



HARBOUR LIGHT

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

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE VILLAGE HARBOR FISHING CLUB

Editor: Jeff Orsoe VHFC Web Site: <http://www.vhfclub.com> May 2013 Vol. 113 No. 1

NEW METING PLACE

Bay Avenue Community Center

775 E. Bay Ave., Manahawkin.

Doors open at 7:30 PM

Parking is in back.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi Everyone,

I do believe that spring has arrived. Certainly not with a BANG, but with a few starts and pauses as if it wasn't sure of itself. In spite of its timid arrival, flowers are blooming, leaves are appearing on the trees and, from what I read, the fish are biting in the bays. Reports abound of big blues, keeper and short stripers and 40+ lb. black drum and weakies.

If you were unable to attend last month's meeting, you missed a really great presentation by Capt. Bob Misak on fishing the jetties for togs. He explained how to catch the special crab he uses for bait, the rig he uses, his equipment and he demonstrated the knot used to join the braided line and leader. He even shared one of his favorite fluke locations with us. A really informative session!

In last month's newsletter, in my message, I mentioned that we will be holding an auction at our November "Pizza Night" meeting. The money we make from the auction will be used to help support the organizations like the JCAA, the RFA and the NJOA who battle for our recreational fishing rights on a daily bases. What we will auction off are sporting items you donate. Those used, but in good working condition items you no longer use could be just the thing another VHFC member needs. Rods, reels, lures, boat items, camping or other sporting equipment are kinds of items we are looking for. Please bring anything of this nature to the meetings and we will accumulate them until the November meeting. Start by bringing them to the May meeting. Thanks in advance for your help!

The VHFC Striper Outing is scheduled for Friday, May 24th. We will be fishing on The Searcher II out of Barnegat Light Marina and will have the boat to ourselves. If it is anything like the Fluke Outing we had last year, we will have a ball...lots of fun, laughter, and catching. We will pass around a sign-up sheet at the meeting, but you can contact me (609-488-5549 or dnspeidiff@netscape.net) if you cannot attend the May meeting.

We have another great speaker lined up for the May meeting. We had a really good turnout for the April meeting and we hope to see even more people this month. Come relax and enjoy the

company of other like-minded people who love to fish.

I look forward to seeing you there,

Dave Spendiff

President



EVENTS IN MAY

BOARD MEETING: 10 May

7:30 P.M at the Stafford Twp Hall
725 Bay Avenue
Manahawkin, NJ

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: 13 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
_ Winter Flounder FOM Award
_ Club Business
_ 8:00 pm Guest Speaker Dave Foster
All-Present Fishing Discussion Break

Dave Foster will be speaking about bucktailing for fluke, deepwater and back bay, outfits and rigs used.

If you missed last month's speaker Bob Misak, of The Fisherman fame, you missed a good one. He spoke about Stripers, Flounder. He also mentioned that he had done a couple of U- tube video's, well, here is your chance to see them. Just follow the links.

Cleaning Puffer Fish:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8VGJcJnTg_U

Blackfish Jetty Fishing:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ux2gCEMBWSg>

WINTER FLOUNDER	NONE		
Blackfish	Robert Dodds	3 lb 15 oz	
WEAKFISH	David Spendiff	3.67 lbs	
BLUEFISH	Paul Galasso	13.95 lbs	
FLUKE	Jeff Barnhart	6.35 lbs	
SEA BASS	Diane Kleban	1.97 lbs	
STRIPED BASS	Robert Meli	38.75#	
Winter Flounder	John Kleban	1.88 lbs	

Congratulations to all those listed above. Prizes for all the 2012 Trophy Fish of the Year winners were distributed during the April 2013 Membership



2013 TROPHY FISH OF THE YEAR PROGRAM by John Kleban

The same seven species will continue for our 2013 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 2013 then you win the FOY trophy for that species. **Note:** your dues have to be paid before you catch an eligible fish.

2013 FISH OF THE MONTH AWARDS by John Kleban

The award for Striped Bass was Capt Brett Taylor & Bluefish was announced at the April General Membership meeting.

2013 FISH OF THE MONTH AND FISH OF THE YEAR AWARDS by John Kleban

Due to changes in New Jersey Fishing Regs, there are changes in the 2013 Trophy Fish of the Month Program:

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

Fish of the Year & Month standings are recapped and updated on our website frequently. Click on the site to get current standings.

