

Call Capt. Tony Horsley for hot cobia action!



August 2011

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Next Membership Meeting

Tuesday, August 23, 2011 - 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

VADGIF CALENDERS AT THE AUGUST MEETING

Special Activities Chairman Don West will have a supply of the 2012 VADGIF Outdoor Calendars for pick up at the August Membership Meeting. Don will be glad to give you as many calendars as you need to sell. Line up your annual customers and let them know the calendars are in and you will soon be delivering them one. Don't forget to pick up one for your own use too. The VAC sells the calendars for \$8.00 each and this is one of our major fund raising programs of the year. Promise to re-pay for large calendar lots acceptable. Checks or checks gladly accepted too; requested for calendars purchased as gifts or for your own personal use.

Note: HOME OR SPECIAL DELIVERY AVAILABLE. See page 6 of this issue of The Angler.



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

AUGUST PROGRAM – CRAPPIE AND PAN FISH IN THE CHICKAHOMINY LAKE

Just down the road to the east of Richmond a close by and easily accessed angling jewel, the Chickahominy Lake. Capt. Art Conway will present a program on how to successfully catch these excellent eating fish in that lake. See page 6 of this issue of the Angler for more about Art.



BACKLASH continued from Page 1.

SNEAK PREVIEW - SEPT., OCT., AND NOV. PROGRAMS

- September: Understanding The Fine Print on Your Boat Insurance Policy by VAC Member Steve Knox.
- October: Middle & Upper James Smallmouth by L.E. Rhodes of Hatchmatcher Guide Service.
- November: Light Line for Carp, Musky and Smallmouth by Colby Trow, Mossy Creek Outfitters

VADGIF ANOUNCES THE "HUNT FISH VA" APP

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries announces the availability of its new app for iPhones® and iPad touch®. Valuable information can be called up anytime it is needed right from the boat, bank or kayak. See page 8 of this Angler for more details on this very hand app to carry around with you.

SOUND OFF FOR ANGLING RULE CHANGES FOR 2012

Now that quite a few months of fishing have been completed and all but one VAC tournament remains to be fished, you may have some beefs fillets about our Angling Rules, Basic Weights and the like. While these suggestions are still in your mind, please pass them along to any member of the Angling Rules Committee or to Chairman Mike Cline at (mike.cline.chf@honeywell.com) or give him a call at (804) 712-0575. The ARC will be meeting very soon to consider changes for the 2012 Angling Year and your input is very important to them.

VAC MEMBER ATLANTIC STURGEON RESTORATION DONATIONS RISE 50%

Many VAC Members have made generous donations to the VCU Rice Center Atlantic Sturgeon Restoration Program this year and in 2010 also. The 2010 donation total made by VAC Members was \$1019. So far in 2011, similar donations total \$1525. This brings the total so far up to \$2544 as of July 28th. There is plenty of work in the James to be completed this year before the sturgeons depart. Member Matt Balazik reports he has access to another river for his research too. A reminder on how to make a donation to the Rice Center is found on page 6.

50TH ANNIVERSARY POCKET KNIVES AND HATS AVAILABLE AT THE COUNTRY STORE

Have you purchased your special VAC 50th Anniversary pocket sized Swiss Army Knife or long billed cap yet? These items are available at the Country Store. Don't forget to stock up on the new "T" shirts either. With cooler weather coming along, you might want to consider picking up a couple long sleeved versions of the shirt.

SURF TEAM SHORT THREE MEMBERS

The Virginia Anglers Club has fielded beached a surf fishing team in every Annual Cape Hatteras Invitational Surf Fishing Tournament since the VAC was founded in 1961. Surf Team Captain Lynn Spurlin is looking for three more anglers to join him, Ray Nuckols and Everett Spence on the 2011 team. The tournament dates for 2011 are Thursday and Friday, November 3rd and 4th. Team members pay for their own food and their share of the entry fee and club purchased bait. There is no lodging expense. VAC Members are urged to step forward and round out the team to a full six surf anglers.

