



VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB

EST. 1961

February/March 2024

Asher Broughton holds a 55-0 blue catfish that he caught on 8-general. Proud dad, Bobby, assists in holding the monster. WOW!!!



SCALE CERTIFICATION

February is scale certification month! **Bring your scales to the February membership meeting!**

Before you arrive replace batteries in all digital scales. Remove the certification tags from the scales and put your scales and cert tags in a ziplock bag with your NAME on the bag. The magic will happen during the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 27th

Doors open at 6pm and meeting starts at 7pm sharp.

Our guest speaker is **Dr. Eric J. Hilton**, Professor and Chair, Natural Resources Curator, Nunnally Ichthyology Collection Virginia Institute of Marine Science, William & Mary. Eric will be sharing a program on the "Framework for recovery of the American Shad in the James River".

Meeting location: Department of Wildlife Resources
Headquarters, DWR Headquarters Boardroom,
7870 Villa Park Dr. #400, Richmond, VA 23228

President's Message

Scams and Goals

Welcome to a new year of angling adventures with the Virginia Anglers Club. Already, the Leader Board is populating with outstanding catches.

The President's Cup is already going to be a difficult award to wrestle out of the hands of Brent Boshier with a 33-pound carp on 8-pound spin. And did you see the catch by Asher Broughton? A 55-pound catfish on 8-pound test. Incredible accomplishments for our youth division! We are already off to an exciting year considering that the warmer months of Spring are still weeks away.

Scams – A few days ago, Bob Brown received a fraudulent e-mail, as if from me, stating that I was stranded in Hawaii and needed funds to get home. The e-mail indicated that Bob was the only one that I could trust to help me to secure my safe return home. The scammers requested that Bob purchase \$1000.00 in E-Bay gift cards which Bob quickly did.

When Bob returned home, he was instructed to provide the scammers with the activation codes for the cards and that is when Bob realized that something was not quite right and he quickly avoided completing the scam.

I then began getting telephone calls from other VAC members as well as a call from Bob himself and I was able to confirm that I was not stranded in Hawaii and that Bob was almost the victim of a scam. I share this story for two reasons.

- 1) Please be on the alert for these types of scams.
- 2) More importantly – I share this story to point out something outstanding about Bob Brown and the Virginia Anglers Club.

Up until the time of this scam, I had met Bob only casually at VAC membership meetings. I had never fished with him, or had dinner with him. I had probably said less than 10 words to him until this time.

None-the-less, after hearing that a fellow Virginia Anglers Club member was in trouble Bob was willing to go out immediately and put up \$1000.00 of his own money to help me out. The only connection that Bob and I had had was membership in the Virginia Anglers Club. That speaks volumes of the character of Bob Brown. Bob was selfless, kind, and immediate in his pursuit to help a fellow VAC member. This is the kind of club that we all belong to

There is a special bond that fishing creates in each of us. Fishing with another person is often how you develop life-time friendships of the caliber that does not happen in most other social environments. And it is with that experience that I enter into my first year as President of the Virginia Anglers Club. I am immediately humbled at Bob's kindness and also reassured that I am involved in one of the most special clubs the State of Virginia has to offer.

Goals - In a club like the VAC there are so many opportunities to set goals and attempt to make your way to the leader board. It is a fun ride home from a successful fishing trip knowing that you get to submit a card that will put your name next to the heaviest species of fish or obtain the highest number of points for a particular species of fish.

There is frustration and fun in seeing someone bump you from the leader board because it gives you an opportunity to go fishing once again, in order to re-establish your position on the leader board, *(at least that's what I tell my wife)*. That type of competition is just good for your soul.

So, what are your goals for this year in the Virginia Anglers Club?

For me, I have a single goal this year. I would like to catch a citation crappie. Not necessarily a high point fish but just a citation crappie. For many of you, that may not seem like a very large goal. But for me, it is huge goal since I tend to spend the majority of my time fishing for largemouth bass.

So, here's the rub... With your goal in mind (whatever it is) and my goal to catch a citation crappie, how can we help each other in the year 2024 to accomplish those goals through the VAC?

I realize for me, to catch a citation crappie, I will need to do the following things within the VAC:

- 1) State my goal (or goals) to the membership.
- 2) Gain information from other members about how, when and where to obtain that goal.
- 3) Possibly spend time fishing with a member that I may have never fished with in order to obtain that goal

I am suggesting that we all begin taking those 3 steps at the February Membership meeting and take the time to state your goals to the rest of the membership and then begin to communicate with other members about how you can help them to achieve their goals and how they can help you to achieve yours.

To aid with all of this, we are emphasizing the use of our existing Facebook page. You can post some of your goals there and also post trips that you are taking that may have room for another club member to join in on.

