



# TIDERUNNER

Newsletter of the Annapolis Chapter of the MSSA

“More Fish – More Catching – More Fun”

March 2008

## MARCH MEETING & GUEST SPEAKER

Our speaker for the March 19, 2008 meeting will be Capt. Greg Buckner of Miss Susie Charters and Shore to Shore Tackle. Capt. Greg was born and raised in St. Mary's county and grew up fishing the local waters. He purchased Miss Susie Charters four years ago and fishes 200+ days a year. In the off season he makes lures and other tackle to be used in upcoming seasons and also for striper fisherman who want to use what he, a professional captain, uses to catch more and bigger fish. His presentation will cover trolling for Spring Trophy Rockfish and bring some extra money if you aren't stocked up for the spring season yet as he will have some of his tackle for sale.

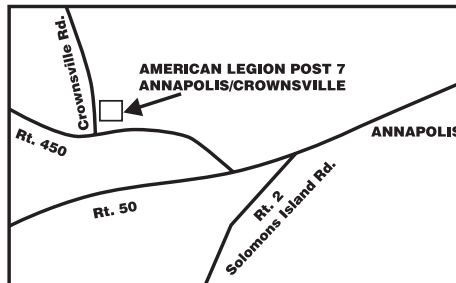
Chapter Meetings are held at 7:30 on the 3rd Wednesday of each month (except July & August) at the Annapolis American Legion Post #7 located at 1905 Crownsville Rd. The meeting format is informal yet informative with an emphasis on learning and talking about fishing. Please join us to expand your knowledge of Bay & Offshore Fishing and to extend your Fishing Buddy Network to know where and how the big fish are being caught.

Paul Kurchock  
*Speaker Chairman*

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we sat in the lounge at the Elk's Lodge on the afternoon of February 9, there was a sense of relief that we had just completed the most successful fishing show in the history of our Chapter and an even greater sense of pride in the accomplishment of several of our goals. If you didn't attend, you missed being with over 500 eager, interested anglers who paid their entry fees and took full advantage of the outstanding equipment and services offered by our vendors and the four entertaining and informative speakers who packed the dining room for every seminar. I have spoken with several of the vendors and they reported strong sales and interest in their products and services. Individual sellers appeared to have done very well disposing of the items they brought to the event and OB was busy at the Scholarship Table collecting \$377.00 from the sale of donated items.

The large crowd meant an early overflow parking situation and I want to thank Bob Thompson and his team for another fine job managing the flow of traffic and finding spaces for all the guests. Tim Palmer and Perry Masden again welcomed the crowd at the front door and got them in the mood to spend some money and enjoy the show. They were helpful in boosting raffle ticket sales to an all time high as Jean Holmes, ML Kurchock and Ray Dove followed the lead of Bob Sheehan and worked hard all day helping us make

*continued on page 2*

a fine profit. The grand prize, a pair of rods and reels, was won by Chapter member John Thibodeau and we wish him good luck trolling in the spring tournaments with these fine pieces of gear.

A final note of thanks goes to Kevin McMenamin, our VP, who has carried much of the load for the planning and execution of the Expo as he transitioned from President to VP. We owe him a large debt of gratitude for making sure this event came off without incident and exceeded our expectations for turnout and profit. Tim Palmer will fill you in on the financial details in his Treasurer's Report.

Early on the morning of February 16, Lee Slagle, Earl Macey, Bill Tongue and I took a flight from Dulles to Guatemala City and drove an hour to the coastal port city of San Jose where we checked into the Buena Vista Fishing Center for 3 days of the most amazing fishing I have ever experienced. Joe Riley had organized two six-man trips to take advantage of the best sail fish fishing in the world during the month of February and our 4 chapter members were joined by Aaron Rogers and Josh Twilley who worked with Joe on MUFF DIVER. We were the first of the two groups to go and none of us had been to Guatemala. The facilities were excellent and the two boats, captains and crews ideally equipped to allow 3 anglers each to get their fill of fishing action. My email home following our last day of fishing captures the flavor of the experience:



*Pictured from Left to Right are Manuel (Mate), Earl Macey, Lee Slagle and Josh Twilley with one of the Guatemala sailfish, February 17, 2008.*

"Day 3 was perhaps the best even if the count was down a little. Fished with Earl and Lee today and we started out by picking up some live bait to go for grouper. The grouper didn't cooperate so we headed to the sail fish grounds and trolled up about 14 releases and then started to live-line the sail fish with our bait fish. Almost like feeding kids candy...hooked them right and left. We each got a sail on spinning gear with 20 lb test mono and a blue runner baitfish cast into a pod of birds feeding over a sail or more. Probably saw 150 sails today, maybe more, it was a bonanza day. Got in an hour late because the captain wanted to catch one on his spinning rod and he did. These are beautiful animals that light up with colors when they are caught and do their famous jumps. We are pretty wiped out from 3 straight days on the water hauling in big fish on small tackle, but it doesn't get any better than this and I'm really glad I have had the chance to experience Guatemala's fishery." What more can I say?

