



HARBOUR LIGHT

OFFICIAL VHFC NEWSLETTER September 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: 13 September

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hi everyone,

It's hard to believe that we are already in the last two weeks of the summer of 2019 but all the reminders are there: kids are back to school, peanut bunker are bigger and getting ready to migrate, reports of mullet are appearing and Christmas decorations are out in many local stores. But some good happenings are the less crowded roads, beaches and restaurants, wonderful weather and being able to turn off the AC and open the windows for some fresh air.

On the fishing front, this is the beginning of the fall marathon! There are two weeks left for fluke, blowfish continue their record year, blues and stripers are starting to arrive, blackfish is open with seabass reopening on October 8th, the summer speedsters - bonito, albies and king / spanish macks - are still around and crabbing is as good as it gets!. So get out there and get in on the action whether by boat or off the surf and jetties. 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 and benefit from your experience.

Hope to see you on Friday,

Ed

September CLUB EVENTS

BOARD MEETING: September 6

CLUB MEETING: September 13

Club Meetings Start at 7:45 With Pledge of Allegiance

- Welcome Club Members, New Recruits and Guests
- Guest Speaker Introduction and Presentation
- Break / Refreshments - this month we will have **subs!**
- Rod Raffle
- Committee Reports
- 50/50 Drawing
- Fishing Reports

CLUB DINNER: September 21 at Manera's - Details further down in the Newsletter

SEPTEMBER SPEAKER This month's speaker is **Mark Taylor JCAA President**. Mark has not committed to a topic but I would bet he will address the Striper options and results of meetings recently held or that are scheduled in the near future.

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.**

August FOM winners are: **Bill Figley for Seabass (2 lbs 8oz)** and **Marty Friedrich for Fluke (6 lbs 9 oz)**. Congratulations Bill and Marty!

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	Tyler Leary	2 lbs 6 ozs	6/12
May 1 - 31	Striped Bass	Pat Presutto	27 lbs 8 ozs	5/15
May 1 - 31	Bluefish	Marty Friedrich	12 lbs 14 ozs	5/19
May 24 – 30 June	Fluke	Frank Tourine	5 lbs 14 ozs	6/30
May 15 – 22 June	Seabass	Carmine Tocci	2 lbs 10 ozs	5/15
July 1- 31	Fluke	Marty Friedrich	4 lbs 6 ozs	7/9
July 1- 31	Seabass	Bob Dodds	2 lbs 10 ozs	7/13
August 1- 31	Fluke	Marty Friedrich	6 lbs 9 ozs	8/18
August 1- 31	Seabass	Bill Figley	2 lbs 8 ozs	8/13
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			

August Weigh Ins - There were 11 FOM entries for August shown below in order of weigh in:

Cheri Hebert	Fluke	4.2 lbs	
Frank Tourine	Seabass	1.76 lbs	
Ron Roshelli	Seabass	1.42 lbs	
Bill Figley	Fluke	4.88 lbs	
Tom Siciliano	Winter Flounder	3.56 lbs	Not a FOM entry but a great catch!
Cheri Hebert	Fluke	5.0 lbs	
Pat Presutto	Fluke	5.87 lbs	
Marty Friedrich	Fluke	6.21 lbs	
Bill Figley	Seabass	2.48 lbs	August FOM Winner
Bill Dabney	Fluke	3.25 lbs	
Marty Friedrich	Fluke	6.56 lbs	August FOM Winner

September FOM awards are fluke and weakfish. For a complete list of all fish entered for 2019, go to the VHFC Web Site: <http://www.vhfishingclub.com/conteststournaments/vhfc-standings/>

NEW JERSEY FISHING REGULATIONS by Phil Simon - Decisions on 2020 striped bass regulations is now upon us. With the stock declared both overfished with overfishing continuing, the ASMFC / MAMFC joint committee dealing with the issue must now choose from several options to make a substantial coastwide reduction in the recreational catch for next year and beyond. For an interesting anti-RFA review of the problem, you might find the following blog helpful:

<http://oneanglersvoyage.blogspot.com/2019/08/a-new-high-and-deep-new-low-in-striped.html>

The RFA position is also embedded here but unfortunately it is not yet on their website. The JCAA position can be found at: <https://www.jcaa.org/JCNL1909/1909FMLR.htm>. Lastly, the actual addendum with all the proposed options can be found at:

<http://www.asmfc.org/calendar/09/2019/NJ-Public-Hearing-on-Striped-Bass-Draft-Addendum-VI/1433>.

That is a lot of material to read through but if you want to make an informed decision you need to take a shot at it. As a fishing club, we have the option to make a club recommendation and send it in. My personal view is that the regulatory guys need to come down hard on the Chesapeake recreational and commercial fisheries, as well as introduce a size maximum

across the coast. The circle hook proposals are OK but I doubt this will have a major impact on the breeding stock issues. What's missing of course from all the proposals is the impact of coastal estuary habitat degradation, decimation of the bunker stocks by Omega Protein Corp and the climate change impact on striped breeding and migration. These are probably the biggest factors impacting the size of the yearly classes of stripers. It's just that the fisheries commissions and councils have very little that they can or will do on these factors, so they work on the tools they have which impact landings only. Anyway, we will discuss at the club meeting and draft a response that can be forwarded to the committees.

