



Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers

NOVEMBER 2011

VISIT US AT VCFA.ORG

NEXT MEETING: November 17. General meeting will begin at 7:30. Members will give presentation on Regional Fall Fly Fishing. There will also be an update on the Harker's Island fishery for False Albacore

FLY OF THE MONTH: Popper



PRESIDENTS MESSAGE:

Thanks again to all of you who attended the October meeting where Andrew Stiles helped us all improve our casting stroke. I was unable to make the meeting as I was getting some sleep for the trip that evening down to Harkers Island, but I understand that Andrew did his usual great job. This month we will open the meeting up for anyone to talk about their fall fishing experiences. So if any of you have been out fishing and have been successful or even not so successful, we want to hear from both successful and un-

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have a short presentation of Island this year. In addition, cers and our board of di-

officers and the positions dent, Mike Buss, Vice Pres-

Kendall Osborne, and Sec- of Directors, Ed Owens, Mike Burbage, Dave Dembicki, Andy Reppert. If any of you would like to add your name to the list of nominees, just make that announcement at the meeting and your name will go into the election hat. We are in the process of putting together our list of speakers for the coming year and are open to suggestions. If you have someone you think would be of interest to the club, be sure to let us know. We are also putting our club trip list together and the same goes for that list. If you have a particular area you would like to fish and think there would be other club members who would also



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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 Dembicki Spencer Hayes, Noel Horne, Scott Reppert, Ron Russell **IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT;** Kevin Du Bois

Presidents Message - continued from page 1

have an interest in doing that, let us know and we will try to put together a trip. Don't forget to mark your calendar for Saturday, January 14, 2012, when we will have our annual banquet. We will be having it at the church again, just like last year. This year we have reduced the price from \$20 to \$10 per person and ask that everyone bring a dish. Mike LaHorner will be coordinating the dishes and will be sending out more information on that as we get closer to the event. We have reduced the price to encourage more participation and also to encourage you to bring a guest, plus it will leave more dollars for increased chances at the raffles! We have sent out letters to fly fishing manufacturers for donations, but we are also encouraging our members to donate items for the raffles. It can be anything you want to donate, flies, extra equipment, or anything you want. Also, we are putting together our "Year in Fly Fishing" pictures for presentation at the banquet. If you have any pictures you would want to show, please send them to Kevin DuBois. We are coming to the end of another year and I would like to send a reminder to all that club membership renewals will be coming due in the next few months. Dues are still \$30 for individual and family memberships and can be paid at any of our meetings. The fall fishing season is in full swing with lots of action available to all of us who can get out. That is if the wind will stop blowing and let us get out. At any rate, the big stripers are entering the Bay and now is the time to plan a trip, so contact a club member and get out, and, of course, be sure to post your results on our Facebook page along with some pictures! I hope to see you all on November 17. Until then, thanks and tight lines to all! Mike Buss



ANNUAL BANQUET

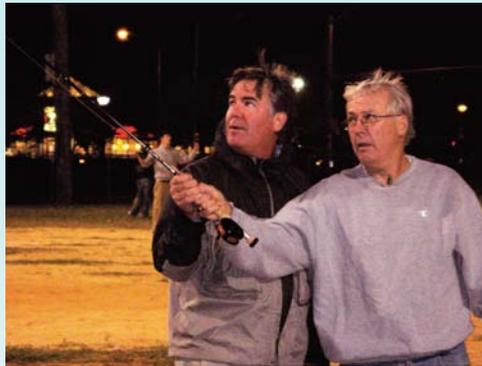
Our banquet is now on the books, it will take place on January 14, 2012 at Bayside Presbyterian Church. We will have a format similar to the 2011 banquet with club members bringing side dishes and main dishes provided. The cost will be \$10.00 per person (plus a side dish). We have lowered the cost in hopes to get more of you to come. **Bring your friends, and family - they don;t need to be a member or know how to flyfish!**

The event was very successful and popular this past year so we are sticking with it. Further details will follow in the next few newsletters, but mark the date now and plan to join us! We are already getting some nice raffle prizes, if you would like to donate something for the cause please contact Mike LaHorner at 2dwater@gmail.com. Remember, your support helps to provide funds for speakers and other activities through the year. Bring plenty of extra cash to spend on the raffles!

Kevin Du Boise will put a slide show together of events and fish through the past year. If you have a photo (or two ..) send them to Kevin at KevinDuBoisPhoto@gmail.com

Thanks again Andrew!

