



Access • Fisheries • Habitat
260 Aspinwall St. SINY 10307

NUMBER 5
VOL.II
WINTER, 2011



Access • Fisheries • Habitat

The Fisherman's Line

THE MISSION OF THE FCA

by FCA Chairman Frank Crescitelli

The Fishermen's Conservation Association is a lot more than just a conservation association. We are an organized and dedicated group of people who are results oriented and purpose driven. There is no better way to describe our mission. We don't simply get involved with 'Causes' because they are "in" or trendy, or current, or even truly important.

We target the 'Causes' that we have the resources, tools and burning desire to conquer. Every person, group or company has limited resources to some degree, the smart ones, and the truly successful ones, recognize them, and embrace them. We choose our battles, and use the valuable resources we DO have to win those battles, and conquer our 'Causes!'

The FCA promotes the conservation triad of: Access, Fisheries, Habitat, using this balanced approach; we are protecting our valuable marine resources and ensuring the fisherman's place in this delicate cycle.

In only five short years, we took an idea to have a regional, focused results driven organization, and made it a reality. At nearly 1000 INDIVIDUAL paying members, we are the largest fishing conservation association in the tri state region. We completed over 20 beach clean up's, and through our now, wildly successful "Hooked For A Lifetime"

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FCA2011 Calendar of Events



January	February	March	April
Sunday 1/9/11 Fly Tying Blue Heron Nature Ctr 9am 222 Poillon Ave runs thru 3/29/11 1/18 SI Chapter Meeting 1/21 thru 1/23 Somerset Fly Fishing Show NJ	2/15 SI Chapter Meeting	3/15 SI Chapter Meeting Guest Speaker John Skinner 3/18 Somerset Saltwater Expo thru 3/20 3/26 Sat FCA BANQUET Grand Plaza SI 7pm-11pm	4/16 Wash DC trip Tentative 4/19 SI Chapter Meeting
May	June	July	August
5/17 SI Chapter Meeting 5/19 Pre-Manhattan Cup Cocktail Party Orvis shop NYC 5/20 Premire Event 2011 Manhattan Cup Chelsae Piers NYC	First Beach Clean up TBD First Blue Belt Clean up TBD 6/21 SI Chapter Meeting DAV Fishing trip TBD	7/19 SI Chapter Meeting 7/23 "Hooked for a Lifetime" Kids Fishing event	8/6 Blood Drive 8/16 SI Chapter Meeting
September	October	November	December
9/17 "Hooked for a Lifetime" Autistic Children's Fishing Event 9/20 SI Chapter Meeting Beach & Blue Belt Clean ups TBD WW Fishing Trip TBD	10/18 SI Chapter Meeting	Fall Blitz Cocktail Party TBD 11/22 SI Chapter Meeting	12/9 FCA Holiday Party Grand Plaza SI 12/20 SI Chapter Meeting

PLEASE CHECK OUR WEB SITE OFTEN (WWW.JOINFCA.ORG) FOR MORE CURRENT AND UP TO DATE FCA INFO



LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PRESENTED TO PRESIDENT GEORGE H.W. BUSH

On Tuesday April 20th I joined, FCA members, Robert Rich, Jr. and Capt. Paul Dixon and traveled to the George Bush Presidential Library in Texas and presented the former president with this years FCA Lifetime achievement award. This presentation coincided with a special dedication of a new exhibit; *The Sports & Outdoors President* at The George Bush Presidential Library Foundation.

At this dedication I acknowledged the presidents love for the Striped Bass, and fishing and said "the images of you Mr. President catching, more importantly, catching and releasing Striped Bass played a pivotal role in protecting this valuable Gamefish" I further stated "for a saltwater angler there were few times prior to that when our sport was brought into the homes of America" and this " helped promote our conservation cause" In a addition to the "FCA Lifetime Achievement Plaque"

President Bush was then awarded and accepted a "lifetime Membership" to the FCA. This was commemorated with the presentation of an Alan James Robinson "FCA Lifetime" print.

