



# ***HARBOUR LIGHT***

**OFFICIAL VHFC NEWSLETTER September 2020**

*Editor: Ed Valitutto* VHFC Website: <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 (Online via Zoom): 11 September***

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hello VHFC Members,

Happy Labor Day to you and your family! Can you believe we are on the backside of the summer of 2020 - and what a spring / summer combination it has been! Let's hope the next months continue without any crazy gyrations due to COVID-19 as schools reopen, dining resumes and gyms and other businesses try to revert to the 'new normal' whatever that is.

But back to September at the Jersey shore. The weather is perfect and will continue to improve as we move into early fall - my favorite time at the shore. Go on out and enjoy the open air and experience all this area has to offer. This is the time of year when many things are reduced / lessened and thankfully so! Air temperatures are now bearable along with the humidity, traffic congestion is disappearing, people visiting the area will reduce significantly especially once schools reopen and lastly, beach badges are no longer needed. This is the time of year when ocean temperatures are almost equal to the air temperature - that's a great combination! Oh

and the fishing is great. There are three weeks left to enjoy fluke fishing. The season closes on Saturday September 19th and I think the 2020 season has been very decent. Blowfish are abundant along with blueclaw crabs in the bay and blackfish and seabass (reopens 8 October) should provide some fine sport based on the spring season catches. Stripers and bluefish (hopefully) should return to our waters in the coming months. This is also a great time to jump on a party boat for some fine catching of bottom species - ling, porgies and winter flounder. So make the most of the remaining days and enjoy the great outdoors.

Once again, I look forward to 'seeing' everyone at our next online Zoom meeting on Friday September 11th.

Ed

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**Zoom Membership Meeting - Friday September 11 07:45 PM Eastern Time**

**Use this Link to Join the Meeting:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84915830171>

**Meeting ID: 849 1583 0171**

**Dial-in: +1 646 558 8656 US (New York)**

Any questions, call Phil Simon @ 908 656 4086 or Ed Valitutto @ 609 994 1311

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**September SPEAKER - John Grothues from Rutgers, speaking on fish biology.**

#### **NEW JERSEY REGULATORY & EXCERPTS from JCAA MEETING by Phil Simon**

Not much to report this month, as JCAA has suspended meetings till next month and the various fisheries councils and commissions appear to be conducting minimal business as well. JCAA conducted it's "Heavy Hitters Fluke Tournament" in August, a state-wide event which allowed for parties of up to four to select one day out of three to fish the tournament and the winners were determined by the combined weight of three fish. As you might expect, those fishing in more northern waters have the advantage as the fish tend to grow in average weight as you move up the coast. This was born out by the winning team fishing out of the Highlands. Hopefully, next year JCAA will be able to return to its traditional format of running separate "ports", each in a sense a separate local tournament.

The pandemic is not stopping the annual LBI Surf Fishing Classic, which runs from October 10 to December 13. This tournament features lots of daily prizes. More information should be available soon at the website [lbisfc.com](http://lbisfc.com).

The ASMFC has agreed to tie its menhaden quotas with the welfare and status of the striped bass stock, but its not clear yet just how this will be managed and what the results might be. This will certainly have to be a long-term approach, and it will take some trial and error before we can expect to see positive impacts on the striper population. Meanwhile we can expect to see the bunker reduction boats continuing their operations in our waters for some time to come.

**2020 FOM** - The largest fish by length caught during the time periods stated in the table below will be awarded a \$50 gift certificate to Fisherman's Headquarters (no expiration). There are 22 awards for 2020. Note: bluefish must be at least 22" for award consideration.

**Bob Dodds took the August Fluke FOM with a fat 25" fish that went 7 lbs and Brian Leary took the seabass award with a 16 1/2" beauty. Congratulations Brian and Bob! There are 4 contests presently for entry during September - Winter Flounder, Weakfish, Sheepshead and Fluke. See the Table below for all 2020 FOM awards.**

Month	Species	Name	Length	Date
1 MAR – 30 APR	Striped Bass	No Entry		
1 MAR – 30 APR	Bluefish	No Entry		
1 MAR – 30 NOV	Winter Flounder	In Process		
1 APR – 30 JUN	White Perch	Caesar Pesarini	12 1/2	4/16
1 APR – 31 OCT	Weakfish	In Process		
1 - 31 MAY	Striped Bass	Pat Presutto	36 1/2	5/20
1 - 31 MAY	Bluefish	No Entry		
15 MAY - 22 JUN	Seabass	Marty Friedrich	18 1/2	5/17
22 MAY - 30 JUN	Fluke	Marty Friedrich	23	6/21
1 - 31 JUL	Seabass	Bob Dodds	19	7/23
1 - 31 JUL	Fluke	Ryan Mollicone	27	7/17

