

2010 is gonna  
be good!!!

# The Virginia Angler

RICHMOND VIRGINIA

January 2010

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### No January Membership Meeting:

Next Membership Meeting:  
February 23, 2010 - 7:00 PM

**Skilligalee Restaurant**  
Glenside Ave, just North of Broad Street  
Come ~ 5:30 PM and enjoy good company

### NO MEMBERSHIP MEETING IN JANUARY

The next Membership Meeting is the February Membership Meeting and will be held on Tuesday, February 23, 2010. Scale certification will be offered in February and the Country Store opens with new items.

### MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE DECEMBER 1, 2009 – PAY BY CHECK OR CREDIT CARD

Dues for 2010 are due on December 1, 2009. Dues are also payable online by connecting to the VAC Web Site ([www.virginiaanglersclub.org](http://www.virginiaanglersclub.org)) and clicking on "member's area". Then just click on the bar for in-state or out-of-state dues and provide the information requested. No dues are collected from complimentary, honorary or life members. Donations to the

VAC may also be made in a similar fashion in the Members Area of the VAC Website. Payment information is encrypted and is safe to use. Follow instructions in dues statements for payment by USPS.

### 2009 ANGLING YEAR AWARDS BANQUET – JANUARY 23, 2010

The Awards Banquet at which the 2009 Angling Year Awards will be held Saturday, January 23, 2010 at the Skilligalee Restaurant. Please note this on your 2010 appointment calendar now. The new price will be \$35.00 each (vs. \$45.00 last year). A cocktail hour and a half starts at 5:30 PM and dinner starts at 7:00 PM. Full details of the menu and the raffle items are found elsewhere in this issue of *The Angler*.

### MAKE BANQUET RESERVATIONS AND PAYMENTS ON THE VAC WEBSITE

Reservations and payments for the VAC Annual Banquet may be made on line by credit or debit card. This can be done in the Member Area of the VAC Website. Look for instructions elsewhere in this issue of *The Angler*. Payment information is encrypted and safe to provide.



BACKLASH continued from Page 1.

**OFFICERS FOR 2010 WILL BE SWORN IN AT THE ANNUAL BANQUET**

The following members have been elected unanimously by the membership for the offices noted. They will be sworn in and take charge of the affairs of the club at the Annual Banquet on January 23, 2010. Thanks to all nominees and lame bass who stepped forward to serve as leadership of the VAC in 2010.

**DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS ELECT FOR 2010**

President	Mike Ostrander
1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President – Programs	Fred Murray
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Tournaments	Parks Rountrey*
3 <sup>rd</sup> Vice President – Conservation & Legislation	Matt Balazik*
Treasurer	Clif Williams*
Recording Secretary	Greg Cramer
Newsletter / Website Secretary	Johnny Wetlaufer*

Directors – Class of 2012  
Vic Skakandy  
Fred Murray  
Lynn Spurlin

\* Held same office in 2009

**THANKS TO THE RETIRING OFFICERS**

Special thanks from the Membership to the Directors and Officers who faithfully kept the affairs of the club in order in 2009. Without their leadership and commitment, the Virginia Anglers Club would not be moving ahead as it is.

**NEW “T” SHIRTS AND GASOHOL TESTERS ADDED TO COUNTRY STORE INVENTORY**

Two new items will be introduced and available for purchase at the Country Store for the first time at the February membership meeting. One item is the new short and long sleeved “T” shirts with pockets in assorted sizes and colors that sport the new VAC logo. The other item is the Shindiawa gasohol testers. These testers make testing the alcohol content and quality of ethanol containing gasoline an easy and informative process. All “T” shirts, no matter what size, color or style are priced at \$10.00 each and the gasohol testers are available at \$5.00 each. All sales are payable by cash or check. Other VAC gear will also be available such as hats in multiple styles, dehookers, VAC decals and the coveted drink mugs.

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVES 2010 BUDGET**

Directors present at the January 12, 2010 Board Meeting approved the Virginia Anglers Club budget for 2010. The budget anticipates estimated income to be about \$13,000 versus expenses estimated to be about \$200 less, or \$12,800. Income for the Club comes from mainly from dues, proceeds of monthly, special and banquet raffles, calendar sales, Country Sales and the annual banquet. Expenses include the operating expense items for the club like tournament, monthly and annual angling awards, the banquet, web site maintenance, general operating expense (insurance, SCC fees), annual donations to organizations supporting recreational angling and conservation and purchases for sale at the country store.

