

The area of warmer water stretching from the Baltimore Canyon down to the Washington Canyon sent a few boats in search of yellowfin tuna over the weekend. On Friday, these airmen from Andrews Air Force Base took some R&R to go fishing on the "Foolish Pleasures" with Capt. Dale Lisi and mate Phil Knapp. They returned with 8 yellowfin tuna in the box after trolling spreaderbars and ballyhoo in 100 fathoms along the west wall of the Baltimore Canyon where they found 68-degree water. The anglers hooked and landed 4 yellowfins at one time and followed that up with a successful triple-header. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center are Eric Myers, Gregory Marchand, Chad Stakalosa, Troy Tolfree, Raymond Williamson and Martin Monahan.

Isk a Pro Captain Bruce McGuigan

Q: What are the secrets to catching speckled trout?

Carl Brown North Huntingdon, PA

A: Speckled trout anglers are a breed all to themselves. They tend to keep a low profile and don't share a whole lot of information.

Speckled trout are an elusive, challenging fish to catch. Conditions have to be right, your technique has to be solid and your hook-set needs to be right on.

Here are some things I have learned over the years from some excellent speckled trout fishermen and from time spent chasing these fish.

For tackle, I prefer a 7-8 foot light/medium action rod. The longer rod lets you cast your lure further and the soft tip helps you with gently setting the hook. Remember, these fish have extremely soft mouths, so a delicate hook-set

is crucial.

When choosing a reel, look for a medium to low gear ratio. Look for one around 5.1 or under. The Shimano Spheros 5000, the Penn Conquer 5000 or the Fin-Nor Inshore Spinning Reel in the 4000 or 5000 size are all good speckled trout reels.

I like to spool my spec reels with monofilament. I know a lot of fishermen like to use braided but remember that monofilament will give you a little stretch, which again, softens the hook-set a bit and won't tear the lure from the fish's mouth. The lighter line the better. Monofilament in the 8-10 lb. test range is perfect. If you do use braided line, just use a 3-4 foot top shot of fluorocarbon leader.

Most of the speckled trout fishermen I know choose MirrOlures as their number one lure for speckled trout. MirrOlures come in various styles, but you want to choose from their "Sinking ones

Twitchbait" line. I haven't done well with topwater lures for specs. My favorite lures are ones in the 52M series, a MirrOlure classic. These lures sink at a rate of 1 foot per second and don't appear to have much action, but speckled trout love them. My 1st choice is their 52M-808 which has a black back, fluorescent orange belly and gold scale. My number two choice would be the 52M-11 that has the classic red head, white back and belly and silver scale. My third choice would be the 52M-704 that has a fluorescent hot pink back, yellow belly and silver scale. This one is also known as the Texas Chicken. Other good colors are the "PD" (Purple Demon), "NS" (Night Stalker) and the #18 that has a green back, white belly and silver

Capt. Mac's High Performance Tackle, Fenwick, DE

I have also found MirrOlures in the STTR and the TT series to be effective. I like the root beer colored lures.

Sometimes, speckled trout



will hold on the bottom, so another good lure to use is a 1/4 to 3/8 oz. jig head tipped with a 4-inch curltail in a metal flake style. Good colors for the curltail are silver, root beer, smoke and chartreuse.

When it comes to colors, speckled trout can be very finicky. During one part of the day they may be hammering a certain color, and in the next instance you couldn't buy a bite. Don't be afraid to change lure color. Make a couple of casts and if you don't get a hit, change it up.

Conditions are important no matter what type of fish your are targeting. For speckled trout I like clean, green water. The current has to be moving and I prefer the

continued on page 4



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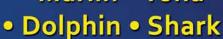


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outgoing tide when the bait is being pushed down the bay. Give me a 20 knot, northwest wind on the front edge of an approaching system and 6-feet of water that has a broken shell, gravel or sandy bottom and I am right where I want to be. Water temperatures should be in the low-50's to the mid-60's. This is typically conditions we can find in the fall which coincides perfect the fish are more when concentrated, getting ready for their migration.

As far as technique is concerned, I cannot over emphasize a slow lure retrieval. This is key to hooking speckled trout. Stealth is another important aspect. These fish can spook easily, so you don't want to go flying into your spot. I like to arrive as quietly as possible. After I set my anchor with my bow into the current, I usually wait for 10-15 minutes before I throw my first cast. This lets everything settle down. I then cast perpendicular to the boat and let the lure tumble into the tide, slowly sinking as it moves towards the back of my boat. If the current is really moving, I

410-213-0314

wait longer to begin my S-L-O-W retrieval to allow my lure to sink. Most strikes seem to happen just as the lure is swinging around the back corner of the boat, right before it is directly behind us. When I am using a MirrOlure, I only use a slow retrieval technique. If I am using a jig head, I will give the rod a slight twitch, but also keep the retrieval as slow as possible. If think you are retrieving as slow as you can... go slower!

When the strike happens, DO NOT set the hook like you see those bass fisherman do on TV. Let the line come tight and crank through it. A hard set will only tear the lure from the fish's soft mouth.

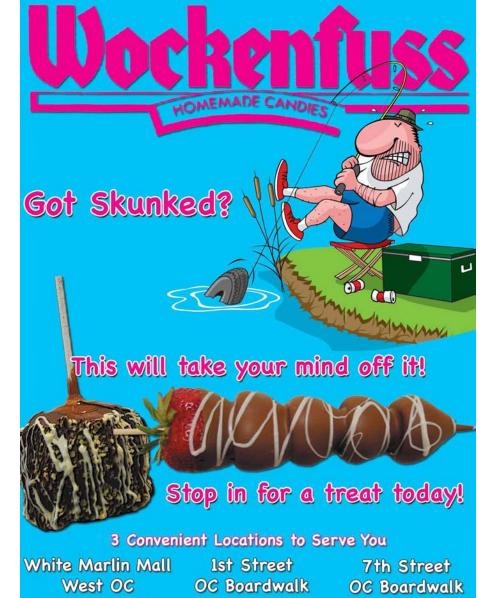
Speckled trout fishing can be a lot of fun and be prepared, it can be addicting. When you think the bite may be over, keep fishing. It tends to occur between mid-September when the bunker are moving out of the bay up to the 1st week in December.

Good luck!

Do you have a question for a local pro? You can email it to coastalfisherman@comcast.net. Don't forget to include your name, town and phone number.



On Sunday morning, the "Wrangler" returned from an overnight trip with 6 yellowfin tuna in the box, totalling 197 lbs. The fish were caught on trolled ballyhoo in 100 fathoms on the west wall of the Baltimore Canyon in 65-degree water. Pictured are Darrell VanHorn from Huntington, WV, Chad Artrip from Chesapeake, OH, Colene Artrip from Pasadena, MD, Darrin Pruitt from Stevensville, MD, Capt. Craig Mercier and mate Tom Zapf. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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Last week, Tony Diesel of Ocean City, MD was all smiles after landing the first speckled trout of the year while casting a swim shad at night off the South Jetty in the Indian River Inlet. The trout measued 20.5-inches and tipped the scale at 2 lbs. 10 oz.



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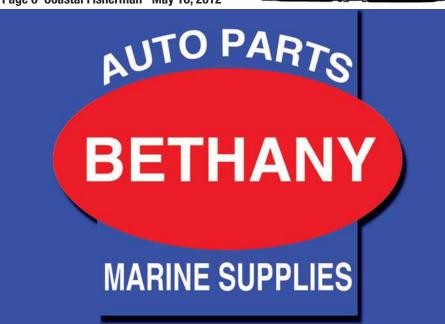


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Mike Hastings of Berlin, MD captured this 31-inch, 25 lb. black drum while fishing with a sand flea/Fishbites combination off Assateague Island. Weighed at Buck's Place.



Scott Donaway from Dover, DE was casting fresh bunker from the surf at 3R's Road in Delaware when he hooked into this 42-inch striper that tipped the scale at 26 lbs. 4 oz. at Bill's Sport Shop.



Steve Iwaszko of Ocean Pines, MD was tossing Slug-Go's around the Assateague Bridge at night when he landed this pair of 34-inch stripers while fishing on the "Night Fighter".



On Friday, John Sovero from Easton, MD and Gene Mazzilli from Towson, MD caught 4 tautog while fishing with sand fleas around the South Jetty. Their largest fish measured 22-inches and weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. Pictured at Ake Marine.



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Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



Finally, there is some excitement in the air with anglers catching stripers off the beach, a few flounder in the bay, tog around the South Jetty and tuna offshore.

Tuna

The warm water that stretched from the Baltimore down Canyon to Washington Canyon had tuna fishermen chomping at the bit.

Yellowfins were caught by several boats with fish averaging around 35-45 lbs.

On Friday, the "Foolish Pleasures" returned to the Ocean City Fishing Center with 8 yellowfins in the box. Capt. Dale Lisi ran to 100 fathoms on the west wall of the Baltimore Canyon where he found water temperatures hovering around the 68degree mark. Capt. Dale reported that the bite started around 8 am and finished up by 10 am.

On Saturday, the "Restless Lady" ventured a little further, ending up in 500 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon where they caught a 130 lb. mako shark and a 42 lb. yellowfin

Sunday morning, "Wrangler" returned from an overnight trip with vellowfin tuna that averaged 33 lbs. Like the "Foolish Pleasures", Capt. Craig



On Saturday, Nick Parr landed this 42-inch striper while surfcasting off Assateague Island right before dawn. Nick was using a bunker head for bait and weighed the 30 pounder at Buck's Place.

Mercier found his fish in 100 fathoms on the west wall of the Baltimore Canyon. Trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars did the trick.

The "Cindy Sue II" out of Indian River caught 2 yellowfin tuna, a bluefin tuna and a 151 lb. swordfish during an overnight trip to the Baltimore Canyon.

Sharks

As mentioned earlier, the "Restless Lady" boated a 130 lb. mako shark on Saturday, the same day that "No Shop Talk" hooked into a 168 lb.

mako around the Sausages.

Captains fishing for tuna in the Baltimore Canyon reported all the blue sharks you wanted.

Flounder

Flounder fishing is pretty slow right now. Water temperatures are around 65degrees, but anglers continue to be frustrated with dirty water. The slur in the bay, especially behind Assateague Island, make it practically impossible to fish. You spend more time picking it off your bait than you do fishing.

During the middle of the week, there was a good

www.coastalfisherman.net flounder bite near the Rt. 90 Bridge. The fish were too small to keep but plentiful.

On Saturday, the "Get Sum" did manage to get 3 keepers in the Thorofare. The fish measured up to 19-inches and were caught on Gulp! Swimming Mullets.

Flounder finally started to show up in the East Channel, south of the Rt. 50 Bridge, on Sunday. Fish were too small to keep, but it's the first time we have seen them in this popular location.

Bluefish

Snapper bluefish were stacked around the Rt. 50 Bridge on Sunday morning. Big Bird Cropper and Dave Leizear caught a load of snappers while tossing Roy Rigs during the outgoing tide. Once the wind shifted and the slur moved in from behind Assateague, the water became too dirty and the bite turned off.

Tautog

Don't forget that you can only keep two, 16-inch tog from May 16th to October 31st.

The South Jetty produced some nice catches of tautog during the week.

Anglers on the "Lucky Break" caught 9 keepers and a bunch of throwbacks during the last of the incoming tide early in the week.

On Sunday, the tog bite was very good around the South Jetty. Unfortunately, the fish were too small to keep, averaging 14 to 15.75-inches. That 16-inch minimum size makes it tough for bay anglers.





