



May 2021

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#### MAY MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Tuesday, May 25th, 2021

Meeting starts at 7:00pm

This will be a virtual (Zoom) meeting link listed below:

ZOOM LINK CLICK HERE

# REMINDER - The VAC Has a Facebook Page Now - Go Take a Look!

You can visit the VAC Facebook page for a look by clicking on:

https://www.facebook.com/vaanglers/

#### **How to Join a Zoom Meeting**

#### Email link:

- 1. You will receive an email invitation from the meeting host
- 2. Click on the link in the email (join via PC, Mac, iOS or Android)
- 3. You will be directed to the meeting

## IMPORTANT!

#### 2021 VAC Scale Certification

Due to the pandemic, the following is in effect for the upcoming year:

All scales certified in 2020 are valid through 2021.

If you have an electronic scale, please change your batteries before weighing fish this year. If you have new scales, or scales that need certifying (not certified in 2020) it is your responsibility to get your scales to a weigh master.

Please contact the following to arrange for your scales to be certified.

Larry Allen: allenhouse75@comcast.net Ryan Noland: ryan.n.noland@usa.dupont.com Danny Noland: danny6749@aol.com

### <u> Virginia Anglers Club</u>



#### **PROGRAMS**



May 25th – Speaker Colby Trow, co-owner of Mossy Creek Fly Fishing in Harrisonburg. Most of us know Colby well since he recently spoke to the VAC and the FFV in a joint meeting. He will speak and answer questions about floating the Shenandoah River for smallmouth bass. Besides the James, the Shenandoah offers another option for good freshwater fishing in the state. Many may be less familiar with this river so it's a chance to widen our knowledge. Join us to welcome Colby on May 25.

#### **PREVIOUS PROGRAMS**

The ZOOM video links from previous membership meetings are located on web page under the Videos tab (Speaker and Educational Videos).

#### **EXPEDITIONS**

Small River Wade Trip Expedition June 26, 2021 7am to 1pm

The last few years, this has been a great wade fishing trip. The small river we generally fish has smallmouth bass, various sunfish species, carp, catfish, crappie, white perch and small striped bass.

We'll meet on Saturday, June 26 at 7am about 25 minutes north of Richmond. To sign up and receive further details, contact Mike Ostrander at 804-938-2350 or mike@discoverthejames.com.

The deadline to sign up is June 22, the day after the membership meeting but space is limited to about 10 members, so sign up early ... in the past, this has filled quickly so don't wait.

We'll fish until noon-1pm, and if enough folks want to grab lunch afterwards, we'll head out and grab a bite and a refreshment.

#### FOR SCALE CERTIFICATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Larry Allen at: (804)781-0907 (H), (804)241-3706 (C) or allenhouse75@comcast.net

Ryan Noland at: (804)658-1955 (H), (894)896-4178 (C) or ryan.n.noland@usa.dupont.com

Please remember to be sure your scales are in working order, the barrels are oil free and are placed in a Zip-Loc type re-sealable plastic bag with your name written on the outside.

#### **VAC ANGLING RULES QUESTIONS?**

Do you have a question concerning angling rules? If so, email your questions to Fred Cousins (cousinsf1@verizon.net). Fred will address questions during the next general membership meeting

## <u>Virginia Anglers Club</u>





## President's Message

May 2021

The time is at hand. Citation bluegill are ready to break in your light tackle gear on your favorite lake or pond. The saltwater bite is picking up with puppy drum, speckled trout and flounder around the inshore waters of the Chesapeake Bay. We are blessed with so many angling opportunities within two hours of Richmond and for those of us with limited amounts of time it becomes a coin toss on which way to go. North? South? Northeast? It doesn't matter which direction. Getting out and on the water is a welcome (and needed) time for all of us. But the "time" I was referring to in the opening statement wasn't really about casting, but rather the "time is at hand" for the VAC to meet face-to-face.

Yeah, you read it correctly, "Face-to-face, in-person VAC Membership Meeting." Sweet.

Whenever anglers meet, whether online or in person, generally at the beginning or the end of a meeting, conversations drift to other subjects. At the recent VAC Zoom meeting to discuss the two recent Tournaments, one of the subjects that came up was the question about when the VAC is going to have an in-person meeting? When asked, every single person on the Zoom call stated their full-on readiness and strong comfort level to meet face-to-face. This is now officially a hot topic to discuss at the June 8 Board of Directors meeting, and a question that will be asked at the May 25 online membership meeting. Keep your eyes out around June 9 as an in-person meeting might be in our future sooner than later.

