

## Minutes of Trustees Meeting

On March 8, 2016 the trustees held their monthly meeting at Harpoon Willy's. President Mike Benti, Past President Ralph Munsie, Vice President Jim Carton, Ken Warchal, Jack Novak, Jack Godwin, J.P. Dalik, Mike Polaski, Bill Ruckert and Dan Purdy were present.

The Club welcomed legacy member Bill Purdy to the club and wish him tight lines and calm seas. The new reef off Manasquan Inlet is progressing nicely. The permits will be completed this month and the Club hopes to deploy another vessel this year, probably in association with another fishing club. There are no vessels currently available, but we are looking. Our prior contact, a salvager in Staten Island has simply gone missing and his vessels were usually available at a good price. We have, however, rejected 2.8M cubic yards of concrete rubble as the price was too high and not a particularly attractive offer.

Little Egg Inlet is going to be dredged. It should commence in July and the dredge spoils are being placed for beach replenishment. This will decrease the amount of the sand mining of inshore lumps. The Bureau of Energy Management has called for another meeting and will bring in a mediator to attempt to resolve the proposed sand mining of the Manasquan Ridge and the opposition to it. The DEP has also agreed to perform additional test borings south of the Axel Carlson, having been given the authority and funds to search for compatible sand in areas other than the Ridge. As you know, Harvey Cedars lump is gone as is the Lucky Strike. The government is finally listening to our concerns of having a completely flat bottomed ocean off our coast.

The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission is putting out an addendum to loosen the striped bass regulations, secondary to requests by commercial fishermen and Chesapeake Bay anglers. However, 70% of respondents in a Stripers Forever survey indicated they caught less fish last year than the prior year and 66% reported smaller fish.

The club welcomed Jim Donfrio of the Recreational Fishing Alliance, New Jersey for his annual report of all things Washington as it relates to the fishing community. They are, as you can imagine, very pleased with the new administration. They initially hope to reverse the Obama mandate of catalytic converters on boats over 77 feet.

RFA desires to increase the annual US fishing quota to reach the maximum Sustainable Yield (MSY). However, we do not yet have sufficient data to reach such a yield. To that end, the RFA suggested to the council that they hand over data collection to the states. The best data set was obtained years ago when students from Rutgers and Stockton covered the docks, as they were hungry for good data to use for their research projects. The Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council and Atlantic States Fisheries Commission recently acknowledged the sea bass stock is twice their calculation.

On the fluke battle, New Jersey is pushing to maintain the current status. Our commissioner is challenging the federal proposals, but we expect the federal government to stand by their position. The RFA is targeting sea bass as the next specie for an increased quota, although the Association will allow the new administration to continue to "drain the swamp" of the bureaucrats who have pushed their agenda these last eight years.

The RFA is asking the new Secretary of Commerce to change the regulations on marine sanctuaries and pull back the regulations process. Some entities would have received millions in grant money under the sanctuary scheme and taken management away from HMS.

The club's opening spring party is April 30<sup>th</sup> at Crystal Point. We are in need of auction items such as trips, vacation homes and the like. Kindly contact Butch Kross if you have any donations ([Captbutch@aol.com](mailto:Captbutch@aol.com)). Also, the Offshore Open sponsorship committee will be meeting soon, if anyone is interested in getting involved to contact Butch.

Your annual packet should arrive before the party. The monthly sign ups will be included with the packet and we have added a \$150.00 Offshore Open Calcutta, open to members only in the form of a monthly to increase participation. Only a base entry for the open is required with this additional Calcutta.

Finally, the mates program is wrapping up their winter project building step boxes. A lot of hard work by the mates and harder work by the mentors went into building them. We will auction one at the spring party, the proceeds being returned to the mates program.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

**M.R.M.T.C.**  
**TREASURER'S REPORT**  
As of March 8, 2017

Checking Account:	\$ 116,853
Money Market:	\$ 36,714
Less: Earmarked Funds below*	<u>(\$ 62,492)</u>
Total Operating Fund:	\$ 91,075

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George Burlew Scholarship Fund:	<b>\$ 8,038</b>
M.R.M.T.C. Artificial Reef Fund:	<b>\$ 23,833</b>

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\* Funds below are earmarked in checkbook for future distribution:

* 2016 Monthly Tournament Entries (36@ 200 – 10% will go to Burlew)	\$ 7,200
* 2016 Mako Tournament Entries – (20 @ \$100)	\$ 2,000
* 2016 June Striper Super Monthly – (25 @ \$50)	\$ 1,250
* 2016 July Tuna Super Monthly – (15 @ \$100)	\$ 1,500
* 2016 August Fluke Super Monthly – (24 @ \$50)	\$ 1,200
* Fishery Issues fund	\$ 9,417
* Mates Program / Jr Recognition Award	\$ 13,616
* Club Tournaments	\$ 3,474
* Offshore Open Tournament	\$ 11,145
* Ladies and Juniors Tournament	\$ 6,715
* Catch-a-Dream Foundation	<u>\$ 4,975</u>
Total Earmarked Funds	<b>\$ 62,492</b>

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**Membership Status**

Paid Members to date (for 2017):	167
New members for 2017:	0
Life Members:	4
Comp Members:	<u>3</u>
Members in good standing:	174

*Butch Kross - Treasurer*