



Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers

December 2014

VISIT US AT VCFA.ORG

Happy New Year!

GREETINGS: This is an end of the year newsletter for the Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers to let you know of things past and upcoming plans. It was good to see everyone during the year at meetings and on the water, and I hope 2015 continues to bring more participation for all our members.

JANUARY:

As in past years, there will not be a general meeting in January. Instead we will hold our annual banquet on Saturday, January 17, 2015. It will be held in a different location this year - the Teppanyaki Grill & Buffet located at 7525 Tidewater Dr, Norfolk, VA 23505 (just off I-64)

This year you will pay the buffet dinner price to the restaurant upon entering (approximately \$15.00). Then go to the large banquet hall located inside the right rear corner of the building. There will be raffle items, plenty of food and variety (it is a buffet after all), and an evening with friends and fellow fly fishermen/women. We are putting together a slide retrospective of the past year, so if you have any pictures or short video you would like to include, please send them to **Dave Dembicki (dembickidm@gmail.com)** or **Larry Clemens (lawrenceclemens@gmail.com)**.

LOOKING AHEAD

In 2015 we are looking to try some interesting things. The board of directors is looking to book different guest speakers. Topics will include mostly saltwater, but will include our freshwater fisheries. We are encouraging different clubmembers to tie their go-to fly before each meeting. We are looking into trying a new idea for a club sponsored trip as well as the favored Harkers Island getaway in October of 2015, as well as other offerings to be discussed later.

As always it is your club and we want to provide with enjoyable meetings and events. If you have a suggestion for a speaker/meeting or idea for an event, or perhaps a fly of the month, let one of the board members know and we can pursue making it happen. You can also send an email to **VirginiaCoastalFlyAnglers@gmail.com**.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: President, Mike Buss; Vice President, Noel Horne; Treasurer, Dave Dembicki; Secretary, Larry Clemens

MEMBERS AT LARGE: Mike LaHorner, Kendal Osborne, Ed Owens, Ed Pacheco, Scott Reppert, Ron Russell

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Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers Annual Dinner Saturday, January 17, 2015

At the Teppanyaki Grill & Buffet located at 7525 Tidewater Dr, Norfolk, VA 23505 (just off I-64). We will start at 5:30PM and we have the space until 8:30 PM. The buffet dinner price is approximately \$15.50.

We have reserved the large banquet room located inside the right rear corner of the building. There will be raffle items, plenty of food and variety (it is a buffet after all), and an evening with friends and fellow fly fishermen/women. If you have pictures to submit for the video presentation, please sent them to **Dave Dembicki (dembickidm@gmail.com)** or **Larry Clemens (lawrenceclemens@gmail.com)**

If you will be attending please contact Dave Dembicki as he will be maintaining a list of those members and guests and would appreciate an early response (either as a reply to this e-mail or a phone call (757-465-9307 (H)).

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE

Hi again! It's been a while since my last President's Report so let me catch you up with what has been happening with the club and what we have planned in the next couple of months. But first I would like to wish all of you a very Happy New Year filled with lots of tight lines and bent rods! I hope Santa was kind to you and left some new toys under the tree for you to put to use in the coming year. Now about our upcoming year, we have a lot planned. First up is our annual banquet on Saturday, January 17, at the Tap-water Drive, Teppanyaki Grill and Buffet located at 7525 Tide-Norfolk 23505. You can find info about the banquet on the website and in this newsletter. But we do need any of you who have extra fly fishing or fly tying equipment you no longer use or need to consider donating it to the club for our raffles at the banquet. We are also looking for pictures of members out fishing this past year to use for our video presentation at the banquet. If you would like to participate in either of these efforts, please give me a call or send me an email. Next up on the schedule is our club shad trip to Fredericksburg in April. It's always a fun time and the fish usually cooperate. Then we have a sea trout wading trip planned for the Outer Banks in



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May/June. Then we will target some Cobia in the Bay and Ocean Front in June/July. Sharks are a favorite target for a lot of us and we plan to have a club trip for them in July/Aug. And, of course, we have our Harkers Island trip for Albies in October. This year we have the house from Friday night, October 16, through Sunday, October 31. The last couple of years have really been good down there and we hope to have the same type of luck again next year. If any of you have ideas for additional trips, please let one of the Board members know and we will try to put together the trip. In addition, if any of you have ideas for monthly meeting topics or speakers, let us know. We are already in the middle of the season for big stripers and there have been intermittent reports of some big ones caught, but you have to get out to have any luck at all. We have not had a good striper season for a couple of years, so we are due for a good one. Let's hope so! Don't forget membership dues are now due and if you pay your membership at the banquet, you get 5 free raffle tickets. The big stripers are starting to show, now we just need the weather to cooperate and the winds to lighten up and we will be able to get out after them. Again, Happy New Year! Tight lines to all! And I hope to see you all at the banquet. Mike Buss

GOT FISH?

