



# **HARBOUR LIGHT**

**OFFICIAL VHFC NEWSLETTER November 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: 8 November***

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hi everyone,

It's hard to believe that we are now in early November! Where did the summer and the first half of fall go? And based on my experience, the remainder of 2019 will disappear just as quickly. Between the Thanksgiving and Christmas / Hanukkah holidays along with preparing your home and boat for winter, there will be little time for fall fishing. But there are still some opportunities to enjoy some fine quality fishing.

If your boat is still in the water, this Monday & Tuesday look super with 2 foot waves forecast. That's perfect for making the trip into the ocean for stripers which are just now coming into our area. November is a great time for NW winds that allow most boats to venture out. Other options include using one of our capable local captains or one of the head boats. November and December are also a good time for bottom fishing and once the CAIII ends for the season, there are several boats in Brielle and Point Pleasant that continue running out.

And lastly, one of my favorite fall activities - surf fishing! Yes you will need a surf rod to cast 4-8 ozs of lead and bait a short distance into the deep water up against the sand at high tide. But you can fish on many days where you would not venture out on a boat. Plus you just need an hour or two and a few bucks for bait vice the better part of the day and 20 gallons of gas to travel up along Island Beach. Give it a shot this fall and you may become a devotee!

So as always, take this opportunity to make the best of the weather and fishing. Please enter your catch for our FOM / FOY awards and submit a report of your success for others to enjoy and benefit from your experience.

Unfortunately I have a prior commitment next Friday so I will not attend our final 2019 meeting on November 8. Please enjoy the pizza and I will do a final year end Newsletter in December.

Ed

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## **November CLUB EVENTS**

**BOARD MEETING: November 1**

**CLUB MEETING: November 8**

Club Meetings Start at 7:45 With Pledge of Allegiance

- Welcome Club Members, New Recruits and Guest
- Break / Refreshments - This is Pizza Night!
- Committee Reports
- 50/50 Drawing
- Fishing Reports

**NOVEMBER SPEAKER** - No speaker is planned for the November meeting.

**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 still 4 of the 21 FOM awards remaining for November 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.**

October FOM winners will be announced at the club meeting.

**2019 VHFC Fish of the Month Winners**

<b>Month</b>	<b>Fish</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Size</b>	<b>Date</b>
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	<b>Tyler Leary</b>	2 lbs 6 ozs	6/12
May 1 - 31	Striped Bass	<b>Pat Presutto</b>	27 lbs 8 ozs	5/15
May 1 - 31	Bluefish	<b>Marty Friedrich</b>	12 lbs 14 ozs	5/19
May 24 – 30 June	Fluke	<b>Frank Tourine</b>	5 lbs 14 ozs	6/30
May 15 – 22 June	Seabass	<b>Carmine Tocci</b>	2 lbs 10 ozs	5/15
July 1- 31	Fluke	<b>Marty Friedrich</b>	4 lbs 6 ozs	7/9
July 1- 31	Seabass	<b>Bob Dodds</b>	2 lbs 10 ozs	7/13
August 1- 31	Fluke	<b>Marty Friedrich</b>	6 lbs 9 ozs	8/18
August 1- 31	Seabass	<b>Bill Figley</b>	2 lbs 8 ozs	8/13
September 1 - 21	Fluke	<b>Cherie Hebert</b>	6 lbs 13 ozs	9/1
September 1- 30	Weakfish	<b>Cherie Hebert</b>	3 lbs 5 ozs	9/16
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			

**October Weigh Ins** - Weigh ins for October will be listed on our website once available.

November FOM awards are striped bass, bluefish and blackfish. There is also an award for Seabass that runs from 8 October through 30 November. 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** - Big news for the month: The Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) approved Addendum VI to the Atlantic Striped Bass Management Plan, setting size limits and other measures for 2020 and 2021. Overall, an 18% reduction of landings for both the recreational and commercial sectors will be implemented. They rejected option A (status quo), and option C (less reduction for the commercial sector). Of the various measures affecting NJ recreational fishing, the commission selected sub-option 2A, setting the size limit to 28" to 35" and the limit to 1 fish. The commission also approved mandatory circle hook provision when bait is used (option B of the circle hook provisions). However, this provision does not take effect until 2021. But...under conservation equivalency the states can propose alternatives to the new regs, although they must meet the 18% reduction requirement (relative to 2017 levels) and must be approved by the Technical Committee of the ASMFC and the Striped Bass Board of the ASMFC. Any proposal of this type affecting us would come from the New Jersey Marine Fisheries Council, which is having a public meeting on Thursday, November 7 at 8pm at the Atlantic County Library, Galloway Branch, 306 E. Jimmie Leeds Road, Galloway NJ. In theory, as all the option 2 sub- options (see below) meet or exceed the 18% reduction requirement, any of them could replace the one selected. The states have until the end of November to submit their implementation plans, and final approval would be expected by the ASMC Striped Bass Board in February. The new size and bag limits would take effect April 1, 2020.

