



HARBOUR LIGHT

OFFICIAL VHFC NEWSLETTER June 2019

Editor: Ed Valitutto VHFC Website: <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: 14 June

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi everyone,

Now that Memorial Day is behind us, the weather has finally turned better (as in warmer and less wind) and the July 4th weekend - the official start of the summer season - is less than 4 weeks away. That means the timeline for completing the prerequisite summer tasks - flower & garden plantings, furniture & decks cleaned and ready for use, grills working and fueled, boats launched, etc. - is also running short. I hope you are up to date or at least close to done.

On the fishing front, 2019 has been decent so far. Seabass and ling have been sizeable and abundant, striped bass fishing has been okay and bluefish have arrived in numbers better than last year. Fluking has been slowly picking up as the waters warm up and will improve with each sunny day as will the blue claw crabbing. As always, you have to balance your time between family responsibilities and personal recreational time to allow you to get out and go fishing! There's action for everyone either by boat in the bay or ocean or off the surf and be

sure to weigh-in your catch for our FOM / FOY awards and submit a report of your success for others to enjoy.

Ed

JUNE CLUB EVENTS

BOARD MEETING: JUNE 7

CLUB MEETING: JUNE 14

Club Meetings Start at 7:45 With Pledge of Allegiance

- Welcome Club Members, New Recruits and Guests
- Presentation of 2018 FOY Awards
- Guest Speaker Introduction and Presentation
- Break / Refreshments
- Committee Reports
- Rod Raffle
- 50/50 Drawing
- Fishing Reports

JUNE SPEAKER This month's speaker is **Britta Wenzel Executive Director "Save Barnegat Bay"** - Britta has been actively involved with the protection and restoration of Barnegat Bay since her childhood. At 18, she was named Ocean County's "Environmentalist of the Year". She served on the Lavallette Borough Council from 2003 to 2009, affecting many environmental programs and policies. She currently drives Save the Bay's advocacy efforts by working alongside locally elected officials, county government, state legislators and federal representatives. Britta's current position as well as her personal experience of being an advocate from her youth will help to inspire and directly inform the public on important Barnegat Bay issues.

Notice to Club Members: Membership dues were required by the 10 May club meeting. You can still send your dues 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.

2019 TROPHY FISH OF THE MONTH - The largest fish caught during the month will be awarded a \$50 gift certificate to Fisherman's Headquarters (no expiration). Weigh-ins are

made at any of our 7 weigh in stations. There are 21 FOM awards for 2019. Just a reminder, if no entry is made for a species for a specific month, the award will be added to the award when the species is again offered in 2019 as often as required. **Note: bluefish must be at least 5 lbs for award consideration.**

May winners are Marty Friedrich 12 lb 14 oz bluefish and Pat Presutto 27 lbs 8 ozs striper!

2019 VHFC Fish of the Month Winners

Month	Fish	Name	Size	Date
1 March – 30 April	Winter Flounder	No Entry		
1 March – 30 April	Striped Bass	No Entry		
1 March – 30 April	Bluefish	No Entry		
1 April – 30 June	White Perch	Still Open		
May 1 - 31	Striped Bass	Pat Presutto	27 lbs 8 ozs	5/15
May 1 - 31	Bluefish	Marty Friedrich	12 lbs 14 oz	5/19
May 24 – 30 June	Fluke	Still Open		
May 15 – 22 June	Seabass	Still Open		
July 1- 31	Fluke			
July 1- 31	Seabass			
August 1- 31	Fluke			
August 1- 31	Seabass			
September 1 - 21	Fluke			
September 1- 30	Weakfish			
October 1- 31	Blackfish			
October 1- 31	Striped Bass			
October 1- 31	Bluefish			

October 8 - 30 November	Seabass			
November 1 - 30	Blackfish			
November 1 - 30	Striped Bass			
November 1 - 30	Bluefish			

For a complete list of all fish entered for 2018, go to the VHFC Web Site:

<http://www.vhfishingclub.com/conteststournaments/vhfc-standings/>

OFFICIAL VHFC WEIGH-IN STATIONS - Jingles is now our 7th official weigh-in station.

