



HARBOUR LIGHT

OFFICIAL VHFC NEWSLETTER October 2018

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

***VHFC meets the second Friday of each month
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: 12 October

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi everyone,

October is upon us and keeper striped bass and gator bluefish should arrive on our shore before too long. If this year's mullet run and the incredible amount of peanut bunker in the lagoons are any indicator, this should be a great fall season. But for now, there's still fun to be had with blowfish, a few weakfish and crabs in the bay as well as white perch up the Mullica. On the beachfront, the catching is mostly smaller bluefish along with some southern stragglers but that will be changing as the weather cools and the bait migration continues to develop further. For the wreck fishermen, seabass reopens on Monday October 8th with 10 fish @12.5 inches.

Thanks to all who attended the September meeting. VHFC member Bill Figley entertained us with an informative presentation detailing his career with NJ Fish & Game as the 'mastermind and hands on' person who worked tirelessly to have the 15 artificial reefs completed off our shores in only 20 years despite minimal budget and state backing! At the meeting, we also

completed our successful fundraising raffle for the rod & reel from Fisherman's Headquarters. Carmine Tocci held the winning ticket stub!

As previously mentioned, we will have an auction during our November "pizza night" meeting, so please look around your garage, storage shed and boat for any item you no longer need that is still in good, workable condition to donate. It does not have to be a fishing related item, but something that a fellow member could use. What's that saying, "One man's junk is another man's treasure!" There will be a list in the November newsletter of items already donated. Bring your "stuff" to the meeting this Friday or you can wait until the November meeting.

Hope you can make our meeting this Friday evening.

Ed

October EVENTS

BOARD MEETING: October 5

CLUB MEETING: October 12

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

OCTOBER SPEAKER - This month's speaker is **Jeff Dement**. – Jeff is the "Fish Tagging Program" Director with the American Littoral Society managing the largest and longest running saltwater volunteer program in the US. He has been with the Society for over a decade and manages the tagging data from almost 1000 volunteer anglers from Maine to Florida including fishing clubs, and charter boat captains. Data from the program is shared with the volunteers, the general public, and the National Marines Fisheries Service. Jeff will provide an overview about the history of the Society's tagging program since its inception in 1965.

2018 FISH OF THE MONTH (FOM) - Winner for the September Fluke FOM was **Marty Friedrich**. Marty caught a monster fluke weighing 8 lbs 5 oz. There were no entries for the September weakfish. 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 7 remaining FOM awards for 2018. Blackfish, Bluefish and Striped Bass are the three October FOM candidates and there is an award for Seabass running from 8 October through 30 November. Remember, bluefish must be 5 lbs or greater to be entered into the FOM.

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 Brendan Jelley Sea Bass Pat Presutto
1 - 22 September (1 Award)	Fluke Marty Friedrich
1 - 30 September (1 Award)	Weakfish (No Fish Entered)
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

VHFC DINNER

On 22 September, our annual dinner was held at Manera's restaurant on Rte 72 in Manahawkin. Despite a smaller turnout than usual due to several regular attendees on vacation, travel or having family commitments, we had a wonderful time. Dinner as usual at Manera's was exceptional and we were there almost two hours enjoying the evening. Unfortunately, we were so engaged with eating, drinking and having great conversations that no one took any photos! Special thanks to Vince Sibona for doing all the behind the scenes' effort in setting up this event.

2018 NEW JERSEY MARINE FISHING REGULATION - Report by Phil Simon

The annual JCAA Sportsman of the Year dinner is November 11. The board is encouraging clubs to buy a table at the dinner. This year's winner is Arnie Ulrich, confirmed at this meeting. It is expected that several state and federal officials and politicians, including senator Cory Booker, will attend this year's dinner. The board is looking for donations of prizes for the dinner, either from clubs or from local businesses.

The annual JCAA Fluke Tournament apparently did not do so well this year in terms of fundraising. It seems that because there is no rain date, many people wait until the last minute to enter. This year the weather was poor, and participation was down. So, the JCAA is now considering possibly adding a rain date for future tournaments. Also discussed was the possibility of moving the tournament (back) to June/July, which would allow for some bay fishing in less than ideal weather.

I attended, along with Tom Fote, the ASMFC/MAFMC meeting in Toms River on Sep 24 held to discuss reallocation of the summer flounder commercial quotas from the "southern states" of NC, VA, MD, DE, and NJ (yes that's right, we are now a southern state in the eyes of the fishery people) to the "northern states" NY, CT, RI, MA, and ME. Needless to say this was not a popular proposal with the room full of NJ boat captains; Tom and I both spoke out against it as well, a rare case when the recreational and commercial sides are fully aligned.

