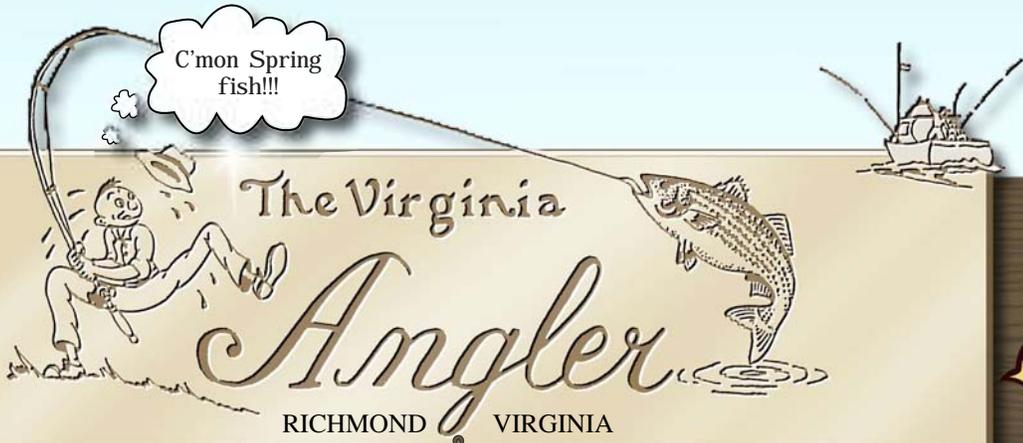


**50<sup>th</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY  
1961-2011



**50<sup>th</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY  
1961-2011

March 2011

### In This Issue...

*"The Tailgate"*  
Members Stories Page 11

*Captain's Corner*  
By Fred Murray, Page 12

*VAC Program Update*  
Page 10

*Catchy Comments*  
By Buddy Noland, Page 3

*Tournament News*  
Page 8



### Next Membership Meeting

Tuesday, March 22, 2011 - 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*  
*-By John Wetlaufer, Sr.*

### MARCH PROGRAM FEATURES A VERY SUCCESSFUL ANGLER

Active angler Stephen Miklandric will review his amazing accomplishment in 2010 of landing 103 citation fish spread among 18 different species. Thanks to Matt Balazik for stepping up to the casting platform and presenting a very interesting and informative illustrated program about his doctoral research on the Atlantic Surgeon in the James River.

### FUTURE MEETINGS PROMISE EXCELLENT PROGRAMS AND GOOD FELLOWSHIP

In April, Bob Shepherd will speak about surf fishing, and give us some pointers for the mid-May Surf Tournament. June is open. In July, author and fly fisherman Beau Beasely, will speak about menhaden. See page 10 for more details. Good programs are going to be featured at the future Membership Meetings. Bring a friend.

### VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB MEMBER JIM DIRKS PASSES AWAY

Jim Dirks, a Member of the Virginia Anglers Club for over 33 years, passed away on Saturday, February 26, 2011 at his home in Manakin Sabot, VA. Jim was a Director of the VAC for many years and the unofficial parliamentarian for the leadership team while in this office. Jim is remembered in a Lines Out featured on page 5 in this issue of the Angler.



BACKLASH continued from Page 1.

## **NEW MEMBER BOBBY BROUGHTON VOTED INTO MEMBERSHIP**

Bobby Broughton was voted into Membership in the Virginia Anglers Club at the March 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Directors. Bobby has been attendance at a number of the last meetings of 2010. If you did not get a chance to meet Bobby then, please be sure to look him up at the March meeting and welcome him into the VAC. His becoming a member will be recognized during the March Membership Meeting.

## **VAC NEW MEMBER RETENTION IS VERY ENCOURAGING**

The VAC Leadership Team continually works hard to identify new members for the VAC. The conclusions of a study that considered new member retention from 2005 thru 2009 were presented at the February BOD Meeting. The conclusions were encouraging. For instance, the five new members joining in 2008 continued their membership thru 2010 for a 100% rate of retention.

Thirty-seven new members joined the VAC from 2005 thru the end of 2010. If the number of member-years retained vs. member-years not retained is considered for this period, there is a 4 to 1 ratio in favor of retention. Remember, we all were new members at one time and the efforts of a member or members got us hooked on membership. Please keep you eye out for someone whom you thing would like to visit a Membership Meeting and become a member.

