

July Edition 2012



wireline

newsletter of the norfolk anglers club





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NEXT MEETING: Monday, July 9th, 2012 at 7:00 pm

JULY 2012 GUEST SPEAKER

U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary

presenting

» BOATING SAFETY



Established by Congress in 1939 under title 14, §§ 23 of the U.S. Code, the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary is Semper Paratus (Always Ready).

The Auxiliary operates in:

- Safety and Security Patrols
- Search and Rescue
- Mass Casualty or Disasters
- Pollution Response & Patrols
- Homeland Security
- Recreational Boating Safety
- Commercial Fishing and Vessel Exams
- Platforms for Boarding Parties
- Recruit for all service in the Coast Guard

LOCATION: Mom & Pop's

331 East Bayview Boulevard Norfolk, VA 23503 | 757-233-2453

All Meetings are Open to the Public, you do not have to be a member to come.

My Ducks in a Row >>

This month, our guest speaker will be from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. As the owner/operator of three boats, I know the importance of keeping my documentation and affairs in order for all three. Boating safety is not an option.

My two children, wife and friends often accompany me on our boats. While it's fun for my guests, it's a true responsibility for me. Honestly, it's an effort to make sure each boat is in compliance with the letter of the law, but I must admit, it's a true piece of mind when I'm stopped by the authorities.

Each captain has their own way of doing things and I'm no different. I keep a captains log for each boat that is a leather 3-ring binder with pockets. I keep my boat registration, fishing license, SeaTwo membership card, registration for my boat trailers, fishing regulations, and any other paperwork that's pertinent to the boat or my fishing.

"Where's the life jackets? Where's the fire extinguisher? Where's your EPIRB? How do I work your VHF radio? Knowing this could save your life."

For those of you who do not own a boat, it's important to know the laws so when you're on a friends boat, you know what to look for. Safety is everyone's role, not just the captains. I often think back to my younger days when I really didn't care. My buddies boat that was TOTALLY a mess. To think of all the risks I took being on the open ocean was foolish... I was just so happy to be fishing that I didn't care about safety. Luckily the trips were uneventful, but I was truly putting my life at risk.

Evan Hipsley, (owner of a 33' Grady White Express) changed all that for me. He was the first captain I fished with that took safety seriously and really made me feel safe on the water. From that time on, I can't walk onto another boat without asking the right questions – *Where's the life jackets? Where's the fire extinguisher? Where's your EPIRB? How do I work your VHF radio?*



While those might sound like silly questions, getting back to the dock is important to us all.

No matter if I'm trout hunting in the Skiff, cobia hunting in the Angler or heading offshore in the Sea Hunt, it's nice knowing we're in compliance with the law. ■



Harry R. Hindmarsh
harry@boat-the-liver.com

PHOTOGRAPH BY: Harry R. Hindmarsh

"This was a helicopter shoot for F&S yachts. I was nervous this day because we were dodging storms to make this shot possible. I remember thinking to myself, what's a worse way to die... falling from the copter or being run over by a 78' sportfisher. Luckily, I lived and the shot was awesome." – Harry Hindmarsh



tournament winners!!

flounder tournament

MEMBERS ONLY FLOUNDER TOURNAMENT RESULTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS!



FIRST PLACE

TEAM: Classic Rockfish

Kevin Synowiec
Beth Synowiec
Roy McCausey



SECOND PLACE & NAC CALCUTTA WINNER

TEAM: Taz

Taz Humphrey
Chuck Kahlert
Ned Smith
Art Prussia



THIRD PLACE

TEAM: Tomfishery

Kevin Synowiec
Beth Synowiec
Roy McCausey

fishing reports



NORFOLK CANYON FISHING

LOCATION: Norfolk Canyon

REPORTING ANGLER: Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower

Went fishing offshore to the Norfolk Canyon with Rick Wineman on his boat Get ANet with Jody, and David Jenkins on a last minute planned trip early out of Messick Point into a NE swell that kept us banging almost the whole way to the Canyon on 6/8/12.

