



## Martha's Vineyard Surfcasters Association

P.O. Box 3053 Edgartown, MA 02539

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

### March 2021 Newsletter

Hello Surfcasters,

Are you excited? Spring is starting to bloom, COVID numbers are down, restrictions are lifting, and the fish are swimming our way. Soon we'll be back out on the beaches, fishing, talking, and living the best life possible.

If you missed last month's meeting, you missed a good one. Ron McKee offered a lot of tips and advice with us. I've shared some of my notes in the newsletter. All we need now are some big fish and warm days to practice his advice. Check out all the news and updates within these pages. And, please **send pictures** of you and your fish this spring!

Our next club meeting will **be Monday, April 5, at 7 pm** via Zoom. **Sam Hart of The Trustees of Reservations** will be our guest speaker. You don't want to miss this! Sam will be discussing the piping plovers, beach closures, and what's happening with TTOR properties on Island.



Don't forget we're going to have a **\$50 tackle shop gift card giveaway** at the end of the meeting, but you must be "on" the Zoom when we draw names.

Dr. Dave will be emailing everyone the link, but you can also click the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83402760107?pwd=cDdMRlE4QWx2a3haZUIrRVJsTkRmUT09>

Meeting ID: 834 0276 0107

Passcode: 893209

Hope to see you soon on the beaches or Zoom.

Lisa

# Club News and Happenings

1. It's time to **PAY YOUR DUES!** Please mail a \$30 check made payable to MVSA to: PO Box 3053, Edgartown, MA. 02539
2. **Earth Day** is April 17. Once again, the Surfcasters will cover the beach areas at Norton Point and Right Fork. Get out and enjoy the spring air while helping to keep our island clean and looking great. Details and time to follow.
3. If you want to be included in our **In-House Derby**, you must submit a weigh-in slip to Dave Balon. See our website or the last page of this newsletter for specific details for 2021.
4. The **MVSA Annual Club Picnic** will be held July 11 at 5 pm at Bend in the Road Beach. Save the date!
5. Our **shark contest** will be held in August. We will hold a picnic on the last night. Details to follow.
6. **Bluefish Contest** – Something new this year. When the bluefish get into Wasque, don't keep it to yourself. Let the Prez know, and we'll have a fishing contest – with prizes. Not to mention FUN!
7. The Prez still has some **hats, t-shirts**, and logo patches. Call him to purchase some.
8. The Prez is going to look into **club pins** for our hats.
9. **Beach Closures** – Club executives will be meeting with Sam Hart of TTOR to discuss the upcoming season.
10. The **Annual Tackle Sale** is scheduled for Memorial Day Weekend, or possibly Labor Day Weekend. It's time to go through our gear and start dropping stuff off. Call the Prez first to schedule a drop off.
11. Victor Colantonio spoke about the proposed federal regulations on bluefish. Bluefish are depleting. New legislation will potentially outline a ten-year rebuilding plan, that will include quotas. Victor suggested we write a letter to protect our interest.
12. Congratulations to Brenda and Bob Beal! The Beals won last month's \$50 gift card to Dick's Tackle.

# Ron McKee on Lures and Fishing

To purchase plugs, email Ron at: [stripemaineiac@yahoo.com](mailto:stripemaineiac@yahoo.com)

A few hints before we get into specific lures:

- When choosing your plugs, get as close to the shape and size of the bait as possible.
- When there's bunker around, use a lure with spots on it. If you don't have one, get a magic marker and make some spots on a lure.
- All Ron's plugs have fluorescent eyes. It makes a huge difference if you charge those eyes. Shine a flashlight on them before you cast.
- Full moon – use bright colored lures.
- Dark night – dark plugs. Grab a blurple.



## Striper Bombers

These mini Striper Bombers are a pencil popper you can work slower.

Ron also uses the pink one to catch Albies – lots of Albies.

## Holy Grail

This black-purple chubby needlefish should be your go-to plug on dark nights.

The nose is flat and makes a V on the surface as you retrieve. The fish SEE it!

Ron promises that he's caught over a dozen Stripers in the 50-pound range on this plug.





## The Rocket

Can you say, "I MUST have a Rocket?"  
Ron's biggest seller.

Made to cast long distance. Sits on top and  
cruises back. Great for Bass, Blues and Albies.

## Super Spooks

These plugs were made to cast into the  
wind. They are almost 4 ounces.  
Let the plug sink, then jig your rod.

They are also good off the rocks. Cast  
beyond the rocks, keep the Spook on top,  
and twitch the line on the retrieve.  
Pay attention! Don't let the Spook sink.



## Juniors

Theses Juniors are great on a sunny  
day.

If you opt for a slow retrieve,  
they'll stay on top of the water.