THE LEGISLATIVE REPORT

On April 17, 2013 the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) approved

option 2 of section 3.0 of Draft Addendum XXIV to the Summer Flounder, Scup and Black Sea Bass Fishery Management Plan. Option 2 allows the projected underage of fluke caught along the east coast to be utilized by New Jersey and New York as these were the only two states that had been forced to further restrict their recreational fluke regulations this year. New Jersey will be allowed to extend its season by up to 11 days. Our season is currently scheduled to close on 9/16 but the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council (NJMFC) could vote to extend our season though 9/27. The fish that both states have been allocated are considered bonus fish that will be added to each state's quota.

While the passage of an extended season might seem like a slam dunk to some, it is not a sure thing. The New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council held an advisors meeting on sea bass on 4/18. During this meeting some time was devoted to talking about fluke and a couple advisors and council members expressed concerns about allowing the fluke season to be extended. Therefore, it was decided that the NJMFC would schedule another advisors meeting for fluke and that the council would consider any proposed change to our fluke regulations at their July meeting. Ultimately, our council could decide not to utilize any of the fish and leave our season as is or they could choose to utilize all of them and extend our season by the full 11 days. However, it is also possible that they could utilize some of the fish and extend our season by just a few days.

The ASMFC also reviewed and approved new data that will allow states in the northern area, including New Jersey, to reduce their recreational sea bass catch by 24 % rather than the 32% that had been previously mandated. This will allow us to keep our size limit at 12 ½" rather than having to increase the size limit to 13" which was likely prior to the latest liberalization. The majority of advisors and council members present favored the option for sea bass that would maintain a 12 1/2" size limit, reduce the bag limit to 20 from 25 and have seasons from 5/19-8/8, 9/27-10/14 and 11/1-12/31. That will result in an open season of 161 days, 30 less than we had last year. Numerous other options were also discussed and some will

be made available to the public in the near future. The sea bass regulations are expected to be set at the May 2nd meeting of the NJMFC. Those interested are encouraged to attend and give their opinions.

The only problem now, as I see it, is that if our fluke season ends on 9/16 and the sea bass season is closed until 9/27, there will be little for inshore fishermen to fish for inshore during those 11 days. Anyone interested in having our fluke season extended should come to the NJMFC meetings and urge our council members to add these additional days to our season. Both of the upcoming NJMFC meetings are scheduled to begin at 4 PM and will be held at the Galloway Township Branch of the Atlantic County Library, 306 East Jimmie Leeds Rd., Galloway, NJ 08205. Again, the sea bass regulations are expected to be set at the meeting on 5/2, while new fluke regulations might be considered at the meeting on 7/11.

POTS OFF THE REEFS

Bill Figley gave an up-date on the Pots off the Reef issues that has been around for the last seven years the recreational fisherman and the commercial fishing traps and associated rigging off two NJ artificial reef. The effort has been fought by both by trying to get favorable legislation passed in the NJ legislature or through the regulatory process at the NJDEP. At the last JCAA meeting there was a new compromised proposal was presented by Commissioner Martin. Bottom line it is still up in the air.

Be sure to check the NJ Fish and Game website to see the latest fishing seasons are.

IN THE Reading Room

This area is for Book Reviews:

PLEASE RETURN LIBRARY MATERIALS! by Bill Dabney

If you borrowed anything from our library over the winter, please make sure to return it at the next meeting so that other members may enjoy our library collection.

OLD FISHING BOOKS WANTED

Bill Dabney has accumulated some very good books & videos for our library but we will gladly accept any donations if you have fishing or boating books or videos you would like to donate to our library. If you have something, either bring it to a meeting or call Bill at 978-6893 to make arrangements for us to get your book or video.

BOAT/US

(Vessel Safety)

Jeff Orsoe

As we move along this calendar year to spring and the boating season VHFC, has renewed its cooperating Club with Boat/US. This means when you either renew your membership or join for the first time, you get to enjoy the benefits of membership.

