

THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

# WIRELINE

AUG 2016

## What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Speckled Trout fishing with Captain Craig Freeman, Grading Scales Sportfishing

Fishing Tips: Inshore Mahi fishing with Captain Bill Pappas

### Fishing Reports:

- Cobia and Flounder fishing in the Bay
- Spanish Mackerel off the beach
- Black Sea Bass
- Amberjack pullage



# Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

We've got a lot going on this month in the Club. First is Norfolk Marine's 70th Anniversary celebration on Saturday, August 6th. Drop by the event and check out our Norfolk Anglers Club table and all the new things Norfolk Marine has to offer.

Next is our regular Club meeting on Monday, August 8th. This is the first opportunity to donate to the SeaTow Hampton Roads Holiday Toy Drive. Last year the local Angler clubs collected enough toys to fill one of the SeaTow boats. The Norfolk Anglers Club was a big part of that event. So remember to bring a toy with you to the meeting and start the holiday season off right.

Another big event is the Ocean View Recreation Center Headboat Fishing Trip and Cookout. We still need a few volunteers on the Headboat. Sign up at the August meeting.

Ending the month is the Military Appreciation Day (MAD) on August 27th. This is a wonderful opportunity to show our appreciation for those who serve our Nation.

*Will*

## MEETING



**Guest Speaker:** Captain Craig Freeman, Grading Scales Sportfishing and Back River Rods. Capt Freeman has earned both Virginia Expert and Master Angler status and is joining us to share his expertise fishing Speckled Trout on the Poquoson Flats and Peninsula.

Have questions about selecting the perfect rod for your target species? Capt Freeman is also a custom rod builder and can answer questions and provide advice on selecting the ideal rod to match your fishing.



## Important:

Date of next meeting - Monday, August 8th at 7pm

## Location:

Teppanyaki Buffet & Grill

7525 Tidewater Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505

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*Beginning at our August Meeting and running through November the Norfolk Anglers Club will be collecting New and Unwrapped toys for the SeaTow Holiday Toy Drive. Toys go to local families through the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys-For-Tots campaign.*



From the Cover: (Beth Synowiec holding two Sheepshead citations that she caught at the Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel on July 20, 2016 while fishing with her husband Kevin in their boat the *Classicrockfish*. Her Sheepshead weights were 11lb 9 oz and 10 lb 2 oz.)

For years I have been saying that Sheepshead like storms and today was no exception, ha ha . Even though the storm brought the fish, it forced Kevin and I to leave the scene early because we had to play it safe, so when it started pouring and thundering on the water Kevin and I literally left them biting. These two citation Sheepshead bit on crab using the Carolina rig with egg sinker and 18 inch fluorocarbon leader and 50 lb braid main line using a high speed conventional reel and a medium heavy rod . We also managed 4 really nice Spadefish on clam with 1/8 egg sinker and

medium light spinning rod and reel, and 25 lb fluorocarbon with a long enough leader to allow bait to look like the clam was floating. For the Flounder, we used a 3 way with 2 1/2 foot leader with 4/0 J hooks and 6 inch weight line (weight size adjusting to current) and live bait as well as some fresh bluefish strips on occasion as well. Total catch of the day was 6 Flounder 4 Spadefish, 7 Bluefish (Taylor's) and 2 Sheepshead Weight citations for the Sheepshead 11 lb 9oz and 10 lb 2oz - Beth Synowiec





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# Join the USCG Auxiliary

25 July: News Release

Henry Troutner, a member of the Norfolk Anglers' Club, grew up around boats, and has been boating for most of his life. So when the chance to put his years of boating experience to use as a volunteer with the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, he jumped at the opportunity – quickly becoming an active member of Smithfield's Flotilla 59.

For over 75 years, the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary has offered ordinary citizens and veterans the opportunity to assist the Coast Guard with its non-law-enforcement missions. Auxiliarists may qualify in a variety of specialties free of charge, including on-the-water search-and-rescue operations, air operations, public affairs, vessel exams, public education, and more.

Auxiliarists who complete advanced training may serve alongside active-duty Coast Guardsmen at stations or aboard cutters as crew, watchstanders, or food service specialists.

"There are no time or service obligations," said Flotilla Commander Anderson Braswell of Smithfield Flotilla 59. "As volunteers, we can serve at our convenience and aren't required to ship off to boot camp or meet the active duty fitness requirements."

