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# COASTAL FISHERMAN

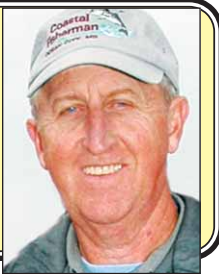
VOLUME 34 • • • NUMBER 2 • • • May 13, 2009



Charles Frank of Essex, MD caught a 7 lb. 15 oz. tog while Kevin Weishorn of Baltimore, MD landed himself a 7 lb. 15 oz. cod and Bob Houser of Carlisle, PA captured a 6 lb. 1 oz. sea bass, all during the first trip of the year for the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mates Tucker Colquhoun and Rich Silvani. The tog and the cod were caught on green crab while the sea bass was snagged on a chunk of clam on an ocean wreck in 54-degree water. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

# Double Lines

by Dale Timmons



One of the attractive aspects to fishing is the mystery of it all. I mean, just when you think you have it (or some of it, at least) figured out, it doesn't work the way it's supposed to. Last week I was up at Capt. Mac's High Performance Tackle talking to owner Capt. Bruce McGuigan when another gentleman came in with a delivery. The fellow was from up in northern New Jersey. He proceeded to tell Bruce that they had been tearing up the bluefish up there. Fish of all sizes from 2 to 10 lbs. Bruce and I looked at each other and wondered out loud how those fish got by the Maryland/Delaware coasts, since as far as either of us knew blues have been scarcer than none around here, at least as I write this. To add to the mystery, I know that there has

been a good bluefish bite on the beaches of Ocracoke and Hatteras in North Carolina, which is a long way from Raritan Bay. About the only explanation I can come up with is that maybe those fish came in from way offshore, perhaps following a warm eddy close to the beach. Like I have written before, some scientists feel that all of the big bluefish we had inshore for so many years was really an anomaly. They believe the choppers are supposed to be more of a pelagic, offshore open sea dweller, which is how they have been acting for the past 10 years or so, with only more sporadic appearances from the inshore shoals in to the beaches. As the old saying goes, fish have tails, and they probably don't read too many "how-to" books, so the mysteries will probably

continue...



Many of you who know me know that I am kind of a "gear junkie." For me, finding or making new things that work is one of the pleasures of fishing. In that vein, I like to pass on from time to time what new goodies I have found that have either worked for me or look like they will as soon as I get a chance to try them. First, a couple of new reels from Shimano caught my eye. The Curado 300E is a low profile casting reel much like the bass boys use, but it is designed for the salt with more line capacity, a one piece aluminum body and spool, and stainless steel ball bearings. The 300E is actually a re-design of the Curado, and it also features a 6.2:1 gear ratio and a variable brake system for casting. The reel holds 240 yards of 12-pound mono, and should be great for speckled trout, puppy drum, stripers and gray trout fishing in the shallows and inlets. Shimano also introduced the Saragosa line of spinning

reels this year. For those of you familiar with Shimano, the Saragosa kind of falls in between the top-of-the-line Stella and the simpler but tough Spheros, at least in the reels made for salt water (ever notice how the Shimano marketing folks have a thing for the letter "S"?). It is a lot less expensive than a Stella, but still features five shielded A-RB stainless steel ball bearings and a waterproof drag as well as many of Shimano's other bells and whistles. I picked up a small 4000 size, which holds 200 yards of 10 lb. test mono, but I filled it with 15 lb. braid and plan to use it for casting light lures to whatever comes along. One of those lures might be one of the new soft plastic "minnow" styles that seem to be all the rage. I haven't fished one of these paddle tail style plastics yet, but they really look fishy. Most of them come with a weighted hook and they can be rigged weedless, which might come in handy when fishing around rocks or stumps for species such as trout, reds or

Continued on page 6



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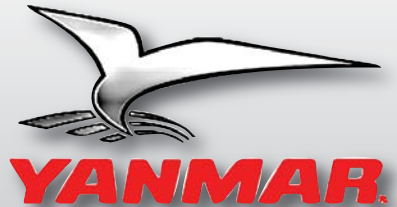
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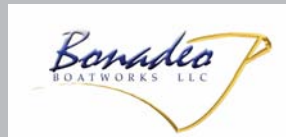
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Laverne "Goody" Good of New Holland, PA caught this 37-inch striped bass on Saturday morning while fishing on the "Good Four Pop" with green crabs at the South Jetty. The striper weighed 14.9 lbs. on the scale at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



David Rayne of Powellville, MD finally outfished Terry Koshi of Ocean City, MD, landing this 22-inch flounder on a squid and minnow combination. The flattie weighed 3 lbs. 8 oz. and was caught at the mouth of the bay behind Assateague.

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Christine Awad of Bloomfield, NJ, Dennis Muhlenforth of Hockessin, DE and Ginger Ricciotti of Margate, NJ caught themselves some nice, big tautog while fishing on the "Judith M" with Capt. Kane Bounds and Mate Anton Postnikov. Christine's and Ginger's both tipped the scales at 11 lbs. while Dennis' togs weighed in at 10.5 and 11 lbs. The fish were caught on Winter Quarter Shoal on green crabs. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

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**Double Lines continued:**

stripers. They can also be fished on a jig head or rigged Texas style with an offset worm hook. There are a lot of different brands on the market, but two that especially caught my eye are the "SwimmerZ" from Zman and the Riptide Inshore Minnow. Another lure that grabbed me this past winter is the new Clackin' Rap from Rapala. This lure is a Rat-L-Trap® style sinking plug with a unique external metal disk to transmit the sound made by a single steel ball. The lure features VMC SureSet® hooks, which are not really made for the salt, but they should hold up well if you rinse the lure after using it. I usually end up changing the split rings and hooks on many of these types of lures after I have used them once or twice anyway. I like a heavy duty split ring and at least a 2X hook. I especially like the colors available on the new Clackin' Rap. Rapala has come a long way in the past several years when it comes to colors and lure finish. I also like the

fact that it weighs seven-eighths of an ounce and casts like a bullet. It should work especially well for fishing around structures where the water is fairly deep and there is a lot of current, such as around bridge pilings...



Spent a day on the beach at Assateague last week. I was especially targeting black drum, but also put out a bunker head for stripers. Something took one of the bunker heads and somehow managed to get it off an 8/0 circle hook, which is strange. I watched it eat and kept waiting for the rod to go down, but it never happened and the head was just gone. The score so far, therefore, is fish—1, Dale—0, but in spite of the clouds and a few rain showers, it was a nice day with just a light southeasterly breeze. The curlews were migrating, and they are one of my favorites. A day or so after I went down, the Park Service apparently put up closure signs just south of the Bull Pen to protect nesting birds or cordon off areas where

the birds might nest. Rather than close off the entire access corridor, however, it is my understanding that they just moved the western boundary of the ORV zone closer to the ocean, so that the birds have more room but the fishermen can still get by. Sounds like a good compromise on the part of the NPS to me, and I applaud them for taking the people as well as the birds into consideration. After all, in this day and age, when you pay \$120.00 or more for a beach permit it's tough when over half of the ORV zone is closed for much of the summer season...especially when it turns out in the fall that none of the chicks even survived because of the foxes, coons, crows, black backed gulls, grackles and so on. The fishermen are the least of their worries...



Contact Dale Timmons at coastfish@verizon.net or call 410-629-1191.



Colleen Gathers caught this 20-inch flounder while drifting a bucktail tipped with a minnow at Massey's Ditch. Photo courtesy of Rick's Bait & Tackle.

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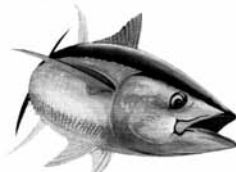
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Fishing Report updated daily!

FISHING REPORT

SUNDAY, April 26, 2009: A few flounder were caught today, both up by the Rt. 90 Bridge and also down in the South Bay behind Assateague. Water was surprisingly clear.

Black drum and striped bass were caught by surfcasters off Assateague over the weekend. Anglers had to week through sharks and skates.

SATURDAY, April 25, 2009: Decent flounder fishing in the bay. The "Bay Bee" had 5 keepers on their morning trip with the largest measuring 19.75 inches. All were caught in the South Bay on the troll, with shiners and squid for bait. In the afternoon, the "Bay Bee" had 3 keepers with the largest measuring 23 inches. Same location and bait.

FRIDAY, April 24, 2009: Went stripier fishing in the Chesapeake Bay today on the "Playmate" with Capt. Willie Zimmerman. Had a fantastic day! We caught 9 fish, kept 5. Fish were FAT and measured between 36 inches and 44 inches. Had to throwback a 42 incher since we already had our limit. Trolled umbrella rigs and mojos in the bay between Solomon's Island and Hooper's Island. It was a blast!!! Here's the great part. Capt. Willie will now pick people up at Rippons Seafood & Marina on Hooper's Island on the Eastern Shore. That is only 1 hour and 45 minutes from Ocean City, MD. A far cry from the 4 hour car ride to Solomon's. This definitely makes the trip worthwhile, not to mention that you will be fishing on a 60-foot Custom Carolina boat If you want to take advantage of this fishery (which is hot right now) and only have to make a fairly short car ride, then you can call Capt. Willie at 443-370-7144.

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# Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



Heading into the weekend, it FINALLY seemed like spring and the fish were snapping. Overall, Thursday through Saturday were good, productive days while the action on Sunday died off due to windy conditions.

Around mid-week we started to hear about the striped bass bite turning on off Assateague Island. This is the time of year when the big, migrating stripers are heading up the beach and surfcasters usually land quite a few cows. We heard of several 40+ inch fish caught by anglers using fresh bunker for bait. The nicest fish I personally saw come off the beach was Mike Barrett's 38-incher that tipped the scales at 27 lbs. 10 oz. (pictured on the right). That fish was fat and probably loaded with bunker. I did see a report from an angler who found 2 weakfish in the belly of the striped bass he landed, so you just never know. Not many people think of stripers feasting on weakfish, but they love them. I've even heard some folks argue that the rebound in the striped bass population is one of the primary reasons for the shortage of weakfish.

