

THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

WIRELINE

JULY 2021



What's Inside

*****Next Meeting July 19th at
Boil Bay Seafood City, Norfolk**

Guest Speaker: Tom Scibek, owner of *Tin Man Lures*,
showcasing their line of tin fishing lures and their Floating Jig Fluke Rig

Fishing Tips; Cobia Fishing with Captain Tripp Seed, *Bay Roamer Charters*

Fishing Reports;

- Lynnhaven: Puppy Drum
- Little Creek: Puppy Drum
- James River: Striped Bass
- North Carolina/Ol: Big Eye Tuna, Yellowfin Tuna
- CBBT: Flounder, Red Drum, Spade Fish, Bluefish, Puppy Drum
- Chesapeake Bay: Cobia, Tautog, Spadefish, Grey Triggerfish
- Offshore: Yellowfin Tuna, Blueline Tilefish, Golden Tilefish, Black Belly Rosefish, Black Sea Bass

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

Fantastic News! We have a new meeting location and will hold our first meeting in more than a year at the Boil Bay Seafood City on July 19th at 7:00pm. We're also changing our meeting day to the 3rd Monday of the month going forward. **Boil Bay Seafood City is at 5957 E. Virginia Beach Blvd, Norfolk VA 23502.** That's in the *Military Crossing Shopping Center* east of Military Circle Mall.

Need some Help! The National Park Service and Back Bay Wildlife Refuge provides an opportunity during the summer for children to try out



surf fishing along the refuge shoreline. Thursday July 15th and July 29th, and Thursday August 12th are the remaining dates for this summer. We meet at the Visitors Center at 8:00 am and fish until noon. All tackle and equipment is provided by NPS. We need a few volunteers to help

cast and handle the fish. Contact me for additional information and to assist.

- Will

Meeting

Guest Speaker: Tom Scibek owner of Tin Man Lures based out of Pennsylvania will be joining us to discuss their line of tin fishing lures and their *Floating Jig Fluke Rig*



We also have Captain Will Bransom who will be discussing common outboard maintenance items and issues to keep you on the water and out of the repair shop this summer.

Important: *Meeting Date Change!*
July 19th NAC Meeting at
Boil Bay Seafood City, Norfolk

Publishers NOTES

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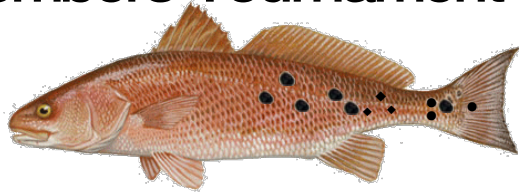
Norfolk Anglers Club

P.O. Box 8422

Norfolk, Virginia 23503-0422



Club Members Tournament for 2021



Redfish "Spots" Tournament

Rules

- Must be a Norfolk Anglers Club Member
- Tournament for fish caught between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021
- Must have the Norfolk Anglers Club decal in the photo with the fish on a measuring device* showing the total length of the fish. See NAC Prize Fish Contest Rules for measuring info. *Entries received with decal and no measurement can only be judged by number of spots.
- Red Drum/Redfish up to 26 inches in length only and caught in Virginia and North Carolina waters
- Awards determined by 1st: number of Spots (on one side), 2nd: Largest Fish up to 26 inches, 3rd: Date of Catch
- Entries submitted on the Club Prize Fish Entry Form with photo (can be sent electronically to NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com)
- No entry fee except the cost of the decal (\$1)
- \$50.00 Gift Card to the 1st Place Angler, \$25.00 Gift Card for the 2nd Place Angler.

Entries: Rusty Mitchell (1), William Ragulsky (1), Henry Troutner (2), Jerry Hughes (1)



Oyster Toadfish Tournament

Rules

- Must be a Norfolk Anglers Club Member
- Tournament for fish caught between January 1, 2021 and December 31, 2021
- Awards determined by Total Weight and then by date of catch
- Additional Award for Best Oyster Toad Photo
- Entries submitted by email to NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com in the form of a Fishing Report; who was fishing, stating total weight, with photo
- Weighing need not be on a certified scale and may be done by the angler, just try to avoid weighing fish on a pitching boat
- No entry fee (we would never charge a fee for catching Toads)
- 1st Place, 2nd Place, and Best Photo Winners get a Non-Tipping Oyster Toad Can Cooler from Oyster Toad Outfitters
- Winners will be determined by our Tournament Director

"AJ" Perez, the Oyster Toadfish Tournament Director (OTTD)

Entries: Alex Perez, Sr. (1), Will Bransom (1)



OysterToads - Did you Know?

Alternate common names: Toadfish, Dowdy.

Color: Blotchy, olive brown bodies fading to pale below. They are capable of changing color to match the bottom, and their eyes are blue.

Size: Up to 12 inches long.

