



HARBOUR LIGHT

OFFICIAL VHFC NEWSLETTER August 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: 10 August

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi everyone,

Well the summer of 2018 is definitely moving along! If you consider our summer season as June-July-August-September then we are definitely over the peak now in August. The changes will be subtle at first but you will begin to notice them. Within a few weeks, the crowds will start thinning out as kids have early school sports activities. The weather will be a little less hot and humid and heat waves usually won't last as long. Lastly, daylight is noticeably getting shorter. The tables for Atlantic City show June 21 had 14 hrs 56 minutes of daylight. July 21 dropped to 14 hrs 41 minutes - 15 minutes less. However, August 21 will only have 13 hrs 28 minutes of daylight - 88 minutes less than June 21st! We all know where this headed so make the best of your daytime opportunities.

Just about everything is in play during August. The bay has snappers, blues, small stripers, fluke, blowfish, sharks, clams and crabs. The surf offers kingfish, blues and fluke with the near shore ocean adding seabass, sharks, maybe some bonito & false albacore soon as well as

offshore tuna and other pelagics. According to the latest edition of *The Fisherman*, our jetties and sod banks have triggerfish, porgies, sheepshead and tog (1 fish @15" from 8/1 to 11/15). So get out there and make the most of what this fine area has to offer. As always be sure to weigh-in your catch for our FOM / FOY awards and submit a report of your success for others to enjoy reading.

Hope you can make our meeting this Friday evening.

Ed

August EVENTS

BOARD MEETING: August 3

CLUB MEETING: August 10

Club Meetings Start at 7:45 With Pledge of Allegiance

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

AUGUST SPEAKER - This month's speaker is **Jim Hutchinson Jr.** – Jim is a former Managing Director of the Recreational Fishing Alliance (RFA), a national political action organization dedicated to safeguarding the rights of saltwater anglers. After 6 years with RFA, Jim rejoined *The Fisherman* family in early 2015, as Managing Editor. Jim is also a former trustee at the Tuckerton Seaport and Museum and president of the Long Beach Island Surf Fishing Classic Committee. Jim spends much of his fishing time from the beaches of LBI to the backwaters of Little Egg and Great Bay.

2018 FISH OF THE MONTH (FOM) - Winner for the July Fluke FOM was Marty Friedrich. Marty's fish was 23.5" and weighed 4 lbs 13 oz. No one entered a Sea Bass for July. Congratulations Marty! 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 11 remaining FOM awards for 2018. Fluke and Sea Bass again are the August FOM candidates.

1 March - 30 April (3 Awards)	Winter Flounder, Striped Bass & Bluefish (No Fish Entered)
1 - 31 May (2 Awards)	Striped Bass Pat Presutto Bluefish (No Fish Entered)
25 May - 30 June (1 Award)	Fluke Aaron Allison
15 May - 22 June (1 Award)	Sea Bass Bob Dodds
1 - 31 July (2 Awards)	Fluke Marty Friedrich Sea Bass (No Fish Entered)
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

VHFC THIRD ANNUAL FLUKE TOURNAMENT



The Third Annual VHFC Fluke Tournament & BBQ was held on July 14th. Despite strong afternoon winds and difficult drift conditions, several anglers weighed in fish. Marty Friedrich took first place with a 3 lb 14 oz fluke, Bob Klebosis took second place and Bill Dabney finished third. That's Marty on the right and Bill on the left with club president Ed Valitutto enjoying a glass of vino.



Thirty four anglers entered the tournament and including family members we had almost 50 attending the BBQ at the lovely waterside home of Donna & Vic Harris where great food and drinks brought smiles to everyone as shown in the photo on the left..



That's Vince and Nancy Sebona with Emilie Spendiff, Dolores Dabney and Pat Valitutto.



Some of us like the sun, some like the shade and some can't decide!

Once again, thanks to the Harris' family for use of their home and all their hard work. Unfortunately, the photographer who shall remain anonymous failed to take any pictures of Donna and Vic enjoying themselves!

