Yoshie Manaka May 2, 2012



Captains Kenkasu Takahashi and Makatsuji Mitsuru.

This year's *Peace King Cup Fishing Tournament*, which is held annually on the Hudson River to commemorate the Holy Wedding Anniversary of Rev. and Mrs. Sun Myung Moon, was kicked off Saturday on April 28th and will continue for 21 days until May 18th. The tournament was established by Rev. and Mrs. Moon in April 2000 on the Hudson River and in August 2000 in Alaska as international events to be held every year in the United States.

According to last year's national announcement, "Everyone is invited to participate! The tournament gives participants the opportunity to connect directly with True Parents' deep love for fishing and the ocean providence. It takes place in the exact waters where they invested countless hours of devotion for the sake of restoring America and saving all of humankind."



From left to right: Daniel Noda, Moonshik Kim, Kevin Yoon, Koichi Nakai and Luke Higuchi.

Last year, 82 Unificationists came from across the country, including 32 Special Task Force (now Generation Peace Academy) participants. The tournament was one-day long and involved 12 boats. Only one fish, a 28" striped bass caught by Rev. Ki Yeal Lee, national Korean Evangelical Association leader, was entered for the prize.

Since this year's tournament spans the length of 21 days, a fish must be longer than 40" to qualify for the prize. At the conclusion of the tournament, the person with the largest fish will win the grand prize of \$3,000 as well as a trophy.

The boats travel from Half Moon Bay to New York Lower Bay, and the entry fee is \$50 per participant. The fishing fee, which must be paid each time one braves the waters, is \$80 per person, or \$60 for those under 21 years of age.

A boat of Lovin' Life Ministries (LLM) employees from New York City motored out into the Hudson River in the tournament today on May 5, 2012, led by captains Kenkasu Takahashi and Makatsuji Mitsuru. The group included Kevin Yoon and Winston Inguk Seo, aides to Rev. In Jin Moon, LLM Creative Director Koichi Nakai, President of Survivors Against Forced Exit Luke Higuchi, LLM intern Daniel Noda, LLM videographer Toshi Tagawa and Blessed Family Ministry staff Moonshik Kim.

Koichi Nakai described his experience so far: "We headed out from New Jersey at 7 a.m., and we went to Sandy Hook near the New York Bay. Blue fish are biting today! We have 15 blue fish so far, the biggest one is 30 inches. All in all, it's a great way to spend time with friends and experience the sport True Father loves so much – it's my first time going out for the tournament. It's really exciting. We were expecting warm weather but we're having fun and we brought lots of food."

For more information and to register please visit www.lovinlifed3.com/fishing.

More information regarding fishing reservations, tournament rules, weigh-in locations, etc. is available by contacting Jana Iparraguirre.