



## Martha's Vineyard Surfcasters Association

P.O. Box 3053 Edgartown, MA 02539

[www.mvsurfcasters.org](http://www.mvsurfcasters.org)

### February 2025 Newsletter

Hello Surfcasters,

Did you enjoy the Banquet? I heard a great time was had by all who attended. If you missed the Banquet, you can read about it in this newsletter and see a few photos of the winners.

If you'd like to participate in Club activities and continue receiving these wonderful newsletters, you must pay your \$30 dues by April 7.

Our next meeting is Monday, March 3 at 7 pm at the Edgartown Rod and Gun Club. We have Chick Stapleton and Betsy Dripps from Friends of Sengekontacket coming to share about the important work they are doing. You don't want to miss this.



"Friends of Sengekontacket is dedicated to the preservation of Sengekontacket Pond; the Barrier Beach and Trapp's Pond; to the protection and preservation of water quality; and the preservation of habitat and promotion of environmentally sound management."

Friends of Sengekontacket (FOS) was formed in 1988 when, for the first time, the pond was closed to shell fishing due to high coliform counts. Since that time FOS has been assessing the foundations of Sengekontacket's natural ecosystems, identifying threats to water quality, and initiating long range planning based on a scientific databases.

I hope to see you Monday at the meeting!

Lisa

# Banquet Meeting Notes

Thank you Michelle Scarpone

1. **The Prez thanked** everyone for attending the Banquet. He thanked Matt Brewer, Paul Brewer, and Ralph Peckham for digging up the clams and oysters for the party. He thanked Steve Parachini for mailing printed versions of the newsletter to those members without email. He thanked Ron Domurat for all his work keeping track of all the club members Derby awards as well as Angler of the Year. The Prez also thank Zach for running the kitchen.
2. Phil Horton gave the **Treasurer's report**. The Club had a good year in 2024. We brought in \$27,000 in income, which includes \$18,054 for the tag sale. We had \$7,000 in expenses. We currently have \$29,000 in our account, which is divided into \$4,000 for operations and \$25,000 in scholarships.
3. **Elections** were held. President – Donald Scarpone, VP – Lisa Belcastro, Treasurer – Phil Horton, Secretary – Dave Kolb
4. Phil Horton asked for a moment of silence to remember **Janet Messineo**. Phil suggested the club award the MVSA Sportsmanship Award at this year's Derby in Janet's name.
5. The Prez suggested we have **two checking accounts** – one specifically for the scholarships and one general fund.
6. The Prez thanked everyone for their donations to the Tackle Sale and for volunteering. The Club voted for the 2025 proceeds to be **split 50-50 between the MVRHS scholarships and Island vets' housing**.
7. Joseph McLaughlin, of **The Trustees of Reservations**, gave the Club updates on Chappy beach conditions. He noted the sand is moving from Leland to Wasque. TTOR will open what they can for fishing and recreational travel. TTOR did repairs on the bay side and continues to maintain the trails. They are looking forward to a good summer and welcome any suggestions.
8. The Club voted to **raise dues** to \$50 in 2026.
9. Scott Maccaferri will generously donate another trip on his boat for a raffle again this year. Winner and guest will enjoy a day of fishing with Scott. Raffle tickets are \$10 each. You can pay by cash, check, or Venmo.
10. When it came time to hand out the awards for 2024, if your name wasn't Luke Brewer the best you could hope for was second place. Luke's dad, Paul Brewer, accepted his awards for: MVSA Angler of Year, first place Triple Crown, first place reel, and heaviest bluefish, bonito, and albie.
11. Matt Brewer won a book of Chappy ferry tickets for his victory in the 2024 shark tournament.
12. John Herman won the second-place reel for heaviest monthly fish and Ralph Peckham won third place.
13. Ralph also took home second place in the Triple Crown contest. Julie Tummino, who was greatly missed at the Banquet, earned third place.

