

Spring is finally here!

The Virginia

Angler

RICHMOND VIRGINIA

March 2010

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**Next Membership Meeting:**  
March 23, 2010 - 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*

**SHAD TRIFECTA FEATURED  
AT THE MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Virginia is for Lovers and the James River is for anglers who love to catch shad. The shad journey upstream seeking romance and anglers journey onto the river seeking these finny lovers.

The March Membership Meeting will have three features related to catching shad. Department of Game and Inland Fisheries Biologist Dean Fowler will talk about the habits, biology and other good things that should help tilt the scales in favor of the anglers. Dean works out of Richmond / Ashland, and covers a fairly wide area of tidal responsibility (Potomac south to the Appomattox), as well as working within the district that includes the Richmond area west to Charlottesville. Dean's picture appears on page 11. Friend of the VAC Capt. Tommy Matioli again graciously tied and donated to the VAC an ample

assortment of flies for raffle, including killer shad flies (details on page 4) Finally, the art of fly tying will be demonstrated by some members of the VAC at various tying "stations" in a format that will allow attendees to walk around and see how the "pros" make sure-fire shad catching flies and other artificial baits. The March Meeting is definitely one not to miss.

## ARE YOU READY TO TAKE A FALL BELOW THE FALL LINE??

OK, you are standing your Jon Boat which is securely anchored over the hottest shad hole on the entire James River. While you stand, fly rod in hand and madly stripping line to support a world class cast, some dumb ninny in a center console zips by, putting out an impressive wake, and dumps your splendid butt into the James where you can observe the shad up close and personal. Hypothermia suddenly becomes a real and present danger that has to be addressed immediately. An excellent article from the current electronic edition of the DGIF's March Outdoor report has been shamelessly stolen and is presented in full on page 9 of this issue of *The Angler*.

A quick read may someday save your or a friend's life. Don't challenge hypothermia unless you know how.

*BACKLASH continued on Page 2...*



BACKLASH continued from Page 1.

## **TWO RAFFLES FEATURED AT THE MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Two items will be raffled off at the March Membership Meeting. GreenTop Sporting Goods has again generously provided the VAC with a \$25 Gift Certificate to raffle off at each of the 10 Membership Meetings in 2010. The assortment of flies donated by Capt. Tommy Matioli rounds out the offering (see page 4).

## **VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB DONATES TO VCU'S STURGEON RESEARCH PROGRAM**

The annual budget of the VAC contains a line item with money for special donations to activities or organizations which do, in the opinion of the BOD, do worthy work that enhances the angling environment. Other such funds are approved for specific recipients. At the March BOD meeting, the Board Members present voted unanimously to donate \$100 to the VCU Rice Center's program on sturgeon research. VAC Member and VCU doctoral candidate Matt Balazik will be sure this donation is put to good use.

## **INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS FOR STURGEON RESEARCH ENROURAGED BY THE VAC**

In another move that will hopefully enhance funding for the Rice Center's Sturgeon Research Program, the BOD cast its support and encouragement for Members of the Virginia Anglers Club (and the general public) to make individual donations to this worthy work. On page 5 of this copy of *The Angler*, Parks Rountrey presents this program of support in detail and describes how donations by individual VAC Members can be made and will be summarized so the generosity of the VAC Membership will be known in total.

## **DEADLINE FOR DUES PAYMENT (FEBRUARY 28, 2010) HAS PASSED**

The three-month grace period over which late VAC membership dues are forgiven ended on February 28, 2010. Catches submitted for credit on entry cards caught after that date, by Members who have not renewed their dues, will not be considered for record credit of any kind. Once membership dues are made current, then catches submitted for record after the date of payment will again accepted. This includes submissions for credit for tournament participation, club records or individual catch records. Payment is easy on-line in the "member's area" of the VAC web site, by cash or by check. All members whose dues are in arrears have received reminders of dues being overdue (if their addresses are current in the roster).

