



Martha's Vineyard Surfcaster's Association

P.O. Box 3053 Edgartown, MA 02539

www.mvsurfcasters.org

March 2026 Newsletter

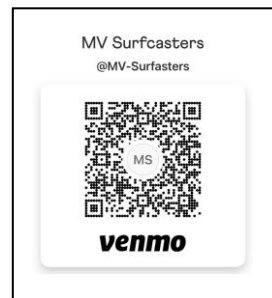
Hello Surfcasters,

Let's cut to the chase: Is this your last newsletter? Have you paid your Club dues?

The "Good News" for those who have paid their dues: You will continue to receive our fun and engaging newsletter, as well as have access to our private Facebook group.

The "Bad News" – Whomever doesn't pay the club dues by April 30th, this will be their last newsletter, and, if that wasn't sad enough, they will also be removed from the Club's Facebook group during the first week of May.

Don't let this happen to you. Pay your \$40 dues now. You can Venmo your \$40 or you can mail your \$40 check made payable to MVSA to: PO Box 3053, Edgartown, MA 02539.



We have multiple events happening in April, a new family and community event being planned for June, as well as our monthly meeting this coming Monday on April 6th. David Bouck of the MV Shellfish Group will be speaking to us about Mill Brook and saving our Island waters.

I hope to see you on Monday!

Lisa

Club News and Notes

1. The Prez thanked everyone again for helping with the Banquet and for attending. Zach Magid reported that the kitchen ran smoothly and easily. Dave Balon noted that the raffle was a success. The front-facing set up of the banquet tables made it easier for everyone to view the raffle and to give people their raffle items. The new raffle ticket system was a huge success! No more needing to write your name on a gazillion tickets. Thank you Matt Brewer for the suggestion!

2. Michael Klein gave the Treasurer's report. We currently have \$11,612 in our operating account and \$27,000 in our scholarship account.

3. It's that time of year again – Our MVSA annual dues are due by April 30. Please pay your dues at the April meeting on Monday, send a check to: MVSA, PO Box 3053, Edgartown, MA 02539, or Venmo the money to our account. If someone doesn't pay



his or her dues by April 30, he or she will no longer receive our fantastic newsletter and will be removed from our Facebook group.

4. The Wampanoag Tribe is hosting their annual beach grass planting on April 11th.

The event is at Lobsterville Beach, which we all love and want to preserve. There will be breakfast sandwiches from Quitsa Kitchen. Planting from 9 am to noon.

5. Our annual Earth Day Beach Clean Up is April 18th. The Club will meet at Right and Left Fork at 10 am and clean up South Beach and Norton Point Beach entrance for a couple of hours. After the clean up, we'll head over to the MVSA storage unit and have a BBQ and sort through our fishing tackle gear. We did this last year and had a great time.

6. **Boat Raffle** – Scott Macafferri has once again generously donated a boat trip to the Club. We are now raffling off a fishing trip on Scott's boat for only \$10 a ticket. You can purchase your ticket at Club meetings, by mailing in a check, or by Venmo (see below). Raffle drawing in late May. Get your tickets!



7. We need **new members** – young and older – bring your ideas to the meetings.
8. We are going to host a **Squidding Contest** in June when the squid arrive. We'll gather on State Beach, squid, and offer prizes for biggest squid, smallest squid, heaviest bucket, etc. Event will be open to the public to encourage new members. Bring the kids and grandchildren.
9. The annual **Father's Day BBQ** will be held the weekend of June 13. The Prez will let us know which day based on the best weather. This year the guys are cooking up an alligator, so mark your calendars and plan to get out on Chappy.
10. Our annual **July Beach Picnic** will be Saturday, July 11th at 5 pm at Bend in the Road Beach. More details to follow.
11. We need someone to take over the newsletter. This could be your chance to control the news. Just saying!



MV Shellfish Visits MVSA

We learned a little about a lot things the MV Shellfish Group is doing.



