

#### **Board & Committee**

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Cooky Rondinella	ŀ		
Frank J. Schortemeyer	ŀ		
Peter J. Brower	ŀ		
Tim O'Donaghue	ŀ		
Keith Campbell	ŀ		
Al Scardino	ŀ		
Leif Gobal	ľ		
Brian Clark	ŀ		
Joe Pellegrini	I		
Barry Barone			
Mary Borgese			
Jeff Collins	I		
Faye Gittleman	I		
Eric Bottenhoffer	ŀ		
Jerry Estelle	ŀ		
Joseph Gittleman	I		
Chris Stawecki	I		
Jim Stawecki			
Bea Noguier			
Paul Noguier			
Guy Bartolomeo	ŀ		
Kenneth Weinberger	ŀ		
Joe Oconnell			
Robert Sherry	ŀ		
Tommy Henneborn	ŀ		
Pete Longo			
Dylan Jewel			
Larry Pacifico			
Diane LaPorta	ŀ		

#### SCAN LINK TO WEBSITE



# Who We Are

The purpose of The Long Island Beach Buggy Association, Inc., shall be to join in a formal organization all persons interested in the natural resources of Long Island; to work as an instrument to secure voluntary acceptance of certain rules which will benefit beach access and the sport saltwater angling; to work for the proper conservation of waters, beaches and marine sport fisheries of Long Island; to engage in study and disseminate information relating to marine waters, marine species, beach access and beach buggy operations. To take such steps as may be necessary to secure needed legislation or reform in the public interest; to uphold conservation laws; to encourage and promote good sportsmanship, to aid members of The LIBBA and the public, in all efforts to effect any of the purposes herein above stated; to take membership with any national or state council or group of councils if deemed to further the interests of the above stated purposes.

The Long Island Beach Buggy Association was founded in 1958 by a small group of people who were dedicated to beach access and conservation. They had the foresight to protect and preserve our beautiful shores here on Long Island. It is because of these volunteers and the many that have followed that we can drive and fish on Breezy Point, Gilgo Beach, Cedar Beach, Democrat Point, FINS, Smith Point, Great Gun, Cupsogue, Shinnecock, South Hampton, East Hampton, Neapague, Hither Hills, Shagwong, and Montauk Point.

During it's 65 year existence LIBBA has, and will continue to lead the way in conservation and beach access. Many changes have occurred over the years, but LIBBA's main objectives remain the same, to protect and preserve our beautiful beaches. We, as did our founders, will continue to press on for the future generations.

We remain, Keepers of the Beach

## **The Mission of LIBBA**

Foster a spirit of loyalty and camaraderie.

Promote and support the programs and activities of LIBBA

Feel free to print a copy of this newsletter

VOLUME I, ISSUE I

## Presidents Message From Cooky

The Long Island Beach Buggy Association; LIBBA for short is a Conservation, Ecology and Beach Access organization that has been around since 1958. As our founders envisioned; LIBBA's main objectives are to conserve coastal and marine resources as well as preserve beach access for mobile surf fishing. That's 65 years of tireless effort by our dedicated members on behalf of all Long Islanders to help maintain and protect our families right to access our world-renowned beaches.

Throughout the year we sponsor various beach clean-up, dune replenishment projects, grass plantings to help secure the dunes, fencing projects to help protect threated bird species, we also offer beach driving classes to help educate our members and build their confidence on the skills of beach driving, as well as hold fishing clinics. We also own and maintain most of the compressors that you find at our state and county beaches. We have fishing contests throughout the year with prizes and have a big weekend long Jamboree with raffles, food and tons of games for all ages ... all activities are free to all members and their families.

.... "It's been an honor and privilege to be the President of such a great organization" -Cooky











LIBBA - LIBBA Scholarship Application

#### APPLICATION FOR THE CHARLES & MARIE HOLLINS MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

This award is granted to dedicated study in the area of Marine Science by the Long Island Beach Buggy Association, Inc.

#### REQUIREMENTS AND APPLICATION PROCESS:

To be eligible for a scholarship,

5. Name(PRINT)\_

- The applicant must be a LIBBA member or dependent of a LIBBA member in good standing for the calendar year ending December 31st of the year of application.
- College or university students must be enrolled in an institute of higher learning offering courses in Marine or Environmental sciences.
- Applicants who are high school seniors must demonstrate involvement in extra or co-curricular activities that pertain to marine or environmental causes or activities.
- Letters of recommendation from their advisors must be included in the application process. High school seniors must also be in academic good standing.

