



Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers

AUGUST 2011

VISIT US AT VCFA.ORG

NEXT MEETING: LUAU: SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Thanks again to all of you who attended the July meeting. We had a great “round table” discussion about fishing our local waters led by Bob Hutchinson, Art Grea-son, and Ron Russell. Bob led off answering a question about tarpon fishing on the Eastern Shore. I’m sure many of you will be surprised to learn that, yes, tarpon are caught on the Eastern Shore, but Bob assured us they are. In fact, he said over the years he and folks he has fished with have caught an estimated 55 or so of them! He did say most of them had been caught with bait. They also talked about trout, puppy drum, flounder, and the health state of the Chesapeake Bay. All and all, it was a very informative meeting and it just points out the depth of fishing experience we have in the club and the willingness of members to share that experience. I know one of the main reasons I joined the club many years ago was to get an opportunity to talk with fly fish-ermen who had actually fished this area and “pick” their brains to help me improve my fishing success. I would encourage any of our new members to come to our monthly meeting early and just start a conversation and ask your questions, you will be amazed and pleasantly surprised by all the information you will receive.

We have a club shark fishing trip planned for August 6. We will be posting final details on Facebook at our Facebook page and if you are interested in partici-pating, just follow the instructions on Facebook. Our club picnic/luau is also planned for this month, August 13 and you can find info about it along with directions to Mike LaHorner’s home (site of the Luau) elsewhere in the newsletter.

As many of you know, I’m also a member of the Richmond fly fishing club, Fly Fishers of Virginia, and they along with the fly fishing club in Williamsburg have agreed to start a Project Healing Waters Fly Fishing agreement with the Hamp-ton Va Hospital. I will be receiving more info on this project as it develops, but if there are any members who would like to help out, please let me know.

Continues on Page 3

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Mike Buss, President; Ed Owens, Vice-President; Kendall Osborne, Treasurer; Mike Lahorner, Secretary;

MEMBERS AT LARGE: Chris Burbage, Lawrence Clemens, Dave Dembicki, Spencer Hayes, Noel Horne, Scott Reppert, Ron Russell

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT; Kevin Dubois

20th Anniversary

The Fly Fishing Show reaches milestone

The year was 1992. The Toronto Blue Jays won the World Series, Lil E. Tee the Kentucky Derby, the Washington Redskins the Super Bowl. And the Fly Fishing Show opened its doors in Somerset, New Jersey. Today, the Fly Fishing Show is still running and will celebrate its 20th anniversary, Jan. 28-30, 2012.

"Although our show will travel to six other US cities, Somerset remains our largest event," said show producer Chuck Furimsky.

"From the first year when crowds were so large the fire marshal closed the door until the people decided to leave, the Somerset show continues to live up to the title of the world's largest show for fly fishers," reminisced Chuck.

"I fondly recall when Leon Chander, an icon in our sport who attended hundreds of shows representing Cortland, told me he never ran out of brochures in 42 years of doing shows, but was out mid-day at our first Somerset show," remembered Chuck.

Most of fly fishing's manufacturers are exhibiting in Somerset where a customer can hold and cast all of the latest fly rods developed for the sport. The latest reels, lines, clothing, waders, tying materials, books and videos, art, accessories, and anything needed to pursue fly fishing is on display and for sale.

During the three day show, the list of fly fishing celebrities and programs is unsurpassed. Fly Fishing's recognized experts including Lefty Kreh, Gary Borger, Dave Whitlock, A.K. Best, Ed Engle, Andy Mill, Bob Clouser, Enrico Puglisi, Bob Jacklin, Michael Mauri, Barry and Cathy Beck, Bob Popovics, and others will do casting demonstrations, lectures, fly tying, and book signings.. There will be in excess of 60 seminars each day of the show and everything is open to those attending.

The Fly Fishing Show 2012

SOMMERSET New Jersey

JANUARY 27, 28, 29 2012

Garden State Convention Center

http://www.flyfishingshow.com/Somerset__NJ.html

The Fly Fishing Show 2010

Raleigh, NC

FEBRUARY 11, 12, 2011

North Carolina State Fairgrounds

http://www.flyfishingshow.com/Raleigh__NC.html

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE (Continued from Page 1)

Fishing has begun to pick up as we settle into our summer patterns, I know I was out with Larry Clemens and Sam Davis recently and we had three large fish on around the third island that we think were big red drum. But you won't catch any fish just sitting around watching tv! You need to get out on the water, post a note on Facebook saying you are going out and ask for volunteers! And then don't forget to post the results. I hope to see you all at the Luau! Thanks again and tight lines to all,
mike buss

