

East Bay Anglers

Newsletter for August 2010

Founded 1972

rifishshow.com

Our 38th year

Laptew to describe his work on the next seminar show

The Fishing Report

by Kevin Bettencourt

Fishing Committee Chairman

July continued to remind us that every year is different and in order to consistently land fish from shore or boat you must work hard at refining your skills during and after the fishing season.

A typical fishing season for us Bettencourt's begins in late April and ends in early December. During the June meeting Dave Pickering taught us that quality fish can be taken in January & February. Who would have guessed? We appreciate your insight & helpful tips Dave and I look forward to seeing you with my snow suit on in January!

With air temperatures consistently running in the high 80's to low 90's, water temps continued to rise in the bay during July making **Bass** fishing extremely challenging in the upper reaches of the bay. The bait also thinned out by late June early July although I did get confirmation that a large school of pogies entered the Providence River in late July. Unfortunately I did not hear of any bass being caught but I did get wind of 6 to 7 ft shark observed feeding on the pogies. No need to adjust your glasses, you read that correctly.

Anglers willing to make the run south had good numbers of large bass in the cooler waters between Elbow Ledge & Newport. The majority of the fish we landed in July were in the 35 to 45 ft depth. Steady producing areas included points just south of the # 4 can in Newport, Seal Rock, & Haycock's Ledge. Numerous schools of large bass were marked in the 50 to 70 ft depth by the # 2 can and east of Seal Ledge in Newport as well.

The areas mentioned above are still holding large numbers of bass as July comes to a close. Early mornings have been
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Meeting: August 11

Place: Riverside Sportsman's Club

Time: 6:30 PM Meal will be served

Business: 7:15 PM

Raffle (as usual altho Oscar is away)

Meal: Ravioli, Italian bread; salad

Program: Mike Laptew will describe and present some of the materials he has obtained this summer while working on EBA's January Seminar/Expo

Club newsletter now sent via e-mail

After numerous surveys and signups, this newsletter is being snail-mailed to only 11 members and guests. The other 27 copies went to members' e-mail. We also send selected newsletters to 300+ e-mails gleaned from Expo attendees.

Mike Laptew of North Kingston will speak at EBA's August meeting. He plans to tell us what kind of a show he is preparing for the 2011 Expo.

Basically, what Mike has in mind for the upcoming 26th seminar/expo is a review of the most outstanding video sequences from his 20 years of pioneering video work. Much of his work has been purchased by National Geographic, and some of it has actually been acquired by the U. S. Government. Mike has travelled to many odd corners of the world on assorted assignments for his clients - even visiting easternmost parts of Russia to film a remote fishing club.

Mike's most consistent work, however, has been right in our own back yard-- Block Island, Elizabeth Islands, Cuttyhunk and of course Narragansett Bay. It should be a stunning meeting!

Mike Laptew's videos -- 20 years of pioneering



Underwater fishing videos have been pioneered by Mike Laptew for 20 years.

So, have you ever fished these other parts of the bay?

*By Bruce Spooner,
Lakeville, Mass.*

Taunton River Bass Fishing

At the June meeting one of our members mentioned that striped bass were being caught in the Taunton River. His comment prompted me to investigate a portion of the river.

As of June 18 (but maybe not now) some good sized bass were being caught in the Taunton River between the public ramp off of Main Street in Somerset, MA all the way up to Shaw's Boat Yard in Dighton, MA. This stretch of the river is three to four miles long. Some of these fish were in the mid 30 pound range.

Small schools of pogies are holding in the area. Pogies have been found between Whale Rock and Shaw's Boat Yard.

A bass in the mid 30's was caught at the red buoy directly in front of the Somerset Ramp on a trolled large Creek Chub jointed Pike. Danny plugs are also being trolled. Many fishermen are using live pogies caught in the river. Others are using tube and worm.

As far as I know, there are no bluefish in the river. The water temperature in this stretch of river is about 68 to 70 degrees. I assume that if the pogies stay, so will the bass.

Many fishermen put in at the Somerset Boat Ramp. At low tide, be sure to use the left side of the ramp as you face the water. The right side is torn up by people driving their boats with large engines onto their trailers.

As you leave the ramp, bearing to the left brings you into the area mentioned earlier. You will first go through abutments for a railroad bridge. The bridge structure was taken down years ago. The water is deep here with no submerged things to hit that I know of.