## **ARE YOU PAST DUE? DON'T BE – RENEW NOW!**

The generous ninety (90) day grace period for payment of Virginia Anglers Club annual dues closed at midnight, February 28, 2011. Please make your dues current right away. Dues are \$60.00 for in-state members and \$40.00 for out-of-state members. Payment can be by cash, check or on the VAC website via PayPal. See the December, January or February issues of *The Angler* for details.

All of the members of the leadership of the VAC are volunteers who devote a portion of their own time to keeping the club on course and doing work that keeps the VAC as the enjoyable and informative angling club it is. Late payment of dues makes it necessary for a leadership volunteer to give up some of his personal time to prepare one or more dues payment reminders for each Member remaining in arrears. If, for some reason, you are not going to renew your membership, please let the club know. Again, this will keep a volunteer from having to give up personal time to prepare dues payment reminders where there is no intent to renew.

## **VAC TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE DETAILS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR**

Second Vice President Parks Rountrey has placed the full schedule of the VAC Tournaments for the rest of 2011 Angling Year on page 8.

## **REMINDER CATCH SUBMISSIONS RECOGNIZED FOR PAID-UP MEMBERS ONLY**

If for some reason, your 2011 VAC dues have not been paid (postmarked for mailed in dues) by February 28, 2011, any catches made on or after that date and submitted on an entry card are automatically disqualified for entry into the catch database of the VAC. Catches made after the date that dues are again made current will be eligible for entry into the catch record database if properly submitted on an entry card. Why the disqualification? The Entry Card System is only available to paid-up voting members, Life Members and Honorary Members.

## **SCALE CERTIFICATION AVAILABLE AT THE MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

There were over 100 scales certified at the February Membership Meeting. The Scale Team will be back at the March Membership Meeting and will offer certification of members' scales. If you have not had your scales certified for 2011, bring them to the meeting or send them along with a friend. Thanks to Danny and Ryan Nobles and Dean Winstead for this fine and necessary work. More reminders on scale certification are on page 6.

## **ARE YOUR SCALES AMONG THE BRANDS TO MOST LIKELY CERTIFY CONSISTENTLY?**

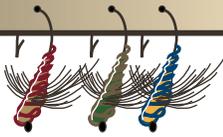
You often see the Scale Certification Team hunkered down in the rear corner of the "Small Side" room at the Skilliglee working hard to certify a pile of Member's scales. Read more about the work of the Scale Team this year and what they have noticed over the years of the ability of scales by brand to certify consistently and those which do not certify at all on page 5.

## **KELLY STAFFORD MEMORIAL HICKORY SHAD AND WHITE PERCH TOURNAMENT APRIL 9 & 10 (BLOW DATE 16 & 17)**

The details for this annual and very enjoyable tournament are found on page 8 of this issue of *The Angler*. No need to travel far to participant in this tournament. The most popular waters are right downtown in Richmond on the James River, readily accessible from Ancarrow's landing. You can also fish from the bank or the 14<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge. Be sure to check out the gathering right aft the tournament is over... '85 Chez Rountrey presiding.

## **SPECIAL COMMEMORATIVE 50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY ITEM COMING SOON**

The Leadership team reviewed the many suggestions made by members for a special, durable item to be made available to Members to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Year of the Virginia Anglers Club. See Page 5 of this *Angler* for details.



**COUNTRY STORE TO BE RESTOCKED WITH NEW HATS AND “T” SHIRTS**

Store Keeper Eddy Johnston is soon going to place the order that will stock a supply of new hats and “T” shirts into inventory of the Country Store. The new hats will feature the name of the Club embroidered on the front panel of the hat and words commemorating the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the VAC embroidered on the back panel. The majority of the shirts will be stocked in the extra large size and a lesser number will be stocked in the medium size. Only four or so will be stocked as XXLs (you have to be quick to get these babies, first come – first served).

If you have some special body configuration that only looks sharp in some size than M or XL, please contact Eddy at () and let him include a special request size in this pending order just for you.

**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.

For the Leadership Team  
John Wetlaufer, Sr., Secretary



**CATCHY COMMENTS**

by Buddy Noland

Freshwater fishing is getting better with the warmer weather as reflected by the number of entries received. There were no entries for saltwater during the past month. By the time the high water from the seasonal rains recede in the James River, the Shad and White Perch will be arriving in Richmond.

**Leroy Houser** and **Bob Brown** were fishing the James River together in early February. **Leroy** finished the day with a 51 pound Blue Catfish on 16# general for 302 points. **Bob** entered a 42 pound Blue Catfish on 8# general worth 353 points. Not a bad day. Rumors are that **Leroy** and **Gary Martel** had a Catfish over 70 pounds; as of this newsletter, I haven’t received an entry .

