



River Views

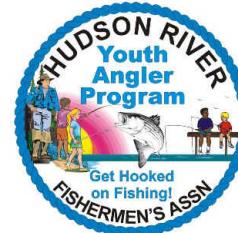


The Official Newsletter of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association



Hudson River Fishermen's Association

June 2019



E-06-19

June 11th General Meeting

Guest Speakers: Carl Bruger & Scott Havner
Topic: Fishing Lake Ontario



Next General Meeting

June 11, 2019 at 7:30 pm at
Ridgefield Park Elks

Guest Speakers

Carl Bruger & Scott Havner

Executive Meeting

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

HRFA Officers

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Dan Harrison

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Aram Setian

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Wayne Geider

Hooked on the Hudson

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Publicity

Miguel Sardinas

Fishing Contests

Scott Havner

Outdoors Shows

Dave Mercer

Janice Soto

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:

Reviews@hrfanj.org



Scott Havner and **Carl Bruger** will team up to share their collective wisdom and knowhow of fishing on Lake Ontario. Each has many years of experience fishing these waters for the elusive round goby. Hefty smallmouth bass (see pictures above), lake trout, walleye and many more game fish are more than occasional by-catches. **Carl** will present different successful fishing techniques. **Scott** will cover planning a trip to the region and how to put more fish in the boat.

From our President



Hi All,

I wanted to wait till after helping the Hackensack River keeper with their Reservoir challenge day to write this post. The HRFA showed up to help with the fishing contest. If you have never taken a walk around the reservoir I highly recommend it. I was told at the end of the day that

the cost for the permit is now \$50 dollars. I remember when it was free all you need to do was prove you have a NJ fishing license. We had about 40 kids show up to fish. It was great to see that almost half of them were with their own fishing poles.

This month speakers are not to be missed. Carl's knowledge of fishing the great lake is second to none. Scott will discuss how to set up a fishing trip with more than a few friends. He has been doing it for years now and has got more people involved. Many club members have now taken the trip up north to fish Lake Ontario with family members and friends. I fished with

my wife Eileen on Sparkie's boat and she out fished me :(. The next day I had the privilege to fish with this years Pete Barrett award winner Pete Musse. I out fish him only because he was more interested in site seeing the beautiful lake.

I have been told that the Boat in the woods is now closer to becoming the HRFA new project. The title has been found and will bee transferred to us. The next question is will it ever bee see worthy again. Dave Mercer has been doing a lot of research on the history of the boat and has talked with the builder.

Wayne and his crew are still helping with Bergen county special needs and the Hackensack river keeper kids trips. We also will bee helping with Riverfest day in Kingston NY and on the 29 a trip into Manhattan on 125th street. This will very interesting fishing on the pier below the transfer station/ park. Anyone interested in helping see Wayne at the meeting.

Bee Well
Dan H

Hudson River Foundation

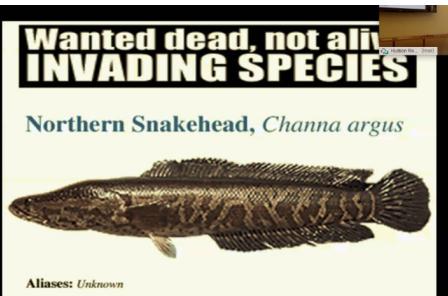


Mr. Tom Lake

The Lives and Legends of Hudson River Fishes By Joe Albanese



On April 16th I joined a webinar presented by Tom Lake, Hudson River Naturalist and Editor of NYDEC's Hudson River Almanac. His talk was entitled *The Lives and Legends of Hudson River Fishes*. What follows are my "class notes" and some screen shots taken of the webinar.



Wanted Poster

Mr. Lake, let's take the liberty of calling him Tom, spoke about many of the 228 species of fish living in the Hudson. He enjoys talking about fish for a number of reasons. The Hudson River's water isn't clear, so oftentimes people who don't know any better consider it devoid of life. Throw a net into the water and haul it back in and one can see the "magic of discovery" as "fish connect students to the river". When Tom says "fish are like canaries in a coal mine" he means that they are one measure of the river's health status. Right now, stripers are doing well



Hudson River Catfish



Humpback Whale



Humpback feasting on Atlantic Menhaden



Sturgeon overfished for caviar are now an endangered species in the Hudson

in the Hudson as evidenced by the numbers of 'young the year' fish and older generations commingling.

While most of the 228 species found in the Hudson are native to the river some 52 species were introduced to it by one means or another. These invasive species can sometimes be beneficial but may also wreak havoc on the ecosystem.

