



Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers

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

NOVEMBER 2023

As November goes, we look toward the end of the year and begin the outlook for the new. With our November general meeting, it is our last for the year (we traditionally skip December due to the holidays and all the festivities that surround them). For us, November means voting on the next slate of officers and directors to help keep the club going. There is not much change from this year, so things will continue on. We do face a crossroads for the club as there seems to be a lack of interest in new faces wanting to jump on board and help direct us into the future. The current Board of Directors has served for several years without any real change. Fortunately, it is a good group of dedicated members leading the club ever forward.

We have a good budget as our expenses have been kept in relative control, and few expenses to have to drain our resources. Some of that will change this year, but it should still be manageable. We will have to get our website updated as there has been not webmaster or changes over the past two years. We will also need to get outside financial support to handle the treasurer duties as that position is not filled. We are looking into guest presenters, but they are getting more difficult to solicit due to travel cost and speaking fees. All that said, we have a lot of local talent and many club members with experience who are always willing to step up and give presentations as we need



them. We keep busy with our FF101 classes and have been kicking around the notion of having a Fly-Fishing Family Day. A full day event that would take place in Virginia Beach inviting the public to come and learn about fly fishing through club sponsored events for the family, have hot dogs, and maybe some presentations on fishing. Casting and Tying for the kids and adults would also be continuous salivate their interest. As we are in the planning stages to identify locations, dates etc, we will certainly keep you abreast of anything that develops in this special

event and likely ask for your help to make it a success.

The first event of the new year is our annual dinner. It is being planned for January 20 and will again be held at the Sir Izaak Walton League in Chesapeake, Virginia. We hope you will mark your calendar and plan to join us for the evening. Last year was one of the best and the facility is terrific! We are looking for items to use for our bucket raffles. If you have gently used equipment that you are looking to downsize, please consider donating it the club for the raffles. This is our big fundraiser for the year and helps to pay for the use of the church, speakers, education programs and other operational cost that we incur over the year. As we line up our meetings, your feedback is always desired. Let us know of the things you want to see and hear, flies you would like tied, trips and other events you would like us

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

to consider. The club is more valuable to you, if it offers you the things you want!

Things Change! Unfortunately, Mike had to cancel the Harker's Island house reservation due to a lack of people signing up. The fee for the house is expensive and there needed to be a minimum number of people signed up for him to avoid losing money (which he often did). This year the loss would have been too great, so he pulled the plug. After more than twenty years a club staple has ended, or maybe paused. Mike said he would put out feelers at the beginning of the year to see if there is more of an interest after a year break. The house was a great location, extremely comfortable and certainly an affordable way to experience a wonderful fishery. It was as much a nice getaway vacation as it was an enjoyable time on the water.

As for me. I will serve as the president one more time in hopes that someone will step up and take over the reins. This is my twenty third year serving on the board (five as president). There needs to be new blood, fresh ideas and momentum. The VCFA has meant a lot to me personally and helped me get through some really rough times in my life. I have made lifelong friends and love the comradery that has surrounded me over the years. I continually learn from everyone! My fishing knowledge and experience is always being expanded by the new things I learn, the old things I have forgotten, and am reminded of. It is my hope that the club continues for a long time to come, but that is up to those who will step up and lead the charge and turn the page to the next chapter. Like Harker's' Island, all good things eventually end and I hope this will not be the end of the Club. Time will tell, lets have a productive year and look for the good times.



PLEASE CONSIDER: If you have any new or gently used Fly Fishing gear (or anything really) that you can donate to the club for our Banquet Raffles, please consider it. The monies we generate from the raffles pay the club's expenses throughout the year

Proposed Board of Director's for 2024

OFFICERS

President: Lawrence Clemens

Vice-President: John Adametz

Treasurer: Gordon Meeks

Secretary: Lee Owens and Jim Saddler

BOARD AT LARGE

Carl Allen

Dave Dembicki

Mark Kirkby

Chris Malgee

Ed Pacheco

Chris Viano

An "off" year for juvenile striped bass in Virginia

https://www.vims.edu/newsandevents/topstories/2023/sbss_2023.php?fbclid=IwAR1DhnLQvs39EM61tzih-fl_tVIN5UbgIzOa1mp6Ud41zH0PtaQCmcPM25ks

The link above will direct you to an article published by VIMS. It shows the continued downward spiral of the Striped Bass spawning statistics. It has been a long continual trend for the species and if it continues, striped bass fishing may be all but over. Maryland's stock assessment was also below the historical average. On the bright side, the numbers were higher than the record lows of the 80's.