ABOVE: CHAIRMAN FRANK CRESCITELLI PRESENTS THE LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD TO PRESIDENT BUSH. BOTH PLAQUE AND ARTWORK ARE NOW BEING DISPLAYED AS A PERMANENT PART OF THE EXHIBIT IN THE PRESIDENTIAL LIBRARY. IN A THANK YOU LETTER TO ME, PRESIDENT BUSH SAID " IT WAS A VERY SPECIAL TREAT FOR THIS 85 YEAR OLD, AND THE ICING ON THE CAKE WAS YOU PRESENTING ME WITH THE FISHERMEN'S CONSERVATION AWARD"



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Sperry
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Alan James Robinson
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Dmitry Schidlovsky
SurfSide 3 Marina



AT THE 2010 MANHATTAN CUP L TO R U.S. ARMY 3 STAR GENERAL DAVID VALCOURT, WOUNDED WARRIOR MIKE FRADERA, U.S. MARINE 2 STAR GENERAL GORDON NASH, CAPT. DICK KETCHOW OF GATEWAY MARINE



CHAIRMAN CRESCITELLI FISHING WITH BASEBALL HALL OF FAME WADE BOGGS



BILL PACIELLO WITH BASS MASTER CLASSIC WINNER KEVIN VAN DAM, AND CHAIRMAN FRANK CRESCITELLI AT THE PENNSYLVANIA OUTDOOR EXPO



CAPT'S CRAIG BREWER AND GARY ELLIS OF OUR PARTNER CHARITY THE REDBONE CELEBRITY SERIES TO CONQUER CYSTIC FIBROSIS.

THE MISSION OF THE FCA

continued from page 1

children's program have taken over 500 inner city and Autistic children and exposed them to fishing, as well as equipping them with a rod & reel, tackle box and instruction booklet. We also, sunk vessels on artificial reef's, and helped expose poachers that were caught with illegal fish. As well as holding the tri- state's largest catch and release fishing tournament, The Manhattan Cup. As well as many more great things, that space limits. But check our website @ www.joinfca.org, for all of them.

Over the next 5 years we intend to make the biggest push to make Striped Bass a Gamefish that NY has seen since the 1980's! We intend to implement our own "save a cow" program in which we will recognize and award fishermen for releasing large Striped Bass by creating a "Big Bass Release Club" Anglers would measure and photograph their catch of a lifetime, and agree to release all future caught "cow." The angler would receive a certificate, and depending on the size of their catch, a custom embroidered jacket with the weight and date of the catch. Instead of killing the big breeder for their "15 minutes of fame," they will be able to wear the jacket proudly for the rest of their life, and have their picture on our website eternally!



The FCA has Come a Long Way

by Bill Paciello, FCA Vice Chairman

To use the classic cliché, I can't believe "how time flies"; the FCA is five years old. We certainly have come a long way in such a short period of time. We have a past president of the United States of America George H.W. Bush who received a lifetime achievement award presented by our chairman and was also inducted as a Lifetime member. We also have Hall of Fame Baseball players, famous NFL stars, celebrity chefs, pro anglers, popular musicians but most of all we have you, almost 1000 members that we are the proudest of.

The FCA has many missions. The first group is our founding triad of Access, Fisheries & Habitat. The first which gives every person the right to fish along our shores, the second is to conserve our fishery and the third to protect the habitat for future generations. One of our biggest and basic causes is to gain game fish status for striped bass up & down the Atlantic coast states, which now only 6 out of 13 that striped bass inhabit, have them as a game fish. Another mission is to teach children the precious balance that needs to be protected and maintained between our delicate marine environment and those who fish it. We do that by taking over 100 children a year from underserved communities as well as those with disabilities on fishing trips through our "Hooked for a Lifetime" program. The FCA also takes veteran groups out fishing. We also serve the conservation minded with classes during the winter with fly tying, knot tying, using the proper rod and tackle as well as familiarizing our members with the native aquatic species that are right here in our bustling harbor. We also serve our communities with blood drives, boating and fishing Awareness meetings that discuss fishing regulations and boater safety. The FCA also does beach clean ups and starting 2011 Blue Belt preservation