<b>1 JUL - 30 SEP</b>	<b>Sheepshead</b>			
<b>1 - 31 AUG</b>	<b>Seabass</b>	<b>Brian Leary</b>	<b>16 1/2</b>	<b>8/22</b>
<b>1 - 31 AUG</b>	<b>Fluke</b>	<b>Bob Dodds</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>8/15</b>
<b>1 - 19 SEP</b>	<b>Fluke</b>			
<b>1 - 31 OCT</b>	<b>Blackfish</b>			
<b>1 - 31 OCT</b>	<b>Striped Bass</b>			
<b>1 - 31 OCT</b>	<b>Bluefish</b>			
<b>8 OCT - 30 NOV</b>	<b>Seabass</b>			
<b>1 - 30 NOV</b>	<b>Blackfish</b>			
<b>1 - 30 NOV</b>	<b>Striped Bass</b>			
<b>1 - 30 NOV</b>	<b>Bluefish</b>			

**August Entries:**

<b>Sea Bass</b>	<b>Brian Leary</b>	16 1/2	8/22
<b>Fluke</b>	Cheri Hebert	22	8/01
	<b>Bob Dodds</b>	25	8/15
	Ed Valitutto	23	8/21

Email your FOM entries to Carmine at [dianatocci@verizon.net](mailto:dianatocci@verizon.net) and copy me please at [edvalitutto@gmail.com](mailto:edvalitutto@gmail.com)

**RECIPE by Ed Valitutto** - This month's recipe is a simple grilled tuna sashimi that I often make as an appetizer. Buy one or two of the freshest steaks you can find. I personally like Blue Claw Seafood in Surf City where I have been getting locally caught Big Eye Tuna steaks. First, take the tuna out of the fridge a good 60 - 90 minutes beforehand. You should do this with any meat or fish so that the middle isn't ice cold when you serve it. I then apply a good dash of EVOO, salt & pepper and liberally sprinkle sesame seeds on both sides. Place the steaks on a hot grill or pan for 90 - 120 seconds depending on how rare you prefer the meat.

Slice the steaks across the grain about ¼" thick. The grain is clearly visible in the first picture. I serve the tuna with a sauce of a few tablespoons of Mayonnaise, a squeeze of lime, a little soy

sauce, a teaspoon of sesame oil and a few drops of sriracha or your favorite hot sauce. The right photo is the finished steak - hard to tell but it is very rare.



**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 / text 609 994 1311 and I will submit a report for you. There were 8 reports for the month of August.



**Marty Friedrich and pal CHris went out to Little Egg reef on August 1st and were rewarded with 5 keepers including one that went 24" and weighed 5 ½ lbs!**





That's Marty's pal Will after a trip they made to Garden State North. Only two fluke but four nice seabass joined the cooler.



Phil Simon fished near the Barnegat Light reef with fellow member Dave Ludwig for about 3 hrs. The fishing was slow but steady, with mostly shorts and sea robins coming over the side. However they each managed to land a decent fish, Dave's measured 21.5" and Phil's went 22.5" and weighed 4 lbs 13 oz.



Despite a rough ride out to Garden State South, The Jen-Jen crew had a nice variety of fish – 5 keeper fluke, 2 blues, 3 chub mackerel and 3 sea bass. Great day out fishing!





A trip to Garden State South by The Jen Jen team on a nice flat ocean changed before noon and progressively got worse. In spite of the rough seas, they were able to box 6 keepers to 24”!





With my boat in the shop for replacement of the hydraulic steering pressure sensors, Ed Valitutto and grandson Nick went fishing on the CAIII. We only had the two fish shown in the photo. Mine was 22" and 3.8 lbs and Nick's was his personal best at 23" 4.4 lbs. Still a great time on the water!



That's Addison (Larry Leary's granddaughter) on The Jen-Jen with a 25" striper caught at the Barnegat rocks started at the Barnegat rocks. They then traveled 18 miles to a wreck and limited out on Seabass along with 15 Tog (no keepers). After that they caught 6 keeper Fluke all over 20", several Chub Mackerel and 2 blues. This boat catches fish!



For the last report for August, Bob Dodds went on a 4 man charter on the Kev n' Ash and caught their limit just before the seas started getting rough. Bob's fish included a 7 pound beauty that went 25 1/8" and took FOM for August. Congratulations Bob!

**VHFC T Shirts** - We have three extra shirts that are available for purchase at \$31 each. They are: **White, XL - 1 and Aqua, L -1, XL - 2**. You can still order from the full range of colors and sizes below but we need 12 minimum to place an order.

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. These are quality shirts to be worn proudly. White is shown below with the ordering info.

Sizes/Cost: XS, S, M, L & XL @ \$31, 2XL @ \$32, 3XL @ \$33 4XL @ \$34, 5XL @ \$35 & 6XL @ \$36. Colors: White, Pale Green, Sand, Pale Orange, Pale Yellow, Pale Teal, Aqua, Lime & Medium Blue.

For a slightly loose fit, order your normal shirt size. For a tight fit, order one size smaller than your normal shirt size. Order yours and help us complete this order! Contact Dave Spendiff at [dnspeidiff@netscape.net](mailto:dnspeidiff@netscape.net) for placing an order.

**VHFC Hats** - Hats are also available for purchase. Hats are khaki colored, feature a high definition VHFC patch on the front, a velcro size adjustment and sell for \$20. These are quality hats at a fair price and advertise our club. Contact Dave at [dnspeidiff@netscape.net](mailto:dnspeidiff@netscape.net) for placing an order.

### **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 / Weigh In Stations (shown in red) 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**