



THE HARBOUR LIGHT



The Official Newsletter of
 Village Harbour Fishing Club, Inc.
 PO Box 1026
 Manahawkin, NJ 08050
 VOLUME # 106 ISSUE # 1 April 2006

Web Site Address: <http://FishermansHeadquarters.com/VHFC>
 E-mail Address: VHFCInfo@aol.com

EVENTS IN APRIL

BOARD MEETING: 07 APRIL

7:30 P.M at the Community Center

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 14 APRIL

At the Community Center on Mill Creek Rd.

7:30 PM: Doors Open Early - Come Help Set Up.

7:45 PM: Meeting Starts With Club Business:

- Committee Reports
- Trophy Fish Of The Year 2005 Awards
- 2005 Striped Bass Fish of the Month Award
- 2006 Tournament Plans
- Introduction of Surf Tournament
- All-Present Fishing Discussion Break
- Presentation: Boat Insurance & Boat US Towing

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by John Borick

Well I hope everyone stayed healthy for the long winter months, and by the time you start reading my message, some of you will already have their boats in the water. I always seem to miss some of the best fishing by getting my boat in the water too late. We will have our first meeting on Friday April 14, 2006 at 7:45. I hope this will be a great fishing year for all our VHFC members. We have a lot of hands on fishing techniques planned to improve everyone's chance of catching fish. I promise I will present to you, as much fishing information, that I can gather. For those of you, who are new to the area, feel free to approach any of the board members, and ask them any questions about our club. We will have charts always available on the front tables to show you where the fish are being caught. Feel free to call me at my home phone 609-597-8572 for any questions you have about the Village Harbour Fishing Club.

Our calendar is loaded with tournaments, meetings, and our Annual Dinner/Social. We will also try having our first flea market in the near future. So bring any equipment you would like to sell, and we will set up extra tables during our hands on event.

Those of you, who like to Surf fish, we are having a tournament near Joe Pops in Ship Bottom on

Saturday May 6, 2006. Remember to fill out your Surf Tournament forms included in the newsletter. We will have extra forms available at the April meeting. You will get some excellent advice on surf fishing from the club members on the beach.

Our first speakers of the year will be discussing boat insurance and Boat US. With the prices of Boat insurance going up each year, you can save by purchasing the insurance as a group. Feel free to write down ahead of time, what you are paying. Compare it to a group rate. We are trying to save you some money. You are not obligated in any way to buy insurance. Make your own decision.

Remember the large weakfish are in the bay starting around the third week in April. Gulf Point is a hot spot for spawning weakfish. White Gulf Shrimp is the bait to use with a 1/4 to 3/8 oz. Pink shad dart. If you don't have a boat the last two bridges on Great Bay Blvd in Tuckerton are excellent during high tide. Early morning and late evening are the times to be fishing. You can also drive to the end of the road and park in the Rutgers University Marine Science Parking Lot, and walk the dirt road to the bay. We can park in their lot, as long as we do not go there as a large group, and take up all their parking. With green crabs the tog fishing is excellent. This area is also a well kept secret for Striped Bass. The problem is, as the season warms up, the green flies in the area will eat you alive, and this is no joke.

2005 TROPHY FISH OF THE YEAR by George Fruh

The winners of our 2005 Trophy Fish of the Year competition are:

Blackfish (11/01)	2 lb 10 oz	Basil Dubrosky
Bluefish (11/05)	13 lb 5 oz	Paul Galasso
Fluke (07/02)	11 lb 13oz	Eian Beron
Sea Bass (06/17)	4 lb 12 oz	Lorraine Wetmore

Striped Bass (11/11) 20 lb 12oz Paul Pestritto
 Weakfish (05/18) 12 lb 6 oz Ed Cherry
 W. Fl'nder (04/25) 2 lb 4 oz Jerry Papp

Congratulations to all those listed above.

Prizes for all the Trophy Fish of the Year winners will be distributed during the April 2006 Membership Meeting.

2006 TROPHY FISH OF THE YEAR PROGRAM

by George Fruh

The same seven species will continue for our 2006 Trophy Fish of the Year Program.

Blackfish
Bluefish
Fluke
Sea Bass
Striped Bass
Weakfish
Winter Flounder

The rules are simple: you have to catch a fish of the above species, take it to one of our official weigh stations to have it weighed and recorded on our official weigh-in forms. If you have weighed in the largest fish of a particular species for the calendar year 2006, then you win the FOY trophy for that species. Note: your dues have to be paid before you catch an eligible fish.

