

THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB

WIRELINE

JUNE 2019



What's Inside

Guest Speaker: Cobia fishing with Captain Austin Hayne, FINAO Sportfishing

Fishing Tips: Virginia Surf Fishing for Pompano and more with Anthony Barker, Oceans East Bait & Tackle

Fishing Reports:

- Freshwater Trout Fishing: Brook Trout, Rainbow Trout
- HRBT: Bluefish, Croaker, Flounder, Black Sea Bass
- Lynnhaven: Flounder, Bluefish
- CBBT: Flounder
- Eastern Shore/Oyster: Flounder
- North Carolina/Hatteras: Mahi, Black Sea Bass, Triggerfish, Snapper
- Rudee Inlet: Black Sea Bass, Bluefish, Flounder, Speckled Trout
- North Carolina/Oregon Inlet: Black Sea Bass, Blueline Tilefish, Mahi, Yellowfin Tuna, Cobia
- Little Creek/Pretty Lake: Rockfish
- Inshore: Spanish Mackerel, Bonito
- Eastern Shore/ Nautilus Shoal: Red Drum, Cobia
- South Carolina: King Mackerel, Grouper, Wahoo, Mahi
- Maryland/Ocean City: Rockfish

Angler Interest:

- Virginia Safe Boating Courses available

Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

A special Welcome to Debbie Wright and Chris Webber, our newest Norfolk Anglers Club members!!! We're glad you're with us and look forward to fishing with you this season.

The fishing season has started off extremely well! There's lots of catching going on and plenty of fishing reports. Something else for anglers to consider in preparing for the fishing season is having your Virginia Safe Boater course completed. It's not only common sense, since 2016 everyone operating more than a 10 hp outboard and all PWCs are required to have the training. The *Anglers Interest* section lists a number of courses with seats available in our area including one from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 59 in Smithfield, VA. Not only does the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary provide Safe Boater Education, they also provide Free Vessel Safety Checks (VSC), and can often be found assisting boaters on the water.

- Will



Meeting

Guest Speaker: Cobia fishing with Captain Austin Hayne, *FINAO Sportfishing*

The pre-season Cobia fishing has been amazing and we're extremely fortunate to have Captain Austin Hayne joining us at our June meeting to talk about cobia fishing. Fishing from his 24 Cape Horn out of Little Creek, Austin consistently puts his customers on the cobia. Here's an opportunity to ask one of the very best Cobia Charter Captains in Hampton Roads how he successfully targets cobia year after year.



Publishers NOTES

Editor:
Wendy Bransom
NorfolkAnglersClubEditor@gmail.com

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pfhirsch@yahoo.com

Contact us at;
NorfolkAnglersClub@gmail.com
Norfolk Anglers Club
P.O. Box 8422
Norfolk, Virginia 23503-0422

Important:

Date of next meeting - Monday, 10 June at 7pm

Location:

Teppanyaki Buffet & Grill

7525 Tidewater Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505



Club Calendar

June

Mon, June 10th, Club Meeting
Tues, June 11th, VMRC Finfish Management
Advisory Committee (FMAC) meeting
Wed, June 12th, ASMFC Cobia Public Hearing
at VMRC
Tue, June 25th, VMRC Meeting

July

Mon, July 8th, Club Meeting
Thurs, July 18th, EOY Rec Center Children's
Pier Fishing & Cookout

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Fishing Tips...

Virginia Surf Fishing for Pompano and more with Anthony Barker, Oceans East Bait & Tackle

