



January 2005

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## **Backlash**

*(Commentary from the Board of Directors)*

### **Location of the February Membership Meeting Has Been Changed**

The Board of Directors of the Club has received a most generous offer from member Dick Stephenson. Dick has offered the Club the free use of a meeting room at his Skillagalee Restaurant for Monthly Membership Meetings and for the monthly Board of Directors meeting. The Board wants to hold the February Membership Meeting there to see what the response to the new venue is. An informal gathering for dinner prior to the February meeting will start at 5:30 p.m. Beverage selections from the bar will be available during the meeting. As usual, the meeting will start at 7:00 p.m.

### **Welcome and Thanks to the New Officers for 2005**

The newly elected officers of the VAC will assume the leadership of the club effective with their swearing in at the Annual Banquet. Their first official meeting will be the February Board of Directors Meeting. Please refer to the December issue of the *Angler* for the names of this new group of officers and board members. The membership thanks them for stepping forward to assume leadership of the Club in the coming year. Remember, the club is as strong as the membership wants it to be, so please let the new leadership team know of how they can serve the club and what speakers, events, etc. are desired by the membership.

### **Annual Dues are Due Now**

Your Dues Statement for 2005 is elsewhere in this edition of the *Angler*. Please return them promptly with your payment. The 2005 Dues Statements include a line on which a voluntary contribution can be specified and included with the 2005 dues. The VAC has not had a dues increase in over ten years. The additional funds are desperately needed to ensure the continued operation of the club and to help finance conservation oriented efforts. Please consider donating at least an additional \$10 to help ensure our efforts.

### **Scale Certification Starts at the February Meeting**

Certification of members' scales for the new Angling Year will be available at the February Membership Meeting. It is important to have a current certification if you want to use your scales to qualify for use with submission of catches for individual or club record consideration. Be sure to dig them out of your tackle box, clean them and have them lubed and in working order prior to certification testing. Too many scales are disqualified because of poor condition. Also, if you plan to use your scales for IGFA entry purposes, please request that certification be made for a particular scale(s). We try to avoid "just in case" certification for IGFA use to ease the total certification task on the club Weighmaster and his lovely assistants.

### **'For What It's Worth ...'**

'For What It's Worth ...' is a new monthly article starting with this month's issue. The article is an opportunity for a member to offer a little insight into a fishery that he has, at one point or two in his life, enjoyed with great success. It might be a fishery that was experienced last year or one that was last tried 20 years ago. This month's article is shared by Kelly Stafford. If you are interested in sharing your thoughts in a 'For What It's Worth ...' article please contact the Newsletter Secretary, Mike Ostrander, at 804-038-2350, or [mike@jamesriverfishing.com](mailto:mike@jamesriverfishing.com)

### **Meeting Speaker Suggestions Sought**

Suggestions for speakers for the coming year's membership meetings are requested from the membership. Please let the 1st Vice President or any officer know of your suggestions for speakers or "how to" sessions or any other subject that will make a good program. Check your February *Angler* for details for that month's program.

*Continued on page 2.*

## Backlash

(Continued from Page 1)

### Brickyard Boat Landing on the Chickahominy

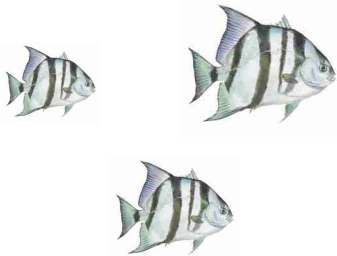
The next time you plan to fish the Chickahominy and you are going to use the Brickyard landing, it might be wise to get there a little earlier than you planned. Unfortunately, about three quarters of the parking lot has been fenced off with 'No Trespassing' signs attached to the fencing. With the current loss of parking area, there is only enough parking for about five vehicles with trailers.

### Thanks to the Departing Leadership Team

The membership extends thanks to the departing, currently lame carp, members of the 2004 leadership team. These men stepped forward to assume leadership of the club a year ago and spent many hours of their own time keeping the club moving ahead.

For the Leadership, Old and New,

John Wetlaufer, Sr.



**Eddy Johnston**  
with his 'pending'  
world record gar ...  
7 lb. 14 oz. On 6-fly



## CATCHY COMMENTS

by Dennis Cline



One thing I can tell you for sure, the 2005 angling year has started with a BIG BANG!! If you are thinking more big flatheads or blue cats, you would be wrong. The hot ticket this year is the big rainbows at Johns Creek. So far, six members have entered quality rainbow trout from this little stretch of water. **Elly Robinson** leads the pack with a club record 6-8 on 2-fly that scored 866 points! **Fred Cousins** tied Elly's record the following day. **Danny Noland** bettered his club record on 4-fly with a huge 7-13 that scored 723 points! **Fred Murray** released a 5-8 on 2-fly. **Buddy Noland** released a 5-13 on 2-fly. **Lynn Spurlin** tangled with a 6-0 on 8-fly. Several other members have enjoyed this little piece of paradise but I can't report their catches until I receive the entry cards.