Andrew Stile's casting class was well attended last month with everyone having a lot of opportunity to get some one on one help with a certified FFF casting instructor. At the start of the clinic Andrew gave five principles of casting which are listed below. By paying attention to these guidelines, anyone can improve their ability with a fly rod



The Casting Coach...

Lefty Kreh - The Five Principles of Fly Casting

Principle Number One:

The rod is a flexible lever which moves through varying arc lengths depending upon the casting distance required.

Principle Number Two:

You can not make a cast until you get the end of the line moving; and on the back cast, the end of the line should be lifted from the surface of the water before the cast is made.

Principle Number Three:

The line and the fly are going to go in the direction in which you accelerate and stop the rod tip at the end of the cast.

Principle Number Four:

The size of the fly line loop is determined only by the distance that you accelerate the rod tip at the end of the cast. And the faster that you accelerate over that distance, combined with a quick stop, the farther the cast will travel.

Principle Number Five:

For long or more difficult casts, you will need to bring the rod well behind your body on the back cast. In order to do this, you should rotate your casting thumb away from its normal position on top of the rod about 45 degrees away from your body before initiating the back cast, and then take your forearm (never the wrist) straight back 180 degrees from the target.

FISHING REPORTS



November arrives with anticipation of a good year. There was a recent seasonal forecast suggesting a cooler winter due to “El Nina”. It has been three years since we experienced a mild winter that enticed the striped bass to hang around during the winter months. Though the forecast predicts about a two degree cooler season than last year, it indicates warmer temperatures than the 30 year average. Of course, they can’t usually get the day to day stuff right half the time Thus “partly sunny” or “partly cloudy” - isn’t that the same thing?. Is the glass “half empty” or “half full”?

If you like fishing for Speckled Trout, this is your year. The fish are plentiful, though most are under the legal size to keep. The Lynnhaven River is still producing a good number of fish with blues and other game mixed in. The Little Creek Jetty has also been a good spot to wade fish for Trout.

Stripers are showing up with some decent sized fish in the mix. I know a boat that trolled up six forty- pound fish in an hour early in the week. They also found a lot of smaller schoolie and some Bass in the twenty pound range.

Harkers Island produced some nice fishing when the weather cooperated. It was a mixed bag of nice drum being caught on Shackleford Island and Albacore caught from the hook to Atlantic Beach. Fishing between the blows was the most challenging part with five of the ten days being fishable. Mike Buss and David Hamilton took a day trip to Parker Boats on one of the days that Mother nature was acting up. The next page features some of the photos sent in by the guys on the trip.

Mike’s report at the end of the trip is as follows: Totals for the house were: 10 albies hooked and 9 landed with the largest 13 lbs (the one I am holding); 18 puppy drum hooked and 14 landed with largest 12 lbs; and 5 red drum over 30 lbs hooked and 0 landed. We were scheduled for 10 fishing days but only could get out for 5 days because of high winds and of the 5 days we got out, we had 3 good days, one for the red drum, one for puppy drum and one for the albies. We had 15 people stay at the house one time or another and 6 of them hooked or landed an albie. Of the other 9, 5 additional guys caught or hooked red drum and puppy drum, so 11 of the 15 hooked or landed decent fish during the trip. Even with the bad winds we had a pretty good time with lots of flies tied during the down time. Even got a personal tour from the owner of Jones Brothers Boat Co.