## **SCALE CERTIFICATION OFFERED AT MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

Weigh Master Larry Allen and his crew will be set up at the March Membership Meeting to certify member's scales. Same drill as last time, scales in plastic bags with closures (e.g.: Ziploc®), owner's name on the bag and clean scale barrels so certification stickers can adhere.

## **PLEASE RETURN ANNUAL AWARD BANQUET QUESTIONNAIRES**

A number of members present at the February Membership Meeting picked up annual awards banquet questionnaires from Vic Skakandy at the meeting. If you have not returned them to Vic, please bring them to the March Meeting or send them to Vic via snail mail or e-mail. Opinions of wives, significant others or other guests who attended the Banquet are very welcome too.

## **NEW MEMBER "CLUB BUCKS" PUT INTO CIRCULATION**

The Membership/Orientation committee gives a "Club Buck" worth \$10 at the VAC Country Store to each new member coming into the club. The "Club Buck" program covers new members joining the club starting in January, 2009 and continuing to the future. There are still eight (8) qualifying new members who have not picked up their "Club Buck". Please come to the March Membership Meeting and see John Wetlaufer, Sr. to pick up your valuable "Buck". The \$10 exactly covers the cost of one of the new batch of VAC "T" shirts, available with short or long sleeves, in multiple colors and all featuring the coveted pocket.

## **NAME TAGS USE REQUESTED AT MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

All anglers and guests attending VAC Membership Meetings are encouraged at the Country Store to pick up, fill out and wear an adhesive-backed name tag. This helps new members learn the names of members of longer standing and vice versa. Also, if you have been in the club a while, you can identify the name of an angler with whom you have talked but whose name you cannot remember. No shame in this; name retention is a common malady.

## **LIST OF VAC HOLDERS OF IGFA WORLD RECORD BEING DEVELOPED**

An "official" list is being developed of current VAC Members who have held or currently hold IGFA World Records. See how you can help keep it current and accurate in the future and what the status of this list is on page 4 of this *Angler*. With your help, this list can become a lasting and accurate part of the VAC.

For the Leadership Team  
John Wetlaufer, Sr., Director



**CATCHY COMMENTS**

by Buddy Noland

**Robbie Robinson** and **Mike Cline** started off the first weekend of February by catching over 60 Yellow Perch in one day on the Chickahominy River. Other anglers around them tried to duplicate their jigs and fishing technique, but no one came close. They kept seven Yellow Perch over a pound with the largest being a 1-4 pounder landed on 2# spin by **Robbie**. Other members have been back to the Chick since, but with not as much success.

Fishing the Mattaponi River February 18<sup>th</sup>, **Billy Nicar** landed several nice Yellow Perch. **Billy** entered a 1-3 pound Perch on 2# line using a minnow for bait. This fish will take the “species” and “heaviest” leads with 252 points.

**Dean Winstead** and **Jeff Doughty** also fished the Mattaponi River but didn’t have as much success as **Billy Nicar**. To start off the morning, **Dean** broke his brand new Costa del Mar sunglasses as soon as he stepped out of the truck. Then, launched his new boat for the second time this year and broke his landing net pushing off from the ramp. Then, after getting the boat up to speed, tested how well the prop plows through the mud several bends down the river. The water pump was still pumping on the motor so, no foul. **Dean** then tried to jump a submerged wooden barge several hundred yards farther down the river. That didn’t work out too well and they were high and dry! Throwing the new anchor to pull them off didn’t work out either when it hung in the metal spikes of the barge. **Dean** had lost one anchor during the first voyage on the Elizabeth River several weeks previously and was not going to lose another. Into the 38 degree water he went, with **Jeff** shouting encouragements all the time! **Dean** retrieved the anchor, and after finally catching his breath, carefully made their way back to the ramp. The Yellow Perch were spared another day by the duo. **Dean** says that he has had all the fun he wants on the Mattaponi and never needs to go back!

