



Martha's Vineyard Surfcasters Association

P.O. Box 3053 Edgartown, MA 02539

www.mvsurfcasters.org

April 2024 Newsletter

Hello Surfcasters,

They're here! In case you've been napping, out of state, or out of contact with the human race – the schoolies have arrived in Vineyard waters.

I'm so happy. As I type this, I'm planning a fishing outing tonight.

When you're out there catching fish, be sure to take some pictures and send them to me to print in the newsletter. We need fun fish photos. 😊

Beach stickers are on sale for Norton Point. Buy now, and start driving on the beach as soon as it opens. The more we drive the beach, the more likely the shorebirds are to nest farther from the driving areas on the beach.

Buy OSV stickers online here:

<https://edgartownma.portal.opengov.com/categories/1100/record-types/1006593>



Earth Day is Saturday, April 27th from 10 am to noon. MVSA will be cleaning up South Beach. Paul Schulz will lead the crew at Left Fork and Steve Parachini will be at Right Fork. We need members to **SHOW UP and CLEAN UP THE BEACH!!** The last few years we've had a pretty weak turn out. Let's get out there and clean up the beaches we love!!

Our final spring meeting will be at the Rod and Gun Club on Monday, May 6th. Joseph McLaughlin, the new beach manager for The Trustees of Reservations is coming to tell us what's happening on Chappy. Andy Kelly will also be there to talk about Norton Point. **You don't want to miss this important beach access meeting!**

I hope to see you on Monday, May 6th at the Edgartown Rod and Gun Club at 7 pm for our next meeting.

Lisa

Club Meeting Notes



1. **Help your friends out** - If you know someone who is no longer receiving his or her newsletter, it's probably because they haven't paid their dues. Friends don't let friends lose their MVSA membership. All dues must have been paid by April 15. Share our address with your friends: Please mail \$30 to: MVSA, PO Box 3053, Edgartown, MA 02539

2. We welcomed Paul Danielovich to the Club. Paul has been on the Island full time for three-four years. Paul's ready to learn more about fishing and catch more fish.

3. The Prez said we have about 100 members. Were down about twenty members. Next year, The Prez is raising the dues to \$40 to help cover expenses, which are rising with the cost of living.

4. The club now has a Venmo account. If you need to pay for anything, you can use the QR Code to the right.



5. The Club donated \$750 to the Kid's Trout Derby on May 4th. Coop will be looking for volunteers for the kid's derby. Call kids or show up early – around 4:30 am – to volunteer.

6. The Prez announced the club will be hosting a Make Your Own Lure Contest this spring. When the bluefish arrive, we'll meet on the beach, and fish with our homemade lures. There will be a few award opportunities: First Fish Caught, Most Fish Caught, Biggest Fish Caught. Time to create and test the winning lure.



7. Earth Day is Saturday, April 27th. The club will be cleaning South Beach against this year. Steve Parachini will lead the Clean-up at Right Fork. Paul Schultz will lead the clean-up at Left Fork. Members will clean from 10 am to noon.

There will be a party at the MV Muesum from 12-4 after the clean up.

8. As you are going through your stuff this spring, donate your extra or old tackle to the Fishing Tag Sale.

9. The club will host a pig roast on Saturday, June 15th. Location will hopefully be on Chappy, but please stay tuned for times and location updates. You will need to RSVP to The Prez in June.

10. The annual club shark tournament will be in July or August when the sharks arrive. Stay tuned.



11. Do you feel lucky? The club is offering the: **First Bluefish Contest**. Pick a date that you think the first bluefish will be caught from shore by an MVSA member. Pay \$5. Winner takes home the whole kitty. If you catch the winning bluefish on “your” selected day, the club will match the kitty.



12. “Boat fish don’t count.” – unless you win the boat raffle! Scott Maccaferri has generously donated a trip on his boat for a raffle again this year. Tickets are \$20 per entry. Buy as many entries as you want. The raffle tickets will be sold through noon on Friday, May 31st. Raffle will be drawn on Friday afternoon, and announced Friday evening. Winner and guest will enjoy a day of fishing with Scott.

- *Bring your own rods
- ** Filet your own fish
- ***Mutually agreeable date.

Last year’s winner, Dr. Dave and his guest, The Prez. They caught lots of fish and had a great time.



13. The Scholarship Committee met last month and selected two fabulous recipients and two backups. The \$5,000 scholarships will be given out at honors night at the Tabernacle.

14. July 13 we will host our annual club picnic. The picnic will be at Bend in the Road Beach and begins at 5 pm. When we get closer, we’ll send out more info, including the food list of who is bringing what.



