets
- 1/3 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 1/4 cup scallions finely diced
- 1/4 cup red bell pepper finely diced
- 1 tablespoon of horseradish
- 1 egg white
- 1 teaspoon of Kosher salt
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper



- for 30 minutes
5. Heat the oil in a 10-inch non-stick sauté pan set over medium heat until it shimmers
  6. Add burgers to the pan and cook for 4 minutes on each side or until lightly browned. Internal temperature should be about 135°F.
  7. Move to plate and let rest for 3 minutes before serving on bun garnished with scallions, tomato, and mayo
- 1 tablespoon vegetable oil
  - 4 potato burger buns
  - mayonnaise optional

## 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.



### WOW!!!

### NEW CLUB RECORD STRIPER LANDED

Congratulations **Mike Santiago** for your record-breaking 47 Lbs 8 oz. Striped Bass. **Mike** boated this beauty July 17th off Montauk, NY. He observed that there were tons of squid in the water at the time. However, this one simply couldn't resist the live eel that baited his hook.

**Mike** also told us, "That beast dumped half my spool before charging back towards the boat. Then it stopped and started bulldogging me on the bottom. My leader came back badly frayed. These big bass love to rub you off on rocks. That's one of the ways to tell if you have a big fish. Smaller fish just tend to run. When we got the fish on deck the hook fell out. Despite its heavy weight it only measured 47" in length. That fish was a beer barrel!"



By the way, **Mike Santiago** just missed breaking the record by 2 oz. a few years back with a striper he caught off Block Island.

This Editor learned a couple of things from Past HRFA President **Charles Stamm**. One is that that club records are all posted on the HRFA web site at [hrfanj.org](http://hrfanj.org) on the Fishing Contest Page. Once there click on the link that says "club records." Or, simply click the button below.

The second is that the previous record holder for striped bass was **Mike Banahan**. He held the club record since July 2008 with a striper weighing-in at 47 Lbs 6 oz. At that time there was no separate category for catching from a boat or shoreline.

## HRFA Annual Fishing Contest Record Holders

### Saltwater Species



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



**Striped Bass Kept  
Caught From Boat**  
(leaders determined by weight)  
Mike Santiago - 47 Lbs 8 oz.  
Butch Pawson - 22 Lbs

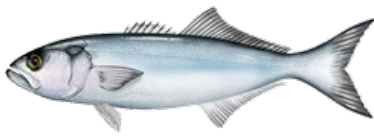


**Striped Bass Released  
Caught From Shoreline**  
(leaders determined by length)  
John Francesconi - 34"  
John Francesconi - 30"



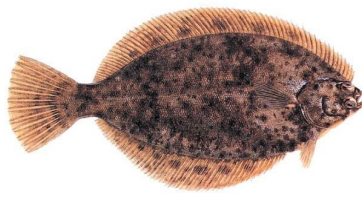
**Striped Bass Kept  
Caught From Shoreline**  
(leaders determined by weight)  
Carl Hartmann - 18 Lbs  
Butch Pawson - 15 Lbs. 14.4 oz.  
Butch Pawson - 10 Lbs





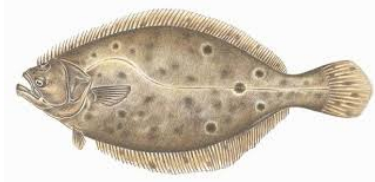
### Bluefish

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.



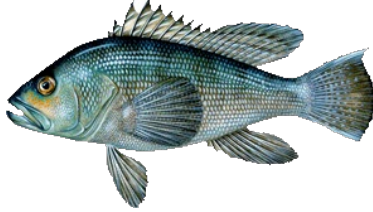
### Fluke

Ed Christensen - 4 Lbs 2 oz.



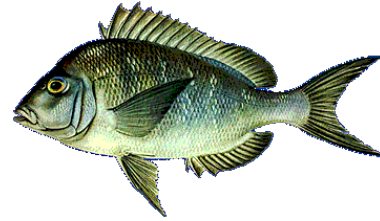
### Blackfish

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





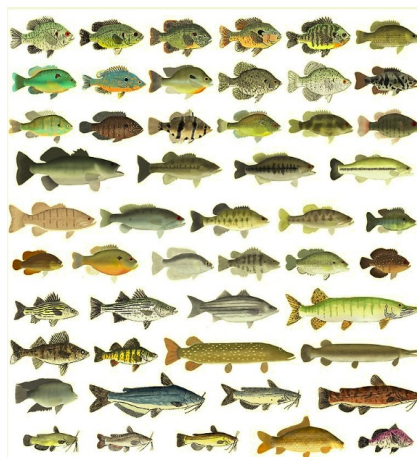
Aram Setian - 14 lb 8 oz  
Mona Mak - 14 Lbs.

**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

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