Several days later, **Scott Johnston** was fly fishing the Piscataway River using 6 pound tippet and a Clouser fly. That morning, **Scott** landed a 14 ounce Yellow Perch worth 198 points that takes the “fly

Matt Balazik with his 4-0 Largemouth Bass on 2# spin



division” lead. In the afternoon, **Scott** caught a 2-0 pound Chain Pickerel worth 145 points for the “species” and “heaviest” leads. Not a bad day fishing!

**Parks Rountrey** and **Matt Balazik** were fishing the Chickahominy River together the end of February. **Matt** entered a 4-0 pound Largemouth Bass on 2# spin using a jig. The fish is worth 266 points and is now the “species” and “heaviest” leader. **Matt** says that Parks really knows how to use a camera to get the best out of a fish. It really looks huge in the photo!

**Fred Murray** had the “highest point” and best catch of the past month. **He** and **Bob Shepherd** were again fishing the James River for record Blue Catfish. **Bob** currently holds the 4# class IGFA world record with a 47-9 Blue Catfish. So far this year, **Fred** has landed four catfish larger than **Bob’s** current world record and all while fishing with **Bob**. **Fred** finally entered a 53-0 pound fish for a potential IGFA record. The last Catfish **Fred** landed was a 55-0 pounder. **He** finally filled out a club entry card which is worth 586 points. To beat it all, **Bob’s** 63-0 pound Blue Catfish caught last month on 6# line, still leads the “highest point” and “heaviest” categories. And the saga continues. **Fred** wants one over 60 pounds on 4# line!

**Pete Nicholson** emailed me and said that several friends of his caught 21 Hickory Shad on the Nottoway River earlier this week. Only one was a roe and the rest were bucks. They’re here!

Best of luck,

Buddy

Robert Thomas’ Belize Barracuda on Fly





**MARCH ANGLER'S QUIZ**

The March Angler's Quiz asks the reader to rank order by tackle class all catch entries ever entered into the VAC records system. As of this writing, the number of all time entries is 11,068, or about an average of 226 entries per angling year.

<b>MARCH 2010 ANGLER'S QUIZ</b>		
<u>VAC All Time Submission By Tackle Class</u> (Most to Least By Tackle Class)		
<u>Tackle Class</u>		<u>Submission Rank</u> (Most to Least)
Braid		
Fly		
General		
Plug		
Spin		
Surf		

**JEFFERSON CUPS FOR SPECIES AWARDS AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE**

Winners of annual species awards (both points and weight) may individually purchase engraved pewter Jefferson Award cups from Bunkie Trinite Trophies. Bunkie-Trinite Trophies is the source of all engraved awards given by the Club and is located at 12 E. Grace Street in downtown Richmond. Their phone number is (804)-648-2416. When you visit the store or call to place your order, ask for Chris Trinity. VAC Records Custodian Danny Noland has provided Chris with a list of the 2009 Angling Year Species Award Winners.

**TOMMY MATIOLI FLIES OFFERED IN SPECIAL RAFFLE**

An ample assortment of flies tied and donated to the VAC by Capt. Tommy Matioli will be awarded to the lucky winner of the special raffle at the March Membership Meeting. The assortment will include shad, regular and small clousers, half and halves and crease flies. Poppers will also be in the mix. Chances are \$1 each and six for \$5. See Don West before and during the March meeting to purchase your raffle tickets.

**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). Off the wall, well founded, personal interest or what ever...don't hold back, send 'em all to Fred.

**MANY VAC MEMBERS HOLD CURRENT IGFA WORLD RECORDS**

(AN UPDATE)

The table in the February *Angler* presented under the above heading contained some unintentional numerical errors and omissions of current VAC Members who hold IGFA World Records or who have held such records in the past. With the assistance of Bill DuVal, John Wetlaufer, Sr. is making an attempt to develop a list that documents all current VAC Members who hold/have held such IGFA World Record. A draft list was made up from names of current VAC members who responded to two requests for IGFA record information or who where too shy to respond but were felt likely to be holders of IGFA World Records. Thanks to all who responded and helped develop this list.

