



CHESAPEAKE TIDE



Breaking News

Volume 10 • Number 3

THE BIRTH OF CCA MD

By Karen Ripple

Have you ever wondered who were the founders of CCA Maryland? Or why they worked to establish a Maryland chapter of CCA instead of some other fishing group? As we celebrate our tenth anniversary, perhaps it's time to look back at our birth.

While I had intended to interview the early participants for a series of newsletter articles during the year, I was prompted to get moving by an unhappy, although not unexpected, event. Clay Gooch, our first chairman, died on April 15th after a long illness. After the funeral I had the distinct pleasure of listening to Al Goetze and Keith Walters tell tales about Clay, fishing, and the early days of CCA MD.

As the story goes, events surrounding the lifting of the striped bass (rockfish) moratorium resulted in some anglers looking to form an organization that could effectively represent their concerns. Bill Perry, an outdoor writer for the Star Democrat and director of the DNR Maryland Sport Fishing Tournament, and Keith Walters, outdoor writer and author, hosted the Mid-Shore Anglers Club with monthly meetings in the town of Easton on the Eastern Shore.

CCA, meanwhile, was forming new state chapters all along the east coast. The era of commercial fishing dominance was being successfully challenged by the recreational anglers of CCA who sought to protect fisheries resources from over-harvesting and mismanagement. This was just what many Maryland anglers wanted—an organization focused on conserving our Bay and coastal marine resources.

Members of the Mid-Shore Anglers Club consulted with the Texas base of CCA and on September 19, 1995, voted to form a Maryland chapter of CCA. Six club members formed the steering committee: Clay Gooch, George Goldsborough, Ed Hahn, Scott Beatty, Al Goetze, and Keith Walters.

To become a CCA state chapter the steering committee was advised that a business plan and fundraiser were required, as well as election of officers and a board. So the steering committee copied and modified the CCA VA business plan and brought in Joe Ross (from Memorial Hospital at Easton) to run the first

continued on page 2

Boat Winner Surprised

By Karen Ripple

Paul Baker of Dover, Delaware, was sitting in the audience at the Mid-Shore Chapter Super Seminar when Capt. "Walleye" Pete Dahlberg drew the winning ticket and called out, "Paul Baker—the raffle boat winner is Paul Baker." Paul sat stunned at first, thinking there must be another person named Paul Baker present. When no one else stood up, Paul finally did—much to everyone's surprise.

Paul won a J14 Carolina Skiff with a 9.9 hp Yamaha four-stroke motor and galvanized trailer. From everyone at CCA MD, congratulations Paul!

The 2006 CCA MD Raffle Boat package is also a J14 Carolina Skiff with a 15 hp Yamaha four-stroke motor and



Capt. "Walleye" Pete Dahlberg congratulates Paul Baker after drawing his ticket at the Annual Super Seminar.



Paul Baker accepts delivery of his newly won boat.

galvanized trailer. Watch for it at boat shows and marine stores around the state this year. Members should be receiving raffle tickets in the mail soon.



banquet at the Tred Avon Yacht Club in Oxford. Officers and a board were elected.

Judy Shaw came up from Texas to attend the first banquet and watch over the process, making sure everything was done the CCA way. That first banquet was a big success and CCA Maryland was on its way!

Clay Gooch, Chairman #1



Photo credit: Keith Walters

Clay Gooch, Chairman #1, with his rock at the dock.

Clay Gooch was elected the first Chairman of the Board with Keith Walters as the interim Executive Director. Clay was full of ideas for CCA MD, calling Keith frequently (20 times a day?). He was so proud of CCA MD, that his vehicle carried a custom license plate: **CCA 1**.

While Clay was well known for his frugality, he was long suspected of making at least one sizable anonymous donation to CCA MD in the early days. Clay's daughter Virginia felt it was ironic that he died on April 15th—tax day, since he always paid Uncle Sam what was owed, but ONLY what was owed. Carole Walters added that during the first banquet she won a raffle for

a chain saw that Clay wanted. He was upset when she wouldn't sell it to him, possibly so he could claim it as a charitable donation.

While Clay was primarily a fly fisherman, he was comfortable with light tackle as well, fishing all over the world. He will be missed by the many folks along the Shore who knew him as a hard working, generous, and caring man who loved to fish.

