

## The Plum Island Surfcasters, Inc. Fishing Club

The North Shore above Boston is justifiably famous for great striped bass fishing, nowhere more than the beachfronts and marshes around Newbury, Newburyport and Ipswich. Back in the 1957, a group of anglers who fished the shores of Plum Island and cruised the beach in buggies formed the Plum Island Surfcasters Fishing Club, which is now one of the oldest and most active saltwater fishing clubs in the Bay State. The club meets every third Tuesday of the month at Newbury Fire Hall in Newbury. Several life members who helped form the group still attend monthly meetings.

From the beginning the Plum Island Surfcasters has been both a social organization for people who love to fish and a group concerned with preserving and protecting natural resources while promoting recreational fishing for everyone. This is apparent in the make-up of its membership; there are 25 Life Members and more than 15 Junior memberships, but the majority are family memberships, currently numbering over 150.

The club is active all year long. In the winter, speakers and "how-to" nights keep members excited through the months when there's no


fishing. Every February there is a special all-day event, featuring seminars with noted expert fishermen and raffles. At the annual banquet, prizes are awarded after the season-long fishing contest for members.

In the spring, summer and fall, you'll find members involved with community outreach programs, beach and jetty clean-up projects, tournaments and various social events. Some of the most popular programs are designed to get kids out fishing, including mentoring and kids-only contests. "Catch a Fish & Catch a Kid" is the latest of these programs. "As a club," said club secretary Bonnie Radke, "we are interested in seeing new sportsmen learn to enjoy saltwater fishing and monthly exchanges of information regarding the sport."

This year the Plum Island Surfcasters will be working with officials from the Parker River National Wildlife Refuge and the Massachusetts Beach Buggy Association to sponsor an all-day event in conjunction with the club's annual September Beach Blast called "Take Me Fishing On A National Wildlife Refuge." Designed to demonstrate and promote mixed use of public shorefront, the day will feature a casting demonstration by former national casting champion and author Ron Arra and a kids fishing contest.

Every month the club publishes a newsletter, The Plum Line, which informs members of local and regional fishing news, club events and membership updates. This is a great way, along with attending monthly meetings and social gatherings, to meet new fishing buddies, get some expert advice on the local fishing scene and maybe even get an invitation to explore some new fishing spots.

Yearly dues for a family membership are only \$30, which entitles family members to attend all club events and take part in activities. You can learn more about the Plum Island Surfcasters at their web site <http://plumisland.surfcaster.com> or by contacting the club via e-mail at [Bonnie@surfcaster.com](mailto:Bonnie@surfcaster.com) You can also write for information and an application: Bonnie Radke, 22 Windward Drive, Newburyport, MA 01950 or call (978) 462-9745. ←




go **BANANAS** inc.

Rte. 6 and 28 E. Wareham  
next to Wendy's

**508-291-0005**

**One of N.E.'s Largest Army  
Navy Surplus & Supply Stores!**




**God  
Bless  
America**



# NEW ENGLAND MARINE & INDUSTRIAL

*Fishing Tackle  
for the Serious Fisherman*

---



**SØLVKROKEN** The Regions  
Lowest Prices  
*From Norway* For ligs & 8