GET STUCK ON NAME TAGS - STICK ONE ON YOU

Please remember to pick up your sticky backed name tag on the way into the meeting room, fill it out and proudly wear it. It sure will help the guy who cannot remember your name for the life of him se who you are. You might not even be able to call his name either. We all should be able to call the name of any member in the room. A name tag will help.

For the Leadership Team
John Wetlaufer, Sr., Secretary



CATCHY COMMENTS

by Buddy Noland

The water temperatures are above normal and the doldrums of August are here. Except for the Flathead Catfish, the freshwater fishing has been slow. In saltwater, according to **Dr. Julie Ball**, all species that are available to Virginia are here and everyone is catching them. But, where are the entry cards?

Large Flounder are biting at the CBBT as proven by several members with new club records and division leads. **Mike Cline** and **Robbie Robinson** continue to go after them and get their limit with a bucktail and Gulp. **Robbie** turned in a 5 pound, 3 ounce, Flounder on 8# plug tackle worth 216 points for the “species” and “plug” leads.

Bob Schepker also set a new “club record” and captured the “heaviest” lead. **Bob** and **Vic Skakandy** were fishing the 4th island of the CBBT in mid July. **Bob** entered a Flounder weighing a whopping 8 pounds, 12 ounces, on 20# general using a live spot for bait. Most of the larger Flounder this past year have been caught on “live bait”.

The lone freshwater entry for the past 30 days is from the James River. **Parks Rountrey** caught a 2 pound, 10 ounce, Smallmouth Bass on 4 spin for 190 points. **Parks** was using a Yamamoto grub for this catch.

Ryan Noland, Danny Noland, Ricky Dale and **I** are on our annual fishing trip in Hatteras this week. We are missing our fellow club members **Dean Winstead** and **Jeff Doughty** who are dealing with health issues. We managed only to fish several days so far because of the high winds. In fact, Speckled Trout and Bluefish fillets provided dinner one night. Hopefully we all are getting wiser in our later years or maybe just can’t take the pounding we used to when more club members competed offshore. **Ricky** fished with his cousin and potential club member, **Billy Dale**, and previous member, **Randy Cullinan** of “Predator Fishing Systems”. To date, trolling with heavy tackle has produced Dolphin to 15 pounds, Blackfin Tuna, and Wahoo from 24 pounds to 37 pounds for both boats. The Wahoo that got away have taken more than their share of our tackle with them! **Ricky** is perfecting a new bottom fishing technique for catching Moray Eels. Sad thing is that none of us have contributed a 100 point entry the entire week to date.

Numerous saltwater species remain to be entered into our points system with many species available to most fishermen. For example, Croaker, Bluefish, Spanish Mackerel, Spot, Grey Trout, Spadefish, Tautog, etc., as well as most offshore species have yet to be recognized. Hopefully the next few months will be more fruitful.

Keeping it reel,
Buddy



Danny with some blackfin tuna and Ryan with a nice wahoo and dolphin



Ricky Dale, Randy Cullinan & Billy Dale with a nice wahoo and dolphin



Ricky Dale and cousin/potential member Billy Dale with a beautiful 37lb Wahoo



Bob Shepherd with a nice Cobia caught with Capt. Tony Horsley

Ryan Noland and his 25lb Wahoo



Fred Murray, Bob Shepherd & Rob Choi hold the day's catch of cobia with Capt. Tony Horsley