LIBBA #

(mobile/work/home)

(Last name)	(First Name)	(Middle Initial)	
Preferred Mailing Address:			]
	Street Address or P.O. Box		
	Apartment #		
	City, State, Zip Code		
Preferred Telephone Number:		(mobile/wo	ork/home)

## LIBBA MEMBER PLATE REQUEST

If you would like to receive a Replacement or Duplicate LIBBA Member License Plate, please send an email to:

To: Pete Brower at:
pjsquidder391@gmail.com
Please provide:
Your Full Name
LIBBA Member Number
Explanation of what you need

Each additional LIBBA Plate (one LIBBA Plate is included with each new membership) will cost \$10.00 and postage is \$3.

If you would like 2 plates, and have it mailed, it will cost \$10+\$10+\$6=\$26.

If you can make arrangements to see any LIBBA Director to have the plate(s) hand delivered, there will be no postage delivery cost. (2 plates will cost \$10.)

You will need to mail a

Check to

LIBBA plates
2 Gordon Drive
Williston Park 11596
The check should be made out to LIBBA.

The Long Island Beach Buggy Association has been a part of my life for as long as I can remember. It was founded in 1958 by my father, Dan McLane, and his fishing buddy, Harry Kinsey, both of Sag Harbor. As was told to me, Dad and Harry tossed a coin to decide who would be president and vice president. Harry won, earning the title of President and license plate #1 and Dad claimed VP and plate #2.

Because my father was an avid fisherman (an understatement!), he often traveled to where the fish were biting, whether it be daily trips to Montauk, the beaches of the South Shore, or even Cape Cod and Canada. At the time, Dad was a member of the Massachusetts Beach Buggy Association, which was founded in 1950. I surmise this gave him the idea of starting a similar organization for his "home surf". He and Harry, and other like-minded fishermen and beach buggy owners, recognized the need for such an association. Even 65 years ago, they knew there should be rules and regulations to protect the fishermen's rights and preserve beach access and continued availability to the public, as well as to ensure beach conservation.

As a kid, I loved Dad's beach buggies. In 1958, I was only six years old. My favorite was the first one I remember – a '58 blue and white Willys Jeep. Boy, I sure wish I had that now! As the years passed, his buggies got bigger but always had Dad's signature "style". They were like a home away from home, chock full of Dad's coveted surfcasting reels, rods and lures and lots of other essential fishing "stuff". When I shut my eyes, I can picture the scratchy Army surplus blankets on the narrow bench "bed", the green waders, Woolrich shirts and the plaid, metal "Skotch Kooler" that held forbidden sodas for me and my sisters and cans of Schaefer beer for him. Riding the beaches with Dad created wonderful memories. It seemed like magic to go off road, made possible by letting air out of the tires. And what fun we had at the LIBBA jamborees that were held "up the island", a million miles away it seemed to me as a kid. I always looked forward to meeting up with other LIBBA families for a wonderful day of activities and food.

As he aged, Dad continued to drive the beaches and surf cast, catching his last striper when he was 88. After he died in 2007, at the age of 93, I gathered all the LIBBA memorabilia I could find. I then contacted President Cooky Rondinella to share some pictures and other documents. To my surprise and delight, Cooky made me an honorary LIBBA member and sent me a new #2 license plate as a memento. Thinking about his plate, a funny story of Dad's comes to mind. One day when getting out of his rig at the grocery store, a stranger stopped him and asked, "Who died so that you got #2?". Without hesitating, Dad reached into his glove compartment and pulled out a tattered 1958 LIBBA pamphlet, proving to the guy that HE was the original #2! That plate is now proudly displayed on a beach buggy owned by Tom Gioscia, the widower of my sister Susan.

I cherish my honorary plate and all it stands for -65 years of the Long Island Beach Buggy Association and still growing and going strong. I consider LIBBA to be my dad's legacy. I know he and Harry are proud of all LIBBA has become and how the organization continues its mission conceived by a small group of guys those many years ago - KEEPERS OF THE BEACH.

Linda McLane Euell Southampton, NY Krazy4kw@hotmail.com



# Journey Into Surfcasting (by Ralph Vigmostad)

A good surfishing friend of mine once told me "fish for the small fish and the big fish will take care of itself". I found that remark to be very prophetic. This is the story of my young life as a serious surf fisherman.

I met a surfcaster at Montauk many years ago who lived in Wantagh. His neighbor was a surf man and one October afternoon he invited him to come with him the next morning to Jones beach to do some surfcasting. The next morning just after daybreak, he was casting a conventional rig into the surf and getting a backlash on every cast. Then while unraveling his latest tangle, a very large fish inhaled his floating plug. Ten minutes later he landed a striped bass which later weighed 52 pounds. He was elated at his success and immediately became enthralled with this sport. That, he told me was his first and last fish he caught in three years. My story is different but similar to the extent that this sport is a learning process that usually requires many years of effort.