For the Leadership Team  
John Wetlaufer, Sr., Director



## CATCHY COMMENTS

by Buddy Nolan

December turned out to be a disappointing month for Striper fishing with the cold temperatures and windy conditions. The cold water temperatures cut the Virginia season short and run the fish out past the three mile limit or farther South to North Carolina. Only a few entry cards have been turned in to date but they all were good quality catches.

**Leroy Houser** finally took a break from Hokie football to go fishing in the bay for some Stripers the first week of December. Leroy landed the “heaviest” Striper to date and the fish also qualified for a new “club record”. The Striper weighed 44-5 pounds and replaces Stuart Lee’s 42-0 fish. Leroy was using an eel for bait, 16# line, and the fish was worth 276 points.

Fishing in the Kiptopeke State Park area several weeks later, **Rob Choi** also caught a nice Striper. Rob’s fish weighed 36-0 pounds. He was using an eel for bait with 30# braid fishing line. The fish is worth 120 points. Rob’s fish will take the “club record” for 50# braid.

**Parks Rountrey**, not to be outdone, caught the highest point Striper for the season so far at the end of December. Park’s fish weighted 35-8 pounds, was worth 394 points, and he landed the fish on 8# line fishing out of Kiptopeke State Park. His catch will take the “species” and “general division” leads.

**Scott Johnston** laid down the fly rod long enough to catch a 6-2 pound Red Drum on 6# plug fishing tackle. Scott was using a Gulp/jig combination around the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel for his catch.

The most unusual catch recently was a 1-9 White Perch by **Fred Cousins** from the Elizabeth River. Entry cards for White Perch are normally received during the Shad run from the James River in the Spring. This fish must have stayed too long in the warm waters of the “hot ditch” then it got too cold to leave. Fred caught the fish on 2# spin for a whopping 411 points. The Perch replaces the 1-7 pound “club record” of E. McDuffie that has been on the books for a long time. The catch leads the “species”, “heaviest”, and “spin division” and will be difficult for anyone to beat this year.

Good fishing,

Buddy



Leroy Houser with his new club record 44lb 5 oz Striper



Rob Choi with 36lb Striper



Parks Rountrey with his tournament winning 35lb 8 oz Striper



**Parks Rountrey with a Hot Ditch Speck**



**Matt Balazik with a Hot Ditch Puppy Drum**



**Parks Rountrey with a Hot Ditch Puppy Drum**

## MENU SET FOR THE 2009 ANGLING YEAR AWARDS BANQUET

VAC Banquet Chairman Eddy Johnston has completed his work with the banquet staff of the Skilligalee Restaurant. The following is the menu of offerings to be served buffet style at the VAC Annual Awards Banquet, January 23, 2010.

Entrees: Broiled Tilapia  
Fried Cat Fish  
Fried Oysters  
Chicken Marsala

Sides: House Salad w/ Assorted Dressings  
Vegetable of the Day  
Baked Patato

Dessert: Homemade Bread Pudding with Rum Sauce

The bar will be a cash bar. The event will be held in the lower dining room, reached by stairs immediately inside the entry door to the left. This is a new venue for this Banquet and is being held at a Richmond Area that has operated for decades and is noted for its delicious and wide ranging menu selections.

The cost to Virginia Anglers Club members and their individual Guests is \$35.00 each and can be paid with a check or online at the VAC Website. For payment by check, please make checks payable to The Virginia Anglers Club and send the check, along with the names of those attending to:

Eddy Johnston  
3312 Stuart Avenue  
Richmond, VA 23221-2329

(Please do not include dues payments with your check to Eddy)

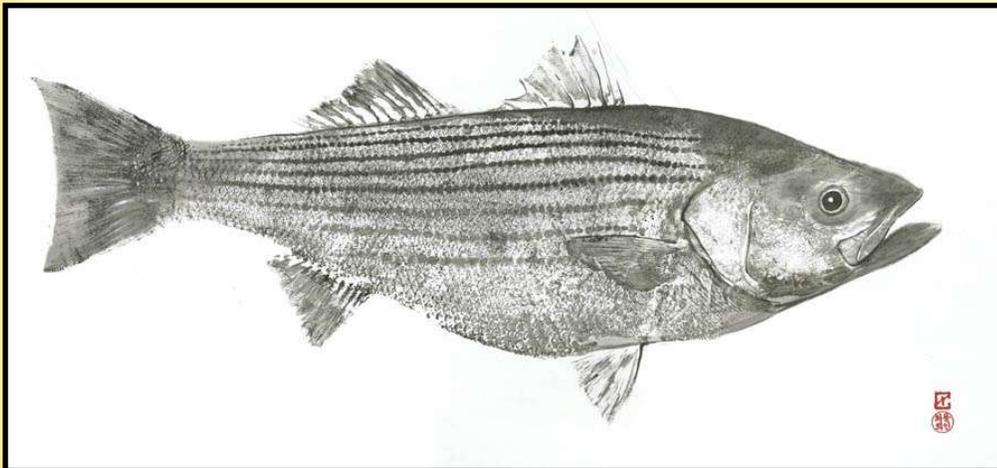
Raffle items have been secured and are as follows:

Bill Gallash Fly Shadow Box  
Capt. Ronnie Sides Fly Shadow Box\*  
A Gyotaku Print by Member Rob Choi\*\*  
Four hand-painted wine glasses by Mary Creighton  
(Courtesy of Green Top Sporting Goods)

Raffle tickets will be offered at the historic price of \$1.00 each or six (6) for \$5.00.

(\*) Ronnie has generously included for the winner of the Capt. Ronnie Sides shadow box an allowance of \$100 toward the cost of charters that Ronnie runs.

(\*\*)



For a complete description of the Gyotaku technique of print making, please refer to the December 2009 issue of *The Angler*.

**January Angler's Quiz  
Top Ten Species Submissions by  
Currently Active Members**

Last month's Angler's Quiz asked what ten species were the most submitted species since entry cards were recorded. This month the Angler's Quiz asks the reader to identify, in order, the 10 most submitted species by currently active members. In the coming months we will look at submissions by tackle division, line test, etc.

JANUARY QUIZ		
VAC Entry Card Submissions By Species (TOP TEN CURRENT MEMBERS)		
Species		Submission Rank (Most to Least)
Amberjack - Grtr.		
Bass - LM		
Bass - Striped		
Bluefish		
Perch - Yellow		
Red Drum		
Seatrout - Spotted		
Shad - American		
Shad - Hickory		
Trout - Rainbow		

**REMEMBER TO KILL AND REPORT  
SNAKEHEAD FISH**

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. To view a DGIF video about the snakehead fish, go to [www.dgif.virginia.gov/video/?video=9](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/video/?video=9)

**TRACKING LEGISLATION RELATED TO  
ANGLING, ETC.**

The Department of Game and Inland Fisheries has a listing on line of all legislation that impacts all manner of outdoors people that is passing thru the General Assembly in its current session. Bills are listed by title and number. Clicking on the bill's number will get you the text of the bill selected, the status of bill, the sponsors and other information about the bill. The link to this list that is kept current by the DGIF is [www.dgif.virginia.gov/legislation/](http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/legislation/)

**IGFA CONSERVATION CLUBS TEST  
YOUR ANGLING SKILLS**

The IGFA offers memberships in a number of Conservation Clubs that test your angling skills and persistence in catching various species of inshore and off shore saltwater species as well as of fresh water species. Membership in these clubs falls right in line with catch and release angling championed by the Virginia Anglers Club and the angling skills demonstrated by most members. Some clubs are specific to certain waters and all have catch requirements based on required species.

Entries in all of the IGFA Conservation Clubs are to be caught and released for catch credit and only three clubs require weighing on certified scales (weighing on a boat is accepted) of the catch for catch credit prior to release. These clubs are detailed on page 8 of the IGFA's International Angler for November / December 2009

One example of these nearly 20 clubs is the TROUT ROYAL SLAM Club. To qualify for membership in this club, an angler must catch and submit for credit a brook, brown, butt, cutthroat, golden, lake and rainbow trout. Membership in the ATLANTIC OFFSHORE Grand and Super Grand Slam Clubs requires catch and release of (respectively 3 or 4) of the following species: bluefin tuna, yellowfin tuna, bigeye tuna, or mako shark (billfish may be substituted for any one of the species noted).

Members in all Grand Slam and Royal Slam clubs receive an embossed certificate depicting their catches and recognition in the IGFA World Record Game Fishes book. Completion and submission of an application accompanied by a fee is required. Information about the clubs can be obtained by calling 954-927-2628 or contacting the IGFA via e-mail at .

**SCALE CERTIFICATION COMING UP IN  
FEBRUARY**

The first meeting at which scale certification will be offered will be the February 23, 2010 Membership Meeting. Now is a good time to clean up your scales and to get them in top working order. Remember the following points:

- 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.

**PROGRAM IDEAS REQUESTED**

First Vice President – Programs Elect Fred Murray is interested in any and all ideas for programs for 2010. If you can help Fred with some suggestions for programs, please let him know ([itieuglyflies@yahoo.com](mailto:itieuglyflies@yahoo.com)). Off the wall, well founded, personal interest or what ever...don't hold back, send 'em all to Fred.



