



# **HARBOUR LIGHT**

**OFFICIAL VHFC NEWSLETTER May 2026**

*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 6:00; Meeting begins at 6:30 PM***

***Next meeting: 08 May 2026***

## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Hello VHFC Members,

We've all heard the expression about March 'Comes in like a lion and goes out like a lamb'. Well, April got it backwards coming in like a lamb and roaring out like a lion for the latter part of the month. The winds have just refused to lessen during the last weeks of April with water temperatures in the 40s! But temperatures will quickly rise if we can get a few warm days without the honking winds and that will certainly get things moving fishing wise.

But so far, and I realize that we are barely half way through spring, fishing success has been sparse. A few Striped Bass, White Perch and Blackfish have been reported but numbers are small and so far not a single Drum has been reported. But as the air and water temperatures rise, Stripers should be more plentiful along with arriving bluefish typically seen around Mother's Day. This month also kicks off Fluke on May 4th and Sea Bass on the 15th - both favorites of inshore and bay fishermen. So if you haven't already completed your fishing preparations, now

is the time to get ready for the action to heat up as we approach Memorial weekend just three weeks from now.

**Late Breaking Reports:** Bayside Dave caught on the final day of Tog and a blitz on the beach by the 'boys' just came in. Check it out in our Member Reports and in the Newsletter.

On a personal note, my wife and I are traveling to Switzerland departing May 6th and returning on May 19 and therefore, I will miss the May meeting. I will have my computer with me but there is no guarantee of connectivity as we tour around the country. Please continue to send in your FOM entries, Member Reports and POM (Picture of the Month) photos. We will do our best to keep everything up to date and published. Lastly, I'm sure once I depart, the weather will improve immensely and the fish will bite ferociously - you can thank me next time we meet!

Ed

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**UPCOMING VHFC 2026 EVENTS - For your long term planning and participation.**

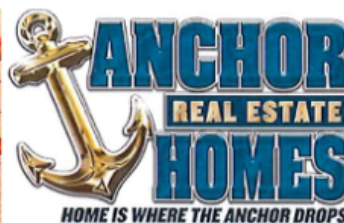
- ***May 10 Next Meeting***
- ***Bottom Party Boat Trip Thursday May 21***
- ***Inshore Slam May 25 - 31***
- ***Battle on the Beach Wednesday May 27 (rain date June 10)***
- ***July 11 VHFC Fluke Tournament & BBQ (July 12 rain date)***
- ***August 1 Tri Club Fluke Tournament & BBQ (August 2)***
- ***VHFC Open - August 24 - 30***
- ***Ocean Fluke Party Boat Trip Thursday September 17***
- ***Dinner Date October TBD***
- ***Bottom Party Boat Trip Wednesday November 4***
- ***Surf Tournament Saturday November 21***

**APRIL MEETING by Ed Valitutto** - Our next meeting will be at the Community Center on Friday April 8th. Remember, we have a new earlier start time of 6:30 with doors opening at 6:00. Our speaker for the meeting is **Greg Cudnik**, the general manager of Fisherman's Headquarters who also runs Fish Head Charters, a Light Tackle & Fly Guide Service. He is also the Editor of FishingLBI.com a fishing report blog focused on the waters of Long Beach Island. Captain Greg Cudnik is a passionate saltwater angler with a vast knowledge on our local fishery and saltwater fishing tackle. Greg will be talking about Spring Striper Fishing in the Barnegat area and as always, he will share some "special techniques" and answer all your questions.



**That's our May Speaker Jenni Ackerman keeping everyone's attention with her discussions on catching doormat Fluke. We had a record turnout of 72 members and friends in attendance!**

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Go to [Anchor Homes](http://AnchorHomes.com) for more information

**CLUB DUES** - VHFC yearly dues are \$50 for adults and \$10 for junior members and worth every penny! Junior members must be under 18 by the May 8th meeting. **The spouse of a member is automatically a co-member and may participate in all meetings and fish contests.** Dues are required by the May meeting but can be paid ahead by mail to our PO Box - highly recommended to minimize chaos and time at the meeting.

