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# COASTAL FISHERMAN

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There have been a surprising number of big wahoo brought back to the dock this season and none have been heavier than the one caught last Friday by Heath Berger of Dagsboro, DE (far right). Heath was fishing on the "Stress-Reel-ief" with John Meyers and Capt. Fred Winward when he hooked the 65 1/4-inch, 93.4 lb. speedster while trolling a ballyhoo dressed up with a purple and black Joe Shute lure between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. For Heaviest Wahoo of the Season honors, the wahoo just edged out the 93.0 pounder caught on the "Billfisher" last Saturday in the Baltimore Canyon by angler, Danny Gough. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.





Conner Jezierski hooked his first white marlin while fishing on the "Haulin n Ballin" with his dad, Aaron Jezierski, Capt. Howard Lynch and mate Burro Gonzalez. The white ate a trolled ballyhoo in the Poor Man's Canyon where Conner also released his first tuna.

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Jake Allnutt is all smiles after catching the heaviest sheephead of the year in Ocean City, a 14 lb. 13 oz. brusier, while fishing with clams at the South Jetty. Jake weighed his catch at Hook'em & Cook'em Outfitters.

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Big wahoo have been coming in left and right lately, and one of the heaviest was this 93 pounder caught on Saturday by Danny Gough of Glenwood, MD while fishing on the "Billfisher" with anglers Jonathan Duffie, Scott Hoffman and Noe Gonzalez, Capt. Jon Duffie and mates Noah McVicker, Austin Robins and Chris Wyandt. The wahoo was hooked on a naked ballyhoo in 60 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon and weighed at Sunset Marina.



You would think that flounder would head for safer, deeper water when they see Bruce Lynch, Sr., Bruce Lynch, Jr. and Scott Taylor arrive on the scene. On this day, the trio headed out to the Bass Grounds and caught their limit of 12 flounder, 30 sea bass and 5 triggerfish while using squid and shiners for bait. The largest flounder, caught by the senior Lynch, measured 23-inches and weighed 4 lbs. 8 oz. Pictured at the Coastal Fisherman office on Sunset Avenue in West Ocean City, MD.

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# Ocean City Fishing Report

## by Larry Jock



Last weekend was a busy one around Ocean City docks with white and blue marlin flags flying, big wahoo hanging from the scale, flounder coming in from the wrecks and sheepshead still snapping at the South Jetty.

Let's first start off by congratulating the Ocean City offshore boats that fished in the 39th Annual Marlin Club Challenge Cup. This event pits the Ocean City Marlin Club against the Cape May (NJ) Tuna and Marlin Club in a 3-day, billfish release event. Points accumulated by each teams top six boats determine the outcome and this year, our team really took it to them with 2,325 points versus their 1,725 points. The top boat in the tournament was the "Reel Joy" with Capt. Andy Helms at the wheel. Out of the 29 boats that represented Ocean City, the top

six boats were:

1. Reel Joy - 525 pts.
2. Reel Chaos - 450 pts.
3. Billfisher - 375 pts.
4. Fishbone - 375 pts.
5. Buckshot - 300 pts.
6. No Quarter - 300 pts.

For all of the boats that competed in the tournament, Ocean City boats racked up 4,950 points versus Cape May's 2,850. Congratulations again, to the entire Ocean City team!

Outside of the billfish releases recorded during the tournament, most of the action around the scale centered on big wahoo caught by anglers trolling in 75 to 100 fathoms from the southern end of the Baltimore Canyon to the northern end of the Poor Man's. With an 88.5 pounder being the heaviest of the year, it looked like it was going to be tough to beat. Early in the week, the "Grande Pez" showed up with

a nice one hooked by Noah McVicker at the East Wall of the Baltimore that ended up weighing 81 lbs. On Thursday, Capt. Frank Goodhart on the "Brenda Lou" flirted with the leader when they weighed an 88 pounder caught between the canyons on a Pakula plug. Then, on Saturday during the Challenge Cup, angler Danny Gough captured a 93 pounder on a naked ballyhoo in the Baltimore Canyon while fishing on the "Billfisher". Right now, this holds the top spot for heaviest wahoo caught out of Ocean City this season.

There was also a big wahoo brought in on Saturday aboard the "Quick Draw". Unfortunately, they couldn't get an official weight on the fish since all of the scales were closed by the time they arrived at the dock, but on their spring-loaded hand scale, the fish registered 95 lbs. It was hooked by angler, Joe Reyes in 75 fathoms south of the Baltimore Canyon on a spreader bar.

Another notable wahoo bite last week came on the charter boat, "Marli" when they returned with 5 in the box on Wednesday. Remarkably, there were only 2 anglers on the boat and twice they had 6 wahoo on at one time while trolling in 65-70 fathoms in the Baltimore. Quite a day!

The marlin bite was right there where boats were picking up the wahoo throughout last week from the Baltimore down

to the Poor Man's. Although a lot of boats were frustrated by a lack of bites, quite a few came back with 3 or 4 releases and a couple boats were able to record higher single-digit catches.

The dolphin bite has been disappointing this season and the trend continued last week. The number of fish caught is definitely down from last year and we just haven't seen big dolphin arrive at the scale with any regularity. I could probably count them on both hands the number of big dolphin we have seen this season and coming off of last year, when the dolphin bite was strong and we saw quite a few big fish, this years lack of action was very noticeable.

Finally, a 164 lb. swordfish was caught during the day on Saturday by angler Tom Arnot on the "Fishbone". On only their second drop, the big swordfish ate a squid in 1,400 feet of water on the north end of the Poor Man's Canyon.

Inshore, the flounder bite was hit-or-miss. Several anglers reported that the bite has gotten worse since the last blow, but we did see some nice catches come in from those fishing at the Bass Grounds, the African Queen and the Great Eastern Reef. Everyone reports an increase in the number of throwbacks found on a variety of ocean structure. The same reports came in on sea bass with the best bite coming in from the Great Eastern Reef.

Speaking of inshore flounder fishing, the M.S.S.A. Flounder Tournament was held over the weekend and the top two fish came from Site 10 and a spot just outside the Shipping Channel. Russ Coward took

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first place with a 30-inch, 10.6 lb. flattie and Kern Ducote was right behind with a 10.2 pounder hooked on a Gulp artificial bait in 88-feet of water outside the Shipping Channel.

Out on Fenwick Shoal over the weekend, reports came in regarding a large number of cobia seen cruising the surface. One report came in estimating close to 40 nice size fish separated into 4 different schools. After a couple of years of great cobia action right off our coast, this year would have to be considered a disappointment. Maybe after the effects of Hurricane Jose blow through, they will have worked their way closer to shore where you can legally catch them in state waters.

In the bay, the star of the show continues to be sheepshead with a good bite around the South Jetty for anglers fishing with sand fleas. The largest one of the year was caught early in the week by Jake Allnutt when he boated a 14 lb. 13 oz. beast after hooking it on a chunk of clam. In addition to Jake's big fish,

several other sheepshead, weighing over 7 lbs., were caught throughout the week at the South Jetty. In addition, a few triggerfish and a lone weakfish were hooked there as well.

Flounder fishing in the bay continues to be slow with most fish coming from the East Channel and a few from the Fish Bowl and West Channel.

We also saw a surprising catch come in on Friday when anglers fishing in the East Channel on the charter boat, "On the Run" boated their limit of 5 red drum and released 3 others after hooking them on Gulp artificial baits.

Since this is the last issue of the Coastal Fisherman for the season, I just want to take a moment to thank a few folks.

First, thank you to all of our faithful readers. The paper continues to fly off the rack each week and we always appreciate all the nice comments we receive. It definitely makes it worthwhile knowing that readers are enjoying the paper each week. I

also appreciate all of the pictures that readers submit. This year, we ran 1,646 pictures in the Coastal Fisherman, with many of them emailed to us each week.

Thank you to our advertisers. Many have been with us for 13+ years, and we appreciate their loyalty. Since the Coastal Fisherman is still a free publication, advertisers make it possible to keep the doors open. That is why it is so important give our advertisers as much business as possible. Nowadays, it is too easy to just sit at our desks and order online. Local business are the backbone of our community and especially our fishing community. Please let them know how valuable they are and how much they are appreciated by giving them your business.

Thanks also go out to our columnists. Capt. Mark Sampson, Capt. Franky Pettolina, Steve Katz, Dr. Julie Ball and my mom, Maureen Jock, all did a great job this season writing entertaining and informative columns each

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week. Trust me, it's not easy coming up with an interesting topic every week. It is much harder than you can imagine, but our columnists continue to do it every year and their work is appreciated.

Finally, thanks to my staff. We are a small, family business and my parents, Maureen and Larry, my brother, Tom, my wife, Mary and my son Larry all work very hard with almost no time off during the season. They all do a great job and I thank them for it!

Well, that's it! Hopefully, we will have a nice fall. The marlin and wahoo bite will continue and big flounder and sea bass will snap hard on ocean reefs and wrecks. And finally, stripers will show up along our coast in good numbers, something we haven't seen in a couple of years. I wish everyone a safe and happy fall season and hopefully this "Paperboy" will see you on the water. Look for the next Coastal Fisherman on January 1st.

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Ross Kendall of Berlin, MD has been on a tear this season hooking sheepshead on sand fleas at the South Jetty. On this day, Ross caught 3 and released 1 while fishing on the outside of the jetty during the incoming tide. Pictured at the Coastal Fisherman office.

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Dennis Raber from Long Neck, DE used a live minnow to fool this 20 1/2-inch, 3 lb. 3 oz. flounder while drifting in the Indian River Inlet. Weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle.

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# Fish Stories

by Capt. Franky Pettolina



The last issue of the season. Wow! It seems like just yesterday I was telling y'all about taking one last rod out of my garage to fill the final open rod rack on the "Last Call". Another season of the Coastal Fisherman has come and gone in barely the blink of an eye. I once had a charter client tell me that every summer seems to go by quicker than the one before it, and I am pretty sure he was correct.

That reminds me of the story of the guy with the jar of marbles in his garage. If you haven't heard it I am going to tell you the short version since it doesn't relate directly to fishing. Or then again maybe it does.

Anyway, there is this guy who spends every Sunday in his garage talking to his buddies on his HAM radio. It was his favorite thing to do. One Sunday morning he came across an older gentleman talking on the radio. The guy had a golden voice that really captured

the listener. This older gentleman told the story about 1,000 marbles. He was thinking about it and figured out that the average life span is about 75 years, give or take. That would equal 3,900 Sundays. He was in his fifties when he thought of this, so somewhere around 2,900 of the Sundays were already gone. That meant that he had about a thousand Sundays left. So he went to all of the toy stores he could find and bought up a thousand marbles and put them into a clear plastic jar. Each Sunday morning he would go out into the garage and fire up his radio and as he was doing so he would throw one of the marbles away. Over the years he would talk to his buddies every Sunday and he watched his marble supply get smaller and smaller. Watching his supply dwindle, he realized how valuable his time was and how he should make the most of it. And with that

he said that he was signing off because he was going to go take his wife to breakfast and spend the day with her. He went on to say that he had just taken the last marble out of the jar. At that point in the story, the listener also turned off his radio and went to spend the day with his wife and kids.

I first heard this story a few years ago, and it is always in the back of my mind. I won't lie to you, the summer of 2017 has not been my favorite summer. There has been a pile of crappy weather. I had my slowest White Marlin Open in a long time, if not ever. Tuna fishing has been close to non-existent since June, and even back then it was only just okay. Marlin fishing has been hit or miss, and my all time favorite, when all else fails, "go to" fish, the mahi-mahi, has been scarce. It has been a truly difficult summer.