I am looking forward to a great year of achieving personal goals and fishing with new members and the stories that will come from that.

Clifford Phipps

President
The Virginia Angler's Club

Virginia Angler's Club Leadership Team

Officers			
President	Clifford Phipps	pepsicliff@sbcglobal.net	(714) 904-8064
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Website Assistant	Lee Huss	thussjr@yahoo.com	(757) 651-6913

Up-Coming Member Meetings & Speakers

May 28 - **Shenandoah Smallmouth Bass and Propagation**

Presented by J. Gallagher & K. Chestnut-Faul

Jun 25 - Musky Mortality Study

Presented by Cory Bauerlien

Aug 22 - **Stories about My Uncle, Joe Brooks**

Presented by Michael Brooks

Sep 24- **Leveraging VA State Park Resources & other VA fishing opportunities**, Meeting Presented by Diego Riffle

Angling Rule Change - Carter Clevinger

There has been a change in IGFA rules.

IGFA World Record Categories

General Information

IGFA maintains world records for both freshwater and saltwater game fish in All-Tackle, All-Tackle Length, Line Class, Tippet Class and Junior and Smallfry categories. In order to qualify for a record, a catch must be a minimum of .453 kilograms (1 pound) in weight, and must outweigh the existing record by the required amount or meet the minimum weight requirement for vacant records.

No applications will be accepted for fish caught in hatchery waters, sanctuaries or small bodies of water that are stocked with fish for commercial purposes. The intent of this rule shall prevail and IGFA retains the right to determine its applicability on a case-by-case basis. The catch must not be at variance with any laws or regulations governing recreational catch or harvest of the species or waters in which it is caught.

Conservation & Legislation - Chris Dollar

VA General Assembly nixes MENHADEN study bill

Virginia lawmakers approved a bill to design a study methodology for menhaden research. It estimates the study will take several years and cost \$2.6 million. (Adobe Stock)

author Edwin J. Viera, Producer

Friday, February 9, 2024

Virginia's General Assembly has killed legislation to address the declining menhaden population.

The tiny forage fish are an important part of the food chain for sea life and a source of nutrients for people. The bill would have authorized a study of the reduction in menhaden across the Chesapeake Bay. A version of the bill last year was watered down to form only a study methodology.

Jaclyn Higgins, forage fish program manager for the Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership, said along with ecological effects, the study would have focused on commercial fishing's effects.

"They were going to look at different impacts, like effort patterns," Higgins explained. "Where the more concentrated effort of the menhaden reduction industry is within the bay, if that contributes to localized depletion of menhaden in the Chesapeake Bay during the season."

The study would also have included economic impacts. Although the bill failed, two others are moving swiftly. Both would provide special protections for commercial fishing vessels, even for industrial menhaden boats. These are being met with opposition, since they could lead to even lower menhaden populations in the bay.

Chris Dollar, owner of Tackle Cove Sport Fishing, thinks the study should go forward, since it is designed to be a fair assessment of menhaden populations.

"Let the VIMS scientists, Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences, do their work," Dollar urged. "Do the sound science that will fill in the knowledge gaps about whether or not menhaden populations are at a level that can sustain the industrial harvest."

Other actions are being taken to fight for menhaden. Last May, the Chesapeake Legal Alliance filed a lawsuit challenging the Virginia Marine Resources Commission's standards on menhaden harvesting. The proposed regulations would have pushed the operations away from the shores of Chesapeake Bay with the hope of preventing net spills.

Without action, supporters argued, it is business as usual but unsustainable, as recent surveys find young menhaden populations are dwindling.

Conservation & Legislation - Chris Dollar continued

Chris Moore, Virginia executive director of the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, said the science can inform the state's decisions and goals.

"First of all, we have a healthy population of menhaden in Chesapeake Bay, especially in the face of climate change," Moore pointed out. "Once we're sure that we have that, we can appropriately size our fisheries."

Last year, several groups signed a letter to Gov. Glenn Youngkin calling for menhaden operations to be moved out of Chesapeake Bay, to help protect the ecosystem.

Disclosure: The Theodore Roosevelt Conservation Partnership contributes to our fund for reporting on Climate Change/Air Quality, Endangered Species and Wildlife, Environment, and Public Lands/Wilderness.

Capt. Chris D. Dollar

“Stay Healthy...Go Fishing!”

CD Outdoors Communications

(410) 991-8468

Friends –

I'm sending this email not as a member of both the Virginia Anglers Club and Virginia Saltwater Sportfishing Assoc., and by no stretch of the imagination am I a lobbyist (scary thought); I'm simply one of thousands of business owners whose livelihood depends on unfettered access to the Bay and healthy fisheries.

