



# Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers

<http://www.vcfa.org> <https://www.facebook.com/VCFA.org>

## AUGUST 2023

We had a good spring with cooler than usual temperatures and dry conditions which made fishing opportunities plentiful, and there was an abundance of fish to be caught. With July came the summer heat and will remain with us for a while longer – August usually has some of the hottest days of the year. The dog days of summer requires us to yield caution for both us (the fisherman) and the fish. As the temperatures stay high and the nights don't cool down too much, the water temperatures soar and that means the fishery can be tough on those finned friends that we catch. PLEASE, exercise good habits when catching fish. If you plan to release it, get it in fast, don't prolong the fight and tire the fish out. When you get it to the boat, try to release it in the water without handling it. If you do have to bring the fish in the boat to get a picture or remove a deep-set hook, do it as quickly as possible. The more stress you put on a fish, the lower the survival rate and this is even more critical in the hot summer months. Our fishery in the Chesapeake Bay and Hampton Roads has a lot to offer in variety, and quality as a fishery. It also takes a beating from us as fisherman. We need to consider the resource and protect it every way possible. That can start with a good practice of catch and safe-release for the fish you do not intend to keep.

If you have not noticed, Chris Viano has organized a club fishing tournament that began in the beginning of the year. It is a friendly competition that will

not offer a spot in the Wide World of Sports hall of fame or a guest spot on the local fishing circuit. It is meant to be fun and a challenge to target specific fish and provide a motivation to get on the water and fish. Please take advantage of the challenge and put some lines in the water. Take some pictures for the newsletter and dinner slideshow presentation. The experience is meant to improve your skills as a caster and thus a fisherman (or woman). There will be club recognition and small prizes for the leaders in each category at the annual dinner. Let's get out, wet your lines and put some numbers (and pictures) on the board.

Our August meeting will be an event we have not have for a long while. We will have an equipment buy, sell or trade! You can bring in your used gear that is no longer being used

and sell it or trade with other members. Items can include anything fly fishing related – fly rods and reels, waders, fly tying materials and tools, flies. You name it, you can put it up. It is a good way to make a couple of bucks on those dusty items that are not used, and give others a chance to pick up some gear that they can use for a reasonable price. All items will be individual agreements and transactions that are not directly sponsored by the club. Please come and make use of the evening. Who knows, you may go home with that rod outfit you have been looking for!

Get out and catch some fish, take a fellow member fishing and have a good time on the water.

Presidents message continued on next page

---

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Lawrence Clemens, President: Vice-President, OPEN: Treasurer, OPEN: Secretary, Lee Owen and Jim Saddler: MEMBERS AT LARGE: Carl Allen, David Dembicki, Gary Green, Mark Kirkby, Chris Malgee, Chris Viano

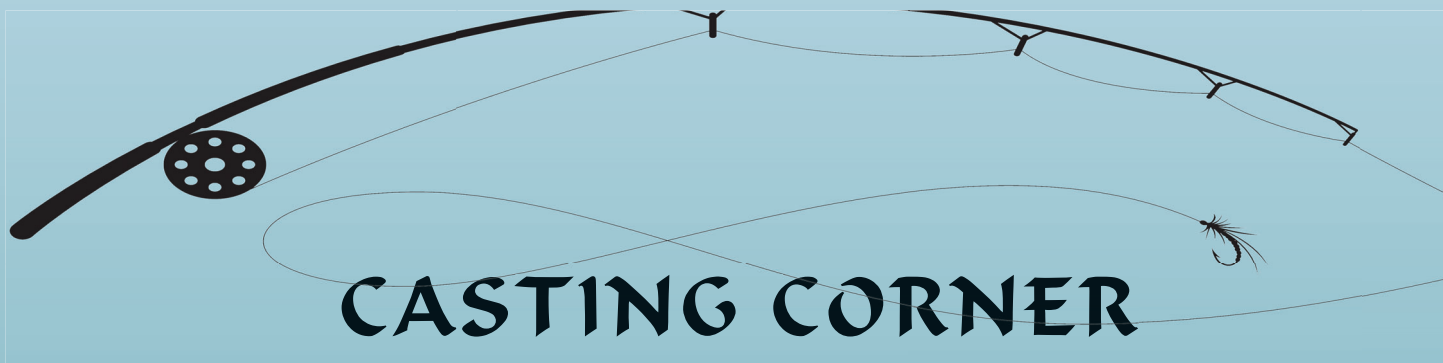
Remember that we are all in the club to improve our skills and sharing our abilities with our fellow anglers is a good way to foster friendships and help each other become better anglers.

