



THE HARBOUR LIGHT



The Official Newsletter of
 Village Harbour Fishing Club, Inc.
 PO Box 1026
 Manahawkin, NJ 08050
 VOLUME # 105 ISSUE #5 August 2005

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

VHFC EVENTS IN AUGUST 2005

AUGUST FISH OF THE MONTH: SEA BASS

BOARD MEETING: 05 AUGUST

7:30 P.M at the Community Center

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 12 AUGUST

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
- Present July Fish of the Month Award - Bluefish
- Report on 2005 Dinner Dance
- Update for 8/27 Fluke & Sea Bass Tournament
- Speaker: Basil Dubrosky will give a sort talk on Fluke & Sea Bass in the ocean
- Break with All-Present Fishing Discussions
- Hands-on session on Fluke & Sea Bass in the ocean

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE by Dave Sikorski

Got fish? I'm sure some of you are saying "No", or "What fish?" right about now. Others may be saying "Sure do!" Fishing reports have been very inconsistent lately. I personally am turning my attention to the Crabs. I recently went crabbing near the bridge and caught several 5 to 6 inch crabs rather quickly! Do what you gotta do, but enjoy doing it...

I would like to thank everyone who helped put together our Dinner Dance, especially Ed Wetmore and Bill Logan. The turn out was fantastic, as well as the food, the prizes and the band. If you missed it, please considering attending next year's dinner; you are sure to have a great time. I would also like to thank everyone who contributed a gift for our door prizes. We certainly appreciate your generosity.

In August, we will have our Fluke and Sea Bass tournament on Sat the 27th. Sign up at the August 12 meeting. In preparation for this event, we will be having another hands-on meeting on the 12th. This will be much like the Fluke/Weakfish hands-on we had

in June, but this will be led Basil Dubrosky and will focus on Fluke and Sea Bass in the ocean (see article later in the newsletter).

Unfortunately, Matt Lees was unable to join us at our July meeting due to an emergency call. I hope the folks Matt helped that night are OK now. However, I was actually quite pleased with the end result. As I looked around the room, I noticed that folks were talking to each other, sharing their experience and knowledge. That's what this club is all about! I think the ensuing exchange was very beneficial.

Now, go catching...

IN-SHORE FISHING HANDS-ON by Basil Dubrosky

Our August meeting will feature a discussion on in-shore fishing and a related hands-on session. I will start by talking about my approach to an in-shore fishing trip including my favorite spots, techniques for catching Fluke, Sea Bass and Tog, marker floats and reef anchoring. After some follow-up discussion, Ed Wetmore, Dick Vesper and I will man hands-on tables to show you rigs and aids used and how to make them. Be sure not to miss this informative session that just might help you fill your cooler the next trip out.

TROPHY FISH OF THE YEAR by George Fruh

The Trophy fish of the Year (FOY) weigh-in status as of the end on July 2005 is:

	No Entry as Yet
Blackfish	
Bluefish (07/23)	11 lb. 9.6 oz. John Lyszczarz
Fluke (07/02)	11 lb. 12.8 oz. Eian Beron
Sea Bass (06/17)	04 lb. 12 oz. Lorraine Wetmore
Striped Bass (05/17)	06 lb. 13 oz. Basil Dubrosky
Weakfish (05/18)	12 lb. 06 oz. Ed Cherry
W. Fl'nder (04/25)	02 lb. 04 oz. Jerry Papp

Hearty congratulations to our two newest leaders: for Bluefish it is John Lyszczarz and for Fluke it is Eian Beron. John caught his Bluefish while trolling for Tuna in the vicinity of Barnegat Ridge.

FISH OF THE MONTH AWARD by George Fruh

The FOM winner for July is Eian Beron with an 11 lb. 12.8 oz. Bluefish he caught on 07/02.

We are happy to report that the Fish of the Month (FOM) winner for June was Bill Power with a 5 lb. 1.6 oz. fluke he caught on 06/24 in Double Creek channel. The end of June had come too late for the "final" June weigh-ins to be reported in our July Newsletter

FISHING REPORTS

[Pictures are presented immediately below their related text]

05/25/2005 by Dick Vesper

Dave Sikorski and I went fishing with Capt. Mel early today and caught lots of bluefish. They hit plugs, poppers and, as seen in the picture, they took the first fly Dave ever tied. Capt. Mel caught a keeper fluke by working a fin-S along the bottom. A clue for you: we caught blues in the bay in water that looked like an oil slick (baitfish oil). Whenever we'd drift a few feet outside the slick, the bite stopped.