Likely backed by the Menhaden industrialized reduction fishery, two bills that could arguably be called “Omega Protection bills” are moving very fast through Virginia’s General Assembly, apparently. They are [HB 928 Interference with Commercial Fishing Vessel](#) (Hillary Kent) and a similar HB 1465 (Rob Bloxom).

Contact your elected representatives and voice your strong opposition to both of these “Omega Protection bills.” Not only do they run counter to Gov. Youngkin’s stated policy of no new regulations – esp. unwarranted ones – reasonable and enforceable laws against on-water harassment are already on the books at both the state and federal levels.

The proposed bills are nothing more than a solution in search of problems and would likely stretch thin marine law enforcement unnecessarily. It is also perhaps another not-so-veiled attempt by the industry’s lobbyists to intimidate recreational anglers and boaters who are exercising their right to enjoy the public resources of Chesapeake Bay that our tax dollars pay to conserve and rebuild.

Thanks for your consideration.

Chris\$

Capt. Chris D. Dollar

Conservation & Legislation - Chris Dollar

February 12, 2024

More on Menhaden: Virginia's Long, Fiery Fight Over Menhaden in the Chesapeake Bay Continues to Heat Up! [https://whro.org/news/local-news/44678-virginia-s-long-politically-fraught-fight-over-](https://whro.org/news/local-news/44678-virginia-s-long-politically-fraught-fight-over-menhaden-in-the-chesapeake-bay?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=news&utm_term=text&utm_campaign=240213)

[menhaden-in-the-chesapeake-bay?](https://whro.org/news/local-news/44678-virginia-s-long-politically-fraught-fight-over-menhaden-in-the-chesapeake-bay?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=news&utm_term=text&utm_campaign=240213)

[utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=news&utm_term=text&utm_campaign=240213](https://whro.org/news/local-news/44678-virginia-s-long-politically-fraught-fight-over-menhaden-in-the-chesapeake-bay?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=news&utm_term=text&utm_campaign=240213)

Alexandria, VA – Last week, after months of public hearings, the ASMFC's **ATLANTIC STRIPED BASS** Management Board (Board) met to finalize Addendum II which contains management changes for the 2024 striped bass season. Action on Addendum II follows a May 2023 decision where the Board voted 15-1 to evoke emergency action to address rising fishing mortality rates resulting from increased catches in 2022.

However, last week, Board deliberations on questions like recreational mode splits (granting for-hire operators a different bag and/or size limit) and commercial quota reductions were less decisive. Mode splits were an especially challenging question because recreational regulations for other targeted species like black sea bass and scup continue to get more restrictive despite those populations being 200% of their biomass targets, creating an economic squeeze on the entire recreational fishing industry and particularly the for-hire operators.

Ultimately, the Board approved the following options, most by a thin majority, including:

- A one-fish bag limit with a slot of 19-24 inches in Chesapeake Bay and 28-31 inches in the ocean recreational fishery.
- No mode splits, meaning private, shore and for-hire anglers adhere to the same regulation.
- A 7% reduction to commercial quotas in Chesapeake Bay and ocean fisheries.
- Empowering the Board to act if the 2024 stock assessment shows rebuilding is off schedule.

Conservation & Legislation - Chris Dollar continued

“Anglers submitted thousands of comments, so it was a stressful meeting as the Board prioritizes conservation resulting in real economic consequences to our community,” said Mike Waine, Atlantic Fisheries Policy Director for the American Sportfishing Association. “The Board chose options that continue to address fishing mortality, but these were labored discussions that demonstrate the Board struggling to balance the needs of the recreational fishing community while achieving current conservation goals.”

“The striped bass board reacted to public input and the harsh reality of the overall stock condition to make some difficult yet necessary decisions to cut fishing mortality for the 2024 season.” said David Sikorski, CCA Maryland Executive Director and ASMFC Commissioner. “Unfortunately, these actions are simply a next step in what will likely be a series of more difficult decisions to come.”

“When popular fisheries are depleted, whether driven by environmental stressors, harvest, or some combination of the two, difficult decisions often have to be made,” said Chris Horton, Senior Director of Fisheries Policy for the Congressional Sportsmen’s Foundation. “Fishing effort is the only thing the ASMFC can directly control, and it was the right choice to apply conservation measures equally across the board as all anglers play the same role in rebuilding this incredibly important fishery.”

In October, the Board will review results from the 2024 stock assessment that will provide additional rebuilding projections and evaluate fishing mortality through 2023. In the meantime, a subset of the Board members will be working with stakeholders to explore discard mortality, including challenges the Board has faced in addressing dead discards and possible solutions moving forward.