**Fred Cousins** was also catching Blue Catfish in February. **Fred** had two 30 pound entries. The first fish was caught on the Chickahominy River on a Silver Buddy. It was a 2# plug entry is worth 461 points and will take the lead for the “freshwater plug” division. **Fred** and **George Atkinson** were fishing with **Mike Ostrander** for the second 30 pound entry. **Fred** was using cut shad on 4# line for the 319 point fish.

**Scott Johnston** and **Eddy Johnston** were fly fishing on the Chickahominy River several days later. **Scott** entered a Yellow Perch on 4# fly for 270 points which now is the “species points” leader. **Scott** usually ties his own Clousers and they work!



Gary Martel with a 50-0 Blue Cat

27/02/2011 12:06



Mike Cline and his 1-3 and 1-4 Ring Perch

**Rob Thomas' Bonefish from Grand Bahama**



**Rob Robinson with a 1-4 Crappie**



**Parks Rountrey's 9-5 Gar on 2 Plug**



**Rob Robinson's 4-8 Largemouth Bass**



**New Member Bobby Broughton**

The same day, **Bob Shepherd** and **Fred Murray** were also catfishing on the James River. **Bob** turned in a huge 57-0 pound Blue Catfish, caught on 6# general, worth 536 points. This fish is now the leader for the "species", "heaviest", and "freshwater general" divisions. Not to mention that it will also be very difficult to beat before the end of the year.

**Jeff Doughty** took a week's vacation to fish the James River and entered three different species for points. His first entry was for a 10 pound, 8 ounce Bowfin, caught on 6# general worth 258 points. The fish was caught on a live minnow. **Jeff's** next entries were for Crappie. He entered three fish, with his best entry being 175 points. It weighed 1 pound, 12 ounces, was also caught on a minnow. **Jeff's** last entry was for a 2 pound, 5 ounce, Largemouth Bass on 2# general for 123 points. All three species will lead the "species" and "heaviest" divisions.

**Parks Rountrey** and **Matt Balazik** went to Chippoke's Creek for Gar in late February. **Parks** was using a jerk shad on 2# plug when he landed a 9 pound, 8 ounce fish. The Gar is worth 345 points and is now leading the "species" and "heaviest" divisions.

**Jim Sheffield** had the final entry for this newsletter. **Jim** caught a 27 pound, 8 ounce, "club record" Flathead Catfish from the James River. **Jim** was using a minnow for bait and caught the fish on 6# general. The flathead will lead the "species" and "heaviest" divisions with 321 points.

Now if the City of Richmond will clean the mud and debris off Ancarrow's Landing, we will be ready for the Shad to arrive!

Good luck, Buddy

**LeRoy Houser's massive 76.5 lb Blue Cat**



**Ted Kramer's gorgeous Sailfish in Isla Mujeres, Mexico**

## VAC MEMBER JIM DIRKS PULLS LINES FOR THE LAST TIME

Jim Dirks passed away at his home in Manakin Sabot, VA on Saturday, February 26, 2011. Jim joined the VAC in 1978. In his thirty-three years of membership, he served on the Board of Directors, was the unofficial parliamentarian of the VAC and was a member who was truly dedicated to the purposes of the Club. Although less active as an angler in the past five years, over the thirty-three years of his membership, Jim fished in seven states and Manitoba Canada, He has eighty-eight entries in the catch database that are spread among thirty separate freshwater and saltwater species. Jim was among the VAC Members who were registered as anglers at various times on the *Wild Card* when the boat was entered in the Oregon Inlet Bill Fish Tournament and unofficially represented the VAC in the Tournaments. Jim's 19-0 Jack Cravelle on 12 # spin is a Club Record that has stood for just two months short of twenty-two years when Jim pulled lines for the last time.

## VAC BOD PICKS POCKET KNIFE AS 50<sup>TH</sup> COMMEMORATIVE ITEM

After a lengthy discussion of each idea submitted for an special engraved or embroidered item to commemorate the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Virginia Anglers Club, the Board of Directors has selected a red, 3.5" Swiss Army Knife as the official commemorative item to be offered to members. Included in this knife is a small set of fold-out scissors that will cut fishing line, including braid. The knife will have durable engraving on the sides noting the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the VAC. The cost of the knife will be announced when finalized.

The Club will bear the cost of half of the purchase price. The other half of the purchase price, paid by VAC members when they buy the knife from the VAC Country Store, will be directed solely to the conservation account in the VAC annual budget.

