



April 2017



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Monthly Meeting:

When: Thursday, April 6th, 6:30pm.

Where: Chesapeake Bay Foundations Brock Center. 3663 Marlin Bay Court, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23455. The Brock Center is just off shore drive behind the Lynnhaven Public Boat Ramp and behind Max Kings Marine.

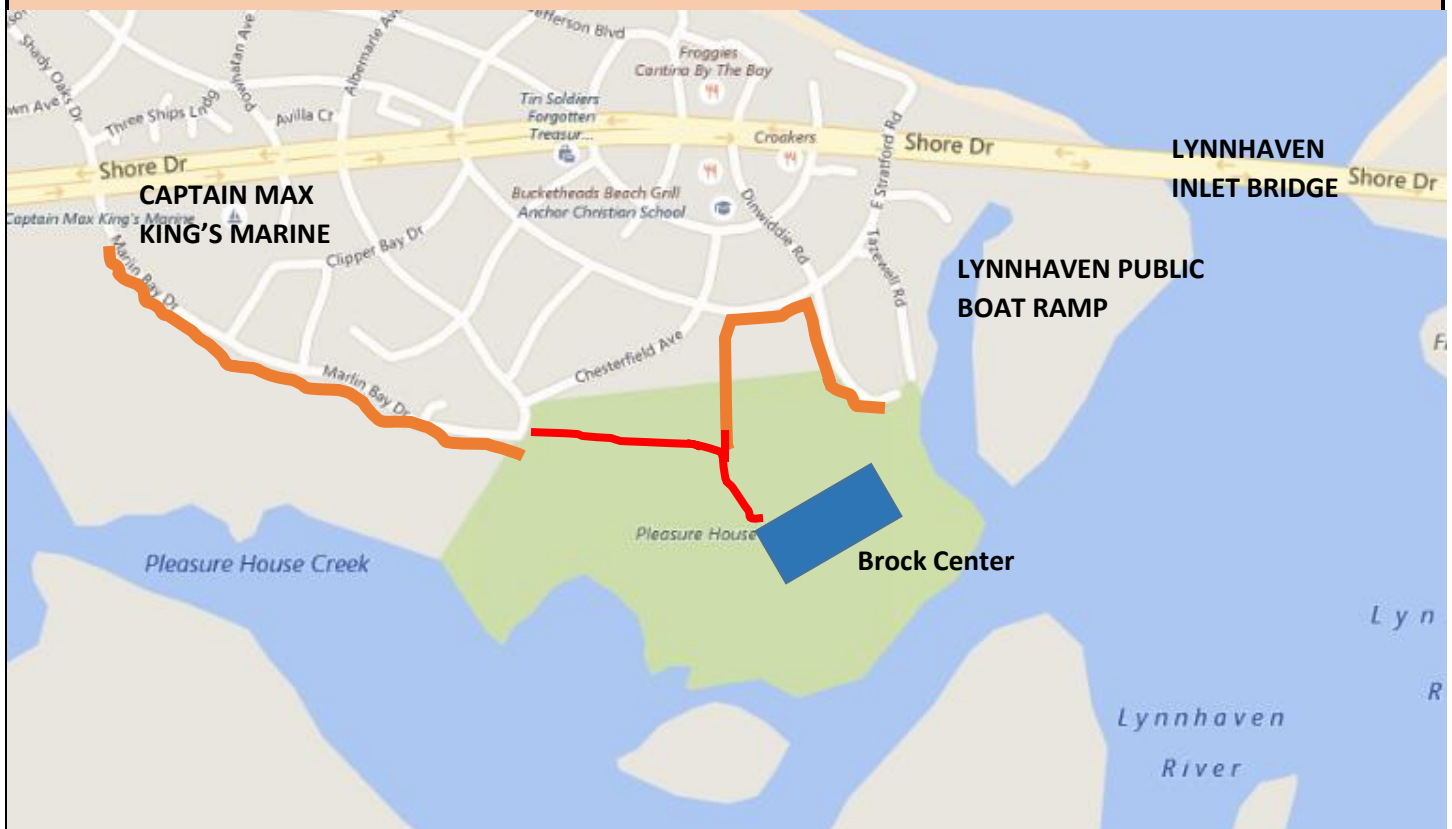
April Speaker: The April meeting will highlight the Chesapeake Bay Foundation activities and opportunities that the center provides to the public.

