

# THE HARBOUR LIGHT



*The Official Newsletter of*  
 Village Harbour Fishing Club, Inc.  
 PO Box 1026  
 Manahawkin, NJ 08050  
 VOLUME # 105    ISSUE #7    October 2005

Web Site Address: <http://FishermansHeadquarters.com/VHFC>  
 E-mail Address: [VHFCInfo@aol.com](mailto:VHFCInfo@aol.com)

## VHFC EVENTS IN OCTOBER 2005

### OCTOBER FISH OF THE MONTH: STRIPED BASS & BLUEFISH

### BOARD MEETING: 07 OCTOBER

7:30 P.M at the Community Center

### MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 14 OCTOBER

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
- FOM & FOY Awards and Status
- Updated Specifics for the Surf Tournament
- US Coast Guard Waterway Watch
- Break with All-Present Fishing Discussions
- Hands On: Surf fishing and Surf Rigs

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE** by Dave Sikorski

October marks the beginning of surf fishing season. Lately, we have noticed many of our members showing interest in learning more about this type of fishing. In response to this increased interest, we have scheduled another hands-on learning session at our October 14th meeting; this one dedicated to surf fishing. We will be talking about what equipment to use, lures, baits, rigs, etc.

In addition to our learning session, the Southern Ocean County Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a free "Super Surf Casting Seminar" on October 8. You must register for this seminar by calling 609-494-7211 x100. Check out their website for more info: [www.lbift.com](http://www.lbift.com)

The chamber is also sponsoring the 51st annual LBI Surf Fishing Contest, which starts October 8th and ends November 20th. This tournament features some very large weekly, segment and Grand prizes, as well as daily cash prizes. The entry fee is only \$25 for this 6-week tournament.

Our VHFC surf fishing tournament will be held on October 15 and 16 this year. This is a fun multi-species event, and this year we will be fishing together

so we can help each other learn what we know individually and collectively about surf fishing. Last year, 10 and 11 pound fish were landed in this event. See the sign up sheet in this newsletter for further details.

As mentioned at our meetings, we have added Bluefish to the Fish of the Month (FOM) line-up for October and November this year. This is in addition to our traditional Striped Bass FOM prize.

As the year begins to wind down, the club will start to focus on 2006. We would really like to get some new folks on the Board for next year. Several folks have made many good suggestions, which we would like to implement, but we need your help doing so. John Borick will be our club's President next year, and will certainly appreciate all the help he can get. Please volunteer to help the club and join the Board. Open positions currently include Secretary and 2nd Vice President.

We also need someone to pick up the Newsletter duties next year, as Dick Vesper will be resigning that duty at the end of the year. He would like to transition to the next editor this year on the last newsletter or two. I would like to personally thank Dick for the fine job he has done on our newsletter over the past several years.

Thanks Dick

### **TROPHY FISH OF THE YEAR** by George Fruh

The Trophy Fish of the Year (FOY) weigh-in status remains unchanged as of August 29<sup>th</sup>, 2005:

Blackfish	<b>No Entry as Yet</b>
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

### **FISH OF THE MONTH AWARD** by George Fruh

The Fish Of The Month (FOM) winner for August is Dave Sikorski with a 2 lb. 11.2 oz. Sea Bass he caught on August 27<sup>th</sup>.

The FOM winners for September are:

Croaker (09/19)	10.4 oz. Basil Dubrosky
Fluke (09/07)	7 lb. 08 oz. John Lyszczarz

## REGULATORY REPORT by Dave Sikorski

**Winter Flounder:** The 2005 season is over: There will be no Fall 2005 season for Winter Flounder in New Jersey this year. Next year the season will only be open in the Spring.