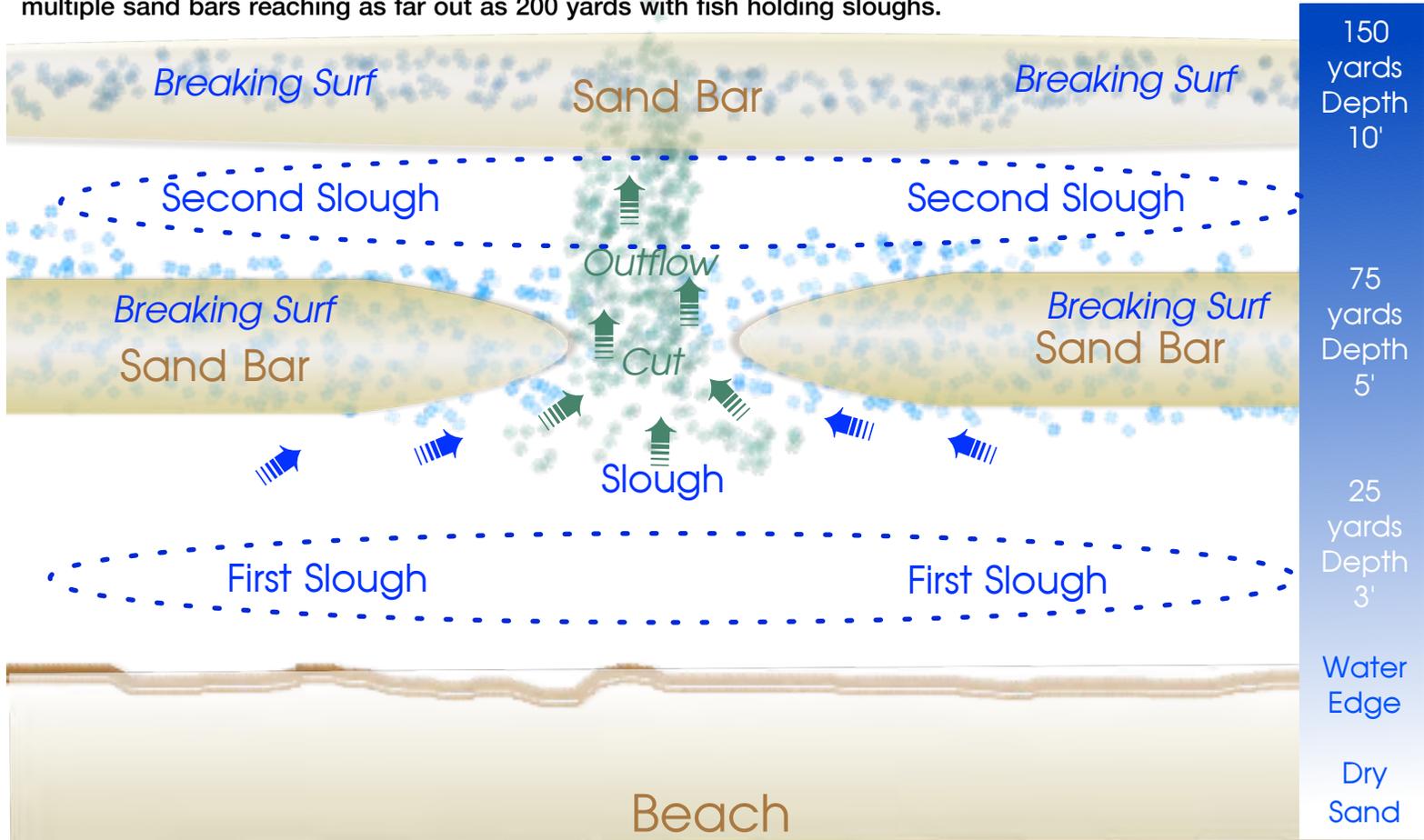


It's surprising for anglers new to surf fishing to learn how little equipment and a few basic rigs are needed to get into surf fishing. While some anglers choose to invest in the long surf rods and reels specifically designed for surf fishing; a good quality spinning reel and a rod can also be used. Anthony Barker with Oceans East Bait & Tackle shared that while surf fishing you'll likely catch a wide variety of species from pompano, roundhead, flounder, rockfish, and red drum. The rod & reel setup with lighter weight (20#) monofilament or braided main line needs to be cable of casting 3-4 ounce sinkers and landing a fish in the surf line.



Reading the Beach; Looking for the right spot to setup

Anthony stressed conditions change along the beach with every passing day and storm. An area that produces one day may not on another. Reading the beach to select an area to target is one of the most important first steps in a day of surf fishing. Start out by looking for the breaking wave pattern and sand bars. Observe how the water flows away from the beach after the wave crashes down and runs onto the beach. The outflowing water will make a natural cut between two sand bars and is often where rip currents form. This "cut" is also where the crabs, crustaceans and sand fleas are drawn out with the receding surf and where the fish hang for an easy meal. Look also for the telltale signs (breaking waves) of multiple sand bars; between each of these sand bars that generally parallel the beach are sloughs. Some areas may have multiple sand bars reaching as far out as 200 yards with fish holding sloughs.



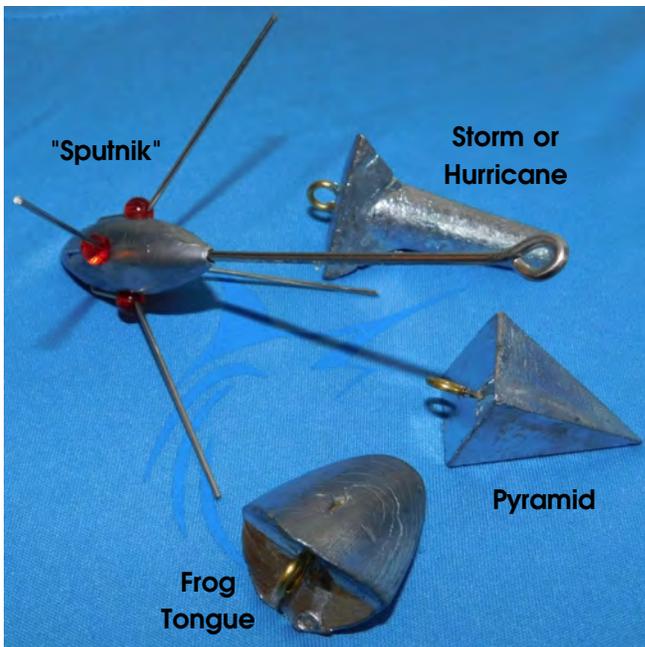
Once you've selected your area of the beach with a couple of sand bars and an outflow cut it's time to set out your rigs. You'll need to position your rods high enough so the line remains above the inshore breaking surf. Using the long 12-15' surf rods this typically isn't a problem but with a shorter spinning rod you may have to manufacture your own sand spike rod holder to keep the rod tip higher. Anthony explained most rod holders for surf fishing are made of PVC tubing attached to an aluminum spike. They'll hold the rod/reel securely about waist high however, with a shorter spinning rod you'll need to get the rod/reel higher almost shoulder high. A longer length of PVC pipe will usually do the trick. The primary advantage of the longer surf rods is two-fold; longer casting distance and keeping the line higher and out of the breaking surf, which prevents your bait/lure from getting dragged around by the wave action.



Braid, Monofilament, or Fluorocarbon???

Well, that depends.... Most surf anglers will use a lighter 20# class of monofilament on their surf rods. The 20# mono is light enough for long casts as well as strong enough to work a fish up to the beach. Braided line, also 20#, is good too. As Anthony explained, for spinning rods braid will work fine, it's thin for good casting qualities, very strong for its size but also comes with a disadvantage. Thin braid can produce nasty cuts. Anthony recommends using only lighter 2-3 ounce sinkers when using braided fishing line. Anything heavier and you risk having the braid dig into your finger while making a cast with a spinning reel. When casting with braided line and sinker tighten down the drag to minimize the risk of the line slipping and cutting your finger. For casting straight jigs (much lighter) he'll size down the braided line to 10#. He also likes to use a 3' fluorocarbon leader of 15-17# test. He explained the fluorocarbon leader has some advantages; it's stiffer to prevent wind knots while casting, sinks, and resists abrasion. It's also very low vis so it works great for the leader-shy pompano.

For casting heavier sinker weights, Anthony will use a conventional bait casting reel, like the Penn Fathom 15. It's also spooled with hi-vis 20# monofilament and he'll add a 25-30' shock leader of 40# test. The longer shock leader provides an angler with enough length to get a couple of wraps on the reel when the fish is coming into the breaking surf near the beach. The added strength and thicker diameter line allows you to cast without breaking the line with heavier sinkers and then hand line the fish closer in if necessary. Typically, this setup is used for the larger drum and rockfish caught outside the outer sand bar.



One of your biggest challenges is getting and keeping your bait where you want it in the surf. Whether you're casting to the sand bar, in the slough, or into the outflow cut, the constant wave action can move your bait where you don't want it or cause it to roll and tangle your rig. Depending on conditions surf anglers will use a number of different sinkers. Lighter weights are necessary when surf fishing so holding power in the sand is critical. The most common are the pyramid sinker and frog tongue sinkers. They resist rolling in the surging water as does the storm or hurricane sinker. A common sinker for wreck fishing, the Bank or Tear Drop sinker, won't work for surf fishing as it'll constantly roll and tangle your rig.

For situations when the wave action is heavy and other sinkers aren't holding, Anthony recommends trying the "Sputnik" sinker. Named after a Soviet satellite from the late 1950's with its long metal spikes, this sinker will dig into the sand much like an anchor and holds position exceptionally well. Anthony cautions to be careful casting this sinker because of the many bare spikes.

