



Martha's Vineyard Surfcasters Association

P.O. Box 3053 Edgartown, MA 02539

www.mvsurfcasters.org

December 2017 Newsletter

Hello Surfcasters!

I hope everyone is enjoying a wonderful holiday season. Whether it's Christmas, Hanukkah, Kwanza, Boxing Day, all of the above or any combination of, I'm praying each of you reeled in a great December!

We're less than a month away from our annual banquet. Have you circled January 27th on your calendar and invited a friend or two to join us? Don't miss the party . . . and the auction and raffle!



Our next meeting is January 8, and we will be **collecting donations** to send overseas to our soldiers. Please bring clothing (new or like new), toiletries, books, magazines, food, 5-hour energy drinks, as well as thank-you notes and letters.

Be sure to read through the newsletter to the end where you'll find an update from **Stripers Forever** on current legislation to help protect our beloved striped bass. There's a letter you can print or copy, and mail or email to your state legislator to support the cause.

Noteworthy: Who's Catching What Where

In House Derby

It's hard to believe the 2017 fishing season is coming to a close. December has brought the mackerel for those who can't put their rods away yet. I've heard rumors of bass in deep holes, but I haven't found one yet.

Ron Domurat sure knew where to find the fish this year. Ron's got a considerable lead over Cosmo for our in-house derby. Jason Patterson had held on for third, and Kathi is only a point behind Jason in fourth.

With days to go, here's the current Angler of the Year standings:

MVSA Angler of the Year Standings (as of 12/4/2017)

1. Ron Domurat	25 Points
2. Cosmo Creanga	16 Points
3. Jason Patterson	12 Points
4. Kathi Pogoda	11 Points
5. Ralph Peckham	10 Points
6. John Piekos	7 Points
7. Dave Balon, Janet Messineo	6 Points
8. Ed Amaral, Tony Rezendez, Dave Nash, Jim Cornwell, Mary Ann Angelone	5 Points
9. Jonathan Cornwell, Peter Johnson	4 Points
10. Jim Waring, Paula Sullivan, Don Scarpone	3 Points
11. Brenda Beal	1 Point

(Members receive five points for a monthly first place fish, three for second and one for third)

In-House Derby entry forms may be obtained on the MVSA web-site www.mvsurfcasters.org (Then go to the Club tab, 2017 In-House Derby) The Official Weigh In Slip link is under the MVSA Derby Info section.

Entries: Must be received within seven days after the catch and may be submitted to: MVSA, In-House Derby, MVSA P.O. Box 3053, Edgartown, MA 02539 or emailed to Dave Balon WeighSlip@mvsurfcasters.org

Derby History

While we're all wishing for warmer weather, longing to be back out on the shore and feeling the tug of the next "big one" on the line, I thought it would be fun over the winter months to look back at the achievements of MV Surfcasters in the Derby over the last twenty-eight years. Ron Domurat compiled all these stats for us.



Since 1989, the MVSA has had 23 Grand Leaders and 3 Grand Prize winners. This month, check out an impressive list of accomplishments for Ed Amaral, Al and Mary Ann Angelone, Steve Baccelli, Dave Balon, Chip Bergeron, Fran and Bob Clay, Jim Cornwell, Creanga "Cosmo" Cosmin, Jack Creighton, Win Crocker, and Phil Cronin:

Martha's Vineyard Striped Bass and Bluefish Derby, 1989-2017

Ed Amaral	2007 Ray Metcalf Memorial Award, Senior Boat Striped Bass 2013 Flyrod Release Award 2016 Madison Alwardt Memorial Award, Senior Boat Bluefish 2016 All Tackle Boat Bluefish, 1 st , (Grand Leader, Truck Winner) 2017 Elected into the Derby Hall of Fame
Al Angelone	2001 All Tackle Shore Grand Slam, 2 nd
Mary Ann Angelone	2014 Howie Leonard Memorial Award, Senior Shore False Albacore 2014 First Place Shore False Albacore, 1 st (Grand leader) 2017 Arnold Spofford Memorial Award, Senior Shore Bonito
Steve Baccelli	2017 All Tackle Boat Bonito 1 st (Grand Leader)
Dave Balon	2009 Shore Grand Slam, 3 rd 2009 Abe Williams Memorial Award, Shore Grand Slam 2017 All Tackle Shore Bonito, 3 rd
Chip Bergeron	1984 All Tackle Shore Bass, Non Resident 1 st 1991 Flyrod Shore Bluefish, 1 st 1992 Flyrod Shore Bluefish, 3 rd 1995 Flyrod Shore Bass, 1 st 1995 Flyrod Shore Bluefish, 3 rd 1995 Flyrod Shore Bonito, 3 rd 1995 Flyrod Shore Grand Slam, 1 st (Derby Record) 1997 Flyrod Shore Bass, 2 nd 2004 Flyrod Shore Bluefish, 1 st 2005 Flyrod Shore Bluefish, 2 nd

2010 Flyrod Shore Striped Bass, 2nd
2013 Flyrod Shore Bluefish, 2nd

Fran Clay

2001 All Tackle Boat False Albacore, 1st
2012 All Tackle Boat False Albacore, 2nd
2012 Howie Leonard Memorial Award, Senior Boat False Albacore
2012 Vintage Jewelry Award, Heaviest False Albacore caught by a senior woman
2013 Inducted into the Derby Hall of Fame

Bob Clay

2001 All Tackle Boat Bonito, 1st (**Grand Leader**)
2005 Flyrod Boat False Albacore, 3rd
2006 All Tackle Shore Bonito, 3rd
2008 Howie Leonard Memorial Award, Senior Boat False Albacore
2012 Flyrod Shore Striped Bass, 1st
2013 Arnold Spofford Memorial Award, Senior Boat Bonito
2013 Inducted into the Derby Hall of Fame
2013 Arnold Spofford Memorial Award, Boat False Albacore
2013 All Tackle Boat Bonito, 1st (**Grand Leader**)

Jim Cornwell

2003 All Tackle Shore Bonito, 1st (**Grand Leader**)
2003 Brickman Award, Senior Shore Bonito
2003 Arnold Spofford Award, Senior Shore Bonito
2008 All Tackle Shore False Albacore, 1st (**Grand Leader**)
2008 Howie Leonard Memorial Award, Senior Shore False Albacore
2015 Howie Leonard Memorial Award, Senior Shore False Albacore

Creanga Cosmin

2014 All Tackle Shore Striped Bass, 1st (**Grand Leader**)
2014 Team Competition, Shore, 1st
2014 David Finkelstein Award, Shore Team Competition

Jack Creighton

2015 George H. Pye Award, Senior Non-Resident Shore Bluefish
2015 Madison Alwardt Award Senior Shore Bluefish

Win Crocker

2005 All Tackle Shore Bluefish, 3rd

Phil Cronin

2005 Flyrod Boat False Albacore, 1st
2006 Flyrod Boat Bonito, 1st
2007 Flyrod Boat False Albacore, 2nd
2007 Flyrod Shore False Albacore, 2nd
2011 Flyrod Shore False Albacore, 1st

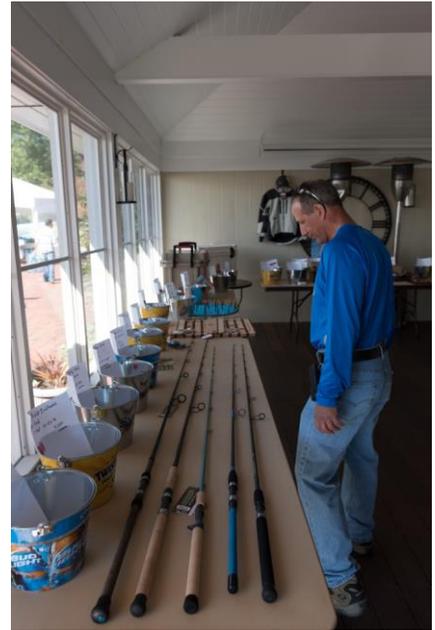


Jim Cornwell with one on the line

Bob Clay casting for a Derby winner



Phil Cronin with a gorgeous albie



Dave Balon, hoping for a winning ticket to a hot rod.

