

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

Well, like I said, before we know it, spring will be here. There is only about 40 days left before opening day. If you haven't started, its time to start getting your fishing gear and boats ready to ROCK n roll. Seems like I kept thinking, man, I got time to do this, do that, get this done and I'll be well ahead of the game. The best laid plans of mice and men must always go a rye. Now its crunch time, time to start checking all the leaders, respool the reels, retie lures, get the 2013 spread together, grease the bearings on the trailer and get the dust out of the boat. Better get started because it's almost here. I can't wait, I'm excited, and I'll be ready, will you? I can only hope that we find this spring to be successful, come on opening day!

It's also time to start signing up for our Chapter tournaments. Our annual spring rockfish and flounder tournaments will soon be upon us. Sign up sheets for both will be at our next meeting and I can only hope that each of you plan to participate. The board has decided to up the ante for each tournament by adding \$350.00 for a new category with prizes being awarded to one (maybe more if a tie) member that catches a fish closest to the designated weight for each day. This not only adds a potential increase to one's winnings, it also adds an element consideration to weighing the fish. Dinner prices for each tournament will remain the same, and all prizes will be upgraded. This is just another example of the board voting to give back additional perks to those members of our chapter that participate.

I was hoping that our Expo would have been more successful as a fund raiser for the chapter. Our attendance goals fell far below our expectations, resulting in our need to continue our sales of fundraising raffle tickets. We have begun distribution of these tickets to each member and hope that you will step up and sell at least ten (10) tickets. I was disappointed to hear that some have refused. I can only hope that those of you will reconsider as our annual budget exceeds the funds generated by the expo. I don't believe it's too much to ask for. Just remember, for each ten (10) tickets sold, you receive a free entry to our crab feast in September. Please see that you get yours at the door at the next meeting
Fish hard!

Next Meeting

March 13, 2013

**Dinner served at 6:00 PM
Meeting begin ~7:00 PM**

Speaker:

**Captain "Walleye" Pete
Dahlberg**

<http://walleyepete.com>

Vendor:

Specialized Baits

<http://www.specializedbaits.com>

On the Menu:

Roast Beef
Mashed potatoes
Corn
Gravy
Cole Slaw
Pudding

February Raffle Winners:

Shakespeare Trolling Reel - Ed Susa
Shimano Spinning Reel - Tom King
Electronic Filet Knife – John Sivinski
MSSA Cap and T-shirt - Jerry Leuters
Battery Charger – Gary Lengerhuis
Hook Sharpener and gloves - Alan Dissin
Billfisher Trolling Rod - Brain Buraol

50/50 Raffle

\$107 - Fred Keene

Attendance at the February Meeting:

55

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

Chapter Spring Tournament Information – May 3-5

The March meeting will be your last chance to sign up for the Spring Tournament with the early bird discount.

We will be at the Comfort Inn/Beacon Marina in Solomon's again this year. Rooms are \$79 per night. You can reserve your room now by calling 410-326-6303 and it will be under the GROUP NAME: ROBERT PELLICOT. Slips are \$1 per foot per night. They are reserved on the tournament entry form and paid in full at the meeting.

This year we will be offering an Early Bird discount for those that register for the tournament by the March 13th meeting.

The deadline to register for the tournament is April 10, 2013. There will be no registrations accepted after that date.

Entry Fees:

\$100/ boat

\$80/ boat – with Early Bird Discount

Optional Calcutta:

\$125/ boat

\$100/ boat with Early Bird Discount

The dinner will be held Friday May 3rd @ 6:30pm at the Solomon's Island Firehouse. Yes we are back at the Firehouse and it's closer to the motel and marina. This will be a great time with terrific food.

Members: \$10 per person by March 13th / \$15 until April 10th. Non-members: \$15 per person by March 13th / \$20 until April 10th. No tickets will we sold at the door.

Annual Shake Down Cruise

It's that time of year again. Time for our annual Shake Down Cruise out of lovely Sandy Point State Park.

When? April 6, the 13th if weather is foul.

What time? We met at 9:00 A.M. leave the dock at 10:00 A.M.