In memory of Claiborne W. Gooch III of St. Michaels; November 28, 1928—April 15, 2005; Chairman #1 of CCA MD.

Dr. Felix Heald, Chairman #2



Dr. Felix Heald was elected our second Chairman. In addition to being a pioneer in the field of adolescent medicine, he loved to fish and enjoyed his time on the water. An active member of CCA until his death last August (after an extended illness) he has passed the torch to his son, Chris Heald, who recently chaired a very successful banquet for the Greater Washington Chapter.

In memory of Felix Pierpont Heald, M.D.; December 3, 1921 –August 10, 2004; Chairman #2 of CCA MD.

Dr. Felix Heald, Chairman #2

EVENTS CALENDAR

June

- 4 Kent Narrows Chapter Second Annual Light Tackle & Fly Fishing Tournament
- Southern Maryland Chapter Fly Fishing Tournament at secret pond
- Maryland Free Fishing Day
- 9 Mid-Shore Chapter Meeting, Capt. Tom Hughes on "Catching Rockfish without Birds"
- 11 Mid-Shore Chapter Tenth Annual Bill Perry Memorial Kids Fishing Derby, 9 to noon at the Choptank River Bridge
- CCA National Executive Board Meeting in Houston, Texas
- Maryland Free Fishing Day

July

- 4 Maryland Free Fishing Day
- 12 CCA MD Executive Board Meeting in Annapolis
- 30 Mid-Shore Chapter Pignic at Tilghman Island Marina

August

- 4 Kent Narrows Chapter Sixth Annual Joe Judge Memorial Youth Fishing Derby
- 15-18 ASMFC Meeting Week in Alexandria, Virginia

ChesapeakeTide/Breaking News is published by the Coastal Conservation Association Maryland, a non-profit organization of recreational anglers dedicated to marine resource conservation and science-based fisheries management.

Chairman	Don Silliman
President	Bill Curry
Executive Director	Robert Glenn
Editor	Karen Ripple

To contact the editor or staff email communications@ccamd.org



CCA Maryland state office
101 Ridgely Ave., Suite 12A, Annapolis, MD 21401
888/758-6580 • 410/280-8770 • 410/280-1432 (fax)
info@ccamd.org www.ccamd.org

Newsletter design and production by
Gene Hansen Creative Services, Chester, Maryland

Fisheries Management: Past, Present, Future

Part Two

By Sherman Baynard, Chairman of Fisheries Committee

In fisheries management it is said that “good data produces good decisions”, but that’s not really true, as good data only provides the opportunity for good decisions. As an angler your determination as to whether our fisheries managers make good decisions is subjective, and normally depends on how those decisions impact you or the resource you care about.

What is true is that good and adequate fisheries science can produce good data, but requires vast amounts of manpower and funding, something in short supply during the current Maryland budgetary crisis. So, let’s look at where Maryland’s Fisheries Service obtains their funds and how they spend them to provide Maryland citizens with management for our fisheries resources.

Before continuing the reader needs to be forewarned that budget information can be very exciting and some readers may need to limit their exposure due to health concerns. Maryland’s Fisheries Service has a current annual budget of approximately \$16 million. It should be noted that DNR prioritized their various services and fisheries management was given a high priority, sparing it from most of the recent budget cuts imposed on DNR as a whole.

Fisheries expenditures can be divided into four general categories (see Figure 1): *General Direction, Policy, and Oxford (Policy)* includes Administration, Policy and Regulatory, and the Oxford Lab; *Inland Fisheries (Freshwater)* is responsible for Hatcheries, Inland Fisheries Planning and Operations; *Estuarine and Marine (Tidal)* is focused on tidal or saltwater fisheries management; and *Shellfish Restoration and Management (Oyster)* deals with the oyster programs.

Revenue funds are generated by four general categories (see Figure 2): *General Funds, Special Funds, Federal Funds, and Reimbursable Funds*. **General Funds** are state tax revenues. These funds are reduced annually and fisheries managers believe they will ultimately have to depend on fee-based management (management paid for by user fees). **Special Funds** consist of license fees, both commercial and recreational salt and fresh water, and gasoline tax surcharges. Saltwater license sales are declining and that trend is projected to continue. **Federal Funds** are grants from federal agencies, such as Wallop-Breaux, and are likely to increase slightly in the near future. **Reimbursable Funds** come from Maryland state agencies like the Department of Transportation and are mostly steady, with over 95% being spent on oyster programs.