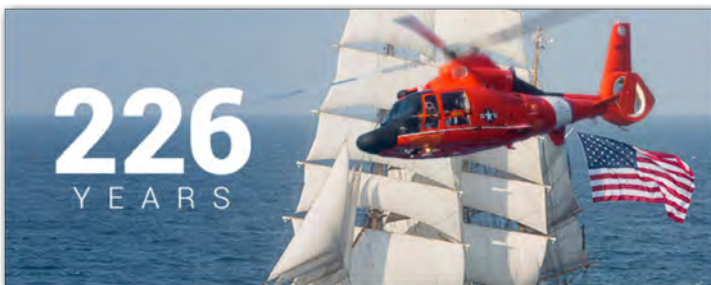
Though the Auxiliary is authorized to assist in all Coast Guard missions save for those involving law enforcement, its primary mission has always been to promote recreational boater safety in local waterways. The Auxiliary is divided into various flotillas, each of which corresponds to a specific geographic area of responsibility (AOR.)

"Flotilla 59 serves Isle of Wight and Surry Counties, as well as Suffolk," Braswell said. "But geography isn't always the determining factor in a member's decision on which flotilla to join. Some flotillas develop specialties over time. In our case, it's marine operations, though we have several qualified instructors and public affairs specialists too. Flotilla 5-10 in Suffolk is primarily an air operations unit."

"Regardless of which flotilla an auxiliarist joins," Braswell added, "he or she can be proud to wear the blue uniform and be part of Team Coast Guard."

- Stephen Faleski, Flotilla Staff Officer  
Publications (FSO-PB), (610) 297-6051  
stephenfaleski@gmail.com

U.S. Department of  
Homeland Security  
**United States  
Coast Guard  
Auxiliary**



The Coast Guard celebrates its 226th birthday in August this year. The Coast Guard is one of America's five armed forces and traces its founding to Aug. 4, 1790, when the first Congress authorized the construction of 10 vessels to enforce tariff and trade laws, prevent smuggling, and protect the collection of federal revenue. Responsibilities added over the years included humanitarian duties such as aiding mariners in distress. The service received its

present name in 1915 when the Revenue Cutter Service merged with the U.S. Life-Saving Service to form a single maritime service dedicated to the safety of life at sea and enforcing the nation's maritime laws. The Coast Guard is a multi-mission, maritime, military service and the smallest of the five Armed Services. Its mission is to protect the public, the environment and U.S. economic interests in the nation's waterways, along the coast, on international waters, or in any maritime region as required to support national security.

<http://www.military.com/coast-guard-birthday>





### ***Inshore Mahi with Captain Bill Pappas, Playin Hookey Charters***

**Mahi-Mahi, Dorado, Dolphin:** There are many names for one of the most beautiful fish in the sea. Nothing compares to a lit up Mahi in clear blue water. They're fast, powerful, and iridescent green during the fight. Many think you have to travel far offshore to locate Mahi, but you're wrong. Mahi can be found 10-15 nm off the Virginia coast mid-June to September.

**What to look for:** A school of Mahi are attracted to floating debris, grass/seaweed lines, foam line all of which would hold smaller fish, i.e. a food source. Also look for the color break in the water, these changes attract Mahi and are a great place to put out your spread.

Another tactic is to occasionally check offshore buoys. The mooring chain is covered in aglae, grass, and barnacles and is a haven for smaller fish.



**Bailing the Buoys:** Often you'll locate a school of Mahi around the buoy and one of the best ways to bring them closer to the water column is to chum them up using cut squid or other small cut fish. Position your live bait rigs about 10-15 feet down and as the school moves up they'll find your live bait and Game On! You may have to move off the buoy with multiple fish on but stay close to keep the school near the structure. Once you hook one and get them near the boat, remember to always keep a hooked Mahi in the water. The school will be attracted to the lit-up hooked fish and you're likely to keep the school close AND feeding with one hooked in the water. They same applies when fishing the seaweed lines and floating debris - rotate the catch and keep one in the water.

**On the Troll:** Trolling a spread along the weed and foam lines is another great tactic to locate the Mahi and cover more area. Capt Pappas recommends keeping your speed around 5.7-6.1 knots and try and avoid trolling directly into or with the swells. Going into or with the swells causes your spread to slow or speed up, it's not a natural presentation, he advises. Trolling with a quartering sea works the best for Playin Hookey Charters as it keeps the spread moving consistently.



Spreaders are great to cover a large area behind and to the sides of the boat but aren't absolutely needed. Most boats can manage a five and up to a seven rod spread with the help of a pair of rod holder outriggers. One technique most don't think of is using the rod holders on top of the hard top or tee top as a second level to present bait behind the boat.

No matter how you place your spread behind the boat one thing is certain, you have to manage your spread, how the spreader bars and planers track makes all the difference in keeping the spread where you want it and minimizing a tangled mess. Course changes must be gradual and wide enough to keep the spread tracking, AND you must keep moving.



