



Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers

FEBRUARY 2012

VISIT US AT VCFA.ORG

NEXT MEETING: February 16, 2012
"Fishing the Nottoway" with Ron Russell

FLY: Crazy Charlie



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Thanks again to all of you who attended the Club's Annual Banquet in January. We had a great turnout and everyone had a terrific time. The food was very good and a big thank you to all who attended and brought some really mouth-watering treats for all of us. We owe a great big thank you to Mike LaHorner and his wife Brenda who organized the whole show. Kevin DuBois put together a very nice montage of pictures for the program. Thanks Kevin and all of you who sent in pictures. Then we held what everyone was waiting for- the Raffles! And we had some very nice prizes for a lot of winners! I would ask all of you who won gift certificates for discount purchases to please see me at the next meeting so we can arrange for you to make your purchases. Fly Logic sent us a gift certificate for 40% off any of their products, and they make some nice fly rods and reels, and said we could make copies, so if any of you are planning to purchase a rod or reel in the coming months, this would be an excellent way to save money. I have an 8 weight Fly Logic rod and reel that I will have at the meeting for you to examine along with the gift certificates. This month, one of our own, Ron Russell, will be making a presentation on Fly Fishing the Nottoway. Ron knows this river like the back of his hand and will have some great info for us. The shad, by the way, should be running in the Nottoway toward the end of this month and Ron might even give us some of his secrets for fishing them! This weekend, February 10 through February 12, we will have a table at the Mid Atlantic Boat Show in Virginia Beach. We need some volunteers to help sit at our table and greet the public and give out information about our club, and you get in the show for free! If any of you have a few hours you could spare this weekend, please email me at mike4519@verizon.net and I can sign you up. We also will have a table at the Bass Pro Shops Spring Fishing Festival and we will have a sign-up sheet for that at the meeting. This fall one of our meetings will be devoted to a "Members Presents" forum for any of you to give a short mention of where you like to fish and how successful you have been. So be sure to take some pictures of your fishing trips this spring and summer. We will help you with putting the pictures together if necessary. We are also planning to have some technique and tackle presentations throughout the year during the hour before the start of our meetings. But we want to talk and demonstrate techniques that you want to learn about, so if you have some ideas about things you would like to learn more about, please send me an email at the above email address. We received a nice letter from Laurie Sorabella, Executive Director of Oyster Reef Keepers of Virginia, asking me to thank you all for our \$100 donation for oyster restoration. Thanks to her organization and many others, the local wa-

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Mike Buss, President; Sam Davis, Vice-President; Kendall Osborne, Treasurer; Larry Clemens, Secretary;

MEMBERS AT LARGE: Chris Burbage, Dave Dembicki, Andy Kallgren, Mike LaHorner, Ed Owens, Scott Reppert, Ron Russell, Kevin Du Bois, Immediate Past President

MONTH	SPEAKER/PROGRAM	FLY
JANUARY	DINNER	
FEBRUARY	FLY FISHING THE NOTTOWAY (RON RUSSELL)	CRAZY CHARLIE
MARCH	FLY FISHING THE CHESAPEAKE BAY (CHRIS NEWSOME)	SAM'S SHRIMP
APRIL	CHRIS BURBAGE "MOUNTAIN TROUT"	ADAMS DRY FLY
MAY	CAPTAIN DUBER WINTERS "SMALLMOUTH BASS"	TBA
JUNE	MARK SEDOTI	SEDOTI SLAMMER
JULY	KEVIN DU BOIS "BAHAMAS FLY FISHING"	MERKIN CRAB
AUGUST	CLUB PICNIC	NO FLY
SEPTEMBER	"MEMBERS PRESENT" AN OPEN FORUM	EPOXY MINNOW
OCTOBER	MIKE BUSS "HARKERS INSHORE"	WHITEBAIT MUSHY
NOVEMBER	MINI CLINIC	HALF AND HALF
DECEMBER		YAK HAIR STREAMER

