



February 2016

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB

Tight Lines

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Monthly Meeting:

When: Thursday, January 7th, 7:30pm.

Where: Foundry United Methodist Church. 2801 Virginia Beach Blvd. In Virginia Beach next to Beach Ford.

February Speaker: John Fall and Cory Routh will be speaking about fly fishing. Their experience spans from Florida and north to the Chesapeake Bay. Fly fishing techniques to be discussed will be based around everybody's questions. Their knowledge includes casting to puppies in the marshes and flats all the way out to deep water marlin fly fishing. John Fall is the co-founder of Legends of the Fly and Cory Routh is a local fly fishing guide. Come out and learn more about this exciting technique of fishing!

Crab Creek Clean Up – January 9th



Thanks to everyone that came out for the clean up on January 9th. We had 12 club members turn out for the first event of the year. The weather was great and we are already looking forward to the next clean up on March 5th. There is a troop of scouts that will be there along with us and it may prove a great opportunity for us to be more involved in youth activities for the future. Looking forward to seeing you all there!

Boat Show – January 29, 30, 31

The boat show had all the usual suspects. Unfortunately, for all those that volunteered, GBFA was next to us and we had to listen to Doink all day Saturday and Sunday. Fortunately, we were able to take shifts to get some peace and quiet. For those of you that did not go, there were plenty of fun activities you missed. On Friday, VMRC handed out their annual awards for the Saltwater Tournament. That included Kevin Synowiec who won for the largest grey triggerfish of 2015. The minimum requirement for a state record stands at 6 pounds and nobody has claimed it yet. Kevin was just 2 ounces short at 5 pounds and 14 ounces. Friday and Saturday featured fishing seminars all day. Speakers included Zach Bowles, Skip Feller, Mark Lozier, Max King, Russ Kostinas and more. If you got hungry? No problem! There was plenty of free candy to munch on as well. Those of us that were able to attend had a good time together.



Virginia Menhaden Legislation written by Bob Mandigo – January 28th

Anglers and legislators:

Results: All four bills failed to get out of the committees, so nothing will change regarding the regulation of menhaden from this session of the General Assembly. I've only lived here about 52 years, so I am still learning "The Virginia Way."

SB 98, SB219, HB 150, and HB 151 came before the respective General Assembly committees yesterday afternoon. I was not in the Senate committee meeting when SB 98 and SB 219 failed by voice vote, with only 2 supporters reported.

The hearings: Most of us recreational anglers attending yesterday had to leave the Senate committee hearing before those bills were heard in order to attend the House Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources Committee meeting in another building, where we thought we might have a better chance of influencing the delegates' votes. HB 150 and HB 151 were "tabled" by the subcommittee by voice vote. Delegate Knight told me after that action, those bills have likely died for this session.

Thank you:

- To the Senators on the Senate Agriculture Committee for hearing the bills.
- To the Delegates of the House Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources Committee for listening to our comments.
- While we would liked to have had a different outcome, we respect your decisions on the bills.
- To all those supporters who attended, mailed, and emailed our General Assembly members.

We had a good turnout of anglers club supporters in the Capitol yesterday, my estimate is 13 from the anglers clubs, including the President of GBFA (4 total), three members of the PSWFA, and Tidewater Anglers Club (President +4), one VBAC member, one VSSA Officer, and another speaker who said he is a recreational angler from Virginia Beach. Steven Epstein of the CBDF also attended and spoke, as did a representative of the Nature Conservancy. There may have been other supporters, but I don't know everyone. Curiously, I did not see or hear about any supporters present from the bait and tackle shops, marinas, marine sales and repair businesses, Charter Captains (only Mike Avery, and he was representing the VSSA), or the hospitality industry. Delegate Knight (sponsor of HB 150 and HB 151) made the hearing's opening and closing statements; they were succinct and persuasive. I thought he did a good job, I mean for being just an ole pig farmer from Kempsville, he presented the conditions and the proposed changes with sound and logical reasoning.