If you do not own a boat, but would like to get out fishing. We are looking to start up a buddy boat program to get you on the water, The Skippers, depending on their skills may provide casting help if needed, real world rigging, fly selection, and hopefully catching fish. We know a lot of our members don't fish from a boat and would like to. This will be your opportunity to get out on the water. The captains may ask you to chip in for gas, but will not ask for a guide fee or anything above the basic operating and launching cost involved.

WHAT'S IN YOUR COOLER?

Over the past four years the number and quality of fish has steadily declined, particularly when you talk about Striped Bass. The Chesapeake Bay is one of the richest spawning grounds for these brutes and yet they are becoming more scarce. Sure, we hear of the occasional good catch, but last week there were over 300 boats fishing one of the local tournaments and only a dozen fish were noted to have been caught. This week brings the Rockfish Shootout. Another money making, fish killing event that promotes wholesale decimation of a once vibrant population. I envision that at the current rate of decimation, fishing may once again experience the bans and regulations brought about in the 1980's. Don't get me wrong we have had a couple of good nights on the water, with lots of fish. All were small 15-16 inch fish. That is a bright light into an otherwise bleak future. I hope the future shows a promising one full of high quality fish. Perhaps we can know more if global warming kicks in and keep the bay temperature above 40 degrees until late January. For now I will keep ice and water in my cooler. If I keep the occasional fish, it will go in the box for dinner. Most are returned without harm to the environment they live. Be fruitful and multiply!

SUPPORT THE VIRGINIA COASTAL FLY ANGLERS

You can support the Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers in several different ways. By renewing your membership, you can have access to all our meetings, trips and other activities throughout the year. Membership monies help to pay for our meeting location and business expenses. They also help defray the cost of our picnic and fly tying activities prior to the meetings. If so inclined, you can include an additional amount of your choosing to further the cause and help us afford top notch speaker for our meetings. If you have items that you would like to donate, new or gently used, we can accept them to use in club functions, or raffles to raise money to keep us going. Our membership fee is only \$30.00 for an annual family membership, so anything additional helps us provide better things for you!