# Norfolk Anglers Club

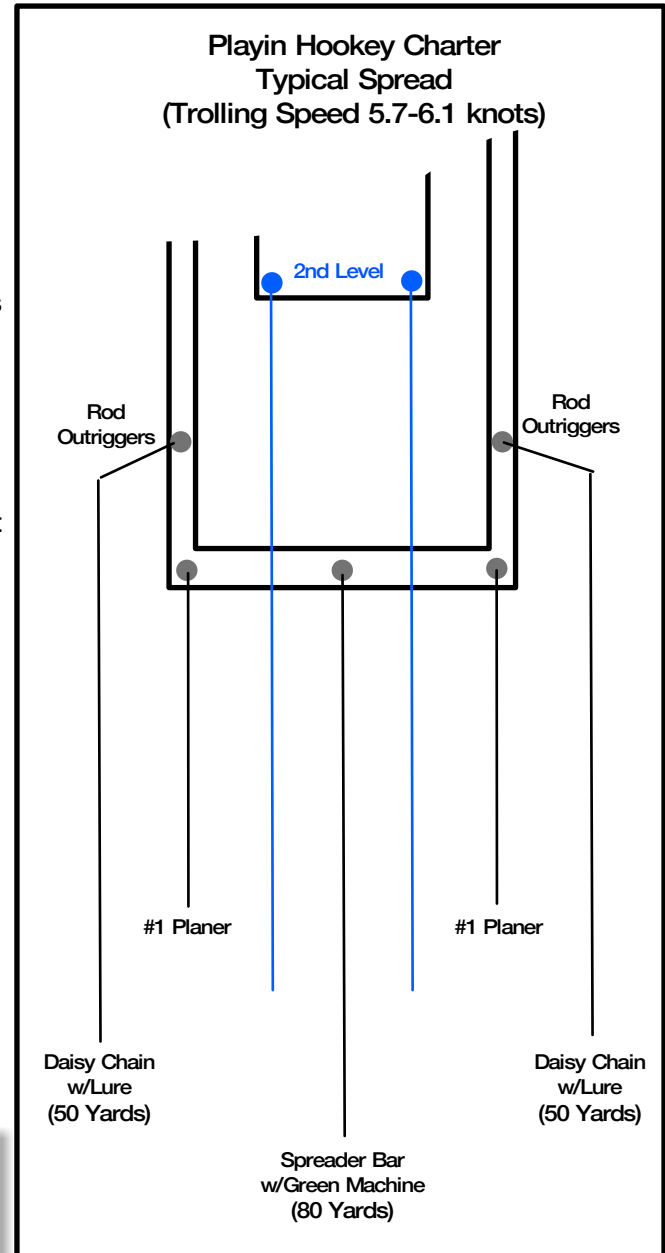
[www.norfolkanglersclub.com](http://www.norfolkanglersclub.com)

## Fishing Tips...

**Organizing the Spread** The spread starts with the centerline Spreader Bar rigged with a Green Machine approximately 80 yards in trail. Next are the #1 Planers off the corner rod holders commonly rigged off flat lines. Then you have your rigged out rods to Daisy Chains with a Lure about 50 yards back. Capt Pappas likes to use a 3/8-1/2 ounce weight in the Daisy Chains. Lures can be plain Ballyhoo, a Lure or Skirt/Ballyhoo combination, or plain Lure. It's best to initially rig differing colors for the Lures and Skirts to gauge what the Mahi prefer that day.

**Hooked Up:** When the Mahi are hitting it can be an exciting time. If you're locked on to the smaller or Bailer Dolphin keep your trolling speed going and sling them into the boat. Once you hook the larger Gaffer Dolphin you'll need to slow a bit but keep the boat moving to maintain the spread. Be quick with the Gaff placement in the Mahi's face or belly (best method). Avoid gaffing them in the head, it's quite boney and won't give you the best grip on the fish. Be warned, Mahi may be a bit initially stunned when they hit the deck but it won't last long. Get them in the box quickly and on ice. They will soon FREAK OUT and it's best to let them do that in the box than on the deck.

**Playin Hookey Charters**  
**Captain Bill Pappas**  
**Virginia Beach**  
**(757)619-3530**





# Fishing Reports...



30 June: I went fishing for Cobia with Russell Willoughby and Jerry Hughes on a nice Wednesday in Russell's 21 ft Mako. The day began early as we were trying to make the beginning of the turnover from incoming to outgoing currents but mechanical complications on the boat had us out at the 9 foot Shoal area bayside right after the current turned. It was choppy with winds NW 10-13 mph most of the day which made it tricky to keep from being thrown out of the boat at times. We had chum bags out on top and bottom and proceeded to catch one Shark, Cownose Ray or Clearnose Skate after another for hours. The Cownose Rays, a species of eagle ray, were the most taxing to catch and bring to the boat since they tend to pull a lot of line and circle the boat. They act much like a Cobia does but can be easily distinguished when they come to the surface soon after the hook up, just like Cobia do. Some were at

