

Can't wait for it to warm up!



February 2013

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Next Membership Meeting: February 26, 2013 - 7:00 PM

Skilligalee Restaurant
Glenside Ave. just North of Broad Street
Come ~ 5:30 PM and enjoy good
company over dinner from the menu



BACKLASH

*Commentary from the
Board of Directors*
-By John Wetlaufer, Sr.

FEBRUARY PROGRAM – FISHING LAKE ANNA

“C. C.” McCotter of McCotter’s Lake Anna Guide service will present a program titled “C.C. McCotter And The Lessons Of 2,500 Days On Lake Anna”. Currently, based on Entry Card submissions and “dock talk”, there is no known active fishing on Lake Anna by any VAC Member. Lake Anna is a local angling resource that makes an easy one day trip and produces many fine catches. For more information about “C. C.”, please see page 5 of this issue of The Angler.

MARCH PROGRAM

Capt. Chris Newsome - Shallow Water Chumming

NEXT TOURNAMENT

Virginia Yellow Perch: February 23 -24
(blow date following weekend)

A complete rundown on this tournament by Tournament Chairman Lee Rothgeb will be found on page 10 of this issue of The Angler.

TYSON CLARY VOTED INTO MEMBERSHIP

Tyson Clary was voted into Membership in the Virginia Anglers Club at the February Board of Directors Meeting. Tyson was a guest at the November 2011 Membership Meeting. Business commitments kept him from being able to continue toward membership at that time. In January 2012, Tyson was able to pursue Membership and contacted President Glenn Carter. Please welcome Tyson into membership when you see him next. A brief bio about Tyson appears on page 5 of this issue.



**XSCAPE DESIGNS BACKPACK
TACKLE BAG**

Once in a while a neat piece of angling gear will catch your eye and is worth a look. Check this backpack tackle bag out with a "Google". It has promise to make carrying fishing gear a more pleasant task. View the details on page 7 of this Angler.

**COLUMBIA BONEHEAD™
SHIRT DELIVERY
FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Storekeeper Eddy Johnston will have your custom ordered shirts at the February Membership Meeting. See him at the Country Store. Thanks, Eddy, for organizing this special opportunity to purchase these fine-quality, embroidered shirts. TERMS = CASH ON DELIVERY

DUES FOR 2013 ARE DUE NOW !

Annual dues for Members residing in Virginia are \$60.00 and are \$40.00 for members residing outside of Virginia. No dues are collected from complimentary, honorary or life members

For payment by PayPal, go the Member's Area of the VAC website, www.virginiaanglersclub.org and follow the instructions at the PayPal boxes (resident or non-resident)

For payment by check, please make out a check to "The Virginia Anglers Club", write "2013 Dues" on the Memo line and mail the check to:

The Virginia Anglers Club
PO Box 31494
Richmond, VA 23294-1494

Note: If you have not made your renewal by February 28, 2013, any Entry Card submitted after that date will automatically be disqualified and not put into the VAC database. Once the dues in arrears are paid, credit for entries will be resumed.

**SCALE CERTIFICATION COMING UP AT
FEBRUARY MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

The annual certification of your fishing scales, required for use when submitting an entry into the VAC records and awards system will start at the February Membership Meeting, February 26, 2013. "Same Evening" service is available.

Remember the following scale preparation pointers:

- Be sure your scales are operating freely and free of rust.
- Clean the outside of the barrel so certification stickers will adhere
- Gather your scales together in one or two Zip Lock type bags.
- Write your name on the outside of the bag.
- Leave your bagged scales on the certification team's table.



TRACK GENERAL ASSEMBLY BILLS

The General Assembly is in Session now and will be considering many bills that will affect sportsmen and women in some way or another. The below links will get you to all of the tracking information House and Senate for Bills related to the mission of the DGIF.

Outdoor Activity Bill Tracking: <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/legislation/>

E-Mail Your Delegate or Senator; <http://conview.state.va.us/whosmy.nsf/main?openform>

You may also contact the Virginia General Assembly's Constituent Viewpoint Comment line toll-free at 1-800-889-0229 or (804) 698-1990 (in Richmond).

VAC MEMBERS SNAG FOUR (4) FLY ROD WORLD RECORDS

If you are a member of the IGFA, you will find Billy Nicar's and Jim Sheffield's new IFGA World Record catches listed on page 46 of the Jan/Feb/Mar 2012 of the International Angler, the quarterly magazine of the IGFA. Congratulations to Billy and Jim on these nice catches on fly rod.