- 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
- 7) Jingles Bait & Tackle, Beach Haven

2019 New Jersey Marine Fishing Regulations by Phil Simon -

There are only 71 entries so far for the upcoming JCAA fluke tournament. JCAA reminds all anglers that it needs support from its member fishing clubs; this tournament is one of the major fundraisers for the organization and is one of the best run tournaments in NJ. Entries can be made online at the JCAA website <https://www.jcaa.org/>. Have you signed up yet?

Tom Fote JCAA Legislative Chairperson did not have anything to say about regulatory issues. Apparently there will be nothing significant until October at the earliest on any of the species of interest to us.

The JCAA board and club representatives seem to be concerned currently on two main issues: (1) Beach access, and (2) Offshore wind turbines. On the first issue, now that the beach access bill was signed by Governor Murphy (S1074), the JCAA is planning to challenge one or more municipalities that seem to be in violation. They have one or two good cases already (Island Heights & Brielle), but if you know of any other situations where surf fisherman are being blocked or hindered by required beach badges or aggressive parking violations or other actions let me know. As for the wind turbines, I have to say that the JCAA positions on this are

a little confused and uninformed, and I suggested to Paul Eidman (who seems to know the most about what is planned) that he get everyone focused on a few key concerns.

Next JCAA meeting is June 25. There are no JCAA meetings in July and August.

NEW VENUE for Jim Hutchinson Sr - Fellow club member and local notable Jim Hutchinson Sr has posted his weekly report at www.jerseyshoreoutdoors.com Check it out for the latest fishing news. Jim will gladly take any reports and pictures from VHFC members.

BATTLE OF THE BEACH - This was VHFC's first time officiating the "Battle on the Beach" high school surf fishing tournament. The contest was held on Thursday June 6th on 9th street in Barnegat Light to great weather and fishing conditions. VHFC volunteers led by Bob Massa included Gene Geld, Pat & Lisa Presutto, Phil Simon, Bob Dodds, John & Diane Spano, newest member Kim Di Camillo and her son Kevin and yours truly. Our job was to measure fish during the 4 hour afternoon contest and record the results.

All teams caught fish but Southern Regional won by a landslide! Their winning formula was simple. Since this is a total measured inches of game fish caught regardless of size, Southern focused on surf fluking with jigs and teasers baited with Gulp. Short fluke still add up when you catch numbers of them like they did. The alternative was to catch and release the many skates and dogfish that showed up. Southern also managed a 20" fluke and a 31" bluefish! It was especially nice to see VHFC junior member Tyler Leary catching his share for the winning school and his dad Brian keeping the students baited up with Gulp.

The totals inches of fish caught by each school were as follows:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|--|
| 1) Barnegat HS | 29" |
| 2) Lacey Township HS | 43" |
| 3) Mates | 88" |
| 4) Southern Regional HS | 566" including a 20" fluke & 31" bluefish |

Congratulations to Southern Regional High School for their 2019 victory and also to the other three competitors for a fun day on the sands!



VHFC Volunteer Judges for the 2019 Battle on the Beach

Front Row: Diane Spano, Phil Simon, Bob Dodds, Bob Massa, Kevin & Kim Di Camillo

Back Row: John Spano, Gene Geld, Ed Valitutto



Students Moving from Station to Station for their 45 Minute Session

Each of the 4 participating schools - Barnegat, Lacey, MATES, and Southern Regional - competed for the right to display the coveted Surf Fishing Trophy engraved with their school name and year in their school showcase. All four teams did a great job fishing the 8th through 11th street stretches of beach for a solid 3 hours. Teams rotated to four marked out sections of beach every 45 minutes.



2019 Battle on the Beach Winner Southern Regional High School

This was a great opportunity to enjoy a day on the beach and spend time with our future anglers. The kids were fantastic and really appreciative for the opportunity to participate in the contest..