Come one come all, and put your boat through its paces in a lovely cruise to the eastern shore.

We will cruise across the Bay to have a leisurely lunch at thr Kentmoor Restaurant in Stevensonville. Bring the wife and kids, and grandma too!

It is a good time to test your boat with others ready to assist in time of need (Just ask Jeff about how that works!).

Sign up at the next meeting, or call Jeff Townsend @ 410-903-9416

**Chapter Flounder Tournament
Chincoteague, Virginia
May 17-19, 2013**

The Chapter has secured discounted rooms at the Seahawk Motel starting at \$60 per night. Call Carey or Brenda at 757-336-6527 to make your reservations.

We will also host an you can eat buffet dinner at Maria's Friday night at 7pm. The cost is \$15/person and includes one raffle ticket.

This should be a great time and the big fish will be there. Expect 3lb + fish

Entry Fee:
\$60/ boat if paid by April 10
\$85/ boat if paid April 11 - May 8

Optional Calcutta: Winner take all for heaviest single fish of the tournament

\$60/ boat if paid before April 10
\$85/ boat if paid April 11 - May 8

Details and sign up forms will be at the meetings and on the website [flounder tournament sign-up](#)

Any questions call Roy Young 301-748-7211

**N.C. King Mackerel Tournament
October 5-12, 2013**

We will have the details and sign-up sheets starting at the March meeting.

There are a limited number of rooms available so get your crew together and make plans for this now.

We will need a non-refundable \$50 deposit and a credit card number to hold your room and boat slip.

Fishing Reports

Chincoteague Action

By Charlie Koski

The flounder regs have been decided for VA. VMRC accepted the 16"/4 no closed season proposal by the Flounder Adhoc Committee. Looking forward to a good season since 2012 seemed to be bust on the seaside. My worst year fishing here in 46 years. Yup hard to believe we discovered this little bit of paradise back in 1967. Oh how it has changed. Some for the better and some for the well we will leave that one alone. Most folks are gearing up for the season. With todays(3/3) temp not getting out of the 30's looks like it may take a while for the water to warm enough to get them flatties of to bite. 52 is the magic number. The commercial draggers are just finishing

their two week stint and all the fish I seen were nice.

Not much been going on here even on the surf. They are still working on getting the 961 parking spots ready for the season after Super Storm Sandy wiped it out in October. Still some trees down and cleanup continues. Hopefully the surf action will break loose soon.

Inshore wrecks haven't seen much action due to windy conditions, even the hard core guys have stayed in. Tog are out there I am sure. I didn't even see High Seas Drifter, a commercial fisherman going out much. You know it's bad when Dawson doesn't venture out.

Let's hope for full creels and plenty of fishing action for 2013.

Tightlines.....

Ocean City Action

By Sue Foster

Water Temp:

Chesapeake Bay Action

Virginia Beach Action

By Dr. Julie Ball

1 Mar 2013

The barrage of cold fronts moving through the Mid Atlantic area continues to keep anglers inland and close to shore. Spring can't get here soon enough! In the meantime, it is a good time to check your equipment and tackle, and complete maintenance on fishing gear and reels before the springtime season arrives. Local tackle shops will gladly help you get set up for the new fishing season.

The Elizabeth River is still the best game in town, but folks are losing interest. The unpredictable frigid weather makes it uncomfortable to chase these fish when the bite is hit and miss right now. One trout guru reports that some days are a struggle on the casting scene. Many fish are on the smaller side, although a few specks are still pushing to over 24-inches. Casters are finding the best luck with suspending and sinking baits. Cove anglers are picking away at scattered fish on live bait when they brave the elements. Some exciting catches of bigger rockfish stretching to around 40-inches have made up for the waning trout bite in the River this week for both caster and trollers. Puppy drum also continue to provide a little action within the River, as well as within Rudee Inlet this week.

A few boats were able to make it out on the water for tautog this week. Although the action is not red hot, some decent keepers with a few scattered citations up to around

13-pounds rewarded anglers braving the elements. The best action is still occurring on offshore locations, but inshore wrecks will begin producing when the water temperatures begin to rise. Most folks are using clams or frozen green crabs since blue crabs are hard to find. Nice seabass are still available on many of the same structures, but they are out of season as of the 1st of March.