Norfolk Anglers Club

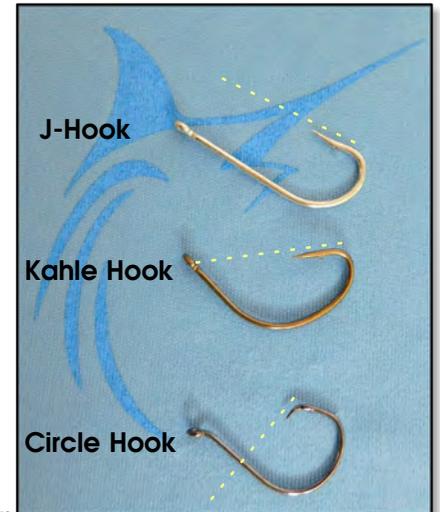
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Fishing Tips...

Rigs & Jigs for Surf Fishing

There's LOTS of rigging options when it comes to surf fishing because the variety of species available. In a single outing you may catch smaller pompano, medium sized bluefish, or large drum. Being able to adjust your rigs for the most prevalent species that day will maximize your catching. Anthony's preference for hooks will vary depending on the species and surf conditions. The J-Hook, Kahle Hook, and the Circle Hook are the three primary hooks he uses.

The J-Hook is for fish that hit on the bait but don't generally swallow the whole bait. Pompano and Spot are two good examples where a J-Hooks works well. J-Hooks are not generally self-setting hooks so, an anglers needs to work the bait and set the hook. J-Hooks have the hook barb that runs or points parallel to the hook shank (Dotted yellow line). The Kahle Hook is his primary go-to hook. The #2 (NOT 2/0) Kahle Hook works exceptionally well for surf fishing. It's also called a "wide gap" hook and has the hook barb oriented toward the hook eye. Kahle hooks can be set by the angler much like a J-Hook or they'll hook set on their own as the fish pulls on the bait. Lastly, the Circle Hook which has its hook point oriented perpendicular to the hook shank. With circle hooks you don't set the hook but let the fish work the hook into the corner of its mouth or jaw. Once set, the circle hook isn't one to work free or pull lose. In rough surf conditions when the water is moving the bait or weight around Anthony explained he'll opt for a more secure setting sinker (Sputnik) and shift to a circle hook. The size of the hook will depend on the targeted species.

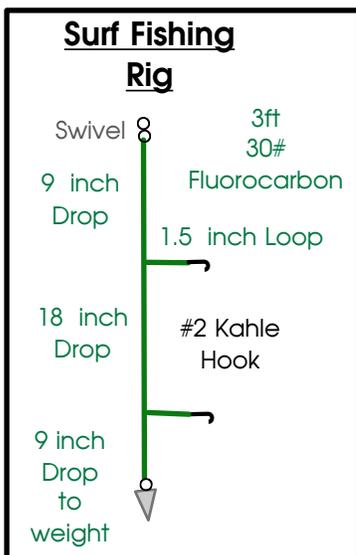


Sand Fleas or Mole Crabs can be found buried just under soft sand where the waves run up toward the beach and recede. Dig down using either a basket designed for digging sand fleas or use a bucket with 1/4 inch holes drilled for drainage. With a few scoops you'll have all the bait you'll need for a day. Anthony shared Sand Fleas are his primary bait for surf fishing. Look for the crabs with soft shells or the females with orange egg sacks.

He'll rig the Sand Flea on the hook by inserting the hook either down from the top of the shell exposing the hook point underneath or by inserting the hook upward and leaving a portion of the hook exposed out the top of the shell (photo right).



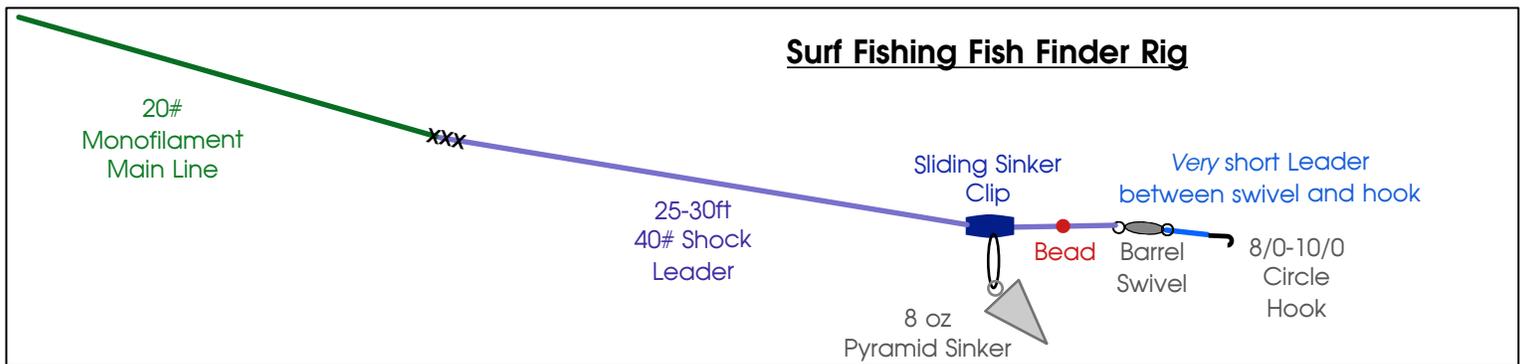
Hook the rear of the Sand Flea with exposed hook barb up or down



A very typical surf fishing rig is a double loop rig tied with 30 fluorocarbon line. Fluorocarbon is the choice line for this application as it's stiffer than mono and has very low visibility in the water. The total length is about 3 feet with 18 inches separating the short 1.5 inch loops. The distance from the swivel to the first loop and the second loop to the sinker is 9 inches. Anglers can choose the type of sinker based on surf conditions and the hook is sized to the species targeted. Pompano, Roundhead, and Spot will catch better on the smaller #2 Kahle hooks while Puppy Drum and larger Red & Black Drum will use the larger hooks and heavier (80#) fluorocarbon.