Please fill out the [Membership Form](#) and mail with your check to:

**VHFC MEMBERSHIP  
PO BOX 1026  
MANAHAWKIN, NJ 08050**

**Remember: Dues must be paid at least 24 hrs ahead of any entry into our contests and there are 22 FOM contests including 5 Young Angler contests already open and several more opening in May!**



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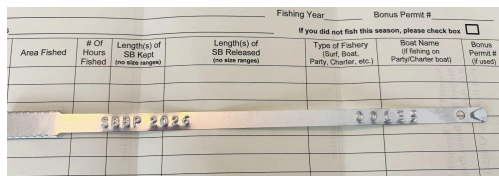
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**STRIPED BASS BONUS PROGRAM (SBBP)** - Sign up now for the 2026 Striped Bass Bonus Program so that you receive your tag before the harvest start date of May 15. You can get the form at [SBBP Individual Angler Application](#). Past seasons' harvest data and program background is available at [NJ F&W SBBP](#). You will need your CID # on your Saltwater Registration card - which if not current should also be renewed at [NJ Saltwater Registry](#). Everything is free and fairly simple to fill out. I received my shiny silver tag last Saturday, 4/25.



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**SOCIAL MEDIA by Bayside Dave Etelman** - Our VHFC sites are [VHFC FB Site](#) and [VHFC Instagram](#) The FB site has **257 followers** with each post reaching thousands of people; our Instagram account has **507 followers**. Dave shares Members Reports, club activities, monthly meetings as well as tips for fishing and boating on both social media networks. VHFC also has a YouTube channel at [VHFC YouTube](#) where you can send in your videos on anything that relates to fishing: tying rigs, how you set up your boat or car for surf fishing, tackle tricks or days on the water catching fish. It's important to Like and Comment on each post to help boost distribution. Here's a recent post showing our last meeting attendees



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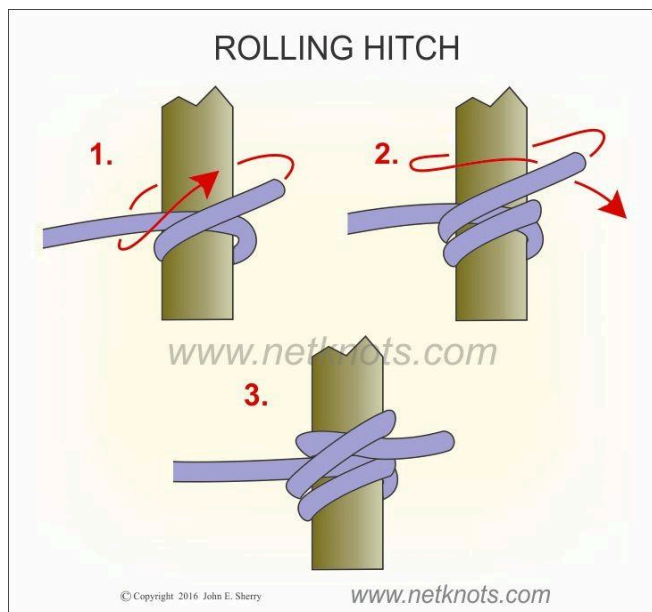
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**ROLLING HITCH by Ed Valitutto** - This knot has been featured before but with all the new members and boat owners, I thought it would be good to show it again. This knot is a very



secure and easy to tie method of fastening a rope to a post. The knot holds firmly in the direction of the standing line. The Rolling Hitch is much more secure than the similar clove hitch when tying a rope to a pole or other object. I have used it for all my dock lines for many years.

Go To [Rolling Hitch](#) for full details and animated instructions



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**ROD n' REEL RAFFLE** - The Combo shown below will be raffled off at our May meeting and consists of a Penn Battle IV 3000 with a Jigging World Rod rated for 10 - 20LB line and 3/4 to 1.5 OZ lure weight. This is a fantastic outfit for Fluke, Tog & Sea Bass and has a value of ~\$375.





