

Northern Neck Anglers Club

April 2012 Newsletter

IMPORTANT INFORMATION:

The location for the April 28th NNAC meeting has been changed. The Northumberland Library in Heathsville informed us that they can no longer allow the use of their meeting room when the rest of the library is closed. So we looked at several alternatives, including having all of the meetings in Kilmarnock. There was a strong preference to keep the meetings in the traditional location, and we selected another location in Heathsville. The April 28th members' meeting and the August 11th members' meeting will be held just west of the Library at the **Transportation Building**, a Rice Hotel/Hughlett's Tavern facility. The address is **73 Monument Place, Heathsville, Va.** Monument Place will be the first right turn just after passing the Old Courthouse building if you were traveling EAST on Rt. 360. **This is the gray building that sits behind and to the left of the Old Courthouse and the Rice Hotel/Hughlett's Tavern, a long white building.** Capt. Rick Lockhart will be the speaker at the April meeting, and he will discuss techniques for early season striper fishing, just in time for the **Trophy Rockfish Tournament scheduled for May 5th & 6th.**

The first tournament of the year will be the Trophy Rockfish Team Tournament, a team event in which the combined weight of the two largest fish (or single fish) entered by a team will be counted. Each team may enter two fish each day, and the team may consist of both NNAC members and non-members with no guest fee or registration required. So invite a guest and let the guest consider joining the NNAC for the rest of the tournaments. A detailed description of the Trophy Rockfish Tournament is attached as a PDF file.

The NNAC will continue to hold ten (10) separate tournament events in 2012, and the schedule, which was reported in the March Newsletter will soon be up-dated on the NNAC web site. Please note that Locklies Marina, (phone- 804-758-2871) 784 Locklies Creek Road, Topping, Va. and across from the airport by land and just downriver from the Norris Bridge over the Rappahannock, will once again be a weigh-in station for the NNAC, beginning some time in May. Also, Buzzard Point Marina (phone-804-453-3545) at 468 Buzzards Point Road, Reedville, Va. will also be a weigh-in station for the NNAC. Queens Creek Outfitters has closed and is no longer a weigh-in station.

The Reedville Fishing Derby is scheduled for Saturday, May 12th, where the NNAC will be participate in three ways. We will have an opportunity to speak at the Captains' meeting on Friday night, will insert a new NNAC flyer into the Captains' bags of those participating in the tournament, and will have a display table set up for the tournament. We hope to generate several new members from this opportunity to participate. Along these lines, the information flyer will be posted at NNAC tournament weigh-in stations and other suitable locations to publicize NNAC activities.

The NNAC picnic is scheduled for Saturday, June 9th from 4-6 PM. Also on that same day, there is an NNAC meeting at 7:00 PM at the library in Kilmarnock. If the rising gas prices have you concerned about how often you might go fishing this year, why not attend both events to meet other club members and find some new fishing partners? The club will once again have a "Fishing Partners" roster, which you can join by signing up with club Secretary, Susan Hudson (karisma@hughes.net). You would list your name, phone number, e-mail address, and general fishing location. You would have to give your permission to allow your information to be distributed among those on the list, but your information would not be published to the entire club membership. The NNAC web site (<http://www.chesapeake-fishing.com/nnac/>), which is hosted by the Chesapeake Angler Magazine, has been partially updated with new information for our 2012 activities. The up-dated tournament rules and tournament schedule will soon be posted with a listing of the target species for each event. Also, the web site has been updated with the names and phone numbers of club officers and directors so that you can reach any of us if you have any questions or suggestions.

Other items that you should consider as we await the fishing season would include the Federal Saltwater Angler Registration requirements, which may require that you register in Virginia and/or Maryland, and the Boater Safety Requirements which may require most of us to take a boating safety course with the boat operator's age determining the deadline for completing the course.

Hope to see a big turn-out at the meeting in April.
Tom Smith