Surfcaster off Assateague reported a good bite beginning on Thursday and running through Saturday. Fish were



It looks like the big stripers are starting to cruise up the beach, and Mike Barrett of Ocean Pines and Bob Lawrence of Taylorville, MD were there on Saturday to snag a couple. Mike muscled in a fat 38 incher that weighed 27 lbs. 10 oz. while Bob caught a nice 32.5 inch striper. Both fish were caught while fishing off the beach on Assateague Island on fresh bunker.

scattered right up the line with big linesiders being hooked off the Ocean City and Fenwick

beaches as well. On Saturday, Ronnie Rueter picked up a 49-incher off the beach in Fenwick that had to weigh over 40 lbs. This fish was fat, which we can say for a lot of the stripers we have seen so far this week.

The next week or so should be primetime to catch a big striper off the beach, so stay tuned.

It was interesting that we

didn't see the Mother's Day blitz of bluefish from the surf. Actually, we haven't seen many bluefish in our local waters this year and it has many anglers perplexed. Bluefish have been reported up north and into New Jersey, so it makes you wonder why we haven't seen them here. In past years, Mother's Day has produced an incredible bluefish bite. Guess the choppers didn't get the memo.

In the bay, flounder fishing was very good heading into the weekend. The "Bay Bee" returned on Thursday and Friday with some good catches from the bay behind Assateague. On Thursday, Capt. Bob returned with 9 flatties in the box and another 5 on Saturday. All of the fish were caught on shiners, squid and minnows. Capt. Bob swears by slow trolling for flounder and it looks like it was an effective method again. If your boat doesn't have a trolling motor, just try trolling into the current so you can get your boat to a slow enough speed to land a nice flattie. It works and can be a good way to combat strong winds and/or tides that would typically make it tough to drift.

Sue Foster at Oyster Bay Tackle reported a good flounder bite around the Rt. 90 Bridge on Friday and Saturday, but Sunday was just too windy. We also heard reports that the bite in the bay behind Assateague died off on Sunday, but this probably had a lot to do with the excessive pressure placed on the area the previous 5 days.

At the Oceanic Pier, the flounder bite was decent over the weekend and a lot of shad were caught under the lights at night. Anglers continue to catch skates, tautog and a couple of bluefish at the end of the pier.

Around the South Jetty, anglers continued to pick at

continued on page 13



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is published weekly from May through September and annually in January by Coastal Fisherman, Inc. at 12748 Sunset Ave., Ocean City, MD 21842.

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Larry Jock, Sr., V.P. Distribution & Proofreader

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The "Bay Bee", with Capt. Bob Gowar, has been coming back with some nice catches of flounder and this day was no exception. Ryan Streete and Justin Grynovicki, both from Perry Hall, MD along with John Chaya and Jerry Robinette of Lancaster, PA combined to put 5 flounder in the box, measuring between 18 and 21 inches. The fish were caught on shiners, squid and minnows in the bay behind Assateague Island. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Erik and David Mainhart of Gaithersburg, MD were surfcasting off Assateague Island when Erik landed a 41.5-inch striper that tipped the scales at 22 lbs. David's striper was close behind, measuring 38.25 inches and weighing 19.5 lbs. Both were caught on fresh bunker and weighed at Buck's Place.

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# Always Late



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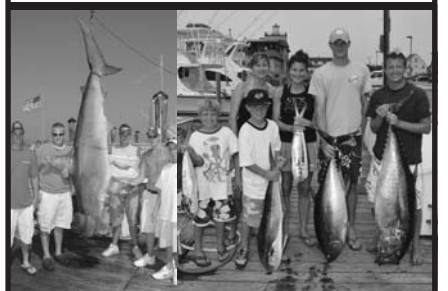
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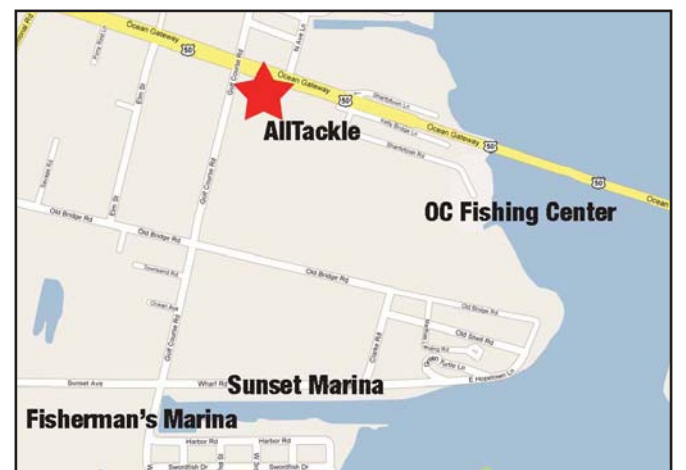


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John Grabowski of Long Neck, DE (left) was drifting a live minnow in the Indian River when he hooked into this 6 lb. 15 oz. flounder. Weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle.




Ed Moore of Berlin, MD caught this 31-inch Indian River striper on a windcheater while fishing with Dan Carey on the "Spots and Stripes".

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Ronnie Rueter of Ocean City, MD caught this 49-inch striper on a chunk of fresh bunker while surfcasting off the beach at Fenwick State Park. Photo courtesy of Fenwick Tackle.

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**Ocean City report continued:**

striped bass and a few tautog. On Friday, Vinnie Onorato stopped by the office with a beautiful 40-inch striped bass he caught at the South Jetty on a bucktail tipped with pork rind. Vinnie also picked up a 34 inch while drifting around the Rt. 50 Bridge on Friday night.

On Saturday, Laverne Good landed a 37 incher around the South Jetty on a green crab. So far, the stripers I have seen have been "clean" fish with no sores or damage. Beautiful fish!

While we are talking about the South Jetty, I've noticed a group of anglers now being hauled over to Assateague Island where they trek to the South Jetty to fish. Not to be butting my nose in where it doesn't belong, but somebody better take a look at this situation before an angler gets killed. The rollers and waves I have seen come crashing over the South Jetty can easily knock an angler right into the water and pound them into the rocks. This is a very dangerous situation and one that the MDDNR or the Coast Guard needs to look into. I just don't want to see anyone get hurt or killed and chances are it is going to happen if this practice continues.

Inshore, anglers are still catching sea bass and tautog off ocean wrecks and reefs. On Friday, the "Judith M" returned with a nice catch of tautog and sea bass from around Winter Quarter Shoal. The four heaviest tog weighed in at 10.0, 10.5, 11.0 and 11.0 lbs. Nice fish! All were caught on green crab. Also on Friday, the "Morning Star", on their first trip of the year, returned with a mix of sea bass, tautog and a codfish. Capt. Monty ended up taking a trip out

to the subway cars dropped at the Jackspot and found productive fishing in 54-degree water. The heaviest sea bass was caught by Bob Houser and weighed 6 lbs. 1 oz. It really has been an amazing sea bass season so far, with multiple fish coming in over 6 lbs. Used to be if you saw one sea bass a year over 6 lbs., that was something to behold. Remember, this year, sea bass have to be 12.5 inches to keep.

Locally, we are in a lull for fishing tournaments, but there are a couple in Delaware if you are itching for some tournament action. Right now, Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE is holding their Flounder Tournament. The tournament lasts until June 12th.

Another tournament worth considering is the Lewes Harbour Flounder Tournament held at Lewes Harbour Marina. Joe Morris always puts on a good tournament. This year's event will be on May 22nd. Fishing is confined to the Lewes Canal, so if you can tow your boat, this might cure your tournament craving.

Many people stop me and ask how they can get their picture in the Coastal Fisherman. There are a couple of ways. First, you can stop by the office and we will take your picture there. You can give us a call at 410-213-2200 and we will meet you at a local tackle shop, marina or boat ramp. You can swing by a tackle shop and they will take your picture and email it to us or you can take the picture yourself and email it to us at [coastalfisherman@comcast.net](mailto:coastalfisherman@comcast.net). Make sure you take a vertical picture and not a horizontal one. It will increase the chances of your picture making it into the paper.

See you at the scales.



Chuck Pyle of Gap, PA arrived at Rick's Bait & Tackle with 3 keeper flounder after drifting live minnows in the Indian River. The largest flattie weighed 7 lbs. 2 oz. and measured 26.75 inches.

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# Driftin' Easy

— by Sue Foster



"I felt a flounder bite, but when I picked up the rod, it was gone!" What should I have done differently?



Flounder can bite soft one day, and wham the bait the next day. You have to be very perceptive to how the fish are

biting on a particular day and change your tactics if your "tried and true" technique isn't working. Sometimes just changing the way you are holding your rod will make the difference.

Letting more line out so your hooks are closer to the bottom on a running tide can often be the answer. Flounder don't have hands to grab the bait, so if the tide is running along, the flounder might grab hold of the bait with its mouth. When the angler lifts up his rod to set the hook, the bait is suddenly gone, and if the flounder does not see the bait immediately, the flounder will be looking for other prey.

If you haven't hooked the flounder after setting the hook, always let the line back out immediately. How much line, depends on how fast the drift is. If you're moving pretty fast, the flounder can be back there several yards. If the current is moving slow, the flounder can be right down there below your rod tip. Many good anglers hold their rod tips up, when they feel the bite, they hold the rod and "feel" for the flounder to grab it again. If it doesn't, they let out a little line. Then wait. Then when they feel the fish again, they point the rod tip towards the bite. Then set the hook.

Some anglers stand up in the boat, and fish with their rod tips down towards the water. If you do this, you usually have several extra yards of line out. When you set the hook, you pull the rod tip to the side, not straight up. If you fish this way, always make sure the line is going away from the boat and not towards the motor!

A slow troll works wonders almost all the time when you can't get a natural tide or wind drift. The trick is to not troll

too fast.

Sometimes, if the tide is slack, and you aren't moving very much, you can try fishing straight up and down. Jig up and down three or four times, then let your baits sit very still. Keep your rod tip up. Then jig again. (Well, sometimes that works and sometimes it doesn't!)