The initial order will be for 50 knives which will be sold from the general inventory of the Country Store (no requests for reservations please) on a first-come-first-served basis. If the initial inventory is sold out, additional commemorative knives will be ordered. Country Store Keeper Eddy Johnston estimates that initial details, ordering and receipt of the initial stock of knives will be completed by early summer. Watch *The Angler* for more details on this handy commemorative engraved Swiss Army Knife.

## ABILITY OF SCALES BY BRAND TO CONSISTENTLY CERTIFY

You often see the Scale Certification Team hunkered down in the rear corner of the "Small Side" room at the Skilligalee working hard to certify a pile of Member's scales. This year, Member Ryan Noland is leading the certification work and Mike Cline is helping Ryan with the "heavy lifting". Danny Noland and Dean Winstead are doing the record work and being sure the certification stickers go on each scale as they are certified. The entire program of scale certification is overseen by Member Larry Allen. Thanks to these five guys for keeping the playing field level.

By the end of the February Membership meeting, the Team has certified a total of 142 scales this year. Many more scales are expected to be submitted for certification at the March Membership Meeting.

Over the years, the Team has noticed some trends in the ability of different brands of scales we use to pass certification. The most reliable scales have been the Boga Grip line of scales; all of which consistently passed certification. Several Manley all passed too. Chatillon is another brand which consistently passes, with some older and lighter capacity (e.g.: 6# capacity) not passing certification. Scales with aluminum frames like the Bass Pro models and scales of the digital style do not pass. This year one Bass Pro high capacity scale showed a consistent 3 pound off-set over its entire range. Scale Team members will be glad to help with any questions you might have.

## SCALE CERTIFICATION COMING UP IN MARCH

The second meeting at which scale certification will be offered will be the March 22, 2011 Membership Meeting. Please 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(s).**
- **Leave your bagged scales on the certification team's table. Your scales will be delivered to you when the certification process is complete.**

## MARCH WEB SITE HOW – FIND CATCH HISTORY BY SPECIES

The Web Site How for March a reminder of how to view and print down the catch records by species in the VAC database. With the shad on the way to downtown Richmond, we will use that species as the example in this discussion.

Enter the "Member's Area", log in and click on the heading "Search All Catches (Catch Database)", in the box containing the words "Any" for "Species", scroll down and click on the species for which you want to search the catch history database. This database contains all past catches submitted on any Entry Card and is current within a month or so of the receipt of new Entry Cards). For this month's example, click on "SHAD, HICKORY". Leave the other boxes with "Any" and "Date" in them alone for now. Next, click on "Search". Up comes a paltry 351 entries for all Hickory Shad submitted, automatically presented in descending order by date caught... '85. most recent catches first. There you have a tackle box full of information about baits, tackle etc.

If you want to see what hickory shad catches were submitted last year, in the box titled "Year", scroll down to 2010, click on "Search" and up comes the hickory shad entries submitted in 2010. When catches this year are submitted, they will appear in the database and you can get more current catch information. You can try all combinations of species, dates, anglers or what ever and come up with interesting historical data about past catches. You cannot harm the database, so have at it.

To print down any screen of data, just select print and you have a hard copy of the information for which you searched, ready to study, go in a file or take with you in your tackle box. Having a copy in your tackle box might be handy if the hickories turn up their noses at a shad dart. Check out other baits that have worked in the past and maybe Mr. Skunk will slip out of the boat.

Please let Johnny or John Wetlaufer know if you have a subject that you would like covered in the Monthly Web Site How feature. They will be glad to honor all requests. By the way, it is good to be a patriotic American but not too good to have a pelagic American in your cooler during shad season. If you doubt this reminder, just ask the "expert".

**HELP KEEP ANGLING LEGAL – REPORT VIOLATIONS**  
**If you suspect or witness an angling violation, report it to the Wildlife Crimeline at**  
**1-800-237-5712.**



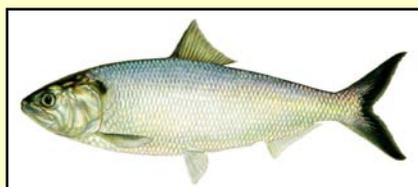
## Legislation and Conservation

By Matt Balazik

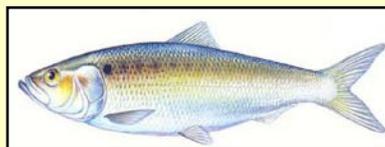
### Local News:

#### Shad Fishing:

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 and data collection started in 2010. Unless there are some drastic changes there will be a moratorium on herring 2012. You may possess these fish below the fall line but please use good judgment. Neither of these species are doing well.