My father fished in Norway as a young man my DNA. My fishing as a child was boat fluke in a rented boat powered by a single cyling for sea bass and porgies. Opening day of minute of it. One day our family took a ride were men casting long rods with metal lures near the beach and some of these sufcasters in May of 1950. A week later my father took and purchased two 9 ft split bamboo surf rods. father bought me a Penn Surfmaster reel. In school, every time we went to the beach, usuing tin. I became so good at casting that I virday, July and August, never daybreak or dusk fish. That was about to change, after I got my



before coming to this country. Fishing was in fishing for winter flounder and summertime inder 1-1/2 hp outboard motor. Party boat fishtrout seasons in the Catskills. I loved every to Hampton Bays for a day at the beach. There into the surf. Then a school of bluefish came caught some of these beautiful fish. That was us to Montgomery Ward in Jamaica, Queens We used our bay fishing reels. A year later my the next six years, until I graduated high ally in the summer, I would spend hours cast-tually never got a backlash. It was all midand for those six years I never caught a single drivers license and bought my first car in 1957.

My parents owned a summer bungalow in Rocky Point and I would drive out to Hampton Bays and fish the west and east jetties at Shinnecock Inlet. I started catching bluefish at the inlet usually at daybreak. I caught my first small striped bass on the east jetty in September. I stayed with conventional tackle until 1959 when I switched to spinning: the big Luxor reel with an 11-1/2 ft. lamiglass rod and 20 lb. pink Ande line. At that point in time I fell in love with Montauk and most of my fishing was there for the future. I fished Montauk every weekend from May to November plus vacation time. I bought a beach buggy. Over time I started catching more and bigger bass. Until 1967, although I took many fish in the 20s and a few in the 30s, a truly big fish had eluded me. That was about to change on the night of November 10, 1967. In those days, fishing under to light at Montauk was done in two different ways. One could fish on the high rocks or go below into the surf and fish from a number of good rocks in the water. I might add that his has not been the case for the last 30 years due to the geological settling of the bottom at the point. All fishing now is done from the high rocks and it makes landing a good fish very difficult and has also resulted in over crowding. I don't care for it.

Getting back to THAT night, the ocean was fairly calm. I was fishing with a good buddy, Joe Bubel, and at about 10 pm, with the tide about 2 hours in, we waded out to our favorite "twin rocks". Although we were both wet suiters there was no need for them under the light. Waders were sufficient. I might add that there were no other casters there that night and conditions were excellent. We were both throwing Gibbs darters. There would be another 12 years before needlefish plugs came into existence. Nothing happened for about 2 hours and then I hooked a good fish. When I say "good fish" I had no idea that it was a very large fish. It took some line, not a lot, and I thought it would not go much over 30 or so. There was what we called "the big pointy rock" about 70 feet out and a little to our right. I thought for sure that the fish would buck the tide and wrap my line over that rock, but she did not. Lucky for me! I don't think the fight lasted 10 minutes when the fish came into view. I turned my neck-light on and realized it was a very large fish. The plug was hanging off her mouth. It was then that I jumped off the rock and gaffed it. I did not string the fish and get back on the rock but carefully walked back to the sea wall in 4 feet of water while holding the gaff. At the sea wall I put the fish on a rock and then fully realized how huge the fish was. I yelled back to Joe, "I am bringing the fish back to the buggy before coming back out". When I got back out to the rock I took another fish about 25 lbs. 10 minutes later. My buddy, Joe went fishless. But let my say there were many nights when he out-fished me. The next morning we weighed the fish in town. "62" even; 53" long, girth – 31-1/2"!

A newspaper in those days, The Suffolk Sun, had a contest for the largest Striped Bass caught, with a \$1000 prize; but the contest ended October 31. It would have won the Field and Stream contest; but fish caught on treble hooks were disqualified, and it would have been and IGFA 20-pound class record; but was not allowed for the same reason.

Six months later Ceil, Stan Gibbs wife, wrote me asking for a photo and permission to use it. I of course said no problem. She sent me a dozen plugs and I still have the two very nice letters that she and Stan sent me. I had the fish mounted. She hung in my house for many years and I finally donated it to the Campsite Tackle shop in Huntington, where she hangs to this day. Let me close by saying that I know several surfmen who have never taken a 50, but have taken multiple fish in the 40s. I never considered myself any better than those individuals.