A lighter sinker that just barely touches the bottom may be the ticket on some days. A heavier sinker in a strong current might be the answer on another day. If one person on the boat is catching, and you are not, try to figure out what they are doing that you are not. See how they are holding their rod and when they are setting their hook. See what rig and bait they are using. Watch how much line they are letting out. Also note the sinker weight they are using. The other day I was fishing in VA with my husband and friend and they were catching more fish than I was. I noticed my husband had a lighter bell type sinker on his line while I had a heavier bank sinker on. We were in relatively quiet water, slow trolling along. I changed my sinker and my luck changed immediately. The next day, my husband and I were catching, and his friend wasn't. We both had light bell sinkers on and his friend had a heavier bank sinker on. I told him to try changing his sinker to a lighter one. He put on a lighter bank sinker and he immediately started to catch more fish. (Some days it goes the other way—you might need a heavier weight!)

Some days you do better holding the rod and setting the hook. Other days good ol' Rodney just does better. Put the rod in the rod holder, and watch the tip like a hawk. I am told that if you fish a rod in a rod holder you do better with a lighter tip rod. The rod tip bends over naturally and actually hooks the fish itself! If you hold your rod in your hand, a rod with a little more backbone is better. An 8-17 lb. line rating is the preferred flounder action rod to hold in

your hand.

The rig and the bait of course are very important. In the spring, the basic baits available are live minnows and frozen shiners. Anglers hook the minnows through the lips and the shiners through the eyes. Then the angler has the option to hook a strip of squid beside the minnow or shiner bait. Flounder are site feeders, so you always want to keep your baits straight on the hooks. If they "ball up" your rig may not fish right. It can tangle and then you'll never catch a fish! Always look at your bait and rig when you pull it up. Make sure there's no seaweed or slur on your bait. Also, make sure your minnow is alive and kicking!



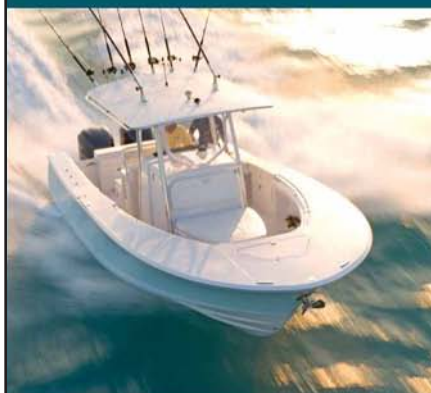
One of the new techniques in town is using the new Berkley Gulp! minnow grubs and swimming mullets. You can buy them in the packages or buy the Berkley Gulp! Alive tubs. Once you buy a tub, you can put your packaged swimming lures in the "juice." Anglers slip the grub on the hook, and then attach a minnow or shiner. Sometimes they even work alone! Your grub gives a great visual plus it has scent! White and chartreuse are the favorite colors, but during the summer all kinds of colors get hot, such as pink, red, orange or smelt.

We tried a new Berkley Gulp! last week that was very interesting. It was called Berkley Gulp! Alive 3-inch Crazy Legs Grub. It was a little grub with dangling legs. We used them with minnows and it had lots of action.

Whatever rig you use, make sure it does not tangle! You can use a single, one hook rig made out of a 30-inch leadered hook with a 3-way swivel and snap attached for your sinker. Always use a snap

continued on page 16

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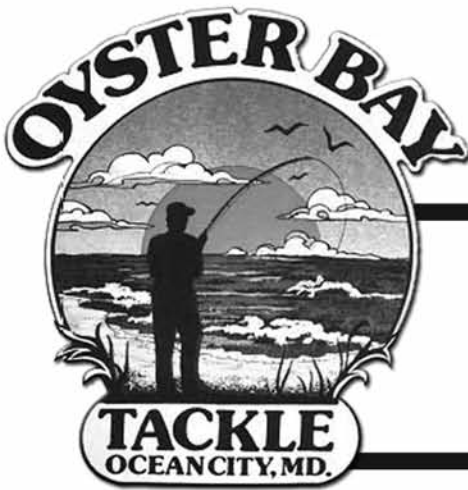
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swivel at the end of your line to help eliminate line twist. Other favorite rigs are Aqua-Clear rigs which have a built-in fish



finder mechanism I like very much. Good ol' wire top and bottom rigs with two hooks attached work fine. I like to use monofilament top and bottom rigs with two leadered hooks attached. These fish fine, and do not tangle.

There are hundreds, probably thousands, of flounder rigs, pre-made rigs available to buy. Some have bucktail skirts, some have beads and spinners. The two most popular colors are white and chartreuse. A little extra Mylar or flash never hurts. Sometimes pink can be very hot in the spring. Then, all of a

sudden, the fish may want two plain hooks! I find that white or white with Mylar is a color that never offends.

Flounder can turn off as fast as they can turn on. So when you are flounder fishing and the bite is on, FISH ON! And FISH HARD! Watch your depth finder and note the water depth where you caught that last fish or had that nice bite. Go back to that depth. If the fish are biting in 9-feet of water, don't waste precious time drifting 15-feet or 6-feet. If the fish are biting on a downward slope, go back and drift it again. If the upward slope isn't working, don't do it again. Pretty simple.

Flounder fishing is a lot of fun. Some days they hop on the hooks, and other days you got to work at 'em.

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.*



Last Friday, Vinnie Onorato of Broomall, PA caught this 40-inch striped bass on a bucktail tipped with a pork rind at the South Jetty. The fish tipped the scales at an even 24 lbs. On Friday night, Vinnie was drifting near the Rt. 50 Bridge and picked himself up a 34-incher. All in all, a good weekend of striper fishing.

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Johnny Coffey of Wilmington, DE caught these two tautog, weighing 7 lbs. 2 oz. and 13 lbs. 13 oz., while fishing with green crabs at Site 11. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em at the Indian River Marina.

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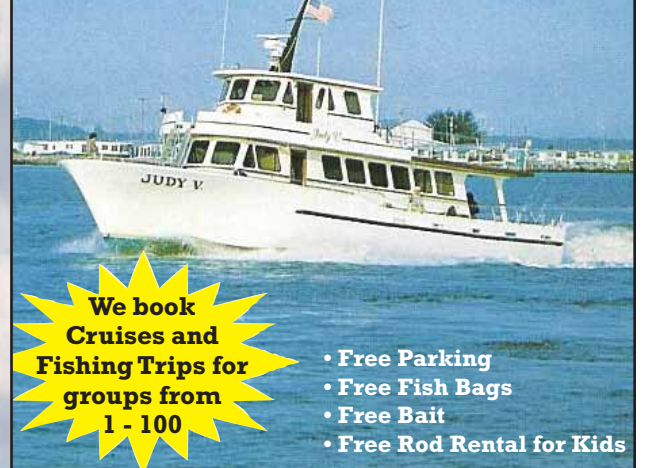
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August 13, 14 & 15  
Captain's Meeting August 12  
Fish 1 out of 3 Days



4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL Flounder Pounder  
Sunday, Sept. 13  
10 a.m. Bimini Start at Bahia Marina

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



10<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL Rocktoberfest  
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Captain's Meeting 3 p.m.  
4 p.m. start



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# The Galley

by Mama Jock



## Fisherman's Bake

2 oz. bacon, chopped  
1 bunch scallions, thinly sliced  
1 1/2 TBS. flour  
1/2 cup clam juice  
1 3/4 lbs. baking potatoes, peeled and cut into cubes  
3/4 cup heavy cream  
Salt and pepper to taste  
6 oz. cooked shrimp, peeled  
3/4 lb. flounder fillets  
2 1/4 cups crushed saltine crackers

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

In a large pot, cook the bacon over medium heat until crisp; transfer to a bowl.

Add the scallions to the pot and cook til softened.

Whisk in the flour and cook, whisking for 2 minutes.

Whisk in the clam juice and 2 cups water; bring to a boil.

Add the potatoes and cook until tender.

Stir in the heavy cream and season with salt.

In an 8-inch square baking dish, arrange the shrimp and ladle the chowder on top, reserving 1/2 cup.

Top with the flounder fillets, season with salt and pepper and pour the reserved chowder on top.

Toss together the crackers and bacon; sprinkle on top.

Bake until the fish is cooked through, about 15 minutes.

Serves 4.

## Mediterranean Fish Casserole

2 TBS. olive oil  
1 lb. small white potatoes, cut into quarters  
2 large Italian frying peppers, thinly sliced  
1/4 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. pepper  
3 cloves garlic, diced  
4 flounder fillets, 3/4 inch thick  
1/4 cup pitted kalamata olives, chopped  
2 plum tomatoes, seeded and cut into 1/4 inch wedges  
2 TBS. lemon juice  
1/4 cup chopped parsley

Heat oven to 400 degrees.

Grease a 2 quart casserole with 1 TBS. of the olive oil.

Spread potatoes and peppers over bottom of the dish.

Season with 1/8 tsp. each of salt and pepper.

Bake for 35 minutes until potatoes are tender.

Scatter garlic over potatoes and peppers.

Season fish with remaining 1/8 tsp. each of salt and pepper and place on top of the potatoes.

Distribute olives and tomatoes over the casserole.

Drizzle with lemon juice and remaining 1 TBS. olive oil, sprinkle with parsley.

Bake for 25 minutes or until fish flakes easily when tested with a fork.

Serves 4.

## Seafood Medley

5 cups water  
2 TBS. lemon juice  
1/2 tsp. salt  
2 pounds flounder fillets  
1 pound uncooked medium shrimp, peeled and deveined  
1/2 pound bay scallops  
2 TBS. butter  
3 TBS. flour  
1 tsp. chicken bouillon granules  
1 tsp. Dijon mustard  
dash pepper  
1 cup heavy cream  
1 cup (4 oz.) shredded Gruyere or Swiss cheese  
Hot cooked pasta of your choice

In a Dutch oven, bring the water, lemon juice and salt to a boil.

Reduce heat; carefully add fillets and cook uncovered for 4 minutes.

Add shrimp; cook for 3 minutes.

Add scallops; cook 3-4 minutes longer or until fish flakes easily with fork, shrimp turn pink and scallops are firm and opaque.

Strain, reserving 1 1/2 cups of the cooking liquid.

In a large saucepan, melt butter.