This following link is to a very well prepared Clupeid identification guide:

[http://www.ncwildlife.org/fishing/documents/Herring\\_Shad\\_ID\\_guide.pdf](http://www.ncwildlife.org/fishing/documents/Herring_Shad_ID_guide.pdf)

#### Sturgeon Report:

Nothing as of now but I hopeful we will have some nice results in the next few weeks

### National News:

#### Fisheries Assistant Administrator Talks with Congress About Ending Overfishing:

At the March 8 Senate Commerce Committee hearing on the Magnuson-Stevens Act, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries, Eric Schwaab, said the U.S. is making good progress toward meeting the mandate to end domestic overfishing. You can listen to his talk at:

[http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Hearings&ContentRecord\\_id=5c7188ff-5a05-4342-84f7-fbdb377ab3a3&ContentType\\_id=14f995b9-dfa5-407a-9d35-56cc7152a7ed&Group\\_id=b06c39af-e033-4cba-9221-de668ca1978a](http://commerce.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=Hearings&ContentRecord_id=5c7188ff-5a05-4342-84f7-fbdb377ab3a3&ContentType_id=14f995b9-dfa5-407a-9d35-56cc7152a7ed&Group_id=b06c39af-e033-4cba-9221-de668ca1978a)

The talk is long but covers many issues, a very good listen.

### Global News:

#### Protecting Deep-sea Corals in the North Pacific:

At international delegation passed new conservation measures that will protect more than 16.1 million square miles of seafloor habitat in the North Pacific Ocean from bottom trawling and other bottom contact gear. Participating nations, including the U.S., Canada, Japan, Russia, China, Korea and Taiwan (Chinese Taipei), acted on a commitment they made at the United Nations General Assembly to enact interim conservation measures to protect vulnerable marine ecosystems, like seamounts, deep-sea coral and hydrothermal vents, in international waters. Oceana (an ocean protection group) and others have been working to advance these measures since 2006.

# Tournament News

## KELLY STAFFORD MEMORIAL HICKORY SHAD AND WHITE PERCH TOURNAMENT

• APRIL 9 & 10, 2011 •  
(BLOW DATE 16 & 17)



Don't miss this one! Last year's tourney was awesome with hundreds of fish caught. Our tourney date is near peak of shad perch runs. 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 1" plastic grubs can be effective on ultra-light spinning and plug gear. Fly fishing is often more productive than the spinning outfits. Various flies work well, mostly with sinking lines, and just enough rod to throw the sinking line (5 to 7 wt). 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 ramp parking lot from 4:30 to 5:30 PM Saturday** will include snacks, and 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 same weekend. A fish can be entered by weight or points (angler must declare which category) but not both ways for 1 fish.

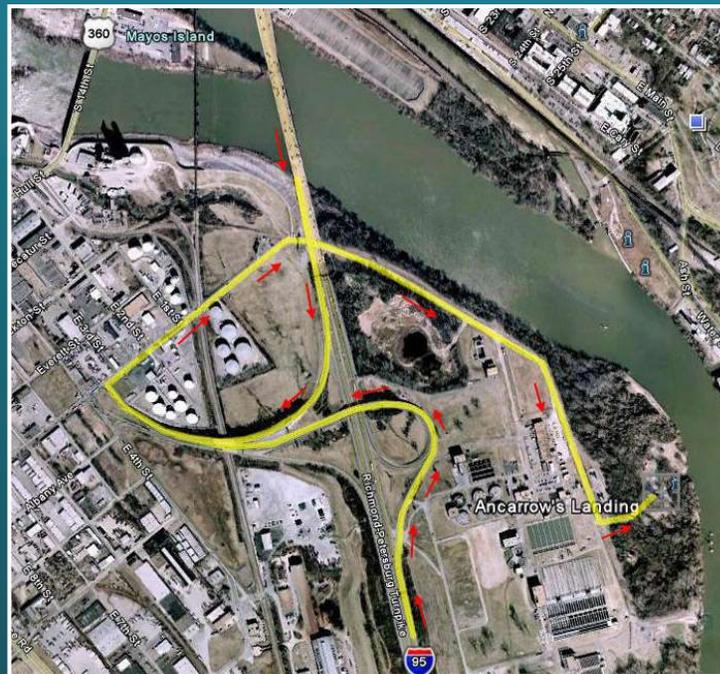
One angler can win both weight and points divisions by entering 2 different fish.

One angler can only enter two fish of each species (4 total).

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 Green Top gift certificate or a VAC Banquet ticket.