Many of our member have heard of the "Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI). At Boat/US you can take the Search out of Search and Rescue! Your VHF radio equipped with Digital Selective Calling (DSC) is the single most important piece of safety equipment you can have on board your vessel. DSC allows the radio to transfer information digitally, not just by voice, and to instantly send a digital distress alert to the Coast Guard. Part of that alert is a nine-digit Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) number that identifies your boat. The MMSI number is a bit like a phone number for your boat, and all DSC capable equipment (including AIS units) associated with the specific vessel should use the same MMSI number, since the MMSI serves to identify the vessel, not the equipment.

DSC-equipped VHF radios must have an MMSI number to function. That number must be registered in a database that is relayed to the Coast Guard for use in Search and Rescue. BoatUS has been authorized by both the [Federal Communications Commission](#) (FCC) and the U.S. Coast Guard to assign MMSI numbers only to vessels that meet the following criteria:

- Used for recreation only
- Not required by law to carry a radio

- Do not make international voyages or communications

Go to Boat/US to find out more. Here is the link:

<http://www.boatus.com/mmsi/>

As we get our vessels ready for the season, it is important that they are ready, go to the Boat/US website for a check list to ensure that you do not miss anything.

Check out their web-site www.boatus.com for other information. Also look at the back page for some interesting links

As many of know I also perform the Vessel Safety Checks for USCG Auxiliary. This is a no cost service and assists each boater to have the minimum safety equipment on board. If successfully qualifying, a decal gets place on your vessel. If you do not qualify, no fear, I does not get reported and we will discuss the items and I will come back and do it all again. The advantages to displaying a decal are that should you get stopped and boarded by the Coast Guard it allows them know that you take safety seriously and you may also get a discount on your boat insurance. I have the decals and should you desire a VSC, contact me at 732-672-5530 or via email at jorsoe786@comcast.net. With your name, phone number or email address, length of vessel and location and we will set up a date. Hope to hear from every member.

One final note, Safe Boat Week will be held May 18-24. Many of the CG Aux Flotilla have activities planned.

Till next time, Safe Boating

T- SHIRTS SALE

VHFC T- SHIRTS AVAILABLE by Vince Sibona
VHFC T- shirts will be available at all meetings. The cost is \$18. Please see Vince to purchase yours while supplies last. T shirts may also be purchased by mail.

Please send a check for \$23 which includes shipping to: VHFC, P.O. Box 1026, Manahawkin, NJ 08050.
These shirts are very nice & are being sold at cost

The SHACK



The Shack by Vince Sibona

A photograph of the Shack, or what's left of the Shack after Superstorm Sandy. Most of you know that over the years I've photographed the Shack in all of the different seasons, weather conditions and holidays with attached articles. Now this is what is left of the Shack. There were plans to rebuild the Shack even before Sandy struck. Applications for building permits, state DEP and local, were submitted a while ago and are being processed. Some of the lumber from the Shack was supposed to be used in the building of the New Shack. Well, as you can see, there's not much left of the Shack. Maybe, hopefully, we will see the construction of the New Shack starting soon

The Boat Shop Open House

On Saturday April 6th the Villiage harbor Fishing Club was represented a THE BOAT SHOP Open house



Who are these **GUYS??**



FISHING REPORTS

Past President Joe Filice recently returned from a Florida Vacation where he says he had two terrific fishing days. Yesterday we had two gag grouper and got broke off by another six. In addition we had Spanish mackerel hamming the shrimp and kept five for dinner. Grouper is closed so they went back in, including this one.

Today we brought back Spanish mackerel for dinner again.



April 25, 2013

Didn't feel like sitting around on a warm night. So I headed out to the unani creek. In an hour and a half caught 18 trout. Kept four, including a big brown. All but two rainbow caught on my old faithful kastmaster lure.

April 28, 2013

On the beach at 7:30 this morning. Beautiful day. Mid 50's and sunny. Barefoot in the surf and caught a short throwback on clam and a 30", 8.5 lb dinner fish on bunker. I love this time of year on LBI



Nice going Joe!

MONTHLY HANDS ON

We will have the Hands On table at every meeting. Let me know if you want to help out or just stop by if you have any fishing questions.

CLASSIFIED ADS by Jeff Orsoe

For those of you who have used fishing or sporting equipment that is in good working condition that you will give to the club to be auctioned off at our November "Pizza Night" meeting, please bring it to the meeting tonight. We will let our members know what is planned and ask them to donate like gear. If this is successful, the money we generate will help us support the organizations that fight the battles to keep us fishing. Thanks!