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**REGULATIONS by John Stuebing** - On March 26, I attended the New Jersey Marine Fishery Council Meeting (NJMFC) in Manahawkin. Joining me were VHFC members Phil Simon, Jerry Nichols and Chuck Dishian. The big topic of the night was regulations on Black Sea Bass for 2026 and 2027. As you may have heard, the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (AFMFC) had increased the allowable harvest for this species by roughly 20%. Unfortunately, that increase was not spread evenly between states from Maine to North Carolina. In the New Jersey will realize about a 16% - 17 % increase in our allowable harvest. There were several options considered to incorporate this increase into our Season and Bag Limits New Jersey. Options #6 #10 were the final two options discussed (see attached chart). It was apparent that the council already made a decision to go with Option #6 even before public comments were heard.

**New Jersey Recreational Black Sea Bass Options for 2026/2027**

Option	Size Limit	Possession Limit	Open Season	Open Days
Option 1 (Status Quo)	12.5"	10	May 17 - June 19	188
		1	July 1 - August 31	
		10	October 1 - October 31	
		15	November 1 - December 31	
Option 6	12.5"	10	5/15-6/21	231
		1	6/22-9/22	
		10	9/23-10/31	
		15	11/1-12/31	
Option 8	12.5"	10	5/17-6/30	204
		1	7/1-8/31	
		10	9/26-10/31	
		15	11/1-12/31	
Option 10	12.5"	10	5/15-6/21	206
		2	7/1-9/14	
		10	10/1-10/31	
		15	11/1-12/31	
Option 11	12.5"	10	5/15-6/21	205
		2	6/22-9/4	
		10	10/1-10/31	
		15	11/1-12/31	

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During Public Comments, the room was split between recreational fishermen (and clubs) and the for-hire boat owners/captains. The majority of recreational fisherman were for option #10 while

the for-hire captains were for option #6. In the end, the council approved option #6. It gives the most days for an open season and gives the for-hire sector more days with a 10 fish (or more) bag limit.

Sadly, New York and Massachusetts lobbied hard and managed to get some of New Jersey's increase in harvest moved to their states. While we realize a net gain of +/- 16.5% in allowable harvest, NY and MA will realize +25% gain. We just don't have enough seats at the table....

Now that the Black Sea Bass regulations are set, and Bluefish Bag Limits have been increased, all other species will be status quo. The revised New Jersey Saltwater regulations have been published and are available on the NJDEP website. The digest will be out around May 1st.

The Striped Bass Bonus Tag program for 2026 has been approved and tags are now available. After the meeting one of the council members pulled aside and asked if we would help him move the Bonus Tag program to an earlier start date in 2027. I will be working with the JCAA to try and get support for this idea.

In addition to many other topics, the Council again discussed the subject of adding Season and Bag limits to the "Non-Traditional Species" category. These include species like; Sheepshead, Cobia (revise current regulations), Menhaden and more. Very little has been done on this since the January meeting. It remains on the "To Do List".

The council was advised that the Army Corp of Engineers (ACE) is once again asking for a list of "Critical Fishing Spots". These are areas where sand mining would be prohibited. Apparently, the last list that was provided encompassed too much area and has to be reduced. The Council requested that ACE present their case at a future Council meeting. In my opinion this is a serious issue. The current sand mining operations are unchecked and are destroying our habitat off the beach. I get it: no beach equals no tourism. But there is a lot of sand in our inlets that could be used on the beaches. No one wants to encounter the transport costs from the inlets to the beaches.

There was a report from enforcement that I found interesting. Apparently, they are encountering a surge in individuals digging or seining bait. This surge has contributed to bait costs being so high that individuals are trying to get their own bait for personal use and to sell. The problem is that some of this activity is in areas where it is either unsafe or not allowed. Also, there are encounters where the bait taken is excessive (large coolers filled to the brim) and includes prohibited species. Enforcement is requesting that regulations be set on this activity. For now, it will be included in the Non-Traditional Species To Do List.

Lastly, the Council was advised that due to the multiple Government Shutdowns, things are going to slow down. Hard to imagine the process getting slower!

