March Membership Meeting:

"Shad Fishing on the James"
Tuesday, March 25, 2008 at 7:00 PM

Skilligalee Restaurant
(Glenside Ave, just north of Broad Street).
[Come early (5:30 PM) and enjoy good fellowship over dinner from the menu]

March 2008 In This Issue...

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Perch Tourney
Tournament Results, Page 5.



BACKLASH

(Commentary from the Board of Directors)

March Membership Meeting Program: "Shad Fishing on the James"

Frank Dennis will present an information-packed session on how to fish for shad with emphasis on the local James River and the use of fly and spin tackle. Frank fishes the James on a regular basis during the shad season and scouts and reports the arrival of the first fish. This year his first catch was on March, 13. He has spent many hours liberating shad from the Delaware River in Pennsylvania. With shad now in the area, Frank's presentation is most timely. There will be plenty of time for questions and answers.

VAC Member Virgil Hughes Passes on March 2, 2008

Long time member of the Virginia Anglers Club, Virgil Hughes, passed away peacefully on Sunday, March 2, 2008. A "Lines Out" tribute to Virgil appears elsewhere in this issue of the *Angler*. A memorial service for Virgil will be held later.

Virginia Anglers Club Website Launched February

Website Secretary Johnny Wetlaufer officially launched the long-awaited Virginia Anglers Club website, (www.virginiaanglersclub.org), on February 22, 2008. Response has been good with 36 members testing the bits and bytes of the web site as of March 11, 2008. By this date, the Web Site Fund had received donations of \$1470 or 82% of the goal of \$1800 estimated needed to fund development and maintenance of the web site for 2008. Please donate if you have not done so already.

George Atkinson Voted Into Membership in the VAC

George Atkinson was voted into membership in the VAC at the February Membership Meeting. George has gotten

right into the workings of the web site and has posted fishing reports. Please make your self known to George the next time you see him.

Special April Raffle -- A Rod and Reel Combo

New Special Activities Chairman, Justin Schrinel, has received the promise of a donation of a new rod/reel combo as a Special Raffle item. Raffle tickets will be sold, \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00, at the March and April Membership Meetings. The raffle will be held at the April meeting. Specifics on the rod and reel will be announced when they are known.

Deadline for Dues Was February 29, 2008

Members, whose dues have not been received by the February 29th deadline, will get a reminder phone call of their dues being late. Entry Cards submitted between March 1st and the date of receipt of dues will not be honored for catch credit. As of the March BOD Meeting, dues have been received from 71 members (Life, Honorary and Complimentary members pay no dues). Please get your dues current if they are in arrears.

March \$pecials to be Offered at the Country \$tore

Keeper of the Country Store, Eddy Johnston, has announced a <u>Mammoth Inventory Reduction Sale</u> to be held at the <u>March 25th Membership Meeting</u>. World famous VAC apparel, DGIF Citation Catch CD Combos and other bargain priced items, too numerous to mention, are in the sale. Look elsewhere in this issue of the *Angler* for the details and low, low prices on fine VAC sanctioned merchandise.

Special VAC Columbia Bonehead™ Shirt Orders Being Taken

Details of how to order a special edition of the official Virginia Anglers Club Columbia brand fishing shirt appear elsewhere in this issue of the *Angler*. A minimum of 6 orders is needed for this special offer to work.

Continued on Page 2...

<mark>Virginia Anglers Club</mark>





BACKLASH continued from Page 1.

Annual Scale Certification Available During the March 25th Meeting

Larry Allen and his assistants will be set up again at the March Membership Meeting to certify member's scales. If you missed certification in February, this is your chance to get your scales ready for the 2008 angling year.

Jim Sheffield in Line for Next Opening on the Finfish Advisory Committee

kakandy received a letter from Jack Travelstead tating his appreciation for the Club's n of VAC Member Jim Sheffield for membership s Finfish Advisory Committee. Jack noted he ith Jim's background in recreational angling alp make Jim a logical person for appointment n the next opportunity occurs. The Board thanks g forward and offering his time, talents and this important work.

Annual VAC Fish Fry to be Held at Maymont on May 27, 2008

The Annual Virginia Anglers Club Fish Fry is scheduled to be held at the Maymont Nature Center on May 27, 2008. This will be the regular May Membership Meeting. Please start thinking about donations of fish for consumption from either your stock in the freezer or from your future catches before the 27th. The cooks have committed. Visitors are most welcomed. Details will come as the date draws closer.

