



HARBOUR LIGHT

OFFICIAL VHFC NEWSLETTER October 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 October

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello VHFC Members,

Have you noticed how dark it is outside at 7:00 PM - just wait until the end of the month and we turn the clocks back! Well it's now October and we have entered into what many people consider the best time of the year 'down the shore'. The water and air temperatures have almost met, the bugs and crowds have mostly thinned, baitfish and juvenile gamefish are preparing for their mass migration and stripers and bluefish will hopefully arrive soon! Blowfish and crabs are still in the bay, tog are showing up on the rocks, sea bass opens soon and pelagics are off shore in the warm water. Lastly, there are great opportunities in the surf as prey and predators will soon collide during their fall migrations.

Speaking of the surf, this coming Saturday is the start of the 66th Annual Fall Surf Fishing Classic - 9 weeks of fall fishing on Long Beach Island that will run until December 13th. For \$30 per adult / \$15 for 17 & under, you get a hat (no T shirt this year) and many opportunities

to win money for a bass, bluefish or red drum. New this year is an added category for kingfish! Go to <https://www.lbisfc.com/lbi-fall-classic-surf-fishing-tournament> for full details. There is also a Prize Summary later in the Newsletter. This is also a great time to jump on a party boat for some fine catching of bottom species - ling, porgies and winter flounder. Seabass will open next Thursday October 8th for some fun catching and great eating! 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 October 9th.

Ed

Zoom Membership Meeting - Friday October 9 07:45 PM Eastern Time

Use this Link to Join the Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87419180421?pwd=aHV6Slg3cUtydTBpRlFuN2VycklnZz09>

Passcode: 188626

Meeting ID: 874 1918 0421

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

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

October SPEAKER - Alex Majewski - Captain Alex fishes the picturesque Barnegat Bay and nearshore waters aboard the Debbie M, a custom-built 23' Dusky. With over 40 years of experience fishing in Barnegat Bay, Captain Alex is recognized as a local expert. He has taught classes on fishing Barnegat Bay and is a published author with articles appearing in The Fisherman & Saltwater Sportsman Magazines. .

NEW JERSEY REGULATORY & EXCERPTS from JCAA MEETING by Phil Simon

JCAA held its first general meeting since June, but I have to say not much of importance occurred. I did learn that the recent "Heavy Hitters" fluke tournament was a financial success, with about \$10,000 raised for the organization. JCAA is still hurting for funds however as they had to cancel so many events this year due to the pandemic. It looks like JCAA will cease

mailing out hard copies of its monthly newsletter, due to the high costs of printing and mailing. We will be attaching PDF versions of the newsletter to the VHFC newsletter distribution list.

The ASMFC and the MAMFC, the two main regulatory bodies for fishing in our area, are having their annual get-togethers in the next couple of weeks. One of the items on the table is a series of proposals to re-allocate the split for summer flounder between the recreational and commercial sectors, which has been set at 40/60 since the 90's. Because of the reset of the fluke biomass estimates that occurred last spring, and also due to the fact that we now know that the old allocations were based on faulty data, there is a good chance that the allocations will be re-done to provide more for the recreational sector. There has also been some discussion of setting up a separate piece of the pie just for the party boats and charter boats, but this seems to be a little more problematic. Hopefully I will have more to report on this next month.

Division of Fish and Wildlife - The 2020 Striped Bass Bonus Program is still open. Due to COVID-19, applications must be submitted by email to applybonus@dep.nj.gov. Application Deadline is October 31.

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.

Larry Leary took the September Fluke FOM with a nice 22 1/2" fish. No one entered a Sheepshead so that FOM is closed. Congratulations Larry! There are 6 contests open for entry during October - Winter Flounder, Weakfish, Blackfish, Striped Bass, Seabass & Bluefish.

Special Note - Last month, we reported Brian Leary as the Seabass FOM winner with a 16 1/2" fish entered on August 22nd. However, Bill Figley entered a 16 1/2" seabass caught by Rosemary Figley on the 9th that was inadvertently missed in our records. Per the FOM rules, same size entries go to the earliest entered. However, since it was our (VHFC) mistake, Bill will also receive a certificate along with a belated congratulations!

See the Table below for all 2020 FOM awards.