VCFA LUAU

SATURDAY, AUGUST 13

5:00 - 10:00 PM

2520 HOOD DRIVE

VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23454

\$10 PER PERSON

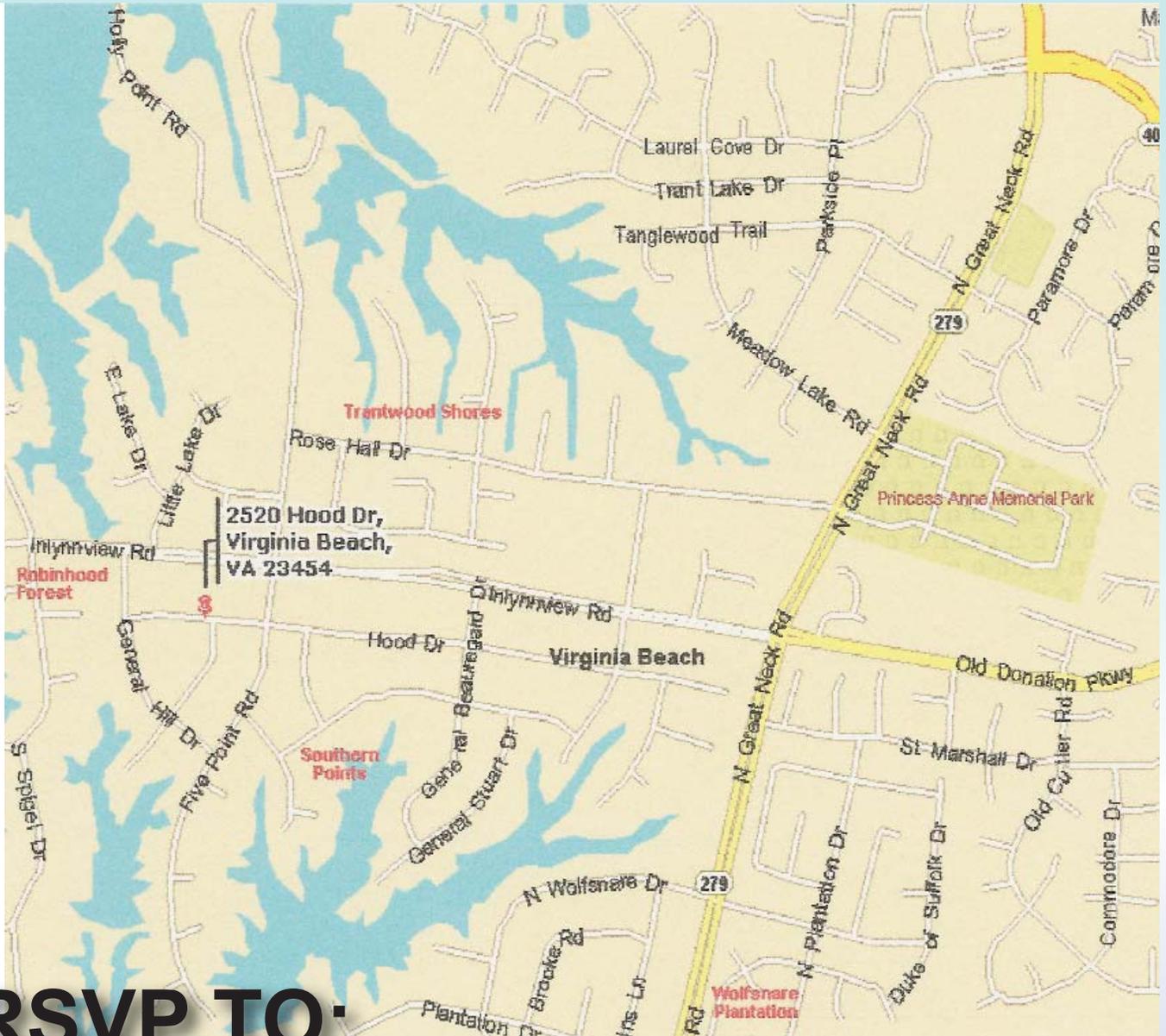
**Heavy Hors D'Oeuvres,
Soft Drinks, Beer
Provided**

(Bring a few extra \$\$ for raffles)

**COME GET YOUR "ISLAND" ON AND
SUPPORT THE VCFA.**

**ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT
The Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers**

DIRECTIONS AND RSVP ON NEXT PAGE



RSVP TO:

Mike LaHorner - Cell: 377-0685 Email: 2dwater@gmail.com

Turn West on **INLYNNVIEW ROAD** off of **N. GREAT NECK ROAD**
(eastbound at intersection of OLD DONATION PARKWAY)

Continue on **INLYNNVIEW ROAD** approximately 0.9 miles

Turn Left on **GENERAL HILL DRIVE**, go 100 yards

Turn Left on **HOOD DRIVE**.

second house on the left - brick ranch with red and white trim.

