

MSSA FREDERICK CHAPTER NEWSLETTER



Working to Provide a Unified Voice to Preserve and Protect the
Rights, Tradition and the Future of Recreational Fishing!
No Unity, No Voice, No Fish



The Official MSSA Frederick Chapter VHF Channel is 71

President's Message

I don't know about everyone else, but it's hard to believe it is August already. The summer will be winding down soon, kids back to school, the weather cooling and the activities of our Chapter heating up.

We have a lot going on the next couple of months that should make for a great upcoming fall season. Starting with our lure tying demonstration at August meeting, we follow it up with some great activities and prizes. At the August meeting, we will be raffling off a crabbing trip on August 23rd on the Chester River with Capt. Mark Gallasso. This will give two lucky winners and their guest an opportunity to bring home some of the Bay's tastiest fares.

Following our next meeting our annual crab feast, which has become of the Chapter's must attend activities will be held again this year at Pine Cliff Park on September 14th. Which brings up that for each 10 raffle tickets you have sold you get a free entry into the feast. Generating funds to supplement these activities is important, so, just a reminder to please make sure you've sold at least your raffles tickets to help. We will be looking for volunteers to help setup, cleanup and general help with making this another huge success.

Our annual "Tackle the Mackerel" tournament follows in October and we will have the design for the shirts available at the meeting. Remember, there will be no extra shirts, so, if you want one you must order them at the next meeting.

We are currently in the process of upgrading our website to better provide members with information regarding the chapter. Please be patient during this process as it is a tremendous undertaking to convert this software. Upon completion, this should be a very user friendly program that will allow you to get the newsletter, fishing information and general MSSA activities.

Finally, PLEASE SELL YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS.

Fish hard!

Next Meeting

Wednesday, August 14, 2013

Food Service begins at 6:15 PM
Meeting at 7:00 PM

Speaker:

Ralph King - June Bug Tackle

Ralph will demonstrate the art of tying your own lures. Ralph is bringing heads, hair and glue, etc. for sale - people can bring their own heads to wrap or he will wrap them for \$2.00 ea. Demonstration price only.

Vendor:



July Raffle Winners:

Baiting Casting Rod and Reel - Fred Keene

Bay Country Snood Line - Bob Lowry

Fabril Net - Mike Fletcher

Fish Bites - Tim Lowe

Boat Trailer Jack - Lorna Young

Storm Lures and Pliers - Zackary Ridgley

50/50 Raffle

\$100 - Mike Erdman

Attendance at July's Meeting:

50

Directions To Meeting at the Frederick Moose Lodge: - [Map](#)

From Frederick, take **I-70** east to **exit 56** (Rt. 144W). Turn slight right onto MD-144. Go 0.8 miles to 828 E. Patrick St. on the left.

Chapter News

ATTENTION !!!!!

The Cruise Drawing will be at next Month's Meeting

We are drawing the winner of the 2013 fundraiser Cruise at the conclusion of September's meeting.

Please turn your tickets back into Bob Pellicott or one of the Chapter Officers no later than September 9, 2013.

We want everyone who bought tickets to have an equal change of winning so your cooperation in this matter is of utmost importance.

Last Chance for King Mackerel T-Shirts and Sweat Shirts

These will only be available as a prepaid item. We will not have extras. Purchase at the August meetings for delivery at the September meeting.

Chapter Crab Feast in September

The Frederick Chapter will be hosting an all-you-can-eat crab feast on Saturday, September 14 at the Pine cliff Parks in Frederick MD.

This event will be FREE, yes, I said FREE, to anyone who sells ten (10) raffle tickets for the chapter fundraiser. For each ten (10) tickets you sell, you will receive one free ticket to the crab feast.

The menu will feature fresh steamed blue crabs, corn on the cob, fries, and Cole slaw. Soft drinks. Potatoes chips and hot dogs will be will be provided free of charge; feel free to bring your own beer.

For those that did not sell ten (10) raffle tickets, purchase your tickets no later than August 14 and pay only \$25 per person. After that, tickets are \$30 each, advance purchase only. There will be no tickets sold after the September 11 meeting. Friends and family are welcome as well.

More information about the crab feast will follow in subsequent newsletters. For now, get out there and sell those tickets

Fishing Reports

Chincoteague Action

By Charlie Koski

Tightlines.....