Members Show and Tell

At our April meeting, members shared a secret or a tip. Kevin Seger was the first up. Kevin shared with us an epic fishing outing he had with Gavin Smith somewhere between Lobsterville and West Chop. LOL Kevin is sworn to secret on the location, but he did bring in the lure he used to catch over a dozen striped bass on this one special night. Before heading out for the night, Gavin and Kevin stopped into Dick's Bait and Tackle.

"I'm taking Kevin bass fishing. What should he use?" Gavin asked Steve Morris, owner of Dick's.

Kevin remembers, "Steve reached behind himself and grabbed this lure, then put it down on the counter without saying a word."

Kevin showed us a well-used blurple Super Strike needlefish. "When he sold me this lure, I knew I'd be catching fish," said Kevin.

Kevin hasn't used to that specific lure again. He hung it up in his garage as soon as he got home from that epic night.



Left – Kevin's marked up lure from a memorable night.

Right – a nice keeper bass caught on the now-retired blurple Super Strike Needlefish.



Jim Mullen shared his homemade fishing belt. Jim loves to fish, especially when he goes "out and gets away from people," said Jim. "I keep moving."

Jim's belt has all he needs for hours of fishing: pliers, a water bottle, a rod holder, and some rope for carrying back his bluefish.

"I'm a minimalist," said Jim, who parks and walks the beach for hours. He also has a 9-plug gear bag. So simple, yet we all know how successful Jim is. Perhaps, less is more.



Lisa Belcastro brought in the new Lime Time lures from On Again. She's ready to win the Derby with this new lure.



Ralph Peckham brought in his molds for making lures. This was super cool. Ralph had a variety of molds, from older ones to the fancier new ones. He showed us the custom molds for his On Again lures, which he stopped making when the price of tin tripled during COVID.



On Again molds!

MVSA Upcoming Calendar

1. April 27 from 10 am to 12 pm. **Earth Day** - MVSA will be cleaning up South Beach. Please go to either Right Fork or Left Fork. We will have leaders (Paul and Steve) in each location.



5. May 6th - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club -
The pizza arrives at 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm.
Our last meeting until November.



6. June – **Make-Your-Own-Lure Contest** – More information to follow

7. Saturday, June 15 - **Father's Day Weekend – Pig Roast on the Beach** – More information to follow.



8. July 13th – **MVSA Annual Beach Picnic** – Bend in the Road Beach. Stay tuned for more info.

9. July/August – **MVSA Annual Shark Tournament** –
Stay tuned for shark updates.



Julie Tummino winning last year's shark tournament.

BE A WINNER IN THE MVSA IN-HOUSE DERBY

MVSA In-House Derby - This is a fun and loosely run tournament based solely on the honor system and club members are eligible to win prizes by submitting entries for one or more of the eligible species (striped bass, bluefish, false albacore, bonito). Fish can be kept but catch and release is strongly encouraged. To determine the weight, the fish can be weighed or the weight can be estimated by using the following formula. (length x the girth squared, divided by 800=total weight). It's surprisingly accurate.

HOW TO ENTER -----

You must be a paid in full member before catching and weighing in any fish.

Use the weigh-in slip on the MVSA website and make as many copies as you need.

When you catch a fish you want to enter, use the calculation above or weigh on a digital fishing scale.

To be eligible for consideration, your fish must conform to the minimum sizes below:

Bluefish 22"

Bonito 21"

False Albacore 25"

Boundaries: To be eligible, a fish must be caught in or around the waters of Martha's Vineyard, within MVSB & BF Derby Boundaries. *(Fish caught during the trip to Cuttyhunk are not eligible for any prizes)*

DIVISION AND AWARDS

A monthly pin will be awarded to the member that submits an entry for the largest fish in each species. All monthly entries will participate in a "luck of the draw" raffle to win a Ron McKee custom lure. All first, second and third place monthly winners will also be entered into a year-end raffle to win new fishing reels. There will be three raffles, one each for all first, second and third place entries.

The 'Angler of the Year' will be determined by a point system based on monthly entries. Five points will be awarded for a first-place monthly winner, three for second, and one for third. The member who finishes the year with the most points will be declared the '**Angler of the Year**'.

Entries: Must be received within seven days after the catch and may be submitted by **email** to Dave Balon at: WeighSlip@mvsurfcasters.org. If you do not have an email account, mail your entry to: MVSA In-House Derby, P.O. Box 3053, Edgartown, MA 02539

Slips must be postmarked within seven days of the date of catch. During the MV Bass & Bluefish Derby, there is no need to fill out our weigh-in slip; simply mail in the official MV Derby weigh-in slip.

In-House Derby entry forms may be obtained on the MVSA web-site www.mvsurfcasters.org (Then go to the Club tab, 2018 In-House Derby) The Official Weigh-In Slip link is under the MVSA Derby Info section.