As you pass by the abutments, stay to the left following the red buoys. The Taunton River bears to the left and goes on for miles, all the way to Bridgewater and Pembroke.

If you stay to the right, you will be in the Assonet River, which at times has good bass fishing. The river is not well marked, and you should be especially cautious at half tide and lower. The Assonet River has about one to one and one half miles of a deep, narrow channel. In the past I have seen holdover stripers up to fifteen pounds caught in February.

As you head up the Taunton River, follow the red buoys and fish from the mid channel to fifteen feet on the shallow side of the red buoys.

There are not many obstacles near the channel in the Taunton River up to Shaw's Boat Yard. Whale Rock might be covered on a moon tide. Be sure you know where it is. Some fishermen are getting pogies in the rip from Whale Rock.

Once you pass Shaw's Boat Yard on the left side going up the river the channel is not marked well. There are many narrow areas with large rocks. Caution should prevail here.

The bass migrate up the river at least as far as Taunton, MA. Large bass have been caught off some of the bridges in

Taunton. The river is tidal at least as far as Route 44 in Raynham. Some bass winter over especially in some of the deep holes in the narrower parts of the river.

Fresh water comes into the Taunton River from quite a few sources which makes for a strong current, especially where the river is narrow. The current is strong, especially above Shaw's Boat yard. I have seen people fishing with smaller Rapola swimming plugs catching both large mouth bass and smaller stripers.

Other fishing spots on the Taunton River

If you should go down river from the Somerset ramp, there will be two marinas on your right and the Fall River Country Club's golf course on your left. There is a cove along the southern part of the golf course just before you get to O'Connell's Boat Yard. The channel goes fairly close to shore in this cove and the fishing is very good at times. On the other side of the river, the cove just before you get to the second marina often has very good fishing. You will see a beach along the edge of this cove.

Just beyond this cove heading downriver is a red house right on the shore. There is a large rock in front of the house about 50 feet off the shore. This is often a good spot.

If you decide to fish this area, good luck.



Board votes to upgrade web site for 2011 season -- opens up to solicit change ideas from club members and other fisherman

<www.rifishshow.com>
<eastbayanglers.com>
<eastbayanglers.org>

These three web site addresses all take you to the same EBA web site created last year by web site designer and avid striped fisherman John Redmond. Our web site is actually hosted by John's web site: www.stripped-bass.com. When you realize that there are more than 40 pages in the EBA web site, we have to take our hats off to John for doing a phenomenal amount of work -- for mostly a pat on the back. In the commercial world, what he charged was a fraction of what the pros do. So, we owe John a debt of thanks. It helped sell tickets to the show.

Time to upgrade for 2011

The board has been hard at work dealing with the challenges of the 2011 show. Facing a down economy, and a down-market in fishing shows, we are working well in advance to buck these trends and recapture this activity. The novelty has worn off, the speakers are seen in many other places -- so we have to reach new people. Our web site has been useful in the past two years. Many younger fisherman get info there, and can buy tickets through Pay Pal. We want to get our site up and running by October 1. That means getting the show organized early and working on the site. Which means talking about it now.

Please check the site

About half of the club is internet-active. What we're asking you (and others who get these newsletters) is to tell us what you think works and what doesn't. That way, as we work with John Redmond on the changes we will benefit from your thoughts. Send them to Will at <wbarbo@cox.net>. And thanks for your effort!

What sites do you visit?

There is also the 'inter-linking of our site with other fishing sites. What sites do you visit regularly? Which ones do you think we should link with? If you send these ideas along, they would also help improve the EBA site! Thanks!

Page 1 of the EBA web site. Have you explored the site? Do you have ideas?

The screenshot shows the homepage of the East Bay Anglers website. The browser window title is "East Bay Anglers, since 1972 - Mozilla Firefox". The address bar shows "http://eastbayanglers.com/club/". The page has a blue and green color scheme. At the top, there's a navigation menu with links: Home, History, 2010 EBA Fishing Expo, Newsletter, Join EBA, Friends, Awards, Photos, Striper Wars, and About Us. Below the menu is a large banner for "Ticket Sales Extended until Friday January 9" with details about purchasing tickets. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled "25th Fishing Expo by East Bay Anglers!" and includes information about the date (January 10, 2010 @ 2PM), location (Barrington High School), and a special anniversary prize. The right column is titled "Special Guests Mike Laptew & Crazy Alberto!" and describes their upcoming shows. At the bottom, there are six small thumbnail images showing various fishing-related scenes.