But when I think about it a little more, it hasn't been all bad. I was lucky enough to win some money in two of the tournaments I fished (thanks to my all-time favorite, when all else fails, "go to" fish). A young man caught his first blue marlin on my boat. An older

gentleman caught his first blue marlin on my boat. There were some days with good action on the inshore lumps catching a variety of mackerels and other species. I got to spend more than a few dozen days on the ocean with my Father and one of my best friends. Mom has been able to join us on more than a couple of trips, too. And she has been catching some white marlin on some recent trips with my long-time client and friend, Brooke Duvall. Really not that bad of a summer.

Thinking about it in a broader sense, there have been some other really cool things in the summer of 2017. I never got to see it, but there was a whale shark making regular appearances in the early season. I don't ever recall as many sheepshead being caught in the Ocean City Inlet, and some of them are monsters! People got to fish during a full solar eclipse on August 21st and now it looks like the white marlin might finally be showing up in decent numbers for the finish of the season.

I would like to thank the Jock family for having me aboard again for this season of the Coastal Fisherman.

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Larry and I have had some good laughs along the way, and I have only missed my deadline three or four times (I will need to find out how many times Capt. Mark Sampson has missed his!) Twenty one more marbles have left our collective jars since I told y'all about taking that one last rod down to the "Last Call" back in May. I hope you were able to make the most of your summer of fishing and enjoyed the "Fish Stories" I have told along the way as much as I have enjoyed writing them. Like my friend Austin on the "Primary Search" reminds me regularly, "What a great time to be alive!" I hope to see ya around the docks or on the water.

*Capt. Franky Pettolina is Co-Captain of the charter boat, "Last Call" and President of the Ocean City Marlin Club.*

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Anglers fishing on the charter boat, "Rhonda's Osprey" with Capt. Joe Drosey and mates Andrew Dotterweich and James Doerzbach have been throwing some nice size wahoo on the dock, and last Friday this group boated a pair weighing a combined 115 lbs. while trolling artificial lures in 80 fathoms between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. Fishing on "Rhonda's Osprey" were Brian Robinson from Catonsville, MD, Todd Hetzer from New Freedom, PA, Glenn Mullen from Mechanicsburg, PA, Sean Rudeau from Washington, DC and Rich Leiter from Lewisberry, PA. Both Sean and Rich each caught and released their first white marlin during the trip. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Here's a white marlin that anglers would have loved to have had in this years White Marlin Open! The 79-incher was hooked by Eric Metz of Manheim, PA while fishing on the "G-FORCE" with Seth Obetz, Mike Johnston, Capt. Tony Diesel and Capt. Marston Jones. The big white marlin ate a Black Bart St. Thomas Prowler in the Baltimore Canyon.

 An advertisement for North Bay Marina. The top half features a photograph of a white Sea Pro boat with a Suzuki outboard motor, cruising on the water. Two people are visible on the boat. The text "north bay marina" is written in a stylized, yellow, bubbly font on the left. On the right, a yellow starburst graphic contains the text "No SALES TAX IN DELAWARE!". The "SEA PRO" logo is prominently displayed on the side of the boat. Below the boat image, the text "email us at: infonorthbay@comcast.net" and "northbaymarina.com" is on the left, and "302-436-4211" and "36543 Lighthouse Road Selbyville, DE 19975" is on the right.
 

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It's hard to believe that it has been 17 years since the famous Ocean City Fishing Center Sport Tournament began, but it is still going strong with 70 anglers participating in this year's event. Lee McAteer and Nash Williams tied for 1st place in the Largest Spot Division with 7 1/2-inchers. Brady Olson took 3rd place with a 7 1/4-inch spot and Andy Maynard won 4th place by catching a 7-incher. Mason Hetherington caught 24 spot while fishing from the dock at the OCFC to win the Most Spot Caught Division. In the 11 to 16 age group, Dave Olson and Josh Blume tied for 1st place in the Largest Spot Division with 7-inch fish and Alex and Zach Morton each caught 16 spot to win the Most Spot Caught Division in that age group. For anglers 17 years old and up, Dylan Post's 7 1/2-inch spot took 1st place for Largest Spot Division. Jamison Moore took home the "Boss Hogg Award" for a 20 1/4-inch striper. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

# Delaware Regulations

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 <p><b>STRIPED BASS</b> 28" - 37" or 44" and greater 2 per person in any combination</p>	 <p><b>RED DRUM</b> 20" - 27" minimum 5 per person/day</p>	 <p><b>SHEEPSHEAD</b> No limit</p>	 <p><b>SPECKLED TROUT</b> 12" minimum No creel limit</p>
 <p><b>COBIA</b> No limit in Delaware waters Closed until 1/1/18 in Federal waters</p>	 <p><b>SUMMER FLOUNDER</b> 17" minimum 4 per person/day</p>	 <p><b>TAUTOG</b> Closed 9/1 - 9/28 9/29 - 12/31 15" minimum 5 per person/day</p>	 <p><b>WEAKFISH</b> 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>





Sam Goodwin of West Ocean City, MD couldn't be happier after catching 3 triggerfish, weighing up to 4 lbs., while fishing with clams and sand fleas around the South Jetty.



Cammy and Vince Budnavage returned from the Old Grounds with a nice catch of quality flounder caught on bucktails tipped with squid and minnows. Cammy's largest, weighing 3 lbs. 7 oz. was just nosed out by Vince's 3 lb. 8 oz. flattie after being weighed on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Mark Wenzlaff from Advanced Marina (second from left) muscled in a 75 lb. wahoo, Mitch Parker captured a 62 lb. yellowfin tuna and J.E. Parker released a white marlin, all while fishing on the charter boat, "Rhonda's Osprey" with Dan Wenzlaff, Jake Parker, Capt. Joe Drosey and mates James Doerzbach and Andrew Dotterweich. The anglers also caught a pair of dolphin during the trip with all of the fish coming from 80 fathoms at the south end of the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



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OCMC  
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To benefit the Jimmy Fund

**Registration:**  
December 8, 6:00 PM

**Fishing Days: (5 of 9)**  
December 9-17

**Awards Banquet:**  
December 17, 5:00 PM

\* You do NOT have to be a Member to Participate in this Tournament

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# OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Anglers on the charter boat, "Marli" encountered an epic wahoo bite last week in 70 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon and returned with 5 in the box, weighing up to 59 lbs., along with 3 dolphin and a white marlin release. Two times the group had 6 wahoo on at once, but with only 2 anglers and being rigged for marlin fishing, the action was too fast and furious to rack up even better numbers. Fishing with Capt. Mark Hoos and mate Mark Stephens were anglers Ron Sweet and Kevin Horn. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Ben Strahl from Berlin, MD caught this 3 lb. 8 oz. flounder while fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Rich Fouts and Dean Lo. The flattie was fooled with a bucktail dropped on an artificial reef.

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While fishing on the headboat, "Judy V" with Capt. Eddie Wheedleton, angler Dianne Hamilton from Corry, PA captured this 4 lb. 11 oz. flounder while fishing with cut bait at the Old Grounds. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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# OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



The last boat to arrive at this years Huk Big Fish Classic was the "Mugger" with Lane Brittingham's 39.5 lb. wahoo caught while trolling ballyhoo in 100 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon. Lane was fishing with Jeff Hartsock, Rusty Greene, Matt Powell, Liz Brittingham, Capt. Jeff Powell and mate Justin Cassell. The anglers also released a white marlin and a blue marlin during their trip. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.



Carol Ann Buchanan from Lewes, DE caught a 17-inch flounder and a 13-inch black sea bass while fishing on the headboat, "Judy V" with Capt. Eddie Wheedleton. Carol Ann fooled the fish with clams and shiners at "B" Buoy. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.

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# OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Tom Adkins from Denton, MD proudly displays the pair of *Paralichthys dentatus* he caught during a trip on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts. Tom's heaviest flounder weighed 3 lbs. and was caught at the Great Eastern Reef.



In the 4th Annual Huk Big Fish Classic, Jack Burbage caught a 59.5 lb. yellowfin tuna, Todd Burbage muscled in a 32.5 lb. wahoo and Anthony Pino boated a 63.5 lb. white marlin, all while fishing on "The Chaser" with Jim "Big Fire" Smith, Capt. Dale Gurgo and mate Emelio Hierto. All of the fish were hooked on trolled ballyhoo in 100 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier in downtown Ocean City.

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# OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Noah McVicker (far right), mate on the "Grande Pez", muscled in this 81 lb. wahoo while marlin fishing with Bob Wimbrow, Jim Frack and Capt. Pat Svehla. It was an incredible day of fishing for the guys with Noah catching the big wahoo and the crew releasing 8 white marlin, all while trolling ballyhoo in 100 fathoms on the East Wall of the Baltimore Canyon where Capt. Pat found water temperatures hovering around the 73-degree mark. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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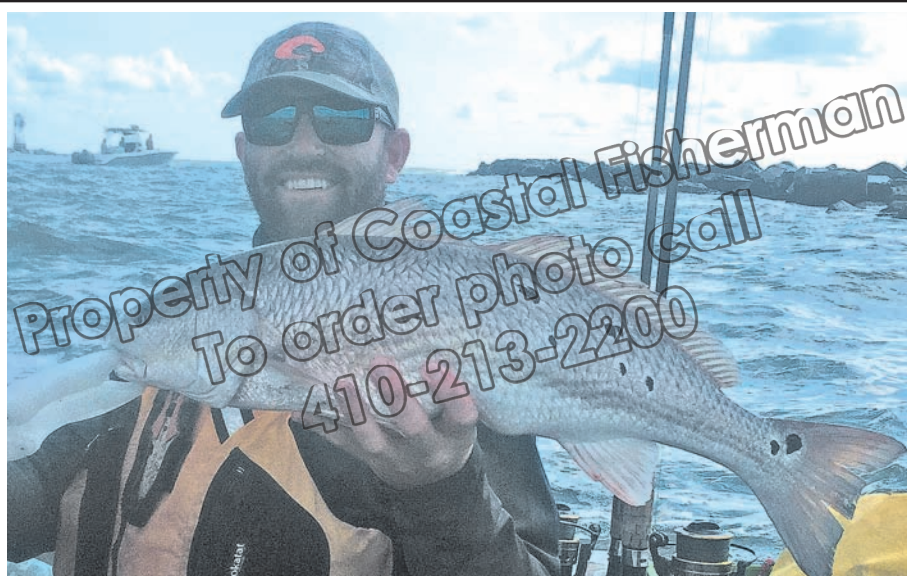
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# OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Deckhands on the headboat, "Morning Star" took some time to make a few drops themselves and were rewarded with a couple of nice size flounder. Dave Herbst (left) had the biggest one of the day until Wes Pollitt caught a 27-incher that weighed 8 lbs. The big flattie was hooked on a bucktail tipped with a Gulp artificial bait dropped on an artificial reef site. The "Morning Star" is docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center in West Ocean City.



Michael Brupbacher caught and released a pair of red drum (1 pictured), measuring 23 and 26-inches, while kayak fishing around the South Jetty early last week.

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# OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



While fishing on the charter boat, "Spring Mix II" with Capt. Chris Watkowski and mate Ayrton Pryor, Pennsylvania anglers Harry Guyer, Terry Brady, Mark Demko and Tom Tatum captured 9 dolphin while fishing in the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured back at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



The wahoo bite has been red hot and while fishing last Thursday in the Challenge Cup, Justin Ribb on the "Brenda Lou" muscled in this 88 pounder after hooking it on a Pakula lure in 80 fathoms between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. Justin was fishing with Allen Whitley, Joe Hollister, Chris Hardesty and Capt. Frank Goodhart. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Mandy Whiteley caught and released her first white marlin while fishing on the "Brenda Lou" with Allen Whiteley and Capt. Frank Goodhart. The white marlin was hooked on a trolled ballyhoo in 500 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon.



