

Hooray for Spring!!!



March 2017

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NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING – March 28, 2017 7:00 pm

Doors open at 6:30 PM
Meeting Starts ~ 7:00 PM

VDGIF HEADQUARTERS BUILDING
7870 Villa Park Drive Henrico County
SCALE CERTIFICATION AVAILABLE



BACKLASH

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

NEXT-UP ANGLING ACTIVITY ALERT

Tournament: Apr. 1-2 Kelly Stafford Memorial
Shad and White Perch

Expedition: Apr. 29 (Sat) – Rockfish River Float
Trip

MARCH PROGRAM – WOO DAVES – “HOW I GOT INTO PRO FISHING”

Local professional bass fisherman, Woo Daves, has fished in nearly 300 professional bass tournaments, catching over 6,400 pounds of bass. Woo will give us a talk about how he became a pro angler and what he has done in his recent years. Ample time for questions will be included.



Woo Daves: For some additional information about Woo, please turn to page 6 of this issue of The Angler.

VAC MEMBERSHIP RENEWALS AT AN ALLTIME HIGH!

Thanks to all Members who renewed their memberships in the VAC for 2017. With only one Member resigning (for personal reasons), all remaining 2016 Members renewed their Memberships for the 2017 Angling Year! We now stand at 87 paid members, 3 Life Members, 3 Honorary Members and 7 complimentary members. This rate of renewal is the highest renewal rate in recent memory.



FEBRUARY PROGRAM - PATRICK FULKROD

Patrick Fulkrod joined us at the February 28th Membership Meeting and presented a program titled "The Southeast's Premier Tailwaters - The South Holston River." The river is a little tricky to fish because the local power company retains or releases water from their impoundment as electricity demand dictates. Patrick noted that the South Holston River is considered the best wild brown trout fishery east of the Mississippi River, offering 6,000 trout per river mile and containing an overall population of 84% Brown Trout / 16% Rainbow Trout. Every brown trout in the South Holston River is a stream-born, wild fish.



Patrick Showing Typical South Holston River Catch

VMRC RIVER HERRING MORATORIUM REMINDER

Remember, the VMRC moratorium on the possession of "River Herring" is still active. The formal description of "River Herring" is any fish of the species *Alosa aestivalis* (Blue Back Herring) or *Alosa pseudoharengus* (Alewife). Any person possessing "River Shad" shall be guilty of a Class 3* misdemeanor, and a second or subsequent by the same person, within 12 months of a prior violation, is a Class 1* misdemeanor. Any person violating any provision of this chapter shall be guilty of a Class 3 misdemeanor. If you want to read the entire 173 page text of the Interstate Fishery Management Plan for Shad and River Herring, here is the link:

http://www.jcaa.org/news/amendment2_RiverHerring.pdf

More information on the moratorium on taking "river herring, please turn to page (B-B) of this issue of The Angler.

* Penalties Defined By The Virginia Code For Misdemeanors Are:

- For Class 1 misdemeanors, confinement in jail for not more than twelve months and a fine of not more than \$2,500, either or both.
- For Class 3 misdemeanors, a fine of not more than \$500.

APRIL PROGRAM - ANNUAL VAC FISH FRY - APRIL 25TH, 2017

Maymont Nature Center- 2201 SHIELDS LAKE DRIVE

Date & Time: Tuesday April 25, 2017

Gates Open at 5:30 PM

Dinner Served Around 6:30-7:00 PM



FISH FRY FRY TEAM - c. 2015

The highly skilled and widely acclaimed VAC Fry Team will be cooking member donated fish (thawed, chilled, ready to cook, please), French fries, slaw, and hush puppies (from Jeff Doughty's secret, down-home Dinwiddie recipe) accompanied by soft drinks, water and beer at the Maymont Nature Center under the tent. Fry Team for 2017 will be Buddy, Ryan, and Danny Noland, Jeff Doughty, Billy Nicar, and Fred Cousins.

Guests are welcome and encouraged. A donation of \$10 per member or guest is suggested to help defray the cost of this traditional event.

PLEASE NOTE - PEANUT OIL IS USED FOR ALL FRYING

SCALE CERTIFICATION IS AVAILABLE BY APPOINTMENT

Weighmasters Ryan Noland and Larry Allen will be willing to do certifications of scales by appointment after the March 28th Membership Meeting, the last Membership Meeting in 2017 at which scale certification will be available. Ryan and Larry will work with Members to set a convenient place and time for certifications requested. Grouping of needed scale certifications are appreciated.

