

The River News

The Official Newsletter of the Delaware River Fishermen's Association

Vol. 31, No. 4

July/August 2019

Farewell - My Final Newsletter

Final Newsletter

After 15 years as editor of The River News it is time for me to resign as editor. I have truly enjoyed doing the newsletter and I have learned a tremendous amount of information during that time. Not only have I learned about the river and how to fish it, but I also learned a lot about the club, our members and what it takes to run an organization like this one.

However, I am now at a point where it is more of a chore to do than it is a pleasure and I find that I can no longer handle the task of newsletter editor. For the last three years I have asked for someone to take this assignment over, but to no avail. Hopefully, someone will step forward.

I will still act as membership secretary, webmaster, take care of the AOTY standings and tally up the tournament results, but I will no longer do the newsletter.

It has been a real pleasure and an honor to edit The River News.

Rick Mawson

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Presidents Note

I started fishing the river in March again this year targeting Shad and Striped Bass mainly. I did try for some Walleye this year. I still have a lot to learn about that species. Just as a lot of the other members who enjoy the sport, nothing feels better than being on the water again.

Catch a few fish, have some great conversations and laughs with a fellow fisherman, just have a relaxing day.

The people who are catching fish are posting on different media venues. Facebook and Emails are full with photographs of all kinds of people holding up fish for other people to see. I am just as guilty as the next person who says, I caught this great fish and here I am holding it up for all to see. Lately I have taken photographs of the catches made on my boat and then erased them after a quick review.

Now I'm thinking nobody takes a photo of a bad day fishing. When you catch nothing. You spend hours of time and a lot of money for little or no gain. Your either cold or sunburn, or wet from a miserable day in the rain. That's the photo you need. Take a photo when you tear up your boat motor on the debris in the river. Let that be a reminder of how crazy you really are.

At least take the photo of you and a friend out fishing on the river on that often time when the fish are

not biting but the conversation is good, the laughs are plenty and you're having a relaxing day.

John Pedrick

Save The Date

Treasurer Eileen Kicinski announced that the Club Holiday Party will be held on Wednesday, December 18. More information will follow in the next newsletter.

Important Dates

**Wednesday, July 31, 7 PM,
Monthly Meeting:** Silver Lake Nature Center, 1306 Bath Road, Bristol, PA

**Sunday, August 4, 6AM, DRFA
Bass Tournament:** Neshaminy Marina, Croyden, PA

**Saturday, August 24, 6 am,
Catfish Tournament:** Neshaminy Marina, Croyden, PA

**Wednesday, August 28, 7 PM,
Monthly Meeting:** Silver Lake Nature Center, 1306 Bath Road, Bristol, PA

**Saturday, September 14, 7am,
Bass Tournament:** Byram Access Ramp, Byram, NJ

**Saturday, September 28, 7am
Bass Tournament:** Curtin's Marina, Burlington, NJ

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Minutes for May 29 DRFA Meeting

The May 29 meeting was called to order by President John Pedrick around 7:20 pm, due to travel delays from a severe storm that evening. Approximately 15 members were eventually in attendance.

The members in attendance voted to eliminate the Bank Tournament in 2020 due to a lack of interest.

Treasury: A May 29 balance of \$9,724.27 was reported. That compared favorably to the balance of \$7,942.92 from May 2018.

Youth Activity: The date for the 2019 Youth Fishing Derby was not confirmed as of the May meeting but has since been finalized as Sunday July 14, from 8am until 1pm.

Environmental: John Pedrick provided an update on the continuing efforts of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries with regard to protecting forage fish and slowing the decrease in the striped bass biomass. Efforts are underway to have shad and herring managed under the Magnus-Stevenson Act. The current focus is on a pending House Bill 2236, The Forage Fish Conservation Act.

Pete Antoniewicz gave a presentation on forecasting fishing conditions, water conditions, and weather.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Phil Kameniecki for \$25.