06/25-26/2005 by Dave Sikorski

On June 25 and 27 I fished with a friend of mine in the Long Island Sound. We worked the area around an outflow from a small harbor. Using the squid and spearing combination, Craig caught a few Fluke, while I tried both the squid/spearing combo and my soft plastic lures. Our two day total catch was 10 Fluke, 4 Sea Robins, 1 Bluefish and 1 Hickory Shad. If you think we have it bad here in New Jersey, try fishing in New York. Five of the Fluke were over 16 and a half inches but only 2 were keepers. In NY, thanks to an aberration in the MRFSS data, they are only allowed to keep fluke over 17 and a half inches long; and only 3 of them! We had 3 fish that were just short of 17 and a half inches. Overall, it was a very good trip. The next time I go to Long Island, I will definitely be calling my friend Craig...

07/04/2005 by Jeff Barnhart

Since the fluke bite has been kind of slow maybe tuna is the way to go. John Lyszczarz and Capt. Jeff Barnhart show one of several blue fin tuna they trolled up at the Star Fingers on July 4th on Jeff Barnhart's Reel Deal. Fishing with them from the club (somebody

had to take the photo) was Vince Sibona. The tuna were hitting cedar plugs and rainbow spreader bars.



07/23/2005 by Jeff Barnhart

Vince Sibona with the 25 pound blue fin tuna caught at the Star Fingers on Capt. Jeff Barnhart's Reel Deal Saturday July 23.



07/05/2005 by Bill Jann

I had a good day today at the Middle Grounds. Caught the last two hours of the incoming and fished the first of the outgoing. I didn't do much, except for a couple of shorts, in my usual spots for the first hour and a half. Then I moved to the southeast, near the sand bar by 108B, and got a steady pick. I ended up with 6 keepers and 14 shorts, mostly on the chartreuse streamer rigs with squid/killie. They were in fairly shallow water, from 4 1/2 to 7 feet. The best bite was from 9:00am to 10:30am. After that, it died off.

07/19/05 by Bill Jann

Ron Nachman, Bill Dabney, and I went out on Ron's boat, the R&R, to the Garden State South reef. We had nice weather (for a change), mostly sunny with a light breeze. We set up with fluke rigs, using mostly squid and killies, and drifted around, looking for some fish in about 75 feet of water. The ocean temp was in the high 70's. Things were slow at first, but we found a "hot spot"

where we had a slow, but steady, pick of fluke and sea bass. No giants, but good eating size fish. We had hoped to anchor up on one of the subway cars, but never really found one, so we drifted over whatever structure we could find. All in all, a nice day. Some of the sea bass were close to 2 pounds. They didn't seem to mind biting on fluke rigs. We were surprised at how few boats were out there, and how little radio talk we heard from fishermen. The fuel prices seem to be affecting everyone.

07/20/05 by Bill Jann

Ron Nachman, Bill Dabney, and I went out to the Garden State South reef yesterday on Ron's boat, the R&R. We had a decent catch of fluke and sea bass.



07/23/2005 by Jeff Barnhart

John Lyszczarz (left) holds the 12.6 pound bluefish he caught on Captain Jeff Barnhart's Reel Deal Saturday July 23 off Little Egg inlet.



07/23/2005 Ocean Fishing by Basil Dubrosky

On Saturday, July 23, Dave Sikorski and I went out Little Egg Inlet at 6:30 AM. Waters were 2-3 feet and we made quick time to a 30 foot lump just south of the wreck buoy. We caught 3 quick fluke to 20 inches and then the NE wind came up and made it impossible to hold bottom even with 10 ounces of weight. We tried shallower water and had some nice action with small blues, a nice bonito and a very large dogfish. As we headed into the inlet we spotted a large school of bunker. We proceeded to snag a bucket full of large bunker for crab bait. Fishing live bunker under the school produced no hits. Although we did not hit a lot of fish, we salvaged the day with the action we had on the return trip.