Stir in the flour, bouillon, mustard and pepper til smooth.

Gradually add cream and reserved liquid. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 1-2 minutes or until thickened.

Stir in the cheese and seafood mixture, heat through.

Serve with pasta.

## Crab Cake Sandwich

6 TBS. olive oil, divided  
1/2 cup minced celery  
1/2 cup minced red pepper

1/2 cup minced green onion

16 ounces of lump crab meat

1 egg white

2 TBS. mayonnaise

1 TBS. Dijon mustard

1 tsp. dried parsley flakes

1/4 tsp. Creole seasonings

1 cup crushed saltine

crackers

4 hoagie rolls, split,

buttered and toasted

Lettuce, sliced tomatoes,

sliced red onions and

pickles

Spicy Crab Cake Sauce

Heat 2 TBS. olive oil in a small skillet over medium heat.

Add celery, bell pepper and onion and cook for 5 minutes, stirring frequently.

Remove from heat; set aside to cool slightly.

In medium bowl, combine crabmeat, egg white, mayonnaise, mustard, parsley, and Creole seasonings. Stir gently to combine.

Add celery mixture and crushed crackers.

Form mixture into eight 3-inch crabcakes.

In large skillet, heat 2 TBS. olive oil.

Add crab cakes, 4 at one time and cook for 3 to 4 minutes per side until golden brown. Repeat with remaining cakes.

Spread Spicy Crab Cake Sauce (recipe below) evenly over hoagie rolls.

Top each with 2 crab cakes. Serve with lettuce, tomatoes, red onions and pickles.

## Spicy Crab Cake Sauce

1/2 cup mayonnaise

3 TBS. sour cream

1 TBS. Dijon mustard

2 cloves garlic, minced

2 tsp. sweet pickle relish

1 tsp. lemon juice

1 tsp. horseradish

3/4 tsp. Creole seasoning

In a small bowl, combine all ingredients. Cover and chill.

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(State Waters Only)



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



**BLACK SEA BASS**  
12 1/2" minimum  
25 per person/day



**BLUEFISH**  
8" minimum 10 per person/day



**CROAKER**  
9" minimum 25 per person/day



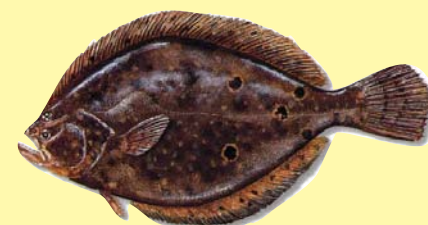
**TAUTOG**  
1/1 - 5/15 14" 4/person/day  
5/16 - 10/31 14" 2/person/day



**WEAKFISH**  
13" minimum 6 per person/day



**BLUE CRAB**  
5" minimum 1 bushel/person  
no more than 2 bushels per boat



**SUMMER FLOUNDER**  
18" minimum 3 per person/day



**SPECKLED TROUT**  
14" minimum 10 per person/day



**STRIPED BASS**  
28" minimum 2 per person/day



**SHEEPSHEAD**  
No limit



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



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<p><b>1ST ANNUAL OCMC LADIES TOURNAMENT</b> July 30 - August 1 Registration and Captain's Meeting: July 30th Fish 1 of 2: July 31st - August 1st Awards Banquet: August 1st</p>	<p><b>51ST ANNUAL LABOR DAY WHITE MARLIN TOURNAMENT</b> September 3-6 Registration &amp; Captain's Meeting: September 3rd Fish 2 of 3: September 4th - 6th Awards Banquet: September 6th</p>	<p><b>31ST ANNUAL CHALLENGE CUP TOURNAMENT</b> Open to members of the Cape May Marlin &amp; Tuna Club and the Ocean City Marlin Club September 17-19 Registration &amp; Capts. Meeting: September 17th Fish 2 of 2: September 18th &amp; 19th Awards Banquet: September 19th</p>

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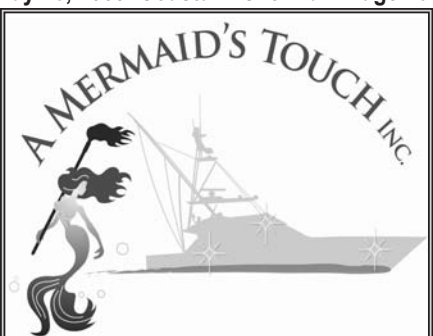
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Mike Graham and Glen Hallacher, both from York, PA, weeded through a lot of throwbacks before they landed these stripers, the heaviest weighing 23.8 lbs. The fish were caught in the Indian River Inlet on fresh bunker and weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



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# Past the Breakers

by Sam Kilgore



As usual, I read through this paper and see the amazing pictures of anglers proudly posing with their catch. By the time I have finished looking at the photos for the fourth time, the "fishy" part of my brain is creating a new list of excuses that may convince my wife to let me go fishing. Once I have finished explaining how the tide will



be perfect for the next few hours, the weather forecast could not get any better and the tackle shop just received fresh bait, she usually gives her approval. In a rush to get out the door before she changes her mind, I find myself quickly going through my mental list of surf fishing necessities. Before I know it, I am on the sand wishing I had spent a little more time on that mental list.

Depending on where you fish, having to run back to your house or the nearest tackle shop may not be a big deal, however if you fish areas like the southern end of



Jes Crowley of Clarksville, MD caught this 36-inch striper while surfcasting off Assateague Island. Jes used bunker for bait to land her first striped bass of the season. Way to go, Jes!

Assateague Island, having to admit to your fishing buddy how you managed to forget the bait knife is not a good feeling. Some anglers like to step out for an hour or two and they don't need to take much with them. On the other hand, if you are like me and can't help but fish until it hurts, there are many items you can bring that will ease the pain.

First of all, make sure you know the license requirements, regulations and creel limits for the beach you

will be fishing. It is also a good idea to keep a fish species reference guide with you to help identify your catch. If you are not sure what you have caught, safely remove the hook and get it back into the water as fast as possible. A good photo will last much longer than any fish you will catch, so don't hesitate to snap a quick picture.

You will need something to help carry your gear through the soft sand. A surf fishing cart can be a great investment for fishing spots such as the North end of Assateague Island. On some beaches, such as the federal side of Assateague Island, you are allowed to drive your vehicle on the beach. This is very convenient for longer fishing trips that require more fishing gear.

Of course you will need your surf fishing rod and reel, sinkers, hooks, and other basic fishing tackle. Choosing the type of tackle needed always depends on the species of fish you will be targeting. There

are numerous options when it comes to choosing your tackle, however don't let it overwhelm you. Your best bet will be checking out the fishing reports on the Internet and spending some time talking to the folks at our local tackle shops. They will be able to help you get an idea which rigs are best for your tackle box.

You are going to need a cooler with ice to keep your bait fresh. It does not take long for the sun and warm air to dry out even the freshest bait. In the spring, the most commonly used baits, such as bunker or peeler crabs are going to need to be cut into pieces, so having a strong, serrated knife and cutting board are essential.

The springtime sun can feel very warm at home; however the ocean breeze can feel surprisingly cold! Make sure you dress appropriately and have a good idea of the weather forecast. Even on those cloudy days, you will get sunburned so don't forget sunscreen. Having a hat and a pair of polarized sunglasses will not only help with the sun's glare on the water, it will also keep you from getting the painful "squint eye" headache. Wearing a comfortable pair of waterproof waders will certainly help keep your legs warm and dry when that unexpected wave sneaks up on you right in the middle of your cast.

After you have heaved your bait into the surf, you are going to need a sturdy sand spike to hold your rod. When choosing your sand spike, make sure the bottom of your rod easily fits into the sand spike. In my opinion, the longer the sand spike, the better. You will need to shove it down into the sand far enough to be able to put pressure against it without it falling over. As the tide comes in and the sand becomes soft, make sure you frequently check your sand spike to ensure it does not move easily.

One of the most common



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critters you are likely to catch is the Clearnose Skate. Trust me, having a quality pair of needle nose pliers and fishing gloves will come in very handy when removing the hook from these spine covered bottom dwellers, as well as many other fish.

Being able to sit down and rest while you wait for that record fish to swim by will make your trip much more enjoyable. Although your cooler can also serve as a seat, I recommend a lightweight beach chair with a cup holder. It's always a good idea to bring something to eat and plenty of fresh water for drinking and washing your hands.

Most importantly, you must remember you will be in constant contact with things that can hurt you if you fail to respect them. Think about it, you are dealing with sharp hooks and lead weights that are being hurled at incredible speeds. Be aware of the power of the ocean and the heat of

the sun. There is always the possibility that you will have to unhook many different types of critters and just about all of them have some sort of natural defense.

Excitement and adrenaline can take over very quickly when surf fishing and you have to remember to stay focused. Always have a first-aid kit and cell phone, especially if you are fishing alone. Although it may not be on your list of surf fishing gear, being safe is without a doubt the last thing you want to forget.

Whenever possible, bring a friend with you. Not only can they help you untangle that spiny dogfish from your line, but in my opinion, sharing a good day on the beach with a buddy is a reward in itself.

*Sam Kilgore is an avid surf fisherman and administers AtlanticAnglers.com, a free, family friendly website devoted to helping anglers learn all aspects of fishing.*



After many hours of hard fishing, Allen Sklar of Bishopville, MD landed his first striped bass of the season, a beautiful 44 incher. Allen was using fresh bunker while surfcasting off the beach on Assateague Island.