## VAC TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE DETAILS FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR

- **Kelly Stafford Memorial Hickory Shad and White Perch\***: April 9-10 (blow date April 16-17)
- **Bernie Skydanek Memorial Eastern Shore VA Surf - Red Drum** May 14-15 (blow date May 21-22)
- **Virginia Flounder**: July 23-24 (blow date July 30-31)
- **James River VA Flathead Catfish**: August 13-14 \* (blow date Aug 20-21)
- **James River VA (Chippokes Creek) Gar**: November 5-6 (blow date Nov 12-13)

\* Social gathering tentatively planned

## TWO BILLS OF INTEREST TO ANGLERS PASSED BY THE GEN. ASSY.

(As presented in the newly revised Legislative Information System)

### SB995

*Special combined individual sportfishing licenses; boat license*

2. A special combined sportfishing license to fish in all the tidal waters of the Commonwealth during the open season that covers the owner of a recreational boat not carrying anglers for hire, in any registered boat owned and operated by him, and his passengers. For residents, this license shall be in lieu of the state resident fishing license required by subdivision A 2 of § 29.1-310, the saltwater recreational license required by § 28.2-302.1, and the saltwater recreational boat license established by § 28.2-302.7. The cost of this license for residents shall be \$125. For nonresidents, this license shall be in lieu of the state nonresident fishing license required by subdivision A 3 of § 29.1-310 and the saltwater recreational license required by § 28.2-302.1. The cost of this license for nonresidents shall be \$200.

Agents of the Commission shall retain the agent's fee established by the Board of Game and Inland Fisheries pursuant to subsection B of § 29.1-327, except that the agent's fee shall be deducted from the license fee established by the Commission pursuant to subdivision 4 of § 28.2-201, as compensation for issuing each license. Of the funds collected under this subdivision, (i) \$48 per resident license sold and \$76 per nonresident license sold shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the Virginia Saltwater Recreational Fishing Development Fund, as established in § 28.2-302.3, and (ii) \$77 per resident license sold and \$124 per nonresident sold shall be paid into the state treasury to the credit of the Game Protection Fund, as established in § 29.1-101.

### HB 2370

*An Act to amend and reenact § 29.1-328 of the Code of Virginia, relating to multiple-year hunting, fishing and trapping licenses and permits.*

C. The Board may authorize the sale of any annual license or permit issued under this title for a period exceeding the one-year term. Such a multiple-year license or permit shall be valid for the number of consecutive years stated on the permit or license. The fee for such a multiple-year license or permit shall not exceed the total amount that would be charged if the particular license or permit was purchased on an annual basis over the specified number of years.



## VAC PROGRAM UPDATE

By Mike Ostrander

Getting programs for the Virginia Angler's Club to go off without a hitch, it sometime like leaving to pick up your boat and you forgot your hitch. Seriously though, trying to keep our programs fresh and inviting can prove to be tough.

That's why at the monthly meetings and Board of Director meetings, you will usually here a plea from the Program Chairman asking for ideas and names for future programs and speakers. Now it's in writing.

We have a pretty good series of programs coming up over the next few months. This Month, **Stephen Miklandric** will speak on his incredible year of fishing in 2010, which included numerous citations. In April, **Bob Shepherd will speak about surf fishing**, and give us some pointers for the mid-May Surf Tournament. June is open. In July, author and fly fisherman **Beau Beasely, will speak about menhaden**. Beau will also have books available for the membership to purchase.

Here is a list, put together by Johnny Wetlaufer that show's our last two and a half years of speakers and presentations. If you have any ideas about a program you'd like to see, please forward it to any Director or call me at 938-2350.

03/01/2011	Stephen Miklandric on 2010
02/01/2011	Matt Balazik on Atlantic Sturgeon
11/01/2010	Brian Lockwood aka "Jetski Brian"
10/01/2010	Captain David Hester on Specks
09/01/2010	Capt. Blake Hayden on Speckled Trout
08/01/2010	Swap Shop
07/01/2010	Steve Lane on Electronics
06/01/2010	Flounder Fishing
05/01/2010	VAC Fish Fry
04/01/2010	Fishing Memories
03/01/2010	Dean Fowler on Shad
02/01/2010	Tom Guess on Boating Licenses
11/01/2009	Jim Sheffield and Bruce Henderson on Rockfish
10/01/2009	Bob Brown Sr. on Outboard Winterizing
09/01/2009	Larry Allen and Wilson Nobles on Speckled Trout
07/01/2009	Dr. Greg South on Flounder in Shallow Water on Jigs
06/01/2009	The Noland Brothers on Fishing for Spadefish
05/01/2009	VAC Fish Fry
04/01/2009	Chad Boyce on Tidewater Fishing
03/01/2009	Catching Shad On The James With Russ Cress
02/01/2009	Barry Truitt on the Eastern Shore
11/01/2008	Stuart Lee - Stripers on Fly and Jig
10/01/2008	Dr. Julie Ball on Tautog
09/01/2008	Carl Herring on Speckled Trout
08/01/2008	Sturgeon on the James River