**Weakfish:** Discussions are currently underway to decide the fate of the Weakfish regulations for next year. (Ed Note: The ASMFC's options range from "no change" to "no fishing season". See details and info on meetings we can attend and influence below)

## YOU NEED TO ATTEND ONE WEAKFISH MEETING IN OCTOBER by Dick Vesper & Dave Sikorski

Our right to catch and keep weakfish in 2006 is in serious jeopardy. The weakfish stock is dropping rapidly and JCAA, RFA, Ed Cherry, Dick Vesper and others know it is not due to any fishing pressure; rather to natural causes.

We need everyone who can, to attend one of the Weakfish meetings in NJ (see below) and let the regulators know how we feel. We want a status quo; no change.

The New Jersey Department of Fish & Wildlife (DFW) and Atlantic States Marine Fishing Council (ASMFC) have scheduled public hearings for October 12 and 13.

### THIS IS SERIOUS ISSUE –NOT A DRILL

ASMFC has drafted 4 options for us in 2004:  
1) same limits as in 2005, 2) 4 fish limit, 3) 1 fish limit, or 4) closed to recreational and commercial fishing.

Even ASMFC's scientists are reported as saying that fishing pressure is not the problem.

The ASMFC and the state Division of Fish and Wildlife will hold two public hearings:

- 7 p.m. Oct. 13 at the Ocean County Administration building, Room 119,101 Hooper Ave. Toms River
- 7:30 p.m. Oct. 12 at Rutgers' Cooperative Research and Extension Svc., 355 Court House - South Dennis Rd. (Rte 657), Cape May Court House,

Please attend and, if possible, get up and say you are a Village Harbour Fishing Club Member and a recreational fisherman and you want a status quo regulation in 2006. Other members will be there.

For more on the issue, you can read John Geiser's article in the Asbury Park Press on Friday Sept. 23, 2005. Please visit:

<http://www.app.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20050917/SPORTS06/509170462>

## SEPTEMBER'S FISHING REPORTS

09-13-05 by Bill Jann

The total catch was 7 keepers, 12 shorts, 1 seabass, and a bunch of skates. We went out with Ron Nachman on

the R&R. Jerry Papp, from our club, was also one of the crew, 5 guys in all. We wanted to give what might be a last try at fluke ... the weather was perfect so we went out to Barnegat reef ... light winds and a modest drift, we were able to get by with 4 oz sinkers in 55 feet of water ... it was a slow pick ... after a couple of hours we had 2 keepers, a bunch of shorts, and some skates ... Captain Ron wanted to go out to a large wreck, part of the garden state north reef, that he had numbers on ... he found it right away and we spent the rest of the day drifting near it ... depth was about 80 feet ... I got 3 keepers, including a 20 incher ... we used frozen spearing, fluke belly, and cut squid in shedder oil ... Here are three pictures:

The catch:



I'm the one with the hat:



Ron & Jerry:



09-22-05 by Al Tichenor

Today, I had a very special day on the beach at LBI. This Bluefish Measured 32 inches; approx. 10 lbs. Don Longstreet had just left the beach when these choppers, which looked like salmon, came racing down the beach from the north. I frantically managed to change my tackle just in time to land this guy.



09-28-05 by Bill Jann

Bill Dabney and I went out to do some crabbing yesterday (9/28/05). We caught the only day all week that the wind didn't blow. It was warm and sunny with a light breeze. We anchored up near the causeway and had a nice pick of crabs all morning. Used chicken for bait. We ended up with 68 altogether, all nice size, some over 6 inches, and about a 50/50 mix of males and females. In fact, we didn't get a single undersized crab all morning (first time ever for that). It's amazing how the bay empties out in late September; we didn't see another boat for over an hour, and not too many after that. The bite was best on the last of the incoming water, kind of died on the slack, and then picked up again on the outflow.