The draft list was submitted to the IGFA for verification and update. Becky Wright at the IGFA Headquarters generously searched their World Record database and returned a detailed tabulation of the names and the catch detail of each record currently or previous held and bested. This data will be formatted and sent out to all via an informational e-mail. Their records go back to 1860.

The list will become the "official" list of VAC IGFA World Record holders. An attempt will be made to keep it current. When you submit a potential world record, please let John know [jlwsr@rcn.com / 804-513-4677(C)] so he can enter the submission as a potential submitted and, hopefully, later as another world record gained by a member of The Virginia Anglers Club. This listing will eventually appear on the VAC Website (www.virginiaanglersclub.org).

## VAC Supports Sturgeon Restoration Project

You may remember a great picture of VAC member Matt Balazik with a monster James River Sturgeon in the Club Newsletter in September, or read about it in the Richmond Times Dispatch. The 300 pound fish was apparently spawning or had just spawned – in the fall – not the spring. Atlantic sturgeon in the Chesapeake Bay are severely depleted and life history aspects are little understood - so this was a newsworthy fish. Matt is working on sturgeon as part of his PhD studies at VCU. News of Matt successfully capturing this impressive relic of the past was echoed around the country in fisheries science circles. It was inspiring to me personally as I have always wondered how and if the few remaining sturgeon are hanging-on in the James.

Matt's fish was released unharmed, but unfortunately without a tracking tag. That seemed a terrible shame – so I asked why? Turns out that there is no funding for Matt's sturgeon work. He mostly does it with his own time and limited funds and whatever he can beg and borrow from friends.

I recently asked Matt to come fishing with me and to take some time to explain how it could be that something this important had no research grant or other funding source. We had a good fishing trip and I learned more about Matt's work and his passion to understand and help the Atlantic sturgeon. His work is trying to determine vital life history movements of the Atlantic sturgeon in the James River. The species is currently struggling with a severely reduced population. The James River is currently the only known reproducing population in the Chesapeake Bay drainage. This research is not only vital to helping James River Atlantic sturgeon but also to potentially restoring Atlantic sturgeon to the entire Chesapeake Bay.

Matt's plan includes gill netting for large Atlantic sturgeon returning to spawn and learning about their timing and movements. He uses large mesh gill nets that have little or no bycatch and the nets are tended every two hours so any catch is released alive. I also learned that Matt's project desperately needs 14 electronic tracking tags (\$400 each) and money to pay for sampling gear, fuel and expenses to capture the fish; about \$12,000 of total funding. The tags will be used to monitor movements of sturgeon after capture. I also found that in the world of research grants, this dollar amount is so small that it does not appeal to the major funding sources or the University research institutions that apply for study grants.

Matt's passion for sturgeon is contagious and I have been actively encouraging people to help. I found that any support given to Matt's sturgeon project would be run thru the Rice Center at VCU and any donations would be tax deductible. Our Club Board voted to send \$100 to the Rice center to help fund the sturgeon project. Several club members have also made donations. I am hoping that others in the club will want to help. Matt has had some unique T-shirts printed up that are being given (while they last) to anyone that makes a \$100 or greater donation. We will have some of these shirts on hand at the March club meeting for anyone willing to step up that night. If you are not at the meeting and want to support the project just contact Catherine Dahl at 804-827-7372 or email at [ccdahl@vcu.edu](mailto:ccdahl@vcu.edu) and tell her you would like to make a donation to the Rice Center specifically for Atlantic sturgeon research. Or you can just send a check made out to the VCU Rice Center to her address below with a notation "sturgeon research".

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

Online donations can be made if you prefer. Simply go to [www.vcu.edu](http://www.vcu.edu) (VCU home page) and click on Support VCU on the far right of the black line - then click on Give on-line, it will direct you straight to the giving form -just designate Rice Center for Environmental Sciences - and follow the directions. Please could you also email [ccdahl@vcu.edu](mailto:ccdahl@vcu.edu) the amount and date of your donation so she can make sure that under the Rice Center it goes into the Sturgeon Account. Also e-mail or copy club president Mike Ostrander at [Mike@jamesriverfishing.com](mailto:Mike@jamesriverfishing.com) noting your donation so we can monitor the total club related support for the project.