On the saltwater side of the equation, striped bass rule the roost. **Stuart Lee** and **Parks Rountrey** have posted new club records.

Stuart's record was for a 25-8 on 16-fly caught off Currituck. He also landed a 14-0 bluefish on 16-fly the same day. Parks battled a 19-0 striper at Oregon Inlet on 2 general for his club record.

**Glenn Carter** bested a 16-0 on 8-fly. **Dennis Cline** released a 36-0 in the Eastern Shore surf. Word has it that Stuart and **LeRoy Houser** have released a few hundred stripers so far this season!

## For What It's Worth...

For What It's Worth is a new monthly article that features an upcoming fishing opportunity (and maybe a thought or two on club perspective) brought to you by a different VAC member each month. Kelly Stafford, a VAC member since 1981, presents this month's information.

For what it's worth ... a great angling opportunity I have experienced in February is fishing for yellow perch. In particular, yellow perch on the Chickahominy River. It's my favorite month of the year to catch them. The perch are very aggressive this time of year and they are packed with roe. I've fished fly and spin, both with two-pound line, but I prefer fly. One of my most memorable catches is when I caught two yellow perch on one fly. One hook, one fly ... two fish. It was a Mickey Fin Fly (yellow and red with a black head) and I was fishing in the Chickahominy River.

One fish was apparently aggressive enough to try and take the fly away from another fish and in the process ended up hooking itself on the barb exposed from the other's mouth!

I will be fishing for yellow perch on February 19, 2005 on the Chickahominy River, either below the dam or possibly the Brickyard landing a little further below. The 'Chickahominy Grab Bag' club tournament is scheduled for that day. The weather (wind) will be the determining factor for me as far as my launching point. If you are interested in fishing that day ... let's go get 'em. Call me if you'd like to go. We'll discuss time and meeting place as the date approaches.

Kelly Stafford  
804-272-2433

**VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 1/11/05**

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>ANGLER</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>LN</u>	<u>DIV.</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>PTS</u>	<u>BAIT</u>
<b><u>2005 SPECIES LEADERS - SALTWATER</u></b>								
BLUEFISH	S.C. LEE	14-0	16	FLY	12/06/04	OFF CURRITUCK, NC	155	DECEIVER
STRIPED BASS	J.P. ROUNTREY	19-0	2	GEN	12/07/04	OREGON INLET, NC	380	EEL
<b><u>2005 SPECIES LEADERS - FRESHWATER</u></b>								
CATFISH, BLUE	D. CLINE	39-0	6	GEN	01/11/05	JAMES RIVER, VA	366	CUT SHAD
TROUT, RAINBOW	E.S. ROBINSON	6-8	2	FLY	01/07/05	JOHNS CREEK, VA	866	WOOLY BUG'R
<b><u>2005 DIVISION LEADERS - SALTWATER</u></b>								
STRIPED BASS	G.N. CARTER	16-0	8	FLY	12/30/04	DUCK, NC	266	CLOUSER
STRIPED BASS	J.P. ROUNTREY	19-0	2	GEN	12/07/04	OREGON INLET, NC	380	EEL
STRIPED BASS	D. CLINE	36-0		SURF	12/12/04	MYRTLE ISLAND, VA	360	LIVE EEL
<b><u>2005 DIVISION LEADERS - FRESHWATER</u></b>								
TROUT, RAINBOW	E.S. ROBINSON	6-8	2	FLY	01/07/05	JOHNS CREEK, VA	866	WOOLY BUG'R
CATFISH, BLUE	D. CLINE	39-0	6	GEN	01/11/05	JAMES RIVER, VA	366	CUT SHAD
<b><u>NEW CLUB RECORDS - SALTWATER</u></b>								
STRIPED BASS	S.C. LEE	25-8	16	FLY	12/06/04	OFF CURRITUCK, NC	255	DECEIVER
STRIPED BASS	J.P. ROUNTREY	19-0	2	GEN	12/07/04	OREGON INLET, NC	380	EEL
<b><u>NEW CLUB RECORDS - FRESHWATER</u></b>								
TROUT, RAINBOW	E.S. ROBINSON	6-8	2	FLY	01/07/05	JOHNS CREEK, VA	866	WOOLY BUG'R
TROUT, RAINBOW	D.N. NOLAND	7-13	4	FLY	01/07/05	JOHNS CREEK, VA	723	FLY
<b><u>2005 HIGHEST POINT NON-LOCAL CATCHES - SALTWATER</u></b>								
(no entries yet for 2005)								
<b><u>2004 HIGHEST POINT NON-LOCAL CATCHES - FRESHWATER</u></b>								
(no entries yet for 2005)								
<b><u>2005 TOP SPOUSE CATCHES - SALTWATER &amp; FRESHWATER (LOCAL)</u></b>								
(no entries yet for 2005)								
<b><u>2005 YOUTH CATCHES - SALTWATER &amp; FRESHWATER (LOCAL)</u></b>								
(no entries yet for 2005)								



Please recycle.