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Capt. Nick said that they would have had their limit of tautog had the minimum size not increased to 16 inches.

Inshore on Saturday, the "Jezebel" had 8 keeper tog while fishing at the Great Eastern Reef and the Bass Grounds.

Striped Bass

The weekend saw a good number of small stripers being caught around the North Jetty and the Rt. 50 Bridge. Anglers tossing swim shad lures did well.

Striper fishing off Assateague continued to be excellent. Anglers had to battle through sharks and skates to get their striper, but fish over 40-inches were caught by surfcasters throwing peeler crabs, bunker chunks and heads.

Before the heavy rains on Wednesday, the bite was good, but Thursday slowed due to dirty water caused by the storm. On Friday, the bite was strong with several fish over 40-inches getting caught.

On Saturday, Nick Parr caught himself a beautiful 42-incher right at dawn while using a bunker head for bait. Nick's fish tipped the scale at 30 lbs.

Sea Bass

Maryland's sea bass season opens up on May 19th and from the sound of it, there are plenty out there to catch. Reports coming in from "B" Buoy, the Great Eastern Reef and around the Bass Grounds have all bragged about good sea bass bites.

The minimum size remains at 12.5-inches and anglers are allowed to keep 25 fish per trip/day.

The first tournament out of Ocean City is the 3rd Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Bluefish Tournament on May 26th and 27th. For more information, check out their ad on page 19 or go to their website at www.ocmarlinclubcom.



Rich Bell of Ocean City, MD has been catching some really nice size striped bass off the beach in Ocean City. On this day, Rich landed a pair that measured 37 and 44-inches while fishing with fresh bunker off 140th Street. The largest fish weighed 27 lbs. on the scale at Oyster Bay Tackle.



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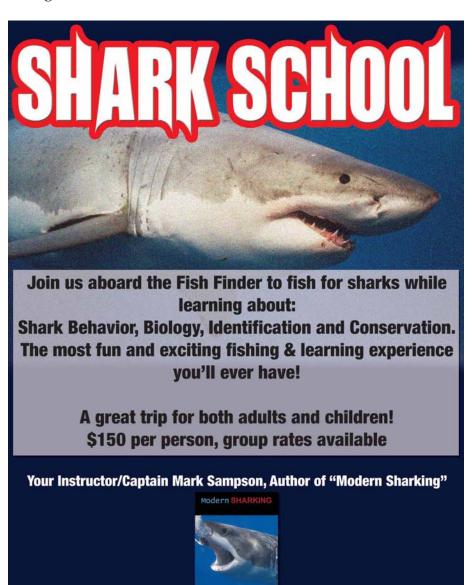
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On Saturday, Bill Elliott from Parsonsburg, MD reeled in this 168 lb. mako shark while fishing on the "No Shop Talk" with Will DiGennaro of Berlin, MD, Aaron Saulisbury of Cordova, MD and Derick Morris of Pittsville, MD. The make ate a whole mackerel around the Sausages and was weighed at the Ocean City Fishing



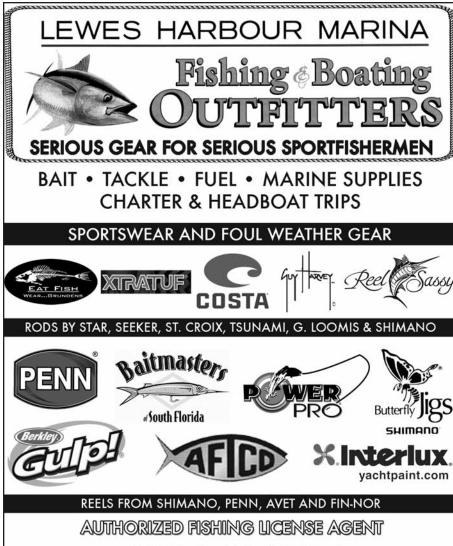
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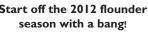
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Josh, Jacob and Jared Wagner from Tyrone, PA finished their day with 9 tautog in the cooler after fishing on the "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford. The fish, measuring up to 19-inches, were caught on green crabs at the South Jetty during the incoming tide.



In spite of the white sunglasses, the duo of Johnny Coffiey and his cousin, Nick Coffiey caught these 3 striped bass while fishing overnight in the Indian River Inlet. The anglers were fishing with swim shads during the outgoing tide. Their heaviest fish weighed in at 16 lbs. 11 oz. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Current state record holder for tautog and obvious master of the "Lewes Harbour Marina Stretch", Charlie Donohue of Philadelphia, PA showed that he could also land big flounder, hooking this 21.5-incher while drifting minnows in the shallow water around Harbour Island. Charlie was fishing with renowned flounder captain, Denny Blessing on the "O.C. Joy". The fish weighed in at 3 lbs. 8 oz. at Oyster Bay Tackle.



Ryan Machuzak from Salisbury, MD used sand fleas to hook this 40-inch striper while fishing from the surf off Assateague Island. Pictured at Buck's Place.

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John and Matthew Papathakis from Baltimore, MD caught their limit of tautog along with a couple of flounder during a trip aboard the "Ellie Belly". The tog, measuring between 16 and 19-inches, were caught on green crabs at the South Jetty and the flatties were hooked in the Thorofare. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



This pair of stripers, weighing up to 24 lbs., were caught by Buster Davis of Long Neck, DE while fly fishing in the Indian River Inlet. Photo courtesy of Rick's Bait & Tackle.



Josh Thompson, Jay Baxter, John Place, John and Larry Armstrong and Eric Blom jumped on a good morning striper bite in the Indian River Inlet, landing their limit up to 45-inches on Storm lures. The anglers were fishing on "Gale Force Charters" with Capt. Aaron Hurd and mate Jimmy Coffiey.

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Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



"What color flounder rig should I use? What color Gulp! is best? What color lure should I use?"

What color rig, lure or artificial bait like Gulp! is always a topic of conversation in a bait and tackle shop. The most tried and true way to decide the best color is experimentation. If you have four guys on the boat fishing for flounder, everyone should start off with a different color. When the fish start biting one over the other, that's the one to switch to!

There are four things you have to consider when you choose what color rigs, bait or lure to use.

- Water clarity
- Weather conditions (sunny, cloudy, day or night, dusk or dawn)
- What the fish are feeding on- Are they feeding actively?
 - Water depth

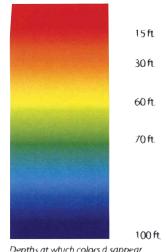
"I heard chartreuse was always a good color to use!"



For years, chartreuse was the color of choice for anglers fishing for flounder and when Gulp! took over the market, chartreuse was always the best color. Last year white outsold chartreuse three to one. Go figure. Three color combinations that always seem to work in saltwater are: yellow/white, chanteuse/white red/white. In the spring pink or pink/white works well.

Fluorescent colors like chartreuse can be seen further in the water when the water is murky or greenish. When the fish are not biting aggressively and are having a hard time seeing the baits, chartreuse blades or chartreuse Gulp!

may be the ticket. But when the fish are really turned on in a feeding frenzy eating some natural bait in the water, a natural color such as white, yellow or pink may produce more bites. This is because fluorescent colors are not natural to the environment.



Depths at which colors d sappear

When a lure or rig hits the water in our coastal bays, 60% of the color can disappear by the time the rig falls ten feet. The deeper you are fishing, the less important color is and the more important it is to have motion, scent and contrast of light/dark colors. A lure may look only gray or black to the eyes of a fish once the light has filtered out the Rig manufacturers know this. That's why they often make a rig with contrasting colors like white hair and red beds. If the fish doesn't see one color, it may see the other or a contrast of light/dark to make it more visible. Also, a fish like a flounder is looking up, so the contrast of the bait against the color of the sky can make a big difference. That's why on cloudy days a darker color like purple may work and on sunny days in clear water, a color like white may work best. In clear, shallow water, colors will look like the colors they are. In deeper water, the colors are more like shades of gray and black.

Some fish sense polarized light more than others. What??? Light waves are produced by vibrating electric charges and it's in the water more at dusk and dawn than at any other time of day. That's why some fish like striped bass seem to feed best at this time of day. These light waves in the water also help some fish feed in low light conditions. Tinsel and Mylar that are in flounder bucktail teasers are excellent reflectors of polarized light. bucktail material itself is not a good reflector of polarized light, so that must be why on some days, especially early and late in the day, Mylar in your bucktail flounder jig can be quite helpful.

Color of the lure is not the only criteria when fishing. Most fish are nearsighted (objects in the distance appear blurry and out of focus) and the fish need to get "up close and personal" to really see the bait. A flounder may look up and see the contrast of two colors against the sky. More contrast (darker colors) is good if the sky is dark and cloudy. Use less contrast (and lighter colors) if the sky is sunny. Remember the old flounder saying, "Dark live minnows on a cloudy day and bright light-colored frozen shiners on the sunny day."

Sound and smell are just as important as sight. Sound travels five times faster in water than it does in the air. That's probably why the striper bite will quit at the South Jetty once the boat traffic gets up!

The sense of smell for a fish is a million times better than humans. So that's probably why Gulp! and Fish Bites work so well! Jigging a bait up and down will not only give motion, but it will also create some sound to entice the fish. Combining a Gulp! artificial bait with a minnow will give contrasting color plus it will give you more scent and motion in the water! Putting a white strip of squid with a dark live minnow will

also give you color contrast plus it will give you more scent. Scented squid strips will also give off the marinated shedder crab oil scent into the water.

"Why are dark colored lures good at night?"



Black and dark purple lures at night are sometimes really good for striper anglers. If the sky is dark, black gives us the best silhouette because black is the least transparent color in the water. Fish look up and can really see that black colored lure! If the moon is out and bright, a lighter color may work better. Then of course, you have to factor in what the fish are feeding on and "match the hatch" so all the color theories can be thrown out the window! If the stripers are feeding on baby sea trout and sea trout color Tsunami lures are working, then, that's the way to go! But, the rule of thumb in places like the Indian River Inlet have always been "light or white lures during the day and dark lures at night."

Sometimes all the theories can be thrown out the window and the lure/bait you believe in most will work. A plain, live minnow on the hook may wind up being the best bait of the day and throw out all the fancy rigs. But if you go flounder fishing with Capt Monty on the "Morning Star", you will see that the technique of jig, jig, twitch and twitch... combined with the fancy Mylar teaser tails and certain color beads (sight contrast), and a certain bait (scent) will... well... you just got to see it to believe it....

Good fishing....

Sue Foster is an outdoor writer and co-owner of Oyster Bay Tackle in Ocean City, MD and Fenwick Tackle in Fenwick, DE.



Ben Strahl was fishing over an ocean wreck aboard the "Katy Did" with Capt. Brent Wiest when he hooked this 7 lb. 4 oz. tautog. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



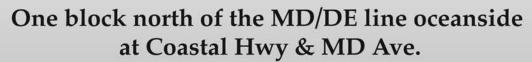
Luckily, Jack Austin has had a better spring than the Boston Red Sox. On this day, Jack landed this 34 lb. 13 oz. linesider on fresh bunker at Herring Point. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina. Two convenient bait & tackle locations to serve you!

