

# DOCK TALK

A newsletter from the Cape Cod Commercial Fishermen's Alliance  
Winter 2022

CAPE COD COMMERCIAL  
**FISHERMEN'S  
ALLIANCE**  
Small Boats. Big Ideas.

## 2022: The Year of the Skate, and So Much More



The beginning of a new year marks a time of reflection on what the organization has accomplished, mixed with a sense of hope and renewed excitement about what is to come—embarking

on several endeavors that protect and grow the industry that defines the Cape.

We enter 2022 riding a wave of achievements that leave us well-positioned to launch a sister soup to our successful Haddock Chowder Program. Thirty years ago, when the organization was formed, much of the focus was on cod. Today, however, much of the Cape fleet catches skate and the importance of the winged fish now rivals our peninsula's namesake. So when we started talking about developing new markets for skate there was instant excitement and interest. Fishermen said they were all in, some captains willing to

donate part of their catch for the test run of any foodie foray we had in mind. Thanks to savvy culinary input from Alex Hay of Wellfleet Shellfish Company and the Mac's Seafood family, what has emerged is Provencal Fish Stew, skate with hearty vegetables blended into a wonderful tomato based broth. Named after a cooking style that began in France, the stew celebrates what French gourmands know—skate is a delicious white fish with a mild taste.

Other initiatives for the year will continue to foster more resilient coastal communities, including the expansion of our Fishermen Training Program as well as increasing focus on how to support our fisheries and working ports as they navigate climate change. All of our bold initiatives depend on your continued support. Thank you once again for joining us as we work for fish and fishermen.

Thank you,

John Pappalardo, CEO



## SAVE THE DATES

April 27	Meet the Fleet
June 22	Meet the Fleet
August 6	Hookers Ball XXI
August 21	Falmouth Road Race
September TBD	Meet the Fleet
November TBD	Meet the Fleet

We hope to see you at one of our events this year! You can learn about local seafood and the Cape's fishing fleet, pick up cooking tips from local chefs, participate in auctions, mingle with friends and support the Fishermen's Alliance.



## All-Hands-On-Deck

The Fishermen Training Program has now reached more than 45 individuals through two in-person trainings at Fishermen's Alliance and multiple workshops with local high school students. The most recent training was held in November where seasoned fishermen discussed their businesses and at-sea experiences. Training included a safety component that took place in the cold waters of Stage Harbor.

We have also launched an initiative to engage with Cape Cod Regional Technical High School marine services classes. In addition to attending workshops at their school, more than 30 students have visited Wychmere Harbor to speak to captains and tour fishing boats.

It has been all-hands-on-deck as several successful captains have stepped up to help train the next generation of commercial fishermen. We anticipate more funding will become available through the Young Fishermen's Development Act, which was passed in 2021 after six years of lobbying. In preparation for this, we have partnered with MIT Sea Grant, a program of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, to draft a broader curriculum framework that will include training elements for new deckhands and captains. This comprehensive curriculum will include everything from tying knots to complex permitting information and business planning. It will also provide a list of fishermen-friendly community resources. Our introduction to commercial fishing will become even more accessible as our online course launches this spring.



## ON THE WATER

### A Changing Ocean



The Gulf Stream is 200 miles offshore, but a rapidly changing ocean is bringing rings of its warm, salty waters toward the coast. These rings are one of many ways climate change is affecting fishermen, and what they fish for. Commercial fishermen are on the forefront of such impacts and have become part of vanguard scientific work to understand and meet the realities of a changing ocean.

For 30 years, science has been at the core of our mission to understand our ecosystem, and how to best protect and work within it. This year is no exception. We will be highlighting cooperative research between fishermen and local scientists while also working to bring fisheries regulations into

line with ecosystem-based fisheries management (EBFM). This effort is focused on putting the ecosystem at the heart of decisions that impact the social and economic needs of the fleet, today and in the future. We are also bringing on a qualified intern to take a deep dive into this issue.

As climate change continues to cause huge ramifications, we will be working to stay ahead of changes on the water and will continue our work to reimagine ways to keep our fishing fleets able to bring fresh fish to local markets.

## When Fudge and Fish go Together



Fishermen's Alliance  
Fudge Fundraiser  
May 2-8

Chatham Candy Manor owners, Paige Piper and Robbie Carroll, took the helm in 2019. They were fully prepared to carry on the tradition of making delicious chocolate and fudge—much like the beloved store had been doing since 1955. Robbie was born and raised in Chatham and is proud to say that his first job was clamming with his brother, although he admits it was not easy work. He then took a sweeter job working at the Chatham Candy Manor during his summer breaks. Paige grew up in a small town in Maine and is still waiting for her chance to go clamming, but the candy business and expecting their first child this month has certainly kept her busy.

