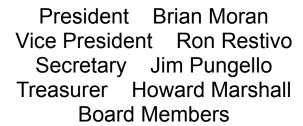


#### **GREATER NEW YORK ANGLERS ASSOCIATION INC.**



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#### ON THE COVER

Jimmy with a Bass Fishing with Brian last month

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# What!? How <u>Small</u> a Wave Can Capsize My Boat!? Vincent Pica Chief of Staff, First District, Southern Region (D1SR) United States Coast Guard Auxiliary

Certainly, the tragedy in Oyster Bay on July 4, 2012, points to the urgent need for more understanding by boat captains of capsizing. There is a tremendous amount of data on "righting moments", centers of buoyancy and gravity, thanks to the US Navy and the US Coast Guard, amongst many institutions that literally live and die by these metrics.

#### Some Background

To understand the forces of a capsizing, and how those forces change when you load the boat, let's get some terms under our belt.

Most of us understand "center of gravity" (G) instinctually. But what is the center of buoyancy? The center of buoyancy (B) is the center of the volume of water which the hull displaces. When a ship is stable, the center of buoyancy is vertically in-line with the center of gravity of the ship. So, as long as the center of gravity (G), pushing the boat down, is above the center of buoyancy (B), pushing the boat up, we're good. How good? That is a *very* good question and as with many good questions, it requires more information to answer properly. Take a look at diagram A.

What is that "M" sitting up there above our trusty center of "G"ravity and the center of "B"uoyancy? That is something very important called the "M"etacenter. The metacenter remains directly above the center of buoyancy regardless of the heeling (tilting caused by external factors like wind or waves) or listing (tilting caused by internal factors such as poorly stowed cargo or on-boarding of water by wind or waves) of a boat. Take a look at Diagram B. If you are starting to worry about the distance between "G" and "M", called the "Metacentric height" (or "GM" in naval architecture parlance), you've catching on quickly. The math gets pretty complicated from here but suffice it to say that the ability of the boat to right herself, i.e., her "righting arm" or "righting moment", has a lot to do with GM. The larger the GM acting as a lever, the better.

Sail boats are designed to operate with a higher degree of heel (greater GM) than motor boats but the principles are exactly the same.

#### From This to Wave Height?

Yes. You can infer that your motor boat's center of gravity and center of buoyancy can't be too far apart when the entire distance from the keel to the floor boards is probably something like 2' or 3'. Think of her draft. It isn't a big number, even for a 40'er. No reason to panic but you now realize that M, G and B can't be that far apart – which means that GM just can't be that great either. And GM is a surrogate for the righting ability of your boat.

But wait. I've been out in some pretty steep seas and I think the boat handled it well. Yes, because studies conducted by the Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers (SNAME) determined that 3 things must exist for a capsizing to occur:

- 1. The boat is broadside to the wave. Yes, a boat can be pitch-poled (tossed end-over-end), but the size of the wave needed to do that greatly exceeds the size of the smaller wave needed to knock a boat down when broadside to a wave.
- **2.** The boat is struck by a breaking wave.
- **3.** Wave height must exceed a certain percentage of the boat's length.



Christine LaRocca (Past President of Joan Wulff Fly Fishers) with her first Striper courtesy of Brian & Enrico July 29, 2012

She caught it one a Purple & Black Peanut Bunker

Got this e mail from Bob Schoelle, thought I would share!

Hi Dave, Not an article for the Newsletter but I thought that you may enjoy this. We were out east on vacation with our children, sons in law and grandchildren last week. Our five year old grandson loves to fish and as sure as I was that the bay was full of snappers I took him onto the dock and prepared two poles .I showed him how to cast and instructed him to carefully watch the bobber and to set the hook when he saw the bobber slip under water. Well about 15 minutes went by and he turned to me and said "Bampy (his name for me), do you really know what you're doing?! Needless to say we didn't even get a bite.