2005 FISH OF THE MONTH AWARDS by George Fruh

The last Fish of the Month awards for 2005 are Paul Pestritto's Striped Bass & Paul Galasso's Bluefish weighed in during the October and November 2005 time frame. These awards will be presented at the April 2005 Membership Meeting.

2006 FISH OF THE MONTH AND FISH OF THE YEAR AWARDS by George Fruh

The same eight species will continue for our 2006 Trophy Fish of the Month Program:

March & April	Winter Flounder
May	Weakfish
June	Fluke
July	Bluefish
August	Sea Bass
September	Fluke & Croaker
October/November	Striped Bass & Bluefish

LUNAR CHART by Ed Wetmore

Lunar charts give you an estimate of feeding times based on the effects of moon and sun location. Many of

us have seen similar tables in Field & Stream Magazine for years.

If you want to receive the latest table each month, simply send an email to Ed Wetmore (ejwetmore@comcast.net) and state your interest in receiving the Lunar Charts.

HARBORMASTER REPORT by Roland Dixon

Our day markers will change this year, New Jersey Aids to Navigation is no longer able to use cedar stakes and the bamboo used in 2005 proved too brittle and was easily damaged when struck by a vessel or by debris. It is expected that we will get floats with an anchor to mark our channel from the ICW into the Main Lagoon. Please observe the "NO WAKE" Areas.

There are major changes in operating requirements resulting from accidents, injuries and deaths. The NJ Legislature has responded with a new law (Bill 2624). It will prohibit those under the age of 16 from operating vessels, including Personal Water Craft (PWC). For those under 16 but older than 13 that have a Boating Safety Certificate (BSC) they can operate a vessel powered by an electric motor or a power vessel greater than 12 feet in length and not exceeding 10 HP.

Out-of-State residents, 16 or older must present written proof of successful completion of a Boating Safety Course. No one can operate a PWC without similar proof.

All persons born after December 31, 1978 are already required to be licensed. Before June 1, 2006 all persons born after December 31, 1968 and before December 31, 1978 must have taken an approved course. Before June 1, 2007 all persons born after 12/31/58 and before 12/31/68 will require a BSC. Before June 1, 2008 all persons born after 12/31/48 and before 12/31/58 will require a BSC. By June 1, 2009 all others will be required. Addition information on this new law will be forthcoming.

Check your insurance. For Operators under the age of 18 Boat US will reduce the liability coverage to \$25,000 and the deductible is raised to 50% of the hull value. Other penalties are anticipated.

Boating Safety Courses will be available via the Coast Guard Auxiliary and other approved sources. It is expect that courses will be available on Friday nights and Saturday Mornings in Ship Bottom during

the Boating Season. **Check the Sandpaper for dates.**

SPRING SURF FISHING by Basil Dubrosky

In the spring months of April and May, we usually spend our time getting the boat ready for launching, talking with friends, club members and neighbors about last year and prospects for this year and a whole bunch of other things that usually exclude actual fishing. If you want to get a quick start at catching nice size fish before you launch your boat, try the surf.

I usually start around the middle of April in the area around the Ship Bottom/Brant Beach line. I try to hit a high incoming tide and will usually continue fishing for at least an hour after the high tide. I will use one pole with cut bait and one or more poles with clams or blood worms. I find that blood worms work well for Striped Bass in calm sea conditions and clams are best for rougher conditions. Bunker or Mackerel work best as cut bait. Freshen your bait often and check your tippet and main line after every bluefish.

I use a high/low rig for worms and clams. Gamagatsu bait keeper hooks will increase your hook rate. I use a fish finder rig for cut bait with a 40 or 50 pound test tippet and a 7/0 circle hook. I have found the circle hook to be very effective in the surf and it reduces large bluefish cut offs.

If your preference is for plugging, then hit the low tide near the jetties. Coinciding with sunrise and sunset will increase your luck with this type fishing.

If you are interested in a quick start to catching fish and getting your name on the leader board for fish of the year, try spring surf fishing and join other surf fishing club members at the May 6 club surf tournament.

LAST HURRAH by Bill Jann

On December 10th, Bill Dabney and I went down to the marina to take his boat out of the water for the season. With true fishermen's optimism, though, we hoped the weather would allow us to get one last shot at the stripers for the year. We stopped at Scott's bait shop on the way and got a report from his dad that there was some striper action off the Beach Haven towers.