One of the major problems facing the Fisheries Service becomes apparent when you look at the decline in general funding and license sales (see Figures 3 and 4). The Fisheries Service has shrinking revenue combined with expanding expenditures for management obligations. Their choices are limited to increasing the revenue or prioritizing and reducing services. The reality is they will probably have to do both.

The Fisheries Service is mandated to conduct stock assessments and other biological studies for many of the 23 species managed by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), like striped bass, summer flounder, weakfish, horseshoe crabs and shad. In addition, the numerous non-migratory species that live in the Bay also require similar biological monitoring. These include yellow perch, catfish, blue crabs, native oysters, menhaden, and many more. Other obligations involve monitoring and restoring sub-aquatic vegetation (sea grasses), hatchery work for yellow perch and shad, not to mention all the freshwater work and assessments, and the list goes on and on.

If the trend of increasing obligations and decreasing revenues continues, the Fisheries Service will need to prioritize their work to match their revenue. This will result in some programs probably being reduced or cut, but which ones? Youth programs, outreach and education, coastal bays monitoring, angler surveys, law enforcement, assessments for striped bass? None of these programs are good choices, but some are going to be reduced or closed, with the resource and recreational anglers the worse for it.

While Maryland’s fisheries management will face difficult times ahead the future offers opportunities for beneficial change. In upcoming articles we will be looking at how recreational anglers can help direct that change to benefit fisheries resources, and improve recreational fishing opportunities in Maryland.

Figure 1

Expenditures

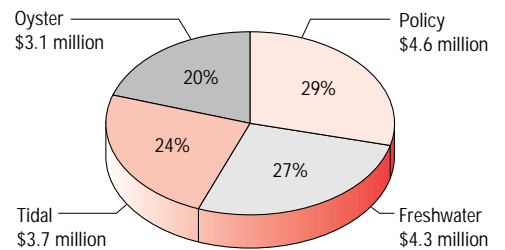
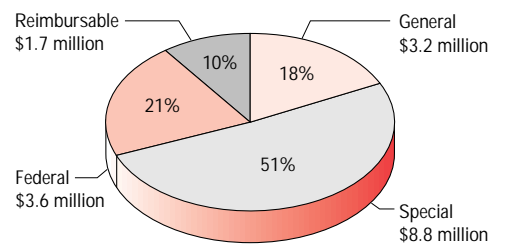


Figure 2

Funding



Note: \$1.6 million of special funds goes to other DNR units, like Resource Police, or are unspent and carried over.

Figure 3

General Funds

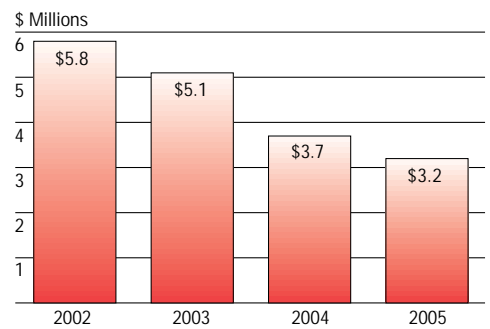
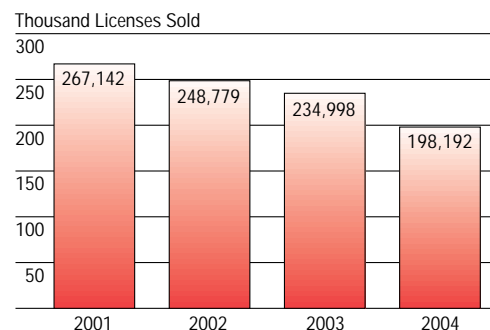


Figure 4

Saltwater License Sales



95 lb. Black Drum



Last May Joe Zacierka of the North Anne Arundel Chapter took grandson Joey Roub fishing in the ocean off Paramore Island. Grandpa Joe must be a mighty fine fishing instructor, because Joey Roub landed a 95 lb. black drum! Joey's fish was the largest one registered in Virginia in 2004 and earned him a plaque and certificate.