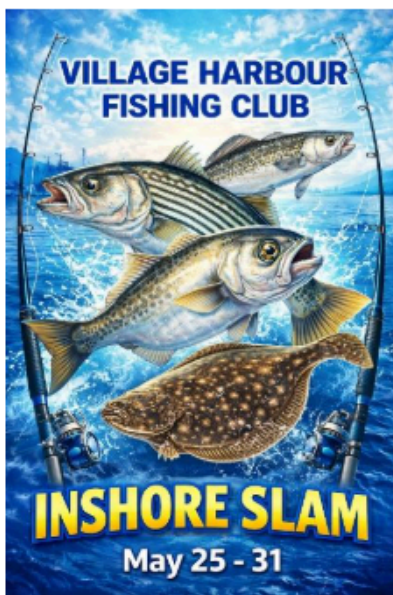


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**INSHORE SLAM by John Stuebing**



This tournament will be held from May 25 through the 30th and involve fishing for Fluke, Weakfish, Bluefish and Stripers. Anglers will earn points for total inches caught for each species. The tournament is by Boat or Land, but all fishing must take place inside the inlets or from the Beach, Land or Dock. While the tournament runs all week, anglers must pick any two days of that week to fish.

More details can be found on the VHFC website and we will review the tournament details again at the May Meeting. Entry Fee is \$20. All monies received go into the prize payout. We already have 12 people signed up. Make sure you sign up!

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**VHFC APPAREL STORE by Chuck Dishian** - As reported last month, there is a new way to purchase your club T shirts, fleeces, sweatshirts, hats and lots of other apparel. We have teamed up with Artist Tees, a supplier of promotional clothing located in Barnegat and they have set up an on-line store specifically for items featuring our club's artwork.



Shown above are a Tee Shirt, Jogger pants and a Hoodie. There are several ways you can access our store. Simply click on or copy the following link [Artist Tees](#) and it will take you right to the store.

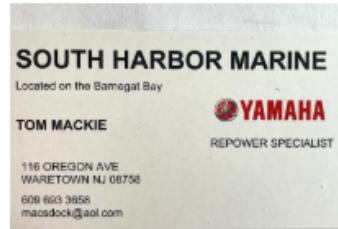
We also have [Purchase VHFC Apparel](#) buttons in several locations on our website including the Home page, below the Calendar and at the bottom of all pages showing our Sponsors on the right side. Just scan this QR code, download it onto your phone and you'll be ready to roll.



Their QR code will also be posted at our meetings. Once you've accessed the VHFC apparel store, you can shop around for items with the Village Harbour Fishing Club logo proudly displayed with your choice of a logo on front and back or just front. You can even choose to have your name embroidered on the right front. You can choose to have your order shipped to your home or pick it up at their store at 323 South Main Street (Route 9), in Barnegat.

A sample of the tee shirt will be on display at our meetings for you to examine for yourself. Note, the club will update any changes, but if you have any questions or are having difficulty navigating their site, please contact Chuck Dishian [cdishian@yahoo.com](mailto:cdishian@yahoo.com) or call 914-439-6244

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**SPICING UP THE 50 - 50 by Jerry Nichols** As announced last month, our 50/50 raffles not only offer a shot at a cash prize, ticket holders will have a chance to win various fishing items throughout the year. Looking forward to seeing you all at the meetings and good luck!



**May prizes included with your 50 - 50 ticket**

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**BATTLE ON THE BEACH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED by Ed Valitutto** - This year's annual high school surf fishing contest is scheduled for Wednesday, May 27th starting at 4:00 PM on 9th Street in Barnegat Light with June 10th as the rain date. Four high schools (Southern Regional, Barnegat, Lacey Township and MATES Academy) compete for bragging rights and

displaying the coveted trophy engraved with their school name for one year in their school lobby. The winning school also receives a \$1,000 scholarship provided by LBI Surf Fishing Committee for their fishing club use..

Each school gets one entire block to fish for 45 minutes before being rotated to a new block until each school has fished all four blocks. Since VHFC officiates the event, eight volunteers are needed. One person does the tape measurement and one person records the entries for one of the four blocks. **Please let Ed Valitutto know if you can attend and help.**

This is a great opportunity to enjoy a day on the beach and spend time with our future anglers. Anyone interested should contact me to confirm your support. I'll send out further details as available. We usually meet at 3:30 at 9th St and walk in together. Note that at this time of the year it can get quite chilly. Therefore, dress appropriately for a day on the beach. The photo below is from 2025. Those are some happy young anglers eager to fish.