Thanks,  
Parks Rountrey

## CAPE HATTERAS NATIONAL SEASHORE “BEACH DRIVING” DEIS

Those interested in beach access issues on Cape Hatteras National Seashore are now able to see the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) that is now available. Here is a synopsis of DEIS information appearing on the National Parks Traveler web site, <http://www.nationalparkstraveler.com>. Googling **Cape Hatteras National Seashore DEIS** will also bring additional details and background information to your monitor.

Improved access for vehicles and pedestrians, better parking, and vehicle capacity limits are among the items contained in the draft off-road-vehicle management plan released by the Cape Hatteras National Seashore officials. The 800 page DEIS seeks to find a suitable middle ground between the access ORVers want and protection for threatened or endangered shorebirds and sea turtles sought by environmental and conservation groups. It will be open for public review for 60 days before a final decision is made on an official ORV management plan for the seashore. The Seashore's lack of an official ORV management plan led conservation groups a few years back to sue the National Park Service to protect bird and turtle nesting from ORV traffic..

Seashore officials have produced a DEIS that looks at five options, two of which essentially are "no action" proposals. Among the provisions of the seashore's preferred alternative are:

- \* A permit system for ORV access, although no permit limit would be instituted;
  
- \* Annual and short-term permits would be available;
  
- \* There would be a "carrying-capacity requirement (peak use limit) for all areas based on a physical space requirement of one vehicle per 20 linear feet for Bodie Island, Hatteras Island, and Ocracoke Island Districts, except that 400 vehicles would be allowed within a 1-mile area centered on Cape Point";
  
- \* There would be a variety of access points for "both ORV and pedestrian users, including access to the spits and points, but often with controls or restrictions in place to limit impacts on sensitive resources. This means that some areas may be kept open to ORV users for longer periods of time by reopening some ORV corridors at the spits and points sooner after shorebird breeding activity is completed" than would be allowed in other alternatives, "or by improving interdunal road and ORV ramp access";
  
- \* Increasing parking at pedestrian-access points leading to vehicle-free areas of the seashore, and;
  
- \* Seasonal and year-round ORV routes would be designated, although they still could be impacted by temporary closures "when protected-species breeding behavior warrants and/or if new habitat is created."



# Legislation and Conservation

By Matt Balazik



## Local News:

**Summer Flounder:** There are new summer flounder regulations for Virginia. The new regulations are 18.5 inches long with a 4 per person per day bag limit. The past regulations were 19 inches with a 5 per person per day limit.

**Shad Fishing:** The first American shad of the year was shocked up at the fall line earlier this week. Remember, it is illegal to possess American shad in any tributaries that flow into the Chesapeake Bay. You can however possess hickory shad below the fall line in Chesapeake Bay tributaries but not above. The easiest way to tell an American from a Hickory is size; American shad are typically bigger than hickory shad. Another distinct dissimilarity has to do with the bottom jaw. The bottom jaw of an American shad is directly inline with the upper jaw; hickory shad have a very large under bite.