# BAY FISHING CHARTERS



Kim Majcher released this 22 1/2-inch red drum in addition to boating a 20-inch flounder while drifting live mullet and Gulp/minnow combinations in the East Channel.



This 22-inch flounder made the grave mistake of going after the Gulp Swimming Mullet being fished by Marty Woolford of Pasadena, MD. Marty was fishing on "Bob's Boat" when he hooked the flattie in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport.

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# BAY FISHING CHARTERS



While fishing on the headboat, "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe and mate Serge Garder, angler Nick Gleco from Sweet Valley, PA caught this 18-inch flounder on a squid and shiner combination in the bay behind Assateague Island.



Marianne Voelmle from Hershey, PA caught this sweet, 18-inch flounder while drifting a squid and Gulp combination in the bay behind Harbour Island.

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# BAY FISHING CHARTERS



Last Friday, this group of anglers fishing on the charter boat, "On the Run" returned to Bahia Marina with their limit of red drum after drifting Gulp artificial baits in the East Channel. Fishing with Capt. Dave Caffrey were Robbie Lawson, Hailey Lawson, Jacob Lawson and Caitlin Arnett, all from Palm Beach, FL. They also released 3 other red drum during their trip.

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Mike Ziegler from Dillsburg, PA caught 3 keeper flounder (2 pictured) while dropping a bucktail tipped with Gulp and cut bait over both a natural and artificial reef. Mike was fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Dan Iacangelo and Wes Pollitt. Zig's largest flattie measured 20 1/2-inches. The "Morning Star" is docked at the OC Fishing Center.



In the 2017 Huk Big Fish Classic, Dave Baich weighed a 65.5 lb. white marlin and Matt Oneschuk weighed a 45 lb. wahoo after spending the day trolling in 1,200 fathoms outside the Baltimore Canyon. The anglers were fishing on the "Git R Done" with Dave Schulte, Sr., Spencer Allen, Capt. Dave Schulte and mates Travis Brown and John Meyers. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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While fishing on the charter boat, "Indian" out of Anglers Fishing Center in Lewes, DE, Dave Stubblebine of Norristown, PA boated a 22-inch flounder after hooking it on a squid and shiner combination in the Delaware Bay. The fish weighed 4 lbs. 15 oz. on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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# Delaware Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



It's always nice when there is a flurry of fishing action towards the end of the season. It provides anglers with hope that the season may be extended with nice weather and good bites.

Capt. Mike Behney at Rick's Bait & Tackle said anglers are still pecking away at flounder and croakers in the Lewes Canal, but most of his customers are having better luck fishing for flounder on ocean wrecks and reefs. Spots around the Old Grounds are still producing good catches of flatties for anglers dropping bucktails tipped with strip baits or minnows. Mike said that minnows were especially productive last week. Mike also reported that some of his customers continue to have fun catching short stripers under the lights at the Coast Guard Station at the Indian River Inlet. The Walls in the Delaware bay are still holding triggerfish but Mike said that anglers are now finding a few sheephead interested in

their offerings of sand fleas.

The most interesting news of the week was a report that came in from anglers fishing out at Fenwick Shoal. Unfortunately, federal waters are closed to cobia fishing because the guys said that they spotted around 40 cobia cruising the surface in 4 separate schools. And the fish were big! Hopefully, they will work their way inside because I know of a lot of anglers who are itching to tangle with the "man in the brown suit".

At Fenwick Bait & Tackle, Matt Shoup reported that there are a ton of small bluefish in the surf right now. Most are in the 10-inch range and surfcasters are hooking them on cut finger mullet. Some of his customers also hooked into a few short striped bass in the 18 to 20-inch range. Adding to the action in the surf, Matt said that there are a lot of 2 to 4-foot sandbar sharks being caught throughout the day in the suds.

Matt and some buddies ventured out to the African Queen last week and found a load of small sea bass, short flounder and larger 16-inch bluefish on the bottom.

Capt. Bert Adams said that the highlight of the week was the 93.4 lb. wahoo caught last Friday by angler Heath Berger on the "Stress-Reel-ief. The number of big wahoo we have seen this year has been amazing and Heath's is the heaviest weighed this season in both Delaware and Ocean City. Like all the wahoos that came in over the weekend, the fish was caught on the troll in 75 fathoms between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. I also noticed that quite a few this season were caught on ballyhoo dressed up with Joe Shute lures. Heath's fish bit on a black and purple one.

Bert said that fishing in the Indian River Inlet is still slow with anglers finding mostly small bluefish hitting anything shiny during the incoming tide.

These fish are in the 5 to 10-inch range, but Bert said that one day they did see larger 12 to 14-inch snappers show up. Anglers are also hooking into some tautog while fishing from the jetty rocks, but tog season in Delaware doesn't open until September 29th. Bert also said that the surf around Indian River are loaded with small bluefish, but croakers are non-existent.

Headboats out of Indian River are still getting into sea bass and flounder on ocean reefs and wrecks but anglers are needing to weed through a lot of short fish to catch their keepers. Those fishing on the "Capt. Bob II" over the weekend also found good numbers of croaker.

Since this is the last report of the Coastal Fisherman season, I would like to especially thank Bert Adams at Hook'em & Cook'em, Mike Behney at Rick's Bait & Tackle and Matt Shoup at Fenwick Tackle for taking the time each week and providing information for this report.

The next issue of the Coastal Fisherman will come out on January 1st, so until then I wish everyone a wonderful fall season and hope to see many of you out on the water.

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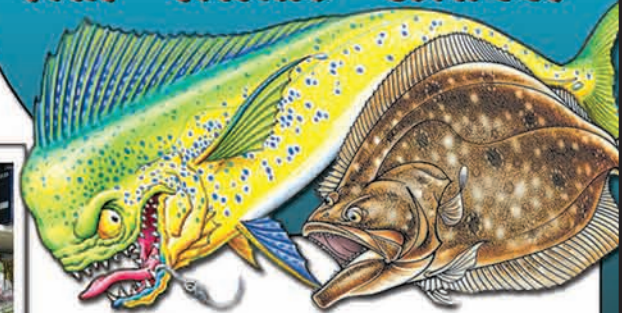
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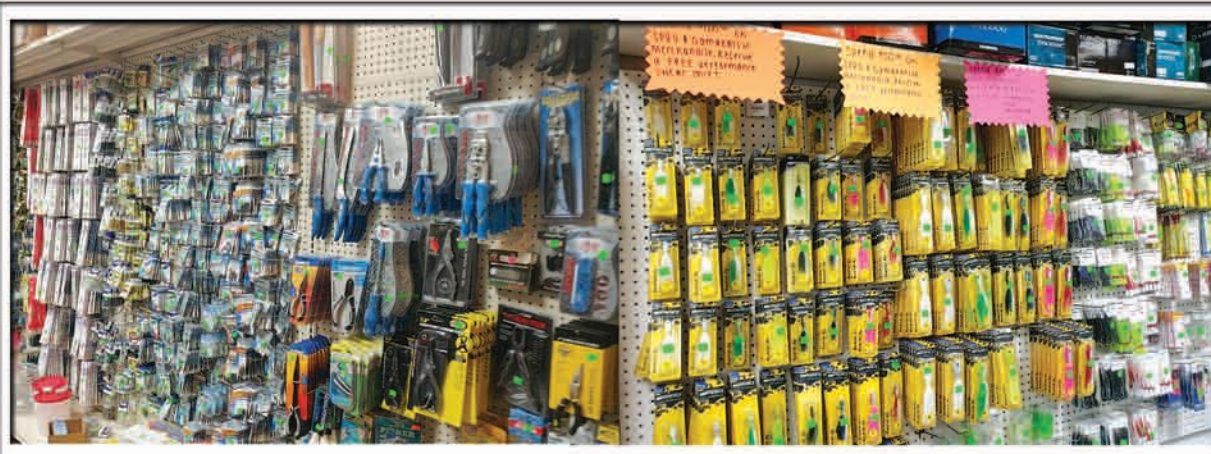
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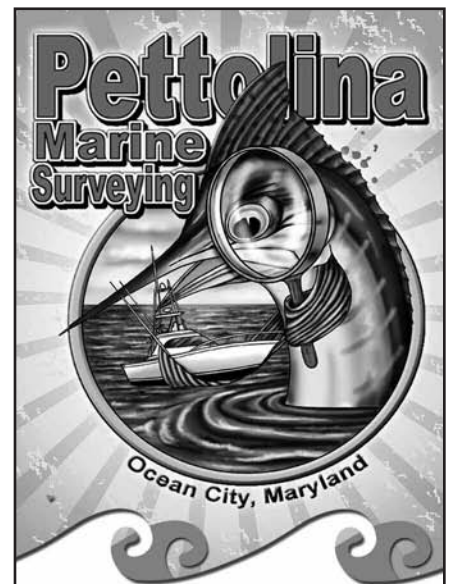
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Sam Connors (pictured) and Peter Schultz caught and released a blue marlin and a white marlin while fishing on the "Freak Unleashed" in 1,500 fathoms outside the Poor Man's Canyon. The blue marlin was estimated at 400 lbs. and both were raised on a Squidnation blue and white Flippy Floppy Thing. The blue marlin was hooked on a Pakula lure while the white marlin ate a naked ballyhoo.



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During the first 32-hour fishing window in the 2017 Huk Big Fish Classic, anglers Glenn Orr, Chuck Lovendosky and J.C. Grimberg (not pictured) captured a pair of yellowfin tuna, weighing 60 and 66 lbs., while fishing on the "Killin' Time" with Capt. Jason Norton and Capt. Marston Jones. The yellowfins and a 111 lb. blue shark were hooked while fishing in the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.



Jim Brinker of Newark, DE caught and released this white marlin after hooking it on a trolled ballyhoo behind a Squidnation Flippy Floppy Thing in 75 fathoms at the north end of the Poor Man's Canyon. Jim was fishing on "Carol's Teakettle" with his dad, Tom Brinker and his brother, Tim Brinker, who caught a nice wahoo during their trip.

# Maryland Regulations

## State Waters Only

 <p><b>BLACK SEA BASS</b> 12.5" minimum 15 per person/day 5/15-9/21 &amp; 10/22-12/31</p>	 <p><b>BLUEFISH</b> 8" minimum 10 per person/day</p>	 <p><b>BLACK DRUM</b> 16" minimum 1 per person/day or 6 per boat/day</p>	 <p><b>COBIA</b> No limit in Maryland waters Closed in Federal waters until January 1, 2018</p>
 <p><b>CROAKER</b> 9" minimum 25 per person/day</p>	 <p><b>RED DRUM</b> 18" - 27" 1 per person/day</p>	 <p><b>SHEEPSHEAD</b> No limit</p>	 <p><b>SPECKLED TROUT</b> 14" minimum 4 per person/day</p>
 <p><b>STRIPED BASS</b> 28"- 38" and 44" and greater Any Combination 2 per person/day</p>	 <p><b>TAUTOG</b> 16" minimum 5/16-10/31 2 per person/day</p>	 <p><b>SUMMER FLOUNDER</b> 17" minimum 4 per person/day</p>	 <p><b>WEAKFISH</b> 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>





Bob Quinn, Jason Destafney, Anthony Brozosky and Bruce Benson headed out to the Old Grounds and hauled in a nice catch of flounder, measuring between 18 and 22-inches. All of the flatties, in addition to a lone suicidal sea bass, were hooked on squid and Gulp artificial baits. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Joe Reyes captured a pair of large wahoo, estimated to weigh 75 and 95 lbs., while fishing on the "Quick Draw" with Capt. Ken Fleetwood. In addition to the big wahoos, the anglers went 1 for 3 on white marlin. The larger wahoo was hooked on a Sterling Tackle Wide Tracker Splash Bar and the 75 pounder hit a ballyhoo/Ilander combination. Unfortunately, the scales at Sunset Marina were closed, so they couldn't get an official weight of their catch.