least 4-5 ft wing span and over 25 lbs. We caught a variety of sharks including sand, black tipped and sharpnose. Finally as the current started to slow down my rod went off and I started fighting what I at first thought was a Shark with it making a fast long run then a lot of head shake until I got it closer to the boat when we could finally see it was a Cobia, my first this year. When he saw the boat he made another strong run and started to circle the boat. We managed to keep him from crossing out other lines which was amazing considering he went around us a couple of times before I was able to get him near enough for Jerry to net him. This Cobia measured out 43 inches and 28.5 lbs. a nice size fish to eat, just past the 40" limit but short of the two per boat limit now imposed on us. Unfortunately this Cobia was the only one we caught or hooked up for the day. We stayed till about an hour after the incoming tide started and didn't get anything but critters. But nevertheless we at least had half of our quota and several meals out of this fish. - Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower



9 July: I went to the Triangle Wrecks and caught Black Sea Bass on several different wrecks. The light tower was crowded so we went straight to the triangles; we'd heard of large Spadefish there. On Thursday 21 July, we went to the 4th island and the high level bridge looking for Spadefish and Flounder. The Flounder bite was hot so we didn't even try catch Spadefish. We did see a lot of Spadefish and Sheepshead in the clear water of the high level bridge area. We caught Flounder to about 24", the Bluefish were thick at the 4th and high level, we caught several while reeling up the check bait and some trolling clark and drone spoons on #1 and #2 old salty planers. - Mike Hubert

14 July: I took a trip to the Chesapeake Light Tower for Flounder with a couple of guys that never really fished before. There were about 6 or 8 boats drifting the reef when we arrived. We caught about a dozen but only one was a keeper. I actually never saw any other boat land a fish. Numerous boats were anchored by the tower so we moved over there to try for some Spadesfish. After a shore period I realized that most of the boats had divers on board and we were waisting our time. We headed to the Santore Wreck and there was a boat anchored on it but there's plenty of rubble around it so we made several passes for Flounder but didn't connect. Ended the day with one keeper Flounder. - Henry Troutner

## BOYS AND GIRLS CLUB FLOUNDER TOURNAMENT

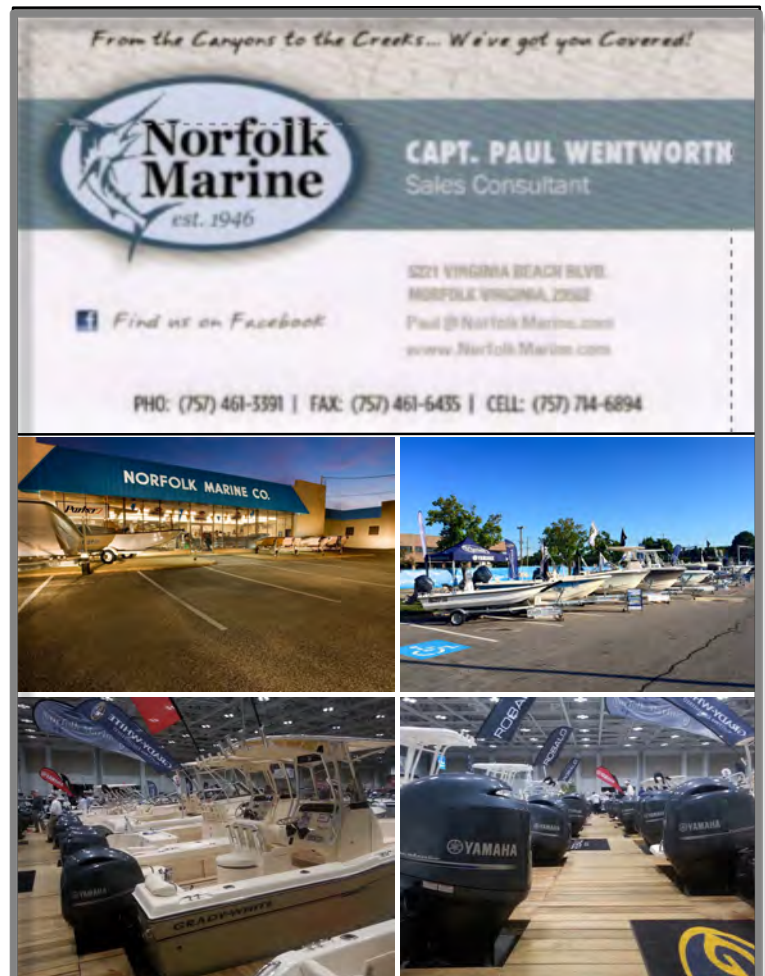
16 July: The day was breezy and hot. Captain Louis Glaser on the Hooked Up had a 4-man crew – Burt Whitt, John Brown, Randy Brown and Ned Smith. Lines went in at 6 am and came out at 4pm which made a long day. We fished from the High Rise to the 1st Island using bottom rigs with live bait and jigging with cut bait. We finished with 16 Flounder in the cooler and 6 throw backs. Most of our fish were caught on double jig rigs.