Brock Center Map and Parking

The Chesapeake Bay Foundation offers a guide with directions and parking on their website:

<http://www.cbf.org/about-cbf/offices-operations/brock-center/directions>

Other than what the website describes, there is some additional parking immediately around the park. All places marked in ORANGE are available for parking. A lighted path is available to walk from Marlin Bay Drive as well as from the parking areas. The lighted walking paths are marked in RED. The Brock Center is labeled in BLUE. We have a couple of members who are unable to walk far due to recent surgeries. It is advised that you not park in any handicap spots if you're able to walk due to our club members with limitations.



2017 VBAC Awards Banquet – February 25th

Congratulations to all the award winners at the 2017 VBAC Awards Banquet! Our member of the year for 2016 was Pete Federico. Pete does an impressive amount of work behind the scenes. All of his photos are on view in our annual calendar. Even if you didn't attend a regular meeting, you would probably recognize him from all the scheduled events he supports during the year. The Dr. Jim Wright Conservation Award winner was Daryl Nixon. Daryl works with the Marine Corps. Of Engineers and local conservation associations to place artificial oyster reefs across state inlets, rivers, and waterways. These fish habitats are designed to rebuild oyster reefs and provide fish and wildlife habitat in places that need it the most. The raffle prizes were impressive as always and the desserts as well. Thanks to everyone who came out to support the club.

VIRGINIA BEACH ANGLERS CLUB

2017 TOURNAMENT TEAMS

Hatteras Village:

September 8-11, 2016

Team "A"

Jerry Hughes
Robbie Parks
David Reynolds
Bob Stuhlman
Jim Wisenberg
Russell Willoughby

Team "B"

Cheryl Johnson
Mark Wray
Steve Wray
Melanie Bayford
Carl McCoy
Larry Regula

Notes

Butch Eason
Rick Hoggard

Long Beach Island:

September 24, 2016

Team "A"

Greg Wehner
Doug Wehner
Kelly Hoggard
Jerry Hughes
Roibbie Parks

Team "B"

Mike Anderson
Larry Regula
Jerry Mariano
Bob Stguhlman
David Anderson

Alternates

none

Nags Head:

October 5-9, 2016

Team

Jerry Hughes
Doug Wehner
Bob Stuhlman
Robbie Parks
Mark Wray
Kelly Hoggard

Alternates

Carl McCoy
Rick Hoggard

Notes

Larry Regula dropped out late
Bob Stuhlman added for Larry

CHAC (Buxton):

November 2-6, 2016

Team

Doug Wehner
Bob Stuhlman
Russell Willoughby
Jim Wisenberg
Stan Sutliff
Robbie Parks

Alternates

Greg Wehner
Gary Doerhoff
Larry Regula
Jerry Hughes
Ellett Fields
Carl McCoy

Alternates

VBAC Lynnhaven Crab Creek Clean-Up

Our Next monthly clean-up is **Saturday morning, April 8th from 10:00-12:00.**

Free lunch is always provided. Come out and support a very special event run by our angler's club.

Meeting Location: **Pleasure House Point Park, in Virginia Beach, next to the Brock Center**

Team Leader: **Ronnie Nixon**

Contact for Information: **Ronnie Nixon: (757)536-6264, Kelly Hoggard: (757)416-8817**



★ - Parking is available along the east, north, and west sides of the park.

▭ - Lesner Bridge (for reference)

😊 - Picnic tables (meeting location)

Intra-Club Surf Fishing Tournament – Rescheduled for May 13th

There is a calendar change for the intra-club surf fishing tournament at Sandbridge. The original date was set for May 20th but that is the same day as the Hunt for Hardheads. There are several club members who like to fish in both of these events. In order to give them a chance to fish in both events, the date has been changed. It should be mentioned that this is the Saturday before Mother's Day. Hopefully this will not be a problem. We should have some decent fishing by that time. It is always a good idea to get out early and see what is biting. For new members of the club, the way this works is we meet at Sandbridge at 7:30 – 8:00am on the beach. Lines-in is at 8:00am and fish caught after that time count in the scoring. We fish until about 11:00am then have a lunch at one of the pavilions and we are done by noon. You are always welcome to continue fishing if you want – some do. It is always a good time and you get bragging rights until the fall tournament. If you wish to learn more about surf fishing, just see Robbie Parks at one of our meetings.