## “The Tailgate” - Member Stories

### STRANGE BUT TRUE

Rock fishing on a buddy's 50' deadrise, we had multiple rods out including stretches and mojo-bucktail combos on a 3-way swivel. As the fish were skittish, we had tied the stretches directly to the 20 lb test line. We had 4 fish on at one time, so after I released mine, towards the bow, I dropped the 3-way back into the water to help the others with their fish.

One of my friends was at the stern of the boat fighting a nice rock--but the fish chaffed the line on the stretch and we heard a resounding "pop" as the fish broke the line at the stern of the boat. All of the sudden my rod jumps and I have a fish on... he didn't fight too hard and it was a quick catch... now get this. The buck tail, 25' deep, suspended--grabbed one of the treble hooks of the stretch as the fish swam by. I was able to get the fish in the boat, retrieving my stretch and, after that effort, had to let the 25-0 fish go. Great day, lots of nice fish.

Mark Douglas



## Captain's Corner

By Fred Murray

### "Fishing Buddies"

With a slight hesitation of my fly line followed by a quick hook set, I was hooked up with one of my best New York brown trout in ten years of fishing. After a few tense minutes and several misses, I netted a beautiful 16lb trout. I looked around and there was not another person in sight, no one to see the secret riffle that was loaded with big fish but something even more important was not there. What was missing was my long time fishing buddy, he was not there to share the experience. I was lucky however on this trip as my friend Ray was just around a bend a hundred yards upstream. I quickly headed upstream with the fish for photos and to share the story.

This incident reminded me once again how special it is to have a good friend and how much it adds to the outdoor experience. Yes, I am one of those folks that sometimes fishes alone and I do enjoy it, but having someone to share the fishing experience is the icing on the cake.

The VAC is a great place to find someone that will put up with your shortfalls, laugh at your jokes and shares your passion for fishing. Good fishing buddies and true friends (hopefully the same) are hard to find and should be cherished. I am very fortunate to have several great fishing companions and I thank the VAC for giving me that opportunity.

Go find yours!

Fred Murray  
President

**VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 2/9/11**

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>ANGLER</u>	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>LN</u>	<u>DIV.</u>	<u>PTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>BAIT</u>
<b>2010 SPECIES LEADERS - SALTWATER</b>								
BASS, STRIPED	F Cousins	5-0	2	Fly	166	12/18/10	Elizabeth River, Va.	Clouser
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	6-12	2	Spin	450	1/16/11	Elizabeth River, VA	Jig w/Grub

<b>2010 SPECIES LEADERS - FRESHWATER</b>								
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	J Doughty	2-5	2	Gen	123	2/18/11	James River, VA	Minnow
BOWFIN	J Doughty	10-8	4	Gen	258	2/16/11	James River, VA	Minnow
CATFISH, BLUE	B Shepherd	57-0	6	Gen	536	2/12/11	James River, VA	Cut Shad
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	J Sheffield	27-8	6	Gen	321	2/28/11	James River, VA	Minnow
CRAPPIE, ALL	J Doughty	1-12	4	Gen	175	2/17/11	James River, VA	Minnow
GAR, ALL	JP Rountrey	9-8	2	Plug	345	2/18/11	Chipokes Creek, VA	Jerk Shad
PERCH, WHITE	F Cousins	1-2	2	Fly	375	12/18/10	Elizabeth River, VA	Clouser
PERCH, YELLOW	WS Johnston	1-0	4	Fly	270	2/12/11	Chickahominy River, VA	Clouser