Habitat: Sandy, rocky, and muddy bottoms on oyster reefs, shoal water, among eelgrass, hollows, or dens.

July Meeting Day has Changed!

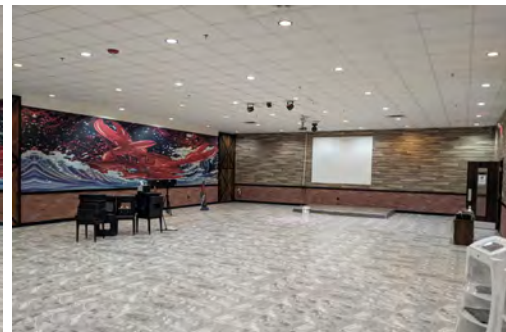
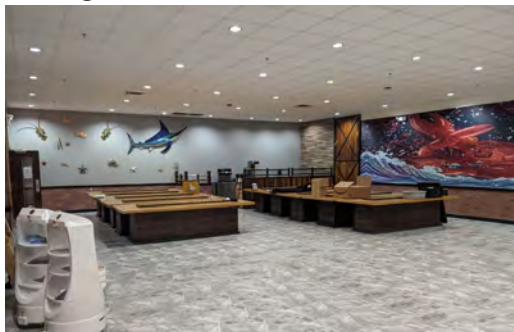
- **NEW Meeting Date: 3rd Monday**
- **Monday July 19th at 7:00pm**

Location:

Boil Bay Seafood City

5957 E Virginia Beach Blvd

Norfolk, VA 23502



Soup / Salad

Clam-Chowder	\$4.99
Gumbo (Chicken, Shrimp & Sausage)	\$5.99
Caesar Salad	\$4.99
Shrimp Salad	\$6.99
Chicken Salad	\$6.99



Appetizers

Hush Puppies (8)	\$5.00
Fried Cheese Sticks (6)	\$5.99
Fried Calamari	\$9.99
Coconut Shrimp (8)	\$8.99
Fried Mac & Cheese (8)	\$5.99
Onion Ring (8)	\$5.99
Chicken Wings (6) \$5.99 (10) \$8.99	
(Breaded or Naked - BBQ, Buffalo, Plain, Cajun, Lemon Pepper)	
Boil Bay Special (6) \$6.99 (10) \$9.99	
Chicken Wing	
Cajun Fried Rice	\$8
(Shrimp, Chicken, Sausage)	



Basket

All served with option of Cajun Fries,
Sweet Potato Fries, or Regular

Shrimp Basket (8)	\$10.99
Catfish Basket (4)	\$10.99
Chicken Tender Basket (5)	\$8.99
Soft Shell Crabs Basket (5)	\$10.99
Crab Cake Basket (2)	\$10.99
Oyster Basket (10)	\$11.99



Seafood City

Tel.: 757-962-1088

Business Hours:

Open 7 Days A Week

Sunday - Thursday 12:00PM - 10:00PM

Friday - Saturday 12:00PM - 10:30PM

5957 East VA Beach Blvd,
Norfolk, VA 23502

www.boilbay.com



Slider & Roll

Cheese Burger Sliders (5)	\$8.99
Catfish Slider (5)	\$8.99
Sausage Sliders (5)	\$7.99
Hot Lobster Roll	\$17.99



Po Boy Sandwiches

Shrimp Po Boy	\$10.99
Crawfish Po Boy	\$10.99
Oyster Po Boy	\$11.99
Catfish Po Boy	\$10.99
Chicken Po Boy	\$8.99
Soft Shell Crab Po Boy	\$10.99
Crab Cake Po Boy	\$10.99



Side

Boiled Eggs (2)	\$2
Corn (5)	\$3
Potatoes (3)	\$3
Steamed Rice	\$2
Regular Fries	\$2
Cajun Fries	\$3
Sweet Potato Fries	\$4
Coleslaw	\$3



Extra

Sausage (Half Lb)	\$5
Sausage (One Lb)	\$9



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"Parties of 6 or more will have an automatic gratuity of 18% added to their check. This includes separate checks."



Boil Bay Seafood City

5957 E Virginia Beach Blvd
Norfolk, VA 23502

Main

STEP 1. Pick Your Catch
All Main Come with Corn & Potato

	1/2 LB	1 LB
Blue Crab (Seasonal)	(3) \$10. ⁹⁹	(6) \$19. ⁹⁹
Crawfish	\$7	\$13
Dungeness Crab		\$31
King Crab Legs		\$39
Snow Crab Legs	\$14	\$27
Lobster Tail		(2) \$34
Shrimp (Head-Off)	\$9	\$16
Shrimp (Head-On)	\$8	\$14
Little Neck Clams	\$7	\$13
Black Mussel	\$7	\$12
New Zealand Green Mussel	\$8	\$14
Scallop	\$14	\$27

STEP 2. Pick Your Sauce
The Main or Combos
Dry (No Sauce Old Bay Only)
Garlic Butter
Lemon Pepper
Original Cajun
Boil Bay Special
Steamed

STEP 3. Pick A Level
Non Spicy / Mild /
Spicy / Fire
There is still a bit of a kick
to it from the Cajun Spice.

