

Summer time  
Fun time!



August 2014

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### **NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING –**

**August 26, 2014 7:00 pm**

**Nick's Roman Terrace Restaurant**

**Westland Shopping Center**

**8051 W. Broad Street**

**(About 3 Blocks East of Parham & Broad)**

Dinner from the menu available starting at 5:30 PM

Happy Hour Ends at 7:00 PM

(Appetizers Half Off, Beer and Wine at Reduced Prices)

Beverage and Food Service Available

During the Meeting

### **SEPTEMBER PROGRAM – JOHN WILLIAMS CHEASAPEAKE BAY FOUNDATION**

**(Program Details in the September Angler)**

### **NEXT TOURNAMENT - JAMES RIVER CATFISH**

**(SEPTEMBER 6TH AND 7TH)**

**(blow date following weekend)**

Here is another tournament right in our own back yard. The favorite fishing area of James River for this catfish tournament is local waters just like the Kelly Stafford Memorial Shad Tournament. Please see page 7 of this issue of The Angler for complete James River Catfish Tournament details.

This tournament is an excellent opportunity to add a youngster in your fishing part. The Youth in Youth Awards can be any kid less than 18 years old. Besides having the "kid's" tackle fish by VAC requirements, a VAC member must witness the catch for a catch to qualify.



### **BACKLASH**

*Commentary from the  
Board of Directors*

*-By John Wetlaufer, Sr.*

### **AUGUST PROGRAM – UNDER CONSTRUCTION**

Art and Steve have a long list of potential speakers for coming VAC Membership Meetings. They are working to coordinate availability and our date requirements with the persons on their list. Please look in the August issue of The Angler for details of the coming Membership Meeting

### **VIRGINIA/CAROLINA FLOUNDER TOURNAMENT REPORT JULY 19TH AND 20TH**

(No Entries Received – No Winners nor Losers)



**JAMES RIVER FLOAT TRIP – A NICE DAY ON AN UNCROWDED RIVER**

**July 19th**

Steve Knox led three other VAC Members on a lazy float trip down the James River from the Hardware River Wildlife Management Area downstream to Bremono Bluff. The anglers enjoyed leisurely small mouth bass fishing and the challenges of some of the shallow water near rapids. One could say the kayaks were the vessel of choice for the shallows and obstructions and that Art Conway scraped by the thin water obstructions in his unique fishing platform. Look for pictures of this stretch of the river and the quartet of VAC members who had the pleasure of a day out on the James.

**2015 DGIF OUTDOOR CALENDARS AVAILABLE AT AUGUST MEETING**

Special Activities Chairman Don West will have 2015 DGIF Outdoor Calendars for our annual calendar sale at the August Membership Meeting. The selling price remains the same as last year.... \$8.00 each. Please have your customers lined up and see Don for however many calendars you need. Generous terms are available for multiple copy "orders". Pay by cash or check.

**HOME CALENDAR DELIVERY AVAILABLE!**

Don West will personally deliver to you any number of 2015 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 pick calendars up from Don.

**OFFICER NOMINATION TIME IS COMING**

The VAC Nominating Committee for 2015 leadership positions for the Virginia Anglers would like members to start thinking about VAC Members who would be good candidates for the Committee to consider for the 2015 slate of officers. Members can nominate other members or themselves for voted positions of Directors and Officers of the VAC or ask to be considered for appointment as Committee Chairman. Please you're your nominations along to President Bob Brown (mrbbrownjr@comcast.net).

**NEXT COUNTRY STORE OPENING – AUGUST 26TH**

The Country Store will be open at the August 26th Membership Meeting.