## Legislation and Conservation

By Matt Balazik

### Local News:

The new National Saltwater Angler Registry was launched by the federal government on Jan. 1, 2010 and will require virtually all saltwater recreational anglers in the United States (including Virginia) to call each year and register. The program is an effort to build a complete and accurate "phonebook" to better contact anglers to obtain catch information directly from them. Registration can be done through a toll-free number, 1-888-674-7411, or online at [www.CountMyFish.noaa.gov](http://www.CountMyFish.noaa.gov). Anglers will be required to provide their names, dates of birth, addresses, telephone numbers, and the regions where they intend to fish, although they will not be restricted to fishing only in those regions and will not be required to register separately for each region in which they fish. There will be no charge to register until 2011, at which point an annual registration fee of about \$25 a year will apply. All fees collected through this federal program will go to the U.S. treasury.

Those exempted from Registry requirements are: anglers under the age of 16; those who only fish on licensed charter, party or guide boats; hold a Highly Migratory Species Angling permit; or hold and are fishing under a valid commercial or subsistence fishing license or permit. The National Saltwater Angler Registry is a federal, not state, requirement. State fishing license fees will continue to be required. It takes only a few minutes to register online. If you have a North Carolina Saltwater Fishing License you do not have to register, however, you **MUST** have your NC license on your person for it to count as your Registry when fishing in Virginia or other waters.

### Global News:

The nation's top federal fisheries agency is proposing to keep illegal fishing boats from entering U.S. ports as a way to help combat over-fishing.

Under the proposed rule, the assistant administrator for fisheries at the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration](#) would be able to bar boats that have been cited for illegal or unregulated fishing by a fisheries management agency.

# Tournament News

## RESULTS:

### Virginia / North Carolina Striped Bass

Tough weather conditions and relatively poor fishing hindered our annual rockfish tourney. I only know of 8 members that tried. But a few did manage to catch fish – including a brave soul (Rob Choi) on a kayak.

Results as follows:

Weight:

Rob Choi – 36-0 (wins Greentop giftcard)

Vic Skakandy – 15-8

Points:

Parks Rountrey 35-8 on 8# gen. for 394 points (wins Greentop giftcard)

Fred Cousins 3-14 on 2 spin for 96 points

## UPCOMING TOURNAMENT:

### Elizabeth River Speck Trout & Redfish Tourney:

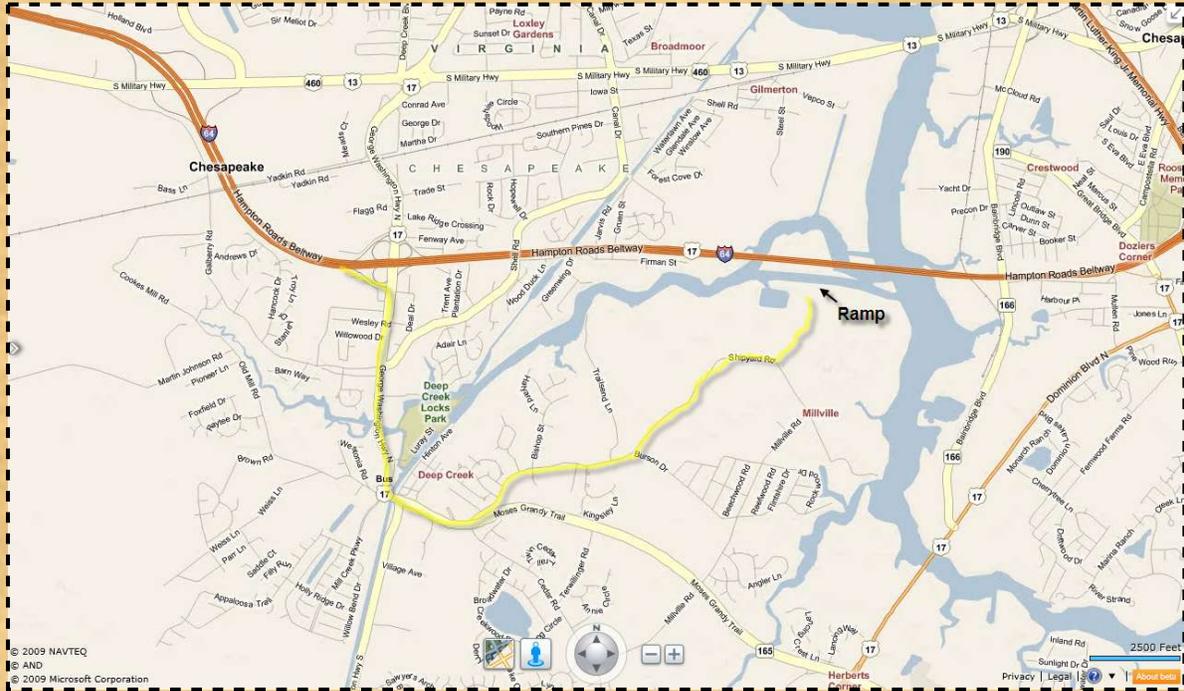
February 6-7 (blow date Feb. 13-14)