Ocean City Action

By Sue Foster

Water Temp: 73.6.9

Hot drum fishing on the MD/Del Line on the bayside. Kingfish, spot and small croaker in the surf, along with big rays and sand sharks. Flounder fishing is good offshore. Sea bass fishing is happening. Further offshore we have tuna, wahoo, marlin, and dolphin. Crabbing and clamming has been decent.

Chesapeake Bay Action

August 7, 2013

Although it was a great fun being away on vacation and having all kinds of adventures, it sure was comforting when the big old bird I was strapped into began to descend over Maryland and I could look down at familiar rivers and bay shores. It was even more comforting once I reached the Eastern Shore but not before watching several boats fishing at the Bay Bridge in the evening hours. It is good to be back home again and what a delight to experience some of the beautiful weather you have been enjoying recently.

Fishermen in the very upper reaches of the Chesapeake and surrounding tidal rivers are enjoying a typical summer mix of White Perch, Channel Catfish, Largemouth Bass, and a Striped Bass now and then. In the lower Susquehanna, Smallmouth Bass and Flathead Catfish are also entertaining fishermen. Most of the White Perch fishing is occurring along shoreline structure on light tackle in the early mornings and evenings on a moving tide. The Largemouth Bass are near thick grass on the flats and tidal rivers; catfish are in deeper water as are the Striped Bass. Some of the best Striped Bass fishing is at day break and late evening on the lower Susquehanna at the Conowingo Dam pool; fishermen are casting swim shads and crankbaits.

There are plenty of opportunities for White Perch in most areas of the upper bay and its tidal rivers and creeks by casting small lures in the early morning and late evening hours along shoreline structure or fishing bait such as bloodworms in deeper areas of the tidal rivers or bay. Hard bottomed areas such as shoals and channels tend to hold the best White Perch fishing opportunities.

Striped Bass fishing tends to pick up near the Rock Hall area south to the Bay Bridge. The steep channel edge at Podickory Point, Love Point, the Sewer Pipe at the northeast

side of the Bay Bridge and the Bay Bridge piers are all good places to find Striped Bass holding. Most fishermen are live lining Spot with good success but some fishermen are catching their fish by chumming, jigging or trolling. Finding suspended fish over structure such as channel edges and a moving current are important key factors to good success.

In the middle bay region the 30' to 35' channel edges at the "Hill" which is at the mouth of Eastern Bay continues to be the hottest show in town when it comes to Striped Bass. It seems that without fail a lively spot dropped down to those depths and location will get you a Striped Bass. The Spot are easy to catch in shallower waters in most areas and the Striped Bass continue to be stacked up at the Hill and similar channel edges in the area. Many fishermen intimidated by the fleet of boats anchored up at the Hill have been finding good luck at channel edges at Thomas Point, inside of Bloody Point and wherever they can find fish holding with their depth finders. Bluefish have not shown up to any degree this season so this is a "happy time" for live liners. Jimmy Whippie is all smiles with the two Striped Bass he was able to catch while live lining Spot at the Hill.

Water temperatures in the bay in general are holding under 80-degrees so the shallow water fishery and other fishing in general is in pretty good shape. Temperatures in the mid 80's definitely put stress on fish such as Striped Bass. Shallow water light tackle fishing is an early morning and late evening affair this time of year and there is a wide mix of species available in the mid and lower bay regions. Striped Bass, White Perch, Red Drum and Speckled Trout are all being caught. Some days are better than others but if you can find a high ebb tide at daybreak or dusk; chances are you might be in line for some good fishing opportunities. Topwater lures, swim shads such as the Gulp mullet and spinnerbaits are usually good choices.

In the lower bay area fishermen are finding Striped Bass along channel edges in the lower Potomac around St. George's Island and the mouth of the St. Mary's River as well as the Patuxent River channel edges. There has been some Striped Bass action out in front of St. Jerome's Creek and the Gas Docks at times. There has been some catches of 3/4lb Bluefish out at the Middle Grounds and lower Potomac by boats that are chumming but not much to talk about. A few large Red Drum are being caught and released by boats trolling spoons and there have been no reports of Spanish Mackerel to our knowledge.