Combo Deal

All combos are served with Corn, Potatoes, and Andouille Sausage

Combo A \$24.99
Pick Three 1/2 lb Options Below

- Little Neck Clams
- Shrimp (Head On)
- Shrimp (Head Off) + \$2.00
- Crawfish
- Black Mussels
- New Zealand Green Mussels
- Blue Crab (1-2)

Combo B \$26.99
Pick Two 1 lb Options Below

- Little Neck Clams
- Shrimp (Head On)
- Shrimp (Head Off) + \$4.00
- Crawfish
- Black Mussels
- New Zealand Green Mussels
- Blue Crab (2-4)

Combo C \$40.99
with 1lb Snow Crab Legs
Pick Two 1/2 lb Options Below

- Little Neck Clams
- Shrimp (Head On)
- Shrimp (Head Off) + \$2.00
- Crawfish
- Black Mussels
- New Zealand Green Mussels

Combo D \$50.99
with 1lb Snow Crab Legs
Pick Two 1 lb Options Below

- Little Neck Clams
- Shrimp (Head On)
- Shrimp (Head Off) + \$4.00
- Crawfish
- Black Mussels
- New Zealand Green Mussels
- Blue Crab (2-4)

Oyster

*** Raw Oyster**

Half Dozen	\$11.99
One Dozen	\$19.99

Boil Bay Chargrilled Oyster

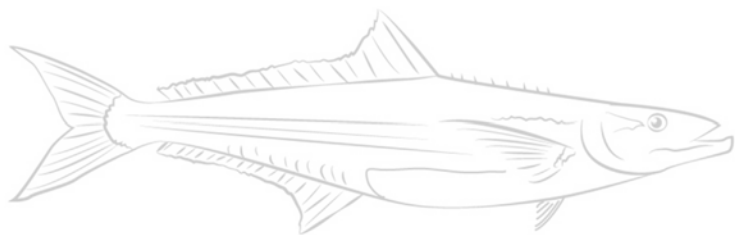
Half Dozen	\$12.99
One Dozen	\$20.99

* Consuming raw or undercooked meat, poultry, seafood, shellfish, or eggs may increase your risk of food borne illness, especially if you have certain medical conditions. Please inform server of any food allergies.

Norfolk Anglers Club

www.norfolkanglersclub.com

Fishing Tips...



Cobia Fishing with Captain Tripp Seed, *Bay Roamer Charters*



Early Season Chumming

When the Cobia are arriving in our area from mid-May to June, chumming can be an effective strategy targeting these fish. Captain Tripp Seed will set up in shallow water (8-15 feet) off Buckroe Beach northward and off Granview Natural Preserve. To setup for chumming, he'll use a 5 gallon bucket with holes drilled along the side,

weighted down, and set on the bottom. He shared that about 80% of the Cobia caught while chumming are on the rod next to the chum bucket. Set out 2-4 rods with 8/0 circle hooks on a fishfinder rig with live bait. The choice for live bait are Spot, Croaker, Pigfish, and small Bluefish. Hook them forward of the dorsal fin and behind the head. Chumming for Cobia early season can be slow fishing at times, Captain Seed recommends bottom fishing for baitfish while passing the time. Not only will you get the freshest bait, when the baitfish suddenly stop biting it can signal there's a larger predator lurking around. Be ready with your rod and remember when fishing with circle hooks there's no "hook set" until after the fish hooks itself. Once the fish takes

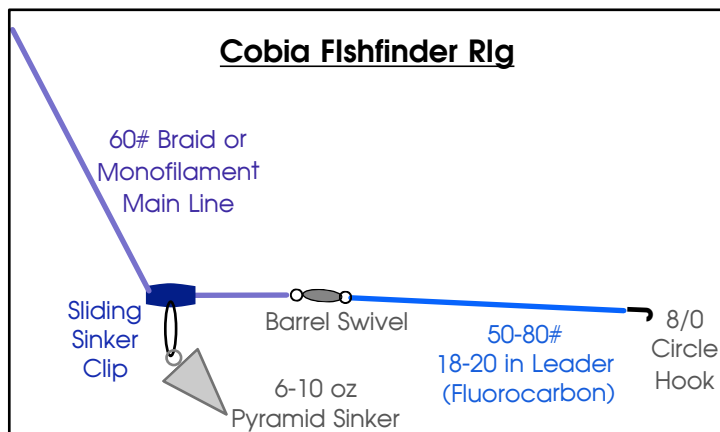


71 lb Cobia



in the baitfish the fishfinder rig allows the Cobia to take the bait and the circle hook then works its way to the fish's mouth. "Setting a circle hook" can often result in pulling the bait out of its mouth and losing the catch. Once you feel heavy tension on the mainline, the circle hook has done its job and the hook is set. Clear the other rods and fight the fish.