Month	Species	Name	Length	Date
1 MAR – 30 APR	Striped Bass	No Entry / Rolled Forward		
1 MAR – 30 APR	Bluefish	No Entry / Rolled Forward		
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 / Rolled Forward		
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
1 JUL - 30 SEP	Sheepshead	No Entry - Closed		
1 - 31 AUG	Seabass	Brian Leary	16 1/2	8/22
1 - 31 AUG	Fluke	Bob Dodds	25	8/15
1 - 19 SEP	Fluke	Larry Leary	22 3/4	9/17
1 - 31 OCT	Blackfish			
1 - 31 OCT	Striped Bass			
1 - 31 OCT	Bluefish			
8 OCT - 30 NOV	Seabass			
1 - 30 NOV	Blackfish			
1 - 30 NOV	Striped Bass			
1 - 30 NOV	Bluefish			

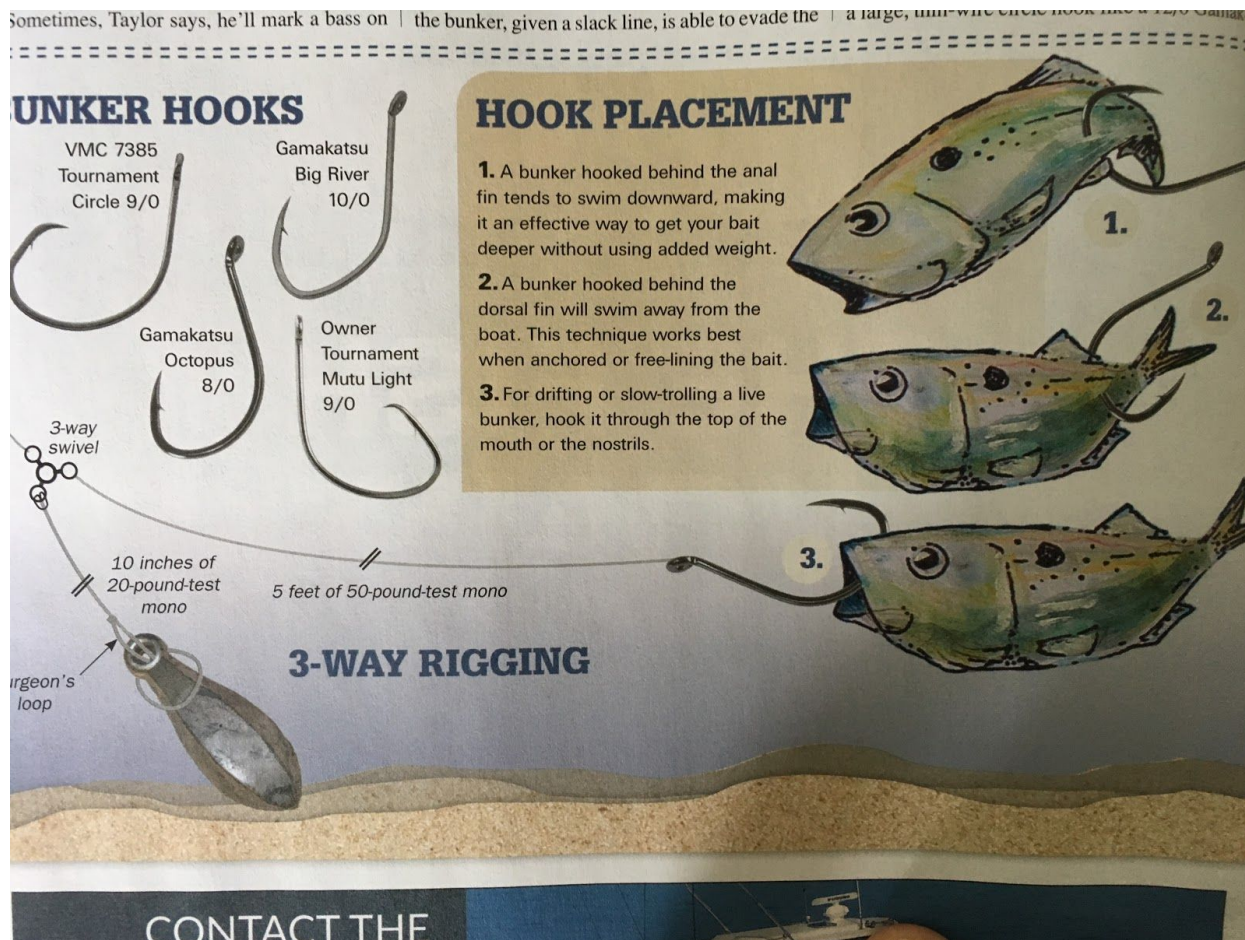
September Entries:

