



THE HARBOUR LIGHT



The Official Newsletter of
Village Harbour Fishing Club, Inc.

PO Box 1026

Manahawkin, NJ 08050

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Web Site Address: <http://FishermansHeadquarters.com/VHF/>

E-mail Address: VHFCInfo@aol.com

EVENTS IN NOVEMBER

BOARD MEETING: 05 NOVEMBER

7:30 P.M at the Community Center

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 12 NOVEMBER

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:

- Report and Awards for The Surf Tournament
- Committee Reports
- All-Present Fishing Discussion
- Presentation: The Rutgers Marine Field Station Staff on "Tagging and Sonar tracking of Striped Bass, Fluke, Bluefish".

FOR YOUR NEW CALENDAR: The first Membership Meeting in 2005 will be held on 08 April; same time and same place. Happy Holidays.

PRESIDENT'S NOVEMBER 2004 MESSAGE by Ray Williams

The November Newsletter is the last of 2004 and this is my last President's message. I have enjoyed being your President for the last 2 years. There are two primary reasons my term has been a pleasurable experience. Those two reasons are the VHFC Board & the quality of you members. It's said that in any club or volunteer organization that only about 5% of the members do all the work. In VHFC, we have a Board of 14 members, all of whom work very hard to make the club successful. With 108 members it is really wonderful to have over 10% involved in making the club a great success. I would appreciate it if all of you would read the page of the newsletter listing our Board Members & take the time to thank them for all of their hard work the next time you see them. Without them, the club would cease to exist. They all give your club many hours of work each month and have made my job very easy.

I hope that all of you can turnout for our November meeting. Over the winter, watch for any news regarding fishing regulations and respond to help

protect our rights as fishermen & fisherwomen. Our new President, Dave Sikorski, will do an excellent job for our club; in addition, many of our Board members are taking on new responsibilities next year. Thank you again for the opportunity to lead the Village Harbour Fishing Club for the last 2 years.

1ST VP'S MESSAGE by Dave Sikorski

I would like to start out by echoing Ray, and thanking everyone who contributed to making 2004 a very successful and enjoyable year for the VHFC. Much of our success is attributable to the participation of many long time members and many new members, especially the six new Board members we have added over the past 3 years, as well as Ray's leadership.

I was especially proud of the Newsletter this year. Many folks have contributed stories and Dick has done a great job, as usual. To continue our success we will need additional members to volunteer to help contribute in the coming years. If you would like to help out in any way, please let me or one of our Board members know, we will gladly welcome your support.

As your 2005 president, I would like to give you an overview of what we have in mind for next year's activities: We will be having more hands on type meetings, including lures to use, tying rigs, bait presentation, etc.

We hope to have more noncompetitive, learning events, possibly including a Party Boat trip and a wade-fishing event. We will need folks to help organize these new events. Our newly formed Regulatory Committee will become more active and will be asking you to participate by attending public hearings, writing letters and signing petitions to help the cause of recreational anglers. We also plan to update our By-laws to become more consistent with the way we operate the club. You will be called upon to ratify these changes at one of our meetings. Again, anyone interested in helping increase our success, please let me know.

I hope everyone has a great Holiday Season and can enjoy the fall fishing season before the cold weather sets in.

2004 TROPHY FISH by George Fruh

The status of our 2004 Trophy Fish of the Year competition as of September 28th:

Bluefish(10/09)	19 lb 7 oz	Paul Galasso
Fluke(08/28)	7 lb 1 oz	John West
SeaBass(06/13)	2 lb 12 oz	Henry Desch
StripedBass(06/18)	36 lb 1 oz	Tony Recklitis
Weakfish (05/26)	10 lb 0 oz	Paul Turi
W. Fl'nder (04/09)	2 lb 1 oz	Vince Sibona

Once again our one new entry is by Paul Galasso; an even newer and much bigger Bluefish. Rumor has it that this could wind up being the heaviest bluefish weighed in NJ this year. Congratulations Paul.

FISH OF THE MONTH AWARD by George Fruh

No Fluke was weighed in for the month of September. That prize will not be awarded this year.

The October & November Fish of the Month is Striped Bass. As of noon November 1st, no Striped Bass has been weighed in during October and November.

Note: When I went to collect weigh-in information, American Sportsman Bait and Tackle was closed due to the owner going hunting. There may be some weigh-ins that we will report later due to lack of access to any records at that site.