Bottom fishing for a mix of Croakers, Speckled Trout, Red Drum and large Spot

has been good in the major tidal rivers of the middle and lower bay regions. The croakers continue to be of medium size and legal sized Red Drum are a welcomed addition to any fisherman's ice chest. Peeler crab and shrimp tend to be the most popular baits when sending a bottom rig down. Some enterprising fishermen are also drifting peeler or soft crab baits with a light weight in some of the fast current channels leading out of the eastern shore marsh areas and catching some impressive sized Speckled Trout and legal sized Red Drum. Recreational crabbing continues to improve ever so slightly each week. Some folks are doing pretty well at times with trotlines and collapsible traps in the middle and lower bay areas and other days not so good. When you can put close to a bushel of large heavy crabs together, that of course is a good day. After several sheds the crabs are getting large and hopefully they will be heavy. The upper bay tidal rivers are being described as fair at best with a dozen or less good crabs per outing. Matthew Bishop got to go crabbing with his parents and brother on the West River and managed a nice catch of crabs.

Virginia Beach Action

By Dr. Julie Ball

09 August 2013

Air temperatures are beginning to ease into the eighties as we round the corner into the late summer fishing trend. The biggest news still centers around the dynamic offshore fishing scene as it continues to evolve into a very good season for offshore trollers. Massive bigeye tuna continue to bust up spreads, while the billfish are moving on in.

The cobia action is a sure thing lately, as good numbers of fish make a strong showing for top water casters, with a few fish pushing to over 60-pounds hitting the docks this week. Many cobia are beginning their late summer trend of favoring buoys and bridge pilings, and cruising on the surface in lower Bay waters and off the oceanfront. Pods of multiple fish are also becoming more abundant. As for chumming, this messy technique continues to be very effective if you can weed through the strong shark presence this year.

Red drum are still making an impressive appearance this year, as schools continue to provide excellent casting action. Schools of bull reds are still roaming in the lower Bay, especially near the 3rd and 4th islands. Surf anglers are also catching nice fish from the surf along Smith Island. Puppy drum are showing a lot of activity in the shallows, where pups pushing to around 30-inches were caught as a by-catch by speckled trout

anglers this week. Speckled trout are showing promise on the Poquoson flats and Hungar's creek, with smaller fish coming from the Bayside creeks on the Eastern shore.

Sightings of fleeting schools of jack crevelle continue to surface as these fish prepare to settle on near shore structures for the remainder of the season. A few surprise hook-ups are thrilling unsuspecting anglers. Bobby Crutsinger of Virginia Beach hooked into a 47-inch surprise jack while live-baiting near the CB-line this week.

The summer's sluggish flounder spell continues to concern anglers, but there is still time for a turn-around. In the meantime the bite is challenging at times, with a solid catch of 22-inchers considered a good day. Jigs and live bait presented along varying bottom structures in the lower part of the Bay is working best for the larger fish. The Cell, the CBBT structure, and lower Bay wrecks are just a few of the flounder hot-spots lately. Drifters are also finding luck with strip baits and minnows near buoy 36A and the Thimble Shoal Channel near Cape Henry. The lower Bay inlets are also giving up some keeper fish.

Spanish mackerel action picked back up this week as some nice fish provide good action from the middle Bay on out to the Ocean Front. Small gold and silver spoons are the best lure for these fish. King mackerel anglers are still waiting for the king bite to materialize, with not much to show. A good presentation of sharks along Virginia's coastal waters is attracting attention, but be sure to review the regulations before targeting these toothy hunters.

Sheepshead are still a sure thing along the Bay Bridge Tunnel structure, with more fish beginning to respond over the tubes.

Smallish spadefish are still available along the Bridge tunnel and around the islands, but most folks are not interested. Big triggerfish are hitting in these same areas, with some pushing to over 4-pounds.

Tarpon sightings and hook-ups on the Eastern Shore are always hush-hush, but scattered releases and a barrage of sightings are keeping anglers interested. The croaker bite is on out of Oyster, but the fish are on the smaller side right now.

Amberjack are still available on offshore wrecks and at the Southern Towers, and deep dropping action is still good for boats running out to investigate the floors along the Canyon edges. Blueline tilefish, grouper, blackbellied rosefish, and nice seabass are available for the taking.

For bluewater anglers, billfish action is still heating up, but the persistent tuna action has boats pulling mixed spreads. Bigeye tuna weighing in at over 200-pounds are

providing brutal battles for daring anglers, with hefty 60 and 70-pound class yellowfin tuna also adding to the fun. More flags are starting to fly at the docks as white marlin numbers build. A smattering of blue marlin, sailfish, and spearfish encounters are also rounding things out. Some dolphin are also around, along with some nice wahoo.

www.drjball.com.