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BLUEFISH 8" minimum 10 per person/day



BLUE CRAB 5" minimum 1 bushel/person or 2 bushels/vessel



BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 3 per person/day or 6 per boat/day



CROAKER 9" minimum 25 per person/day



RED DRUM 18" - 27" 1 per person/day



SHEEPSHEAD No limit



SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 10 per person/day



STRIPED BASS 28" minimum 2 per person/day



TAUTOG 16" minimum 1/1 - 5/15 & 11/1 - 11/16 4 per person 5/16 - 10/31 2 per person



SUMMER FLOUNDER 17" minimum 3 per person/day 4/14 - 12/16



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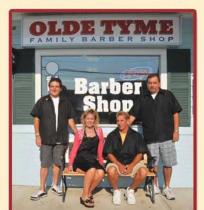
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Michael Earls of Berlin, MD landed this 36-inch striper while fishing with peeler crabs from the surf off Assateague Island. Pictured at Buck's Place.



Bill Banahan battled skates while fishing off Assateague Island until he hook this 36-inch striper on a chunk of bunker.



Before the Delaware tog season closed, Jim Azato and Price Lindsay from Lewes, DE caught these 7 lb. fish while using green crabs at the Outer Wall. Pictured at Bill's Sport Shop.



Jane Burton and Roland Hubbard from Pasadena, MD, Tim Kane from Berlin, MD and Capt. Chester Sadowski ventured out to the Great Eastern Reef and the Bass Grounds for some tautog fishing and returned with 8 keepers in the cooler on the "Jezebel". All of the fish were caught while using green crabs for bait. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Wilson Clayton, DE landed this 20-inch flounder while fishing near Buoy 9 in the Indian River Bay. Shawn caught the flattie on a minnow and Gulp! combination. Picture courtesy of Whitetail Taxidermy & **Outdoor Supplies.**



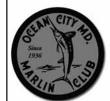
This 39-inch, 23 lb. 4 oz. striped bass fell victim to a chunk of fresh bunker from Mickey Bremer of Dewey Beach, DE while fishing at the Naval Crossing. Weighed at Bill's Sport Shop.





Ben Geiser from Wilmington, DE used a strip of bluefish to catch this 3 lb. flounder in the Indian River Inlet. Weighed at Hook'em &





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3rd Annual Memorial Day **Bluefish Tournament**

Chairman: Franky Pettolina Registration: May 25, 6:30 p.m. Fishing Days: (I of 2) May 26 & May 27 Awards Banquet: May 27, 6:30-9 p.m. You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this

33rd Annual Small Boat **Tournament**

Chairman: Bill Regan Registration: June 22, 6:30 p.m. Fishing Days: (1 of 2) June 23 & June 24 Crab Feast/Awards Banquet: June 24, 6:30-9 p.m. You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this

800.757.6332

30th Annual Canyon Kick Off **Tournament**

Chairman: Franky Pettolina Registration: June 28, 6:30 p.m. Fishing Days: (2 of 3) June 29 & 30, July 1 Awards Banquet: July 2, I-3 p.m. Free to all OCMC Boat members

AWARE

ELEVATOR

8th Annual Kids' Classic Chairmen: Bill Regan, Annette Cropper, &

Pat Svehla Registration: July 20, 7:30 p.m. Fishing Days: (1 or 2 of 2) July 21 & July 22 Cook-Out: July 21, 6:30 p.m. for Wish-A-Fish Kids Carnival & Awards Banquet: July 22, 5-8 p.m. You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament

4th Annual OCMC Ladies' Tournament 54th Annual Labor Day White Marlin

Chairmen: Franky Pettolina & Amanda Shick Registration: August 2, 6 p.m. Fishing Days: (1 of 2) August 3 & August 4 Awards Banquet: August 4, 6:30-9 p.m.

You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament

COASTAL

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Tournament

Chairmen: Bob Wimbrow & Bill Fenwick Registration: August 30, 6:30 p.m. Fishing Days: (2 of 3) August 31, September 1 & 2 Awards Banquet: September 2 • Luau & Pig Roast 6:30-9 p.m. You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament

34th Annual Challenge Cup

Chairman: Jon C. Duffie Registration: September 13, 7 p.m. Fishing Days: (2 of 2) September 14 & September 15 Italian Night: September 14, 6:30-9 p.m. Awards Banquet: September 15, 6:30-9 p.m.

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SUB-MARINA



Red Sun

1/2 cup fresh parsley leaves

Pat fish dry; season with salt

Place flour in a shallow

Dredge fish in the flour;

Heat 1 TBSP. each butter and

Add fish and cook, turning

Transfer to plate and cover

Place garlic in same skillet;

Remove skillet from heat and

Return to heat and cook,

Season with salt and pepper.

Toss the greens with 1 TBSP.

Add the remaining 1 TBSP.

Pour butter sauce over fish.

Wipe out skillet and heat remaining 1 TBSP. olive oil over

add wine, lemon zest and lemon

stirring until wine is slightly

olive oil, salt and pepper to taste.

butter to the sauce in the skillet;

Place fish on 4 plates.

oil in a large non-stick skillet

over medium-high heat.

once, 3 minutes per side.

rinsed

and pepper.

shake off excess.

bowl

with foil.

reduced.

cook 30 seconds.

www.coastalfisherman.net

Add onion and mushrooms; saute 5 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Add garlic, saute 1 minute.

Add pasta mixture, pasta water, cream cheese, remaining salt and pepper to pan.

Cook until cheese melts and shrimp are done, stirring occasionally.

Serves 4.

Grilled Tautog with Herb Butter

1 whole tautog, gutted and cleaned

2 TBSP. lemon juice

1/4 cup extra-virgin olive

1 TBSP. minced parsley

1 TBSP. rosemary

1 TBSP. dill

Herb Butter Ingredients:

1/4 cup butter

3 TBSP. chopped parsley

3 TBSP. tarragon chives

1/4 tsp. grated lemon zest

2 tsp. lemon juice

1/8 tsp. cayenne

1/8 tsp. salt

Place whole fish in salt water and let soak for 30 minutes.

Rinse well and pat dry with paper towels.

Mix all of the above

ingredients in a bowl.

You can make your own marinade of 1/2 cup Italian dressing thinned with 2 TBSP. of lemon juice or white wine vinegar.

Place the fish and the marinade in a plastic bag and refrigerate NO LONGER than 1/2 hour.

Drain fish and pour the marinade into a small pan to brush on the fish while grilling.

Grill fish, depending on the thickness, 4 to 15 minutes; do not overcook.

Test center for doneness with

Serve immediately with herbed butter.

Serves 4.

If you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share with Coastal Fisherman readers, please feel free to email it to me at maureenjock@comcast.net.

Mama Jock

The Galley

by Mama Jock

Striped Bass Stew

1 TBSP. extra-virgin olive oil 1 garlic clove, finely chopped

1 fennel bulb, trimmed, halved and thinly sliced

1 large tomato, cut into large

Salt and pepper

4 cups low-sodium chicken broth

12 oz. skinless striped bass cut into 1 inch pieces

1/2 lb. medium shrimp, peeled and deveined

1/2 lb. scallops

Crusty bread, for serving

In a Dutch oven, combine oil and garlic; cook over mediumhigh heat until garlic is fragrant, 1 minute.

Add fennel and cook, stirring frequently until slightly softened.

Add tomato, season with salt and pepper; cook 3 minutes.

Stir in broth and bring stew to a gently boil.

> Reduce to a simmer. Gently fold in seafood.

Return to a bare simmer and cook until seafood is opaque throughout, about 3 minutes.

Serve stew topped with a drizzle of oil along with crusty bread.

Serves 4.

Flounder Piccata

4 flounder fillets Salt and pepper Flour, for dredging 2 TBSP. butter 3 TBSP. extra-virgin olive oil 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped

1/2 cup dry white wine 1 lemon (1/2 zested and juiced, 1/2 cut into wedges)



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Add capers and parsley and

fry until crisp, 1 minute. Sprinkle over fish.

Serve with salad and lemon wedges.

Serves 4.

stir until melted.

Creamy Linguine with Shrimp and Veggies

6 quarts water

1 tsp. salt, divided

8 oz. uncooked linguine

3 cups broccoli florets, cut

small

1 1/2 TBSP. butter

1 cup chopped onion

1 cup sliced mushrooms

2 garlic cloves, minced

3/4 lb. medium shrimp, peeled and deveined

1 carrot, small strips

3/4 cup cream cheese

1/4 tsp. salt and pepper

Bring water to boil in sauce pot; add 1/2 tsp. salt, and pasta; cook 5 minutes.

Add broccoli and carrot; cook 3 minutes.

a 1/2 cup of the pasta water.



Capt. Jason Mumford used a chunk of clam to fool this 23 lb. black drum while surfcasting off Assateague Island around 6:30 at night.



Jamie Kosiek muscled in a 22.1 lb. striper and Steve Fisher caught a 19.5 pounder, both while tossing fresh bunker from the beach at Cape Henlopen. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

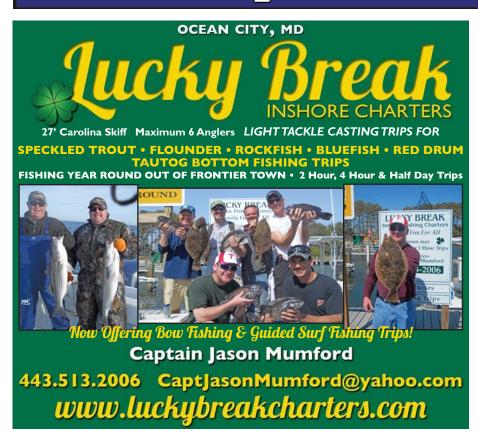


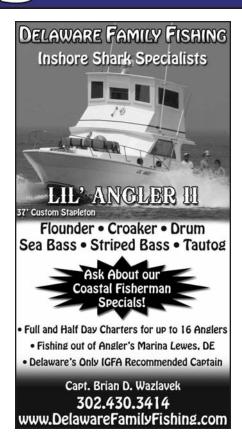
(including other great Maryland sport fish) at:

http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/survey/index.asp

Special thanks to Keith Fraser and AllTackle.com for supporting this helpful volunteer angler survey!

Bay Fishing Charters











Jon Walczak from Dover, DE boated this 37.5-inch black drum during a trip aboard the charter boat "Lil Angler II" with Capt. Brian Wazlavek. The fish ate a fresh clam at the Coral Beds off Slaughter Beach.

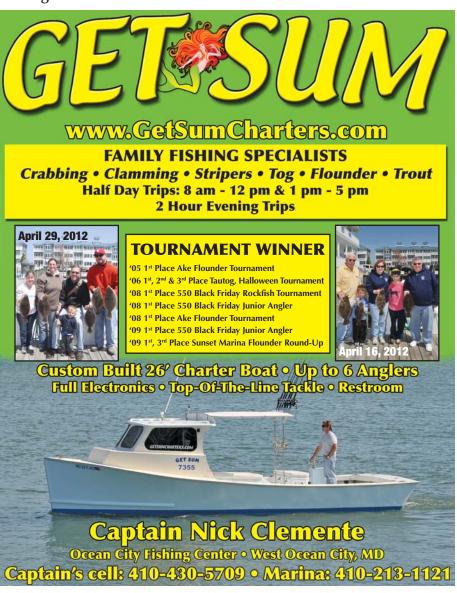




Bay Fishing Charters



On Saturday morning, this group of anglers on the charter boat "Get Sum" returned with 3 keeper flounder in the box after drifting Gulp! Swimming Mullets in the Thorofare. Fishing with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Lizzy Brittingham were David, Karen and Katie Morin from Fairfax, VA and Linda and Joe DeVito from Warrenton, VA. The largest fish measured 19-inches. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.