Capt. Chris D. Dollar
“**Stay Healthy...Go Fishing!**”
CD Outdoors Communications
(410) 991-8468



VA Seafood Co. Awarded First \$250K Grant To Process Blue Catfish

For more info: <https://www.chesapeakebaymagazine.com/va-seafood-co-awarded-first-250k-grant-to-process-blue-catfish/>

Conservation & Legislation - Chris Dollar continued

February 12, 2024

FROM: [Coastal Conservation Association Virginia](#) (CCA Virginia)

CONTACT: Wayne Young (Volunteer) | fishhawksnest@gmail.com | (703) 216-2648. [Online](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

Conservation-Minded Virginians Call for Hickory Shad Protections

The Issue: Hickory shad is an anadromous fish that lives mostly in the Atlantic Ocean and returns to the Chesapeake Bay's rivers and streams to spawn. Along with American shad, they were once an abundant and important commercial species. Today, both shads are listed as depleted by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission. As one of the first migrating game fish available to Chesapeake sport anglers in the early spring, they are important to and valued by the Bay's recreational fishing community. **Unlike American shad, currently there are no conservation protections in place for hickory shad in Virginia waters of the Chesapeake Bay and its coastal rivers and their tributaries. There are no limits on the size or number of hickory shad an angler can take from these waters.** There are also no restrictions on the type of gear one can use to catch them.

Hickory shad, however, are fully protected in Maryland and District of Columbia waters, and there is a ten-fish daily bag limit in North Carolina (though no size limit) and selected Virginia rivers beyond the Chesapeake Bay watershed. This is concerning because unrestricted catches in Virginia's coastal rivers threaten progress made to protect and restore both shad species, which are also forage for striped bass and other Bay game fish.

The Solution: Alarmed by this threat to the important fishery, CCA Virginia has been working to remedy this situation with little success. In early February 2024 the organization submitted a formal petition for rulemaking to the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) requesting that the Commission consider reasonable harvest regulations for hickory shad in Virginia waters under its jurisdiction. This fisheries management adjustment will help ensure a quality recreational fishery, streamline VMRC's regulatory oversight, and be more consistent with shad and herring restoration plans.

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About CCA Virginia: [CCA Virginia's](#) works to conserve, promote and enhance the marine coastal resources for the benefit and enjoyment of the general public. Visit ccavirginia.org.

Conservation & Legislation - Chris Dollar continued

Feb. 16, 2024

For More Information Contact:

admin@ccavirginia.org

[Online](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Instagram](#)

CCA & Partners Kickstart Rebuilding Fishing Reefs in Virginia's Chesapeake Bay

[Coastal Conservation Association Virginia](#) (CCA Virginia) and Coastal Conservation Association Maryland (CCA Maryland) recently teamed up with the Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) to add more than 24 tons of reef material to the Gwynn's Island Artificial Reef Site, located just south of the Piankatank River on the western shore of Chesapeake Bay.

On a brisk winter's day, a barge loaded with 54 reef balls and 250 pyramids was met by the VMRC's artificial fishing reef crew to place the materials at the permitted site, a once popular fishing reef that had not received any new material in many years. The reef balls were built at Tackle Cove Outfitters on Virginia's Northern Neck in the fall of 2023 by students from Chesapeake Academy, CCA Virginia members and other community volunteers. The concrete pyramids were made and donated by Kinsley Construction in York, PA and, through a partnership with the Ocean City Reef Foundation and Capt. Monty Hawkins, were provided to CCA Virginia for use on the Gwynn's Island reef.

The project is another habitat rebuilding effort undertaken by the "Living Reef Action Campaign (LRAC)," CCA's flagship habitat and education program in the Chesapeake region. Since 2015, LRAC has engaged thousands of students and community members in hands-on experiences that inspire stewardship of public marine resources.

Capt. Chris D. Dollar, CCA Senior Advisor for the Chesapeake Region, issued this statement:

"CCA Virginia is committed to [revitalizing fish habitat](#) that helps improve recreational fishing in the Commonwealth. Chesapeake anglers are exceptional stewards of our marine resources and are eager to help advance habitat restoration in the Bay, and the Gwynn's Island project is hopefully the first of many projects we will do with VMRC and our partners."

Visit mrc.virginia.gov/vsrfdf/reef.shtm for more information about artificial reef locations.

Capt. Chris D. Dollar

"Stay Healthy...Go Fishing!"