Minutes for June 26 DRFA Meeting

The June 26 meeting was called to order by President John Pedrick around 7:15 pm, with 21 members in attendance.

Treasury: The June 26 balance was reported at \$9,834.27.

Youth Activities: The due date for applications for the 2019 Youth Fishing Derby is July 1. Members were advised to contact Chick Bay. The event is scheduled to be held on Sunday July 14, from 8am until 1pm.

Trustees: No activity to report.

Tournament Activity: The June 22 Gloucester City bass tournament was cancelled due to poor water conditions. The tournament will be made up as a September 28, 7:00 am bass tournament at Curtin's Marina. Discussion was held about the possibility of holding tournaments at a local lake in the event of poor river conditions, but some members thought that contradicted the purpose of the club and the club tournament rules.

Other Business: Members were reminded that the new bylaw changes to be voted on this Fall will be posted on the club website. If someone cannot access the website, hard copies will be available at the club meetings.

Environmental: John Pedrick noted that changes on stripers and shad would probably come down from the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission, based on poor fishery stocks surveys.

John read a letter from Senator Bob Casey regarding pending rules for E15 fuel. The issue is still to be decided in Congress. Boating industry sources warn against the use of anything higher than 10 percent ethanol in marine engine fuel systems. Members discussed their experiences and warnings on the E15 controversy.

A member asked if there was any word about pollution from the runoff from the South Philly refinery. No one had a definitive answer on that.

Fishing Reports: The word from Frank Beck, Ron Soto, and Joe Newton was that "Falls Township

Lake is alive and well." They reported catching 8 to 10 fish a day there on multiple trips.

The 50/50 drawing of \$43 was won by John Pedrick. New club member Michael Eckstein won the follow-up drawing for a \$10 Wawa gift card donated to the club by our new insurance representative at the Michael Pigott Insurance Agency. The meeting adjourned at 8:20 pm.



Annual DRFA Raft Trip

Any club member interested in joining this year's raft trip between Staircase Rapids and Matamoras/Port Jervis should talk to Pete Antoniewicz for details at the July meeting or call him at 609-751-7545. We will begin looking at water conditions at the start of August pick a target date based on favorable weather and water conditions. Because there are two Sunday club tournaments in August we might need to look at Tuesday dates instead of Monday dates on the weeks of August 5 and August 25.



March 30 Bass Tournament Results

Twenty-seven members participated in the bass tournament and six members weighed in a fish. In first place was Mike Nucero with a 2.66 lb., 17-inch bass. Second place went to Scott McDonough with a 1.74 lb., 14.5-inch fish and third place was won by Rick Gasper weighing in a 1.59 lb., 14.5-inch bass. Casey McDonough in fourth with a 1.45 lb., 14-inch shad, Gregg Southrey in fifth, 1.06 lb., 13.25-inch bass and Anthony Seliga sixth, .99 lb., 12.5-inch bass.

No pictures are available for this tournament.

Shad Tournament Results

Sixteen members fished in the shad tournament and 10 members weighed in a shad

First place was won by Mike Nucero with a 4.04 lb., 22.25-inch shad. In second was Ron Soto with a 3.75 lb., 22.75-inch fish and in third was George Hoffman, 3.73 lb., 21.25 inches.

No pictures are available.

Bank Tournament Results

Twelve of 13 members in the bank tournament weighed in a fish.

First place went to John Pedrick with a 9.82 lb., 26.5-inch catfish.



In second place was Frank Beck with a 7.04 lb., 25.5-inch catfish.



Third place went to George Hoffman with a 6.52 lb., 24-inch catfish



Total weight of all fish caught in the bank tournament was 51.82 lbs. and total length was 251.5 inches.

July 20 Catfish Tournament Results

Eight members fished in the tournament in 100-degree heat and seven of them weighed in a catfish

First place went to Chick Bay with a 7.82 lb., 26.25-inch catfish.



