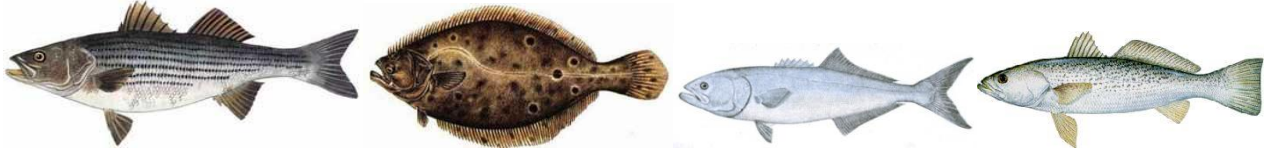




NORTH FORK ANGLERS' NEWS

April 2026



Please Note: Meetings normally are the last Thursday of each month at the Mattituck-Laurel Library at 6:30 PM in the basement meeting room. The exceptions are the November Annual Dinner meeting which is the third Thursday of the month because Thanksgiving usually falls on our regular November meeting night and the December meeting is the second Thursday of the month to avoid any potential conflicts with Christmas.

Last Meeting: March 26, 2026

31 members and guests attended. Speaker was Bill Wetzel and his topics were Casting Technique and Landing Fish Safely. As in the past, his presentation was lively and informative. He also provided information on the Surf Rats Ball website and the Annual Surf Rats Ball Shindig which benefits children with serious diseases.

April Meeting – Wednesday 3/29 - John Paduano “ Mr. Snap Jigging” will speak about his innovative and productive technique at the meeting. He makes awesome bucktails which will be on sale at the meeting. Bring some cash.



Wish You Were Here

Pete Melly was present and won the \$79 pot.

Treasurer's Report – Steve Kellner reported as of the February meeting the club treasury stands at \$ 4654 – pending John Nugent Memorial Scholarship.



NORTH FORK ANGLERS' NEWS

April 2026

Board Meeting: The Board will meet Monday 4/27/26. We will be discussing potential speakers/demos for the balance of our 2026 meetings, annual beach clean-up, potential fishing movie night, member demos, NY Surf Fishing Contest fish reporting criteria and meeting details.

Club Logo Hats, Tee Shirts and Clothing: Please see John Tomici at our meetings. Off-White and Navy-Blue Hats with the new club patch logo are being ordered. Navy blue tee shirts of various sizes with the large new logo on back and small NFA in an oval on the front will be available. All \$25 each. Basically, the cost to the club.

The issue of hoodies and SPF 50 performance shirts is more complicated. EESG has to order transfers, etc. for these items as members request them directly from EESG. If members go in and order 1 or 2 hoodies, etc. the price for the transfers will be significant. It will be better for members to group their hoodie order together to get the best price. A price for a logo transfer for a personal item will reflect the price as indicated with the hoodies.

Club Roster: The Club membership roster is continually updated and emailed to members to include new members as necessary and removing those not renewing their membership or failing to pay their dues. Those former members and members not in good standing will still receive club emails until such time that we are informed they no longer wish to receive club emails.

Meeting and Event Calendar: The 2026 Meeting and Event Calendar is also continually updated and emailed as future speakers and events are finalized.

Dues: 2026 Dues are required to be a member in good standing. Your dues must be paid by the April meeting or as soon as you pay your dues after the April meeting to be a member in good standing. Members NOT in good standing are NOT eligible for prizes in Club Tournaments, must wait for other members first chance at club party boat events, must pay to attend the November annual Club dinner and will not be eligible for the 4 - \$100 Attendance Drawings at the Dinner. You will continue to be considered a provisional member and receive all Club emails, meeting notices and additional FYI emails unless advising the Board that you do not wish to continue to receive Club emails.

Upcoming Events:

May Meeting – 5/28 – To Be determined

June Meeting – 6/24 WEDNESDAY - Due to a Library Meeting Conflict - NYSDEC Marine Resources Director - Martin Gary – Status of Striped Bass in NY and ASMFC Proposed Regulations Changes.



NORTH FORK ANGLERS' NEWS

April 2026

June - Fluke Trip – Wednesday June 3rd on the Fishy Business – Orient. 5:30 AM at the dock. 15 – 17 members/guests maximum Cost: \$145 Club will cover the mate's tip and provide the \$100 first and \$50 second place pool. Bring your own food and beverages. Club will pick up the mate's tip. The cost must be paid in advance by the May club meeting. If you can't make the April or May meetings you can mail a check to Steve Kellner. See Club roster for his address. No Dough – **No go!!!!**

4x4 Beach Access & Marine Recreational Registry Information:

NOTICE: NY STATE 4X4 AND CAMP HERO PERMITS REQUIRE YOU HAVE A VALID NYSDEC MARINE RECREATIONAL REGISTRY TO OBTAIN THE BEACH ACCESS PERMITS.