Capt Seed shared to use pyramid sinkers over the round bank or bell sinkers. The triangular pyramid sinkers are less likely to roll around and tangle your rig. He added, when you begin catching more sharks than Cobia, it's time to switch over to sight casting.



24' Judge Chesapeake

Norfolk Anglers Club

www.norfolkanglersclub.com

Fishing Tips...

Sight Casting on Cobia

Captain Seed will use a variety of techniques and baits for sight casting. Live bait, such as eels, baitfish, and menhaden are all great baits for cobia along with a host of jig heads and color combinations. Bay Roamer Charters like using the jig head produced by CB Custom Jigs (www.cbcustomjigs.com). They have a wide selection of jig head types and come with a strong 9/0 J-hook. One of the favorites of Bay Roamer Charters is their Hammerhead version. The Hammerhead jig head (Circled Right) has a wide/flat face which helps keep the jig higher in the water column. Captain Seed likes to throw the Hammerhead style jig head and keep it in the first two feet of the water column to draw the attention of cobia near the surface. He prefers the 1.5-2.0 ounce jigs and prefers the rubber skirts over feathers. He added, the rubber skirts work exceptionally well and are longer lasting.

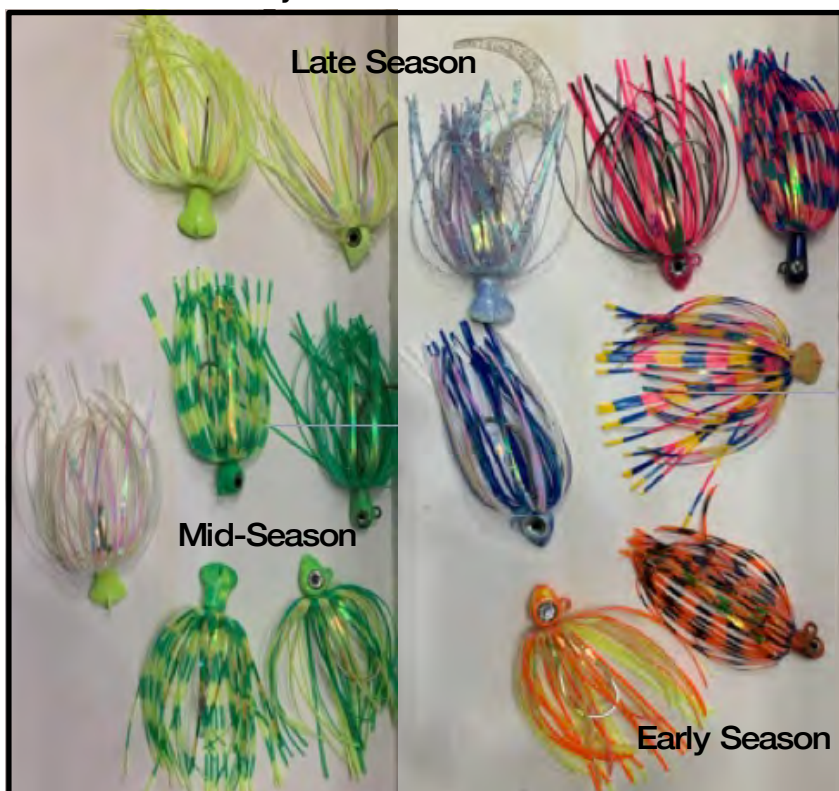


His color choices vary during the fishing season. Early in the season, he'll use the Orange or Brown with the orange/yellow skirt and a yellow curly tail. During the mid-season the green jigs with the green and chartreuse rubber skirts work best. Yellow and White with a light colored rubber skirt are favored during late season fishing when the menhaden schools are present.

Live Baiting Cobia

Bay Roamer Charters likes using Eels, Spot, Menhaden, and Croaker for live baiting Cobia.

While any bait fish will work Croakers are the most hardy and long living. Eels are long lasting as well with Spot and Menhaden being the most difficult to keep alive in the bait well. Eels have traditionally been the "go to" Cobia live



bait however, Capt Seed shared that over the past few seasons Cobia seem to strike on bait fish more than Eels. He added, to have plenty of both types of baits rigged and at the ready, Eels *and* bait fish. If a Cobia turns toward a bait, follows it but doesn't eat it, sometimes presenting a second different bait will draw a strike.