For targeting the larger Red and Black Drum out past the second sand bar anglers will have to upsize their tackle and bait selection. Because of the heavier sinker weights Anthony will switch to a Bait Caster reel (Penn Fathom 15) and use a longer surf casting rod to get the casting distance. You'll still want to use a shock leader over handling a larger drum with braid while it's in the surf. Adding a bead between the sinker slider and barrel swivel will help to protect the knot from the slider. You'll need an 8/0-10/0 circle hook with either a chunk of cob mullet or a finger mullet with the tail removed. You want to match the hook and the bait, resist a temptation to place an enormous chunk of bait on a smaller hook. The leader from the swivel to the hook is as short as you possibly can make it. A longer leader when surf casting can have a helicopter effect when you cast and end up tangling your rig. The circle hook/sinker slider is important to let the drum take the bait without any line pressure and then have the circle hook work its way to the drum's jaw for a hook set. When you think you've got a drum on the bait rod handling is important. When Anthony sets his rig out the drag is set very light with the line up high to clear the breaking waves. When a fish is on he'll carefully remove the rod from the holder and lower the rod down while slowly increasing the drag. This keeps the fish from feeling an uncharacteristic pressure and then having them drop the bait. Once the circle hook takes its set it's time to raise the rod tip and increase the drag to fight the fish.

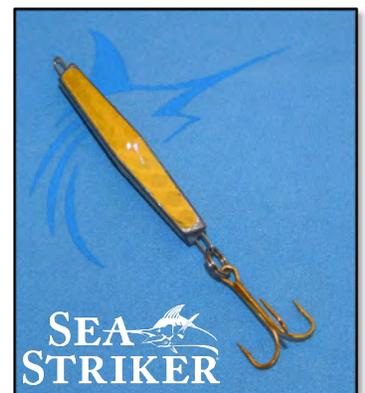


Sea Striker makes a double drop Spot, Whiting, Pompano Rig (photo left) that works great for targeting smaller fish in the surf. It features two #6 Pacific Bass style hooks on a 7 inch drop rigged with a small colored bobber. At one end is a swivel to your main line and the other end includes a duo-lock sinker snap for the weight. Bait up the hooks with shrimp, small natural bait, or artificial Fishbites® (Blood Worm or Sand Flea).

Single jigs are another technique Anthony described. For single jigs he'll usually use a lighter spinning rod and 10# Braided line. The lighter weighted jig allow you to use the lighter braid without the risk of cutting your finger on the braid. The Sea Striker 1 1/2 oz casting jig (photo right)

can be cast out to the sand bars and worked with a slow steady retrieve for flounder and bluefish. Single jigs are good when the surf is rough, with strong cross currents, and when there's a lot of grass present.

Anthony recommends trying a tandem in-line jig when targeting flounder. With an in-line jig setup you'll likely feel the bite better than with an extended dropper setup. He'll tie a small swivel and rig the top jig 24" from the swivel with very little drop before securing the second jig another 12" inches away. The two jig heads (1/2 - 1 ounce) will provide sufficient weight for casting and the in-line jig prevents tangles when casting. He'll rig a pearl white tail or a 4" Gulp swimming mullet on the jigs. The retrieve is very slow while you vibrate the rod tip. He shared flounder can be very aggressive when they strike and somewhat particular with the bait they prefer. When you find a bait has been hit repeatedly and is marked up or missing a piece it's time to replace with a fresh bait. When you feel the weight of the flounder on your bait, he recommends setting the hook. If the flounder drops the bait leave it and let the fish take another strike before retrieving your rig.



Jig heads and soft tails are another versatile bait for surf fishing. Jig heads can be cast great distances and worked well in the surf. The Redfish Eye™ (pictured right) has a 4/0 Mustad hook in a 1/2 ounce jig. It features a large eye and comes in 1/8 to 1/2 ounce weights. When paired with the Z-Man® line of ElaZtech® Plastic tails they make a lure combination that's natural in presentation and durable. An added benefit to the ElaZtech® plastics is they come scented and they're buoyant. While your jig head will take your bait to the sand the buoyant ElaZtech® tail will lift off the bottom instead of laying and rolling around on the sand. The wave action will keep your plastic tail moving naturally on the bottom and draw more interest from predatory fish.



The Bowed Up Lures Ziggies 1 ounce jig head (pictured left) have got a 4/0 black nickel hook and come in a variety of color combinations. They're made local in the Outer Banks. If you're looking for a nicely weighted jig head that, as Anthony put it, "can cast this lure a mile", then Bowed Up Lures' Ziggies is your choice. But it's not just for surf fishing. You can troll this lure for Spanish Mackerel, Rockfish, Mahi, Bluefish or pitch it around the pilings.

So now that you're armed with a number of lure and jig combinations, where do you place your jigs in the surf? The fish are trolling the sloughs and cuts looking for an easy meal. As mentioned earlier, read the beach & surf to identify where the sand bars, sloughs, and cuts are located.

As the surf crashes down it stirs up small crabs, sand fleas, and other crustaceans which then get drawn out with the receding water. For Pompano, cast into the outflow cut where lots of the small bait and crustaceans pass. The second slough in the eddies is where you'll find the Speckled Trout and smaller Red Drum (Puppy Drum). They're prowling the eddies looking for small bait fish and crabs. Past the outer sand bar in the deeper water outside the breaking waves you'll find the larger Drum lurking. Large Red Drum and Black Drum will be looking for the larger bait fish that have been feeding closer in. Of course, you'll also occasionally hook a small shark or skate, but that's fishing too.

Surf Fishing Tips

- Keep your drag settings light initially and clicker on. You don't want your rod dragged into the surf.
- Match the hook to the bait and bait to the hook.
- Use the smallest swivels and tackle to get the job done.
- Keep your line out of the breaking waves. Use a longer (higher) sand spike to keep the rod higher.
- Use a heavier Shock Leader to handline the fish in shallow water.

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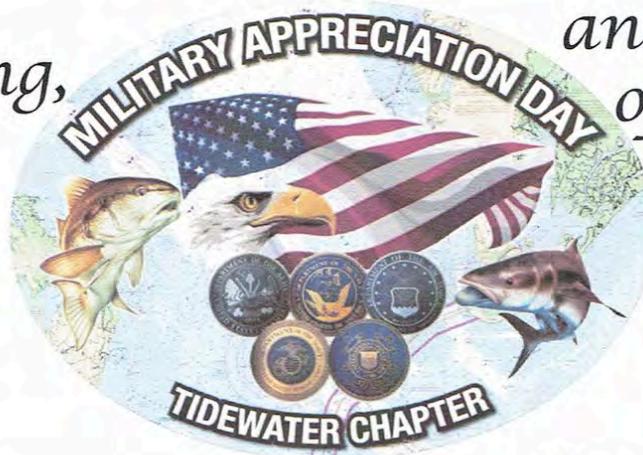
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Fishing Reports...

