



# HARDLINES

Northern Neck Anglers Club Monthly Newsletter

## Club Spotlight: NNAC Custom MirrOlures



**What's inside this Issue:**  
Club News, Tournament Updates,  
Fishing Reports, Tackle, Boating  
Safety Tips and more...

## Tournament Updates: Spring Trophy Rockfish



**May 2022 Edition**

[WWW.NORTHERNNECKANGLERSCLUB.COM](http://WWW.NORTHERNNECKANGLERSCLUB.COM)

## Greetings NNAC Members,

Happy Almost Memorial Day Week!

Memorial Day? Say what?? The last I looked wasn't it Easter...like yesterday? Mother's Day? I know time passes when you are having fun, but it's been blowing so much that frankly most of my fun hasn't been on the water!

I just watched seven of our members depart out of Cole's Point (5/16) for the Virginia rockfish season which targets 20–28 inch fish. The charter boat Midnight Sun moved up to Coles Point close to this size of rockfish. The group ended up with a nice limit of fish.



There are five more club charters scheduled for 2022. Come to our next club meeting on Saturday, May 21, to see current status and add your name to available trips.

## Club News

The NNAC Chesapeake Bay Fishing Seminar was held Saturday April 23rd at the Lancaster Community Library. The library was an outstanding venue for the event. There were over 100 people in attendance. There were 6 speaker sessions. Tons of raffle items and door prizes were on hand including Mirrolures, hats,

## Member Spotlight

### NNAC CUSTOM MIRROLURES



*NNAC Custom Mirrolures at work. Recently, Thomas Licht tied on one of the custom Mirrolures designed exclusively for NNAC and began throwing it along the shore where he was fishing hoping to find some trout. Instead, suddenly a nice striper attacked the bait without warning. The fish swallowed the bait headfirst. The lure was a Catch 5 in the Marti Gras color.*



tackle of all sorts, fishing rod/reel combos, boat cleaning supplies, crab pots, and coolers among others. Also, on sale at the event were the long-awaited highly coveted NNAC custom-made MirrOlures designed by NNAC President Ben Ames in collaboration with Thomas Licht. Donuts, coffee, sodas, and water were free to attendees. Best of all, the guest speakers shared their fishing tips, techniques, and secrets to catching trophy fish. The U.S Coast Guard was on hand to share what you need to know to keep safe on the water. The 6 sessions covered a variety of topics including trolling for big rockfish, inshore casting for trout, redfish and chumming for cobia and tackle selection.



Big announcement at the event, William Clarke of the tackle shop inside Horn's Ace Hardware will become a weigh station for the club's tournaments and an Official VA Citation weigh station.

It was a very exciting and informative day and can't wait till next year's event which will be bigger and better if that's possible. Thanks to all the volunteers, guest speakers and sponsors for making this event a successful one.

There are videos recordings of 3 of the sessions. Below are the links to the sessions on Youtube.



**Captain Ryan Rogers:**  
<https://youtu.be/xLuPT4bUEBs>



**Thomas Licht:** <https://youtu.be/Stmp5qx7mjU>



**NNAC Angler of the Year Panel Members:**  
<https://youtu.be/dNNQXndntfw>

This is a busy weekend as we will be representing the club at Butler's Bait and Tackle/Jett's Hardware tackle open house on Saturday 5/21, we have a club board meeting on Saturday afternoon and then we have our May 2022 Northern Neck Anglers Club meeting at the Wicomico Parish Church at 7:30 PM on Saturday night.

Please come whether you are a current member or not and feel free to bring a guest. We will show you a myriad of reasons of why you should be a club member if you are not currently!

As part of the upcoming meeting, please feel free to bring a photo of your favorite fish catch. It could be small or large. You could be young or old. We will put all the photos on a table and assign numbers. Then we will have the membership vote on their favorite one. The winner will get a prize! So, dig into your shoe box of photos and bring something! You get bonus points if the photo was taken with a B/W Polaroid camera!



We will also have a "tackle for sale" table set up. If you have a good rod or some good tackle that you want to put out on the table, bring it and put a price on it. I know Thomas Licht is bringing some really good trout, puppy drum and light

tackle baits. And we have a few more of our club designed Mirrolures which will be there as well. There will be some rod/reel combinations, too. Most of the lures are in the \$10-12 (Thomas Licht recommended) range so try to bring some change with you as this will be cash only and the IRS won't see it!!

We will be discussing our recent seminar day in Kilmarnock, show our current financials, updates on membership, talk about the general direction of the club, take suggestions as to tournament schedules, discuss suggestions and requests for future programs, speakers, etc.

In addition, Tom, Thomas, Earl and Ben will use a variety of multimedia to show you how we research places to fish, how to target individual species, what to look for on Google earth, what exactly SAV means, how to look up SAV on the VIMS website, what the moon, solunar tables, majors/minors mean to you. And lastly, how a Strike Score works. It's all great stuff!

Finally, a member only door prize and 50/50 raffle will be drawn at random at the conclusion of the meeting.