# **Long Island Beach Buggy Association Radio Communications**

Here at LIBBA we have adopted the General Mobile Radio Service, or GMRS, for our beach

communications this year. Mostly we started this initiative within LIBBA to HELP in Emergencies. Our hopes are that it will always be expanding. If you know of someone within LIBBA that wants to get involved let us know so we can add them to the list! A secondary Radio involvement with Radio Communications may be to help report on Current Conditions at a Beach, Notice of Imminent Bad Weather, and of course Fishing Conditions. As we would like to keep some uniformity to the Radio Communications within LIBBA we would like to use a 'Call' and/or 'Monitoring' channel. At this point we will try using channel 16 as a 'Call/Monitoring Channel'. We would ask that you monitor the channel unless someone calls you, you call someone or you have an announcement to make. If you intend on having a brief conversation, or you have an announcement for everyone, then by all means stay on 16. If you want to have an extended conversation, we ask that you kindly switch to another channel and leave channel 16 open as much as possible for Monitoring and Emergencies — don't forget to come back to 16 when you are done! As many of us don't want to announce

Along with GMRS communications LIBBA members have an opportunity to explore other avenues to help out. Classes and certifications include First Aid, CPR and AED as well as SKYWARN (a NOAA certification for reporting of impending weather), Search and Rescue (a NYS Department of Environmental Conservation program), and The US Department of Homeland Security Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) volunteers learn disaster preparedness for the hazards that may occur where we live.

where the fishing is active we will leave that 'code' up to you!

Getting involved in GMRS radio communications for someone new may be a daunting task but we are here to help! From getting a license and call sign (\$35 for 10 years) to starting out with a simple handheld radio (as low as \$30) or a mobile setup for your truck or car (starting at \$200) we can offer you all the advice you need to get started. We can also free help in installations and programming (if needed). Feel free to reach out to the LIBBA GMRS Communications Team at LIBBARadiocomm@gmail.com with any questions or simply for more information! If you are already a GMRS radio user, send us your Name, email address, LIBBA member number and GMRS call sign so we can add you to our email list! As a quick side note I had the opportunity to see a LIBBA Radio Roster from the late 70's. We had over 180 members involved in Radio Communications for Safety! Of course that was CB back then but what a great opportunity to help our communities!

MidlandRadio.com as well as Buytwowayradios.com both offer discounts to our members. Use "Longbeach15" for the MidlandRadio.com discount and "LIBBA5" for the BuyTwowayradios.com discount Both offer free shipping depending on the amount spent. Also we have struck deals with LI REACT Radio, an emergency radio group, for \$20 a year. They do not have a long range repeater system yet but they can offer a variety of contacts like NOAA's 'SKYARN', or, FEMA 'Radio Communications for Emergencies' and NYSDEC 'Search and Rescue' Classes. Additionally we were offered a discount with BTG Communications at \$40 per year (need groups of 10) for repeater communications Island Wide.

Again, feel free to contact LIBBA for more information about these services and the opportunities they provide us.

#### **BRUCE BECK**

# Important DEC, state, county, and state park police numbers and county park police numbers

New. York DEC 631 444 0250

State Park Police Headquarters 631-669-2500 or 631-321-3700 Montauk State park (631) 668-3781

Hither hills (631) 668-2554

Demo/Sore Thumb/Gilgo 631-669-0449 extension 200

Jones Beach 516-785-1600

Sunken Meadow State park 631-269-4333

Orient Point State Park 631-323-2440

Sayville county parks offices 631-854-4949

Suffolk Park Rangers Smithpoint 631-854-1422

Smith Point County beach 631-852-1313

Shinnecock county park 631-852-1313

Cupsogue county park 631-852-8111

Cedar Point County Park 631-852-7620

Shagwong County Park 631-852-7879

For stranding.....
Atlanic Marine Conservation Society
631-317-0030



#### The Beach and My Sobriety

I have been boat fishing since I am small child. Off the dock and on my own little boat and then eventually buying my own 17 ft mako. I purchased that mako when I was a year sober. I needed to channel my addiction to better and healthier ways. Fishing became my new healthy addiction or passion I prefer to say . I also started hearing about surf casting something I never knew about . I learned we can drive on the beach and went out and bought a 4 runner for the days I can't get out of the boat. I joined LIBBA to learn how to do this safely and with other people. Everyone was so nice and welcoming as well as helpful. Now I find myself on difficult days, running down to the work docks to just sit and look at the water. Having that access has allowed me to continue to live a healthy sober life while enjoying my favorite thing in life ... fishing!!!! Keri Shea



#### **New Member Message**

Hello all my name is John Schmahl. I am a new member this year #3818. I went to my first member meeting on Thursday July 9th. My wife and I have been enjoying the beach together for a couple of years now as i am a fisherman and have a love for the water. I make my own fishing rods sinkers and jigs. While out on the beach we do tend to pick up stray trash left behind by others a little goes a long way. We only made it on the beach once this year (sore thumb) as im going in for rotator cuff surgery on my right should on the 14th of july, this will cut our beach adventures the most of the season. So to all fellow members enjoy you summer on the beach and be safe. If my shoulder is up to it my wife and I will stop by the jamboree and say hello. This is my outdoor adventure rig. 2011 Toyota 4runner.