The opposition to the bills was strong, about the same numbers of union reps, Omega officers, and employees as the anglers clubs had supporting the bills. They cited jobs and the adverse economic impact of lost jobs and wages on Northumberland County if Omega was not able to continue operating unfettered by VMRC regulation or by restricting its operations to at least one mile from the shoreline in the Chesapeake Bay and three miles from the shoreline in the Atlantic Ocean. They said we (the recreational anglers) wanted to put them out of business – which we do not, and which we never said. In fact, we said, and have said all along that we want them to continue to be profitable while they take less menhaden from Virginia waters. Other Omega supporters included the County Administrator and, surprisingly to me, the Chamber of Commerce.

Virginia Menhaden Legislation Continued

John Bull, VMRC Commissioner, and Rob O'Reilly, Chief of Fisheries Management, VMRC, were present to answer committee members' questions.

Before the hearings: GBFA was waiting at Delegate Knight's office when TAC arrived, and the General Assembly had just gone into session so there were no legislators available to have one-on-one discussions of the bills. TAC, GBFA, and VBAC visited several legislators' offices based on Dustin's and Steven's observations that they might listen to us. We met with several legislative aides and left hard-copy statements of the reasons we supported the bills. Due to the timing of the session adjournment and the soon-following committee meetings, it is unlikely that any of the legislators saw our hard-copy material. A couple of the legislative aides told us they were impressed with the number of emails, letters, and phone calls they had received from supporters of the four bills.

Observations:

- We must begin personal contacts with the Senate Agriculture Committee and the House Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources Committee members long before the committee hearings. I doubt our traveling to Richmond even as early as last week would have changed the outcome this year.
- We should meet with Omega officers and employees to hear their concerns about VMRC regulation and to present our own reasoning, especially since there doesn't appear to be any data on Virginia menhaden; everything presented was ASMFC data, which is Atlantic coast-wide, while the maps and catch reports show that Omega takes most of the ASMFC menhaden quota from Virginia. There simply must be some common ground and interest in preserving a sustainable menhaden stock in Virginia waters while Omega continues to operate and earn a profit for its shareholders.
- We should conduct one-on-one meetings with individual committee members in their district offices by the Fall preceding the next session, with follow-up meetings immediately after the next session begins. I don't know if that would really have any impact or future votes because they rightly support their constituents, but maybe there is some room for compromise if we can show change is in the best interest of the Commonwealth.
- We should enlist the owners of Virginia's tackle shops, marine sales and service shops, and marinas, plus the Charter fleet to gain additional, business-related support and supporters, for both the pre-session district, meetings, meetings with Omega, and during the General Assembly session.
- Other: Omega and its supporters seem to believe that its long history of operating in Virginia entitles it to continue its operations without regard to its impact on other businesses, other fishermen (both commercial and recreational), or its adverse environmental impact on the Chesapeake Bay by taking so many menhaden from Virginia waters. It looks to me that we have a public resource: the menhaden, that is claimed by one company for its own private profit without regard to any other public claims to the same resource. With the continuing endorsement of that condition by both the Senate Agricultural Committee and the House Agriculture, Chesapeake and Natural Resources Committee.

Bob Mandigo

Ocracoke Surf Fishing Tournament 2016 Registration Form

Those returning for the 2016 Ocracoke Surf Fishing Team are Butch Eason, Steve Wray and Stan Sutliff. Anyone interested in joining them for this year's team must fill out a registration form, must have their 2016 dues paid by the February 4, 2016 meeting and must have participated in at least one activity in support of the Club in 2015 (new members excluded from this requirement). I will have forms at the meeting and the drawing will be that night. The \$60.00 tournament fee will be due at the March 3, 2016 meeting and the balance of the lodging (\$116) will be due at the April 7, 2016 meeting. If you have any questions you can call me on my cell phone (435-4585). You can turn in your form at the meeting or mail it to:

Virginia Beach Anglers Club
Attn: Robbie Parks
P. O. Box 8602
Virginia Beach, VA 23450

(If mailed it must be received prior to the meeting)

The tournaments are a lot of fun and well worth the time and expense to participate. Good luck on being drawn for a place on the team!