We started at the tip of the Norfolk and marked a lot of bait and fish. David got a slinger dolphin as we passed a lobster ball. Within minutes of getting the spread out we had one on. I was next ups so I worked him in to the boat on a 30 wide and David got an excellent gaff shot. We had a few doubles and one pass with five on (awesome sound!). We struggled to get bites and pulled the hook on more than I want to remember, but ended the day with four nice YF Tuna. No boat side lost fish and only one tackle failure. However, we lost several fish to pulled hooks after long screaming runs. These YF were strong and pissed off. A few lessons learned and corrective actions to make on the next trip.

Way late in the day (could not stop tuna fishing) we tried for Golden's, but the current / wind combination was just too strong to be productive. With just a little time left to fish we hit an old reliable Blueline Tile hole and Rick, David and I pulled up three BLT just over ten pounds. We didn't leave the Canyon till sundown so it was late dark before we got home. Great but hard day fishing.



fishing reports



CBBT COBIA

LOCATION: Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel

REPORTING ANGLER: John Brown

I recently received an invite to Cobia fish with club member Nick Wright on his boat the "White Duck". Along with club member Jim Robinson, we set out for the CBBT IMG to fish the incoming tide. With outside air temperatures predicted to be near 10,000 degrees, we were skeptical about "sitting on the hook" in stifling heat while beating off swarming hordes of biting black flies. Sounds like fun doesn't it?. Arrived at one of Nick's favorite Cobe holes just as the tide was starting to flood. Set the anchor in 17' of water and started the tried and true method of catching Cobia... chumming, chunking and bait fishing with Menhaden. Fortunately for us, there was a decent south-west wind blowing that kept the air temps down to a cool 9,500 degrees and the black flies grounded altogether.



Was not long before we had our first bite of the day – a Skate - bumper. The next bite, another darn critter – Black Tip Shark. Next bite was a double knockdown – another critter and then our first Cobia of the day...a 39"er. Certainly not a monster, but was happy to catch the targeted species. We continued to alternately catch critters and Cobia throughout the flood tide and ended the day with 6 Cobia to the net. All fish measured between 39" and 46". We kept 2 of the smallest fish for the table, tagged and released the other 4. A darn good days catching despite the hellish heat.



A Cobia tip for the bottom fisherman. Some of you know this technique, others may not. The first Cobia we caught we put on a stringer and kept the fish alive and swimming along-side the boat. Nick does this religiously to attract other Cobia. It works! Twice I have seen him do this and both times another Cobia has surfaced sometime during the day to cruise along-side the captured fish.

Thanks for the invite Nick and a memorable Cobia catching day. But next time, lets pick a warmer day to fish!:-)

fishing reports



INDEPENDENCE DAY REDS

LOCATION: Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel

REPORTING ANGLER: John Brown

On Saturday, 07 July, my brother Randy and I along with a nephew and his father-in-law, headed out with Captain Herb Gordon and his son John Gordon on his charter boat "Pretty Work". Despite the oven-like heat, weather conditions otherwise were near perfect to sight fish Cobia and Reds. Coupled with the great visibility aided by the height of Pretty Work's tower, we spent the morning looking for Cobia. We saw numerous fish but only had the chance at decent bait presentations on a couple. We managed 2 small Cobia on live eels, 27" and 32". A first for all of us on the boat, the smallest Cobia had been previously caught and tagged. We took down the tag number and released him, then continued to search and see an occasional Cobia throughout the morning.

The real excitement came mid-day, when a "buddy boat" in the same area called Capt Gordon and informed him he had just released a 50" Red and that he had seen schools popping up here and there. We immediately went into search mode for schools of fish and were soon rewarded. First Redfish to the boat was our largest of the day, a slob at 51" as shown in the first photo. My nephew was soaked with sweat and arms shaking by the time he managed this hoss to the boat.