2019 FLUKE TOURNAMENT - VHFC will hold our 4th annual fluke tournament for VHFC members, family and friends on Saturday July 13th with Sunday as the rain date. Prizes will be awarded to anglers weighing in the three (3) largest fluke. Following the tournament, the club will sponsor a barbecue at the home of Donna and Vic Harris located at 181 Bruce Drive, off Newell Drive in the Coves section of Village Harbour.

The 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 or appetizer for all to enjoy!

Additional details and entry form will be available at the June meeting.

ROD & REEL RAFFLE - The June combo planned to be raffled off at our meeting is a Shimano Talavera 7' 6" Inshore Rod, Medium Heavy Power, Fast Action with a Shimano Sedona FE 4000 reel with 19lb drag. This is a great outfit for our area fluke, bluefish, stripers, sea bass, black fish & drum. Retail Value ~\$175

TOP FIVE MUST KNOW KNOTS - I know what your thinking - this is like the best chili ever or the only lure you will ever need claim. There are plenty of knots to learn and use but these five should be considered for use in your repertoire. Check out the details at <http://www.berkley-fishing.com/Berkley-ae-top-five-must-know-knots.html>

The five knots are:

- 1) Trilene Knot - A stronger version of the Improved Clinch, the Trilene Knot has yielded 100 percent of the line's original strength when tested on Berkley's Knot Wars. It is intended for use with monofilament lines, and excels for joining swivels, leaders and lures to mono and fluorocarbon. I use it instead of the improved Clinch knot.
- 2) Palomar Knot - For joining superlines to leaders or lures, the Palomar Knot works well with fluorocarbon fishing line. Strong and easy to tie, the Palomar resists slipping and has retained 100 percent of the line's original strength in Berkley Knot Wars testing.
- 3) Berkley Braid Knot - Designed for use with braided superlines, the Berkley Braid Knot is a great overall choice that works well with monofilament and fluorocarbon fishing lines as well. Crowned a Knot Wars champion, the Berkley Braid Knot has few if any weaknesses. This is my Go To knot for tying braid to swivels!
- 4) Eugene Bend Knot - Easy to tie and extremely strong, the Eugene Bend, also called the Eugene Slip Knot, is a great choice for monofilament and fluorocarbon fishing lines. When tied correctly, you'll hear a slight pop when you draw it tight. I have to admit that this a new one for me!
- 5) Uni to Uni Knot - A standout for joining lines of relatively similar diameter, the Uni to Uni Knot is a great choice for adding a monofilament or fluorocarbon leader to your superline mainline. This couples the low-visibility and easy-casting properties of fluorocarbon with the phenomenal sensitivity and pulling power of superline. The Uni to Uni preserves up to 90 percent of line strength, and is a stronger connection than either the Surgeon Knot or Blood Knot. Note, if you need to join lines of vastly different diameters, the Albright Knot is a great pick.

Once again, check out the details at

<http://www.berkley-fishing.com/Berkley-ae-top-five-must-know-knots.html>

HOW SONARS WORK - Understanding the basics of how sonars work and how to read your fish finder can be the difference between a blank session and catching fish. This short tutorial on how sonars work teaches the basics about your fish finder and give you handy tricks to make reading it easier. See https://deepersonar.com/us/en_us/how-it-works/how-sonars-work

VHFC T Shirts - The new VHFC T Shirts are available for ordering. Sizes will range from XS (Extra Small) to 6XL. All sizes will be available in nine colors. Shirts have long sleeves and feature UPF 50 Sun Protection. These are quality shirts to be worn proudly. Orders must total 12 shirts of any size/color combos to be placed with the manufacturer so there could be a delay in receiving an order.

VHFC Hats



The new hats have been delivered!. Hats are khaki colored and feature a high definition VHFC patch on the front. They will be available at the June meeting and will sell for \$20. They look awesome!

Library - Check out books, magazines and DVDS from our library available at club meetings. New for 2019, VHFC has added subscriptions to **The Fisherman** and **On the Water** magazines with great articles for everyone to enjoy. Check out "Fishing for Summer Flounder" by John Skinner. Whether you call them fluke or flounder, they're challenging, fun to catch, and among the best eating fish that inhabit the waters along the East Coast and Gulf States. From the beach and bays to the ocean depths, fishing writer and videographer, John Skinner, takes the reader along in pursuit of these fish from boat, shore, and kayak.