Registration form: Ocracoke Invitational Surf Fishing Tournament	April 27, 2016 -
Name: _____ Phone: _____	May 1, 2016
I have a 4X4 vehicle: yes no I will accept a passenger: yes no	returning:
I will comply with all tournament and club rules and guidelines	Steve Wray
while representing VBAC in this tournament.	Butch Eason
Signature: _____ Date: _____	Stan Sutliff

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLER'S CLUB 2016 MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Payment of your dues will insure continued receipt of the club newsletter and eligibility for club functions. In order to be considered for selection to a VBAC Surf Fishing Tournament Team, a person must hold an active club membership prior to selection. Selection for fall tournaments will be held at the March General Membership Meeting. To be eligible to compete in the VBAC Prize Fish Competition and the Roulette, a member must be in good standing before the catch can be recorded. Memberships remain at \$30 per family.

Please see Bob Stuhlman at the next General Membership Meeting to review your current membership application and update your standing within the club. If you are unable to attend, please consider mailing in your dues to:

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB
ATTN. MEMBERSHIP
P. O. BOX 8602
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23450

VBAC Fish Roulette

Here's how it works— interested club members put \$20 in a pot by the March meeting (Mike Anderson holds the pot). At the March monthly meeting, we will draw the names (species) of five fish from the club's leader board*. These fish will be the targeted species eligible for winning a lucky VBAC angler a share of the pot. The angler with the heaviest catch for the selected species by Dec 31, 2016 will share the pot with the other winners. There is no minimum size limit for the fish; simply that it must be weighed on certified scales. This format will provide an even opportunity for salt, surf, and fresh water anglers, as both fresh and saltwater species are eligible for the drawing. *(Wahoo, Tuna, Gar, and Amberjack will not be part of the drawing)

Things to remember:

- Open to Club Members ONLY
- Must pay to play (or at least let Chris Schneider know your intent to participate) by the by March 2015 club meeting. Drop us a note through the club's email VBAnglersclub@gmail.com if you can't make the meeting).
- Five fish to be selected from the wheel.
- Weight** will determine winner.

Gotta be in it to win it!!!!

Boater Safety Requirement

As a reminder, starting July 1st, 2016; the boater safety certificate requirement is in full effect. That means you must have a boater safety certificate to operate a power driven vessel regardless of your age. There are some seats left in our class that will be held on February 20th. Make sure you sign up at the February meeting if you haven't done so. You can find more information about the requirement by clicking on this link:

[Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries](#)

VBAC Hats, T-Shirts and Embroidered Apparel

See Jack Guthrie at each club meeting.

VBAC Club Members – We have a good inventory of mixed colors and sizes of T-Shirts and Hats.

- Short Sleeve Tees up to size 5X – Priced by size, ranging from \$18.00 to \$22.00.
- Long Sleeve Tees up to size 5XL – Priced by size, ranging from \$20.00 to \$25.00
- Hats – mixed colors for \$12.00

Also, if Embroidered Items are wanted between meetings, then call Jack at (757) 647-4490 for details.

- Short Sleeve Polo Shirt
 - All Season Jacket
- Zip Up Hooded Sweatshirt
- Pull Over Hooded Sweatshirt
- Short Sleeve or Long Sleeve Fishing Shirt

Free Boater Safety Certification Class

Sponsored by the Virginia Beach Anglers Club

Saturday, February 20th, 2016

9:00 am to 4:00 pm

Foundry United Methodist Church
2801 Virginia Beach Blvd. Virginia Beach, Virginia



Limited Availability! RSVP Now to Reserve Your Seat!

Taught by Flotilla Commander Richard Mayes

Free Lunch Provided to All Participants!

Please email: vbanglersclub@gmail.com

Or call:

Butch Eason:
(757)681-6019

Kelly Hoggard:
(757)416-8817

2016 VBAC Awards Banquet

Please RSVP Your Number of Guests!



February 27, 2016. Doors open at 6:00 pm.

St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church, 621 First Colonial Road, Virginia Beach.

Price: \$15 per person!