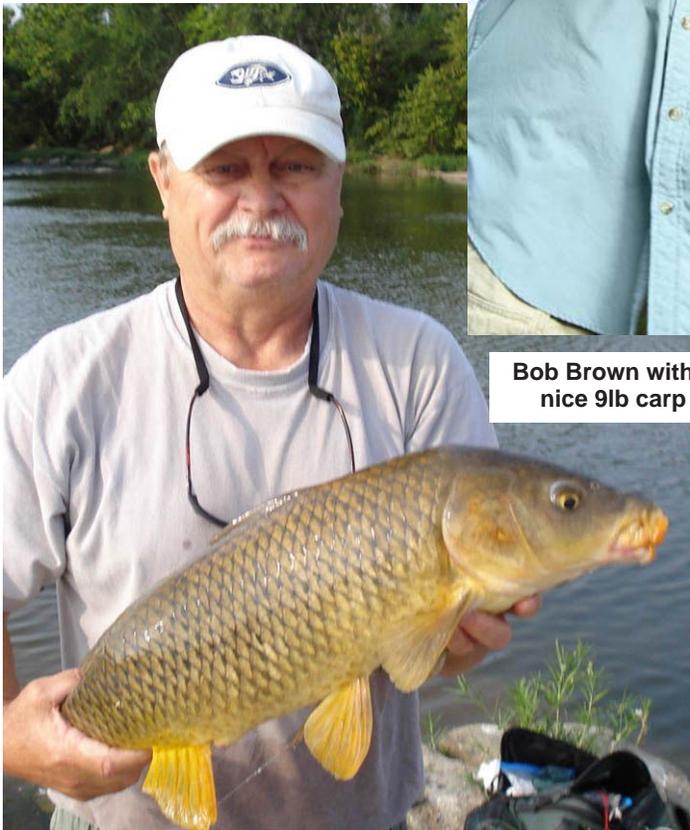
Niall Schepker age 4



Rob Choi with a 12.5lb Sheepshead



Bob Schepker's doormat
8lb 12oz flounder



Bob Brown with a
nice 9lb carp



Rob Choi with a
decent little spade

SPECIAL NOTICE – NORTHERN SNAKEHEAD FISH – KILL AND REPORT

All anglers are reminded to acquaint themselves with a good description of the northern snakehead fish. If you should manage to catch one of these exotic imports, please kill it immediately and report the catch to either the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries or the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. View video about the snakehead.
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b_1HmUY5EOo

BOAT SAFELY - LIFE JACKET REGULATION REMINDER

First and foremost, boaters need to think about life jackets and plan to wear them. A significant number of boaters who lose their lives by drowning each year would be alive today had they worn their life jackets.

Virginia's life jacket laws require that there must be one wearable (Type I, II, III, or V) USCG approved life jacket appropriate size for each person on the boat. All boats, except for personal watercraft, canoes, kayaks, and inflatable rafts, must carry one USCG approved Type IV throwable ring or seat cushion. In addition, if you are boating on federal waters where the USCG has jurisdiction, children under the age of 13 must wear a life jacket unless below deck or in an enclosed cabin. This applies to waters in which the USCG has enforcement jurisdiction, and in Virginia that includes the Chesapeake Bay, Smith Mountain Lake, Lake Gaston, Kerr Reservoir (Buggs Island Lake), Claytor Lake, Lake Moomaw, and other inland waters that are considered navigable. VDGIF is asking boaters to make a commitment to wear their life jackets at all times while on the water.

AUGUST PROGRAM – CHICKAHOMINY FLAT FISH

Our speaker for the August Membership Meeting is Captain Art Conway. Art is a college biology teacher and a former commercial fisherman who has operated Conway's River Rat Guide Service since 2003 and has fished Chickahominy Lake for its wide variety of hard-fighting and tasty fish since the 1970's. Capt. Conway and his clients have caught and released numerous citation fish while fishing Chickahominy Lake year 'round. Fly fishing, live bait, and artificial lures are all effective. Come and learn all about how to successfully fish this nearby angling resource.

If you want to contact Art for a guided trip on the Chick, please check out Art at Chickahominy Lake Guided Fishing Trips, Fly Fishing & Light Tackle Panfish Specialist, (804) 746-2475, <http://www.virginia-outdoors.com/conwaysriverrat>. You can also reach Art at his e-mail address, fishutopia@comcast.net.