MICHAEL ZEIK (L) ALONG WITH HIS SISTER LOURDES ZEIK-CHIVI OF LEONARDO JEWELERS PRESENT THE WINNER OF THIS YEARS ROLEX WATCH RAFFLE TO STEVE PALMO AT THE 2010 MANHATTAN CUP



BILL PACIELLO (L) WITH NEW FRIEND AT LATEST "HOOKED FOR A LIFETIME" CHILDREN'S EVENT

maintenance. Along with other conservation minded groups like the Natural Resources Protection Association, Clean Water Action, NY-NJ Bay Keeper, Hudson River Anglers and Surf Riders just to name a few, we all unite to help keep our marine environment healthy.

To do all this the FCA holds a banquet, fundraisers, raffles, sets up booths at outdoor/fishing shows and flea markets for membership, it also holds the biggest catch & release celebrity charity tournament in the northeast. The "MANHATTAN CUP" right here on the Hudson River with-in the shadows of the city's skyscrapers. We've had large corporate sponsors as well as fishing related sponsors over the years. BTIG a premier institutional broker dealer sponsored year 12 and is looking forward to next year.

ROLEX has introduced Leonardo Jewelers of Elizabeth and Red Bank New Jersey to sponsor our ROLEX watch raffle. Leonardo Jewelers came on board last year and we are proud to announce that they have become the "Official Authorized Rolex Watch" jeweler of the "Manhattan Cup" and the Fishermen's Conservation Association.

As I have mentioned, the FCA has come a long way due to the combined efforts of its members and supporters. I can only imagine where the next five years will take us.

We have a trip in the planning stages to Washington D.C. for children to fish on the Potomac with Senators & Congressmen. We hope to push further along the path to finally reach our goal by making the Striped Bass a game fish in NY and other states. We will continue to work hard to educate everyone that comes in contact with us on how important it is for all of us to protect and be the stewards of our cherished and delicate marine resources. Let's remember our environment is not what our parents left us...but what we are borrowing from our children.



P.S. WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE SUBTLE CHANGES TO OUR LOGO AND THE DESIGN OF THIS NEWSLETTER?

JUST A LITTLE CHANGE TO KEEP THE FCA MOVING.

DAVE FALLON *FCA President*



Whether you are an individual or an organization, everyone knows **WHAT** they do. Some know **HOW** they do it. But very few know **WHY** they do what they do.

Only those who know **WHY** are ones who lead.

The reason the FCA has grown into a leading conservation group in the Tri State area is a direct result from **WHY** we

WHAT

formed five years ago. A group of dedicated local fishermen knew they could solve local issues involving fisheries, habitat and access. We were determined to improve our local resource and leave it better than

it was, for our children and grandchildren. That was our mission back then and it remains the cornerstone of our belief today.

Throughout the year we are involved in dozen's of events that epitomize our mission of protecting our fisheries and habitat as well as our fighting for access to it, but one of our most unique events is simply about awareness. In May we host the FCA Manhattan Cup, a catch and release fishing tournament in NYC.

HOW

This event has become the largest in-shore tournament in the northeast, but more importantly, it has directly introduced thousands of people to New York's fishery who have fished it and millions more who have read about it or watched it on a national level.

Clearly, the more you are tied to a resource, the more you will work towards protecting it. Protecting the Asian Tiger or some river in a place I've never seen might be a noble goal, but it's understandable why it is hard for me to muster energy for their protection. We are fortunate to have such a great

WHY

resource right here, but more importantly we know **WHY** it's so important to protect it. So, if you get an email asking to send a letter to a senator or congressman, take the time to send one. It's

easy and it's important. And it might also be the reason your children or grandchildren can enjoy a resource



JOE HAGEN *President, FCA New Jersey*



FCA NJ has had a long standing relationship with the Bayshore Saltwater Flyrodders, with both organizations supporting each other on a wide variety of projects. Some of our FCA officers are long term BSF members which ensures continued mutual participation on issues/projects that concern our coastal

community. FCA NJ has partnered with BSF on a number of charity events including beach seminars, children's educational programs, and fishing trips with disabled veterans, Boy Scouts, and other worthy groups.

