

THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

WIRELINE

MARCH 2019



What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Black Sea Bass fishing with Captain Jake Hiles, *Matador Sport Fishing*

Fishing Tips: Crappie Fishing with Carl Herring and Steve Harding

Fishing Reports:

- Offshore; Black Sea Bass
- Freshwater/Lake Whitehurst; Crappie
- North Carolina/Oregon Inlet; Bluefin Tuna
- Florida/Key West; Mangrove Snappers

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

Thanks to all that helped out at the Mid-Atlantic Boat Show. It was a great opportunity to share what our club is all about; Family, Fishing, and Fellowship.

Welcome to our newest Norfolk Anglers Club Members;

Bob Mandigo
Tony Pirrone
Mike Ruggles

We're glad to have you in our club and look forward to fishing with you in 2019!

Here's a fantastic opportunity to start the boating season off right! The Norfolk Yacht & Country Club and US Coast Guard Auxiliary are sponsoring the Virginia Safe Boating course on Saturday, March 9th, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. It's FREE and after successful course completion you'll have your Virginia Boater Safety Education Card in hand!

- Will

Meeting

Guest Speaker: Black Sea Bass fishing with Captain Jake Hiles, *Matador Sport Fishing Charters*



We're very pleased to have Capt Jake joining us to talk about fishing for Black Sea Bass at our March meeting. Jake grew up fishing Virginia waters and is a Virginia Master Angler. He operates *Matador Sport Fishing Charters* out of Rudee Inlet for Inshore, Offshore, and Deep Drop Charters.

www.matadorcharters.com



Important:

Date of next meeting - Monday, 11 March at 7pm

Location:

Teppanyaki Buffet & Grill

7525 Tidewater Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505

Publishers NOTES

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NORFOLK ANGLERS



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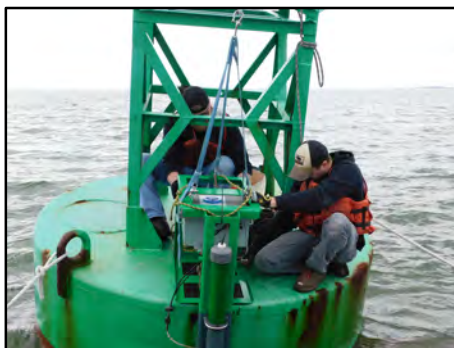
On the Cover: Scheduled maintenance on buoy mounted oceanographic instruments by technicians from the Woods Hole Group.

Most anglers don't give a thought to where the wind, weather, current direction and velocity, tidal action, or wave action information comes from on their favored APP or website. It's just always there for them. Well, it comes from many sources including those instrumented and maintained by the Woods Hole Group. Simply put, information reported by instrumented buoys, pier mounted and bottom mounted stations, meteorological stations, and many other sites feed into a national oceanographic data repository. The information is then accessed by User Applications, Government and Educational Organizations, as well as others to provide real-time oceanographic information and forecasting.

Managed under the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Ocean Service (NOS) is tasked with providing the maritime community with real-time oceanographic data and other navigation information in the interest of promoting safety and efficiency. They accomplish this with a network of instrumented stations across the nation to feed information into the Physical Oceanographic Real-Time System or PORTS®.

The Woods Hole Group is under contract with NOAA to design, install, operate and maintain a large-scale Physical Oceanographic Real Time System (PORTS®). In our area their network became operational in the Upper Chesapeake Bay in 2004 and in the Lower Chesapeake Bay in 2006. They also support the PORTS® network in the Port of Jacksonville, FL and the New York/New Jersey Harbor.

- Captain Will Bransom, USN (Ret)