**ITEMS OF INTEREST FOUND ELSEWHERE IN THIS ISSUE OF THE ANGLER**

**THE FIRST ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN SPORTSMAN EXPO**

Hampton Convention Center September 13th -14th, 2014 See Page 4

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO HELP OUR VETS ENJOY ANGLING**

Heroes on the Water (HOW) Seeks Volunteer Anglers To Help Wounded Vets Thru Angling Activates. See Page 4



**LATEST VDGIF FORECASTS LAKES, RIVERS, WALLEYES AND LM BASS**

Just Released Forecasts by VDGIF Fisheries Biologists See Page 4

**VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLER'S CLUB 2ND ANNUAL FALL FISHING/BOATING FLEA MARKET  
OCTOBER 11, 2014**

Buy – Sell New, Used or Home-Made Fishing and Boating Gear See Page 6

**DON'T FORGET THE TEXAS RIG PLASTIC WORM**

Chris Dunnavant, the Angling Education Coordinator and Director of the Angler Recognition Program at the VDGIF, shows how to rig the Texas Rig Plastic Worm and how to use this simple, inexpensive and successful bait. See Page 6

**WISDOM FROM THE TACKLE BOX**

“There are two types of fisherman - those who fish for sport and those who fish for fish.” ~Author Unknown

For The Leadership Team,  
John Wetlaufer, Sr.  
Membership Chairman



**THE FIRST ANNUAL SOUTHEASTERN SPORTSMAN EXPO**  
**Hampton Convention Center September 13th -14th, 2014**

The first annual Southeastern Sportsman Expo scheduled at the Hampton Convention Center Sept 13-14, 2014 is also the new venue for the 75th East Regional Big Game Contest. This expo will showcase hunting, fishing, camping, and other sports for all outdoor enthusiasts. Over 25,000 square feet will be dedicated to outdoor sports equipment and services. SGK Gun Shows is proud to be partnering this year with the Virginia Peninsula Sportsmen's Association's 75th Annual Big Game Contest, the Official Virginia State Contest cosponsored by the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and the Harrisonburg-Rockingham Izaak Walton League. This year the West Regional and State Contest is September 26-28 (see details in Wild Events).

**HEROES ON THE WATER (HOW) SEEKS VOLUNTEER ANGLERS**  
**An Opportunity to Help Our Vets Enjoy Angling**



Heroes on the Water (HOW) is a non-profit organization committed to serving those military service members who have served for us. The Central Virginia Chapter of Heroes on the Water helps wounded warriors relax, rehabilitate, and reintegrate through kayak fishing and the outdoors in and around Central Virginia. We're looking for vets to serve and take fishing as well as volunteers to help. Both participants and volunteers are invited to come participate in a family friendly, relaxing and enjoyable atmosphere. If you know someone who may be interested, please send an email to [centralva@heroesonthewater.org](mailto:centralva@heroesonthewater.org) or by checking Central Virginia Heroes On the Water on Facebook at Heroes on the Water Central Virginia Chapter.

**FOUR FISHING FORECASTS FOR FASTIDIOUS FISHING FOLKS**

VDGIF Fisheries Biologists have released their annual reports that inform anglers on forecasts for Walleye fishing, Impoundments, Largemouth Bass Fishing and River Fishing. Virginia is an anglers paradise with over 176,000 acres of public lakes, primarily man-made impoundments, and 28,300 miles of fishable streams (1,000 miles tidal) that provide fishing opportunities for more than 600,000 licensed anglers. To review these four reports, click on these links:

2014 Walleye Fishing Forecast: <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing/forecasts-and-reports/walleye-forecast/>

2014 Impoundments Forecast: <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing/forecasts-and-reports/impoundments-forecast/>

2014 Largemouth Lakes Report: <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing/forecasts-and-reports/largemouth-bass-lakes/>

2014 River Fishing Forecast: <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov/fishing/forecasts-and-reports/river-fishing-report/>



### MIDDLE JAMES RIVER FLOAT TRIP



Steve Knox hosted this float trip that took four VAC Members from the Hardware River WMA to Bremono Bluff, a float of about seven miles. Here is a write up about the trip by Steve. Pictures from the trip can be found elsewhere in this issue of The Angler.