2019 DRFA Tournament Schedule

All DRFA Club tournaments are free (There are no club fees; however, ramp, launch and/or parking fees may apply. There will be a voluntary \$10.00 pool with a 100% payout to pool participants for the three heaviest pool fish {60%, 30% and 10%} at tournament's end) and open to dues paying DRFA members only. Members accrue points for the Angler of the Year competition based on their finish in the nine regular club events. New members may register on the morning of an event, before check-in time (except for the Shad Tournament). Weigh-in is at the time specified. Late entries will not count.

Always check the DRFA Web site or the Tournament Hotline (267 934-2148) the night before the event to learn about any possible rescheduling or relocation due to water or weather conditions.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Time</u>
8/04	Bass	Neshaminy Marina, PA,	6 am to 12 pm
8/24	Catfish	Curtin's Marina, NJ	6 am to 12 pm
9/14	Bass	Byram Access, NJ	7 am to 1 pm
9/28	Bass	Curtin's Marina, NJ	7 am to 1 pm
10/12	Bass	Bull's Island, NJ	7 am to 1 pm

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Taking second Mike Nucero with a 5.43 lb., 25.25-inch fish



Third place went to Shari Bijaczyk with a 4.81 lb., 21.75-inch catfish.



Youth Fishing Derby & Picnic

Once again, the youth fishing and barbeque at the Pennsylvania Yacht Club was another huge success

There were enough fish to go around and more than enough food. Everybody had a wonderful time and left with a smile



Youth participants with their trophies and T-shirts



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DRFA Bass Tournament

Sunday, August 4 – 6 am to 12 pm - Neshaminy State Marina, Croydon, PA

I- 95 to Street Rd – East on Street Rd to State Rd – Turn left past Neshaminy Creek to

Traffic light – Cedar Av – turn right to River Rd – right to 4th Av – left to marina

All participants Must wear a PFD while the Gas engine is running.

Failure to wear a PFD will result in a warning on the 1st offense and disqualification on subsequent offenses

RULES:

- All participants must check in during the hour preceding start time.
- There is no entry fee: however, ramp, launch and/or parking fees may apply. There is a voluntary \$10.00 Pool.
- Only paid members of the D.R.F.A., and qualifying family members *, may participate and weigh-in fish. (The most recent membership list will be present at weigh-in.)
- Only (1) legal fish of the specified species per person will be weighed. The heaviest fish will determine the winner.
- All fish must be alive at weigh-in. All fish will be released after weigh-in.
- In the event of a tie in weight, the longest fish will determine the winner.
- The fish must have been caught on that day during the hours of the tournament.
- The fishing area will be limited to the part of the Delaware River and its tributaries that can be reached by boat from the Starting Access Ramp. Shore fishing is permitted.
- Weigh-in is at scheduled end time. Those arriving late for weigh-in will not be permitted to weigh-in fish.
- Only legal fishing methods of the States of New Jersey and Pennsylvania may be used.
- Live Bait is permitted.
- The tournament judge will have final say in all disputes.

Tournament Hotline: 267-934-2148

Tournament Coordinator: Mike Nucero 267-357-1799

PRIZES: 100% payout on day of tournament.

All anglers weighing in fish, no matter where they place, will accumulate points towards the
"Dave Bryant Memorial Angler of the Year Contest"

*Qualifying family members can only participate if a Family Membership has been purchased. Qualifying family members include any member of the immediate family residing at that home and any immediate children, up to the age of 16. Grandchildren up to the age of 16 also qualify no matter where they live



DRFA Catfish Tournament

Saturday, August 24 – 6 am to 12 pm – Curtin's Marina, Burlington, NJ

I- 95 to Rte #413 – East on Rte 413 across the B/B Bridge to the circle around the circle to W Broad St proceed to Tatham St – Turn left to E Pearl St turn right across the creek to Marina on your left.

All participants Must wear a PFD while the Gas engine is running.

