



HARBOUR LIGHT

OFFICIAL VHFC NEWSLETTER November 2022

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: 11 November 2022

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello VHFC Members,

It seems like the 2022 season just started and now we are on the verge of hearing the 'corpulent' lady sing! But to quote Yogi Berra, "It ain't over til it's over!" And the 2022 fishing season certainly still has a lot to offer. Striped bass are now arriving in our area from their northern haunts and offer fishing opportunities from both the surf and by boat. Tog fishing both close inshore and on the rocks and sedges has been on fire. Especially good fishing has been reported along the Barnegat Inlet condo docks out to the end of the slippery rocks. Just look at the number of tog entered into the Surf Fishing Tournament! Seabass and porgies are also available but you may have to travel out a ways for keeper sized fish.

The biggest factor this time of year is usually the weather but lately mother nature has provided us with beautiful weather and it will stay decent for a while longer. So get on out there and do some fishing before you boat has to come out or the weather really gets to cold for your personal comfort level.

Our final 2022 meeting is on Friday November 11th. Phil has prepared his collection of all the fishing photos everyone has submitted through this year. **No speaker but it's PIZZA night.** Please come out and enjoy the presentation and the good natured banter along with a few slices.

Ed

UPCOMING NEAR TERM EVENTS

November 11 - VHFC Surf Fishing Outing

November 11 - General Membership Meeting

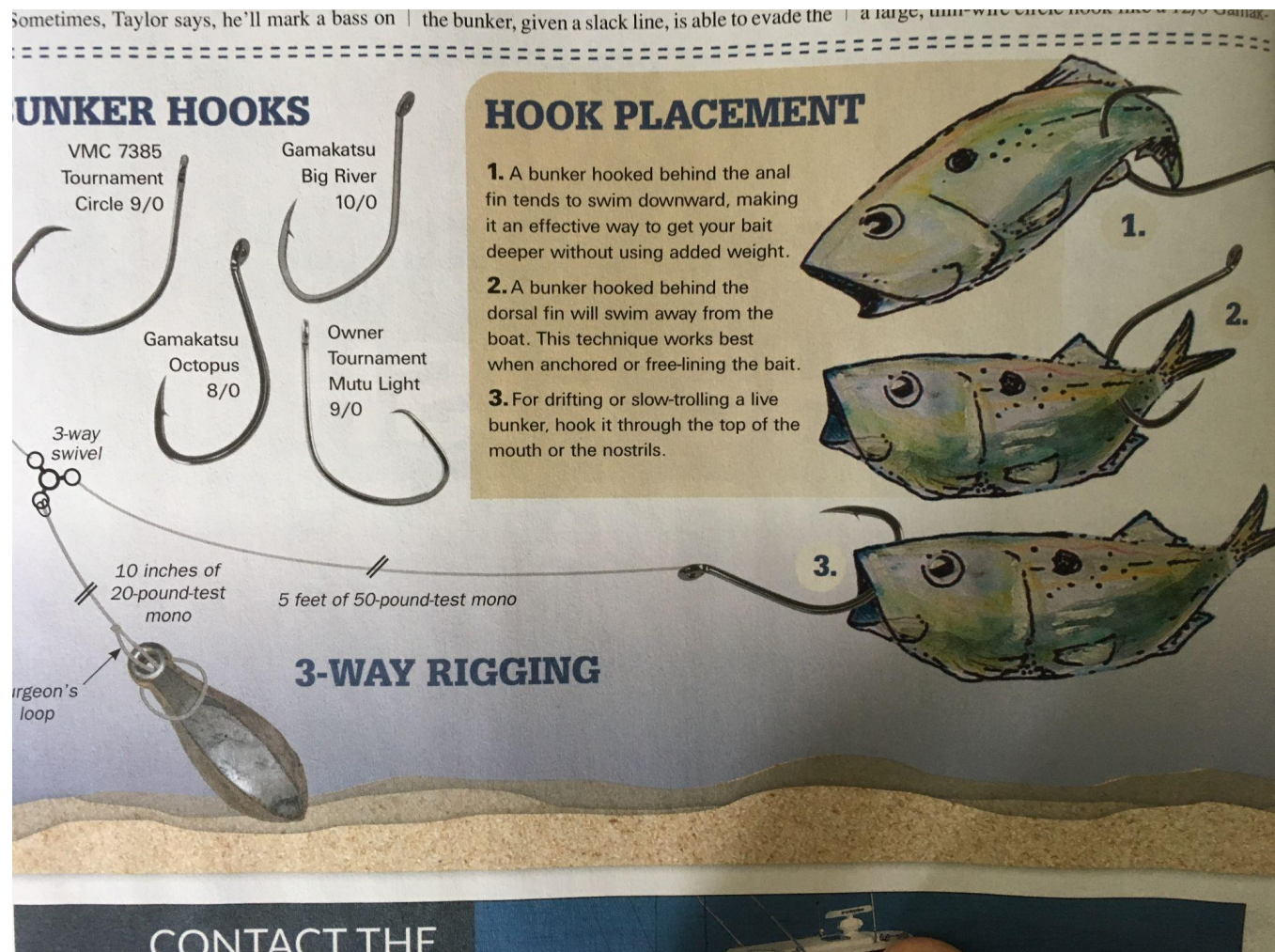
NOVEMBER MEETING - Our November meeting does not have a speaker but last year, Phil Simon suggested that he put together a collection of all the photos submitted throughout the year. So I sent him all the photos and he added some captions to make an enjoyable recap of the year. Feedback from everyone was great and we will do it again on Friday! Oh and yes there will be pizza for all to enjoy!.

