



# ***HARBOUR LIGHT***

**OFFICIAL VHFC NEWSLETTER July 2018**

*Editor: Ed Valitutto* VHFC Web Site: <http://www.vhfishingclub.com>

***VHFC meets the second Friday of each month from April through November***

***Location: Manahawkin Community Center 775 East Bay Ave Manahawkin, NJ***

***Doors open at 7:30; Meeting begins at 7:45 PM***

***Next meeting: 13 July***

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hi everyone,

It seems like in the blink of an eye, our very cold spring temperatures have risen to an unbearable 90+ with matching humidity. The 2018 summer is now in full swing. Today, Saturday the 7th, has cooled a bit but that won't last long. Thursday I read bay water temperatures in the mid to upper 70's with the lagoons at 85! That should get most game fish moving out to deeper cooler water.

With a little planning, July can be a great time at the Jersey shore. Reservations are almost mandatory to dine at your favorite restaurant. Early arrival at beaches is needed for parking spaces as well as arriving off hour for fueling at the few marine gas docks. Well timed shopping is a must for essentials like bread, milk and beer/wine - I'm not sure what the bread and milk are for but get them anyway! Be sure to water your plants, pets and yourself! Seriously, 5-6 hours on the water can quickly dehydrate a person. Wear a hat or other sun

protection clothing and use sunscreen. I am constantly reminded by my wife and grown daughters to do so!

As far as fishing, fluke will be in the deeper holes in the bay or near the inlets with a few bluefish also lurking around. I have not read any reports about blowfish yet but those tasty critters should also be making a showing along with great crabbing action in the bay. In the ocean, the wrecks, reefs and lumps are great spots for fluke and seabass (two fish limit). There's action for everyone either by boat in the bay or ocean or off the surf. Now is the time to get out and enjoy what this great area has to offer. And be sure to weigh-in your catch for our FOM / FOY awards and submit a report of your success for others to enjoy.

Hope you can make our meeting this Friday evening and participate in our fluke tournament this Saturday. See more details in this newsletter.

Ed

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## **JULY EVENTS**

### **BOARD MEETING: July 6**

### **CLUB MEETING: July 13**

Club Meetings Start at 7:45 With Pledge of Allegiance

- Welcome Club Members and Guests
- Guest Speaker Introduction
- Break / Refreshments
- Committee Reports
- 50/50 Drawing
- Fishing Reports

### **FLUKE TOURNAMENT: July 14 (Rain Date July 15)**

**JULY SPEAKER** - This month's speaker is **Jonathan Klotz** – Jonathan is a Fisheries Technician for the NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, Marine Fisheries. Jonathan will discuss APAIS – Access Point Angler Intercept Survey – a recreational fishing survey run throughout the state. APAIS is the collection tool used for data gathering on recreational fisheries. Jonathan will also address proper fish handling and other ways to reduce fish mortality. He will also discuss Barotrauma – a condition experienced by deep water fish brought quickly to the surface – and how deadly it can be for affected fish.

**Notice to Club Members:** We still have a few members who have not renewed their 2018 dues. Members can renew at the July meeting or mail your check to VHFC Membership PO

Box 1026 Manahawkin, NJ 08050. Please be sure to keep your membership in good standing. Only members in good standing can enter fish into VHFC contests.

**2018 TROPHY FISH OF THE YEAR (FOY)** - Just a reminder - If you catch a Striped Bass, Bluefish, Seabass, Tautog, Weakfish or Fluke take it to one of our official weigh stations to have it weighed and recorded on our official weigh-in forms. The fisherman who catches the largest fish of each species for 2018 will be awarded the FOY trophy for that species.

**2018 TROPHY FISH OF THE MONTH (FOM)** - Winners include: Pat Presutto May Striped Bass (28 lbs 10 oz), Aaron Allison June Fluke (6 lbs) and Bob Dodds took the June Sea Bass (2 lbs 6 oz). Congratulations to all! The largest FOM species featured for the month will be awarded a \$50 gift certificate to Fisherman's Headquarters (no expiration) so be sure to enter your catch. FOM weigh-ins are made the same as FOY weigh-ins. There are 13 remaining FOM awards for 2018. Fluke and Sea Bass are the July FOM candidates.