Failure to wear a PFD will result in a warning on the 1st offense and disqualification on subsequent offenses

RULES:

- All participants must check in during the hour preceding start time.
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Tournament Hotline: 267-934-2148

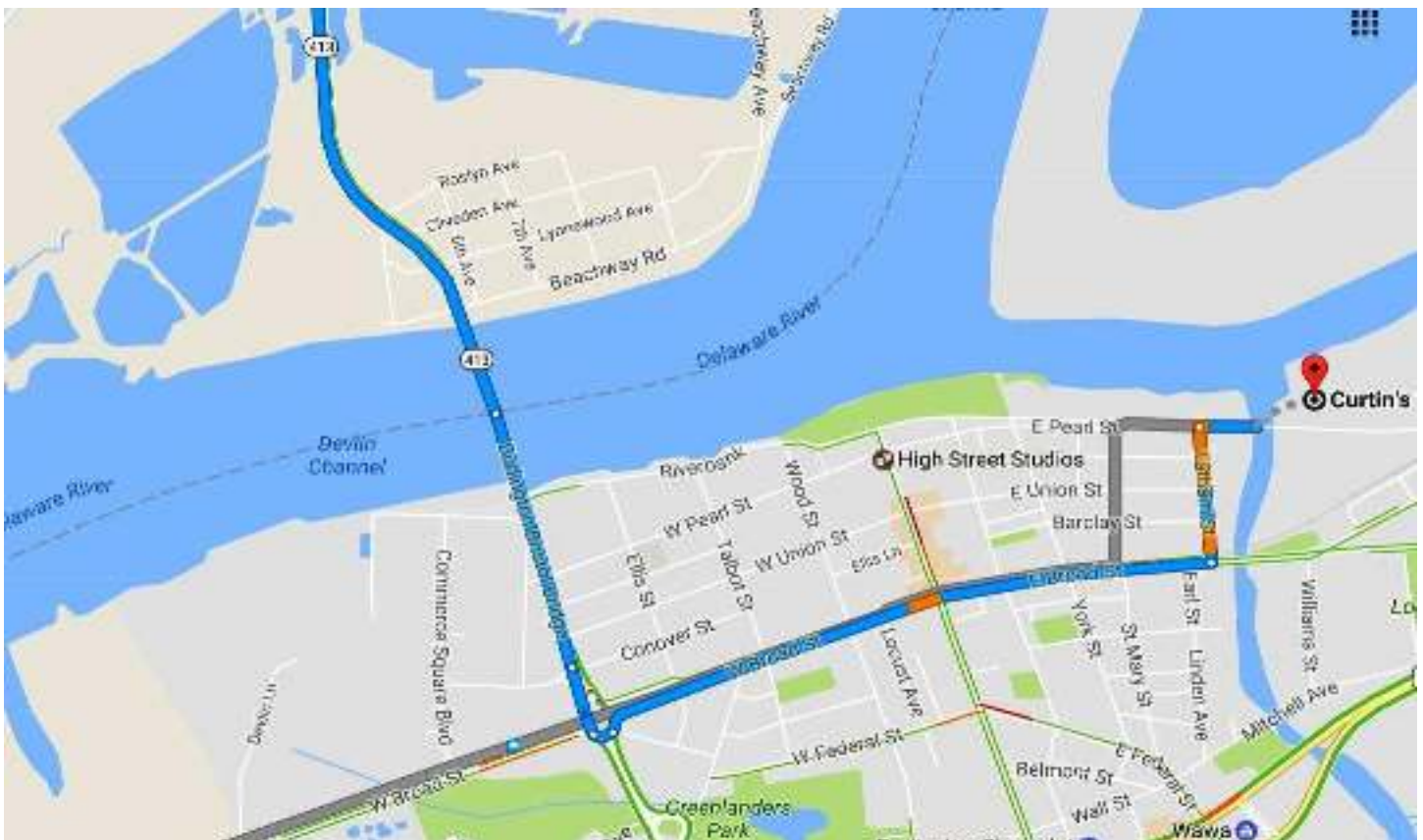
Tournament Coordinator: Mike Nucero 267-357-1799

PRIZES: 100% payout on day of tournament.