NEED CALENDERS? – CALL DON WEST – HOME DELIVERY AVAILABLE

Don West will deliver to you any number of 2012 DGIF Outdoor Calendars you will need for your sales. Call Don at his office at 371-6748 or his home at 897-8723 and let him know how many copies of the calendars you will need. Don will gladly deliver the number of calendars you need to your home, your business or where ever else it will be convenient for you to get them from Don

DONATION PROCEDURE REMINDER – VCU RICE CENTER

The procedure to use when donating to the VCU Rice Center is very straight forward. Make out a check to VCU Rice Center. Send the check along with what ever note you may want to include to:

Catherine Dahl
Director of Special Projects and
Development VCU Life Sciences
1000 West Cary Street Room 102
Richmond, VA 23284-2030

On the Memo line, please write:

Atlantic Sturgeon Research – Virginia Anglers Club

This notation will get the donation headed to Matt and also included in a special accounting being kept by Catherine of donations from VAC Members and friends.

VAC TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE FOR THE REST OF 2011

By the time you receive this issue of The Angler, the flathead tournament will be over and there will be only one more tournament.

- James River VA (Chippokes Creek) Gar: November 5-6 (blow date Nov12-13)

Note: In order to bring to the attention of the VAC Membership information of interest, some of the articles above may contain information or partial text that has been shamelessly borrowed from either the VADGIF Electronic Outdoor Report or the web side of the VMRC.



Legislation and Conservation

By Matt Balazik

Local News:

ASMFC and Menhaden: Alexandria, VA – The Commission’s Atlantic Menhaden Management Board has approved Draft Addendum V to Amendment 1 to the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Atlantic Menhaden for public comment. The Draft Addendum proposes establishing a new interim fishing mortality threshold and target (based on maximum spawning potential or MSP) with the goal of increasing abundance, spawning stock biomass, and menhaden availability as a forage species.

Please read the entire Addendum at: www.asmfc.org click on press releases on the left hand side and go to August 4th and click ASMFC Addendum Draft.

VMRC BLUECRABS: An important new scientific assessment of the Chesapeake Bay’s blue crab stock has been released by the federal government, setting higher abundance thresholds and crab population targets that will dictate how the agency manages the fisheries in the years to come. While gains have been made to rebuild the population, the assessment shows that much work remains to be done. You can read the entire peer-reviewed stock assessment here: <http://hjort.cbl.umces.edu/crabs/Assessment.html>

STURGEON RETURN: Two male sturgeon tagged back in 2009 have returned to the Berkeley Plantation area. It’s time for the breaching so get out on water to see the show. I would also like to thank the Wetlaufers for their generous gift to the VCU Rice Center for sturgeon research.

HOW TO DOWNLOAD YOUR “HUNT FISH VA” APP

As a Member of the Virginia Anglers Club, the VADGIF “Hunt Fish VA” App will be a very useful addition to your cyber tackle box (or gun rack). Check out the below information that can be at your finger tips when you download the app. The price isn’t all that bad either.

The Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries' new app for iPhone® and iPod touch® is perfect for:

- getting the latest news from VDGIF;
- looking up hunting regulations, seasons, and bag limits while in the field;
- viewing freshwater fishing regulations and state record fish;
- identifying the fish you just caught;
- getting the sunrise and sunset times for your location;
- recording your trophy harvests;
- finding nearby boat ramps, Wildlife Management Areas, and lakes;
- and more!

Best of all, it's absolutely FREE!

Download the Hunt Fish VA app now...

<http://itunes.apple.com/us/app/hunt-fish-va/id430899744>

Requirements: Compatible with iPhone, iPod touch, and iPad. Requires iOS 3.2 or later. Some features require an active Internet connection and are subject to carrier service availability.

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 1-800541-4646**

Tournament News

Virginia Flounder: July 23-24

It was Hot! Several people who had planned to fish - stayed home to avoid the heat. The Saturday afternoon thunderstorm was pretty exciting for Rob Choi on his kayak. Rob Robinson came thru with two fish over 5 lbs to win both weight and points divisions.

Flounder Points:

Rob Robinson 5-3 on 8# plug = 216 pts (wins a Greentop giftcard)

Mike Cline 3-11 on 6# plug = 184 pts

Flounder Weight:

Rob Robinson 5-3 (wins a Greentop giftcard)

Mike Cline 2-13

James River VA Flathead Catfish: August 13-14

The very poor recent catfish bite and random downpours over the weekend made for weak participation and a lack of quality fish. Fred Cousins (with a monster 15 oz. flathead) set a new record for lowest point fish ever entered in a VAC tournament...