For the Leadership Team John Wetlaufer, Sr., President



Bob shows off a 33 pounder caught during a warm-up session with Parks for the March Blue Catfish Tournament

CATCHY COMMENTS By Buddy Noland

The weather is getting warmer and more anglers are getting the fishing fever. *Freshwater* has been the name of the game

since last month's newsletter.

Glad to see **Mickey Kodroff** fishing again and turning in some nice catches from the East Lake, NC... Mickey had Largemouth Bass and Crappie with the highest point fish being a 2-12 Chain Pickerel on 4# spin for 202 points. **Fred Murray** was fishing the warmest water he could find in the James River on February 17th and was successful with three new Club Records. First, Fred landed a 22-0 Flathead Catfish on 4# fly for 466 points which beat his current IGFA World Record. Then 30 minutes later, he hooked a 20-0 Carp on 4# spin for 500 points. Later, Fred got another Flathead weighing 27-8 on 4# spin for 466 points. I'd say that was a great day on the river!

Parks Rountrey had the largest Yellow Perch with a 1-0 on 2# plug for 263 points in the Yellow Perch Tournament. Lynn Spurlin and Vic Skakandy caught 12 and 11 ounce Yellow Perch for weight entries. Eddy and Scott Johnston, not to be confused as being related to each other, fished the Chick the week before and Eddy turned in a 2-10 Largemouth on 2# fly for 218 points. Then early March, Scott ventured to the Piscataway Creek and caught a 0-9 Sunfish on 2# fly for 187 and now leads the Sunfish specie.

Bob Brown had a good day on the James River and surpassed **Rich McDaniel's** Club Record Blue Catfish. Bob, fishing with 12# line, used cut bait to land a 47-0 Blue Catfish to earn 326 points for the new record. Last week, **Danny Noland** went to the Nottoway River in Franklin, Virginia to catch some early season Shad. He didn't have any luck with the White's or Hickories but, did locate nine Smallmouth Bass on a fallen tree. He caught them on 2# spin, 2# plug, and the largest fish being 3-0 pounds earning 375 points on 2# fly. Several other anglers Danny had talked with caught up to six Hickories and no White's that day.

Jeff Doughty and **Dean Winstead** talk about fishing every day at work, but that's about as far as it gets. *No wet line, no fish!*

The lone *Saltwater* entry for the month was from **Quentin Corbett** fishing at Islamorada, Florida. Using a live Pilchard for bait, Quentin released a 17-0 Cobia on 8# for 154 points.

Parks has been sending out good reports of Shad being caught in North Carolina. Several more weeks from now, the James River will be loaded with anglers fishing the 95 bridge.

Good luck!





Angler of the Month for February 2008

by Buddy Noland

The first C. V. Kinnard "Angler of the Month" award for this year had nine "quality entries" in the competition for the month of February. The VAC angling year begins on December 1st, so therefore, there is almost three months before the first membership meeting. Other respectable catches by Jim Sheffield were a Striper worth 575 points, a Flathead Catfish worth 423 points, and a Channel Cat for 321. Kathi Sheffield had a 39 pound Blue Catfish on 4# general for 415 points. All very nice catches and an exceptional start for the new fishing season. All that said, the winners were as follows:

1st Place - Jim Sheffield 50-9 Striper for 1011 points and "pending" IGFA World Record for 2# Class line.

2nd Place – Fred Cousins 22-0 "Carp" for 687 points

3rd Place – Fred Cousins 64-0 "Blue Catfish" for 682 points and "pending" IGFA World Record for 4# Class line.

VAC Country Store -- Big Sale at March Membership Meeting

VAC's Country Storekeeper "Wild Eddy" Johnston has placed many coveted items in the Store's inventory for sale at special prices at the March 25th Membership Meeting. Check out the following never-to-be-seen again prices on the classic VAC Gear noted:

DGIF '05 and '06 Fresh Water Citation CDs "Double Hook-up" Special

Get a pair for \$1.00 while supplies last! Fish remember where they spent the last two years – will you know where too?

"Hook Out" Stainless Steel Hook Removers w/long handles Drastically reduced to \$3.00 each! They will sell out fast.

Classic VAC "baseball style" Hats Buyer's Choice - \$1.00 each!