Our tourney will be at a peak time for big winter spotted seatrout at the “Hot Ditch”. We have added red drum to this event because they are so abundant here this year. Tournament headquarters will be at the Chesapeake Yacht Ramp (\$10 fee – honor box at office), 1700 Shipyard Road in Chesapeake VA. (see map). These fish can be caught on all the same artificials used in other areas, but floating live baits under corks or slow trolling are arguably the most productive methods for the heaviest trout. For light tackle points - various soft plastic baits and mirro-lures are effective on light spinning and plug gear. This is a new venue for our club and is very easy to get to and fish in any trailerable boat or even kayaks. If you have not tried it before, be sure to plan on fishing and learning with us. Contact Chairman to confirm event if weather is questionable.

**Social gathering at the ramp at 3:30 to 4:30 PM Saturday** will include hot fish chowder and hot coffee. You can register your catches at the social or wait till later by calling or e-mail entries to Angling Activities Chairman Parks Rountrey 804-349-6001 (prountrey@comcast.net).

Two ways to win! We will recognize three places for heaviest weight fish and three places for highest point fish for each species. First = 3 pts. Second = 2 pts. Third = 1 pt. These points will apply towards the annual Salt Water Tournament Angler of the Year competition. A fish can be entered by weight or points (angler must declare which category) but not both ways for 1 fish. Only 2 fish per species can be entered per person.

# The Hot Ditch





**VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 1/11/09**

**SPECIES ANGLER WEIGHT LN DIV. PTS DATE LOCATION BAIT**

**2010 SPECIES LEADERS - SALTWATER**

BASS, STRIPED JP Rountrey 35-8 8 Gen 394 12/30/09 Kiptopeke, Va. Eel

**2010 SPECIES LEADERS - FRESHWATER**

PERCH, WHITE F Cousins 1-9 2 Spin 411 12/30/09 Elizabeth River, Va. Grub

**2010 DIVISION LEADERS - SALTWATER**

BASS, STRIPED JP Rountrey 35-8 8 Gen 394 12/30/09 Kiptopeke, Va. Eel

**2010 DIVISION LEADERS - FRESHWATER**

PERCH, WHITE F Cousins 1-9 2 Spin 411 12/30/09 Elizabeth River, Va. Grub

**2009 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - SALTWATER**

BASS, STRIPED L Houser 44-5

**2009 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - FRESHWATER**

PERCH, WHITE F Cousins 1-9

**NEW CLUB RECORDS - SALTWATER**

BASS, STRIPED L Houser 44-5 16 Gen 276 12/7/09 Chesapeake Bay, Virginia Eel  
 BASS, STRIPED R Choi 36-0 50 Braid 120 12/18/09 Kiptopeke, Va. Eel

**NEW CLUB RECORDS - FRESHWATER**

PERCH, WHITE F Cousins 1-9 2 Spin 411 12/30/09 Elizabeth River, Va. Grub

**Quiz Answers  
(from page 6)**

<b>ANSWERS TO JANUARY QUIZ</b>		
<u>VAC Entry Card Submissions By Species</u> (TOP TEN BY CURRENT MEMBERS)		
<b>ANSWERS</b>		
<u>Species</u>		<u>Historic Number of Cards Submitted</u>
Red Drum	1	441
Bluefish	2	275
Trout - Rainbow	3	255
Bass - LM	4	235
Bass - Striped	5	223
Shad - Hickory	6	211
Amberjack - Grtr.	7	200
Perch - Yellow	8	200
Seatrout - Spotted	9	192
Shad - American	10	183



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# Robert Thomas

## Fishing Adventures

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

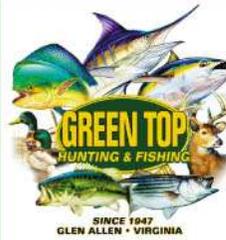
### MattyJ Saltwater Flies

(804) 266-5458

[rtphotography@comcast.net](mailto:rtphotography@comcast.net)

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Design and Layout: Rob Choi

**Reminder: VAC Awards Banquet, January 23, 2010**

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