NEW JERSEY JCAA & FISHING REGULATIONS by Phil Simon - JCAA will hold its sportsperson of the year dinner on Saturday November 11. This year's selections are Wayne Geider of the Hudson River Fishermen's Association for Sportsperson of the Year, and Ken Rylak of the Fish Hawks Fishing Club for the Youth Education Award. To my knowledge these were the only people nominated, possibly due to the short time span between the call for nominations and the vote. Maybe next year, JCAA will give the clubs more than a few weeks' notice.

Not too much on the regulatory side to report this month, as most of the regulatory councils and commissions meetings are upcoming so no decisions on any fish quotas or seasons have been made yet. The recently updated striped bass stock assessment draft was made public last week by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), which will be holding its annual meeting the week of November 7. The session concerning striped bass will be held on Monday afternoon, and any action concerning further changes or reductions to the catch could happen there. However, the data in the stock assessment update suggests that the stock status is fundamentally unchanged since the last full assessment in 2017 and considering that the catch rate is down 24% since 2017, it would seem unlikely that the commission would move to make any reductions. Recreational discards account for 50% of the overall striped bass fishing mortality, a continuing problem for this fishery, and the commission may seek new ways to make improvements here.

This is basically the same problem we have with the summer flounder fishery, in that we are required to throw back so many fish that with an estimated 10% mortality rate for discarded fish, we end up killing more fish than we keep. For striped bass, seasonal closures around the breeding season in the spring have been proposed in the past to reduce fishing effort and improve the chances for juvenile numbers to increase, but these measures have so far been pushed aside for future consideration. Overall, recruitment of new fish into the stock has been up in some areas and down in others, but remains far below the “golden age” of 1995 – 2005. Without some improvement here we can only expect the current tight restrictions on striped bass to continue.

Refer to the figure below for various ways of rigging a live bunker. This illustration was made before circle hooks were mandatory!