We followed that up with 2 47" fish and 3 more in the mid-40's. All fish were taken while casting buck tails w/large grub tails attached. Color did not seem to matter. On one occasion, we were fishing a small knot of Reds while watching another massive school within just a few hundred yards. We were doubled up on Reds on our boat, so Capt Gordon called in another buddy boat to fish the massive school...he too doubled up immediately. It was a beautiful sight - 2 boats among massive schools of massive fish with rods bowed over and reels screaming. It gets no better than that.

If you go looking for them, watch for a yellow to reddish brown discoloration in the water (sometimes seen even hundreds of yards away) to find these often willing, trophy fish. If these fish stay consistent with what they have done in the past, they should be around the 3rd and 4th Island's, and seen in open water well into late summer/early fall.

fishing reports



54" CITATION COBIA

LOCATION: Third Island, Bay Side

REPORTING ANGLER: Harry R. Hindmarsh

Anytime the wind is less than 5mph, you can bet I'll be in my tower looking for cobia this time of year.

This cobia season has been one of the most challenging on record for me personally. I'm seeing plenty of cobia, the problem is my baits are bigger than the cobia! Usually, I don't see the bigger fish until August and September, so I'm thrilled to be getting so many shots at this point.



On this day, we had two days of no wind... a true rarity by bay standards this year. As I made my way around the bay, I found a strong current line that was loaded with crabs and rays (two of my favorite visuals for cobia sightings). I began a NW troll at 4 mph and immediately started seeing cobia. They were heading to me (my most hated way to see them) and a small one got by me... as I regained my composure, I saw the biggest cobia of the season coming directly towards the bow. I fired off a shot and hit bit immediately. I saw, hooked and fought this fish completely from the tower. Once netted, it measured 54", posed for a picture and was placed back unharmed.

As I placed the fish in, I washed my hands, crawled back in the tower and immediately saw a second decent cobia. I didn't hesitate and threw my backup bait and landed a 44" cobia within minutes of releasing the 54". This cobia had a strong white strip as shown in the photo. It's bottom white stripe when all the way to its tail. Such a beautiful fish. Both fish were released and I went 2 for 8 this day.

Most of the cobia's I'm seeing are small however I've seen 4 citation sized fish this year. One cobia was probably close to 85 pounds. The big ones have been boat shy and dive before I can even yell "cobia!!!"

Sight casting is so much more than just seeing the fish. The biggest reward for me is seeing, casting, catching, fighting and landing the fish from the tower. The boat must be an extension of your mobility and for everything to "come together" it takes all of your abilities wrapped into one moment. And THAT'S WHAT I LOVE ABOUT COBIA FISHING.



photos from our members

members photos



photos from our members

members photos



NEWS from our friends



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www.FishCrazy.info

Outdoor writer Ric Burnley provides up-to-date, reliable fishing reports, step-by-step how-to articles, news and events, professional guides and everything you need to fish the Mid Atlantic.

www.PilotOnline.com | Lee Tolliver

Lee Tolliver's Fishing Forecast appears on PilotOnline.com and in the Virginian Pilot sports section every Thursday from the first week in April through Thanksgiving Day.

www.baydreaming.com

Chesapeake Bay Guide provides information on boating, fishing, travel, events, and history for many areas throughout Virginia.

www.fishva.org

An online resource for choosing a VA Saltwater Fishing charter service. Over 100 licensed Captains in the organization.

www.boat-ed.com

The official site for boater education. Boat Ed is the only place on the Web where you can study the official boating safety manual developed specifically for your state government's boating agency.

www.chesapeake-angler.com

A comprehensive fishing network dedicated to all types of Virginia fishing.

www.boatsafe.com

Boating safety courses with boating simulations, animations, boating safety quizzes and boating tips for powerboaters and sailboaters.

www.sportfishermen.com

Comprehensive fishing resource including, tournaments, articles, forums, pictures and video.

www.cbf.org

Features education material, access to critical bay issues, and tools for citizens to take action on behalf of the Chesapeake Bay.