FISHING TIPS FOR TRAVELERS by Basil Dubrosky

While in the Manahawkin area we know we can rely on our friends in the VHFC to help us with the knowledge we need to fish successfully. However, we all travel to new areas for vacations, family visits and business trips. Many of us take our fishing equipment while traveling, hopeful to have some success in the new area. However, we usually have limited time to get up to speed and most of these experiences are not rewarding. The challenge we have in a new area is where to fish and what tactics to use.

The following is a summary of techniques and resources I have used to increase my success in "foreign waters".

Ask Club Members - Many of our members have experience fishing in nearby areas such as North Jersey/Sandy Hook, Island Beach, South Jersey and Delaware Bay. Several members spend the winter months fishing in Florida. Some have spent vacations fishing in exotic areas.

Hit the Internet – Before your trip, use the Internet to get as much information as possible. Check state environmental or fish and game sites, city chamber of commerce site, local newspaper sites and fishing store sites that may lead to local fishing reports. Call a tackle shop to get more specific information. These initial steps will help you to decide what to bring.

Visit a Fishing Tackle Shop – Once you arrive at the destination visit a tackle shop and talk with the staff and customers. Pay special attention to differences in terminal tackle and bait. Ask for directions to walk in fishing areas. Ask about piers and areas where fishermen congregate. Get a local tide chart and papers similar to our Sand Paper. Get information on local guides and buy a fishing license if required.

Walk and Talk – Go to the obvious places that you will find fishermen at different times of the day and ask them

about their success. Pay special attention to terminal tackle and bait used. Beaches, boat rental establishments, gas docks/marinas and party boat docks can yield good information. I once got my best information while chatting with a road crew foreman who told me how to get walk in access to a great fishing spot.

Hire a Guide – I know this sounds a bit extravagant but you can learn more on a trip with a guide than any other way. If you are staying for several days you can use the information and techniques learned from the guide on the first day to fuel excursions on your own for the next few days.

In summary, make your next fishing experience while traveling more rewarding by doing some advance research. When you get there, hit a tackle shop, talk to the locals, get a guide, have fun and give us all some feedback when you return.

FISHING ACCESS IN NJ by dick Vesper
I copied the following table from a document in F&W's web site.

WHERE, HOW AND WHEN TO CATCH THEM *

SPECIES	WHERE			HOW		WHEN											
	SURF	BAYS	DEEP SEA	SHORE	BOAT	JANUARY	FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	MAY	JUNE	JULY	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	NOVEMBER	DECEMBER
BLACK DRUM												
BLACK SEA BASS												
BLOWFISH												
BLUEFISH												
BLUE CRAB												
BONITO												
COD
CROAKER												
DOLPHIN												
FALSE ALBACORE												
FLUKE												
HARD CLAM
KINGFISH												
LNG
MACKEREL												
MARLIN												
PORGY												
SHARK												
SPOT												
STRIPED BASS
TAUTOG												
TUNA												
WEAKFISH												
WHITING												
WHITE PERCH												
WINTER FLOUNDER												

* Recreational anglers are reminded to review current fishing regulations.

VESSEL SAFETY CHECK by Ed Wetmore

A Vessel Safety Check (VSC) is generally performed on recreational boats under 65 feet. VSC requirements parallel federal and individual state regulations regarding equipment and safety conditions

of the vessel. VSC is not a law enforcement action. No official report is made to any law enforcement agency.

A vessel safety check is only performed with the owners consent and he/she must be present at the time of the VSC. The owner of the vessel will be presented a "Vessel Safety Check" decal depicting not only a successful completion of the safety check but a demonstration to the rest of the boating world that the owner is operating a safe vessel.

(See our May 2005 Newsletter for more details.)

This check will last about 10-15 minutes and I will do all the paper work (very little) and present the captain/owner with a complete copy of the VSC. I will describe that boats under 26 feet have less requirements than the larger ones.

To arrange a VSC for your boat during the first three weeks of July, please call me at 609-294-6956 (home) to schedule a date. I will come to your location and inspect their boat.

Thank you and safe boating...

THE LIST OF GENEROUS DONORS by Bill Logan

We will give you a report on the July Dinner Dance next month. In the meantime, if you happen to be in one of these stores, please take the time and thank them for donating to our club dinner and making it a success:

- Bruce & Pats Bait & Tackle
- Fisherman's Headquarters
- Barnegat Light Bait & Tackle
- Chum Bucket Bait & Tackle
- The Fisherman Magazine
- Spray Beach Family Laundry & Car Wash
- Buy-Rite Liquor
- Sea Oaks County Club
- The Boat Shops
- NJ Angler Magazine
- Roxy Liquors

LOTS MORE NON-REFRIGERATED BAITS

THAT WORK by Dick Vesper

Most of us have grown accustomed to using plastic baitfish to jig for our favorite inshore species. Now there are more new baits in town and I'm hearing a lot of good reports from local catchers of fish. For example, in Capt Mel's (Fisherqueen) report of Sunday, July 24, 2005, she writes "I had the gang from the fishermen magazine Jim Hutchinson with gal Michelle and John Debona out this weekend for some fluking and just for a plain good old time. We started off in Double Creek and picked some fluke in the 2 lb range. Then we headed over to the sod banks to throw some plastics and picked up some bluefish along with another fluke. These guys were using the new Berkeley Gulp Sheet Bait. You cut it with scissors and it looks like fish skin or shall I say in a low voice fluke belly?!! This stuff really works. We caught all but one of the fluke on it. Try it out. I'm going to get some."

Summarizing what I've picked up so far:

1. New products, such as the Berkley Gulp Saltwater series are rapidly replacing live, fresh or frozen

bait in some local tackle boxes. As you can see in Capt' Mel's Report, Jim Hutchinson seemed to be very successful in using the sheet bait in place of squid strips or fluke bellies to catch fluke

2. Several fishermen and two tackle shops reported good success on the beach catching Kingfish with synthetic worms; either Fisherman's Choice Squid Worms or Berkley Gulp Saltwater 6" Sandworms.
3. These products catch fish, need no refrigeration and are cheaper than "spoilable" worms.
4. I'm especially enamored with the "Gulp" products (fresh and salt water). They give off a scent that seems to work in our fishery.
5. Two cautions: Don't put used baits back in with the new. Don't expose/store in a lot of sun light. Fortunately, they come in resealable zip lock bags to keep them "fresh".

[Ed. Note: The next thing some company will try to sell us will be a little black box for our boats, cars or for our pockets that will show us where we are on a digital chart and helps us to retrace our steps back home, even in the dark. Really? Naaaaaah!]

BOATING GEAR FOR SALE by Dick Vesper

1. New Ad: 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]

2. 1993 Baha Cruiser 285 Weekender – 28.5ft; 10.5' beam; 2 Volvo V8 305 CI 205HP Inboards (620 hours); fresh H2O engine flush sys.; Outriggers; 12 rod SS Rocket Launcher + rod storage in gunnels; tackle lockers; bait station w' sink; shore power; battery charger; 2003 Color GPS & 2004 VHF; 1999 Color Video Sounder; Loran; 1999 J AM/FM Stereo Cassette; Hot/Cold Fresh Water Sys.; galley; head w' shower; auto extinguisher sys.; Bennet trim tabs; Canvas drop curtain; many extras. 2004 survey gave it excellent rating; valued at \$35,000 to \$40000. Asking \$34000. Call Vince Sibona at 609-597-6162. (expires Sept.15, 2005) [ad expires: 9/15/05]

3. Charlie Kochka is selling a 1984 9.9 HP Suzuki Long Shaft in excellent condition. Low Hours. Was kept in garage for years. Asking \$500 597-4430 (expires Sept.15, 2005) [ad expires:9/15/05]

FISHING WITH CLUB MEMBERS

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.
2005 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Officers:

President	Dave Sikorski (978-0437)
1 st Vice President	John Borick (507-8592)
2 nd Vice President	Ed Wetmore
Treasurer	Bill Logan (597-0784)
Secretary	Ed Wetmore (294-6956)

Trustees

Sergeant at Arms	Charlie Kochka
Weigh Master/Awards	George Fruh (597-4588)
Recruiting	John Kerstanski (698-6662)
Member Data Base	John Nonnenmacher (597-5383)
Guest Speakers	Bill Dabney (978-6893)
Immediate Past Pres.	Ray Williams (978-1480)