Meeting Wrap-Up: What You Missed or Forgot

1. We discussed our upcoming banquet. The club will supply wings, shellfish, shrimp, sushi, meatballs, chowder or lobster bisque, and Jason is going to make his soon-to-be-famous pasta dish. ☺ **Members – don't forget to bring a side dish or a dessert.**
2. MVSA needs people to **help set up** for the banquet. If you are willing to pitch in, please arrive at noon to lend a hand.
3. MVSA has short sleeve **t-shirts** for sale at \$15 each, long sleeve tees at \$20, and one sweatshirt left for \$25. Don will look into getting more **sweatshirts** to see if we can have them for the banquet.
4. The MVSA **Fishing Tag Sale/Fundraiser** will be in May again this year. Don needs donations – rods, reels, waders, nets, plugs, whatever fishing gear/stuff you have to give, please bring to the next meeting. We raised \$2,000 last year for the scholarship fund, and Don wants to hit that goal again this year. Bring what you have to every meeting, or let Don know and he can pick it up.
5. **Yearly dues** are due in January. Cost is \$30 for the year, whether you're paying for an individual, senior, or family.
6. An update from The Trustees of Reservations: **Eunice Youmans** has been named general manager for the eight properties of The Trustees of Reservations on Martha's Vineyard and Nantucket.
7. Bob Lane spoke about our upcoming **Military Donations**. Last year MVSA sent care packages to Sergeant First Class Joseph Larson. He and all his platoon buddies were thrilled with our gifts. Sergeant Larson is being re-deployed. If needed, and if possible, MVSA could send 2 packages to two different MV soldiers stationed at different locations. **Don't forget to bring your donations to the January 8th meeting!!!!**
8. Huge thank you to **Peter Johnson of Roberts Lures** for donating lures for our December giveaway.
9. **Cuttyhunk Fishing Trip** – Last June we had eight members travel over to Cuttyhunk for three days and two nights. It was a blast: beautiful island, fabulous accommodations with spectacular views, lots of laughs, good food, and enough fish to keep us going out at all hours. Don is going to book the trip for June 12-14, 2018. If you're interested, let Don know or sign up at the Banquet. Cost will be around \$300.
10. Our next meeting will be on **January 8th**, the second Monday, since January 1 is New Year's Day. Ralph Peckham and President Don will teach us about "**Bottom Fishing.**"

11. We garnered some insights and shared a few laughs when club members Jason Patterson, Dave Kolb, and Creanga “Cosmo” Cosmin shared with us:

What’s in Your Bag?



Jason Patterson started off our fun evening of discovering “What’s in Your Bag.” He noted that his bag changes with the seasons. In the spring he’ll use light tackle, a small rod, and favors jumping minnows, which he takes the treble hooks off and puts on a single hook.

When he’s going for bass and blues in the summer, Jason has a vintage Atom Popper that his dad gave him when he was little. He also has Super Strike lures, Mag Darters, needlefish, pencil poppers, and some Ron McKee lures. “The Super Strike is my go-to for bass at night.”



Jason’s favorite lure is the Guppy. “I’ve caught blues, bass, and albies on a Guppy. It’s a top water lure. Crank at a decent speed.”

Dave Kolb, or Dr. Dave as he’s fondly known, shared what he carries. “I’m a big fan of Salt Pro Minnows and the Mag Darter.”



Dr. Dave also had Mr. Hank, a pink Sluggo, black Sluggo, shad, darters, and a Krocodile. “I’ve had good luck with the Krocodile at The Gut.”

In addition to extra leaders, a clip-on light, and Band-aids, Dr. Dave always has a Pocket Rocket. “If I could have only one lure, it would be that one from Peter Johnson.”

Cosmo came up with a small bag and lots of great insight. “I always have a spare light, and a second spare light.”