FCA NJ has been working closely with Clean Ocean Action on issues including the fight against offshore drilling and strongly opposing the proposed Liquid Natural Gas Island. We feel there are other, more viable alternatives, for producing fuel and energy in a clean way without plundering our marine eco-systems. Our ocean is not for sale! It seems like we are always monitoring private and government entities in order to protect ourselves against the destruction of our natural resources, but it must be done, and FCA NJ is dedicated to continuing our involvement on upcoming issues.

On a brighter note: FCA NY/NJ is proud to be partnering with the Hudson River Fishermen's Association in the sinking of a 58 Ft Trawler to create the Darren Cardinal Memorial Reef, as the first part of the NEW FCA/HFRA Shark River Reef system. This will tremendously expand the structural bottom habitat at this site and become a home supporting a diverse mix of natural life from micro-organisms to larger fish. We are also beginning to organize a program for children (and parents!) similar to FCA NY to learn how to tie flies for fishing, over the winter. Our goal is to inform and educate youngsters not only about fly fishing opportunities, but to also raise an awareness in them concerning the protection and conservation of our environment. Hopefully a few of them will become future eco-stewards themselves!



"JERSEY BOYS" L TO R, DAVE, LOU, TOM, RON, BILL AND JERRY.

Fisheries

by Steve Byrne, FCA Secretary

I'm always pleading for concerned anglers to take a minute and send in their comments on important fisheries issues.

When Addendum II came before the ASMFC, proposing an increase in commercial striped bass fishing, you came through – big time. Whether you sent your comments after reading the Fisheries column in our September FCA newsletter, by using the form put out by Stripers Forever, or simply put your opinion in writing on your own, I want to personally thank you. You made a difference.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission recently released the Public Comment Summary for Atlantic Striped Bass Draft Addendum II to Amendment 6, and the results were overwhelmingly in favor of keeping the status quo. In fact, 97.3 percent of all respondents were opposed to any increase in commercial striped bass fishing.

New York and New Jersey anglers were the most vocal in their opposition to the proposal, with 1,202 anglers speaking out from just those two States. The ten other member States plus the District of Columbia accounted for the other 1,001 individuals opposed to the addendum. A total of 60 people were in



CAPT. STEVE BRYNE IS A CHARTER BOAT CAPTAIN IN RARITAN BAY, AND SPENDS A GREAT DEAL OF TIME ON THE WATER. HE IS THE FCA CHAIRMAN FOR FISHERIES. HE WRITES FOR NOR'EAST SALTWATER. HE OFTEN ATTENDS HEARINGS IN ALBANY AND TRENTON.

favor of the increase, with 17 of those coming from New York.

In fact, before the vote took place I said, "With Public Comment so much in favor of the status quo, it's hard to conceive of any member voting in favor of addendum II but we have seen it before. The ASMFC annual meeting will have taken place in Charleston, South Carolina by the time you read this, and the addendum should have been voted down. We will see what happens."

Sure enough, our ASMFC Commissioners from New York ignored the overwhelming opposition to the addendum, and voted for it. Going against Public opinion in the name of conservation would be difficult to argue with, but our representatives have done the opposite. They have gone against a landslide of Public comment in favor of the status quo and voted for an increase in commercial landings.

Recreational anglers are disgusted with the actions of their commissioners, and rightfully so. We deserve answers, and a reasonable explanation for a vote that flies in the face of common sense. Striped bass young of the year survey results are still below average and the long term health of the stock is a question mark at best.

So far, it looks like we will be waiting a long time for that explanation. Without a good faith effort to lay out the rationale behind their vote, we can only conclude that it must be time to start the search for some new commissioners.



who We Are and What We Do

The Fishermen's Conservation Association was built around the triad of Access, Fisheries and Habitat. We promote these ideals through beach clean ups, children's fishing programs, fly tying meetings, boater's awareness events, blood drives, defending fisheries by supporting conservative management approaches and by hosting the FCA Manhattan Cup. The FCA has no

paid staff, and is supported entirely by the generosity of its sponsors



ABOVE, A YOUNG ANGLER LEARNS THE INTRICACIES OF THE ART OF FLY TYING.