Tight Lines

Robbie

Upcoming Events Schedule and Information

Saturday, April 1st: In-Club Tautog Trip

The in-club Tautog trip was rescheduled due to the forecast of severe weather and winds. It has been rescheduled for Thursday, May 18th.

Saturday, April 8th: VBAC April Lynnhaven Clean-Up

The details are stated on the previous page of this newsletter. Lunch is included to all participants at no cost. Sodas and water will be provided. Some individuals have found that bringing a 5-gallon bucket can help you carry your bag and pick up trash more efficiently.

Thursday, May 3rd – Saturday, May 6th: Ocracoke Invitational Surf Fishing Tournament

VBAC will send one team of six fisherman to this year's tournament. Wish our anglers good luck!

Thursday, May 4th: May Membership Meeting

Expected topics on the May meeting could include sea bass, drum, surf fishing, or freshwater fishing.

Saturday, May 6th: VBAC May Lynnhaven Clean-Up

The clean up will include lunch. This is a great opportunity to get some walking time in and see the local nature surrounding the Lynnhaven inlet.

Saturday, May 13th: Intra-Club Surf Fishing Tournament

Details about the date change and events are in the previous page of this newsletter. If you are new to surf fishing or wish to learn more, there are a large group of avid surf fisherman in the club who would be glad to help show you how fun and easy it can be. Approach Robbie Parks at one of our meetings to learn more.

Saturday, May 20th: Hunt For Hardheads Fishing Tournament

The Hunt for Hardheads is an annual "Bragging Rights" tournament held between local anglers clubs each year. VBAC is currently looking for 5 boats and captains to fish the tournament. Qualifying fish include bluefish, croaker, and flounder. Fishing boundaries are the HRBT and inward to the James, Elizabeth rivers, etc. More details including official rules will be in the May 2017 newsletter.

Thursday, June 1st: June Membership Meeting

Expected topics of the June meeting could include tuna, cobia, or drum fishing.

Saturday, June 3rd: VBAC June Lynnhaven Clean-Up (Clean the Bay Day)

The clean up will include lunch. Trash flow tends to increase during the summer and extra hands are always needed. The first Saturday in June is also a state-supported "Clean the Bay Day."

Saturday, June 24th: Seton Youth Fishing Day

Our annual Seton Youth Fishing Day requires all hands on deck. We take a large group of kids fishing aboard the Judith Anne out of the Ocean View Fishing Pier. The club requires a minimum of about 20-25 volunteers and we hope to see you there.

2017/2018 Advertisements

Each advertisement is linked to their associated website.
Please check them all out by clicking on their ads!