Flathead Weight:

Bob Brown 14-0 (wins a Greentop gift card)

Bob Brown 12-8

Flathead Points:

Parks Rountrey 16 on 4# gen. = 216 pts (wins a Greentop gift card)

Parks Rountrey 15-8 on 4# gen. = 210 pts

Fred Cousins 0-15 on 4# gen. = 15 pts

VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 8/9/11

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>ANGLER</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>LN</u>	<u>DIV.</u>	<u>PTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>BAIT</u>
2011 SPECIES LEADERS - SALTWATER								
BASS, STRIPED	F Cousins	5-0	2	Fly	166	12/18/10	Elizabeth River, Va.	Clouser
COBIA	B Broughton	35-0 (Rel)	12	Spin	233	5/22/11	Oregon Inlet, NC	Bucktail
DOLPHIN	GN Carter	5-8	6	Spin	122	6/11/11	Oregon Inlet, NC	Bucktail
DRUM, BLACK	B Shepherd	35-0	30	Surf	291	5/14/11	Eastern Shore, VA	Peeler Creb
DRUM, RED	F Murray	38-0	30	Surf	271	5/15/11	Eastern Shore, VA	Peeler Creb
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	Robbie Robinson	5-3	8	Plug	216	7/23/11	CBBT	Bucktail/gulp
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	6-12	2	Spin	450	1/16/11	Elizabeth River, VA	Jig w/Grub

2011 SPECIES LEADERS - FRESHWATER

BASS, LARGEMOUTH	Robbie Robinson	4-8	2	Plug	300	3/12/11	Chickahominy River, VA	Blade Bait
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	RJ Brown	2-2	2	Spin	212	6/26/11	James River, VA	Grub Tail
BOWFIN	Robbie Robinson	6-12	2	Plug	337	3/12/11	Chickahominy River, VA	Blade Bait
CARP	JP Rountrey	9-0	4	Gen	180	7/1/11	James River, VA	Corn
CATFISH, BLUE	B Shepherd	57-0	6	Gen	536	2/12/11	James River, VA	Cut Shad
CATFISH, CHANNEL	F Cousins	8-2	2	Gen	259	6/15/11	Western Branch, VA	Live Worm
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	JP Rountrey	25-8	4	Fly	540	7/1/11	James River, VA	Catfish Fly
CRAPPIE, ALL	W Nicar	2-0	2	Spin	317	5/19/11	Private Pond, VA	Jig/grub
GAR, ALL	RL White	11-14	2	Spin	431	3/2/11	James River, VA	Grub
PERCH, WHITE	F Cousins	1-2	2	Fly	375	12/18/10	Elizabeth River, VA	Clouser
PERCH, YELLOW	M Cline	1-4	2	Spin	328	3/12/11	Chickahominy River, VA	Blade Bait
PICKERAL, CHAIN	DN Noland	2-6	2	Spin	237	7/4/11	Private Pond, VA	Jig
SHAD, AMERICAN	JH Sheffield	5-0	2	Spin	400	3/18/11	Rocky Mount, NC	Shad Darts (2)
SHAD, HICKORY	ES Johnston	1-12	2	Fly	250	3/21/11	James River, VA	Fly
SUNFISH, ALL	W Nicar	2-9	2	Gen	545	6/9/11	Western Branch Rev., Va.	Nightcrawler
TROUT, BROWN	W Nicar	5-1	2	Spin	316	6/29/11	Cedar Springs, VA	Panther Martin Spinner
TROUT, RAINBOW	W Nicar	4-15	4	Fly	280	6/28/11	Cedar Springs, VA	Bl. Woolley Bugger

2011 DIVISION LEADERS - SALTWATER

BASS, STRIPED	F Cousins	5-0	2	Fly	166	12/18/10	Elizabeth River, Va.	Clouser
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	6-12	2	Spin	450	1/16/11	Elizabeth River, VA	Jig w/Grub
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	Robbie Robinson	5-3	8	Plug	216	7/23/11	CBBT	Bucktail/gulp
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	B Schepker	8-12	20	Gen	145	7/16/11	4th Island, CBBT	Live Spot
DRUM, BLACK	B Shepherd	35-0	30	Surf	291	5/14/11	Eastern Shore, VA	Peeler Crab