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**PARTY BOAT TRIPS** by **Dave Etelman** Our first VHFC trip on the *Mary M IV* out of Barnegat Light is scheduled for May 21 just after the opening of Sea Bass. This is a full size party boat with plenty of space and Captain Sam and first mate Sammy provide a great day on the water. Space is limited to ~30 and so far we have 23 anglers. So sign up now for the May trip.

Here are the anglers signed up so far: David Etelman, Leroy Saxton, Bill Wrovsky, Chuck Dishian, Bill Bond, Ed Valitutto, Pat Presutto, Carmen Bufardeu, Glen Minor, Gaige Grant, Lou Salando, John Barrett, Mario Beckles, Dave Bier, John Steubing, Phil Simon, Glen Peckel, Bill Dabney plus 3 friends and Jerry Nichols.



*The 62' Mary M IV is Barnegat Light's largest charter boat and has the speed and range to get you to the best fishing grounds on the Jersey Coast! She has a large heated cabin where you can stow your gear or eat your lunch.*



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Formerly [Scott's](#)

**PICTURE of the MONTH CONTEST** by Jerry Nichols & Phil Simon - Please send in your favorite photos each month, and our expert panel of judges (including a professional photographer) will select the winner based on subject matter – fishing activities, fishing locales, sunsets, beaches, club activities, subjects and composition, proper exposure and focus. Emphasis should be on the fun of fishing and related activities. Winners and submissions will be posted on our website [Picture of the Month](#), on our Facebook page and our Instagram account. Winners get bragging rights and consideration for Picture of the Year which will be announced at the November meeting. The overall winner will receive a \$50.00 gift certificate. Send your photos to Phil Simon at [sciman2@gmail.com](mailto:sciman2@gmail.com) or Jerry Nichols at [jerry\\_nichols\\_tx@yahoo.com](mailto:jerry_nichols_tx@yahoo.com) All photos submitted in the Member Reports are automatically entered for evaluation. Photos must be submitted in the month taken.

**Note: Due to the short timeline from month's end to the Newsletter send date, the April winner will be announced at the May meeting.**

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**2025 FISHING CONTESTS** by Ed Valitutto - VHFC has three distinct fishings - See [VHFC Contests](#) for all rules.

- 1) **Melanie Boytos Award** - The angler with the most yearly points for the largest fish in 6 categories will have his name engraved on a plaque to be displayed at the winner's selected location – Bait & Tackle store, personal man cave, etc.
- 2) **Fish of the Year (FOY)** - The angler with the largest of 6 species will receive an engraved plaque.
- 3) **Fish of the Month (FOM)** - The largest fish caught during the specified period will be awarded a \$50 gift certificate to a local tackle shop. **For 2026, there are 44 FOM awards - 35 open to all and 9 Junior Angler Only each for a \$50 certificate.** A full list of all the contests and which ones are open appear following the entries.

Take a picture showing the entire fish with the measuring device, preferably a hard ruler, visible in the photo. Fish have different tail structures so the rules vary a bit by species. Striped Bass are measured per NJ F&W from the tip of the snout with the mouth closed to the tip of the longer lobe of the caudal fin (tail), measured with the lobes compressed along the midline (tail squeezed). Except for Kingfish, all other fish are measured to the center of the tail or fork (Bluefish). Since Kingfish have a sloping tail, the measurement is based on the bottom tail lobe. Mail or text your photo to Weighmaster Pat Presutto ([pat1016pat@aol.com](mailto:pat1016pat@aol.com) or 609 994 8361) with a copy to Ed Valitutto ([edvalitutto@gmail.com](mailto:edvalitutto@gmail.com) or 609 994 1311). All fish must be IAW NJ F&W size limits and in season. **Bluefish must be 14" minimum and bonus stripers must have the tag visible to enter.** Here are a few entries for April.



**Glen Minor caught a keeper Bass just under 31".**



**New Junior Member Gaige Grant caught this 16.75" Tog**



**That's Dave Spendiff's 13.75" White Perch!**

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**2026 APRIL ENTRIES** - Fortunately, there were more entries for April than the two received in March and things will improve as the weather warms. Go to [2026 FOM Standings](#) for the list of all entries and contest standings!

