



January 2016

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB

Tight Lines

Contents

November Events:

- VBAC 24th Annual Rockfish Rodeo -3-

December Events:

- VBAC/SEATOW Toy Drives -4-
- Catchin' For Kids Rockfish Tournament -5-
- Local Delegate Meeting/Virginia Finfish Advisory Committee Meeting -6-

January Events:

- 2016 Membership Dues -7-
- VBAC Lynnhaven Crab Creek Clean-Up -7-

Other Information:

- Advertisements -8/9/10/11/12/13-
- VBAC Boater Safety Certification Course -14-
- Fishing Roulette Standings/Catch-A-Ride Buddy Board -15-
- VBAC Committees and Chairmen -16-
- Fishing Reports -18/19/20-

Monthly Meeting:

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

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

January Speaker: Jimmy Kolb will be speaking this month about catching monster speckled trout. He's recently found a good bite inside of the local inlets and has been finding some quality fish. Come out and see what you can learn to catch some of your own. This fishery is a great way to hold you over during those dreadful winter months when it seems like there is nothing to do except wait for the stripers to show.

VBAC 24th Annual Rockfish Rodeo

The Rockfish Rodeo was a great competition this year. Our contestants came out to fish the Saturday after thanksgiving and gave it a good try. A strong cold snap came through just days before the tournament pushing a number of large fish into the bay. While they were hard to find, some crews were still able to get on multiple fish. After weigh in, some of us made our way over to Murphy's on the oceanfront for a delicious meal of pork barbeque and Irish stew. A nice cold drink is always good to have after a long day of competition. Congratulations to all the competitors and we are looking forward to next year's 25th annual celebration!

1st Place – 41lb 4oz – Max King and Crew!



2nd Place – Team Red Hawk



3rd Place – Team Reel Dirty



VBAC/SEATOW Christmas Toy Drives

Photography compliments of Robbie Parks, Karen Schrader, and Pete Federico via PeteFedsPhotography.

Thank You Virginia Beach Angler's Club for the outstanding support to the noble cause of collecting toys for the U.S. Marines Toys for Tots Program. This was a real team effort by the local fishing clubs and Sea Tow Hampton Roads Stuff-a-Boat Toy Drive.

Our Toy Drive was able to collect over 700 individual toys that were given to the U.S Marines on December 11th. With representatives from all the clubs in attendance helping load the boat we enjoyed pizza with Marines and photo ops capturing toys overflowing on the Sea Tow Hannah.

Again, Thank You for your support in helping make this a success!

Karen & Ed Schrader
Sea Tow Hampton Roads



Catchin' For Kids Rockfish Tournament

About 25 boats came out to compete this year at the Catchin' For Kids tournament. The weather was expected to be decent with a north wind around 10 knots. It turned out to be north east at about 15-20 kts. Keep in mind that the club pays to enter 3 boats each year regardless of how many boats we are able to roster. Kelly Hoggard was the only one of three boats we were able to enter the tournament and he didn't catch any fish! How disappointing! Lots of birds were working north in the bay but they were all smaller fish. It was a long ride home but much better traveling south in the strong northern winds. The tournament concluded with a disk jockey who played Christmas tunes. Of course, our club had a few non fisherman come out and enjoy the festivities and unlimited barbeque, wings, hotdogs, sides and more! The final leaderboard and some pictures associated with the tournament is posted below. After the conclusion of the raffles, a free trip for four people to the Florida keys for a week was drawn. The only catch? You had to be present to win. Russell Willoughby's name was drawn but he wasn't there!!! Come on out next time. We always have an extra supply of wrist bands for family or friends to enjoy the celebration together.

1 st	BRIAN PALMER	40.75	FISH CIRCUS
2 nd	William Athey	39.80	LANHAY
3 rd	Bill Miller	38.40	RED HAWK
4 th	Allen King	17.90	OPEN WIDE MAX KING
Youth	Jordan JENKINS	13.75	OPEN WIDE
	1 st	2 nd	3 rd
LEVEL I	RED HAWK	OPEN WIDE	OPEN WIDE
LEVEL II	RED HAWK		NO SHOES
LEVEL III	Open Wide		TIE

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Pictures below are from the evening before the tournament.