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*Qualifying family members can only participate if a Family Membership has been purchased. Qualifying family members include any member of the immediate family residing at that home and any immediate children, up to the age of 16. Grandchildren up to age of 16 also qualify.



DRFA Bass Tournament
Saturday, September 14 – 7 AM to 1 PM
Byram NJ Access Ramp

New Rule: All participants Must wear a PFD while the Gas engine is running.

- All participants must check in during the hour preceding start time.
- There is no entry fee: however, ramp, launch and/or parking fees may apply. There is a voluntary \$10.00 Pool.
- Only paid members of the D.R.F.A., and qualifying family members *, may participate and weigh-in fish. (The most recent membership list will be present at weigh-in.)
- Only one (1) Bass (Legal size) per person will be weighed. The heaviest fish will determine the winner.
All fish must be alive at weigh-in. All fish will be released after weigh-in.
- In the event of a tie in weight, the longest fish will determine the winner.
- The fish must have been caught on that day during the hours of the tournament.
- The fishing area will be limited to the part of the Delaware River and its tributaries that can be reached by boat from the Byram NJ Access Ramp. Shore fishing is permitted.
- Weigh-in is at scheduled end time. Those arriving late for weigh-in will not be permitted to weigh-in fish.
- Only legal fishing methods of the States of New Jersey and Pennsylvania may be used.
- The tournament judge will have final say in all disputes.

Tournament Hotline: 609-466-7719

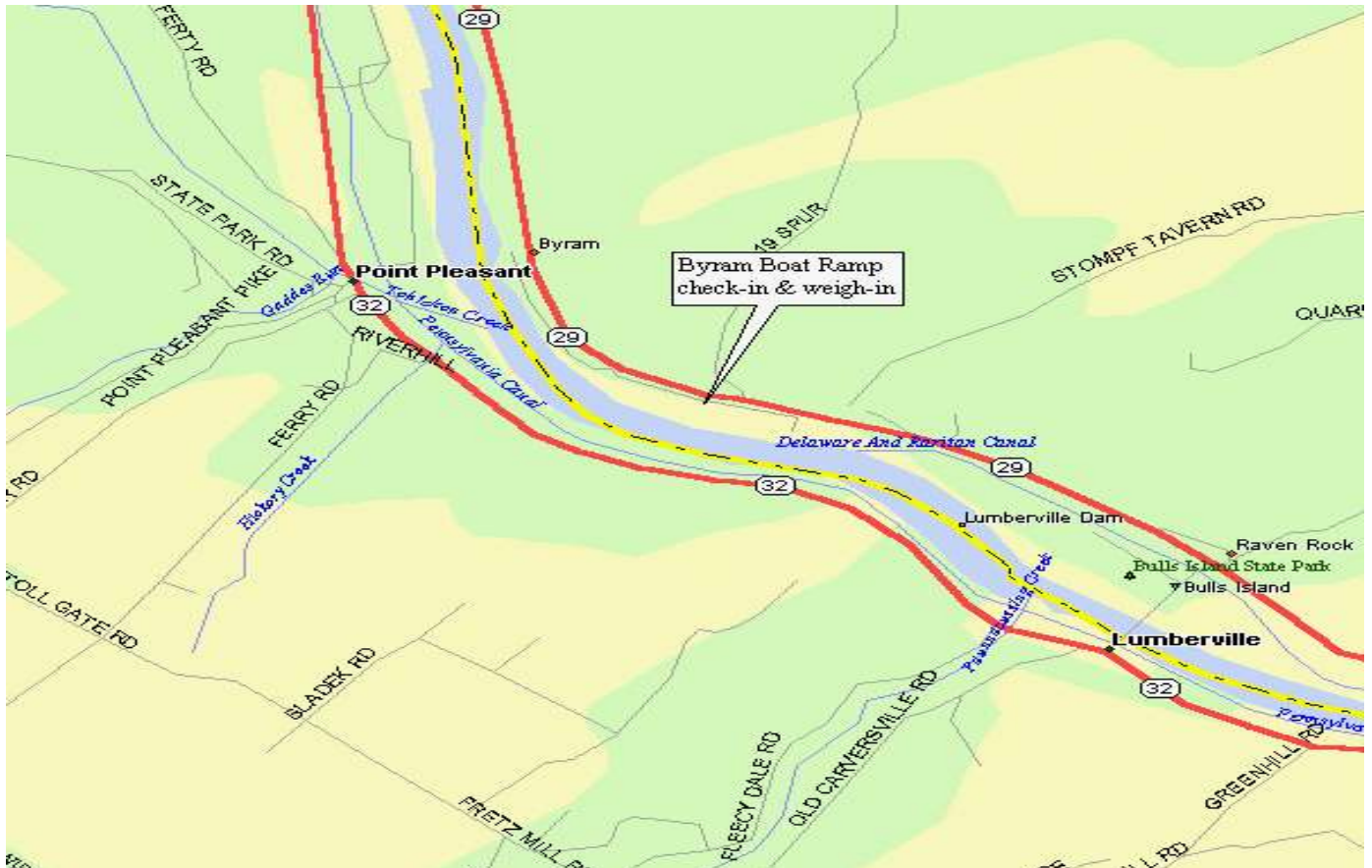
Tournament Coordinator: Steve Steinmetz 609-868-4216