Remaining Stock of VAC "T" Shirt –
Custom VAC Logo On Back
Any "T" Shirt in Stock
Price to Be Announced

These prices will never been seen again. Come early and hook a bargain.

Virgil Hughes Passes March 2, 2008

Virginia Anglers Club member Virgil Hughes passed away peacefully on March 2, 2008. His wife Gini and his son, Philip (a former member of the Virginia Anglers Club) were at his side. Virgil joined the Club in 1976. During his thirty-two years of membership, Virgil submitted one hundred forty-four catches of record and entered fish caught in seven states and one Canadian Province. Half of his entries were on 6# test line and below. Virgil earned the Salt Water Expert Rating in 1987 and the Fresh Water Expert Rating in 1998. Vigil held many club offices over the years, including that of President. During recent years, Virgil's health did not permit him to participate in VAC meetings or outings. Beyond his skill as an angler, Virgil was always an "up' person, had a kind word for all with whom he spoke and had shared an unending string of stories about his time as part of a crew of a menhaden steamer. He may also be remembered for his world class snoring that could reportedly be heard two rooms down the hall from where he was sleeping. Virgil's was missed at recent meetings; he will be missed even more now that he has pulled lines for the last time.

Special Orders Being Taken -- VAC Columbia Bonehead™ Shirts

Eddy Johnston has made arrangement for VAC Members to place orders for a special "Virginia Anglers Club Edition" of the famous Columbia Bonehead™ long- sleeve 100% cotton fishing shirts. Eddy will take individual orders for these high quality and very comfortable shirts @ \$50.00 each. Shirts will be available in the standard Columbia rainbow of colors and will have "Virginia Anglers Club / Richmond, VA custom embroidered above one pocket. He is checking to see if the Bill Galash popping bug that is on the VAC "flats style" hat can also be embroidered on the these special order shirts.

The Columbia website (www.columbia.com) contains pictures of this shirt which can be shown in any color available. Columbia's description of the shirts notes:

"You'll appreciate the exceptional comfort and extra features this shirt provides when it's time to pursue your fishing passion and the summer sun is baking down. There's no shortage of storage space because the BoneheadTM long-sleeve shirt has two large hook-and-loop-close pockets, a tippet-dispenser pocket and three compartments for other accessories. They're made of breathable 100% cotton with a cape-

covered polyester mesh back for welcome cooling ventilation when both the weather and fishing action are hot. Imported. Sizes (neck): S(14 to 14-1/2), M(15 to 15-1/2), L(16 to 16-1/2), XL(17 to 17-1/2), 2XL(18 to 18-1/2), 3XL(19 to 19-1/2), 4XL(20 to 20-1/2), 5XL(21 to 21-1/2). Colors: Sea Oats, White Cap, White, Etouffee, Sage, Gulfstream, Conch, Fossil, Purple Mountain, Lox, Sea Horse."

Be sure to see Eddy to place your order. Payment (cash or check) with order please.