Billy's Record catches were:

- Blue Catfish on 12 lb. tippet, 25 lbs. 8 oz., James River, VA
- Flathead Catfish on 16 lb. tippet, 31 lbs. 0 oz., James Rover, VA
- Red Ear Sunfish on 2 lb. tippet, 1 lb. 8 oz. , W. Branch Reservoir, VA

Jim's Record catch was:

- Hickory Shad on 4 lb. tippet, 2 lb., 9 oz., Weldon, NC

AWARDS BANQUET HONORS 2012 VAC AWARD WINNERS

Over seventy-five awards were presented at the 2012 Annual Awards Banquet held at Sam Miller's Restaurant. Thanks to Banquet Chairman, Eddy Johnston, for his attention to the details that made this evening in the "Slip" the enjoyable event it was. For the first time in recorded raffle history, the Nolands got "skunked". This year, lady luck looked favorably on the following raffle winners:

- Larry Allen Bill Gallasch Fly Box
- Rob Choi Capt. Ronnie Sides Fly Box
- Fred Murray Shimano Sahara 3000 Reel (Green Top donation)
- Fred Murray Rob Choi Speckled Trout Print

For a complete listing of the award winners for the 2012 Angling Year, please check the Member's Area of the VAC web-site, (www.virginiaanglersclub.org).

For The Leadership Team
John Wetlaufer, Sr., Secretary



“Catchy Comments”

By Buddy Noland

The past several months have been somewhat of a disappointment for the coastal Striper and Bluefin Tuna fishery off the Virginian coast. The Stripers have been a “hit and miss” season with the mass of the fishery staying from 5 to 15 miles off the beach outside the 3 mile coastal limit. The Striper fishermen have also been extra cautious this year about venturing outside the coastal “limit” since several charter captains were “busted” last year and have faced severe punishment.

The Bluefin tuna fishery off Virginia has slowed this year also with just a few large Bluefins landed. Lately, a few of the tuna were caught as far down as Hatteras. Recently, the National Marine Fisheries Service issued a notice effective Feb 15, 2013, to close the “General category” fishery for large medium and giant (73” curved fork length or greater) based on the latest landing information. This season will automatically open again on June 1, 2013 and run through August. Fishermen are allowed to “catch and release” if they are up to the task!

Fishing in Florida is nice this time of the year as proven by **Parks Rountrey** and his wife **Karen**. They were fishing the waters off Fort Lauderdale on January 15th when **Parks** landed a 9 pound Cero Mackerel for a new Club Record for the “20 pound general” category. The catch is worth 120 points and was caught using live bait.

The Chickahominy River has been heating up lately as indicated by the recent entries. **Mike Cline** and **Robbie Robinson** have been fishing the Chick for the last several weeks and have taken the lead in 3 “species” and “heaviest” categories. **Mike** first entered a 1 pound, 11 ounce, Crappie worth 267 points and a 3 pound, 7 ounce, Largemouth Bass for 229 points on “blade baits” using 2# plug tackle for January. In February, **Mike** had two additional entries, a 1 pound Yellow Perch on 2# spin and a Club Record 4 pound, 10 ounce, Chain Pickerel worth 462 points. The Pickerel was landed on 2# plug using a “blade bait” and also leads the “fresh-water plug division”. In kicking off this season, it appears that **Mike** is doing all the catching and **Robbie** the netting. But that all can change!

Bob Brown and **Parks** have also been catching Yellow Perch on the Chickahominy River. **Bob** landed a 1 pound, 1 ounce, Perch on a grub tail using 2# spin worth 279 points and for the “species” and “spin division” leads. **Parks** takes over the “heaviest” and “general division” leads for his 1 pound, 3 ounce, Yellow Perch on a live minnow.

The upcoming “Yellow Perch Tournament” should be interesting!

Keeping it reel,

Buddy



25.5" Elizabeth River Speckled Trout



FEBRUARY PROGRAM

“C.C. McCotter and The Lessons of 2500 Days on Lake Anna”

C.C. McCotter will present an illustrated program about fishing the close by waters of Lake Anna. C.C. operated McCotter’s Lake Anna Guide Service. He has been guiding for 18 of his 25 years of fishing on Lake Anna and knows an amazing amount of information about what the Lake can offer the angler. C.C. has been featured in BASSMaster, Fishing Facts, BASSIN’, CRAPPIE, InFisherman, Virginia Game & Fish, Woods & Waters and many other magazines. C.C. is an active steward of the Lake and is the director of the annual Fish Structure Enhancement Program with 12 structure creations or enhancements to his and his fellow volunteers credits. He also initiated, the annual Lake Anna Cup Invitational which has become one of the most prestigious events on the lake to win. You can follow his day-to-day guiding at www.mccotterslakeanna.blogspot.com and learn more about his guide service at <http://mccotterslakeanna.com>.