CD Outdoors Communications

(410) 991-8468

EXPEDITION & TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE

1) [PERCH TOURNAMENT](#) - 2/17/24 to 3/2/24

The Virginia Anglers Club will be hosting a Yellow Perch Fishing Tournament open to all 2024 VAC Club members in good standing from February 17th to March 3rd. You may fish any eligible Virginia waters as per current VDWR regulations. (Please note: For any tidal rivers of the Chesapeake Bay below the fall line, no yellow perch below 9 inches may be harvested.) We will have two winners based on cards submitted to the VAC data base first determined by the highest point, and second, the heaviest fish. Electronic card submissions must be turned in no later than Tuesday March 5th. A \$25 Green Top gift card will be awarded to the winners. A single person is eligible to win both prizes but it must be done with two separate fish submissions. In the event of a tie, the first fish caught will be the winner. A third prize (\$25 gift card) will be awarded to the highest point fish, non-yellow perch, card submitted that was caught during the tournament dates while fishing for yellow perch. I hope to have you all join us in this club event. It should be a great deal of fun for all. Good Luck, John Gorman If you have questions contact John Gorman , Cell 757-784-2495 or leave a question on the event chat on the Virginia Anglers Club Facebook page.

2) [SHAD TOURNAMENT](#) - 3/30/24 to 4/14/24

The Virginia Anglers Club will be hosting a Hickory Shad Fishing Tournament open to all 2024 VAC Club members in good standing. All Tournament entries will be in compliance with local regulations and caught from the James River starting on March 30th up and including April 14th. We will have two winners determined by the highest point , and the heaviest Hickory Shad cards submitted to the VAC database. Card submissions must be turned in no later than Tuesday April 16th. A \$25 Green Top gift card will be awarded to the winners. A single person is eligible to win both prizes but it must be done with two separate fish submissions. In the event of a tie, the first fish caught will be the winner. A third prize (\$25 gift card) will be awarded to the highest point fish (non-hickory shad) caught while fishing for Shad.

3) [SHAD EXPEDITION](#) - 4/13/24 at 6am

We will have a member shad expedition on April 13th, those wishing to participate should plan to launch at Ancarrow's boat ramp before the parking lot fills up. If you do not have a boat make a few phone calls to some fellow members to make some plans. Alternately, there are plenty of bank fishing opportunities along the river above the boat landing. Maybe we can all meet at Legend's Brewery for lunch.

4) [LAKE ANNA EXPEDITION](#) - 3/16//24 Dawn

We will have a member Land Locked Striper expedition on Lake Anna 3/16/24. We will be launching at Anna Point Marina at dawn or shortly thereafter. The best striper fishing this time of the year is from the splits and up lake and the best bite is usually early.

5) **KIDS FISHING DAY - May 4th**

Once more graciously hosted by Dinkus and Ronnie Deane (thanks you guys!) *More information to come!*

6) **STATEWIDE LARGEMOUTH BASS TOURNAMENT - May 11 to 26**

The Virginia Anglers Club will be hosting a Largemouth Bass Fishing Tournament open to all 2024 VAC Club members in good standing. All Tournament entries will be in compliance with local regulations and caught from Virginia waters starting on May 11th up and including May 26th. We will have two winners determined by the highest point , and the heaviest Largemouth Bass cards submitted to the VAC database. Card submissions must be turned in no later than Tuesday May 28th. A \$25 Green Top gift card will be awarded to the winners. A single person is eligible to win both prizes but it must be done with two separate fish submissions. In the event of a tie, the first fish caught will be the winner. A third prize (\$25 gift card) will be awarded to the highest point fish (non-bass) caught while fishing for bass.

7) **LARGEMOUTH BASS EXPEDITION, Little Creek Reservoir - May18th**

Come prepared to do some multi-species fishing as this reservoir holds citation largemouth, redear, walleye, landlocked striper, yellow perch, pickerel, and crappie that I know of personally. Little Creek is a peaceful and underutilized reservoir with some of the best fishing potential in the state. It is a drinking reservoir so no gas engines. *Information to come*

8) **JAMES RIVER FLOAT - June/July**

Come Float Your Boat! *More information to come.*

9) **SMALL RIVER WADE TRIP - June 29th**

Once more hosted by Mike Ostrander (Thank you Mike). *More information to come!*

10) **PIANKATANK EXPEDITION - Sept 21st**

Launching at Deep Point Landing you can go up river towards Dragon Run and fish fresh water for bass, gar, snakehead, blue cats, and panfish and other species.

Running downriver it's bay saltwater species that shine. There are speckled trout, redfish, stripers, and the usual salt panfish. Depending on rain levels, you might have a mixed freshwater/saltwater smorgasbord never knowing what will come out of the water next.

11) **KIPTOPEKE EXPEDITION** - October 18-20th

We have one lodge already reserved in the state park. It can hold 15 and I'm asking for a \$50 deposit to hold a spot there. Please contact John Gorman 757-784-2495 jhgorman8@gmail.com to reserve your spot.