Within two years we can expect to see the start of construction of hundreds of large wind turbines 17 to 20 mile off the NJ coast. Bids for leases are ongoing. It's expected that each turbine will be in the multi-megawatt range; this is a huge project to say the least. For now it looks like each turbine could become a new artificial reef open to recreational fishing, so from our standpoint this will be a good thing. For the commercial scallop, surf clam, and squid guys thought this would be a killer; most likely they would have to be compensated/bought out by the feds.

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.

There are two Featured Books this Month:

1) *The Striped Bass Book* by Milt Rosko - Renowned local author Milt Rosko offers a complete guide to catching America's unpredictable game fish including tackle, techniques and strategies. Also included are June Rosko's favorite striped bass recipes.

2) *Striped Bass Fishing: Salt Water Strategies* from the Experts at Salt Water Sportsman Magazine - This book provides a very thorough treatment of all aspects of striped bass fishing including food, feeding, habitat, tackle, knots, fishing strategies and conservation of the species.

Surf Tournament - One of the nation's oldest and most storied surfcasting tournaments – the Long Beach Island Surf Fishing Classic – celebrates its 64th season this fall. Registration is open now for the nine-week striped bass and bluefish derby, which started on October 6th and runs through December 9th. Thousands of dollars in prizes are offered for bass, bluefish and redfish caught by anglers from the shores of LBI. Adult entry is \$30, and just \$15 for kids 17 and younger. Early registration includes a tournament hat, T shirt, decal, and a coupon for a free slice of Panzone's pizza. Proceeds from the tournament, organized by the LBI Surf Fishing Classic Committee in partnership with the Southern Ocean County Chamber of Commerce, go toward event prize distribution, with a portion benefiting local high school scholarships.

A number of junior, ladies, senior citizen and bonus prizes are also up for grabs, as well as many special prizes, including awards for the biggest striper caught on particular days throughout the competition. Full details are available at their website:

<https://www.lbift.com/tournament.php?id=1814>

STRIPED BASS Bonus Program (SBBP) Last reminder - Applications for the 2018 SBBP are currently available. The application deadline is October 31, 2018. Applications postmarked after the deadline will not be processed. Paste this into your browser for access -

<https://www.njfishandwildlife.com/bonusbas.htm>

FISHING REPORTS

Please go to the VHFC website at <http://www.vhfishingclub.com> to read the 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 September, due to the shortened fluke season and nasty weather, there were only three reports submitted.



The Leary Clan - Larry, son Brian & grandkids Carter, Tyler & Brendan were out doing their best to personally fill NJ's 2018 fluke catch quota! Over the Labor Day weekend, they caught 11 keepers on Sunday and on Monday they outdid themselves with 15 keepers.



That's my idea of a family photo!

And if their Labor Day catching was enough, they went at it again later that week based on a decent weather forecast that turned out way off base. Wow imagine that - the weatherman got it wrong! Contending with some nasty weather, they still managed 50 shorts and kept 10 nice fluke up to 23". No pictures were available from that trip but you should know by now what these guys look like holding a lot of nice fish!



The last report for September was submitted by none other than Marty Friedrich. Marty's last trip of the fluke season yielded three keepers including one over 5 lbs and this beast that measured 28" and weighed 8 lbs 5 oz taking both the September FOM and 2018 FOY for fluke. Way to go Marty!

For further details, please visit the VHFC website.

VHFC BOTTOM FISHING TRIP - VHFC will have a Bottom Fishing trip on the Norma K out of Ken's Landing in Point Pleasant on Thursday October 25th. Rain date will be Friday the 26th. This is a ¾ day trip from 7:30 to 2:30 fishing primarily for seabass but tog, porgy, ling, cod & winter flounder are also possible. Just arrive at the Norma K early enough to have a spot. If you let me know you plan to go, I will arrive early and secure spots on the rail. Rates are: Adults \$60, Seniors \$55 & Kids 12 and under are \$35. This is an opportunity for club members to get together for some good fishing and fun. See www.normakfishing.com for more details.

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.



1998 Seamaster Model 2588 Walkaround & Trailer - Needs New Engine

Stern Drive and Bell Housing Replaced in 2008

Completely Repowered in 2008 - Mercury 350 2 bbl carburetor

New enclosure, Garmin GPS, VHF Antenna & 100 Gallons of Gas

GREAT FISHING BOAT with Anchor, Rope & Life Jackets Included

CALL VHFC Member Carmine Tocci with your best offer at 201-403-4411

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 September 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) Now open only Friday - Sunday
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>