Regarding the "Tournament discussion" from Tuesday evening, May 11 ... it was an interesting exchange of experiences and ideas with a diverse group of VAC members. We didn't schedule the next tournament. In fact, we didn't even talk about tournament rules. The conversation never really got to those points. We ended up discussing the importance of fellowship one can find as a member of the Virginia Anglers Club.

The VAC has a long and storied history of tournament fishing. In the 1970's, 80's & 90's, the VAC ran as many as 26 tournaments a year, including numerous offshore fishing tournaments. Truly amazing! It was serious and the fellowship was at a multi decade long high. As time passed, participation in the tournaments waned and ultimately the club decided to stop running them. That's when the Expeditions were developed. Fishing trips to diverse bodies of water for members and friends to fish, with no direct competition against each other, but a way to continue offering fellowship, education and the opportunity for members to catch species that would help qualify them for club ratings.

I think everyone will agree that fellowship is found in both Tournaments and Expeditions. When done correctly, they both offer what is needed to keep the club's light shining for another six decades.

I hope we have another Yellow Perch Tournament and Shad Tournament in 2022, but for now the club will continue to schedule Expeditions and discuss ideas for the next tournament. Trying to gauge the excitement level of these events through the Zoom meetings (virtually) is tough, and perhaps when we meet face-to-face, the synergy and maybe even a little trash talk will guide us to the next tournament idea. I do not expect to ever get back to the glory days of the VAC's Tournament schedule of the past, but I do believe, whole heartedly, that we are on our way to finding "our own" healthy competition in the future.

It's time to fish, and it's time to discuss an in-person meeting. It's time to renew friendships and make new ones when we again meet face-to-face. It's time to harvest the wonderful work so many members have been doing since we've been meeting virtually over the past year and a half and see where the VAC goes. We are on our way ... Happy Fishing!

Mike Ostrander President Virginia Anglers Club





## Saltwater Special Seasons Open



#### Striped Bass

Any person fishing striped bass recreationally shall use non-offset, corrodible, non-stainless steel circle hooks when fishing with bait.

#### Chesapeake Bay Spring Season

- Size Limit: 20-28 inches

- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 fish per person

- Season: May 16 - June 15

#### Chesapeake Bay Fall Season

- Size limit: 20-36 inches

- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 fish per person

- Season: October 4 - December 31

#### Coastal Season

- Size Limit: 28-36 inches

- Recreational Bag Limit: 1 per person

- Season: January 1 - March 31, May 16 - December 31



#### Black Sea Bass

- Minimum Size Limit: 12.5 inches

- Recreational Bag Limit: 15 per person

Season: Feb. 1 - Feb. 28 (Permit Required)
 May 15 - May 31, June 16 - Dec 31





## REMEMBERING BILL GALLASCH

By Stuart Lee



Our club has had many notable members in its 60-year history. One that I would like to chronicle is W.F. (Bill) Gallasch, who passed away in 2012, at the age of 98. At our Annual Banquet, the club raffles off a shadow box of flies tied by Mr. Gallasch and supplied by club members. It is only natural that each year there are fewer members who knew Mr. Gallasch or his place in both our club and the world-wide fly-fishing community.

Joe Brooks considered Bill Gallasch the finest fly-tier of their era. I suspect that Joe Brooks had much to do with Bill's success and notoriety. Bill was a freshwater fisherman and tied flies for freshwater species when he joined the Virginia Anglers Club in 1961. He soon became friends with Joe Brooks, and they began collaborating on design, modifying, and perfecting some of the most popular patterns of their time. Notably, the Blonde series, which prior to the introduction of Lefty Kreh's Deceiver, was a go-to streamer pattern for both fresh and saltwater. Another was the Skipping Bug which Bill started making using carved cedar but quickly changing to balsa wood. Lefty Kreh once remarked that the Gallasch Skipping Bug had taken more fish in saltwater than any other pattern.