When presenting Eels Captain Seed recommends presenting it in front of the Cobia and working it toward them in the top of the water column. He'll sometimes skip the Eel across the surface to attract attention and once the Cobia locks on the bait he'll let it swim. Once the Cobia takes the Eel let it eat. Sometimes Cobia like to grab the Eel and swim with it before eating. Don't set the hook too quickly or risk pulling

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Fishing Tips...

the eel from its mouth and missing the fish. With all other live bait options a quick hook set is desired, with Eels give the Cobia some time to swallow the Eel.

Other live bait options are primarily Spot, Croaker, and Menhaden. Using a 8/0-10/0 J-Hook inserted behind the head and in front of the dorsal fin for Spot & Croaker. For Menhaden, he'll rig the hook through the nose. Cast your bait and work in front of the Cobia. Unlike Eels, the Cobia will inhale the bait fish so be ready with a quick hard hook set after they strike. In the late July and August timeframe when the Menhaden schools are found in the Bay, Bay Roamer Charters will throw Menhaden to the Cobia. Menhaden are hard to keep alive in the bait well so, once they die quickly place them on ice and rig them through the nose. Present them similar to a twitch bait; cast in front of the Cobia allow it to sink and twitch it up. You'll have greater success catching Cobia if your live bait matches the food source they're feeding on.

Artificial Lures

Having a wide variety of casting options is key to a successful day targeting Cobia. What works one day may not draw interest on the next day. Captain Seed recommends having multiple rods ready to cast with different baits. Cobia will sometimes follow your Eel during the retrieve and never strike it until you present a bucktail or another live bait. It pays to have a number of artificial lures ready as well, including poppers. By mid-summer Cobia will



have seen just about every color combination of skirted jig head available in local tackle stores. Be ready to change up your artificial lure presentations with an 8 inch Grub Tail or an OG Eel. Try working them with short jigs to create more action in the tail. Select contrasting colors to draw attention. Don't forget the poppers, their surface action can often draw a reaction strike from a cruising Cobia.



Conservation

Virginia and North Carolina have the best Cobia fishing along the east coast. The vast majority of Cobia landed each year are from those areas. To preserve our future Cobia fishery it's important to remember to properly handle and release the fish you're not going to keep. Use tackle and rod/reel set ups that minimize the length of the fight. Release fish in the water if possible and handle gently if boating the fish for measurement. Revive the Cobia before release using a lip gripping tool (photo left) until the fish is strong enough to swim away. Current 2021 regulations in Virginia prohibit the use of a gaff to land Cobia, always consider using a net if possible. Consider releasing the larger spawning female Cobia and retaining the slot size fish.



Fishing Reports...



14 JUN: I went out on Flag Day with Andy Reid fishing for flounders. Only caught one flounder 17 inches, but did hook-up with a 50-inch drum at the second island. I hooked it on the bay side and landed the fish on the ocean side of the bridge. I used a jig and light flounder rod.

– Bert Sainz



23 JUN: I caught a 36-pound, 48-inch Cobia off the Poquoson flats on a nice day while chumming and using live eels for bait in 10 feet of water.

North winds were blowing 15-20 knots with an outgoing tide.

- Steve Anderson





18 JUN: It was like Norfolk Anglers Club Day at the Lynnhaven Ramp. As Mary, John Curry, Troy Lane and I launched the Shamrock, we met Alex Sr. and Alex Jr. Perez heading out in their beautiful Southern Cross with a group, and Greg Rogers heading out on another boat. Our plan was to Spade fish, launching at Rudee to fish the tower, but with a forecast of increasing S/E winds in the afternoon, we decided to launch at



Lynnhaven and fish the 3rd Island. What a lucky choice! After a short, unproductive, stop at the Cape Henry Wreck, we headed to the 3rd Island. From the time we got set up until we ran out of clams, we had a steady bite of big Spadefish from 5 to 9 pounds.

Mary, never one to just watch a bobber, dropped a line to the bottom. Although plagued by mini-seabass, she caught 2 Flounder, including a 20 inch, and 2 Triggerfish.

Mary and Henry Troutner

Our day ended with a quick stop at Ocean's East to register John's citation.



2 JUN: I had my first keeper puppy drum this year at Little Creek. Well, I'm back to fishing for reds now that my hip replacement surgery is pretty much over. Last two times fishing with Louis and Ned didn't turn up any keeper sized pups for either of them and I'm still skunked for a keeper. In April, I did get a few undersized pups but that was all in the Pretty Lake.

But this day, Louis and I focused only on puppies. Using rubber baits, gulp and jigs. I was using a silver Salt Strong paddle tail with Dr. Juice attractant on it with ¼ oz white jig. On one of the casts, a bluefish bit off the paddle. But I didn't feel like rebaiting, so I threw it close to the jetty the next time and as soon as it hit the water a puppy took off with it. I was using a ML Fenwick rod 6.6 which was really light but had the drag set tight and this fish just took went flying down the jetty.