On Saturday July 19 four VAC members made a fun float trip on the middle James River from the Hardware River WMA ramp about seven miles down to the Bremono Bluff landing. Member Steve Knox organized the trip. He and Bob Brown made a scouting float in June to see what the route had to offer and decided this was as good as any.

On the big day four members met at the takeout point at Bremono Bluff. Steve, Bob, Art Conway, and Vic Skakandy showed up ready to fish, despite the unseasonably cool start. The air temperature was 65 degrees at launch, with the water about 78 degrees. Bob brought his trailer so they loaded their kayaks onto his trailer. Except Art Conway, who instead of a kayak brought his homebuilt "float boat" (Steve's term, not Art's). Since Art's craft comes in about 20 pieces he elected to drive himself to the launch....

The group launched about 7:00 to a clear day with calm winds. The river level was at a typical summer low (about 3.6' at Scottsville, which corresponds to about 4'+ at Westham). The few rapids were easily traversed, with nary a spill.

The fishing was typical of the summer doldrums. Everyone caught smallmouth bass and some sunfish. Bob caught "18-20" fish, with the rest trailing in behind. The largest fish was under 12", so no giants. They arrived at the takeout about 4:30. A long day, but a fun one. Ideal weather, a slow leisurely float, and good company. Steve says he's up for another club float next summer if not before.





## **VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLER'S CLUB 2ND ANNUAL FALL FISHING/BOATING FLEA MARKET - OCTOBER 11, 2014**

The Virginia Beach Angler's Club is sponsoring their 2nd Annual Fall Fishing/Boating Flea Market on October 11, 2014 at Capt. Max King's Marine, 3829 Shore Drive, Virginia Beach, VA 23445. Operating hours are 8:00 AM thru 3:00 PM.

Potential sale items services and merchandise targeting anglers or outdoorsmen. Sale items may included, but are not limited to, fresh or salt water gear, new, used, custom or home made equipment such as fishing rods, reels, lures, flies, tackle, storage boxes, electronic or gas motors, boating gear and electronics.

If you want to reserve a "booth", 10 foot by 10 foot spaces are available inside (limited number; first come, first served) and under cover outside priced at \$75 and \$50 each, respectively: limit 2 per vendor or individual. If tables are needed, 8 foot tables rent at \$10 per table; limit 2 max. Limited power is available. Set up hours are 5:30 – 7:30 AM. Market participants must vacate the area by 5:00 PM on the 11th.

If you need a Registration Form and a Participant's Agreement Form, please contact John Wetlaufer, Sr. (jlwsr@rcn.com) for a downloadable and printable form. These forms are required for participation in the Flea Market.

Additional details are available from Larry Regula at 757-472-7183 or Bob Stuhlman at 757-374-7372, both members of the Virginia Beach Angler's Club.

### **DON'T FORGET THE TEXAS RIG PLASTIC WORM**

By Chris Dunnivant

(From the 9/12/12 DGIF Outdoor Report)

Soft plastic baits come in a variety of shapes and sizes: centipedes, beavers, creatures, craws, flukes, frogs, senkos, hulas, zippers and on and on. The means to rig soft plastics is as extensive: shaky-head, drop shot, wacky, Carolina, split shot and on and on. Whatever happened to the good-ole, simple Texas rig plastic worm? Anybody used one of those lately?

The array of soft plastics and the multitude of rigs were designed in part to give bass a different look and gain an advantage by offering weary-eyed bass something new. Actually, with the variety of offerings and rigs available, it's likely that many a bass has not even seen a simple Texas rig plastic worm. What's old is new again, so maybe it's time to revisit an old friend!

The Texas rig worm is simply a bullet sinker, hook and a plastic worm. To rig it begin by threading the bullet sinker on the line, tie on the hook and then thread the hook about 3/8" into the head of the worm and exit. Then rotate the hook until the point is facing the worm and continue to thread

the hook through the worm until the eye of the hook is buried in the head of the worm. Lastly, place the point of the hook inside the worm, ensuring the worm is weedless and straight for proper swimming action.