VETO OVERRIDE BENEFITS

By Dr. Ken Lewis, Chairman of Government Affairs Committee


During the emergency legislative session, one bill that had been vetoed by Governor Ehrlich during the regular session was overridden—to the benefit of CCA MD and all citizens involved with the legislative

process. The veto override and implementation of Delegate Dan Morhaim's House Bill 429, *The Administrative Procedures Act*, makes it much easier for CCA to monitor the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) introduction of new regulations affecting the Bay and our fisheries. We supported and lobbied for this bill during the last legislature and were disappointed when the governor chose to veto it.

New laws originate in two ways. Usually the legislature approves new laws by statute through an open, transparent procedure, whereby supporting and opposing citizen views are heard by committees before they are voted on.

Laws can also be adopted and changed through regulation when administrative departments such as DNR submit proposed or emergency regulations to the Joint Committee for Administrative, Executive, and Legislative Review (AELR) for evaluation and approval. In the past this has been a much less transparent process and proposals could move through the system and be approved before concerned citizens were aware that they had been submitted.

Now, thanks to the veto override, any proposed or emergency regulations submitted to AELR must be posted on the General Assembly website within three business days.

To monitor bills as they move through the system, visit the legislative website, mlis.state.md.us, or the DNR website, www.dnr.state.md.us/dnrnews/infocus/2005_legislation.asp, or check the CCA MD homepage, www.ccamd.org, during the legislative session to track progress of bills of interest to CCA MD. 

Yellow Perch Spawning Report

By Ken Hastings

CCA volunteers began stream monitoring in late February and continued through the end of March. On the Eastern Shore 42 of the 57 selected sites were visited and 34 of 48 were visited on the Western Shore. Egg masses were reported at 17 sites on the Eastern Shore and four had densities greater than 200 masses per 50 meters. On the Western Shore, eleven sites reported eggs and only one site had more than 200 egg masses in 50 meters. Eggs were found at four sites that have been surveyed for years without finding any eggs. Twenty-four volunteers across the Bay region participated in the survey.




Concurrent with observations on yellow perch egg masses, CCA volunteers reported on the number of anglers and vehicles at the sites they visited. Most of the observers did not encounter anglers, and very few of those contacted had caught any yellow perch. However, there were isolated reports of large catches by recreational fishermen.



On the Western Shore, the spawn apparently occurred in two phases with a small amount of activity the first week of March followed by the main spawn a week later. Survey activities were hampered toward the end of the window by heavy rains and turbid water, but the overall results showed more spawning activity than was observed for either of the preceding two years, especially on the Western Shore.



Many thanks to the volunteers who helped with the survey this year. If interested in helping with future surveys, please contact Ken Hastings at kensandy@olg.com. [As of press time reports have not yet been received for sites marked with a question mark. Check the website for complete results as they become available www.ccamd.org/conservation/conservation.htm.