For those of you who have not renewed their membership for 2022, please get your dues and your release form to us by the 5/21 meeting. There is a grace period but before long we will discontinue sending the newsletter to nonmembers. You must be paid member to participate in tournament and be eligible for tournament prizes. It is also the primary funding source for the club.

We look forward to seeing everyone on May 21 for the next meeting. I hope some of you catch some nice rockfish. June brings our cobia tournament, and the fireworks will start!

### **Tournament Updates**

The weather gods have put a severe hammering on our first tournament of 2022. Opening weekend of trophy rockfish tournament saw a



brutal start of wind and high seas resulting the tournament weekend being canceled due to Small Craft Advisories (SCA).

The second weekend of the tournament was a little better, but many anglers were deterred by the dense fog in the morning and dense fog advisories issued by the NWS for both days.

### Fishing Reports

Here are photos of some decent fish taken recently.



Congratulations to Earl Pierotti and Erin Wild for entering their catch in the Club's 2022 Best of Species contest.

### Regulations Changes

No regulation changes to report in any of the tournament zones. Regulations sometime change during the season so always check regulations in your zone before keeping a fish.

### Fishing & Boating Safety

Our thanks for the US Coast Guard for a very informative presentation at our April fishing seminar. We thank them for their good work they do not only in the Chesapeake and surrounding tributaries but also around the world. Did you know the US Coast Guard has a facility based in Guam? Yep...that's a long reach and we're thankful for what they do for us.

And here's some really good news regarding our closest Coast Guard facility here in the Middle and Northern Neck region. Your Northern Neck Anglers Club participated in their public hearing and helped lobby to keep them open year-round:

<https://chesapeakebaymagazine.com/va-uscg-station-to-remain-open-year-round-following-outcry/>

Sun and Vibrio Warnings!!!!

As we move into peak boating season, what are arguably the two most important liquids you always need to make sure you carry onboard? At least one bottle/tube of SPF 50 (minimum) sunscreen AND an in date large bottle of Hydrogen Peroxide for treating small cuts and abrasions. Keep that sunscreen handy and reapply liberally and often. Treat all cuts on your hands, your arms, your legs and your feet quickly with hydrogen peroxide to ward off vibrio from contaminated water, scales, crab shells, oyster shells, etc. In the last two years in the bay, at least four persons PER YEAR have died or lost appendages to vibrio infection. And 25% of boaters will be treated for skin cancer by the time they are 75. Count me as one.

[https://www.chesapeakebay.net/news/blog/five\\_facts\\_about\\_vibrio](https://www.chesapeakebay.net/news/blog/five_facts_about_vibrio)

### Tackle Box

Many of you know Doug Gray as the super capable, friendly, and hard-working mate/partner on Midnight Sun Charters. Besides having an ever-growing artificial lure company called Killer Bee Custom Baits.

## Killer Bee Customs Parachute Jig 1.5 Ounce

Be the first to review this product

Ask a Question

♥ ADD TO WISH LIST

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Doug is also a great craftsman and will build you beautiful custom rods. Whether it's an offshore trolling rod, a medium weight cobia rod, or some spectacular light tackle rods, consider letting him design and build one for you. I pretty much fish with his light tackle rods only and they are fabulous.

There will be some on display at our meeting later this week on Saturday night May 21, 2022.



Virginia Tech on top, redfish in the middle, trophy trout below. His designs are limited only by your imagination. Pick your grip, material, colors, colleges, favorite team, etc. Washington Commanders anyone?

### Bay News

We certainly like to see people release fish they won't use or are undersize back into the bay. But here's a release from a different perspective that we all detest:

<https://chesapeakebaymagazine.com/video-illegal-discharges-from-usace-aqueduct-into-potomac/>

Interesting study regarding lost or "ghost" crab pots:

[https://www.vims.edu/newsandevents/topstories/2022/crabbers\\_survey.php](https://www.vims.edu/newsandevents/topstories/2022/crabbers_survey.php)

Got Boats?

<https://chesapeakebaymagazine.com/first-time-boat-buyers-remain-highest-in-15-years/>

Cool Fish?



Dude, how cool is THAT?!?!? The sturgeon was estimated at 16- to 18-inches but they didn't take the time to measure, instead opting to get this nifty critter right back into the water from whence it came asap, immediately after removing the hook and snapping this quick photo. The fish was caught close to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge near Annapolis.



That about wraps up a very busy April and May for the club. We look forward to seeing you on Saturday night and keep posting those pictures so we can put them on our website and or our Facebook page. Don't forget to check the club's website ([northernneckanglersclub.com](http://northernneckanglersclub.com)) and Facebook page for other club related information.

Fish on!!



Ben Ames  
President, NNAC

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Tom Hedgpeth  
Vice President, NNAC

If you would like to contribute content, photos or have any suggestion of things you'd would like to see included in the newsletter or on the club website, please forward it to the club's email address at: [fishNNAC@gmail.com](mailto:fishNNAC@gmail.com) and we would be more than happy to publish it.

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R. W.'s Sports Shop  
Tackle Shop at J & W Seafood  
Butlers Bait and Tackle  
Horn's Northern Neck Ace Hardware

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