

River Views

The Official Newsletter of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association



Hudson River Fishermen's Association

January
2020



E-1-20

Monthly Meeting Tuesday January 14th at 7PM

Ridgefield Park Elks Lodge
19 Cedar Street
Ridgefield Park, NJ



Topic: Island Beach State Park

Island Beach State Park in Ocean County NJ is open year round and has 1.5 million people visit every year to enjoy the ten mile long park. Swimming, sunbathing, fishing, kayaking, birding, dog walking on the oceanfront or Barnegat bayside are just some of the more popular things to do in IBSP.

There are so many more things to do. Please attend this January meeting to learn more about the park's historical side, the Daily Summer Programs that are offered, including fun filled sessions for kids of all ages (from toddlers to

Next General Meeting

January 14, 2020 at 7:30 pm at

Ridgefield Park Elks

Guest Speaker

ANNUAL AUCTION

Executive Meeting

1st Tuesday of every month Ridgefield

Park Elks at 7:30 pm

HRFA Officers

President

Aram Setian

Vice President

Joe Albanese

Treasurer

Frank Wisniewski

Secretary

John Malool

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

Educational Outreach

senior citizens), the Beginner's Surf-Fishing Clinic, driving your 4x4 on the beach. Consider picking up an IBSP visitor's guide and 2020 schedule of family fun events. You will hear many other intriguing things, such as a wartime top secret project on IBSP, or the shipwrecks in the park's waters, there are treasures of all kinds everywhere. You will also find out where the best fishing locations are in IBSP. That's right, the areas to catch the most fish, year after year will be revealed!



Guest Speaker: Timothy Burden

As a longtime lifetime HRFA member **Tim Burden** has served our club as a Board Member holding Director and Trustee positions. During the past few years he has "downsized fishing club memberships and activities" to include HRFA, Jersey Shore Surfcasters, Berkeley Striper Club, Martha's Vineyard Surfcasters, JCCA's Youth Education Committee, and a HOFNOD assistant. (That's what **Tim** calls "downsizing"!)

Each of these organizations are fishery conservation minded, have strong youth anglers programs, and work diligently to protect habitat and environment. (CONTINUED)

Timothy Burden has surf fished in IBSP for thirty years, retiring to Toms River eleven years ago so he could fish there, any time he wanted to. He has been involved in IBSP's Governor's Surf Fishing Tournament for 27 years (as a volunteer judge, Judge's Chairman and now as a Gov'Cup Committee advisor and Disabled Veterans volunteer at OBA1). The first eight years after retirement, he was extremely active in New Jersey Beach Buggy Association which led to Executive Board positions as Vice President, President, and Chairman of the Board of Life Members and given a Life Time membership which only goes to those with eight years as an executive officer on the board. His involvement included thousands of volunteer hours primarily in IBSP doing many things, then going throughout New Jersey addressing Fisheries, Conservation, Environment, Beach/tidal waterfront Access, and working with other organizations whose mission statements were similar to NJBBA. These hours also includes meeting and speaking with DEP officials; and State, County, or Municipal politicians or staff associates.

Since becoming a Toms River resident, he has been a year round IBSP volunteer more involved in fishing the sudsy surf and bayside wading trips with park visitors, than going on my own personal fishing excursions. During the past five years, he has become a seasonal staff member and last year moved into an IBSP Staff Naturalist position.

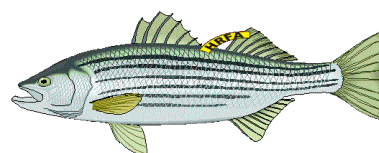
Its pretty cool that he signs his name as:

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

Want to help us "Fight for the Hudson"? Click [here](#) or the striped bass image & make a donation today.



REMINDER:

ALL ANNUAL FISHING CONTEST ENTRIES FROM DECEMBER 2019 MUST BE ENTERED USING THE FORM ON THE WEBSITE BEFORE THE END OF JANUARY 2020. AS ALWAYS, ENTRIES MUST BE SUBMITTED WITHIN 30 DAYS OF CAPTURE. COMPLETE THE ONLINE FORM OR TO PRINT THE ENTRY FORM [click here](#).

From our President



Greetings and Welcome Hudson River Fishermen's Association Members,

I would like to begin by acknowledging the accomplishments of **Dan Harrison**, my predecessor. Under his leadership our organization reached a new level of strength as well as success, following the tradition of the HRFA founder and past presidents. Now, I have the honor to lead this great association. In the past 12 years, I have had the pleasure to make the acquaintance of many of you, that have attended our meetings, events and worked together in the different programs and projects. But most don't know much about me.

Therefore, I would like to briefly introduce myself.

Fishing has been my passion since childhood, too far back to remember, mostly the streams, lakes in the Balkans, the Black Sea and the Mediterranean. I emigrated to the U.S. in 1965, fleeing prosecution from communism in eastern Europe. In 1972, I became proudly a U.S citizen, graduated with degrees in Physics and Electrical Engineering, followed by a MS in Business Administration. Until 2006, worked as an engineer, traveling (through all 50 states) and learned to love and appreciate this great and free land. I retired and actively joined HRFA. I also hold MMC OUPV Captain credentials.

Since the beginning, I became involved with any HRFA programs and projects, wherever that I could be of help and suggested improvements as needed, such as the Youth Angler Programs, Hooked on the Hudson, Annual Outdoors and Sportsmen shows, the HRFA calendar and so on. I also chaired the Fishing and Photo contest, where I made member requested updates. I was honored to receive the prestigious **Pete Barrett** award in 2015. I pledged my commitment by becoming a life member.

Since joining HRFA, initially, my impression and interest were to take the opportunity to go fishing. Soon I learned about the rich history and was impressed by the very significant accomplishments. Besides the fishing programs, there are also the Hudson River care, environmental, access, recreational fishing, educational, legislative and inter organizational activities.