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, 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 are important for fellow club members. Even a poor report - Went fishing and caught nothing! - is useful information.**



Our first report was submitted by Joe Filice. Joe arrived down on Saturday, 5/11 and was anxious to use his new beach cart. Joe hit the surf a couple hours before high tide, fishing bunker chunks & heads. He had two blues in the 28" range with the heaviest weighed in at Fisherman's Headquarters at 5.7 lbs.



That's Pat Presutto with a beauty of a bass caught early morning in Surf City on bunker. The striper weighed in at SCB&T was 27.50 lb and 44" in length and took the FOM honors!.



That's a couple of nice Bluefish Dave Spendiff caught off the ICW by Hochstrasser's dock.



That's Ed Valitutto and Phil Simon showing off their limit catches of Seabass. on the Carolyn Ann III on the second day of seabass season.





That's a cooler with a 4 man limit of seabass. If you want to go offshore to fish for black seabass, there is probably no better boat to be aboard than Bill Figley's "Red Herring". Bill, his son, Nate, Ron Roshelli and Dave Spendiff enjoyed a day of wreck fishing.



That's Marty Friedrich with a near 13 lb 'Gator' that took FOM honors! Marty commented, "the blues were all great fighters and look like small Tarpon jumping and shaking their heads out of the water trying to throw the hook."



That's VHFC's new Weighmaster Carmine Tocci showing the double limits of Seabass and cocktail blues caught on two trips on the Super Chic. The top photo seabass is 2.6 lbs and currently leads the June FOM.



Bill Dabney shows off a nice 7 lb bluefish caught while “trolling the white caps of Great Bay”.



Bob Dodds shows off some nice fish caught with his son-in-law Eric while fishing with CAPT Greg Cudnik in Barnegat Light. Because of potential bad weather, they opted to fish in the inlet near the end of the north jetty for stripers and blues. The action was quick and they each got smaller stripers and several blues including one gator.

CLASSIFIED ADS - 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.

Bob Dodds is looking to fish on a member's boat and is willing to share expenses. Please contact Bob if you would like a fishing companion and save a few bucks. Bob can be reached at 609 464 6773.

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:

08 June 2019

Email items / requests to edvalitutto@gmail.com

SPONSORS / (WEIGH IN STATIONS) : 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 (Weigh In Station) 10% discount with VHFC card
857 Mill Creek Rd Manahawkin, NJ 08050
609-709-5424

Boat U.S.

Special membership price call Jeff Orsoe. Forms for members' use will be at VHFC meetings or call Jeff Orsoe 732-672-5530. Also, VHFC members only pay \$9.50 for a year of Boat U.S.

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

Creekside Outfitters (Weigh In Station) 10% discount with VHFC card
403 Rt. 9 Waretown, NJ 08758
609-242-1812

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

Fisherman's Headquarters (Weigh In Station) 10% discount with VHFC card
280 West 9th St, Ship Bottom, NJ 08008
609-494-5739

JB Awards 10% discount on engraving and trophies with VHFC card
609-290-5851

Jingles Bait & Tackle (Weigh In Station) - 10% discount with VHFC card
1214 N Bay Ave, Beach Haven, NJ 08008
609-492-2795

The Boat Shop 10% discount with VHFC card
756 E. Bay Ave, Manahawkin, NJ 08050
609-597-1271

Viking Outfitters 10% discount with VHFC card
W. 19th and Bayview in Viking Village, Barnegat Light, NJ
609-361-9111

West Creek Bait and Tackle (Weigh In Station) - 10% discount with VHFC card
387 Route 9, West Creek, NJ 08092
609-857-3516

West Creek Kayak and Canoe (Weigh In Station) 10% discount only on accessories with
VHFC card
224 Route 9, West Creek, NJ 08092
609-296-8030