A total of 48 boats participated in the tournament with the winning boat weighing in 3 flounder that totaled over 19 lbs. We took 9th place with 3 flounder that totaled 9.65 lbs. In all we had a fun day fishing for a great event.  
- Ned Smith

## "SUPER JOB GUYS"



21 July: I went another trip to the Chesapeake Light Tower with a couple guys from the Coast Guard Auxiliary. This time I planned to spend more time on Spadefish. Let me say this was one of the calmest days I've been on the water and we had almost no drift. We started out for Flounder and caught a few but there was no drift at all. We saw several schools of Spadefish so I put out 2 float rigs and 2 mid-water rigs for them. We continued trying for Flounder. We saw schools of Spadefish all day long, hundreds of fish, but only caught 2. Don't know what I was doing wrong; I was using Fluorocarbon leaders and completely covering the small hook with clam. Some of the schools swam right through the baits without touching them. I was using salted clams as I could not get fresh, maybe that was the problem. We stopped at the Santore on the way back. I just can't pass it without dropping a line as I've had some great days on it. There was a diver on it so we only made 2 short passes without a bite. On the way in we stopped at the 3rd Island and fished the bay side on an outgoing tide. We picked up a few shorts. The tide went slack about 5:30 and we headed in. We caught 2 keeper Flounder and 2 Spadefish. I plan to ask for some input at the meeting on why I didn't catch more Spadefish. They were everywhere! - Henry Troutner



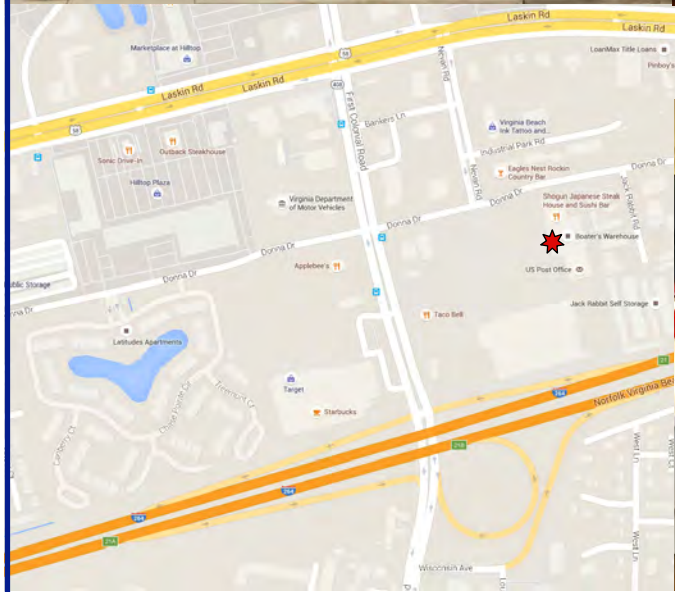




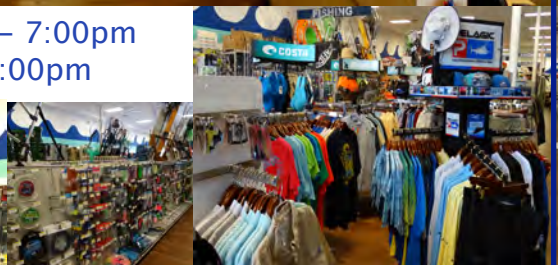
24 July:  
Thanks to  
Norfolk  
Anglers  
Club's  
report about  
catching  
Amberjack.  
At the "A"  
Tower, we  
made the  
run down  
there  
yesterday.  
My god the  
schools  
were thick.  
Every drop  
resulted in  
hook up.  
When we  
would bring



the fish up, there were 4 -6 swimming with it. Supper Fast Action! Our fish were not citations but put up plenty of fight. After catching all we wanted we headed a little further offshore and loaded up with nice sea bass. - Henry Troutner



Mon - Sat: 9:00am - 7:00pm  
Sun: 9:00am - 5:00pm



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## FOUR PEOPLE LIMIT OF FLOUNDER

7 July: I went Flounder fishing with Louis, Ned, Bert Whitt and Jerry on Louis' Parker the "Hooked Up". Started out at 7:30am heading straight to the CBBT 4th Island in light winds and incoming current just beginning but no joy in the morning. In fact we fished behind the 4th, and from pylon to pylon up to the 60's and only caught throw back sized 15" fish. So around noon we gave up and went to the high rise section of the bridge and began fishing those pylons. About an hour before the current turned over, the current started slowing down and then I hooked the first keeper of the day, around 19 inches. We started catching one after another in one general area near the rocks. It was a fishing frenzy at times with two hook ups at a time and having a nice fish on but the net wasn't cleared yet from the previous hooked up fish. The slack period in the current was really short then we worked the out going until it got going too fast and the bite was over. We ended up with 16 Flounder from 17-21 inches in about two hours. We caught half on cut bait jigging and half on three-way rigs with live small Croakers and Spot. With Louis manning the helm he kept us in the area where the bite was. Thanks Louis for another great trip. I'm in the picture just because no one else would join me.

- Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower

## CATCHING SPANISH MACKEREL AT SANDBRIDGE

28 July: Nick Wright and I decided to go casting for big Red Drum off of Virginia Beach. We heard there was a large school of Drum in the area the day before and considering the Flounder bite was not great the past few outings we were ready for some pullage. There were charter boats looking for the school off of the golf ball (Sandbridge) and some were trolling for Spanish. Since there were no Drum in sight we went to plan B and put out three rigs with silver and gold Clark spoons and began trolling for Spanish in 35 feet of water. In less than 2 hours (hooking up 3 at time), we had 30 nice Spanish and left for home leaving them biting.

- Ned Smith







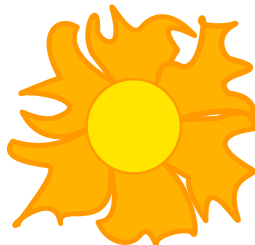
## **DOUBLE LIMIT OF A NICE CLASS OF FLATTY'S PLUS SOME TAGS AND RELEASES!**



29 June: I took a friend to a near shore wreck. We fished standard 3-way drop rigs on the drift. Strip (flounder) baits and minnow combo. We had them snapping, especially after the current slowed. Most were 19"-17" plus several T and R shorts. No monsters but quality fish. This took less than 2 hours!

## **QUICK LIMIT ON A HOT DAY. ONE 20" AND THREE 18".**

15 July: I left home at 9am and was back before noon. After 45 minutes to locate a spot, I caught three Flounder within 30 minutes. Four boats moved in on me and it took another hour to get my fourth. All the action was at the first island. I used Strip Baits and Minnows on a three-way rig, it did the trick!



## **QUICK TRIP TO FIRST ISLAND**

27 July: One nice keeper and two shorts. A short drift down the Thimble Shoals Channel produced a doubleheader skates while having lunch. Tough fishing and nearly 100° degrees!  
- Jimmy Robinson





2 July: On a Saturday, I fished nine foot shoals with Bunker and live bait and caught a couple of Skates, Sharks, and Cow Nose Rays. I had one decent Cobia follow an empty hook in and smile at me before swimming off, once seeing the boat.

4 July: On a nice morning, my friends Bill and Danny fished with me on the Lafayette and Elizabeth River to catch all the small Striper and Blues we wanted. Danny also found an 18" Flounder.



11 July: On a Monday, my buddy Jamie and I took clams out to a wreck off the ocean front in search of Spadefish. No Spades were found but we did catch numerous small Gray Trout. After catching and releasing the Grays we switched over to trolling spoons for Spanish Mackerel on our way back to Rudee inlet. We ended up with 11 S'macks and four small Bluefish. I took a short trip for Spanish on Saturday the 16th and found nine more with the largest Spanish at 22".



16 July: I took a short trip for Spanish on a Saturday and found nine more with the largest Spanish at 22".



23 July: On Saturday, my friend Steve and I fished nine foot shoals targeting Cobia and found one Cow Nose Ray and six or seven healthy sharks before switching the game plan to Spadefish. On the high rise pilings, using clam, we caught our two man limit of Spadefish. - Alex Perez







July was a pretty good month for us for Cobia/Flounder trips. We caught Cobia on Latimer shoals by anchoring up on the SW ledge in 19' of water and using cut Menhaden thru July 17th then the Cobia, Sharks, Skates & Rays seemed to disappear. Because we were running across the Bay anyway, we did most of our Flounder fishing at the High Rise from Piling #82 North about a 1/3 of a mile on both sides and underneath the North bound bridge. Normally we were able to get a few keeper Flounder, some Trout & Bluefish, and the worlds biggest Toadfish around the turn of the current either before or after anchoring up for the Cobia. We didn't catch as many Cobia as last year, and didn't catch them every trip, but they were bigger this year and were able to catch them more times than not. We also caught some real nice Whiting on the shoal as well which I gave to my friend (along with the Cobia heads) in exchange for some homemade Lumpia! - Mike Griffith







16 June: I fished Cape Henry Wreck for Flounder with no luck. Plan B was Spanish Mackerel at Cape Henry. I got a nice catch of Spanish and a small hound fish trolling with small Clark spoons. Twenty lb. test mono on small sinkers and plainer trolled at 6 Knots in clear water outside the tide lines did the trick. - Jimmy Robinson



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# "WE BE FISHIN"



10 July: I remember fondly my first fishing trip for Amberjacks onboard *Fishin Fool* with Lucian Montagna. Armed with a medium tackle spinning rig they "let me" pitch the first bait to the AJs. Was I in for a surprise! It amazed me as the Amberjack ripped line as the reel was singing. The guys had a good laugh as fought my first "Wreck Donkey".