A blow day at Jones Brothers Boats



Donnie Jones John Hagan Mike Buss



Mike Buss with a nice Redfish

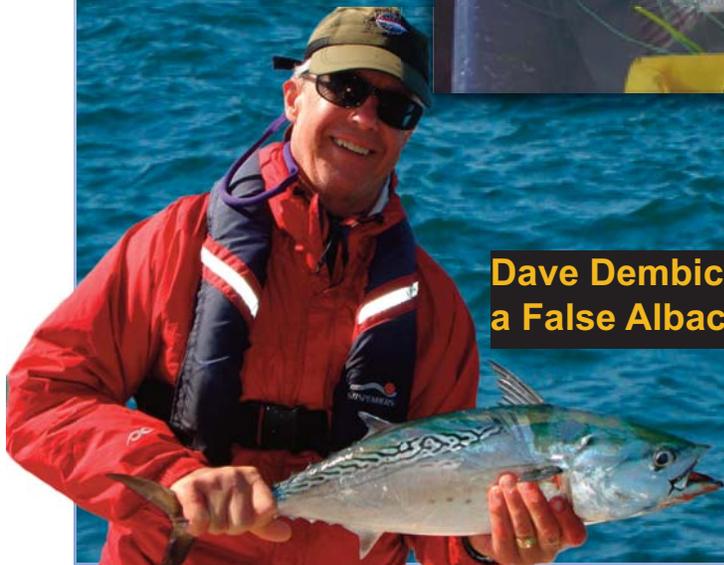
The Menu



Sam Davis - Black Drum



Dave Dembicki with a False Albacore



Biff with a Flounder

Nominations for the 2012 BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S

OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT: Mike Buss
VICE PRESIDENT: Sam Davis
TREASURER: Kendall Osborne
SECRETARY: Larry Clemens

MEMBERS AT LARGE

Chris Burbage, Dave Dembicki, Kevin DuBois
Andy Kalgren, Mike LaHorner, Ed Owens, Scott Reppert Ron Russell

**ELECTIONS WILL TAKE PLACE AT
THE NOVEMBER GENERAL MEETING**



FUTURE VCFA EVENTS

We are always in the process of planning events, trips and meeting topics that are of interest and valuable to all our members. The following is an outline of things we are working on and everything is subject to change as they are further developed

December 2011: General meeting featuring Lori Sorabella from the Oyster Reef Keepers of Virginia.

January 14, 2012: Annual Club Banquet. More details can be found in this newsletter

February 16, 2012: Captain Chris Newsome or Ron Russell (To be confirmed)

March 15, 2012: Captain Chris Newsome or Ron Russell (To be confirmed)

April 19, 2012: MEMBERS PRESENT. *This is your chance to give a presentation on a trip or anything fly fishing related that you would like to share. PLEASE consider participating. You can show two pictures (or more) and talk about your fishing adventure near or far! Contact*

Larry Clemens at VirginiaCoastalFlyAnglers@gmail.org to participate. We will help with all media items (video or print).

May 17 TBD

June 21 Mark Sedotti (to be confirmed)

WHAT DO YOU WANT?

What would you like to see from the club? As we plan our meetings and trips for next year we are soliciting feedback from you. What type of programs would you like to see? Are there particular celebrities you are interested in us pursuing for presentations? Is there a particular fly or technique you would like to learn? This is your opportunity to shape the club to your interest.

You can simply express your interest to any board member or email us at VirginiaCoastalFlyAnglers.org with your suggestions and we will take it from there. If you have a topic of interest that you would like to offer as a presentation, feel free to speak up. You don't have to be a professional guide or speaker. Share your recent fly fishing trip with photos and stories, there are many of us that are interested in hearing about them. Have a good trip fishing locally, take some photos and tell your fellow angler's all about it!

VirginiaCoastalFlyAngler@gmail.com
http://www.vcfa.org

RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

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**

To Whom It May Concern-

I wanted to take a moment to let you know about the Visioning initiative that the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council recently launched.

The Council manages fisheries in federal waters from New York down to North Carolina. This is an area of about 100,000 square miles that is used by millions of recreational fishermen. Species managed by the Council include summer flounder, bluefish, black sea bass, scup, spiny dogfish, and Atlantic mackerel.

Over the last three decades, the Council has worked through a challenging fisheries rebuilding process. We are at a point where the majority of our stocks are rebuilt, and we are reaching out to our stakeholders for their help and input as we develop a vision and long term strategic plan that will ensure productive fisheries for current fishermen and future generations to come.

We hope you will take some time to let us know your thoughts by completing our online survey(s), which can be found at <http://www.mafmc.org/vision/>. You and your members have an opportunity to complete a general survey as well as specific surveys for each of the species we manage. The surveys include questions like:

§ What do we want our fisheries to look like in five years, a decade, or even further into the future?

§ Which regulations have been proven effective and which are ineffective?

§ How can we do a better job of getting input from fishermen on an ongoing basis?

Please help us spread the word by reaching out to others in your organization (and/or affiliated organizations) who may have an interest in Mid-Atlantic fisheries. If you are able to place a message about this opportunity in your newsletter and/or website or send an email to your members, it will greatly help us achieve our goal of gathering input from as many recreational fishermen as possible throughout the region.

For your convenience and easy distribution, I have also attached a press release to this email. Feel free to call or email anytime with your thoughts or questions.

Sincerely,
Mary Clark
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Dover, DE 19901
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(302) 674-5399 (fax)