Local Delegate Meeting

Three Virginia legislatures came out to speak to the public and receive public input about future law making decisions for the menhaden fishery in Virginia. Mark Warner, Bill DeSteph, and Barry Knight all came out to speak. There appeared to be well over 100 people in the room representing all area angler's clubs, commercial fisherman, charter fisherman and other interests like the Chesapeake Bay Defense Fund and Chesapeake Bay Foundation. Here is a summary of the events and information:

Legislatures share their bills anticipated to be seen by subcommittee sometime in the first quarter of 2016. The regulations in the laws include requirements that OMEGA cannot fish within 1 mile of the shoreline inside of the Chesapeake Bay and not within 3 miles of the shoreline of the ocean. The legislation will also turn over control of the harvest of menhaden from the Virginia General Assembly (political arena) to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (research arena). This also provides more enforcement opportunities as the VMRC agents (Virginia Marine Police) often receive repercussions for even approaching an OMEGA vessel.

Interesting Facts:

- A 2010 legislation of 20% cuts is being phased out because of political decisions.
- The total quota will be raised from approximately 318 million pounds to 397 million pounds. This is important because the AMFMC delegate that this be the quota for the entire population of menhaden on the East Coast of the United States. Nearly 90% of the quota is fished from Reedville, Virginia. Most of that 90% comes directly from the Chesapeake Bay.
- The subcommittee who votes on state legislation for menhaden management for Virginia contains no delegates from our region, the region most impacted by menhaden fishery.
- Because the senator that represents Reedsville, Virginia is the representative for Virginia on the AMFMC, there is no way to affect legislation or control above the state level.
- A recent study, as stated by representative Barry Knight, says that fishing is a \$1.9 Billion industry for the city of Virginia Beach. And that is with the consideration that the fishing industry is currently minimized based on the declines in the industry over the last 8 to 10 years.
- The only way we can get this legislation voted on is to get the legislation out of the subcommittee. This will require immense pressure from anglers and fisherman across the state. Please keep up with information regarding the future of these voting procedures and be ready to set aside some time to call delegates and legislatures across the state when the time arises. EVERY PERSON WILL BE NEEDED FOR THIS EFFORT!!

More information will be available soon for discussion amongst the club.

Virginia Finfish Advisory Committee Meeting

There was an issue recently that came up at a finfish advisory committee meeting in the middle of December. Kelly Hoggard (myself) attended the meeting to represent my family and the boards interests that cobia quotas not be cut in the state of Virginia. There were some individuals pushing for legislation changes in the state of Virginia to reduce cobia quotas. Think about this: Virginia is the only state on the east coast (excluding florida) that has a one fish per person limit. We also have a 37 inch minimum while most other states have a 34 inch minimum. Without more information that the fishery is being overfished, there shouldn't be additional cuts to Virginians. There will be a motion that VMRC collect more information about cobia stocks in Virginia.