On only the second drop of the day, Tom Arnot hooked into this 164 lb. swordfish while fishing during the day on Saturday aboard the "Fishbone" with Neil Hallowell, Capt. Billy Chapman and mates Parker Marshall, Ryan Knapp and Brian Riley. The swordfish was caught in 1,400-feet of water on the north end of the Poor Man's Canyon and took 25 minutes to get to the boat. Weighed at Sunset Marina.

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Mikey Pitarra of Fenwick Island, DE is all smiles at Sunset Marina after catching this 41 lb. wahoo and a small dolphin while fishing on the "Lucky Duck II" with his dad, Mike Pitarra, his grandfather, Mike Milam, Capt. Art Boykin and supermate, Tina Boykin. The wahoo ate a trolled ballyhoo in 70 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon and took Mikely only 20 minutes to get to the boat.

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The Man, The Myth, The Legend! “Post Hurricane” Murray Adams caught his limit of flounder (2 pictured), while fishing on the headboat, “Morning Star” with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Dan Iacangelo and Wes Pollitt. Murray’s largest fish measured 22-inches and was caught on a Gulp artificial bait on an ocean wreck.



Junior angler, Cash Stanton from Woodbine, MD caught a pair of 58 lb. wahoo during a trip aboard the charter boat, “Buckshot” with his dad, Dion Stanton, Billy Miller, Capt. Gary Stamm and mates Wayne Blanks and Justin Hart. The pair of wahoo, in addition to some small dolphin, were caught while trolling ballyhoo in 80 fathoms in the Poor Man’s Canyon. Weighed at Sunset Marina.

# Federal Size & Creel Limits

# 3-200 Miles

<p><b>BLUE MARLIN</b> 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No creel limit</p>	<p><b>DOLPHIN</b> No minimum length 10 per person/day</p>	<p><b>YELLOWFIN TUNA</b> 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day</p>	<p><b>SHARKS</b> <b>AUTHORIZED SPECIES</b></p> <p><u>No Minimum Fork Length</u> Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead, -----</p> <p><u>54" Minimum Fork Length</u> Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse, Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common Thresher, Oceanic Whitetip, Porbeagle, Shortfin Mako, Finetooth, Atlantic Blacknose -----</p> <p><u>78" Minimum Fork Length</u> Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead, Smooth Hammerhead, -----</p> <p>Only 1 shark from the lists above may be retained per vessel per trip. In addition, 1 Atlantic Sharpnose and 1 Bonnethead may be retained per person per trip. No size or creel limits on dogfish sharks.</p> <p><u>Prohibited Sharks</u> Atlantic Angel, Basking, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Sixgill, Bigeye Thresher, Bignose, Caribbean Reef, Caribbean Sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin Mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Sand Tiger, Sevengill, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White</p>
<p><b>WHITE MARLIN</b> 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No creel limit</p>	<p><b>WAHOO</b> No minimum length 2 per person/day</p>	<p><b>BLUEFIN TUNA</b> (Recreational) 2 per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL 1 per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 73"  (Charter Boat) 3 per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL 1 per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 73" Southern Trophy Fishery closed through December 31, 2017</p>	
<p><b>SWORDFISH</b> 47" Lower Jaw Fork Length 1 per person / 4 per vessel (Rec) 1 per person / 6 per vessel (Charter)</p>	<p><b>BIGEYE TUNA</b> 27" Curved Fork Length No creel limit</p>		





Aaron Swartz, Seth Krider and Ross Kendall (not pictured) ventured out to the South Jetty and caught 4 sheepshead (3 pictured), a 22-inch red drum and released some short tautog, sea bass and a 16-inch speckled trout. The sheepshead weighed up to 9 lbs. and were caught on sand fleas.



Junior angler, Sammy Brittingham of Smyrna, DE caught this 66.8 lb. wahoo while fishing aboard the "On the Hunt" with Kevin Scuse, John Coleman and Sam Brittingham, Sr. The wahoo was hooked on a black and purple Joe Shute lure between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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### Macadamia Nut-Crusted Wahoo with Mango-Lime Butter

1/2 cup chopped fresh mango  
1/2 cup dry white wine  
2 TBSP sugar  
1 tsp. peeled and minced fresh ginger  
Juice of 2 limes  
1/4 cup heavy cream  
1/2 cup cold unsalted butter, cut into small pieces  
Salt  
Freshly ground black pepper  
1/2 cup macadamia nuts, whole or pieces  
2 cups panko (Japanese bread crumbs)  
1/2 cup fresh basil  
1/2 cup good-quality mayonnaise

2 tsp. Sriracha  
6 wahoo fillets  
Canola oil, for sauteing

To prepare the mango-lime butter, in a saucepan, combine the mango, wine, sugar, ginger, and lime juice and simmer over medium heat for 5 minutes, until thick and syrupy.

Add the cream, mix well, and remove from the heat.

Pour into a blender and blend until smooth.

Return to the saucepan and simmer over low heat for 8 minutes, until the mixture thickens slightly.

Add the butter, a piece at a time, and stir until incorporated before adding the next piece. Be careful not to boil the sauce, or it will separate. Season with salt and

pepper and keep warm.

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees.

To prepare the coating, place the nuts, panko, and basil in a food processor and process until fine.

Spread on a plate.

In a bowl, combine the mayonnaise and chile paste and mix well.

Lightly season the fish with salt and pepper.

Evenly spread a light coat of the chile mayonnaise on one side of each fish fillet.

Coat the same side evenly with the coating.

In an ovenproof saute pan or skillet, pour in just enough oil to coat the bottom and heat over medium heat. (Be careful not to heat the pan too hot or the macadamia nuts will burn).

Add the fish, crust side down, and saute for 3 minutes, until golden brown.

Turn the fish and place in the oven for 5 minutes, until cooked through and firm to the touch.

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Place the fillets on warmed individual places.

Serve with the mango-lime butter.

### Creamy Dill Sauce

1/3 cup sour cream  
1/3 cup mayonnaise  
1/4 cup dry white wine  
1 TBSP capers  
1 TBSP finely chopped onion  
1 TBSP caper brine  
1 tsp. lemon juice  
1 tsp. prepared horseradish  
3/4 tsp. dried dill weed  
1/4 tsp. garlic  
Salt  
Ground black pepper to taste

Stir sour cream, mayonnaise, white wine, capers, chopped onion, caper brine, lemon juice, horseradish, dill weed, garlic salt and black pepper together in a bowl.

Serve over fish.

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**20 Minute Honey Shrimp**

1/3 cup honey  
 1/4 cup soy sauce  
 1 TBSP minced garlic  
 1 tsp. minced fresh ginger (optional)  
 1 lb. medium cooked shrimp, peeled and deveined  
 2 tsp. olive oil  
 Green onion, chopped for garnish

Whisk the honey and the next three ingredients in a medium bowl, mix well.

Place shrimp in a large zipped bag.

Pour half of the marinade mixture on top, stir, then allow shrimp to marinate in the refrigerator for 15 minutes or up to 8-12 hours.

Cover and refrigerate the rest of the marinade to be used later.

Heat olive oil in a skillet over medium-high heat.

Place shrimp in the skillet, discarding marinade.

Cook shrimp on one side

until no longer pink, about 45 seconds, then flip shrimp over.

Pour in remaining refrigerated marinade; cook until shrimp is cooked through, about 1 minute more.

Serve shrimp with marinade sauce and a garnish of green onion.

Serves 4.

**Creamy Baked Flounder**

4 cups cooked rice  
 1/2 cup slivered almonds  
 1 tsp. lemon pepper  
 6 thick slices roma tomatoes  
 6 tsp. grated Parmesan cheese  
 6 flounder fillets  
 3 TBSP butter  
 3 TBSP flour  
 2 1/2 cups milk  
 2 TBSP finely minced parsley  
 1/4 tsp. salt  
 1/4 tsp. white pepper

Preheat oven to 350-degrees.

Mix rice, almonds and

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Tim Goodman from Lancaster, PA caught this 19-inch flounder while drifting with minnows during the outgoing tide in the Indian River Inlet.

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lemon pepper.

Spread in bottom of a buttered casserole dish.

Lay a slice of tomato topped with 1 tsp. of Parmesan on bottom half of each fillet; fold top over.

Place folded fillets in casserole, slightly overlapping.

Melt butter in a deep skillet or saucepan.

Add flour; stir, gradually whisking in the milk, stirring until thickened.

Add parsley and seasonings; pour over casserole.

Bake for 25 minutes.

Serves 6.

### Striped Bass in Wine

- 1/2 cup dry white wine
- 1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 medium tomatoes
- 2 shallots, sliced 1/4-inch thick
- 6 fresh thyme sprigs
- 1 lb. skinless striped bass

In a large skillet combine wine, 1/4 cup water and the oil.

Add tomatoes, shallots, thyme leaves and 1/4 tsp. salt.

Bring to boiling; reduce heat.

Simmer uncovered, 3 to 5 minutes or until tomatoes are tender.

Place fish fillets in skillet, spooning some of the broth over the fish.

Reduce heat to medium low.

Cook, covered, 8 to 10 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork.

Using a slotted spoon, lift fish and tomatoes into shallow bowls.

Discard thyme.

Ladle broth and shallots into each bowl.

### Sweet Baby Mahi

submitted by "Sweet Baby" Schmus

- 3 TBSP brown sugar
- 4 TBSP water
- 3 TBSP soy sauce
- 1 TBSP balsamic vinegar
- 2 tsp. grated fresh ginger root



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2 garlic cloves, crushed  
1 tsp. olive oil  
2 mahi fillets  
Salt and pepper

In a shallow glass dish combine everything except fish and salt and pepper.

Sprinkle salt and pepper on fish and place in dish with marinade.

Cover and chill for 20 minute.

Preheat broiler.

Remove fish from dish and reserve marinade.

Broil fish 4 to 6 mins on each side or until fish flakes easily with a fork.

Pour reserved marinade into a skillet and reduce until the mixture becomes a glaze.

Spoon over fish and serve.

### Searred Wahoo with Honey Soy Glaze and Pineapple Salsa

1 1/2 lbs. wahoo cut into 4 to 6 pieces  
1/3 C soy sauce  
1/3 cup honey  
3 TBSP sliced ginger

2 garlic cloves  
1 TBSP olive oil

### Pineapple Ginger Salsa:

3 cups pineapple, peeled, cored, small diced  
1 jalapeño pepper with seeds removed, very finely diced  
1 mild red chili or 1/4 cup diced red bell pepper for color  
1/4 cup red onion, finely diced  
1 tsp. ginger root, finely minced or grated  
1/2 cup cilantro, chopped  
Zest and juice of one small lime  
1/8 tsp. kosher salt  
Pinch sugar (optional)

Make marinade for the fish. Blend soy sauce, honey, sliced ginger, garlic and olive oil in a blender until smooth.

Place fish and marinade in a ziplock bag or bowl for 20 minutes or up to 24 hours.

While fish is marinating, make pineapple salsa.

Cut pineapple in half,

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While fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts (photobombing in the back), anglers Pete and Mairi Donohue from Millsboro, DE caught flounder weighing up to 3 lbs. 8 oz. and black sea bass up to 2 lbs. All of the fish were hooked on squid at a natural ocean reef.

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During the 2017 Huk Big Fish Classic, anglers on the charter boat, "Espadon" released a blue marlin and 2 white marlin in addition to catching 3 yellowfin tuna weighing 63, 64 and 69 lbs. All of the action took place while trolling in the Poor Man's Canyon with all 3 tuna coming on spreader bars. Fishing with Capt. Sylvain Cote and mates Karl Bieberich and Alex Beane were John League, who released the blue marlin and a white marlin, Matt McDevitt and Mike Rainey, who each released a white marlin, and Chris Murray. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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---	---

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Cut the bottom off, to create a stable base.

