

June Edition 2012



wireline

newsletter of the norfolk anglers club



The drum have arrived!!!



Publishers Notes

EDITOR:

Lucian Montagna | lmontagna@aol.com

EDITOR, PHOTOGRAPHY & DESIGN:

Harry R. Hindmarsh | harry@gotcabinfever.com

NAC Officers

PRESIDENT:

Doug Johnson | Doug.Johnson@papco.com

VICE PRESIDENT:

Neil Taylor

TREASURER:

Ned Smith | neds9610@aol.com

SECRETARY:

Jack Ince | john.ince@cox.net

EVENTS CORD:

Tom Hubert | thubert57@hotmail.com

ASSIST. EVENTS CORD:

Nick Wright

GUARD/GREETER:

Ben Capps | obbco@earthlink.net

ASST. GUARD/GREETER:

Brandon Banks

MEMBER-AT-LARGE:

Carroll Howard

Norfolk Anglers Club

P.O. Box 8422

Norfolk, VA 23503-0422

WIRELINE is published by the Norfolk Anglers Club in partnership with Cabin Fever Communications of Norfolk, Virginia.



8166 Shore Drive, 2nd Floor | Norfolk, Virginia 23518
757.956.7799 | Harry@GotCabinFever.com

NEXT MEETING: Monday, June 11th, 2012 at 7:00 pm

JUNE 2012 GUEST SPEAKER

Captain Dale Carlson

presenting

» CATCHING SPADES



Captain Dale Carlson is a 30-year veteran of Chesapeake Bay and adjacent Gulf Stream fishing. Captain Dale has been invited to speak at numerous national, regional, and local fishing seminars. He recently served as panelist on a national striped bass speaking series held by Saltwater Fishing Magazine.

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.

Heaven has arrived >>

By all accounts, I'm a very simple man. I love my family, I love my career and of course I love fishing. But when late May and early June comes around, my love for fishing quadruples thanks to the bull reds. While I love many species, I'm hog wild for big drum.

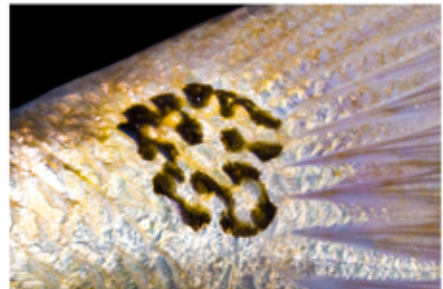
This year has truly been something special. Between the full moons of May and June, it's almost a guarantee that the bull drum will be cruising the slews, flats and shoals in and around Fisherman's Island. If you are a crab, mullet, or blue fish, I sincerely feel sorry for you.

Due to my career and responsibilities, I mainly fish at night. (I'm much happier fishing in the day, but until I win the lotto, such is life). My closest fishing buddy is Jeff White (pictured this month on the cover). Our schedules are similar and we're like two kids in a candy store. We wrap up work around four, meet at the boat and make our way to the honey hole as quick as we can.

"If you are a crab, mullet, or blue fish, I sincerely feel sorry for you. I actually witnessed a drum breaking the top water like a marlin while eating a crab."

Jeff get's the crabs, ice and drinks, while I get the gas, boat and rods rigged. We blast onto the drum grounds with a vengeance observing the water along the way. With a flip of the switch, I let my windlass drop the anchor, Jeff get's our lines wet and I prepare the boat for battle.

The routine never changes. Jeff starts with a half crab and I prefer a whole crab. It really doesn't matter because the drum inhale both. Sometimes, it's minutes... sometimes it's hours. But when the drum find us, we're usually in the bite all night. A typical night produces double digits and plenty of high-fives!



The fish have been fat, long and very healthy. My hope is they'll stay here all summer but I know better. In fact, I'm already seeing a decline in activity. I'm slowing starting to prepare my family for the dizzying lows I'll be suffering once they're gone. (I'm trembling just typing this...)

So, while they're here, I hope you get out there while dozens of crabs and your camera. And if drum are not your "cup of tea", you're in luck... the flounder, cobia, and spades are all around!