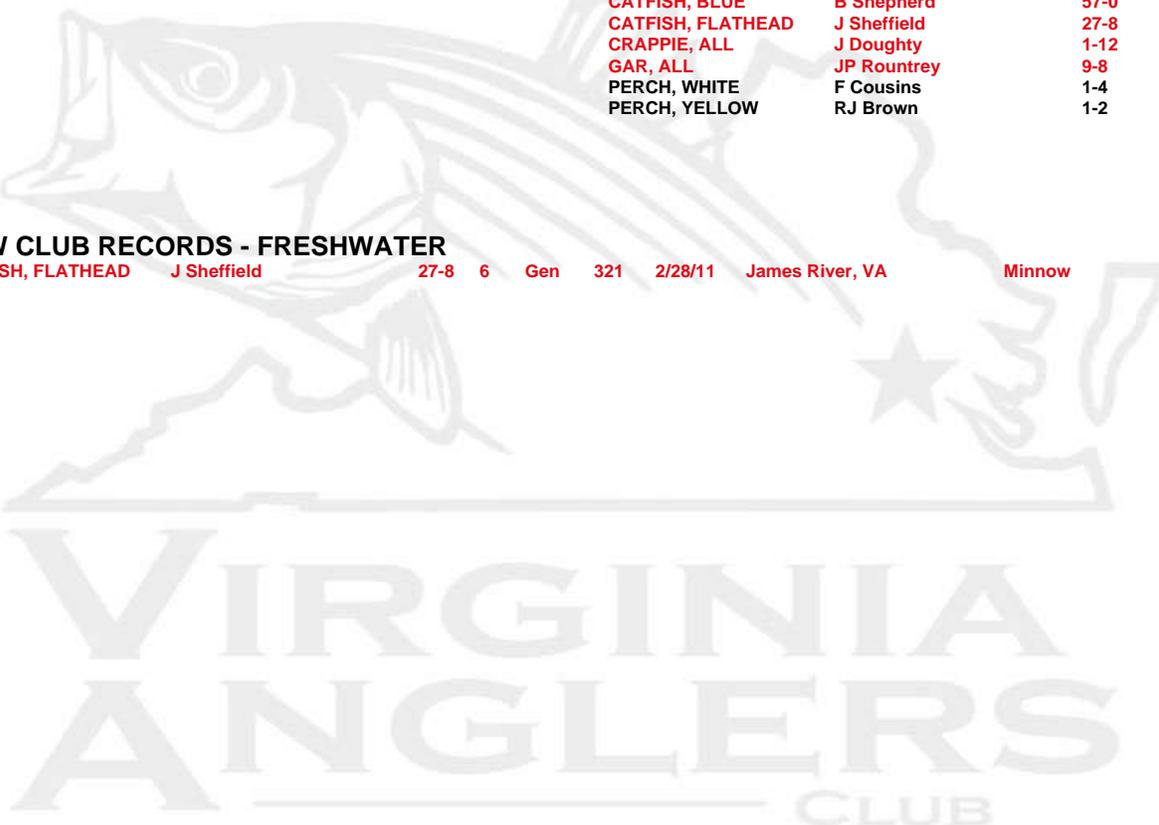
<b>2010 DIVISION LEADERS - SALTWATER</b>								
BASS, STRIPED	F Cousins	5-0	2	Fly	166	12/18/10	Elizabeth River, Va.	Clouser
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	6-12	2	Spin	450	1/16/11	Elizabeth River, VA	Jig w/Grub

<b>2010 DIVISION LEADERS - FRESHWATER</b>								
PERCH, WHITE	F Cousins	1-4	2	Spin	328	12/18/10	Elizabeth River, Va.	Grub
PERCH, WHITE	F Cousins	1-2	2	Fly	375	12/18/10	Elizabeth River, Va.	Clouser
CATFISH, BLUE	F Cousins	30-0	2	Plug	461	2/6/11	James River, VA	Silver Buddy
CATFISH, BLUE	B Shepherd	57-0	6	Gen	536	2/12/11	James River, VA	Cut Shad

<b>2009 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - SALTWATER</b>		
BASS, STRIPED	F Cousins	5-0
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	F Cousins	6-12

<b>2009 SPECIES LEADERS LARGEST - FRESHWATER</b>		
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	J Doughty	2-5
BOWFIN	J Doughty	10-8
CATFISH, BLUE	B Shepherd	57-0
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	J Sheffield	27-8
CRAPPIE, ALL	J Doughty	1-12
GAR, ALL	JP Rountrey	9-8
PERCH, WHITE	F Cousins	1-4
PERCH, YELLOW	RJ Brown	1-2

<b>NEW CLUB RECORDS - FRESHWATER</b>								
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	J Sheffield	27-8	6	Gen	321	2/28/11	James River, VA	Minnow



# Robert Thomas

## Fishing Adventures

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

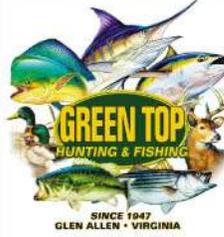
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Design and Layout: Rob Choi

**NEXT MEETING:  
Tuesday, March 22nd at Skilligalee Restaurant**



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