



May 2002

May Meeting

The May meeting will be held at the *Dept. of Fish & Game Building*, 4010 West Broad Street at **7:00 pm, Tuesday, May 28th**. The entrance and parking are at the rear of the building.

Shad at Watkins Landing?? Maybe.....

Are you wondering if shad have made it up to Watkins Landing and if it Watkins will become a new hot spot for shad on the James, then come to the June Membership Meeting. Kicked off with the Sorta Annual Country Store Pre-Owned Tackle Extravaganza (weather permitting), the May 28th Member Meeting speaker will be Alan Weaver, the DGIF's Fish Passage Coordinator. Those of you who have watched the Shadcam recently have probably seen a nice increase in fish on the way up stream (to the right on the image). Alan will put this activity in perspective for is. Take a minute to catch sight of this migration by checking out the Shadcam feature on the DGIF's web site.

Alan looks after the operation and maintenance of the Boshers Dam Fish Passage, the Shad Cam and has a significant role in the fish passage work on the planned fish passage on the Appamatox River in Petersburg and is working with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers on the removal

Fish Tales:

Dennis Cline shows us how he plays the drums.



of the Emry Dam up in Fredericksburg. Alan will discuss how the Bother's Dam fish passage is doing, what is necessary in maintaining the facility and what has been noted in terms of passage of fish to the 120 or so miles of the James River now open to them above the fish passage. Alan looks after sampling of fish below the 14th street bridge to establish a base point for comparison of fish seen up at the Bother's Dam fish passage.

Alan attended Geneva College in Beaver, PA and received his Masters in Aquatic Ecology from Virginia Commonwealth University right here in Richmond. Alan worked with the former Virginia Water Control Board and the moved on to the State of Florida where he worked as a fisheries biologist. Alan has been with the DGIF since 1993.

CATCHY COMMENTS by Dennis Cline



Saltwater fishing has really turned on, especially in the surf. Red drum action started on April 26th and has not let up. So far, ten club members have released a staggering 102 red drum back into the surf!! I don't have a count on the number of black drum, but estimate at least 40 releases in the surf so far!! The hot rod belongs to **Bob Shepherd**, who has the largest red drum at 50-0 and the new club record for black drum at 32-0. As if that weren't good enough, Bob also nailed the top flounder so far this year. It was a true "doormat" that weighed in at 6-8, and was caught on 4 general!

Some of the other nice drum include **Scott Davis'** 49-8, my 48-0, **Fred Murray's** 47-0, **Glenn Carter's** 41-0, **Jonathan Butrico's** 40-0, **LeRoy**

CATCHY COMMENTS

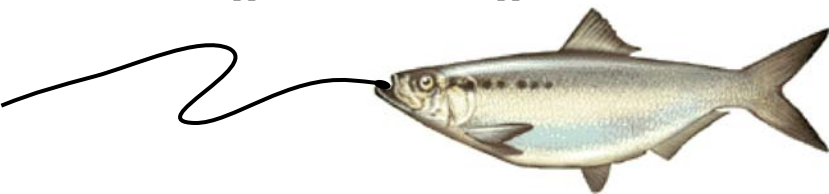
(continued)

Houser's pair of 39-0's and **Fred Cousin's** 39-0. The best surf caught black drum also include **Fred Murray's** 27-0 and **Fred Cousin's** 25-8. Here's hoping the spring drum season lasts into June, as usual. I am concerned that it may end sooner if the water continues to heat up.

Master Angler, **Mickey Kodroff**, is closing in on a VAC milestone!! On a recent trip to Lake Gaston with **Dr. Greg South**, "The Mick" released a 7-0 landlocked striper on 4 plug. If my records are correct, he is now just one fish away from earning his Freshwater Expert rating. In doing so, Mickey will become the only club member to earn every rating!! You have probably guessed that the last fish he needs is the elusive musky or northern pike. The question is what will he do for an encore, once he gets it? Maybe we need to add another rating like "Super Master Angler" or "Master Angler Esquire". Or maybe he would rather just fish for the fun of it!