For example, a popular wanted poster notifies anglers that captured snakefish are "wanted dead" NOT "wanted dead or alive". Another invasive species is the channel catfish which is quickly replacing the white catfish in the Hudson. Invasion of the zebra mussel, from ocean-traversing tankers discharging their bilge water into the great lakes, will support fresh water drum. It is uncertain how the round goby will affect the ecosystem when it winds its way from the Great Lakes into the Mohawk and Hudson rivers, but they're coming.

Despite being a marine species, fingerling Atlantic menhaden (bunker) move north through brackish water and are found in fresh water as far upriver as Albany. No one seems to know why. It's not to escape predation or to reach a more abundant found source. In 2016 these menhaden were so abundant in the Hudson and East rivers that humpback whales where spotted as far north as the George Washington Bridge feasting on them.

From the viewpoint of taxonomists, the most noteworthy fish of the river is not the striped bass. It is the spot tail shiner discovered by DeWitt Clinton. The scientific body that assigns nomenclature designated it as a new species and named it *Notropis hudsonias*.

In the mid-20th century a cottage industry sprung up pickling white suckers from the river.

Banded killifish live primarily on mosquito larvae. They have been used as biological controls in Central Park and other water bodies in lieu of chemical sprays.

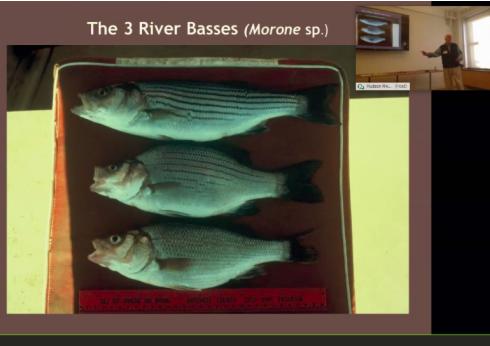
The hogchoker is a small flatfish that could fit in the palm of your hand. They are considered a trash fish and were often feed to pigs. They are very bony though and difficult to swallow. That's



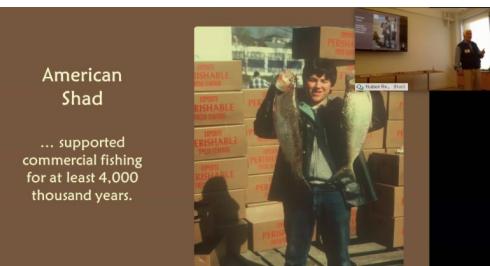
why the common name is ‘hogchoker’.

In the last 10-15 years Atlantic needlefish are being found in the Hudson. Tommy cod and rainbow smelt numbers may be in decline due to climate change. A change of only a few degrees water temperature can create profound change in a fish’s range.

Hog Choker



Three Types of Bass in the Hudson River

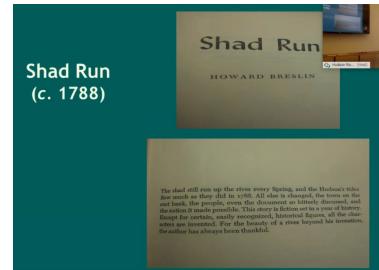
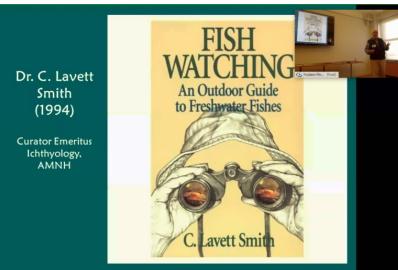


Where have all the shad gone?

Although dogfish are the prevalent shark species in the Hudson there are well documented newspaper reports of a dusky (1894) and a smooth hammerhead (1881) captured by commercial fishermen near Croton, NY.

The last seminar in the series was Tuesday, May 14, 2019, 10:30 a.m. W. Bryce Corlett, PhD Candidate MIT-WHOI Joint Graduate Program, we present “Rethinking the estuarine circulation: a case study of the Newark Bay estuarine network”. All seminars were held at The Hudson River Foundation 17 Battery Place, Suite 915 New York, NY 10004. Seminars are also simultaneously broadcast via webinar. Access information will be sent separately to registered participants. RSVP: 212-483-7667 or info@hudsonriver.org

Suggested Reading



Fish Watching

Shad Haul

Shad Run

May Meeting features Capt. Paul Eidman By Carl Bruger

The May general meeting featured a thorough



sorts of inshore species.

Captain Eidman and the Anglers for Offshore Wind Power made many salient points based on the microcosm of the Block Island current sample.

Impressive support from Audubon because of the offshore flyway avoidance was impressive to note, but this scribe does question the potential damage to all marine life (sensitive cetaceans) and various seasonal migrations from the incredible pounding that will take place to fix the huge bases to the ocean floors all along the coast. Also have we best set the shellfish areas to be lost and other key variables for cable junctions and areas that demand high security even when angling will be allowed?