Bill had a two-room building behind his house that served as his fly tying studio. After retiring from DuPont in 1978, after 45 years, he could be found in his studio most of the time until late in his life when failing eye sight forced him to give up his craft. He supplied Orvis with Skipping Bugs and Sail-fish Poppers for many years, which were sold from their catalog. I should note that Leigh Perkins, the President of Orvis at that time, was also a member of the VAC.

In early 1986, I decided to try to catch a big Red Drum on fly. I rigged up a 10-weight outfit with the heaviest shooting head that was available, which was a Cannonball made by Sunset in California, and joined that to a monofilament running line called Amnesia. By today's standards, this rig was extremely primitive. The problem, as I saw it, was finding a suitable fly. I needed a fly that sank as fast as the shooting head, or faster. This was before the popularization of the Clouser, and so there were very few sinking flies or lead hour-glass eyes. I went to Bill's house and explained the rig that I was going to use and how I needed the fly to sink as fast, or faster, than the line. Bill asked a few questions and said to let him think about this and that he would make a prototype or two, and when ready, he would call me. He called a week or so later for me to come over and look at what he had. He had designed a single prototype about five inches long, tied sparsely with Fish Hair and lots of Mylar. He had wrapped the shank of the hook with thin strips of lead, which made that fly sink like a rock. I told him that I thought that was

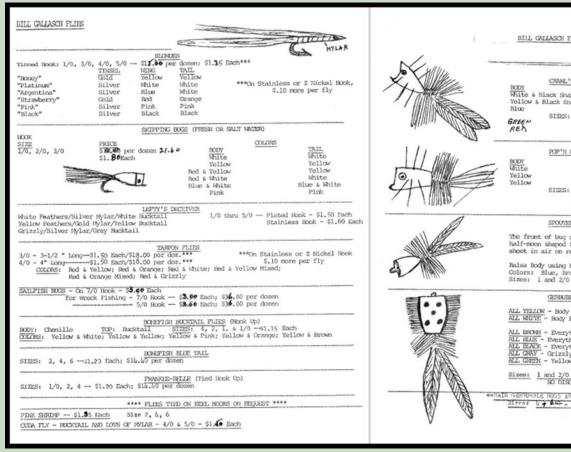


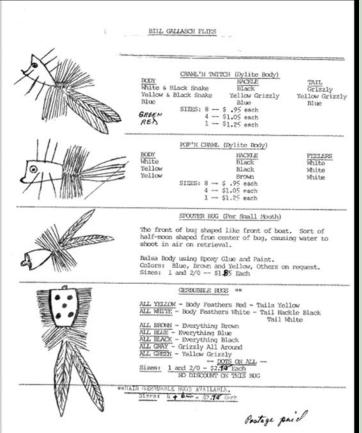
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exactly what I needed and asked him to please tie some more. Several months later, I caught two World Record Red Drum on those flies, confirming his problem-solving and design skills.

Both Glenn Carter and Jim Sheffield took Bill fishing on many occasions as he got older, and he was always most eager to go. He was a very quiet and gentle man, who was also most generous. I became interested in fly tying after he had stopped and often wished that I had paid more attention and watched more carefully at what he did, but it could be that casually watching him sparked my later interest. Many members of our club will remember Bill Gallasch because they are fortunate to have one of his shadow boxes filled with his signature flies, but many of us will also remember him for the great guy that he was.