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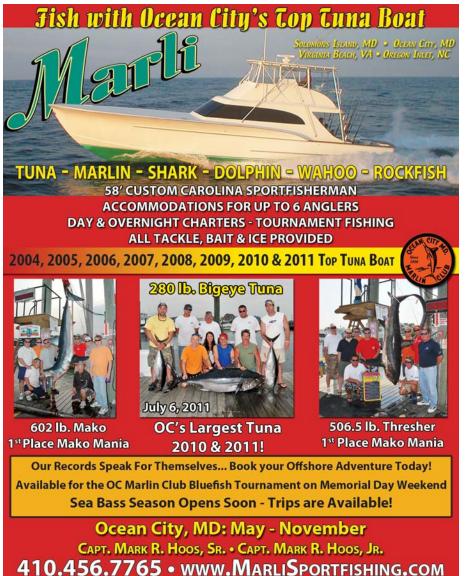


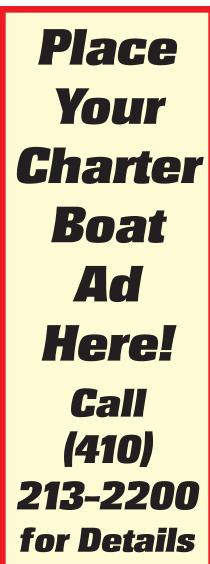


Jim Zebrowski caught this 23-inch flounder while drifting a white Gulp! Alive Swimming Mullet over the flats north of the Thorofare. Jim was fishing on the charter boat "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford.



Cody Sherk of Grantville, PA jumped on the good striper bite in the Indian River Inlet, landing this 43-incher on a FlashFoil swim shad. The fished weighed 27 lbs. 14 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE.









This 20-inch flounder fell at the hands of Dan Mattio from Kingsville, MD while drifting a bull minnow north of the Rt. 90 Bridge. The fish was caught during the outgoing tide aboard the "Fraid Knot".





Some days it's tough keeping up with a ninety one year old, and this was one of those days. Dewey Simmons of Bel Air, MD (far right) caught an 11 pound tautog during a trip aboard the headboat "Morning Star" with Brian Gilbert, Ben Scott, Fred Gerloff and Capt. Monty Hawkins. All of the tog were caught on crabs over an artificial reef. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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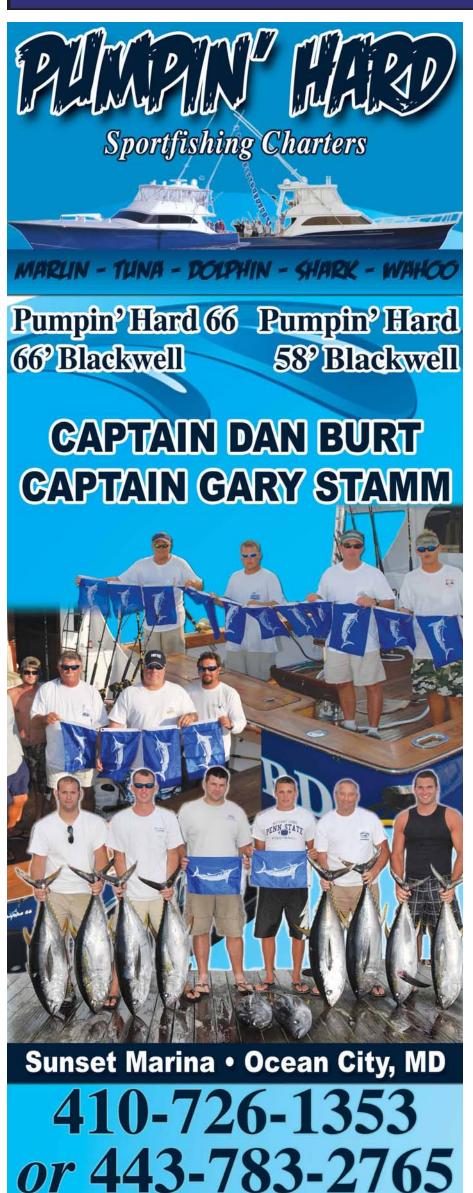
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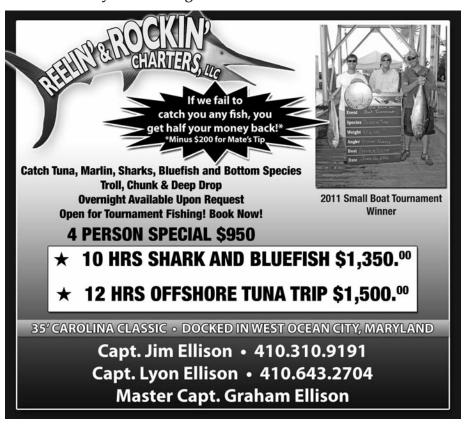
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Stanley Smith and Jeff Griffin on the "Cindy Sue II" returned from an overnight trip on Sunday morning with a 151 lb. swordfish, 2 yellowfin tuna and a 60 lb. bluefin. The fish were caught in the Baltimore Canyon and weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



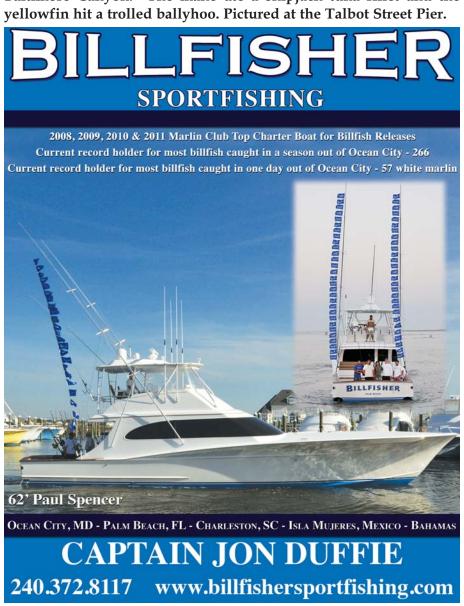


Tom Devanna from Pottstown, PA used a 6-inch minnow to hook this 32-inch striped bass while fishing in the Indian River Inlet on the "Gale Force Charters" with Capt. Aaron Hurd and mate Jimmy Coffiey.

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Lee Martinson from Richmond, VA muscled in this make shark, estimated at 130 lbs., while fishing on the "Restless Lady" with Tim and Gen Platoff and Cole and Jim Duncan. The group also captured a 42 lb. yellowfin tuna. Both fish were caught in 500 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon. The make at a skipjack tuna fillet and the yellowfin hit a trolled ballyhoo. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.



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On Saturday, Charlie Young from Fairfax, VA was fishing from the surf off Assateague Island and muscled in this 42-inch striper after hooking it on a chunk of bunker. The fish weighed an even 22 lbs. on the scale at Ake Marine.



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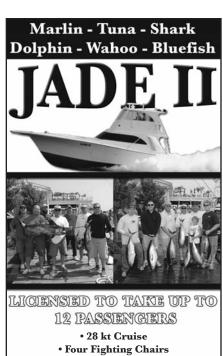
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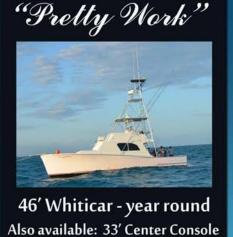
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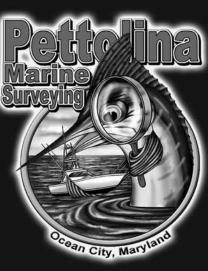
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Brad Taylor of Salisbury, MD caught this 38-inch striper while trolling parachute rigs south of the Indian River Inlet.



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GAME ON
47' Buddy Davis



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Capts. Frank & Franky Pettolina



WHY NOT 45' Ricky Scarborough Capt. Wade Lober



FISH BONZ 42' Ocean Capt. Mark Radcliffe



BILLS 4 BILLS 40' Ocean Super Sport Capt. Mike Conner



Abb IN
40' Jersey Dawn
Capt. Chad Meeks



FISH FINDER
40' Custom
Capt. Mark Sampson



BLUE RUNNER
38' Henriques
Capt. Steve Reddish



FOOLISH PLEASURES
36' Topaz
Capt. Dale Lisi



PLAYTIME 35' Carolina Capt. Ron Taylor



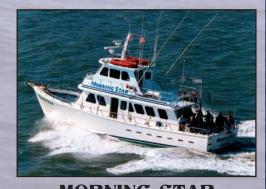
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SUMMER FLOUNDER

18" minimum 4 per person/day

1/1 - 10/23

10/24 - 12/31 CLOSED

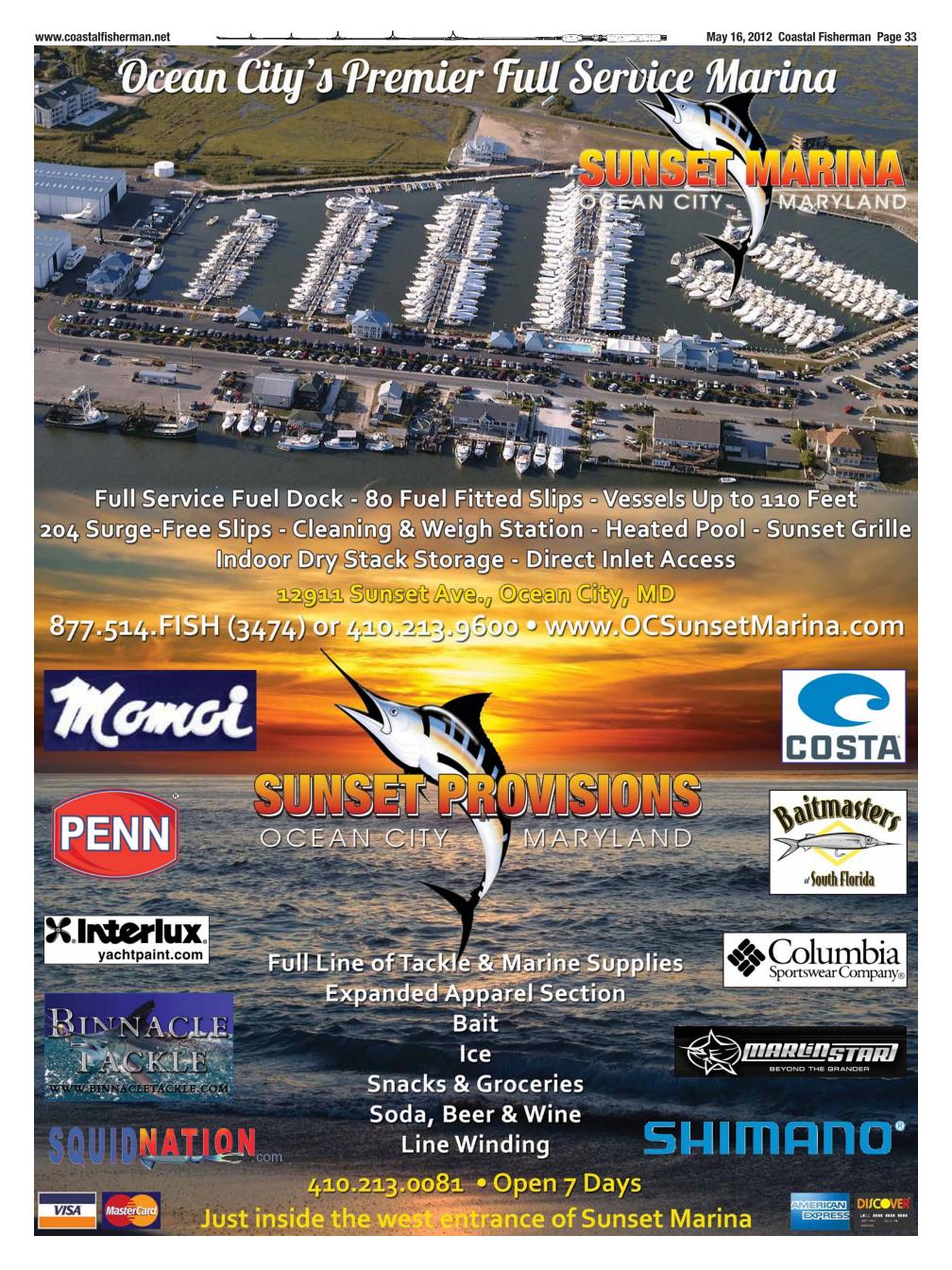


WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day



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Delaware Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



Welcome to another week of the Delaware Fishing Report. Although we had nasty weather during the week, the weekend turned out nice and anglers were able to get out into the bay and off the coast.

