**MVSA December 2014 Newsletter**

**December Meeting**

Twenty- three members ate pizza and enjoyed good fellowship while being entertained by Kathi Pogoda who gave a terrific talk and power point presentation about pier fishing with Bob (Hawkeye) Jacobs on the Deerfield and Pompano piers in Florida. Kathi had some great photos of Spanish Mackerel, Pompano and Jack Crevalle caught right off the piers as well as some of the innovative ways to retrieve them from up to forty feet below. She also spoke about some of the colorful characters that fish on those piers. Sound familiar? Once a Wharf Rat, always a Wharf Rat.

Kathi also spoke about the solicitation of prizes for our annual awards ceremony and said it is going well. She said she gave Dave Kolb three pages of local merchants to solicit and Dave has about finished his list already. She asked the members present for donations even unwanted Derby prizes someone may not want. Members can contact her at: [katspog@aol.com](mailto:katspog@aol.com)

Ralph Peckham also gave an informative and educational presentation on reel cleaning and preventative maintenance particularly on Shimano and Penn reels. He cautioned that the line rollers on many Shimano reels have a tendency to seize up and once that happens it’s almost impossible to get them apart. He suggested a quick weekly cleaning with a product like Penn Reel Cleaner will usually prevent that and preventative maintenance goes a long way. He also recommended an annual cleaning and inspection or replacement of the drag washers. He said that most local tackle shops will perform the service for a nominal fee of $25 plus the cost ofany parts replaced.

During the business potion of the meeting President Scarpone polled the members present about serving pizza at our monthly meetings as to whether they wanted to continue the practice. He said the club has the money but last year it cost almost $850. The vote to continue was unanimous.

In an effort to grow the club and obtain new members, Don also said he intends to put informative flyers in the tackle shops next spring and summer.

Don also ran the idea of a used tackle sale and swap past members and asked for a show of hands in favor. Most members liked the idea and Don said he will shoot for the event to be held at the April meeting.

The regular monthly meeting will not be held in early January as was previously announced.

**New Members**

New members joining the MV Surfcasters last month were long time Derby fisherman Frank O’Rourke and Derby Weigh Station Administrator extraordinaire, Amy Coffey

**Awards Ceremony and Luncheon**

The annual MVSA Awards Ceremony and luncheon will be held on January 24, 2015 beginning at 1:00PM. As usual most of the food including raw oysters, shrimp, clams and chowder will be provided by the club but as in the past, donations of appetizers and desserts will be accepted and appreciated.

**Election of Officers**

The election of MVSA officers will also take place at the Awards Ceremony. The current slate of officers has agreed to serve another one year term but anyone wishing to place a name in nomination can do so by contacting Ron Domurat at [rd\_bjr@msn.com](mailto:rd_bjr@msn.com). The current officers are:

Don Scarpone-President

Peter Johnson-Vice President

Ralph Peckham-Vice President

Phil Horton-Treasurer

George Moran-Secretary

**Beach Report**

Chris Kennedy sent along the following beach report

The Chappy beaches are still recovering from the November 1-2 N'oreaster.  Both the east and north-facing beaches on Chappy took a wallop.  Immediately following the storm, The Trustees closed all of the exterior Chappy beaches but kept the bayside and other interior trails open.  Since then, we have been able to re-open a little more than half of the outside beaches.  Still closed to vehicle access is a section of beach from 1/4 mile south of Arruda's Point to the Jetties as well as the outside beach from the Lighthouse to the Elbow.  We had been hoping to get all of these beaches re-opened in short order but,  if anything, the erosion of the beach just south of the Jetties has worsened and the beach underneath the Lighthouse is still void of sand.  You can liken it to driving across boulders and cobble in many places.  We're out every day or two to assess the beach conditions and will get these open as soon as we can.

Norton Point has fared well so far this winter and the Breach has gotten quite a bit narrower.  The tip of Norton Point is also continuing its movement eastward towards Wasque Point.

We're heard reports of Snowy owl sightings on East Beach and in late November a Cape Poge resident found a cold-stunned Green sea turtle along the shore of Shear Pen Pond.  This turtle was transferred to the New England Aquarium where it is undergoing medical care and will eventually be released down south when its healthy.  Also, the wreck has been re-exposed east of Shear Pen Pond on Chappy.  Researchers feel it is the remains of a sailing ship which was wrecked on the beach in the mid-1800's.