4 May: I fished with a group of friends from Richmond and Florida at Rose River Farm near Syria, Virginia on May 2nd and 3rd. This is a private stocked trout river with some native brook trout as well. The fishing was excellent as was the weather. We had more than 20 big rainbow trout each day! - Jack Salvant



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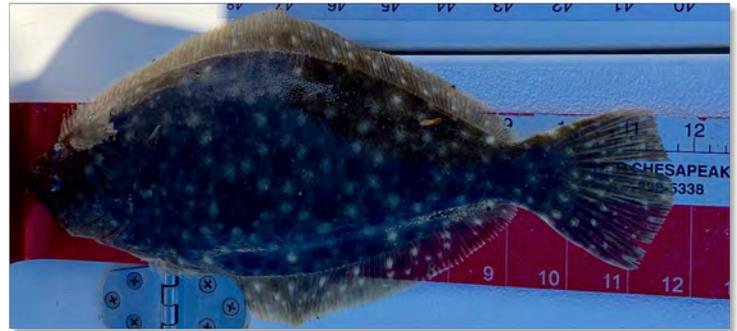
For more information
odualumni.org/cobiaclassic 757-683-3097



Hardhead meeting



Released Flounder



First Croaker of the year!



Bluefish release



AJ's small Black Sea Bass with a big appetite!



20 May: AJ and I began fishing HRBT at 7:00 am with an incoming tide. We were entered in the Hunt for the Hardheads Challenge, focused on catching all we could before 12:00 noon.

We began trolling a 00 Clark Spoon along the bridge span and were immediately rewarded with a 17 inch Bluefish. We got right back to work trying to catch another one like it. Sadly it would be the only one we catch this trip. We switched over to bottom fishing with Bloodworm Fishbites and caught Croaker

in good numbers. We released most of the Croakers but kept a dozen for the club challenge. Once the incoming tide slowed down we switched over to chartreuse buck tails and Gulp Swimming Mullet. I continued catching Croaker and AJ lost a nice keeper Flounder right at the boat. The weather could not be any nicer on a nice day. - Alex Perez

15 May: On a Wednesday, I fished the incoming tide of the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel using Gulp three inch Swimming Mullet and Bloodworm Fish Bites. It was a slow start but I finally started marking small schools of what turned out to be Croaker that readily bit on the Fishbites. I ended up catching a dozen or so along with a 11.5 inch Flounder. I finished the afternoon catching and releasing a 16.5 inch Bluefish caught on a Gulp Mullet. This was a scouting trip for Hunt for the Hardheads and I decided I would fish here come that Saturday. - Alex Perez

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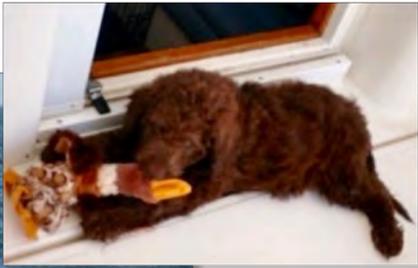
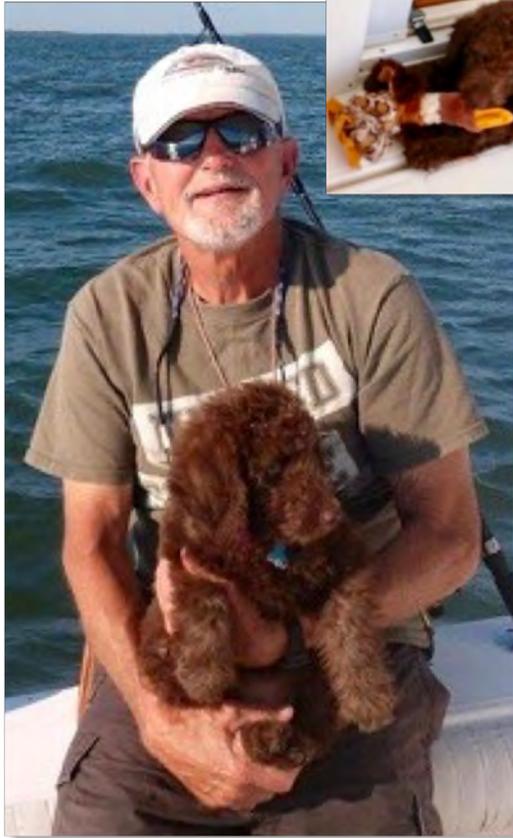


Brian A. Getz

Tel: (757) 855-5474 • Fax: (757) 855-5748

Email: virginiaprinting@aol.com

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15 May: Mary, Kate, Christian (My nephew & Active Duty Navy) and I hit Nautilus Shoal for the first time this year. I misread the tide and believed it was going to change to outgoing about 7:30 pm but once on the water, I discovered it

wasn't changing until 11 pm. We fished from about 5:30 pm to 8:30 pm without a bite. I did get a very cute dog fish. Evy, our new labradoodle pup, made her first fishing trip and held up great. Just wish we had caught a big red to show her.

- Henry Troutner



17 May: I had one keeper out of four on a good day. I Had three pull offs that felt good but I didn't get a look. - James Robinson



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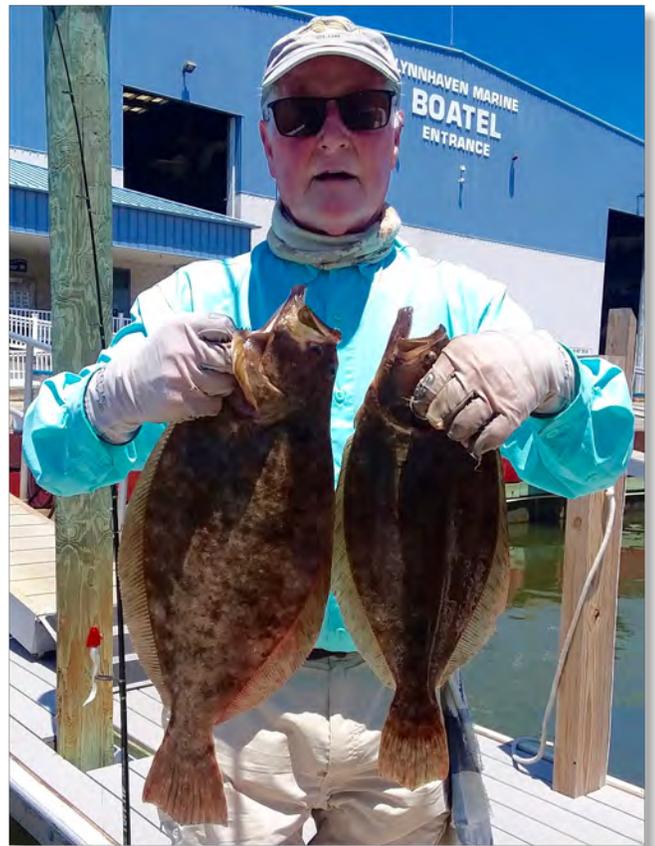
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26 May: I caught nice flounder at the CBBT with a couple of friends. We started the day looking for spadefish, nothing. There were very nice conditions so we switched to jigging for flounder. We used bucktails with gulp. We caught 5 nice keepers about 19 inches long. We also had some throwbacks and a 38 inch black drum too, which was released. I fished on my boat with NAC club member Bob Stuhlman and also Preston Mangum who landed the drum.
- Russell Willoughby