Striped Bass

In comparison to prior weeks when we saw a fantastic night bite in the Indian River Inlet, striper action slowed a bit last week. That's not to say fish were caught, it just wasn't as fast and furious as it has been in the Inlet.

The bite was very good in the inlet on Thursday night and in the surf on Friday morning, but weekend anglers didn't fare well unless you were fishing off of the tip of the jetty. Jetty anglers tossing swim shads and bucktails off the tip continued to do well. Boat anglers had trouble getting close enough to the tip without having bucktails ricochet off their bow.



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Brian Seglem was tossing a plug around the Outer Wall in the Delaware Bay when he hooked into this 35 lb. striped bass. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

At Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE, Bill Jr. said that between Thursday afternoon Saturday morning the striper bite between Gordon's Pond, north of Rehoboth, to the Naval Crossing "was on fire"! Anglers fishing with clams, bunker chunks and bunker heads were landing fish upwards of 43-inches.

Unfortunately, surfcasters fishing along the beaches south of Dewey Beach saw a much slower bite, especially when compared to prior weeks.

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina reported that striped bass also showed up on structure at the mouth of the Delaware Bay and along the rocks of the Ice Breakers and the Outer Wall. Anglers throwing Bombers, bucktails and Stretch 12 plugs during early morning hours did well.

Sharks

Anglers chasing tuna in the canyons ran across their fair share of blue sharks and a few makos in the Baltimore Canyon.

Contrary to rumors, no thresher sharks were landed. There are all the sea bass you

want to release around "B" Buoy, according to Bert at Hook'em & Cook'em. This means that thresher sharks aren't far behind. Some have been hooked, but all were lost.

Bluefish

According to Capt. Bruce at Capt. Mac's Bait & Tackle, bluefish in the 15 to 18-inch range showed up late in the week in the Indian River Inlet and in the surf along Delaware beaches.

Flounder

Fortunately, Delaware anglers are faring much better than Maryland anglers when it comes to flounder fishing. The water in the bays is a little cleaner and the slur isn't anywhere near as bad as it is in Ocean City.

Joe at Whitetail Taxidermy and Outdoor Supplies said that flounder are being caught in Massey's Ditch and Baker's Channel on bare hooks tipped with bull minnows.

According to Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina, dirty water also hampered flounder fishermen in the Lewes Canal, but southerly winds predicted

for this week should clear the water up just in time for the Lewes Canal Flounder Tournament on Friday, May 18th. Sign-ups will only be accepted up to 7am on Friday.

Tautog & Sea Bass

Delaware's tautog season closed on May 11th and won't reopen until July 17th. Sea bass season is scheduled to open on May 19th.

Prior to the tog season closing, anglers were having good luck fishing around the Outer Wall with green crabs.

As stated earlier, the area around "B" Buoy is holding good numbers of sea bass and the Great Eastern Reef has also produced some nice catches. Those fishing on the "Judy V." released a lot of tautog and sea bass last week according to Bert at Hook'em & Cook'em.

Weakfish

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said that weakfish were the other exciting news from Broadkill Beach. Throughout the spring, commercial netters reported significantly more trout than in past seasons, and now that water temperatures have risen, hook and line fishermen are starting to catch some.

Black Drum

Quite a few boomers were weighed in according to Joe, with several coming in at more than 70 lbs. Black drum have settled into the Coral Beds and peak time should be right around the corner with the next full moon on June 4th.

Tuna/Swordfish

The warm water that stretched from the Baltimore Canyon down to the Washington Canyon had anglers anxious to chase vellowfin tuna.

Some boats returned with good catches from 60 to 100 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon, where captains found water temperatures hovering around 65-degrees.

On Sunday morning, the "Cindy Sue II" returned from an overnight trip with a 151 lb. swordfish, two yellowfins and a 60 lb. bluefin. All were caught in the Baltimore Canyon.

Until next week, support your local tackle shops.

Tight lines!



Back in the 70's this catch was as commonplace as flounder in the summer, but as the weakfish stock became depleted, anglers rarely had the opportunity to land this beautiful fish. Hopefully, we will see a comeback in the near future. On this day, Adam Ford was casting a bucktail tipped with squid off Broadkill Beach when he hooked this 6 lb. 2 oz. weakfish. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.





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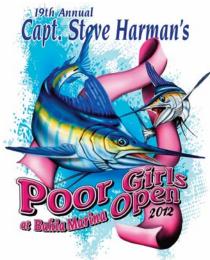
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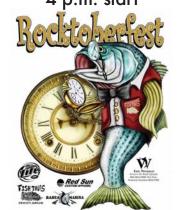


8TH ANNUAL Flounder Pounder Sunday, Sept. 9 10 a.m. Bimini Start at Bahia Marina

Captain's Meeting Sign - up Sun. 8 - 9:30 a.m.



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Ship to Shore

- by Pat Schrawder



COMMUNICATING ON THE WATER- WHAT'S NEW?

Without question, the most dependable and useful means of communication on the water is a VHF radio. Yes, there are cell phones and single-sideband radios and even a few CB radios around, but the VHF is your best communications solution. They have been in existence for years and for many models, they were largely unchanged. However, we now find that manufacturers are taking a second look at them and adding some very worthwhile features.

All basic VHF radios are the same. They are regulated at 25 watts of output and their channel line-up is set by the

FCC. For several years now, they have been required to be manufactured with DSC capabilities, meaning they are able to make selective calling to one or more pre-selected VHF's and, in an emergency, they can transmit a distress signal that identifies the vessel and its location. After March 2011, those units must be Class D, meaning they can monitor designated **DSC** emergency channel while communicating on another channel. Beyond that, there are features that some radios have which are not commonly available, including a few brand new features. Here is a list of some of the familiar features that many of them have but are not new:

• Waterproof and, in some cases, submersible



Local angler Sharon Rittmeyer caught this red grouper while fishing on the "Seafood Searcher" in the Bahamas. Sharon was fishing with her husband, Al Rittmeyer and Jack and Susan Power when she hooked the fish in 190 feet of water, 2 miles from the North Elbow Inlet. The group hooked over 40 grouper during the trip.

- Able to adapt to a full function remote microphone in addition to the original
- Hailer function (listen only)
 - Scanning
 - Weather alert function
- Capability of accommodating an external speaker

This season, there are some new models and/or new features that have appeared. Garmin has a model that is a black box radio where the main box is mounted out of sight and the radio is controlled by the microphone handset as well as one unit that has its own internal AIS receive-only function. Standard Explorer has a model that contains its own built-in GPS eliminating the need to interface your GPS to your radio for DSC and providing another GPS on board. Icom has a new model that offers easy software design that places available functions along the bottom of the display screen making selection of features much faster. It also has a function called AquaQuake that allows the user to activate a low frequency sound that actually "pops" the speaker to push out water that may have settled into the front of the

radio. They also feature a special noise cancelling design that Icom says will eliminate up to 90% of background noise making speaking and listening much clearer.

For all VHF radios, the full implementation of the Coast Guard's coastal search and Rescue digital system called Rescue 21 eliminates gaps in VHF coverage over the entire 40,625 miles of the coastal United States. This will virtually guarantee reception of MAYDAY signals from VHF radios within 20 miles of the U.S. coast. It also provides for digital recording and playback of those calls.

These new features are impressive and, if they perform well over time, can be expected to be included in some fashion into most models by all the major manufacturers unless under patent protection. Before purchasing a new radio, however, you need to keep in mind that fancy features are great but the most important feature is reliability, output power, clarity of signal and dependability.

Pat and her husband, Larry are owners of L&L Marine Electronics on Golf Course Road in West Ocean City, MD.



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Don Bouchelle caught this 36-inch striper while fishing with clams from the surf off Fenwick Island, DE. The linesider weighed 18 lbs. 4 oz. on the scale at Fenwick Tackle.



On Sunday morning, Kevin Bichy of Hurlock, MD hooked this 19.5-inch flounder while fishing with a squid and minnow combination in the Ocean City Inlet. Pictured at Ake Marine.









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Chum Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson



Most sportsmen will agree that time spent in the woods or on the water is as necessary to their own health (and perhaps sanity) as anything else in life. Getting out and about in the natural world tends to put many of life's problems into perspective; it calms the spirit, and relieves our daily stress. Of course, those with a home and family know that time-off from doesn't necessarily translate to time spent with rod or gun in hand. Far too many responsibilities follow the family-man or woman around to allow them to go directly from work to play.

Happily, enjoying outdoor recreation and spending time with our children need not be mutually exclusive passions. Combining the two can lead to rewards far beyond anything anyone can achieve by going it solo. Adults who have helped children catch their first fish, or take their first game, know the immense satisfaction derived from introducing a youngster to a part of life that will never be experienced from an X-Box game or a computer monitor.

But sportsmen who take youngsters out hunting or fishing must also keep in mind that their own priorities will probably have to be altered to accommodate their apprentice tag-a-longs. Rather than worrying so much about the

outcome (what is caught or killed), the focus of the day must fall more on the total experience and lessons learned by going through the motions. Sure, a child would like to shoot a bunch of ducks or catch a stringer of flounder, but even if they don't, you can bet that they're going to have a ball trying. They'll also be ready to go again the first chance they're given, unless perhaps some adult paints the outing as unsuccessful and a lousy time just because they didn't "get anything."

Taking a child along on a hunting or fishing trip requires adults to slow down and be ready to exhibit extra measures of patience and tolerance. Try as they might, young children simply cannot keep up with, or endure, so much of what adults can - simply because they're small. Children get cold easier, get tired quicker and hungry more often.

In order to keep up with an adult's normal walking pace, a small child must walk twice as fast. Their little feet will constantly get stuck in muddy holes and every time you pull them out their boots will come off. Kids can have trouble keeping quiet, still and focused for long periods of time as they wait for game to come or fish to bite. They will learn to overcome these setbacks, but in

the meantime adults must be patient, take it all in stride, and do their best to make a child's time outdoors as comfortable and enjoyable as possible.

Sportsmen must also be prepared for odd reactions by children who don't always know what to do as events unfold. A friend told me about taking his son along with him while bow hunting morning. The little guy sat very quietly in the tree stand with his father until a huge buck deer stepped into view. Suddenly he jumped up and shouted, "There's one dad!" Needless to say "dad" could only sit and watch as one of the biggest deer he'd ever seen turned tail and ran off. Fortunately my friend had the good sense not to get mad at his son, using the experience instead as a way to explain how easily a deer will react to a screaming yelling, jumping six year old.