"FCA BLOOD DRIVE" MEMBERS PREPARE TO DONATE BLOOD FOR A LOCAL BLOOD BANK. OUR BLOOD DRIVES HAVE ALSO BEEN FOR FIRE FIGHTERS, POLICE AND OTHER PEOPLE IN NEED.

FCA BLOOD DRIVE



THIS YEAR'S "HOOKED FOR A LIFETIME" AUTISTIC EVENT WITH 50 CHILDREN AND VOLUNTEERS WAS SPONSORED BY BOROUGH PRESIDENT JAMES P. MOLINARO AND MICHAEL'S BAIT & TACKLE SHOP.

HOOKED FOR A LIFETIME

Participants in FCA's "Hooked for a Lifetime" events came from underserved communities and from organizations serving disabled children, especially those with autism. FCA members chummed up the fish, and participants not only caught fish, but they also went home with their own rods, reels and tackle boxes for their next fishing adventures.



AT RIGHT, BOROUGH PRESIDENT JAMES MOLINARO LENDS ENCOURAGEMENT TO A YOUNG FISHERMAN AT OUR RECENT HOOKED FOR A LIFETIME EVENT.



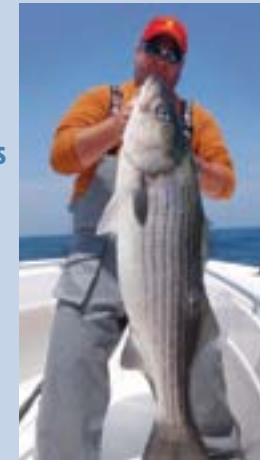
FCA BEACH CLEAN UPS WERE A BIG HIT THIS YEAR, AND WE REMOVED LITERALLY TONS OF DEBRIS.



ABOVE, PARTICIPANTS OF THE 2010 FCA MANHATTAN CUP STREAK SOUTH ALONG THE HUDSON RIVER WITH HIGH HOPES OF CATCHING A BIG STRIPED BASS.

THE MANHATTAN CUP

The Manhattan Cup is a massive undertaking that shows off some of the best fishing on the East Coast in one of the greatest cities in the world. Fifty-two boats churned up the foam in the Hudson River at the start of the 2010 Cup, drawing the attention of media outlets and attracting hundreds of spectators as the boats returned to release big bass at Chelsea Piers on 23rd Street. The event is designed to highlight our marine environment and improve Public awareness of the value of striped bass.



2010 MANHATTAN CUP WINNER DAVE COZZONE OF PRINCETON TEC PREPARES TO RELEASE HIS HIGH HOOK CATCH.



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VETS GO FISHING

FISHERMEN'S CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION MEMBERS VOLUNTEERED IN JUNE TO TAKE A GROUP OF DISABLED VETERANS FROM THE BROOKLYN VA DAY HOSPITAL ON A FLUKE TRIP ABOARD THE BROOKLYN VI OUT OF SHEEPSHEAD BAY.



NEWE JERSEY BOAT SHOW

Parents and children participate in educational fishing games at the New Jersey Outdoor Boat Sale & Expo at Blue Claw Stadium in Lakewood NJ. The FCA along with the Fisherman Magazine set up tables of marine attractions at the Children's Cove.



CONGRESSMAN MCMAHON ADDRESSES OUR THIRD BOATERS AWARENESS MEETING WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM NYS DEC, NJ MARINE POLICE, US COAST GUARD, US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, US POWER SQUADRON AND SANDY HOOK PILOTS.



Access & Habitat

JOHN MALIZIA, FCA VICE PRESIDENT

Habitat and Access are threatened in our waters. FCA has fought Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG), although the Atlantic Sea Island Groups proposal 13 miles south of Long Beach, NY has been suspended, Excalibur's, Liberty Natural Gas proposal is moving to bring LNG tankers into a Turret System, where the tankers re-gasify the LNG to natural gas and pump it through the turret system, just 15 miles east of Asbury Park, NJ. A 50-mile system of pipes going to Linden NJ may be laid in the ocean and Raritan Bay.