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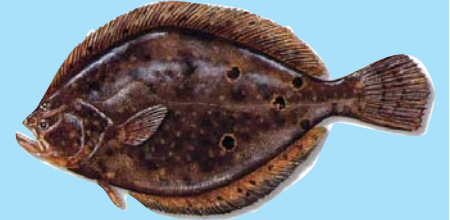
**BLACK DRUM**  
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**BLACK SEA BASS**  
12 1/2" minimum 25 per person/day



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



**SUMMER FLOUNDER**  
18 1/2" 4 per person/day



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



**PORGY (SCUP)**  
8" minimum 50 per person/day



**RED DRUM**  
20" - 27" 5 per person/day



**SHEEPSHEAD**  
No limit



**SPECKLED TROUT**  
12" minimum No creel limit



**STRIPED BASS**  
28" minimum 2 per person/day



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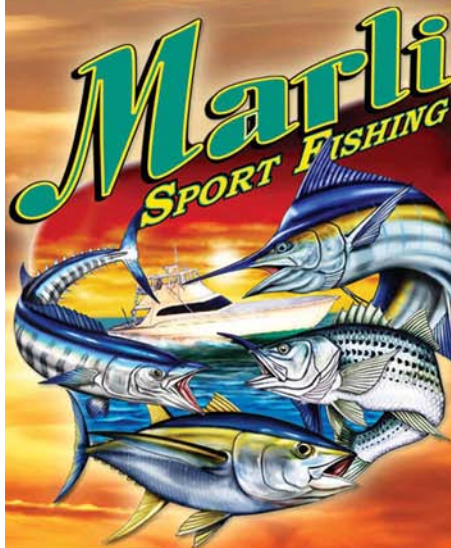
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# Delaware Fishing Report

by Rick Willman



Hi folks! The weather still is a bit uncooperative but the weatherman keeps telling us it is going to get better. When the water is clean and the winds are calm, flounder fishing has been good. With the regs now allowing an 18 1/2 inch flattie we should be seeing more keepers. The hot baits are still minnow and squid or the GULP! swimming minnow or mullet in white, pink, or chartreuse.

Striper action continues to improve in the Indian River Inlet. Herring, eels, bloodworms, fresh bunker, or just a bucktail tipped with a white worm have all been productive. A number of linesiders have also been taken on live sand fleas. James Henly and Mark Whitmer fished the middle of the Outer Wall using green crabs to boat 4 nice tog. Mikey Payne fished the Indian River Inlet using sand fleas to catch a 15 lb. 11 oz. striper. Capt. Eric Ludwig on "Hook & Cook



This 14 lb. 10 oz. tautog was caught by Bill Gable of Lebanon, PA during a trip aboard the "#1 Hooker" with Capt. Ken Swinehart. The fish was caught while using green crabs for bait at "H" Buoy. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em at the Indian River Marina.

and the plan was to bring home as much meat as possible. Fishing pressure has increased along with the number of those fishing. Commercial pressures have also increased, but our hands are tied when it comes to what they do. The only thing we can control is ourselves and it becomes more important each year.

At Rattle & Reel Sporting Center on Long Neck Road, Paul reported good flounder action in the Rehoboth Bay. The hot ticket is a white 3/8 oz. jig head tipped with a GULP! swimming mullet and a minnow. Flounder measuring up to 24 inches have been reported. Stripers are being taken from the surf using fresh bunker. Tog, up to 5 lbs., have been brought in from the Indian River Inlet to guys soaking green crabs on slack tide.

At Henlopen Bait & Tackle on Savannah Road in Lewes, reports are of stripers being caught at Herring Point on fresh bunker. Keeper flounder are coming from the Lewes Canal for those drifting minnow/shiner combos. Plenty of shorts are in the mix. In the surf you will be greeted by plenty of skates and dogsharks.

Charters" had his party near Site #10 and caught 60 tog, putting 8 nice fish in the cooler.

Sea bass action has started and reports thus far show Site #11 to be the best producer. Guys fishing the open bottom are starting to see improvements in the activity. With the closing of the tog season there will be more pressure on the sea bass. It's probably not for me to say, but even though the creel limit is 25 fish per angler, please don't take more fish than you will eat in a short period of time. The pressure on these fish is tremendous and if fishing is good we are bound to see a huge decrease in the availability of this fish. Over the years, I have seen many fish discarded and heard many stories of the same. We really need to police ourselves and think of the times down the road when the stocks of various species are gone and we are not able to enjoy fishing for them. This practice needs to carry through for all species. I know years ago this was not a generally accepted principle, but we must look ahead, self included. I remember years ago going fishing with Dad and the guys

The Bill's Sport Shop Flounder Tournament is going on and thus far Bucktail Bob is the frontrunner with a 4.01 lb., 22-inch flattie. The contest goes until June 12th and pays \$1,000 to the winner. Be sure to get in on the action! Leanne Anderson boated a 29-inch striper while drifting cut herring in Indian River Inlet. Mike Sturgill took an 8.93 lb. tog on green crabs while fishing the Inner Wall in the Delaware Bay. Bryan Halverson fished the surf at 3R's Road and put a 29-inch striper in the cooler and released a 22-inch striper while fishing with fresh bunker.

Captain Cary Evans on the "Grizzly" said that tog fishing is still the best his charters have to offer. Anglers have boated the first sea bass of the year and this fishery should get even better in the next week or two. The migration of black drum is right on time with several schools of them being seen on the surface throughout the Delaware Bay. They should begin catching drum this week according to Capt. Cary. Flounder have even made an appearance on some inshore snags. On one of the



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recent trips aboard the "Grizzly", the crew had their limit of tog weighing up to 10.4 oz. Cary then headed offshore and nailed 11 keeper sea bass along with 5 codfish. The folks at Bill's also want to remind all Cub Scout leaders and parents of the Youth Day Camp that will be held for ages 8 to 14. This is a great chance to learn about boating, waterfowl, archery, air rifles, building bird boxes and feeders, deer management and fishing. The program will be run by Delaware Fish and Wildlife officers, on Saturday, May 16th from 9am to 4pm, at Redden State Forrest Headquarters Tract. Registration forms are available at Bill's.

At Hook'em & Cook'em Bait and Tackle located at the Indian River Marina we received reports of stripers off the surf to those soaking fresh bunker. The pocket off the north side jetty has produced stripers weighing up to 30 lbs. when tempted by Storm or Tsunami lures. There has been some bluefish action off the beaches also. Flounder continue to be caught in the back bays. Tom Cline of Germantown, MD weighed in a 25.2 lb. striper. The "Capt. Bob" and "Judy V." are having some nice catches of sea bass on their headboat trips.

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said black drum came on good around the full moon. Captain Carey's crew aboard "Grizzly" had 17 boomers during Saturday morning's flood tide while soaking clams at Pin Top. They harvested eleven of the fish and released six. The largest was a 74.1 pounder landed by Jeff Lauer. Mike Wyatt checked in a 51.1 pounder he boated on the "Reel Passion". Other good bites occurred in Tussey's Slough and the Horseshoe on the Jersey Side of the Bay. Drum were also reported among much smaller crowds anchored on the Coral Beds off Slaughter Beach. Captain Neil Bupp landed three fish there on Friday evening and said he heard plenty of drumming in the area. The season is off to a good start and should hold up into early June.

Joe said the shop is carrying surf clams, but urges anglers to reserve baits in advance of their trip because the mollusks are sometimes in short supply due to delivery schedules.

Spring toting ended up with good catches coming from the Outer and Inner Breakwaters as well as the Ice Breakers. Captain Pete's gang on the "Top Fin" enjoyed a fine Friday tautog fishing. Among their limit, Bill Haines had an 8.58 pounder and John Reed a 7.52. Captain Pete himself captured a 7.85-pound citation blackfish. Anglers on the "Jam-Man" hit the Ice Breakers on Saturday and ended up with a nice mess of tog including a 7.9 pounder for Christine Johnson and a 7 pounder for Captain Chris Ragni. Richard "Booker" Bookwalter brought back a 7.4 pounder from the Wall. Shrimp proved to be an especially productive bait.

The Lewes Canal, Broadkill River and Roosevelt Inlet yielded good amounts of flounder, with increasing numbers of keepers, thanks to the reduced 18 1/2-inch minimum size, effective May 11th. Minnows and shiners on shad darts, spec rigs or other small jigs were productive, as were Gulp! Swimming Mullet and Gulp! Shrimp. The annual Lewes Harbour Canal Flounder Tournament sponsored by the Dewey Beach Lions Club will take place Friday May 22nd. The event offers cash prizes and a portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Camp Awareness Youth Fishing Program. Call 302-645-6227 for registration info.

Striped bass have settled in along the rock structures off Lewes. Guys tossing Bomber and Stretch 12+ plugs to the Outer Wall in the early morning and evening hours hooked stripers of varying sizes. Working soft plastics around the end of the Ferry Jetty at daybreak also produced rockfish.

Once again, don't forget your fishing license and be sure you get your FIN number before you go fishing, crabbing, or clamming. When you read this report the Delaware flounder limits will have changed to 18 1/2 inches with a daily creel limit of four fish. The sea bass are 12 1/2 inches and 25 fish per day and tog will be closed.

"Til next week, have fun and be safe!

*Rick Willman and his wife, Deb are owners of Rick's Bait & Tackle on Long Neck Road in Long Neck, DE.*



Gary Beach of the Marlin Moon Grille, recently voted "Maryland's Favorite Restaurant", and Bruce Kensington of Señor Cigars ventured down to Quepos, Costa Rica and teamed up to land this roosterfish. The fish took both Gary's and Bruce's baits, so each angler recorded a 1/2 catch and release.