A while back I had a group book my charter boat for a day of bluefishing. Among them were a couple of young children. Their father was hoping that the sight of a big bluefish would not frighten either of his children. As we waited for the chum to attract something to our hooks, the kids passed their time playing with the small baitfish we had laying in a bucket of ice at the back of the boat. After a while periodically started dropping a bait overboard and staring into the water as it sank out of sight - or so we thought.

"Better not throw all our bait overboard or we won't have any left to fish with." I said, as another piece hit the water.

"We're feeding the sharks" one replied.

"But that's our bluefish bait." I reminded them.

"Sharks like it too," another one said.

"What makes you so sure?" It wasn't until I heard "we see them eating it" that I got off my butt, walked to the back of the boat to see what was going on. I was amazed to find two 4-foot dusky sharks happily snapping up every bait the

kids were dropping overboard. I walked into the cabin and told their father that he needn't worry about his kids being frightened by big bluefish.

Adults should look for the chance and welcome every opportunity to take youngster along their outdoor adventures and remember that, unlike so many of us "old folks," a fun time outside for kids doesn't require that there be a hard and fast goal like catching a cooler full of fish or shooting a bunch of game. Children will certainly get a kick out of that too, but they can also have very memorable times poking around local marshes, exploring woodlots, going for a boat ride or hiking down the beach. In other words - just getting outside.

Remember too inescapable fact that someday we'll all be "too old" to go fishing or hunting ourselves, and when we reach that stage of our lives we'll be hoping that our children or grandchildren will remember how many times we took them along on such trips and reciprocate by taking the time and making the effort to do the same for us.

Finally, there's no need for anglers to leave their kids at the dock just because they enjoy the fun and competition of tournament fishing. This summer there's at least four tournaments in Ocean City that either have youth divisions or are directed at kids altogether:

June 14-16, Ocean City Shark Tournament, Ocean City Fishing Center, www.ocsharktournament.com

July 21 & 22, 8th Annual Kids Classic, Ocean City Marlin Club, www.ocmarlinclub.com

September 9, Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder, www.bahiamarina.com

September 11, 11th Annual Memorial Spot Tournament, Ocean City Fishing Center, www.ocfishing.com

Captain 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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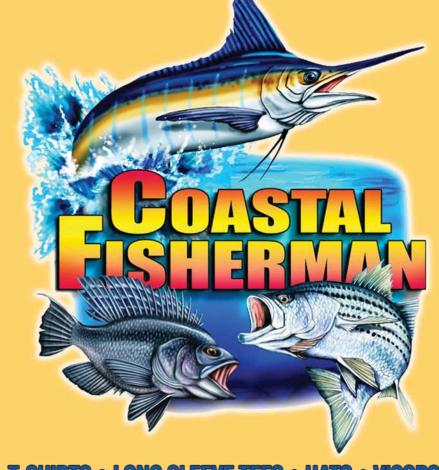
Jimmy Robinson was trolling in the Indian River Inlet at night when he hooked into this 48-inch, 35 lb. striped bass on a Certified Depth 25 Bomber. Jimmy hooked 9 stripers that night and landed a 50-incher the night before. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



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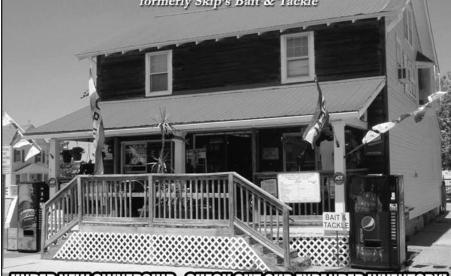


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Sea Bass	Season Closed	Season Closed	Mako Shark	May 5, 2012 Anthony Cichocki Marine Electric 197 lbs.	April 29, 2012 Joseph Cangianelli Baltimore Canyon 96.2 lbs.
Tautog	January 11, 2012 Charlie Donohue "Morning Star" 23 lbs.	April 21, 2012 Clark Koehn Delaware Bay Reef 17 lbs.	Thresher Shark	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Striped Bass	February 10, 2012 John Rogowitz Little Gull 41 lbs.	April 28, 2012 Sean Tate Bethany Surf 41 lbs.	Bluefin Tuna	April 29, 2012 Mike Sears Baltimore Canyon 70 lbs.	May 13, 2012 Jeff Griffin Baltimore Canyon 60 lbs.
Weakfish	No Weights Reported	May 12, 2012 Adam Ford Broadkill Beach 6 lbs. 2 oz.	Yellowfin Tuna	May 11, 2012 Jim Duncan Baltimore Canyon 42 lbs.	May 13, 2012 Jeff Griffin Baltimore Canyon 37 lbs.
Speckled Trout	No Weights Reported	May 7, 2012 Tony Diesel Indian River Inlet 2 lbs. 10 oz.	Longfin Tuna	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Flounder	April 14, 2012 John Brockmeyer Behind OC Airport 8 lbs. 4 oz.	April 29, 2012 Steven Warren Indian River Inlet 5 lbs. 13 oz.	Bigeye Tuna	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Bluefish	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Dolphin	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Sheepshead	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Wahoo	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Cobia	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	White Marlin	Most Release None Reported	es in One Day None Reported

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



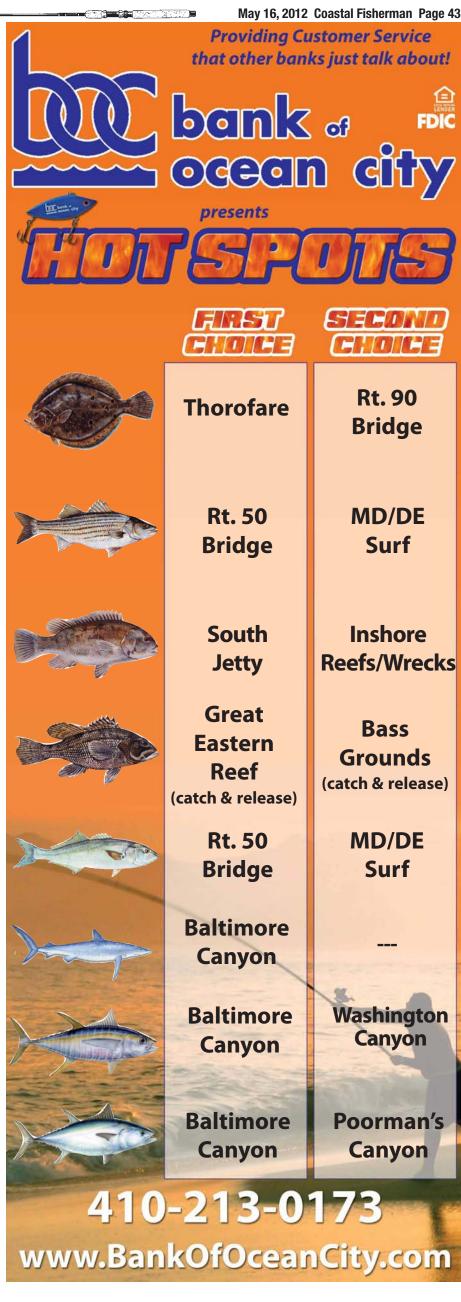
Patrick Townsend of Parsonsburg, MD took advantage of a good morning striper bite off Assateague Island, landing himself a 42incher on a chunk of bunker. Pictured at Buck's Place.





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WAHOO

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YELLOWFIN TUNA

27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day



BLUEFIN TUNA

(Recreational)

1 BFT per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 73" CFL

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1 BFT per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL **PLUS**

1 BFT per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 73" CFL

Southern Region closed for giant bluefins



SHORT FIN MAKO SHARK



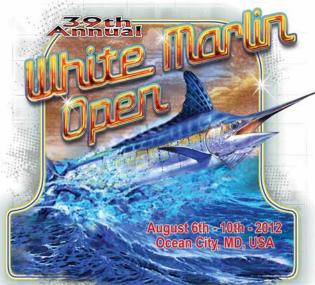
THRESHER SHARK



BLUE SHARK

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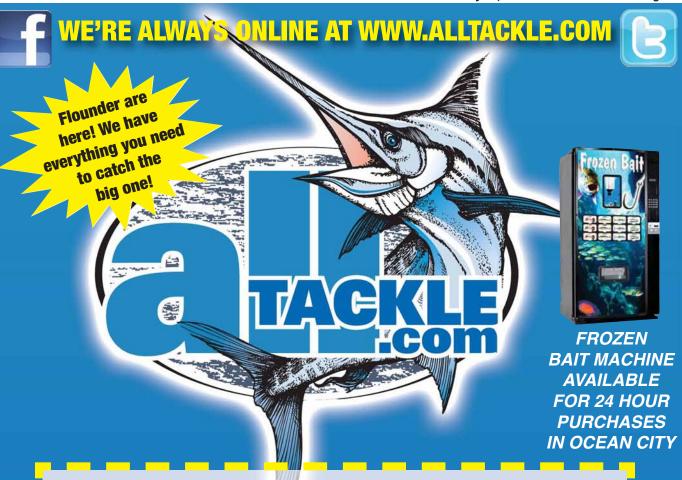
The Maryland Department of Natural Resources Catch-A-Poacher Program Tawes State Office Building, Annapolis, MD



Thomas Weems of West Ocean City, MD was fishing at night off Assateague Island when he hooked this 36-inch linesider on a chunk of bunker.



John Rogowitz looks thrilled about catching this flounder while fishing for stripers off Assateague Island. The 22-inch flattie on a chunk of bunker during the outgoing tide.



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Virginia Fishing Report

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



A brief break in the weather last weekend allowed boats to get out on the water. The fishing results were mixed, but the best inshore action came from the eastern side of the Bay where drum and flounder stepped up to the plate.

The drum scene is still heating up, with an escalation in black drum activity within Bay waters adding to the last momentum week. According to the folks at Chris' Bait and Tackle, the larger black drum are now beginning to show in their usual haunts along the Bayside area of the Eastern Shore. Blacks pushing to over 46-inches are taking chowder and sea clams between Buoys 13 and 16 along Latimer Shoal and near Nautilus Shoal. This





Shawn Carrozza of York, PA was fishing out of Wachapreague, VA aboard the "Sweet Melissa" when he caught this 24-inch flounder on a mini-squid.

black drum action should continue to improve over the next week or so, providing plenty of opportunities to enter Chris' Individual Black Drum Tournament, which runs May 1st to the 31st (www.chrisbait.com).

Big red drum are still patrolling the breakers off of Smith and Fisherman's Island, with the incoming tide providing the best results lately. Surf anglers are still faring very well on the reds from Smith and Myrtle Islands, with good sized striped bass to over 41-inches also taking offerings. The red drum action is also picking up along the Nine-Foot Shoal area, especially in evenings. Both peelers and blue crabs are working well, but bunker will also get the job done.

The Bay's Spring Trophy Striped Bass season is going well, but be sure to check the regulations closely and note that these fish must be reported. Anglers are experiencing excellent striper action all over the lower Bay when they can get out. Topwater action is the most popular method to entice fish exceeding the current 32-inch minimum size requirement, especially along the pilings and islands of the CBBT and the HRBT at dawn. Boats are also reporting catches of rockfish while bottom fishing for drum near Fisherman's Island, with a few exceeding 44-inches. Kendall Osborne of Virginia Beach earned a state release citation with an impressive 44-inch rockfish caught on the fly while working the CBBT last week.

Flounder action around the CBBT still has room for improvement, and the recent cold front and heavy rain is not likely to help either. But anglers working the various lower Bay and Eastern Shore inlets and shallow backwater areas, are finding some keepers. Both Rudee Inlet and Lynnhaven River are providing some good fish, with a few flatfish ranging up to 23-inches last week. Limits

www.coastalfisherman.net of decent flatties ranging from 3 to 5-pounds are also still coming from the seaside inlets out of Wachapreague and Oyster.

