



# CHESAPEAKE TIDE



Volume 13 • Number 1

## Patuxent River Chapter Plants 25,000 Oysters; Will Move to Sanctuary

Twenty-eight CCA MD members last month initiated a unique community involvement project to help restore the oyster population in the Patuxent River and feeder creeks. The three-prong plan brings together recreational anglers, aqua culturists, and community volunteers to grow oysters, the

Chesapeake Bay's primary filtering organism.

"While this project is not a single solution to restore oysters and the health of the Chesapeake, we do believe it's a significant step to restoring oysters in one area of the Bay with the potential to be used in other areas," said Robert Glenn, CCA MD executive director.

"Oysters are at an all-time low in the Chesapeake watershed," pointed out Scott McGuire, president of CCA MD's Patuxent

River Chapter. "They are an invaluable resource to the health of our Bay, with the potential of a single oyster filtering 50 to 55 gallons of water each and every day. To not support native oysters in the Chesapeake is a criminal act against a healthy Bay."

The first phase of the project involved placing 25,000 donated oysters on floats March 18 at St. Thomas Creek Oyster Company. The floats

**CCA MD volunteers and their family members devoted more than 200 hours to this Oyster Restoration Project.**

**Volunteers include:**

- James, Jessie, Michael and Linda Cotugno
- Don and Mrs. McDougal and their two daughters
- Keith and Daphne McGuire
- Tom and Scott Gilmour
- Brady Bounds
- Chip Dudderar
- Skip Zink
- Clay Langston
- Ed Roach
- Bill Curry
- Barry and Chris Marseglia
- Dick Carey
- Scott McGuire
- Chris and Melissa Kalfelz
- Charlie and Sandra Anderson
- Lew Armistead



Charlie Anderson (Patuxent River Chapter) and Capt. Brady Bounds (Patuxent River Chapter) work diligently to fill the mesh bags with straw so that they can then be filled with oysters to complete the float for their Patuxent River Chapter oyster restoration project.

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## CCA MD Creates Communications Committee

CCA MD is moving forward to create more effective communications with its members and build its public reputation with creation of a new Communications Committee. The committee will include a representative from each CCA MD chapter.

"Bill Curry, state chairman of CCA MD, appointed Lew Armistead (Patuxent River Chapter) to chair the committee," reported Robert Glenn, executive director. "We are fortunate to have Lew who has had a 30-year career in public relations working with the national news media and developing communication programs for state and national non-profit associations."

Each of the chapters is being asked to nominate a communication coordinator who will be trained in basic communication skills and asked to coordinate communication between the state organization and members

and deliver state and chapter messages to the public. The committee hopes to have its first meeting this summer.


"One of the first efforts will be to re-focus the state newsletter to make it more member-friendly," said Armistead. "We hope to provide more advice on fishing tips and locations along with information on members and chapters."

The new committee will have two goals: creating more effective dialogue between state, chapters and members, and creating more efficient delivery of CCA MD messages to the public and opinion leaders.

Specific projects will include re-designing the state newsletter and website, developing a communication handbook that chapters can use in delivering their and the CCA MD messages, creating a new CCA MD fact sheet for use at boat shows and other events, developing

relationships with outdoor and environmental reporters, and developing a process for delivering CCA MD's key messages to opinion leaders throughout the state.

"The Communications Committee will also provide support to chapters in their public relations activities," said Armistead. "For example, we've already assisted the Patuxent River Chapter in holding a news conference to announce its oyster restoration project (see article page 1) and helped Scott McGuire, Patuxent River Chapter president, place a commentary article in three newspapers on actions to improve the health of the Bay.

"Our goal will be to gradually improve our communication efforts. This will not happen overnight, but we should be in a much better position when it comes to communications in three years." 

**One of the first efforts will be to re-focus the state newsletter to make it more member-friendly**

## Executive Director's Column Members Make Us What We Are

By Robert Glenn  
Executive Director

Recently, I was invited to speak at a workshop on protecting forage fish. A couple days before this speaking engagement I was asked to provide my biography for the program. The line-up of speakers was impressive; PhDs, fisheries biologists, an author. What qualifies me to be part of a program with all these distinguished presenters I asked myself?

Sure, I have a bachelors of science degree in biology, but I don't really consider myself a biologist. I manage an association. In fact, I had the only presentation of the day without any tables, charts or graphs.

The answer to my question was simple. What qualifies me to address a workshop on fisheries management is you and the other 2,000 members of CCA MD. It's the same thing that qualifies me to be quoted in the paper or for Ken Lewis (Baltimore Chapter), chairman of the Government Relations Committee, to testify to the General Assembly.

Now before I go any further, I'm not suggesting that the volunteer leadership and staff of CCA MD are not qualified. If we didn't manage a professionally run association and take sound, science based positions on the issues, we wouldn't have become the premier saltwater fishing and conservation organization in Maryland and earned your membership.

But what is truly great about CCA MD is its members. You make it impossible to forget when we show up for work every day in our partially underground 600 square foot office in the state capitol that we're here because of you. It's impossible to forget this lesson because most of the work that makes CCA MD strong doesn't even take place in Annapolis. We've got something far more valuable than a fancy office and large staff. We've got members throughout Maryland working to make a difference for the Bay and our coastal resources where it counts, in their local communities.

Simply put, the strength of CCA MD is its people. Throughout this newsletter are examples of this. From making a difference on public policy to boots in the mud projects that have a tangible impact like the Patuxent River Chapter's oyster initiative to fundraising banquets that provide the means for us to have a presence in Annapolis. It's all a product of dedicated people like yourself.

As you read the first issue of your new and improved state newsletter, made possible by those CCA MD people I speak of, take a moment and consider what role you can play. Whether it's just making sure all your fishing friends are members of CCA MD, volunteering to start a new chapter in your area or getting involved with your local chapter. As a member, you hold the key to our continued growth and success.

Please, don't ever doubt that you have a powerful influence on our marine resources through your support of CCA MD. YOU ARE CCA.

Here's to a great fishing season. 🐟

## Year Starts Impressively With Successful Banquets

By Brooke MacDonald  
Assistant Director

The new year is off to an impressive start with three productive banquets. Like accountants go through a week of pressure right up to April 15, banquet volunteers also experience a week filled with highs, lows, last minute phone calls and manual labor, but those minor moments pay off when the night comes and the banquets turn out to be a fun, successful event. Within seven days there were three banquets, Upper Bay, Greater Washington and Southern Maryland.

Upper Bay really showed that it would not be affected by the sophomore year slump, providing a great banquet with a strong turnout and amazing auction items. The auction block included everything from fishing trips on the Susquehanna to a deer hunting trip on the Eastern Shore to a beautiful handmade quilt donated and quilted by Eleanore Benjamin (Upper Bay Chapter). The night raised over \$12,000, helping CCA MD fund state programs.



At the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Upper Bay Banquet, Mike and Eleanore Benjamin (Upper Bay Chapter) make their rounds to each table to ensure each attendee put in their last minute bids for the Worm Raffle.

*cast to page 4*

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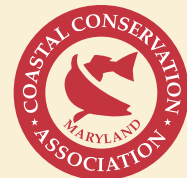
ChesapeakeTide/Breaking News is published by the Coastal Conservation Association Maryland, a non-profit organization of recreational anglers dedicated to marine resource conservation and science-based fisheries management.

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



# Conservation Brings Jennings to the CCA MD Team



Having been raised in upstate New York, Larry Jennings (Greater Washington Chapter) was surprised “how little easily accessible fishing there is around here” when he relocated in 1976. Buying a boat for the Chesapeake nearly a decade ago, now Larry not only is an avid Bay angler, he’s one of the most active CCA MD members.

Into his second year as president of the Greater Washington Chapter and active on the Government Relations Committee for a number of years, Jennings sees CCA as first and foremost a conservation organization.

“Conservation is what got me involved,” Larry recalls. “It’s mind boggling how much progress CCA MD has made in the last six to eight years and especially in the last three. Many of our members have invested a great deal of time gaining knowledge about the operation of the State Legislature and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) so that we can take stands on such important issues as yellow perch protection, oyster restoration, and the manner in which DNR should manage our marine resources.”

A former trade show producer who is now retired living in Silver Spring with his wife, Margarette, Larry started slowly in his involvement to support the Chesapeake Bay.

“Margarette and Larry make a super team for CCA MD,” explains Robert Glenn, executive director. “Not only does Margarette help Larry with his own chapter’s banquet, she also goes with him to other chapter banquets to offer support.”

He joined CCA along with two other organizations in the early ‘80s, but “didn’t spend much time with any of them as I was always too busy working.” However, he did go to Annapolis to argue for game fish status for rockfish shortly after joining.

“Then one day I saw a posting by the chair of the CCA MD Government Relations Committee on World Wide Angler urging people to contact their legislators and ask them to oppose a bill on expanding clam

dredging,” Jennings says. “I followed through and my senator agreed to vote no and do everything we asked on that issue. Shortly afterwards the Government Relations chair asked me to get involved on the committee, and I’ve been active ever since. What has surprised me most is how eager our legislators are to hear our concerns and usually follow through to support our issues.”

In addition to working on the Government Relations Committee and his chapter presidency, Larry has recently become coordinator of Chesapeake Tide. But banquets are what got Larry first involved in his chapter, and last year he chaired the Greater Washington Chapter’s banquet committee.

When not volunteering for CCA, Jennings enjoys exploring the Chesapeake in his boat with light tackle rod in hand.

“With 6,000 miles of shoreline in the Chesapeake drainage, there’s a

great deal to see,” he says. “I prefer keeping my boat on a trailer so I can get out and fish different areas from the Susquehanna Flats, to around Solomons, to Janes Island. The Chesapeake is a tremendous resource and we love to explore it.”

Larry sees CCA as an organization that’s “about conserving our resources to make certain our children will be able to fish and enjoy the outdoors and be on the water.”

“I’ve found an incredible diversity among CCA MD members and how they participate. There are those who spend late winter in the water collecting data on yellow perch. Others are active politically, know politicians and help give us access. Plenty of members contribute through banquets, selling tickets and acquiring donations. And some just want to go to meetings. But whatever their interest, they all are making a difference for the marine resource.”

**I’ve found an incredible diversity among CCA MD members and how they participate**

## Volunteers Active in Counting Yellow Perch Eggs

Each year, between late February and the end of March, a small army of over 30 volunteers helps with the yellow perch spawning survey. They travel to over 100 sites along Chesapeake Bay tributaries to count egg masses in places where yellow perch were once plentiful but may not be today. The data is compiled and published in an annual CCA MD Spawning Survey Report that is widely distributed to various organizations such as DNR and the US Fish and Wildlife Service.

The survey dates back before 1989 but was discontinued until 1998 when CCA MD took it over. The reports represent a continuous effort since 1998 to help establish yellow perch range and distribution and are recognized by many as a unique contribution to fishery management of this species.

CCA MD volunteers and others who traditionally participate in this activity (with apologies to anyone we’ve overlooked) include—

- |                 |                         |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Phil Angle      | Ken Hastings            | Ralph and Beth Nolletti |
| Sherman Baynard | Henry Hilleary          | Roy Parker              |
| Mike Benjamin   | Frank Holden            | Bob Rice                |
| Scott Carlson   | Roby Hurley             | Karen Ripple            |
| Warren Brown    | Larry Jennings          | Randolph Roane          |
| Bob Chrest      | Bruce Kreutzer          | Dennis Roth             |
| Frank Cowherd   | Ed Liccione             | David and Gregg Skulski |
| Bill Curry      | Mike Lofton             | Frank Smith             |
| Dennis Fleming  | Jason Lynch             | Larry Tallio            |
| Tony Friedrich  | Bruce Matthews          | Melanie and Don Upright |
| Larry Garner    | Mike McDermott          |                         |
| Don Gardiner    | Dave and Leslie Mummert |                         |



One of the evening table sponsors, Gentner Consulting Group, takes a brief moment before the bidding begins to pose for a photo at the Greater Washington Banquet.



Mike Starrett (Southern Maryland Chapter) and Dennis Fleming (Southern Maryland Chapter), along with CCA MD's raffle ladies, Deena Shelton and Kate Roper, proudly show off their 'JOIN CCA' fish cake at the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern Maryland Winter Fundraiser.



CCA MD raffle ladies, Kate Roper and Deena Shelton, with winner Jon Blom (Southern Maryland Chapter) and his new pair of rods donated by Bass Pro Shops at the Southern Maryland Winter Fundraiser.




The Patuxent River Chapter volunteers gather for a photo op after the agreement was signed between, CCA MD, Circle C Oyster Ranch and St. Thomas Creek Oyster Company, so work could officially begin on their oyster restoration project on St. Thomas Creek.

## Year Starts Impressively With Successful Banquets from page 2

The Greater Washington banquet always requires many more hands on deck than most. Volunteers traveled from three other chapters to help. The banquet was bound to be successful when 17 sponsor tables had been sold before the doors even opened Thursday night. With over 180 pre sold seats and another 30 paying at the door, the banquet proved to be an astounding night in Chevy Chase. There were quite a few bidding wars, including a 'Day on the Farm,' which included participating in a corn harvest, riding on a tractor, taking a spin on the combine and enjoying a home cooked lunch by Diane Baynard (Mid Shore Chapter). Another crowd favorite was the 'Crab Feast for 30', donated by Sean Meyer of Continental Caterers. Two bidders for this item were adamant about winning, so two were sold at \$3,000 a piece. The night was a huge success. The attendees spoke about all the fun they had as they gathered before leaving that night and the numbers spoke for themselves when the cash boxes were counted. At this one event \$65,000 was raised for conservation.

Southern Maryland did very well at its eighth Annual Winter Fundraiser despite the worries about the

recent split of members due to the new Patuxent River Chapter. There were over 80 in attendance and the show never slowed down. One of the most exciting moments came when Leonard Koenick (Southern Maryland Chapter) bought the trip to Africa. There was shouting, raised eyebrows and high fives. Another highlight of the night was the raffle drawings. Southern Maryland has by far the largest white ticket raffle prize category and proved to be a crowd favorite, nearly everyone in the room walked away with an item. Ken Hastings (Southern Maryland Chapter) even won a rod and tackle bag. Southern Maryland hit close to budget and confirmed that the split to start the Patuxent River Chapter would not be a challenge. The Chapter worked hard to spread the word and worked diligently to fill the chairs.

A big thanks goes out to all of our banquet committees and a special thanks to our banquet chairmen, Mike Starrett (Southern Maryland Chapter), Mike Benjamin (Upper Bay Chapter), and Brian Coakley (Greater Washington Chapter). Everyone's commitment and time really paid off. Here is to a great 2008, three banquets down, seven on the horizon. 


## Oysters from page 1

were donated by Rich Pelz, Circle C Oyster Ranch. Chapter members refurbished the 10-foot floats, constructed of PVC frames with five bags suspended from each, and placed the oysters into the bags, where they will grow for two years before being transferred to an oyster sanctuary in the Patuxent.

CCA MD volunteers will be responsible for turning the floats every three weeks to maintain a healthy environment for the oysters.

The second phase includes helping pier owners learn how to raise oysters. CCA MD hosted a meeting with waterfront homeowners on Hellen Creek in Calvert County under the leadership of Chris Moe, a Patuxent River Chapter member who will serve as "Creek Captain" for the project on Hellen Creek.

Residents will be invited to grow oysters at their pier and can either donate them to be placed on sanctuaries or eat them when they mature. CCA MD will provide training, and is seeking financial support for this phase. Participating residents will be able to use the state \$500 income tax credit to purchase oyster floats.

A third phase will be completed once CCA MD evaluates the success of the first two phases. It will be a manual that explains how organizations and individuals can raise oysters in their area and be made available through the CCA MD office. 

## CCA MD Members Impact Fishery Decisions

Thanks to several hundred timely responses to email Action Alerts, CCA MD recently had decisive victories on two fronts by the Government Relations Committee.

“The first was particularly important for the long-term as our voices were heard by our senators, Governor O’Malley and DNR Secretary John Griffin,” said Ken Lewis, chair, Government Relations Committee.

Capt. Monty Hawkins (Lower Shore Chapter) was nominated by Governor O’Malley to the Mid-Atlantic Fishery Management Council, which oversees fisheries in the area of three to 200 miles offshore. The governor rejected as a nominee Pete Jensen, a former MD DNR official who has consulted for Omega Protein, the company responsible for the industrial reduction of menhaden in the Bay.

The second win was clearing a major hurdle in keeping Governor O’Malley’s pledge of a \$750,000 hike to DNR’s Fisheries Service budget from the general fund as a match to the increase in recreational fishing license fees enacted last year. With state budget concerns this year, the MD Department of Legislative Services recommended cutting this increase.

The CCA MD Government Relations team, headed by Lewis (Baltimore Chapter), partnered with other concerned groups to convince both

the Senate and House committees to reject that recommendation. As of this writing the final state budget has yet to be passed by the General Assembly but the committees’ blessing makes it likely that the money will remain in the budget. This action will result in the first training class for 30 new Natural Resources Police officers in several years.

### CCA MD Calls for Total Allowable Catch

With last year’s winter dredge survey showing unusually low numbers of juvenile crabs and catch reports indicating overfishing, DNR is running a series of meetings with stakeholders, particularly with commercial fishermen, on new regulations for the coming year.

While DNR’s biologists are discussing a whole range of options to reduce harvest or protect females, CCA MD’s Fisheries Committee, chaired by Sherman Baynard (Mid-Shore Chapter), developed a position for the management of blue crabs. Fundamentally, CCA MD wants to simplify enforcement, protect females and stop overfishing so that we can achieve a stable population of 200 million adult crabs, according to Baynard.

“To achieve this target, we suggest an annual TAC (Total Allowable Catch) be established to meet the 46 percent removal target and close the

fishery completely when that target is achieved,” said Baynard. “We also want DNR to recognize that with less than 10 percent of the harvest being captured by recreational crabbers, regulations on them will have limited impact to increase blue crab numbers in the Chesapeake.”

### Oyster Commission Delivers Interim Report

After just four months in operation, the state Oyster Advisory Commission (OAC) delivered an interim report to DNR and the governor in early January.

“Clearly, oyster management will be changing,” reported Baynard, a member of the OAC. “DNR’s repletion program essentially became a put and take fishery that managed the fishery into economic extinction.”

The Commission’s interim report suggests an aquaculture approach to oystering and a true commitment to restoring oysters. To read the full report 2007 Interim Report of the OAC, go to [www.dnr.state.us/fisheries/oysters](http://www.dnr.state.us/fisheries/oysters).

### CCA MD Helps to Defeat Clammers Compensation Bill

CCA MD along with other sport fishing groups killed a proposed senate bill that would have provided between \$5.4 and \$6.6 million over two years to commercial clammers who no longer could dredge clams in the shallow waters of the coastal bays behind Ocean City and Assateague Island.

A bill prohibiting such dredging was passed in 2007, and this year new legislation was suggested that would have paid clammers for their harvest gear while not requiring them to surrender the equipment. It also would have compensated them for lost income. Ken Lewis along with other recreational anglers testified against the proposed bill in the Education, Health & Environmental Affairs Committee, which subsequently voted “unfavorable” on the bill.

### Kent Narrows Tourney Set for June 7

The fifth annual CCA MD Kent Narrows Chapter Fly & Light Tackle Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, June 7, at The Jetty Beachside, Kent Narrows. Entry fees are \$30 per angler, and you must be a CCA member to participate. Fishing can start at 6 a.m. with a weigh in deadline of 3:30 p.m. Free beer and food will be available from 3-6 p.m.

Sponsored by Koons Ford, Annapolis, and Tri-State Marine, the tournament will have fly and light tackle divisions and features a Chapter Challenge for state bragging rights with the winning chapter taking possession of the coveted “Cup” for the year. Fishing boundaries are Rock Hall to Cedar Point.

For further information contact Ed Liccione, 410-829-5771; Joe Cap, 410-310-8073; or Brooke MacDonald at the CCA MD office, 888-758-6580.



Tony Friedrich (left), president, Kent Narrows Chapter, chats with Lefty Kreh during the annual TieFest gathering, which attracted numerous CCA members. Lefty gave a casting demonstration and was one of the featured fly tyers.



It was standing room only while watching the tying talent at the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Tie Fest held at the Kent Narrows Yacht Club.



Chris Marseglia (Southern Maryland Chapter) shovels his way to the bottom of the truck bed to make sure that no oyster is left behind during the Patuxent River oyster work day.

## CCA Message Delivered during Shows, Expos

North, south, east, west, there wasn't a direction in Maryland that CCA MD didn't cover to visit a boat show or fishing expo. The CCA MD message was everywhere from Timonium, to Upper Marlboro, Baltimore, Kent Narrows, Pasadena, Deale, Annapolis, Salisbury and Solomons. Each event was held in vastly different venues, from cow palaces to convention centers to empty boat garages.

Beginning the week after New Years through March, Maryland was saturated with the CCA Maryland and Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative (MARI) messages. Many new CCA MD memberships were captured and several thousand dollars were raised for MARI.

At the four-day Timonium show, 22 people became new members. At the Chesapeake Outdoor Show in Upper Marlboro, seven new memberships and a fair number of banquet tickets for the Southern Maryland Banquet were sold. During the Baltimore Boat Show, the focus was on the MARI project where the new MARI video featur-

ing underwater video of some of the new reefs built with the old Wilson Bridge proved to be a hit.

Next came the Tri-State Flea Market in Deale where eight new members signed up during the afternoon segment. It was a great opportunity to make relationships with members of the community that have potential to help the 'future' Deale chapter move into high gear.

From Deale, the CCA MD message crossed the Bay Bridge to the Eastern Shore for the AMSA Salisbury Fishing Show held at the Civic Center. Diane and Sherman Baynard (Mid-Shore Chapter) manned the booth for the three-day show. The traffic was steady and many familiar faces stopped by the table to renew their memberships and talk about the upcoming Mid-Shore Super Seminar.

As the 2008 shows come to a close, one lucky new member will win a CCA Special Edition G.Loomis Rod with Shimano Spinning Reel. Thank you to all of the volunteers that helped at the shows! See you in 2009. 🐟

### Eastern Shore Oyster Stew

The Chesapeake Bay offers much to please one's palette. Recipes will occasionally be printed in Chesapeake Tide from CCA MD members. Feel free to submit recipes directly to Brooke MacDonald at [brooke@ccamd.org](mailto:brooke@ccamd.org).

#### Eastern Shore Oyster Stew-provided by Diane Baynard (Mid Shore Chapter)

- 1 pint shucked standard oysters
- 1 qt. Half & Half
- Salt and pepper to taste
- ¼ cup butter (half stick)
- 1 +- teaspoon parsley

Drain liquid from oysters but don't pat dry. Keep some of the liquid to use for heating purposes. In 2 quart saucepan, heat oysters with small amount of their liquid until edges curl on all the oysters. Reduce heat, add half of the half & half, add half of the butter, season with salt and pepper, and add parsley. If desired, use remaining butter and half & half. It depends how rich you want it to taste. Do not boil, heat thoroughly, serve with homemade biscuits or oyster crackers.



## Angler's Best Friend Should Be Sonar Unit

By Captain Richie Gaines

**W**hen anglers chase fish anywhere the water is deeper than 10 feet, one of their best friends should be their sonar unit. As a guide, I'm no smarter than the normal angler; I have just learned how to get the most out of my sonar to show me what is below. The rest is easy.

One of the first items to remember is that the best sonar unit is not necessarily the most expensive one. Rather, the best is the one you can interpret. The purpose of sonar is to provide the angler information, but if that information can't be interpreted, it's useless.

Sonar units shoot a cone-shaped signal from the transducer to the bottom, showing fish, bait, and structure, among other items. What you see on your screen is measured in pixels, and the more dense the target the more vertical pixels will be displayed. Therefore, a larger fish will be shown as a thicker arch, not a longer one. It's the vertical thickness that tells you how large or dense a target is, not the horizontal length.

### In selecting a sonar unit, here are some considerations to keep in mind—

- ✦ The power of a unit is measured in watts peak to peak or watts RMS. Six hundred watts peak to peak or 75 watts RMS is all you need for the Chesapeake Bay. (RMS watts can be determined by dividing peak to peak watts by 8)
- ✦ Two hundred to 300 pixels will be enough for the Bay, but when it comes to resolution, it's wise to buy the most you can afford. This will help the angler distinguish detail and separate targets. Resolution is pretty important when it comes to target separation. Target separation is the ability to distinguish individual targets rather than just a blob. This lets you see several fish instead of a cloud so you know you have game fish and not a school of bait.
- ✦ A wider screen isn't going to show more information—just more history. The first inch on the right side of a screen indicates what is currently under the boat. Everything else was already gone past, but that can be important in determining the size and shape of humps or rock piles.

**Color can help you interpret data. A color screen will typically show blue as a soft bottom, red as a harder bottom, and yellow as the hardest. A black and white screen will display this in shades of gray.**

- ✦ A single frequency, 200 kHz transducer is best for the Bay. This allows the maximum detail and target separation.

**Once you have the appropriate equipment, the angler must still learn to use it, and the best way is to find a friend who has that knowledge and is willing to share it. But here are some tips to keep in mind—**

- ✦ Turn off the fish symbol display and rely on arches to find your fish. When tuned to the fish symbol, sonar will mark everything as a fish, including balls of bait and even air bubbles. Rely on your unit to show you what's under the water; don't ask it to interpret. That's the angler's job.
- ✦ Remember that a thicker arch is a larger fish while an especially long arch indicates that the fish is moving with you at the speed of your boat.
- ✦ Look for active fish—those that are moving up and down. They are the fish that are feeding.
- ✦ Under normal circumstances, keep your sensitivity setting on automatic.

**Using your sonar effectively will increase your productivity on the water.**

*Captain Richie Gaines, a member of the Kent Narrows Chapter, is a light tackle guide, president of the Chesapeake Guides Association, and one of 10 Lowrance Super Pro Staff members in the USA.* ✦

**The best sonar unit is not necessarily the most expensive one**



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**Check the Tide  
 Inside...**

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

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

- \$25 Basic Membership- 6 issues of *Tide Magazine*, 3 issues of *Chesapeake Tide*, 2 decals, and a bumper sticker
- \$100 Membership- CCA print, 6 issues of *Tide Magazine*, 3 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? \_\_\_\_\_