Club Calendar

March

Sat, Mar 9th, GBFA Fishing Flea Market

Sat, Mar 9th, VA Safe Boating Course, NYCC

Mon, Mar 11th, Regular Club Meeting

Sat, Mar 16th, Poquoson Fishing Flea Market

Tue, March 26th, VMRC Meeting

April

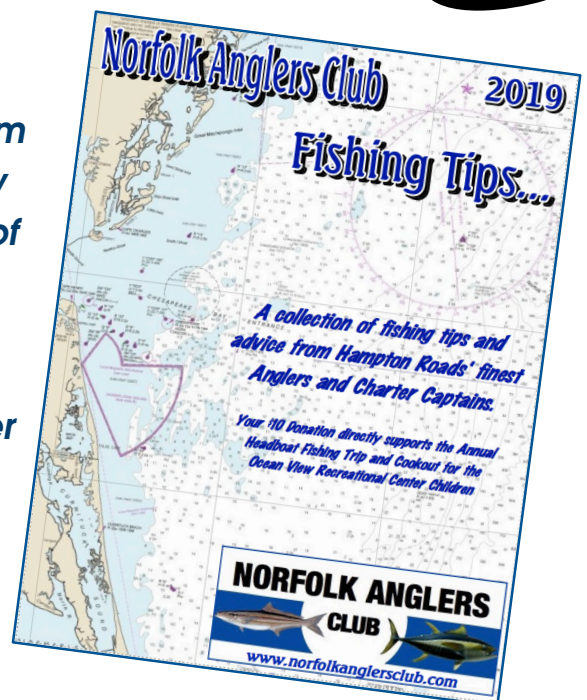
Mon, Apr 8th, Regular Club Meeting

Tue, Apr 23rd, VMRC Meeting

We've rolled out the 2019 Fishing Tips booklets! It's an information packed booklet with fishing tips from the areas best Charter Captains and Anglers. New for this year are pages of GPS locations for many of the areas fishing hot spots.

Best of all, your \$10 donation goes toward supporting the East Ocean View Community Center Annual Children's Headboat Trip and Cookout.

Get your copy at our regular Anglers Club Meetings or visit us at the Fishing Flea Market on March 9th.



NYCC'S YACHTING COMMITTEE PRESENTS

VA BOATING SAFETY CLASS

Saturday, March 9, 2019

8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Norfolk Yacht & Country Club

Topics covered include:

Boating Operations • Safe Boating Practices
Navigation Signs • Boating Responsibilities

Successful course completion, including the written exam, will result in you receiving a VA Safe Boater card.

Free to attend. Ages 16 and up. Space is limited.

To sign up, call Norfolk Yacht Club at 757.423.4500

Visit www.NorfolkYacht.com/Yachting for more details.

Bring a packed lunch or buy lunch from the club.

Norfolk Anglers Club

www.norfolkanglersclub.com

Fishing Tips...



Crappie Fishing with Carl Herring and Steve Harding

Slabs, Papermouths, Sac-a-lait, Calico Bass, Speckled Perch, whatever you decide to call them Crappie are a popular freshwater game fish to enjoy year-round. Both White Crappie and Black Crappie can be found in our area in the freshwater reservoirs and lakes. Crappie are a schooling fish which prefers underwater structure, such as stumps, fallen trees, and grass beds for cover.

In 1981, Carl Herring received the International Game Fish Association (IGFA) All-Tackle World Record for his 4 lbs 8 oz Black Crappie caught in Kerr Lake, Virginia. A record that stood for more than 26 years. Carl shared most Crappie you catch won't be that large but they're out there! He explained there's generally two methods for fish for Crappie from a boat; Tight Lining and Long Lining.

The most common method is Tight Lining, which involves deploying multiple rods around the boat while drifting/trolling 1 knot or less. Multiple rods can mean up to 12-14 total rods rigged along the gunwale. The intent is to place your rigs far enough away from the boat to not spook the fish while you slowly drift lures at various depths. Today's Crappie rods resemble older cane poles but are manufactured of telescoping composite material sections, are lightweight, with total length ranging from 10' up to 20'.

Some models incorporate a reel assembly at the base, most have simple hooks to secure excess line. Lures are initially placed at various depths using different lure colors and configurations. What Crappie are attracted to one day may change completely the next. Once an Angler dials in on what the fish are wanting that day and the depth they're schooling, adjustment can be made.

Tight Lining rigs are a simple monofilament line ranging from 6-10 pound test. Lighter test line may be used however, as Carl explained, you're fishing around structure like fallen trees and other snags and there's going to be hangups. Using very light line will result in lots of break-off and re-rigging. Lines are run off the poles at various depths suspended beneath a small bobber. Below the bobber is up to a 1/2 ounce sinker and a 1-2 ft length of mono to the lure. The lure can be a jig-head rigged with an artificial tail or a minnow or another version is a plain hook with a minnow.

With a slow drift of less than a single knot, the lines will hang nearly vertical to the 1/2 ounce sinker with the 1-2 ft length of leader trailing in the current. Tying your jighead or hook with a Loop Knot allows the lure to move freely and present a more natural swimming action.



Tight Lining

- Multiple Rods for large spread
- Drift speed 1 knot or less

Tight Lining Rig

Bobber

6-10# Monofilament

1/2 oz Sinker

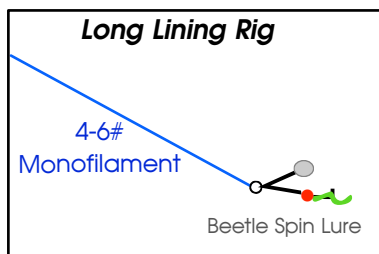
Jig Head w/
Artificial or Minnow
Plain Hook w/Minnow

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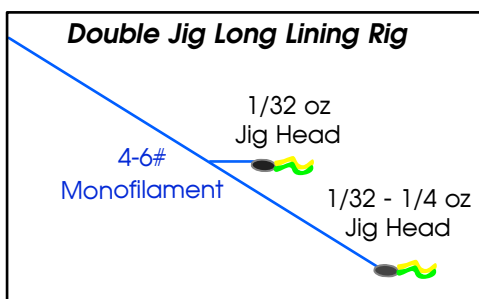
www.norfolkanglersclub.com

Fishing Tips...

