

### **Gary Caputi – Recreational Fishing Alliance**

Gary Caputi is a well-recognized angler, writer, photographer and lecturer from New Jersey who began his career as a writer in 1975 when along with friend Pete Barrett he helped launch *the* New Jersey edition of *The Fisherman* magazine. Author of the definitive book on the subject, *Fishing For Striped Bass*, author Gary Caputi has been contributing to regional and national fishing and boating publications for over 25 years. He currently serves as Offshore Editor for *Salt Water Sportsman* and director of corporate relations for the Recreational Fishing Alliance (when he's not fishing for stripers!)

### **Capt. Frank Crescitelli – Fin Chaser TV & DNR Boats**

Capt. Frank has been fishing NY Harbor/Raritan Bay for over 30 years. Owner of Fin Chaser Charters and host of the Fin Chaser television program on Destination America, Capt. Frank's professional affiliations include Buddy Davis Boats, Raymarine, CTS Rods, Navionics; he's also a Pro-Staff & field tester for Orvis, Fin-Nor & Quantum Reels, Cortland Line, Sage, and Redington and founder of Guides Choice Tackle. Recently selected by Salt Water Sportsman magazine as one of the Top 50 Charter Captains, Capt. Frank is also Chairman and founder of the Fishermen's Conservation Association (FCA) based out of Staten Island.

### **Stanley Gola – S&S Bucktails**

The owner and operator of S&S Bucktails, Stan has been tailoring his unique Jersey product to all fish that swim, including fluke, striped bass, weakfish, even tuna and tautog. The S&S line of bucktails have been killers on the local fishing grounds, and the latest 'craze' on the inshore grounds has been the use of 'jigs' when structure fishing for blackfish. Stanley and his late father (Stan, Sr.) helped revolutionize blackfish jigging with the new Meez jig, and once you turn your toggin' efforts over to light tackle braid with jigs, you may never want to return to the deep and heavy drop!

### **Capt. Anthony Grassi – Fin Chaser Charters & Navionics**

An accomplished saltwater fisherman who has fished the Jersey coast from the back bays to the offshore canyons for over 30 years, Capt. Anthony is a proven tournament winner who has participated in some of the largest shark, billfish and inshore tournaments in the Northeast. As a local charter boat captain with the Fin Chasers team out of Staten Island, Capt. Grassi relies on his electronics for fishing success, and as a member of the Navionics team is ready to help NJ Boat Sale and Expo attendees get more from their electronics on the fishing grounds in 2016.

### **Aaron Held – Octopus Yachts**

Aaron calls himself a "practical" engineer" who is always looking to design a better mousetrap, whether that means making the current design more functional or aesthetically pleasing. "I apply this philosophy to all tasks of Octopus Yachts, both in the office on business development or in the field on a customer's vessel," said Aaron. An exhibitor at the New Jersey Boat Sale and Expo, Octopus Yachts provides precision marine electrical and systems engineering, focusing on customer service and pride of workmanship.

### **Jim Hutchinson, Jr. – The Fisherman Magazine**

A South Jersey native, Jim Hutchinson started as managing editor of *The Fisherman Magazine's* New Jersey edition in 2002 and was promoted to executive editor from 2006-2009. Appointed to the national Board of Directors of the Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA) in 2006, he was hired to be RFA's managing director from 2009-2015 where he worked to "safeguard the rights of saltwater anglers, protect marine, boat and tackle industry jobs, and ensure the long-term sustainability of our Nation's saltwater fisheries." An active RFA member, Hutch has returned to *The Fisherman Magazine* full time as managing editor.

### **Olaf Jensen – Rutgers University**

Dr. Jensen got his B.A. in Biology & Society at Cornell University, before attending the University of Maryland Chesapeake Biological Lab for an M.S. in Marine Science. He attained his Ph.D. research at the University of Wisconsin Center for Limnology, followed by post doctorate work (Smith Fellowship) at the University of Washington. A fisherman himself, Dr. Jensen's fisheries research work at Rutgers University is critically important for local fisheries, and his ongoing studies of 'young of the year' (YOY) and resident stripers in local estuaries like the Navesink, Mullica and Great Egg will better determine population analysis of striped bass all along the coast.

#### **Capt. Alex Majewski – Lighthouse Sportfishing**

With over 35 years experience fishing Barnegat Bay, Capt. Alex is recognized as a local expert in light tackle fishing. He has taught classes on fishing Barnegat Bay and is a published author with articles appearing in The Fisherman & Saltwater Sportsman Magazines, having also appeared during the Saltwater Sportsman's National Seminar Series. Capt. Alex is sponsored by St Croix, Okuma, and Bass Kandy Delights, and fishes extensively for inshore favorites like striped bass, weakfish, fluke and bluefish aboard a 23-foot Dusky named Debbie M.

#### **Capt. Gene Nigro – Phantom Charters / Highlands, NJ**

Captain Gene holds a U.S. Coast Guard 100 Ton Masters License. He has been charter fishing the Raritan and Sandy Hook Bays since 1987. He is an International Game Fish Association (IGFA) Certified Captain as well as an IGFA State Representative. He learned to catch bass from the local old timers who taught him the finer points of trolling for bass with spoons, plugs and wire line rigs. Capt. Gene's how to articles on local striped bass fishing appear regularly in The Fisherman Magazine.

#### **Captain Peter Sykes – Parker Pete's Sportfishing & The Bucktail Boys**

Capt. Pete has been fishing the Atlantic Ocean for most of his life. It started back when he was old enough to walk to the marina and fish off the docks. From that early age, he made a name for himself, starting to fish and work on the party boats of Shark River. Fishing weekends and all summer when out of school, Pete became a talented fisherman and mate. His entire teenage and young adulthood was spent working on the ocean. Captain Pete specializes in bottom fishing, and has an intimate knowledge of the best rockpiles and wrecks off New Jersey.

#### **Ken Westerfeld - Tautog IGFA World Record Holder**

A Bayside Queens resident and former Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority Officer, Ken Westerfeld crushed the standing world record tog by 4 pounds when he landed his 35-inch, 28.5-pound beast on January 2, 2015. Sailing on the Fish Bound out of Ocean City, MD, Ken recounts his historic catch and explains how proper technique when fishing structure can produce the fish of a lifetime; a regular on the Jersey Shore grounds when and where trophy blackfish can be found.

#### **Capt. Rick Woerner - Carnivore Sportfishing**

Capt. Rick is the owner/operator of Carnivore is a 31' Ocean Master with twin 250 Yamahas, equipped for inshore or offshore fishing. Loaded with top quality tackle and electronics Captain Rick is ready to make your next fishing adventure one you will never forget. From back bay fluking to trophy striped bass fishing to slaying Tuna at the Hudson, Carnivore is the perfect boat for you.

#### **Gerry Zagorski – NJFishing.com**

Gerry Zagorski is a lifelong Jersey resident and is the owner and founder of NJFishing.com, the state's premier online source for salt and freshwater fishing information. Zagorski has been boating and fishing the Sandy Hook bay-shore area since 1985. He frequently travels in and out-of-state to fish for everything from smallmouth bass and trout to tuna and tarpon. Gerry fishes the waters of New Jersey in his 28-foot Carolina Classic, Obsession. Check him out at [www.njfishing.com](http://www.njfishing.com).