#### Fish of the Month (March)

#### Freshwater (points)

G.N. Carter Shad, Hickory 2lbs 2oz 6 fly 214pts

#### Freshwater (weight)

S.C Lee Catfish, Flathead 111bs 12oz

#### Saltwater (points)

C. Clevinger Seatrout, Spotted 2lbs 4oz 2 Spin 199pts

#### Saltwater (weight)

C. Clevinger Seatrout, Spotted 2lbs 4oz

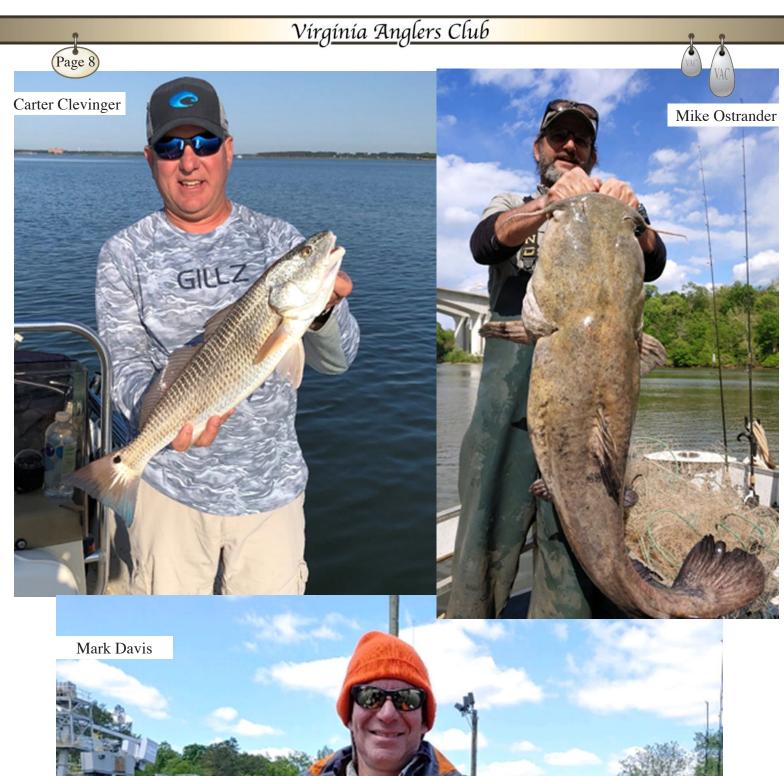
<u>Virginia Anglers Club</u>



# **Recent VAC Member Catch Photos**





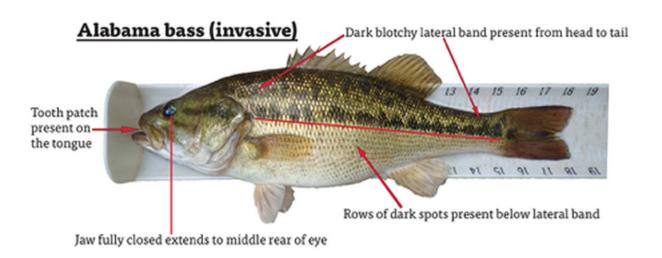


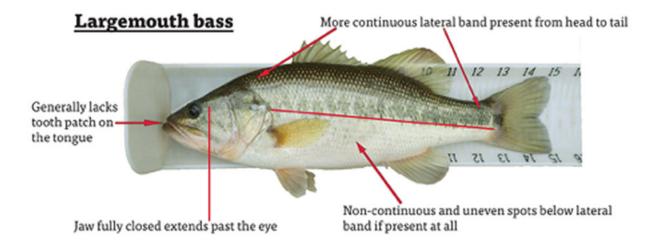






# DO YOU KNOW THE DIFFERENCE?





- Anglers are reminded that the introduction of novel predators can have unforeseen impacts on native or established ecosystems.
- The introduction of Alabama bass is illegal in Virginia. Alabama bass have been scientifically shown to out-compete established populations of largemouth bass and hybridize with smallmouth bass.
- Invasive species cause negative ecological and/or economic harm.
- Anglers who suspect they have captured an Alabama bass should take a picture of the fish, clip
  off a thumbnail-sized portion of one of the pelvic fins, and store the fin clip dry in an envelope.
  The pelvic fins are located on the bottom of the fish, just under the head. They should then either
  contact the Department of Wildlife Resources at: fisheries@dwr.virginia.gov or 804-367-1293.



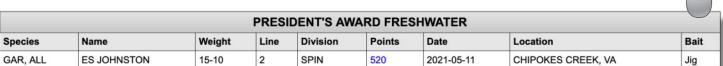
CONSERVE, CONNECT, PROTECT.





# <u> Virginia Anglers Club</u>

#### **ANNUAL AWARDS 2021**



	PRESIDENT'S AWARD SALTWATER										
Species	Species Name Weight Line Division Points Date Location Bait										
DRUM, RED	B SHEPHERD	49-0		SURF	350	2021-05-16	WRECK ISLAND, VA	Peeler			

	DIVISION AWARDS FRESHWATER											
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait				
CARP	R HART	25-4	8	PLUG	450	2021-01-29	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	Blade Bait				
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	S KNOX	31-0	20BR	GEN	183	2020-12-04	JAMES RIVER, RICHMOND, VA	Cut Shad				
GAR, ALL	ES JOHNSTON	15-10	2	SPIN	520	2021-05-11	CHIPOKES CREEK, VA	Jig				
SHAD, HICKORY	GN CARTER	2-2	6	FLY	214	2021-04-09	JAMES RIVER, VA	Freds Dart Fly				