VIRGINIA ANGLERS CLUB - 3/12/08

SPECIES	ANGLER	<u>WEIGHT</u>	<u>LN</u>	<u>DIV</u> .	<u>PTS</u>	<u>DATE</u>	LOCATION	BAIT
2008 SPECIES LEAD	ERS - SALTWATER							
BASS, STRIPED SEATROUT, SPOTTED	JH Sheffield F Cousins	50-9 6-2	2	Gen Spin	1011 408	12/30/07 1/13/08	Concrete Ships, Va. Elizabeth River	Eel Grub
2008 SPECIES LEAD	ERS - FRESHWATE	<u>R</u>						
BASS, LARGEMOUTH BASS, SMALLMOUTH CATFISH, BLUE CHANNEL CATFISH CATFISH, FLATHEAD CRAPPIE, ALL GAR, ALL PERCH, YELLOW PICKERAL, CHAIN SUNFISH, ALL	ES Johnston D Noland F Cousins JH Sheffield F Murray M Kodroff F Cousins F Cousins M Kodroff WS Johnston	2-10 3-0 64-0 11-4 22-0 1-2 9-8 1-1 2-12 0-9	2 4 2 4 2 2 2 2 4 2	Fly Fly Gen Gen Fly Spin Plug Spin Spin Fly	218 375 682 359 466 178 174 279 202 187	2/20/08 3/6/10 1/5/08 1/23/08 2/17/08 2/5/08 12/8/07 12/8/07 2/5/08 3/2/08	Chickahominy River Nottoway River James River, Va. James River, Va. James River East Lake, NC Piankatank River Piankatank River East Lake, NC Piscataway River	Fly Dan's Peach Shad Fly Cut Gizzard Shad Minnow Streamer Spinnerbait Silver Buddy Grub Plastic Tail & Jig Clouser
2008 DIVISION LEAD	DERS - SALTWATER							
BASS, STRIPED SEATROUT, SPOTTED	JH Sheffield F Cousins	50-9 6-2	2	Gen Spin	1011 408	12/30/07 1/13/08	Concrete Ships, Va. Elizabeth River	Eel Grub
2008 DIVISION LEAD	DERS - FRESHWATE	<u>R</u>						
CATFISH, BLUE CARP BASS, SMALLMOUTH CATFISH, FLATHEAD	F Cousins F Cousins D Noland F Murray	64-0 22-0 2-0 22-0	4 2 2 4	Gen Spin Plug Fly	682 687 200 466	1/5/08 2/3/08 3/6/09 2/17/08	James River, Va. Private Lake, Va. Nottoway River James River	Cut Gizzard Shad Rattle Trap Road Runner Streamer
NEW CLUB RECORD	OS - SALTWATER							
BASS, STRIPED	JH Sheffield	50-9	2	Gen	1011	12/30/07	Concrete Ships, Va.	Eel
NEW CLUB RECORE	S - FRESHWATER							
CATFISH, BLUE CATFISH, CHANNEL CATFISH, FLATHEAD CARP CATFISH, FLATHEAD CARP CATFISH, FLATHEAD CATFISH, BLUE	F Cousins JH Sheffield JH Sheffield F Cousins F Murray F Murray F Murray RJ Brown	64-0 11-4 25-0 22-0 22-0 20-0 27-8 47-0	4 2 4 2 4 4 4 12	Gen Gen Spin Spin Fly Spin Spin Gen	682 359 423 687 466 500 466 326	1/5/08 1/23/08 1/11/08 2/3/08 2/17/08 2/17/08 2/17/08 3/3/08	James River, Va. James River, Va. James River, Va. Private Lake, Va. James River James River, Va. James River James River James River, Va.	Cut Gizzard Shad Minnow Jig & Gulp Rattle Trap Streamer Silver Buddy Jig Cut Bait

2008 HIGHEST POINT NON-LOCAL CATCHES - FRESHWATER

none submitted yet for 2008

2008 HIGHEST POINT NON-LOCAL CATCHES - SALTWATER

none submitted yet for 2008

2008 TOP SPOUSE CATCHES - SALTWATER & FRESHWATER (LOCAL)

none submitted yet for 2008

2008 TOP YOUTH CATCHES - SALTWATER & FRESHWATER (LOCAL)

none submitted yet for 2008

C.V	V. KINNARI	D AWARD	COMPE	TITION -	thru 3/12	/08
ANGLER	FIRSTS	SECONDS	THIRDS	PLACES	POINTS	AVERAGE
Jim Sheffield	1	0	0	1	1011	1011
Fred Cousins	0	1	1	2	1369	684.5
TOTALS	1	1	1	3	9341	793.3

<mark>Virginia Anglers Club</mark>





YELLOW PERCH RESULTS

The final results for the yellow perch in both weight and points divisions follow. Note that time of entry turn-in was used as a tiebreaker.

6 Participants:

Parks, Vic, Lynn, Scott J., Fred C., and Dennis Kreter

Weight:

1st Place: **Parks Rountrey** 12 oz. (wins \$40 Greentop Giftcard!)

2nd Place: **Lynn Spurlin** 12 oz. 3rd Place: **Vic Skakandy** 11 oz.

Points:

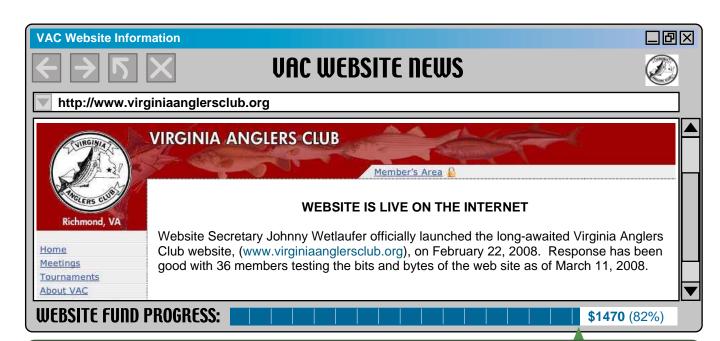
1st Place: **Parks Rountrey** 1#-0 oz. on 2 plug for 263 pts. (wins \$40 Greentop Giftcard!)