My objective is to help continue HRFA's successful path and bring improvements, based on your proposals. I am looking forward working with the Executive Board, Past Presidents, learning from their and of all member's experiences and considering their concerns. In my upcoming monthly letters, I intend to keep you informed of the progress on our current and future projects.

Thanks to all that entrusted me with this honorable task.

Capt. Aram Setian
HRFA 2020 President

The last hoorah.

The last EBoard meeting chaired by outgoing President **Dan Harrison** (2nd from left) who will move on to lead the charge to refurbish the HRFA's *Riverkeeper* vessel. From L to R **Arnie Ulrich**, the aforementioned **Dan Harrison**, **Joe Albanese**, **Dave Mercer**, 2020 President **Aram Setian**, **Ivan Garcia**, **Gil Hawkins**, **Wayne Geider** & **Carl Bruger**. Photo by Board Member **Janice Soto**.



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

Project to Save our Historical Heritage

By **Joe Albanese**



Did you know that the H.R.F.A. created *the world's first* Riverkeeper? It's true. Robert H. Boyle's dream became a reality when the Hudson River Fishermen's Association (formed in 1966) launched its *Riverkeeper* vessel in 1983. The 25-foot wooden boat, tasked with patrolling the Hudson for polluters, was initially piloted by Capt. John Cronin. Up until Oct. 5, 2019 the original Hudson River Fishermen's Assn's *Riverkeeper* boat was all but forgotten; rotting away in the woods in Garrison, NY. Now she is at Liberty Landing Marina in Jersey City awaiting her total makeover. This photo shows her snuggled up tight wrapped in a green protective tarp for a long winter's nap.

Beginning in the Spring of 2020 volunteers will start working to refurbish her to her former days of glory when she was *the world's first and only* riverkeeper vessel.

From the **newsletter of the FBW** comes this wonderful write up about OUR "little boat that changed the world" . . .





The Hudson River Fishermen Association and the boat that began the Riverkeeper movement

Recently, members of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association (HRFA) recovered the original *Riverkeeper* boat in the woods of Garrison, New York. This 25-foot wooden vessel, at risk of rotting away, represents the remarkable history of the Riverkeeper movement and the recovery of the life of the Hudson River.

The Hudson River Fishermen's Association began in 1966 when a group of commercial and recreational fishermen, including a *Sports Illustrated* writer named Bob Boyle, organized to combat the industrial pollution they witnessed contaminating the Hudson River. Boyle uncovered two obscure laws, the *Rivers and Harbors Act of 1888* and the *Refuse Act of 1899*, that prohibited the polluting of American waters; the laws not only fined polluters but provided a bounty to those reporting them.

The fishermen resolved to find and prosecute polluters, and within a few years had won several cases that allowed them to build a patrol boat and hire John Cronin as the first Riverkeeper. In 1983, aboard the *Riverkeeper*, Cronin began patrolling the Hudson River. In a September 9, 1984 article in the *New York Times*, he stated, "I have a boat. My job is to investigate the bad and keep track of the good and to try to come up with solutions to problems. I lobby. I patrol. I fish. I do public speaking. I do investigations. I work with scientists, attorneys and politicians."

Shortly after the launch of the *Riverkeeper*, Cronin was tracking Exxon's oil tankers that were making over a hundred trips up the Hudson to remove fresh water. After navigating his boat beside the tankers, he took samples and discovered that Exxon was discharging saltwater contaminated with benzene, toluene and other petro-chemical toxins, directly into the Hudson River. In an April 1984 settlement, Exxon agreed to pay \$500,000 to the HRFA and later, \$1.5 million to the State of New York. The HRFA continued to win cases against major industrial offenders, including Penn Central Railroad, Standard Brands, Ciba-Geigy, and Anaconda Wire and Copper.

This was the beginning of what became a world-wide waterkeeper movement. Today, over 340 waterkeeper groups patrol the waterways in 46 countries. The Waterkeeper Alliance is the largest and fastest growing nonprofit solely focused on clean water, with the goal of ensuring "drinkable, fishable, swimmable water everywhere." Our own local waterkeepers include the Hudson Riverkeeper, the Hackensack Riverkeeper, the NY/NJ Baykeeper, Long Island Soundkeeper and the Delaware Riverkeeper.

Today, the HRFA remains a vital and active organization. They sponsor regular sport fishing activities, advocate for public access to the Hudson River, and with their popular youth angler program, educate a new generation of Hudson River stewards. This past November 3rd, the HRFA held a fishing event at Hoboken's Castle Point Pier, a spot well known as the place to catch trophy striped bass in the Fall.

The HRFA continues to monitor and promote the health of the Hudson River. On March 9, they showed up in force to join the Fund for a Better Waterfront and over 300 people who marched up the Hoboken waterfront in opposition to the proposed ferry refueling and maintenance facility at the Union Dry Dock site, just 100 feet from the Castle Point fishing pier.

Having rescued John Cronin's original *Riverkeeper* patrol boat from the woods, the HRFA has launched a project to restore the vessel so that it may once again navigate the Hudson, educating and inspiring a new generation of river advocates.

The group is seeking volunteers — boatbuilders, carpenters, electricians, plumbers and others — to help with the project. For more information: **HRFA**. To contribute to the cause, checks can be made out to "HRFA Boat Restoration Project" and mailed to HRFA, P.O. Box 421, Cresskill, New Jersey 07626.



LOTS OF BARGAINS AT DECEMBER AUCTION

By **Carl Bruger**

Between fifty and sixty bidders got some real fresh and salt water bargains at the HRFA auction Tuesday night at the Ridgefield Park Elks Building. Auctioneers **Gil Hawkins, Kevin Morgan** and **Carl Bruger** put everything up for bid from Anchors to Zebco reels.