Contact Ryan at: (804)-658-1955 (H), (894)-896-4178 (C) or ryan.n.noland@usa.dupont.com

Contact Danny at: (804) 514-0650 (C) or danny6749@aol.com

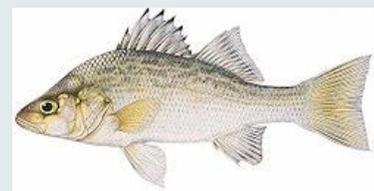
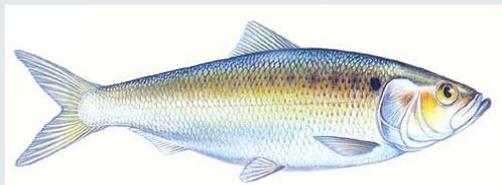
Please remember to be sure your scales are in working order and the barrels are oil free so the certification stickers will adhere.



NEXT TOURNAMENT – KELLY STAFFORD MEMORIAL SHAD AND WHITE PERCH TOURNAMENT APRIL 1ST AND 2ND – JAMES RIVER

(High Water Dates – April 8th and 9th)

(By Tournament Chairman Glenn Carter)



The VAC annual shad and white perch tournament is scheduled for April 1st and 2nd. If the river is not fishable on that weekend because of high water/flooding conditions the weekend of April 8th and 9th will be used as a backup. We will use the E-Cast to communicate in case of high flow conditions.

The timing of the shad and white perch tournament should be good. Typically there is a pretty decent showing of some bigger white perch in early April with huge numbers of smaller perch coming around mid-April. Much the same can be said for the shad. The shad are usually hitting very well the last week of March.

While the weather is usually warmer and nicer in mid-April, I have found that sometimes the water conditions can become low and clear and the bite can be a little tougher. I have actually found the shad bite to be better when the river was running full with a little stain. Notice I did not say high and muddy!!

Awards will be made for the highest point as well as the heaviest Hickory Shad and White Perch. Each angler can enter two fish of each specified tournament species.

We will recognize three places for heaviest weight fish and three places for highest point fish. First = 3 points, second = 2 points and third = 1 point. These points will apply towards the Annual Tournament Angler of the Year competition.

When submitting Tournament Catches on E-Cards, please check the “Tournament” box and also indicate if the catch is either a “Weight” or “Points” entry by checking the appropriate box. A fish can only be entered as a weight or points entry, not both. All tournament entries should be made within 24 hours of the end of the tournament.

If you do not have access to make an electronic entry, please call your entry to Glenn Carter at 804-824-2389 and leave your entry information within the 24 hour cut off.

WINNERS ANNOUNCED – 2017 YELLOW PERCH TOURNAMENT

Four Entries – All Winners

The March 4th and 5th Yellow Perch Tournament was fished by three weather-proof Members who took on a cold, blustery day to keep the tournament alive. All fish came from the Chickahominy River. Here are the results;

Virginia Anglers Club Tournament Report - 2017							
Chick and James Rivers Yellow Perch - March 4 & 5, 2017							
Points Results							
	Angler	Species	Tackle Class	Line Weight (#)	Weight		Points
					Lbs.	Oz.	
1st. Place	B. Broughton	Perch, Yellow	Spin	4	0	10	135
2nd Place	G. Carter	Perch, Yellow	Plug	2	0	7	115
3rd Place	No Entry						
Weight Results							
	Angler	Species	Tackle Class	Line Weight (#)	Weight		
					Lbs.	Oz.	
1st. Place	B. Broughton	Perch, Yellow	Spin	4	0	11	
2nd Place	G. Carter	Perch, Yellow	Plug	4	0	8	
3rd Place	No Entry						



THE VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB ANSWERS THE CHANGES MADE BY THE IGFA TRUSTEES AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING

The IGFA's Board of Trustees recently met for their annual meeting where they ratified several significant changes to the IGFA's International Angling Rules, World Record Requirements and recognized game fish species eligible for all tackle World Records.

Many VAC Members have individually challenged the changes made. The Leadership Team has also sent a letter to the IGFA on behalf of the Virginia Anglers Club, a member club of the IGFA. Angling Rules Chairman authored the letter, a copy of which will soon be posted for the remainder of March in the Members Area of the VAC Website.