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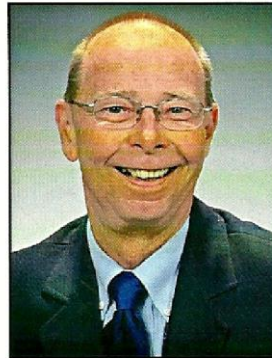
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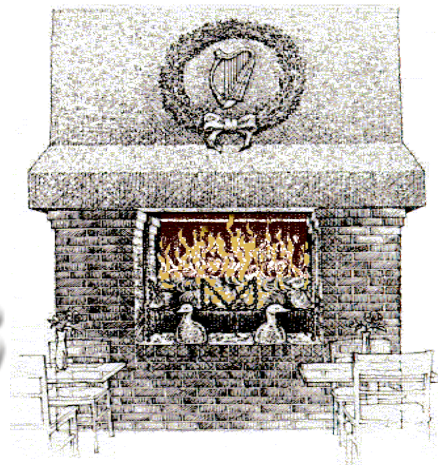
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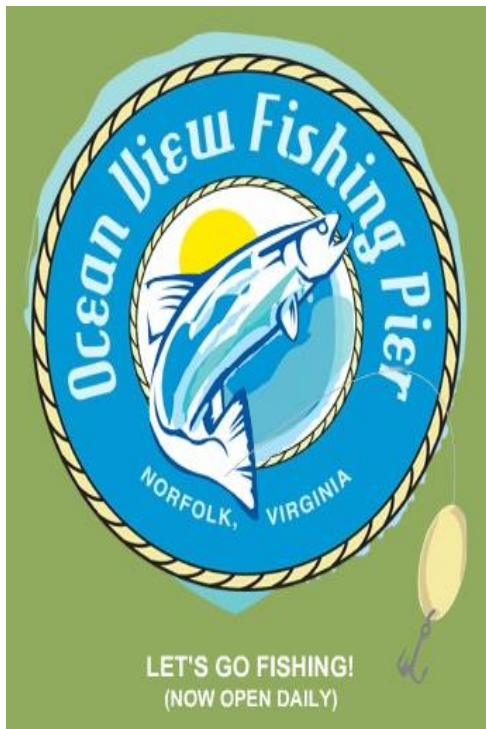
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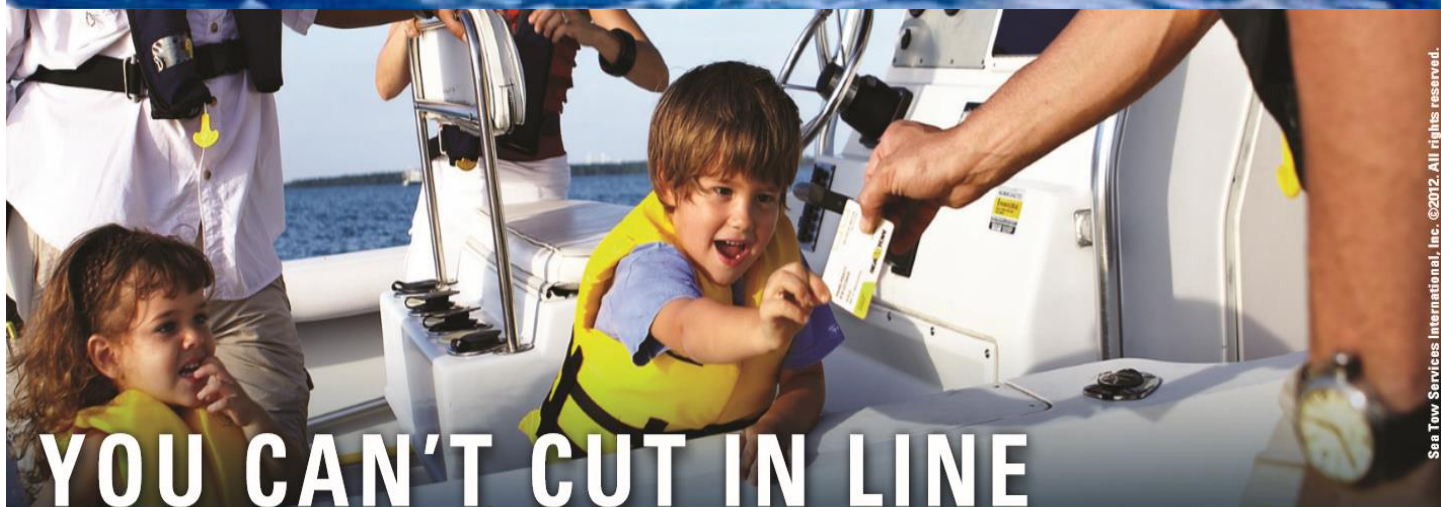
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VBAC Fishing Roulette 2017

<u>Species</u>	<u>Current Leader</u>	<u>Weight</u>
<u>Saltwater:</u>		
Cobia	None	
Croaker	None	
Speckled Trout	Ike Eisenhower	3 lb. 4 oz.
<u>Freshwater:</u>		
Blue Catfish	Bob Stuhlman	48 lb. 00 oz.
Sunfish	None	

Heaviest fish wins! The VBAC Roulette is eligible through the entire calendar year of 2017. Entries should be submitted via the club fishing contest entry form to the prize fish committee. You can mail your entry to the club if needed.

Catch-A-Ride

BOAT

Howard Anchors (724) 822-4933
Preston Mangum (757) 582-1450
Jeremy Maguire (757) 407-0493
Rich Maguire (757) 619-4851
Rob Stommel (703) 244-1282
Bob Stuhlman (757) 374-7372

CREW

Pete Federico (908) 887-3113
Jack Guthrie (757) 647-4490
Ronnie Hillin (757) 848-3535
Kelly Hoggard (757) 416-8817
Victor Minak (703) 888-8992

Participation Needed!