Items as diverse as twenty pound buckets of lead ingots to brand new fishing vests were snapped up by savvy bargain hunters who knew just what they wanted and how great the deals were. Top of the line brand names were in the mix with rods and reels like Penn, Mitchell/Garcia, Daiwa, Shimano, Tsunami, and Fenwick drawing the highest bids and general interest.

This writer noticed an increased interest in fly fishing with many anglers bidding on fly rods to go after stripers and/or salmon in this enticing new method for them. I can only say they will be happy with that choice because a new world of fishing awaits! Try to get to the Fly Fishing show this winter if you are one of the folks with an early interest. Get with **Capt. Jim Freda** for salt water advice. **John Golon**, who busted his butt setting up the place at 4PM for this auction is easily our best fresh water fly fisher to get help and advice from. If salmon is your interest see me to get started.

The event was not as large in attendance as the "good old days" but everything went smoothly and the attendees seemed to all have a good time. Many members wisely had the delicious ELKS prepared chicken dinner downstairs before the auction started.

Ivan Garcia was selling new shirts for the HRFA in the back and they were getting rave reviews. I was glad to wear my long sleeve version this night so my rotund figure could show the colorful striper off to great advantage. I predict many members will want the new apparel in 2020.

Happy New Year to all the readers and folks who supported the auction!



Auctioneer **Carl Bruger** donated 100% of sales of his personal stash directly to the HRFA. Thanks **Carl!** Don't tell his wife **Pat** that he also bought a few things too.



Auctioneer **Gil Hawkins** & Assistant **Pete Orenzo**. Two Christmas wreaths made by **Pete Musse** raised \$62 for the HRFA. Thank you **Pete** for your generosity.



Keeping the records & doing the accounting are **Pete Musse, Skip Wisniewski, Arnie Ulrich & Danny Harrison**



The next item up for sale is . . .

Upcoming Events

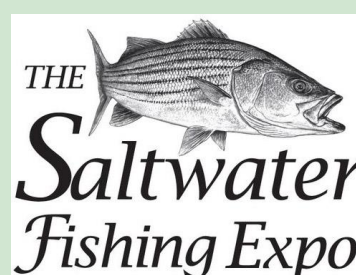
IT'S SHOW TIME!!!

Asking for Your Help

Volunteers are needed to help work the HRFA booth at the upcoming shows. If interested please talk to **Dave Mercer** at an upcoming meeting or email him: mercerdh@gmail.com



February 27 - March 01,
2020
Rockland Community College
145 College Road
Suffern, NY 10901



March 13 - 15, 2020
New Jersey Convention and
Exposition Center
Edison NJ



Hard Water On The Way

By **Scott Havner**

It is that time of the year when ice fishermen and women are waiting for the mercury to drop so the lakes freeze over and we can get out there and do some fishing. For those who have not tried a little hard water fishing, you are missing out on some good times and some great fishing. Our club ice fishing crew will be fishing many of the NY/NJ area lakes once the ice is safe. We also fish some local tournaments and will be doing our 4th year out in Minnesota, fishing the Brainerd Jaycees Charity Tournament. There should be good ice by the end of December in many of the Catskill lakes. We had some great fishing up there last winter. Anyone interested in giving ice fishing a try can call **Scott Havner** 845-300-1562.

Turn back the hands of time and be a kid again. Just look at the joyful look on the face of the happy guy in this photo when he pulled the biggest yellow perch of his life through the ice last year fishing with the HRFA crew. - *The Editor*



Season Opener

Twass the day after Christmas and out on the lake were **Jeffrey & Petey** and a guy known as **Wayne**. "Ice of three inches is safe", they explain.

The fishes were sluggish but some willing to bite. Including this perch who put up a fight.

Fooled by Rapala tipped with wax worm. The hook in its lip set in quite firm.

With daylight fading they called it a night. On the drive home all three would agree that they did just alright.

ADDITIONAL 2020 DATES TO REMEMBER

SPRING (EXACT DATE TBD): Another Castle Point Pier Fishing Trip. Here's a report on our last trip there - "On November 3, 2019 HRFA members fished off the T pier in Hoboken NJ, and the weather was perfect, a bright sunny day with an incoming tide. The bait of choice to try and catch the elusive striped bass was Bunker. We also had plenty of donuts to keep us happy during the fishing. Lack of catching fish did not stop us from having a pleasant outing. It allowed time for fellow members to share fish stories, tips, and tricks for targeting the big ones. Tight lines." - **M.Sardinas**

MARCH 22: HRFA Annual Awards Dinner at Cornetta's in Piermont, NY.

March 29 Sunday 3pm NJOA Wild Game Dinner, Black Forest Inn Stanhope NJ

APRIL 17 to May 15 – 2nd Annual Catch, Tag & Release Striper Derby on the Hudson River. A couple of changes for 2020: First, the Derby will start later in April and run longer into May hoping to level the playing field for anglers fishing further upriver. Second, the Derby will also allow stripers caught & released back into the East River. Contact **Joe Albanese** by email joealbanese2@gmail.com or call 908-456-2968.

MAY 7 to MAY 9 – Annual fishing trip targeting Pollock, Haddock, Cusk, Wolffish, Redfish and White Hake aboard the "Bunny Clark" out of Ogunquit, Maine. **Web Site** <http://www.bunnyclark.com>. Contact **Arnie Ulrich** by email kavester@aol.com or call 201-438-3094

APRIL 25: Annual Hooked on the Hudson event at Ross Dock.

AUGUST (DATE TBA): Third Annual Catfish Chaos Derby on the Hudson River. Contact **Scott Havner** by email fishon7231@verizon.net or call 845-300-1562.