2nd Place: **Parks Rountrey** 11 oz. on 2 plug for 180 pts. 3rd Place: **Parks Rountrey**

Totals:

Parks: 9 pts, Lynn: 2pts, and Vic: 1 pt.





Please Support the VAC Website Fund

Please make whatever contribution you can make to the VAC WEBSITE FUND. The success of establishing and maintaining the website depends on your support. Check this Website Fund Progress bar with each issue of the *Angler* to see how your contributions are helping to bring life to the website.





Upcoming Angling Events

James River Blue Catfish

Sat thru Sun, March 22-23, 2008 AND Sat thru Sun, March 29-30, 2008 (Two weekend tournament)

Catfishing on our own James River is heating up. If you have been hearing about this action and want to give it a try, this is a great time to start! Hopefully you attended the February meeting that featured expert information on how and where to tangle with these monsters in our local freshwater rivers. Please plan to participate in this tourney. Two ways to win! We will recognize three places for heaviest weight fish and three places for highest point fish.

Location: James River

Awards: We will recognize three places for heaviest

weight fish and three places for highest point

fish.

First = 3 pts. Second = 2 pts. Third = 1 pt.

These points will apply towards the annual Tournament Angler of the Year competition.

Report in: Parks Rountrey within 5 days: 804-349-6001

You can not change the entry category once you have registered it with the Chairman.

You do not need to fill out cards.

Chairman: Parks Rountrey

NOTES: A fish can be entered by weight or points

(angler must declare which category) but

not both ways for 1 fish.

One angler can win both weight and points divisions by entering 2 different fish.

One angler can win 1st, 2nd and 3rd in both weight and points divisions by entering

multiple fish.

Tournament First Place Awards

for weight and points = Anglers Choice: Traditional cup, \$40 Greentop gift certificate or a VAC Banquet ticket for the January 2009 Banquet.

James River Hickory Shad

Sat thru Sun, April 12-13, 2008 (blow date April 19-20)

By the time you read this, Virginia shad fishing should be well underway. The run usually extends from mid-March to the beginning of May.

The tourney will be at peak time with the only potential problem being high muddy floodwaters. They can sometimes make the James un-fishable for a few days in the spring. Small spoons, shad darts and very small plastic grubs can be effective on ultra-light spinning and plug gear. Fly fishing is sometimes more productive than the spinning outfits. Various flies work well, mostly with sinking lines, and just enough rod to throw the sinking line. To get some real expert advice, come to hear our speaker at the March membership meeting at Skillagalee.

Details and Awards are the same as the March Catfish tourney noted on the left of this page.

Contact the tourney Chairman to confirm event if the weather is questionable.

Check back next month for more Upcoming Angling Events



The Lumker Clu

(heaviest fish)