American Shad



Hickory Shad

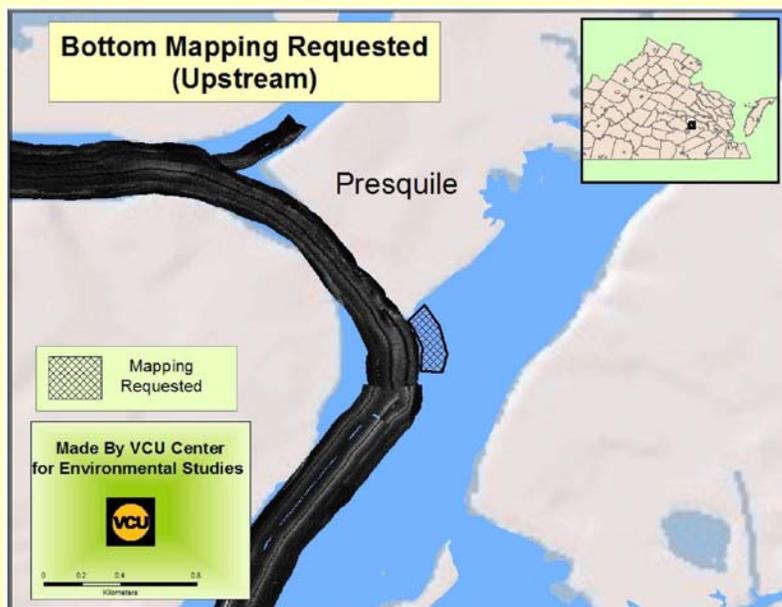
**Herring:** There is not going to be a moratorium on river herring this year (bluebacks and alewives). This is due to lack of data by the VMRC in our area. They need two years of data before a decision will be made. This means a moratorium is likely going to happen in 2012. You may possess these fish below the fall line but please use good judgment. Neither of these species are doing well.

**REMEMBER, YOU NEED TO BE REGISTERED WITH NOAA TO FISH FOR SHAD AND HERRING (ANADROMOUS FISH) [www.countmyfish.noaa.gov](http://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov)**

## Very Local:

**Sturgeon:** I would like to give a very special **thank you** to the Fly Fishers of Virginia for their very generous donation to local sturgeon research. Special thanks need to go to Rob Thomas and JoAnn Lindstrom-Clark. Their donation will go towards buying a tracking tag.

Monitoring for the sturgeon reef off Presquile will also start on March 15<sup>th</sup>. If you happen to be in the area and see a boat that looks like a mad max war machine feel free to come say hello. Mesh area is reef location.



## National:

**Bluefin Tuna:** The US and EU (European Union) has agreed to prohibit international commercial trade of bluefin products to help manage populations. Bluefin tuna stocks are estimated to have dropped about 80% over the last 40 years. Japan, which is the world's largest consumer of bluefin tuna, said they will not comply with the ban.

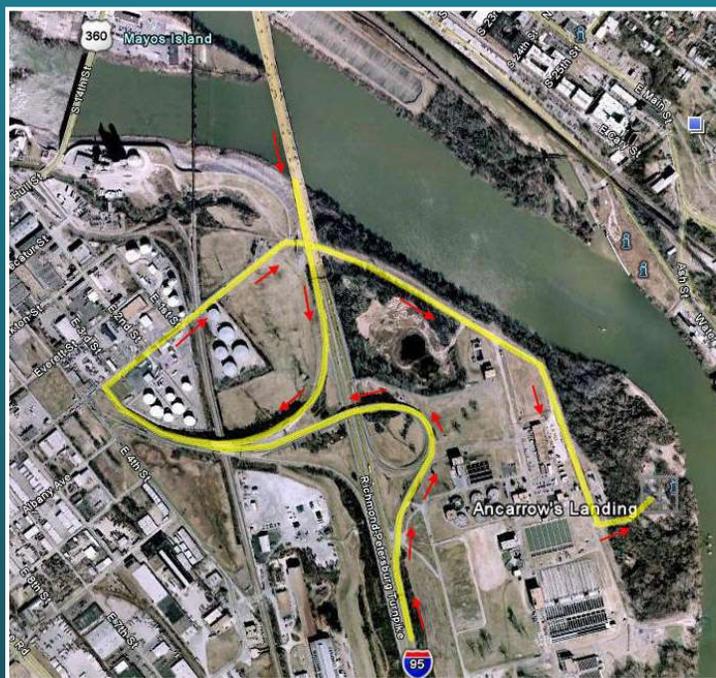
# Tournament News

## James River Hickory Shad & White Perch April 10 -11 (blow date April 17-18)



Our tourney date is near peak shad time and just on the front end of the traditional peak perch run. If we are early in the runs fishing may be better down river as opposed to the I-95 area. The only potential problem is potential high muddy floodwaters that can sometimes make the James un-fishable for a few days in the spring. Small spoons, shad darts and very small plastic grubs can be effective on ultra-light spinning and plug gear. Fly fishing is sometimes more productive than the spinning outfits. Various flies work well, mostly with sinking lines, and just enough rod to throw the sinking line. Perch are often caught while targeting shad on the same lures. In deeper water silver buddies or any blade baits are very effective on white perch. Contact Chairman to confirm event dates if weather or River conditions are questionable.

