## **Northern Neck Anglers Club**

## February 2013 Newsletter

## **Greetings:**

Do you remember how good the striper fishing was in the ocean within the 3 mile line last January with a new state record fish of 74 pounds being caught on January 20<sup>th</sup>? Well, the cold weather this year has just about shut down that fishery. Only one fish was weighed during the 3-day big money Mid-Atlantic Rockfish Shootout in January. I checked the web site of the Virginia Beach Fishing Center, and they reported that most of the Captains had switched to deep drop off-shore fishing or to bottom fishing closer to shore for tautog and black sea bass. But that doesn't mean that it is not time for the NNAC to make its plans for fishing events in our area during 2013. In fact, I have heard recently from two reliable sources who reported catching speckled trout in early January in several creeks in the Northern Neck. Of course, it remained a secret until it got really cold before they revealed their success.

The Board of Directors of the NNAC will meet on February 16<sup>th</sup> to finish planning for the 2013 events. We have already had some conversations via the phone and e-mail, and final plans will be determined at that meeting. We have already reserved the Transportation Building in Heathsville and the library in Kilmarnock for our four member meetings and mini-seminars. So please mark your calendars and plan to attend the meetings listed below:

April 27<sup>th</sup> in Heathsville June 8<sup>th</sup> in Kilmarnock August 10<sup>th</sup> in Heathsville October 5<sup>th</sup> in Kilmarnock

We have tentatively set the tournament schedule for 2013 on the following dates so mark these on your calendars as well:

Trophy Rockfish - May 4 &5
Target Ship Shootout - June 22 & 23
Spanish Lessons - Aug. 17 & 18
Striper Challenge - Oct. 12 &13

Rock -A-Thon - May 25 & 26 Flounder Bash - July 20 & 21 Fall Grab Bag - Sept. 14 &15 Bonus Rockfish - Nov. 30 - Dec. 8 (continuous period)

The BOD will be reviewing the results of our tournaments for 2012 and is likely to make a few changes in target species based upon input from members and the actual results from 2012 before updating the NNAC web site (northernneckanglersclub.wordpress.com/) with the final Tournament schedule.

Thanks to those members who have already renewed their membership for 2013, and please remember to pay your dues for 2013 if you have not already done so. Also invite a neighbor or friend to fish with you this year and invite them to join the club. And finally, remember to shop at our NNAC sponsors and thank them for being an NNAC sponsor when you visit their stores. Their gift certificates, which are matched by NNAC purchases, go a long way in keeping your club dues at the same level of \$30.00 in 2013. If you know of a potential new sponsor or have any other suggestions for the club, please let us have your ideas.

Regards, Tom Smith, NNAC President