HUMOR FROM THE TACKLE BOX

Teaching a man to fish is dangerous. Someday someone will cook his catch in the break room microwave.

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



“Catchy Comments”

By Stuart Lee

Most of us thought things were headed toward an early spring until we were rudely reminded that winter is not yet over. It was warming up nicely until this recent cold snap, and we will just have to wait to see how this will affect the fish.

Some club members had recent significant catches that need to be mentioned. New member **Grant Alvis** caught an 8 Lb. 4 Oz. Largemouth Bass on 12 Plug, which is the sole club record for this angling year. This fish is also significant because it is a fish that is required to achieve Master Angler status. While Grant has other fish to catch before he can get serious about his Master Angler, the Largemouth Bass of 7 ½ Lbs or more on Plug tackle has proven to be a challenge for some members. **Robbie Robinson** caught a 1 Lb. 1 Oz. Yellow Perch on the Mattaponi River on 2 Lb. Plug, earning 279 points, which is the largest and highest point of the species for the year.

Fred Cousins and **Buddy Noland** fished the Roanoke River near Weldon, N.C., on March 9, and caught both American and Hickory Shad. Fred caught a 3 Lb. 13 Oz. American Shad on 2 Spin for 305 points. This fish is also significant because it too is a required fish for Master Angler and can and has proven difficult for some members, including me.

David Nobles ventured to Spring Creek on March 9, and caught a 3 Lb. 4 Oz. Rainbow Trout on 2 Fly earning 253 points.

In February and March, **Glenn Carter** and I made some trips for Yellow Perch to the Rappahannock, Pamunkey, Mattaponi, and Chickahominy Rivers. We had mixed success, neither of us are experts when it comes to Yellow Perch. It seems that success with these fish is more of a matter of locating them than getting them to bite. In deeper water, more than 6 or 8 feet, we jigged blade baits. In shallower water, we cast 1/8 Oz. hair jigs or small soft plastics with 1/8 Oz. heads. We both preferred the casting in shallower water.

As I have said many times, learning to catch a particular fish or learning a new technique is actually more rewarding than the actual catching. I am not sure how much progress Glenn and I made this year in learning to catch Yellow Perch, but we sure had a lot of fun. We saw a multitude of birds: ducks, geese, eagles, hawks, owls, some early ospreys, and some blue herons nesting. The rivers are particularly beautiful this time of year and are anything but crowded. While we targeted Yellow Perch, we managed to also catch White Perch, Rockfish, Large and Smallmouth Bass, Crappie, Bream, Blue Catfish, Bowfin, and even a Warmouth. I am already looking forward to trying to learn more next year.

Stuart



Member Fred Cousins – 3 lbs. 13 oz. on 2# Spin – Natural Bait
(On the Weldon River near Roanoke Rapids, NC on 3-8-17)

CBF ANNUAL STATE OF THE BAY REPORT AVAILABLE ON LINE

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation's is celebrating its 50th Anniversary. The 2016 State of the Bay Report is available on line and is available for reading at www.cbf.org.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE REQUESTS FEED BACK ON PROGRAMS

The 2017 Program Committee Members would like to hear feedback from all Members about the past, present and future programs as noted in the below schedule of presentations. Any member of the Committee will be glad to take your comments. The Members are:

- Mike Ostrander (mike@jamesriverfishing.com)
- Art Conway (aconway@vcu.org)
- David Nobles (Dlnobles@aol.com)
- Eric Webster (mtn_trout@hotmail.com)

Thanks for your help from the members of the Program Committee



MARCH PROGRAM – WOO DAVES – “HOW I GOT INTO PRO FISHING”

Woo Daves has a web site that is titled “Woo Daves Home”. The link to this website is: <http://woodaves.com/>. The second section of the website, “Learn More About Fishing Here”, leads to twenty-five short articles on various fishing subjects.

Woo also makes and sells a wide variety of lures. The below photo was taken from Woo’s website featuring his baits, www.wooslures.com. If you open this link promptly, you will find a wealth of shad fishing information and an interesting Web Poll asking viewers to choose their favorite shad bait from a list of 14 choices. At this writing the favorite shad baits picked are the # 2 shad spoon at 21%, the 1/8th oz. shad dart at 17% and the #1 shad spoon at 11%.

The spoons shown are but one “family” of lures available from Woo.



