



RISAA
Events & Meetings

All events and meetings can be found online at www.risaa.org/calendar.html

July 18 • 5:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee fishing at Quonny Breachway

July 21 • 7:00 AM RISAA Party Boat Fluke Fishing Trip- members only

July 21 • 6:00 AM Kayak Committee fishing at Kings Beach, Newport

July 24 • 6:30 PM Board of Directors

July 30 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

Aug 11 • RISAA's Annual Adult/Junior Party Boat Fishing Trip

Aug 13 • 4:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee fishing at Quonny Breachway

Aug 18 • 1:00 PM Kayak Committee fishing at Kings Beach, Newport

Aug 25 • 4:00 PM Fly Fishing Committee fishing at Quonny Breachway

Aug 27 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

Sept 24 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

Oct 27 RISAA Party Boat Tautog Fishing Trip -members only

Oct 29 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

Nov 26 • 7:00 PM RISAA Monthly Seminar

Dec 17 • 7:00 PM RISAA Annual Meeting

March 22-24, 2019 New England Saltwater Fishing Show

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Notes from the
President's Desk
Stephen Medeiros



Thanks & Poachers

While things at the RISAA office is always busy, June and March are just crazy. That's because June involves the annual Take-A-Kid Fishing Day and the 3-Day Youth Fishing Camp and then March is the Fishing Show. My wife always says I'm "hard to live with" during those months because of the nearly nonstop phone calls and emails, I don't sleep regular and I'm usually at my desk from 5AM to 7PM almost every day. (She deserves a medal)

As each of those events arrive, I'm always mentally and physically exhausted and always say, "That's it, I'm done after this one."

But in the days following each event I start to get emails, phone calls, and even thank you cards by mail. They come from other RISAA members, exhibitors at the fishing show, member volunteers and many from parents whose children were at Take-A-Kid Fishing or the Fishing Camp. Then I think.... OK, I'll do it one more year!

With that said, I also realize that I'm only doing the background work, and in reality, NONE of it could be done without so many RISAA members who always step up and volunteer to help make it all successful.

As my way of saying thank you I have set up several pages in this news issue listing the names of everyone who took part in Take-A-Kid Fishing Day (28-30) and the Fishing Camp (40-41). You should all be proud of yourselves for helping to expose children to what fishing is all about! Your efforts have made an experience for a child that he/she might always fondly remember.

Thank you!

PARTYBOAT POACHERS

On Wednesday, May 30, Massachusetts Environmental Police Officers inspected a head/party boat in New Bedford that had just returned from a fishing trip in Buzzards Bay. Thirty-five of the passengers were

found to have 560 pounds of black sea bass over the legal limit, 33 of which were under the 15-inch minimum size. Officers also located 90 pounds of scup over the limit, an undersize striped bass and one undersized tautog. Multiple citations were issued.



The catch was donated to the New Bedford Salvation Army.

While I don't know the name of the boat involved, this incident is really a gross violation and just disgusting.

There's no excuse for poaching like this. The individual anglers involved are thieves. The crew of the boat had to know what was going on and they are just as responsible. I don't know how the laws in MA run, but I think the crew of a party or charter boat should be held responsible for any illegal fishing while the fishermen are under their control.

I am pleased that the party/head boats in Rhode Island run trips that adhere to the law. The same holds true for nearly all of the charter boats.

There should be a strict, zero-tolerance poaching policy on all for-hire vessels.

And for the rest of us, whether fishing from boat or shore, we need to obey the fishing regulations. Sometimes it hurts to release that fish when it's only 1/2 inch under the limit, but you (and everyone) will benefit in the long run.