**Social gathering at Parks' truck at the Ancarrow's ramp parking lot from 5:00 to 6:00 PM Saturday** will include snacks, hot coffee and hopefully a hot tailgate dish. 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).



This is essentially 2 tournaments on the sameweekend. A fish can be entered by weight or points (angler must declare which category) but not both ways for 1 fish. One angler can win both weight and points divisions by entering 2 different fish. One angler can only turn in two fish of each species (4 total). Call in entries within 24 hours from the end of tournament to Angling Activities Chairman Parks Rountrey 804-349-6001. You can not change the entry category once you have registered it with the Chairman. You do not need to fill out cards to turn in for the tournament, but do need a card if you want it to be registered as a club entry.

Tournament First Place Awards for both species by weight and points = Anglers Choice: Traditional pewter cup, \$40 Greentop gift certificate or a VAC Banquet ticket.

## HYPOTHERMIA – IT MAY BE JUST A FEW FEET AWAY

With the anticipated start of the annual shad run, a number of VAC Members will be out on the James. It would be good to read thru the following article that appeared in a March 2010 edition of the DGIF's Outdoor Report (digital version) and contains good information about hypothermia. Hypothermia lurks just over the gunwale and is nothing to take lightly. Take note of the need to call 911 right away for medical assistance if you or fishing buddy experiences hypothermia. Read on; the information below could save your life:

### “Hypothermia Lurks in Dangerous Combination of Warm Air and Cold Water

A sudden tumble into cold water, be it a lake, river, or small stream; can dangerously lower your body temperature leading to **hypothermia**. Even when the air temperature is in the 40s, hypothermia may occur when the body's temperature drops below 95 degrees Fahrenheit. Symptoms of this condition include change in mental status, uncontrollable shivering, cool abdomen and a low core body temperature. **Treat hypothermia by protecting the victim from further heat loss** and calling for immediate medical attention. Get the victim out of the cold. Add insulation such as blankets, pillows, towels or newspapers beneath and around the victim. Be sure to cover the victim's head. Replace wet clothing with dry clothing. Handle the victim gently because rough handling can cause cardiac arrest. Keep the victim in a horizontal (flat) position.

*Dress for comfort and safety* and always be prepared for problems which may arise out on the cold water. Let someone know your destination and expected return time. Carry a spare change of clothes in a dry bag in case you get wet—wool coat or sweater, socks, gloves, and knit cap. Regardless of weather conditions, always wear your life jacket!”



### Captain's Corner

By Mike Ostrander

As we move into the spring fishing season, I expect much of our ‘tackle’ time is going to turn into ‘fishing’ time. Hopefully the next newsletter will be flooded (probably shouldn't use that word during shad season) with great angling images. Gotta love the spring season!

A big thanks to our speaker last month, Tom Guess, Statewide Coordinator, Boating Safety Education for DGIF. He gave an informative presentation on the current boater's licensing program. For the March meeting Fred Murray has put together a superb fly tying demonstration and shad restoration update to get us all inspired for the 2010 shad fishing season. I imagine after this month's Tuesday evening meeting, we'll see a bunch of VAC members and friends on the James River fishing the wee hours of Wednesday morning trying out new shad flies!