With only a month and a half left before the opening of Trophy Season on April 19, I encourage you to get your boats ready, or find a ride or charter a boat to fish the Boatyard Bar and Grill Tournament on April 19, and the MSSA Spring event May 2-4. You can also enter the Charter Captains Tournament held simultaneously with the MSSA Tournament. An angler who fishes in both and brings in the biggest fish could win about \$100,000.00 in prizes if they participate in all the calcuttas.

For those who enjoy fishing for flounder, don't forget the two tournaments held simultaneously in Wachapreague, VA starting April 18 that run through April 27. I'll be driving back and forth over that stretch to fish the Bay events and get in as many days of flounder fishing as I can.

Thanks again to everyone who gave of their time and energy to make our EXPO a great success. I'll see you at the next meeting on Wednesday, March 19th.

Pete Abbott  
*President*

## VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

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I was thrilled by the response we received this year for our Saltwater Fishing Expo. Thanks to all of you who attended this year. I'm sure that you found it to be a top notch event. I would also like to thank Chris Dollar and *The Fisherman* staff who cosponsored the event and were very instrumental in the promotion of our event. They also presented some great door prizes that were very well received by the lucky winners. I trust that many of you subscribe to this fine magazine and had a chance to renew your subscription with Chris or Matt during the Expo.

I'd also like to thank Keith Kauffman, Lenny Rudow, Pete Dahlberg and John Unkart for the excellent seminars that each of these gentlemen presented. The packed Seminar Room was a testament to the quality and content of each of these presentations. Boaters World returned again this year as another enthusiastic Expo Sponsor and donated 7 Gift Cards that were drawn as Raffle Prizes. Thanks to Dale Dirks for coordinating our support from Boaters World. And finally, I would like to acknowledge the efforts of all of the volunteers especially Pete Abbott. This event has grown significantly over the years and it can not be planned and executed by one person any longer. Pete played a huge roll in planning the event and managing the Staffing Assignments. And all of our Chapter Members who volunteered helped to make the event go off without a hitch.

Kevin McMenamin  
*Vice President*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

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I second Pete's effusive thanks to all who made our Expo such a smashing success. Our door count was 495 plus a ton of kids who were not required to pay the entry fee. The rod/reel combo raffle was a huge success – the Chapter netted approximately \$1900 on that issue. Thanks to all who purchased raffle tickets.

The Chapter donated \$500 to the scholarship foundation at the Annual Meeting held in Ocean City last month. Thanks to OB O'Bannon and Earl Macey, who ran the scholarship table at the Expo, OB turned over \$377 to the Chapter for the foundation. At the February meeting, the members voted to up that amount to \$500, and a check in that amount was provided to OB to carry to the next scholarship committee meeting.

The Chapter is in the best financial condition it has ever been in, especially at this time of year. Thanks to Pete, Kevin, and many others for their tireless efforts to keep the members motivated to support the Chapter activities.

Tim Palmer  
*Treasurer*

## UPCOMING MSSA FISHING SHOWS

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The Essex-Middle River Chapter Annual Fishing Flea Market is scheduled for March 15-16 at Commodore Hall in Essex. This event has a lot of individual anglers who are selling off under utilized tackle and gear along with plenty of quality new merchandise. Call Frank Holden at (410) 686-2348 for more information.

The Southern MD Chapter will host the Annual Fishing Fair on March 29-30 at Solomons Fire Hall. This is the only fishing show in the Southern Maryland region and will give all the opportunity to purchase rods, reels, baits, fishing accessories, as well as other fishing related products. Visit [www.mssasmc.com](http://www.mssasmc.com) or email [president@mssasmc.com](mailto:president@mssasmc.com) for more info.

## CANYON RUNNER SEMINAR

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Canyon Runner Sportfishing will present their 2008 Offshore Seminar "Going Beyond the Basics" on Sunday April 13th at the Double Tree Hotel in Annapolis. These guys are truly professional offshore fishermen and this is a "must attend" event for our Chapter's Offshore Captains and Crews. This year's Seminar should be even better than last year with the addition of an advanced general training session, five brand new breakout session topics, and an extended Q&A Session. Many of our members attended last year's event and are planning to go again this year because it is a very well run and informative Seminar. Everyone from novice to experienced offshore fishermen will benefit greatly by attending this seminar. The Canyon Runner Crew has offered a special discount price for this program to members of the Annapolis Chapter of MSSA. The cost for our members is \$90.00 (standard admission is \$110.00). Full details can be found in the enclosed flyer or on our website at [http://www.mssaannapolis.com/downloads\\_articles.php](http://www.mssaannapolis.com/downloads_articles.php).