MEET VAC’S MOST RECENT MEMBER – TYSON CLARY

Tyson grew up in Prince George, VA and current resides in Richmond. He is a graduate of VCU with a degree in Business Administration and Management and is employed by Financial Service of Virginia as a financial advisor. Tyson’s angling history is mostly in freshwater. He listed a 24”, 8 lb. large-mouth as his notable freshwater catch. He did take a shot at saltwater angling and has a 72 pound yellow fin tuna and a 55 pound cobia to his credit. Tyson is anxious to learn all he can about angling. He does not have a boat, so if you have an opening one day, please include Tyson in your plans.





NEED “FIP” FOR YOUR NEXT SALTWATER TRIP??

Do you remember the FIP? Starting January 1, 2011 for the Virginia Marine Resources Commission has required saltwater anglers over 16 to register, with the Virginia Fisherman Identification Program (FIP). The FIP requirement does not apply to holders of an annual salt water recreational fishing license issued by the VMRC. Adult anglers over 65 who fish saltwater must register annually at no cost. Online registration is available on VMRC’s website. To register by phone, call toll-free 1-800-723-2728. For more information, visit VMRC’s website or contact VMRC at (757) 247-2200.

VIRGINIA RESERVOIRS RANKED FOR LARGEMOUTH BASS FISHING

VDGIF aquatic biologists spend considerable effort and resources to manage, enhance, and protect largemouth bass populations in Virginia’s public fishing reservoirs, lakes, and ponds. Most of these waters are sampled each year, or every few years, to assess current largemouth bass population parameters such as age and growth, spawning success, and size distribution. These population samples are generally collected using daytime, boat electrofishing gear targeting largemouth bass and are conducted in a manner that allows several comparisons to be made concerning fish populations. VDGIF Bureau of Wildlife Resources Aquatic Biologist Dan Michaelson notes, “ Since many Virginia anglers target largemouth bass, and fish larger than 15 inches are considered “preferred” nationwide; the following summary contains information about bass over 15 inches (preferred size). View the largemouth bass ranking table!

NEW IMPOUNDMENT AND SMALLMOUTH BASS RIVER FISHING FORECASTS RELEASED ON VDGIF WEBSITE

Virginia has extremely diverse aquatic ecosystems found over varied geographic regions, from the Lowland Coastal Plain to the rugged topography of the Appalachian Plateau. Over 176,000 acres of public lakes, primarily man-made impoundments, and 28,300 miles of fishable streams (1,000 miles tidal) provide fishing opportunities for more than 600,000 licensed anglers. Virginia’s 24 man-made large impoundments (>500 acres) are spread throughout the state and provide the public with over 139,000 acres of quality fishing. These impoundments range in size from 510 to 48,900 acres and were built by various federal, state, or private entities for flood control, water supply, hydroelectric generation, and /or recreation. Additionally, Virginia has over 40,000 miles of streams. This important resource includes approximately 25,000 miles (1,000 miles are tidal) of fishable warm water streams which support a great diversity of freshwater fish species and provide excellent sport fishing opportunities. Included here is the 2013 fishing forecast for selected large impoundments (>500 acres) and rivers representing all the physiographic regions of the Commonwealth. For more information on Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries (VDGIF) managed rivers, streams and impoundments of all sizes, please visit our website.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE JAN/FEB/MAR IGFA INTERNATIONAL ANGLER

The first IGFA Great Marlin Race was won by a blue marlin tagged in Puerto Rico with a satellite tag and swam 4776 nautical miles from Puerto Rico to the lower west coast of Africa. This is the longest recorded distance for any marlin tagged with a satellite tag.

SOME OUTDOOR SHOWS WORTH A LOOK

- **February 22-24, 26th** Western Virginia Sports Show, Augusta Expoland, Fishersville
- **March 2,** Rapidan Trout Unlimited Chapter Fishing Show at Fauquier County Fairgrounds, Warrenton

XSCAPE DESIGNS BACKPACK TACKLE BAG

Once in a while a neat piece of angling gear will catch your eye and is worth a look. Check this backpack tackle bag out with a “Google”. It has promised to make carrying fishing gear a more pleasant task.