With a large sharp knife, cut the skin off in vertical slices cutting downward.

Cut into wedges and remove the core.

Slice and dice into 1/2-inch cubes and place in a medium bowl. You should have about 3 cups.

Toss in the rest of the ingredients. for a milder salsa, add only 1/2 a jalapeno.

If your pineapple is ripe you will not need to add sugar. Taste and adjust.

Prepare fish.

Heat oil in a large heavy bottom skillet, over medium high heat.

When oil is hot, place the fish in the skillet, saving the marinade.

Sear the fish, on its sides, and set aside.

For medium rare, a quick 2 to 3 minute sear on each side is all you need. If you like your fish cooked more, place in a warm oven until desired done-

ness.

Pour the remaining marinade into the skillet and bring to a boil for 30 seconds, until it thickens.

Strain and place in a small bowl.

You will have about 1/8 to 1/4 cup.

Spoon this over the fish, along with a generous amount of pineapple salsa before serving.

### Grilled Wahoo with Tomato Sauce

- 4 wahoo fillets
- 2 TBSP canola oil
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 TBSP extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for finishing dish
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 4 anchovies in oil, patted dry and chopped
- 1 pint cherry tomatoes, halved
- 1 TBSP capers, drained
- 1/2 cup pitted kalamata olives

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- 1 lemon, zested and juiced
- 2 tsp. finely chopped fresh oregano leaves
- 1/4 cup chopped flat-leaf parsley

Heat the grill to high.

Brush both sides of the fillets with canola oil and season with salt and pepper, to taste.

Grill until slightly charred and almost cooked through, about 3 to 4 minutes per side, (it will continue cooking in the sauce).

While the fish is grilling, heat the olive oil in a large saute pan over medium heat.

Add the garlic, anchovies and tomatoes and cook until slightly soft, about 4 minutes.

Add the capers, olives, lemon juice, oregano and parsley and cook for 30 seconds.

Transfer the fish to the sauce and let cook for 1 minute.

Transfer to a serving platter and serve.

### Soy, Ginger, Garlic and Sesame Wahoo Marinade

- 2 tsp. garlic, finely chopped
- 2 tsp. fresh ginger, finely chopped
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 1/4 cup white wine
- 2 tsp. sesame oil

Marinate the fish for one hour.

### Tartar Sauce

- 1 cup mayonnaise
- 1 TBSP sweet pickle relish
- 1 TBSP minced onion
- 2 TBSP lemon juice (optional)
- Salt and pepper to taste

In a small bowl, mix together mayonnaise, sweet pickle relish and minced onion.

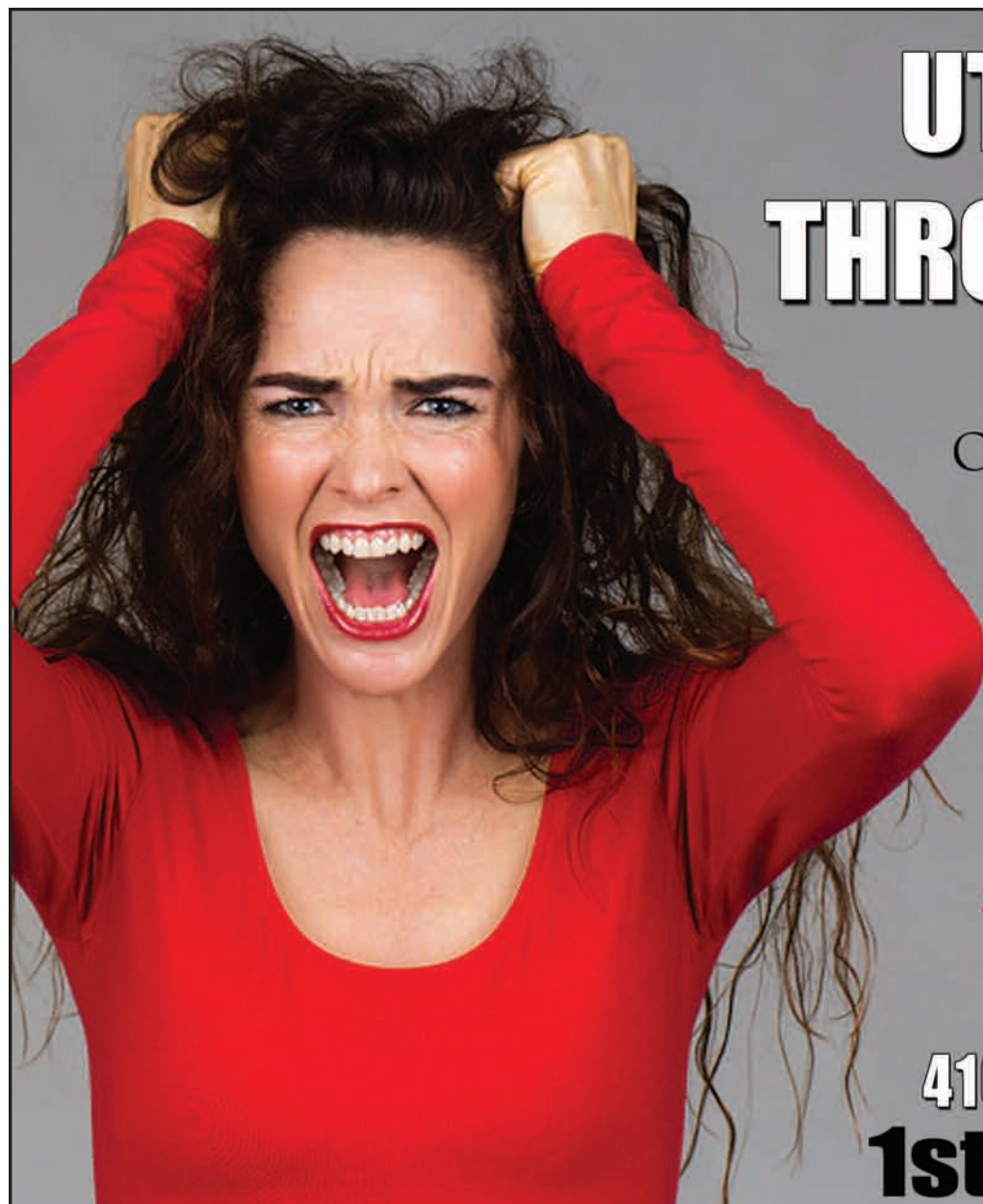
Stir in lemon juice.

Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving.



Chuck Welch of Vienna, VA was fishing with sand fleas at the South Jetty when he captured this 9 lb. 3 oz. sheephead while fishing with Ross Kendall of Berlin, MD. Pictured at the Coastal Fisherman office on Sunset Avenue in West Ocean City.



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# Chum Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson



Sometime during the first week of September, while Hurricane Irma was still days away from Florida and there was concern that it might eventually work its way up the coast and impact Delmarva, I got an email from a fellow who had my boat chartered for a day of fishing on September 12th. His message read that because of the hurricane threat he was canceling his week long vacation in Ocean City and, therefore, would not be able to fish with me on our scheduled date.

At first I thought, "Just as well. If we have a hurricane coming this way the last thing I need is to worry about canceling and rescheduling charters while I'm trying to get my house and boats ready to deal with the storm". But then

September 12th rolled around, and guess what - no storm! The most we saw of Irma that day, or any day, were a few dark clouds, otherwise September 12th was a calm and beautiful day. The storm never came close to us, but just the threat of it ended up costing me a charter and some motel or condo owner a week's rental fee, not to mention all the local restaurants, amusement parks and arcades, miniature golf courses and whatever else the family would have gotten into while they were in town. A lot of revenue to a lot of local businesses was lost that week on just the "threat" of a major storm, imagine the financial consequences to our local economy if Irma actually did hit us!

As we all know, the folks in

Florida don't have to "imagine" the ill effects of a major storm, they're living it! In just two days of battering by Irma so much of Florida as we know it just went away, gone, wiped off the map, obliterated, human casualties, homes and businesses destroyed, environmental impacts, lives changed forever.

All of us up here on Delmarva have to remember that but for the grace of God that could have been us as that same storm could just as easily have turned north sooner than it did and whacked the Eastern Shore with the same vengeance, and as I'm pretty sure that in these latitudes our buildings are not put together with as much concern for hurricanes as they are in much of Florida, you can imagine what would happen around here if we took a hit from such a powerful storm.

It was "them" not us who got hit. But who is "them"? Florida is such a big state with so many residents that probably most of us have some kind of family or at least close friends that live somewhere in the state. At the very least, Floridians are our fellow countrymen and women who stand under the same flag as we do and are, therefore - our neighbors.

While many folks might think of Florida as just a big playground state where everything is Mickey Mouse, palm trees and Miami Beach, there's a human element of the state that doesn't just hang out there for a week or two each winter for some fun in the sun.

They live there 24/7, raising their families, going off to work each day, gathering with relatives for birthdays and holidays and everything else we all do in our own homes every day. Irma didn't just flatten vacation mansions for rich folks, it destroyed homes just like yours and mine. If it happened here in Ocean City, us residents wouldn't want our suffering to be down played just because we reside in a resort town so neither should anyone minimize the tragedy to folks of Florida.

Which brings me full circle back to my story about the guy who cancelled his charter with me and his vacation in Ocean City. Like Florida, Ocean City relies on tourist dollars to keep its economy going. We need people to come to the beach like Florida needs snowbirds to come down in the winter and other times of the year to enjoy their time in the Sunshine State and stoke their economy. I fully understand why the guy elected not to come to town, I wouldn't want to spend a stormy week sitting in a motel room either. What I hope is that whatever desires he had to vacation in Ocean City and to fish with me are not lost and forgotten over time. I need him to come back, to schedule another fishing trip with me just as I'm sure that there are a lot of other businesses who rely on him, and others like him, returning to enjoy and support our community.

I overheard someone who usually goes down to Florida and fishes for a week say, "No

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big deal, we'll just fish in Costa Rica this winter instead." No one knows when Florida will be far enough past the terrible tragedy that came in the form of a Category 4 hurricane to be ready again to accept visitors. Much of the state will likely be open for business sooner than later, but some of the hardest hit areas might end up needing a little breathing room and some time to get things in order again before they'll be able to open their doors to the public. Those of us who cherish our time down there each year are heartbroken by what has happened to the Florida that we've come to know and love. As I write this final column of the season, the storm has just recently past, search and rescue operations are just finishing up and many residents have not yet even been allowed back to see what's left of their homes, their businesses and their lives. Right now I don't know how I can best help the relief effort other than to stay away and let the professionals do their work. Maybe in the days and weeks ahead there will be a call for donations of food, clothing, housing, or physical assistance with the cleanup and rebuilding efforts. I'll wait to hear and see what I have to offer.

One thing I won't do is write the state off as "damaged goods" and start traipsing off to other countries for my winter fishing activities when my neighbor needs my help. Florida has always been the hub for saltwater fishing in the United States and although the entire state and its residents will be licking their wounds for a while, they will recover, rebuild and come out of this better than they went in. Now, more than ever, the people of Florida need us to continue to support them through the trying times ahead.

*Capt. Mark Sampson is an outdoor writer and captain of the charter boat, "Fish Finder", docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center.*

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Sam Connors and Peter Schultz caught and released a blue marlin and a white marlin while fishing on the "Freak Unleashed" in 1,500 fathoms outside the Poor Man's Canyon. The blue marlin was estimated at 400 lbs. and was lured to the boat with a Squidnation blue and white Flippy Floppy Thing before being hooked on a Pakula lure.



Last Saturday, Dorian Messick of West Ocean City, MD cranked in his first white marlin while fishing on the charter boat, "Pumpin' Hard" with his dad, Dave Messick, Adam Glushakow, Dan Burt, Capt. Mike Burt and mate David Burt. The white marlin was caught and released in 80 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon. Pictured back in the slip at Sunset Marina.