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



2017 VAC COMBINED TOURNAMENT & EXPEDITION SCHEDULE
(Revised: 2-19-17)

Apr. 1-2
Kelly Stafford Memorial Shad
And White Perch (Glenn Carter)

Fish the James River. Highest point and
heaviest Hickory Shad and White Perch
(High Water Date April 8-9)

April 29
Rockfish River Float Trip (4 boat limit) (Tyler Shands)

May 6
Trout Fishing the South River in Waynesboro, VA (Eric Webster)

Jun 10
Chickahominy Lake & Lunch at Lakeside Restaurant (Art Conway)

Jun 17-25
VA & NC Saltwater Open (Glenn Carter)

Fish any VA and NC Saltwater. Highest
point for any two VAC recognized species
(non cumulative)

Jun 24
Pamunkey River Float (Art Conway)

TBD (summer)
Kids Fishing Day (Bobby Broughton)

TBD (summer)
Pony Pasture Wade Fishing for Flathead Catfish (Billy Nicar)

Jul 22
Small River Wade Trip (Mike Ostrander)

Aug. 19-20
James River Flathead Catfish
(Glenn Carter)

Fish the James River. Highest point and
Heaviest Flathead Catfish

Oct. 21-29
VA & NC Spot and Specs
(Glenn Carter)

Fish any VA and NC waters. Highest point
and heaviest Spot and Speckle Trout

TBD (late fall)
Guided Muskie Trip
(TBD)



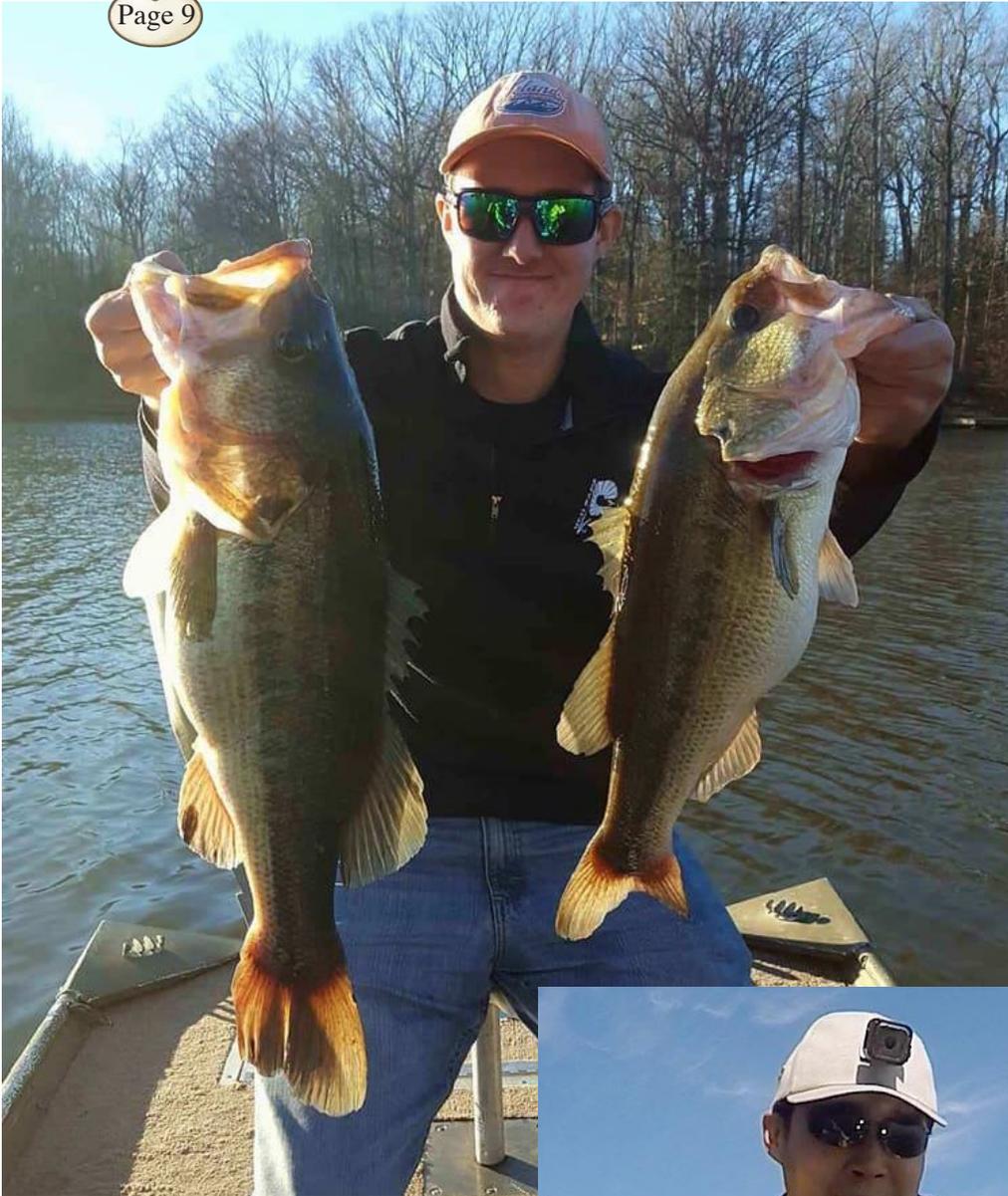
2017 MEMBERSHIP MEETING PRESENTATION SCHEDULE