2011 DIVISION LEADERS - FRESHWATER

CATFISH, FLATHEAD	RJ Brown	22-0	2	Spin	444	7/1/11	James River, VA	Grub Tail
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	JP Rountrey	25-8	4	Fly	540	7/1/11	James River, VA	Catfish Fly
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	RJ Brown	28-0	4	Plug	474	6/12/11	James River, VA	Grub Tail
SUNFISH, ALL	W Nicar	2-9	2	Gen	545	6/9/11	Western Branch Rev., Va	.Nightcrawler

2011 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - SALTWATER

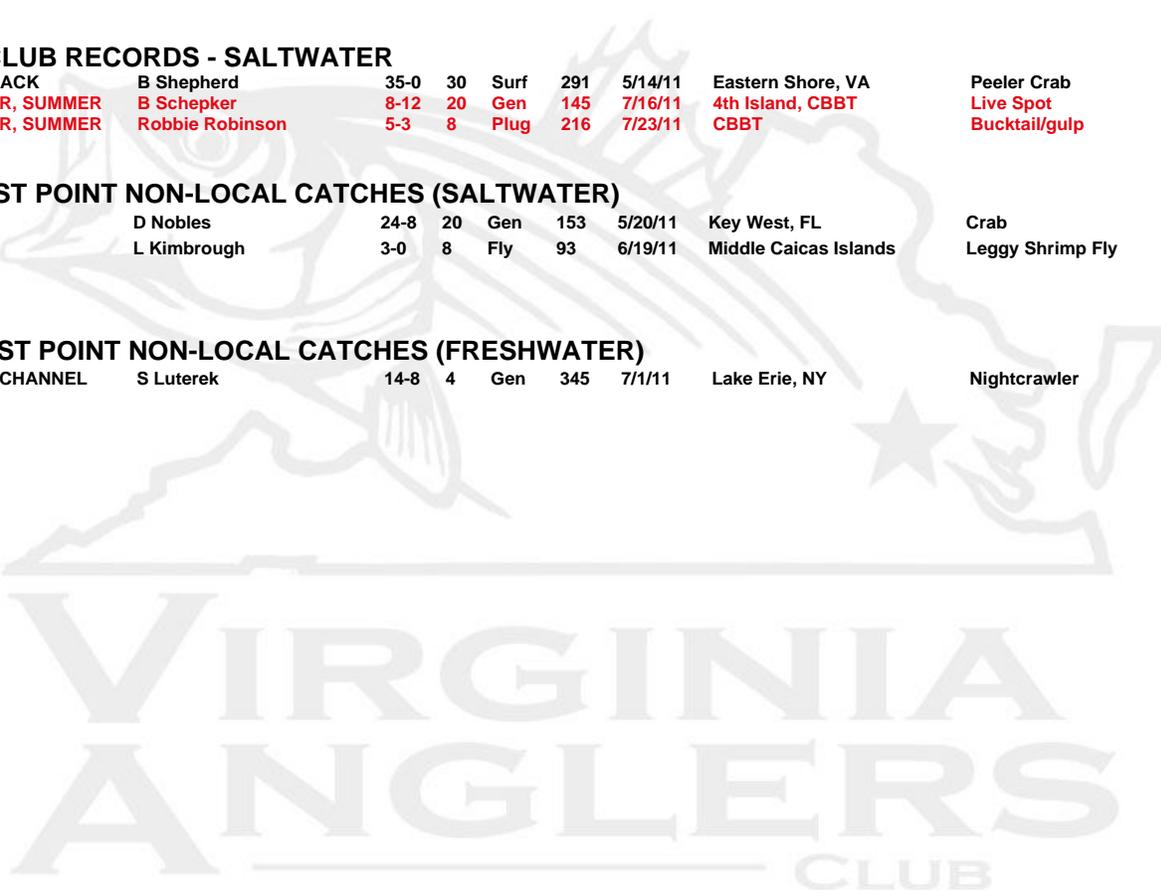
BASS, STRIPED	F Cousins	5-0
COBIA	B Broughton	35-0 (Rel)
DOLPHIN	GN Carter	5-8
DRUM, BLACK	B Shepherd	35-0
DRUM, RED	F Murray	38-0
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	B Schepker	8-12
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	6-12

