

#### GREATER NEW YORK ANGLERS ASSOCIATION INC.

PRESIDENTS LINE: Good morning, the temperature today is breaking 59 degrees and I'm gearing up for a trip to the reservoir to try my hand for Lakers and browns. The ice has started to break up and when this happens some good fishing and large trout come within range, the weather will be perfect, heavy winds and rain, mid fifty's. I spoke to a club member last week who had been spending a lot of time in the south Florida area and had done well with African pompano ,king fish ,Spanish mackerel and sail fish on light tackle. That got me to thinking of all our members who fish thru out the year and in some really cool locations for a variety of fish. The upcoming season on the salt water side should give us a good amount of small bait, sand eels and spearing that spawn well during colder winters and that will be just what we as fly rodders will be hoping for. On the fresh water side steel head, shad rainbow trout will be on the menu for casters as weather warms and our summer season begins. On that note we will have a one fly tournament going this year, for striped bass, blue fish and bonito. Along with a monthly flotilla on the sound .A game dinner will be held in April and I believe we will have bob Linguist as a speaker for a Saturday morning fly tying event at the Manhasset yacht club. The details are being worked on for dates and times as I speak. I'm looking forward to the events and will be e-mailing updates to all as the season progresses on fishing news river conditions and some neat places to fish from shore. Thank you all for giving me your vote of confidence at the rudder of this fine club and its terrific group of anglers whom I respect on and off the water, see you all at the next meeting coming up. Yours truly Brian Moran-

DUES ARE DUE by end of the March meeting! If you will not be a the meeting please call, or E mail me if you need more time. you can send your dues directly to me

GNYAA C/o D Sekeres 86-11 110 Street Richmond Hill, NY 11418

Dues are a \$ 100.00 for the year

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**Election Results** 



V. President Ron Restivo



Treasurer Howard Marshall



Secretary Jim Pungello



# Recreational Striped Bass Catch Continues to Decline

Stripers Forever members –NOAA Fisheries has posted the updated official estimates of the recreational catch of striped bass to their website. Using this data, we've created a graph that displays the recreational catch, both for the entire Atlantic Coast and for Massachusetts only. We've singled out Massachusetts because we have filed three bills in this session of the legislature, one of which is a striped bass game fish bill. The recreational catch has fallen by more than 70% since the peak in 2006, and with very few small fish coming into the fishery these numbers will continue to decline. The population of large older fish that make up the bulk of the current striped bass biomass will continue to provide some fishing opportunities for a few years, but unless regulations change to catch and release only, the already reduced spawning potential will be further eroded. The publicity surrounding the wasteful trawler fishery off the Outer Banks of North Carolina and the criminal gill net fishery in Maryland has caught everyone's attention these days, and certainly, these are shocking events –although it's no great secret that activities like this have gone on for many years. Changing those commercial net fisheries to rod and reel harvest only wouldn't necessarily make the problem go away. For example, in Massachusetts there are nearly 4,000 commercial permit holders to keep an eye on, and nowhere near the enforcement capability available to do it. Less than a third of all commercial permit holders reported catching or selling any fish at all. The desire to not reach the state's quota too quickly, and to avoid income taxes by selling for cash, are both considerable incentives to hide your actual catch. Just as everyone close to the scene knows that the problems in NC and MD have been going on for years, so too do people in Massachusetts know that the commercial quota there is vastly overachieved. One Massachusetts man was caught last summer fishing in Rhode Island with a false deck in his boat that when opened via a hidden switch, revealed a fish box full of illegally harvested striped bass. Is it likely that this was this man's first time out, or that he planned to report these fish? We all know the answer to that. We constantly receive e-mails that tell us of the under the table peddling of striped bass to restaurants and fish markets all over Cape Cod.

No amount of rules or enforcement effort is going to stop this once great fishery from being degraded by commercial fishing both legal and illegal. Nothing will do the job except for the outright prohibition of the sale of wild striped bass. We need to cut back the recreational catch too, perhaps drastically at this point. Once striped bass have been made a game fish we can charge the ASMFC with setting targets that will put striped bass back on the track they were following in the late 1990s. Nothing less than this is going to work, and the longer we wait the deeper the hole is going to get.