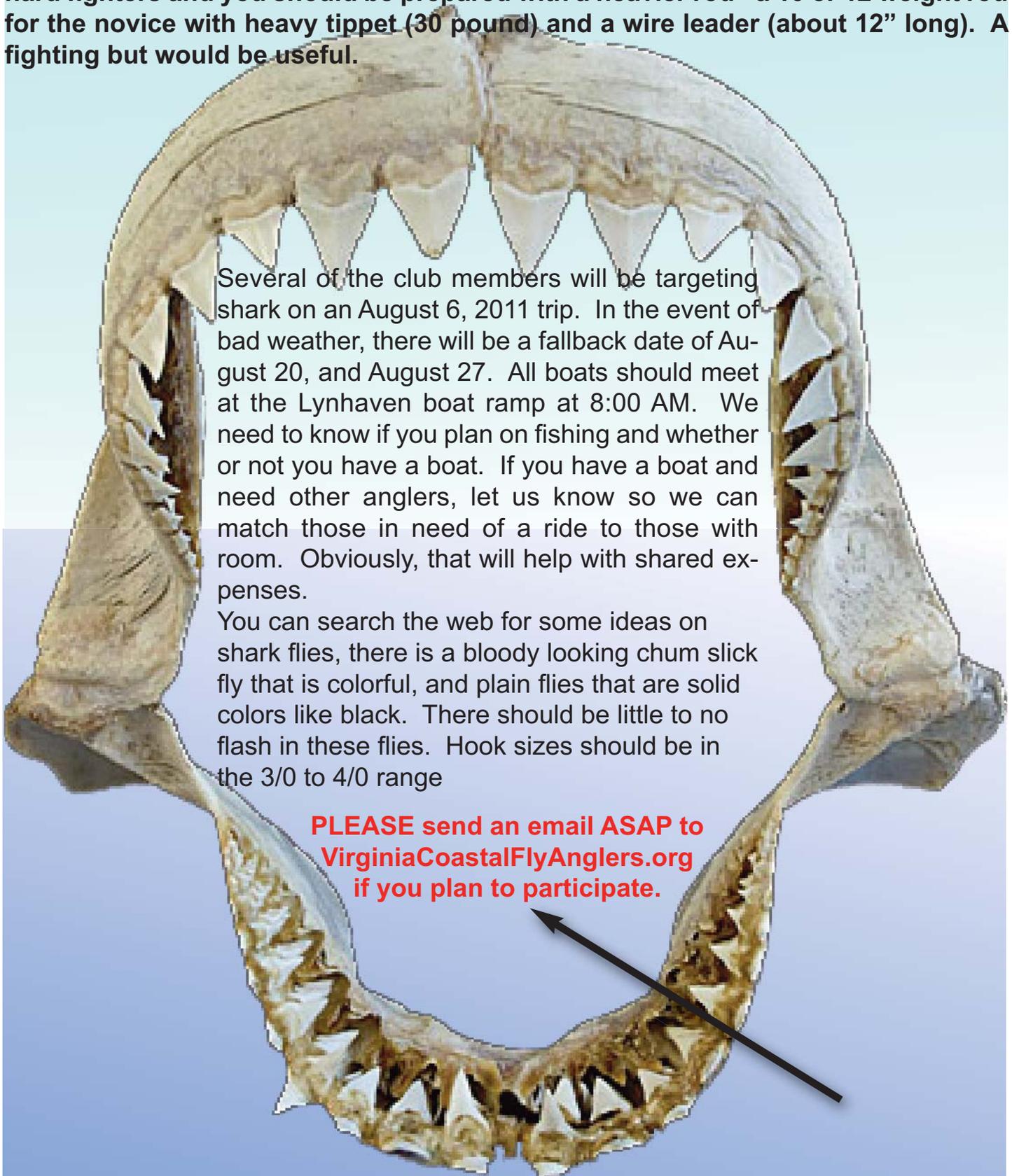
2520 HOOD DRIVE

This is a new venture for the club so the following is provided as a starting point for your information. Remember, sharks are wild animals with razor sharp teeth! Be cautious when getting near them. They have flexible bodies and can easily bend around to snip off a part of your body (maybe one that you like). They are hard fighters and you should be prepared with a heavier rod - a 10 or 12 weight rod for the novice with heavy tippet (30 pound) and a wire leader (about 12" long). A fighting but would be useful.

Several of the club members will be targeting shark on an August 6, 2011 trip. In the event of bad weather, there will be a fallback date of August 20, and August 27. All boats should meet at the Lynhaven boat ramp at 8:00 AM. We need to know if you plan on fishing and whether or not you have a boat. If you have a boat and need other anglers, let us know so we can match those in need of a ride to those with room. Obviously, that will help with shared expenses.