Listed below are many of the committees and their respective captain (or co-captains) that represent each committee. All of these hard working club members need help fulfilling their goals for the events that are planned during the year. No matter your current role in the club, everyone is encouraged to help in any way possible. There are no special skill requirements needed... It just requires a little bit of time and input. Take an active part in the club and help make a difference in our community.

Thank you all for your consideration - VBAC Officers and Directors

2017 Virginia Beach Anglers Club Committees:

Boat Show:	Chair – Russell Willoughby
Calendar:	Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair – Ronnie Nixon
Crab Creek Clean-Up:	Chair – Ronnie Nixon
Great Bridge Flea Market:	Chair – Preston Mangum
VBAC Flea Market:	Chair – Bob Burstein
Banquet/Oyster Roast:	Chair – Jerry Mariano
Seton Youth:	Chair – Bob Burstein
Raffles:	Chair – Preston Mangum
Audit Committee:	Chair – Mike Anderson
Surf Tournaments:	Chair – Robbie Parks
Club Tournaments:	Chair – George Gabriel Co. Chair – Bob Burstein
Lynnhaven Pier Tournaments:	Chair – Gary Doerhoff Co. Chair - NEEDED
Newsletter:	Chair – Kelly Hoggard
Prize Fish:	Chair – Chris Schneider
Nomination Committee:	Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair – Kelly Hoggard Co. Chair – Beth Synoweic
Conservation and Regulations:	Chair – Butch Eason Co. Chair – Kelly Hoggard
T-Shirt Committee:	Chair – Jerry Hughes

Conservation and Regulations

Provided by various individuals, conservation organizations, and regulation commissions.

Mid Atlantic Fisheries Management Council (MAFMC): MAFMC has their spring meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 11th, 2017 through Thursday, April 13th, 2017 in Avalon, New Jersey. There is a variety of topics that will include tilefish discussions for the 2018-2020 management measures. A link which will allow you to view their meetings via the web can be found on their website. The upcoming agenda can be viewed [HERE](#).

Virginia Cobia Regulations: VMRC convened on Tuesday, March 28th to establish the 2017 cobia regulations for Virginia. There were a couple of different proposals but amendments concluded with the following regulations:

- 1 fish per person or 3 fish per boat maximum (whichever is less).
- Open season from June 1st to September 15th, 2017.
- 40" Total length minimum. Only one fish per boat can measure 50+ inches.
- No gaffing allowed.
- Free state permit required for the fishing/possession of cobia. The captain/owner is responsible for the reporting requirements of all cobia fishing trips including trips which lead to no fish being caught or kept. Failure to comply will result in the captain/owner being withheld from receiving a cobia fishing permit in the following calendar year.

Economic Benefits of Fishing to the US Economy: The American Sportfishing Association has released figures which identify the financial impacts of fishing in the United States. These financial impacts are broken down into the congressional districts for each state. More information is available on their website.

[Home Page](#)

[Virginia Congressional District Statistics](#)

Sustainable Fisheries Goal Implementation Team: The Chesapeake Bay Program has released their March 2017 newsletter detailing sustainable fisheries. There are a number of interesting topics including oysters, blue crabs, invasive catfish, forage species, fish habitat, and more. A link to their newsletter is provided [HERE](#).

North Carolina Beach Access: There has been a lot of strife in recent years where anglers and beach goers have butt heads with lawmakers about North Carolina beach access. Recent improvements include permits being available to buy online and year to date purchase usability. There is [additional information in the following letter](#) which has been sent to interested parties by the Cape Hatteras Access Preservation Alliance (CHAPA).

Monthly Fishing Contest

Much like last year, the club will be featuring a **Fish of the Month** competition open to all members. One fish will be designated each month as the 'fish of the month'. The longest fish measured in that species for the month will win a \$30 prize from the club. The competition runs from March to December for 2017.

Competition Rules:

- The competition is based on the fish's total length. (There is no minimum length requirement to win.)
- Your fish must have a photo with its verified length visible in the picture via a ruler or tape measure behind or next to the fish. (Please note: Take multiple pictures so you can have one of the fish's length and one of you holding your prize winning catch!)
- You must submit the photo(s) along with a short caption or story about your fishing experience for the newsletter.
- The fish must meet the general requirements of the club prize fishing contest and be turned into the prize fish committee.