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Mike Whiter of North Ridge, CA traveled a long way to catch this 17 lb. tautog during a trip aboard the "Judith M" with Capt. Kane Bounds and Mate Anton Postnikov. The catch breaks down to 166 miles per pound. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

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# 2009 COASTAL FISHERMAN 2009

## 1st Fish of the Year

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

Species	2009	2008	Species	2009	2008
 <b>Sea Bass</b>	January 26, 2009 Dean Lo "Arno" Wilmington Canyon	March 27, 2008 Susan Samscock "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	 <b>Mako Shark</b>	None Reported	April 26, 2008 Thomas Dame "Free Spool" Elephant's Trunk
 <b>Tautog</b>	January 4, 2009 Billy Collins "Ocean Princess" Offshore Wreck	February 4, 2008 Joe Restuccia "Karen Sue" Wreck	 <b>White Marlin</b>	None Reported	June 9, 2008 Jim Miner "Judge" Norfolk Canyon
 <b>Striped Bass</b>	January 3, 2009 Baron Daiker "Baron Sea" Little Gull	January 1, 2008 RJ Roppelt "Reel Persuasion" Little Gull	 <b>Blue Marlin</b>	None Reported	June 9, 2008 Jason Hinton "No Limits" Middle Sausage
 <b>Weakfish</b>	None Reported	May 16, 2008 Nick Sharp Roosevelt Inlet	 <b>Bluefin Tuna</b>	None Reported	April 11, 2008 Greg Hook "Stress Reel-ief" Wilmington Canyon
 <b>Flounder</b>	April 18, 2009 Bo Smeltzer "Gotta Jones" Verrazano Bridge	March 23, 2008 Preston Walls Rt. 90 Bridge	 <b>Yellowfin Tuna</b>	None Reported	May 25, 2008 Kevin King "Marli" Norfolk Canyon
 <b>Bluefish</b>	None Reported	April 24, 2008 John Foreman Assateague Surf	 <b>Longfin Tuna</b>	None Reported	June 20, 2008 Jim Short "Not Right" Baltimore Canyon
 <b>Black Drum</b>	April 25, 2009 Chris Tenbusch Assateague Surf	April 24, 2008 Capt. Mac Simpson Assateague Surf	 <b>Bigeye Tuna</b>	None Reported	August 25, 2008 Bert Long "Lewestown Lady" Wilmington Canyon
 <b>Thresher Shark</b>	None Reported	May 24, 2008 Justin Michalski "Uptite" S.E. of Jackspot	 <b>Dolphin</b>	None Reported	May 25, 2008 Janan Mohamed "Marli" Norfolk Canyon
 <b>Sheepshead</b>	None Reported	June 5, 2008 Joe Shaffer North Jetty	 <b>Wahoo</b>	None Reported	July 1, 2008 Matt Migliore "Marli" Lumpy Bottom

To report your catch, call the Coastal Fisherman at 410-213-2200

# Maryland & Delaware Citation Sizes

## Atlantic Coast

	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>
Tuna:		
Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lbs.
False Albacore	24"	12 lbs.
Bigeye ***	60"	75 lbs.
Bluefin ***	60"	75 lbs.
Yellowfin ***	50"	75 lbs.
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-
Bluefish	34"	14 lbs.
Cobia	44"	-
Croaker	18"	3 lbs.
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs.
Black Drum	48"	50 lbs.
Red Drum *	any size	-
Flounder	24"	7 lbs.
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs.
Blue Marlin **	any size	any size
White Marlin **	any size	any size

	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb.
Striped Bass	40"	20 lbs.
Sailfish *	any size	-
Seabass	20"	3 lbs.
Shark:		
Blue Shark *	any size	100 lbs.
Hammerhead *	any size	100 lbs.
Mako *	any size	100 lbs.
Thresher *	any size	100 lbs.
Tiger *	any size	100 lbs.
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs.
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs.
Spot	12"	-
Speckled Trout	24"	-
Swordfish *	any size	any size
Tautog	24"	7 lbs.
Wahoo	60"	20 lbs.
Weakfish	24"	9 lbs.

\* Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program  
 \*\*\* Use curved-fork-length measurements

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

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## NOAA to Create Saltwater Angler Registry in 2010

Back in December 2008, NOAA's Fisheries Service released its final rule to create a national saltwater angler registry of all marine recreational fishermen to help the nation better protect our shared marine resources. A requirement to establish a registry was included in a statute approved by Congress in 2007.

"Better national surveys of the nearly 15 million saltwater anglers will help us demonstrate the important contributions of recreational anglers to both local economies and to the nation's," said Jim Balsiger, NOAA acting assistant administrator for NOAA's Fisheries Service. "The registry will help us gather comprehensive data to ensure sustainable fisheries built on the best available science."

The improved quality of recreational fishing data achieved through a national saltwater angler registry will help demonstrate the economic value of saltwater recreational fishing, and will provide a more complete picture of how recreational fishing is affecting fish stocks. This kind of information is essential to NOAA's goal to end overfishing as required under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act. All recreational anglers who fish in federal waters will be required to participate, with some exemptions for those already registered in their states.

The registry is the product of a major recommendation to NOAA in a 2006 independent scientific review by the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences. The NRC found that NOAA needed a comprehensive list of everyone who fishes

recreationally in marine waters to improve surveys of saltwater anglers used to help manage and rebuild fish stocks. The NRC recommendation became law in 2007 with the reauthorization of the Magnuson-Stevens Act, the primary federal law that enables NOAA to manage ocean fish stocks.

The final rule requires anglers and spearfishers who fish recreationally in federal ocean waters to be included in the national saltwater angler registry by Jan. 1, 2010.

Beginning January 2009, NOAA will exempt anglers from the federal registration rule if they are licensed in states that have a system to provide complete information on their saltwater anglers to the national registry.

"NOAA wants to work closely with the states and anglers to better capture the contributions and effects of sportfishing," said Balsiger. "We expect that this additional year will allow a number of states to put in place systems to register their anglers annually and provide this information to NOAA."

NOAA had originally proposed that registration be required beginning Jan. 1, 2009, but based on public input decided to give states another year to put in place their own data collection systems.

If anglers are not licensed or registered by a state that has been exempted and want to fish in federal waters, they will be required to register with NOAA. They must also register if they fish in tidal waters for migratory fish such as striped bass and salmon that spawn in rivers and spend their adult lives in estuaries and oceans. However, those who fish recreationally for these migratory species inland of tidal waters need not register, according to the final rule.

Federal saltwater angler registrations will include an angler's name, date of birth,

address, telephone number, and the regions where they intend to fish. This information will be used by NOAA to conduct surveys on fishing effort and amounts of fish caught. Once anglers have registered, they may fish anywhere in U.S. federal waters, or in tidal waters for anadromous species, regardless of the region or regions they specified in their registration. The registration will be valid for one year from its date of issue. Anglers must comply with applicable state licensing requirements when fishing in state waters.

Saltwater anglers will be able to register online or by calling a toll-free telephone number that will be publicized, and will receive a registration certificate. Anglers will need to carry this certificate (or their state license from an exempt state) and produce it to an authorized enforcement

officer if requested. No fee will be charged in 2010. An estimated fee of \$15 to \$25 per angler will be charged starting in 2011.

Anglers who fish only on licensed party, charter, or guide boats would not be required to register with NOAA since these vessels are surveyed separately from angler surveys. Those who hold angler permits to fish for highly migratory species, such as tunas or swordfish, and those fishing under commercial fishing licenses will also be exempt. Anglers registered or permitted to fish in a formal state or federal subsistence fishery will also be exempt, as will anglers under 16.

To read the final registry rule and other information about the Marine Recreational Information Program, go to: <http://www.countmyfish.noaa.gov>.



Debbie Hannum of Lewes, DE hooked these Indian River strippers on a bucktail. The big linesiders measured 33 and 35 inches. Photo courtesy of Rick's Bait & Tackle.

# Ship To Shore

by Pat Schrawder



## Are you ready for your first trip out on the water?

Imagine it's a nice weekend. The sun is out. It's warm and there's a light breeze blowing. You decide to venture out in your boat for the first time since last summer. You've got the fishing rods and bait, the life jackets, and the snacks.

You've fueled up the engines and you're ready to roll. What??? You haven't checked your electronic equipment?

Okay, so I know you're saying, "But it was working when I used it the last time and it's just been sitting there over the winter. What could be wrong?" The first time you apply current to an item of electronics that has been sitting over the winter it is most vulnerable, so you should turn all your equipment on and run it for several hours at the dock or at your home to see if it works and if it stays working.

There are a few things you should always do before you go out for your first real day on the water. Check your basic electrical wiring for any signs of corrosion. This includes any fuse panels, terminal blocks and connections to your battery. You would be surprised at the small amount of corrosion that is needed to affect the proper operation of your equipment. There are several types of anti-corrosion chemicals on the market that you can use to spray on your connections and it's a good thing to do on a regular basis. Gently tug at connections to make certain they are still secure and that they are tight.

A loose connection will have the same effect as corrosion when it comes to delivering current. If you find a loose connection, you can usually tighten it with ordinary hand tools. Once tightened, it's a good idea to spray it lightly with some anti-corrosion mix.

Equally as important is your transducer on the transom or through the hull. Check it carefully before you go in the water. Look for any marine growth and, if you find it, remove the bulk of it then lightly sandpaper the face of the transducer. Do not chip away at it with a sharp object like a knife or screwdriver. Once you have cleaned the surface, you may paint it with special transducer paint. Do not paint it with regular boat anti-fouling hull paint as that often contains metal that will ruin the operational effectiveness of the transducer.

If your fish finder has speed and temperature, there will also be a "paddlewheel" assembly affixed to the transducer. Make certain you can spin the wheel freely and look for the speed to change on the display. If you tap lightly on the bottom of the transducer, you will normally see some indication on the display. It will be small and it will only flash for a second so you have to be quick. Often you can feel and/or hear a buzzing or clicking sound that indicates your transducer is "firing" as it should. You may still have to wait until

the boat is in the water to determine if it is still reading depth correctly. If your transducer is transom mounted, look closely and you will usually find a small metal "dot" about the size of the head of a pencil's eraser. If you locate it, place your finger on the dot and look for the temperature on the display to change.

Check your GPS unit and look for two things. First, make sure the unit is picking up signals and is reading the correct position. Once you have resolved that, check to see that your waypoints are still stored. If you have one of the new cartography plotter units, check with your dealer or the manufacturer of the chart to see if there have been any changes in the chart. If so, it may need upgrading. Most manufacturers offer an update service. If you register with them, they will let you know whenever there have been changes or if new charts have become available.

Your communication device(s) is arguably the most important item of marine electronics on your boat so don't short change it. Make a test call to check both your transmit and receive capabilities. Take a good look at your antennas. Has the fiberglass started to fray? That won't actually impair your operational capabilities but you will get nasty fiberglass splinters in your hands if you grab the antenna. A new antenna is a relatively inexpensive item and may be a good thing to replace.

Taking the time in advance to do these few things can really pay off in a successful and uneventful first day of boating.

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

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Bill Dehn and Matt King caught these tautog while fishing at the South Jetty, using green crabs for bait. Photo courtesy of Alltackle of Ocean City.