Scott Davis made a believer of me with his super-duper flounder rigs. It didn't take me long to beg some off him. I mean, who wouldn't? We gave them nicknames like the Halloween rig, pink lady and green weeny. It was the green weeny that caught the attention of a 5-3 for Scott. I tested them further after Scott went home and managed a 4-11 of my own. If it weren't for Shepherd's 6-8 on some unknown rig, Scott could corner the market!

Scott also makes the news with two new club records. While fly-fishing in a Chesterfield county private pond, he started losing his Mickey Finns. Turns out that they looked very appealing to some cruiser class channel catfish!! Scott's new records are for a 4-13 on 2# tippet and a 7-8 on 4# tippet!



Reel Repair Available

It is always tough finding someone to clean, oil and repair good fishing reels. Well, Club member **Eric Houser** is now in business to do this for you. He works on Shimano, Garcia, Penn and other quality equipment. He also puts in the amazing "smoothie" drag washers. He recently did a bunch of reels for Parks Rountrey and Glenn Carter, and we were very pleased with the work and the price. Call Eric at 276-0380 if you need his services.

Annual Country Store Pre-owned TACKLE EXTRAVAGANZA to be Held May 28th

The Sorta Annual Country Store Pre-Owned Tackle Extravaganza will take place at the first part of the May 2002 Membership Meeting. Bring that unused gear, rods, reels, tackle, garment items or whatever with you to the May 28th meeting and offer it for sale. Sales will be off the back of vehicles in the parking lot outside the meeting location. Pre-pricing items will be helpful and should make the sale move along more at a good pace. If weather is not favorable for the sale to be held outside, it will be rescheduled for a later date. Come early and set up early. You never know what gold lurks in the dark corners of your basement, attic or garage in the form of preowned fishing gear. Don't dwell on quality. You never know what another member's treasure will be.


The Sale is also your chance to round out your collection of gear, tackle reels and rods. Bring cash on your hip and spend it lavishly. Try to arrange to have some change with you because like you, the members selling stuff are not the Federal Reserve and exact change is always appreciated.

New IGFA Junior Angler Species

Dr. Jim Wright wants club members to be aware that spadefish and albacore have been added to the Junior Angler world record program. This will go into effect July 15. This may be a good chance to help a youngster have the thrill of setting a World Record!

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Virginia Anglers Club

VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 5/14/02

SPECIES	ANGLER	WEIGHT	LN	DIV.	DATE	LOCATION	PTS	BAIT
2002 SPECIES LEADERS - SALTWATER								
BASS, STRIPED	R.L. WHITE	34-0	4	PLUG	01/12/02	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	680	BUCKTAIL
BLUEFISH	D.N. NOLAND	12-8	4	PLUG	12/23/01	RUDEE INLET, VA	312	BUCKTAIL
DRUM, BLACK	B. SHEPHERD	32-0		SURF	05/10/02	EASTERN SHORE, VA	266	PEELER CRAB
DRUM, RED	B. SHEPHERD	50-0		SURF	05/01/02	EASTERN SHORE, VA	357	PEELER CRAB
FLOUNDER	B. SHEPHERD	6-8	4	GEN	05/10/02	EASTERN SHORE, VA	325	MINNOW
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F. COUSINS	3-0	2	SPIN	01/26/02	ELIZABETH RIVER, VA	200	FIN-S