2011 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - FRESHWATER

BASS, LARGEMOUTH	W Nicar	8-0
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	M Ostrander	4-4
BOWFIN	J Doughty	10-8
CARP	JP Rountrey	9-0
CATFISH, BLUE	L. Houser	76-8
CATFISH, CHANNEL	F Cousins	8-2
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	RJ Brown	28-0
CRAPPIE, ALL	W Nicar	2-0
GAR, ALL	F Cousins	12-4
PERCH, WHITE	F Cousins	1-4
PERCH, YELLOW	M Cline	1-4
PICKERAL, CHAIN	DN Noland	2-6
SHAD, AMERICAN	JH Sheffield	5-0
SHAD, HICKORY	JH Sheffield	2-0
SUNFISH, ALL	W Nicar	2-9
TROUT, BROWN	W Nicar	5-1
TROUT, RAINBOW	W Nicar	4-15

VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 8/9/11

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>ANGLER</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>LN</u>	<u>DIV.</u>	<u>PTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>BAIT</u>
TOP YOUTH CATCHES - FRESHWATER (LOCAL)								
CRAPPIE, ALL	Claire Wakinson	1-1	2	Spin	168	5/30/11	Private Pond, VA	Plastic Jig
SUNFISH, ALL	Claire Wakinson	0-10	2	Gen	132	5/30/11	Private Pond, VA	Plastic Jig
NEW CLUB RECORDS - FRESHWATER								
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	J Sheffield	27-8	6	Gen	321	2/28/11	James River, VA	Minnow
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	Robbie Robinson	4-8	2	Plug	300	3/12/11	Chickahominy River, VA	Blade Bait
CATFISH, BLUE	L. Houser	76-8	12	Gen	531	2/27/11	James River, VA	Cut Shad
CATFISH, CHANNEL	S Luterek	14-8	4	Gen	345	7/1/11	Lake Erie, NY	Nightcrawler
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	M Ostrander	4-4	6	Gen	194	7/3/11	James River, VA	Minnow
NEW CLUB RECORDS - SALTWATER								
DRUM, BLACK	B Shepherd	35-0	30	Surf	291	5/14/11	Eastern Shore, VA	Peeler Crab
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	B Schepker	8-12	20	Gen	145	7/16/11	4th Island, CBBT	Live Spot
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	Robbie Robinson	5-3	8	Plug	216	7/23/11	CBBT	Bucktail/gulp
HIGHEST POINT NON-LOCAL CATCHES (SALTWATER)								
PERMIT	D Nobles	24-8	20	Gen	153	5/20/11	Key West, FL	Crab
BONEFISH	L Kimbrough	3-0	8	Fly	93	6/19/11	Middle Caicas Islands	Leggy Shrimp Fly
HIGHEST POINT NON-LOCAL CATCHES (FRESHWATER)								
CATFISH, CHANNEL	S Luterek	14-8	4	Gen	345	7/1/11	Lake Erie, NY	Nightcrawler



VIRGINIA
ANGLERS
CLUB

Robert Thomas

Fishing Adventures

Fly Casting & Fly Tying Instruction
Equipment: Rods, Reels, Lines, etc.
Fly Tying Materials & Tools
Hosted Trips

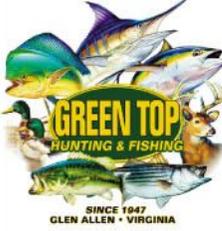
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Bulletin Editor: Johnny Wetlauffer, 647-4042



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Design and Layout: Rob Choi

NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday, August 23rd at Skilligalee Restaurant

P.O. BOX 31494
RICHMOND VA 23294-1494