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

From our Membership Chair

Happy Renewal Year



Many thanks to those HRFA members who have already renewed their membership for 2020. This helps tremendously. If not, renew your dues ASAP.

The membership list and the information you fill out on the membership form is completely private. **The HRFA does not make its membership list available to anyone.**

You need a current card (or lifetime membership card) in order to take advantage of the great local area discounts at local tackle shops and stores that are HRFA members themselves.

Membership dues are renewed annually (at the beginning of each year). For those people who join(ed) the HRFA in October (or later) of a given year, their new or renewal membership also is covered for the following new year. There is also a generous grace period for those who are unable to update their membership in January, however paying your dues late puts a strain on the records maintenance and consequently the ability of the executive board's planning of activities and events.

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.

Arnie Ulrich
Membership Chair

HRFA free money (split 50/50) and the HRFA December meeting.

For December the split 50/50, was \$48.00 HRFA free dollars plus \$66 left over from the November meeting. Totaling \$114. The paid member's name ticket was picked by a nonmember and **Ernest Santiago** was the HRFA name picked. Ernest Santiago's name was announced to all present. Unfortunately, Ernest Santiago was not present, **so the \$114.00 HRFA free dollars go into the jar for the January meeting. Will you be the HRFA paid member whose name is picked at the January meeting?**

The HRFA Welcomes the following new members: Welcome aboard, **Oscar Cano Jr.** from Toms River, NJ and **Bill Marut** from Maywood, NJ. **Fight for the Hudson.**

HRFA 2020 Membership Form

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

Click on the buttons below for the:

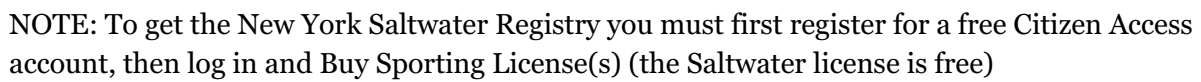
NEW JERSEY FRESHWATER
LICENSE

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



NEW JERSEY 2019 MARINE DIGEST

NEW JERSEY RECREATIONAL SALTWATER ANGLER FAQ SHEET

Complete the NY DEC's Striped Bass Fishing Survey

Carl Bruger has been a writer for this newsletter educating and entertaining us who read *River Views* for a long time. Here are his latest gems.

Fifty Ways To Lose Your Line



The legendary Paul Simon wrote the famous song “Fifty ways to lose your lover” and that gave me the idea to create this article dealing with the myriad ways that line can be cut, severed, worn, destroyed, frayed, chemically decayed and split so that it is lost as the connection between you and your hook. This article should make you think about regularly changing the line on your favorite reels before they cost you a trophy fish due to a break-off due to one of the fifty reasons covered herein. Let’s get started by noting how many ways the fish itself can destroy your line and cause it to snap.

The number one way most anglers associate with a severed line is due to the teeth of the quarry biting through, but fish also break connection to the hook by shear overcoming the test capacity; chafe the line by the rough skin, gills, and scales. Projecting bills, tails and fins will also do the trick in letting a trophy break free through the gyrations and jumps of a struggling fish.

Ironically the rod and reel are also potential enemies of the line. The rod can weaken and cause line the break by having rusted guides, cracked guides, or a roller tip top that malfunctions under stress and pressure. Wrap arounds and tangles that do not lead to an immediate break may lead to later breaks due to stretching and unseen damage.

The reel can be insidious by catching line in the bail continuously and weakening a spot. Wind knots are a blight to be feared under certain conditions, improper drag use creates line twist which weakens the line test and consequently increases the odds of breakage. Not laying the line level can create line rollover which creates great friction and drag if not an outright break when a strong fish run occurs. Lines often snag in the spool or arbor of reels and are damaged by reeling before they are released.

The sea itself is an enemy to your line. The bottom can destroy line with sharp coral, shellfish beds, jagged rocks, rusty shipwrecks, old logs, plant snags, even the sand itself as a constant abrasive wearing away as line is dragged through it. On the wrecks alone snags of anchor rope, old nets, fishing lines and general detritus can all snag and claim the terminal tackle you wish to save but loose to the greater strength of the materials seizing the line below.

Line has a limited life that is extended by proper care and storage. Line weakens and has less of its original test strength when it is exposed to the sun, left in high heat conditions for long periods of time, and incorrectly wound either too tightly or in a twisted manner on a reel that is not the right size or type. Exposure over a period of time to salt water also will break down just about anything on this planet except gold and stainless steel. So if a reel is left to soak with salt water sopping into the line on a regular basis without a fresh water washout and/or a thorough drying, I would expect that the line would not perform at 100% of its potential.

Three line breakers are more insidious than you might believe are split shot squeezed too hard

so they damage the line and make it a much lower test. Bobber stops and bobbers that wear on the line doing the same type of damage over the long course of a day’s fishing. Any bad cast into the trees or on the rocky shoreline exposes your line to severe damage even if the lure does not hang up. Try to run you thumb and index finger down the line from the lure to the rod tip (first six feet) to detect any nicks. Cut and retie if you detect any damage before a whopper makes you sorry you didn’t take the time.

What can you do about all these negative impacts on you fishing lines? Be very PROACTIVE and change the line on your heavily used reels on a regular basis. If you have a heavy day of bluefish, striper or salmon fishing, this scribe recommends clipping off the first fifty feet at least of the line that was involved in the fray. Guaranteed if a ton of fish were fought that line was beat to hell and is not near the test or suppleness it was originally made to be. Respool if needed but for God's sake don't lose the trophy of a lifetime because you were too lazy or cheap to put on new line! We have all been there and regret and anger at ourselves for missing out on a fabulous catch is not what I want for anyone in the readership. As the time passes opportunities to catch trophy fish are less every year. Maximize your chance with new line on every reel you cast! Best of Luck in 2020!