All cleaned and ready to steam (Bill Dabney)



10-01-05 by Basil Dubrosky

Dave Sikorski and I left the dock at 6:30 AM and motored out Beach Haven Inlet into a calm sea. We reef anchored on a wreck and began catching Sea Bass, Porgies, Blue Fish, Fluke, Bonita, Croakers and Trigger Fish. The Trigger Fish were quite a surprise. They were in the 4 pound range and fought hard. After we left the wreck, we motored to 60 feet depth and began catching Fluke non-stop. We must have boated 30 but only 3 keepers. We turned for home at 3:15 after a day of non-stop action.

**LIBRARY ADDITION** by Bill Dabney

We have added "Fishing For Trophy Striped Bass" by Al Lorenzetti: a 70 minute long DVD. It will be at the Library table at our October meeting.

**TWO TOPICS** from Roland Dixon

ELDERMED Workshop: VHFC's Jim Hutchinson Sr. and Roland Dixon conducted a workshop at ELDERMED on preparing for the LBI Surf Fishing Tournament. This very successful meeting was sponsored by SOCH. The presentation included bait preparation, the use of artificial baits including some of the newer synthetics. There were 10 participants, many of which were new to the area. Each was given a VHFC business card and we hope to see some of them at a future meeting.

LBI SURF FISHING TOURNAMENT: Rules and application forms for the 2005 LBI Surf Fishing Tournament will be available at VHFC's October Meeting. There will be a new hat for the first 1000 anglers that register. Lots of Daily, Weekly and Grand prizes. See <http://www.lbift.com> for further details.

**THREE SIMPLE ACTIONS TO IMPROVE YOUR CATCH BY** Basil Dubrosky

Did you ever wonder why, on the same day, at the same time, other fishermen catch more fish than you do? Did you ever have a big one get away and wonder why? Do you often get bites but no fish? Although we know that luck plays a big part in fishing success, there are 3 things you can do to markedly improve your luck.

There is seldom a bait that is too fresh, a hook too sharp or a knot too good to be improved, however, many fishermen think that the rig they have on when they leave the dock or reach the beach and the first bait they put on the hook should last them until they land a fish.

Hooks should be checked for sharpness frequently by spearing the point into your thumbnail. If it hooks the thumbnail without sliding it is good, if not, sharpen it. A portable sharpening stone is as handy as a clipper and should be kept on a lanyard or within easy reach. Experienced fishermen, whether fresh water or salt, artificial or bait, will tell you that sharp hooks dramatically improve your catch.

Chemically treated hooks such as Gamagatsu come factory sharp and are the most effective hooks for sharpness out of the package. These hooks do dull up with repeated use (especially on the beach) and are more difficult to sharpen. I usually throw them away after they go dull.

Most non-chemically treated hooks will not pass the sharpness test out of the package and should be sharpened before use. These hooks should be checked often and at the least be replaced after each saltwater fishing trip.

Live bait should be replaced when it dies and dead bait should be freshened regularly. If you are not catching fish, change your bait frequently, this will also allow you to check for seaweed and fouled hooks. The salt water takes the freshness out of bait and bait should not be used for prolonged periods.

Use fresh tippet material and new knots before each fishing trip. This may sound extreme but it is inexpensive and it will prevent those guilt feelings you may have about your tackle after losing a big fish. Retie knots periodically during your trip. The knot nearest the bait takes a beating and should periodically be freshened. If you conscientiously follow the 3 simple actions above, you will dramatically improve your fishing results and decrease those guilt feelings if you have a bad day.

**TWO NEW TV FISHING SHOWS FOR US** by Bill Dabney and Dick Vesper

Good news for the coming winter. Here are two fishing shows (each 1/2 hour long) about our fishing.

1. New Jersey Angler Fishing Magazine will be appearing on WMCN each Sunday at 10 AM from 2 October '05 thru March '06. WMCN is channel 27 in Ocean County and channel 15 in Atlantic County.

2. Northeast Angling will be appearing on Fox Sports New York (FSN) each Saturday at 10 AM and each Wednesday at 3 PM for 13 weeks.