I am an optimist in the long run and believe after inevitable compromises and a few years of running there turbines, we will reap some true benefits like awesome catches of fast growing Mahi mahi amidst the towers and increased fish populations from the flora and fauna that naturally begin to accumulate on every structure.

Learn more about these issues on Facebook by following Anglers for Offshore Wind Power. For access try www.AnglersforOffshoreWind.org.



How you can help take the GUESS WORK out of Marine Fisheries Management

By Sergio Radossi

This is an article about what you can do to help NJ's fisheries managers do better job for NJ saltwater anglers. Ok, I see your eyes rolling over, but give me chance. I will briefly cover the current Marine

Fisheries Management process, their tool box and how we fit into and can help the process, using New Jersey's Recreational Saltwater Angler Survey.

In its simplest form, fisheries management is about sustainability. Ideally we should always have enough fish to insure the continuation of (all) the species. As you already know this gets real complicated, real fast. Everything from the weather to politics impacts our marine resources. The fisheries manager is tasked to figure out how many fish are in the ocean, how they (the fish) interact and how many fishermen can take to insure sustainability.

In order to determine how many fish are in the ocean and how to achieve sustainability, fisheries managers depend heavily on historical data; trawl surveys, commercial and recreational catch data and modeling (read

statics). After all is said and done, the fisheries manager has only one management tool...quotas. Quotas are developed and implemented by NOAA via regional councils. In our area, these are the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and the NJ Marine Fisheries Council (which implements the quota and sets NJ's seasons, regulations, etc.)

Are you still with me?

Why do we care? Since the fisheries manager's only real management tool are quotas, they need to know how many fish are caught. This is fairly simple for the commercial sector, since they are required to count and report all the fish they catch, including the fish they discard (undersize, wrong species caught, etc.).

The recreational sector is more complicated. While commercial fishermen are centralized (relatively few boats targeting specific species at any given time), recreational anglers are completely decentralized. The American Sports Fishing Association reports that there are in excess of 900,000 saltwater anglers in New Jersey. We fish estuaries, inshore, offshore, in the surf, on private boats, chart and party boats. Multiply this by all states with an ocean view, add in visitors from landlocked states and you can appreciate the complexity of counting the fish that saltwater recreational anglers catch.

In 1976, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act mandated the sustainable management of U.S. fisheries through plans that considered both recreational and commercial harvest data.

In 1979, the Marine Recreational Fishery Statistics Survey (MRFSS) was established to estimate the impact of recreational fishing on marine resources.

In 2008, the Marine Recreational Information Program (MRIP) replaced MRFSS to meet increasing demand for more precise, accurate, and timely recreational catch estimates.

In 2018, the Marine Recreational Information Program transitioned to a new, mail-based survey to collect effort information from shore and private boat recreational anglers in Hawaii and on the Atlantic and Gulf coasts. This is the Fishing Effort Survey. So after all this work (from 1979 thru today), MRIP (NOAA) is now saying that they were wrong and we are catching more fish than previously thought. (Never mind that there are fewer party and charter boats, bag limits smaller, minimum sizes larger, few private boats, etc.) The most recent result delivered, as applied to NJ's Fluke quotas, is a 40% increase for the commercial sector, with the recreational sector remaining at 3 fish @ 18", because we overfished.

So.... While it may be true that it is difficult to determine what recreational anglers catch, it is completely unacceptable that NOAA can't do a better job after 40+ years.

What we can do....

The NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife /Bureau of Marine Fisheries run a Recreational Angler Survey to help get better picture of what NJ saltwater catch, or don't catch.

In their own words; "The New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife's Bureau of Marine Fisheries utilizes an angler survey to collect information on certain recreationally important marine finfish species. Current data collection efforts for recreational fisheries are hindered by sampling only a small portion of the fishing public and from collecting only minimal data on discarded fish. Information collected through this voluntary survey will provide data which may support alternative management strategies that increase fishing opportunities for the public.

The focus of this voluntary survey is catch and effort from fishing trips in marine and estuarine waters of the state and surrounding areas. For catch information, we are interested in collecting information on the number and size of both kept and discarded fish. "

Participation in the survey can be made easy by using paper log to record catches for yourself and your fishing party in real time. You can then transfer your data to the Recreational Angler Survey when you get home or the next day. By default you have a fishing log which will make you a better fisherman.

REMEMBER... it is important to record both good and bad days. If we only record catches, fisheries managers calculate that there are more fish available than may actually exist. Recording both good and bad days provides a real picture of fisheries status.