I select my rod and reel combination and line size depending on the conditions, cover, depth of the water and size of the lure. My favorite combinations include a 6' 10" medium action spinning outfit, spooled with 8#, Berkley Trilene 100% Fluorocarbon. This light weight line is super tough and it can endure heavy cover well. Additionally, fishing with lighter spinning tackle is fun, the bait is presented more naturally and I am convinced you get more strikes. My next go-to worm rod is a 7' Med/Hvy to Heavy action baitcast outfit, spooled with 15# Trilene 100% Fluorocarbon. This outfit is great for heavy cover or for fishing deeper water structure.

When it comes to the terminal tackle of the rig, there are many choices available today. Lead sinkers used to be the mainstay, then brass, but now the top choice is tungsten. Tungsten is denser than lead and is half the size for the same weight – a huge advantage! I slip a rubber bobber-stop on my line before threading my sinker and then tying my hook. For hooks I use a Gamakatsu worm hook or a round bend worm hook. Typically, I use a 2/0 for 4" worms, 3/0 for 6-7", 4/0 for 8-9" and 5/0 for the larger worms. The size of the sinker depends on many factors including line size, water clarity, water depth, density of cover and the activity level of the bass. The key is to be able to make bottom contact with the worm. If you are having trouble feeling the bottom, go up a sinker size.

There is an endless choice of worm styles, sizes and colors, but keeping it simple is the key to sanity! I like the traditional ribbon tail or sickle tail worm the best. Straight tail worms have their place, but I find I use them predominantly with the shaky-head or drop shot rig. Only a few colors are needed: watermelon seed and green pumpkin for clear water and black and purple hues for stained to muddy conditions.

Bass fishing rigs and lure choices have become numerous and complex, but returning to the basics and keeping it simple can be fun and rewarding. The Texas rig is a timeless classic that will still catch plenty of fish; even those weary-eyed bass!



**The Texas rig worm is a timeless classic that bass can't resist.**

# TOURNAMENT NEWS



BY LEE ROTHGEB

## NEXT TOURNAMENT - JAMES RIVER CATFISH (SEPTEMBER 6TH AND 7TH)

THIS IS A NEW TOURNAMENT WITH PRIZES FOR FLATHEADS AND BLUE CATFISH. FISH MUST BE CAUGHT ON THE JAMES RIVER. THIS IS ESSENTIALLY 2 TOURNAMENTS ON THE SAME WEEKEND. 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 ENTER TWO FISH OF EACH SPECIES (4 TOTAL).

BLUE CATS WILL HIT CUT BAIT WITH GIZZARD SHAD PRODUCING GREAT RESULTS ON THE LOWER JAMES IF YOU FISH OUT OF THE JORDAN POINT AREA AND BLUEGILLS WORK WELL IN THE UPPER JAMES/PONY PASTURE AREA. THE FLATHEADS TEND TO GO FOR LIVE BAIT WITH A HEALTHY BLUEGILL GETTING GOOD RESULTS. GOLDFISH WILL WORK IN A PINCH IF YOU HAVE NO TIME FOR BAIT FISHING.

**TIMES: ALL SATURDAY AND SUNDAY**

CALL IN ENTRIES WITHIN 24 HOURS FROM THE END OF TOURNAMENT TO ANGLING ACTIVITIES CHAIRMAN LEE ROTHGEB AT 804-314-2990 OR EMAIL AT GARBAKK1021@AOL.COM. YOU CANNOT CHANGE AN ENTRY 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 WEIGHT AND POINTS = ANGLERS CHOICE: TRADITIONAL PEWTER CUP, \$40 GREEN TOP GIFT CARD OR A VAC BANQUET TICKET.