ICE MIGHT BE NICE?

By Carl Bruger

The 2020 New Year starts in the coldest months and therefore triggers just a hearty few HRFA members to hit the hard water in pursuit of tasty fillets like perch, crappie, bluegill and even larger pickerel and pike. Then there's the bonus honey hole bass and surprise trout or walleye bonus ice anglers dream about. I have been doing this since the 1970's when I spudded out my first holes at Highland Lakes and caught perch and pickerel on my own home made tip-ups. The chance to either jig or set out tip-ups can be a solitary undertaking or a very social gathering with a heated tent centrally located to warm the team of angler friends in common targeting of future fillets. CONSIDER GIVING ICE FISHING A TRY!



There are experts in this cub that know all the ins and outs of the sport. You can learn reams from guys like **Scott Havner** and his mom, **Linda**; or their buddy **Marius Behr**, likewise a terror on ice. Fish fear this trio as soon as the ice reaches safe walking thickness. My hard water angling partner is often octogenarian **Wayne Geider**, the most persistent, patient and passionate guy I ever met for winter angling. He would fish every day of the week if the ice was safe and he had more room in the freezer. He can out walk 99% of the people on the planet and that's towing his ice sled behind him!

This scribe considers safe ice as three inches thick or more. If there's snow on top or the ice is bubbled and not "pure" or clear. I want it to be even thicker to support my rotund 1/8 ton weight (250lbs.) If I don't go through then you can safely follow me! I often drill test holes to see how thick the ice is in parts of each lake or pond because they will often vary a great deal due to winds and sun exposure.

When you get to the bait shop near the chosen lake, pond, reservoir or impoundment you have chosen to fish there are several baits you can choose to purchase that will garner you plenty of strikes. Flathead minnows are perch killers and regular shiners also work with larger minnows better for pickerel and pike. All fish baits need an aerated minnow bucket to keep the small fish alive. Mousies, maggots, wax worms, meal worms, and golden rod gall larvae are all effective offerings that can be impaled on the tip of a tiny jig and sent down to tease panfish into biting. Lead jigs are good and tungsten jigs are better by their density to area ratio. I build tiny ice jigging rods and you can purchase them at any tackle shop inexpensively. (I have one waiting for any angler who wants to fish with us this winter.) Small spinning reels or special "no twist" ice fishing reels complete the outfits and are loaded with low test two to

four pound test lines that are nearly invisible to the fish and give great action to the tiny jigs and live baits tipping them that are dangled below.

In conclusion ice fishing is potentially a fun day in winter that can result in an awesome meal or several stocked fillets, a trophy catch, a memorable family event, lasting photo records, and a healthy outdoor alternative to becoming a fatter couch potato as you hibernate through the long winter. This scribe can offer free tip-ups and jig rods plus terminal gear to any “newbie” interested in trying ice fishing. I also can dispense with plenty of free advice where to try and what to potentially use for baits. (What is hot and what is not). Call me **Carl Brugger**, on my cell phone in case you have questions or need gear My mobile number is 973-703-4845. I have all the extras; power drills to make the holes, coolers for fish, sleds to carry out the gear, fish finders, ice scoops, a tent for shelter. Don't be bashful. If you have kids or grandchildren they especially might enjoy a day out on the ice fishing. Have them bring skates and they can have a blast skating even if the tip-up flags are not flying. If they are, it's a speed skate to the hole and even more fun just like in the old days when my Leonia HS fishing club played hockey while we waited for the flags to fly. My motto is, “Don't fear the Freeze, ICE FISHING IS NICE!”

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*.

HRFA Volunteer Day Bloomers Beach Cleanup in The Palisade Interstate Park by **Gil Hawkins**

On a beautiful fall day in late November, members and friends of the HRFA gathered at Bloomers Beach at the Englewood Boat Basin In Palisades Interstate Park. Called the HRFA Volunteer Day, it was part of a barter with the park administration. We traded our person power for the use of the Alpine Pavilion for our Family Day Celebration in October.

Bloomer Beach was a swimming beach back in the days when the park was a recreation area for city bound residents of New York. A relic bath house stands with its stone walls and foundation as a testament to its popularity even though the Hudson was extremely polluted. The building is now part of an HRFA plan to resurrect the site as an education and meeting center.

Led by Christina Fehre, Director of Trails and Outdoor Programs for PIP and Liam Keegan who also works for the park and President **Dan Harrison**, our crew set to work gathering driftwood, raking leaves and removing some of the large timbers that the river deposited on the shoreline. Thanks to **Joe Albanese & Mona Mak** for their mastery grill work. Hamburgers and dogs on the banks of the Hudson! It was a good time to familiarize the group with the beach and the bath house. The potential site for Hooked on Hudson and educational endeavors with the park is exciting! Thanks to all who participated.



From left to right: **Tony DiModugno**, **Frank Wisniewski**, **Dirk Van Everchngen**, **Anthony Carbone**, Jane Ebihara, **Gilbert Hawkins**, **Aram Setian**, **Daniel Harrison**, **Alvin Miller**, **Janice Soto**, **Stephanie Hess**, **Ivan Garcia**, **Scott Havner**, Christina Fehre, **George Constantine**, Liam Keegan and **Arnold Ulrich**
 Not in the photo: **Dave Mercer** (taking this photo), **Joseph Albanese** & **Mona Mak** (setting up lunch for the hungry) and **Gabriel Garcia** (off looking for something to eat).



