



# Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers

SEPTEMBER 2011

VISIT US AT VCFA.ORG

## NEXT MEETING:

Club members discussing Red Drum, Black Drum and more

## FLY OF THE MONTH:

Bob Popovics Ultra Shrimp

## PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Thanks again to all of you who attended the August meeting masquerading as our annual luau at Mike LaHorner's home. We all had a great time, the food was great, the company was super, and the fish stories were even better! I'd like to extend a big thank you to all of you who made this event a big success, and a special thank you to Mike and his wife for opening their home to all of us. I'm already looking forward to doing it again next year, and I would encourage all of you to try to attend next August. We are in for a real treat this month as Kendall Osborne and Mike LaHorner will make a presentation on Red and Black Drum and Cobia. These fish all grow large and are a lot of fun to catch, take a fly eagerly, and most importantly, can be caught in our local waters. You definitely want to mark your calendars for Sept 15 to find out the best techniques and areas to target and catch these special fish. We will be holding our annual election of officers for the club in Nov, and under the by-laws need to publicize the candidates for our members. Anyone who is interested and wants to volunteer can put their name in nomination for the position of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, or Board Member. The current list of candidates is as follows: President- Mike Buss, Vice President- Sam Davis, Treasurer- Kendall Osborne, Secretary- Mike LaHorner, Board Members: Larry Clemens, Ed Owens, Chris Burbage, Ron Russell, Kevin DuBois (Past President), Dave Dembecki, Scott Reppert, and two open Board positions. Kendall and Mike LaHorner have indicated they would like to turn over their duties to someone else, so we need to have some members step up to take over for them. Being a club officer is an excellent opportunity to help the club, but is also an excellent opportunity for you to make new friends and fishing companions. If any of you are interested in volunteering for any of these positions, please let me or any of the club officers know. Many of you have noticed our photo gallery on the web site, but we need your help with pictures to make this feature even more interesting. If you have videos please send them to Kendall Osborne and still pictures should be sent to Kevin DuBois. We are putting our plans together for our Annual Banquet and are asking our members if any of you would like to donate items for the bucket raffles. These items can include any fly fishing equipment or flies. Again, if you would like to donate something, let one of the officers

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Mike Buss, President; Ed Owens, Vice-President; Kendall Osborne, Treasurer;  
Mike Lahorner, Secretary; **MEMBERS AT LARGE:** Chris Burbage, Lawrence Clemens,  
Sam Davis, Dave Dembecki Spencer Hayes, Noel Horne, Scott Reppert, Ron Russell  
**IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT;** Kevin Du Bois

RED SKY AT MORNING....

## 2011 VCFA SHARK TRIP

The 2011 VCFA Shark trip saw some action in what ended up in some pretty rough conditions. Starting out, we made our way to the mouth of the bay, then about 5 miles off shore in three to four foot seas. When we arrived at our spot we put the chum bucket over (with some additional provided by the crew). During our wait we had a few pods of dolphin roll through. A couple of large schools of rays, then finally, the guest of honor - black tip sharks. First, we saw them at the bucket, then a hook up. I fished a light blue over white Clouser Minnow with a touch of flash and the shark slammed it! Next up was Sam Davis, he worked his fly near the sharks checking out the chum bucket and worked the fly patiently as a shark played with the fly, nosed it, then took it. Sam set the hook and it was game on.

Ed Palewzski, Ed Paceco, and David Jones made it out about an hour later. The seas



Sam Davis with his first black tip shark



Larry Clemens with the first black tip shark

were gnawing and reaching five feet and more. They headed in and we were not far behind. After all was done, we landed four black tip sharks, and one bluefish.

In the lessons learned department. We did almost everything in contrary to what we have been learning before making the trip. First, the seas were not calm, but the fish were visible. We hooked up on sharks near the bucket, but also letting the fly hand well behind the bucket and using short quick stripping action of the fly. We used flies with a little flash, and flies that had no flash. The water temperature

was 75 degrees on this trip and 74 the week after. In subsequent trips, we used the same techniques with generally calmer seas and had good success each time. The sharks have been plentiful and hungry to take the fly. The weekend after this trip we caught a large Galapagos shark and saw a five foot hammerhead caught by bait fisherman drifting a tideline. I netted the fish, but was not willing to handle them (I value all 10 fingers). Even the smaller sharks were aggressive and moved rather quickly. All in all it has been a good summer of fishing. As the leaves begin to fall and cooler nights (and days) prepare for winter and striped bass, I will look forward to next trip for another hookup with my new friends in the ocean.



Rough seas, but nice action!

# BOARD NOMINATIONS AND ELECTIONS

It is that time of the year where we put together a team to run the club over the next year. If you are interested in becoming a board member, please contact a current officer and let them know you are willing to serve. Without the dedication and work of the board, we would not have programs, and activities that are appreciated by all club members. If you have served, your help is always valuable. If you have not, your energy and commitment is just what we need to keep bringing new ideas and activities for everyone. Board meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at Bayside Presbyterian Church. You don't need experience, just a willingness to help the club and make a better experience for all our membership. You also can send a note to:

***VirginiaCoastalFlyAnglers@gmail.com*** to express your interest in becoming a board member.

The Fly Fishing Show 2012

SOMMERSET New Jersey

**JANUARY 27, 28, 29 2012**

Garden State Convention Center

[http://www.flyfishingshow.com/Somerset\\_\\_NJ.html](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](http://www.flyfishingshow.com/Raleigh__NC.html)

## *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**

## Presidents Message - continued from page 1

know. The next club fishing outing is our annual Harkers Island trip. We have the house from Oct 21 thru Nov 13 and there are openings almost every day. In fact, almost half of the spots are still available. If you want to sign up, let me know. Many of you may have noticed club members wearing shirts with the club logo along with their names on the shirts. We are close to an agreement with the local company that did this for us before and we should have an announcement about this soon. You can use shirts you already have for this and it was very popular and we anticipate it will be again. We should be entering the fall fishing season soon and that means large stripers will be showing up in our area in large numbers. You don't want to miss out on this exciting action, so if you are new to the area or haven't been able to take advantage of this action, be sure to ask a lot of questions at the club meeting. 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 on September 15!

**T**hanks again and tight lines to all, mike buss



A Lynnhaven Croaker caught by Sam Davis



Kevin Dubois getting some time on the Lynnhaven River