It goes without saying if any of the Surfcaster's have any questions they shouldn't hesitate to call me at 508-627-7689 or email me at kennedy@ttor.org .  As always thanks to the Surfcaster's for your continued support and encouragement.

**In House Derby**

Unless we have another Christmas miracle, the 2014 MVSA In House Derby will end this way. As has been the custom at the January Awards luncheon, winners will receive engraved plaques for their accomplishments.

**Shore All Tackle Striped Bass**, Ron Domurat-35.35 lbs.

**Shore All Tackle Bluefish**, Ron Domurat-10.94 lbs.

**Boat All Tackle Bluefish**-Jack Kimberly-12.25 lbs.

**Shore Bonito**, Dave Nash-6.42 lbs.

**Shore False Albacore**, Mary Ann Angleone-14.65 lbs.

**Shore Flyrod False Albacore**-Dave Nash-8.00 lbs.

Also, the following members who submitted first, second, or third place fish in the monthly contests will participate in drawings to win new fishing reels.

**1st place**-Versie Geary, Ron Domurat, Janet Messineo, Peter Sliwkowski, Jim Cornwell, Jonathan Cornwell, Bob Jacobs, Ralph Peckham, Mary Ann Angelone, Kathi Pogoda, Jack Kimberly, Dave Nash, Paul Schultz and Ed Amaral.

**2nd place**-Ralph Peckham, Jesse Oliver, Don Scarpone, Dave Balon, Paula Sullivan, Jim Cornwell, Jonathan Cornwell, Lou Ferrucci, Bob Jacobs, Phil Horton and Brenda Beal.

**3rd place**-Ed Amaral, Jonathan Cornwell, Jim Mullen, Bob Jacobs, Dave Nash, Ralph Peckham, Lou Ferrucci and Don Scarpone.

At our recent meeting President Scarpone said efforts to increase participation in the In House Derby were successful this year but said he would still like to see more members entering fish. Twenty two members entered fish this year compared to fourteen the year before, an increase of more than 60%.

**Larry’s Tackle Shop**

Longtime surfcaster members Peter and Melissa Sliwkowski have purchased Larry's Tackle Shop in Edgartown from Steve Purcell.  Peter and Melissa became permanent residents of Chappy earlier this year. At the December meeting, Peter said this about the purchase.

"Our primary goal is to take the great foundation that Steve built and take Larry's to the next level.   We will be extending the selection with new product lines, adding services, revamping the website ([www.larrystackle.com](http://www.larrystackle.com/))  and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/larrystackle](http://www.facebook.com/larrystackle)) , and making sure that everyone who comes into Larry's has a great customer experience.

In addition, we are looking to leverage the great fishing community of the Vineyard, so if you are interested or know people who may be interested in selling their flies, custom lures, or other related items as well as providing services such as rod, reel, or hunting repair, please contact me at [peter@fishchappy.com](mailto:peter@fishchappy.com).

Lastly, if you have any other suggestions such as products you would like to see in the shop, send me an email at [peter@fishchappy.com](mailto:peter@fishchappy.com) "

**Derby Books**

Working with Ray Ellis before he passed away, Derby President and Surfcaster member Ed Jerome has put together a well written and beautifully illustrated book about the Derby and fishing on Martha’s Vineyard titled; *An Amazing Story of the Vineyards Derby.* The book features all twenty five of Mr. Ellis’s Derby paintings and twenty seven stories from local anglers and sportswriters including Janet Messineo, Greg Skomal, Spider Andresen and Ed himself.

Ron Domurat has also published a book about his years of participation in our wonderful annual celebration of Island fishing. In *Three Decades of the Derby,.* Ron has written stories about the ones that got away and a few that didn’t but more importantly talks about the Derby spirit and the friendships made and lost over thirty years of fishing this great event.

Both books would make great Christmas presents and are available at Island book stores and Amazon.com .

**MVSA Calendar**

**Annual Awards Ceremony and Banquet**-January 24, 2015, 1:00PM

**February Meeting**, Tuesday February 3, 2015, 7:00PM, MV Rod & Gun Club, Pizza

**March Meeting**-Tuesday March 2, 2015, 7:00PM, MV Rod & Gun Club, Pizza

**April Meeting** –Tuesday, April 7, 2015, 7:00PM MV Rod & Gun Club. Used tackle sale and swap-pizza.



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