<b>Angler</b>	<b>Species</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Size “</b>	<b>MBA</b>	<b>Location</b>
Dave Spendiff	White Perch	Boat or Surf	April 13	13.75	-	Mill Creek
Chuck Dishian	Striped Bass	Surf	April 14	31.25	3	Graveling Point
Bill Bond	Striped Bass	Surf	April 15	30.125	2	Graveling Point
Glen Minor	Striped Bass	Surf	April 15	30.875	2	Graveling Point
Gaige Grant	Blackfish	Boat	April 15	16.75	2	BL Docks
Phil Kaplan	White Perch	Boat or Surf	April 16	12	-	Mullica River
Rocky Vendetta	Striped Bass	Boat	April 21	40	6	Mullica River
Tom Godfrey	Striped Bass	Surf	April 22	34.5	3	Mid LBI
Rocky Vendetta	Blackfish	Boat	April 23	19.25	5	Wreck
Marty Friedrich	Blackfish	Boat	April 24	16.75	2	Wreck

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**2026 FOM CONTESTS by Ed Valitutto - There are 5 Junior & 17 Adult FOMs open with Fluke and Sea Bass opening May 4th and 15th respectively.**

Two Adult and one Junior Angler Blackfish contests closed on April 30th. Here are the three closed FOMs. **Congratulations Gaige & Rocky!**

Blackfish (Jr Angler Spring)	Gaige Grant	16.75"
Blackfish (Surf)	No Entry	
Blackfish (Boat)	Rocky Vendetta	19.25"

**Open contests are shaded Green. Completed contests are shaded Red.**

### Junior Angler Awards

Species	Start	Finish	Leader / Winner	Size
White Perch	1/1	12/31		
Bluefish	1/1	12/31		
Kingfish	3/1	12/31		
Blowfish	3/1	12/31		
Fluke	5/4	9/25		
Sea Bass	5/14	12/31		
Striped Bass	1/1	12/31		
Blackfish	4/1	4/30	Gaige Grant	16.75"
Blackfish	8/1	12/31		

**2026 Surf FOM Leaders**

Species	Start	Finish	Leader / Winner	Size
Striper	1/1	7/31	Glen Minor Leads	30.875"
Striper	8/1	12/31		
Striper Over 31"	1/1	12/31	Tom Godfrey Leads	34.5"
Bluefish	1/1	6/30		
Bluefish	7/1	12/31		
Fluke	5/4	6/30	1	
Fluke	7/1	9/25		
Blackfish	4/1	4/30	No Entry	
Blackfish	8/1	12/31		

**2065 Boat FOM Leaders**

Species	Start	Finish	Leader / Winner	Size
Striper	1/1	7/31		
Striper	8/1	12/31		
Striper Over 31"	1/1	12/31	Rocky Vendetta Leads	40"
Bluefish	1/1	6/30		
Bluefish	7/1	12/31		
Blackfish	4/1	4/30	Rocky Vendetta	19.25
Blackfish	8/1	12/31		
Weakfish	1/1	12/31		
Ling	1/1	12/31		
Triggerfish	5/1	12/31		
Porgy	5/1	12/31		
Sea Bass	5/15	6/21		
Sea Bass	6/22	9/22		

Sea Bass	9/23	12/31
Fluke	5/4	6/30
Fluke	7/1	7/31
Fluke	8/1	8/31
Fluke	9/1	9/25

**2026 Boat or Surf FOM Leaders**

Species	Start	Finish	Leader / Winner	Size
White Perch	1/1	12/31	Dave Spendiff Leads	13.75
Black Drum	1/1	12/31		
Blowfish	3/1	11/30		
Kingfish	3/1	11/30		

**2026 Offshore FOM Leaders**

Species	Start	Finish	Leader / Winner	Size
Bluefin	4/1	11/30		
Yellowfin	5/1	11/30		
Mahi	5/1	11/30		
False Albacore	9/1	11/30		

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Q8 Super Baits is the most effective bait on the market. **Q8** has fish 5 signals that are guaranteed to trigger fish to bite. With the sound vibrations of a fish in distress or fleeing from a predator, the familiar bait shape to catch their eye, an irresistible smell, taste, and feel of Q8, fish are guaranteed to approach and take a bite. Once they do, they won't be able to resist swallowing it. All that's left to do is set the hook!