2002 SPECIES LEADERS - FRESHWATER

BASS, LARGEMOUTH	W.S. JOHNSTON	3-6	2	SPIN	03/07/02	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	225	JIG/TAIL
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	G. CARTER	4-9	2	SPIN	02/25/02	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	456	SMOKE GRUB
BASS, STRIPED (LL)	M. KODROFF	7-0	4	PLUG	04/24/02	LAKE GASTON, VA	175	RICO(TOPWTR)
BASS, WHITE	R. MATTHEWS	1-2	2	SPIN	03/09/02	YADKIN RIVER, NC	150	SASSY SHAD
BOWFIN	B. SHEPHERD	4-1	2	SPIN	01/27/02	YARMOUTH CREEK, VA	203	JIG
CARP	E.S. ROBINSON	7-4	2	SPIN	01/27/02	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	241	SILVER BUDDY
CATFISH, BLUE	D. CLINE	55-0	4	GEN	03/09/02	JAMES RIVER, VA	687	CUT SHAD
CATFISH, CHANNEL	S. DAVIS	7-8	4	FLY	04/24/02	PRIVATE POND, CHFLD,VA	272	MICKEY FINN
CRAPPIE	ROB ROBINSON	2-0	2	SPIN	01/31/02	JAMES RIVER, VA	320	TUBE JIG
GAR	R. MATTHEWS	7-4	2	SPIN	03/09/02	YADKIN RIVER, NC	263	GRUB
PERCH, WHITE	F. COUSINS	1-0	2	FLY	04/19/02	JAMES RIVER, VA	320	SHAD FLY
PERCH, YELLOW	L. HOUSER	1-8	2	SPIN	03/02/02	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	400	ROADRUNNER
PICKEREL, CHAIN	B. HENDERSON	3-8	2	SPIN	02/09/02	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	350	SILVER BUDDY
SHAD, AMERICAN	D. CLINE	3-4	2	FLY	04/24/02	NOTTOWAY RIVER, VA	288	SHAD FLY
SHAD, HICKORY	M. KODROFF	3-0	2	FLY	03/14/02	ROANOKE RIVER, NC	400	SHAD FLY
SUNFISH	ROB ROBINSON	0-15	2	FLY	02/15/02	ELLY'S POND, VA	300	POPP'N BUG
TROUT, BROOK	B.L. NOLAND	2-9	2	FLY	12/02/01	MEADOW RUN CREEK, VA	410	WOOLYBUGGR
TROUT, BROWN	J.P. ROUNTREY	2-8	4	FLY	12/18/01	SMITH CREEK, VA	166	NYMPH
TROUT, RAINBOW	R. MATTHEWS	6-4	2	SPIN	12/22/01	CRIPPLE CREEK, VA	625	SPINNER

2002 DIVISION LEADERS - SALTWATER

BLUEFISH	D.N. NOLAND	11-8	6	FLY	12/23/01	RUDEE INLET, VA	287	CLOUSER
BASS, STRIPED	R.L. WHITE	20-0	4	GEN	01/12/02	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	333	BUCKTAIL
BASS, STRIPED	R.L. WHITE	34-0	4	PLUG	01/12/02	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	680	BUCKTAIL
BASS, STRIPED	D. CLINE	14-0	6	SPIN	12/29/01	CBBT HIGHRISE, VA	215	CRIPPLHERRNG
BASS, STRIPED	D. CLINE	43-0		SURF	12/23/01	EASTERN SHORE, VA	430	LIVE EEL

2002 DIVISION LEADERS - FRESHWATER

TROUT, BROOK	B.L. NOLAND	2-9	2	FLY	12/02/01	MEADOW RUN CREEK, VA	410	WOOLYBUGGR
CATFISH, BLUE	D. CLINE	55-0	4	GEN	03/09/02	JAMES RIVER, VA	687	CUT SHAD
SHAD, HICKORY	M. KODROFF	3-4	4	PLUG	03/14/02	ROANOKE RIVER, NC	325	DART
TROUT, RAINBOW	R. MATTHEWS	6-4	2	SPIN	12/22/01	CRIPPLE CREEK, VA	625	SPINNER