March: Catfish (any species)

Winner: Still Undetermined

April: Crappie

Go out and catch some fish!

Fishing Reports

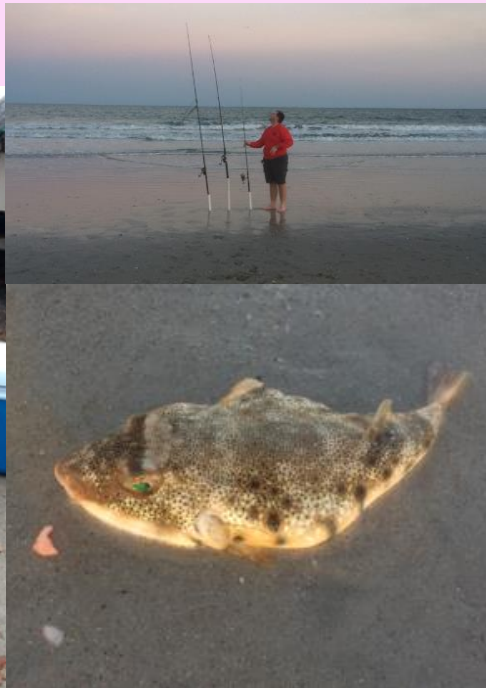
December 2016: An error caused me to lose a fishing report of two our club members. I've taken time to highlight their successful adventure here. Preston caught this 2-pound Crappie while fishing out of Lake Smith on his new boat. Meanwhile, Gary caught this 1-pound 2-ounce crappie while fishing with Preston that same December day. Now go out and catch one this April!



Fishing Reports

Early March on the Piankatank River: Ike Eisenhower went out with Melanie Bayford in early March to target some catfish. Melanie invited me to fish the Piankatank on 2/28 with her and since it was my first time on this river, it was quite the adventure for me. A 90-minute drive up US 17 through Gloucester almost to Saluda is not something I've done much in my life but the trip traffic was minimum and I was early for our 9am ramp departure. Melanie and Don live right off the river so ramping the boat was done by Mel easily. It was a beautiful comfortable and cloudy day. We had no bites until around noon when we started getting one fish after another on our frozen menhaden baits. We each had 3 rods out and at times had two on at one time. We each had light rods so 7-10 pound fish make a huge run at times using light drag from start to finish which is the most fun way to catch them. The biggest was around 10 pounds and I believe we caught about 15 or more. Not sure because we filled her cooler and ended up keeping in the 8-10 pound range and four smaller ones just to see how much meat was on the smaller ones (pictured). I should have taken a picture of Mel with her biggest but didn't think of picture taking until the day was over. We left the biting around 4 pm. I didn't want to drive through the back roads in the dark. All in all, I had two hours of cleaning those fish the next day and plenty of catfish in the freezer. It was a memorable time fishing and catching catfish on the Piankatank with Melanie. Thanks a bunch for the trip.

Blessings,
Ike



Surf Fishing in Wilmington, NC: I went down to visit my mom in North Carolina during the first week of March. The water was fairly cold but managed to find a few roundhead and puffer fish along Wrightsville beach. The area is very pretty and the surf was low. The water temps were pretty cool on the north east side of the cape fear river. All of the fish were beyond the break line of the sand bar so it took some heavier weights and a little wading to get the baits out past the bar. The action was hot after sunset but most fish were not very big. I brought in about a dozen with a half dozen that were 12". It was enough to make a fish fry the next afternoon and went well with some hushpuppies and mac and cheese.