Long Lining is another method to catch Crappie, particularly after they spawn or move to deeper water. As Carl explained, Crappie tend to follow in the wake of the boat and trailing lures astern can be a successful method for catching fish. Long Lining involves using 4-6# monofilament line and beetle spin type lures or jig-heads trailed far behind the boat. He recommends placing lures at differing depths to avoid tangles when maneuvering. Keep your trolling speed to around +/- 1 knot or slightly above (1.2 kts) and target the schooling fish in deeper water.



Boat speed and lure weight will set the depth of the lure. A faster boat speed will bring the lure higher in the water and the heavier weighted lure will trail deeper. When trolling jig-heads, anglers can use one or two jig heads per line spacing them about 3-4 feet apart. If using different weight jig heads, always place the heavier lure lower. Start trolling in shallow water and work toward the deep, adjusting trolling speed and lure weight to put the lures at the depth the fish are schooling.



Carl describes the best Crappie fishing as "Hard Flowing - Warm Days in February and March" when the water temperature is in the mid-to-high 50 degree range. Once the water temperature approaches 59-60 degrees the Crappie will begin to spawn in the shallows and move back into deeper water. He looks for the first 3 warm days in each month for ideal conditions but targets Crappie year-round. Most Crappie are caught in water 3-9 feet deep and more often in the shallow water. His first choice in lure color is a Black & Chartreuse but always recommends trying different combinations.

Keep in mind that Crappie will back out of the shallows if there's dirty/muddy water present but will often stay in muddy water if temperature and bait conditions are favorable. Usually, in March, when the water temperature reaches the upper 50 degree range spawning activity begins. Female Crappie will move from the deeper water to the shallows to spawn in generally less than 4 feet of water and then move back to the deeper areas. Male Crappie during the spawn aggressively defend their nests from predatory fish. They'll hit a lure or minnow hard when it comes near not in an attempt to feed but rather to defend their territory from anything they deem a threat. Some of the best Crappie fishing is during the spawn for this reason.

Along with jig head, plain hooks with minnows, or beetle spin lures, the "Pinky Jig" is another lure recommended by Carl and Steve. Rigged with a small thin wire hook, it comes with a variety of painted lead head weight and bucktail. Common color combinations are Pink w/white bucktail, Pink w/chartreuse, or Chartreuse head and bucktail.



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Fishing Tips...

When it comes to jig heads and artificial tails there's a seemingly endless selection of types and colors. Steve Harding's "go-to" Crappie baits when not fishing live minnows are the Bobby Garland brand soft tails. As Steve explained, conditions change frequently and anglers should have a variety of bait types and colors to present to the fish. Once you know what's working that day make the change to that color/lure combination.



Pictured below are two of the Bobby Garland series lures; Baby Shad and Spear Tail. The Baby Shad series, has a wide body tapering to a thin tail, with or without a segmented tail for more swimming action. In their Spear Tail series are the Crappie Shooter and Slab Slay'r lures. The compact Crappie Shooter can be rigged either flat for a darting or gliding fall or vertical for a larger side profile great for jigging. The Slab Slayer features a solid body with a flexible thin tapered tail which provides lots of action to entice a Crappie strike.

Steve prefers fishing six telescoping poles at a time drifting or using the trolling motor while Tight Lining Crappie. Telescoping poles, like the B'N'M Black Widow Crappie Poles come in lengths ranging from 13 feet to 20 feet. He advised that fishing with short poles like you would for most other fishing might have you "fishing the trolling motor". The longer poles used for Crappie fishing get the lines far enough away from the trolling more so as to not be an issue as well as place the baits further away from the boat to not spook the fish.

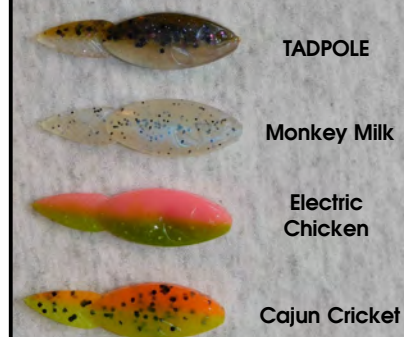


He'll initially set lines at various depths about every 2 feet to cover the water column. Once the depth of the schooling Crappie are known all other lines are adjusted to place baits on the fish.