LNG comes from Russia, Nigeria and other nations. The US is trying to wean itself from fossil fuels. LNG is dangerous in this form, if leaked from the regasification process on the ship and ignited, it can become a fire storm traveling miles with the wind. There can also be a major explosion on the ship. The USCG has a 500 meter exclusion zone surrounding the Turrets, around the ship 1 mile forward and aft, and 500 meters from the sides of the ship.

We can't say no to all these alternatives, but we can work with authorities and other marine related organizations in the placement and timing of these resources. We at the FCA are working vigorously establishing relationships with authorities, other groups and manufacturers to minimize the impact on recreational fishing.

The Cape Wind Project off of Rhode Island and Nantucket was fought for many years before winning approval from the federal government permitting and building 130 wind turbines. This will take approximately 26 square miles of habitat and access from fishermen.

NJ is moving forward with groups building test sites off the Cape May and Atlantic City offshore waters. NY has major proposals from Con Ed and LIPA for 100 turbines off the Rockaway's, near spawning and fishing grounds. Another major player is Google who will be investing \$4 Billion for the distribution of the electricity to energy companies on land. There will be miles of cables lying on or under the sea floor, impacting the habitat.

A renewable resource currently implemented in the metropolitan area is CURRENT

TURBINES both in NY and NJ. The first project is in the East River with 4 turbines, smaller than the offshore turbines and off Roosevelt Island and the UN. The first phase was successful and Verdant Power is applying for 30 more turbines in the next phase. This technology purportedly does not impact the fish because the blades turn at a slow speed and fish are able to avoid the blades. This next phase will definitely impact access and habitat by reducing fishing areas in the East River.

Another technology utilized is small paddle wheels, manufactured by Natural Currents.



JOHN MALIZIA (L), WITH JIM SCARCELLA, NRPA, RICH CHAN AND KERRY SULLIVAN, NRPA AT A RECENT BEACH CLEAN UP.

They are currently placed in a Manasquan Inlet Marina. Another project is on private property in the Shrewsbury River and a project is proposed off Wards Island between the East River and Hells Gate.

We should be able to support renewable resources, but we don't want oil rigs or LNG facilities in our ocean.

We need alternatives to fossil fuels, so the use of the ocean and our estuaries are becoming very popular to our coastal states. Renewable resources, Wind Turbines, Current Turbines, Tide and Temperature proposals using our marine environment are in our state's energy policies. These technologies impact our habitat, access and fisheries, establishing exclusion zones, building on the sea floor and disrupting spawning and migration patterns.



RICHARD CHAN Treasurer FCA

The Fishermen's Conservation Association is a non-profit 501C3 organization. We have no paid employees on staff, and we are 100% volunteer. We have close to 1000 members from youngsters to senior's men & women alike. The FCA is presently a tri-state association but have members as far reaching as Canada & California. We have fared decently in these hard economic times, especially being a non-for profit, we're the first groups that are hurt by such an economy. Nevertheless due to our membership dues, donations and fundraisers we're keeping our heads above water. This revenue supports efforts to protect our marine resources, the environment, preserve the habitat as well as

educate and the serve the Public. Our volunteer events include. surf fishing seminars, beach clean-ups, our programs for children "Hooked for a Life Time", and our autistic children's outing. Our Sunday morning seminars during the winter, teaching fly tying, knot tying etc. As well as an event I personally take pleasure in organizing our fishing trips for Disabled Vets and Wounded Warriors. We hope the future is fruitful so we can continue with our causes.



VETERANS ON THE 6.3.10 TRIP OUT OF SHEEPSHEAD BAY. L TO R, RICHIE, JOE, BILL AND AL.