Again from the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife:

Q. How do I complete a paper log form?

A. Information should be entered in all applicable fields. See the examples below:

Example of a completed log sheet where no fish were caught (pdf, 85kb)

Example of a completed log sheet where catch is one or more (pdf, 190kb)

Thanks for listening.

Hooked on the Hudson

Approximately 400 kids and adults attended this year's Hooked on the Hudson.



Once again we enjoyed the support and sponsorship of three major contributors. First and foremost we would like to thank the Inserra Family and their ShopRite Palisades Park supermarket for food and drink provided. The police and ambulance corps of Fort Lee deserve our gratitude as well.

Striper Derby Awards Ceremony



Scott Havner announced he winners of the 2019 Stripper Derby at the annual Hooked on the Hudson event May 4th at Ross Dock. In case you missed it here are the results:

Cash Prize Winners

- 1st Place (\$500) **Mike Banahan** 35"
- 2nd Place (\$250) **Jeff Christie**. 31.5"
- 3rd Place (\$125) **Pete Chiavelli** 29.5"

Weekly Winners

- Week #1 largest **Charlie Spindelman** 25.5"
- Week #2 largest **Jeff Christie** 31.5"
- Week #3 largest **Mike Banahan** 35"

American Littoral Society Taggers

- Largest tagged **Charlie Spindelman** 25.5"
- Most tagged **Charlie Spindelman**. 44

Largest Stripper from Shore

Charlie Spindelman 24" won a Tica Stripper Collection rod & reel combo with a 300 yard spool of 30-pound Power Pro braid.

Striper Release Instagram Photo Competition

- Week #1 **Keith Baez** - \$25 gift card donated by [Tackle World](#).
- Week #2 **Mona Mak** - \$25 gift card donated by [Ramsey Outdoor Store](#).
- Week #3 **Jerry Crean** - \$25 gift card donated by [Art's Tackle & Fly Shop](#)



Charlie Spindelman won the fluke tagging field trip for 2 persons for tagging and releasing the biggest striped bass back into the Hudson River. Prize donated by the American Littoral Society.

Sat Aug 10th 7:00am
MIJo II Charters,
Atlantic Highlands, NJ

Charlie Spindelman also won the weekend trip to Montauk for 2 persons for tagging and releasing the most striped bass back into the Hudson River. Prize donated by the Hudson River Fishermen's Association and the American Littoral Society.

Valued at \$200.

Fri May 31st - Sun Jun 2nd
Montauk Manor House,
236 Edgemere St, Montauk, NY
Valued at \$800.

In summary, fifty-Five anglers signed up to compete in our 1st Annual HRFA Catch & Release and/or Catch, Tag & Release Hudson River Stripper Derby.

Among the anglers tagging stripers it was nip and tuck throughout the Derby between **Charlie Spindelman** and **Keith Baez** for most stripers tagged. One day it was **Keith** the next it was **Charlie** in the lead. In the final few days it seemed **Keith** finally had a comfortable lead. However, while **Charlie** finished with a flourish we received zero entries from **Keith**. **Charlie** jumped ahead and won by tagging two (2) stripers more than **Keith** who no doubt simply ran out of American Littoral Society tags.

There was evidence that **Jeff Alward** & **Jerry Crean** fishing together had captured, tagged and released two very large stripers. See the photos below. Unfortunately for them, (luckily for others) the judges all agreed that their photograph submissions did not comply with Derby rules. Hard lesson learned by them and a couple of other anglers whose photos were unacceptable. We can only hope that everyone had fun and will return next year to try again.



Jeff Alward



Jerry Crean

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 Stripper Derby. Oh, and by the way, it won him a \$25 gift certificate from Jigging World.



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!



Upcoming Events



Save the date: August 17 2019

Catfish Chaos Derby
Organizer: **Scott Havner**

more info to follow in
the coming months

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

From our Membership Chair



to win.

June HRFA Free Money News ...

At the last HRFA meeting (May 14th) there was \$22.00 of free money for the HRFA member whose name was picked from the jar (plus exactly \$22.00 unclaimed from the previous month).

HRFA member's name Todd Schmitt was picked, however he wasn't there. So, the free money (now \$44.00) gets added to June's split 50/50. Make sure you show up at the June 11th HRFA meeting to see which HRFA member wins free money.

For paid HRFA members> All you have to do is be there

Arnie Ulrich
Membership Chair



**The new HRFA hats are in.
Get 'em at the meeting.**

HRFA welcomes these new members

Ebru Brun, Fort Lee NJ

Gilberto Diaz, New York NY

Kasis Dikiy, Family, Dumont NJ

Billy Dixon, Haverstraw NY

Timothy Horan, Ridgewood, NJ

HRFA 2019 Membership Form

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address: _____ Zip _____

Work #: _____ Home #: _____

Suggestions:

(Guest Speakers? Projects? Activities?)