DIVISION AWARDS SALTWATER										
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait		
DRUM, RED	B SHEPHERD	49-0		SURF	350	2021-05-16	WRECK ISLAND, VA	Peeler		
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	C CLEVINGER	2-4	2	SPIN	199	2021-04-20	FT MONROE, VA	Zman		

		"HIGH	IEST F	POINT" S	PECIE	S AWARDS	FRESHWATER	
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	R HART	6-15	2	SPIN	462	2021-01-24	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	Blade Bait
BOWFIN	ES JOHNSTON	7-4	2	SPIN	362	2021-02-26	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	1/16 Oz. Jig
CARP	R HART	25-4	8	PLUG	450	2021-01-29	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	Blade Bait
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	S KNOX	31-0	20BR	GEN	183	2020-12-04	JAMES RIVER, RICHMOND, VA	Cut Shad
CRAPPIE, ALL	R HART	1-11	2	SPIN	267	2021-03-06	BUGGS ISLAND, VA	Bobby Garland Crappie Jig
GAR, ALL	ES JOHNSTON	15-10	2	SPIN	520	2021-05-11	CHIPOKES CREEK, VA	Jig
PERCH, WHITE	M OSTRANDER	0-15	2	SPIN	246	2021-03-09	COHOKE POND, VA	White Grub
PERCH, YELLOW	R HART	1-5	2	SPIN	345	2021-02-26	COHOKE CREEK, VA	2 Inch Grub
PICKEREL, CHAIN	R HART	2-12	2	SPIN	275	2021-02-14	PAMUNKEY RIVER, VA	Yellow Grub
SHAD, HICKORY	GN CARTER	2-2	6	FLY	214	2021-04-09	JAMES RIVER, VA	Freds Dart Fly
SUNFISH	C CLEVINGER	0-8	2	SPIN	131	2021-02-27	PAMUNKEY, VA	Grub
SUNFISH, REDEAR	DL NOBLES	0-11	4	FLY	107	2021-03-10	PRIVATE POND, VA	Black Leech Streamer
TROUT, BROOK	R HART	2-10	4	SPIN	210	2021-03-28	SUGAR GROVE , WV	Joes Fly
TROUT, BROWN	B BOSHER	4-15	8	GEN	116	2021-02-20	CRIPPLE CREEK, VA	Bucktail
TROUT, RAINBOW	A BAGWELL	5-12	4	SPIN	261	2020-12-13	PRIVATE POND, VA	2" Tube

"HIGHEST POINT" SPECIES AWARDS SALTWATER										
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait		
DRUM, RED	B SHEPHERD	49-0		SURF	350	2021-05-16	WRECK ISLAND, VA	Peeler		
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	C CLEVINGER	2-4	2	SPIN	199	2021-04-20	FT MONROE, VA	Zman		





		"HE	AVIES	T" SPEC	IES AW	ARDS FRES	SHWATER	
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	R HART	6-15	2	SPIN	462	2021-01-24	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	Blade Bait
BASS, SMALLMOUTH	T FRANCO	1-2	8	SPIN	52	2021-04-07	MAURY, VA	Ned Rig
BOWFIN	ES JOHNSTON	7-4	2	SPIN	362	2021-02-26	CHICKAHOMINY RIVER, VA	1/16 Oz. Jig
CARP	R HART	25-4	8	PLUG	450	2021-01-29	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	Blade Bait
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	S KNOX	31-0	20BR	GEN	183	2020-12-04	JAMES RIVER, RICHMOND, VA	Cut Shad
CRAPPIE, ALL	T MIDKIFF	1-13	4	GEN	181	2021-02-26	CHICKAHOMY, VA	Minnow
GAR, ALL	ES JOHNSTON	15-10	2	SPIN	520	2021-05-11	CHIPOKES CREEK, VA	Jig
PERCH, WHITE	L RICHARDSON	1-0	6	SPIN	181	2021-04-10	JAMES RIVER, VA	Blade Bait
PERCH, YELLOW	GN CARTER	1-7	4	PLUG	312	2021-03-08	MATTAPONI RIVER, VA	Blade Bait
PICKEREL, CHAIN	R HART	3-10	4	SPIN	266	2021-01-16	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	Blade Bait
SHAD, HICKORY	GN CARTER	2-4	8	FLY	199	2021-03-30	JAMES RIVER, VA	Freds Dart Fly
SUNFISH	C CLEVINGER	0-8	2	SPIN	131	2021-02-27	PAMUNKEY, VA	Grub
SUNFISH, REDEAR	DL NOBLES	0-11	4	FLY	107	2021-03-10	PRIVATE POND, VA	Black Leech Streamer
TROUT, BROOK	R HART	2-10	4	SPIN	210	2021-03-28	SUGAR GROVE , WV	Joes Fly
TROUT, BROWN	B BOSHER	4-15	8	GEN	116	2021-02-20	CRIPPLE CREEK, VA	Bucktail
TROUT, RAINBOW	A BAGWELL	5-12	4	SPIN	261	2020-12-13	PRIVATE POND, VA	2" Tube