Fishing is the heart and soul of our club. We are an “Angling” club. But something I saw unfold recently involves what I believe truly makes this club great. The synergy that can happen between members is incredible. New member Matt Balazik made an effort to become involved in the club. He is our current Conservation and Legislation committee chairman. Matt got to know Parks Rountrey, and over the past year they have fished together a few times. During their time on the water, Parks learned about Matt's conservation work with sturgeon on the James River, and was moved by his passion and dedication. So Parks followed with some creative thinking and easily motivated the BOD to support Matt's sturgeon research.

I'm not sure what is going to follow next, but I'm betting many members will see what great work is being done by one of our own members and follow Parks lead in supporting this conservation effort. I know I will.

I look forward to seeing you all at the next meeting. Until then, happy fishing.

Mike Ostrander  
President



## VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 3/10/09

**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
DRUM, RED	M Balazik	4-12	2	Spin	118	1/14/10	Elizabeth River, Va.	Jig
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	3-3	2	Spin	212	1/13/10	Elizabeth River, Va.	Grub

### 2010 SPECIES LEADERS - FRESHWATER

BASS, LARGEMOUTH	M Balazik	4-0	2	Spin	266	2/27/10	Chickahominy River, Va.	Jig
CATFISH, BLUE	B Shepherd	63-0	6	Gen	592	1/1/10	James River, Va.	Cut Bait
PERCH, WHITE	F Cousins	1-9	2	Spin	411	12/30/09	Elizabeth River, Va.	Grub
PERCH, YELLOW	W Nicar	1-3	2	Gen	252	2/18/10	Mattaponi River	Minnow
PICKERAL, CHAIN	WS Johnston	2-0	6	Fly	145	2/21/10	Piscataay River, Va.	Clouser

### 2010 DIVISION LEADERS - SALTWATER

BASS, STRIPED	JP Rountrey	35-8	8	Gen	394	12/30/09	Kiptopeke, Va.	Eel
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	3-3	2	Spin	212	1/13/10	Elizabeth River, Va.	Grub

### 2010 DIVISION LEADERS - FRESHWATER

PERCH, WHITE	F Cousins	1-9	2	Spin	411	12/30/09	Elizabeth River, Va.	Grub
CATFISH, BLUE	B Shepherd	63-0	6	Gen	592	1/1/10	James River, Va.	Cut Bait
PERCH, YELLOW	WS Johnston	0-14	6	Fly	198	2/21/10	Piscataway River, Va.	Clouser

### 2010 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - SALTWATER

BASS, STRIPED	L Houser	44-5						
DRUM, RED	M Balazik	4-12						
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	3-3						

### 2010 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - FRESHWATER

BASS, LARGEMOUTH	M Balazik	4-0						
CATFISH, BLUE	B Shepherd	63-0						
PERCH, WHITE	F Cousins	1-9						
PERCH, YELLOW	W Nicar	1-3						
PICKERAL, CHAIN	WS Johnston	2-0						

### 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
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### C.V. KINNARD AWARD COMPETITION - thru 3/10/09

ANGLER	FIRSTS	SECONDS	THIRDS	PLACES	POINTS	AVERAGE
Fred Murray	1	0	0	1	586	586
Fred Cousins	0	1	0	1	411	411
Parks Rountrey	0	0	1	1	394	394



Come and listen to Department of Game and Inland Fisheries Biologist Dean Fowler talk about the well anticipated shad at this months meeting!

### Quiz Answers (from page 6)

ANSWERS TO MARCH 2010 ANGLER'S QUIZ		
VAC All Time Submission By Tackle Class (Most to Least By Tackle Class)		
ANSWERS		
Tackle Class	Rank	Percent of All Time Submissions By Tackle Class
General	1	35%
Spin	2	29%
Fly	3	15%
Plug	4	13%
Surf	5	8%
Braid	6	< 1%

# Robert Thomas

## Fishing Adventures

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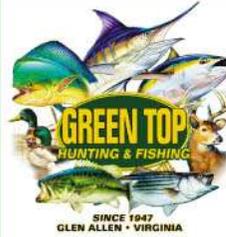
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**NEXT MEETING:  
Tuesday, March 23rd at Skilligalee's**



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