Club Historical Record

Weight

Angler

Bruce Henderson

Elly Robinson Bill DuVal Ronnie Sides W.B. Duval Tom Bamett

Bill DuVal

Steve Hutchins

C.O. Mather C.O. Mather Bill DuVal

Elly Robinson

Bill DuVal Bill DuVal C.O. Mather F.D. Gottwald

	VAC 2008 Angling Year	ling Year	Club Historical Record	Record		VAC 2008 Angling Year	gling Year
Species	Angler	Weight	Angler	Weight	Species	Angler	Weight
BASS, LARGEMOUTH RASS ROCK & ROANOKE	Eddy Johnston	2-10	Dr. Mickey Kodroff Fric McDuffie	10-12	GROUPER, GAG GROUPER, HISTORIC		
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	Danny Noland	3-0	Bob Shepherd	5-8	GROUPER, OTHER		
BASS, STRIPED HY			Bill Ross	6-10	JACK, CRAVELLE		
BASS, STRIPED LL			Gary Anderson	23-6	JACK, ALMACO		
BASS, WHITE			John Wycoff	2-12	LADYFISH		
BOWFIN			W.H. McCarthy	12-11	MACKEREL, CREO		
CARP	Fred Cousins	22-0	Fred Cousins	25-8	MACKEREL, KING		
CALFISH, BLUE	Fred Cousins	64-0	Steve Luterek	0-99	MACKENEL, STAINISH MACKEDEL SBANISH (HIST)*		
CATFISH, CHANNEL	JH Sheffield	11-4	Fred Murray	12-4	MARIN BLACK		
CALFISH, FLAIMEAD	Fred Murray	8-17	Lynn Spuriin	27-8	MARLIN, BLUE ATL & PAC		
CALTION, MISTORIC	Mickey Kodroff	7-7	Gary Donahile	22-12 2-14	MARLIN, STRIPED		
GAR. ALL	Fred Cousins	4-8	Dick Goode	17-8	MARLIN, WHITE		
MUSKELLUNGE, ALL)	Bob Shepherd	28-7	PERMIT		
PERCH, WHITE			Eric McDuffie	1-7	POMPANO, AFRICAN		
PERCH, YELLOW	Fred Cousins	1-1	Robbie Robinson	1-13	POMPANO, COMMON		
PICKEREL, CHAIN	Mickey Kodroff	2-12	Reggie White	7-10	ROOSTERFISH		
PIKE, NORTHERN			L. Kesteloo	17-8	RUNNER, RAINBOW		
SALMON, ATLANTIC			H.A. Claiborne	19-0	SAILFISH, ATLANTIC		
SALMON, CHINOOK			Scott Johnston	34-0	SAILFISH, PACIFIC		(
SALMON, COHO			P.W. Hughes	16-8	SEATROUT, SPOTTED	Fred Cousins	6-2
SHAD, AMERICAN			P. Dasher	7-4	SHARK, MAKO		
SHAD, HICKORY			Dr. Mickey Kodroff	3-4	STARK, OLHEK		
SUNFISH, ALL			Roy Jones	2-4	SHEEPSHEAD		
TROUT, BROOK	Scott Johnston	6-0	Joe Brooks	8-0	SNAPPER, CUBERA		
TROUT, BROWN			Bill Barnett	28-0	SNAPPER, MOLLON		
TROUT, CUTTHROAT			C.O. Mather	3-12	SNAPPEK, OLHEK		
TROUT, LAKE			Mark Sosin	30-0	SNAPPER, RED		
TROUT, RAINBOW			Fred Cousins	9-4	SOONS		
IROUI, STEELHEAD			Stamford Niou	15-0	STADELISH		
WALLEYE			Steve Luterek	9-0	SWORDEISH		
WARMOUTH			Lynn Spuriin	0-14	TARPON		
AMBERJACK, GREATER			Bill Rewalt	91-2	TAUTOG		
BARRACUDA, GREAT			Reggie White	48-0	TILEFISH, BLUELINE		
BASS, BLACK SEA			Jim Sheffield	7-4	TRIGGERFISH		
BASS STRIPED	Sheffield.	50-9	C.V. Kinnard	48-0	TUNA, BIGEYE ATL		
BLUEFISH		8	Paul Richie	22-0	TUNA, BLACKFIN		
BONEFISH			F.W. Lawrence	13-14	TUNA, BLUEFIN		
COBIA			Bill DuVal	77-0	TUNA, SKIPJACK		
CROAKER			Dr. Jim Wright	4-0	TUNA, YELLOWFIN		
DOLPHIN			A.M. McCarthy	0-09	TUNNY, LITTLE		
DRUM, BLACK			Robbie Robinson	82-8	WAHOO		
DRUM, RED			Dennis Cline	62-0	WEAKFISH	-	
FLOUNDER, SUMMER			Pat Dudley	10-5	* Includes Cero and Narrow Barred Mackerels	red Mackereis	

Parks Rountrey W.C. Askew Pat Quisenberry C.O. Mather J.F. McNeace Virgil Hughes C.O. Mather L. Kesteloo Dr. Jim Wright Bill DuVal Bill DuVal E. Dunham Dr. Jim Wright Bruce Henderson Bill DuVal

F.C. Willson Ronnie Hogge R.L. Gilliam

Bill DuVal Bill Rewalt Buddy Noland Bill DuVal Bill Gallasch

Dick Stephenson Elly Robinson Dr. Jim Wright Stuart Lee

Bill Duval





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Tuesday, March 25th at Skilligalee Restaurant

BICHWOND AV 53584-1484 BOX 31484