,but we had a good time The little guy takes after his Grandmother and Mother. I hope that all is well with you and your family. Bob Schole

Nelson Alcaraz ventured up to Alaska last month with the family and took some time to go fishing for Salmon. The Captain who was a little on the husky side was given a nick name by son Gabriel



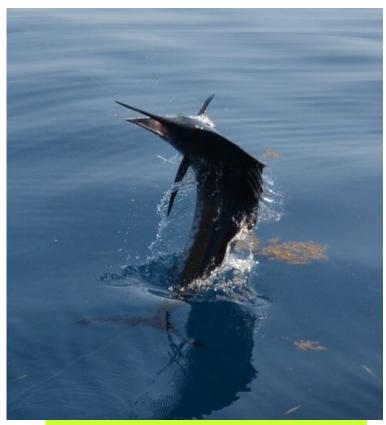
Chris, Gabriel and Lucas Alcaraz

### Hunting Season has started see back cover



#### **FISHING REPORTS**

Lee Smith sent me these pictures a week or two ago. All the fish were taken off of Jupiter, Florida



1 of 5 Sails caught 4 weeks ago.

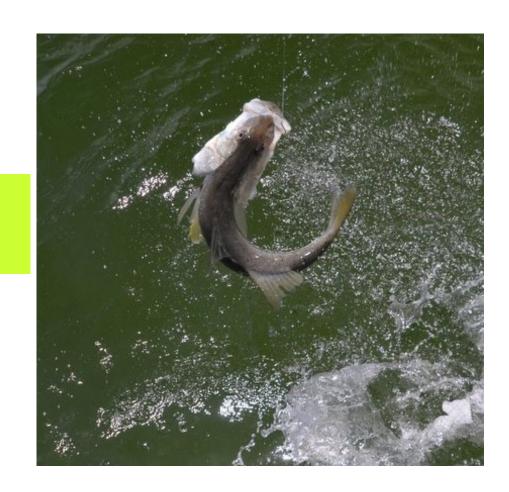
Lee Smith landed a 35 lb Wahoo on his boat off Jupiter





Derek my youngest 35 lb Black fin Tuna

Caught about 10 Small Snook on light spinning tackle off Jupiter Inlet



#### **FISHING REPORTS**

#### Here is some info:

I went out Sunday afternoon with my two sons, my father and mother. I have not been around much this summer, so this was probably the fourth or fifth trip this year. I was planning on getting some fluke and sea robins for the boys, as well as proving to my mother there are fish in the Sound. We started at about 3 pm, drifted for fluke and sea robins by Sands Point. Action was good on the bottom, with the whole family getting pulls. Birds and bait working throughout, but nothing really under them. I wanted to try something different with the crew, so headed to Harts Island for bigger and better. My 7 year old working a top water received a voracious strike from a 6 lb bluefish, which was quickly brought boat side.





Change in location at Harts, time is now 6 pm with a nice outgoing. My turn to fish after baiting and removing all day. About 10 minutes in perfect conditions, casting into 3ft and retrieving back to 9 resulted in nothing. A legitimate last cast, with a phenomenal strike, with this fish clearing the water ala tarponesque in 3 ft. Fish was handled accordingly, and brought into boat. 35 inches, 18 lbs on a Yo-Zuri top water. Great fish, but what made this even more special, was the fact that my parents and children were there to witness this. From the cast, to the working of the plug and fish, handling the fish boat side without a net, and the pictures made this one of if not the most memorable catches I have had. All the stars were lined up, and this situation most likely won't happen again (not with my angling history).

Ron

# Long Island/NYC Fishing Report -September 7th, 2012

Posted on September 6, 2012

The best inshore fishing has been for porgies. In New York Bight, the best porgy action was in 60 feet of water. Excellent porgy fishing was reported in The Peconics around Rodger's Rock and in Gardiners Bay and along the North Shore beaches. The porgies are very large, with fish to 3 pounds common.