See tables on facing page 

CCA MD Yellow Perch Spawning Survey • 1989 to 2005

Eastern Shore

	Number of Egg Masses/50 Meters								
	1989	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Cecil County Sites									
C1. Pond Creek	0	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	*
C2. Pond Creek	*	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	*
C3. BOHEMIA MILLS DAM	>100	44	54	26	1	2	7	*	*
C4. Sandy Branch	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	*
C5. SCOTCHMANS CREEK	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*
C6. Scotchmans Creek	>100	10	41	0	0	0	*	*	*
C7. NORTHEAST CREEK	*	*	7	0	0	0	*	*	*
Kent County Sites									
K1. LANGFORD CREEK	>100	+	200	347	>200	>200	>150	*	>200
K2. Langford Creek	*	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	?
K3. LANGFORD CREEK	0	67	42	38	206	>250	25	*	>200
K4. SWAN CREEK	*	77	100	127	59	>250	17	0	17
K5. Swan Creek	*	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
K6. FARLIEGH CREEK	0	57	100	>200	0	>250	>150	0	>200
K7. STILL POND CREEK	35	87	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
K8. Galena – Mill Run	10	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	0
K9. Herring Branch	0	0	0	29	1	4	4	*	0
K10. Sassafras River	0	0	0	26	0	39	5	*	0
Queen Anne County Sites									
QA 1. WYE MILLS	0	>100	25	100	2	72	1	41	6
QA 2. Old Mill Stream Branch	0	+	+	3	*	67	>180	24	167
QA 3. Three Bridge Branch	*	0	0	+	3	12	0	9	57
QA 4. Granny Finley Branch	>100	2	0	+	*	7	0	*	21
QA 5. Rosin Creek	0	0	0	*	*	0	0	*	0
QA 6. Foreman Branch	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	*	?
QA 7. Red Lion Branch	0	0	0	0	0	9	0	*	11
QA 8. Cypress Branch	*	0	0	*	0	56	1	*	37
QA 9. Andover Branch	*	0	0	*	0	123	21	*	0
QA 10. WYE RIVER	*	45	71	>450	>300	196	17	*	103
QA 11. Tuckahoe Park	0	0	0	0	0	75	*	*	0
QA 12. Tuckahoe	*	*	0	5	0	7	0	*	11
QA 13. ARRINGTON CREEK	0	10-30	25	250	>300	75	0	0	0
QA 14. Reeds Creek (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	40	0	3	?
Caroline County Sites									
Car 1. Forge Branch	*	*	*	*	0	0	*	*	0
Car 2. Forge Branch	*	*	0	*	0	0	*	*	0
Car 3. MILL CREEK	*	200	200	120	155	149	700	*	>300
Car 4. Fowling Creek	0	0	0	0	0	27	130	*	19
Car 5. Tuckahoe	*	*	*	*	+	0	*	*	0
Car 6. Gravely Branch	0	+	+	+	+	0	*	*	0
Talbot County Sites									
T1. Trappe Creek	0	25	0	*	*	*	*	*	0
T2. Trappe Creek	*	16	0	*	*	*	*	*	0
T3. POTTS MILL CREEK	0	6-65	10	34	175	31	*	1	11
T4. Skipton Creek – Southern Br.	*	33	0	5	0	0	*	0	0
T5. Skipton Creek – Northern Br.	*	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	3
T6. Beaver Dam Creek (Kings Cr.)	*	*	0	+	*	0	3	0	0
T7. Mill Creek	*	0	+	+	0	*	*	*	37
Dorchester County Sites									
DC1. Void									
DC2. Puckum Branch	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	0	?
DC3. Mill Creek	*	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DC4. Ennal Wharf	*	*	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
DC5. Wright's Branch	*	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
DC6. Skinner's Run	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	?
DC7. Gales Creek	*	*	0	0	0	0	0	0	?
DC8. Chicone Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	0	?
Wicomico County Sites									
W2. Rewastico Creek	0	33	0	0	0	17	0	*	0
W3. Barren Creek	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	*	0
W4. Plum Creek	*	0	0	0	0	*	*	*	0
Somerset County Site									
S1. Kings Creek	0	0	*	*	*	*	0	*	0

Western Shore

	Number of Egg Masses/50 Meters								
	1989	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
Harford County Sites									
H1. Bush River	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	?
H2. Grays River	0	0	0	0	6	0	*	+	?
H3. Winters Run	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	?
H4. Otter Pt. Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	?
H5. Otter Pt. Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	?
H6. Gunpowder River	0	0	0	0	0	0	*	*	?
Baltimore Site									
B1. Bird Creek	0	0	0	*	0	0	*	*	0
Anne Arundel County Sites									
AA1. SEVERN RIVER	*	43	>200	52	>200	*	40	24	20
AA2. SOUTH RIVER	0	8	0	0	0	*	1	5	?
AA3. South River	0	0	0	0	*	*	0	23	?
AA4. Rhode River	0	0	*	0	*	*	*	*	6
AA5. Rhode River	0	0	*	0	*	*	*	*	0
AA6. Kings Branch – Pax.	*	0	*	0	*	*	*	0	0
AA7. Davidsonville Branch – Pax.	*	*	0	*	*	*	*	0	0
AA8. WATERFORD RUN	*	*	*	170	>200	14	*	0	?
Calvert County Sites									
CA1. Lyons Creek	0	0	0	*	0	150	25	50	110
CA2. Drum Point Area	0	0	0	*	*	*	0	0	?
CA3. Drum Point Area	0	0	0	*	*	*	0	0	?
CA4. HUNTING CREEK	0	4	0	*	2	*	*	3	?
Battle Creek (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0
St. Leonard Creek (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	?
Prince George's County Sites									
PG1. Anacostia	0	0	*	*	*	*	*	*	?
PG2. Piscataway Creek	0	0	0	5	*	*	+	2	2
PG3. Black Walnut Creek	0	0	0	*	*	*	0	0	?
PG4. Black Walnut Creek	0	*	0	*	*	*	0	0	0
Spice Creek (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	6	6
Mattapone Creek (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	10	?
Charles County Sites									
CH1. ZEKIAH SWAMP	>200	*	>200	>200	>300	>200	25	52	75
CH2. Port Tobacco Creek	0	+	*	*	10	*	0	10	?
CH3. Hoghole Creek	0	0	*	*	7	*	0	0	97
CH4. NANJEMOY CREEK	>100	0	0	0	+	10	9	40	>200
CH5. Mattawoman Creek	0	*	*	0	59	128	5-6	94	>100
CH6. Gilbert Run (new location)	*	*	*	*	2	41	0	4	28
Swanson's Creek (new location)	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	*	0
Pomonkey Creek (new location)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0
St. Mary's County Sites									
SM1. Church Creek	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	0	0
SM2. St. Inigoes Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SM3. Broom Creek	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SM4. Glebe Run	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SM5. St. Clements Run	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
SM6. Chaptico Run	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0
Indian Creek (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	0
Trent Hall Creek (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	*	0
McIntosh Run (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	+	2
St. Mary's River (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	?
Budd's Creek (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	0
Canoe Neck Creek (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	0	?
Coffee Hill Run (new site)	*	*	*	*	*	*	*	0	?