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Jessica Turowski from Ocean Pines, MD, Christie Gessford from Centreville, MD and Melody Melvin from Ridgely, MD returned with 21 and 22-inch flounders in addition to black sea bass measuring up to 16-inches. The flounder were caught on Gulp and strip baits while the knotheads were fooled with clams. All of the action happened during a trip aboard the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Dan Iacangelo and Wes Pollitt. The "Morning Star" is docked at the OC Fishing Center.

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NOVEMBER 10	OCEAN CITY, MD	OUPV (6 PAK)	3 WEEKENDS
NOVEMBER 10	BELAIR, MD	OUPV (6 PAK)	3 WEEKENDS

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In late August, Erin and Ann Garman each released their first white marlin while fishing on "Gret's Three J's" with Greg Garman, John Conrad, Mike Tenuto, Capt. Mitch Pierson and mate Sean O'Donnell. The whites were hooked below the Washington Canyon with Erin's release coming at 8:30 AM and Ann's at 2:30 PM. The "Gret's Three J's" is docked at Sunset Marina.



During the 2017 Huk Big Fish Classic, Nancy Kohl released a blue marlin and 4 white marlin while fishing on the charter boat, "Rhonda's Osprey" with Ken and Scott McDonough, Capt. Joe Drosey and mates Andrew Dotterweich and James Doerzbach. All were hooked on trolled ballyhoo between the Poor Man's and Baltimore Canyons. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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Neal Dangelo boated this 67-inch, 76 lb. wahoo while fishing on the "Reel Chaotic" with Bruce Buchalter and Daryl Young. The wahoo hit a blue and black Joe Shute lure in 70 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



While fishing on structure just off the coastline, Kelly Bunting of Berlin, MD caught this 22-inch, 9 lb. sheepshead after hooking it on a sand flea. Kelly was fishing on the "Fish Magnet" with Tim Bunting.

# MARYLAND & DELAWARE CITATION SIZES

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	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-
Black Drum	48"	50 lbs. or 45"
Bluefish	34"	14 lbs. or 33"
Blue Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size
Cobia	44"	-
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"
Golden Tilefish	35"	35 lbs. or 40"
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 36"
Red Drum *	36"	45"
Sailfish *	Any Size	-
Sea Bass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"
Speckled Trout	24"	-
Striped Bass	40"	30 lbs. or 40"

\* Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program

\*\*\* Use curved-fork-length measurements

	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>
Shark:		
Blue Shark *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Hammerhead *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Mako *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Thresher *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Tiger *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Swordfish	Any Size	Any Size
Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"
Tuna:		
Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lbs. or 32"
False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"
Bigeye ***	60"	70 lbs. or 48"
Bluefin ***	55"	100 lbs. or 60"
Yellowfin ***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"
Wahoo	60"	20 lbs. or 50"
Weakfish	24"	3 lbs. or 20"
White Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size

\*\* Only released fish are eligible in MD and DE programs





Nancy and Danny Cox of Ocean City, MD ventured out to the Bass Grounds last Friday and returned with a triggerfish, a couple of good size sea bass and several flounder, including this 24-inch, 5 lb. 6 oz. flattie that Nancy fooled with a strip of squid.



Ed Sowers, Ray Ricci, Dave Thomas, Craig McIlrath and Walt Bohn ended their day with a good catch of flounder and sea bass after fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Dan Iacangelo and Wes Pollitt. Ray led the way with a 22-inch flattie. The fish were caught on clam, cut bait and Gulp artificial baits over both natural and artificial reefs.



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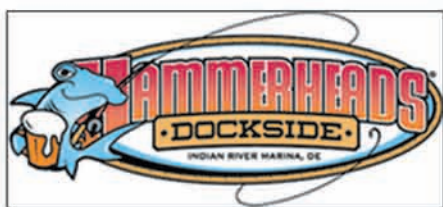
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The flounder were snapping for anglers fishing on the headboat, "Capt. Bob II" out of the Indian River Marina. The boat returned with 28 keepers in the box with several limits around the rail. All of the fish were caught on cut bait, shiners and Gulp artificial baits, south of "B" Buoy. Pictured are Chris, John, Rowan and Karie Pickell, Darrell Douppnik and Tom Carlson. Photo courtesy of "The Queen" at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.



Jeff Waxman, Steve Redden and Shane Martin had a good day of fishing at the South Jetty during a trip aboard the charter boat, "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford. The anglers ended their day with 5 sheepshead, weighing from 7 to 10.5 lbs., a triggerfish, 4 tautog measuring from 18 to 20-inches and some croaker. All were caught on light tackle while using crabs and sand fleas for bait. The trio also released around 30 short tautog, striped bass and bluefish during their trip.





Kern Ducote muscled in a 10.2 lb. flounder to win 2nd place in the M.S.S.A. Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament. Kern was fishing on the "Skint Back" with Dave Pugh when he hooked the fish on a 4-inch white Gulp artificial bait in 88-feet of water outside the Shipping Channel. Kern took home a check for \$500 for his 2nd place finish. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



First place in last weekends M.S.S.A. Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament was won by Russ Coward with a 30-inch, 10.6 lb. flattie caught while fishing on the "Adventurous" with Rick Kramer, Billy Davidson, John Sonner, Randy Swain and Randy Swain, Jr. The winning flounder was caught at Site 10 and earned Russ \$1,000 in award money. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



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TOURNAMENT**

*September 16-17, 2017*

## 2017 Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament Results

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<p><b>Main Tournament Flounder</b></p> <p>1st - RUSS COWARD 10.6 lbs. • \$1,000</p> <p>2nd - KERN DUCOTE 10.2 lbs. • \$500</p> <p>3rd - RYAN RUSSELL 5.6 lbs. • \$250</p>	<p><b>\$200 3 Stringer Flounder</b></p> <p>1st - "ADVENTUROUS" 20.55 lbs. • \$1,078</p> <p>2nd - "NAIL ONE" 16.25 lbs. • \$462</p>
<p><b>\$150 Heaviest Flounder</b></p> <p>1st - RUSS COWARD 10.6 lbs. • \$662</p> <p>2nd - KERN DUCOTE 10.2 lbs. • \$284</p>	<p><b>\$100 Other Than Flounder</b></p> <p>1st - "LOOSE KNOT" Sea Bass 3.8 lbs. \$500</p>

20 Boats Entered





















The team on the "Loose Knot" arrived at the scale of the 2017 M.S.S.A. Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament with 14 flounder caught at the Bass Grounds. Their heaviest weighed 5.6 lbs., good enough to earn them 3rd place in the tournament and a check for \$250. Fishing on the "Loose Knot" were Ryan Russell who caught the 5.6 pounder, Austin Davis, Kyle Wood, Jeff Lewatowski and John Weber. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle in West Ocean City.



# 2017 COASTAL FISHERMAN

## First Fish of the Year

(As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - Must be reported with picture within 48 hours of catch)

Species	2017	2016	Species	2017	2016
<b>Sea Bass</b> 	May 16, 2017 Tom Vaughan "Morning Star" Ocean Wreck	May 15, 2016 Steve Billingsley "Morning Star" Sue's Reef	<b>Mako Shark</b> 	April 28, 2017 Andy Smelter "Nontypical" Triple 0's	May 14, 2016 Brian Leader "Keep Er Wet" Poor Man's Canyon
<b>Tautog</b> 	January 1, 2017 Pat Scida "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	January 1, 2016 Dave Moore "Morning Star" Ocean Wreck	<b>White Marlin</b> 	June 16, 2017 Ian Schwing "Fish Whistle" Poor Man's Canyon	May 27, 2016 Andy Urban "In the Black" Norfolk Canyon
<b>Striped Bass</b> 	April 28, 2017 Jack Austin Cape Henlopen Surf	January 14, 2016 Connor Metz "G-FORCE" Little Gull	<b>Blue Marlin</b> 	June 25, 2017 Sasha Serpa "Maryland Pride" Baltimore Canyon	May 28, 2016 Bo Appel "Boss Hogg" Norfolk Canyon
<b>Weakfish</b> 	May 20, 2017 John Kelleher Ice Breakers	June 2, 2016 Rod Grodzicki Inner Wall	<b>Bluefin Tuna</b> 	April 30, 2017 Dale Christensen "Wrecker" Triple 0's	April 21, 2016 Joe Cantianelli "Reel Life" Baltimore Canyon
<b>Flounder</b> 	April 7, 2017 Lukas Layton Rt. 90 Bridge	April 16, 2016 Hannah Johnson "Lucky Break" Sinepuxent Bay	<b>Yellowfin Tuna</b> 	April 30, 2017 Corbin Ensor "Tunafowl" Triple 0's	May 7, 2016 Jeff Rosenkilde "Mate Trix" Baltimore Canyon
<b>Bluefish</b> 	April 17, 2017 Ayrton Pryor Assawoman Bay	April 15, 2016 Sean Fox Assateague Surf	<b>Longfin Tuna</b> 	August 25, 2017 Keith Fraser Norfolk Canyon 31 lbs.	June 5, 2016 Jeff Drury Linden Kohl Canyon
<b>Black Drum</b> 	April 20, 2017 Tom Fox Assatague Surf	March 31, 2016 Billy Powell Assateague Surf	<b>Bigeye Tuna</b> 	May 27, 2017 Mark Robbins "Husevo" Norfolk Canyon	May 26, 2016 Denise Rust "Marli" Norfolk Canyon
<b>Sheepshead</b> 	May 31, 2017 Paul Lebling South Jetty	May 7, 2016 George Easter Russell's Reef	<b>Dolphin</b> 	April 30, 2017 Megan Humphrey "Wrecker" Triple 0's	May 20, 2016 Randy Tracey "Talkin Trash" Washington Canyon
<b>Thresher Shark</b> 	May 27, 2017 Anthony Pino Fingers	May 20, 2016 Chris Stafford "Reel Nauti" Jackspot	<b>Wahoo</b> 	July 2, 2017 Scott Raleigh "That's Right" Sausages	June 2, 2016 Ryan Morris "Jade II" Washington Canyon

For a copy of this page or to report your catch, call the Coastal Fisherman at 410-213-2200





## End of season thoughts

While the summer season is ending in our area, the fishing season will be soon begin for these who head south. Here are a few marine electronic products that were introduced last fall and winter and got a late start to market and may be a good fit if you are looking to upgrade your systems this winter.

Furuno's new Multi-Beam Sonar, the DFF3D is a special transducer and black box combination that works with Furuno's newest displays, the TZT and TZT2. Don't get confused by the 3D name. While it has a 3D view option, there is a lot more to this system! The DFF3D is a multi-beam sonar that displays a

cross section, in real-time, of the sea column echoes for a total of 120 degrees of width under your boat. This system aids in instantly understanding the distribution of bait fish and the water column conditions under and to the sides of your boat. It has a detection range of over 650-feet in width and up to 1,000-feet downward with the main center beam - all dependent on sea and installation conditions.

The transducer has a built-in motion sensor that stabilizes the display to give you clear and stable images even under rough sea conditions, keeping everything in perspective to your boat on the screen. There are multiple ways to view the data, including a cross section view showing the entire 120-

degree beam, a 120-degree 3D image of the sea floor, a single beam under the boat, each of the three beams (port, center and starboard) on the same screen, side scan and more.

FLIR introduced new models of cameras, the M100 and M200 series thermal cameras and a new line of stabilized cameras. These cameras "see" the heat of objects and display that information in an easy to understand picture. These cameras are significantly less expensive than previous models of thermal cameras.

The FLIR M232 marine thermal camera is FLIR's smallest and most affordable pan-and-tilt marine thermal night vision camera. The M232 lets boaters see at night in 320x240 thermal resolution and also features 4x digital zoom.