1 March - 30 April (3 Awards)	Winter Flounder, Striped Bass & Bluefish <b>(No Fish Entered)</b>
1 - 31 May (2 Awards)	Striped Bass <b>Pat Presutto</b> Bluefish <b>(No Fish Entered)</b>
25 May - 30 June (1 Award)	Fluke <b>Aaron Allison</b>
15 May - 22 June (1 Award)	Sea Bass <b>Bob Dodds</b>
1 - 31 July (2 Awards)	Fluke & Sea Bass
1 - 31 August (2 Awards)	Fluke & Sea Bass
1 - 22 September (1 Award)	Fluke
1 - 30 September (1 Award)	Weakfish
1 - 31 October (3 Awards)	Blackfish & Bluefish & Striped Bass
8 October - 30 November (1 Award)	Sea Bass
1 - 30 November (3 Awards)	Blackfish & Bluefish & Striped Bass

## **OFFICIAL VHFC WEIGH-IN STATIONS**

- 1) Fisherman's Headquarters, Ship Bottom
- 2) West Creek Bait & Tackle, Manahawkin
- 3) Creekside Outfitters, Waretown
- 4) BHW Marine Center, Manahawkin
- 5) Sheltered Cove Marina, Tuckerton
- 6) Surf City Bait & Tackle, Surf City

**BHM&TC - VHFC INSHORE & BAY JOINT FLUKE TOURNAMENT** - The tournament was planned for June 23rd but held on June 30th due to weather. Unfortunately, only one fish was weighed in by the six VHFC boats entered - a 2.4 lb 19 inch fluke caught by Dave Spendiff. BHM&TC took 1st, 2nd & 3rd places for the largest fluke and have all the bragging rights. Heaviest Flounder was 4.36 pounds caught by Mark Parker, second was 3.62 pounds caught by Tanner Johnson and third largest was Brendan Graham with a 3.1 pounder. It was still a fun tournament and hopefully we will do it again next year.

## **2018 New Jersey Marine Fishing Regulation**

### **Great News!!!**

NOAA Fisheries filed the final rule to designate 13 New Jersey artificial reef sites as special management zones. This action:

- Establishes year-round special management zones for 13 New Jersey artificial reefs.
- Allows only hand line, rod and reel, or spear fishing (including the taking of fish by hand) in these areas.

This action will be effective on August 8, 2018. Vessels must remove all pot/trap gear from these reef sites prior to this date and applies to those 13 reefs in federal waters off the New Jersey coast. It's been a long time in coming, but sometimes we win!

## **ATLANTIC STATES MARINE FISHERIES COMMISSION BLUEFISH PROPOSAL**

The ASMFC held two "public comment" sessions in NJ the end of last month concerning their proposal to reallocate the recreational fishery unused catch to the commercial sector. Current allocations are roughly 83% recreational / 17% commercial with the recreational segment not using approximately 10% of their allotment. Some of the shortfall by the recreational segment may be due to the increase in "catch and release" trends with recreational anglers. There has been no decision as yet and may not come until the middle of this month.

## **NJ 2018 FISHING REGULATIONS**

Paste this link into your browser for NJ Regulations:

<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/2018/maregsum18.pdf>

## **THE BATTLE ON THE BEACH – HIGH SCHOOL FISHING TOURNAMENT**

The 10<sup>th</sup> annual High School Surf Fishing Tournament the "Battle on the Beach" was Thursday June 7, 2018 (4-7pm) on the Barnegat Light Beach. The annual contest between local Ocean County high schools was a success with over 40 student anglers fishing between four teams. Surf conditions were calm with clean water and a mild south easterly wind. A majority of the

fish caught were blues and fluke. The high hooks for Southern, this year's winning team, were Freddy Farina and Cam Conrad. Both seniors each caught a half dozen targeted game fish.

Pictured is the Southern Regional HS team accepting the Village Harbour Fishing Club trophy from Dave Spendiff. This trophy will reside in the SRHS trophy case until the 2019 Battle on the Beach contest. This is a wonderful community service VHFC performs!



## LIBRARY REPORT

Check out books, magazines and DVDS from our library available at club meetings.

**Featured Book of the Month** *Fishing for Summer Flounder* by John Skinner - Whether you call them fluke or flounder, they are challenging, fun to catch and great to eat. John Skinner takes the reader along in pursuit of these fish from boat, shore and kayak. Chapters on gear, rigs, and presentation will get novices up to speed as well as help seasoned anglers take their fishing to a new level. Be sure to check it out including the book's companion website [flounderbook.com](http://flounderbook.com)



**VHFC THIRD ANNUAL FLUKE TOURNAMENT & BBQ**

VHFC will hold our 3rd annual fluke tournament for VHFC members, family and friends. Prizes will be awarded to anglers weighing in the three (3) largest fluke.

Following the tournament, the club will sponsor a barbecue to be held at the home of Donna and Vic Harris located at 181 Bruce Drive, off Newell Drive in the Coves section of Village Harbour. Her cell phone is 908-377-7371 if you need to contact her.

Tournament entry fee is \$20 per person, which includes the BBQ. Spouses of participating club members are also included and invited to attend the BBQ. Non-member participants may invite a guest(s) to attend the BBQ, but guests must pay \$10 - still a great deal!. BBQ includes burgers, dogs, sides, soft drinks, beer & wine. Feel free to bring your favorite side dish for all to enjoy!