2004 SURF TOURNAMENT REPORT by John Borick

For those of you who missed the surf tournament, you missed a great event. The tide was perfect, as high tide was at 9:30 Saturday, and the striper bite seemed to occur a couple of hours after the falling tide. Eighteen members signed up for the tournament this year, but only eight members fished the Surf City area. Just to tell you how excellent the fishing was in the Surf City area, from 4th street to 6th street there were 9 keeper stripers taken on Saturday, and 5 keeper stripers were taken on Sunday, although they were not caught by members of our club. There were also quite a few large bluefish caught, including Dave Sikorski's 10.1 lb. bluefish. Steve Cook caught a 23 inch striper within 20 feet of the weigh station, which he released, and then top it off with an 11.3 lb. black drum, which put up quite a fight. There were kingfish, croakers, sea robins, and dogfish entered into the contest. Persistence pays off. As I left the beach on Saturday at 1:00 to clean my croakers and to get some lunch and when I returned at 3:00, I found out that almost everyone in the area I was fishing had a striper. Talk about bad timing. The croaker bites between 5:00 A.M and first light was so good, that it was impossible to fish with more than one

pole. George Fruh, our weigh master, did an excellent job; there were nine weigh-ins by club members.

The club members gathered around the weigh station for pictures. It was great to have members to talk to and fish with on the surf. I would like to thank the members who helped with the tournament, and the members who made it a successful event on the surf. The luncheon at Subbogies on Sunday was great. Those who attended swapped fishing stories. There was a discussion on how to make the event even better for next year. Hope to see you at next year's tournament.

2004 SURF TOURNAMENT WEIGH-INS by Dave Sikorski

Steve Cook	Black Drum	11.3 lb
Dave Sikorski	Bluefish	10.1 lb
Jack West	Sea Robin	2.0 lb
Dave Sikorski	Croaker	1.6 lb
Jack West	Bluefish	1.4 lb
Jack West	Dogfish	1.4 lb
John Borick	Croaker	1.1 lb
Steve Cook	Kingfish	1.0 lb
Basil Dubrosky	Kingfish	0.8 lb

2004 SURF TOURNAMENT PICTURES

Three pictures from the tournament are on their own page in the newsletter. I'm going next year.

THE RUTGERS MARINE FIELD STATION STAFF ON "TAGGING AND SONAR TRACKING OF STRIPED BASS, FLUKE, BLUEFISH" edited by Dick Vesper

The following is a summary for one of the subjects to be presented at the November 2004 Membership Meeting.

Dana Rowles is currently working to complete her Master's in Oceanography at Rutgers. Her research study is being conducted out of the Rutgers University Marine Field Station in Tuckerton, NJ.

Her fluke studies focus on understanding fluke movements during summer residence and fall emigration in the Great Bay/Mullica River Estuary in Southern New Jersey.

Fluke are tagged with transmitters that emit an ultrasonic sound at a specific frequency and ping interval unique to each tag. A hydrophone detects and records the sound coming from the tags. There are several hydrophones set at every entrance and exit to the estuary to record fish moving into and out of the system.

These tags also help in identifying migration timing and broad movements within the system. Hydrophones are also set along the Mullica River to

measure the distance that fluke travel up the river. A handheld hydrophone is used to find and follow tagged fluke while recording their position and the local environmental factors (temperature, salinity, dissolved oxygen, acidity, etc.). This information assists in identifying how these environmental factors affect fluke movements and migrations.

CHESAPEAKE BAY FISHING by Ray Williams

On Wednesday, October 13th, I got the opportunity to go fishing in the Chesapeake Bay down in Virginia. My son-in-law, Dean owns a carpet business & one of his suppliers sponsors a very nice Charter trip each year. The trip is an overnight event starting with a Barbeque, bon fire, & cocktails at a local motel the night before the trip.

After staying up till after 11pm enjoying the fire & company we went to bed and got up at 5am to drive over to the boat. Captain Danny Crabbe is one of the best Charter Boat Captains on the Chesapeake & I have been on his boat several times. There were only 6 of us on a boat that will fish up to 20 people so we had plenty of room to fish. We motored down a large creek that feeds into the Chesapeake at Burgess, Virginia about 6:15 am. The sky was clear & bright as they say in the song. As we traveled down the creek, there was no light pollution to obscure the stars in the sky. I had a feeling we would have a great day when I saw a shooting star!