The faster you retrieve, the lower  
they will go

# Island Cup Update

In case you missed it, the Vineyard team won the Island Cup last June! Honestly, we crushed them – 419 pounds to 307 pounds. We're looking to do it again this year! Email Victor to join the winning team: victorcolantonio@rocketmail.com.

The trophy is on display in Larry's Tackle Shop. This year, Victor will add Peter Johnson's name to the trophy and Big Eddie from Nantucket.



Victor reports that Nantucket would like to move the dates back a week or so because the fish are arriving there a week later than here.

**Potential dates: June 12-19, 2021**

## Donate to our club:

The Banquet normally brings in \$5,000, which supports our activities and also the donations we contribute to other groups. Instead of buying raffle tickets, those who want to, could write a donation check to the club above our yearly dues.

The club has already donated this year to: the MV Shellfish Group (\$250), MV Fishermen's Trust (\$500), and the annual MVRHS Science Fair (\$250). The club's science fair donation will sponsor a special award in honor of our long-time friend Peter Johnson.



# To do ZOOM – Dr. Dave’s “professional” advice:

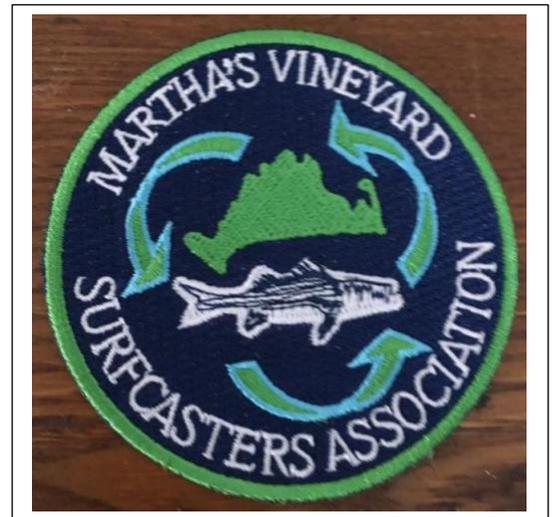
1. Any time now, copy and paste this into your browser address: <https://zoom.us/download>
2. Click on "ZOOM CLIENT FOR MEETINGS: DOWNLOAD"
3. Near to the time of the meeting, you will receive an invitation by email
4. Some helpful hints (non-essential, but they will help):
  - your experience will be more satisfying if you can download and use Zoom on your *computer* instead of your smart phone, although either can be used
  - try to have a quiet background without radios, TVs, barking dogs, wind, singing kids or crying spouses
  - try to have a light source *in front* of you (it's best if it's in front and above, not behind you)
  - if you can, have the computer camera or phone camera at or slightly above the level of your face. If you put it flat or propped on a table, we'll see your multiple chins, upper fillings, or, as is the case with Bob Beal and myself, only the beards. It's not a flattering angle, at least not for me. Remember, these are not clothing optional events.
4. *If you have any problems setting up or downloading ZOOM, please contact:*  
Treasurer Phil Horton

**If you're interested in our MVSA iron-on logo Patches, please contact The Prez.**

**Patches are \$8 each.**

**Some hats and t-shirts are also available.**

**Get your patch on before the schoolies arrive!!**



# Upcoming Events

April 5 Monthly Meeting at 7 pm via Zoom – Sam Hart of TTOR – Guest Speaker  
\$50 Tackle Shop Gift Card will be given away at the end of the meeting. You must be present to win.

April 17 Earth Day Clean Up – Norton Point and Right Fork



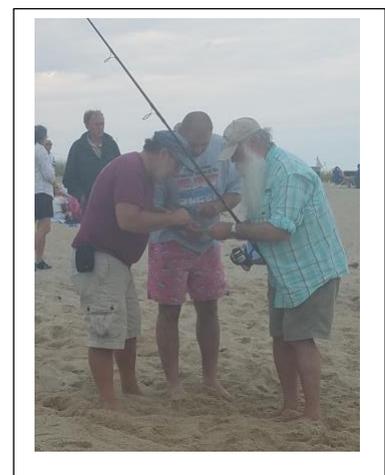
May 3 Monthly Meeting at 7 pm via Zoom  
\$50 Tackle Shop Gift Card will be given away at the end of the meeting. You must be present to win.

May 31 Annual Tag Sale – Memorial Day Weekend – details to follow  
Depending on how much tackle is donated,  
we might have the sale on Labor Day Weekend.

June 12-19 **Island Cup – Join the winning team!**

June 19/20 Father's Day BBQ Picnic – Stay tuned for details!

July 11 **Annual Club Picnic – Bend-in-the-Road Beach - Stay tuned for more details.**



August In-House Shark Tournament – Stay tuned for more details.

## 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.

***A special prize will also be awarded to the member who catches and releases the largest striped bass over 20 lbs.***

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.