26 May: Nick Wright and I flounder fished the Lynnhaven for 5 hours. We fished the end of the outgoing tide and finished on an incoming tide. The water temp was 74 degrees with winds at 13 but slowly dropped out. Sunday's boat traffic in the Lynnhaven was definitely a challenge. Both jigging and bottom fishing were productive. We finished the day with 10 flatties including two keepers (one was a nice 20 inches.) If anyone is looking for large crabs go to the Lynnhaven; they love cut bait.
- Ned Smith



18 May: I just went to the dock in Pretty lake to throw crab scraps and noticed under the blue light a nice shadow. Afer 2 casts, I landed a 24 inch Rockfish.
- Louis Glaser



12 May: Maddy and I caught 21 Spanish Mackerel and 2 Bonitos. All of them were caught on 00 Clark spoons with a #1 planer.
- Edward O'Brien



18, 22, 23 May: Reel Fish'N Charters LLC. fished out of Cape Hatteras on a Saturday, Wednesday & Thursday with great success. We landed over 200 lbs of mahi mahi fillets. We also had caught about 30 sea bass, 10 trigger fish and a few different snapper. Grass lines were formed nice for a few hours on a couple days but mostly scattered around 22 NM east out of hatteras inlet. The water temperature on the surface was 80 degrees.
- Brandon Cook

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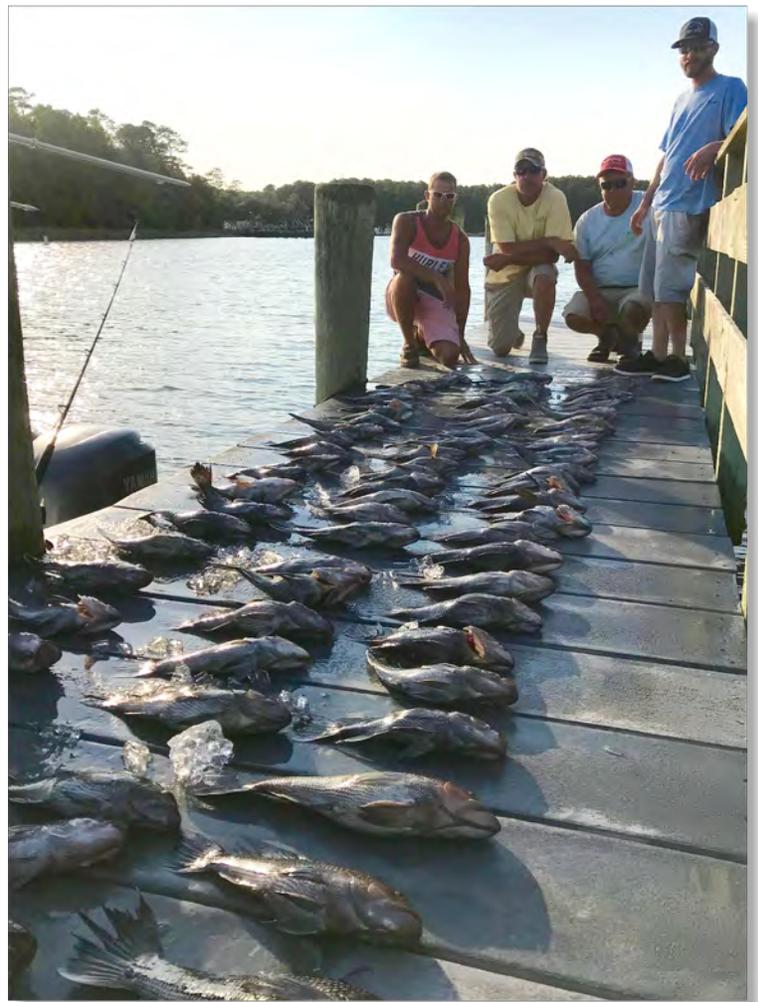
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24 May:
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headed out
of Rudee
inlet on
Friday
looking for
the sea
bass and
we got
them.



We tried some closer nearshore around 4A drydock, but with 1 keeper to every 10 fish, we decided to move to the deeper wrecks about 26-30 miles out. The surface water temp was around 69-71 degrees and the bait of choice was squid and cut bait.
- Brandon Cook



23 May: Big Blues in the creek on a Thursday.
- James Robinson



26 May: I got one small keeper on a nice morning before it got too crowded out there!
- James Robinson



Outer Banks North Carolina Fishing with, STOLAT FISHING CHARTERS

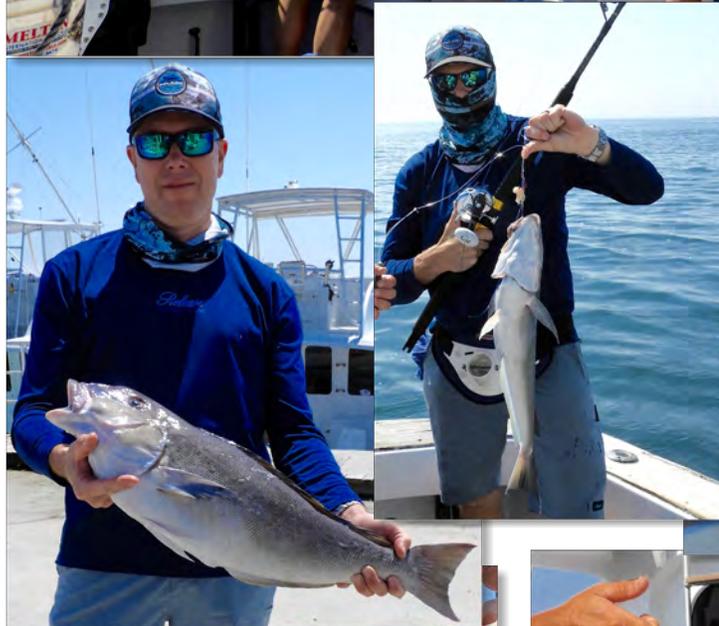
19 - 20 May: Mike Hubert, Jack Salvant, Gregg Rogers Wendy Bransom, John Nagel and Ray Sexton chartered "Stolat" for bottom fishing out of Wanchese North Carolina. Captain Paul Lesiewicz has consistently filled the boat with blue-line tilefish and sea bass for us in the past. Sunday and Monday were no exception!