When we got to the dock, about 9 AM, the weather was crisply cold, but calm and sunny. Things looked good except for some skim ice that had formed in the lagoon. Great Bay itself, though, was open. Bill's Parker, appropriately named "Ice Wine", carved right through to the bay and we headed down to the old Coast

Guard station. We started out by anchoring at a rip there where we had had some good fishing earlier in the season. Not today though as there was nothing on the fish finder and no bites to be had. By that time the sun had warmed things up and we had a radio report from a few boats off of the towers that there was a lot of bird action and breaking fish outside. So off we went. On the way out we saw enormous schools of fish on the finder just outside the inlet, probably croakers or herring, in about 20 feet of water. No sign, though, of birds or breaking fish. When we got off the towers everything was calm. No boats, birds, or fish. We did a little casting around without any results. Then the radio kicked in and reported the fish had moved further north.

Off we went again until we finally caught up with them off of Brant Beach. What a scene! The fish finder lit up from top to bottom. Birds diving and screaming over several acres of water with fish breaking all around us. In the middle of the afternoon yet. We started casting with Hopkins spoons and jigs, and both worked. A striper and a blue at first and then all stripers. Just under the surface or down deep, it didn't seem to matter. We ended up with 3 slot fish and about a dozen just short of that, and lost a whole lot more. We were hooked up on almost every cast we made into the ocean.

And then, at about 3 PM, it was as if someone turned off a switch. It was over. The bite stopped, the birds disappeared, and we were left sitting in a calm ocean. So we turned back in, heading for dry dock, smiles on our faces, and already looking forward to next year. What a way to end the season!!

BOATING GEAR FOR SALE by Ray Williams. If you placed these ads, please note expiration dates & let us know if you wish to continue ads.

1. New Item: Good Fishing boat – very stable. 21 Ft. Sea Cat, 8.5 Ft. Beam; includes T-top, full enclosure curtains, porta-potty with privacy screen, fuel water separator, compass, Twin 2003 Honda 50 HP motors with power tilt @ trim (4 stroke, quiet & efficient), tachometer, water pressure gauges, Garmin 176C GPS/MAP, Loran, Fish Finder, Anchor & 2 whips. Boat is 10 years old, well kept and in very good condition. In water at 28 Henry Dr. (off Mill Creek Rd in Manahawkin). For inspection or further info contact Jim McGrath at 609-597-8395. Asking \$ 22,000, **(Unless renewed, this ad expires 1/06).**

2. Garmin Handheld GPS Map76 with Garmin Blue Chart Americas CD Chart. Sells new today for over \$450 for GPS & chart. Will sell for \$250.00. Hardly used as I bought a combo GPS & Depth finder for my boat. Call Ray Williams at 609-978-1480. Still have box & all instructions. **[ad expires 11/15/2005]**

**FISHING WITH CLUB MEMBERS
(These 3 ads expire 12/31/05; unless owners renew)**

1. John Leitner, a new member and resident of Barnegat, would like to go out fishing with a

member who has a boat and some space for another fisherman. Please contact John at 609-607-9426.

2. Jerry, a newly retired club member, is looking for someone to fish with any day of the week. Will share expenses. Call Jerry Papp at 609-812-1432.

3. Bill Jann, a member with a great bay boat, is looking to go outside with someone with a bigger boat. He offers to help defray costs. Contact Bill at 856-786-8999 or wjann@voicenet.com.

**VILLAGE HARBOUR FISHING CLUB, INC.
2006 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Officers:

President	John Borick (597-8592)
1 st Vice President	Ed Wetmore (294-6956)
2 nd Vice President	Vacant
Treasurer	Bill Logan (597-0784)
Secretary	Ed Wetmore (294-6956)

Trustees

Sergeant at Arms	Charlie Kochka
Weigh Master/Awards	George Fruh (597-4588)
Recruiting	Vince Sibona
Membership Data Base	John Nonnenmacher (597-5383)
Guest Speakers	Bill Dabney (978-6893)
Immediate Past Pres.	Dave Sikorski (978-0437)
Communications	Roland Dixon (494-0543)

Newsletter	Ray Williams (978-1480)
Library	Bill Dabney (978-6893)
Library Alternate	Steve Cook (978-8416)
Sponsors	Bill Logan (597-0784)

Trustees (cont'd)

Website	Dave Sikorski (978-0437)
Vessel Safety	Ed Wetmore (294-6956)
JCAA/Regulations	John Borick (507-8592)
Past President	Ray Williams (978-1480))
Fishing Hands On	Vacant
Tournament Director	Vacant
All Past Presidents, not listed above, are non-voting Board members.	

Village Harbour Fishing Club, Inc.
Surf Tournament Registration Form
Saturday May 6, 2006

The Surf Fishing Tournament is planned to be a VHFC group event. Participation in this Surf Fishing Tournament is planned for current VHFC members only. Remember a spouse can attend, as they are co-members. Please sign up no later than May 5, 2006 or fill out the form included in the April newsletter and mail it to the Village Harbour Fishing Club, or drop the form off at the April meeting. You must submit a signed form to be eligible for a prize in this event. No Entry Fee required.

