



TIDERUNNER

Newsletter of the Annapolis Chapter of the MSSA

“More Fish – More Catching – More Fun”

September 2012

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings to everyone. I can only think of one word to describe this summer...HOT!! The fishing was also at times very hot. I was only able to get in one offshore trip, but, what an outing it was. After a slow start trolling for tuna we decided to pull up and run about 30 miles to the Hot Dog. We arrived about noon and danced our way into an open spot and set up for chunking. As you all know normally when you show up to the party that late it’s slim pickens at best. So naturally I headed for the chicken bucket, grabbed a cold one and looked forward to a long nap. I got one bite out of that extra crispy leg when all hell broke loose. Two and a half hours later we were out of anglers and bait. They ate everything including my half eaten chicken leg. We managed to boat 22, fifty plus pound yellow fins (my back still hurts). It was an epic day.

Bay fishing was a bit of a mixed bag from all reports; however, if you are into light tackle fishing there is no shortage of white perch and small strippers. With no major storms or dam water releases the bay appears to be relatively clean and it looks like it’s setting up for a nice fall. Please check out the calendar of events section of the news letter for details on up coming events and tournaments.

I hope everyone had a great summer of fishing and fun and I’m looking forward to seeing many of you on Wednesday, September 19th at Mike’s Crab House as we gather for our annual chapter crab feast.

Tight lines!

Bob Sheehan
President

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting of the Annapolis Chapter of the MSSA will be held at Mike’s Crab House (Riva Road at the South River) for the chapter’s annual CRAB FEAST on Wednesday, September 19th 7:00 to 9:00 PM. The menu will include crabs, ribs, fried chicken, and salad bar along with many other items and beverages (alcohol not included). The price is \$35.00 for members and guests. Call Larry Muscatello for last minute tickets at 301-261-1451.

The Annapolis Chapter October meeting is set for Wed., Oct. 17th at 7:30 pm at American Legion Post #7 at Rt. 450 and Crownsville Road in Annapolis. Our guest speaker is Captain Tom Hughes who will discuss light tackle fishing at the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. We will also be joined by Gary from Spankin’ Strippers Lures who will have a display of his lures for sale—all just in time for the fall season

CRAB FEAST MIKE'S CRAB HOUSE

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 19TH 7:00 P.M.

The Annapolis Chapter of the MSSA will host a Crab Feast for members and their guest. The Crab Feast will be our first meeting following the summer break. Our menu will include ribs, fried chicken, salad bar along with many other items and beverages. Alcoholic beverages are not included in the Crab Feast. The price is \$35.00 per person. Mike's is located at 3030 Old Riva Road, on the South River at the Riva Bridge. Call Larry Muscatello 301-261-1451 with questions.

LOWER BAY FISHING UPDATE

We have seen the fish appear at the Cedar Point area over the last week or so. Those that fished it with me know how good it was jigging and casting to them. Rockfish and blues mixed in together. The Stripers for the most part are 16 to 18 inches, but catching as many as we did you do get keepers. The Blues are 2 to 3 pounds and on light tackle it will wear you out. If you troll the schools as some do, you can catch and pull on fish and even get more Blues because of more rods used. But to play a Bluefish on a jig is a memory and a sore forearm by day's end. There are Spanish still here but they will be going soon, as the first cool weather shows up. The days are getting shorter, so it is coming, now is the time to get them.

I am still catching fish on the shore near structure and believe they are getting larger. I have caught a few 16 to 18 inch Red Drum as well. The Perch are still holding along the shore line so casting for them is working. When the water cools Perch will move to deeper waters to spawn.

Flounder are still invisible to all, one die hard I know tried all the known drop off/edges and took no fish home. Trout are in the Honga River and Marsh Islands or caught bottom fishing near the sound. That is an all day trip over there.

So for now we are catching Schooling Stripers and Bluefish, casting and jigging. My hopes are this weather change does not change the fishing except to improve it more. If you can call in a day for sick leave or annual, we can get out there and catch them while they are here. Call me directly is always the best at 443 532 0836. Look to hear from you soon.

Life is short – fish often,

Capt. Sonney

EVAN FOUNDATION TOURNAMENT



William Harper of the Annapolis chapter of the Maryland Saltwater Sportfishing Association (MSSA) holds his first place trophy for catching the largest fish in this year's 1st annual MSSA Spring Trophy Rockfish Tournament to benefit the EVAN Foundation. Harper caught a 49 inch rockfish during the tournament which earned him

the trophy and valuable gift certificates from the tournament sponsors. 29 entrants participated in this first ever event which raised over \$3500 for the EVAN Foundation (www.theevanfoundation.org) a Maryland-based non-profit organization dedicated to ending neuroblastoma—a rare pediatric cancer. Special thanks to Marty's Sporting Goods, AllTackle, and BFG Tackle for their contribution of prizes for the tournament.