ALL PROGRAMS AND SPEAKERS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers **MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL**

Date: _____ (dd/mm/yyyy)

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/S: _____

ADDRESS _____

City _____ STATE _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Please Circle:

New Member

Renewal

ters are becoming cleaner and cleaner. I would also like to remind everyone who hasn't already renewed that it is dues paying time again and the cost is still the same, \$30 per year and you can save a postage stamp and pay at any meeting. Larry and I attended the Fly Fishing Show in Somerset and while there heard that big stripers were still being caught off the South Jersey shore and that might mean we could have another wave of large stripers heading our way in the next few weeks. Big stripers have been caught all over the lower Bay and the nice weather has helped to keep them in our area. It might be worth a trip and be sure to take some pictures and post a report on our FaceBook page. Remember that it is catch and release only in the Bay and you have to stay inside the three mile limit off the Ocean Front. When you get out, just look for birds diving into the water and of course if you see a large grouping of boats, they are probably on to something! One last note, I would encourage all of you to release the big ladies you catch, the smaller fish are better eating and it gives the bigger fish, who carry many more eggs than the smaller fish, a chance to spawn this spring. I hope to see you all on February 15. Until then, thanks and tight lines to all!

Mike Buss



Mid Atlantic Boat Show

February 10 - 12

Yes, the boat show is this weekend and we still need help manning the VCFA table. If you have a few free hours, please contact Mike Buss immediately to volunteer. Mikes Email: mike4519@verizon.net

FISHING REPORTS



It's that time of year! A lot of folks dream of the winter striper run and the opportunity to get out and catch the "BIG ONE". This year, the weather has been very mild and when the wind is not blowing the temperatures are mild (a very different scenario from what the national weather bureau forecast in the spring). There have been some large fish caught, but the fleet of boats is enormous. We have drifted in the lane of over 500 boats trolling around us on the nicer days. So far, we have seen fish caught in the 50 pound class, have seen a whale jump completely out of the water. A whale laying on it's side pounding its 5 foot high flipper on the water as if it were waving good-bye. We have caught dogfish, trout, and Menhaden that were 15" long. Smaller stripers for us, but no lunkers yet. As we conclude the first week of February the fishing has been tough, but the weather has been nice enough to let us get out and try for a change. Nice after the past few years. Still have not found the "big one", but I will keep at it!



Sam Davis with a Dogfish, caught while looking for Stripers off Cape Henry on January 8



Sam Davis with a Menhaden



Mike Buss with an Ocean Striped Bass

ANNUAL BANQUET

This years banquet offered a very enjoyable time for everyone. We had 40 members attending with lots of food and over 20 raffle prizes. Mike LaHorner did a great job in organizing the event and coordinating the food. Mike Buss kept the evening moving along smoothly. Kevin Du Bois put together an excellent slide show of members fishing excursions over the year. They included shots from places near and far including Carl Allen's trip to Alaska and the Kallgrens (three year) trip to Scotland. Mike LaHorner was the recipient of the Presidents Award for his service to the VCFA. Many of our members contributed to the raffles by bringing items they created. Most notably was a quilted pillow that will be custom made by Amanda Davis and three gift baskets put together by Pat Hartline.

The drawing of raffles was full of laughs with Brenda LaHorner being the top winner with five to six winning tickets. There was a rock anchor that everyone kept "paying forward" until it was finally won by a member that was not present. It was truly a team effort and it was a lot of hard work that made the evening successful. I hope everyone can make it to next years banquet and join us for a good time.



Chris Burbage and Mike LaHorner setting up



Kevin Du Bois preparing and excellent slide show



Mike Buss offers the Presidents award to Mike LaHorner for his service to the VCFA throughout the year.



Having a good time!



Pat Hartline setting up raffles



Raffle galore, this is one contributed by Pat Hartline



Dinner is served



Flora Davis entering a raffle.



Plenty of Raffles



Ron Russell relaxing and having a good time



George Thomas checking his tickets