**IMPORTANT: WEIGHTS MUST BE SPECIFIED IN POUNDS AND OUNCES AND THE SPECIFIC SPECIES MUST BE IDENTIFIED SINCE THERE ARE TWO ELIGIBLE FOR THIS TOURNAMENT.**

### HELP KEEP ANGLING LEGAL – REPORT VIOLATIONS

#### Freshwater

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

#### Saltwater

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



Buddy Noland with a nice Wahoo



Buddy Noland with a 25# Amberjack



Johnny Wetlaufer and his 31# Amberjack on 12# Spin



Johnny Wetlaufer and a very nice 4-1 Black Seabass on 12#Spin



Ryan Noland and Jeff Doughty with a monster 56lb citation Wahoo





SPECIES	ANGLER	WEIGHT	LN	DIV.	PTS	DATE	LOCATION	BAIT
<b>2014 SPECIES LEADERS - SALTWATER</b>								
AMBERJACK, GREATER	Johnny Wetlaufer	31-0	12	SPIN	206	07/31/14	OREGON INLET, NC	BUCKTAIL
BASS, BLACK SEA	Johnny Wetlaufer	4-1	12	SPIN	193	07/31/14	OREGON INLET, NC	BUCKTAIL
BLUEFISH	S. Lee	13-8	6	SPIN	270	08/08/14	PAMLICO SOUND, NC	GRUB
DRUM, BLACK	V Skykandy	19-0	20	SURF	158	05/10/14	EASTERN SHORE, VA	CRAB
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	8-4	2	SPIN	550	12/20/13	ELIZABETH RIVER, VA	FLUKE
BASS, STRIPED	B Shepherd	22-0	8	FLY	366	05/13/14	EASTERN SHORE, VA	HALF & HALF FLY
DRUM, RED	B Shepherd	36-0	30	SURF	257	05/14/14	EASTERN SHORE, VA	CRAB
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	F Cousins	4-0	2	SPIN	333	05/09/14	RUDEE INLET, VA	GRUB
<b>2014 SPECIES LEADERS - FRESHWATER</b>								
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	J Blankenship	6-6	4	FLY	398	06/14/14	LAKE RANDOLPH, VA	FLY
CARP	B Broughton	20-8	4	SPIN	512	04/20/14	PRIVATE POND, VA	TUBE BAIT
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	B Butler	22-0	20	GEN	130	07/31/14	JAMES RIVER, VA	BLUEGILL
CRAPPIE, ALL	GN Carter	1-2	2	SPIN	178	02/23/14	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	JIG-N-MINNOW
GAR, ALL	F Cousins	8-2	2	GEN	236	06/05/14	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	MINNOW
MUSKELLUNGE, ALL	F Cousins	14-0	4	SPIN	388	06/02/14	LAKE SHENANDOAH, VA	CRANKBAIT
PERCH, WHITE	S. Lee	0-14	8	FLY	171	04/14/14	JAMES RIVER, VA	SHAD FLY
PERCH, YELLOW	F Cousins	1-3	2	PLUG	312	03/11/14	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	BLADE BAIT
PICKERAL, CHAIN	ES Johnston	2-13	2	SPIN	281	03/08/14	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	JIG
SHAD, AMERICAN	M Kodroff	3-0	2	SPIN	240	04/24/14	TAR RIVER, NC	DART
SHAD, HICKORY	F Cousins	2-4	2	FLY	321	03/27/14	JAMES RIVER, VA	FLY
SUNFISH, ALL,	JP Rountrey	0-11	2	FLY	229	05/03/14	PRIVATE POND, VA	SHAD FLY
TROUT, RAINBOW	D Nobles	3-11	4	FLY	209	05/04/14	SPRING CREEK, VA	GOLDEN RETRIEVER FLY

<b>2014 DIVISION LEADERS - SALTWATER</b>								
BASS, STRIPED	B Shepherd	22-0	8	FLY	366	05/13/14	EASTERN SHORE, VA	HALF-N-HALF
DRUM, RED	F Cousins	6-6	2	PLUG	159	02/09/14	ELIZABETH RIVER, VA	GRUB
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	8-4	2	SPIN	550	12/20/13	ELIZABETH RIVER, VA	FLUKE
DRUM, RED	B Shepherd	36-0	30	SURF	257	05/14/14	EASTERN SHORE, VA	CRAB