The FLIR M132 adjustable tilt (fixed view) marine thermal camera is FLIR's smallest and most affordable installed marine thermal night vision camera. The M132 lets boaters see at night in the 320x240 thermal resolution and features a 2X digital zoom.

As many of you may know, FLIR purchased Raymarine awhile back and have integrated many of their products. These M100 and M200 cameras are designed to connect directly into a Raymarine Axiom Multi-Function Display. If you want to view the video output from the M100/M200 cameras on other displays, you will need additional hardware to convert the video signal. These new cameras use IP video technology which simplifies the installation by eliminating extra video signal cables, but other marine electronics manufacturers have not yet configured their system to work with the new FLIR Cameras.

FLIR has also added stabilization at a much lower cost to their traditional line of "M Series" thermal cameras, identified by the model

number ending with an "S". This was once an expensive upgrade to a "M Series" camera and is now basically included in the price as compared to the price of past models. If you are in the market for a thermal camera, the entry level cameras are a great buy along with all of the stabilized models.

Simrad and Lowrance introduced a new series of similar chartplotters -multi-function displays with their Simrad NSS evo3 and Lowrance HDS Carbon products. These got off to a late start but are worth the wait.

Both Simrad and Lowrance belong to parent company Navico, and though the evo3 and Carbon are similar, they are designed for different markets. While there are many new features that go into these new models, the two most important items I see are the screen and built-in sonar. The SolarMAX™ HD display on these machines is fantastic, very bright and able to be viewed at almost any angle, even with polarized sunglasses. These units now offer true dual-channel CHIRP sonar, allowing the unit to transmit sonar on two channels at the same time, such as low and high CHIRP, which was not previously available in their older models.

Whether updating your boat in the off-season or working on a preventative maintenance list, cooler temperatures are no reason to stop enjoying your boat and get in some fall fishing too.

This is the last Ship-to-Shore column this season. Thanks to all of the readers for a great season. I am already making notes and looking forward to next year's column.

*Captain Steve Katz is the owner of Steve's Marine Service and holds NMEA, AMEI and NMEA2000 certificates along with ABYC Master Technician certification and factory training from many manufacturers.*




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Keith Shoemaker is one proud dad as he shows off the 17 1/2-inch flounder caught by his son, Eli Shoemaker while fishing on the headboat, "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe and mate Serge Garder. Eli hooked the fish on a squid and shiner combination in the bay behind Assateague Island. Pictured back at Bahia Marina.

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Mike, Chase and Carl Williams caught 3 keeper flounder, weighing up to 4 lbs. 10 oz., while drifting minnows and Gulp artificial baits in the East Channel. Pictured at Fenwick Tackle.

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Evan Urgo caught a 78 lb. wahoo and Phil Emm and Zack Ware each released their first white marlin while fishing on the "Bubblehead" with Nick Campanaro, Capt. Buddy Whetzel and mate Joey Collins. The fish were all hooked while trolling in 75 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon.



Ken Yuen boated a 2 lb. 8 oz. flounder and a 2 lb. 4 oz. black sea bass during a trip aboard the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts. The fish were fooled with strips of squid over a natural ocean reef. The "Angler" sails out of Capt. Bill Bunting's Angler Dock in Ocean City.

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Three generations of Bathurst's spent the day drifting their favorite spots in the bay from behind Assateague Island up to 12th Street behind Ocean City and ended up with 5 keeper flounder, measuring between 17 1/2 and 21-inches. Pictured are Brett, Bob and Richard Bathurst.




Matt Miller ventured down from Pennsylvania and spent some time fishing on the "Indian" out of Lewes, DE. Matt ended up catching this 4 lb. 14 oz. flounder while dropping on ocean structure and weighed his catch at Lewes Harbour Marina.



During the 2017 Huk Big Fish Classic, Nick Marcinowski caught a 67.5 lb. yellowfin tuna while fishing on the "Reel Tight" with Brian Stempowski, Justin Havard, Capt. Steven Pilipauskis and mate Travis Jackson. The yellowfin was caught on a trolled ballyhoo in 1,200 fathoms outside the Poor Man's Canyon. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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Bryan Rice caught this 21-inch flounder on a live minnow at the start of the outgoing tide while drifting in the West Channel off Martha's Landing.



Anna Schumann muscled in the largest wahoo of the trip and Mike Trice and Nat Ewing added a couple more to the box after spending last Saturday fishing on the "Magic Moment" with Capt. Jim Bugg and mates Mark and Richard Hutchison. The speedsters, weighing 49, 52 and 58 lbs., were hooked on trolled lures in 75 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon where Capt. Jim found water temperatures at 74-degrees. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



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Rich and Debbie Daiker from Reisterstown, MD hit their honey hole by the Rt. 50 Bridge and ended their trip with 6 flounder, up to 25-inches and 6.5 lbs., and a 26-inch red drum. They also released a 36-inch red drum during their trip. All were caught on bunker during both the incoming and outgoing tides.



# Heaviest Fish of the Year

# COASTAL 2017

# FISHERMAN

(As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - TIES GO TO FIRST FISH REPORTED)



Species	Ocean City	Delaware	Species	Ocean City	Delaware
<b>Sea Bass</b> 	May 28, 2017 Lee Vincent "Fish Bound" 5 lbs. 4 oz.	June 16, 2017 Stephen Pistoia Del-Jersey-Land Reef 4 lbs. 2 oz.	<b>Mako Shark</b> 100 lb. minimum 	June 15, 2017 Shane Kline "Restless Lady" 564 lbs.	June 4, 2017 John Pendell Elephant Trunk 461 lbs.
<b>Tautog</b> 	February 21, 2017 Sam Furest "Morning Star" 19 lbs. 4 oz.	April 14, 2017 Mike Haas Site 10 9 lbs. 13 oz.	<b>Thresher Shark</b> 	June 4, 2017 Mike Fritsch Fingers 583 lbs.	July 6, 2017 Chris Pugh "B" Buoy 417 lbs.
<b>Striped Bass</b> 	May 10, 2017 Lee Savage Assateague Island 39 lbs. 8 oz.	June 5, 2017 Scott Cornew Bethany Surf 43 lbs.	<b>Bluefin Tuna</b> 	June 16, 2017 Neil Smith Poor Man's Canyon 210 lbs.	July 1, 2017 Frank Perna Baltimore Canyon 126 lbs.
<b>Weakfish</b> 	June 10, 2017 Rich Daiker South Jetty 5 lbs. 6 oz.	May 20, 2017 John Kelleher Delaware Bay 7 lbs. 2 oz.	<b>Yellowfin Tuna</b> 	August 24, 2017 Mike Cassidy Wilmington Canyon 184 lbs.	September 5, 2017 Corey Evans Last \$ 68 lbs. 3 oz.
<b>Cobia</b> 	No Weights Reported	September 9, 2017 Robert O'Neal Indian River Inlet 42 lbs.	<b>Longfin Tuna</b> 	August 25, 2017 Keith Fraser Norfolk Canyon 31 lbs.	No Weights Reported
<b>Flounder</b> 	July 14, 2017 Matt Marceron Old Grounds 8 lbs. 6 oz.	August 19, 2017 Brent Wiest Site 10 11 lbs. 4 oz.	<b>Bigeye Tuna</b> 	June 16, 2017 Greg Weber "That's Right" 180 lbs.	June 18, 2017 Matthew Gessler Poor Man's Canyon 130 lbs.
<b>Bluefish</b> 	May 4, 2017 Emma Matarese "OC Guide Service" 15 lbs. 12 oz.	April 21, 2017 Alex Neiss Cape Henlopen Surf 18 lbs. 8 oz.	<b>Dolphin</b> 	May 17, 2017 Chris Middendorf Norfolk Canyon 46 lbs.	July 24, 2017 John Gravatt Massey's Canyon 19 lbs.
<b>Sheepshead</b> 	September 1, 2017 Jeffrey Peregoy South Jetty 14 lbs. 8 oz.	<b>NEW</b> September 15, 2017 Jake Allnutt South Jetty 14 lbs. 13 oz.	<b>Wahoo</b> 	<b>NEW</b> September 16, 2017 Danny Gough "Billfisher" 93 lbs.	<b>NEW</b> September 15, 2017 Heath Berger Poor Man's Canyon 93.4 lbs.
<b>Black Drum</b> 	May 11, 2017 Zach Nagler Assateague Surf 40 lbs.	June 1, 2017 Paul Stermer Brandywine Shoal 70.5 lbs.	<b>White Marlin</b> 	<b>Most Releases in One Day (trolling only)</b> August 18, 2017 "Rhonda's Osprey" 8 Releases June 25, 2017 "Fish Whistle" 5 Releases	

For a copy of this page or to report your catch, call the Coastal Fisherman at 410-213-2200



# Virginia Fishing Report

by Dr. Julie Ball I.G.F.A Representative



With a watchful eye on tropical developments to the southeast, local anglers continue to enjoy the developing fall fisheries along the Mid-Atlantic. But, don't dismiss the summer faves just yet. Intercepting these fish as they prepare to depart the area can provide some good opportunities for anglers.

Big red drum are still roaming about the lower Bay shoals and barrier islands, and it is also time for reds to begin showing more activity around the artificial islands of the CBBT. Fresh cut bait and live bait work well for this area. Big bull reds can debut in the surf along Sandbridge and the Wildlife Preserve at any time. A northerly blow can jump start some good drum surf fishing action.

Spanish mackerel are still chasing trolled spoons in the clearer water off the Virginia Beach oceanfront and Cape Henry. But the most exciting news on the oceanfront is the

incredible king mackerel run, which is the best this area has seen in years. True smoker kings are crashing both live and trolled baits, with several kings hitting the docks weighing over 50-pounds, or more.

Anglers are finding some respectable flatfish as they continue to gather at the mouth of the Bay in preparation for migrating to deeper water. Boats working Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets are finding scattered catches of decent sized keepers. Offshore and inshore wreck flounder action is very good, with nice flatties averaging to around 23-inches taking fresh strip bait. Expect sea bass and triggerfish as a by-catch on these wrecks, but keep in mind that sea bass season closes on the 21st of September.

Big sheepshead will continue to linger on the structure of the Bay Bridge-Tunnel over the next few weeks, along with decent triggerfish. Tautog action is

rekindling for the fall trend, with the season reopening on the 19th this month. Remember you can keep up to three fish stretching to at least 16-inches.

Improving speckled trout catches are drawing more attention from anglers. If you can sneak your offerings past the hungry puppy drum, good numbers of specks are biting in areas such as Hungar's Creek, the Poquoson Flat, and Mobjack Bay. Also, Lynnhaven, Rudee and Little Creek Inlets, along with the Elizabeth River are also giving up fish, with some specks weighing in at over 4-pounds.

Some big yellow belly spot are hitting in the Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets and around the lower Bay. Fish pushing to 3/4 lb. are also coming from around Little Creek. The lower Bay Rivers, the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel, Ocean View and along the Virginia Beach oceanfront are also holding nice spot lately. Local piers are

reporting good action, especially after a stiff north or easterly blow. Large croaker are lurking in deeper areas along channels, inlets, the Bay Bridge Tunnel, the Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel and the Concrete Ships off Kiptopeke. Both spot and small-to-medium sized croaker are also responding inside Magothy Bay near Buoy 262 and out of Oyster.

Amberjack will still be active at the Southern Towers through October. Deep droppers are having good luck near the Canyon edges with limits of nice blueline and golden tilefish and jumbo sea bass. Grouper and barrellfish are also adding to the deep-water variety.

Offshore, billfish are still providing good action. Even though the bite varies from day to day, white marlin along with scattered blue marlin, and good numbers of bailer and gaffer dolphin are the main event. A few tuna are around, but they are scattered.