As Long Islanders, we know that beach access is important and so does the Long Island Beach Buggy Association; LIBBA for short. LIBBA is a Conservation, Ecology and Beach Access organization that has been around since 1958. As our founders envisioned; LIBBA's main objectives are to conserve coastal and marine resources as well as preserve beach access for mobile surf fishing. That's 65 years of tireless effort by our dedicated members on behalf of all Long Islanders to help maintain and protect our families right to access our world-renowned beaches.

Throughout the year we sponsor various beach clean-ups, dune replenishment projects, grass plantings to help fortify the dunes, fencing projects to help protect threated bird species, we also offer beach driving classes to help educate our members and build their confidence with the skills of beach driving, as well as hold fishing clinics. We also own and maintain most of the air compressors that you find at our state and county beaches. We have fishing contests throughout the year with prizes and have a big weekend long Jamboree with raffles, food, and tons of games for all ages ... all activities are free to all members and their families.

But that's not all that we do.

Our reach, care and concern go far beyond Long Island's beautiful beaches and deep into the Long Island community; we are affiliated with a host of great organizations. Our sponsored "Hooked on Vets" event is in conjunction with **Beacon House**, where we spend the day with some of our local Veterans taking them fishing and hosting a barbecue in their honor. We are teamed up with **Coastal Steward Long Island** as well as the **Boy & Girl Scouts of America** for beach cleanups. We are major sponsors and supporters of **Casting for Recovery**; a group the provides healing fly-fishing retreats for women with breast cancer. Let's not forget about all the food, toy and coat donation drives that we hold throughout the year, as well as sponsoring various high school fishing clubs to help our younger generation and future LIBBA members get a jump start with a great hobby.

Pretty impressive right? Feel like you want to get involved? It's up to you to help continue the great things that LIBBA has been doing for the past 65 years. Please reach out to us at <a href="www.libba.com">www.libba.com</a> and become a member of a great and well-respected organization; and let's work together to protect our rights as Long Islanders and keep our beaches accessible for future generations.

Joe Pellegrini Director of Courtesy Patrol libbacourtesypatrol@gmail.com

The LIBBA Courtesy Patrol is a volunteer group that has made numerous rescues on Long Island, many of which have been put into public records. It was deputized for several years making it the second largest group in the US to be honored. The LIBBA membership can be proud of this dedicated group who serve so nobly; whose only reward is the satisfaction of knowing they fill a vital need in serving their Long Island community. The Courtesy Patrol shall serve as an educational tool and be available to the membership to report local beach conditions relating to access and safety, serve as a liaison to the various county and state park managers, and coordinate local beach clean-up and environmental initiatives. The LIBBA Courtesy Patrol is divided into three (3) Districts; one District for western Long Island, one for central or mid-Long Island and one for eastern Long Island. Each District will have a Supervisor and as many members deemed necessary to accomplish its goals. The individual District Supervisors and their Assistants shall educate The LIBBA members in their responsibilities, the courtesy patrol will coordinate activities with local civil authorities when called upon for search and rescue or emergency evacuations when 4 x 4 vehicle requests have been made by the authorities.

If you'r interested in being involved or have any questions please feel free to reach out.

Joe Pellegrini

Director of Courtesy Patrol <a href="mailto:libbacourtesypatrol@gmail.com">libbacourtesypatrol@gmail.com</a>

516-729-8582

# LIBBA SCHOLORSHIPS

Don't miss this opportunity to provide your loved ones a LIBBA scholarship. LIBBA's past two scholarship awards were for \$1500 each and the scholarship fund has resources to match or better past awards.

LIBBA membership has its privileges. The Charles and Marie Hollins Memorial Scholarship can be a valuable source of funding for higher education expenses. The qualifications for the scholarship have been changed in recent years to increase the pool of potential candidates and to greatly simplify the application process. The qualifications and application processes are spelled out in the LIBBA constitution and by laws in Article XVII and excerpted below .

#### "ARTICLE XVII SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The LIBBA has authorized the establishment of a scholarship fund and may establish additional funds upon approval of the Board of Directors. The present fund is known as the "Charles L. and Marie Hollins Memorial Scholarship Fund", dedicated to studies in Marine or Environmental Sciences The scholarship fund is administered by a scholarship committee of up to five (5) members in good standing approved by the chairperson. The LIBBA President appoints the chairperson. All funds raised shall be deposited in the LIBBA bank account tracked separately with a dedicated ledger entry as approved by the Board of Directors. The chairperson of the Scholarship fund committee is responsible for organizing fund raising efforts and the creation of scholarship award criteria. The chairperson in consultation with the Board of Directors, and Scholarship committee shall determine the number of yearly awards and values. To be eligible for a scholarship, the applicant must be a LIBBA member or dependent of a LIBBA member in good standing for the calendar year ending December 31st of the year of application. College or university students must be enrolled in an institute of higher learning offering courses in Marine or Environmental sciences. Applicants who are high school seniors must demonstrate involvement in extra or co-curricular activities that pertain to marine or environmental causes or activities. Letters of recommendation from their advisors must be included in the application process. High school seniors must also be in academic good standing. Awarded scholarships may be presented at the annual meeting or Jamboree. Scholarship applications received will be acknowledged with a return receipt to the applicant and the Board of Directors. The proposed award recipients will be presented to the Board of Directors by the chairperson along with justification for the selection."