NICK MANZI VP, FCA, Staten Island Chapter

People Places & Things

Our first beach clean up of the year was held on Saturday, May 8, 2010 at the Sharrotts Ave. fishing Pier on Staten Island. 28 volunteers showed up to collect 1,200 pounds of debris along the beach. We thank the Natural Resources Protective Association and Staten Island Sport Divers who pulled out debris from under the water. We had three other clean ups through the season at Wolfe's Pond, Miller Field and on Oct 9 our last at Lemon Creek, we feel an estimated 4000 lbs of debris were taken off our beaches this year.

Next year the Fishermen's Conservation Association hopes to become a member of the Adopt-A-Bluebelt Program where our FCA members play a vital role in protecting the Bluebelt by cleaning up streams and wetlands. On June 3rd the FCA, organized and funded a fishing trip for veterans from the Brooklyn VA day hospital. It was on the Brooklyn VI fishing boat out of Sheepshead Bay. About 60 Veterans were on board to enjoy a day of fishing. Richard Chan was the chief organizer along with John Malizia and myself. The day was filled with fresh air from the open sea and the catch was pretty good too.

On June 17th the FCA & Tony Tells of the Wounded Warrior Project had another fish-

ing trip on the Brooklyn VI with 45 WW vets. All in all many fish were hooked and only one kept, with all having a great day and treated to a box lunch.

Congratulations to FCA Member Richard DeMarte on winning the New York State Outdoor Writers Association's Writing award in the Magazine Feature category. Richard is a student at White Plains High School. Richard also started the KEYTAG ID program where by purchasing a tag as a donation and putting it on your key ring, if they are ever lost, the tag assures a safe return. Richard has donated over \$670.00 to the FCA. Great job Richard!

Also for those interested on the status of what's happening in Gateway Park, I went to an open house on Nov. 18, the public very well attended it. I spoke to some of the officials about the closing of the model airplane field the baseball fields and the bulkhead on Harbor road. The federal government has allotted \$500,000.00 to assess the radon problem, which has not been spent yet and will take years to finish. I personally think they are dragging their feet on this one; we really need to rally the troops to get them moving faster.

To learn more about these topics and see related photos please go to www.joinfca.org



JUSTIN FISHER (L) AND HIS BROTHER THOMAS (R) LOOK ON AS NICK MANZI (C) DEMONSTRATES THE ART OF FLY TYING.



Chef's Corner

TOM COLICCHIO

Sturgeon Wrapped in Prosciutto

Serves 6

'Larding' filets in this manner works well with a variety of fish; you could easily substitute striped bass, or red snapper; we recommend going with whatever is freshest. At Craft, we like to use prosciutto to wrap the fish. It's leaner than bacon and adds a nice salty flavor to the fish without too much fat. Prosciutto also stays flat while it cooks, making for a nice presentation.

6 7-ounce, 1 1/2-inch thick, sturgeon filets
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
About 1/3 pound prosciutto (paper-thin slices)
4 tablespoons peanut oil
4 tablespoons butter
2 sprigs thyme



Heat the oven to 400. Season each of the filets with salt and pepper. Wrap two pieces of prosciutto, slightly overlapping, around the center of each filet (the prosciutto will not cover the ends of fish). Heat 2 large ovenproof skillet and over medium-high. Divide the oil between the skillets. Add 3 filets to each pan, and cook until the pans are once again hot, 1 minute or so. Reduce the heat to medium and cook the filets until the first sides are crisp, about 1 minute. Flip each filet and cook the second sides until they too are lightly browned, 1 to 2 minutes. Turn each filet onto its side. Add half the butter and thyme to each pan. Cook, basting the fish with butter until the third sides are also caramelized, another 1 1/2 minutes or so. Rotate the fish once more and cook the final sides, basting frequently. (Cooked for a total of 6 minutes the fish will be a little translucent at the center--reduce the heat and cook the fish longer for more well-done.) Slice and serve.

TOM COLICCHIO
ONE OF THE CULINARY
WORLD'S MOST
CELEBRATED FIGURES.