I had the chance to take a couple of friends, Mike, Steve, and Robertson (who has never fished for AJs 😊). Robertson got to "pitch the first bait" but we gave him a conventional reel. His comments as he fought his first Wreck Donkey were priceless and after about 30 minutes he landed his first Citation AJ at 51.5 inches.

A dozen Croakers didn't go far so we switched to vertical jigs and they worked, tried jigging medium size squid and it worked, pitched cobia jigs, the AJs took it all.

On the way home we stopped at an inshore wreck and took home a few Flounder. - Will Bransom





# NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB MEN'S SHORT SLEEVE COTTON T-SHIRTS



3(L), 2(XL), 3(2XL)



2(XL)  
Dip Dye



3(M)  
3(L),  
(6)XL, 3(2XL)



1(M)  
1(L), 2(2XL)

Wear your Norfolk Anglers Club Tee-Shirt to the meeting and get a free raffle ticket!!



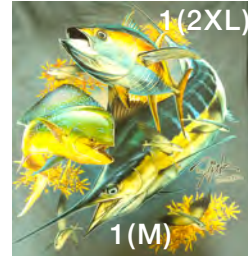
1(M)  
1(3XL)



1(L)



2(XL)  
Dip Dye



1(2XL)  
1(M)



1(L)  
Dip Dye



1(M)  
3(L), 4(XL) 2(2XL)



1(M), 1(2XL)



2(M)  
1(L)  
1(XL), 1(2XL)



1(XL), 3(2XL)



1(L)



1(XL)  
1(2XL)



2(L), 2(2XL)



1(L), 1(XL), 1(2XL)



1(XL)

M- XL \$15.00,  
2x - 3X \$17.00

## Ladies Short Sleeve \$18.00

1(S),  
1(M),  
1(XL)



1(S),  
1(M),  
1(XL)

1(S),  
1(M),  
1(XL)



DP04



1(S),  
1(M),  
2(L),  
2(XL)

## Long Sleeve Shirts \$20.00



1(M), 2(L), 2(XL)



1(S), 1(M), 1(L), 1(XL)

Fish designs are on the back. Norfolk Angler's Club Logo is on the front left top. All shirts are white.



(S), 1(M), 2(L), 2(XL)



# Angler Interests

## South Atlantic Fishery Management Council Public Hearing: Atlantic Cobia



August 9, 2016: The SAFMC will hold a Public Hearing & Scoping Meeting at the Hilton Virginia Beach, 3001 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach, 23452 at 6:00pm for the purpose of gathering public comment regarding future management actions on the Atlantic Cobia fishery. The SAFMC is one of eight federal fishery management councils and oversees the Atlantic Cobia fishery in federal waters (3-200nm offshore). In 2016 the SAFMC took action in response to a perceived over harvest of Cobia in 2015 from the Atlantic Cobia stock and initiated actions to close federal waters for the taking of Cobia in June. Virginia and North

Carolina state fishery managers decided to modify their 2016 Cobia fishing season with amended possession and size limits to continue the Cobia fishing season past the June closure.

The Norfolk Anglers Club position and input to both SAFMC and our Virginia Marine Resource Commission remains to preserve the 1 Fish per Person regulation Virginia has had for years, create a vessel limit of no more than 6 fish per vessel (the 1 fish per person regulation applies) and excludes a For-Hire Crew from possession limit calculations, maintain the 2016 minimum size limit of 40 inches Total Length and create an equal federal minimum size limit of 36 inch Forked Length. We oppose the 2016 VMRC regulation prohibiting the use of a gaff to land Cobia and favor no closed season for the taking of Cobia, as well as, the creation of a VMRC Cobia Landing Permit with mandatory reporting.

Public comments can also be provided via the SAFMC Public Hearing and Scoping Meeting website at:

<http://www.safmc.net/meetings/public-hearing-and-scoping-meeting-schedule#ph3>



Submitting Written Public Comment

Written comments may be submitted by mail, fax or by using the online public comment form. The comment period will open on July 18, 2016 once amendment materials are posted to the website.

Deadline for Submitting Written Comments: All written comments are due by 5 PM on August 15, 2016.

- Comments by mail: Send comments to Gregg Wlaugh, Executive Director, SAFMC, 4055 Faber Place Drive, Suite 201, N. Charleston, SC 29405
- Comments by fax: Send to 843/769-4529
- Comments using the online public comment form: Use the comment form links below to submit comments on each amendment. All comments submitted will be automatically posted to the website and accessible for the public to view.

