



Narragansett Surfcasters Newsletter

Volume II Issue II

February 2007

Who's Who

Officers

President: Dennis Rebelo
1st Vice President: Dave Peterson
2nd Vice President: Al Corrente
Secretary: Howard Mahady
Recording Secretary: Mark Hudzin
Treasurer: Alan Schmeid

Board Members

Nelson Valles
Robert Woody Woodard
Andy Lemar

Newsletter Editor

Tom Clune

Next Meeting: 2/20/07 7:00 p.m. Al Gags, Point Jude Lures & Dredging!

Our next meeting at the Narragansett Community Center will include a special presentation by Al Gags. He's coming back!! When Al Gags started up his new custom handcrafted wood lure operation, it did not take long for the surf fishing crowd to ask him when he was bringing back his famous needle-fish. It's back! The plug has Al's trademark great

paint job and top notch hardware. Also on hand will be Joe and Jeff Martins of Point Jude Lures. Joe has reproduced a number of classic, metal saltwater fishing lures that first appeared on the RI surf scene in the late 1940's. Many of these deadly designs have been out of the spotlight for some time, a Rhody classic. Make sure you mark your calendar and

come to the next meeting. This is a great opportunity for you to meet other surfcasters and share your good (and bad!) fishing stories.

Just added!

Captain Bryan A. Oakley from the Department of Geosciences at URI will also be discussing the south shore dredging process. Don't miss this meeting!!

Merchandise Sale

There are still some old style club shirts in XXL at the amazing blowout price of \$7.99! See Cliff at the next meeting to get yours. Don't forget about the new club t-shirts, sweatshirts and hooded sweatshirts that are available at the next meeting. Show your pride today!

Thank You Sponsors!

The Narragansett Surfcasters would like to thank the following businesses who have generously supported our club. Please stop by and pay them a visit!

Snug Harbor Marina
Quaker Lane Bait & Tackle
West Marine of Narragansett
Boondock's
Wildwood Outfitters

Banquet News March 20th

Come join us on March 20th for the 1st Annual Narragansett Surfcasters Banquet. The banquet will be held in place of our regular meeting at the Narragansett Community Center. This is a fun way for you to meet your fellow club members and enjoy some great food!

Tickets will be available for purchase at the next club meeting on 2/20 or use enclosed form to order your tickets via mail.

More details about the banquet will follow at the next club meeting.

We Need Your Help

- Do you own a business and have some raffle items you would like to donate?
- Do you have some fishing items that would make good raffle prizes?

We'll be holding a raffle at the March banquet to help raise money for the club. This is another great way for you to help out the club. See a club officer or board member if you are interested.

Pay Your Club Dues

Final Notice: Have you paid your dues? We still have members who have not paid their dues for this year. All members not paid by March 10, 2007 will forfeit their status as members.

Please mail your payment of \$25.00 to:
Narragansett Surfcasters
PO Box 3135
Narragansett, RI
02882



At last month's meeting, some members were chatting about eBay. For those of you who may have missed the Internet Skiff, e-Bay is an online auction site that allows you to buy and sell pretty much anything with people around the world. I have been an eBay member for over 8 years now and have never had a bad experience.

After our last meeting, I did a search for Needlefish on eBay and got back over 30 hits that included a set of 4 needlefish for \$14.99 and a single needlefish starting out at a penny. That's right, a penny. If you win the bid, the needlefish can be yours, plus shipping and handling of course.

There are great deals to be had on eBay, but just like any thing else, remember safety first! Do your homework and make sure you buy from a reputable member by checking their feedback. The closer to 100%, the better you chance you have at success.

How do I pay for things online?

The most popular and safest way to exchange money online is through a service called PayPal. PayPal is a service that is owned by eBay and is pretty easy to use. First you'll need

to setup an account with PayPal.com and enter in your personal information. Think of your PayPal account as a bank account, it can even pay you interest. Once you deposit money into your account, you can use that money to pay for your items electronically.

If you sell items on eBay, your winnings from that auction can be deposited into your PayPal account. You can use the money in your PayPal account to pay for other auction items, or have the money mailed or wired directly to you. You can even request a debit/credit card and use it just like your regular bank card at one of our great sponsors (see cover page for a list).

If you're not comfortable paying online, you can usually send a check or money order to the seller if they accept it. Less and less sellers are accepting checks, so you are better off learning how to pay online. Paying online has proven to be very safe and convenient.

Current statistics out right now say that you are more likely to be a victim of identify theft by somebody going through your mailbox at home than stealing your information online.

So what does this article have to do with fishing? First off, eBay is great place to find used gear that you might not be able to find around here. It also allows you to unload some of your own gear and make some money in the process.

What a great place to get a Van Staal at a Van Steal! So if you aren't out there fishing right now, why not give eBay a try? Here is how:

How Do I Sign Up for eBay?

1. Go to www.ebay.com
2. Click the register link at the top
3. Follow the instructions and you will be off and bidding

How Do I Sign Up For PayPal?

1. Go to www.paypal.com
2. Click the Sign Up link at the top
3. Choose the Personal Account option and follow the instructions.