The two met while attending Bentley University. They bring their experience in sales, finance, and working for nonprofits to their business. Paige and Robbie both strongly feel that “small towns should take care of each other” and

they are proving that by kicking off their second year of week-long fudge fundraisers for six different Cape organizations. They chose the Fishermen's Alliance to be among the list with WE CAN, The Family Pantry, Atlantic White Shark Conservancy, Monomoy Community Services, and the Chatham Chamber of Commerce & Merchant's Association. In 2021 they donated \$3,600 to the Fishermen's Alliance in just one week of fudge sales.

With a business plan that makes giving back to the community a priority, this young Cape Cod family is sure to celebrate many successful years. We hope you visit the Chatham Candy Manor all year, especially during the week of May 2–8 to support Fudge for Fish. What better way to finish off a meal of local seafood than with locally made fudge for dessert?

## FISHERMEN FRIENDS GIVING SOCIETY



Consider joining the Fishermen Friends Giving Society by making a monthly gift of any amount. Monthly giving is a convenient way to spread out your gift to Fishermen's Alliance over time

with automatic, recurring contributions. Members receive organization updates, early access to event ticketing, an annual Fishermen's Alliance swag gift, and other exclusive benefits.

**TO SUSTAIN CAPE COD'S 400-YEAR-OLD FISHING TRADITION, YOUR ONGOING SUPPORT MATTERS MORE NOW THAN EVER**

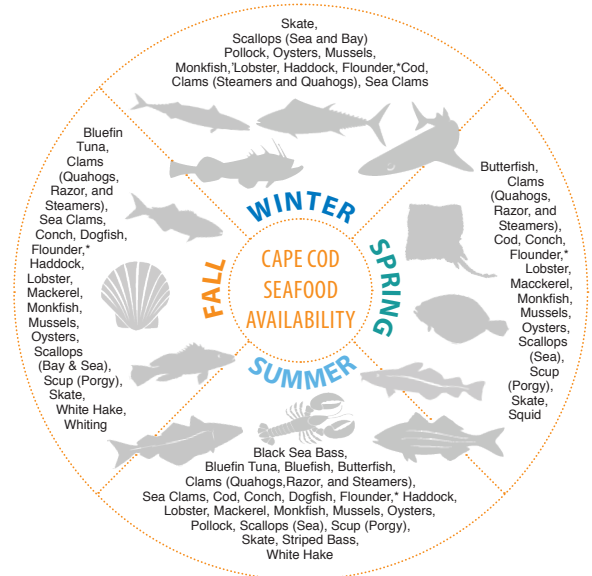
### THANK YOU 2021 Fishermen Friends Giving Society Members

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**“Thank you for another year of continued, valuable support for our local fishermen and economy, as well as the thoughtful and impactful work to foster a sustainable and healthy marine environment!”**

— Scott L., Donor

## Donor Dollars in Action

Thanks to your support in 2021, Fishermen Alliance...

- » Provided close to a million servings of haddock chowder to regional food banks
- » Spent more than 200 days attending regulatory meetings advocating on behalf of the Cape's fishing industry
- » Collaborated with more than 85 other organizations and partners
- » Distributed 5,200 Coastal Learning Books to children and families
- » Leased 331,380 pounds of groundfish and scallop quota to 22 local fishermen
- » Spoke to more than 40 Cape Tech high school students about pursuing careers in the Blue Economy
- » Worked with 12 aspiring fishermen through the November Fishermen Training Program
- » Educated more than 2,000 visitors at the Chatham Fish Pier about the local fishing fleet during the summer Pier Host program

## PLEASE DONATE TODAY

Online at: [capecodfishermen.org](http://capecodfishermen.org)  
By mail to: 1566 Main Street, Chatham 02633





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## Fishermen's Alliance Merch

Keep warm with fun and fishy Fishermen's Alliance merchandise! Visit our online store to order apparel and find unique gifts. We have cozy hoodies, shirts, hats, tote bags, hook bracelets, YETI tumblers, cookbooks, and more. Items are available for pick up in Chatham or ready to ship to you.



### VISIT OUR STORE

[cape-cod-commercial-fishermens-alliance-shop.square.site](http://cape-cod-commercial-fishermens-alliance-shop.square.site)

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## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Each year we are so grateful for the support of local businesses that participate in our sponsorship program. By working together to create relationships that are mutually beneficial through marketing, cross promotion, and complimentary event attendance, we have a distinguished list of long-time sponsors. If you would like to renew your sponsorship for 2022, or want more information, please contact Jennifer Bryant at [jennifer@capecodfishermen.org](mailto:jennifer@capecodfishermen.org).

### 2022 Annual Sponsors



Cottage



### 2022 Annual In-Kind Sponsors