SLAB SLAY'R



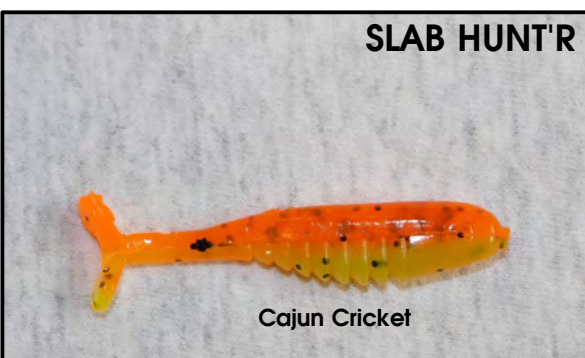
CRAPPIE SHOOTER



BABY SHAD



SLAB HUNT'R



Norfolk Anglers Club

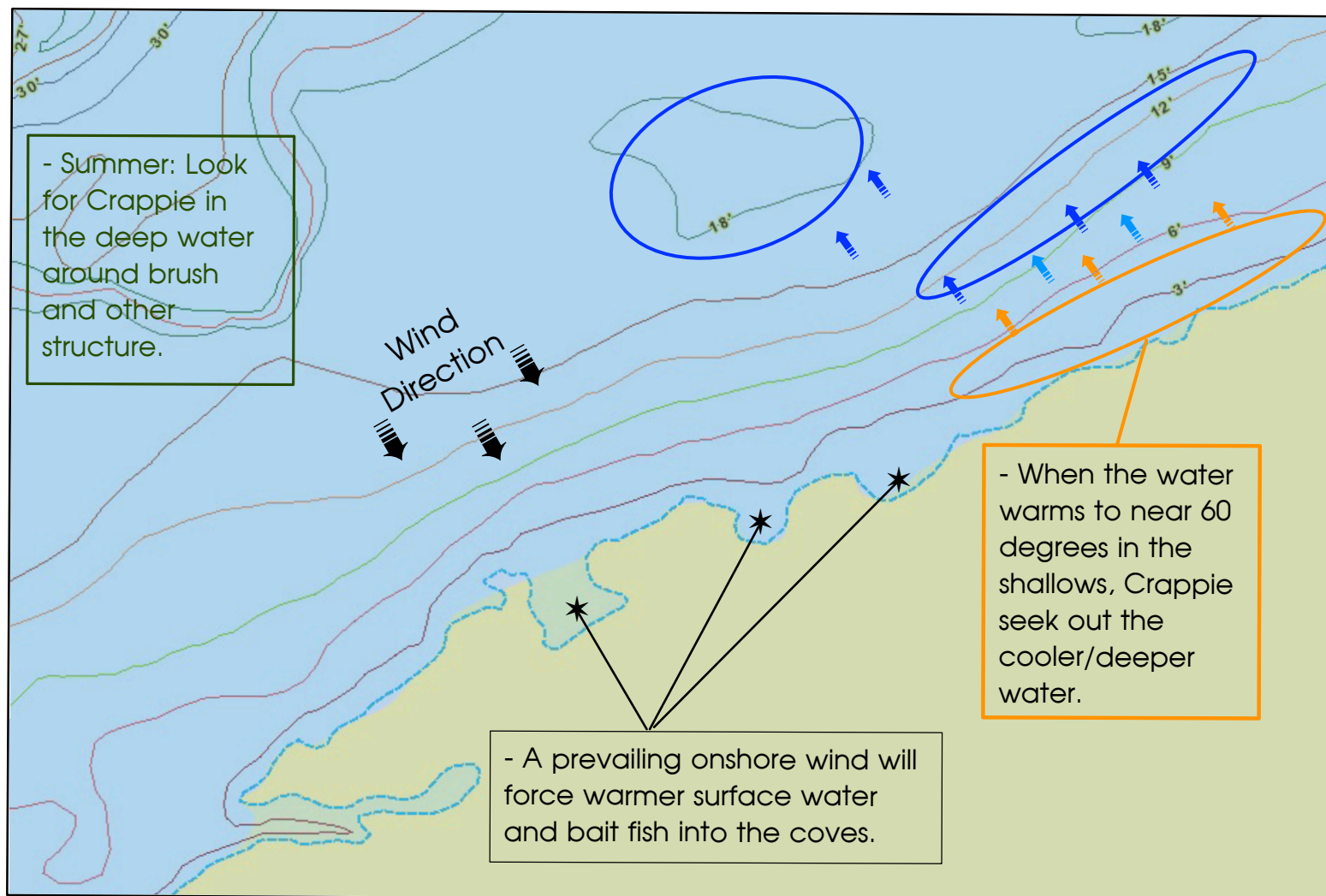
www.norfolkanglersclub.com

Fishing Tips...