Delaware Action

By Eric Burnley Sr. *

Updated: August 9, 2013

DELAWARE BAY With summer drawing to a close the time to get out and enjoy great fishing in the bay is getting short. Right now the croaker bite extends from as far north as Reedy Point and the Yellow Can to the Outer Wall and the Cape Henlopen Fishing Pier. The head boats out of Bowers Beach are catching plenty of croaker with a few keeper flounder and trout. Last week one of the boats recorded a 15-pound black drum as the pool winner.

The fishing is the same at reef sites 8, 9, and 10. Mostly croaker with flounder available to those who can get a bait down in the structure. I am sure there are triggerfish on these reefs with clam or crab the top bait.

Triggers and tog have been caught at the Outer Wall and the Ice Breakers on clam and sand fleas. The tog bite slowed during the heat wave, but should return once the weather cools down.

A few flounder have been caught from the Cape Henlopen Fishing Pier along with a few trout. Minnows work best for the flounder while a bucktail with Gulp! has produced keeper trout.

The slot rockfish season ends this month and these fish are available in the tidal creeks from the Brandywine to the Broadkill as well as in the bay at the Yellow Can, Augustine Beach and the Woodland Beach fishing pier. Bloodworms or peeler crab have worked best. These same baits also attract plenty of white perch from the same locations.

INDIAN RIVER INLET The big news here is the return of bluefish on incoming water. Most are in the two to four-pound range and have been caught on metal.

Bait fishermen have been drifting sand fleas in the rocks and connecting with tog, small black drum, triggerfish, spadefish and sheepshead. The bite is slow at best, but those with the patience to stick it out can catch enough fish to make the day worthwhile.

Flounder have been caught at the inlet and in the back bays with live spot the top bait for attracting a keeper. Strips of squid

combined with a live minnow on a circle hook or fresh fish on a jig will also attract flatfish. Massey's Ditch, the Burton Island Slough and the FVW Slough all produce flounder when boat traffic is reasonable.

Croaker are just about everywhere. Last Friday I fished in Indian River Bay beginning at Buoy 20 and drifting out on the tide. We caught loads of small croaker on jigs baited with Gulp!. It was a lot of fun, but did nothing to fill the freezer.

We have reports of even more croaker and spot in Rehoboth Bay. Small pieces of bloodworm on a Sabiki rig have been effective on the spot.

INSHORE OCEAN We still receive reports from boats finding success with yellowfin tuna at the lumps from the Hot Dog to Massey's Canyon. Chunking or trolling has produced results if you are there at first light. Otherwise, it is dolphin (mahi-mahi) and the occasional wahoo.

Bottom fishing has been best in 20-fathoms with sea bass, tog and ling caught from deep water structure. Closer to shore, flounder have been the primary catch at the Old Grounds, sites 10 and 11 and the area between A and B buoys. A keeper sea bass or two have been taken here as well. Croaker are beginning to show on these structures.

OFFSHORE OCEAN The bigeye tuna bite continued with all three top spots in the White Marlin Open topping the 200-pound mark. As of Wednesday the top white marlin weighed 80 pounds and was worth close to \$1,000,000.

SURF FISHING Small stuff continues to dominate the surf. Croaker, spot, kings and the occasional trout have been caught on bloodworms, Fishbites and Gulp!. Use small pieces of bait on small hooks and light surf tackle to get the most out of this fishery.

Tips and Tackle

PFDs: How to Choose

A personal flotation device—also known as a PFD, life jacket or life vest—gives you more buoyancy to help stay afloat. The most important advice you can get about PFDs is simply this: Be sure to wear one.

In addition to personal safety, be aware most states require you to have a Type I, II, III or V PFD that is United States Coast Guard approved, marked with the USCG approval number, the proper size for the intended wearer, in good condition and readily accessible. Laws vary by state, but the USCG recommends anyone operating a human-powered watercraft wear a PFD and children under 13 wear one at all times while in a vessel.

PFD Sizing and Fitting

Sizing: For adults, your chest size—not your weight—will determine what size is right. (For children, their weight will determine the size.) Sizes vary by PFD brand and model, so check the REI.com product page to find the right size for you.

A PFD should be snug and fit like a glove, yet allow you to move freely and not chafe while paddling and playing. To get the best feel and fit, wear your paddling clothes while paddling when trying on a PFD.

Women should consider women-specific PFDs versus unisex styles. Women's PFDs may offer a better fit thanks to princess seams, contoured cups for larger bust lines and styles made for longer torsos.