Chairmen: John Borick (597-8572), Basil Dubrosky (597-1531), & Roland Dixon (494-0543)

Fishing Location: The tournament will be held between 18th and 22nd streets in Ship Bottom. Those who are new to Surf Fishing can receive tips and instructions at the 20th street entrance from the Village Harbour Fishing Club Members. All fish entered in Tournament must be caught between 18th & 22nd Streets.

Schedule: 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday

Weigh-In Times: 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday

Prizes: \$20 to the heaviest* of the following species:

STRIPER BLUEFISH-14 INCH MINIMUM BLACK DRUM

\$20 to the longest of the following species:**

Weakfish Blow Fish Red Drum Tautog (Blackfish)

Weigh-ins: At the 20th street beach in Ship Bottom, the tournament committee will measure weight and length of member's keeper sized surf catches at the beach entrance. Note that eligibility for the club's Fish of the Month, etc. must also be weighed in officially at Fisherman's Headquarters, The Chum Bucket, or at American Sportsman. All fish entered in this tournament must comply with current NJ State fishing regulations.

*In the event of a tie, the longer fish will be the winner (if both length and weight are the same, the earlier fish weighed in shall be the winner.)

**In the event of a tie, the earlier fish weighed in shall be the winner

Release of Liability: Event dates are scheduled well in advance of any weather forecast. Each individual entered in the tournament assumes full personal responsibility for all decisions effecting their participation in this tournament, and agrees to indemnify and hold the club and its officers harmless from any claims made by anyone affected by participation in the tournament.

Members Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date: __/__/__

Junior Anglers must have their parent or guardian sign this form & be accompanied by an Adult specified by the parent or guardian.

Parent Signature: _____ Date: _____

VILLAGE HARBOUR FISHING CLUB, INC.
2006 Form for Member Renewals and New Applications
MAIL COMPETED FORMS WITH DUES (Checks only) FOR \$35.00 PAYABLE TO "VHFC" TO:
VHFC MEMBERSHIP
PO BOX 1026
MANAHAWKIN, NJ 08050
Dues for renewals are due by May 12, 2006

Print Name*: _____ Member #: _____ Nickname: _____

Signature*: _____ Date: ___ / ___ / ___

Note: Both * items must be completed
Renewals: Please insert any changes from 2005 Membership list.
New Applicants: Please complete the following:

Name of Spouse:	Shore Address:
Principle Address:	(complete if different from Principle Address)
City/St/Zip:	City/St/Zip:
Phone:	Phone:
Fax:	Fax:
E-Mail:	E-Mail:

Would you like to get your newsletter by email? Circle Yes or No A yes will save the club printing & mailing costs.

Boat Owners, please complete the following:

Print Name of Boat: _____ Length (ft.): _____

VILLAGE HARBOUR FISHING CLUB, INC.
2006 Form for Junior Angler Renewals and New Applications
MAIL COMPETED FORMS WITH DUES (Checks only) FOR \$10.00 PAYABLE TO "VHFC" TO:
VHFC JUNIOR ANGLER
PO BOX 1026
MANAHAWKIN, NJ 08050
Dues for renewals are due by May 12, 2006

Note: All 5 * items must be completed.

APPLICANT: Please complete the following each year (one sheet per Junior Angler)

Name*: _____ Member #: _____ Nick Name: _____
Signature: _____ Junior Angler's E-Mail: _____
Home Address: _____ Home Phone: _____

Would you like to get your newsletter by email? Circle Yes or No A yes will save the club printing & mailing costs.

SPONSOR: Please complete the following:

SPONSOR MEMBER'S INFORMATION (ALL ARE REQUIRED EACH YEAR)

By completing the following, the Sponsor takes full responsibility to accompany and supervise the applicant's behavior and ensure the applicant's well being during and en route to and from any club activity or event and further certifies possession of the legal authority to do so.

Further, the sponsor affirms this applicant will not reach 18 years of age on or before May 12, 2006.