There are opportunities for kayak fishermen, boat fisherman and shore, wade fisherman. The Kiptopeke State Park excursion offers great kayaking opportunities from launching at the park to fish the waters around the concrete ships for flounder, tautog, trout, etc. Also if we experience rough seas the Wise point boat ramp offers protected waters to fish. The Bay Bridge tunnel is another option weather permitting. This is just a couple locations close to camp opportunities are endless.

12) **JAMES RIVER CATFISH EXPEDITION** - November 24 *Information to come.*

13) **CRIPPLE CREEK EXPEDITION** - TWO TRIPS!!! November & December *Information to come.*

More detailed information can be found at the clubs Facebook page. If you haven't already, please become a member as it is a private page. There are other trips in the idea phase that may be announced as the year goes on.

Any questions, suggestions or helpful information are very welcome. Please contact John Gorman at 757-784-2495 jhgorman8@gmail.com

2024 AWARDS BANQUET



President Dinkus Deane addresses the banquet.



President Dinkus Deane turns the gavel over to new President Clifford Phipps.



Cliff talks about the joys of taking a neighborhood friend's son fishing encouraging the membership to do the same!



Cliff shares about his ideas for his year as president.



The newly sworn in officers and board members! Left to right: Karen Anderson/Recording Secretary, Eric Webster/Website Secretary, Lynda Richardson/Newsletter Secretary, Derek Merricks/Treasurer, John Gorman/2nd VP, Frank Hart/1st VP, Cliff Phipps/President, Fred Murray/2026 Director, Tricia Pearsall/2026 Director, Bobby Broughton/2024 Director



Stuart Lee being recognized by Dinkus!



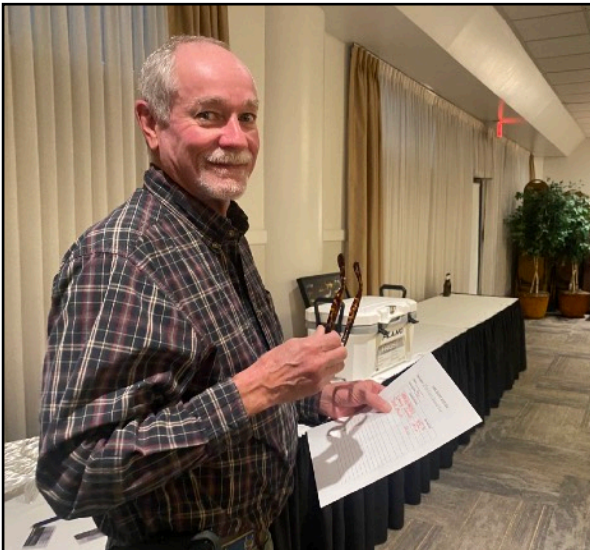
Special Activities Committee Chair, Don West, is thanked for his outstanding fund raising skills with the sale of Virginia Wildlife calendar earning the club fund raising monies each year.



Eric Webster and Sandy



Cliff Phipps is happy with his award!



Jeff Doughty checking out the silent auction items!



Dinkus Dean presents a happy raffle winner, with a limited edition VDWR Collector's knife.



**Derek
Merricks
cleans up!**



Buddy Noland presents new member Tom Embry with an Angling Award.



Buddy Noland presents Cliff Phipps with an award.



Buddy Noland presents Stuart Lee with a Jefferson's Cup, angling award.



Buddy Noland presents John Gorman with an angling award.



Buddy Noland presents Carter Clevinger with an award.



Fred Murray



Ronni Deane with the raffle item she won!



Capt. Mike Ostrander

Stuart Lee



Buddy Noland

New President Cliff Phipps



John Gorman



Frank Hart



Tricia Pearsall



Capt. Mike Ostrander talks with Asher Broughton about catfish and eagles



Buddy Noland presents an award to Henry Townsend



Buddy Noland presents an award to Asher Broughton



Henry Townsend



Asher Broughton



Capt. Chris Dollar



Asher Broughton checks the number of the winning raffle ticket of Kathy Brown.



Kathy Brown wins a raffle item!