KERRY HEFFERNAN

Sag Harbor Clam Chowder

16 medium quahog or topneck clams
1/4 lb. smoked slab bacon, cut into 1" pieces
1 bunch leeks, cleaned, white part only, finely minced
Salt and freshly ground pepper
4 T heavy cream
4 T butter
3 sprigs thyme
12 thin slices French baguette, toasted



Scrub clams well and place in a covered 3-quart saucepan with 2 cups of water over medium heat. Steam until just opened, then set aside to cool. Reserve liquid and remove clams from shells (you can discard the shells or keep them as a garnish for the soup). Chop clams roughly with a knife and set aside.

In a saucepan over medium heat, render bacon for about 3 minutes, then drain and remove bacon to dry on paper towels, reserving some of the fat in the pan. Add the leeks, season with salt and pepper to taste, and sweat for 2 minutes. Add cream and butter and bring to a simmer, then add reserved clam stock, clams and thyme and cook until heated through.

Ladle chowder into 6 serving bowls. Garnish with bacon, toasted baguette slices and reserved clam shells.

Serves 6.

KERRY HEFFERNAN
EXECUTIVE CHEF
SOUTH GATE RESTAURANT
JUMEIRAH ESSEX HOUSE HOTEL
CENTRAL PARK SOUTH, NYC
FCA MEMBER



WINTER TRIP PLANNER

The Florida Keys

by Scott Paciello, FCA Fundraising Coordinator

Chill out this winter in the fabulous Florida Keys and Key West. If you are a fan of leaving the snow shovel behind and yearning for the opportunity to see a warm tropical sunset with a cool beverage in hand while listening to Jimmy Buffett tunes coming from Margaritaville- then look no further, welcome to the Florida Keys.

Travel arrangements to the "Keys" are fairly easy- best suggestion is to fly into Miami International Airport and rent a car for one of the best fishing, eating and scenic road trips the USA has to offer.

Leaving the hustle and bustle of South Beach, Miami behind you slowly start to enter a tropical paradise about one hour of a drive South along US1, known locally at the Overseas Highway. First stop on this tour- Islamorada, FL offers a wide variety of hotel choices, restaurants and most importantly fishing charters. A variety of fishing options await you from fishing the flats for bonefish, redfish and sharks to fishing offshore for sailfish and blackfin tuna to fishing the reef for snappers, groupers and barracudas. For the budget conscious traveling angler- Islamorada offers two excellent party boats which make daily trips to the reefs for snapper and grouper.

After a day or two in Islamorada it's time to continue on Southward, making frequent stops along the way at local marinas, tackle shops, bars and stopping for a cheeseburger in paradise. Depending upon how much time you elect to escape the cold you have a decision to make at this point- do you slowly make your way down to Key West (about 90 minutes from Islamorada)- thus spending another day or so in the fabled "middle keys" known as Marathon, FL or do you go straight to Key West. This is a tough decision for some. If you want to mark off another fishing town for your log book then spend the day in the Marathon area to fish either the offshore

lumps which make this area famous or try your luck at the backcountry flats charters. Marathon also offers great rental boat and kayak fishing options from Captain Hook's Marina located at Vaca Cut to several party boats in the area.

Continuing south you will come across the Key Deer sanctuary in Big Pine Key- a great place to stop to absorb some of the excellent Keys wildlife from a land based perspective. About 25 minutes from Big Pine is the end of US 1 South, also known as Key West.

Key West is unique from the other keys, having its own culture where the local dub themselves "Conchs" and the local government takes pride in being known as the "Conch Republic." Key West has something for everyone- unlimited fishing opportunities to fit every type of budget, basic hotels to five star, restaurants from local seafood to some of the best Cuban cuisine (don't forget your only 90 miles to Cuba), plenty of shopping along the famed Duval Street, to great sunset celebrations along Malory Square. If you enjoy a little or a lot of nightlife Key West has plenty of options from live music daily at Capt. Tony's Saloon to Sloppy Joe's to Schooner Wharf. And don't even think about heading home without trying a piece of Key Lime pie!



"WHAT A CATCH!" BILL AND SCOTT PACIELLO, AND JOE BLANDA ON RECENT KEY WEST TRIP.

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<http://www.fishfloridakeys.com>

<http://www.robbies.com/partyboat.htm>

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