E-Mail Address _____

Please note: Your E address is private and no spam or solicitations will be intentionally sent

Date of Birth: _____

Enclosed is my check for annual membership.

Please circle the appropriate selections.

Renewal Gift New member

Optional Questions:

How many children under 18 are in your family?

What is your current profession?

a) Scholarship Fund _____

b) Youth Angler Fund _____

c) Other _____

All Donations

are Fully Tax Deductible

Annual Dues: \$25.00

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

You can 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

Jersey Coast Anglers Association 24th

Annual Fluke Tournament,

Saturday June 15, 2018 Fishing Hours: Dawn until 5 P.M. To be eligible all fluke must be weighed in at one of the 7 official weigh stations (that you previously selected) starting from 1 P.M. but not later than 5 P.M. and must be accompanied by your official weigh slip affidavit with entry number. \$50,000 Doormat Fluke Cash Prize Angler weighing in biggest fluke in excess of 12 lbs.! Awards ceremony June 20th. Weigh in ports from Jersey City, Liberty Landing Marina to Cape May. For further info www.jcaa.org/ or 732-506-6565

The Saltwater Registry for NJ, NY & Hudson River Regulations

For the New Jersey Saltwater Registry go to>
<http://www.nj.gov/dep/saltwaterregistry/>

To get your NJ Freshwater License, go to>
<http://www.nj.gov/dep>. Then in the lower righthand column click on> Buy & Print Your NJ Fishing License & Trout Stamp.

New York Saltwater Registry is at >
<https://decals.dec.ny.gov/DECALSCitizenWeb>
note: you must first register for a free Citizen Access account, then log in and Buy Sporting License(s) (the Saltwater license is free)

Also: you can also get your Freshwater License here also (resident and non-resident)
Number to order licenses by phone> 866-933-2257
This web site below explains what the requirements are for fishing in NY Hudson River Waters
<http://www.dec.ny.gov/outdoor/88762.html>

Access the New Jersey 2019 Marine Digest at this site>

<https://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/2019/digmar19.pdf>

Grandpa Carl's Column

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

Climate Change and Lake Ontario; the effects on fish and anglers
By Carl Bruger

One of the “hottest” topics in debates is global warming and this writer has his own local slant



on the issue based on thirty plus years of part-time living in a climate and weather zone totally remarkable to meteorology; the Great Lakes system of North America. I can make one blanket statement based on my interviews with a dozen neighbors and local farmers. Every single man and woman claimed that winters have become milder and yet weather patterns and storms have retained or increased their extreme intensities. Warm weather has trended deeper into the autumn months over the years yet sudden blizzards and cold snaps still happened. Winters still have days that can reach thirty and forty below zero Fahrenheit! Blizzards are still known to dump three to four

feet of snow in an evening blitz, especially in the Tug Hill region near where I live in Watertown. Some years Lowville records 300 inches of snow!

The aggravated intensity of all weather is a reason for concern by all of us in the area. There have been many more recorded tornadoes, micro burst storms, high wind events and severe rainfall amounts that never happened with such frequency or severity in years past. The last three years have seen severe flooding of the shorelines and even a lake tsunami that toppled shoreline homes! It's so bad at our lake home currently that we lost the chance to run Catfish Chaos for 2019 with the water over our wall again and no dock able to be installed until the flood waters subside by June we hope!

How does all this affect the fishing in the Great Lakes? Again, I am not a fisheries biologist with an ichthyology degree but thousands of catches and witnessing that many more, have provided me with irrefutable personal data. This article theorizes those findings. Fish survive and thrive in huge ecosystems like the Great Lakes and don't perish or become extinct because of any one factor. As shoreline waters warm a slight bit faster certain springs and provide a quicker ice out it could only mean a jump in the calendar date for certain fish movements.

Snowpack amounts and run-off are key factors for river heights and temperatures, both laying the foundation for a calendar of fish activity that year. Small stream rains in the fall often are the key to salmonid spawning runs, if at all, when the key month of October arrives. What all this means is that key targeted fish will be at peak availability sooner or later in the year based on the complex climate and water level interrelationships. Steady stream runoff is far better than erratic flows. Only the big rivers are steady fish producers when water flows are sporadic. Heavy flooding does mean more surface areas covered by water for more fish to nest and have cover in swamps for their eggs and reproduction. Huge masses of yellow perch and bullhead fry were bred in the high waters of the past years meaning awesome forage fish numbers will be swimming in the shallows of the lakes for years to come.