Key:

*	Not visited
0	No fish or eggs
+	Fish present, no eggs
BOLD	Prime Site

1989 Janike CBRMD91-2



Highlights of Assembly Session

By Ken Lewis, Government Relations Committee Chairman

Thank you
to all of
our
members

The highlights of the recently concluded 2005 Maryland General Assembly Session and a summary of CCA Maryland's efforts follow. First, however, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to members of the Government Relations Committee for their attendance at meetings, testimony at committee hearings, lobbying of legislators, and planning and execution of the legislative reception. Thank you also to all of our members who called legislators on specific issues when asked. It was not necessary to activate our Grassroots Action Alert System to mobilize a large member response this year. The system is more effective if used periodically for major issues that are not manageable in other ways.

SEE COMMISSION: During the 2004 legislative session we were instrumental in defeating a DNR bill that would have raised recreational fishing license fees without comparable fee increases for the charter boat fleet and with no increase for commercial fishermen. In addition, this legislation would have transferred authority for setting fees from the legislature to the Secretary of DNR with the advice of a commission whose members would be appointed directly or indirectly by the governor. DNR considered re-introducing the bill again this year and held a briefing for a legislative subcommittee that we attended. We informed the legislators of our previous objections, and in view of the anticipated opposition DNR chose not to introduce the bill.

FISH and FISHERIES—SEAFOOD—AQUACULTURE (SB 283 & HB 971): This bill was the product of the Task Force on Aquaculture and Seafood Marketing and was designed by the Department of Agriculture and the commercial seafood industry. We discovered that it contained language that directed DNR to manage certain fisheries for the benefit of the commercial fishery without regard to concerns of recreational anglers and other stakeholders. We worked with CBF, Senator Klausmeier and members of the task force to amend the bill so that the language was acceptable, and then testified in favor of the bill with those amendments. It passed in both chambers and was signed by the governor.

NONNATIVE OYSTERS—INTRODUCTION

(SB 405 & HB 1250): This bill would prevent the introduction of nonnative oysters in Maryland waters until adequate scientific studies are completed that define both risks and benefits, and other conditions are met. We testified in support. It passed in both chambers and has been signed by the governor. (HP 430 was a similar, but weaker bill that was introduced early and defeated.)

SALTWATER FISHING LICENSE (HB 1061):

Delegate John Cluster submitted this bill that would require anglers fishing on Maryland's coast to purchase a fishing license. Currently DNR's fisheries management and enforcement is subsidized by Chesapeake Bay anglers. CCA MD supports a statewide saltwater fishing license, but chose not to take a position on this bill because we did not believe that all stakeholders had been given an opportunity to discuss the bill and participate in its drafting. The bill was withdrawn, and we hope it will be discussed and revised during the summer.

MDE—RUBBLE LANDFILL near UNICORN LAKE

(SB 456 & HB 1207): At the request of a group of CCA members and legislators with whom we have worked previously, we submitted written testimony in support of this bill that would prevent a landfill near Unicorn Lake. In it we raised questions as to possible pollution of the lake and its feeder stream. We did not provide oral testimony or lobby the bill since we had not had an opportunity to study data presented on the issue at previous hearings. The bill was defeated in committee.