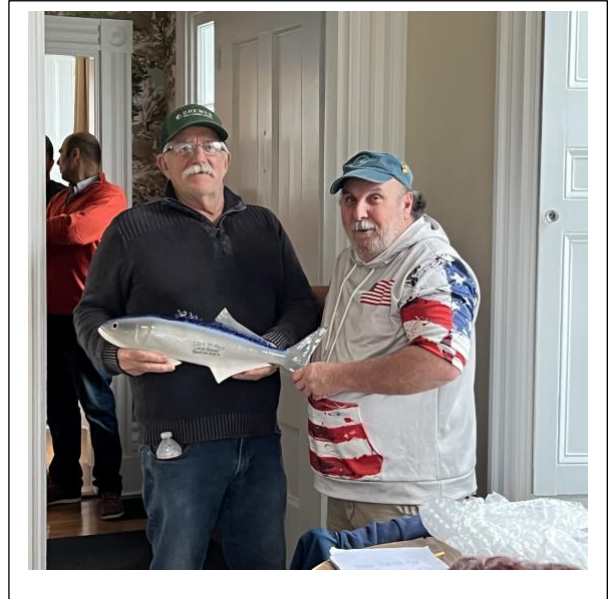


# Reeling in the Prizes

Photos by Kathi Pogoda



Ralph Peckham picking up one of his awards. Ralph took home second place overall for the Triple Crown (above), and the third place fishing reel for largest fish.



Paul Brewer picks up the Biggest Bluefish Award for his son Luke. Luke Brewer won all three top prizes for bluefish (15.20), bonito (5.91) and false albacore (13.29).



Luke Brewer won the MVSA Angler of the Year award. His dad, Paul, was happy to pick up ALL of Luke's awards. 😊



Matt Brewer won the Shark Tournament last summer with a 63-inch shark. He took home a book of Chappy ferry tickets.

# MVSA Upcoming Calendar

1. March 3<sup>rd</sup> - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club -

Speaker: Friends of Sengekontacket - Chick Stapleton  
and Betsy Dripps

The pizza arrives at 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm.



2. March 7 – 9 – Rhode Island Fishing Show

3. April 7<sup>th</sup> - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club -

Speaker TBD

The pizza arrives at 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm.

4. April 19<sup>th</sup> – Earth Day – Beach Clean Up on South Beach and Norton,  
then a festival at the MV Museum.



5. May 5<sup>th</sup> - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club -

Speaker TBD

The pizza arrives at 7 pm. The meeting begins at 7:30 pm.

6. August 30<sup>th</sup> – save the date – **Annual Used Tackle Sale**



## BE A WINNER IN THE MVSA IN-HOUSE DERBY

**MVSA In-House Derby** - This is a fun and loosely run tournament based solely on the honor system and club members are eligible to win prizes by submitting entries for one or more of the eligible species (striped bass, bluefish, false albacore, bonito). Fish can be kept but catch and release is strongly encouraged. To determine the weight, the fish can be weighed or the weight can be estimated by using the following formula. (length x the girth squared, divided by 800=total weight). It's surprisingly accurate.

### HOW TO ENTER -----

You must be a paid in full member before catching and weighing in any fish.

Use the weigh-in slip on the MVSA website and make as many copies as you need.

When you catch a fish you want to enter, use the calculation above or weigh on a digital fishing scale.

To be eligible for consideration, your fish must conform to the minimum sizes below:

Bluefish 22"

Bonito 21"

False Albacore 25"

**Boundaries: To be eligible, a fish must be caught in or around the waters of Martha's Vineyard, within MVSB & BF Derby Boundaries.** *(Fish caught during the trip to Cuttyhunk are not eligible for any prizes)*

### DIVISION AND AWARDS

A monthly pin will be awarded to the member that submits an entry for the largest fish in each species. All monthly entries will participate in a "luck of the draw" raffle to win a Ron McKee custom lure. All first, second and third place monthly winners will also be entered into a year-end raffle to win new fishing reels. There will be three raffles, one each for all first, second and third place entries.

The 'Angler of the Year' will be determined by a point system based on monthly entries. Five points will be awarded for a first-place monthly winner, three for second, and one for third. The member who finishes the year with the most points will be declared the '**Angler of the Year**'.

**Entries:** Must be received within seven days after the catch and may be submitted by **email** to Dave Balon at: [WeighSlip@mvsurfcasters.org](mailto:WeighSlip@mvsurfcasters.org). If you do not have an email account, mail your entry to: MVSA In-House Derby, P.O. Box 3053, Edgartown, MA 02539

Slips must be postmarked within seven days of the date of catch. During the MV Bass & Bluefish Derby, there is no need to fill out our weigh-in slip; simply mail in the official MV Derby weigh-in slip.

In-House Derby entry forms may be obtained on the MVSA web-site [www.mvsurfcasters.org](http://www.mvsurfcasters.org) (Then go to the Club tab, 2018 In-House Derby) The Official Weigh-In Slip link is under the MVSA Derby Info section.