Suffolk County 4x4 Beach Access Permit

The NYSDEC Marine Recreational Registry License is not a requirement for the Suffolk County 4x4 Beach Access permits. For the County permit you need your County Parks Green Key and current vehicle registration card. However, it appears that previous policy with the County Parks employee issuing the sticker witnessing you putting the sticker on your vehicle is not in effect currently. County Access Permit goes to half price after Labor Day. Senior's (over 60) cost is ½ (\$50) for the entire year.

NY STATE 4X4 AND CAMP HERO DASHBOARD PERMITS

NY State 4x4 and Camp Hero Dashboard Permits will be available the day after Labor Day 9/7/26 The permits are available on-line or by phone only.

2026 Long Island 4x4 and Camp Hero Dashboard Permits

4x4 Fishing, 4x4 Surfing, Stargazing, Night/Sport Fishing, Camp Hero Fishing, Regional SCUBA-Diving, Nighttime Photography, Metal Detecting

Permit(s) may be purchased ONLY ONLINE or by PHONE and will be mailed once processed. Please allow at least 14 business days for your physical permit(s) to arrive in the mail.

The following is required to purchase a 2026 Long Island Dashboard Permit: **Valid Reserve America account log in - needed for ONLINE and PHONE sales only. Valid e-mail address**

Valid credit card is required for payment

Valid driver's license of the applicant

Valid vehicle registration and license plate information



NORTH FORK ANGLERS' NEWS

April 2026

Valid NYS DEC Recreational Saltwater/Marine Fishing Registry ID # (required for fishing dashboard permits only).

"C" card (required for Regional SCUBA-Diving only)

How to purchase a 2026 Long Island Dashboard Permit:

Purchase ONLINE by visiting -

<https://newyorkstateparks.reserveamerica.com/posProducts.do?contractCode=NY&tti=Permits>

1. **CALL the Reserve America Call Center at 1-800-456-2267 (Hours: Monday - Friday 9AM to 5PM; Saturday and Sunday 9AM to 12PM).**

Questions about purchasing a 2026 Dashboard Permit? Please contact the Regional Permit Office via email at lidashboards@parks.ny.gov

You must have an existing or create a new Reserve America account with a valid email address

- Select the permit(s) you wish to purchase and complete the required information
- Add to cart and follow prompts to complete purchase
- Please allow 14 business days for your physical permit(s) to be issued and arrive in the mail

Remember to obtain your 2026/2027 NY State Recreational Marine Registration for salt water fishing.

The Registration now goes from the date issued for 12 months (not January to December by default any more). The license is free.

You can register on line at: <https://decals.dec.ny.gov/DECALSCitizenWeb> or by phone: **1-866-933-2257** (M-F 8:30AM – 4:30PM)

Also, they can be easily obtained at Dick's Sporting Goods in Riverhead and Southold



NORTH FORK ANGLERS' NEWS

April 2026

Town Clerk's office. Your NY Marine Registry License is reciprocal with Connecticut and Rhode Island.

NY State Surf Fishing Contest

Reminder: Begins 12 AM on April 15th and ends midnight November 30th.

NOTICE: The NY Surf Fishing Contest requires all scales to be certified.

Please bring your scales to the meeting to have them certified. You cannot submit fish caught until your scale is certified unless fishing with a Club member with a certified scale.

Your catch information needs to be submitted to me by the 5th of the next month on our website. The data must include the species, weight, date and where (in general) caught and if released. If multiple fish of a species are caught in a single day, you can list additional fish information on the digital "slip" on the website (It has provision for multiple fish on the same day). This contest is totally the honor system. Witnessing is only necessary for the heaviest of a species, but all fish must be weighed on your certified scale or another member's certified scale if necessary. **The weights for scale certification are available at every meeting.**

CRITERIA:

Minimum weights for contest purposes are Striped Bass – 10 lbs., Bluefish – 5 lbs., Weakfish – 5 lbs. Fluke - 3 lbs. (from shore only) has been added in 2025. Minimum length: May 4 - August 1 19 inches, August 2 – October 15 – 19.5 inches length must also be recorded. **Fluke MAY BE KEPT and be eligible for the contest.**

Any Striped Bass not released CANNOT be submitted. The ten heaviest bass, bluefish, weakfish and fluke (Top Ten) each month of all fish for each species reported are tallied for Club standings and Individual standings. The balance of the four species reported are reported as released points plus the Top Ten released fish of each species equal



NORTH FORK ANGLERS' NEWS

April 2026

total released points for the month.

The 2026 Contest Rules will be emailed.

***New York Surf Fishing Contest
Starts Midnight April 15th.***