You can add new factors such as the invasive goby infestation which has increased the forage fish biomass and radically changed the eating habits of predatory fish like small mouth bass. Yellow perch were once preferred prey for predators but their sharp spines compared to "gummy-bear gobies" has forged a culinary changeover that has gathered in momentum. We are seeing fatter bass and pike than ever of those who survive the pillaged nests where the gobies do real damage raiding eggs at that stage.

Recall back decades ago when the Great Lakes were almost a dead zone before the salmonids were introduced from the Pacific strains. Lake trout were nearly extinct due to hagfish and lamprey decimation, alewives had no apex predators left and few bass and pike were in the more polluted warmer shore waters. DEC projects, anti pollution, and Lake clean-ups all evolved into man doing his part, but nature always will have a significant say in the ultimate results.

It is very hard to predict the future, but anglers will likely have plenty of fish to target on Ontario no matter what level the waters seem to flow. This scribe of course would be a lot happier if he could put in a dock, launch a boat, and catch some trophies on his own UNFLOODED land.



Lake Ontario Catfish Chaos Cancelled An open letter from Carl Bruger

This letter to Catfish Chaos entrants is being circulated to the entire HRFA membership in the interest of informing you all of the severe conditions currently in place up in the severely flooded Great Lakes.

Dear HRFA members and friends who have entered the 2019 Catfish Chaos tournament,

I am so sorry to inform you all that the event must be cancelled because anything that could go wrong did go wrong! I will immediately give every man a full cash refund and as you read on you will understand the ramifications of my reluctant decision.

Lake Ontario has flooded again over our walls and into the yard, swamp, and property, with a forecast of rising water in the next wet weather weeks! We are incapable of installing our forty four foot dock to fish from nor can we moor any boat or launch any of our boats from the flooded property. There is no dry parking except the new gravel driveway. All the land is like a muddy sponge.

To make matters even worse our home is totally without electrical power because the original ancient wooden power pole was rotten and has to be replaced. Our electrical contractor is at the mercy of the state utility company, National Grid, who only work when it is not pouring and that was only a few days in the last couple of months! God only knows when we will have power restored and temperature in the house was in the forties.

Some flood blame must go to the 2014 bi-country six man committee that oversees the Great Lakes drainage as well. These 3 men from Canada and 3 from the USA (none from NY state), oversee how the levels of the Great Lakes are monitored over the months. They botched it two years ago and did it again this year by holding too much water back in winter and early spring. Only the mighty St Lawrence River can drain the entire Great Lakes! It's too late now and Montreal is already flooded again as well! Billions of \$ in damage will accrue, Billions of \$ in tourism will be lost because of these cretins. The governor of New York has lambasted them as well.

In conclusion there is no man more pissed off than me and as I wade in the mud

later this spring moving hundreds of sand bags and building more cement retaining walls I just hope that this S#!+ doesn't become the "new normal" up here! Say a prayer for the little guys like the farmers, lake siders, and those who survive on the tourist dollars because while the ore and container ships are laughing with full loads all the little guys can't afford to cry because the extra tears will drown us for sure.

Thank you for your understanding,

Sincerely,
Carl Bruger



Carl's Corner for June 2019

By Carl Bruger

As we approach the end of the school year and the beginning of the summer season, many of the hundreds of readers will be planning their vacations that I'm sure will include significant time spent fishing. If this means that it will be a family affair then what I'm about to share will be even more important. Please keep reading despite the "preachiness" of this well meaning article and be sure to get to the important end bonus.

I'm writing about protecting you and your loved ones from the inviting yet lethal rays of the sun. Old sol gives a beautiful tan and great warmth, provides bluebird basking on beaches and boats, carefree convertible caravans to the coast, and yet insidiously can partially destroy the dermal layers of your skin over the years creating precancerous cells that later will become cancerous. How do I know this? I have had skin cancers removed from parts of my body for over twenty years! I've had major "drillings" in my scalp (thanks mostly to no hats worn as a dumb teenage angler), ears, nose, forehead, and neck, obviously all the thin, exposed places the sun baked over the years that did not get adequate protection.

The eyes are also a double deal in protection and angling strategy. Super quality sun glasses that are top of the line, polarized, prescription, scratch proof, are worth every penny you invest not only because they help you eyes adjust to help catch illusive concealed fish but also because they reduce glare preventing headaches and eye strain that make fishing less enjoyable.

Too many folks fish without using a head covering. The sun fries the top of your head like an egg on a rock and even a head of hair only protects a bit with the ears and nose that project taking terrible carcinogenic ray abuse over the years. The more you cover the better off you will be. Have a wide selection of hats to wear so that some are for super hot days and others for cooler days where you need a warmer covering. The higher the protective number in the cream the more likely you will not burn no matter how long you spend out on the brine.