Paul, Jr., Scott (the mate) and Captain Paul met us at the boat and cheerfully helped with our gear and cooler. Paul, Jr. was fun to have on the boat and skillfully aided Scott with his duties and put a few fish in the boat for us. As a teenager he knows a lot about fishing!

Weather conditions were better than could be expected with a favorable drift wind speed that had us on fish most of the time. Both days had our limit of blue-line tilefish before noon with some black sea bass and southern hake mixed in.

Congratulations to Wendy Bransom and John Nagel on North Carolina black sea-bass citations of 4lb 8 oz and 4lb 4oz respectively. Those are nice fish no matter where you are! It will take about a year before they get their citations from North Carolina.

All in all we caught about 175 pounds of fish on Sunday and 220 pounds on Monday.





May 19, 2019 - 175 pounds

Wendy Bransom with her Black Sea Bass for a NC citation. It was 4lb 8oz, 20 inches length and 16 inches girth on May 19, 2019.



Very windy end of the day, May 20, 2019 - 220 pounds

Jack Salvant with some very nice Blueline Tilefish he caught on May 20, 2019

John Nagel below who will also get a NC citation for a 4lb 4oz Black Sea Bass caught May 20, 2019.



Mike Hubert arranged everything perfectly from the cottage to the fishing, thanks a bunch Mike! Jack Salvant was very thankful that he was included with this group this year, he had a Great Trip!

We all agreed this was an absolutely fantastic trip as NAC members and good friends!

- Mike Hubert, Jack Salvant, Gregg Rogers Wendy Bransom, John Nagel and Ray Sexton

23 May: Nick and I went flounder fishing at the CBBT 1st Island. Winds were SE 15 to 20 mph, water temp was 68 degrees and current was slow. We fished around the island for 2 hours and caught 2 Skates and nothing else. So we went to plan B and fished Lynnhaven. The tide was incoming and the water was fairly clear for the Lynnhaven. I was jigging with a double rig with minnow and fresh croaker strips. Nick used a bottom rig with the same bait. Over a 2 hour period we caught 7 flounder (2 were nice keepers). We had several more bites but no hook ups. We considered the day a success and went back to the dock.
- Ned Smith



Bert Sainz, Mike Rhinehart, and I rented a house in Cape Charles for 3 nights, May 14th - 16th to fish the eastern shore on Bert's boat.

The house was very large and comfortable for the three of us. We unpacked our belongings and put the boat in at the Oyster ramp. For 3 days we fished a combination of jigging and bottom rigs with minnows and cut bait. The flounder bite was very slow, catching only a dozen flounder.

On Thursday afternoon we got crabs and headed out of Oyster to the entrance to the ocean. We anchored in shallow water hoping to find some Red Drum. We had one hook up that cut the line off, possibly a big shark We had no other bites. Weather-wise we had some rain, 15 to 18 mph winds and dirty water.

Overall we enjoyed the trip and intend to do the same trip next year. However, we will try to schedule the trip closer to the time we actually take the trip so we have a better chance of good weather.

Ned Smith



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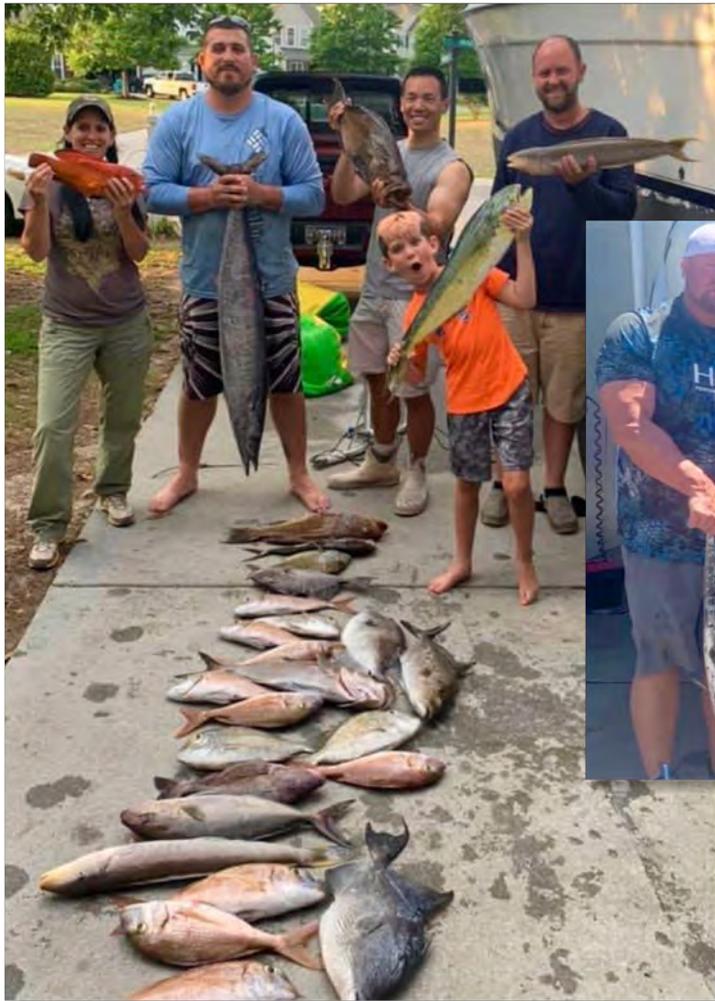
26 May: On a nice evening, three of my neighbors fished with me for Red Drum. We had a pretty good evening catching six from 42 to 50 inches, and losing two. One was lost due to a broken line and another one threw a circle hook. This was the first fish I've ever had that got off a circle hook. The 3 guys with me each caught a state citation but my 43 inch cobia will count at NAC. We fished Nautilus Shoal using blue crab on a fish finder rig.
- Henry Troutner



27 May: I went to Oregon Inlet yesterday with friends. We left Oregon Inlet and traveled to waters off Avon. We caught two cobia almost immediately after slowing down.

One was 55 lbs and the other 38 lbs. We evenly caught a total of 6. We also boated a 53 lbs. and 28 lbs. cobia.
- Jerry Hughes





8 and 11 May: I was in South Carolina and fishing with Big Nic of Big Nic Tackle. We limited out on king mackerel the first 2 days and ran to the Gulf Stream on the third. We got 3 grouper, 1 wahoo, 1 mahi, plus assorted bottom fish. We had good days on the water!