Aram Setian & Christina



Skip Wisniewski, Gil



Tony Carbone

Fehre



George Constantine

Hawkins, Jane Ebihara



Gabriel Garcia, Scott Havner & Ivan Garcia



Tony DiModugno, Al Miller & Mona Mak



Dan Harrison & Dirk Van Everchnen



Stephanie Hess, Scott Havner & Tony DiModugno



Arnie Ulrich



Sasquatch!



Niagara River Steelhead and More!

By Scott Havner

Although the weekend of December 7 th and 8 th gave us some less than ideal fishing conditions with stained dirty water we were able to catch limits in 5 of 6 trips in the two days of fishing. HRFA members **Aram Setian, Tony Carbone, Joe Marchese, Andy Ward, Matt Rivera, Stephanie Hess, Scott Havner**, and two friends of the HRFA (Mike

Quevedo and Mike Quevedo Jr) toughed out the cold weather and put some nice fish in the boats.

We fished the lower Niagara River from Devil's Hole out to the end of the river with different

sections producing different fish. We fished egg sacks, beads, kwik fish, and emerald shiners, with all producing some nice fish. There were some beautiful double digit steelhead and browns caught as well as a few lake trout and smallmouth bass.

A big thank you to Chris Cinelli, Niagara Fishing Guides, Teddy Kessler, Rivermaster Charters, Arnold Jonathan, AJ Guide Service and Matt Gantress, Unreel Fishing, for putting us on the fish. I have been booking trips with Joe and Chris Cinelli for over 20 years and have caught trophy fish of multiple species. If you are interested in a trip give Chris a call (716)479-2812 or Scott Havner (845)300-1562 for info.



Mike Quevedo, Jr



Stephanie Hess



Andrew Ward



Joe Marchese



Aram Setian



Anthony Carbone



Mike Quevedo



Mike Quevedo



Scott Havner & Stephanie Hess





In July 2019 **Carl Hartmann** did extremely well fishing the Cape Cod Canal, landing several BIG bass from "The Ditch". However, if you press him, he may admit that he did not catch THIS particular 'stripah'. LOL



The happy guy on the left is our own **Timothy Burden** who just won a brand new Penn 704 surf reel. **Tim** was one of about 80 anglers that competed in the 8th Annual Surf Turkey Tournament hosted by Charlie's Bait and Tackle in Normandy Beach. In the center is Mike Lauer (High Tide Reel Works) who donated the reel. On the right is famed lure maker Tom Bozan (DT Lures). Tom Emceed this year's awards dinner held again at Used-To-Be's where all entrants enjoyed a deliciously prepared striped bass entree. **Tim** & Tom are both members of the Jersey Shore Surfcasters fishing club. **Dan Harrison, Scott Havner, Stephanie Hess, Mona Mak** and **Joe Albanese** also competed.



Family Guy - Very Funny



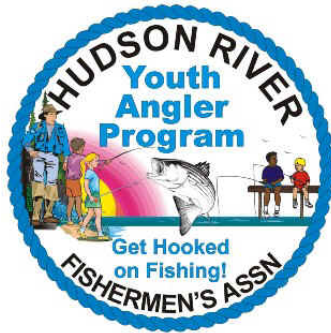
That's **Skip Wisniewski's** grandson with Santa (aka **Kevin Morgan**). The resemblance to the real guy is striking.



Annual George Graf Memorial Blackfish Trip

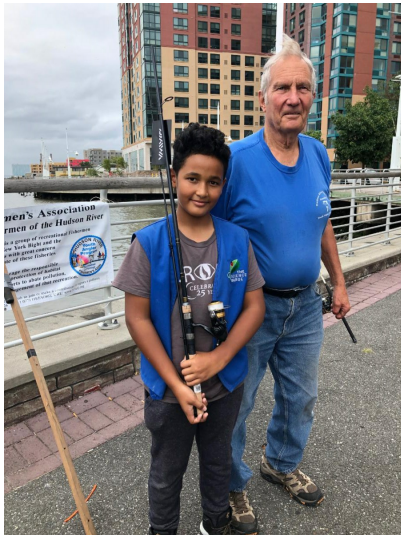
On Saturday December 7th a hardy few (**Arnie Ulrich, Dan Harrison & Joe Albanese**) ventured out onto the briny sea aboard the Capt. Cal II out of Belmar braving the cold and wind hoping to bring home a few keepers for the dinner table. Alas, it was not to be for our intrepid trio. Although a few nice blackfish came aboard all our guys caught were one spiny dogfish (**Joe**), one too small blackfish (**Arnie**) and the nice foul hooked bergall (**Danny**) shown in the photo.

H.R.F.A. Youth Angler Program



Youth Angler Program

By **Wayne Geider**



Wayne Geider with the happy winner of a new rod & reel combo.

In 2019 our cadre of Youth Angler Program volunteers held twenty (20) trips taking children fishing. Yes, it was a very busy and rewarding year once again. Here are the trips:

1. April 4 - Laurel Hill Park, Secaucus
2. April 29 - Bergen County Special Needs at the Englewood Boat Basin
3. May 11 - Ridgefield Park Day
4. May 15 - Bergen County Special Needs at the Englewood Boat Basin again
5. May 31 - Mill Creek Hackensack River in Secaucus
6. June 4 - Rockland County B.O.C.E.S. at Piermont Pier
7. June 5 - Waterford Park, Carteret
8. June 6 - Pep Boys Hackensack
9. June 7 - Rockland County B.O.C.E.S. at Piermont Pier
10. June 18 - Bergen County Special Needs at the Englewood Boat Basin again
11. June 22 - Billy Joe's Restaurant in Kingston
12. June 29 - 125th Street Pier NYC with Whitney Rearden
13. July 16 - Spectrum for Living with



HRFA's Youth Angler Program puts smiles on the faces of many boys and girls. Especially when they catch their very first fish ever. The HRFA works hard to get 'em HOFNOD.