Snapper Grouper Amendment 41 (mutton snapper)	
Comment Form	Read Public Comments

CMP Framework Amendment 4 (Atlantic cobia)	
Comment Form	Read Public Comments

Joint Snapper Grouper Amendment 41 and Snapper Grouper Amendment 42 (dolphinfish and yellowtail snapper)	
Comment Form	Read Public Comments

## Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council Meeting in Virginia Beach



August 8-11, 2016: The MAFMC will hold its Council meeting at the Hilton Virginia Beach Oceanfront, 3001 Atlantic Ave, Virginia Beach, 23451 on Monday-Thursday August 8-11, 2016. On Tuesday Summer Flounder and Black Sea Bass are scheduled for discussion. In summary, no changes are being discussed for Black Sea Bass however, the Scientific and Statistical Committee (SSC) has

raised concerns regarding the Summer Flounder stock status and has proposed to revert to their 2015 recommendations. Those recommended harvest reductions would affect the 2017 and 2018 Summer Flounder seasons.

For more information on the Council's scheduled discussions and information presented visit their webpage at:

<http://www.mafmc.org/briefing/august-2016>





# Angler Interests

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## Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission Summer Meeting



August 2-4, 2016: Alexandria, VA – The Commission's Summer Meeting is scheduled at the Westin Alexandria, 400 Courthouse Square, Alexandria, VA 22314. Topics include a discussion on joint Cobia management by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council (SAFMC) and the ASMFC, Tautog regional fishery management efforts for Long Island Sound (LIS) and New Jersey-New York Bight (NJ-NYB), the Tautog Regional Stock Assessment, Atlantic Menhaden 2017 Fishery Specifications, and the 2016 Atlantic Striped Bass Fishery Management Plan.

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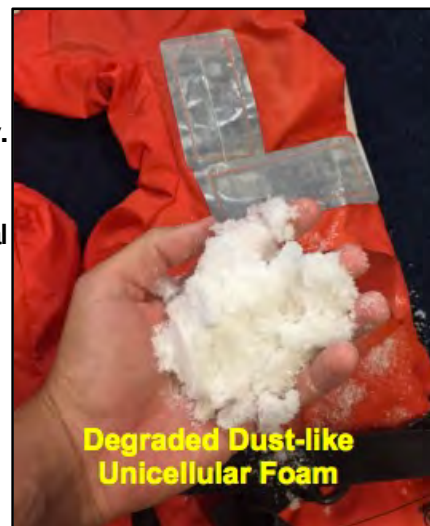
## Marine Safety Alert 07-16: Inspection of your Foam Lifejackets



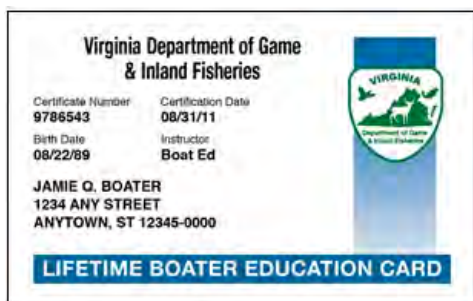
July 20, 2016: Marine Safety Alert 07-16 reminds vessel operators to routinely inspect their lifejackets for serviceability. Recently USCG inspectors in Key West, FL discovered two vessels had over 60 lifejackets that were required to be removed and destroyed. The unicellular foam buoyant material within the nylon shell had degraded significantly over time, broke apart, crumbled, and in some instances was reduced to

dust. Even though these lifejackets were properly stored, kept dry, and away from direct sunlight, over time the buoyant material deteriorated. As a result of this recent discovery the USCG strongly recommends vessel owners inspect their Type 1 unicellular plastic foam lifejackets for potential indications of failure or degradation. Inspect for Compression, Loss of Resiliency, Shrinkage, or those Manufactured by "The Safeguard Corporation" should be closely examined. For more information and a copy of the Marine Safety Alert visit the USCG webpage at:

[www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg545/alerts/0716.pdf](http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cg5/cg545/alerts/0716.pdf)



## Virginia Lifetime Boater Education Card



The Lifetime Virginia Boating Safety Education Card is available to those who meet the boating safety education requirement. This durable, driver's license styled card is available for a fee of \$10.00.

Virginia Lifetime Boating Safety Education cards for any approved classroom courses or Virginia Challenge exams, or if you meet any of the following exemptions;

- Possess or once possessed a valid license to operate a vessel issued to maritime personnel by the United States Coast Guard or a marine certificate issued by the Canadian government
- Possess a Canadian Pleasure Craft Operator's Card
- Possess or once possessed a commercial fisherman registration
- Current or previous surface warfare officer/enlisted surface warfare specialist certification in the United States Navy.



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