20 May: Saturday getaway to Ocean City, Maryland. Gary Kassimir and I did plenty of catching around the inlet, but no dinner fish. We came across a schools of hickory shad chasing small baitfish on the surface and landed a few. I never knew shad actually feed on baitfish. Later on in the morning, we found some schoolie stripers by the jetties and caught about a dozen up to 25 inches. No meat, no problem because my freezer is still stocked from my South Carolina trip.



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- Brian Tsai

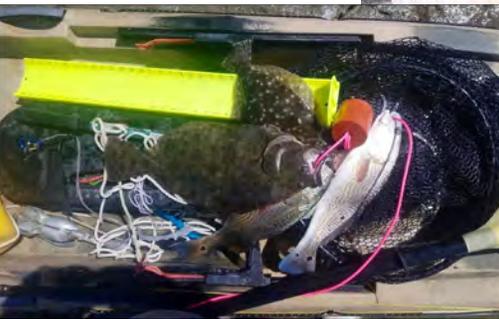




29 April: Check out my Gopro footage of a Saturday night fight with a 38 inch bluefish on light tackle. [Check here to see this video at Facebook!](#) I used a Reel- Shimano Saros 3000 Rod, "Steve Fogle" custom built ML action rod. Lure- Mirrolure He Dog tricked out with a single rear hook. It was approximately a 4 minute fight with the bluefish doing tuna death circles for the last minute. It's a very short season here for the chopper blues, but I specifically target them with light, but appropriately capable gear. Very nerve racking to watch someone net your trophy catch - he listened pretty well.



6 May: Winner winner, flounder dinner! This is my biggest flounder so far at 20 inches and 3 pounds. I released another dozen dink flounder and kept a limit of slot reds and a just legal flounder. These flounder were aggressively feeding in the shallows and were all caught on the soft plastic paddletail. Calories from the fish were greater than calories burned paddling and dragging my kayak around (covered about 4 miles).



7 May: More flounder for dinner! Specked trout was released. I saw the trout feeding and pitched my lure in its vicinity. In 4 hours, I had about 2 dozen hits, dozen or so hookups, 10 landings, 5 keepers up to 18 inches, and 4 that stayed on the stringer. This new location paid off! The best part is that I was catching fish 200 yards from the ramp/ very little paddling. No motor, no live bait, no problem....yakking around. - Brian Tsai

27 May: Greg Rogers, Mike Hubert, Ray Sexton, Aldo Hubert, Andy Potvin and I headed out with Captain Greg Mayer and Mate Billon Hollingsworth on *Fishin' Frenzy* out of Oregon Inlet on Memorial Day. We spent much of the morning fishing Mahi before switching up for YellowFin Tuna. I'd not seen a "Green Stick" fishing rig previously and I was certainly impressed at its ability to draw in the tuna. Green Sticks trail a large "bird" in the wake with artificial lures dangling and splashing atop the water mimicking fleeing fish. We watched as the tuna targeted their meal before crashing in on the lures. In the end we had 250 pounds of Mahi and Tuna for the group. It was another great day fishing with my fellow Norfolk Anglers. Many THANKS to Mike Hubert for setting up the trip for all of us to enjoy!

- Will Bransom



Green Stick Bird



Norfolk Anglers Club

Angler Interests

Norfolk Anglers Club Food Drive.....We never stop collecting



The Food Bank of Southeastern Virginia and the Eastern Shore was pleased to receive the non-perishable food items we've been collecting at the meetings. As a club, we can certainly do more for those who could use our help.

Items always in need; Lean Canned Protein (Peanut Butter, Tuna, Chicken, Turkey, Beans), Canned Fruits and Vegetables, Fruit Preserves and Dried Fruit, Whole Grains (Pasta, Oatmeal, Rice, Crackers), Other Meals (Stew, Boxed Meals, Canned Pasta), and Baby Products (Formula, Baby Food, Diapers, and Wipes).

We'll have a box for your donations at the door. So take a moment while you're out shopping to pick up a few of the items and bring them to the meeting. We'll take care of getting them to the Food Bank. Thank You for all you've contributed so far.



Virginia Safe Boating Courses available

Who Needs Boater Education?

In 2007, the Virginia General Assembly enacted a law to establish a boating safety education compliance requirement. This requirement has been phased in over the past several years; and by July 1, 2016, all operators (regardless of age) of PWCs (personal watercraft such as jet skis, Sea Doos, and Wave Runners) and operators (regardless of age) of motorboats with a motor of 10 horsepower or greater will be required to have a boating safety education course completion card on board when operating a PWC or motorboat.

- Tidewater Community College, 1700 Community College Place, Lynnhaven Building, Virginia Beach, VA 23453
Room: Room #141. This is an 8 hours course taught over four evenings. (7 of 15 seats available)

Tuesday, June 4, 2019	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Thursday, June 6, 2019	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Tuesday, June 11, 2019	6:00pm - 8:00pm
Thursday, June 13, 2019	6:00pm - 8:00pm
- Carefree Boat Club, 2109 W. Great Neck Rd., Virginia Beach, VA 23451, Room: Suite 104 (5 of 8 seats available)

Saturday, June 8, 2019	9:00am - 5:00pm
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- Smithfield Volunteer fire department, 1804 S. Church St, Smithfield VA 23430,
Room: Training room (25 of 30 seats available)

Saturday, June 15, 2019	8:00am - 4:00pm
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- Bass Pro Shops, 1972 Power Plant Parkway, Hampton, VA 23666 (18 of 25 seats available)

Saturday, June 22, 2019	9:45am - 5:00pm
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- Crown Plaza Hotel, 4453 Bonney Rd, Virginia Beach, VA 23462, Room: Truman Room
This is an 8 hour course taught over two evenings. (9 of 15 seats available)

Monday, June 24, 2019	6:00pm - 9:30pm
Wednesday, June 26, 2019	6:00pm - 9:30pm

Additional Safe Boating Courses, schedules, and registration are available at <http://www.dgif.virginia.gov>



The 6th Annual John B. Lapetina Sr. Memorial Flounder Tournament, hosted by the Kiwanis Club of Ocean View!! The Captains Meeting is Friday night July 12th @ Cobb's Marina & Weigh-in is on Saturday, July 13th @ 5:00 at Cobb's Marina. The BBQ-Blues-Beer Dinner starts at 5:00 along with the SILENT AUCTION! Make plans to come out & help us raise money for our local Ocean View kids!!

Visit www.ovflounder.org for more information, to become a Sponsor, or to download an entry application