Bluefish are still the word along the Virginia Beach oceanfront and inside Rudee Inlet where anglers are experiencing good catches of decent blues weighing up to around five pounds.

The Virginia Beach Fishing Center reports that anglers are also catching good numbers of speckled trout within Rudee Inlet lately, with any color grub doing the trick. The Elizabeth River is still producing some speck action, and a few fish are also hitting within the Eastern Shore seaside inlets and the back waters of Oyster.

Surf and pier anglers are pulling small spot, sea mullet and medium-sized croaker out of the surf line off Ocean View and Little Creek. Nice-sized sea mullet are also still active on the Eastern Shore seaside inlets and off Kiptopeke. Big croaker continue to come from the James and York Rivers on squid and crab with decent hardheads in the 17-inch range filling coolers from near the Coleman Bridge, York River State Park and the oyster beds near the James River Bridge.

Although most anglers are more interested in inshore species, the deep dropping scene will attract more attention when sea bass become legal again on the 19th this month. As the dog fish begin to move out, more boats will target tilefish, black bellied rosefish and grouper along the Canyon edges once they can get out.

Offshore fishing will begin to improve this month as the action off Carolina moves northward. The fleets out of Oregon Inlet are finding yellowfin tuna, wahoo and dolphin along with a few billfish in the mix.

For more information, go to www.drjball.com.



Back in March, Julie Long caught her first striped bass during a trip with John Wittmyer and Steve Hudson. Their limit of fish were hooked on trolled Stretch 30's off 28th Street and measured up to 33inches.



Local anglers Danny Oliver and Chris Tilghman took a trip to Wachapreague, VA and were rewarded with their limit of 8 keeper flounder.



Earlier this year, Derek Demarr from Snow Hill, MD landed this 48-inch, 40 lb. striper while fishing with live eels around the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. Derek was fishing with Kevin Thomas on the "All Hooked Up".



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Details RT113BoatSales.com



Virginia Regulations Coastal State Waters Only



BLACK SEA BASS 12.5" minimum 25 per person/day 5/19 - 10/11 & 11/1 - 12/31



BLUEFISH No minimum size 10 per person/day



BLUE CRAB 5" minimum 1 bushel/person



BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day



CROAKER No limit



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



SHEEPSHEAD

No minimum size 4 per person/day



SPECKLED TROUT

14" minimum

4/1 - 11/30 10 per person/day

12/1 - 3/31 5 per person/day (1 > 24")



STRIPED BASS 32" 1 per person 5/1 - 5/15 28" 2 per person 5/16 - 12/31



TAUTOG 16" minimum 3 per person/day 4/16 - 9/23



SUMMER FLOUNDER
16.5" minimum
4 per person/day



WEAKFISH 12" minimum 1 per person/day



Striped bass harvest prohibited on DE spawning grounds through May 31st

The Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife reminds anglers that during striped bass spawning season, which continues through midnight on May 31, it is unlawful for any person to take and retain any striped bass from the Nanticoke River, the C&D Canal and the Delaware River north of and including the south jetty at the mouth of the C&D Canal, or tributaries of these waterways. Under Delaware state regulations, anglers are required to release any striped bass caught in these spawning areas during the spawning season, with no harvest of striped bass allowed.

In addition, regulations require anglers fishing during spawning season on any striped bass spawning ground with natural bait to use a non-offset circle hook, also known as an "in-line" circle hook.

With two exceptions, striped bass season is open all year, with a size limit of 28 inches and a possession limit of two fish per day. As noted above, striped bass season is open for catch and release only on spawning grounds from April 1 through May 31. In addition, a slot season is in effect from July 1 through Aug. 31 in Delaware waters of the Delaware River, the Delaware Bay and their tributaries. During the slot season, anglers may only keep striped bass from 20 to 26 inches and harvest is limited to two fish per angler. The spawning season closure and slot limits do not apply to Delaware's coastal waters, Indian River Inlet or the Inland Bays where the minimum size limit remains 28 inches yearround, with a two-fish possession limit.

For complete information on fishing in Delaware, pick up a copy of the 2012 Delaware Fishing Guide at your local tackle shop or license dealer, or check it out online. For more information, call the Fisheries section at 302-739-9914.

F.I.N. numbers available with Delaware recreational fishing license purchase

Since 2009, recreational anglers fishing Delaware waters have been required to obtain a Delaware Fisherman Information Network (F.I.N.) number. Since last year, the required F.I.N. number is generated automatically on all individual fishing licenses sold through Delaware's electronic licensing systems.

License buyers will be asked to provide basic information and complete a five-question survey to receive their F.I.N. number as part of their fishing license. The F.I.N. number appears on individual recreational fishing licenses next to the signature of the license holder, and must be in the angler's possession while actively fishing.

Some anglers must still visit www.delaware-fin.com or call 800-432-9228 toll-free to obtain a free F.I.N. number: license-exempt anglers, including Delaware residents 65 and older; non-resident boat fishing license holders who do not have an individual license; and individuals fishing on licensed boats who do not have an individual license.

Generally, a fishing license is required for anglers age 16 and older, and must be in the possession of anglers who are fishing, crabbing or clamming in all Delaware waters, including both tidal and nontidal areas. A resident fishing license costs \$8.50 and a nonresident license costs \$20 per year.

Delaware's F.I.N. registry was established so that the state could provide required information to the National Marine Fisheries Service for its federal registry. Anglers who join the Delaware registry are added to the federal registry without paying any fees.

Delaware anglers who fish on the NJ side of the Delaware Bay and River or in NJ coastal waters are required to register with New Jersey's Saltwater Recreational Registry Program. Participation is free of charge.



2012 FISH Of the Year

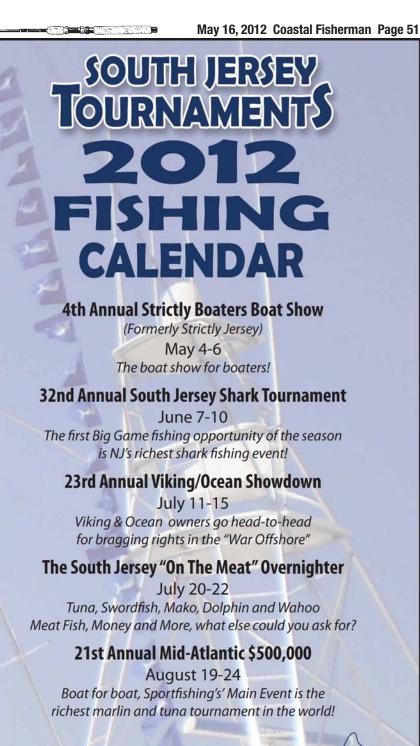
(As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - must be reported with picture within 48 hours of catch)

Species	2012	2011	Species	2012	2011
Sea Bass	None Reported	May 22, 2011 Tyler Sumpter "Keep 'Er' Wet" Jack Spot	Mako Shark	April 29, 2012 Joseph Cangianelli "Reel Life" Baltimore Canyon	May 1, 2011 Brett Coakley "Wrangler" Washington Canyon
Tautog	January 1, 2012 John Murter "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	January 6, 2011 Mike Grybos "Morning Star" Ocean Wreck	White Marlin	None Reported	May 29, 2011 Anthony Pino "Marli" Rockpile
Striped Bass	January 1, 2012 Josh Fallon "Patty Wagon II" Little Gull	April 14, 2011 Capt. Skip Maguire "Skip's Charter" Sinepuxent Bay	Blue Marlin	None Reported	June 10, 2011 Stevie Ramsey "Lady Luck V" Baltimore Canyon
Weakfish	May 12, 2012 Adam Ford Broadkill Beach	June 4, 2011 Paul Gillespie East Channel	Bluefin Tuna	April 29, 2012 Mike Sears "Wrangler" Baltimore Canyon	May 1, 2011 Mike Sears "Wrangler" Washington Canyon
Flounder	April 14, 2012 Aric Gilley "Martini Time" Thorofare	April 17, 2011 Tommy Fowler Thorofare	Yellowfin Tuna	May 11, 2012 Eric Myers "Foolish Pleasures" Baltimore Canyon	May 26, 2011 Phil Falgowski Wilmington Canyon
Bluefish	May 13, 2012 Big Bird Cropper Rt. 50 Bridge	May 1, 2011 Alex Levantovsky "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	Longfin Tuna	None Reported	August 21, 2011 Al Rittmeyer "Dog Haus" Baltimore Canyon
Black Drum	April 20, 2012 Lennie Foxwell Assateague Island	April 30, 2011 Melson MaGee Fenwick Surf	Bigeye Tuna	None Reported	May 31, 2011 Aaron Saulsbury "Magic Moment" Washington Canyon
Sheepshead	None Reported	May 7, 2011 Sheldon Thomas "Kimberly Ann" Winter Quarter Shoal	Dolphin	May 1, 2012 Eric Polansky "Always Late Too" Baltimore Canyon	May 22, 2011 Daryl Bathelmess Lindenkohl Canyon
Thresher Shark	None Reported	May 25, 2011 Jimmy Bunting "B" Buoy	Wahoo	None Reported	May 22, 2011 Dave Woods Lindenkohl Canyon

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



Bill Love of Lititz, PA was fishing with fresh bunker at Cape Henlopen State Park when he hooked into this 43-inch striper that weighed 27 lbs. 4 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE.



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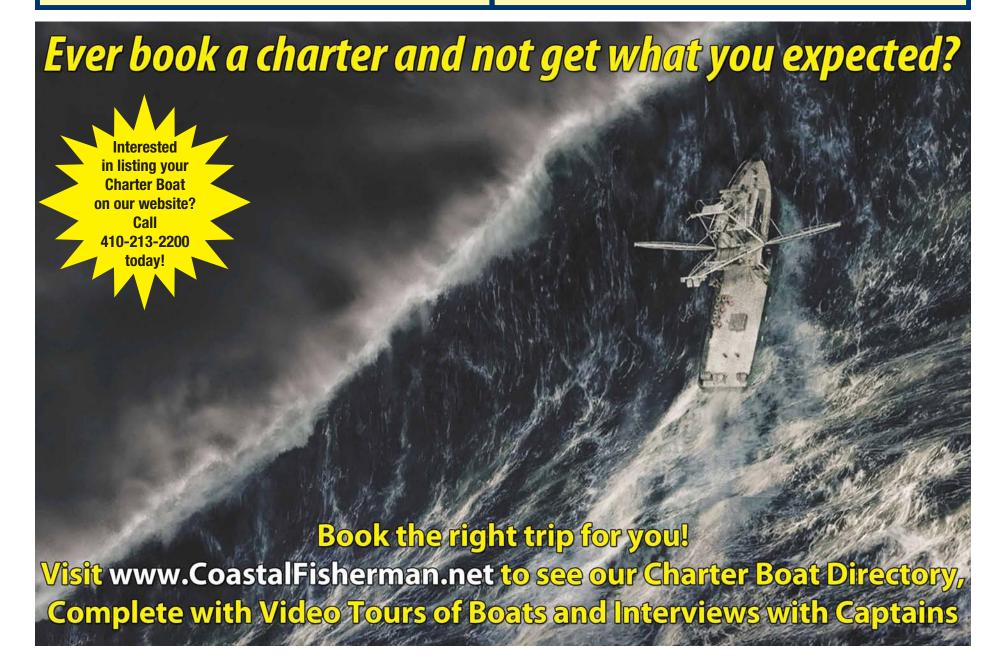
Maryland & Delaware Citation Sizes Atlantic Coast

	<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	28"	35 lbs. or 40"
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 36"
Red Drum *	Any Size	45"
Sailfish *	Any Size	-
Seabass	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

		
	MD	<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 ***	60"	100 lbs. or 60"
Yellowfin ***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"
Wahoo	60"	35 lbs. or 40"
Weakfish	24"	20 lbs. or 50"
White Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size

^{**} Only released fish are eligible in MD and DE programs



^{***} Use curved-fork-length measurements

Tackle Shop

by Larry Jock



You know the old saying, "Be careful for what you wish for because it might come true." Well, in this case it did!