Deep water bottom dwellers are still an option for deep droppers in water deeper than 300-feet when the wind allows boats to get out. Boats venturing out are finding some nice blueline tilefish, grouper, and black bellied rosefish. Seabass will also take your bait, but be sure to throw them back for now.

www.drjball.com.

Delaware Action

By Eric Burnley Sr. *

Updated: Mar 1, 2013

DELAWARE BAY I wish I had better news, but the water temperature in the bay seems stuck around 40 degrees and that is much too cold for anything except a tog. I do suspect tog would be available at the Outer Wall if the wind and seas would ever allow boats to toggle off the structure.

INDIAN RIVER INLET Things remain in the slow to stop mode here as the weather and water temperature remain way too cold. Small rockfish and shad could be caught if and when the weather improves.

SURF FISHING It is the same story on the beach. Too cold and windy and the water temperature is too cold to bring anything close to shore.

INSHORE OCEAN Sea bass season is closed and with the nasty weather we have had on the weekends Delaware anglers did not put much of a dent in the population. I certainly hope conditions will improve in May when the season reopens with a 12.5-inch minimum size and a 20-fish per day bag limit.

Tog have been caught at Reef Site 11 on those rare days when the boats can run that far off. This season is still open so chances are good we can catch some of these fish in the next few weeks.

Tips and Tackle

Do you treat your rod and reel as well as you do your 12-gauge? You should.

By Larry Bozka

Rare are the hunters who fail to clean their guns after returning home. Many perform gun-cleaning duties while still at camp. With

the price of high-end fishing reels approaching that of moderately priced firearms, it only makes sense that anglers should do the same. In the case of saltwater angling, prompt cleaning is not only sensible, it's essential. Even the finest bait-casting and spinning reels cannot withstand the corrosive effects of salt water without regular post-trip maintenance.

Hunting season arrives with summer still lingering. In their haste to sight in deer rifles and sharpen wing-shooting skills, all too many coastal anglers-turned-hunters simply stash their reels "for later." "Later" rapidly becomes "too late." It's an expensive mistake, one that results in an ugly shock when bay fishing suddenly beckons and a long-neglected reel is retrieved from a salt-encrusted tote bag.

Fortunately, the heartache of frozen reel handles and rusted bearings can be avoided with a few simple steps.

It's best not to blast a fishing reel with pressurized water, be it from a car wash or even a water hose or faucet sprayer. Likewise, it's risky to submerge a reel and leave it immersed. Doing either can trap water, salt and sand inside the reel and set the stage for hopelessly damaged equipment.

Always remove the reel from the rod before cleaning. Rinse it gently with warm water and immediately wipe it dry with a soft cotton cloth.

Most baitcasting reels break down to three separate pieces: the housing, side plate/handle and spool. Flush those pieces with warm water to dissolve salt traces and displace embedded sand. Blow the pieces dry with either a compressor or hair dryer. At the very least, place the pieces in a drain basket over the sink and allow them to drip-dry.

Once the reel is dry, apply a reel lubricant, but use it sparingly. Most people tend to gum up the works by applying too much oil. It's best to use a lubricant designed for fishing reels. A few of the more notable ones include ReelX, XIR Reel Lube and Inhibitor V80.

Be sure to lubricate all moving parts. Lightly oil the worm gear and place a tiny drop of oil on each of the bearings. Back off the star drag and oil it as well. Crank it tight and then back it off again in order to thoroughly distribute the lubricant.

Reel handle knobs are extremely susceptible to salt retention and corrosion. Many reels have handles fitted with small plugs that can be removed with an ice pick or other pointed tool. Remove the plug and add a drop of oil directly into the opening.

Reassemble the reel and spray an absorbent cloth with reel lubricant. Wipe the reel as completely as possible, making sure all surfaces are coated. Cotton swabs are handy for getting the hard-to-reach places.