You can search the web for some ideas on shark flies, there is a bloody looking chum slick fly that is colorful, and plain flies that are solid colors like black. There should be little to no flash in these flies. Hook sizes should be in the 3/0 to 4/0 range

**PLEASE send an email ASAP to
VirginiaCoastalFlyAnglers.org
if you plan to participate.**



Fly Fishing for Sharks

June 9, 2009
in Andros South, Fish, Tips



Sharks are hard on gear. Look closely at that reel...
Photo: Andrea Spencer

The waters around South Andros Island are extremely fertile – loaded not only with bonefish, but also mullet, jacks and countless other smaller critters. That means lots of food for sharks, which in turn means lots of sharks, which itself means that we like to fly fish for sharks.

South Andros has populations of bull sharks, nurse sharks, tiger sharks, hammerheads and more, but the most common sharks we see on the flats are lemons and blacktips, and those are what we catch the most of on flies.

Single Strand Wire

The most unusual piece of gear that you'll need when fly fishing for sharks is also the most important – single strand wire leader. Sharks have really, really sharp teeth and really, really strong jaws. Coated, 'knot-able' braided wire that works fine for barracudas will not cut the mustard with sharks. You need to use the real deal – stuff like this.

To attach your fly (more on shark flies below) to your wire leader, you need to use a not-so-conventional 'knot' – the haywire twist. To attach the wire to the back section of your leader, you can use another haywire twist with a loop-to-loop connection or you can tie an Albright knot, with the doubled-over section being the wire.

Other Gear

10 weight rods are the minimum here. Many guests fish rods in the 10-12 weight range, but honestly that's just because they don't have anything heavier. Sharks get big and they can pull really hard. If you've got a really big stick like a 14 weight or more, bring it along—you'll get a bend in it, we promise.

Reels need to be big with lots of backing capacity and a very durable drag. See the photo above for an example of what sharks do to reels.

Lines are floating because we're fishing on the flats. Flies tend to be streamers in bright yellow, red or orange, or some combination thereof.

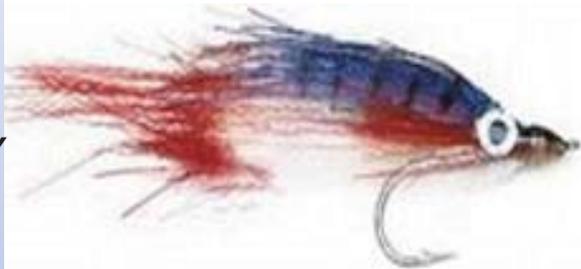
Techniques

Most of the time sharks cruise slowly and steadily. To get a shark to eat you don't need to strip your streamer really fast like you would with a barracuda. Just lead the shark, and get the fly right in front of his nose. Twitch it to keep it in front of him as he swims along and he'll often just chew on it, in the words of our manager, 'like a curious dog'.

Poppers and crease flies can also generate some real excitement when shark fishing. Sharks' mouths are not really designed for surface feeding, so poppers and crease flies tend to get a lot of swipes and nudges from sharks but not a lot of hookups. That's OK though – it's still a ton of fun to watch a shark at least try to eat your surface fly.

When you do hook up, hold on and get ready for a battle. Sharks fight hard!

CHUM FLY



Tying sequence located at

http://www.stripstrikecharters.com/shark_fly.htm

HARKER'S ISLAND

The annual Harker's Island trip is shaping up to be a good one as beds are filling up fast! This year, the house is booked from October 22 through November 12. A sign up sheet is posted on the VCFA website so you can see what dates are available. If you have not been on one of these trips in past years, talk to any of the club members about flies, how to rig them and equipment you want to have with you. These fish are extremely fast and strong, a worthy species that will test you and your gear.



A 9 weight rod is a good choice with some folks wanting a meatier rod (10 - 12 weight) in the event you should get into larger fish or the big reds and yes, even a shark. To paraphrase Forrest Gump, "fishing is like a box of chocolates, you never know what your gona git"! Practice your knots and make sure the connections are solid. Use fresh leader material. Any flaws or weakness in your line will probably end in a lost fish.

Flies are generally 4, 2, 1/0 as these fish have a small bite radius. Generally, you want to have plenty of Clouser Minnows and Surf Candies about 2" to 4" in length. Colors should be varied from flashy bright colors (pink, chartreuse) to more subdued colors (white, gray, tan) all with some flash.

A boat is very helpfull in finding fish, but there are good places to wadefish. Either way, use caution and good common sense as you can find yourself in a bind if you don't respect the lay of the land and mother nature.

Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Date: _____

Membership is \$30.00 annually and includes all family members. Please complete this form with a check made payable to VCFA. You can bring the completed form and check to the next meeting, or mail it to or club treasurer at VCFA, P.O. Box 2866, Virginia Beach, VA 23450-2866

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

City _____ STATE _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please Circle: **New Member** **Renewal**