Steve stressed, when it comes to jig heads "NO rusty Jig Heads" in the tackle box! He prefers the light wire jig heads from Southern Pro (www.southernpro.com) and the gold hook jig heads from Grizzly Jig (www.GrizzlyJig.com). They have thin wire hooks and come painted or plain lead and in various head shapes. Steve will rig artificial tails or live minnows on the jig heads. Remember to use as light jig head weight as possible initially. Another recommendation is to secure your lures with a small loop knot. The extra play in the loop will provide more action and natural presentation to the Crappie.



Both Carl Herring and Steve Harding recommend anglers get to know their Crappie fishing grounds. The more you know about the make up of the lake, it's depth contours, snags, and structure, the more successful you'll be. Steve recommends keeping a fishing journal with notes about fishing conditions and locations. Having that information available over a number of years will help understand where the fish are likely going to be under changing conditions. Water temperature is a big deal when Crappie fishing. Carl pointed out that focusing on the water temperature 3-4 feet below the surface is one of the best indicators of where the fish might be. When the water temperature in the shallows nears 60 degrees Fahrenheit, Crappie will move toward the cooler/deeper water. A prevailing wind will generally blow warmer surface water toward the shore, along with it bait fish the Crappie prey on. Remember to fish the shallows where warmer water and bait congregate in the Fall and Winter. Observe the birds along the shoreline, often they'll be feeding on small minnows in the shallows.

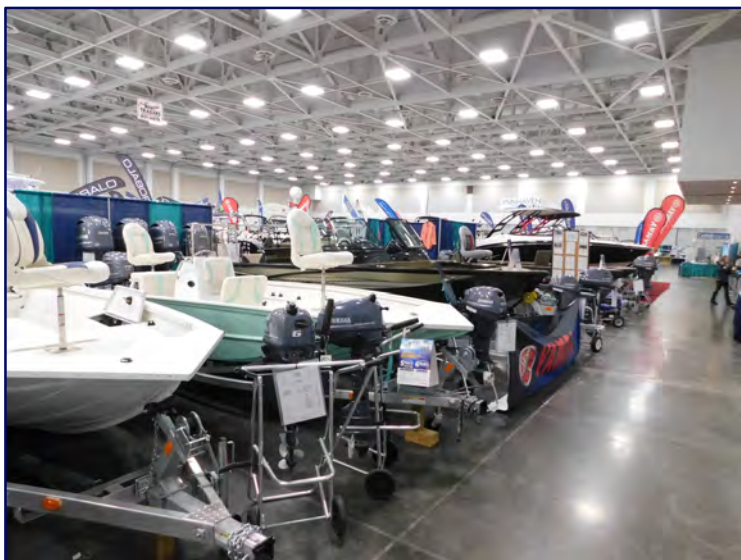




THANK YOU to all our members who helped out at the Mid-Atlantic Boat Show. The club again made a great showing because of your support and enthusiasm.

Mike Hubert, Greg Rogers, Wendy & Will Bransom, Ned Smith, Kelly Hoggard, Brian Tsai, Mike Davis, Gary Waddell, Paul Harris, James & Kathy Eisenhower, Bert & Sandy Sainz, Alex Perez, Tom Hubert, Pam Semones, Ben Capps, Mike Griffith, George Grinnan, and Stan Gold

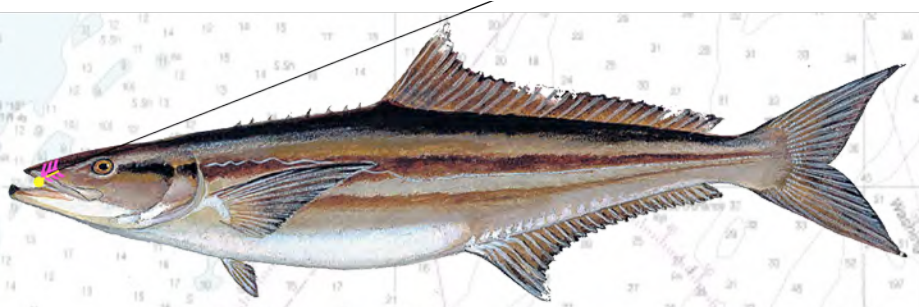
Thank You!



NORFOLK ANGLERS

CLUB

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2019 Season Cobia Charter Raffle

\$5

**Four Person – Full Day Charter with
FINAO Sportfishing**
(includes Mate's Tip)

Single winner drawn at April 2019
Norfolk Anglers Club meeting.
Don't have to be present to win.



Fishing Reports...

4 FEB: Fishing with Russell at Lake Whitehurst: I went crappie fishing with Russell on his 16 foot Carolina Skiff on Lake Whitehurst on the second day of warm weather in February after a freezing week earlier.

