

Pioneer Valley Boat & Surf Club Meeting

Wednesday April 5, 2017

Regular meeting 7:30

www.pioneervalleyboatandsurfclub.org

This month's speaker will be Richard Hartley. Richard is the warm water fisheries biologist for the Massachusetts division of fisheries and wildlife. Mr. Hartley's presentation will be an overview of 50+ years of history of the division's freshwater sport fishing awards program where anglers are awarded pins for catching trophy fish by weight or length.

Last month's speaker was Captain Jerry Sparks. Jerry is out of Rhode Island in which he guides and charters fishing trips for striped bass and bluefish in a kayak. Jerry talked about fishing with different lures and brought in some clothing for us to see. His talk was on "Skinny Water Fishing Salt Ponds and Rivers". Most of his fishing is done in a kayak. Jerry had an excellent presentation enjoyed by our members.

Please pay your dues for this year's membership to Don Prior, our treasurer. The dues are \$30.

50/50 raffle takes place every meeting. Special thanks to Roy Britton for running this event. Thank you goes to Ken Adams along with Peter Jezouit for running the snacks and coffee.

Ray Nacewicz will have raffle tickets for our clubs largest fund raiser. This will be for the fishing trip on "The Ernit" captained by Jim Puhala. We thank Jim again for donating this trip to our club. All members are encouraged to sell at least \$10 worth of tickets. This drawing will take place at our April meeting. Please bring in all tickets sold to this meeting.

The 8th annual Agawam fishing and hunting swap took place on March 12th. The show was held at the Polish American Club in Feeding Hills, Mass. I would like to Thank Ray Nacewicz and all the other members for manning our booth. Ray will report the details of this event at the April meeting

Our club banquet was held April 1, 2017 at the Cavalier restaurant in Chicopee, Mass. Hartford surf club joined us for this night of camaraderie and fun. Hartford surf club beat our club in the annual fish contest of 300lbs. to our club's 260. Special thanks goes to Tom Misiewicz for making the plans with the Cavalier restaurant. The food was fantastic! Thanks to Jim McKeough who purchased many gifts for the super raffle. Thank you to Mike DiSanto for donating many plugs to the raffle table. Thanks to all who donated to the raffle! The member of the year award went to Rich Cotti. Rich does the fish slips, is on the board of directors, and 2 years ago helped with a fund raiser for our club along with his wife Maureen who painted a beautiful picture that was raffled off. Congratulations Rich! Len Colson was presented with the Master Angler award. Johanna Adams and Len Brennan were presented Certified Angler awards. Fishing awards were presented to the following 1st place winners. All fish caught in the top 3 are:

Boat fish, STRIPED BASS: 1- Rich Cotti 35lbs, 2 -Kevin O'Connor 26lbs 8oz., 3- Don Prior 15lbs. 3oz. ; BLUEFISH: 1- Kevin O'Connor 17lbs 3oz., 2-Don Prior 13lbs 1oz., 3-Rich Cotti 12lbs.; FLUKE: 1-Rich Cotti 5lbs., 2-Don Prior 4lbs 8oz., 3-Bob Ruzala 4lbs 3oz.; SEA BASS: 1-Don Prior 3lbs 8oz., 2-Vic Narducci 3lbs 5oz., 3-Steve Andras 3lbs 5oz.

Surf fish, STRIPED BASS: 1-Ken Adams 28lb 2oz., 2-Bob Kelley 22lbs 8oz., 3-Rich Cotti 21lbs 8oz.; BLUEFISH: 1 Ken Adams 16lbs 8oz., 2-Mark Zabawa 13lbs 9oz., 3-Jim McKeough 13lbs 3oz.

Junior Awards went to Tim Nacewicz. Tim caught a SEA BASS 3.8lbs, FLUKE 3lbs.

Peter Jezouit has the following items for sale: Siwash and treble replacement hooks w/bucktails; 2-Light saltwater spinning rods; 8 weight fly rod, reel, and line. If interested see Peter at the next meeting.

FISH REPORTS: Rich Cotti and Len Brennan caught MANY trout at Cape Cod Ponds. Paul Ruzala caught an 8lb 6oz. Largemouth bass that was weighed in at Red Top Fishing Tackle in Bourne alive and was released in the same pond where caught. Mass. division of fisheries has been stocking over 500,000 trout this spring in the Valley district. Most fish are 14 inches or better in size. Rainbows, Browns, Brook and Tiger trout have been stocked. Fishing is picking up, so start fishing!

Future Events & Meetings:

April 5, 2017 – Regular meeting, speaker Richard Hartley Mass. warm water fisheries biologist. Speaking on the Mass. angler awards.

May 3, 2017 - Regular meeting, speaker Matt Ayer, Recreational Fisheries Biologist.

June 7, 2017 – Regular meeting

June 26, 2017 – Fishing trip on Lucky Lady charters

August 19, 2017 – Red Cliff Summer get together and picnic, South Hadley, Mass.

September 6, 2017 – Regular meeting, speaker Captain Jack Houghton, Daddy Mac Lures

October 4, 2017 – Regular meeting, speaker Bill Hurley

November 1, 2017 – Regular meeting, speaker Dave Pickering

December 6, 2017 – Christmas party, pizza, Yankee Swap

Sincerely,

Bob Ruzala

President