---



## VCFA LOGO AND NAME EMBROIDERY

Do you have a shirt that you would like to have embroidered with our logo and your name. We have worked out a deal with a AARD-ALTUF to provide us with logo and name embroidered on your shirt. There is a cost for the service. The logo is \$13.00 and your name is \$7.00 (\$20.00 for both). Bring your new (or cleaned) shirt and money to the meeting in August and you will have it returned at the September meeting.



This issue we explore a topic that is often requested - knots. You only need to know relatively few knots on the water for fly fishing. I generally use a nail knot for everything except tying the fly to the tippet. The I incorporate a perfection loop, or an improved cinch knot. Once in a while I might try a new knot just to get familiar with it or see if it is easier to tie, but I always end up using the same tried and true knots for me. This site has been around for a while and is very useful in learning the basics and more. Find and master your favorite knot and be confident that your equipment will hold up for that fish of a lifetime.

A great animated site that covers almost any knot you need to know.

<https://www.animatedknots.com/fishing-knots>

How to choose the right fly rod for your fishing needs

<https://guiderecommended.com/how-select-fly-fishing-rod/>

How to improve your casting accuracy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zjDAcSV8870>

Orvis: Fly casting accuracy

<https://www.google.com/search?client=firefox-b-1-d&q=Fly+casting+accuracy#fpstate=ive&vld=cid:c891e440,vid:itMVJdsjtVg>



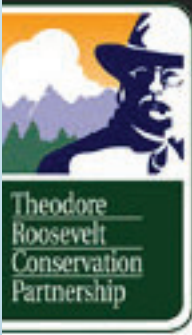
# AUGUST GENERAL MEETING

## BUY SELL TRADE

For our August general meeting, we will hold a flea market of sorts. A popular event in the past offers the opportunity for members and non-members to sell used equipment that you no longer have need of. Perhaps you have a few extra fly rods or reels, some excess tying equipment (materials or tools), waders, vests ... you name it. If it is part of our fly-fishing culture, it is game. I will be a chance to clean out your closet and for fellow members to pick up a needed item for a fair price. Items that are bought and sold are between the parties agreeing to the deal and the Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers will have no dealing with the agreement and is not responsible for issues that arise from a purchase. Bring your gear, bring your cash, do some bartering and get some things you want and need. There will be a door prize, a bamboo rod (needs some TLC) donated by Ed Pacecho

## SCENES FROM THE JULY MEETING:





# TAKE ACTION

## **STOP** INDUSTRIAL MENHADEN FISHING DAMAGE TO CHESAPEAKE BAY



Jaclyn, we need your help to bring back striped bass and protect the Chesapeake Bay.

The public has three weeks to officially comment on each of two petitions in Virginia to protect Bay health from menhaden reduction fishing, and safeguard the striped bass, red drum, and other fish and wildlife that depend on this critical forage fish.

The industrial menhaden fishery currently uses purse seine nets that extend deeper than the actual bottom depth of much of the Bay, damaging seagrass habitats while preventing the escape of gamefish that feed on menhaden. The fish are sucked into the mothership while the resultant nutrient-laden, oxygen-deprived, contaminated water is discharged overboard.

To protect Virginia's nearshore habitat and sportfish populations, TRCP is gathering and submitting comments from those in support of petitions to better regulate these actions. The reduction fishing industry is harming the largest striped bass nursery on the East Coast. To make your voice heard, take action at the link below.

Take Action Now →

**[TAKE ACTION NOW](#)**  
**[\(CLICK\)](#)**

I appreciate your voice in this effort to protect the Bay, our fishing opportunities, and coastal businesses in the region.