(Revised: 3-15-17)

March 28	Woo Daves – his career as a professional fisherman
April 25	Fish Fry ... Maymont
May 23	Mike Kline – Wreck Fishing
June 27	Andrew Campbell and Jay Blankenship - - Fly fishing for Spinner Sharks
July	No meeting
August 22	Lee Huss - DIY Fishing in Canada
September 26	Colby Trow – (trout or muskies?)
October 24	Andrew Stiles – Joe Brooks in the history of fly fishing
November 28	TBD
December	No meeting

FUTURE OUTDOOR EVENTS OF INTEREST

- April 1: Legends of the Fly – Fly Fishing Expo at Virginia Beach.
Details at www.legendsofthefly.com.
- April 1-2: Trout Heritage Weekend – Kids Fishing Day
Graves Mountain Lodge Madison Co. Rose River
- April 8-9: Virginia Fly Fishing & Wine Festival –
Meadow Event Park, Doswell



Rob Choi with a 25" pickerel

Grant Alvis with a 8-4 (left) and 5-2(right) Largemouth Bass



Virginia Anglers Club



ANNUAL AWARDS 2017

President's Award Freshwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
GAR, ALL	F COUSINS	15lb-4oz	2	PLUG	554	12/26/16	JAMES RIVER, VA	Grub

President's Award Saltwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, STRIPED	R CHOI	41lb-0oz	50BR	GEN	136	12/20/16	YORK RIVER, VA	Eel

Division Awards Freshwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
CATFISH, BLUE	S KNOX	39lb-0oz	20BR	GEN	201	2/7/17	JAMES RIVER RICHMOND VA, VA	Cut shad
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	SC LEE	17lb-0oz	4	FLY	297	1/19/17	JAMES RIVER, VA	Clouser
GAR, ALL	BL NOLAND	14lb-8oz	2	SPIN	527	12/27/16	CHIPPOKES CREEK, VA	Jig
GAR, ALL	F COUSINS	15lb-4oz	2	PLUG	554	12/26/16	JAMES RIVER, VA	Grub

Division Awards Saltwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, STRIPED	R CHOI	41lb-0oz	50BR	GEN	136	12/20/16	YORK RIVER, VA	Eel

"Highest Point" Species Awards Freshwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	F COUSINS	4lb-4oz	2	SPIN	283	1/25/17	CHICKAHOMONY RIVER, VA	Grub
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	GN CARTER	4lb-1oz	4	PLUG	294	2/13/17	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	Bomber Model A
CATFISH, BLUE	S KNOX	39lb-0oz	20BR	GEN	201	2/7/17	JAMES RIVER RICHMOND VA, VA	Cut shad
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	SC LEE	17lb-0oz	4	FLY	297	1/19/17	JAMES RIVER, VA	Clouser
CRAPPIE, ALL	W MOSLEY	1lb-8oz	2	SPIN	238	3/19/17	LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR, VA	TRD
GAR, ALL	F COUSINS	15lb-4oz	2	PLUG	554	12/26/16	JAMES RIVER, VA	Grub
PERCH, YELLOW	ROB ROBINSON	1lb-1oz	2	PLUG	279	2/17/17	MATTAPONI RIVER, VA	Blade Bait
PICKEREL, CHAIN	A CONWAY	2lb-12oz	4	SPIN	202	2/3/17	CHICKAHOMINY LAKE, VA	Bobby Garland Baby Shad Swimr
SHAD, AMERICAN	F COUSINS	3lb-13oz	2	SPIN	305	3/9/17	ROANOKE RIVER, NC	shad dart
SHAD, HICKORY	F COUSINS	1lb-8oz	2	FLY	214	3/9/17	ROANOKE RIVER, NC	shad fly
SUNFISH	DN NOLAND	0lb-12oz	2	SPIN	197	3/7/17	MATTAPONI RIVER, VA	jig
TROUT, RAINBOW	DL NOBLES	3lb-4oz	2	FLY	253	3/9/17	SPRING CREEK, VA	nymph
WARMOUTH	B BROUGHTON	0lb-5oz	4	SPIN	67	3/4/17	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	Blade Bait