Brad Burns President of Stripers Forever

State Official Links http://www.stripersforever.org/Info/Stripers\_NY/stateoffs

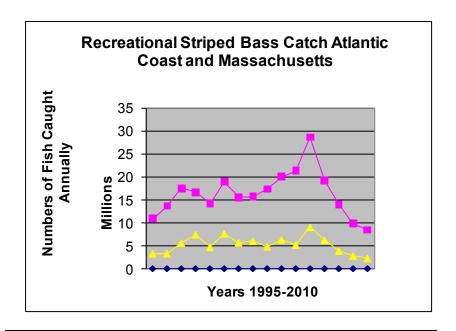
http://www.stripersforever.org:80/Info/Stripers BBoard/I016614E0

#### ONE MANS OPINION!

Due to the recent Developments in North Carolina with the decimation of Striped Bass by Commercial Fisherman I propose that we no longer patronage the State it self and any and all restaurants that serve Striped Bass and let that fact be know.

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http://www.stripersforever.org:80/Info/Stripers\_BBoard/I016614E0



On The Cover Really wanted to do a more upbeat spring is coming scene

for the cover but I stumbled across this awesome shot which I just had to share.

Glad to announce the article submitted by Capt. Vincent Pica
Chief of Staff, First District Southern Region, USCGAux
US Coast Guard licensed Master

See pages 8-10

A Special Thank You to Capt. Vincent Pica

### Gill nets-Grand Bahamas.

# wiping out the flats fly fishermen:

The practice of gill net fishing is of great concern to fishermen in the West End community, who say they have observed a drastic depletion in the volume of marine life in the waters there. Yesterday, the Freeport News spoke with several of them, who appealed to the authorities to ban the practice completely. Bone fishing guide Thomas Rolle, who was born and raised in West End, said over the past few years he has noticed an increase in the number of fishermen using the gill nets and a corresponding decrease in the numbers of fish present in those waters. "I know that one time ago there were maybe one or two guys netting but now it's out of control now. We have about 15, 16 or 17 boats - they're netting the same areas every day and we're in trouble now but before long there isn't going to be anything there," he lamented. The problem with the gill nets, he said, is that it kills the fishes automatically once they become entangled, even the fishes that are not wanted. The majority of the fishermen in the West End area are opposed to the use of the nets, he claims. "I hate nets because I know the fish don't have a chance. They get tangled in the nets, once the head goes through you've got to pull the fish out of the net by the head, so you're destroying the fish." There is no need for the nets, he says, and fishermen should be able to make an honest living hand lining. The practice is especially hard on the fishermen who depend on hand line fishing as their only source of revenue. "So many people around here make their living hand lining. It's a sport but it's a way to make a living. We have a lot of people here who rely on catching snappers and groupers and other types of fish to make a living... Right now, everyone is really doing bad; guys are suffering because they can't really make a living. Rolle said he believes the people who practice this type of fishing are not being considerate, and are not thinking of the possible harmful effects on the marine life.

"They're just thinking about their pockets, they're thinking about what they can make; they're not thinking about tomorrow. Greed plays an important part and if I can make \$4,000-\$5,000 a day netting some snappers, they don't think about anything else," he said.

Rolle said he believes the net fishermen may also be taking for granted the fact that the marine resources are so plentiful. "I think ignorance has a lot of do with it. We come from this beautiful country, we have so much fish, and so much conch and lobster here I think these ignorant people take it for granted, that it will always be there." Another West End native, Nathan Johnson, said he worked as a fisherman before finding employment at the Ginn project. When that work ended, however, he returned to fishing which is his number one source of income. It has been a struggle, he says, to make a living since it is harder to find fish. "I remember back in the days I used to live right up the street and my mother used to go on the seaside and within 30-45 minutes, she could have caught a bucket of fish and go home to feed her family. If you tried that now you would be out there for hours just trying to catch one fish," he said.