LEGISLATIVE RECEPTION: On March 7th CCA MD held a reception in the Presidential Conference Room in the Miller Senate Office Building for members of the House Environmental Matters Committee and the Senate Health, Education and Environmental Affairs Committee. Displays on yellow perch, oysters, and the economics of recreational fishing stimulated discussion with visiting legislators. ↻

Book Review *By Karen Ripple*

Let the River Run Silver Again by CCA MD member Sandy Burk is a delightful little book that chronicles nine years of raising American shad in classrooms to restock the Potomac River below Great Falls. In the process students successfully lobbied for installation of a fishway in Little Falls Dam. Both old and new members of Westbrook Elementary School's Aqua Eagles are featured throughout, as each successive class moves closer to the original goal of restoring American shad to the river.

Let the River Run Silver Again is replete with abundant photos, a glossary, suggestions for projects, and resources for additional information and activities. Home schooled students, youth groups, educators, and students searching for fish-related project ideas should find something here. The story also offers encouragement and hope, not just for the shad, but for the river and our relationship to it.

This colorful 40-page book is available from The McDonald and Woodward Publishing Company for \$14.95 with a 30% discount through September 30, 2005. To order call 800-233-8787 or visit www.mwpubco.com. ↻

New Magazine

A new FREE monthly magazine for power boaters will be making its debut in June. Watch for *PropTalk* with CCA MD member Joe Evans as Editor. The format will be similar to the popular sailing magazine *SpinSheet*, but with a mission "to inform, entertain and share the celebration of the Chesapeake Bay from the powerboater's perspective." Most editions of *PropTalk* will feature a page or two about CCA MD and our activities. So, pick up a copy at your local tackle, bait, or boating store and check out the news and events for Chesapeake Bay boaters. ↻

CCA MD Goings On

Annapolis

President: Jim Flannery
Plans for a social event in the fall are being made. Contact Andy Hughes at 410-570-1274 to get involved.

Baltimore

President: Scott Hopkins
610-869-4490
Baltimore@ccamd.org
Plans for the November 18th Bull & Oyster Roast at the Towson American Legion are underway. Contact Scott to get involved.

Greater Washington

President: David Dickerson
202-721-1610
GreaterWashington@ccamd.org
Thanks to all volunteers who helped make the April 28th Pigs on the Potomac Banquet and Auction the biggest and best yet!

Lower Shore

President: Open
Meetings: Plans for bi-monthly meetings are being made. More details forthcoming. Call Robert Glenn at 888-758-6580 to volunteer.

Kent Narrows

President: Ed Liccione
410-829-5771
KentNarrows@ccamd.org
Meetings: Second Monday of the month at Fishermen's Inn, except June, July, August.

Preparations are underway for the second Fly Fishing and Light Tackle Tournament on June 4th. Contact Ed if you can help or wish to register for the event.

The Sixth Annual Joe Judge Youth Fishing Derby is planned for August 4th onboard Jim

Brincefield's *Jil Carrie*. Queen Anne's Hospice connects with the youngsters, but if you know someone who might qualify, please contact a chapter member.

Mid-Shore

President: Chris Cianci
410-820-4070
MidShore@ccamd.org
Meetings: Second Thursday of the month at MEBA Engineering Center, except July & August.

Plans are being made for the Tenth Annual Bill Perry Memorial Youth Fishing Derby on June 11th. Many hands are needed to help unhook, measure, and identify fish for the kids on the Choptank River Fishing Bridge. Contact Chris Cianci to volunteer your Saturday morning.

The Annual Pignic will be held on July 30th at the Tilghman

Island Marina. Enjoy friends old and new while dining on a selection of delicious foods, plus BBQ pig and beer!

North Anne Arundel

President: Jack Streb
410-255-0193
NorthAnneArundel@ccamd.org

The April 30th Banquet and Auction at Maryland Yacht Club was a major success. Many thanks to all the volunteers who made it happen.

Southern Maryland

President: Dennis Fleming,
240-538-1260,
SouthernMaryland@ccamd.org
Meetings: First Monday of the month at the NEW Hughesville American Legion, except June, July, and August.

Plans are underway for the Fly Fishing Tournament on June 4th at Dennis' secret pond.

Executive Board Approves Oyster Moratorium

By Karen Ripple


At the March meeting in Annapolis Executive Board members overwhelmingly approved that a petition be presented to DNR Secretary Ron Franks, requesting that our native oyster, *Crassostrea virginica*, be listed as threatened or endangered, and a moratorium placed on taking them before the start of the 2005-2006 oyster harvest season. The Secretary can utilize Maryland's Endangered Species of Fish Conservation Act to declare a moratorium on the catch, sale, or possession of oysters.

Under the proposed actions identified by DNR last fall for the oyster Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), Alternative 3 is a "temporary harvest moratorium" and an industry buy-out program. CCA MD is taking a stand in favor of a moratorium. Our striped bass rebounded following a moratorium. Shouldn't the few native oysters that are resistant/tolerant of MSX and Dermo be allowed an opportunity to propagate the Bay without harvest pressure?

The Executive Board also approved a Position Statement on Atlantic menhaden in support of "the restoration of the Atlantic menhaden population, through the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission process. We support the adoption of an abundance target and threshold with decision rules to restrict fishing mortality when the threshold is exceeded. We suggest that full restoration should not be declared until the Atlantic menhaden population is widely distributed throughout its historic geographic range, is represented by a full age

structure, and is restored to an abundance equal to the average of the five highest years of abundance (age one fish and older) between 1975 through 1990. We support research to determine if localized depletion of Atlantic menhaden is occurring in the Chesapeake Bay, the placement of interim limits on the industrial menhaden harvest while that determination is being made, and the development and implementation of ecological reference points to provide for the management of Atlantic menhaden based on their ecological values." The background for this statement is provided in full on our website: www.ccamd.org.

Finally, the Executive Board approved a donation of \$2,500 be made to the Maryland Legislative Sportsmen's Foundation for 2005. CCA MD has two representatives on the Foundation's Board. Last fall the Foundation provided a forum for recreational hunters, anglers, and other outdoorsmen to learn about each other and discuss common issues and problems. We were cautioned that in an increasingly urbanized state, we will need to stand together or lose many of our recreational freedoms. [This was recently affirmed with a front page article in *The Capital* newspaper about PETA assertions that fish have feelings too. According to Karin Robertson, manager of PETA's Fish Empathy Project, "we ought to protect striped bass in a manner appropriate to a state symbol, ensuring that they don't suffer needlessly at the hands of anglers."]

And on a successful note, what many of us suspected was affirmed. The grapple hooks used to locate the 63 illegal gill nets floating below the water's surface after the commercial net season ended were indeed the ones CCA MD purchased for the NRP in 2003. CCA MD does make a difference. 

CCA MD is taking a stand in favor of a moratorium.



CCA MD
 101 Ridgely Ave.
 Suite 12-A
 Annapolis, MD
 21410

CCA MD
Moving Forward

Non-Profit. Org.
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Permit # 273
 Annapolis, MD

The date appearing on this mailing label reflects the status of your CCA Membership.
 Your membership is important – please renew if expired!

Renew on the Web at www.joincca.org

Membership Application/Renewal

(Please cut out and send to CCA MD, PO Box 513, Easton, MD 21601-0513)

Name _____ New Renewal

Street _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Check or Money Order payable to CCA MD enclosed Visa/MC Account # _____

- \$25 Basic Membership- 6 issues of *Tide Magazine*, 4 issues of *Chesapeake Tide*, 2 decals, and a bumper sticker
- \$100 Membership- CCA print, 6 issues of *Tide Magazine*, 4 issues of *Chesapeake Tide*, 2 decals, and a bumper sticker
- \$200 Sponsor- Bronze Lapel pin, CCA print, and member gifts
- \$500 Patron- Silver Lapel pin, CCA print, and member gifts
- \$1000 Life Membership- Gold Lapel pin, CCA print, and member gifts; payable in \$250 installments
- \$15 Associate Membership- for each additional family member; all member privileges except extra copies of *Tide*
- \$10 New Tide Membership- all individuals 17 and under receive member benefits and *Rising Tide* magazine
- \$ _____ I would like to make an additional donation in the amount indicated to CCA's Maryland Chapter

How did you hear about CCA? _____