A photos from TOMCAT's weighins on FRI and SAT during the TUNAMENT. The six fish stringer weighed 220 pounds and took second place in the 6 fish TWT (\$1108 prize money). Anglers on Friday were Pete Abbott, Lee Slagle, Ricky Holmes, Dr. Ray Atcherson, and Cash O'Rourke. The Team on Saturday was Dr. Ray, Kevin McMenamin, Ken Navis, Lee and me. Proud to have kept the Annapolis Chapter on a leaderboard in another MSSA tournament.



Annapolis Chapter members catching tuna.

SUMMER FISHING TRIP

The summer fishing trip had mixed results. It depended where you decided to fish as to whether you had a fishing trip or a catching trip. The Chesapeake Beach group had an awesome trip. They left the dock at 2PM, headed over to Eastern Bay, and limited on Rock. Then they went perch fishing. They caught 60 perch before the weather chased them to shore. Captain Randy Dean did them proud.

Those of us that fished out of Solomons did not do well. The lunch at Stony's was FABULOUS, but from there it went straight down hill. We left the dock at 3pm and headed south into 2-3 foot waves and a good 15 mile an hour head wind. The plan was to catch blue fish until dark and then head over to the croaker grounds. The ride down to the blues fishing area was 2 1/2 hours in a head sea. We fished off Point Lookout on the eastern side of the bay near the target ship. The Miss Suzie II did not catch any blue fish, but we did have one hell of a fight with a crab pot flag marker. The other boat, the Fin Finder II, did catch two small blues. It's now been four hours and Miss Suzie II has not caught a fish. We anchor up at the croaker honey hole, which is just north of Smith Point. We are almost in Virginia. We can see lightening north of

us and heavy rain shows on the radar. Luckily for us we only got wind from the storms. Both boats had people that were under the weather at this point. As soon as the weather broke we asked Captain Gregg to cut the trip short and head home at 9:30. It was a 2 1/2 hour ride home with decent sea conditions.

The Miss Suzie II caught 18 croaker that were about 10 inches. The Fin Finder II caught 77 croaker that were about 10 inches. In talking to Captain Gregg he gave me the impression that mid July until September was the SLOW period in Solomon's. He was taking his boat down to Norfolk to Cobia fish for several weeks.

In reviewing what happened on our trip, and having to book so far in advance to get a specific Wednesday night, we will only fish out of Chesapeake Beach next year. The boats out of Chesapeake Beach can go to Eastern Bay or the Gas docks from their central location. We will have to catch perch rather than croaker. **CATCHING IS MORE FUN THAN FISHING.**

Ron Schaefer
Fishing Trip Chairman



BAY HUNTER II FISHING – JULY 18, 2012

Nine members and guests of the Annapolis Chapter of MSSA arrived just after 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday at the Rod and Reel dock for an afternoon and evening of fishing on the Bay Hunter II with Captain Randy Dean and his sons Ryan and Matt aboard his 46 foot Bay Boat. The Bay Hunter II is one of the largest and best kept boats in the fleet with a 16 foot wide beam allowing for plenty of fishing room at the rails. 1st Mate, Ryan prepared the boat with ice and bait and filled the tank with \$260 of diesel fuel for our trip.

The fishermen consisting of members Pete Abbott, Tim Palmer, Larry Stotsbery, Keith Phillips, Ken Egan, Fred Menage, Robert Montue and his two guests, Ronald Cunningham and Greg Canfield boarded the boat with their coolers to enjoy a cruise across the Chesapeake Bay to Eastern Bay where the fishing action was taking place. Because of pending afternoon thunderstorms predictions and the fact that Randy had plenty of live spot in his bait tank, we decided to head straight to the rockfish to catch our limit. The boat ride was uneventful as we rounded the north end of Popular Island and entered Eastern Bay south of Buoy 84A.

We saw the fishing fleet anchored up in about 25 feet of water inside the bay and Randy started his search for the school of stripers. Ryan and Matt attached small live spot to each angler's fishing rod as we took our positions at the rails on each side and the back of the boat. Randy soon found a large school of fish and cut off his engines and laid out his anchor. Randy and Matt tossed out some spot chunks on each side of the boat to attract the fish to the boat and everybody dropped their lightly weighted lines into the water. We immediately started hooking up on the schooled fish and they were being brought to the surface for netting. The fish were measured and keepers were tossed into the fish box, smaller fish were released as was a sick looking fish with sores. Randy stated that he feels the sores are due to handling the fish but I disagree with his theory which is another story for another day. We soon caught half of our limit as the fishing slowed because the schooled fish

were on the move, so we pulled the anchor and started the hunt again. Randy found some fish and process started again. We were able to catch a few fish before they moved off, so looking around Ryan spotted the birds working the surface toward Popular Island. Randy pulled the anchor and off we went to fish among the breaking schoolies with our live spot. We soon had our limit of two fish each and put the live line rods and reels back in the rack for our ride back across the bay to North Beach/Holland Point area to bottom fish with bloodworms for perch and spot (for bait). The ride back across the Chesapeake Bay was a bit rougher as the breeze from the south had picked up some. Next year I'll mention to Randy that us old folks would prefer a slower and smoother boat ride to the fishing grounds. We started our drift in less than 10 feet of water and started catching small spot, small croakers and some 8-10 inch perch, which were kept for Robert and his guests. Very soon a very large dark cloud appeared in the northwest sky and the Radar showed a large storm moving into the area. A sudden gust of cooler wind stirred up the water and the anglers and a decision was made to head on back to the safety of the dock. A short boat ride back to the Rod and Reel dock was had, but an outgoing tide and the westerly wind made for a difficult docking job for Randy and the Bay Hunter II.