Sponsor's Name*: _____ Sponsor's Member #: _____
Sponsor's Signature*: _____ Date*: ___ / ___ / ___ Relation to Applicant*: _____

Junior Angler Boat Owners, please complete the following:

Print Name of Boat: _____ Length (ft.): _____

2006 Village Harbour Fishing Club, Inc. Meeting and Events Schedule (Revised 4/5/06)

<p>April 14 2006 Fish of the Month: Winter Flounder 7:45 APRIL 14: > Club business > 2005 Awards Presentations for 7 "Trophy Fish of the Year" & for the Oct & Nov Fish of the Month > Intro - Surf Tournament > All Present - Fishing Discussion > Speakers: Joe Campisano & Matt Lees</p>	<p>May 12 2006 -DUES ARE DUE BY MAY 12- Fish of the Month: WEAKFISH 7:45 MAY 12: > Club business > W. Flounder FoM Award > Update - Surf Tourney > All Present - Fishing Discussion > Hands-On Fluke & Weakfish > Flea Market Coming Soon!</p>	<p>May 6th SURF TOURNAMENT Chairmen: John Borick Roland Dixon Basil Dubrosky Entry Form in this issue</p>
<p>JUNE 9 2006 Fish of the Month: FLUKE 7:45 June 9: > Club business > Weakfish Fish of the Month Award > Report - Surf Tournament > Intro to North & South Bay Fishing Tourney > All Present - Fishing Discussion > Flea Market</p>	<p>June 17th & 18th NORTH & SOUTH BAY FISHING TOURNAMENT Chairman: Ron Nachman</p>	<p>JULY 14 2006 Fish of the Month: BLUEFISH 7:45 July 14: > Club Business > Fluke Fish of the Month Award > Report -N. & S. Bay Fishing Tourney > Intro-Fluke & Sea Bass Tourney > Intro to VHFC Dinner > All Present - Fishing Discussion > Hands-On Sea Bass Rigs</p>
<p>JULY 29TH FLUKE & SEA BASS TOURNEY CHAIRMAN: BASIL DUBROSKY Species: Fluke & Sea Bass</p>	<p>AUGUST 11 2006 Fish of the Month: SEA BASS 7:45 Aug. 11: > Club business > Bluefish of the Month Award > Report Fluke & Sea Bass Tournament > All Present - Fishing Discussion > Speaker Capt. Adam Nowalsky Fishing for Sea Bass</p>	<p>JULY 2006 (Date To Be Announced) VILLAGE HARBOUR FISHING CLUB DINNER CHAIRMEN: Bill Logan & Ed Wetmore</p>
<p>SEPTEMBER 08 2006 Fish of the Month: FLUKE & CROAKER 7:45 Sept. 08: > Club business > Sea Bass Fish of the Month Award > Report - Fluke & Sea Bass Tournament > Intro - Surf Tournament > All-Present - Fishing Discussion > <u>Hands-On Surf Fishing</u></p>	<p>October 13 2006 Fish of the Month: Striped Bass & Bluefish 7:45 Oct. 13: > Sept. Fish of the Month Award > Report on Fluke & Sea Bass Tournament > All Present - Fishing Discussion > Speaker Unknown</p>	

Monthly meetings are 2nd Fridays starting promptly at 7:45 PM. Doors open at 7:30 – Come early and help us get set up.

No Membership Meetings are planned for the months of November through March.

**The following have offered a discount with the presentation of current VHFC Membership Card
Discounts normally do not apply to items that are fair traded or items on sale**

<p>FISHERMAN'S HEADQUARTERS Causeway, Ship Bottom, NJ 494-5739 10% discount on bait & tackle</p>	<p>BOBBIES 7th & Bay Ave., Barnegat Light, NJ 494-1345 10% discount on bait & tackle</p>	<p>TIP'S HARDWARE West Creek, NJ 296-3192 10% on bait, tackle & supplies</p>
<p>THE CHUM BUCKET BAIT & TACKLE 381 Rte. 9, West Creek, NJ 294-2500 10% discount on bait & tackle</p>	<p>CAUSEWAY BOAT RENTALS On the LBI Causeway 494-1371 10% discount on bait and tackle.</p>	<p>GALLIVANT GRAPHICS BOAT LETTERING We come to you ---- 10% off for members 609-812-9883</p>
<p>AMERICAN SPORTSMAN BAIT & TACKLE Mill Creek Plaza 597-4104 10% discount on bait & tackle</p>	<p>THE BOAT SHOP 756 E. Bay Ave., Manahawkin, NJ 597-1271 10% discount on regular prices</p>	<p>BARNEGAT LIGHT BAIT & TACKLE Bay Avenue & 15th St., Barnegat Lt. 494-4566 10% discount on bait & tackle</p>
<p>FIRST BRIDGE MARINA & KAYAKS 500 Great Bay Boulevard, Tuckerton 296-1888 10% discount on bait & tackle</p>		<p>BOAT U.S. VHFC members only pay \$9.50 for a year of Boat U.S. Forms for members' use will be at VHFC meetings or call Charlie Kochka</p>

**Village Harbour Fishing Club, Inc.
PO Box 1026
Manahawkin, NJ 08050**