**For VHFC Members:** Go to the Q8 Super Bait website and use the discount code: **VHFC15** to get 15% off your order. [Click here to go to the website.](#)



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**Note: Q8 has promised to provide sample products to VHFC. If the supplies arrive before our May meeting, they will be available to members in attendance.**

**AN AFTERNOON WITH FUTURE ANGLERS** by **Bayside Dave** - VHFC club members - Bill Bond, Chuck Dishian, Dave Etelman, Glen Minor, Pat Presutto, John Stuebing & Ed Valitutto met with members of the Southern Regional High School fishing club along with teacher and fishing club leader Jason Hoch this past Wednesday on an LBI beach. VHFC worked with the kids, showing them how to cast, bait their hooks, and set up their rods in sand spikes for surf fishing. The kids were enthusiastic, and it was great to work with them. Even though there was some weed in the water and no fish were caught, everyone had a great time. Both clubs look forward to future meet-ups on the beach including the multi-school **Battle on the Beach** on May 27. Check out the photos on the next page.



**HORSERADISH CRUSTED STRIPER with SIMPLE SLAW** - This recipe comes from Cuisine Magazine compliments of John Stuebing. It was originally intended for Chilean Sea Bass but Striped Bass or Cod should work equally well. Thicker filets of Fluke, Sea Bass or Blackfish would also work but adjust the cooking time.

**For the Slaw Combine:**

2 Tbsp. each olive oil, mayonnaise and cider vinegar  
 1 Tbsp. each extra-virgin olive oil and honey  
 1/2 tsp. kosher salt & a pinch of cayenne pepper  
 4 cups classic coleslaw mix & 1 Tbsp. minced chives

**Fish** - 4 Striper, Cod or other white fish filets

**WHISK:**

2 Tbsp. prepared horseradish  
 2 Tbsp. mayonnaise  
 1/4 tsp. each kosher salt and black pepper

**COMBINE:**

1/4 cup panko bread crumbs  
 1 Tbsp. minced fresh parsley  
 1 Tbsp. minced lemon zest  
 1 tsp. extra-virgin olive oil

**DIRECTIONS:**

1. Preheat the oven to 400°.
2. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper and coat with nonstick spray. Arrange fish on a prepared baking sheet.
3. Whisk together horseradish, 2 Tbsp. mayonnaise, 1/4 tsp. salt, and black pepper. Spread evenly on fish.
4. Combine panko, parsley, zest, and 1 tsp. oil and sprinkle on top of fish.
5. Bake until crumbs are golden and fish registers 145°. 10 –12 minutes depending on thickness of fish
6. Serve fish on top of slaw.



**MEMBERS' REPORTS by Ed Valitutto** - 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 our website. If you prefer, please email Ed Valitutto @ [edvalitutto@gmail.com](mailto:edvalitutto@gmail.com) or call 609 994 1311 and provide the details so I can do a report for you. Other members enjoy your reports and gain some valuable fishing insight. There were **9** reports submitted since the last Newsletter.



**The boys, Glen Minor, Bill Bond, Pat Presutto. Phil Kaplan and Chuck Dishian talking it up mid month at Graveling Point.**



**Then a fish hit and interrupted their solitude.**

**'Even Chuck' landed his FIRST ONE EVER Striped Bass! Just his luck, it was an eighth of an inch over, so back into the water it went.**



**Glen Minor also caught his first Bass (for the season) at Graveling Point. Glen's fish was 30 7/8" just under the 31" throwback length.**



**That's Bill Bond aka 006 7/8 incognito at Graveling Point. Bill's fish measured just over 30"**

**New Junior Angler member Gaige Grant (Glen Minor's nephew) caught his first keeper tog at the fuel dock behind the lighthouse in Barnegat Light on April 15. Gaige's fish went 16 3/4" and hit a green crab on the afternoon tide. It also won him the Spring Blackfish Jr Angler FOM!**



**That's future club member Bob with his two 18" fish caught on MARTY's boat on GSS.**



**Mario, Mike, Bobby & Captain Marty had a very good day on the water ending up with six keepers and one Ling. They even found runaway green Buoy #115 from the intercoastal.**