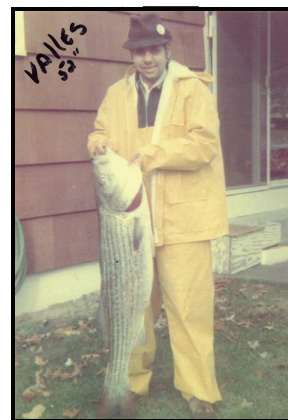
If you have any eBay questions, send them to Tom Clune at tom@tomclune.com and they will be answered in the next newsletter

Club History: Pictures Wanted

Board Member Nelson Valles has begun putting together a Narragansett Surfcasters album. This album will track the history of the club and will include photographs of members with their favorite catch as well as newspaper clippings and other materials that will showcase what a great club we have.

How great will it be to look at the album 5 years down the road? I'm not sure if we'll look any younger, but I know we will be smarter fishermen!

If you have any pictures that you want to donate to the album, feel free to give them to Nelson at the next club meeting on Tuesday 2/20.



Polo at Canonchet

At the January meeting, we discussed the subject of Polo coming to Canonchet Farm in Narragansett. The polo plan, proposed by a group of enthusiasts that have incorporated as the Narragansett Polo Club, would create a 9.3-acre polo field at Canonchet Farm. All told, the polo site would be about 20 acres, providing room for spectators, horses and a hospitality tent where catered food would be served. The club is seeking

a 20-year lease for the property and would host polo matches on Sunday afternoons, from May to October.

The 174-acre Canonchet property was obtained by eminent domain for open space, recreation and conservation. There are several environmental concerns from horse manure and urine contaminating nearby wetlands, to the loss of trees and wildlife, as well as traffic concerns. This area would lead runoff into the

river and has potential implications on the juvenile fish and other aquatic life in the area.

This is a complex issue that deserves further discussion. Hopefully we can address this again at the next meeting. In the meanwhile, if you are a Narragansett resident, do your best to be informed and pro-active on this very important issue.

Vacationing in New Hampshire This Summer?

If so, you may need to break out the wallet and purchase a salt water fishing license. New Hampshire is thinking about becoming the first state in New England to charge fisherman for a salt water fishing license.

To help cure their financial crisis, the New Hampshire Fish & Game Department is proposing annual fees that could be between \$15-30. It could be up to a \$500 fee for a char-

ter boat captain.

After doing a little research, I found that many coastal states require a saltwater license and can vary from state to state. My vacation last summer took me to Delaware where I didn't have to pay for a saltwater license, but I did have to pay \$10 to access the shore. In this case it was worth it to see a school of Porpoise swim by me one early morning when I was standing alone on the

rocks catching nothing but wind.

How lucky are we to live in Rhode Island where we can get to the water anytime we want with out pulling out our wallet? I know some people think they own the water, but we know the constitution (Article 1, Section 17) and are thankful somebody was thinking about us in 1843 when they drafted the Rhode Island Constitution.

Last Meeting In Review: "The History of the Needlefish"

January 16, 2007-We started the meeting with a presentation by Dennis Zambrotta. Dennis gave a insightful talk about the history and development of the modern needlefish. He also explained to us how the striper fishery on Block Island was instrumental in the popularity of this very successful lure.

Dennis discussed the time line of the needlefish from its earliest version, the Floyd Roman Sandee to the modern style needlefish in use today.

He also explained different strategies for fishing needlefish and his favorite colors. He concluded with a rundown of the various needlefish on the market today and how to best fish them. He stressed the need to be flexible and consider using different ideas and techniques. It was an excellent presentation that was very informative and interesting.

After the talk Don Guimelli of After-hours Plugs was on hand to show his new lineup of plugs for 2007.



Club members take a look at the sampling of needlefish plugs presented by Dennis Zambrotta at the last club meeting.

NARRAGANSETT SURFCASTERS

P.O. Box 3135
Narragansett, R.I. 02882

www.narragansettsurfcasters.com

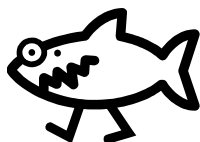
*Next Meeting: Tuesday February 20, 2007 7:00 p.m.
-Al Gags, Point Jude Lures & Dredging!*

Thank you for the feedback from the last newsletter. If you have any ideas for the newsletter, send me an email or see me at the next meeting.

Tom Clune

Newsletter Editor

tom@tomclune.com



1st Annual
Narragansett Surfcasters
Banquet

Tuesday, March 20th
at the
Narragansett Community Center
53 Mumford Road, Narragansett RI

\$10 Per Person

Purchase tickets at the February meeting or by mail

The banquet committee thanks all those who responded to last month's question about attendance for helping to plan this event.

Narragansett Surfcasters 1st Annual Banquet

Questions? Call (401) 475-0987 (Mark Hudzin)
Rather use email? Send questions to mhudzin@hotmail.com

Please print carefully

Member Name(s) _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City _____ State ____ Zip _____

Please send _____ tickets @ \$10 each

Enclosed is my check for \$ _____ (Payable to Narragansett Surfcasters)

Please include a self-addressed stamped envelope

Mail response to:

**Mark Hudzin
P.O. Box 96
Albion, RI 02802**