www.dailypress.com/fishingspot

Official website of the Daily Press Newspaper Fishing Section. Offers forums and weekly fishing report.

www.discoverboating.com

Provides a variety of information on safety, maintenance, destinations and tips on buying a boat.

www.hamptonroads.com

Comprehensive resource for Hampton Roads. Includes Virginian Pilot newspaper fishing reports.

www.pierandsurf.com

Provides Virginia pier and surf fishing reports.

www.mrc.state.va.us/swr/saltwaterreview

Includes weekly Virginia Marine Resources Commission fishing report.

www.stripersonline.com

Brings you the most complete striped bass fishing information, including saltwater, surf and fly fishing articles, tackle, techniques, fishing reports and discussions.

www.takemefishing.org

Serves as a one-stop resource for those seeking boating, fishing and conservation information.

www.tidalfish.com

Provides fishing reports and fishing information covering saltwater fishing, freshwater fishing, fly fishing, fishing reports, etc.

www.vbsf.net

Virginia Beach Sport Fishing website links to fishing chat, fishing guides, and catches of the week.

www.vcanaccess.com

Virginia Coastal Access Now (VCAN) is a non-profit organization that represents recreational anglers.

www.mrc.virginia.gov

Official site of the Virginia Marine Resources Commission. Provides easy access to regulatory and management information related to Virginia marine resources.

WEATHER & TIDES

www.noaa.gov

The National Weather Service is the primary source of weather data, forecasts and warnings for the United States.

www.weather.com

Provides a national and local weather forecast for cities worldwide.

www.wtkr.com

Hampton Roads local CBS affiliate. Provides weather and marineforecast information.

www.wunderground.com

Provides weather forecasts for the US and the world with a fast, easy to use interface. Includes weather maps, graphics and radar images.

www.saltwatertides.com

Provides low and high tide predictions, sunset, moonrise, moonset, and moon phase information.

www.wvec.com

Hampton Roads local ABC affiliate. Provides weather and marineforecast information.

nac prize fish contest rules

NAC PRIZE FISH CONTEST RULES

Rules regarding our annual PRIZE FISH CONTEST and are posted on the NAC website.

In a nutshell, our rules will closely parallel the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament for saltwater fish and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries for freshwater. However, there are a few small differences so please visit the NAC PRIZE FISH CONTEST page on the NAC website.

Most important, we need for everyone to PARTICIPATE in the contest. If you catch (or have caught) a fish in calendar year 2008 meeting citation criteria, simply make a copy of your citation application or fill out the NAC PRIZE FISH ENTRY FORM and provide that to our Awards Director at our next meeting, it's that easy.

At year's end, we will recognize those anglers that catch the "prize" fish in each category plus recognize some overall "Anglers of the Year". Again, please visit the website to learn the details of the contest rules. Let's make our contest fun and competitive, Please Participate.

NAC Prize Fish Entry Form

Please fill out the following information. All weights must be on certified scales, witnessed & caught on hook & line in accordance with the Virginia Saltwater Fishing Tournament.

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

Species: _____ Place Caught: _____

Lure or Bait: _____

Weight ____ lbs. ____ oz. Length ____ Feet ____ Inches

☐ The fish was released ☐ The fish was tagged ☐ Adult Angler ☐ Jr. Angler Age _____

Angler's Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number _____

Boat name _____

I Certify that all the above information is correct:

Angler's Signature _____

Witness Signature _____

Witness Name (printed) _____

Please submit your awards to the new awards director who will be available at the meetings. You must be an NAC Member in good standing to qualify.

PHOTOGRAPH BY: Harry R. Hindmarsh

"While technically this isn't a great photo, it's cool to see this cobia dive on a bucktail. My buddy Jeff and I casted 100 times to this fish... I decided to pick up my camera for one last try and he finally bit! I guess he wanted to be featured in Wireline!!!"

— Harry R. Hindmarsh