This is the time of year when surf fishermen off Assateague Island start to see migrating stripers heading up the beach, and A.J. Aziz was there to snag this 34.25 incher. The fish weighed 16 lbs. 8 oz. and was caught on a chunk of fresh bunker. Weighed at Buck's Place.

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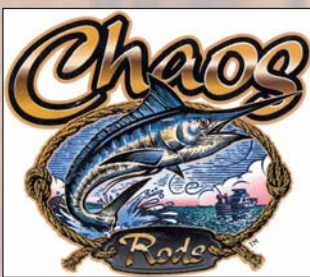
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 <b>Sea Bass</b>	March 6, 2009 Noah Fowler Bow Mariner 7 lbs.	February 25, 2009 Paul Twilley Wilmington Canyon 7 lbs. 5 oz.	 <b>Mako Shark</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 <b>Tautog</b>	March 15, 2009 Capt. Kane Bounds "Judith M" 19 lbs. 8 oz.	 May 3, 2009 Johnny Coffiey Site 11 13 lbs. 13 oz.	 <b>Thresher Shark</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 <b>Striped Bass</b>	 May 9, 2009 Mike Barrett Assateague Surf 27 lbs. 10 oz.	 May 3, 2009 Mike Graham Indian River Inlet 23 lbs. 13 oz.	 <b>Cobia</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 <b>Weakfish</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	 <b>Bluefin Tuna</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 <b>Speckled Trout</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	 <b>Yellowfin Tuna</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 <b>Flounder</b>	April 18, 2009 Terry Bachulski Rt. 90 Bridge 4 lbs. 7 oz.	 May 1, 2009 Chuck Pyle Indian River 7 lbs. 2 oz.	 <b>Longfin Tuna</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 <b>Bluefish</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	 <b>Bigeye Tuna</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 <b>Sheepshead</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	 <b>Dolphin</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 <b>Black Drum</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	 <b>Wahoo</b>	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported

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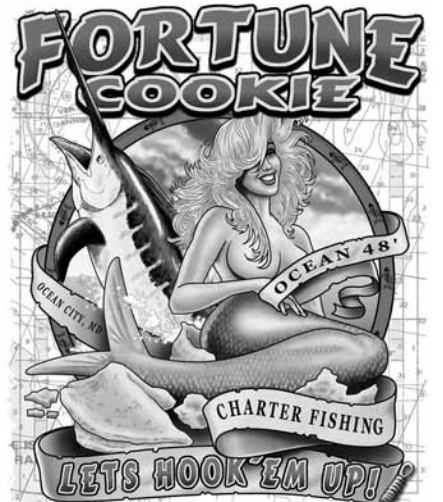


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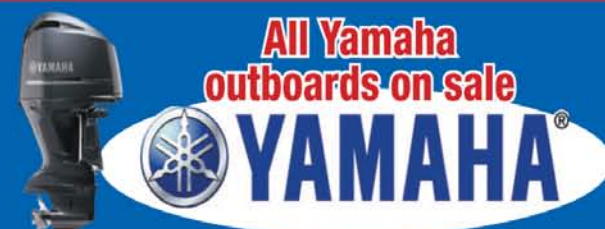
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# Chum Lines

by Mark Sampson



This winter my wife and I spent some time observing the reactions of fish to the various baits, lures, and flies we presented them down in the clear waters of the Florida Keys. From tarpon, to snapper, bonefish to sharks, we cast to just about every inshore species with fins and experienced aggressive attacks, slow-lazy pickups, curious fish that would follow a lure all the way to the boat but never bite, and fish that spooked the split-second the bait or lure hits the water. The opportunity to watch how those fish reacted to our efforts was a great learning opportunity that I know will make us better anglers when fishing our home waters surrounding Delmarva.

One thing we learned was the importance for anglers to know the layout of the bottom in whatever body of water they're fishing so that they will have a general idea of where fish "should be" so that even if they aren't able to see the fish, at least they'll be able to increase the chances that their baits or lures will fall into productive areas. It's also

important to use a quiet "stealthy" approach to these places so as not to spook fish out of the area before having a chance to make the first cast. This is particularly important when targeting ambush predator-type fish such as our local striped bass that will often hold in one place as they wait for their next meal to come to them. Keeping in mind that fish almost always hold-up facing into the current, in most cases anglers will want to be positioned up-current or slightly cross-current from where the fish should be holding. This allows the opportunity to present baits or lures in a fashion that looks as though they are trying to escape being eaten by the predator. It's interesting to note that big fish are often surrounded by lots of baitfish but pay them no mind unless one of the little fish does something "different" such as swimming erratically or quickly darting out in front of the predator. This is what anglers want to mimic when they're casting to their quarry and it's also the kind noisy-erratic action that's

built into many lures.

Of course when it comes to lures, anglers have an incredibly large selection to choose from, fortunately a relatively small selection of basic lures will cover most fishing situations. I like to put lures into one of three categories; floaters, sinkers, and floater-divers.

"Floaters" would include surface poppers and slider-type lures that always stay up on top. Some (like the poppers) can draw fish in from a long distance by making so much commotion that fish rush-in, if only to see what's going on. Even if a fish chooses not to hit a floater it will at least clue the angler to its presence. Noisy floaters can be the best lures for anglers to start with, but they should not be cast too close to where the fish are expected to be holding because too much noise from a lure can spook some fish away, so surface lures should be worked 10-yards or more from the hold-out and the fish allowed to come out to them. That way, if the fish don't like what they hear off in the distance, they'll at least stay put and allow anglers the opportunity to try something else. Surface plugs can be cast up-current, down-current or cross-current from the fish as long as they aren't cast too close.

If drawing fish away from their hold with surface lures doesn't work, I'll usually go next to a floater/diver type lure. As the name implies, these lures float, but since they have a big lip on them, when they're retrieved they will dive. The ones I like usually have built-in rattles so as they are wiggling their way along they make a heck of a lot of underwater racket. The faster these lures are retrieved the deeper they'll dive enabling anglers to fish floater/divers at different depths simply by changing the speed at which they crank them in, a nice feature in areas of varying depth. Because

they're noisy and put out a lot of vibrations, these lures will attract fish from a fair distance and anglers should be careful not to drag them closer than maybe six-feet from where the fish are holding. These lures have plenty of action of their own so no additional rod movement is needed. A steady retrieve into the current works best. I probably catch more fish (of all species) on floater/divers than any other lure.

I classify anything that sinks to the bottom when it's not being retrieved to be a "sinking lure." This would include jigs, spoons, spinners and many plugs. Sinking lures are usually the last thing I'll throw at holding fish because they usually need to be run so close to the quarry to get their attention, which is not a problem if they bite, but if they don't there's a good chance that the fish will be spooked and then it's "game-over" for that particular hold-out. When resorting to the sinking lure section of my tackle box I usually opt first for something I can work slowly such as a "Mirro-Lure" or a light headed jig such as a bucktail or a soft-body. After multiple casts with different retrieves and maybe some change-ups in color and size, I'll start to get a bit more aggressive and try some of the faster moving lures such as spoons or "Hopkins" lures that I can zip past the predators in hopes of triggering a "reaction bite."

If I employ all my tactics and still don't get a bite I'll move on to the next spot. But I'll likely be back, sometimes in as little as an hour or so as I know that just because the fish didn't bite "now" doesn't mean they won't bite later with just a slight change in tide, current, time of day, or any of a million other reasons. When we can actually see the fish we're casting to it's not uncommon to return to the same fish later in the day and

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Continued on page 45



Vinnie Benedict caught and released this sailfish while fishing out of Drake Bay on the northern end of the Osa Peninsula in Costa Rica over the winter.

Chum Lines continued:

have it bite on the first cast. Similarly, we often return to a place where there were no fish earlier in the day that is later loaded with predators.

In summary, even if anglers aren't fishing a place where they can see the fish before they cast, if they know their quarry and their local waters well enough, they should be able to recognize areas where the fish "should be" and then with a slow and quiet approach move in and throw an arsenal of lures (or baits) first to the extreme perimeters of the fish's hold-out, and then if necessary, work their offering in closer to the fish until they either get

the bite or realize it's time to move on to a new spot. To some folks the thought of putting this kind of effort into catching a fish might seem so involved that would diminish some of the fun from a day of fishing. But I guarantee that no matter where they fish, anglers will always enjoy greater satisfaction from every fish they catch when they are able to do so using their own skills and thought-out tactics rather than simply dumb-luck.

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



Danielle Berardi of West Ocean City, MD ventured down to Cabo San Lucas, Mexico this past winter with Bennie Thumma, also of West Ocean City, MD, and had a great trip highlighted by Danielle's release of this striped marlin.

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Kirsten German of Middletown, PA landed herself a nice 18.5-inch flounder while drifting a live minnow near the Rt. 90 Bridge aboard the "Reel Busy".



John Whaley of Berlin, MD is an avid fly fisherman and loves to travel down to Louisiana for some red drum fishing. Here, John caught and released an estimated 40 lb. bull after hooking it on 8 weight fly tackle. It took John an hour to get the big red to the boat.

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Capt. Holly Firuta from Lewes, DE caught this 30 lb. 8 oz. striped bass during a spring fishing trip in the Chesapeake Bay. She left from Rumbley, MD and caught the big striper on a trolled bucktail. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina in Lewes, DE.

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# Virginia Fishing Report

by Dr. Julie Ball



With a steady parade of evening thunderstorms this week, the spring Mid-Atlantic fishing scene has taken a slight detour from the usual trend. The biggest interest is still in the emerging drum scene, which is motivating many anglers to gather peelers and crabs and head for the Eastern Shore shoals between the thunderstorms.

Red drum are providing some decent action among the breakers and sloughs near Smith and Fisherman's Island, especially at night. The best action is still among the breakers, where kayak anglers are taking advantage of this trend right now. John Fauci of Norfolk had a great drum trip this week when he released a massive 58-inch bull from his kayak in the white water off Fisherman's Island. Bill "Gordy" Knapp of Virginia Beach also found some drum action while his crew braved the storms and rain this week. Bill released a nice 51-inch red while bottom fishing at night with crab off Fisherman's Island recently.