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!**

~~JANUARY:
BRIM~~

~~FEBRUARY:
PICKEREL~~

~~MARCH:
BUCKETMOUTH~~

~~APRIL:
SHAD~~

~~MAY:
BLUEFISH~~

~~JUNE:
CLUB VOTE~~

~~JULY:
CLUB VOTE~~

~~AUGUST:
SPANISH MACK.~~

~~SEPTEMBER:
REDFISH~~

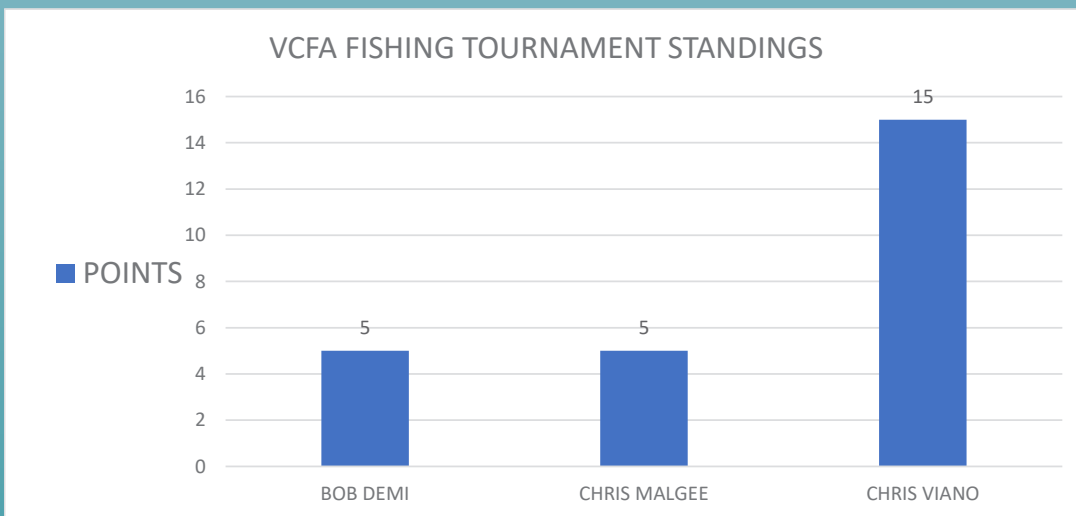
~~OCTOBER:
SPECK. TROUT~~

NOVEMBER:
FALSE ALBACORE

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

BOB DEMI	5
CHRIS MALGEE	5
CHRIS VIANO	15





Ed Pacheco with a Redfish

Kevin Dubois with a blackfish



Ed Pacheco with a Striped Bass

Larry Clemens with a Striped Bass
caught in Boston Harbor

Kevin Dubois, Speckled Trout



Fly Fishing with a Sinking Line

November 2023

Knowing how to cast and fish intermediate, sink tips and full sinking lines provides great opportunities to reach fish otherwise not possible, especially as the weather and water temperatures get colder. This article provides some tips and steps that will help you catch more fish.

Lesson #1: you don't not have to be a great caster to catch fish. Improving casting skills enables you to reach more fish and increases catch success rate!

Okay, so what is different about sinking lines? Well, first (spoiler alert) they sink.....you are not going to be able to pick up the line when it is under water. Second, they are dense, so easier to load the rod, and third, they have a small diameter, which helps cut through the wind.

Some tips:

Safety first. Protect your head, body and eyes by considering wind direction/speed. Hooking yourself, buddy, or guide does not count as a fish catch!

Consider strategy based on tides, current, water depth, where you believe the fish will be, and select gear accordingly, ex. type of line and sink rate

Adjust retrieve and depth to match fish behavior

Strip line and lift to get the fly near the surface, then use a roll cast pick-up

Here's the sequence.

Strip line off the reel to the distance you desire to cast

If on a boat or kayak, keep the stripped line out the water. If wading, consider a stripping basket

Extend the amount of line passed the rod tip that you can comfortably lift out of the water to the nail knot, or further for long leaders with heavy flies. To initially extend the line beyond the rod tip, you can use a roll cast or by moving the rod tip back and forth horizontally with the rod tip pointed at the water, letting the line slide out through the rod guides

Roll cast to straighten the line in front of you

As soon as the roll casted, straightened line touches the water, start your back cast

Shoot line to the distance desired, minimizing the number of false casts...remember, that line is heavy!

Let line/fly sink to desired depth and strip to match food and fish behavior

Repeat step 3 - 7 above

Lesson #2: there are no fish in the air. Exquisite loops warm my heart, but you won't catch fish when the fly is out of the water!

Lastly, remember, "Any day fishing is a great day! Any fish caught is a great fish!" Tight Lines!

John Adametz is passionate about fly fishing and is a credentialed Master Casting Instructor with Fly Fishers International. He is a member of Virginia Coastal Fly Anglers club where he volunteers as Vice President and Casting Chair and is the Founder of Adametz Fly Fishing Academy. Contact information: john.adametz@gmail.com, cell 240.818.6787

FRIENDS OF THE VCFA

PLEASE SUPPORT THE FOLOWING WHO ARE SO GENEROUS IN SUPPORTING THE VIRGINIA COASTAL FLY ANGLERS. THERE GENEROSITY HELPS US TO FUND OUR MEEETINGS, TYING CLASSES AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

Temple Fork Outfitters

<https://tforods.com/>

TFO. The Original Rod Company to offer the right tools at a sound price



SPEC FEVER GUIDE SERVICE

<https://specfever.com/>

Office (no text)
1-(252)-249-1520



A NC fishing charter owned and operated by Captain Gary Dubiel fishing from Oriental, New Bern and Beaufort

Spec Fever Guide Service
PO BOX 1029, Oriental, NC

CAPTAIN CHRIS MALGEE

(757) 403-2045

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<http://www.vbbackwater.com>



CAPTAIN WAYNE MACMASTERS



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OCEANS EAST BAIT AND TACKLE



VIRGINIA BEACH

(757) 464-6544

3785 NORTHAMPTON BOULEVARD
VIRGINIA BEACH, VA 23455

NAGS HEAD

(252) 441-7413

7405 S. VIRGINIA DARE TRAIL
NAGS HEAD, NC 27959

EASTERN SHORE

(757) 331-3000

28316 LANKFORD HWAY
CAPEVILLE, VA 23313

VIRGINIA COASTAL FLY ANGLERS MEMBERSHIP

NEW MEMBERSHIP

DATE: _____/_____/_____

RENEWAL

M D Y

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.

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

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

NAME/S _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

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