"Highest Point" Species Awards Saltwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, STRIPED	R CHOI	41lb-0oz	50BR	GEN	136	12/20/16	YORK RIVER, VA	Eel

"Heaviest" Species Awards Freshwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	G ALVIS	8lb-4oz	12	PLUG	206	1/27/17	KENT LAKE, VA	Suspending Jerkbait
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	GN CARTER	4lb-1oz	4	PLUG	294	2/13/17	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	Bomber Model A
CATFISH, BLUE	S KNOX	39lb-0oz	20BR	GEN	201	2/7/17	JAMES RIVER RICHMOND VA, VA	Cut shad
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	SC LEE	17lb-0oz	4	FLY	297	1/19/17	JAMES RIVER, VA	Clouser
CRAPPIE, ALL	SC LEE	1lb-8oz	4	SPIN	187	2/13/17	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	Tube
GAR, ALL	F COUSINS	15lb-4oz	2	PLUG	554	12/26/16	JAMES RIVER, VA	Grub
PERCH, YELLOW	ROB ROBINSON	1lb-1oz	2	PLUG	279	2/17/17	MATTAPONI RIVER, VA	Blade Bait
PICKEREL, CHAIN	A CONWAY	2lb-12oz	4	SPIN	202	2/3/17	CHICKAHOMINY LAKE, VA	Bobby Garland Baby Shad Swimr
SHAD, AMERICAN	F COUSINS	3lb-13oz	2	SPIN	305	3/9/17	ROANOKE RIVER, NC	shad dart
SHAD, HICKORY	F COUSINS	1lb-8oz	2	FLY	214	3/9/17	ROANOKE RIVER, NC	shad fly
SUNFISH	DN NOLAND	0lb-12oz	2	SPIN	197	3/7/17	MATTAPONI RIVER, VA	jig
TROUT, RAINBOW	DL NOBLES	3lb-4oz	2	FLY	253	3/9/17	SPRING CREEK, VA	nymph
WARMOUTH	B BROUGHTON	0lb-5oz	4	SPIN	67	3/4/17	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	Blade Bait

"Heaviest" Species Awards Saltwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, STRIPED	R CHOI	41lb-0oz	50BR	GEN	136	12/20/16	YORK RIVER, VA	Eel

New Club Records Freshwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	G ALVIS	8lb-4oz	12	PLUG	206	1/27/17	KENT LAKE, VA	Suspending Jerkbait

New Club Records Saltwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
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Non-Local Award Fresh or Saltwater

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
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New Member Award

Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	G ALVIS	8lb-4oz	12	PLUG	206	1/27/17	KENT LAKE, VA	Suspending Jerkbait
Total					206			



FOR SALE

Let VAC newsletter team know if you want to include anything in the For Sale section.

HELP SUPPORT



The Virginia Wildlife Crime Line has become a valuable tool in the enforcement of the Commonwealth's game, fish and boat laws. Reward payments are approved and funded through the Virginia Sportsman Reward Fund, Inc. The Virginia Sportsman Reward Fund's mission is to promote the enforcement of hunting, fishing, and boating laws in Virginia by supporting the Wildlife Crime Line in cooperation with the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries.

Tax-deductible donations can be made to:
Virginia Sportsman Reward Fund, Inc.
P.O. Box 11104, Richmond, VA 23230-1104
or by calling (804) 367-1242



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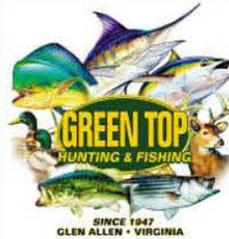
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Bulletin Editor: Johnny Wetlaufer, 647-4042



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Design and Layout: Rob Choi

Next Membership Meeting at DGIF - March 28, 2017

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