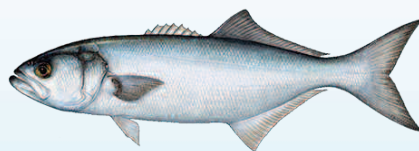
*Dr. Julie Ball is the I.G.F.A. Representative for Virginia Beach, VA. For more information to to drball.com*

## Virginia Regulations

### Coastal State Waters Only



**BLACK SEA BASS**  
12 1/2-inch minimum  
15 per person  
5/12 - 9/21 & 10/22 - 12/31



**BLUEFISH**  
No minimum size  
10 per person/day



**BLACK DRUM**  
16" minimum  
1 per person/day



**COBIA**  
Season Closed



**CROAKER**  
No limit



**RED DRUM**  
18" - 26" 3 per person/day



**SHEEPSHEAD**  
No minimum size 4 per person/day



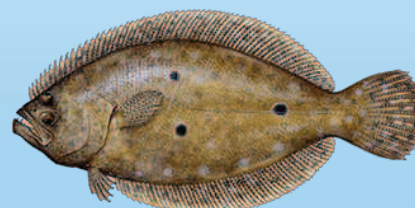
**SPECKLED TROUT**  
14" minimum  
5 per person  
Only 1 fish may be greater than 24-inches



**STRIPED BASS**  
28" minimum  
1 per person



**TAUTOG**  
16" minimum  
3 per person/day



**SUMMER FLOUNDER**  
17" minimum  
4 per person/day



**WEAKFISH**  
12" minimum  
1 per person/day





Anglers are still banging away on flounder over ocean structure but it seems like they needed to venture out to deeper water recently to get to the larger fish. On this day, anglers on the headboat, "Morning Star" caught some dandies while fishing with a variety of cut bait and Gulp on natural and artificial reefs. Pictured are Mike Ziegler from Dillsburg, PA, George Henning from Ocean City, MD, Craig McIlraith from York, PA and Terry Burgess from York, PA. Terry had the hot hand, catching his limit of flounder in only 5 minutes. The "Morning Star" is docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center in West Ocean City, MD.

# ADVANCED MARINA

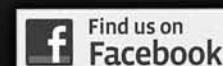
[advancedmarina.wix.com/home](http://advancedmarina.wix.com/home)

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## BOAT FOR SALE

### 1999 Mariah Z302 Limited Edition

30ft, Low hours. Very clean with updated cabin. Rare mid-cabin walk thru boat with bow rider, yacht certified, wake tower, Bravo 3 drive. Fun of a speed boat and the luxury of a family cruiser!  
**\$36,000 OBO Call 410-980-6439**



## PICK UP YOUR COASTAL FISHERMAN AT THESE LOCATIONS

### OCEAN CITY

Angler Restaurant  
Talbot Street Pier  
Oceanic Fishing Pier  
Wockenfuss Candy - Boardwalk 1st St.  
Wockenfuss Candy - Boardwalk 7th St.  
Layton's Restaurant - 16th St.  
Reel Inn - 17th St.  
Bahia Marina - 22nd St.  
Anthony's Beer, Wine & Deli - 33rd St.  
Minit Market - 33rd St.  
Dough Roller - 41st St.  
Seacrets - 49th St.  
64th Street Market - 64th St.  
Advanced Marina - 66th St.  
Mione's Pizza - 67th St.  
Dough Roller - 69th St.  
Exxon Wine Rack - 86th St.  
Layton's on 92nd St.  
Liquid Assets - 94th St.  
Wawa - 120th St.  
Montego Bay Market - 130th St.  
7-Eleven - 139th St.

### WEST OCEAN CITY

Ocean City Visitors Center  
Wawa - Rt. 50  
Mione's Pizza - Outlets  
Wockenfuss Candy - Outlets  
Bank of Ocean City  
West-O Bottle Shop & Bar - Rt. 50  
All Tackle Ocean City - Rt. 50  
Starbucks - Rt. 50  
Ocean City Fishing Center  
Ocean City Marlin Club  
Harborside Bar & Grill  
Ocean City Fish Company  
Atlantic Tackle  
Sunset Marina  
Sunset Provisions  
Harbor Marine  
Food Lion - Rt. 611  
Larry's Trading Post - Rt. 611  
Optical Galleria - Rt. 611  
Southside Deli - Rt. 611

### ANNAPOLIS, MD

All Tackle - Somerville Road  
**BERLIN & PITTSVILLE**  
Walmart - Rt. 50 (both entrances)  
Berlin Post Office  
Buck's Place - Rt. 611  
Frontier Town - Check-In  
Frontier Town - Country Store  
Assateague Market - Rt. 611  
7-Eleven - Rt. 589  
Crabs To Go - Rt. 50  
Coastal Drug - Ocean Pines

### FENWICK/SELBYVILLE

Fenwick Tackle  
Mancini's Italian Restaurant  
North Bay Marina  
Uncle Willie's  
Rt.113 Boat Sales  
Harris Teeter  
Yellowfins Bar & Grill

### BETHANY, OCEAN VIEW & MILLVILLE

Hook 'em & Cook 'em Outfitters - Rt.1  
G&E Supermarket  
G&E Hardware - Cedar Neck Rd.  
Hocker's Deli - Rt. 26  
Hocker's Supermarket - Rt. 26  
Bethany Auto & Marine - Rt. 26

### INDIAN RIVER

Indian River Marina  
Hook 'em & Cook 'em Tackle Shop  
South Shore Marina

### DEWEY, REHOBOTH & LEWES

Pier Point Marina  
Fisherman's Wharf  
Lewes Harbour Marina  
ACME - Rt. 1

### LONG NECK

Short's Marine  
Rick's Bait & Tackle  
Lucky's Bait & Tackle





# Tides & Moon Phases

## OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. Sept. 20 <b>NEW MOON</b>	Low 02:22 am Low 02:36 pm	High 08:41 am High 09:08 pm
Thurs. Sept. 21	Low 03:02 am Low 03:22 pm	High 09:24 am High 09:45 pm
Fri. Sept. 22	Low 03:42 am Low 04:08 pm	High 10:05 am High 10:20 pm
Sat. Sept. 23	Low 04:42 am Low 04:56 pm	High 10:45 am High 10:57 pm
Sun. Sept. 24	Low 05:00 am Low 05:45 pm	High 11:25 am High 11:37 pm
Mon. Sept. 25	Low 05:41 am Low 06:37 pm	High ----- High 12:08 pm
Tues. Sept. 26	Low 06:24 am Low 07:32 pm	High 12:20 am High 12:56 pm
Wed. Sept. 27 <b>1st QTR. MOON</b>	Low 07:12 am Low 08:26 pm	High 01:08 am High 01:51 pm
Thurs. Sept. 28	Low 08:02 am Low 09:21 pm	High 02:03 am High 02:53 pm
Fri. Sept. 29	Low 08:56 am Low 10:13 pm	High 03:03 am High 03:54 pm
Sat. Sept. 30	Low 09:52 am Low 11:02 pm	High 04:02 am High 04:47 pm
Sun. Oct. 1	Low 10:49 am Low 11:46 pm	High 04:57 am High 05:35 pm
Mon. Oct. 2	Low 11:43 am Low -----	High 05:46 am High 06:19 pm
Tues. Oct. 3	Low 12:26 am Low 12:33 pm	High 06:32 am High 07:01 pm

**Add 1.5 hours for bay tides at the Rt. 50 Bridge.**  
**Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide**  
**Delaware Bay Entrance - subtract 1 hour 25 minutes to high tide**  
**- subtract 45 minutes to low tide**  
**Wachapreague, VA - add 4 minutes for high tide**  
**- 21 minutes for low tide**  
**Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide**

*These tides are only meant to be a guide, as tides can be affected by storms and weather fronts.*

# Upcoming Tournaments

.... **SEPTEMBER** ....

## 15th Annual A.M.S.A. Red Drum Tournament

**September 21-24 • 410-944-3036**

**... OCTOBER ...**

## Lewes Harbour Marina Tautog Tournament

**October 1-31 • Lewes, DE • 302-645-6227**

## 38th Annual Mid-Atlantic Surf Fishing Tournament

**October 5-7 • Ocean City, MD • 410-251-2203**

## 38th Annual Mid-Atlantic Surf Fishing Tournament

**October 5-7 • Ocean City, MD • 410-251-2203**

## 11th Annual Delaware Mobile Sportfishermen

## Invitational Surf Fishing Tournament

**October 6-8 • [info@dmsclub.org](mailto:info@dmsclub.org)**

# 18th Annual Rocktoberfest Tournament

**October 21-22 • Friday & Saturday • 410-289-7438**

**... NOVEMBER ...**

## Lewes Harbour Marina Striper Tournament

**November 1 - 30 • Lewes, DE • 302-645-6227**

## 25th Annual MSSA Chesapeake Bay Fall Classic

**November 16-17 • MSSA • 410-255-5535**

**... DECEMBER ...**

## 5th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Rockfish Tournament

**December 9-17 • 410-213-1613**







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**\$1,700,000**

PUSHY - 2001 102' Destiny Motor Yacht  
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**\$1,095,000**

SHAMELESS - 2002 Viking 65' Enclosed  
Bridge - Call John Blumenthal



**ANOTHER PRICE REDUCTION!**

**Bring All Offers!**

**\$525,000**

1988 58' Monterey  
Call Jimmy Fields



**ANOTHER PRICE REDUCTION!**

**\$95,000**

QUICK DRAW - 2005 32' Luhrs 32 Open  
Call Steve Trattner



**JUST LISTED**

**\$69,900**

STACEY - 1966 31' Bertram Bahia Mar  
Call Rick Carney



**\$3,590,000**

MECHANICAL MAN - 2008 68' Weaver  
Custom Sportfish - Call Jimmy Fields



**JUST LISTED**

**\$1,200,000**

REEL DIRECT - 2012 65' Guthrie  
Custom Carolina - Call Jimmy Fields



**Major Price Reduction!**

**\$800,000**

MISS HEATHER - 2000 74' Hatteras  
Cockpit Motor Yacht - Call Dave Shockley



**NEW LISTING**

**\$329,000**

BOY'S TOY - 2002 45' Buddy Davis  
Call Jimmy Fields



**NEW LISTING**

**\$94,000**

REEL CHANCE - 2015 Tidewater 250CC  
Call Jimmy Fields



**\$54,900**

MISS SUSAN - 1999 33' Mako  
Call Steve Trattner



**\$3,950,000**

REEL PUSHY - 2008 70' Spencer Yacht  
Call Jimmy Fields



**\$1,200,000**

ARGUS - 2009 58' Middleton  
Call Jimmy Fields



**\$785,000**

WATER DAMAGE - 2015 Sea Vee 430 FA  
Call John Blumenthal



**NEW LISTING**

**\$159,900**

REEL NAUGHTY - 1997 40' Ocean  
Call Steve Trattner



**PRICE REDUCED! Bring All Offers!**

**\$86,500**

MATADOR - 1974 41' Viking  
Call Jimmy Fields



**PRICE REDUCED**

**\$54,900**

RAMSI - 2004 268 Albemarle Express  
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COOKIE MONSTER - 2007 74' Viking  
Call Rick Carney



**Major Price Reduction!**

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SEA HAG - 2008 61' Blackwell  
Custom Carolina - Call Jeff James



**JUST LISTED**

**\$649,900**

DOUBLE EAGLE - 2002 52' Viking  
Call John Blumenthal



**JUST LISTED**

**\$259,000**

REEL ASSET - 2008 36' Yellowfin CC  
Call Jimmy Fields



**PRICE REDUCED**

**\$69,900**

PERSISTENCE - 1994 35' Luhrs  
Call Steve Trattner



**DIESEL!**

**\$44,900**

JIMBO - 2000 26' Albemarle  
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