BOBBY WHETSTINE



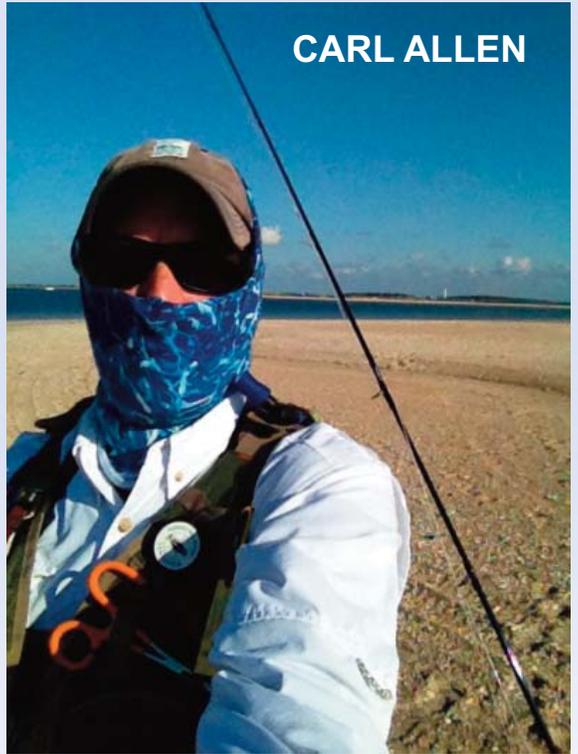
GREG BROWN



CARL ALLEN



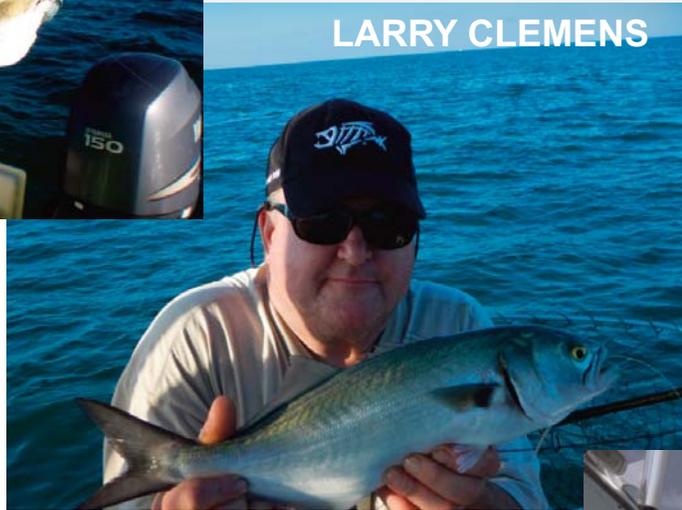
GREG BROWN



CARL ALLEN



REUBEN CHANDLER



LARRY CLEMENS



ED WALSH



MIKE BUSS

FLY FISHING SHOW SCHEDULE

SOMERSET, NJ

January 23, 24 & 25, 2015
Garden State Exhibit Center
50 Atrium Drive
Somerset, New Jersey 08873

Show Hours

Friday: 10am – 6pm
Saturday: 8:30am – 5:30pm
Sunday: 9am – 4:30pm

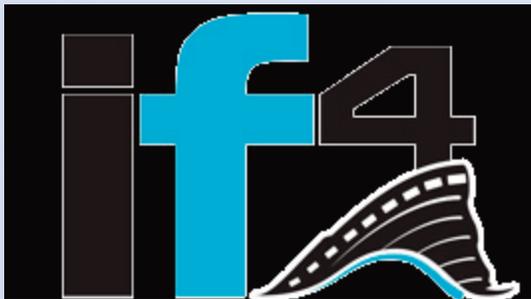
WINSTON-SALEM, NC

February 6 & 7, 2015

Benton Convention Center
301 West 5th Street
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Show Hours

Friday: 9am – 6:00pm
Saturday: 9am – 5:30pm



BACK AGAIN:

The International Fly Fishing Film Festival. One night only, Friday, January 23 at 6:30pm. \$15; \$10 in advance.

THE FLY FISHING Show

**Somerset, NJ
Garden State Exhibit Center
January 23, 24 and 25, 2015**

- ★ Shop for the newest tackle!
- ★ Book your next dream trip!
- ★ Watch tying and casting demos!
- ★ Learn from the experts!

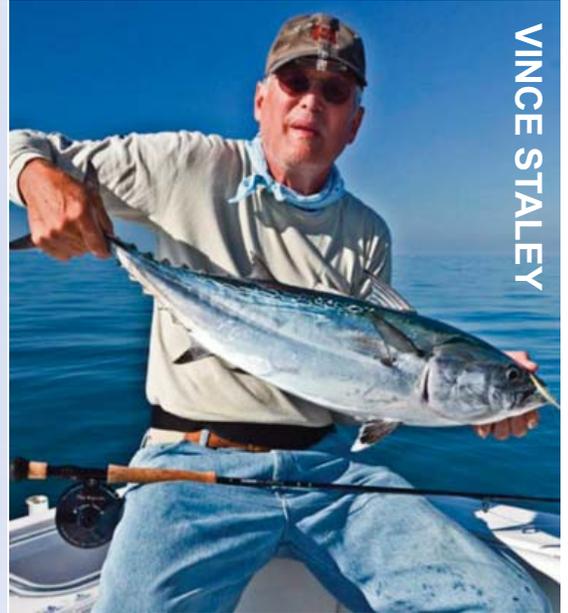
Incredible Door Prizes!
Each trip is for two or more anglers
Details on website.

FREE PARKING
flyfishingshow.com
FLY FISHING ISN'T PART OF THE SHOW. IT IS THE SHOW!

Photo courtesy of Bill Fennerson

HARKERS ISLAND 2015

Harkers Island is there year round, but Mike Buss rents the mansion for only two weeks. The dates for 2015 are October 16 - October 31, 2015. Contact Mike if you want to get on the list to reserve your space in the house. There is a strict limit of 10 persons per night.



VINCE STALEY



SUPPORT THE
VIRGINIA COASTAL FLY ANGLERS
RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY
OR AT THE DINNER

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