As always, please send your pictures and experiences along to share! ■



Harry R. Hindmarsh
harry@gotcabinfever.com

opening image

PHOTOGRAPH BY: Harry R. Hindmarsh

"I am the official photographer of the weigh station for the Ocean City Tuna Tournament. I wanted a new way to look at tuna being weighed and thought it would be nice to look from above... that was until a big 'ol splatter of blood landed on my lens!" - Harry R. Hindmarsh





a day on the water

» A BOAT RIDE TO TANGIER ISLAND

On Saturday, May 26, 2012 Lucian Montagna took his wife and friends aboard the *Fishin Fool* and headed for Tangier Island. In the pages to come, you'll see the beautiful sights as seen through the eyes of our very own fishing fool. For the full details of this trip, contact Lucian for tips on doing this trip in your boat!







BIG DRUM - SMITH ISLAND SHOALS

LOCATION: Eastern Shore

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

Russell Willoughby and I ramped out of Crab Creek in his Mako and set out for the day looking for Red Drum in the surf. Settled into several places between Smith Island and Fisherman's Island on the incoming tide near the breakers.

Had contact by phone of Mike Avery on his boat and Wally on Rick's boat. We soon hooked up with Russells' rod to a red drum that gave Russell a great run and fight. He was a heavy fat fish but only was 45 in long, just short of a paper.

Right after that when I was checking my rods I found I had a red on that didn't think he was hooked and he managed to tangle all our lines. When we finally got him cleared and I got him near the boat he finally realized he was hooked and took off on a good run. In a relatively short fight later we had him in the boat. Only 43 in but that was my first for this year.

We didn't get another run despite the turnover in tide and hearing Wally and Rick catch 7 by the time we took off and tried to find some Black drum on buoy 13 area. No joy for the rest of the night.

Had to run around 9 pm when a storm came up from the Peninsula since we were unprotected in the Mako.

fishing reports



OVERNIGHT NORFOLK CANYON

LOCATION: Norfolk Canyon

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

Did an overnighter Memorial Day Weekend Saturday and Sunday (26-27 May 12) with buddy boat Capt Joe on Final Pursuit. I was crewed up with Mike Avery and wife Lanie, Rich, Steve, and his son Adam. Headed out at 9 am with some huge rollers at the mouth of the bay but was manageable once outside the bay. Winds stayed under 10 knots which is good but there were some big rollers all day and night but gave us no trouble. Not on the troll on the north wall more than an hour and Steve gets a 60 inch mako. Decided to kill it rather than try to wait for a bigger one. Mike got the harpoon shot on video that is posted on the Mid-Atlantic Offshore Board. Troll bite was very slow. Worked the north wall, south wall, middle. Did not find the YFT although some were caught, just had to roll over the top of them. We did manage slinger/gaffer mahi and even a wahoo on the troll. The night bite was very slow too. 2 sword baits and 2 tuna baits (butterfish and live croaker). Had a big mako eat my float which cut the mainline. The mako then came over and ate my live croaker and cut that line too. Couple of other shark bites throughout the night. Rich hooked a blue shark near 6ft and it was released. But overall it was slow bite and very rocky through the night.

Did some deep dropping Sunday catching wreckfish and blueline tiles. Stopped on the way home on the Ocean Venture but the BSB were small. Did catch several chopper blues up to 32 inches.



HOTDITCH STILL PRODUCING

LOCATION: Elizabeth River / Hot Ditch

REPORTING ANGLER: John Brown

Even with water temperatures approaching the 80 degree mark, the ER continued to produce a few Speckles, Reds and Stripers.

Our unusually wet month of May often resulted in mornings that were cloud covered/foggy through late morning/mid-day. This allowed me to continue to take advantage of an exciting top water bite. Though not hot and heavy, most days resulted in a reasonable catch of quality fish. I fished solo on many days so I do not have pictures of fish other than those lying on "the tape". The 2 Speckles shown met the VSWFT citation mark.

A quick note about baits, colors and my personal observations. I had been predominately using a Bone color Skitterwalk surface bait last fall and this spring since late April. However, I decided to experiment and try a different color or two to see if color made a difference. As most of you know, it is often hard to deviate from a proven combination and even harder to stick with an unknown for very long. But, work they did. It will come as no surprise to those who fish the ER, that an orange over orange Skitterwalk produced equally well as the Bone color...many anglers use orange baits in the ER while fishing a variety of artificial baits (17 MR's, 52 MR's, Jerkbait, etc). But then, I chose one of the ugliest top water baits I had in the box...a dark, lime-green full size Top Dog. As ugly as was, it still caught fish.