NEW CLUB RECORDS - SALTWATER

BASS, STRIPED	R.L. WHITE	20-0	4	GEN	01/12/02	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	333	BUCKTAIL
BASS, STRIPED	R.L. WHITE	34-0	4	PLUG	01/12/02	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	680	BUCKTAIL
BASS, STRIPED	F. COUSINS	26-0	6	PLUG	01/12/02	VIRGINIA BEACH, VA	400	BUCKTAIL
BASS, STRIPED	L.J. SPURLIN	29-0	12	PLUG	01/09/02	RUDEE INLET, VA	241	BUCKTAIL
BASS, STRIPED	D. CLINE	43-0		SURF	12/23/01	EASTERN SHORE, VA	430	LIVE EEL
DRUM, BLACK	B. SHEPHERD	32-0		SURF	05/10/02	EASTERN SHORE, VA	266	PEELER CRAB

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VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 5/14/02 (continued)

SPECIES	ANGLER	WEIGHT	LN	DIV.	DATE	LOCATION	PTS	BAIT
NEW CLUB RECORDS - FRESHWATER								
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	G. CARTER	3-7	6	FLY	02/25/02	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	250	CLOUSER
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	G. CARTER	4-2	6	PLUG	02/23/02	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	253	MODEL A
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	G. CARTER	4-9	2	SPIN	02/25/02	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	456	SMOKE GRUB
CATFISH, BLUE	D. CLINE	55-0	4	GEN	03/09/02	JAMES RIVER, VA	687	CUT SHAD
CATFISH, BLUE	R.J. BROWN	14-0	4	PLUG	02/03/02	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	311	SILVER BUDDY
CATFISH, CHANNEL	S. DAVIS	4-13	2	FLY	04/24/02	PRIVATE POND, CHFLD,VA	240	MICKEY FINN
CATFISH, CHANNEL	S. DAVIS	7-8	4	FLY	04/24/02	PRIVATE POND, CHFLD,VA	272	MICKEY FINN
PERCH, WHITE	D.D. COMPTON	1-1	12	GEN	03/23/02	COHOKE MILLPOND, VA	106	MINNOW
PERCH, WHITE	R.J. BROWN	1-3	4	PLUG	04/02/02	JAMES RIVER, VA	237	SPOON
PERCH, YELLOW	W.S. JOHNSTON	1-2	4	FLY	02/06/02	DRAGON RUN, VA	257	CLOUSER
PERCH, YELLOW	C. PETERS	1-7	4	GEN	03/07/02	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	230	MINNOW
PERCH, YELLOW	L. HOUSER	1-7	6	SPIN	03/02/02	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	230	ROADRUNNER
PERCH, YELLOW	G. CARTER	1-6	12	SPIN	03/02/02	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	157	ROADRUNNER
SHAD, HICKORY	M. KODROFF	3-0	2	FLY	03/14/02	ROANOKE RIVER, NC	400	SHAD FLY
SHAD, HICKORY	M. KODROFF	3-4	4	PLUG	03/14/02	ROANOKE RIVER, NC	325	DART
TROUT, RAINBOW	R. MATTHEWS	6-4	2	SPIN	12/22/01	CRIPPLE CREEK, VA	625	SPINNER
TROUT, STEELHEAD	J.R. SIDES	14-0	8	FLY	04/02/02	OAK ORCHARD RIVER, NY	254	EG.SUC.LEACH
TROUT, STEELHEAD	J.R. SIDES	12-0	12	FLY	04/02/02	OAK ORCHARD RIVER, NY	171	EG.SUC.LEACH

2002 TOP SPOUSE CATCHES - SALTWATER & FRESHWATER (LOCAL)

PICKEREL, CHAIN	J. JOHNSTON	3-8	2	SPIN	01/29/02	DRAGON RUN, VA	350	SASSY SHAD
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C.V. KINNARD AWARD COMPETITION - 2002