Fluke	Larry Leary	22 3/4	9/17	Wreck
Fluke	Brian Leary	22 1/2	9/17	Wreck
Fluke	Jeff Barnhart	21	9/17	LE Reef
Winter Flounder	Tom Siciliano	13 1/2	9/24	Pt Pleasant
Porgy*	Tom Siciliano	12	9/24	Pt Pleasant

NOTE: No FOM award for Porgy

Email your FOM entries to Carmine at dianatocci@verizon.net and copy me please at edvalitutto@gmail.com

The article below was from a past Newsletter showing how to rig a bunker for livelining stripers - lets hope both bunker and stripers stay within the 3 mile line this year!



RECIPE by Ed Valitutto - This month's recipe was a handout from Jim Hutchinson Sr from a meeting where Jim was the guest speaker - back when we actually met in person. I thought I would reprint it for those not in attendance. Jim brought an ample supply of the Hot Crab Dip for attendees to enjoy and it was outstanding. I'm sure the other recipes are equally as good. Thanks Jim!

HOT CRAB DIP

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Pound Crabmeat | 2 Minced Scallions |
| 1 Cup Mayonnaise | 1 Tablespoon Lemon Juice |
| 1 8-Ounce Package Cream Cheese | ½ Teaspoon Dill |
| 1 Minced Medium Onion | ¼ Teaspoon Hot Pepper Sauce |

Pick through the crabmeat to be sure there are no shells. Soften the cream cheese and blend with a fork with the mayonnaise until all one consistency. Add all other ingredients except crabmeat and blend thoroughly. Fold in the crab and transfer to an ovenproof serving dish. Bake in an oven pre-heated to 350 degrees until bubbly and starting to turn light brown on top, about 30 minutes. Serve with your favorite crackers. Serves 6-8 as an appetizer.

MARYLAND CREAM OF CRAB SOUP

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 3 tablespoons flour | ½ teaspoon dry mustard |
| 1 envelope hollandaise sauce mix | ¼ teaspoon celery seed |
| 4 cups half and half-divided | 1 cup whipping cream |
| ¼ cup butter | 3 tablespoons cooking sherry |
| 2 tablespoons Old Bay or more to taste | 1 pound fresh crab |

In a medium bowl blend the flour and hollandaise sauce and then mix with 2 cups of half-and-half. Melt the butter in a medium, heavy saucepan over medium heat. Slowly add hollandaise mixture, stirring constantly until thickened. Add the remaining half-and-half, Old Bay, dry mustard, celery seed, and whipping cream. Bring to a simmer and reduce heat to low. Add crabmeat and sherry, stirring gently until warmed through. Serve immediately.

TOASTED CRAB APPETIZERS

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| 1 stick butter or margarine | 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder |
| 1 5-6 oz. jar Old English Cheese Spread | 6-8 oz crabmeat |
| 1 tablespoon mayonnaise | 6 English muffins |

Soften butter to room temperature. Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Mix cheese spread into butter and stir in mayonnaise. Add garlic powder and stir all until completely blended-no lumps. Gently stir in crabmeat. Slice muffins in half and divide crab mixture on the 12 halves. Cut each half into quarters and place on a baking sheet. Bake in oven until cheese is bubbly and edges are brown. The spread can be made in advance and refrigerated for a couple of days. These may also be frozen before cooking for later use. Make the muffins up and cut into quarters. Freeze them on cookie sheets, and then place in zip loc bags for storage. They will keep a month or two without losing much flavor.

66th Annual Long Beach Island Surf Fishing Classic

Go to <https://www.lbisfc.com/lbi-fall-classic-surf-fishing-tournament> for details.