,Classified ads may be placed free of charge by anyclub member for non-commercial fishing related items. Please contact Jeff Orsoe via email at jorsoe786@comcast.net to place your ad.if you wish to place a free ad.

FISHING WITH CLUB MEMBERS

Members may place free ads in this section if you wish to find someone to fish with. Maybe you need to find someone with a boat or you are interested in finding someone to share expenses on your boat. Contact Jeff Orsoe via email at jorsoe786@comcast.net to place your ad. Ads from last year need to be renewed for this year!

BUY, SELL or TRADE

Classified ads may be placed free of charge by any club member for non-commercial fishing related items. Please contact Jeff if you wish to place a free ad. Please contact Jeff Orsoe via email at jorsoe786@comcast.net to place your ad.

OFFICIAL VHFC WEIGH-IN STATIONS

As of this time, we have 2 official weigh-in stations. More are in the process of being added. If you know of tackle shop that may become a club sponsor and also become a weigh station, forward that to a member of the board. The two sponsors are both Club Sponsors & offer VHFC members nice discounts: The 2 stations are

Fisherman's Headquarters & American Sportsman Bait & Tackle.

CALENDAR

MEETING DATES

<i>Board Meeting</i>	Friday, 5 April, 2013
Club Meeting	Friday, 12 April, 2013
<i>Board Meeting</i>	Friday, 3 May, 2013
Club Meeting	Friday, 10 May, 2013
<i>Board Meeting</i>	Friday, 7 June, 2013
Club Meeting	Friday, 14 June, 2013
<i>Board Meeting</i>	Friday, 5 July, 2013
Club Meeting	Friday, 12 July, 2013
<i>Board Meeting</i>	Friday, 2 August, 2013
Club Meeting	Friday, 9 August, 2013
<i>Board Meeting</i>	Friday, 6 September, 2013
Club Meeting	Friday, 13 September, 2013
<i>Board Meeting</i>	Friday, 4 October, 2013
Club Meeting	Friday, 11 October, 2013
<i>Board Meeting</i>	Friday, 1 November, 2013
Club Meeting	Friday, 8 November, 2012

Board Meetings are open to any members wishing to attend/

Reminder: New Meeting Location

Bay Avenue Community Center

775 E. Bay Ave., Manahawkin

USEFUL INFORMATION LINKS

Boat/US:

<http://www.boatus.com/>

United States Coast Guard Auxiliary:

<http://www.cgaux.org/>

Notice to Mariners (District 5)

<http://www.navcen.uscg.gov/?pageName=lnmDistrict®ion=5>

Fisherman's Headquarters:

<http://www.fishermansheadquarters.com/>

The Boat Shop:

<http://theboatshoponline.com/>

The Bass Barn:

<http://www.thebassbarn.com>

Barnegat Fishing Hole:

<http://www.barnegatfishinghole.com/ubbthreads/ubbthreads.php>

Vessel Safety Checks: Call Jeff Orsoe @ 732-672-5530 and leave a message or email him at jorsoe786@comcast.net

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS: 30 May 2013

Jeff Orsoe Editor jorsoe786@comcast.net

Our Sponsors: 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

FISHERMAN'S HEADQUARTERS

Causeway, Ship Bottom, NJ

494-5739

10% discount on bait & tackle

AMERICAN SPORTSMAN BAIT & TACKLE

Mill Creek Plaza 597-4104

10% discount on bait & tackle

BRASWELL TROPHY & ENGRAVING

Ken Braswell, Owner

618-1744

10% Discount to VHFC Members

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 Jeff Orsoe 732-672-5530

CAUSEWAY BOAT RENTALS

On the LBI Causeway

494-1371

10% discount on bait and tackle

THE BOAT SHOP

756 E. Bay Ave., Manahawkin, NJ

597-1271

10% discount on regular prices

www.theboatshoponline.com



GALLIVANT GRAPHICS

BOAT LETTERING

We come to you ---- 10% off for members

609-812-9883

BARNEGAT BAY BAIT & TACKLE

451 East Bay Avenue, Barnegat

609-488-5692

10% discount on everything in the shop, EXCEPT FUEL AND OILS. Present VHFC card before purchase

WEST CREEK KAYAK & CANOE

224 Main St., West Creek

296-3030

10% off Accessories