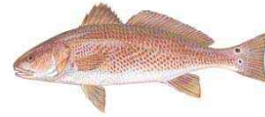
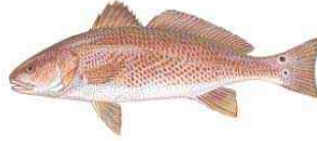
ANGLER	FIRSTS	SECONDS	THIRDS	PLACES	POINTS	AVERAGE
DENNIS CLINE	2	1	1	4	1610	403
GLENN CARTER	0	1	1	2	716	358
BOB SHEPHERD	1	0	0	1	600	600
JOHN FOSTER	0	0	1	1	420	420
ELLY ROBINSON	0	1	0	1	300	300
TOTALS	3	3	3	9	3646	405

May 18-24: NATIONAL SAFE BOATING WEEK

With the beginning of another boating season, we all need to think a little about boating safety in addition to dreaming about a big fish. Now is the time to inspect your PFDs, check the expiration dates on your flares (3 year life), check your fire extinguishers, etc. This also includes First Aid Kits, EPIRBs, PFD lights and other safety-related products. If you want to brush up on your skills, **Boatfix.com** supports an education site. If you haven't visited the site forum recently, stop in and check it. If you have questions about safe boating or equipment, this is a good place to ask them. In addition, to help improve your navigation skills in time for the boating season, they have an On-line Coastal Navigation Course for \$34.95. The course includes a text book (list \$29.95), a training chart and on-line lessons. You can get more course information on the home page of BoatFix.com. **BE CAREFUL OUT THERE!**



Upcoming Angling Events



Eastern Shore Red Drum/Flounder Tournament May 25-26, 2002

Location: Barrier islands surf and inlets, Eastern Shore, Va.

Chairman: Chairman: Dennis Cline (H) 526-8736
(Eastern Shore) 757-331-3037

Awards: 1 Cup for highest point red drum in surf
(must be released)
1 Cup for highest point other species
(surf or boat 100 pt. minimum)

Launches: For Smith & Myrtle Islands use mud ramp at Raccoon Creek or Kiptopeke State Park or Oyster Ramp For Wreck and Cobb Islands use Oyster Ramp

Unfortunately, Denny will be unable to host anglers for this year's surf tournament. Sharyl's mom died peacefully on May 19th 2002. The Clines had to go to Iowa and are not sure when they will return. The tournament is still scheduled for those who want to fish it, but you are on your own, so good luck!



Black Drum/Spade Fish/Weakfish June 1-2, 2002

Location: Virginia Waters

Chairman: Elly Robinson (H) 590-3043

Fishing Times: 6pm, May 30 - 6pm, June 2

Awards: 1 Cup for Highest Point Black Drum
1 Cup for Highest Point Spade Fish
1 Cup for Highest Point Weakfish

Launches/Tips: Elly says, "If you need tips you are hurting."

Report-in: Call Elly within 5 days to report catches.



Tournament Results

The club garfish tournament on the Chick went well on Saturday May 11. At least 7 members fished and all caught gar. The morning bite was slow with a lot of gar rolling, but few picking up our large minnows. Appetite picked up well in the afternoon. The action was good enough for Parks and Fred to burn up 5 doz minnows. Style conscious anglers **Eddy Johnston** and **Tony Horsley** used goldfish minnows to match their Shimano reels. The gar were impressed and Eddy took top honors with a 9-12 gar on 2 general for 300 points. **Fred Cousins** and **Parks Rountrey** had about 20 fish up to 8-8. **Bob Pollard** was busy netting blue crabs that were eating minnows fished by him and wife Cathie. Occasionally a gar would beat the crabs to the minnows. **Cathie Pollard** managed the only citation gar of the day at 11 lbs. **Glenn Carter** and **Ronnie Hogge** left early, but Ronnie caught the best "other species" with an 11 oz crappie on 2 general that choked down a 6" shinner minnow - for a whopping 78 points.

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Bulletin Editor: Parks Rountrey, 730-2875.

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Design and Layout: Michael Havranek

NEXT MEETING:
May 28th

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