PRIZES: 100% payout on day of tournament.

All anglers weighing in fish, no matter where they place, will accumulate points towards the

“Dave Bryant Memorial Angler of the Year Contest”

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The Delaware River Fishermen's Association
P.O. Box 4739
Philadelphia, PA 19134



JULY/AUGUST 2019 ISSUE

- **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**
- **TOURNAMENTS RESULTS**
- **YOUTH DERBY PICTURES**
- **TOURNAMENT INFORMATION**

Also Visit our Web site

www.drfishermen.com

THE RIVER NEWS is the bimonthly newsletter of the Delaware River Fishermen's Association. The DRFA typically meets the last Wednesday of each month, 7:00 pm, at the Silver Lake Nature Center, 1306 Bath Road, Bristol, PA. All interested sportsmen and women are invited to attend and join the organization.

PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SUPPORTING BUSINESS MEMBERS!

Silver Lake Nature Center, 1306 Bath Road, Bristol, PA, 235 acres of woods, lakes, marshes & meadows, 4.5 miles of trails
The Ike Foundation, 625 N Main Street, Elmer, NJ 08318 - Our mission is to get more kids fishing and in the outdoors,
Phila Boat Supply, 8900 State Road, Phila, PA 19136 – 215-332-5117-We carry a full line of new & [used boats](#), motors & parts
The Fegley Law Firm, 301 Oxford Valley Rd, Suite 402A, Yardley, PA – 215-493-8287, Business, Employment & Personal Injury law.
H & L Live Bait and Tackle, 78 East Bridge St, Morrisville, PA. 215-295-1400, a large variety of fresh, live bait
Tow Boat US, 32 Kirkwood Circle, Brigantine, NJ 08203, Delaware River Service Package Available. 609-517-2822.
White Oak Ice Co., 350 State Road, Bensalem, PA 19020. Self Service Crushed Ice, Blocks of Ice - 215-639-1080.
Gasper Contracting, Where your home ideas become reality, Philadelphia, Montgomery & Bucks Counties - 215-805-7360
Mc Keown's Automotive Services, 2525 Street Road, Bensalem, Pa 19020 (215) 639-4887 – State Inspection, Emissions.
Clayton Hunting & Fishing, 660 Easton Rd, Horsham, PA, 215-672-6060 – for all your hunting, fishing, archery & firearm needs

Associate Members

South Jersey Bass Club Association
Delaware Riverkeeper Network