A couple of years ago, Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina showed me the "hot lure" for striper fishing in the Delaware Bay. It was a Stretch 25 in the Cabo Sunset design. I used the lure that fall and caught a load of striped bass.

Last year, Lanny Deal, a representative for the Mann Bait Company, manufacturer of the popular Stretch artificial lures, stopped by my office. I expressed to Lanny how much I love their 10-inch Stretch

Imitator lures and how they are striper catching machines. However, I would love them more if they came in the Cabo Sunset style. Well, don't you know that based on our suggestion, Mann now offers such a lure. I was fortunate enough to get a prototype this past fall and it worked great. I caught many stripers on it and it is now my "go to" Stretch lure for striped bass.

Some local tackle shops are already carrying it, but if they don't have it in stock, just ask them to order it for you. You won't be sorry.

Here's another case of a company responding to the desires of local fishermen.

Binnacle Lures, run by local anglers Rick and Teresa Grapes, has been producing top quality lures and dredges for several years and have been featured in Marlin Magazine.

Over the winter, some captains put in a request for a heavier mojo lure than you can typically find for striper fishing. Most tackle shops only carry mojos up to 32 oz. Some captains were looking for ones as heavy as 50 oz. that they can run right off their transom.



In response, Binnacle Tackle is producing two new bullethead lures marketed under their Chesapeake Lures line. They weigh 35 and 50 oz., have 3D eyes, replaceable skirts and hooks attached to heavy duty swivels.

The products are brand new and should be available in

May 16, 2012 Coastal Fisherman Page 53 local tackle shops in the coming months. For more information log on to BinnacleTackle.com.

Berkley has come out with a new product designed to help fisherman carry their fishing rods along with a 5gallon bucket.



The Berkley Bucket Rod Holder features steel rod construction, an electrostatic finish and mounts in either an upright or angled position on a standard, 5-gallon bucket.

Unless your bucket weighs a ton, I don't see using the rod holder while you are fishing, since the bucket would definitely tip over when a fish takes your bait, but it would make carrying your equipment a little easier. The Rod Holder has an MSRP of \$2.99.



Straight from the Maryland **DNR Fisheries Service**

Species Management Updates

Tautog

Effective 16th, May Maryland regulations for tautog allow for two fish per person per day, with a minimum size of 16 inches. The 2 fish creel limit will remain in effect through October 31st.

Black Sea Bass

The 2012 season for black sea bass will officially open in the state waters of Maryland at 12:01 AM on May 19th. The minimum size will be 12.5inches, and the daily creel limit will be 25 fish per person per day. Maryland state waters include the coastal bays, inlet, surf and offshore waters out three nautical miles

and the Chesapeake Bay. For the black sea bass fishery in Federal waters from 3 to 200 miles offshore, NOAA is working to open Federal waters as early as May 19th, however NOAA is cautioning that if the final rule is not published in time, the offshore fishery in Federal waters will open on May 22nd, the same date as last year. Please check the Maryland DNR or Coastal Fisherman websites confirmation http://dnr.maryland.gov/fis heries www.coastalfisherman.net.

Black sea bass are highly sought by both commercial and recreational fishermen throughout the Mid-Atlantic. The species is jointly managed by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission

Mid-(ASMFC) and the Atlantic Fishery Management Council (MAFMC).

The most recent assessment in 2010 indicated that the current population size is above the fisheries management biomass goal, and that overfishing is not occurring.

Black sea bass managed by dividing a total annual quota between the recreational fishery (51%) and the commercial fishery (49%). Recreational fishery management measures include the same combination of minimum size limits, bag limits and fishing seasons set for the entire coast. The commercial quota is divided into state-by-state quotas annually. Specific management measures for the commercial fishery are set by state, including minimum limits, size minimum mesh requirements for trawls, a moratorium on entry into the fishery and closed seasons

Black sea bass inhabit Atlantic coastal waters from the Gulf of Maine to the Florida Keys, concentrating in areas from Cape Cod, to Cape Massachusetts Canaveral, Florida. Two distinct stocks of black sea bass exist along the Atlantic with overlapping ranges. The northern stock, which migrates seasonally and spawns off of New England in the late summer, is managed by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commision and the Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council. The southern stock, which spawns off of the Chesapeake Bay in the early summer, is managed by the South Atlantic Fishery Management Council.

Black sea bass are a

temperate reef fish, inhabiting rocky bottoms near pilings, wrecks, and jetties. Black sea are protogynous hermaphrodites, which mean they start life as a female and when they reach 9 to 13-inches in length they change sex to become males, initiated by visual cues.

Proposed Free Fishing Area Regulations

With the expansion of the

Chesapeake Bay Sportfish license (now known as the and Coastal Chesapeake Sportfishing license) include Maryland's coastal waters, requests for Free Fishing Areas locations on Maryland's coast have been brought to the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. To explore requests from the Town of Ocean City and the DNR's Coastal Fisheries Advisory Committee, DNR Fisheries staff visited three recommended areas (Northside Park at 125th street, the bulkhead behind the Ocean City Convention Center at 42nd street and the Chicago Avenue bulkhead between 2nd and 4th streets). These three areas have been formally requested by the Town of Ocean City and the MD DNR's Coastal Fisheries Advisory Committee. MD DNR Fisheries Service staff met with representatives of local bait & tackle stores, fishing clubs and officials to obtain feedback on support for the three proposed areas. After review, Department has proposed creating sites at Northside Park and Chicago Avenue. The proposal will be printed in the Maryland Register in mid-June. A 30-day public comment period would then take place. If there is no substantive opposition, the regulation to create the two free fishing areas could be enacted in August.



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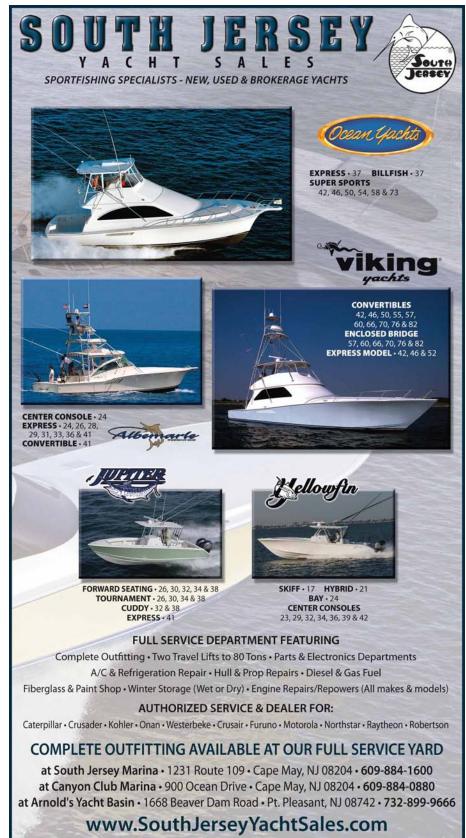
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Back in January, this group of anglers on the "57 Chins" had a great day striper fishing inside of Little Gull Shoal. All of the fish were caught on trolled mojos and tandem rigs and measured between 33 and 43-inches. Pictured are Bo "Rod Hog" Smeltzer, Pat "Chippendale" Hurley, Charlie "Wiffmeister" Sitskorn, Kevin "The King" Weber and Larry Jock. Pictured at Sunset Marina.





The Coral Beds in the Delaware Bay are a know hot spot for those looking for big black drum and that is where Wes Cromer captured this 71.9 pounder while using clams for bait. Wes weighed his catch at Lewes Harbour Marina.



TIDES & MOON PHASES

OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. May 16	Low 11:24 am Low	High 05:36 am High 06:09 pm
Thurs. May 17	Low 12:06 am Low 12:07 pm	High 06:17 am High 06:51 pm
Fri. May 18	Low 12:54 am Low 12:46 pm	High 06:55 am High 07:31 pm
Sat. May 19	Low 01:37 am Low 01:22 pm	High 07:34 am High 08:11 pm
Sun. May 20 New Moon	Low 02:17 am Low 01:58 pm	High 08:14 am High 08:50 pm
Mon. May 21	Low 02:55 am Low 02:33 pm	High 08:55 am High 09:29 pm
	1	111 0 11 05 1211
Tues. May 22	Low 03:23 am Low 03:09 pm	High 09:35 am High 10:07 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.



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Lewes Canal Flounder Tournament May 18 • Lewes Harbour Marina • 302-645-6227

3rd Annual Bluefish Tournament May 26 - 27 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

JUNE •

16th Annual Mako Mania June 1 - 3 • Bahia Marina • 410-289-7473

32nd Annual South Jersey Shark Tournament June 7 - 10 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2400

54th Annual Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament Ladies Event: June 9 Tournament: June 11 - 16 Morehead City, NC • 252-247-3575

32nd Annual Ocean City Shark Tournament June 14 - 16 • OC Fishing Center 410-213-2442 or 410-213-1121

23rd Annual MSSA Tuna-Ment June 22 - 24 • de Lazy Lizard • 410-255-5535

33rd Annual Small Boat Tournament June 23 - 24 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

30th Annual Canyon Kick-Off June 29 - July 1 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

· JULY ·

4th Annual Pier Point Marina Flounder Tournament July 7 - August 11 • Dewey Beach, DE • 302-227-2808

23rd Annual Ocean/Viking Showdown July 11 - 15 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2400

25th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament July 13 - 15 • OC Fishing Center • 410-213-1121

11th Annual Mid-Atlantic Tuna Tournament July 18 - 21 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2400

8th Annual Marlin Club Kid's Classic July 21 - 22 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

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Steve Kiibler used a green crab to fool this 7 lb. 6 oz. tautog while wreck fishing on the "Katy Did". Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Earlier in the year, Erik Quisgard was trolling around Little Gull Shoal and hooked this 40-inch striper on a white Tony spoon.

HAVE A PHOTO OF YOUR CATCH?

Email it to the Coastal Fisherman at

coastalfisherman@comcast.net

Include in the email:
Angler's name & town
Names & towns of others in photo
Weight and/or length of fish
Bait or lure used
Location of catch

Please send the photo file at full size.

Do not compress it and do not run it through any photo software.

KEYS TO TAKING A GOOD FISH PICTURE:

- Have the angler face into the sun to minimize shadows.
 - Make sure the side of the fish is facing flat towards the camera.
- Set your camera to the best quality and largest picture size available.
 - DO NOT use a cell phone camera.
 - Shoot vertical photos
 - · Smile!

*As always, we do our best to run the pictures we receive; however, we are sometimes unable to run all of the pictures due to space restrictions and other circumstances.

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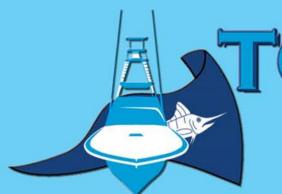
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Twin 225hp Yamaha 4 stroke, 300 hrs. Good electronics pkg. Livewell, prep station. Call Steve.



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