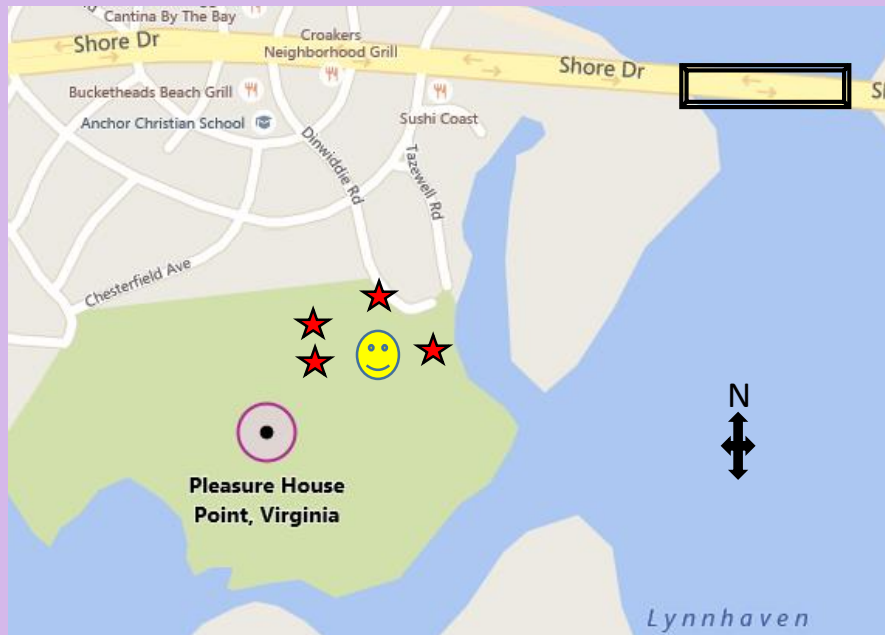
VBAC Lynnhaven Crab Creek Clean-Up

Our Next monthly clean-up is **Saturday morning, January 9th from 10:00-12:00**. **Free lunch** is always provided. Please come out and support a very special event run by our angler's club.

Meeting Location: Pleasure House Point Park, Virginia Beach.

Team Leader: Ronnie Nixon

Contact for Information: Kelly Hoggard - (757)416-8817



★ - Parking is available along the east, north, and west sides of the park.

▭ - Lesner Bridge (for reference)

😊 - Picnic tables (meeting location)

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:

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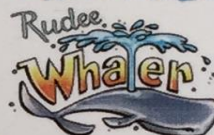


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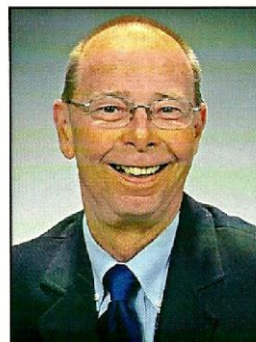
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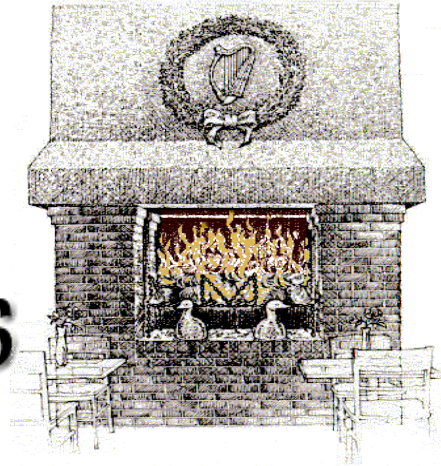
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VBAC Fishing Roulette 2015

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 this year's banquet. The 2016 slate of fish will also be drawn that day. 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

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:	NEEDED NEEDED
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



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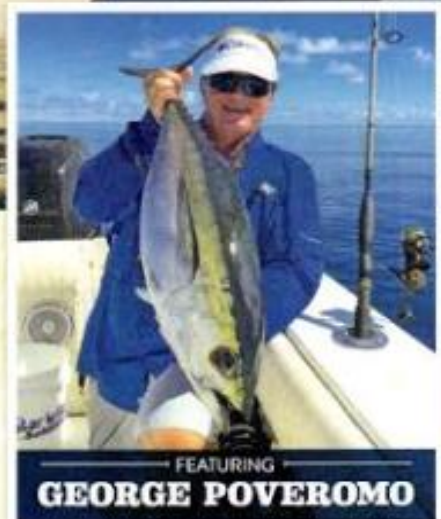
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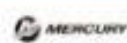
FACULTY

Dr. Ken Neill III • Beth Synowiec
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Fishing Reports