That's **Linda Havner** awarding a rod & reel combo to a lucky child.

- special needs adults at Englewood Boat Basin
- 14. July 20 - United Way in Catskill, NY
- 15. August 1 - Kingston Day
- 16. August 16 - Special needs children in Kingston, NY
- 17. September 11 - Spectrum for Living special needs adults at Englewood Boat Basin again
- 18. September 14 - Yonkers Day
- 19. September 21 - Laurel Park Secaucus Pirates Day
- 20. Bergen County Special Needs at Mahwah Lake in Ramsey



The gang of HRFA volunteers that worked the Yonkers River Fest event include **Joe Albanese, Linda Havner, Jeff Christie, Wayne Geider & Tony DiModugno.**

Want to volunteer?
Just call Youth Angler Program Chair **Wayne Geider** at
(201) 384-8046.

From our Historian

HRFA History LOOKING BACK IN TIME

By **Tony Evangelista**



Here **Carl Hartmann** poses with a nice bluefish caught on the beach at Seaside Park circa late-1990's



Tony Evangelista

Carl Hartmann joined the HRFA in 1997. From the very beginning he was always an active member, participating & serving the organization in many different capacities with meritorious distinction. In fact, I believe he remains the only member ever to win not only the prestigious **Pete Barrett Award** (our club's highest honor) in 2005, but also the Fisherman of the Year Award and the President's Award.

With a love for surf fishing, he joined our contingent of surf anglers and participated in all of the tourneys and events including the Penfield Reef trip, the annual inter-club rivalry with the Sea Girt Surf Kings, Piermont Pier and Seaside Park surf outings. After the HRFA got serious about participating in fishing tournaments, **Carl** and other volunteers helped grow both the Striped Bass Derby on the Hudson and the HRFA Surf Fishing Tournaments which became perhaps the most highly anticipated annual event for the Association of Surf Angling Clubs for many years. Both of these grew to become highly successful fundraisers for the HRFA. Along with starting the HRFA calendar, **Carl** was also the longtime editor of this newsletter, *River Views*. For over a decade **Carl** sat on the EBoard as a Director and then Vice President as well.

Although nowadays **Carl** is focused like a laser on firmly establishing his American Angler enterprise he remains a lifetime member of the HRFA. The HRFA wishes him much success in this personal venture. We expect that he will return to contribute his time & talents in support of our multiple endeavors to protect the breeding grounds of many of the stripers and other fishes we love to seek out along the coast. We appreciate all that he has done for the HRFA in the past and believe that he will continue to be a good steward for the river and "Fight for the Hudson" alongside us for many years to come.

HRFA Calendar

JANUARY 2020						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29	30	31	1 Happy HRFA Renewal Year Happy Birthday Jon Khaili	2	3 Happy Birthday Manuel Hamalian Capt John Kolias Capt Ralph Roth	4
5 Happy Birthday Joe Albanese	6	7 HRFA E Board Meeting	8	9 Happy Birthday Maura Mazzilli	10	11
12 Happy Birthday David Galvin Feby Philip	13	14 HRFA General Meeting Happy Birthday Mike Banahan	15 Happy Birthday Robert J Jones Larry Krivitzky Thomas Tambone	16 Happy Birthday Tom McCarthy Michael Graziano	17 Happy Birthday Ricky Taliaferro	18 Happy Birthday Anthony Carbone
19	20 M.L. King Day Happy Birthday Edward Christensen	21 Happy Birthday Mike Cargill	22	23	24	25
26	27 Happy Birthday Ernest Santiago	28 Happy Birthday Andrew Zimmerman	29 Happy Birthday Michael Bunero Peter Musse	30 Happy Birthday Albert Sklarski	31 Happy Birthday Gregory Haines	1

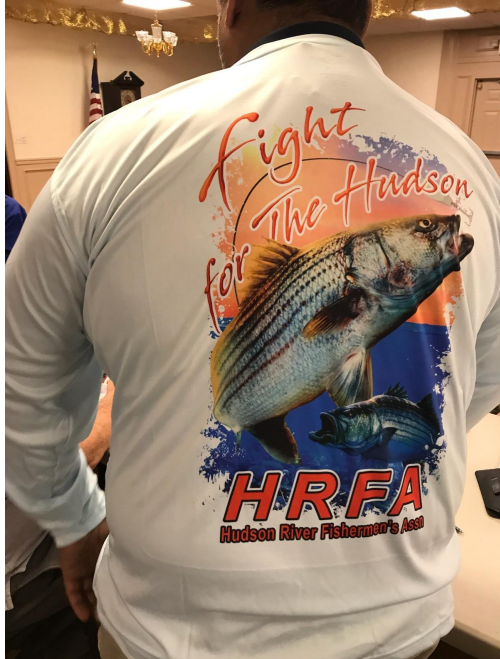
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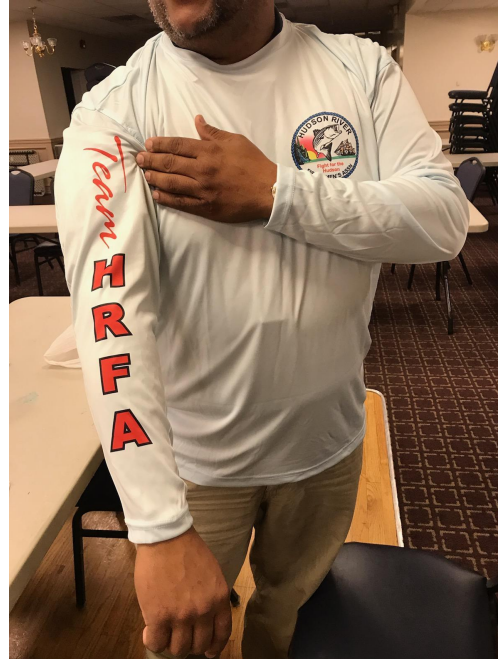
H.R.F.A. Merchandise

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.