Sincerely,

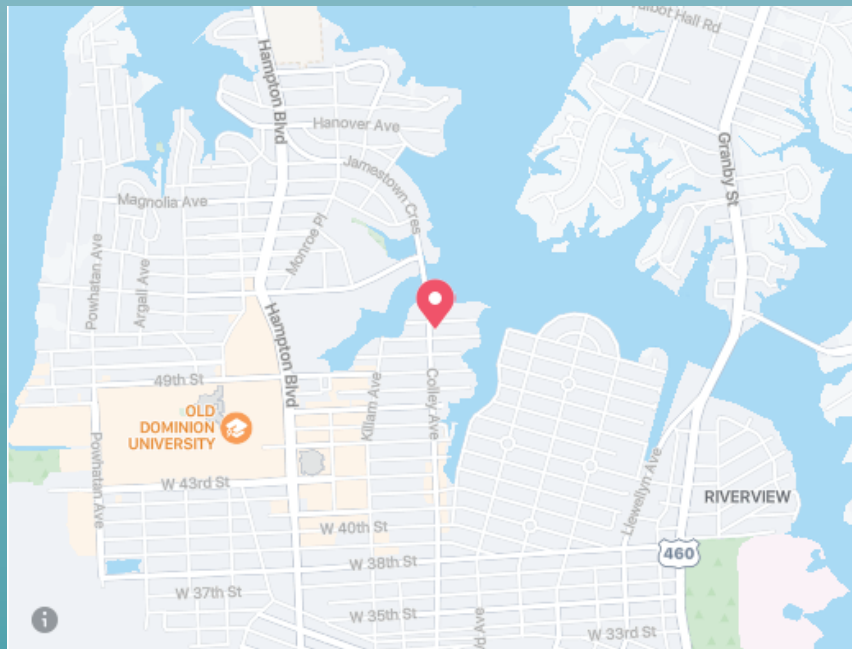
Jaclyn Higgins  
TRCP Forage Fish Program Manager



# MOSSY CREEK FLY SHOP ON WHEELS

On Sunday, August 13, 2023 Mossy Creek Fly Shop will be at Elation Brewery in Norfolk. The Mobile Fly Shop will be on location with lots of fly-fishing gear and equipment. There will also be free casting lessons, casting tune ups, folks to answer any questions you may have about gear and just chat about fly fishing. The VCFA will participate by tying flies and help to provide you with local fishing information and tips. Project Healing Waters participants will also be present building rods and providing information about the organization. The event will kick off at 12:00 pm so please plant to join us for what should be a fun event!

**Elation Brewery:  
5104 Colley Avenue  
Norfolk, VA**



# VCFA FISHING TOURNAMENT

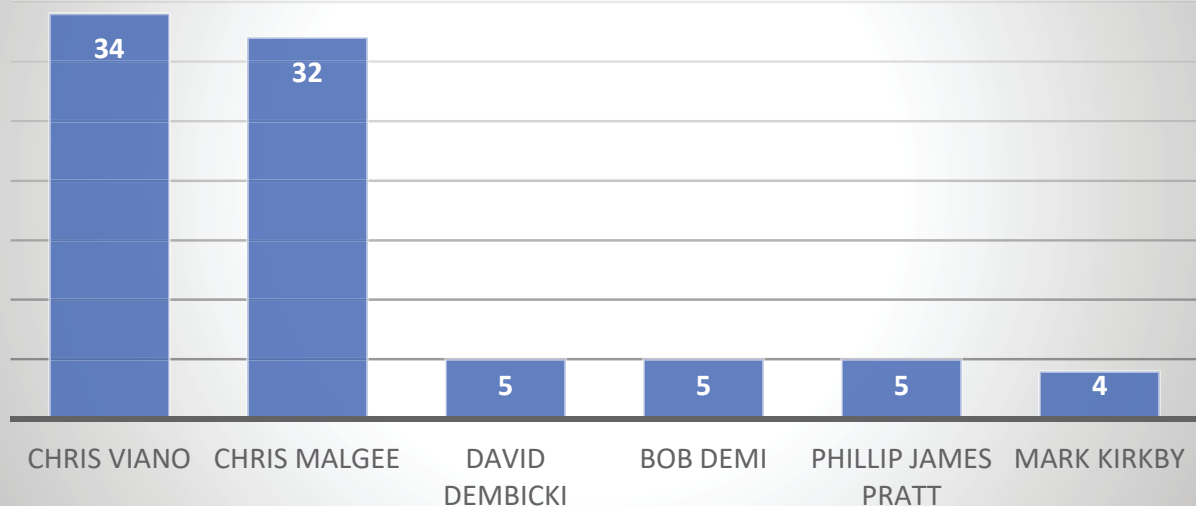
Each month will be a specific fish as listed below. Where listed as a club vote, we as a club will vote at the prior month's meeting for which fish we intend to seek. Points are also listed below with extra points awarded for citation size fish. You may register as many citation size fish for points as you catch for the month. We will grade by length so all fish must be pictured with an accurate measurement. In the event of a questionable picture or matching size fish, 3 members of the VCFA will decide the length. Members will be chosen at random to ensure fairness. This is for fun, and we are an honest group with integrity.