There will be a public hearing on September 12 from 6 to 8:30 pm right here at our VHFC meeting room. You can come and hear what the ASMFC is proposing and listen to the comments from the audience. Hearings were already held at other locations in NJ on September 3 & 4.

In other news, there will be an interesting seminar presented by Dr Virginia Wheatley of the NJ Dep of Health Monday September 23 from 7 to 8:30 pm on bacterial contamination issues with shellfish titled **"When Vibrio Strikes: Raw Shellfish Illness, Response, and Prevention."** The seminar will be held at the Rutgers Cooperative Extension in Toms River. You can view the seminar on line as well, but you need to register in advance by contacting Kelly Jurgensen by email at kjurgensen@co.ocean.nj.us or call 732-349-1152.

VHFC DINNER - If you haven't signed up for the VHFC Dinner, there's still time to sign up and pay at the club meeting this Friday. This year's event is on Saturday, September 21, 2019 at 6:00PM at Manera's Restaurant at 291 Rt. 72 East, in Day Plaza. Dinner selections are:

1. Eggplant Parmesan with Linguine
2. Chicken Francaise with Roasted Potatoes and Vegetables of the day
3. Salmon with Sweet Chili Mango sauce served over Garlic Bok Choy
4. Sirloin Steak (10oz) with red wine demi glaze, Roasted Potatoes and Vegetables of the day

All dinners include dessert and choice of soup or salad. Manera's is BYOB! All entree choices are \$36 including tax & tip. Since the time is short, bring your payment to the next club meeting on 13 September and pay Vince Sibona. Forms are available on the home page at vhfishingclub.com/ and will be available at the September meeting. Or use the form shown below:

Member Name _____

Pasta____, Chicken____, Fish____, Beef____ @\$36ea = _____

POWER SNELL KNOT - This article appeared in a recent edition of the ***Fisherman's Magazine***. The Power Snell is a great choice for all circle hooks, especially in cases where a large hook is used with lighter line such as is the case when chunking for tuna or striped bass. I tried it and was successful on my second attempt. See it at https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=11&v=zPnV50yyT3U

THROWING A CAST NET - If you haven't tried throwing a cast net for peanut bunker or mullet or if you need a remedial course, then this is the video for you. I have viewed several videos but this is the best and the technique that I use. And yes, I know the attractive bikini clad instructor lady in the video is distracting but that's the price for learning how to throw a cast net! See it at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w6swNJXwEws>

LBI SURF TOURNAMENT - The 65th Annual Fall Surf Fishing Tournament runs from October 5 to December 8, 2019. For \$30 per adult and \$15 per youth 17 and under, you get a T shirt, hat, car decal and free slice of pizza (while supplies last) and a shot at many prizes in many categories. VHFC member and avid surf fisherman Pat Presutto won some serious money year before last. See all the details at: <https://www.lbisfc.com/lbi-fall-classic-surf-fishing-tournament>

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.

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 a report for you. **There were 9 reports for the month of August**
See all the photos from our website Reports below:



Dave Spendiff took his two granddaughters for some bay blowfishing. Judging by the spread on the table above, I'd say they were very successful!



That's Marty Friedrich with a beautiful fluke that weighed 6.5 lbs and was caught on the LE reef.



Bill Dabney holds a nice 20" fluke he caught on an afternoon trip in Great Bay.



With granddad Larry Leary's boat out of commission after striking something returning to Barnegat Inlet, Brendan & Tyler went out on the Carolyn Ann III. From the photo, they caught two very nice keepers. Congratulations to Brendan as he had the pool winner!



Once again, Marty Friedrich and friends caught their limit of fluke with the largest at 25+ inches that weighed 6 lbs. Marty said they left them biting!



That's Tyler Leary and friend Ryan showing their 4 keepers with Ryan's fish going 4.5 lbs.

In addition, they had 10 cocktail blues, 3 Spanish Mackerel, one Chub Mackerel and a rudder fish. Quite a day's catch!



That's my grandson Nick Rossi (on left) with a friend who had never fished in saltwater. I decided to fish the deeper ICW channel just south of Marshelder Channel. The boys caught 6 fluke including three keepers at 18, 19 & 20 inches.

Best of all, we were back at the dock by 10:15. Needless to say, T

ROD & REEL RAFFLE - Our second rod 'n reel raffle will occur at the September meeting for a Penn Pursuit III 4000 LE reel and a Penn Pursuit 7' extra fast action rod. Be sure to buy a ticket to be in it!

NJ DIVISION of FISH and WILDLIFE REMINDER - The Striped Bass Bonus Program (SBBP) reopened on September 1, 2019 and applications are being accepted through October 31. Please visit the SBBP webpage at

https://www.njfishandwildlife.com/bonusbas.htm?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery to apply and for more information. Your permit will allow you to harvest one striped bass from 24" to less than 28". Who knows if this program will continue in 2020?

VHFC T Shirts - The new VHFC T Shirts are available for ordering. Sizes range from XS (Extra Small) to 6XL. All sizes are available in nine colors. Shirts have long sleeves and feature UPF 50 Sun Protection. We have orders for 4 of the required 12 minimum lot buy.

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

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/>

Long Beach Island Water Temperature & Winds:

<https://seatemperature.info/long-beach-island-water-temperature.html>

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

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

DEADLINE FOR NEXT ISSUE IS:
28 September 2019

Email items / requests to edvalitutto@gmail.com