## SPRING INTRA-CHAPTER TOURNAMENT

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The Annapolis Chapter will once again host an Intra-Chapter Spring Tournament amongst its members from April 19th to May 25th. The Entry Fee is \$10 and we will recognize the five longest Rockfish caught by our Chapter Members. There is also an optional \$25 Calcutta that will be split three ways for those members who care to enter. The 1st Place Calcutta Winner last spring took home over \$450, so once again, it pays to enter the Calcutta. Remember to sign up before Opening Day for your best shot at the Top Prize. Pick up a copy of the Tournament Application at the Chapter Meetings or on our website at [http://www.mssaannapolis.com/downloads\\_articles.php](http://www.mssaannapolis.com/downloads_articles.php) Please call Bob Thompson (410) 340-7109 with any questions.

## BOATYARD BAR AND GRILL TOURNAMENT

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We celebrate the opening day of rockfish season in Annapolis with a charity fishing tournament conducted by the Boatyard Bar and Grill in Eastport. Dick Franyo, owner of the BYBG, is an avid supporter of the Chesapeake Bay and contributes a lot of money each year to worthwhile causes including local charities that benefit many members of our community and the Bay's environmental improvement. 2008 is the third year our Chapter has been a sponsor of the BYBG's Opening Day Charity Tournament and I encourage all of you who own boats and plan to fish the MSSA Spring Tournament May 2-4 to use this opportunity to "tune up" for the big event by entering Dick's tournament on April 19. There is an entry fee of about \$125 that includes 4 tickets to the party held that afternoon at the restaurant and the entire fee goes to charity. I expect that the BYBG website, [www.boatyardbarandgrill.com](http://www.boatyardbarandgrill.com) will have the entry form available in the next few days. When I can get one from Dick, we will post it on our chapter website, [www.mssaannapolis.com](http://www.mssaannapolis.com).

Chapter members who enter this tournament are invited to participate in a "Chapter Only" Calcutta. Entry fee is \$50.00 and the prize pool will be split 70/20/10 to the boats with the 3 longest rockfish registered at the weigh-in following the tournament. This is a catch and release event and captains submit photographic evidence of their catch on digital media using a special "yard-stick" that is issued in each captain's package at the Captain's Meeting on the evening of April 18 at the restaurant. I hope you will join me in fishing this enjoyable tournament, contributing to some of the most worthwhile

charities, and taking a chance to win some money by participating in our Calcutta. Make out your checks to the Annapolis Chapter, MSSA, and mail them to Tim Palmer, 3232 Chrisland Drive, Annapolis, MD 21403-4350. Deadline to enter is April 15, 2008. See you at the BYBG after the tournament!

Pete Abbott

## CHAPTER WEBSITE & MAIL LIST

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After much testing and configuration, the new eMailing List for our Annapolis Chapter is ready to go prime-time! If you are not already subscribed to the list, and would like to get Chapter newsletters and announcements via email, please do the following:

- Send an email to [Members-request@mssaannapolis.com](mailto:Members-request@mssaannapolis.com)
- In the Subject: line of the email simply type "subscribe" without the quotes.
- You will receive a reply from the List Server asking you to confirm the subscription. Follow those instructions and that's it, you're subscribed!

Sending you our Newsletter via email allows us to deliver to you on a more timely basis and saves the Chapter about \$5 per member per year. With over 600 members in our Chapter, that adds up to a very substantial saving of funds that can be well spent on Chapter Functions or Projects.

Craig Teuber  
*Webmaster*

## CHAPTER OFFICERS AND LEADERSHIP TEAM

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President	Pete Abbott	(410) 758-2071
Vice President	Kevin McMenamin	(410) 340-5030
Secretary	Bob Sheperd	
Treasurer	Tim Palmer	(410) 280-2187
MSSA Scholarship Committee		OB O'Bannon
MSSA Tournament Committee		Bob Kimball
Speaker Chairman		Paul Kurchock
Raffle Table Chairman		Bob Sheehan
Intra-Chapter Tournament		Bob Thompson
Member Roster Chairman		Bill Tongue
Webmaster		Craig Teuber

## 2008 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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### March

15-16 Essex/ Middle River Flea Market at Commodore Hall  
19 Annapolis Chapter Meeting – Guest Speaker: Capt. Greg Buckner  
29-30 Southern MD Fishing Fair at Solomons Firehouse

### April

13 Canyon Runner Seminar at Annapolis Double Tree Hotel  
16 Annapolis Chapter Meeting – Guest Speaker: TBD  
19 Opening Day – Spring Trophy Season  
19 Boatyard Bar & Grill Tournament

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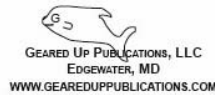
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“More Fish – More Catching – More Fun”

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