The inshore fluke fishing was typical for late August, with the best fishing occurring close to the inlet mouths during the last of the incoming tides. Spearing and squid combinations or live killies have been the best baits. The keeper ratio was less than one in 10. There were a lot of small sea bass competing for the fluke bait, making fishing near structure or over the mussel beds tough. Good fluke fishing was reported in Shinnecock Bay from the Ponquogue Bridge to the inlet.

The best fishing in the Sound was on the North Fork off Orient Point. The Peconics and Gardiners Bay have had a decent run of fluke but the fishing has been spotty.

The fluke fishing in the ocean has been best in about 60 feet of water under the schools of squid. The best fluke fishing was reported off Montauk Point at Frisbees. A lot of large sea bass were mixed in with the fluke. Mike at Saltwaters Bait and Tackle reported that the offshore fishing for sharks and tuna was generally slow since there were no real temperatures offshore to concentrate the fish. The best tuna fishing has been in Tom's Canyon and West Atlantic Canyon. A few mahi were caught at the NOAA buoy and at the NA buoy. A few brown sharks, small makos and hammerheads were also reported. Mike also reported that 1- to 3-pound weak-fish were caught in West Channel.

Scott Leonard at Star Island Yacht Club reported that the striped bass fishing was excellent on eels at Pollock Rip, Great Eastern and at The Elbow, with numerous stripers in the 35- to 40-pound class. There was also good striper action under the schools of bunker on the south side behind the Town of Montauk. The striper and bluefish fishing has been slow off the ocean and Sound beaches. Scott also reported that the offshore action has been slow but weighed in a 212-pound bigeye tuna.

Frankie at Bernie's Bait and Tackle reported that some larger bluefish have moved into New York Bight and that fluke fishing in the Bight has been slow.

The blue crab fishing was good, with plenty of crabs being caught from the docks and by boat during moving water, and a night on the surface with spotlights. The snapper fishing remained excellent on all the traditional methods, with the snappers between 6 and 8 inches long. The larger snappers were caught using live peanut bunker. The Shinnecock Canal was very good for snappers, porgies and small sea bass.

A lot of triggerfish were caught on clams at the inlet jetties, bridges spanning the inlets and on buoy chains. Blowfish and small sea bass were mixed in with the triggerfish.

There is a lot of bait in the bays, squid and bunker offshore and bunker in the Sound, which is a very good sign for when the water turns cooler and clearer in September.

The freshwater fishing has slowed on the smaller lakes and ponds as they are covered with weeds due to the high water temperatures. The fishing on the larger, deeper lakes was good for largemouth bass, panfish and catfish.

Above article taken from New York Outdoors!

## Pennsylvania road crew paints over dead raccoon

Paint crews usually have a foreman to clear away dead animals. The crew didn't have a foreman that day.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa. — The "squirrelly" configuration of a western Pennsylvania road helped cause a state road crew to paint a double-yellow line over a dead raccoon.

Motorcyclist Sean McAfee snapped a photo of the mistake before it could be cleaned up and submitted it to the Tribune-Democrat of Johnstown.

He says he almost crashed, he was laughing so hard.

Penn DOT spokesman John Ambrosini says paint crews usually have a foreman on the job who clears away any dead animals before the paint-spraying truck equipment passes by. This crew didn't have a foreman and the equipment was too big to turn around in traffic, remove the animal and repair the paint. He says the "the squir-relly geometry" of the narrow road didn't help.

But the crew did try to stop the paint gun.



Being a native son of the State of Pennsylvania I can say from experience that most of the residents are brain dead.

#### **Staten Island** deer becoming a problem



Burgeoning deer populations have long been a bane of many upstate communities, but white-tailed deer are now making New York City – specifically Staten Island – the apple of their eye.

DEC conducted a survey in 2008 that counted 24 deer on the island, but wildlife officials believe the number could be much higher.

And while Staten Island is the greenest of New York's five boroughs, there still isn't much room for all of its residents to share with herds of hungry deer.