Here's a major bonus to anglers after you have applied all your sun lotions. Be sure to wash your hands with a neutralizing agent before handling your fishing gear, especially the lures and hooks. The fish are not attracted to sun repellants, sprays, oils or creams. I actually wash my hands in a fish attractant after applying and

washing. If I'm near a tub of bait like bunker chum or a bucket of fresh clam bait, in goes my hand to be wiped off on my ever present rail rag. Now my hands are of the proper scent and ready to fish! No species will be repelled now. Remember, treat that sun protection product the same as you would as if you got gasoline on you. Many studies have shown fish retreating from lures and baits contaminated after handling with protective lotions and tanning products. In a nutshell, cover your head, cover your eyes, cover your skin, but don't expose your lure and gear. Now go out and catch a batch of fish!!!

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*. The ones below are a few of the photos taken on the May 18-19 Niagara River trip.



From l. to r. is **Scott Havner, Wayne Geider, Stephanie Hess, Linda Havner, Michele & Pete Musse, Al White and Alvin Miller.**



Pete & Michele Musse had two great days of successful catching.

President **Dan Harrison** caught this massive freshwater drum after a reportedly good fight.



Alvin Miller hoists his 18-pound king salmon



Mona Mak's impressive 33" 13lb. trout was the boat's biggest fish.
BTW she was also high hook.



Nothing wrong with bringing a few home for eatin'.
Al White & Al Miller.



Elliott Albanese with an impressive smallmouth bass



Linda Havner with her 6 lb 5oz
smallmouth bass - WOW!



Joe Albanese with a very nice
steelhead trout.



Scott Havner with **Andrew Ward**
holding his unnamed
smallmouth bass.

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Share your photos on *Instagram*.



We're on Facebook too.

Mainly Haddock in May Maine Trip By Carl Bruger



Arnie Ulrich again organized the annual sojourn north to Ogunquit, Maine to fish aboard the Bunny Clark for the umpteenth year.

Aram Setian, Tony Carbone, Bill Fish and I were the lucky four HRFA members who joined him for a memorable day on the Atlantic.

We were truly blessed by the vagaries of the weather as the day before the boats didn't even venture forth in gale force winds and high seas. We woke up to blue bird skies and calm south west winds that dropped the waves in half. Most of the day was sunny and it stayed pleasant until we docked and then the rain returned!

At every stop Captain Ian made from 9 to 3 O'clock we caught fish! This scribe landed haddock on his first six drops using a glow squid and clam combo that drew strikes the second it hit bottom. Sadly many fish were shorts under 17 inches and the 200 foot crank to the top became mere exercise to toss back the "shorts". You really needed a pound of weight to hit and hold. We also caught many other species of fish that had to be released. I could have filled a small cooler with the cod that swam back down to the bottom with a sore lip plus undersized pollock and a large wolf fish provided an eclectic mix to the battles. Other fish brought up were skulpins, red fish, and cusk of various sizes.

A funny side story happened with the many sea gulls that were mooching everything that was floating for a few seconds before their sharp eyes found the lost baits or released "shorts". **Bill Fish** tossed back a small dead cusk that floated toward the gulls and they all reacted to it like a batch of kids who just got served a plate of disgusting liver! They poked at it, prodded it, shoved it under the water and finally a different bird ate the damn thing because he just must have really been starved!

Another bird story of fascination took place when **Tony Carbone** was reeling up one of the largest haddock caught on the boat and a bird called a gannet dove and slashed under water alongside the Bunny Clark and just missed spearing his catch! The wake of the bird strike looked like that of a torpedo! Mere minutes later that same bird easily devoured a 17 inch released undersized pollock in one shocking gulp while we all haplessly waited to do a Heimlich maneuver on a choking bird. **Arnie** shared that gannets dive with their eyes open and many go blind in old age from the repetition of such violent water entry.

Only 16 anglers were on this "extreme" day long trip aboard the Bunny Clark and that was fortunate because the wind and currents were conflicting so that tangles occurred despite the nice spacing along the rails between fishermen. It was just **Bill** in one corner and **Tony** in the other while I was in the middle of the stern. It really didn't matter where you fished because **Arnie** and **Aram** had excellent catches along the side and even took home some keeper pollock and cusk to go

with their haddock.

The final tally resulted in me going home with exactly what I targeted; a full limit catch of 12 haddock to share with family, neighbors and friends. All of us had a fine bag of fillets to sojourn south. The night of my return my wife, **Pat** and I feasted on fresh catch of the day prepared with a recipe courtesy from **Arnie Ulrich**. We baked a haddock fillet with Stop-n-Shop crab cake crushed in the middle and a coating of milk to stick on Panko Italian spiced bread crumbs and parmesan cheese. Baked at 400 until the top browned and the meat flaked white we were in heaven with a glass of wine and a side of asparagus dripping in sweet creamy butter!