All the anglers and crew were happy that we made it back without getting wet although the trip was cut short by a couple of hours due to the weather. Randy cleaned the fish and distributed them to the happy fisherman. Ronald was the winner of the largest fish pool of \$40 with a rockfish of a little over 25 inches. On a very hot day, we enjoyed the cooler breezes on the water and a boat ride and fishing trip on bay with a top notch captain and crew aboard a clean, roomy and well equipped fishing boat. Hopefully we will all be around next year for another great day of fishing on the bay!

Fred Menage.
MSSA Secretary
Annapolis Chapter



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September

- 14-16 34th Annual Challenge Cup. O.C. Marlin Club
(410)213-1613 www.ocfishing.com
- 15 Boatyard Beach Bash, 5 – 9 pm, Annapolis Maritime
Museum www.amaritime.org
- 15 River Rock Fall Fishing Tournament, Rock Hall
(410)778-2561 www.riverrockmd.com
- 19 MSSA Annapolis Sportfishing Crab Feast, Mike’s Crab
House, Riva Road at South River, 7 - 9 pm. Contact
Larry Muscatello (301)261-1451
www.mssaannapolis.com
- 20-23 Harbor Tackle Red Drum Tournament. Assateague
Island Surf Fishing (410)957-4516
www.keepersofthebeach.com
- 24 CAPCA Special Event. Flare Shoot for members
only at Annapolis Sailing School, 700 Bembe Road,
Annapolis, 6:30 – 9:30 pm (410)267-7651
www.capca.net

October

- 8 Pasadena Sportfishing Group meeting at 7:30 p.m.,
Earleigh Heights Fire Hall, Richey Hwy, Severna
Park, MD. www.pasadenasportfishing.com
- 11-14 U.S. Powerboat Show. Annapolis City Dock.
www.usboat.com
- 13-14 13th Annual Rocktoberfest Tournament. OC Bahia
Marina (410)289-7473 www.ocfishing.com
- 17 MSSA Annapolis Sportfishing Chapter Meeting,
American Legion Post 7, Crownsville, MD at
7:30 pm. www.annapolis.com
- 21 West River Heritage Oyster Festival. 12:30 – 5:00
pm, Captain Avery Museum Shady Side
(410)867-4486 www.captainaverymuseum.org
- 22 CAPCA Meeting, Annapolis Elks Lodge #622,
Edgewater. Social hour starts at 6:30 pm. Meeting
starts at 7:15 pm. ‘Crashing through the surf with the
USCG’ www.capca.net

CHAPTER OFFICERS AND LEADERSHIP TEAM

President	Bob Sheehan	(410) 507-8491
Vice President	Chris Rosenthal	(410) 727-5735
Secretary	Fred Menage	(410) 798-5868
Treasurer	Jean Hoffman	(410) 923-0769
Crab Feast Chairman		Larry Muscatello
Holiday Party Chairman		<i>NEED VOLUNTEER</i>
Intra-Chapter Tournament		Bob Thompson
MSSA Scholarship Committee		OB O’Bannon
MSSA Tournament Committee		Dale Dirks
Newsletter Editor		Paul Herrmann
Ocean City Fish Chairman		Lee Slagle
Raffle Chairman		Brian Stempowski
Rock on Warriors Chairman		George Brown
Saltwater Fishing Expo Chairman		Pete Abbott & Kevin McMenamin
Saltwater Fishing Expo Coordinator		Ed Kalb
Speaker Chairman		Dale Dirks
Summer Fish Chairman		Ron Schaefer
Web Master		Craig Teuber
Website Content Editor		Fred Menage

**LIFE IS SHORT,
FISH OFTEN!**

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in Solomons!**

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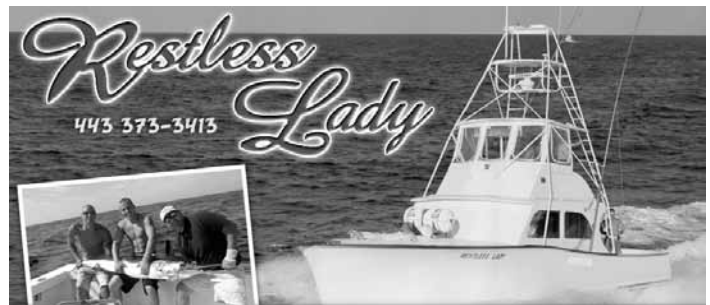
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CHESAPEAKE LIGHT TACKLE
An Introduction To Light Tackle Fishing on the Chesapeake Bay



SHAWN KIMBRO
Foreword by John Page Williams

Capt. Chris D. Dollar



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