Each PFD will have a different design and foam placement to fit the contours of the body. Foam placement has more to do with comfort than safety. The more straps a PFD has, the more adjustments can be made to customize its fit.

Fitting: Once you've selected a size, follow these fitting steps.

- Loosen all the straps, put the PFD on and zip it up.
- Start at the waist and tighten all the straps. If it has shoulder straps, tighten them last. It should feel snug but not uncomfortable.
- Next, have someone pull up on the PFD shoulders. If it moves up past your nose or head, try tightening the straps. If it still moves up, the PFD is too large.
- Check your movements to make sure it is comfortable and will not chafe you while paddling. Do this in your own kayak or canoe at home, or in a floor model if you're at an REI store. This will stimulate how it actually feels while sitting.
- If possible, test your PFD in a pool or shallow water to see how it works. It should not ride up or slip over your chin while floating.

Types of PFDs

There are 5 categories of PFDs, but most paddlers should use a Type III or V USCG-approved PFD.

Type I: Offshore Life Jackets. These vests are geared for rough, open or remote waters where rescue may take a while. Though bulky, they have the most buoyancy, a bright color and can turn most unconscious people face up in the water.

Type II: Near-shore Vests. Calm inland waters, where there is a likely chance of a fast rescue, is the intent of these PFDs. They will turn some unconscious wearers to the

face-up position but not all of them. They are bulky, but less so than Type I.

Type III: Flotation Aids. These are suitable for most paddlers where there is a chance for a quick rescue. They offer freedom of movement and the most comfort for continuous wear. Type IIIs are designed so wearers can put themselves in a face-up position, but they may have to tilt their head back to avoid being face down in water.

Type IV: Throwable Devices. Cushions or ring buoys are designed to be thrown to someone in trouble and provide backup to a PFD. They are not for nonswimmers, rough waters or the unconscious. The USCG does not require these for canoes or kayaks.

Type V: Special-use Devices. These are specialized PFDs for specific activities. To be acceptable by the USCG, they must be used for the activity specified on the label. Varieties include kayaking, waterskiing, windsurfing, hybrid vests and deck suits.

Buoyancy

Buoyancy is the force (in pounds) required to keep a person's head and chin afloat above water. Most adults need just an extra 7 to 12 pounds of buoyancy to stay afloat. Additionally, your weight, body fat, lung size, clothing and whether the water is rough or calm are all factors to staying on top of the water. In general, the more physically fit you are, the more lift you need.

To check buoyancy, tilt your head back and relax your body. Your chin should be above water and your breathing should be easy. If your mouth is not above the water, select a different PFD with more buoyancy. It should not ride up or go over your head. However, if your stomach is larger than your chest, ride-up may occur. Remember, it will be different bouncing around in swift water where currents may be jostling or pulling you down than it will be in calm waters.

What to Compare

Styling

Contoured foam panels have largely replaced the bulky foam ribs of older PFDs. The style of newer PFDs can be pullover, side-entry or a zipper up the front. They function the same, so your choice depends on personal preference.

To allow good freedom of movement, look for a deep neck, large armholes and narrow shoulder straps. Most PFDs are waist length or low-profile, designed for kayakers sitting with a high seat back, but they are comfortable for other paddling sports, too.

Flotation Materials

There are several types of PFD flotation materials. Base your choice on cost, environmental consciousness and performance.

Gaia™: This foam is based on an organic nitrile compound. It is relatively eco-friendly thanks to being PVC- and halogen-free, plus it does not include CFCs. It is softer than PVC foam and effectively resists cold and heat. Gaia is easy to clean and resists most chemicals, petroleum products and humidity. Its low apparent density reduces weight without performance loss.

Kapok: This comes from the fluffy fiber surrounding the seeds of the kapok tree (also known as a ceiba tree). Kapok is resilient, very light and buoyant, but it is highly flammable. It resists water and is more durable than foam. Kapok fibers do not leach out over time or lose buoyancy. When retiring a kapok vest, the kapok fiber can often be recycled in your compost.

PVC: Polyvinyl-chloride foam is inexpensive, durable and widely used in PFDs. It is strong, and it is resistant to oil, chemicals, flames, sunlight and weathering. Because it contains both chlorine and oil, it is not readily recyclable.

Features

Consider these features when deciding which PFD is right for you.