"HEAVIEST" SPECIES AWARDS SALTWATER										
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait		
DRUM, RED	B SHEPHERD	49-0	ř.	SURF	350	2021-05-16	WRECK ISLAND, VA	Peeler		
SEATROUT, SPOTTED	C CLEVINGER	2-4	2	SPIN	199	2021-04-20	FT MONROE, VA	Zman		

NEW CLUB RECORDS FRESHWATER										
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait		
CARP	R HART	25-4	8	PLUG	450	2021-01-29	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	Blade Bait		
CATFISH, FLATHEAD	S KNOX	31-0	20BR	GEN	183	2020-12-04	JAMES RIVER, RICHMOND, VA	Cut Shad		
PERCH, YELLOW	GN CARTER	1-2	8	PLUG	175	2021-03-06	MATTAPONI RIVER, VA	Blade Bait		
PERCH, YELLOW	GN CARTER	1-7	4	PLUG	312	2021-03-08	MATTAPONI RIVER, VA	Blade Bait		
TROUT, BROOK	R HART	2-10	4	SPIN	210	2021-03-28	SUGAR GROVE , WV	Joes Fly		
TROUT, RAINBOW	A BAGWELL	5-12	4	SPIN	261	2020-12-13	PRIVATE POND, VA	2" Tube		

	NEW CLUB RECORDS SALTWATER									
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait		

	2A5	0.	- 1	PAJCHAK AWARD		70	20	700
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait

	YOUTH FRESHWATER										
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait			
SUNFISH	ASHER BROUGHTON 0_6	0-8	4	SPIN	108	2021-04-25	PRIVATE POND, VA	Squirt			

				YOUTH SALTW	ATER			
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait

<u>Virginia Anglers Club</u>





YOUTH SALTWATER									
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait	

NON-LOCAL AWARD FRESH OR SALTWATER									
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait	
PERMIT	FD GOTTWALD	16-0	12	GEN	133	2021-03-24	KEY WEST, FL	Crab	

NEW MEMBER AWARD									
Species	Name	Weight	Line	Division	Points	Date	Location	Bait	
BASS, LARGEMOUTH	C DEANE	4-9	4	SPIN	228	2021-01-29	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	3/16 Ounce Blade Bait	
CARP	C DEANE	19-4	8	PLUG	343	2021-01-29	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	1/2 Ounce Blade Bait	
CRAPPIE, ALL	C DEANE	1-5	2	SPIN	208	2021-03-06	BUGGS ISLAND, VA, VA	Bobby Garland Jig	
PERCH, WHITE	C DEANE	0-10	4	SPIN	135	2021-04-18	COHOKE MILL POND, VA	1/8 Jighead With 2' Twister Tail	
TROUT, RAINBOW	C DEANE	5-3	4	SPIN	235	2020-12-19	CRIPPLE CREEK, VA	Panther Martin	
Total					1149				

## WA RIFEED

IN SEARCH OF A BOAT TRAILER FOR A BOAT 16' LONG AND 7.5' WIDE.

IT NEED NOT BE IN PERFECT CONDITION.

IF ANYONE HAS ONE FOR SALE, PLEASE CONTACT CHUCK KOCH AT:

RVAKOVCHX3@VERIZON.NET