FALL FISHING TRIP - Our Fall Fishing Trip was held this past Wednesday on the 56 foot Super Chic out of Viking Village in Barnegat Light. Fourteen anglers enjoyed a great day of bottom fishing on the **Oklahoma**, a tanker that broke in half during a storm in 1914 and sank in 108 feet of water. We traveled southeast out of BL for two and a half hours on a diagonal line between the BL reef and GSN to reach the wreck. Despite a great forecast, the seas were definitely sporty and a few of us confessed to feeling a bit queasy. However, we were rewarded with non-stop catching seabass, jumbo porgies and an unbelievable number of bluefish. That's right, I said bluefish! From three pounders to Marty's pool winning 27" fish that I would guess went 8 - 10 lbs and earned him a \$50 FHQ certificate. Everyone had a blast and special thanks to Phil Simon for doing all the work setting up the outing..



Here's an inside of the Super Chic during our ride out to the wreck. Plenty of room and many rods to use but lots of folks brought their own.



**Weighmaster Pat
Presutto discussing
things with our mate for
the trip**



That's Ed V's catch minus a 5 lb bluefish on my cleaning table at my dock.



Couple more shots taken on the Super Chic



LB I FALL SURF FISHING CLASSIC - This year's event started on October 8th and continues through December 11th so there is still half the tournament time remaining. There are many prizes still to be won for striped bass, bluefish, kingfish, red drum and this year's classic offers \$200 for the largest tautog caught in each of the three segments. Full prize details, tournament rules and daily weigh-ins go to their website [The LBI Fall Classic](#). Sign up for a chance at some great prizes over the next 4+ weeks!

VHFC FALL SURF FISHING OUTING by Pat Presutto - New this year, VHFC will have our own one day surf fishing event. Planned for Friday November 11th (rain date the 12th), anglers can fish the beaches in Surf City, Ship Bottom & Brant Beach from 6 AM to 12 noon. **No Fee to enter and there will be a \$50 FHQ certificate to the largest weigh in.** Available species include:

Bluefish minimum length 16"

Striped Bass 28" to less than 37.99 " or a slot fish with a bonus tag attached

Red Drum between 18' and 27"

Kingfish minimum 12"

We will meet at Surf City Bait and Tackle after 12 pm to determine the winner. Since there are multiple species and only one award, the winner will be determined by weight. If you are in the LBI Tournament, you can also weigh in your fish at SCBT. Any fish caught is still eligible for VHFC open FOM / FOY awards but will need the usual length and picture. Come on out for a morning on the surf! Please let Pat Presutto know if you plan on participating.

MONTHLY RECIPE - Shrimp Gratin This is an easy and delicious dish. .

Ingredients:

4 tablespoons unsalted butter, softened

2 teaspoons chopped garlic (2 cloves)

1/4 cup minced green onions & a little minced parsley

1/2 cup coarsely chopped white button mushrooms

1/2 teaspoon salt & 1/2 teaspoon freshly ground pepper

2 tablespoons canola oil

1 pound large shrimp (about 24), shelled and deveined or you can use scallops

1 cup fresh bread crumbs

1/4 cup freshly grated parmesan cheese

1/4 cup dry white wine

Directions:

In a bowl, mix the butter with the garlic, scallions, mushrooms, salt, pepper and 1 tablespoon of the oil. Add shrimp and mix well. Spoon it into a large gratin dish or any heatproof dish.

Toss the bread crumbs with the cheese and remaining 1 oil. Sprinkle the shrimp mixture with the crumbs and pour on the wine. Preheat the oven to 425°. When hot, place on a cookie sheet and bake for 10 minutes, or until the crumbs are nicely browned and the shrimp are just cooked through.



VHFC Dinner - Once again, our VHFC annual dinner party was held at Kostas Grill - a lovely restaurant featuring Greek cuisine in Tuckerton. Special thanks to Bill Dabney for doing all the legwork to assure everyone had a great relaxing evening enjoying wonderful Greek dishes while having a chance to talk and have some fun!