Events: Awards Ceremony, Baking Competition, Food, Raffles & More

MENU

Roast Loin of Pork

Chicken Piccata

Orzo

Chef's Choice of Vegetables

Tossed Salad with Assorted Dressings

RollsAnn Butter

Don't forget to bring a dessert for this year's competition! Kelly Hoggard will judge them all again, with a little help if you're still hungry. Jerry will need a few volunteers to help prepare the dining room and food. Check at the February Meeting. Don't forget to bring some extra spending money for the thousands of dollars in raffles and prizes.

Each advertisement is linked to their associated website.
Please check them all out by clicking on their ads!

Virginiabeachanglersclub.org

Facebook.com/VirginiaBeachAnglersClub

VBAnglersclub@gmail.com

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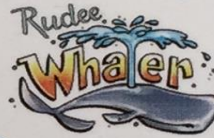


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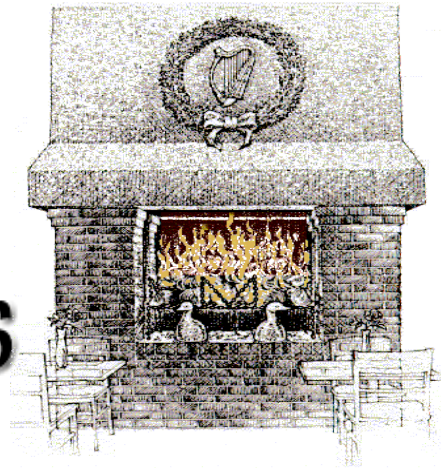
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VBAC Fishing Roulette 2015

Species

Leader

Weight

Saltwater:

Flounder

Spot

Croaker

Tautog

Freshwater:

Crappie

The Roulette for 2015 has ended! There was a lot of competition in December for the crappie slot. The winners will be awarded at the February meeting. The 2016 slate of fish will be drawn at the March meeting. Get your gear ready and be ready to fish when the weather warms up.

Catch-A-Ride

I need a crew

Jon Calhoun (757) 377-3360

Preston Mangum (757) 582-1450

Jeremy MaGuire (757) 407-0493

Rich MaGuire (757) 619-4851

Rob Stommel (703) 244-1282

Bob Stuhlman (757) 374-7372

I need a boat

Michael Anderson (757) 481-1296

Pete Federico (908) 887-3113

Kelly Hoggard (757) 416-8817

Victor Minak (703) 888-8992

Anglers for Clean Water: Chesapeake Bay Foundation

Synopsis of the first Anglers for Clean Water meeting hosted by the CBF and attended by Bob Stuhlman, Butch Eason and Steve Wray. Many local area Clubs were represented as well as some individual and charter fisherman.

January 22, 2016

CBF hosted leaders from eight angling clubs at our first Anglers for Clean Water dinner. For all in attendance – thanks so much for joining us. If you missed this one, don't worry – more opportunities for us to get together on the horizon. We hope to continue our efforts to build a stronger relationship with the angling community and expand an angler network who are involved with clean water and fisheries issues in the Commonwealth.

A special shout-out of thanks to Stan Sutliff, whose leadership helped get the event off the ground.

During the meeting, CBF staff heard the following themes:

- Possible partnerships to build more artificial reefs.
- Communicating what steps individuals can take to improve the health of the Chesapeake Bay.
- Sharing information with fishing club presidents and other individuals for inclusion in newsletters and programs.
- Providing updates on upcoming Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission and Virginia Marine Resources Commission meetings.
- Developing a wide array of activities and information in order to engage a larger audience.
- Investigate partnership opportunities with local schools.
- Possible science lecture series at the Brock Environmental Center
- Hosting a "lobby day" for anglers prior to menhaden votes
- Creating a writers' bureau to provide blog posts, newsletter articles, and letters to the editor.

We look forward to working together on these ideas in the future. We will be keeping you posted on our efforts and will look forward to additional input.

We have also included additional fishery related events and might be of interest below:

1/31/16- Grasses for the Masses Workshop/Brock Environmental Center, 10:00 am.

2/2-2/4/16- Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, Alexandria, VA, 9:00 am.

2/6/16- Grasses for the Masses Workshop, Chesapeake Bay Foundation Office, Richmond, VA, 10:30 am.

Thank you again for your interest in Anglers for Clean Water. We are looking forward to building a productive partnership together!