Tabs: Look at the number of tabs and their location on the front and back on the PFD. Tabs let you attach a knife, whistle (which is required in many areas), strobes or other accessories.

Pockets: Consider size and placement. Are there pockets to warm your hands or have easy access to your doodads? Is there a pocket for a hydration unit?

Color: A bright color improves visibility.

Reflective tape: This adds visibility in low-light conditions.

Ventilation: Where will you be paddling? Do you need a little or a lot?

Fishing features: Some manufacturers offer PFDs with fishing features such as multiple tool hangers, loops for a rod and a drop-down pocket table for working with lures and flies.

PFD Care

Before using:

- Do not alter a PFD to make it fit. Get one that fits. An altered life jacket is not USCG approved.
- Check your PFD for rips, tears and holes. Check that seams, straps and hardware are in good shape. Yank on the straps to make sure they are secure.
- Check that there is no waterlogging, mildew odor or shrinkage. These are indications of buoyancy loss.
- Faded material may indicate loss of strength.

- Write your name on the jacket so not to mix it up with someone else's.
- Test it in shallow water.

During use:

- Don't use a PFD as a cushion, kneeling pad or boat bumper. It will lose buoyancy.
- Do not put heavy items in the pockets.
- Be careful to not put objects in the pockets that could puncture.
- Don't leave the PFD lying in the sunshine for long periods.
- Rinse with fresh water after use, especially after being in salt water.
- Drip-dry before storing.

After use:

- Don't use harsh detergents or dry clean a PFD.
- Drying it in a dryer or direct heat can destroy its buoyancy.
- Don't store it in sunlight—UV rays can damage the fabric.
- Store in a cool, dry, dark place where there is good ventilation.
- Older foam PFDs may lose buoyancy and need to be replaced.
- Get rid of old PFDs by cutting them up and properly disposing so a person who finds one does not try to use the faulty PFD.

PFD FAQs

Q: How long does a PFD last?

A: There is no standard time limit, though proper care will make it last longer. Waterlogged materials, mildew odor or buoyancy shrinkage indicate the need for replacement.

Q: What is a hybrid PFD?

A: A hybrid vest contains some internal buoyancy (foam) and is inflatable to provide additional flotation. This high-end PFD is most often used by play-boaters looking for a lighter, less bulky design.

Q: If a person does not know how to swim, do they need a special PFD?

A: All people are naturally buoyant and Types I, II, III add 15.5 to 22 pounds of extra buoyancy. Type V adds 7.5 to 22 pounds of buoyancy. Most adults need only 7 to 12 pounds of extra buoyancy to stay afloat, so even a nonswimmer can float with a PFD.

Q: Can I use one PFD for various sports?

A: Yes, if it is a Type III. No, if it is a Type V. Type III PFDs are USCG-approved for

various sports activities. Type V is USCG-approved only for a specific water sport.

Q: Can I just have the PFD near me and ready to put on instead of wearing it all the time?

A: Situations can change rapidly. It is far better to wear it at all times to enhance your safety rather than risk being unprepared and sorry.

Q: How often should a PFD be tested?

A: At least once a year for wear and buoyancy. If waterlogged, faded or leaky, a PFD should be discarded properly so someone else does not use a retired model.

Q: Will a PFD protect me from hypothermia?

A: No. Hypothermia is the loss of body heat that starts with shivering, hand numbness and loss of muscle coordination. It can cause a coma or even death, and it won't be avoided just by wearing a PFD. A wet or dry suit should be worn under a PFD in cold waters, but hypothermia

DNR in the News

\$25K Diamond Jim on the Loose

The Diamond Jim component of the 2013 Maryland Fishing Challenge entered its final phase today when Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) biologists and teams of young anglers caught, tagged and released around 200 striped bass into the Chesapeake Bay. One of the tagged fish is the official Diamond Jim worth as much as \$25,000 to the angler who catches him between August 1 and midnight September 2, with the other tagged imposter rockfish worth at least \$500 each.

"With summer upon us, and the Maryland Fishing Challenge in its prime, now is the perfect time for anglers of all ages and skill levels to get outside, cast a line and enjoy the diverse, high quality fishing opportunities our State has to offer," said Governor Martin O'Malley.

Over the summer, approximately 600 imposters and one genuine Diamond Jim will be pursued by anglers. Each month Diamond Jim goes uncaught the bounty increases — from \$10,000 in June, to \$20,000 in July, and \$25,000 in August. The contest features a guaranteed \$25,000 payout, so if Diamond Jim is not caught by midnight Labor Day, the cash prize will be split equally among those who catch imposters.