**Wow! Who doesn't enjoy looking at dead fish! Bayside Dave had a great day on Paul Haertel's boat. After a few spots, they hit the perfect spot and caught an estimated 150 fish with 35 keeper size. Pieces of freshly shucked clam were the ticket to success.**



**It took him a few tries, but Weighmaster Pat Presutto finally landed a keeper bass!**



**Carmen Bufardeci Said he was glad he joined VHFC enjoying a day on the sands with Bill, Pat and Glen. Carmen's fish went 32.5" and of course was returned.**

**Below, Bill Bond and Glen Minor proudly display their keeper Bass!**



**VHFC APPAREL by Chuck Dishian** - As previously reported, we now have an online store for an assortment of apparel including knitted beanie style hats. However, we still have our 'baseball' hats with a khaki cap, dark blue brim and a mesh back. Hats are available at all meetings. Hats have our logo on them and cost \$25. If you would like a hat, purchase one at our meeting.

But for a huge selection of club apparel purchased directly from the supplier that you can either pick up at their store in Barnegat or have shipped directly to your home, visit [Artist Tees](#) or scan the QR code.

**VESSEL SAFETY CHECKS By Jeff Orsoe** - Give me a call in the spring for your vessel safety check. **Contact: Jeff Orsoe Cell / Text: 732-672-5530 or email: [jorsoe786@gmail.com](mailto:jorsoe786@gmail.com).**

#### **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](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. 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&region=5>**

**Fisherman's Headquarters: <http://www.fishermansheadquarters.com/>**

**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.

**Allen's Dock** (10% discount on bait & tackle w/ VHFC card)

5698 US-9, New Gretna, NJ 08224

609-296-5660

**BHW Marine Center Boat Supplies Bait & Tackle** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)

857 Mill Creek Rd Manahawkin, NJ 08050

609-709-5424

**Boat U.S.**

Special membership price call Jeff Orsoe

732-672-5530

**Bogin's Bait & Tackle** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)

11 E Main St Tuckerton, NJ 08087

640-281-9433

**Creekside Outfitters** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)

403 Rt. 9 Waretown, NJ 08758

609-242-1812

**D & S Marine Service** (10% discount on parts w/ VHFC card)

460 Dock Rd, West Creek NJ 08092

609-296-0309

**Fisherman's Headquarters** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)

280 West 9th St, Ship Bottom, NJ 08008

609-494-5739

**Great Bay Outfitters** (5% off Kayaks and 10% off Accessories with VHFC Card)

955 Radio Road, Little Egg Harbor, NJ 08087

609-848-3657

**JB Awards** (10% discount on engraving and trophies w/VHFC card)

609-290-5851

[jbawards133@gmail.com](mailto:jbawards133@gmail.com)

**Knot Easy Bait & Tackle** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)

945 Radio Rd, Little Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08087

609 294 1300

**Martek Marine Electronics Specialists** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)

701 Old Avalon Blvd, Unit 4, Avalon, NJ 08202

609 390 3355

**Pietro's Pizza**

712 E Bay Ave, Manahawkin, NJ

609 597 6708

**Q8 Super Baits**

30540 SR 44 Eustis, FL. 32736

352 357-0902

Members use Code *VHFC15* for 15% off

**Sara's Salon Barber Shop, Beauty Salon, Manicure**

220 Ocean Gate Dr. Bayville, NJ

732 269-2522

**Sea Tow** (\$50 off yearly membership)

Call your local Sea Tow provider, use promotion code *VHFC50* along with your membership card

**South Harbor Marine A FULL SERVICE MARINA**

Located on Barnegat Bay

116 Oregon Ave, Waretown, NJ 08758

609 693 3658

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**Surf City Bait & Tackle** (10% discount w/ VHFC card excluding worms)

317 Long Beach Boulevard Surf City, NJ 08008

609 494-2333

**The Boat Shop** (10% discount w/ VHFC card)

756 E. Bay Ave, Manahawkin, NJ 08050

609-597-1271

**West Marine Pro Team** (Varied Discount by Product Purchased) You must sign up to be part of the West Marine Pro Team. Sign Up Sheets will be available at our Meetings. You can also contact John Stuebing ([stuebs@comcast.net](mailto:stuebs@comcast.net)) to sign up and get access to our West Marine Account.