<b>2014 DIVISION LEADERS - FRESHWATER</b>								
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	J Blankenship	6-6	4	FLY	398	06/14/14	LAKE RANDOLPH, VA	FLY
CATFISH, BLUE	Robbie Robinson	22-0	2	PLUG	338	02/22/14	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	BLADE BAIT
CARP	B Broughton	20-8	4	SPIN	512	04/20/14	PRIVATE POND, VA	TUBE BAIT
CATFISH, BLUE	B Shepherd	46-0	4	GEN	490	02/23/14	JAMES RIVER, VA	CUT SHAD

### 2014 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - FRESHWATER

#### 2014 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - SALTWATER

AMBERJACK, GREATER	Johnny Wetlaufer	31-0
BASS, BLACK SEA	Johnny Wetlaufer	4-1
BASS, STRIPED	A Campbell	34-7
BLUEFISH	S. Lee	13-8
DRUM, BLACK	V Skykandy	19-0
DRUM, RED	B Shepherd	36-0
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	L Allen	8-12
FLOUNDER, SUMMER	F Cousins	4-0

BASS, LARGEMOUTH	GN Carter	6-8
CARP	B Broughton	20-8
CATFISH, BLUE	B Shepherd	46-0
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	B Butler	22-0
CRAPPIE, ALL	GN Carter	1-2
GAR, ALL	F Cousins	8-2
MUSKELLUNGE, ALL	F Cousins	14-0
PERCH, WHITE	S. Lee	0-14
PERCH, YELLOW	F Cousins	1-3
PICKERAL, CHAIN	K Anderson	2-13
SHAD, AMERICAN	M Kodroff	3-8
SHAD, HICKORY	A Campbell	2-12
SUNFISH, ALL	JP Rountrey	0-11
TROUT, RAINBOW	D Nobles	3-11



## VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 8/16/14

SPECIES	ANGLER	WEIGHT	LN	DIV.	PTS	DATE	LOCATION	BAIT
<b>NEW CLUB RECORDS - SALTWATER</b>								
BASS, STRIPED	A Campbell	34-7	20	FLY	286	12/18/13	YORK RIVER, VA	HALF-N-HALF
DOLPHIN	S. Lee	25	20	FLY	147	03/13/14	IZPATA, GUATEMLA	POPPER

### TOP YOUTH CATCHES - FRESHWATER (LOCAL)

SPECIES	ANGLER	WEIGHT	LN	DIV.	PTS	DATE	LOCATION	BAIT	Age group
SHAD, HICKORY	NARA WATKINSON	1-3	4	SPIN	113	04/12/14	JAMES RIVER, VA	JIG	0-6
SUNFISH	CLAIRE WATKINSON	0-9	4	SPIN	122	04/26/14	PRIVATE POND, VA	KALAN GRUB	7-12
PICKERAL, CHAIN	JACKSON CASE	1-4	4	FLY	114	06/06/14	TAYLOR'S POND	FLY	13-17

## C.V. KINNARD AWARD COMPETITION - THRU 8/16

ANGLER	FIRSTS	SECONDS	THIRDS	PLACES	POINTS	AVERAGE
FRED COUSINS	2	2		4	1183	379
BOB SHEPHERD	1	1	1	3	1114	371
GARY GREEN			1	1	319	319
EDDY JOHNSTON		1		1	281	281
ANDREW CAMPBELL			1	1	277	277
BOBBY BROUGHTON	1			1	512	512
GLENN CARTER			1	1	262	262
JAY BLANKENSHIP	1			1	398	398



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# Robert Thomas

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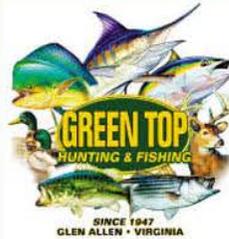
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Design and Layout: Rob Choi

**NEXT MEETING:  
Tuesday, August 26th**

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