Striped Bass Prizes

SEGMENT PRIZES

Three \$1,000 Cash Awards
(One for Each Three-Week Segment)

WEEKLY PRIZES

Nine \$250 Cash Awards

DAILY PRIZES

65 Daily First Prizes (\$100 Cash)

JUNIOR PRIZES

Weekly \$100 Cash Awards - Largest Striped Bass

LADIES PRIZE

\$150 Cash Award - Largest Striped Bass Overall (Women)

SENIOR CITIZENS PRIZE

\$150 Cash Award - Largest Striped Bass Overall (Senior)

Kingfish Prizes

GRAND PRIZE

\$500 Cash Award for the Largest Kingfish

SEGMENT PRIZES

Three \$250 Cash Awards
(One for Each Three-Week Segment)

WEEKLY PRIZES

Nine \$50 Cash Awards

DAILY PRIZES

65 Daily First Prizes (\$25 Cash)

JUNIOR PRIZES

Weekly \$100 Cash Award - Largest Kingfish

LADIES PRIZE

\$150 Cash Award - Largest Kingfish Overall (Women)

SENIOR CITIZENS PRIZE

\$150 Cash Award - Largest Kingfish Overall (Senior)

Bluefish Prizes

GRAND PRIZE

\$1,000 Cash Award for the Largest Bluefish

SEGMENT PRIZES

Three \$500 Cash Awards
(One for Each Three-Week Segment)

WEEKLY PRIZES

Nine \$100 Cash Awards

DAILY PRIZES

65 Daily First Prizes (\$50 Cash)

JUNIOR PRIZES

Weekly \$100 Cash Awards - Largest Bluefish

\$100 Fisherman's Headquarters Gift Certificate—Largest Overall

LADIES PRIZE

\$150 Cash Award - Largest Bluefish Overall (Women)

SENIOR CITIZENS PRIZE

\$150 Cash Award - Largest Bluefish Overall (Senior)

**PLAQUE TO THE ANGLER ENTERING THE
LARGEST BLUEFISH IN THE TOURNAMENT**

Bonus Prizes

LARGEST RED DRUM EACH SEGMENT

One \$100 Cash Award (18" - 27" legal size)

SATURDAY & SUNDAY STRIPERS

\$100 Gift Certificate for Heaviest Bass Every
Saturday (Fisherman's Headquarters) and Sunday (Jingle's)

SPECIAL DAILY AWARDS*

Oct. 10 - \$500 Cash Award for the Largest Striped Bass

**Oct. 12 - \$250 Cash Award For Largest Striped Bass
(In Honor of Robert "Jingles" O'Brien from the Palmer Family)

Oct. 20 - \$250 Cash Award For Largest Striped Bass
(In Honor of our First Responders)

Oct. 31 - \$500 Cash Award for Largest Striped Bass
(Courtesy of Surf City Bait & Tackle)

Nov. 11 - \$250 Cash Award for Largest Striped Bass
(Honoring our Veteran's)

Nov. 16 - \$250 Cash Award for Largest Striped Bass
(In Honor of Frank Panzone)

Nov. 26 - \$250 Cash Award for Largest Striped Bass
(In Honor of Bruce Hoagland)

Dec. 7 - \$250 Cash Award for Largest Striped Bass
(Honoring Pearl Harbor Day)



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 / text 609 994 1311 and I will submit a report for you. There were 5 reports for the month of September.



Larry Leary had his whole family out fishing - Brian, Sean, Stacy, Bryson & Owen (kids in training). They caught many blowfish, 2 bonus keeper fluke and a bluefish.



Alan Goracy and yours truly went out for a day of blowfishing up near the BI buoy. After a leisurely 8:30 departure, we anchored a few hundred yards off shore and it didn't take long for the puffers to find our chum slick. We kept 40+ large ones and left them biting. The bonus was three large kingfish, two of which were almost 14".



Last hurrah for 2020 fluke on The Jen-Jen on Thursday the 17th for the Leary crew. This would be the last day to Fluke fish due to upcoming weather. We went headed south off a wreck NE of LE Reef. It was a sporty ride out but we were able to keep 4 nice fluke. We also had 4 Sea bass up to 20" – shame we had to release them!



Dave Spendiff enjoyed a fine time fishing with his three sons with Capt Brett Taylor on 9/27. Starting at a small wreck off of Island Beach State Park, the tog were on immediately. We weeded through shorts before we limited out. We moved to the North jetty at the inlet with no luck on bass until my oldest son, Bill, hooked up a schoolie at the sod banks.

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 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 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®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 / 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**