"We're not trying to take bread out of anyone's mouth because I know they've got families to feed too but at the end of the day, you can't be selfish, you can't be "all for me." It doesn't work that way." Another resident of West End, Berkley Kemp, said he has been fishing for most of his life and has witnessed a definite change in the availability of the fish.

"I used to go right around here and catch fish, but now you can't even do that. I used to have a place, I used to go out to and I could have come home with a cooler of fish, now you can't - the fish aren't even there anymore," he said. He recalled going on a fishing trip almost 45 miles from shore, and returning frustrated after catching less than an ideal number. "When you run all that way and you come back with one bucket of fish, and gas is over \$300 just to run to these places, it's very upsetting," he said.

He also noted the damaging effect the weights attached to the bottom of the nets have on the sea floor.

Fly Fishing Forum 02/15/11 http://www.stripersonline.com/surftalk/forumdisplay.php?f=161

#### FROM THE EDITOR

Update: at the last meeting the proposal was adopted where by any by-law changes can now take place in May instead of February.

Please excuse any missing portions of the news letter still resolving computer issues and a short vacation along with other issues which had to be taken care of. Please accept my apology!

## **FISHING REPORTS**

2/14/11 Anthony Pampillonio sent me a picture of the Redfish he caught while wading the flats. Picture of the fish placed gently on top of his Kayak for a photo.



# Cold Water Survival, Hypothermia, Rescue & Recovery Vincent Pica Chief of Staff, First District, Southern Region (D1SR) United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

As some of you may know, we've written about hypothermia many times.\* It is a subject that my son and I, members "back in the day", of a USCG Aux Cold Water Team, were trained in. Recently, amongst the professional life-saving community, whispers started that we have had it all wrong, that data, from US Navy studies from the post WW-II era on "Time of Useful Consciousness" that came from molded dummies with internal brass skeletons, didn't calibrate to live testing conducted by various scientific and medical studies done in the last couple of years. Further, medical testing of the effects of cold water on the human physiology would lead one to believe that the standard "fireman's hoist\*\*" of a stricken mariner, taught everywhere, could in fact lead to a worsening of the effects of cold water on the victim, even leading to death. This column, replacing ALL the columns I've written about this subject, is about that.

#### The Cold Facts

Back in August 2010, while attending the National Convention of the US Coast Guard Auxiliary in Phoenix, AZ, I attended a presentation on this topic by a Canadian organization called Cold Water Boot Camp (<a href="https://www.coldwaterbootcamp.com">www.coldwaterbootcamp.com</a>) which works in cooperation with many life saving organizations, including the US Coast Guard.

In the video part of the presentation, I saw a good friend and fellow member of US Coast Guard Forces – Mario Vittone, USCG Marine Safety Specialist and former Helicopter Rescue Swimmer Instructor – featured in the video as one of the guinea pig subjects. In the past, Mario would ping me with commentary on the aforementioned columns on hypothermia. "Vin, some of the this stuff is not lining up with the latest data. Be careful!" The problem I had was in sorting out that which was still good and that which was good to go – as it "outta here!" There was no official report to rely on. Well, not only was there now an official scientific report to rely on, but I could talk directly to one of the subjects – Mario Vittone, USCG. In fact, Mario has published a detailed article on the subject - <a href="http://mariovittone.com/2010/10/the-truth-about-cold-water/">http://mariovittone.com/2010/10/the-truth-about-cold-water/</a> - which I want to acknowledge here as an underlying source document to this column.