Sincerely,

Ann Jurczyk

Chris Moore

John Page Williams

Participation Needed!

Listed below are many of the committees and their respective captain (or co-captains) that represent each committee. All of these hard working club members need help fulfilling their goals for the events that are planned during the year. No matter your current role in the club, everyone is encouraged to help in any way possible. There are no special skill requirements needed... It just requires a little bit of time and input. Take an active part in the club and help make a difference in our community.

Thank you all for your consideration - VBAC Officers and Directors

2015 Virginia Beach Anglers Club Committees:

Boat Show:	Chair – Russell Willoughby
Calendar:	Chair – Bob Burstein
Crab Creek Clean-Up:	Chair – Ronnie Nixon
Great Bridge Flea Market:	Chair – Preston Mangum
VBAC Flea Market:	Bob Stuhlman Bob Burstein
Banquet/Oyster Roast:	Chair – Jerry Mariano
Seton Youth:	Chair – Bob Burstein
Raffles:	Chair – Preston Mangum
Audit Committee:	Chair – Mike Anderson
Surf Tournaments:	Chair – Robbie Parks
Club Tournaments:	Chair – George Gabriel Co. Chair – Bob Burstein
Lynnhaven Pier Tournaments:	NEEDED NEEDED
Newsletter:	Chair – Kelly Hoggard
Prize Fish:	Chair – Chris Schneider
Nomination Committee:	Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair – Kelly Hoggard Co. Chair – Beth Synoweic

VBAC Lead Pouring Party!

Date: Saturday March 26

Time: 9 am till ~2pm

Location: Mike Anderson's house at 1305 Yawl Point, Virginia Beach VA 23454

Lunch will be provided

Must Wear: Long Sleeve Shirts/ Long pants /Safety Shoes/closed toed shoes a must!

Things to Bring:

Leather welding/hot gloves

Safety Glasses

Lead

Brass/Stainless sinker eyes, swivels Jig head hooks.....

Michael Anderson is taking a survey of our club members who have Sinker or Jig head Molds.

If you have a mold and would allow the club to borrow it for its lead pouring in March, please send an email to Michael Anderson at andersonkids@verizon.net with the following information:

	Number	Brand/Company	Model Number	Type/Size
Examples:	1 each	Do-It Mold	d3378	egg sinker 10, 12oz
	2 each	Heter's	4A2	bank sinker 1 to 4oz

WE NEED YOUR RAW SOFT LEAD (some places to find it)

Boat yard scrap, keels, ballast....

Old fishing weights, jig heads....

Lead hammers

Newspaper Letter press

Radio pharmacy transport cubes

Scuba weights

Roofing lead, flashing

Plumbing, pipes...

Spent bullets from a range

Old X-ray shielding

Dental office remodel

Door weights

**Bring your LEAD to the next couple of Club meetings
(or drop off at Mike Anderson's house)**

VBAC MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the VBAC is to encourage sport fishing, both freshwater and saltwater, while supporting prudent governmental and other policies that promote the preservation, conservation and ecology of all marine life.

Our Objectives:

- Monitor legislative and regulatory activities relating to management of local and regional fisheries and participating actively, where appropriate, to assure the adoption of sound management policy and practices that best serve the interests of VBAC members.
- Promote interest and participation in recreational angling by conducting programs and activities that encourage sport fishing.
- Educate members and others in the techniques of sport fishing to enhance their enjoyment of the sport.
- Conduct social activities that create a wholesome climate for deriving the maximum pleasure from sport fishing by members, their families and guests.
- Plan and conduct fund raising activities to provide the revenues needed to support these objectives.

2016 VBAC Elected Officials

Officers:

President: Larry Regula

First Vice President: George Gabriel

Second Vice President: Bob Stuhlman

Treasurer: Mike Anderson

Recording Secretary: Russell Willoughby

Corresponding Secretary: Kelly Hoggard

Board of Directors:

Bob Burstein

Gary Doerhoff

Butch Eason

Pete Federico

Jerry Hughes

Jerry Mariano

Ronnie Nixon

Robbie Parks

Chris Schneider