**BOATING GEAR FOR SALE** by Dick Vesper

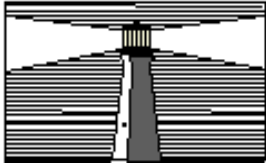
1. New Item: Good Fishing boat – very stable. 21 Ft Sea Cat, 5.5 Beam; includes T-top, full enclosure curtains, porta-potty with privacy screen, fuel water separator, compass, Twin 2003 Honda 50 HP motors with power tilt @ trim (4 stroke, quiet & efficient), tachometer, water pressure gauges, Garmin 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**

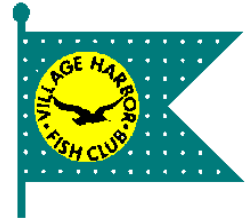
**(These 3 ads expire 12/31/05; unless owners renew)**

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](mailto:wjann@voicenet.com)

<b>VILLAGE HARBOUR FISHING CLUB, INC.</b>		<u>Trustees</u>			
<b>2005 BOARD OF DIRECTORS</b>		Sgt.at Arms	Charlie Kochka	Sponsors	Bill Logan
<u>Officers:</u>		Weigh Master	George Fruh	Website	Dave Sikorski
President	Dave Sikorski	Member Data	John Nonnenmacher	Vessel Safety	Ed Wetmore
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Pres.	John Borick	Guest Speakers	Bill Immediate	JCAA/Regulations	John Borick
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Pres.	Ed Wetmore	Past Pres.	Ray Williams	Recruiting	Vacant
Treasurer	Bill Logan	Communications	Roland Dixon	Fishing Hands On	Vacant
Secretary	Ed Wetmore	Newsletter	Dick Vesper (nonvoting)	Tournament Dir.	Vacant
		Library	Bill Dabney	All '05 Tournament Chairpersons	
		Library Alternate	Steve Cook	Other Past Presidents (non-voting)	



**VILLAGE HARBOUR FISHING CLUB, INC.**  
**Surf Tournament Registration Form**  
 Saturday & Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> & 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005



The Surf Fishing Tournament is planned to be a VHFC group event. Participation in this Surf Fishing Tournament is planned for the current VHFC membership only. Remember a spouse can attend, as they are co-members. Please sign up no later than October 7, 2005 or fill out the form included in the September newsletter and mail it to the Village Harbour Fishing Club. You may participate in one or both days. You must submit a signed form to be eligible for a prize in this event. Signed forms must be received by October 14, 2005.

**CHAIRMEN:** John Borick (597-8572), John Kerstanski (698-6662) & Roland Dixon (494-0543)

**FISHING LOCATION:** The tournament will be held between 7<sup>th</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Surf City. Those who are new to Surf Fishing can receive tips and instructions at the 5<sup>th</sup> street entrance from the Village Harbour Fishing Club Members.

**LUNCHEON:** All current members participating in this Tournament are invited to a Sunday luncheon celebration at Subbogies Food Depot: 512 Long Beach Blvd., Surf City, between 6 & 7 streets at 1:00 PM. Each member participating in the luncheon will be charged \$5.00 at that time. Non-Members can attend the luncheon "Dutch."

**SCHEDULE:** 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday  
 5:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon Sunday

**WEIGH-IN TIMES:** 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. & 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Saturday  
 12:00 noon to 1:00 p.m. Sunday only Luncheon at Subbogies

**PRIZES:** THE HEAVIEST\* OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIES WILL BE AWARDED \$20 EACH  
 STRIPER                      BLUEFISH - 14 INCH MINIMUM                      BLACK DRUM

**THE LONGEST\*\* OF THE FOLLOWING SPECIES WILL BE AWARDED \$10 EACH**  
 Atlantic Croaker      Weakfish      Black Sea Bass  
 Northern Kingfish      Red Drum      Tautog (Blackfish)

**WEIGH-INS:** At the 5<sup>th</sup> street ramp, 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 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: \_\_\_/\_\_\_/\_\_\_

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