#### **Traditions Die Hard at Sea**

It isn't easy convincing mariners that a life-time of tradition and practice is wrong. And not everything we know and practice on this subject *IS* wrong. Here are the facts:

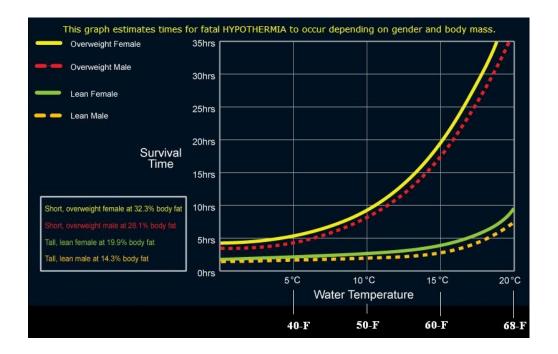
The first is phase of cold water immersion is called the **cold shock response**. This we've had right and have written about before, (see SSP, "Going Down For The Third (and Last) Time", 7/15/09.) Data now shows that roughly **20% die in the first two minutes.** They take on water in that first uncontrolled gasp, panic and drown, plain and simple. In some, the cold shock triggers a heart attack. Surviving this stage requires you to stay calm and get your breathing under control. If you don't, your life is measured in minutes and you won't need your other hand to count them. A further consequence of this phenomenon is that you will rapidly lose your physical capacity to swim. Even the strongest swimmer can't fight Mother Nature – your body's natural reaction to all this cold water is to protect the inner core. It does this by constricting blood flow to the outer extremities and keeping as much warm blood as possible around the inner core. We had this right too. I've described it as "being drunk without the booze." Fine motor skills go, followed by gross motor skills, followed by, well, death by drowning. You can't swim without arms and legs (read: extremities) working.

What we had completely wrong was this. To quote Mario Vittone directly:

It is impossible to get hypothermic in cold water unless you are wearing flotation, because without flotation – you won't live long enough to become hypothermic.

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This leads me to the next thing we had completely wrong – "that a 50 year old man would last 50 minutes in 50 degree water." All the timings are wrong – if you had a life-jacket on. The good news is that we last longer, far longer, before losing consciousness and ultimately reaching the point of no return. See the table, courtesy of Cold Water Boot Camp.



#### **Don't Lose Them During Rescue!**

One of the things we also got wrong, alluded to at the start, was how to rescue them. The presentation showed rescuers keeping the victim <u>horizontal</u> – not vertical, ever – while getting them into the boat! This is because of what is called **post-rescue collapse**. Hypothermia makes everything colder, which makes it slower and closer to the edge of

collapse. The rescue itself is stressful to a fragile heart – potentially leading to cardiac arrest. They keel over right in front of you, as you haul them over the gunwales and try to get them out of wet clothes (a struggle in itself) and into dry ones. Quoting Mario Vittone again, "Until everything is warmed back up – out of the water and dry is good

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BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at <a href="mailto:JoinUSCGAux2010@aol.com">JoinUSCGAux2010@aol.com</a> or go direct to John Blevins, who is in charge of new members matters, at <a href="mailto:FSO-PS@emcg.us">FSO-PS@emcg.us</a> and we will help you "get in this thing..."

#### **Cold Water Survival**

- \* "Surviving Hypothermia", 2/14/07
  "Warm Air, Cold Water", 3/4/09
  "Warm Air, Cold Water, 2010", 3/3/10
- \*\* With two rescuers, one with each arm of the victim, would "bob" the stricken mariner up and down, "1-2-3 and HEAVE in" and use some the natural buoyancy of the human body to help the rescuers get the person out of the water, over the gunwales and into the boat.



Some of the fellows are heading to the Caribbean this month. Wish them all well

# What's Up Doc!



The What's Up Dock was created by shop owner Darren Selznick to imitate the small baits that Snook in South Florida chow on at night under the lights. It is a good imitation for both tiny baitfish and shrimp. The flash in the dubbing and Steve Farrar Blend reflects a ton of light and it has great micro movement that pulsates in the current. It can be modified in either color or weight to imitate any small baitfish and has worked well in Chartreuse and Root Beer on Largemouth and Peacock Bass. We have even caught Tuna and False Ablies offshore on the WUD when they become ultra selective.

Hook: Tiemco TMC 811S #6

Thread: <u>Ultra Thread 210 White</u>

Eyes: Mono Eyes Med

Body: Ice Dub Pearl

Wing Body: S Farrar Blend White

Body Topper: Krystal Flash Peacock

1. Tie in the thread at the front of the hook behind the eye. Wrap to the rear and stop right above the barb just before the bend in the shank. Return to the front and figure-8 in the eyes about a hook eye length behind the hook eye. Put 2 or 3 parachute wraps between the shank and the eyes. Let thread hang behind the mono eyes.