**TOURNAMENT RULES**

- **Entry Fee** - \$20 per person
- **Date** - Saturday July 14, 2017    **Time** – 12:01 AM to 5:00 PM
- **Rain Date** - July 15, 2017 decided at club meeting on Friday July 13
- **Where** – Participants must leave and return to an Ocean County port.
- **Weigh In** – All fish must be weighed at Donna's house from 3 – 5 PM. Only one (1) fish per person can be entered for award. Fish entered for Fish of the Month/Year must still be weighed at one of the VHFC official weigh stations.
- **Prizes** – All entry fees will be paid out as Prize Money:
  - 1<sup>st</sup> Place**      50% of Prize Money
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> Place**      30% of Prize Money
  - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place**      20% of prize money

**SIGN IN SHEET**

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

	<u>Circle</u>		<u>Circle</u>	
Member?	Y    N	Will you / spouse attend BBQ?	Y    N	1 X \$20 = _____

Non Member?	Y    N	Will attend BBQ?	Y    N	1 X \$20 = _____
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Non Fishing Guest(s) attending BBQ	Number x \$10.00 = _____
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**Last entries accepted at club meeting 13 July but earlier entry preferred for BBQ planning**

**VHFC DINNER**

This year's dinner will be on Saturday, September 22nd at 6:00PM. The dinner will be at Manera's Restaurant, a very popular local spot. Manera's is located at 291 Rt. 72 East, in the Day Plaza. For \$36 per person (includes tax & tip) you get soup or salad, entree selection, beverage and dessert. Manera's is BYOB so you can bring your favorite libation. Another option is for a small separate charge, VHFC librarian and wine expert Bill Dabney - no kidding Bill is a well known and very experienced wine connoisseur - will purchase a few wines for the dinner. Full details are posted on our website and will be discussed at club meetings. See the Home page at <https://vhfishingclub.com/> or the What's New under the About pulldown menu at <https://vhfishingclub.com/about/whats-new/>

**VHFC AUCTION**

At our November 9 club meeting, there will be an auction of various fishing, boating and marine equipment. This is a great opportunity to acquire some fine gear at bargain prices! It is also a fine opportunity to clean out your garage, shed, storage unit, etc. of supplies you no longer need or use and donate them to our club.

VHFC recently received the supplies below from the late Bill Farris, VHFC member.

**Reels:**

- \* Tidewater 10L – level wind conventional
- \* Okuma Magda Pro MA20DX line counter, level wind conventional
- \* Sears Trolling Reel 6 4377 conventional
- \* Abu Garcia Ambassadeur 5000c
- \* Cabela's Depth Master DM2 line counter, level wind conventional (2)
- \* Olympic Dolphin 625-LW level wind conventional
- \* Penn Long Beach #65
- \* Penn Long Beach #60
- \* Bay City conventional
- \* Ryobi V-Mag 3 small level wind conventional

**RODS:**

- \* Custom 8' 2pc conventional boat
- \* Berkley B-90 10'8" 2pc spinning surf
- \* Penn Slammer 6'6" conventional boat
- \* Penn Mariner 5'6" conventional boat

- \* 6' conventional boat
- \* Abu Garcia 5000c 6" conventional
- \* Zebco Rhino Glowtip 2pc 7" spinning
- \* Shakespeare Ugly Stik 6'6" 2pc conventional (2)
- \* Shimano Triton 7" 2pc spinning
- \* Zebco 6'6" 2pc spinning
- \* Shakespeare Ranger 6" 2pc spinning
- \* Abu Garcia 6" 2pc spinning

**NETS:**

- \* Two fishing nets

Auction details will be discussed at upcoming meetings but donations will be accepted at any club meeting or at any agreed upon time or location.

**FISHING REPORTS**

Please go to the VHFC website at <http://www.vhfishingclub.com> to read fishing reports submitted by fellow club members. Please submit your own reports using the simple form on the pull down menu. If you do not feel comfortable using the form or have any issues using it, please email Ed Valitutto @ [edvalitutto@gmail.com](mailto:edvalitutto@gmail.com) or call 609 994 1311. If you provide me the details, I will submit the report for you. **Your reports supply important information for fellow club members.**

During the month of June, there were eight reports submitted.



Carl Wolfarth and friends had a nice catch of flounder on opening day. They had 8 keepers with the biggest 23 inches.





Marty Friedrich picked up two nice keepers opening weekend – a 19" and a 23" along with a half dozen shorts



Aaron Allison and pal Craig fished the north end of Barnegat Bay and caught their limits with the nicest fish at 6 lbs on the dot and a second nice one at 4 lbs. 12 oz. Aaron won the June FOM with that catch!