Sub-Option	Bag Limit	Size Limit	Season and Trophy Fish/Season	% change from 2017		
				Harvest	Release Mortality	Total Removals
<b>2-A1</b>	1	35" min	Same seasons and trophy season as 2017 (see <i>Appendix 1</i> )	-43%	+3%	-18%
<b>2-A2</b>	1	28"-35" slot		-46%	+3%	-19%
<b>2-A3<sup>^</sup></b>	1	30"-38" slot		-44%	+3%	-18%
<b>2-A4<sup>^</sup></b>	1	32"-40" slot		-49%	+4%	-21%

^Under sub-option 2-A3 and 2-A4, ocean trophy fish fisheries would be capped with a 38” and 40” maximum size limit, respectively.

The draft addendum that was posted before the recent meeting can be found here: <http://www.asmfc.org/calendar/09/2019/NJ-Public-Hearing-on-Striped-Bass-Draft-Addendum-V/1433>.

### **SOS: RECREATIONAL BOAT IS STUCK ... IN A CAVE?**



### **Even Harder Than Getting a Boat in a Bottle!**

“There are not many times I can say it after 30 years as a towboat captain, but this was a first,” says Capt. Rob Butler, owner of the TowBoatUS San Diego. Butler was describing his

company's recent response to a 26-foot power boat stuck inside a deep sandstone cave along a southern California cliff wall.

The story begins with two men fishing 30 miles offshore. Heading back on calm seas at night under a bright moon, the owner went below to get some sleep while his crewmate put the boat on autopilot for San Diego's Shelter Island Boat Launch. Then he fell asleep. The men were awakened by the sound of surf as their boat cruised into the 15-foot-high cave, literally threading the needle. "If they missed by 10 feet on either side, it could have been fatal," Butler says. Thankfully, the anglers had enough VHF radio signal from inside the cave to hail the Coast Guard, which triggered responses from the San Diego Lifeguard Service, U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and TowBoatUS San Diego.

It was CBP's infrared camera that detected heat 200 feet inside the cave. Lifeguards went in and swam the men out to safety, but an offshore storm was kicking up big surf, making the boat's salvage unsafe. The Pacific Ocean then pulverized the fiberglass boat in what amounted to a jagged-edged trash compactor.

Butler's crew later spent several days shuttling out the debris on a 20-foot aluminum canoe, including the boat's chewed-up twin sterndrive engines. "Our last large item to remove was a ball of debris tangled with anchor chain, fishing gear, sea anchor and one of the outdrives, all twisted into a large part of the boat's tuna tower,"

Although autopilots make boating easier, it is very important that there is always someone on wheel watch. A good rule of thumb is to set a destination point 3 miles out from shore and hand steer into the harbor.

**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](mailto:edvalitutto@gmail.com) or call 609 994 1311. If you provide me the details, I will submit a report for you.

Larry Leary submitted the only report for the month of October. See photos that follow.





**That's Junior member Ryan Mollicone with a 25 lb striper caught October 25th off of Seaside. Larry said they hooked up in the first 5 minutes and everyone thought what a day this will be! Four hours later, they still had only 'one in the box'. But Plan B took them to a wreck where they limited on blackfish and a nice trigger. Photo follows.**



**Tyler Leary with one of the tautog caught along with a nice triggerfish.**

**Library** - The VHFC has an enormous number of books, magazines and DVDS in our library available at club meetings for members to check out and enjoy. New for 2019, VHFC has added subscriptions to *The Fisherman* and *On the Water* magazines with great articles for everyone to read.

**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 now have orders for 8 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.

**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](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.

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&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/>

**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](mailto: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:**

**1 December 2019**

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