ANNUAL AWARDS 2024

PRESIDENT'S AWARD FRESHWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
CARP	B BOSHER	33-10	8	SPIN	600	2024-01-25	COHOKE POND , VA	1/4 Ounce Silver Buddy (Silver)

PRESIDENT'S AWARD SALTWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	W MOSLEY	5-4	4	SPIN	420	2024-01-27	CORROTOMAN, VA	Jerk Shad

DIVISION AWARDS FRESHWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
CARP	B BOSHER	33-10	8	SPIN	600	2024-01-25	COHOKE POND , VA	1/4 Ounce Silver Buddy (Silver)
CATFISH, BLUE	GN CARTER	43-11	8	PLUG	459	2024-01-26	JAMES RIVER, VA	Blade Bait
CATFISH, BLUE	C CLEVINGER	38-0	4	GEN	405	2024-02-06	JAMES RIVER, VA	Cut Bait
TROUT, RAINBOW	B SHEPHERD	5-11	4	FLY	323	2023-12-18	CRIPPLE CREEK, VA	Wooly Bugger

DIVISION AWARDS SALTWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	D MERRICKS	2-15	6	PLUG	195	2023-12-03	ELIZABETH RIVER, VA	5" Swimbait
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	W MOSLEY	5-4	4	SPIN	420	2024-01-27	CORROTOMAN, VA	Jerk Shad

"HIGHEST POINT" SPECIES AWARDS FRESHWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	C PHIPPS	5-9	4	SPIN	278	2024-02-03	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	Blade Bait
BASS, STRIPED (HYB)	C CLEVINGER	4-2	2	PLUG	275	2023-12-02	LAKE ANNA, VA	Blade Bait
BASS, STRIPED (LL)	D MERRICKS	28-0	8	GEN	373	2023-12-09	LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR , VA	Live Minnow
CARP	B BOSHER	33-10	8	SPIN	600	2024-01-25	COHOKE POND , VA	1/4 Ounce Silver Buddy (Silver)
CATFISH, BLUE	GN CARTER	43-11	8	PLUG	459	2024-01-26	JAMES RIVER, VA	Blade Bait
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	GN CARTER	16-0	4	PLUG	231	2024-01-26	JAMES RIVER, VA	Blade Bait
CRAPPIE, ALL	G ALVIS	2-14	4	SPIN	359	2024-02-04	PRIVATE POND, VA	Swimbait
PERCH, WHITE	D MERRICKS	1-6	2	GEN	292	2024-01-15	WESTERN BRANCH RESERVOIR , VA	Red Worm
PERCH, YELLOW	F HART	0-13	2	SPIN	213	2024-02-19	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	Cliff Hand Poured Crappie Bait.
PICKEREL, CHAIN	F HART	2-10	2	SPIN	262	2024-02-04	PRIVATE POND, VA	Obby Garland Skab Hunter
SUNFISH	F HART	1-1	2	SPIN	279	2024-01-05	PRIVATE POND, VA	Bobby Garland
TROUT, RAINBOW	D MERRICKS	6-12	2	SPIN	421	2023-12-18	CRIPPLE CREEK, VA	Rooster Tail
WALLEYE	D MERRICKS	5-0	6	GEN	184	2024-02-04	LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR , VA	Live Minnow

"HIGHEST POINT" SPECIES AWARDS SALTWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	W MOSLEY	5-4	4	SPIN	420	2024-01-27	CORROTOMAN, VA	Jerk Shad

"HEAVIEST" SPECIES AWARDS FRESHWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	F HART	5-11	16	PLUG	113	2024-01-04	PRIVATE POND , VA	Chatter Bait
BASS, STRIPED (HYB)	C CLEVINGER	4-2	2	PLUG	275	2023-12-02	LAKE ANNA, VA	Blade Bait
BASS, STRIPED (LL)	D MERRICKS	28-0	8	GEN	373	2023-12-09	LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR , VA	Live Minnow
CARP	B BOSHER	33-10	8	SPIN	600	2024-01-25	COHOKE POND , VA	1/4 Ounce Silver Buddy (Silver)
CATFISH, BLUE	S KNOX	48-0	20BR	GEN	247	2023-12-22	JAMES RIVER, VA	Cut Shad
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	GN CARTER	16-0	4	PLUG	231	2024-01-26	JAMES RIVER, VA	Blade Bait
CRAPPIE, ALL	G ALVIS	2-14	4	SPIN	359	2024-02-04	PRIVATE POND, VA	Swimbait
PERCH, WHITE	D MERRICKS	1-6	2	GEN	292	2024-01-15	WESTERN BRANCH RESERVOIR , VA	Red Worm
PERCH, YELLOW	T EMBRY	0-13	2	GEN	172	2023-12-10	WALLER MILL RESERVOIR, VA	Minnow
PICKEREL, CHAIN	F HART	2-10	2	SPIN	262	2024-02-04	PRIVATE POND, VA	Obby Garland Skab Hunter
SUNFISH	F HART	1-1	2	SPIN	279	2024-01-05	PRIVATE POND, VA	Bobby Garland
TROUT, RAINBOW	D MERRICKS	6-12	2	SPIN	421	2023-12-18	CRIPPLE CREEK, VA	Rooster Tail
WALLEYE	D MERRICKS	5-0	6	GEN	184	2024-02-04	LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR , VA	Live Minnow