Matter of fact, the bait caught 1 of the 2 "paper" Specks. Redfish and Striper as well. So, what does that mean? Nothing conclusive, but it suggests to me that color may not be as much a factor in top water fishing - at least for these fish in this particular body of water. It may be more the surface noise and vibration of the bait that results in the strike - often, a very violent strike.

All I know, is that I can now put to use some of those expensive, never-used surface baits I bought so long ago that have done nothing since but collect dust and rust. And, I can use them with confidence. Food for thought.

fishing reports

fishing reports



MORE BIG REDS AND A VERY HAPPY MAN.

LOCATION: Eastern Shore

REPORTING ANGLER: Hary Hindmarsh

I'm going to keep this short and sweet.

The Reds are over off fisherman's. Get in your boat or get with a friend. Place a crab in the water and wait. Take your camera and send me the photos. =)





offshore fishing

» 2012 MEMORIAL DAY
THE MAHI CREW

Join the Synowiec family as they spend Memorial Day offshore fishing out of Pirate's cove in Manteo, North Carolina on the boat named Fistful.



243 POUNDS OF MAHI

LOCATION: Offshore from Pirate's Cove

REPORTING ANGLER: Beth Synowiec

We had a change of plans last minute which freed up just enough time for the 6 of us to head down to Pirates Cove and investigate the mahi mahi scene. We left at 3am and arrived at the Pirates Cove area around 5am where we met Capt Karl Helmkamp and his first mate Robert. His boat was a 32 foot Topaz called the Fistful.

We loaded up our gear and headed south. We finally stopped about 30 miles east of Hatteras and dropped our spread which mostly consisted of 2 teasers one pink and one blue, pink and clear islanders and sea witches with small to medium sized ballywho attached. It wasn't long when the first fish hit the spread.

We decided to have some type of order as we anticipated multiple lines going off. Ben went first, Clara was second, Katie third, David fourth, Beth was fifth and then Kevin was sixth. We caught so many fish that we exceeded 5 rotations.

We had a couple doubles and even a triple. Captain kept us on fish pretty much most of the day and even on the way back he spotted a nice cobia that pummeled down when we stopped to try and hook it up.

Our final tally was 34 hook ups and 31 mahi in the box. Most of the fish were gaffers with a few chickens in the mix here and there. Largest fish of the day was my dolphin that was 42 inches long and weighed 27 lbs at the dock. Total weight of mahi that we caught was 243 lbs!

Club Announcement



» MEMBERS ONLY FLOUNDER TOURNY

JUNE 23, 2012

- This is a Norflok Anglers Club Members Only Tournament. One must be a member in good standing to participate. (one can always join at the next meeting).
- This is a boat tournament just like last year. There are a maximum of 4 anglers (including the Capt) allowed per boat.
- The tournament will be held on June 23, lines in no earlier than 8:00 am and you must be in line to be weighed by 3:00 pm.
- It does not matter where you leave from but the weigh-in will be at Vinings Landing (formerly Taylors Landing) in Little Creek at Shore Drive.
- There will be sub sandwiches and soft drinks for participants included with the entry at weigh-in.
- Awards (money) will be made right after the weigh-in.
- There will be an informal Captains Meeting at the regular meeting on the June 11.
- Entry fee is \$20 per angler. In addition the voluntary cal-cutta is \$25.00 per boat.
- In order to participate all boats must be registered with Tom Hubert (contact info on the bottom of the entry) by the close of business on Thursday 21 June.

NEWS from our friends



iPhone & Android



Help Never Looked Like This Before!

Introducing the Sea Tow App.

Sea Tow Hampton Roads

facebook.com/seatowhamptonroads



757-496-1999 800-4-SEATOW

SEA TOW®

online resources

FISHING & BOATING RESOURCES

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

"Since we opened with a tuna shot, I thought I'd end with another shot showing this vantage point... and yes, more blood on me." - Harry R. Hindmarsh