The first angler to catch Diamond Jim will also receive a set of one-carat diamond stud earrings from Zachary's Jewelers in Annapolis, and a stack of \$1,000 gift cards from participating Maryland tackle shops such as Anglers, AllTackle, Fishbones, Clyde's, Marty's, and Herb's Tackle Shop. Additionally, Zachary's is providing five- to

six- carat blue topaz charms for anglers who catch imposter fish. DNR officials will reveal the tag number of the authentic Diamond Jim fish at the Maryland Fishing Challenge Finale, which will be held in conjunction with the Maryland Seafood Festival at Sandy Point State Park on September 7, 2013.

Now in its ninth year, the challenge showcases Maryland as a premier sport fishing destination with accessible, affordable, diverse and high-quality opportunities for anglers of all ages. Anyone who catches and registers a [Maryland Angler Award](#)-eligible sport fish in any of the three categories — nontidal, Chesapeake Bay and coastal — will receive a certificate of achievement and free passes to the finale where they will have the chance to win great door prizes.

Prizes include a boat, trailer and motor package from Tracker Marine; a Bahamas vacation package from the World Fishing Network; tackle packages from Bill's Outdoor Center and Bass Pro Shops; Heat Gear from Under Armour; and fishing gear from a number of local tackle shops. Combined with the prizes for the Diamond Jim component of the contest, the total potential prize value of the year-long contest is more than \$50,000.

To be eligible for the contest, all fish must be caught recreationally by rod and reel.

Fishing Regulations

2013 Md. Flounder Season

Minimum Size - 16" Creel - 4 fish Season – March 28th – Dec 31st

2013 Va. Flounder Season

Minimum Size - 16" Creel - 4 fish per day
No closed season

Tournament News

Classified Ads

Charter Services

Island Queen Inland Charters

Bay and Sound Fishing & Cruises
Chincoteague Island, VA

Captain Charlie Koski - 757-990-2404
www.islandqueeninlandcharters.com

Fishing Equipment

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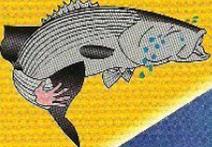


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FREDERICK MSSA CHAPTER - 2013 CALENDAR OF EVENTS
www.mssafrederick.com

JANUARY	12	- Dinner Dance - Frederick Moose Club
	16	- Frederick Board Meeting
	19	- Frederick Chapter Fishing Expo – Frederick Fair Grounds
	26-27	- Kent Island Chapter Flea Market
FEBRUARY	1-3	- MSSA Convention, Annapolis, MD
	2	- Tri State Marine Flea Market – Free in Deale MD
	13	- Frederick Meeting -
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	16-17	- Pasadena Flea Market – Earleigh Heights Fire Co, Pasadena, MD
	23	- Dorchester County Flea Market – American Legion Post 91 – Cambridge, MD
	23	- Saltwater Fishing Expo Annapolis Elks #622 – Edgewater MD
28	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center	
MARCH	1-3	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center
	13	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	16-17	- Essex/Middle River Flea Market
	23-24	- Southern MD Fishing Fair – Solomons Fire Hall
APRIL	6	- Frederick Shakedown Cruise/Brunch – Sandy Point
	10	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Opening Day - Striped Bass Season
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
MAY	3-5	- 29th Annual MSSA Spring Tournament – Solomons
	8	- Frederick Meeting
	15	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17-19	- Chapter Flounder Tournament – Chincoteague
JUNE	12	- Frederick Meeting
	19	- Frederick Board Meeting
	21-23	- 20th Annual MSSA Tunament – Ocean City & Wachapreague
JULY	10	- Frederick Meeting
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
AUGUST	14	- Frederick Meeting
	21	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17	- Chapter Lower Bay Charter Trip
	24	- 3rd Annual MSSA Beach N Boat Flounder Tournament – Ocean City
SEPTEMBER	11	- Frederick Meeting
	14	- Chapter Crab Feast and Picnic
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting
OCTOBER	5-12	- Chapter North Carolina King Mackerel Tournament
	16	- Frederick Meeting
	23	- Frederick Board Meeting
NOVEMBER	13	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	23-24	- 19 th Annual MSSA Fall Tournament
DECEMBER	11	- Frederick Meeting
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting