

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

WOW! That's all that can be said about our chapter King "Tackle the Mackerel" tournament. What a great way to spend a week doing what we like to do and calling it a vacation. Just ask anyone who attended what a great time this tournament is, but, most importantly, add it to your chapter "bucket list". Although, the weather proved to be potentially dicey again, we dodged hurricane Matthew this year. Luckily, his path slowed enough that we could get all five days of fishing in and we were able to get out of dodge before his full effects hit North Carolina. There were plenty of fish being caught by everyone throughout the week, with many weighing some really nice fish. It seemed everyone had a great time and those of us who attended were able to share a lot of stories (big one gotta away mostly). It's always a pleasure to see the camaraderie shared by our members, everyone helping each other and volunteering some of their "vacation" time to support the chapter. A BIG congratulations to all the winners, as, we had quite a few different crews win some money. A BIG thank you to everyone who helped to make this such a special event for our chapter and all that everyone did to help. Most importantly, a BIG thank you to Wayne Hoffman from Catch All Tackle and Ken Lehr from Reel Draggin Tackle, our two sponsors, whose contributions help our chapter to make this such a huge success. We ask that all our members patronize these two sponsors when needing tackle, as their contributions are greatly appreciated.

We are now focusing on our Saltwater Fishing Expo, which is our next major event and fundraiser for the chapter. It will be held on January 14, 2017 at the Frederick County Fairgrounds. We will need many volunteers to assist this year, so we ask that each of you be

willing to lend a hand somehow. We will be in need of many of you helping us spread the word and to help put advertising signs throughout our community. We will have a signup sheet starting at November's meeting for volunteers.

Make sure everyone also marks their Calendar for the Main's Fall Classic in November. Check out the website www.mssa.net for all the new and exciting categories. It is now a Pro-Am tournament.

Fish Hard!

Ed

Next Meeting

Date: OCTOBER 12, 2016
Food Service begins at 6:15 PM
Meeting at 7:00 PM

Speaker: J.R.Whitsell will do a talk about light tackle jigging tips, tricks and some basics about identifying where to fish

Vendor: Jigged Up Custom Lures

Dinner Menu:
Beef and Chicken Tacos
Dessert

Attendance at September Meeting: 39

Raffle Winners:
Eddie Schulte- Fishing Rod
Cathy Gunder- Lenny Rudow Books
Neal Ammerman- Lure Bags

Walt Shaw- Spankin Striper Lures
Emory Connor- Bust Em Baits
Steve Oneil- Specialized Baits lures
Stephanie Hurt- Bass Pro Boat Bag
Brett Barnhard- Diagonal Cutters
Chris Conway- Frederick MSSA Visor

50/50 Raffle: Jim Bremer \$109

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

Fishing Reports

Maryland DNR Fishing Report

October 05, 2016

This is Erik Zlokovitz, filling in for Keith Lockwood for the next two weeks while he is on a hunting trip in New Mexico. A major weather system with easterly winds and rain moved through the area on Wednesday through Saturday, which caused water temperatures in the Bay to drop further in Bay Waters. A combination of cooling water temperatures and lower salinity from the rain and freshwater input should start to push the summer visitors such as bluefish, Spanish mackerel, and red drum south towards their overwintering areas. The falling temperatures will also create new angling opportunities for resident fish in Maryland as they feed and prepare to fatten up for the upcoming winter months. For example, striped bass tend to bite well on topwater baits under overcast skies as the waters cool down.

In the extreme upper

Bay/Susquehanna Flats area, water temperatures at the NOAA Data Buoy – "Susquehanna" – near Havre De Grace have dropped further to 72°. It seems that most of the rain during the last few days fell over on the Eastern shore, and the Conowingo Dam hotline reports that no flood gates have been open, so there is no extreme flow condition. Shore anglers have been reporting success on keeper size striped bass up to 27 inches in the Conowingo tailrace, using a fly or bass assassin in combination with a 2-3 ounce inline sinker and casting the rig with a long surf rod and 20lb braid.

In the upper bay region between Baltimore Harbor and the Bay Bridge, most striped bass are being caught on jigs, topwater baits, and trolling. Some folks are live lining spot around the Bay Bridge pilings, but this live bait will be less readily available as the water temperatures continue to cool down. The chumming bite which was steady all summer has also slowed down. Breaking fish have been reported anywhere from Love Point, south to the Bay Bridge, Poplar Island, and Thomas Point.

Fishing for white perch in the lower sections of the upper bay and middle bay's tidal rivers is slowing down in the shallows, but should be better in the deeper areas over hard bottom. Bloodworms and dropper rigs with small flies or plastics and small leadheads with twister tails work well.

Lower bay fishermen are were fishing on a mix of bluefish, Spanish mackerel and striped bass prior to the storm system on Thursday. The Spanish mackerel should be moving out now as waters cool.

Recreational crabbing continues to be good in the rivers with good catches reported from the Severn and West/Rhode systems. This is a good time of year to catch heavier crabs and boat traffic is very light.

The mid-Atlantic Region received much needed precipitation last week and the flows in most Maryland rivers and streams have improved. Smallmouth bass fishing on the upper Potomac has been good with most fish running 8 to

14" with larger bass thrown into mix enough to keep things interesting. Topwater baits fished during the evening hours have accounted for some of the larger bass while finesse-sized plastic baits fished on lightweight jig heads have been most successful under low, clear conditions.

The population of invasive flathead catfish in the upper Potomac has increased dramatically in recent years. The chance to catch large fish has attracted anglers to this fishery. Flathead catfish are excellent table fair and the Freshwater Fisheries Program encourages anglers to harvest these tasty predators to help control their numbers and reduce their potential to impact existing resources.

In Ocean City, there was very good white marlin fishing prior to the storm system. Wahoo and dolphin were biting well on Sunday after the system moved through. The flounder bite picked up inshore, and sheepshead were biting well around structure.

Virginia Beach Action

Weekly Sportfishing Rundown
30 September 2016

The fall weather is settling in, and the cool water saltwater species are becoming more active.

Surf anglers are off to a great start with big red drum providing good action along the breakers on the Eastern Shore barrier islands. A few reds are also showing for surf anglers fishing from the Little Island pier and along the surfines in Sandbridge, but the best of the drum surf run is yet to come. Nice red drum are also hitting around the islands of the CBBT on both live and cut bait lately. Cobia are still around, but not for much longer as these fish continue to pour out of the area as they head south.

The fall backwater fishing action is heating up nicely. Puppy drum are doing well in local shallows and inlets, with the best action happening on fresh cut bait or live mullet. Good numbers of speckled trout are hitting lures and live bait in the Eastern Shore shallows, Lynnhaven, Rudee, and Little Creek Inlets, and the Poquoson flats area. This tendency will continue to intensify through the cooler months.

The spot action is good lately, which is also keeping local pier anglers busy. Little Creek Inlet, the HRBT, and Rudee Inlet have been the most productive areas, with bloodworms the top bait. Nice pompano are also showing up in the surf off the oceanfront, with some fish pushing to over a pound caught this week. Big croaker are still responsive in the deeper holes near the HRBT, the CBBT, and within local inlets.

Within Bay waters, big sheepshead are still lingering along the structure of the Bridge Tunnel, and tautog action is rekindling for the fall season. Keeper tog averaging to around 4-pounds are hitting well on fiddler crabs. Offshore and inshore wrecks are still productive for flounder, along with some jumbo seabass and triggerfish, but remember that seabass are off limits right now. Bottom bouncers can also find willing tautog on some of these same structures.

The Bay striped bass season opens this week. As of October 4th you can keep two fish per person measuring between 20 and 28-inches, with one of the two fish allowed to measure above 28-inches in Bay waters. Most rockfish will be schoolies caught while targeting other species in backwater and inlet areas at first.

October can be a good month for smoker-sized king mackerel, but clear water is a must. Spanish mackerel and false albacore are also available in these same areas. Some big amberjack are still circling the South Tower, while jack crevelle are also a possibility at the Chesapeake Light Tower.

Deep dropping will pick up when more interest stirs, but the offshore bite is still a distraction. **The Virginia Beach Fishing Center** reports that a good

selection of barrelfish along with nice blueline tilefish, golden tilefish, and a variety of grouper are hitting along the edges of the Norfolk Canyon.

Fall offshore action is good, with billfish providing chances for releases of both white and blue marlin, along with a smattering of roundscale spearfish. Catches of decent yellowfin tuna and some bigeye tuna are possible, along with lots of nice mahi. Wahoo action is still on the rise, and should continue into October. A few swordfish are starting to show, with this action typically improving over the colder months.

<http://www.drjball.com>

Delaware Fishing Report

Updated: Oct. 6, 2016

DELAWARE BAY We have had two weeks of northeast winds, heavy rain and above average high tides and fishing has suffered accordingly. A few anglers caught a few white perch and catfish from the tidal rivers and creeks in the upper bay, but heavy rains caused many of the down-state streams to approach or exceed flood level.

On Monday the head and charter boats out of Lewes scratched out some tog and sheepshead from Lower Bay reef sites and a small number of private boats did the same at the Outer Wall. Various types of crab were the most popular baits.

I fished the pier at Cape Henlopen State Park on Monday. The crabs and tiny blues made short work of my clam and mullet baits, but flounder to 22 inches were caught by patrons working at the far end of the structure. Strips of fresh mullet were the best flounder baits.

INSHORE OCEAN Boats working the Old Grounds had limited success on the occasional days when the seas allowed them to clear the inlet. While flounder were caught they did not

appear in the numbers we saw before the storms.

I believe it will take more than a few days of calm weather before the flounder or any other fish recovers from this rough weather. As to what fish will still be out there, your guess is as good as mine.

OFFSHORE OCEAN My son Roger ran to the Baltimore Canyon on Sunday night. It took the 100-foot Golden Eagle out of Belmar, N.J. six hours to get there. The predawn hours were relatively calm then the wind came up with the sun. Roger caught a swordfish and a yellowfin tuna before leaving early due to the wind. The ride back took nine hours.

INDIAN RIVER INLET Small blues were caught here on Wednesday and they should continue to be available after the storms pass by. No word on any keeper rockfish, but with the mullet run underway some of these fish could make an appearance.

SURF FISHING The beaches have suffered some erosion and many were closed last weekend. Only time will tell how bad the damage is.

PIER FISHING I have fished from many piers with varying levels of success. I would fish from piers in North Carolina several times a year either in Hatteras or in Salter Path on Emerald Island.

Both locations provided lots of bottomfish such as kings (known as sea mullet in North Carolina), blues, Spanish mackerel, trout, croaker and spot. There were always several folks fishing with live bait from the end of these piers and they would catch king mackerel, tarpon, cobia and on rare occasions, a sailfish.

I don't believe there is much of a chance to catch any of those big fish from the pier at Cape Henlopen State Park, however you can catch blues, flounder, kings and spot with some degree of consistency. As mentioned earlier, I fished the pier on Monday and only drew the attention of crabs and tiny bluefish, but there was a 22-

inch flounder taken from the far end of the structure.

If you are serious about pier fishing you will need some type of conveyance to move your gear from the parking lot to the pier. You can buy one of the pier carts for several hundred dollars or build your own. I use a folding hand cart that I picked up somewhere for 20 bucks. Fresh bait is always the best bait and at Cape Henlopen there is Lighthouse View Tackle, where just about any bait you may need is for sale. They also have plenty of tackle with the emphasis on pier fishing.

I have found a top-bottom rig baited with clam, bloodworm, cut bait or Gulp! to be the best for catching bottomfish. The key to keeping the crabs from cleaning the hooks is to keep the rig moving across the bottom. Cast out and slowly reel the rig back in with a crank-pause motion. There is no way to stop those tiny blues from finding and eating the bait.

Flounder fishermen use live minnows, strips of fresh baitfish, squid and Gulp!. I understand that the pilings hold flounder, but on Monday I fished a lot of pilings with live mullet without result. Using a Gulp! swimming mullet on a jig head is another good option. While this appeals to flounder, it also appeals to kings, croaker and bluefish. The top technique is cast and then use a slow retrieve back to the pier bouncing the jig over the bottom.

The Cape Henlopen Fishing Pier is a very good bargain. Pay your entrance fee to the park, then stay on the pier for as long as you want. There are restrooms, picnic areas and if nothing bites, a lovely view of the bay.

By Eric Burnley Sr.*

DNR in the News

Maryland Motorists: Stay Alert for Deer!

October 5, 2016



Cooling temperatures, colorful foliage and unpredictable wildlife – all signs that the fall season is upon us. As such, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources urges motorists to stay alert for deer and other wildlife this time of year as these animals seek out food supplies and mates.

“Deer activity will peak during their breeding season, which occurs from mid-October through November,” Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. “Deer often travel without regard for roads or traffic during this time period. Motorists need to be especially alert from sunset to dawn as deer are more active during this time.”



Motorists are reminded to:

- **Slow down** if a deer crosses the road ahead. Deer often travel in groups and others may be nearby.

- **Watch the shoulder.** Be alert for deer standing along the shoulder as they may suddenly move into the roadway. Slow down and sound your horn to scare them away.
- **Gradually brake** to avoid hitting a deer but do not swerve as this may cause you to lose control of the vehicle, increasing the severity of the accident.
- **Be particularly attentive** in the early morning and evening periods.
- **Stay alert** and slow down in areas where deer crossing signs are posted. These indicate locations of frequent deer activity.

Tips and Tricks

How To Prevent Your Boat

From Being Stolen

By Todd Schwede

Love your boat? Here are some actions you can take to prevent someone else from making off with your pride and joy.

So your boat's been in storage for the winter, and you're anxious to get out on the water. As someone who's been investigating stolen-boat thefts for more than 30 years, I can categorically state that no one is safe from boat theft, regardless of where your vessel is stored. The BoatUS Marine Insurance files are full of reports of boats that have been stolen from backyards, front yards, the street in front of the house, the brokerage or dealer lot, secured storage with video-surveillance equipment and barbed wire, and other typical areas that we believe are "safe." The good news is that after so many years investigating thefts, I can give you some concrete advice that

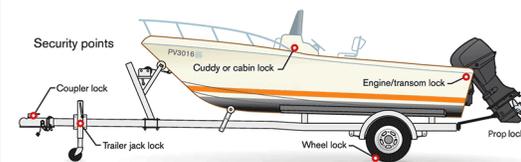
can help you greatly decrease the chance that your claim ends up in my files.

By far the largest category of stolen vessels is in the range between 20 and 29 feet, typically on twin-or triple-axle trailers, and usually fitted with outboard motors. Center-console boats, bass boats, and "go-fast" boats all fall within this range of attractive theft. Some boats are stolen for the engines, equipment, and electronics, then stripped, or parted out, and many are stolen for the purpose of resale, criminal activity, or container export.

In this age of Internet-based purchases, many vessels have been targeted for a "quick flip," and the ownership documentation paperwork is processed through one of the nine or 10 states that do not issue titles. Several states don't even issue license plates for trailers. In this age of word processing, it's not uncommon to find good-looking, completely fabricated Manufacturing Certificates of Origin, authentic-looking bills of sale, and other documentation that to the untrained eye looks perfectly reasonable and is commonly proffered as proof of ownership. So if you only take away one thing from this article, it should be this: Thieves are lazy and looking for an easy score. Make your boat harder to steal, and the bad guys will go after someone else's.

The Boat And Trailer

Locks, locks, and more locks. Lock the engine to the vessel, lock a chain around the tires and wheels, lock the cabin, and under no circumstances store the keys in the boat! You may think you have a clever hiding place for your keys. Trust me, you don't.



Obtain a seriously beefy tongue lock, or better yet, have your trailer fitted with a removable tongue or hitch assembly. Then take the tongue off the trailer. Take it home; don't store

it in the boat. Once fitted, the simple precaution of taking the removable tongue hitch off the trailer is by far the easiest way to disable the trailer for moving. If thieves can't hook it up, they can't take it. Removing the tires is even more effective, but a lot more work. If you can easily remove the trailer lights, you make it even harder on the bad guys (some owners have quick-mount lights that hang on the back of the boat and can be stored in the tow vehicle). Thieves like to work under cover of night and don't like attracting attention to themselves by dragging a trailer down the road without the required lights.

Storing

Again, make your vessel harder or riskier to steal, and thieves may look elsewhere. If you store your vessel at home or in a driveway or backyard, install automatic motion-activated spotlights that will act as a light sentry. Make sure the lights are hard to access from the ground. If disabling them is as easy as unscrewing a bulb, they're not going to be very effective.

If you keep your boat at home, park your trailer with the tongue facing the house or a tree to make it harder to hook up. Parking the tow vehicle in front of the boat makes it much harder to steal the boat.

There are many antitheft devices now available, ranging from electronic cell-phone alerts and electronic kill switches to active cellphone and satellite tracking systems. A technology called microdots can be painted on outboard motors, outdrives, and inboard engines as well as on the boat. The size of a grain of sand, microdots are each etched with a unique identification code that is registered in a central database. While microdots may not prevent theft, they can help law enforcement identify your boat or equipment if recovered. Posting the warning sticker that comes with most kits may even be enough to deter theft. Antitheftdots.com is one company that sells microkits to consumers.

Common Sense

Any prevention scheme that you can think of to make your vessel less attractive while in storage is worth considering. A full boat cover, as an example, might hide your boat's unique graphics. Remember the same things that attracted you to the boat in terms of flashy graphics also attract thieves.



Before and after photos of a typical boat theft. It takes thieves only a short time to completely strip a boat.

Keep in mind that even in good, paid storage facilities with gates, keypad entry, and video surveillance, everyone with a gate code has access to your property. Video surveillance is notoriously bad at night, due to the low resolution, and many video surveillance systems re-record after 72 hours, effectively erasing the record of a previous theft — not much help if your boat is stolen during winter, when you're not visiting it. It's wise to ask questions about the security of a storage facility and review the contract. Many facilities now contractually indemnify themselves from any responsibility, relying on the boat owner's insurance company for coverage.

A "For Sale" sign on a boat in a public place can be a risky way to find a buyer. It's not uncommon for a thief to call the seller to ask for an inspection of the boat, all the while scoping out the availability and access for quick theft. Also, don't store your title and/or registration papers on the boat; you'll just make it that much

easier to dispose of your boat if it's stolen.

Recovery

Most boats are not recovered, but you might get lucky. Record all the serial numbers you can locate, including the boat's hull identification number (HIN), which is almost always located on the upper right corner of the transom; the state registration number and registration certificate number; engine serial numbers; transom assembly numbers; outdrive numbers; and serial numbers for any electronics. Keep copies of your purchase documents, sales receipts, and invoices, which frequently have serial numbers and identification information. Frequently, after a boat is stolen, HINs are removed, altered, or covered up, and state registration numbers are changed. Should you be one of the few fortunate enough to have your vessel recovered, the police will need identifiers that confirm that the recovered property is yours. Take and store photographs of your boat from all sides — front, back, interior, helm station, engines, and serial numbers, and any other identifiers. Keep the photographs separate from the boat, download them from your phone and save them on secure storage device, or upload to the cloud. If your boat and property have been stolen, your insurance company will likely want proof of ownership, as well as photographs of documents, boat graphics, colors, upholstery style, canvas color, and other identifiers that may be unique to your particular vessel.

Not Just Trailers

While most boats are stolen on their trailers so they can be driven to a hiding place, a good percentage of stolen boats are taken with the vessel tied to its slip or, occasionally, from a dockside lift. Center-console boats in coastal regions everywhere in Florida and the Gulf states through Texas are attractive drug-smuggling and human-smuggling vessels. Our files contain reports of cases where thieves have lowered the boat on its lift behind the owner's back porch, then towed the vessel out of the residential area with another boat.

If you leave town, make sure your neighbors know you're away and that no one should be near your boat. A neighborhood watch-style warning sign might be helpful to post on your private dock.

Always lock your hoist or boat-lift control box, or kill the power at the breaker box. Remember, any deterrent is better than none.

Todd Schwede has been a marine - surveyor and certified insurance investigator in San Diego since 1984, specializing in marine accident, damage, and stolen-boat investigations.

— Published: October/November 2016 in BoatUS magazine

2016 Chapter Officers

President: Ed Susa

Phone: 301-253-5597

E-mail: esusa99@yahoo.com

Senior Vice President: Rob Pellicot

Phone: 301-606-0392

E-mail: r.pellicot@yahoo.com

Secretary: Jim Lorditch

Phone: 443-277-5289

E-mail: secretary@mssafrederick.com

Treasurer: Jim Bremer

Phone: 301-728-7853

E-mail: jbremmer@fgmc.com

2016 Board of Directors

Jodie Ammerman (Membership Coordinator)

Phone: 240-723-0853

E-mail: JPAmmerman@aol.com

Chris Linetty - Phone: 301-988-1305

E-mail: _retriever@myactv.net

Bob Pellicot - Phone: 301-606-6200

E-Mail: rpellicot@shockleyhonda.com

Fred Keene - Phone: 304-856-2596

E-mail: poppafred4@frontiernet.net

Walt Shaw - Phone: 301-662-4481

E-Mail: bub5635@comcast.net

Jeff Townsend - Phone: 410-903-9416

Email: kindit@peoplepc.com

Neal Ammerman - Phone: 240-832-3671

E-mail: apishinika@aol.com

Chris Conway - Phone: 301-704-4196

E-mail: twitty044@yahoo.com

FREDERICK MSSA CHAPTER – 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

www.mssafrederick.com

JANUARY	13	- Frederick Meeting
	16	- Frederick Chapter Fishing Expo – Frederick Fair Grounds
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	23	- Tri State Marine Flea Market – Deale MD
	28-31	- Baltimore Boat Show – Baltimore Convention Center
FEBRUARY	10	- Frederick Meeting
	13-14	- Pasadena Flea Market – Earleigh Heights Fire Co, Pasadena, MD
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
	27	- Saltwater Fishing Expo Annapolis Elks #622 – Edgewater MD
	27	- Dorchester County Flea Market – American Legion Cambridge, MD
27	- Dinner Dance - Frederick Moose Club	
MARCH	9	- Frederick Meeting
	16	- Frederick Board Meeting
	19-20	- Essex/Middle River Flea Market
	26-27	- Southern MD Fishing Fair – Solomons Fire Hall
APRIL	2-3	- Southern MD Fishing Fair – Solomons Fire Hall
	13	- Frederick Meeting
	16	- Opening Day - Striped Bass Season
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
	29-1	- Frederick Chapter Spring Rockfish Tournament- Solomons
29-1	- 33rd Annual MSSA Spring Tournament	
MAY	11	- Frederick Meeting
	18	- Frederick Board Meeting
	20-22	- Frederick Chapter Flounder Tournament – Chincoteague
JUNE	8	- Frederick Meeting
	15	- Frederick Board Meeting
	17-19	- 27th Annual MSSA Tunament – Ocean City, Chincoteague, Wachapreague, and Indian River Inlet
JULY	8-10	- Frederick Chapter Cobia Tournament in Kiptopeke, VA
	13	- Frederick Meeting
	20	- Frederick Board Meeting
AUGUST	10	- Frederick Meeting
	17	- Frederick Board Meeting
SEPTEMBER	10	- Chapter Crab Feast and Picnic
	14	- Frederick Meeting
	17-18	- 6 th Annual Mid Atlantic Flounder Tournament – OC, Chincoteague, DE
	21	- Frederick Board Meeting
OCTOBER	1-8	- Frederick Chapter North Carolina King Mackerel Tournament
	12	- Frederick Meeting
	19	- Frederick Board Meeting
NOVEMBER	9	- Frederick Meeting
	16	- Frederick Board Meeting
	18-20	- 24 th Annual MSSA Fall Tournament - Fish 2 of 3
DECEMBER	14	- Frederick Meeting
	21	- Frederick Board Meeting

FREDERICK MSSA CHAPTER – 2016 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

www.mssafrederick.com