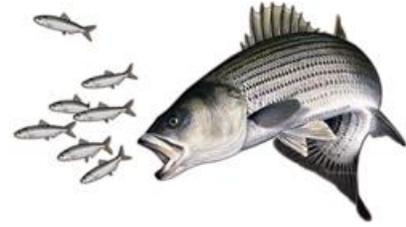
Cosmo fishes eels most of the time, but always has two plugs in his bag just in case. “I always have Mr. Hanky, and a Super Strike popper, which is great in the middle of the night, gets bass off the bottom.”



You’ll also find a double-rigged Sluggo, nine-inch needle pliers, rags, a scale, tape measure, a glove, bottled water, hooks for eels, and plenty of pre-made leaders in Cosmo’s fishing bag. “I have everything ready to re-hook. In two seconds I’m good to go.”



Great News!!!



Stripers Forever, with the help of our lobbyists and supportive legislators, has had successful hearings on H466 and S492 – house and senate versions of the proposed striped bass conservation legislation. This legislation would eliminate the commercial licenses and allocated quotas from those fishermen who report landings of less than 1,000 pounds per year of striped bass. These are not true commercial fishermen, and this action would immediately reduce the commercial catch in Massachusetts by some 30%. If these bills pass, they would save the lives of 20,000 or more breeding age striped bass each year, plus reduce the associated hook and release mortality, and the number of fish which are sold on the black market. Beyond that commercial striped bass licenses would not be reissued as fishermen retire from the commercial fishery, and all commercial fishing for striped bass would end in 2025. We think these actions would be very beneficial to the quality of striped bass fishing in Massachusetts while not removing any commercial fishermen who earn a substantial amount of their living from striped bass sales.

If you want to help Stripers Forever pass these bills, please copy and paste the message below into an email or letter. Fill in your information, modify the letter if you're inclined, and then send the message below to your state legislators. Help save our precious stipers!!

Here's the link to find your state legislators: <https://malegislature.gov/Search/FindMyLegislator>

My name is _____. I am a resident of _____, and a voting constituent of yours. I am also a member of the conservation group Stripers Forever, and a member of the Martha's Vineyard Surfcasters Association.

I'm writing to urge you to support Rep. Stanley's bill: H466, An Act Relative to the Conservation of Striped Bass. (If to your senator it is Senator Timilty's bill: S492)

Measured by their economic impact as a recreational resource, striped bass are the most valuable fish in the sea for the Commonwealth. At one point, when they were abundant in the late '90s following a catch moratorium that rescued the species from the brink of disaster, recreational fishing generated \$1B in economic activity here. Today, despite dwindling numbers and corresponding loss of economic activity, the value of our state's recreational striped bass fishery is equivalent to nearly 90% of the *total* commercial finfish and shellfish market.

H466 protects that valuable fishery here, but it also protects the few commercial fishermen who make their living in part by catching and selling striped bass commercially. State records show that of the 3000+ permits issued for commercial striped bass fishing, less than 6% catch a commercially significant amount. Of the rest, 2/3 report no sales at all, while the others report catches that correspond with the cost of bait, tackle, gas and a cup of coffee for a day on the water.

I am writing to urge you voice your support for this bill. If you'd like more information on this bill or on the striped bass fishery, I'd be more than happy to send it you or arrange for a meeting with you at your district office.

Regards,

YOUR NAME

YOUR HOME ADDRESS

Calendar of Events



- January 8 Monthly Meeting – Edgartown Rod and Gun Club – 7 PM
Pizza, News, Talk on “Bottom Fishing” by Ralph Peckham
and President Don
Collection for our troops – don’t forget!!!
- January 27 Annual Banquet – Old Whaling Church – 1 PM
- February No Monthly Meeting
- March 3 Monthly Meeting – Edgartown Rod and Gun Club – 7 PM
- April 4 Monthly Meeting – Edgartown Rod and Gun Club – 7 PM
- May 7 Monthly Meeting – Edgartown Rod and Gun Club – 7 PM
- May 26 Used Tackle Sale – Scholarship Fundraiser (Rain date, May 27)
- June 12-14 Cuttyhunk Fishing Trip
- July 14 Annual Beach Picnic