The application may be found in the file tab of the LIBBA Facebook page.

If a member has any questions regarding the process the best way to obtain clarification is via email at

#### libbascholarshipfund@gmail.com

The LIBBA board of directors and the scholarship committee appreciate the generosity of our members and corporate donors in enabling LIBBA to be able to provide scholarships yearly. The LIBBA scholarship committee and the board of directors strongly encorage qualified members to avail themselves of the yearly scholarship opportunity and apply before the Dec.31,2023 deadline.

Your scholarship committee, Faye Robins and Joseph Gittleman LIBBA 1646 PAGE

### FIRST CAST OF THE YEAR

Every time you go fishing and you make that first cast do you think that this cast is going to produce anything? How about your first time fishing for the new season and making that first cast?

Most people I think just welcome the new season and catching a fish is not crossing their minds as yet. For me that first cast reminds me of my dad. Way back, 40 years ago this past June Dad did something that no one I know has been able to duplicate. I wasn't there to witness it happen but my brother and sister were and they both tell the same story. In fact my brother is sort of the family historian when it comes to memorable fishing events. For this story he can tell it to you like it happened yesterday.

Dad had been retired from SAS Airlines for about a year. It was late in the afternoon on June 5th 1983 and he had completed most of what he needed to do around the house and he decided it would be a great time to take his first ride of the year down to the beach with my brother and make a few casts.

Living next door was my sister Karen and her family and when she heard dad was going down the beach for a couple of hours she decided to tag along for the ride and bring along her 1½ year old daughter, Rachel. Everyone loaded into dad's old K5 Blazer with all the necessary gear and they even included the family dog, Skippy. When they hit the sand the sun was still high in the sky as it would be in the late afternoon in June. Dad found a spot that looked favorable between a couple of bait fisherman with rods spiked and jumped out of the truck the moment he shut down the engine. It was every man, woman, child and dog to himself as dad was on a mission and he wasn't going to assist anyone getting out of the truck. He snatched his old glass 11ft rod off the truck with the Crack 300 attached. The reel was spooled with our favorite line at the time, pink Ande, 20lb test. He went to the back of his truck and dug out his waders and slipped them on. Then he looked at his tin assortment and he found his favorite. His favorite being a Hopkins NO EQL #4 with a single hook wrapped with bucktail an tied with red thread. He attached this to his snap and walked to the water's edge.

He made his first cast of the year and after it hit the water he allowed it to sink several seconds before placing the line on the roller and to begin his retrieve. When he re-lived this story he told me he didn't remember the amount of cranks of the handle he had made but soon after he had started reeling he felt a hard strike and his natural reflex kicked in and he brought his rod straight up to set the hook. His rod went down hard and after a few moments he realized that what was on the end of the line was not an ordinary fish. The fish put a big strain on that old glass rod and line was peeling off the Crack 300 at a good rate. But dad was an experienced surfcaster and he knew that letting the fish fight the rod and drag would ultimately defeat it and he just needed to be patient. After several minutes of back and forth battle the fish was slowly giving up the fight. With his skill he timed the waves and used them to allow the fish to be washed up onto the beach. When the wave receded all he could see was the huge head of a 30lb class fish with the single 7/0 siwash stuck in the side of the mouth. He quickly ran over to the fish and dragged it away from the water. The other anglers who were there and possibly for hours stood there in disbelief that this guy just drove up and made a cast and pulled out a cow. What they didn't realize was this was dad's first cast of the year!!!!

Shortly after landing the fish Dad told everyone that he wanted to weigh the fish and needed to leave the beach to get to the tackle store before they closed. So they threw everything back in the truck and had probably been on the beach for less than an hour but Dad got to weigh the fish before the store closed. It buried the scale at 33lbs & 10oz's.

My Dad's been gone now for 22 years and even though my memories of him will never fade, this is one memory I have every year when I make that first trip to the beach. It's a simple matter of fact that everyone who fishes the surf has just one chance every season to match what my dad did 40 years ago. So for the past 40 seasons I've made 40 first casts and haven't duplicated his amazing feat. I think I have a better chance of winning the MEGA MILLIONS jackpot than duplicating what he did. But I'll keep trying every new season.