2. Wrap to the rear of the hook and let thread hang right above the point. Leaving about 1/2" – 1" of bare thread, loosely dub a 3" – 4" thin strand of Pearl Ice Dub on the thread. Make sure to roll the dubbing on the thread in one direction with your thumb and index finger. Before you being to add the dubbing to the shank, wrap the bare thread towards the rear ending point where the body will begin.



3. Wrap the dubbing rope forward then stop about 1/8" behind the mono eyes. The body should have a slight taper to it. A thinner dubbing rope will help achieve this a little easier



**4.** Tie in a hank of White SF Blend right in front of the body and wind to the eyes. Thickness should be like a matchstick. I usually pull out half the amount I need then fold it over and cut it. This should give you enough material to tie 4 flies. Trim the butts right behind the mono eyes.



**5.** Cut the base of the SF Blend body wing at a 45° angle.



**6.** Tie in 4 pieces of Peacock Krystal Flash and wrap from the mono eyes to the base of the wing. Cut the strands at slightly different lengths, the shortest matching up to the longest SF Blend fiber. Make another thin single stranded dubbing rope from the Pearl Ice Dub.



7. Wrap the dubbing rope forward starting at the base of the body wing. Figure-8 around the mono eyes. The front of the body should be a little thicker than the rear. This will usually take two 4"-6" lengths of dubbing. Whip finish a small head right behind the eye of the hook.



**8.** The last step is to take the tip of your Bodkin and pick at the Ice Dub so you get a shaggy look. All these micro fibers sticking out is what give the fly more life in the water.





Sydney Grace (she) was born November 12, 2010.

New granddaughter is the latest addition to the Marshall family.

Congratulations from the members of the GNYAA

ON ANOTHER NOTE: having to choose on a recent mini family gathering at Disneyworld between visiting the It's a Small World Exhibit or ride for the 20th time or attending the Richard Petty Driving School for a few hours the decision came easy. No knowing what to expect, except what was printed in the brochure I decided to give it a try. Not really a fan of circle track racing since the 70 's when the factories dropped out of the program circle racing was to me a bunch of cars driving in circles for 20 or so laps then coming into the pits for fuel, tires and directions for the lost driver. Entering the building with an open mind I was really impressed with the professionalism of the program. The facility was immaculate and I received a warm welcome by the check in staff. Once all the documents were inspected for my Initials absolving them of any and all responsibilities it was off to the class room. A fellow by the name of Greg let the class bringing to our attention what to expect and to go over what they expected from the group of 15 wannabe drivers. Ample direction was directed towards safety along with the workings of the cars. A review was given to one and all of the gear shift pattern used in the cars on a display along with a location of the onboard fire suppressor system on the cars and how to engage the system if needed.

Fitted with a driving suit and the right size helmet you were strapped into a car with some final instructions by another staff member and waited your turn. On the track it was quite easy an instructor in another car started out in front of you with a distance of three (3) car lengths and you were required or tried to maintain the distance throughout. As your confidence increased so did the speed and you gradually built up to what the instructor felt one could handle. It takes several laps to get kind of use to the car, the noise was apparent but then it no longer became a distraction. My last lap I was able to get up to 121 miles an hour but the car had much more to offer but you think a 1 mile track is sufficient but it's not. I found out later a high speed of around 125 is about what the track will take before something happens for the inexperienced. Other tracks who have the program like Daytona speeds obtained there are much higher.

All in all it was a great experience and I came away understanding more of what that sport is about. If you can give it a try. When was the last time you had an opportunity to drive a race car?







Any one wishing to have additional club logos embroidered on there garments please contact NEEDLEHEADS and make the arraignments. They have the Club Logo in there files along with the correct thread colors.

# Needleheads

Custom Embroidery, Inc 88-01 Myrtle Ave Glendale, NY 11385 718 850-4252

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