Fishing Reports

Catfishing on the James: Russell Willoughby, Bob Stuhlman and I fished the James River again with charter fisherman Capt. Pete. This was Russell and my second time fishing with Captain Pete and since we got citations last year we thought we'd try it again but this time we brought Bob. It was a cold morning at the Jordan River Bridge yacht basin when we met Capt. Petey, but there was no wind to speak of so we weren't too uncomfortable and it promised to be warm in the afternoon. The catfish bite started right off with Russell bringing in a 24 pound fish within the first hour. Next, I got a 37-pounder. Then bob caught a 20 pounder followed by a 34 pounder by Russell and myself again with a 12 pound eating six fish. All of these we caught before 9 o'clock in the morning all at one place right off the channel. Then when the bite quieted down, we moved to another spot and bob got a 48 pound monster in about 8 feet of water. We struggled going from place to place looking for a bite as the warm wind picked up and we managed to pick up another 20 pounder for Russell and myself but Bob wasn't lucky enough to get a 3rd fish. But what the heck, he got a monster 48 pounder and definitely is going to be a major challenger for the roulette fish of the year in VBAC. Congrats to Bob! Thanks to Captain Pete for a great catfishing trip!

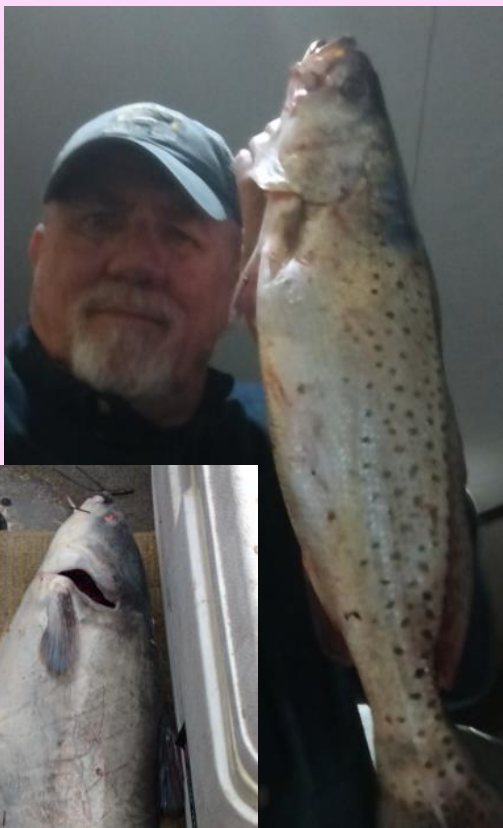
Blessings,
Ike



Fishing Reports

Dr. Ike and Melanie on 3-30-17: Dr. Ike made a 2nd trip to Gloucester to check out one of my boats for sale. We went fishing for big catfish for the fish of the month competition on the Piankatank River. The day did not start well for us. Possible ignition key problem kept the 9.9hp motor from starting. We decided to use the min-kota to fish with and not go as far. We anchored for a while with no results and moved a short distance up the river. We had two floats out with mud minnows on board and used menhaden for the bottom baits. We had a speckled trout on that almost made it to the net, then the catfish started to bite. We caught two small ones, then the bobber got another speckled trout that was 22 inches. Then an eel came aboard. We cut his head off and used pieces of eel for bait. The catfish loved it!!! The lines were screaming. Lost one big one on the anchor line, then landed a 30" catfish. A short time later, Dr. Ike had a screamer on board and I thought he would get a bigger one than I had. His was 29". We had several runs that did not hook up and then the bite died off. Cold, gray, windy day, but the fishing was excellent.

-Melanie



VBAC MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the VBAC is to encourage sport fishing, both freshwater and saltwater, while supporting prudent governmental and other policies that promote the preservation, conservation and ecology of all marine life.

Our Objectives:

Monitor legislative and regulatory activities relating to management of local and regional fisheries and participating actively, where appropriate, to assure the adoption of sound management policy and practices that best serve the interests of VBAC members.

Promote interest and participation in recreational angling by conducting programs and activities that encourage sport fishing.

Educate members and others in the techniques of sport fishing to enhance their enjoyment of the sport.

Conduct social activities that create a wholesome climate for deriving the maximum pleasure from sport fishing by members, their families and guests.

Plan and conduct fund raising activities to provide the revenues needed to support these objectives.

2017 VBAC Elected Officials

Officers:

President: Larry Regula

First Vice President: George Gabriel

Second Vice President: Bob Stuhlman

Treasurer: Mike Anderson

Recording Secretary: Russell Willoughby

Corresponding Secretary: Kelly Hoggard

Board of Directors:

Bob Burstein

Gary Doerhoff

Butch Eason

Jerry Hughes

Jerry Mariano

Preston Mangum

Ronnie Nixon

Robbie Parks

David Reynolds

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