



by John H. Vargo, *Publisher*

May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 had to be one of the worst days to hold a fishing contest yet, because of the tremendous warmth and “heart” of everyone concerned, turned in to the most successful Hudson River Fisherman Association gathering we ever had. Over 60 people showed up, braved the pouring rain, smiling, happy and ready to catch fish. And catch fish they did, over 35 catfish, stripers, perch, carp were caught, weighed and released back into the Hudson River. This in a matter of 3 hours of dismal, to say the least, bad weather.

It is the goal of the HRFA to introduce children in particular, as well as their parents, to the joys of fishing and this certainly was accomplished on this Saturday.

Thanks to the Wounded Warrior Project every child who attended received a high quality rod. First, Second, and Third place winners received many more fishing items. Congratulations to all, especially the Wounded Warriors who attended despite the weather!

Gil Hawkins, HRFA, (In his home made rain coat) and Simone, wife of one of the Wounded Warriors who attended. While this lady had never fished before she picked up on it quickly and did manage to catch a few fish.



**PURE JOY!**

The huge smile, and arm load of fishing equipment won while fishing, at the 3rd annual Wounded Warrior Catfish Derby, says it all! Luncheon held at the hospitable Billy Joe's Rib Works deck in Newburgh, NY.



Mrs. Nancy Schiliro, Alumni Specialist for the Wounded Warrior Project, doing a chant for the rain to stop while Schot Havner in charge of the event for the HRFA encourages her.



The luncheon of over 60 wounded warriors from all walks of life enjoyed the hospitality of lunch after a few hours on the cold, wet deck of Billy Joe's Rib Works. A resounding success to a very eventful day for everyone.