

Northern Neck Anglers Club

April 2014 Newsletter

(www.northernneckanglersclub.wordpress.com)

The time is now!! This Saturday April 19th is opening day for Trophy Rockfish in Maryland waters of Chesapeake Bay and the Potomac River. Virginia's Trophy Rockfish season opens May 1st. The boat should be ready, fishing tackle set and licenses and saltwater angler registry requirements met, if required. All indicators for a productive spring season look good at this point.

The NNAC's first tournament of the year, the Trophy Rockfish Tournament sponsored by R.W.'s Sport Shop of Callao, VA, is scheduled for May 3rd thru May 11th this year (nine days). One fish may be weighed per member per day. The largest fish (by weight) during the tournament for each member will be entered for placings and gift certificate awards. Gift certificates from R.W.'s Sport Shop will be awarded for the six largest fish caught – 1st place \$125, 2nd place \$100, 3rd place \$75 and 4th through 6th place \$50 each.

Remember to also record the length for any fish entered which was caught in Maryland waters of Chesapeake Bay (does not include the Potomac River). The club is required to file a report with the State of Maryland following the tournament reporting the weight and length of each fish entered which was caught in Maryland waters.

This Trophy Rockfish Tournament is the first of six tournaments in the club's 2014 annual Angler of the Year (AOY) competition, with four AOY points awarded for 1st place, three for 2nd place, two for 3rd place and one point for 4th through 6th places and for each other entry in the tournament.

The first day (Saturday May 3) of the NNAC Trophy Rockfish Tournament overlaps with Smith Point Sea Rescue's annual Reedville Fishing Derby on Friday and Saturday May 2-3, 2014. Arrangements have been made so that any trophy rockfish entered in the Reedville Fishing Derby on Saturday by an NNAC member will also be entered in the NNAC Trophy Rockfish Tournament with the weight (and length, if caught in Maryland waters) recorded by the Derby weighmaster. The NNAC member should complete the club's entry form at a designated weigh-in location and indicate on the entry form "entered in Reedville Fishing Derby".

The NNAC Chesapeake Bay Fishing Seminar on Saturday April 12th was enjoyed by the 160 who attended, each of whom left with a bottle of hydrogen peroxide

provided by the club and several freezer packs courtesy of NNAC member and seminar speaker Dr. John Hoekstra. The speakers did a terrific job in educating attendees about when, where and how to catch the wide variety of species that are available in the Middle Chesapeake Bay and in medical and boating safety. I would like to thank the speakers and those NNAC members whose volunteer efforts on behalf of the club made the seminar a reality and a success. I would also like to thank the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary and Smith Point Sea Rescue for their participation in the seminar, both for staffing information tables during the day and participating in the medical and safety presentations.

During the seminar six Plano tackle boxes purchased by the club as door prizes were awarded by random ticket drawings at the end of each presentation. Two special door prizes were also awarded by random ticket drawings— a \$50 gift certificate at the lunch break donated by WalMart of Kilmarnock and a Penn Battle rod and reel combo valued at \$120 at the lunch break donated by West Marine of Deltaville. The NNAC thanks WalMart and West Marine for the donation of door prizes for the seminar.

Eighteen new members were added to the roster during the seminar. The club's 2014 membership now stands at 117 adult and 26 youth members. On behalf of the club and personally, I would like to welcome the new members and look forward to seeing you at future club meetings and events.

A brief member meeting was held following the seminar. A \$30 gift certificate from R.W.'s Sport Shop was awarded as a door prize to a club member at the end of the meeting.

The next member meeting will be held at 7pm on Saturday June 7th at the Lancaster Library in Kilmarnock. You will be advised later of the topic and speaker for the meeting. A \$30 gift certificate from J&W Seafood in Deltaville will be awarded as a door prize at end of the June 7th meeting.

Tight lines!!

John O'Connor
NNAC President