Back



Front & Sleeve

From Fish to Dish



Honey Garlic Salmon*

By **Pete Musse**

This honey garlic salmon is salmon fillets seared to perfection and coated in a sweet and savory honey garlic sauce. The perfect easy and healthy dinner for a busy weeknight!

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1) Heat the olive oil in a large pan over medium high heat. Season the salmon with salt and pepper to taste.
- 2) Place the salmon skin side up in the pan. Cook for 4-5 minutes per side or until cooked through.
- 3) Remove the salmon from the pan and place on a plate. Cover with foil to keep warm.
- 4) Add the garlic to the pan and cook for 30 seconds.
- 5) Add the water, soy sauce and honey to the pan; bring to a simmer.
- 6) In a small bowl, whisk together the cornstarch with 1 tablespoon cold water.
- 7) Slowly pour the cornstarch mixture into the pan and whisk to combine. Bring to a boil and cook for 1 minute or until sauce has just thickened.
- 8) Return the salmon to the pan and spoon the sauce over the top. Sprinkle with parsley and serve with lemon wedges if desired.

INGREDIENTS

- 1 1/4 pounds salmon fillets
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- salt and pepper to taste
- 4 cloves garlic minced
- 1/4 cup water
- 1/4 cup low sodium soy sauce
- 3 tablespoons honey
- 2 teaspoons cornstarch
- 1 tablespoon chopped parsley
- lemon wedges for serving



SOURCE:
dinneratthezoo.com

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. You have 30 days from the day you catch a fish to send in your entries. So, the deadline for submissions is January. As a member of the HRFA you and your immediate family are eligible to enter fish in any of our categories. Various divisions are available for prizes presented at our Annual Awards Dinner in March of the following year. Website updated daily. *River Views* newsletter updates below are done around the first the month. * indicates a new club record.

REMINDER:

ALL ANNUAL FISHING CONTEST ENTRIES FROM DECEMBER 2019 MUST BE ENTERED USING THE FORM ON THE WEBSITE BEFORE THE END OF JANUARY 2020. IT IS TOO LATE TO ENTER FISH CAUGHT BEFORE DECEMBER. TO PRINT THE ENTRY FORM [click here](#).

HRFA Annual Fishing Contest Record Holders

Saltwater Species



**Striped Bass Released
Caught From Boat
(leaders determined by length)**

John Francesconi - 22"



**Striped Bass Kept
Caught From Boat
(leaders determined by weight)**

Mike Santiago - 47 Lbs 8 oz.*

Butch Pawson - 22 Lbs

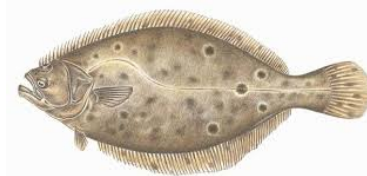


**Striped Bass Released
Caught From Shoreline
(leaders determined by length)**

Sandy Federico - 48"
Carl Hartmann - 38"
John Francesconi - 34"

**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.

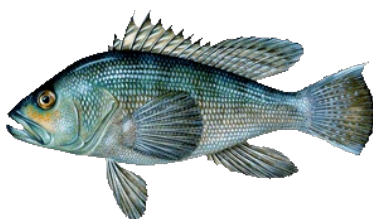
Fluke

Chester Fabyanski - 13 Lbs. 3 oz.*
Anthony Chinni - 12 Lbs 3 oz.
John Francesconi - 7 lbs 12oz



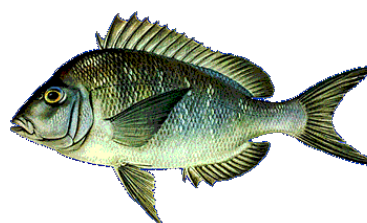
Blackfish

No Entries



Black Sea Bass

Steve Santiago - 5Lbs. 3 oz.



Scup (Porgy)

JohnFrancesconi - 2 Lbs. 3 oz.



**Open Category
Salt Water
No Entries**

Freshwater Species



Catfish

Carl Bruger - 19 Lbs. 8 oz.
Scott Havner - 8 lbs 11 oz
Bill Greene - 7 Lbs



Carp



Trout - Local

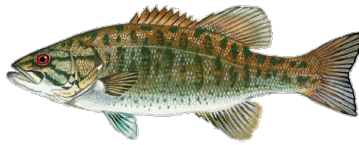
Scott Havner - 2 Lbs 6 oz
Marvin Oresky - 1 Lbs 14 oz

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

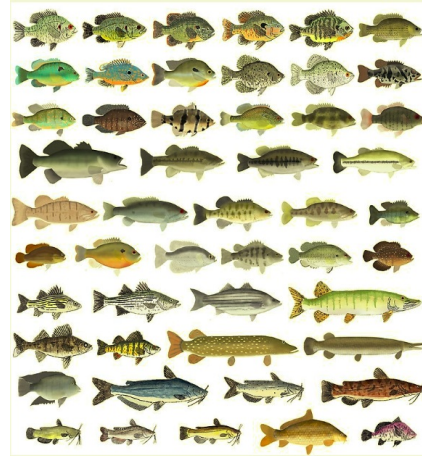


Largemouth Bass

Andrew Ward - 6 Lbs 2 Oz
Andrew Ward - 5 Lbs 7 oz
Scott Havner - 4 lbs 4oz



Salmon
No Entries



YOUTH ANGLER DIVISION

Noah Santiago - 24" Striped Bass
Released from Shore

Open Category Fresh Water

Andrew Ward - 4 Lbs 12 Oz Walleye

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



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