Kostas is BYOB but **VHFC** provided plenty of Cava for a lovely toast to start the evening and continue enjoying throughout the meal. **OPA!**

2022 October FOM Entries - Here's the list of entries for October and early November followed by the latest FOM winners. Congratulations to our winners! For a full list of entries to date go to [VHFC Standings](#) and scroll down to **2022 VHFC Entries**

10-09-22	Seabass	15 1/4"	Marty Friedrich	AC Reef
10-10-22	Seabass	16"	Caesar Pesarini	GSN
10-11-22	Blackfish	16 1/2"	Brian Leary	Wreck
10-12-22	Seabass	18 1/2"	Marty Friedrich	AC Reef
10-17-22	Blackfish	19"	Brian Leary	BI South Jetty
10-18-22	Blackfish	18"	Larry Gonnello	AC Reef
10-18-22	Blackfish	18 1/4"	Bill Dabney	AC Reef
10-23-22	White Perch	11 1/2"	Brendan Jelly	BHW Dock
10-25-22	White Perch	13"	Dave Spendiff	BHW Dock
11-01-22	Bluefish	27"	Marty Friedrich	Deep Wreck
11-04-22	Blackfish	24"	Tyler Leary	Local Wreck

Four contests closed on 31 October and three of the four were won by Junior Anglers! Two species (Kingfish and Blowfish) offered \$100 awards since there wasn't a prior winner in the spring contest for that species. Congratulations to our FOM Winners:

Dave Spendiff	White Perch	13"	1 Jul - 31 Oct
Bryson Wyatt	Kingfish	14 1/2"	1 Jul - 31 Oct
Bryson Wyatt	Blowfish	11 1/4"	1 Jul - 31 Oct
Vinnie Rossi	Weakfish	18 1/4"	1 Jul - 31 Oct

Note: Bryson Wyatt is Larry Leary's grandson and Vinnie Rossi is Ed Valitutto's grandson. Two proud grandpops for sure!

Here is the full list of the 30 FOM awards for 2022. Currently, there are 6 contests open. Open contests are shown in **Blue**. Since there was no entry for the spring boat striper, the fall award will be \$100.

2022 Bill Figley Young Angler FOM Awards (4)

1	1 April - 31 August No Entry	White Perch
2	1 June - 31 August Mila Ellis 9"	Blowfish
3	1 June - 31 August No Entry	Kingfish
4	1 June - 31 August Hannah Ludwick 20 3/4"	Fluke

2022 Regular FOM Awards (26)

1	15 March - 30 June No Entry	Striped Bass
2	15 March - 30 June Bryson Wyatt 18 3/4 "	Bluefish
3	15 March - 30 June (Surf Only) Pat Presutto 36 3/4 "	Striped Bass
4	15 March - 30 June (Surf Only) Dave Etelman 32 1/2 "	Bluefish
5	15 March - 30 June Dave Spendiff 15"	White Perch
6	1 April - 30 June Tyler Leary 23 1/2 "	Weakfish
7	1 April - 30 June No Entry	Blowfish
8	1 April - 30 June No Entry	Kingfish
9	17 May - 19 June Bryson Wyatt 20"	Seabass
10	02 May - 30 June Larry Leary 23 1/2"	Fluke
11	02 May - 27 September Cheri Hebert 25"	Fluke
12	1 - 31 July Cheri Hebert 24 1/4"	Fluke
13	1 - 31 July Nick Salamone 18 1/4"	Seabass
14	1 July - 31 October Dave Spendiff 13"	White Perch
15	1 July - 31 October \$100 FHQ Award Bryson Wyatt 11 1/4"	Blowfish
16	1 July - 31 October Vinnie Rossi 18 1/4"	Weakfish
17	1 July - 31 October \$100 FHQ Award Bryson Wyatt 14 1/2"	Kingfish
18	1 - 31 August Cheri Hebert 25"	Fluke
19	1 - 31 August Nate Figley 17"	Seabass
20	1 - 27 September Larry Leary 25 1/2"	Fluke
21	1 October - 31 December Tyler Leary Leads 27"	Blackfish
22	1 October - 31 December Marty Friedrich Leads 27"	Bluefish
23	1 October - 31 December (Surf Only)	Bluefish
24	1 October - 31 December \$100 FHQ Award	Striped Bass