I was worried my 10lb line wouldn't hold it but finally got his head turned after it went about 50 yards. I struggled with it for about 10 minutes getting it close to the boat several times when it would take off on another run. Then it decided to go under the boat too close to the anchor line. I was about to move the rod under the anchor line, but Louis encouraged me not to, but just keep it tight.

That resulted with Louis netting the fish. The lure practically fell out when I removed it. It felt and looked bigger, like an over slot sized fish but it was 25.5 inches and quite heavy, 6lbs, when I weighed him at home after being refrigerated before cleaning. That was all we caught that day to keep. We did catch some small trout and roundhead that liked our Gulp.

- Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower



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The Happy Captain

18 June: I took club member Mike Hubert and friend Kennedy out to Norfolk Canyon aboard the Black Swan.

We had lines in before 7:00 am and quickly got our first tuna. We headed north toward Washington canyon to get away from the 30-40 boats on the northeast corner of the canyon. We got a couple miles away from everyone and I found Tuna busting on the surface.

Suddenly, 5 lines went down and after 20 minutes of pandemonium the three of us boated all 5 tuna! With 6 Yellowfin Tuna on board, we went Tilefish fishing with great success, and picked a couple sea bass mixed in.

- Jackson B. Salvant Jr., M.D.



Mike and Kennedy
with the catch and
Black Swan



The Fourth of July—also known as Independence Day or July 4th—has been a federal holiday in the United States since 1941, but the tradition of Independence Day celebrations goes back to the 18th century and the American Revolution. On July 2nd, 1776, the Continental Congress voted in favor of independence, and two days later delegates from the 13 colonies adopted the Declaration of Independence, a historic document drafted by Thomas Jefferson. From 1776 to the present day, July 4th has been celebrated as the birth of American independence, with festivities ranging from fireworks, parades and concerts to more casual family gatherings and barbecues. The Fourth of July 2021 is on Sunday, July 4, 2021; the federal holiday will be observed on Monday, July 5, 2021.



7 JUN: I fished out of Oregon Inlet on a Monday. We left with the fleet and had lines in the water before 7:00 am. Before we had the entire spread out, we got slammed with a Big Eye Tuna that took about 40 minutes to land... nearly spooled a Tiagra 50. Fishing really slowed down later, but managed a 15 lb YFT and a football blackfin. Tons of knockdowns between grass and suspected small blackfin. We were able to weigh the Big Eye Tuna back at the fishing center, and it came in at 106 pounds.

- Corey Ferguson

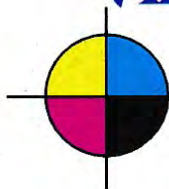


1 JUN: I was waiting on a new steering cable for the Shamrock, so Mary and I took the skiff out. We launched at Huntingdon Park and fished the JRB for stripers. That only lasted about 1/2 hour before we had our 2 man limit with a 26" & 27" striper. Both caught on red/white stretches. We then moved to a large creek on the Isle of Wight side of the JRB and fished for puppy drum. Using shedder crab, Mary caught a croaker and white perch but no drum.
- Mary and Henry Troutner



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June 2: We departed Owl Creek Boat Ramp (Rudee Inlet) at 5:30am and headed for the tilefish grounds. In two hours we were set up fishing for Blueline Tilefish in depths 275-325 feet. We used a standard double dropper rig with 5/0 circle hooks and baited with squid. The morning bite was incredibly S L O W. We boated some nice Blueline Tiles but no Citation fish like a month ago.

We moved over to fish the north and south walls of the Norfolk Canyon in much deeper water (600-1,100 ft) and found the bite was similarly slow. We caught a few Black-Belly Rosefish and a few Golden Tilefish. Moving around looking for the "special fishing hole." We finally settled on a location that's always provided a good catch of Black-Belly Rosefish and Golden Tiles. While it produced some good sized BBRF in the afternoon what surprised me was the number of break offs we had. First, let me explain about Golden Tilefish. They live in burrows of soft and sticky mud. There's NOTHING to hang up on! So, when you're "hung up" it means you've hooked into a nice size Golden Tile that's in their burrow. The tiles will brace themselves inside the hole and then you're in for a game of tug-o-war with a fish 1,000 feet away. It can take 30-45 minutes on average to wear the fish down until they relax and you can pull them free.



With an unusually high number of broken lines and lost rigs, I brought out the electric reel with 130# hollow braid and 48# at maximum drag. I wanted to see what we're dealing with down there as I've *always* been able to horse a tile out of a hole with the Daiwa MP3000 reel. Well, that was true until that day...

I felt a soft bite and then the heavy weight of a fish. No head shakes, no hard hit, just lots of weight, as in absolutely NO movement. I took a couple of cranks on the reel and brought the line tight before engaging



the power assist with about 25# of drag set. The reel gained nothing so I cranked the reel to max drag and started the tug-o-war. For the next fifteen minutes the tension was tight but then I lost the fish. My 175 lbs stainless snap swivel completely straightened out!