This is the lead page of the East Bay Angler web site. It is reached either through <eastbayanglers.com> or <.org> or through the ticket buying site: <www.rifishshow.com>. The site has nearly 40 pages of material and links to other key web sites in the fishing universe. It was created by John Redmond -- who did a fantastic job on it.

Fishing Report (Cont.)

productive but keep in mind my notes from June's newsletter regarding the fish feeding an hour and a half before and after the change of the tide. For us this has remained the most productive time to land quality fish.

Yo-yoing fresh pogies without question proved to be the most productive method for landing large to trophy size bass in July. Well known & respected local Capt. Billy Silvia landed a 58 pound cow in early July using this method. Club members interested in seeing the pictures of Capt. Billy's monster bass should visit his website, www.dezulfishing.com. Once on the site you can locate the gallery by clicking on the [Gallery here...](#) link underneath the heading **Fishing 2010 with Capt. Billy**. The pictures of the 58 pounder are located on page 12 of the gallery. Congratulations Billy!

Although I don't do a lot of fishing from shore I know some of our club members do and I along with the rest of the club are interested in hearing from you. Where have you been fishing? What methods have you been using to catch fish (plugging, eeling, chunking)? Do you have any results that you care to share with the club? I would like to expand the monthly fishing report to include shore fishing as well as fresh water fishing. Anyone interested in providing feedback before the release of

each monthly newsletter is urged to chat with me during the August meeting.

Speaking of August, I recommend night fishing, either chunking fresh pogies or drifting live eels. Both methods should produce this time of year.

Scup fishing remains consistent. I received reports of large scup at the Bristol Narrows although I have not had a chance to confirm these reports. A few of the more productive areas for catching keeper scup in the upper reaches of the bay include Rumstick, Colts Park, Ohio Ledge, Warwick Light, Prudence & Patience Island. If you are fishing the south shore I recommend Fort Adams, Beavertail, & Point Judith Light.

Fluke fishing has picked up with confirmed reports of large fluke to 8 pounds being taken at the Jamestown Bridge, Dutch Island, Austin Hollow, & Beavertail. Fresh squid strips, whole squid, mummies, and jigging have been steady producers for these larger fluke.

Where are the Bluefish? Does anyone know? For us bass anglers it's been a good year thus far without interference from the blues. I read a report recently that there were schools of bluefish by the Navy Base in Newport however in our travels from the Warren River to Newport & back we have yet to see a school of feeding bluefish on

the surface. Early in the month we saw a few schools of feeding blues in the channel in front of Newport but the fish drove the bait (sand eels) south. Perhaps other club members have a bead on the blues and can provide feedback for our club members in search of them?

For those that missed the July meeting Dave Pickering provided us with an excellent presentation. I'm sure I speak for the majority of the club members that attended the meeting when I say we are looking forward to seeing what Dave has in store for us at the upcoming Fishing Expo to be held in late January.

East Bay Anglers is urging club members to get out and fish! Take your kids or even your grand kids fishing. We have a handful of active fisherman within the club but we would like to see more club members participate. After all we are a fishing club. If you are fishing but not actively involved, get involved. A great way to participate is in our monthly fishing tournaments. Results of June's fishing tournament are below.

Shore Division Winner

Scup – John Mazurak – 15 ½ inches

Sea Bass – John Mazurak – 13 ¼ inches

Boat Division Winners

Bass – Kevin Bettencourt - 48 inches

Fluke – Brad Ellsworth – 26 inches

Scup – Albert Bettencourt – 16 inches

Sea Bass – Brad Ellsworth – 20 inches



Bettencourts score again!

We've all heard the griping about how hot the water is and this and that. Well, Kevin and father Albert don't complain. They just go catch fish. Here we see (left) Kevin with son Shane and Shane's 42 pound bass. A few days earlier Shane had another 40. The next day, Nathan (right) shown with Grampa Albert landed a 31. In both instances, I think it's obvious that the fish are heavier than the anglers that landed them! Nice going boys!

If you want to learn more about the where, when, what, and how of these catches, you'll find that Kevin and Albert are very generously forthcoming about these data. Just ask. (Will)