Ocean's East didn't have shiners after changing their tanks but Zach Bowles sent us to Care-A-Lot and they have shiners used for feeder fish costing \$.25 for each fish. The parking lot was empty except for one bass fisherman. Wind was out of the north at 10 mph which made for a nice drift so we set up to drift with bobbers in a deep spot that we had caught crappie last year. We found plenty of fish on the Hummingbird and in no time, I had both of my bobbers go down. Two nice fish just under a pound each.

Next drift got me a littler one but still a nice keeper fish. Despite more drifts in the area no more were caught.

So, we started exploring the shallows and some newer spots we had not previously fished. We found a nice spot with 25 feet of depth and as I was pulling line out to specifically 15 feet under my bobber I had put a shiner on already and suddenly the line started pulling down, yep, I had a nice fish on. This turned out to be 13-inch fish probably about a pound but since I had enough fish for a meal I released it for a NAC minimum release.



That turned out to be the last fish caught that day. Unfortunately, Russell didn't hook any but did get a pull down at one point. I am not sure why. We both did pretty much the same thing but I had a different color Garland rubber on. It was still a great crappie day for me!

- Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower





3 FEB: Only three aboard for our first Black Sea Bass trip of 2019. With Geri Humphrey, Mike Hubert and I aboard, we headed out of Rudee Inlet at 7:00 am with a beautiful day ahead of us. We cruised at a very comfortable 34 knots out to the Triangle Wrecks arriving just before 8:00 am to find only two other boats drifting the Artificial Reef. We caught only a couple of keeper bass before heading north to try our luck with tautog and more sea bass. Without much success we headed further east (21nm) and stopped on the wreck of the Ocean Venture. Again only two other boats barely drifting around but that was a good thing. It was non-stop



action cranking sea bass up from the 160 ft depth. At first we had an agreement to tag and release anything under 13.5 inches but that soon changed to release everything under 14.5 inches and finally it became a 15.5 inch rule. The Sea Bass average 3 - 5 pounds and we limited out in only 2 hours before heading back in beautifully calm seas.

- Will Bransom





10th ANNIVERSARY

Fishing Flea Market

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50/50

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March 9, 2019

8:00 am - 2:30 pm

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Chesapeake VA 23320



Chesapeake
Conference Center

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George - geva1963@cox.net 757-421-7333
Joe - mysteri2@cox.net 757-685-6823

You are invited to visit or join the best fishing club in Tidewater. Each month the club has a speaker to present an informative program on various local fishing topics. Check us out at www.fishgbfa.com

Or Visit facebook.com/GreatBridgeFishermansAssociation

Benefits include:

- Monthly Newsletter
- Annual Awards Banquet
- Fishing Tournaments (Boat & Surf)
- Special Events such as Oyster Roasts & Picnics
- Philanthropic Events to Benefit Organizations such as Hope House, Wish-A-Fish, & Sentara Nursing Home



26 FEB: I went fishing with Russell on Lake Whitehurst with the forecast being light winds out of the North then shifting to the East. With 53-degree wind and 48-degree water and north winds I knew it would be cold but fishable.

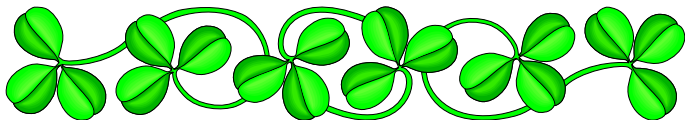
We went the last place we found crappie and could only locate small schools at first but drifted through them. Nothing for two drifts then on the third I hooked up to a small 3/4 lb. fish. Russell needed fish so it went in the box and we stayed there and in no time, I had a big one on my blue and white Bobby Garland tail. He weighed 1 lb. 10 oz. on my new digital scale and measured 14.5 inches, too small for a state release but big enough for a club weigh citation.

So, we continued to drift the area with first N winds under 5 mph then shifting to ESE at 6 mph. This seemed to really be the ticket and soon I had two more and Russell had two also. On the last drift in that direction I had another big one that again weighed 1 lb. 10 lb. and was 14 inches on my scale.

That was pretty much it for catching and while we tried other places that had bait, no fish. All caught on medium shiner on jigs with various rubber tails, mostly Bobby Garlands. Blue and white were best. I went to Ocean's East and both of my fish weighed by Zach were exactly what my scale said 1 lb. 10 oz.

Six fish in the box was good eating for Russell.

- Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower



Poquoson Kiwanis Club

**Boat Sale, Nautical Art Show,
Fishing Flea Market**

Saturday, March 16, 2019

8:00am – 1:00pm

Rain or Shine

Poquoson High School

51 Odd Road

Poquoson, VA 23662

Admission Fee: \$3 (Age 13 & up)



Activities

New & Used Boats

Boating Gear

New & Used Fishing Gear

Nautical Arts & Crafts

Refreshments & Food

For more information send e-mail

boat-fish-art@poquosonkiwanis.org

or visit our website:

http://www.poquosonkiwanis.org/Kiwanis/Flea_Market.html

Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/PBFFM>





5 FEB: Fishing with Bob: I went fishing with Bob Stuhlman in my V14 Tracker. Bob could only join me after 12:00 pm but he had picked up some shiners at Atlantic Bait and Tackle. I had to fix my flat tire on my trailer so half day trip was fine with me and we found no one in the parking lot.

We headed straight to the place I caught that big one the day before but this time the wind was lighter from the NE which presented a different and slower drift. Setting up deep again I hooked up on the first drift but it got off right at the boat. Two more drifts and I had another on which was a much heavier fish. It measured 14 inches but with no scale with us I decided to bet that it was at least 1 lb. 8 oz. minimum for a NAC weight minimum.

We continued to fish that spot but no joy for the rest of the daylight. We did try the spot I had caught the three crappies the day before but there was no wind at all there.

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NAUTICAL TERM #325

fully rigged:

State of your boat once you've got a Sea Tow membership.

The parking lot is closed at 5:00 pm by the Norfolk Police so we got off earlier since I had tried to buy a Norfolk Lakes Fishing Permit from OE but they didn't have anymore, sold out. But when I went there to weigh this big crappie he was exactly 1 lb. 8 oz. on the nose.

Turned out that I can send in the completed form from the City of Norfolk website with my \$10 with a copy of my driver's license. Keeping a copy on me until it is sent to me. My fishing partner did not catch anything. Just one pull down and shiner stolen. Well we just have to try again while the warm days last.

- Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower



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SEA TOW

11 FEB: I know this isn't the Chesapeake Bay, but it shows the results of 5 or 6 hours at a fishing hole off Key West.

We caught our max of 15 Mangrove Snappers, plus 3 other kinds of snappers. The winds were 15-20 knots, so we went to a "feeder channel" that drains the backcountry flats, about 5 miles east northeast of Key West.

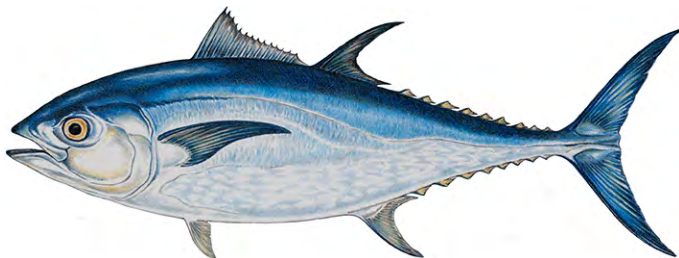
We used live shrimp, live pinfish, live ballyhoo, and frozen threadfin herring, and circle hooks, plus 7 foot medium rods.

The fish went after the bait a few seconds after casting. They tapped the bait and stole some before we could hook them. Plus at least one shark and barracudas took a few before we could get them aboard. Seems they only went after the big ones!

We threw a lot of non-keepers back, and hooked the sharks several times which gave us a ride before cutting the rig off.

I wish the Chesapeake Bay could be so prolific. It was a fun day!

- Hank Giffin



15 FEB: Jon and I went out working with the Canyon Runner team out of Oregon Inlet.

We started trolling about 40 miles off the coast around 5:30 am using everything from rigged ballyhoo to mackerel. We had our first hook up at 5:45 am and were broken off. Fortunately, at 6:15 am we hooked up to another fish ultimately landing an 89 inch 300 lbs Bluefin around 6:45 am.

It was a great learning experience and a lot of fun.

- Edward O'Brien



14 FEB: I took Mary cat fishing for Valentine's Day. We fished with John & George from the Coast Guard Auxiliary at the Surry Nuclear Power Plant discharge.

It was a beautiful day on the water and the fish cooperated with us all catching fish which were released. This is basic bottom fishing from an anchored boat positioned on the up-current edge of the visible discharge current from the plant. We had various cut bait from the bellies of stripers and tog previously caught and some old frozen bunker.

- Henry Troutner



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OFL
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 Addendum or Amendment?