MVSG

Martha's Vineyard Shellfish Group is a non-profit organization working to preserve and enhance the shellfish resources of Martha's Vineyard, including the habitat and good water quality they require for the social, economic and ecological well-being of the Island community.

Provide quahog, bay scallop, and oyster seed for all towns on island. our goal is to maintain a healthy island shellfish population for both commercial shellfisheries and recreational harvest for families to use for years to come.

Eel Grass

- Collected 38,000 seeds this past year
- 37,000 went into experimental area in Lagoon Pond as dumplings (bottom left)
 - 1,000 were glued to quahog seed and planted in Tashmoo (top right)

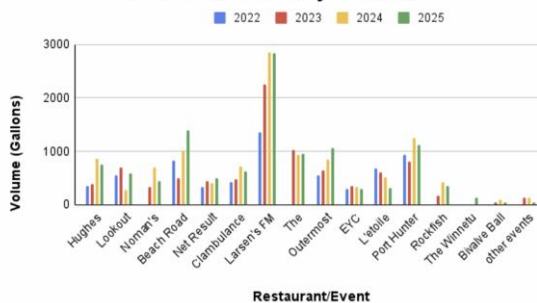


Education Outreach

- School Visits
 - Classroom oyster tanks
 - After School Program
 - Tours of Hatchery
- Seashore Explorers 4H Club
- Shucking Demonstrations
- Quahogging Lessons



MVSG Shell Recovery 2022-2025



Projects and Updates from 2025

- Shell Recovery
- SOAR- Supporting Oyster Aquaculture & Restoration
- Interior Pigmentation in Quahogs
- Eel Grass
- Education Programs
- Bay Scallop Marosporida

MVSA Upcoming Calendar

1. April 6th - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club

Guest speaker: David Bouck, Research Manager of MV Shellfish Group, speaking about Mill Brook in West Tisbury.

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

Join in person or on Zoom. The link is below, or if you're using the app: Meeting ID: 827 0079 8930. Passcode: 446667



<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82700798930?pwd=k1kaRTN0egYzmCb3pPmFaDte4uTvaY.1>

2. April 11th – 9 am – 2 pm - **Beach Grass Planting** – Lobsterville - Plant beach grass and cedar shims for dune stabilization in an area of approximately 500 feet long, for a total of 10,000 square feet of beach area along Lobsterville Road. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact: Beckie Finn, (508) 560-6168, envcoord@wampanoagtribe-nsn.gov



- 3 April 18th at 10 am – **Earth Day Beach Clean Up** – The Prez is expecting a great Club turnout. We will meet at Right and Left Fork. More info to come at Monday's meeting.



4. May 4th - **Monthly Meeting** - Edgartown Rod and Gun Club

Guest speaker: To be determined.

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

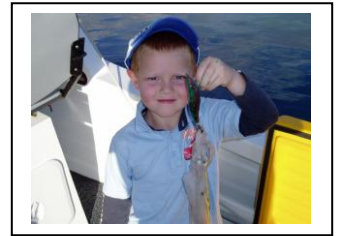
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5. June – Date to be Decided – **Squidding Contest** - new this year.

An event for kids of all ages. Date will be determined when the squid arrive. Location: State Beach.



6. June 13th – **Annual Father's Day BBQ** on Chappy. This year the

BBQ will be the weekend before Fath

er's Day. These barbecues

are famous, and this year will be no exception. The Connecticut guys will be cooking up an alligator. Yes, you read that correctly: an alligator. For the less adventurous eaters, there will be plenty of food options.



7. July 11th at 5 pm – **Annual Beach Picnic** – Bend in the Road Beach

Our annual picnic is tons of fun so mark your calendars. As usual, the Club will provide the meat and oysters. Will send out a members food list in the June newsletter. More details to follow. Save the date!

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. 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 website www.mvsurfcasters.org (Then go to the The Club tab, MVSA Derby Accomplishments) The Official Weigh-In Slip link is listed under the Documents section, MVSA In-House Weigh Slip.