Spinning reels are substantially easier to break down and clean than baitcasting reels. Remove the reel spool, rinse it in warm water and be sure to oil the shaft. Clean and oil the handle knobs and bearings. Then revolve the handle several times to assure that the interior gears and assembly are coated. Some of the newer spinning reels come with special lube ports for ease of application. Either way, don't overdo it with the oil.

Maintenance of this sort, performed after every trip, will greatly enhance the performance and longevity of fishing reels. If you wade-fish on a regular basis, especially in the surf, it's important to clean the reel promptly upon returning home. Without immediate attention, a reel that has been dunked is virtually doomed.

Depending on how often you fish and your preferred method of angling, you should completely break down and clean your reels at least twice a year. Most reels come with schematic drawings to aid with breakdown, reassembly and ordering of replacement parts. If you are (understandably) intimidated by the task of comprehensive cleaning, take your reel to an established tackle repair facility and let a pro do the job; \$25 is a meager investment when spent to maintain a \$200 to \$300 fishing reel.

As for rods, reel seats should always be washed and lightly sprayed with lubricant before the reel is remounted. Wash the rod from handle to tip and apply a light coat of oil on the guides and inserts.

Also, periodically check for cracks or other defects in the ceramic inserts as well as the thread wrapping around the feet of the guides. Fraying thread can be arrested easily with a light coat of urethane varnish or even clear nail polish.

If your favorite 12-gauge were immersed in salty marsh water, you wouldn't fail to clean it promptly. It only makes sense to treat your rods and reels with just as much care.

DNR in the News

2013 Proposed Fee Bills

The Fisheries Service wants to make anglers aware of two bills proposed in the 2013 Legislative Session which, if approved, will affect 2014 fishing license fees. Senate Bill 525 affects both commercial and recreational fees and Senate Bill 662 only affects commercial fees, including fishing guides.

The legislation was not submitted by the Department of Natural Resources. Both bills were recommended by the Chesapeake Bay Commercial Fishermen's Association and the sponsors of the bills are listed below. The Department is reaching out to assure you are aware of the bills and we encourage you to contact the sponsors and organizations that recommended these bills to share your support or concerns.

SB 525/ HB 1253 - Fishing - Sustainable Fisheries Enforcement Fund **Senators Colburn and Dyson, Delegate Jacobs**

(Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs, 1st Reader: Hearing 2/26/2013, 1pm) Establishing the Sustainable Fisheries Enforcement Fund as a special enforcement fund; applying a \$10 surcharge to commercial fishing licenses and recreational fishing licenses (except seniors and complimentary); requiring that the surcharge supplements current revenue and can only be used for enforcement activities of the Natural Resources Police.

SB 662/HB 1241 - Natural Resources - Commercial Fishing - Licensing **Senators Mathias and Colburn, Delegate Jacobs**

(Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs, 1st Reader: Hearing 2/26/2013, 1pm) Raises certain authorized annual fees and surcharges for specified commercial fishing licenses (includes fishing guides), authorizations, and permits; establishes an annual harvester's registration for all commercial fishermen (except charter only captains) for a fee of \$215; requiring anyone that purchases Maryland seafood for resale to be licensed as a dealer or to have purchased from a dealer; and repealing provisions of law that authorize the Department to establish and issue a commercial fishing apprenticeship permit.

Fishing Regulations

2013 Md. Flounder Season

MARYLAND PROPOSES 2013 FLOUNDER REGULATIONS

Option 1 Minimum Size - 17" Creel - 3 fish Season - April 14th – Dec 16th

Option 2 Minimum Size - 17" Creel - 3 fish Season - January 1st – Dec 31st

Option 3 Minimum Size - 16" Creel - 3 fish Season - January 1st – Dec 31st

Option 4 Minimum Size - 16" Creel - 4 fish Season - January 1st – Dec 31st

The public comment period closes at 4:00 p.m. on March 29, 2013.

2013 Va. Flounder Season

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

Tournament News

**Main MSSA Spring Tournament
May 3-5, 2013**

We will have sign up forms and information packages available at the meeting. There are new calcutta's and higher payouts for this year.

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

Top of the Hill Custom Rods

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Clyde Hunt - 240-674-8646

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ENTER

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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