Communications	Roland Dixon (494-0543)
Newsletter (non-voting)	Dick Vesper (494-0263)
Library	Bill Dabney (978-6893)
Library Alternate	Steve Cook (978-8416)
Printing	Bill Logan (597-0784)
Sponsors	Bill Logan (597-0784)
Website	Dave Sikorski (978-0437)
Vessel Safety	Ed Wetmore (294-6956)
JCAA/Regulations	John Borick (507-8592)
Fishing Hands On	Vacant
Tournament Director	Vacant
Other Past Presidents	Board Members (non-voting)
All '05 Tournament	Chairpersons are Trustees



Village Harbour Fishing Club's

August 27th, 2005

FLUKE & SEA BASS TOURNAMENT

This fishing event is open to all active members, co-members, & junior anglers (2005 dues paid) with or without boats. Entry Fee is \$10 per angler & all entry fees will be distributed as prizes. We are asking all participating boats **to fly our flag** so we can identify each other and aid one another as needed.

Entries: Prizes will only be awarded to Participants who have signed and completed this sheet either at a club meeting or by mail received before the event. We need you to sign the Signup Sheet and thereby acknowledge your understanding of the rules and responsibilities for the event.

Prizes: One half of the total entry fees will be awarded for each of the heaviest keeper Fluke and Sea Bass. In case of equal weights, the longer fish will win & if lengths are equal, the first fish weighed in wins. If only one species is caught then prizes for 1st & 2nd size fish will be awarded Refreshments at Bill Logan's home starting at weigh in. **(70 Howard Drive, Beach Haven West)**

VHF channel 72 is the day's communication channel. Hail VHFC members on # 9 and switch to #72

Fishing Time: 7:00 AM-2:00 PM on August 27th.

Fishing Area: North/South Bays and all Ocean Waters

Co-Chairmen: Bill Logan and Ed Wetmore.

Schedule Weigh In: Weigh-ins will be done at Bill Logan's Home by George Fruh (VHFC Weigh Master) from 3-4 PM

Prize Awards: Prizes will be distributed at the September Membership Meeting.



SIGN UP SHEET

Signed entries can be mailed to VHFC, Fluke and Sea Bass Tournament, PO Box 1026, Manahawkin, NJ 08050.

- Formal participation includes a commitment to hold harmless the Village Harbour Fishing Club, Inc, its officers and directors for any damage or injury, which may result from participation in this event.
- Each Captain is responsible for the safety of his or her boat and all the people aboard.
- Village Harbour Fishing Club, Inc. does not inspect the boats or assess the training and experience of the Captain or crew.
- Each Captain is responsible for all the decisions regarding the safe operation of their vessels, including the decision to leave the dock.
- Event dates are scheduled well in advance of any weather forecast. Conditions necessary for safe operation are different for different vessels and Captain and crew experience levels. The Captain of the participating vessel who signs this entry form agrees to take full responsibility for all decisions affecting the safe operation of his vessel and agrees to indemnify and hold the club harmless from any claims made by anyone affected by the operation of the Captain's vessel.

Captain's Name: _____ Signature: _____ Date _____

Boat Name: _____ Captain's Phone # _____

Crew Names

Signatures

Date

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Village Harbour Fishing Club, INC.

2005 Form for Member Renewals and New Applications
MAIL COMPLETED FORM 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 13, 2005

Name*: _____ Member #: _____ Nickname: _____
 Signature*: _____ Date: ___/___/___ Note: Both * items must be completed.

Renewals: Please insert any changes from 2004 Membership list.

New Applicants: Please complete all of the following:

Name of Spouse:	
Principle Address:	Shore Address:
City/St/Zip:	City/St/Zip:
Phone:	Phone:
Fax:	Fax:
E-Mail:	E-Mail:

Would you like to receive your monthly newsletter via e-mail? (circle): Yes No Choosing "yes" will save club printing & mailing costs!

Boat Owners, please complete the following:

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

VILLAGE HARBOUR FISHING CLUB, INC.

2005 Form for *Junior Angler* Renewals and New Application
MAIL COMPLETED FORM 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 13, 2005

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 receive your monthly newsletter via e-mail? (circle): Yes No (Saves printing costs!)

SPONSOR:

SPONSORING 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 13, 2005.

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

Junior Angler Boat Owners please complete the following:

Note: Five * items must be completed.

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

**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.
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Manahawkin, NJ 08050**