The Xscape Backpack Tackle Bag offers anglers a hands free solution for transporting gear on long excursions (fishing the barrier islands of the Eastern Shore?). The top compartment contains 3 large zippered



storage areas for tools, GPS or even a change of clothes, while the bottom houses three 360-sized clear lure trays. All 3 are constructed of a heavy duty ABS plastic with durable 2-piece snap/lock yellow tabs. Each tray contains 17 individual compartments that can be rearranged and customized using the 14 removable partitions. Just slide this pack on your back and you'll be amazed at how comfortable it truly is, thanks to a contouring padded back and adjustable waist belt that evenly distributes the load between your shoulders and waist. Simply remove the three lure trays and this bag becomes the perfect backpack for air travel. Other added conveniences include ergonomic padded shoulder straps for easy carrying, side mounted zipper and tool storage for quick access and none-corrosive zippers for easy entry. Dimensions: 8" L x 13.5" W x 19"H Weight: 3.5 lbs. « less

HELP KEEP ANGLING LEGAL – REPORT VIOLATIONS

Freshwater

If you suspect or witness an angling or hunting violation, report it to VADGIF Wildlife Crimeline at 1-800-237-5712.

Saltwater

If you have a need to report to the VA Marine Resources Commission any emergency, boating accident or other violation, call the Marine Police Dispatch Center toll free at 1-800-541-4646



Ross Holsclaw, Fred Cousins, and David Nobles



Mr. & Mrs. Buddy Noland



Parks & Claire



Johnny Wetlaufer

2012
VAC
Awards
Banquet



Ross Holsclaw



Fred Cousins



Bob Shepherd



New Officers



Lee Rothgeb



Fred Murray, Vic Skakandy (telling a story), and Don West



Fred Cousins



Stuart Lee

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TOURNAMENT NEWS



BY LEE ROTHGEB

YELLOW PERCH TOURNAMENT

FEBRUARY 23-24

(NOTE DATE CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS MARCH DATE)

BASED ON WEATHER AND RECENT EARLY PERCH ACTIVITY WE HAVE DECIDED TO MOVE UP THE DATE ON THIS TOURNAMENT TO LATE FEBRUARY.

DON'T LET A LITTLE COLD WEATHER GIVE YOU CABIN FEVER - ITS PERCH TIME! THIS TOURNAMENT IS OPEN TO ALL VIRGINIA WATERS. POPULAR SPOTS INCLUDE THE CHICKAHOMINY AND MATTAPONI RIVERS. YOU ARE LIKELY TO SEE SOME OF YOUR FELLOW CLUB MEMBERS GROUPED IN A FEW POPULAR SPOTS ON THE CHICK. LAST YEAR THE PERCH BITE WAS TOP NOTCH IN LATE FEBRUARY AND VERY EARLY MARCH AND MANY FISH OVER 1 LB. WERE CAUGHT. IT'S ALWAYS A FUN EVENT AND FISHING IS USUALLY FAIRLY DEPENDABLE IF WEATHER CONDITIONS CO-OPERATE AND OUR TIMING IS RIGHT. CONTACT CHAIRMAN TO CONFIRM EVENT IF WEATHER IS QUESTIONABLE.

WE WILL RECOGNIZE THREE PLACES FOR HEAVIEST WEIGHT FISH AND THREE PLACES FOR HIGHEST POINT FISH. FIRST = 3 PTS. SECOND = 2 PTS. THIRD = 1 PT. THESE POINTS WILL APPLY TOWARDS THE ANNUAL TOURNAMENT ANGLER OF THE YEAR COMPETITION.

A FISH CAN BE ENTERED BY WEIGHT OR POINTS OR BOTH IN ONE CATEGORY BUT NOT BOTH WAYS FOR 1 FISH. (ANGLER MUST DECLARE WHICH CATEGORY FOR EACH ENTRY)

ONE ANGLER CAN WIN BOTH WEIGHT AND POINTS DIVISIONS BY ENTERING 2 DIFFERENT FISH.

CALL IN OR E-MAIL ENTRIES WITHIN 1 DAY FROM END OF TOURNAMENT TO OUR NEW ANGLING ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN LEE ROTHGEB (GARBAKK1021@AOL.COM) OR (804) 314-2990. YOU CANNOT CHANGE THE ENTRY CATEGORY ONCE YOU HAVE REGISTERED IT WITH THE CHAIRMAN.

TOURNAMENT FIRST PLACE AWARDS FOR WEIGHT AND POINTS = ANGLERS CHOICE: TRADITIONAL PEWTER CUP, \$40 GREEN TOP GIFT CERTIFICATE OR A VAC BANQUET TICKET.

VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 2/14/13

| SPECIES | ANGLER | WEIGHT | LN | DIV. | PTS | DATE | LOCATION | BAIT |
|--|--------------|--------|----|------|--|----------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 2013 SPECIES LEADERS - SALTWATER | | | | | | | | |
| BASS, STRIPED | F. Cousins | 45-0 | 4 | Gen | 750 | 12/17/12 | Chesapeake Bay, VA | Live Eel |
| SEATROUT, SPOTTED | F. Cousins | 4-2 | 2 | Spin | 275 | 12/28/12 | Elizabeth River, VA | Mirrolure |
| 2013 SPECIES LEADERS - FRESHWATER | | | | | | | | |
| BASS, LARGEMOUTH | M Cline | 3-7 | 2 | Plug | 229 | 1/20/13 | Chickahominy River, VA | Blade Bait |
| CATFISH, BLUE | A. Conway | 10-0 | 4 | Spin | 133 | 12/14/12 | Chickahominy Lake, VA | Bass Pro Blade Bait |
| CRAPPIE, ALL | M Cline | 1-11 | 2 | Plug | 267 | 1/12/13 | Chickahominy River, VA | Blade Bait |
| PERCH, YELLOW | RJ Brown | 1-1 | 2 | Spin | 279 | 1/22/13 | Chickahominy River, VA | Grub Tail |
| PICKERAL, CHAIN | M Cline | 4-10 | 2 | Plug | 462 | 2/2/13 | Chickahominy River, VA | Blade Bait |
| 2013 DIVISION LEADERS - SALTWATER | | | | | | | | |
| SEATROUT, SPOTTED | F. Cousins | 4-2 | 2 | Spin | 275 | 12/28/12 | Elizabeth River, VA | Mirrolure |
| SEATROUT, SPOTTED | S. Lee | 4-12 | 8 | Plug | 158 | 12/4/12 | James River, VA | Zoom Cluke |
| SEATROUT, SPOTTED | S. Lee | 5-0 | 8 | Fly | 208 | 12/24/12 | James River, VA | Half and Half |
| BASS, STRIPED | F. Cousins | 45-0 | 4 | Gen | 750 | 12/17/12 | Chesapeake Bay, VA | Live Eel |
| 2013 DIVISION LEADERS - FRESHWATER | | | | | | | | |
| PERCH, YELLOW | RJ Brown 1-1 | 2 | 2 | Spin | 279 | 1/22/13 | Chickahominy River, VA | Grub Tail |
| PICKERAL, CHAIN | M Cline 4-10 | 2 | 2 | Plug | 462 | 2/2/13 | Chickahominy River, VA | Blade Bait |
| PERCH, YELLOW | JP Rountrey | 1-3 | 2 | Gen | 252 | 1/20/13 | Chickahominy River, VA | Live Minnow |
| 2013 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - SALTWATER | | | | | 2013 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - FRESHWATER | | | |
| BASS, STRIPED | F. Cousins | 45-0 | | | | | | BASS, LARGEMOUTH M Cline 3-7 |
| SEATROUT, SPOTTED | S. Lee | 5-0 | | | | | | CATFISH, BLUE A. Conway 10-0 |
| | | | | | | | | CRAPPIE, ALL M Cline 1-11 |
| | | | | | | | | PERCH, YELLOW JP Rountrey 1-3 |
| | | | | | | | | PICKERAL, CHAIN M Cline 4-10 |
| NEW CLUB RECORDS - SALTWATER | | | | | | | | |
| SEATROUT, SPOTTED | S. Lee | 4-12 | 8 | Plug | 158 | 12/4/12 | James River, VA | Zoom Cluke |
| SEATROUT, SPOTTED | S. Lee | 5-0 | 8 | Fly | 208 | 12/24/12 | James River, VA | Half and Half |
| BASS, STRIPED | F. Cousins | 45-0 | 4 | Gen | 750 | 12/17/12 | Chesapeake Bay, VA | Live Eel |
| MACKEREL, CERO | JP Rountrey | 9-0 | 20 | Gen | 120 | 1/15/13 | Fort Lauderdale, FL | Live Bait |
| NEW CLUB RECORDS - FRESHWATER | | | | | | | | |
| PICKERAL, CHAIN | M Cline | 4-10 | 2 | Plug | 462 | 2/2/13 | Chickahominy River, VA | Blade Bait |
| HIGHEST POINT NON-LOCAL CATCHES - SALTWATER | | | | | | | | |
| MACKEREL, CERO | JP Rountrey | 9-0 | 20 | Gen | 120 | 1/15/13 | Fort Lauderdale, FL | Live Bait |

Robert Thomas

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Design and Layout: Rob Choi

**NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday, February 26th at Skilligalee Restaurant**



P.O. BOX 31494
RICHMOND VA 23294-1494