"HEAVIEST" SPECIES AWARDS SALTWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	W MOSLEY	5-4	4	SPIN	420	2024-01-27	CORROTOMAN, VA	Jerk Shad

NEW CLUB RECORDS FRESHWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, STRIPED (HYB)	C CLEVINGER	4-2	2	PLUG	275	2023-12-02	LAKE ANNA, VA	Blade Bait
BASS, STRIPED (LL)	C CLEVINGER	4-8	2	PLUG	150	2023-12-02	LAKE ANNA, VA	Blade Bait
BASS, STRIPED (LL)	D MERRICKS	28-0	8	GEN	373	2023-12-09	LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR , VA	Live Minnow
CATFISH, BLUE	GN CARTER	43-11	8	PLUG	459	2024-01-26	JAMES RIVER, VA	Blade Bait
CATFISH, BLUE	GN CARTER	24-11	6	PLUG	290	2024-01-26	JAMES RIVER, VA	Blade Bait
CRAPPIE, ALL	G ALVIS	2-14	4	SPIN	359	2024-02-04	PRIVATE POND, VA	Swimbait
PERCH, WHITE	D MERRICKS	1-6	2	GEN	292	2024-01-15	WESTERN BRANCH RESERVOIR , VA	Red Worm
WALLEYE	D MERRICKS	5-0	6	GEN	184	2024-02-04	LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR , VA	Live Minnow

NEW CLUB RECORDS SALTWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait

YOUTH FRESHWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
CATFISH, BLUE	ASHER BROUGHTON 7_12	55-0	8	GEN	462	2024-02-09	JAMES RIVER, VA	Cut Shad

YOUTH SALTWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait

NON-LOCAL AWARD FRESH OR SALTWATER								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
SAILFISH, PACIFIC	BW STRUM	0-0	20	GEN	257	2024-01-05	QUEPOS COSTA RICA, OTHER	Ballyhoo

NEW MEMBER AWARD								
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	D MERRICKS	3-4	2	PLUG	216	2023-12-08	WILDE LAKE, VA	3" Swimbait
BASS, STRIPED (LL)	D MERRICKS	28-0	8	GEN	373	2023-12-09	LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR , VA	Live Minnow
CRAPPIE, ALL	D MERRICKS	2-0	2	GEN	256	2023-12-09	LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR , VA	Live Minnow
PERCH, WHITE	D MERRICKS	1-6	2	GEN	292	2024-01-15	WESTERN BRANCH RESERVOIR , VA	Red Worm
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	D MERRICKS	2-14	2	SPIN	254	2023-12-03	ELIZABETH RIVER, VA	4" Swimbait
TROUT, RAINBOW	D MERRICKS	6-12	2	SPIN	421	2023-12-18	CRIPPLE CREEK, VA	Rooster Tail
WALLEYE	D MERRICKS	5-0	6	GEN	184	2024-02-04	LITTLE CREEK RESERVOIR , VA	Live Minnow
Total					1996			



GET READY FOR SHAD FISHING SEASON!!! Photo by Lynda Richardson

2023 CEDAR SPRINGS EXPEDITION



Cliff Phipps
braves the cold.



Eric Noonkester shows off his catch



Eric Webster with a nice rainbow.



WOW! Bob Shepherd caught this giant rainbow trout caught on 5/11 on 4 - fly!



OMG...bacon and trout! What could be better? MMMMMMMMMM



Looks like Bob Shepherd had a great time!



Fred Murray ready to catch 'em!



Hanging out and warming up after a group evening meal! Great fellowship!!!



After a long day of fishing, fly tying! What a GREAT TRIP!!!

FISHING MEMORIES



Brent Bosher with a 33-10 grass carp.



Brian Bremner with a nice largemouth



Lynda Richardson with a speckled trout in the Gulf out of Steinhatchee, Florida



Reggie White with a Payara caught on fly in Columbia. I'd like to know how the fly was removed!!! YIPES!



Reggie White with a silver piranha caught on fly in Columbia.



Reggie White with an intermediate peacock bass caught in Columbia on fly.



Reggie White with a Sardinata caught in Columbia on fly.



Light-Line fishing for blue cats with (left to right), Capt. Mike Ostrander, Dinkus Deane, and Carter Clevinger.





Mike Ostrander with a largemouth bass!



Lynda Richardson with a yellow perch.



Lynda Richardson with a 5-5 largemouth bass.



Carter Clevinger and Mike Ostrander with some keeper speckled trout.



Above: Derek Merricks with a huge crappie! And left ... a nice blue catfish.