Leif Gobel - LIBBA #865



Website: LIBBA - Home (wildapricot.org)

### Photos Jay Gracin





Joseph Tomaino New member submission- Joe Tomaino recently joined after trading in his Mercedes E350 for a FORD F-150 to transport his black Labrador Enzo to Fire Island National Wilderness Area to scout out duck hunting opportunities! Joe is new to hunting as well, and took it up only after getting Enzo a year ago and coming to the awareness that his ancestors were master hunters. "Who was I to keep him from his genetic destiny?" Joe is anxious to meet any other Waterfowlers in LIBBA.



Website: LIBBA - Home (wildapricot.org)

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Photo By Kai Magnussen



Website: <u>LIBBA - Home (wildapricot.org)</u>

# **JUST KICKIN SAND**





My son Jamison's first time catch at DEMO .....

Christopher George



LIBBA
Merchandise
is
Coming Soon
on
the
website

WHEN I SEE FENCING LIKE THIS ON THE BEACH OR AROUND DUNES I STAY AWAY FROM THAT AREA.

I LIKE TO TAKE PHOTOS AROUND BEACH AND TOP OF DUNES WHICH MAKES A GREAT VANTAGE POINT WHEN IM SHOOTING SUNRISE, SUNSETS OR JUST FIND THE LIGHTING TO BE INTERESTING ON BEACH AND WATER.

EVEN THOUGH ITS VERY TEMPT-ING TO WANT TO GET UP ON THAT DUNE I DONT DO IT OUT OF RESPECT FOR NOT ONLY WHATEV-ER THE FENCING IS PROTECTING. BUT ALSO FOR MY FELLOW BEACH, FISHERMAN OR 4 WHEEL DRIVE GUYS. I HAVE SEEN AN INSTANCE ON SMITHS POINT BEACH WHERE SOMEONE KNOCKED DOWN FENCING AND D.E.C. SAID THAT IF IT HAPPENS AGAIN THEY WILL SHUT DOWN ENTIRE BEACH . THATS OVER 6 MILES OF PRISTINE BEACH FRONT AND EXCELLENT SURFCASTING ALL UNDER WATCH OF BEING SHUTDOWN BECAUSE SOMEONE KNOCKED DOWN FENCE WHEN YOU SEE CONDITIONS LIKE THIS BE RESPECTFUL OF CLOSED DOWN AREAS . IF YOU SEE SO MEONE WITH TOTAL DISREGARD FOR THESE AREAS MAKE THE CALL TO D.E.C.

**MIKE MISSANO** 



This is a little story that my mom Frances Knaggs wrote to tell about our time with LIBBA in the 1970's. My father Gary Knaggs was LIBBA 998R at that time, and I rejoined as an adult who lives in Florida as a way to reconnect with the happy memories I had as a young child. My brother and I had youth numbers back then, but I do not recall what they were. The attachments are some pictures from Operation Christmas Tree in 1976, I believe.

Thanks for considering for the newsletter, Michelle Knaggs Ferrera LIBBA 2598

My family was actively involved in LIBBA in the late 1970s. After November, fishing came to a sudden halt. We used this time to organize the tackle boxes and do some cleanup and repairs on poles and reels. As a family, we enjoyed these winter months taking an occasional leisurely drive down the beach. The beach was so pristine this time of year. Often our tire tracks were the only ones there. The children enjoyed collecting shells, beach, glass, and other oddities they would find. I always kept a sharp lookout for driftwood in tangled with fishing line. To my delight, I found several fishing lures this way. Also this time of year it was easier to spot deer, rabbits, and even an occasional fox.

We have many wonderful memories, but one of our fondest is being a part of the annual Christmas tree round up held at Smith Point Park. After the holidays, we were all involved with the gathering and placing of Christmas trees on the dunes. It was hard work but a lot of fun for everyone. The children were just eight and nine when they started helping out. They learned some valuable life lessons of teamwork, conservation, ecology, and hard work during these years. They also have fun memories of planting hundreds of pine tree seedlings along the dunes from the park to the inlet. It was a fun time for all and some really great memories were made.







Website: LIBBA - Home (wildapricot.org)

## NY State 4x4 Fishing Permit (available again 9/6/2022):

https://parks.ny.gov/regions/long-island/default.aspx

#### Valid for:

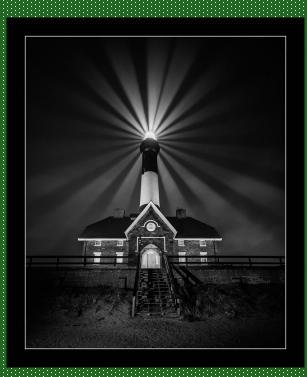
- -Hither Hills, Montauk Point, Napeague: Year Round (24/7)
- -Robert Moses, Democrat Point: April 1 December 31 (24/7, although you must enter before 7am or after 5pm from Saturday of Memorial Day through Labor Day Weekend).
- -Gilgo Beach & Sore Thumb: April 1 December 31 (24/7)