Our fishing group consisted of Mike Hubert, Greg Rogers, Henry Troutner, Chris Webb and his Son, Lasalle. Like the last trip, Lasalle was again the first to bring in a fish, a nice size Blueline Tilefish. He was very helpful on the boat helping get the fish in the box and then showed an interest in venting fish after watching me do it a few times. So, I showed Lasalle how to hold the fish, where to insert the decompression needle, and how to handle & release the fish. He's a natural! After needle decompressing his fish (photo right) he got to release them and watch them swim away without issue.

Thanks to the great group of Norfolk Anglers, we had a fantastic day at the Norfolk Canyon

- Will Bransom



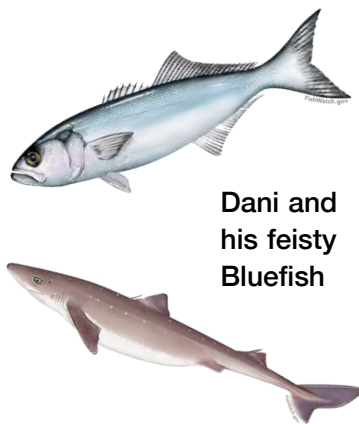
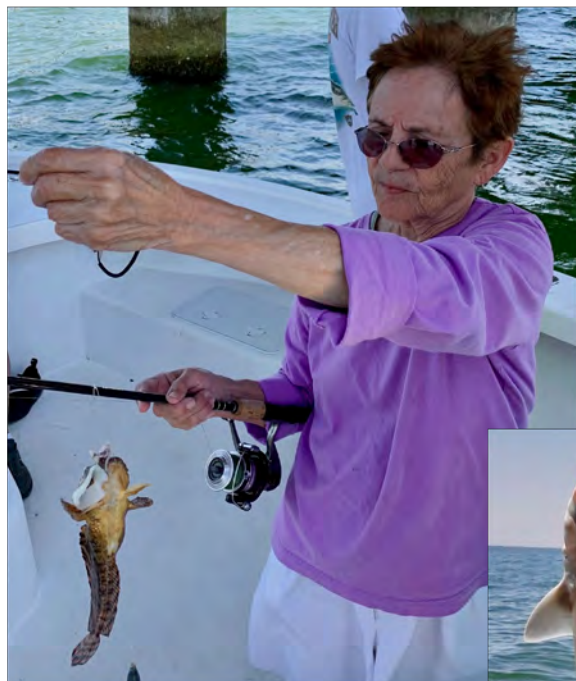
COMING BACK IN
2021!

JULY 15-17

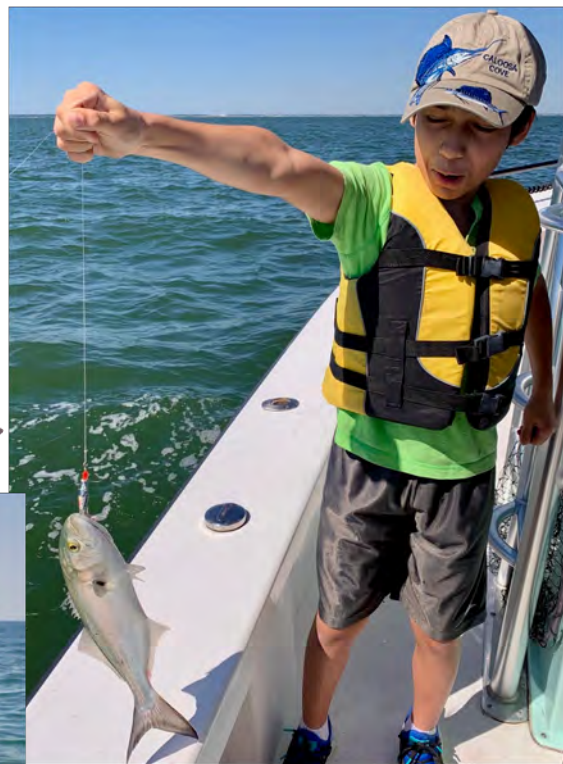
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18 JUN: On a Friday, my parents, brother with his girlfriend, and my nephew flew in from Florida to join AJ and I in fishing the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT). We started trolling Clark spoons, catching snapper size Bluefish. After not finding any Spanish Mackerel, we decided to tuck behind the first island to catch Croakers, small Black Sea Bass, and a nice 27-inch Puppy Drum release using cut Squid. We tried a few pilings near the island looking for Spadefish, but did not see any on this day. We did find a short Flounder, Toadfish, and Dog Sharks by the pilings. The water was a little cloudy with the recent rainfall but a beautiful day overall.

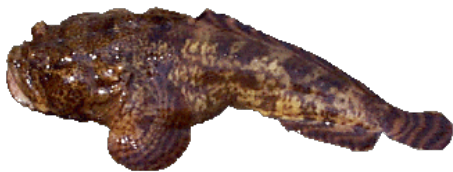
Alex Perez Sr.