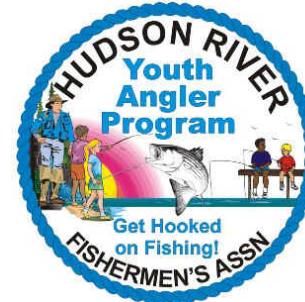
I bet a few more folks wish they had signed up after reading this article. God willing **Arnie** has run this trip on the same boat for decades and does not plan to stop now. I have gone since the nineties and have only had one trip stopped by weather. Keep posted, ask questions and get in on the next trips up to Ogunquit Maine! Check out the picture of the happy five under the Bunny Clark boat sign in River Views and others if they made the publication.



HRFA Youth Angler Program By Wayne Geider

Future Events . . .

- June 5th - Waterford Park, Carteret, NJ. Assist Hackensack River Keeper
- June 6th - Special Needs Children of Bergen County
- June 8th - Oradell Reservoir Assist Hackensack River Keeper
- June 11th - Waterford Park Carteret, NJ Assist Hackensack River Keeper
- June 12th - Special Needs fishing Bergen County at Englewood
- June 20th - Oradell Reservoir Assist Hackensack River Keeper
- June 22nd - Wooden Boat Challenge - Kingston, NY



This Year's HRFA Children's Catfish Contest at The Village of Waterford Canal Festival

By **Gil Hawkins**

This year's Hudson River Fishermen's Association's Children's Catfish fishing contest at the Canal Festival in Waterford, NY hosted by the Chamber of Commerce of Southern Saratoga County, was a great success. The festival celebrates the annual opening of the New York State Canal System and the role that New York's waterways have had in the economic and industrial development in NY, especially in Saratoga County. Located at the confluences to the Hudson River, the Mohawk River and Lock #2 of the Erie Canal, with park and waterfronts the opportunities for fishing are abundant.

This was the second year that the HRFA has brought its Children's Catfish Contest to the festival. Stressing the importance of the river as an environmental, educational and recreational resource for children and their families, the HRFA program celebrates the river and fishing. Even though the spring rains raised the water level in the Mohawk River by several feet and forced a relocation of our operation, over fifty children participated with their parents and a few children were able to catch fish. Once again the HRFA provided all the poles and bait needed and five fishing outfits as prizes. This year Scenic Hudson partnered with us and added four prizes from their program.

Headed by HRFA Vice President **Aram Setian**, our all volunteer team also included **Tony Carbone**, **Janice Soto**, **Dave Mercer** and Past President **Gil Hawkins**. They taught children to cast, bait hooks and enjoy a day of fishing. When awarded a fishing outfit for her enthusiasm, one of our winners couldn't stop jumping with joy. A family of four, a mother and her three boys, fished a few hours without as much as a bite. They were awarded the Family Award, each boy received a rod for his perseverance. A goal of the HRFA program is to not only encourage river appreciation but to also provide the means to continue fishing for a lifetime.

Scenes from the May 18th "HRFA Waterford River Festival". See some of the photos submitted by **Capt. Aram Setian & Gil Hawkins** below.





From our Historian



Mr. Frank Soricelli, fishing the beaches of the south Jersey shore.
Photo from 1995.

LOOKING BACK IN TIME By Tony Evangelista

HRFA member **Frank Soricelli** was always fishing up at the Piermont Pier in the months of March and April hoping to catch some early stripers. When some of us HRFA members would see **Frank's** slide-on camper we all knew we were in for a nice hot bowl of home made soup. **Frank** was also very active in fishing our surf tournaments. Unfortunately **Frank** passed away years ago.

HRFA Birthday Calendar

JUNE 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 Happy Birthday Fred Goodson
2 Happy Birthday William Grayson	3 Happy Birthday Bob Kaczorowski	4 HRFA Eboard Meeting	5 Happy Birthday Karl Stuhmann	6	7	8
9 Happy Birthday Thomas Reid	10 Happy Birthday Christian Hoops	11	12 Happy Birthday Stephen Piccinich Duane Sanders	13	14	15 Happy Birthday John Garafalo
16	17	18	19	20 Happy Birthday Stephen Alfieri James Vester	21 Happy Birthday Lawrence Liptak	22 Happy Birthday Dan Riemann
23	24 Happy Birthday Ozziy Husseyin	25	26	27	28	29 Happy Birthday Kenneth Schiels
30 Happy Birthday Mark Galeazzi	1	2	3	4	5	6

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



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