**2005 Dues Payment Form**

To save postage and additional efforts of VAC officers, please forward a copy of the below form along with your dues payment and contribution to:

Virginia Anglers Club , P.O. BOX 31494, RICHMOND VA 23294-1494

- Resident Dues ..... \$ 50
- I would like to contribute an additional (\$10 recommended) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- or --
- Non Resident Dues ..... \$ 35
- I would like to contribute an additional (\$5 recommended) ..... \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total amount of payment .....\$ \_\_\_\_\_**



## Upcoming Angling Events

### Chickahominy Grab Bag

Sat-Sun, February 19 & 20, 2005

Location: All of the Chickahominy River  
From the dam to the Rt. 5 bridge

Awards: 1 cup most cumulative points  
(min. of 3 fish, min. 100pts. each)  
Limited to one entry per species  
1 cup J\* catfish

Report in: Call chairman within 5 Days.  
Chairman: Bob Brown - Cell: 804-833-2786  
Home: 804-746-1934

Weather date: February 26-27 (Bob Brown will make call).

\*Jungle rules: Fish may be taken with any hook and line tackle used in a sportsman like manner. Any line material and breaking strength is acceptable.

## FOR SALE

### FISHING BOATS AND ACCESSORIES

**For Sale:** Lowe Big Jon Wide. 50hp. Evenrude, center console, front and rear decks with folding pedestal seats, 2- 48qt. coolers, Eagle depth finder, Minn Kota 765 power drive trolling motor, stainless anchor mate, CB Radio, Galvanized trailer w/ spare tire. \$3000 OBO. Eddy Johnston 355-3877.

**For Sale:** 2 brand new Todd1000 Fishing-helm chairs and pedestals, w/ sliders and one set of cushions. One has removable pedestal. New cost = \$235 each. Both for \$200. Eddy Johnston 355-3877.

## Member Bio

**Member:** Elly Robinson **Age:** 57

**Wife:** Linda

**Address:** 7721 Woodpecker Drive  
Chesterfield, Virginia 23838

**Home Phone:** 804-590-3043

**E-mail:** ellyrobinson@earthlink.net

**Background:** I have a degree in industrial engineering from Virginia Tech. Employed with DuPont for 35 years in various manufacturing capacities ending career as Strategic Planning Manager. Started freshwater and tidal fishing with my father at a young age. I spent my teen and young adult years fishing with John Wycoff, who was my sponsor in the VAC. I joined the VAC in 1977, and my perception

was membership was a special privilege to be associated with such accomplished, world class anglers. I was fortunate to hone light tackle skills when bluefish and grey trout were plentiful in the Chesapeake Bay and amberjack were plentiful at the Chesapeake Tower and NC towers. Half the fun in the 70's and 80's was experimenting with tackle to find reels and rod actions that would accommodate landing large fish on two and four pound test line. In the 80's I looked up to the exploits of Bill DuVal and Stuart Lee and tried to emulate their angling accomplishments. My sons Randy and Robbie have caught the light tackle bug and have won several VAC youth awards before becoming VAC members ... and now I learn from Robbie. One key to learning is that anglers must be flexible and change with the changing fish population and availability. The secret to light tackle fishing is focusing on landing fish versus trying to get the strike. When species diminish you must enjoy the challenge of learning where and how to catch other species. My best catches include an 11 lb 12 oz grey trout on 2 spin, which has been a 20+ year world record; and 11 lb 15 oz spadefish on 2 general (the only 5 to 1 IGFA recognized spadefish); and a 33 lb 8 oz African Pompano on 6 general.

**Boats:** 23' Seacraft, 17' Mavrick (flats boat) and a 17' Johnboat.

**Specialty:** Grey Trout, Black Drum and wreck fishing.

**Fishing Preferences:** Due to age and worn out joints, light tackle fishing, freshwater and light saltwater (no more offshore or surf fishing!)

**Membership Goals:** Achieve the Master Angler rating (2 more fish to go!). Share fishing knowledge and experiences with fellow VAC members. To keep learning.





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Bulletin Editor: Mike Ostrander, 938-2350.

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Design and Layout: Michael Havranek

**NEXT MEETING:**  
**Tuesday, February 22nd at new location**

P.O. BOX 31494  
RICHMOND VA 23294-1494