Proud grandpa Joe Felice took his maiden voyage on his new Hobie Mirage 17 Kayak with grandson, Ben. Launched in Beach Haven, on the first drift, Ben had a 22 1/2 3.26 lb fluke and Joe had a 19" at 2.45 lbs. Ben added an 18 1/2" at 2 lbs.



Marty 'Fishin' Magician' Friedrich submitted a report covering two different trips. Fighting the wind against the tide, he had two keepers on the first and a nice 23" keeper on the second.





Joe Felice spent Father's Day on the beach with his son and grandkids hoping to score a striper. First his son was broken off by a large cow nose ray. Then Joe had quite a fight with this brown shark. What a nice way to spend time with your family!



Ed Valitutto went out in strong windy conditions with member Al Goracy. After no luck in DCC and behind the dike, we fished the cove from Meyer's Hole back to the commercial docks where I landed this nice 21 1/2" fluke.



Last report for June was my report for the BHM&TC - VHFC outing. Joining me in my boat was Dave Spendiff, Caesar Pesarini and my grandson Nick Rossi. As already reported, Dave had the only VHFC fluke (2.4 lbs) entered that day. However, on one of our early drifts down Marshelder Channel, Nick caught his first weakfish - a 16" beauty!

Now please, someone catch a bigger weakfish. Yours truly did not have his fish weighed and entered for FOY!

Go to the VHFC website to read all the details of these reports.

**NJ DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE** - The 2018 Marine Digest is now available in coastal bait shops, sporting goods stores, and online. In addition to regulatory information there are features on River Herring and Eastern Oysters along with information on many marine-related topics. Get yours now - just copy the addresses below into your browser.

2018 Marine Digest

[http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/digmar18.htm?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/digmar18.htm?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

2018 Commercial Regulations (pdf)

[http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/2018/comregs18.pdf?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com/pdf/2018/comregs18.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

**CLASSIFIED ADS****BUY, SELL or TRADE**

Classified ads may be placed free of charge by any club member for non-commercial fishing related items. Please contact Ed Valitutto via email at [edvalitutto@gmail.com](mailto:edvalitutto@gmail.com) to place your 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.



**Boat US** has made their publications available online including back issues. Go to <http://www.boatus.com/magazine/archives/default.asp> to access their informative material.



VHFC encourages everyone to go to the RFA website at [www.joinrfa.org](http://www.joinrfa.org) where you will find a tremendous amount of useful information for your personal use. In addition, RFA also puts out a quarterly publication call “**Making Waves**” which can be requested via email on the Homepage of the RFA website. There is also a link to access all past issues.

**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=InmDistrict&region=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>

**Animated Knots:** <http://www.animatedknots.com/>

**VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS:** Call Jeff Orsoe @ 732-672-5530 and leave a message or email him at [jorsoe786@comcast.net](mailto:jorsoe786@comcast.net)

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS:**

**03 August 2018**

**Email items / requests to** [edvalitutto@gmail.com](mailto:edvalitutto@gmail.com)

**SPONSORS:** The following sponsors offer a discount with the presentation of your current VHFC Membership Card. Discounts normally do not apply to items that are fair traded or items on sale.

**BHW Marine Center** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)  
857 Mill Creek Rd Manahawkin, NJ 08050  
**609-709-5424**

**Boat U.S.**  
Special membership price call Jeff Orsoe  
**732-672-5530**

**Causeway Boat Rentals** (10% discount on bait & tackle w/ VHFC card)  
2200 E. Bay Ave., Manahawkin, NJ  
**609-494-1371**

**Creekside Outfitters** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)  
403 Rt. 9 Waretown, NJ 08758  
**609-242-1812**

**D & S Marine Service** (10% discount on parts w/ VHFC card)  
460 Dock Rd, West Creek NJ 08092  
**609-296-0309**

**Fisherman's Headquarters** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)

280 West 9th St, Ship Bottom, NJ 08008  
**609-494-5739**

**JB Awards** (10% discount on engraving and trophies w/VHFC card)  
**609-290-5851**

**Surf City Bait & Tackle** (10% discount on bait w/ VHFC card)  
317 Long Beach Boulevard Surf City, NJ 08008  
**609 494-2333**

**The Boat Shop** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)  
756 E. Bay Ave, Manahawkin, NJ 08050  
**609-597-1271**

**Viking Outfitters** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)  
W.19th and Bayview in Viking Village, Barnegat Light, NJ  
**609-361-9111**

**West Creek Bait and Tackle** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)  
387 Route 9, West Creek, NJ 08092  
**609-857-3516**

**West Creek Kayak and Canoe** (10% discount only on accessories w/VHFC card)  
224 Route 9, West Creek, NJ 08092  
**609-296-8030**

**Boat US** 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

## **2018 FISHING REGULATIONS**

Paste this link into your browser for the latest NJ 2018 Fishing Regulations

<https://www.state.nj.us/dep/fgw/pdf/2018/maregsum18.pdf>