25	1 October - 31 December (Surf Only)	Striped Bass
26	07 October - 31 December Marty Friedrich Leads 18 1/2"	Seabass

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 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 and I will do a report for you. Please take a moment to provide a report for other members to enjoy and gain some valuable fishing insight. There were 6 reports submitted since the October Newsletter.



That's Dave Etelman holding a monster bass! Dave described this as the fishing adventure of a lifetime. Dave and friends steadily caught 50 lb class stripers for a solid 2 hours. Dave had 8 himself and the 4 of them caught a total of 23 fish all this size. WOW!



That is one healthy cooler of fish! Marty Friedrich and 3 friends went to the AC Reef. They managed to limit out by noon with 40 sea bass. The largest was 19" with most 13" to 15".



Tyler Leary was fishing with a friend off Loveladies and murdered the bass. All were large fish that were released of course!



Quite a day for Brian Leary and a friend. They had a lot of action with Triggerfish keeping 4 along with a nice tog and they released a 44" Striper.



When Larry Leary asked me to join him on The Jen-Jen with his son Brian and grandson Tyler, I quickly said yes. We headed north out of Barnegat Inlet and quickly spotted albies (False Albacore) crashing schools of rainfish. Getting close enough to throw a small glass minnow without spooking them is a bit tricky. I finally landed the one shown!



That's Tyler Ldary holding one of two albies he caught after many casts with a glass minnow! These fish are strong fighters and really fun to catch and release!



Dave Spendiff got quite a surprise catching three keeper sized white perch this time of the year in his lagoon! Oh and one of those fish went 13" - good enough to take the FOM award!

VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS - By Jeff Orsoe Both the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and the United States Power Squadrons have certified vessel examiners who will perform a free Vessel Safety Check ("VSC") at your boat, at a time of mutual convenience. There is no charge and no consequences if your boat doesn't pass. Our goal is simply to help make boating as safe as possible for you, your family and your friends. Personal pleasure craft, only.



I am available to perform a Vessel Safety exam on your vessel. As stated above, there is no charge for the exam and if you do not qualify for the

sticker, the results will not be reported to any agency. Contact: Jeff Orsoe Cell / Text: 732-672-5530 or email: jorsoe786@gmail.com



VHFC Hats - Hats are khaki colored and feature a high definition VHFC patch on the front. They are high quality and available at club meetings for \$20. If you would like a hat,, please contact Dave Spendiff for details.

VHFC Shirts - Our order for VHFC T-Shirts has been placed and delivered!

If you had previously paid or said you wanted one, they will be available at the September meeting. Otherwise, we can arrange to drop them off at your residence.



Our manufacturer has raised prices a small amount. If you previously paid, VHFC will absorb the cost. Otherwise Sizes/Cost are: XS, S, M, L & XL @ \$35, 2XL @ \$36, 3XL @ \$37 4XL @ \$38, 5XL @ \$39 & 6XL @ \$40. 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. Contact Dave Spendiff at dnspeidiff@netscape.net for placing an order.

CLASSIFIED ADS BUY, SELL or TRADE

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. With gas prices reaching the sky, helping out with fuel costs is almost a necessity.

USEFUL INFORMATION LINKS

See the full list on our website [Links](#)

Wave Information (Height, Period, Direction and Water Temperature) from a Buoy 15 Miles Outside Barnegat Inlet Updated Every 30 minutes: [Buoy #44091](#)

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>

SPONSORS - 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 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.

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

Fisherman's Headquarters 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 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 10% discount with VHFC card
387 Route 9, West Creek, NJ 08092 **609-857-3516**

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