



## Martha's Vineyard Surfcasters Association

P.O. Box 3053 Edgartown, MA 02539

[www.mvsurfcasters.org](http://www.mvsurfcasters.org)

### March 2024 Newsletter

Hello Surfcasters,

Can you feel it? Spring is in the air. Warmer days, longer days, stronger sunshine. It all means one thing ..... the fishing season will soon be upon us! Who's ready for spring strippers? I know I am, and I'm going to be out there with a fly rod so the fish should be safe. LOL

As you're getting ready for spring fishing and going through your gear, don't forget about our annual used tackle sale. Bring anything extra you have to the next meeting to donate or call The Prez and arrange a time to drop off your donation.



Earth Day is Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> 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 next meeting is Monday, April 1st. We are going to have a fun night of Fishing Show and Tell. Bring something to share with your fishing buddies – something you inventend, a fishing hack, your favorite lure and tell us why.



This is no April Fool's, I hope to see you on Monday, April 1st at the Edgartown Rod and Gun Club at 7 pm for our next meeting.

Lisa

# Club Meeting Notes

1. **Thank You from The Prez** – It's that time of year again. Your dues are due. All dues must be paid by April 15 or you will no longer receive this amazing newsletter or be a member of our wonderful club. Please mail your \$30 to:  
MVSA, PO Box 3053, Edgartown, MA 02539



2. The Prez thanked everyone again for their help with the banquet. The Banquet costs totaled \$2,200. The Banquet made: \$2,700 on the raffle, \$1,700 on the silent auction, \$375 on the 50/50 raffle, and the club received a \$370 donation.
3. The Prez noted there were about seventy people in attendance at the Banquet. He asked for suggestions to improve attendance and club membership.

4. The club voted to purchase ten lures from Striper Maine-iac at the Rhode Island Fishing Show. The lures will be used for monthly prizes.



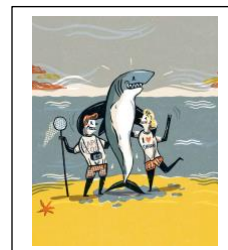
5. The Prez announced the club will be hosting a Make Your Own Lure Contest this spring. When the bluefish arrive, we'll meet on the beach, and fish with our homemade lures. There will be a few award opportunities. Start thinking of your best lure now!

6. Earth Day is Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**“Get there!” said The Prez. “Members need to CLEAN UP the beach!”**



7. As you are going through your stuff this spring, donate your extra or old tackle to the Fishing Tag Sale.
8. The club will host a pig roast on Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>. 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.
9. The annual club shark tournament will be in July or August when the sharks arrive. Stay tuned.



10. 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.



11. “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 31<sup>st</sup>. 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.

## David Bouck - Great Pond Foundation

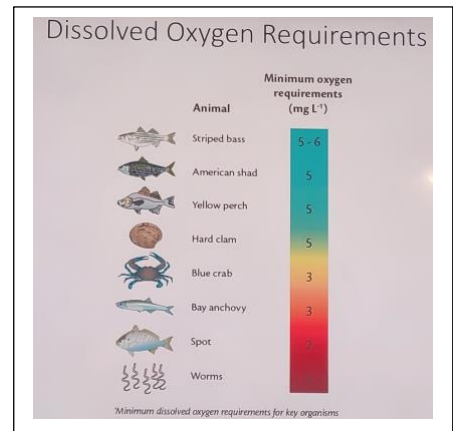
We had a wonderful and informative presentation from David Bouck of the Great Pond Foundation. The GPF assesses the health of each ecosystem with each of our great ponds. They focus on five important aspects: Water Quality, Pond Elevation, Eel Grass Health, Biodiversity Monitoring, and Watershed Nutrient Loading (i.e. – nitrogen levels in the ponds).

GPF tests the water quality weekly from May through October. They evaluate water elevations, salinity, and temperatures year-round.

You can learn more about the Great Pond Foundation at their website: <https://greatpondfoundation.org/>



David with the YSI Pro DSS – a multi perimeter meter/prob he uses to test the water quality in our great ponds.



# MVSA Upcoming Calendar

1. April 1<sup>st</sup> - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club -  
The pizza arrives at 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm.  
Theme: Fishing Show and Tell – Bring your shareable “secrets.”



2. **March 27<sup>th</sup> - Con Com continued review of NOI submitted by Rachel Self**

Check ConCom’s website for the Zoom link:

[www.edgartown-ma.us/departments/conservation](http://www.edgartown-ma.us/departments/conservation)

3. **April 10<sup>th</sup> – Edgartown Conservation Commission Meeting** via  
Zoom at 4 pm. OSV access on Chappy is being discussed. Don’t miss  
this meeting! [www.edgartown-ma.us/departments/conservation](http://www.edgartown-ma.us/departments/conservation)



4. 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.

**WE NEED MEMBERS TO SHOW UP! Love your beach NOW!**



5. May 6<sup>th</sup> - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club -  
The pizza arrives at 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm.

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 13<sup>th</sup> – **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.

## 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](mailto: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](http://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.