Early Striper Bite – By Kelly Hoggard

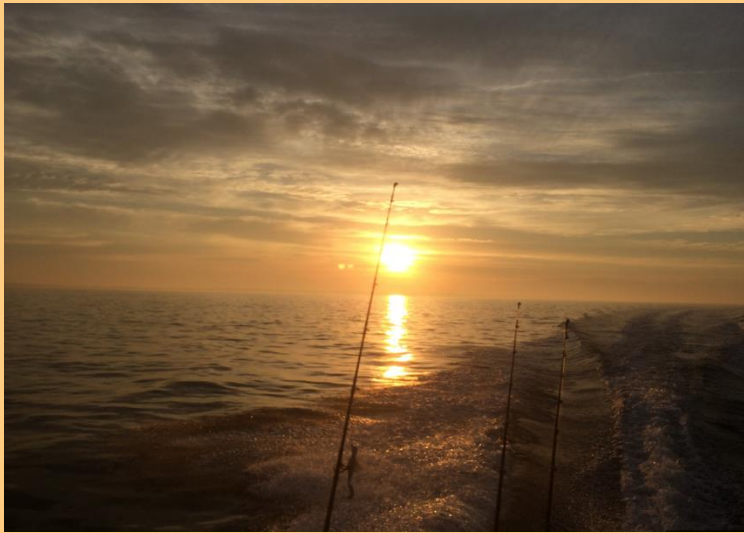
Jerry Hughes and myself went out with Max King on November 29th. We met Max up at Cape Charles around 7:00 that morning and made our way onto the bay. A short run on some nice looking water led us to the spot of the day. It turned out to be very foggy in the morning with visibility down to a couple tenths of a mile. The first bite was shortly after having all the rods over. Kelly reeled in the fish, good for about 22 pounds. Jerry got on the second fish. It fought hard and pulled a lot of drag. Max decided to put a little more stress on the drag. About 6 or 7 minutes into the fight, the fish broke off about 100 feet from the boat. This was surely a nice fish and we were disappointed not to get it in. The honest truth is that there were some difficulties with the rod when the fish was first hooked and it may have caused a foul hookset. A second fish hits shortly after and Jerry is on the rod again. This time, the monster makes it to the boat, hooked in the top of the lip. A nice 38 pound fish hits the deck and everyone is excited. We run back to the start of our fishing grounds. One rod goes down as the cork starts bobbing uncontrollably. It lets go and another rod immediately goes down. Doc Lang starts the fight, but is short lived as the fish weighs in around 20 pounds. What started promising turns into the only three fish that day. A strong north wind kicks up at about 10:30 and we are out of there by 1 pm. There is a video of Jerry Hughes catching his fish on his and my facebook pages. Check it out if you want to see the fight! Photos below.



Fishing Reports

Hoping for More – By Kelly Hoggard

With cooler water temperatures, Rick Hoggard, Jon Calhoun, and myself, went over to Cape Charles around the middle of December. We were hoping for a good bite but the fish just weren't cooperating. Water temps had fallen to around 54 degrees which should produce some fish. Unfortunately, nothing came out to provide a bite that day. The weather sure was nice and plenty of sunshine to keep you warm. I took a few pictures of the day including a conch pot that we snagged in 90 feet or more of water. We drug it into shallow water over by the 36a buoy. Other pictures include the concrete ships and Top Notch Charters (captain Russ Costinas who was a speaker for the club last year). Water temps were above 58 degrees by the end of December. Striper fishing started strong but struggled through the end of the month. Those who were looking for schoolies did well as they stayed in the bay waters.



Continued...



Crappie Fishing – By Melanie Bayford

Preston Mangum and I had an awesome day crappie fishing at Lake Smith in December. He met me at Oceans East and we got minnows and went on to the lake to use his small freshwater boat. It was a 50-ish degree day with sunshine and moderate wind. I had fished with Steve Harding, a true crappie expert, the month before, and learned how it was done with the long poles.

After the usual trouble starting a small outboard, we were on our way to find an area of the lake that was sheltered from the wind. We got the long poles out and had space for a few short poles and commenced to drift around the lake. We used the electric motor to move about and change areas. We ended the day with 10 really nice crappie, a nice bass, and had released several chain pickerels, and some white perch. After the weigh in, Preston has the lead in Crappie for the roulette. He easily beat my 10 oz crappie from November. We are being quiet about the weight until the January meeting. I warned him that I was going to try the same method on the Piankatank and may still regain the lead. Stay Tuned...

Melanie Bayford

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