In the event of a tie for length, points will be awarded by time of entry. Please post pictures to VCFA going fishing page and to email to VirginiaCoastalFlyAnglers@gmail.com. If you do not have access to a computer, Facebook etc..., bring your photos to the monthly meeting. This should give us plenty of pictures to compose for our annual banquet. GOOD LUCK and GET FISHING!

<del>JANUARY: BRIM</del>	<del>FEBRUARY: PICKEREL</del>	<del>MARCH: BUCKETMOUTH</del>	<del>APRIL: SHAD</del>
<del>MAY: BLUEFISH</del>	<del>JUNE: CLUB VOTE</del>	<del>JULY: ANY SPECIES</del>	AUGUST: SPANISH MACK
SEPTEMBER: REDFISH	OCTOBER: SPECK. TROUT	NOVEMBER: CLUB VOTE	DECEMBER: STRIPER

- 1st Place = 5 points
- 2nd Place = 4 points
- 3rd Place = 3 points
- 4th place = 2 point
- Any entry not placed = 1 point
- Citation fish = 5 points

## August Standings







Chris Malgee: entry for fishing contest - REDFISH

Chris Malgee: entry for fishing contest - BLUEFISH



Chris Malgee: entry for fishing contest - STRIPED BASS



Larry Clemens:  
Pike



Thomas Carlin:  
Largemouth Bass



# Harkers Island 2023

## **GET YOUR SPOT RESERVED NOW!**

Mike Buss has once again rented the house on Pintail Lane in Harker's Island for False Albacore. The dates are October 13 through November 11. Traditionally, this is prime time for the fish to be running and you can also have opportunities of catching other species such as Bull Drum, Spanish Mackerel, Bluefish, and a host of others. The cost is \$35.00 per night, plus a share of the cost for dinner and boat cost. If you do not have a boat, we will pair you up with a captain who has room for an extra person, and you would chip in for the fuel cost on that day's excursion. The house is large with full amenities, kitchen, living room, 4 bedrooms and a common room upstairs that is used as another bedroom. There are 7 beds, two cots and two couches (and my favorite reclining chair). The view is beautiful with a deck on the back overlooking the river behind the house and the bay. If you are interested, contact Mike Buss at [mike4519@verizon.net](mailto:mike4519@verizon.net). He will be keeping track of room availabilities, boats, etc... This has been a VCFA staple and fun time on and off the water for over 20 years.





# VIRGINIA COASTAL FLY ANGLERS MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERSHIP

DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

RENEWAL

M          D          Y

You can now join or renew your membership online by clicking the secure link listed below:

<https://www.cognitofrms.com/VirginiaCoastalFlyAnglersInc/VCFAMembershipForm>

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 any meeting, or mail it to our club treasurer at VCFA, P.O, BOX 2866, VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23450-2866.

NAME/S \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_w\_\_\_\_\_

This was the church at our July meeting just after the showers ended!