We went out about 30 minutes into the bay & started fishing before the sun rose. By 10 am we had caught over 40 stripers, or as they call them down there, rock fish. In addition we caught about 150 blues from 1 to about 4 pounds. Captain Crabbe grinds fresh bunker right on the boat & the stripers & blues respond to the chum slick pretty quickly. About 30 minutes after we arrived, several other boats arrived, but they weren't nearly as successful as we were. We started releasing fish after we had 10 stripers in the cooler so that we could take the nicest fish home. As in New Jersey, the limit is 2 fish per person. If you release the fish while they're still in the water & use circle hooks, most of the fish survive.

We had a great time & I was amazed that we did so well in such a short time. I highly recommend fishing the Chesapeake. The bay is very different from Barnegat Bay. Woods run right down to the water & they don't seem to have the marshes that we do. The fishing is usually very good and it's beautiful down there. I had heard that there were a lot of diseased fish in the bay & that the fish were stressed from lack of baitfish, but these stripers & blues were fat and sassy! I hope that is a good omen for the entire east coast.

VHFC PRESENTATION TO ELDERMED by Roland Dixon

The Eldermed Presentation on October 18th lasted an hour and a half. We had 15 Eldermed members present and the bulk of the presentation was by Ed Wetmore, as I was delayed and was late getting there.

We invited them to VHFC's November meeting. We'll see what happens. They have asked us to conduct another such presentation next May. We are trying to get some of them to join VHFC.

NOTE FROM DICK VESPER:

This is the last Newsletter for 2004. If you want an old or new item listed for sale in 2005 or if you want to be listed to go fishing with a club member, you need to contact me with all the pertinent information in 2005. Contact me, Dick Vesper, by email: dick.vesper@verizon.net or by phone (609-494-0263).

BOATING GEAR FOR SALE by Dick Vesper

This is the last 2004 listing for these fishing-related items for sale. Ads are free! They are written by the owner.

1. New Ad: 1989, 24 ft. Grady White Offshore (walk-around) with 1998 EV250 Mercury Outboard, SS Prop, 98 gal. gas tank, sonar, Loran, VHF, compass, 2 batteries and more. "Like brand new" said the owner, Wallace Mianowski, who is asking \$21,500 and can be reached at 609-492-9442
2. Boat trailer, galvanized, for 12/14 ft. boat. Good condition. 1000# capacity. 1993. Used very little. Includes spare tire and rim. \$275. Call Steve Cook. (609) 978-8416.2002
3. Boston Whaler Conquest, 23 ft, 225 Mercury engine, all electronics, T-top, Head, 30 hrs on engine. Asking \$52,500. Contact John Mazzone at (973) 583-9318
4. Charlie Kochka is selling a 1984 9.9 HP Suzuki Long Shaft in excellent condition. Low Hours. Was kept in garage for years. Asking \$600 597-4430

FISHING WITH CLUB MEMBERS

(Boat owning members who might be interested in taking a member fishing on their boat could contact one or more of the interested parties (below) and arrange to meet at a club meeting and discuss details in person.

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.
- Marilyn and Chic are looking for a member with a boat, who plans on going fishing in the ocean. They're willing to share expenses. Please contact them at (201) 960-4534 or (201) 723-1180.
 - 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.

- 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.
- John Borick would like to go surf fishing with a member who has some surf fishing know-how. His local number is 597-8572. Home number is 973-235-0930.

**VILLAGE HARBOUR FISHING CLUB, INC.
2005 BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Officers:

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

Newsletter 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)
 Tournament Director VACANT
 All Past Presidents, not listed above, are non-voting Board members.

Trustees

Sergeant at Arms Charlie Kochka
 Weigh Master/Awards George Fruh (597-4588)
 Recruiting John Kerstanski (698-6662)
 Membership Data Base John Nonnenmacher (597-5383)
 Fishing How-To's Steve Cook (597-8416)
 Guest Speakers Bill Dabney (978-6893)
 Immediate Past Pres. Ray Williams (978-1480)
 Communications Roland Dixon (494-4564)

2004 Tournament Chairmen & Committee Members
 To Be Announced in 2005.

Village Harbour Fishing Club, INC.

2005 Form for Member Renewals and New Applications
MAIL 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 or corrections to the 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.): _____

2004 SURF TOURNAMENT PICTURES



Dave Sikorski and his 10.1 lb. Bluefish



Steve Cook and his 11.3 lb. Black Drum



THE GANG

**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>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>

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