"At this point, the size of the deer population on Staten Island is presenting some problems for communities, including traffic hazards and the potential for increase in the presence of Lyme disease-carrying ticks," DEC Region 2 wildlife biologist Joseph Pane concluded. "The possibility of automobile accidents will increase as deer numbers increase. The public should refrain from feeding deer, an activity that is banned by state law." Pane's report indicated four areas in the borough identified as frequent haunts of deer – Arthur Kill Road, Amboy Road, South Avenue and Victory Boulevard.

The deer population is reproducing and should now be considered self-sustaining, Pane said. It's also difficult to obtain accurate figures because DEC is relying on resident reports and deer are highly mobile, he said. Since encouraging hunters or hiring sharpshooters is not feasible in the heavily populated area, DEC is working with other agencies to look at alternatives to keep the deer population in check before it becomes a serious issue.

"Most of the calls we receive are of sightings, not actual complaints," said DEC Region 2 spokesman Rodney Rivera. "At the present time, there are no requests to control the deer population. Any control activity would need to be authorized by the DEC. The department is working with New York State Department of Transportation and New York City Department of Parks and Recreation to identify issues related to deer presence." In the meantime, DEC does have guidelines to help residents and local officials cope with their cloven-hooved neighbors:

- Post appropriate signs to alert the driving public to the presence of deer in the areas identified in the survey.
- Install fencing in select location to prevent access by deer. DEC Region 2 staff can provide technical advice.
- Public health officials should promote public education about how to prevent tick bites, properly remove ticks and identify the symptoms of Lyme disease.
- The public should report any sightings of sick, emaciated or injured deer to DEC by calling (718) 482-4922

The deer aren't the only problem some residents of Staten Island are grappling with. The island is also seeing more and more wild turkeys roaming residential areas, and some of the gobblers have at times showed aggressive tendencies.

#### LONG ISLAND/NYC FISHING REPORTS

Bagged for two dozen trout (Suffolk County)

On April 19, ECO Joshua Sulkey received a call from a fisherman at Belmont State Park who stated that there was another fisherman there using five fishing rods. The complainant gave an accurate description and location of the fisherman in question. Sulkey quickly responded. He located the fisherman, who produced a valid freshwater fishing license. However, he had two brook trout over his legal limit. He was also using five rods but stated that he was fishing with his friend who was on the other side of the spillway. The friend tried to walk in the opposite direction but was directed to come back so he could be checked. That subject was unable to produce a freshwater fishing license. Sulkey also observed two shopping bags in the nearby bushes which he found to be filled with brook trout. The fishermen tried to blame it on three other fishermen who they claimed had left when they saw the officer arrive; however, the bags matched two other bags that the two fishermen had in their possession. Sulkey then interviewed another fisherman who was at the lake. He turned out to be the complainant who had called and he confirmed the officer's suspicions. The fishermen in violation had 24 brook trout between the two of them. They were issued summonses for possessing over the limit of trout, taking by means other than angling, and fishing without a freshwater license.

#### What!? How **Small** a Wave Can Capsize My Boat!?

At this point the wave contains enough energy to overcome a boat's righting moment.

So, what is that "certain percentage?" At only 30% of your boat's length, (about 6' from tough to crest for a 20' boat), things enter directly into the realm of high danger. At 60%, it is nearly certain that one wave will catch you and then you, the crew and the boat may well come to grief.

So, before trying to transit these inlets and bars that control much of our access to the open sea, think about just how much of a righting arm your boat can possibly have...

#### One Last Thought...

No one wants to "pile on" when a tragedy ensues. A family that loses 3 young members is in pain that is immeasurable. But lest more tragedy befalls us as a community, as you change the weight of the boat, you lower the center of gravity. This makes the boat "more tender", i.e., it reduces the righting arm – which makes the boat easier to capsize. With 27 people on a 34' boat, you have to wonder just how much that righting arm was reduced...

Note: there were Illustrations with this article but after numerous attempts I was unable to import them into the article.



Last week Patrick finally got his quality Bear that he has pursued for several years. Pat spent a week in Maine and he got the bruin on the third (3rd ) day.