Dani and his feisty Bluefish



Mom, and her Oyster Toad



Pop and his Puppy Drum release



Heind and her Dogfish



Dani and a juvenile Black Sea Bass



6 JUN: John Curry, Mary and I hit the water in the late afternoon for a couple hours striper fishing after a hot day of yard work. We have not fished the Route 17 bridge at the Nansemond River this year, so the plan was to give it a try. Of course, in order to get there, we have to go under the Route 17 bridge at the Chuckatuck, where we always make a few passes with the lures. Our first round at the Chuckatuck resulted in a 22 inch so we moved on the Nansemond. We fished there for about 45 minutes and hooked 2 fish but both were lost. Back to the Chuckatuck where, with only about a half hour to fish, we grabbed 2 more to complete our 3-man limit. As usual Mary got the largest coming in at 24 inches. Although we trolled our go to red/white stretches, today all fish were caught on greenish Bandits. - Mary and Henry Troutner



24 JUN: Went fishing for puppy drum in the Lynnhaven when the moon was full and a NE wind was holding the water in the river and left Crab Creek at 7:00 am three hours before high tide. We were sure the water would be higher than normal and the reds would be in the weeds, and they were! At our first stop, Russell almost immediately hooked up a nice 24.5-inch puppy that ran all over the water and even jumped. He then hooked up one undersized fish from almost the same place. The next fish was a

20-inch fish that really put up a great run and fight all the way to the boat. Russell would ordinarily throwback that size fish but it was gut hooked and bleeding badly, so it ended up in the box. Then he hooked another throwback. I was still working the other side for each weed line and getting harassed by crabs but no reds. We moved to another cove and again Russell was the hot fisherman with another 24.5-inch red. So, since Russell had his limit, he stopped fishing to give me a break.

I casted my bait in the same spot Russell's last fish was caught and before too long, I had a nice fighting puppy on my line that ended up in the boat measuring also 24.5 inch. But then nothing, so we moved from cove to cove looking for some more, so I could catch my limit. But by then, the tide was high and not running. It was obvious the bite was over. All were caught on cut frozen mullet on Carolina rigs. They just would not hit my gulp lure on a popping cork which usually attracts them. But 4 nice fish for about 4 hours. Fishing was well worth it! Thanks Russell!

- Dr. James W. Ike Eisenhower





25 JUN: Had a cousin, John, passing through town to hook up with our nephew, Christian, to fish an OBX charter on a Saturday. With Friday morning to kill, I got them, Mary and George Langdon out for a morning of Spade fishing. As Christian is active-duty U.S. Navy, we launched the Shamrock at the Little Creek Base.



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A short run to the 3rd Island resulted in our 20 fish limit and several catch and release. Other than a few small releases, the fishes weighted 3 and 7 pounds. We had the usual setup of 3 rods with floats and 2 suspended 1/2 to the bottom right over the side of the boat all with small red hooks and a piece of clam.

- Mary and Henry Troutner



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18 JUN: Fished the Norfolk Canyon on a Friday. The bite started slow then got covered up in some nice YFT. Only three guys on the boat, so put three in the box and switched over to bottom fishing around some wrecks - pulled up a few nice black sea bass and headed in early as the wind really started to kick up. Caught all of the fish in 79 degree water. - Corey Ferguson



25 JUN: Fished the Norfolk Canyon on a Friday for the Virginia Beach Tuna Tournament - lines in at 7:30 am, I had 15 in the boat by 9:00 am. Nothing of size to put us in the money, but a great day of tuna fishing nonetheless. Caught these fish in 71 degree water.

Monday, June 28th, AJ and I fished a couple of wrecks inside the bay using Blue Crab and Clams for bait. We fished the last two hours of the outgoing tide through the first two hours of the incoming. We caught, tagged and released a couple of Tautog up to 16 inches until the bite turned off at slack tide. As the current picked up in the opposite direction, the Spadefish began to circle the boat. I periodically threw out pieces of clam just to keep them interested while we continued bottom fishing. I eventually put AJ on Spadefish duty while I continued with crabs on the bottom. Apparently the Gray Triggerfish took over the wreck because that's all I caught for the next half hour. I caught seven total up to 19 inches while AJ caught 10 Spadefish up to 14 inches.

Once we ran out of bait, we climbed in the tower and slowly worked our way to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT), traveling parallel to the bridge on our way back to Lynnhaven Inlet. We ended up seeing seven Cobia, catching two at 32 and 40 inches. All fish were tagged and released for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program.



Spadefish keeping us company



- Alex Perez Sr.

Cobia, tagged for the release.



Some Spadefish decided to join us!



Gray Triggerfish

Gray Triggerfish showing more of a color pattern.





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