AM
 Modern Fish Act

ACL
 Maximum Sustainable Yield

For better or worse, it's usually social media that alerts you to something amiss in your fishing world. A proposed regulation change or early season closure, sets you ablaze when all you want to do is fish. After all there's nothing wrong with your local fishing! As Recreational Anglers we often get frustrated by how change comes to fisheries management or the reason behind the regulations. Understanding the complexities of fisheries management at the federal, regional, or state level is NOT an easy task. There's a seemingly endless amount of acronyms and lengthy management plans replete with charts and graphs explaining everything, or nothing to the average angler. Whether driven by federal law, fishery management plans, or an emergent issue having a basic understanding of how the fishery management process works and what drives it is extremely important. Now more than ever, the federal, regional, and state fisheries managers want input from recreational anglers. Thankfully, the Gulf of Maine Research Institute developed the *Marine Resource Education Program* (MREP) to aid the recreational angling community in understanding fisheries management. Last March I had the chance to attend the MREP seminar and found it to be a fantastic opportunity. Exceptionally well executed, GMRI delivered the information for recreational anglers to understand the fisheries management process with representatives from the regulatory governing organizations, research institutes, fishing industry, and recreational anglers like you. The next MREP seminar is March 2019 and I encourage you to consider applying at <https://www.gmri.org/our-work/fisheries-convening/mrep-northeast>

- Captain Will Bransom





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MREP Greater Atlantic

MREP Greater Atlantic was created by fishermen, for fishermen. It provides an inside look at the fisheries science and management processes, demystifies the acronyms and vocabulary, and equips fishermen with the tools to engage in shaping regulatory action and participating in collaborative science. In a neutral setting, fishermen work through the 'how and why' of the whole process, meet the people behind agency jobs, and share important feedback from the fishing community.

The program is offered as a series of workshops that build upon each other: a three-day Fishery Science Workshop, followed by a three-day Fishery Management Workshop. Presenters are drawn from NMFS Regional Office and Science Center, the Fishery Management Councils, research institutions, and the fishing community. Workshops are designed and held as a collaborative effort, with members of the community moderating the meeting and assisting fellow fishermen to articulate issues, keeping the discussion real.

Participants leave the workshops with better understanding of how, when and where to engage effectively in fishery management.


[Apply](#)
[Apply for an upcoming MREP workshop online today. You may also complete and mail in a printed application.](#)

MREP Greater Atlantic

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Workshops



Fisheries Science & Management for Recreational Anglers
 March 26–28, 2019
 Hanover, MD

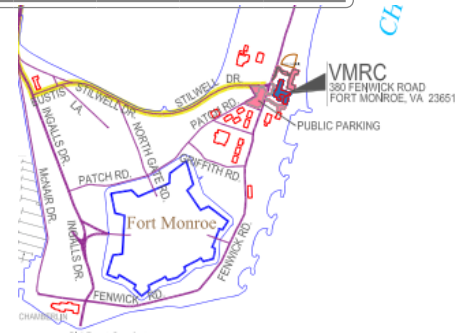
Norfolk Anglers Club

Angler Interests



Virginia Marine Resource Commission has Moved!

The Virginia Marine Resource Commission has relocated their offices to Fort Monroe. Their new location is 380 Fenwick Road, Bldg. 96, Fort Monroe, VA 23651



Norfolk Anglers Club Food Drive.....We never stop collecting



Foodbank
of Southeastern Virginia
and the Eastern Shore

The Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore was pleased to receive the non-perishable food items we've been collecting at the meetings. As a club, we can certainly do more for those who could use our help.

Items always in need; Lean Canned Protein (Peanut Butter, Tuna, Chicken, Turkey, Beans), Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Fruit Preserves and Dried Fruit, Whole Grains (Pasta, Oatmeal, Rice, Crackers), Other Meals (Stew, Boxed Meals, Canned Pasta), and Baby Products (Formula, Baby Food, Diapers, and Wipes).

We'll have a box for your donations at the door. So take a moment while you're out shopping to pick up a few of the items and bring them to the meeting. We'll take care of getting them to the Food Bank. Thank You for all you've contributed so far.

February Recreational Black Sea Bass Season has ended, March 15th Deadline for Reporting



For the second year the Virginia Marine Resource Commission opened February for recreational Black Sea Bass. Initial reports indicate that 109 Private, Charter, and Headboat trips were reported (up from 64 trips in 2018) and more than 1200 biological samples were collected. Anglers are reminded that participation in the February Sea

Bass season required the Captain of each vessel to report the vessel's catch for each trip taken. Reporting is easy through the Virginia Saltwater Journal (www.vasaltwaterjournal.com). Reporting deadline is March 15th and reporting trips targeting Sea Bass but unsuccessful is important as well. For those who acquired a Sea Bass landing permit but didn't fish, please make your "No Activity" report through the Saltwater Journal.

Virginia was one of only a few states that opened the Sea Bass fishery for recreational harvest in February. Getting the landing permit and making your report is vital to the VMRC Fisheries gaining a better understanding of the early Sea Bass fishery and implementing regulations that expand recreational fishing opportunities while protecting our natural resources.

Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC) meeting in Virginia Beach



The Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council will hold their next rescheduled meeting in Virginia Beach. The Council will meet March, 6-7, 2019 in Virginia Beach, VA. The meeting will be held at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront (3001 Atlantic Avenue, Virginia Beach, VA 23151, 757-213-3000). Meetings are open to the public.