I just wanted to comment about the scale used for the weigh ins since it appears that it may have been off slightly. However, all contending fish were weighed on the same scale and therefore, all received a weight relative to each other. If you look at the weigh ins for July on our website <https://vhfishingclub.com/conteststournaments/vhfc-standings/> you will see two entries for 14 July: Marty's fish (1st place at 3 lbs 14 oz at the BBQ) weighed 4 lbs 0 oz when entered at Creekside Outfitters and Bob Klebosis' fish (2nd place at 3 lbs 10 oz at the BBQ) also weighed 4 lbs 0 oz when entered at BHW Marine Center. Once again, both fish were weighed on the same scale at the BBQ so there should not be any issue regarding who won the contest. Regarding the July FOM winner, Marty weighed in a 4 lb 13 oz fluke later in the month. Next year, we will verify and calibrate the scale used for weigh ins before the contest.

2018 NEW JERSEY MARINE FISHING REGULATION

The following letter was written by Dave Spendiff on behalf of VHFC members and sent to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

*Chris Moore, Ph.D., Executive Director
Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council
North State Street, Suite 201
Dover, DE 19901*

Director Moore,

I am writing this letter on behalf of the Village Harbour Fishing Club which is composed of more than 100 members and is based in Manahawkin, New Jersey. I would like to take this opportunity to express our club's opinion on the amendment that is currently being developed by the ASMFC and the MAFMC regarding the Bluefish Fishery Management Plan.

We favor maintaining the existing bluefish allocation between the recreational and commercial fisherman of 83% - 17% respectively. We believe the trend of catch and release in the recreational fishing community has led to the under fishing of the recreational bluefish quota. Our members look forward to the spring run of large migratory bluefish that enter Barnegat and Great Bay in April. We fish for, catch and release these fish, but keep very few. In fact, my son travels up from Maryland every weekend during this run. A run that, unfortunately, did not happen this year – hopefully they simply passed us by!

With the fact that the spawning stock biomass is below target for bluefish, we are at a loss to understand why the ASMFC and MAFMC would even be considering the transfer of the recreational shortfall to the commercial fisherman instead of leaving well enough alone and

rebuild the fishery. We would hope that you would wait until after the next stock assessment before considering any changes.

The Village Harbour Fishing Club wants the bluefish fishery left alone with quotas unchanged to build the stock on the back of recreational fisherman's catch shortfall.

Sincerely,

Dave Spendiff

Regulatory & Legislative Chair

NJ 2018 FISHING REGULATIONS & SALTWATER ANGLER SURVEY

Paste this link into your browser for NJ Regulations:

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

Paste this link into your browser for Saltwater Angler Survey

<https://www.nj.gov/dep/fgw/marinesurvey.htm>:

LIBRARY REPORT

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

Featured Book of the Month *Fluke - An Angler's Guide by Bob Sampson* - One of the Northeast's best fishermen offers a complete guide to catching the prized saltwater game fish. This book covers tackle, technique, baits and lures for catching fluke from boats and in the surf. Strategies and pro techniques are emphasized throughout the book. Every fluke angler, veteran or beginner, will learn valuable information from this book.

VHFC DINNER

Just another reminder that the VHFC 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 - Bill has taught wine classes for 20 years at our local high school and has been in the wine business even longer - 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. Any items acquired before the auction will be listed in the Newsletter. BTW, the November Club meeting is Pizza Night!

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 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 July, there were 6 reports submitted including the Fluke Tournament & BBQ Report discussed earlier in the Newsletter.



Donna Harris with an absolute beauty of a white perch caught while kayaking. These are some of the tastiest fish caught in our waters



Dave Spendiff, yours truly and my grandson, junior member Nick Rossi. We went out fluking followed by sharking. No sharks but 6 nice fluke. Dave caught the 3 largest, Nick caught 2 and I caught the smallest!



Two days after the fluke sharking trip previously reported, we tried again. This time grandson Nick caught three keepers before we went sharking in Grassy Channel.



This time the sharks cooperated! Once the chum was in the water and our two balloons were floated out with big chunks of bunker, the brown sharks arrived. We caught and released 6 beauties with Nick doing all the reeling and Dave doing the dehooking. I was the gopher and captain!



Marty Friedrich said this ray was about the size of a picnic table! Lucky Marty! Pass the potato salad, please!



Last report for July was my report fishing with Alan Goracy. After no bites in Double Creek, we drifted the shortcut parallel to the ICW that ends near the BLCG Station. Alan had a fat 20" and an 18" later from the cove back by the commercial docks..

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

2018 Commercial Regulations (pdf)

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 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 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®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>

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

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS:

03 August 2018

Email items / requests to 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>