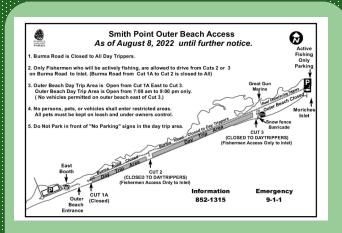
## **Suffolk County Outer Beach Access:**

https://www.suffolkcountyny.gov/.../Outer-Beach-Access

#### Valid for:

-Smith Point County Park, Cupsogue Beach County Park, Montauk County Park, Shinnecock East County Park, Cedar Point County Park, Shinnecock West County Park (Charles F. Altenkirch) & Orient Point County Park





Website: LIBBA - Home (wildapricot.org)

I worked for FLW( makers of Ranger Boats, Sea Swirl., etc.) for 3 years shooting all their East Coast Striper Tournaments. I also have many freelance shots on many subjects.... From tournament cheating to boats in trouble to beach mishaps. You name I probably have shot it.

Ron Link LIBBA 414











# Libba tournament season is starting soon. The Larry Carlucci 2nd annual monthly tournament begins in May.

Fish of the month are as follows

May - Bluefish

June - Striped Bass

July - Weakfish

August - Fluke

September - Albie

The annual Ken Karwick Memorial Contest begins April 15th and runs through December 15th. Any striped bass, bluefish and weakfish caught during the season may be entered into this contest. This contest is also open to the children and grandchildren of LIBBA members. So, fish with the kids, and let them enter their catches. There are separate prize categories for children and youth.

The long-standing Montauk Derby and South Shore Derby will be held on the weekends concurrent with the NY State/LI Fisherman Montauk Classic (Sept 23-25) and South Shore Classic (October 28-30)

LIBBA'S 3rd Annual Catch and Release Tournament will be held in June at Robert Moses State Park (From the lighthouse west to the eastern side of Fire Island Inlet, including the bay side of the park.) Prizes will be provided for the largest striped bass and bluefish entered in this contest.

All entries must be witnessed by another LIBBA member. Further details will be provided to LIBBA members in May.

LIBBA will also be hosting a Face Book family fun contest Labor Day weekend. Prizes will be awarded for the largest striped bass and bluefish, and also for the catch that gets the most "likes" on Face Book. Join in the fun for the last weekend of the summer!

In conjunction with the Town of Babylon, LIBBA will be co-hosting the Babylon Autumn Fishing Tournament the weekend of October 21-23rd, held on the Babylon beaches from Sore Thumb to GILGO Beach. This contest requires a separate entry with the Town of Babylon. Prizes for this contest are awarded by the Town of Babylon at the conclusion of the contest. LIBBA sponsors a beach pool for the largest fish caught in the tournament. You must be a LIBBA member to enter the beach pool.

\*All of the weekend contests are pending compliance with local, state and national pandemic responses. LIBBA members are automatically eligible for all LIBBA contests, as are their children and grandchildren. (The Babylon tournament requires a separate entry.)

## **Upcoming events dates to be announced:**

Democrat Point Long Island Beach Buggy will host a beach cleanup and bird fencing ,usually starts at 9 AM, meet in field number 2 at Robert Moses to pick up supplies.

Robert Moses field 2, democratic point driving class and fishing clinic, come on down and listen to over 500 years of beach driving experience, get tips and tricks to drive on the sand, ask any questions that you may have about that equipment that may be required when needed. Everyone's welcome highly recommended for new members of LIBBA



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## **Advertising Pricing**

A simple listing is \$50.00

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Ads will remain on the website & newsletter till December 31, 2024





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## Dates To Be Announced Soon

November 19, 2023 Captri Toy & Clothing & Toiletries

December 6, 2023 <u>LIBBA Holiday Gathering</u>

January 14, 2024 Striper Day Ward Melville High School

March 2024 Ward Melville High School Fishing Club 9th Annual Saltwater Fishing Expo and

**Fundraiser** 

April LIBBA Beach Clean-Up Smiths Point

August 2024 <u>2022 LIBBA Member Jamboree</u>

Shagwong Point Beach Clean Up

December <u>Director / Member Monthly Meeting</u>

November <u>Director / Member Monthly Meeting</u>

October <u>Director / Member Monthly Meeting</u>

September <u>Director / Member Monthly Meeting</u>

August <u>Director / Member Monthly Meeting</u>

July <u>Director / Member Monthly Meeting</u>

June <u>Director / Member Monthly Meeting</u>

May Director / Member Monthly Meeting

April <u>Director / Member Monthly Meeting</u>

March <u>Director / Member Monthly Meeting</u>

February Director / Member Monthly Meeting

January <u>Director / Member Monthly Meeting</u>