According to Chris at Chris' Bait and Tackle,



Amanda Beardsley from Long Neck, DE took a trip to the Chesapeake Bay towards the end of April and released this 39-inch striped bass. The 28 pounder hit a bloodworm while fishing on the "Reel Lokey" with Skeeter and Dean Lokey.

smallish black drum ranging to about 35-pounds are becoming more active along the Eastern Shore seaside inlets, surf, and near buoys 13 and 16 on the bayside. The larger fish are still coming from the Quinby areas further north. This trend will also continue to heat up over the next few weeks, and larger fish will become more common.

With the recent muddy water and excess fresh water from the abundant rain, the flounder scene is still slow within Bay waters and around

the CBBT. The best numbers of keeper fish are coming from the Eastern Shore seaside inlets, and back waters of Oyster. A few keeper flatfish are also coming from within both Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets.

Healthy puppy drum ranging to 33-inches are still hitting inside Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlets, where anglers are also finding bluefish up to around 5 lbs. and scattered speckled trout. Specks are also available within the Eastern Shore seaside inlets and the back

waters of Oyster. Peeler crabs, live bait, and Mirrolures are a good choice for the specks right now.

Many are taking advantage of the Bay's Spring Trophy Striped Bass season. Striped bass are providing a good alternative for those looking for some solid action right now. Anglers working top water lures along the rocks at the islands of the CBBT are content with steady hits from fish exceeding the 32-inch minimum size requirement. Storm Lures cast around the pilings of the CBBT are also working well. Reports of school-sized fish are coming from around the HRBT, and larger fish are hitting cut bunker near the mouths of the lower Bay Rivers.

Tautog are still lurking on lower bay and inshore structures, but these fish are only available for catch and release until late June.

The lower Bay Rivers are still holding the larger croaker, while the Little Creek jetties and Ocean View are hosting medium-sized hardheads, which are hitting squid. The folks at the Ocean View Fishing Pier report that the best croaker action is still at night. Nice-sized spot also debuted this week off the pier. Sea mullet ranging to near a pound are still providing some variety, where blood worms are working best for both spot and sea mullet.

The black seabass are beginning to migrate closer to shore, where the Triangle Wrecks will provide good numbers right now. Remember that seabass must now stretch to 12.5-inches to keep them. Blueline tilefish, grouper, and other deep water species are still available in water over 50 fathoms when the weather allows boats to reach them.

Dr. Julie Ball is the I.G.F.A. Representative for Virginia Beach, VA. You can find Dr. Julie's reports at [www.drjball.com](http://www.drjball.com).

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On Thursday, May 7th the anglers on the "Bay Bee" had a fantastic day, returning to the dock at the Ocean City Fishing Center with 9 keeper flounder, measuring between 18 and 22 inches. All of the fish were caught in the bay behind Assateague Island on shiners and squid. Fishing with Capt. Bob Gowar and Mate George Lenz were Judy Bishop of Big Cove Tannery, PA, Kimberly Knepper of Houstontown, PA, John Furry of Conneaut, OH, George Furry of Manassas, VA and Tom Drew of Chesapeake Beach, MD.



Gene Brendel of Ocean View, DE caught this 18 lb. striped bass while fishing on the south wall inside of the Indian River Bridge. The striper was hooked on a white bucktail tipped with a Gulp! eel and weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



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3. Stop by the office with your catch, and we will be happy to take your picture. We are located on Sunset Avenue behind Crab Alley.
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Wilbert Foreman of Berlin, MD was fishing near the Rt. 90 Bridge when he caught this 33.75-inch striper on a peeler crab. The striped bass weighed 13 lbs. 8 oz. on the scales at Buck's Place.

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## Maryland and Virginia agree to reciprocal license agreement

New for 2009, Maryland and Virginia have entered into a reciprocal agreement honoring certain fishing guide licenses in both states' waters. Maryland will honor the Virginia Class A Fishing Guide License in Maryland tidal waters and Virginia will honor both the Maryland Resident Fishing Guide License and the Maryland Nonresident Fishing Guide License in Virginia tidal saltwaters. These license holders are automatically entitled to take advantage of the reciprocal agreement without any additional fees.

Maryland Fishing Guides that wish to fish in Virginia must apply for the free Fishing Guide Reciprocity Permit for Virginia. Application forms are available on the Virginia Marine Resources Commission's (VMRC) website at [www.mrc.virginia.gov/forms/](http://www.mrc.virginia.gov/forms/). Along with the application, the captain must provide a copy of their current Maryland Fishing Guide License (or TFL) and a copy of their U.S. Coast Guard license to carry passengers for hire (Captain's License). Those fishing guides that wish to participate in the Virginia striped bass fishery should apply for the free striped bass permit at the same time. For questions about the Fishing Guide Reciprocity Permit, please contact Sonya Davis at 757-247-8155 or [sonya.davis@mrc.virginia.gov](mailto:sonya.davis@mrc.virginia.gov).

Virginia Fishing Guides who wish to fish in Maryland must apply for the free Fishing Guide Reciprocity Permit for Maryland. Application forms are available on the Maryland Department of Natural

Resources (DNR) website [www.dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/](http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/). Along with the application, the captain must provide a copy of their current Virginia Class A Fishing Guide License and a copy of their U.S. Coast Guard license to carry passengers for hire (Captain's License). The application and attachments may be mailed to Connie Lewis or Belinda Gray at Maryland DNR Fisheries Service, Tawes Building, 580 Taylor Avenue, Annapolis, Md 21401. You may ask them questions at either [clewis@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:clewis@dnr.state.md.us) or [bgray@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:bgray@dnr.state.md.us) or 410-260-8296.

Maryland and Virginia fishing guides with these licenses and reciprocal permits may guide fishing trips in Maryland and Virginia waters as long as their customers are also licensed in either Maryland or Virginia. An earlier reciprocal agreement between Maryland and Virginia honors the Maryland and Virginia sport fishing boat licenses that cover all persons fishing on a charter boat or head boat in both Maryland and Virginia waters. Therefore, in most cases, fishing guides will not be required to obtain any additional licenses for their customers. All required licenses must be in the possession of the fishing guide during any fishing trip.

Fishing guides must report their catch to the appropriate jurisdiction. Fish caught in Maryland need to be reported to the Maryland DNR on a form provided by the Maryland DNR. Fish (currently, only striped bass) caught in Virginia need to be reported to the VMRC on a form provided by the VMRC. Fishing guides must obtain the appropriate form from the relevant agency to report their catch. These forms are available upon request, along with the Fishing Guide Reciprocity Permit, from VMRC and Maryland DNR.



Greg Steen of Berlin, MD took a trip down to Hatteras, NC to go fishing on the "Backlash" with Paul Daisey, Troy Crane, Greg Mayers and Capt. Steve Richardson. The group ended up deep dropping squid in 700 feet of water, 30 miles off Cape Hatteras and caught grouper and tilefish. The largest grouper weighed 40 lbs. while the heaviest tilefish tipped the scales at 8 lbs.



Doug DeGrange of Berlin, MD was drifting a squid and minnow combination in the East Channel when he hooked into this 24.25-inch flounder during the outgoing tide. The flattie ended up tipping the scales at an even 4 lbs.

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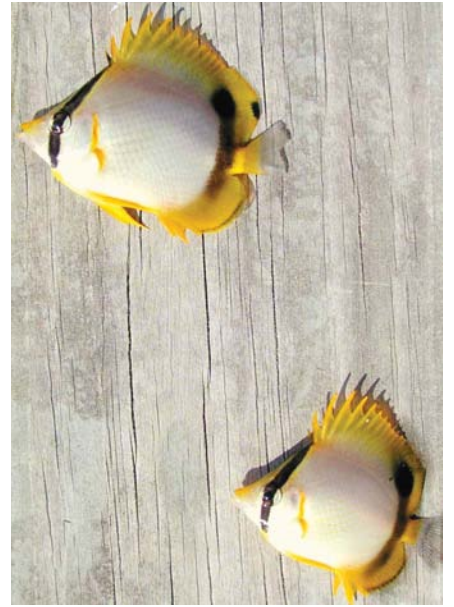
**2009 FLOUNDER TOURNAMENT MAY 1<sup>ST</sup> TO JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup>**

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This picture was sent in by John Wright of Ocean City, who found these Butterfly fish in his spot trap last fall. Typically a reef fish, there are 120 different varieties of butterfly fish found in the Atlantic, Pacific and Indian Oceans. Notice the dark speck on the back end of the fish which is meant to look like an eye to confuse predators.



Dean Lokey of Long Neck, DE caught and released this 39-inch striped bass while fishing on the "Reel Lokey" in the Chesapeake Bay.

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Under the ARBY'S Sign

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- Featuring: St. Croix, Penn, Daiwa, Shimano, & Tsunami Rods & Reels
- ♦ Crabbing Supplies & Nets ♦ T-Shirts
- ♦ Hats ♦ Sunglasses ♦ Gift Certificates



James Simon of Ocean City, MD landed this 21 lb. striper while fishing near the South Jetty. The bass measured 33 inches and was caught on a white jig with a 6-inch curly tail. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.



Craig Costantino, Daina Kazmaier, Michelle Clemente and Larry Jock took a trip out of Hooper's Island aboard the "Playmate" with Capt. Willie Zimmerman and ended up with 9 striped bass (4 released), ranging in size from 37 to 44 inches. The stripers were caught on trolled umbrella rigs and mojos between Hooper's and Solomons Islands in the Chesapeake Bay.



The striped bass action was fantastic this past winter, as shown by this group of local anglers. The fish measured between 29 and 37 inches and were caught while trolling Stretch 25's a mile off the beach, north of the Inlet. Pictured are Ryan Stout, John Gaddis, Dan Mergot and Matt Penrose.

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**38' 1989 TOPAZ SPORT FISHERMAN**





**671 TIP (13 Hrs. SMOH)  
Gen. Air/Heat, Complete Electronics  
Fiberglass Hull, Twin Diesel Engines**





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Happy Hour *3-7 pm daily*

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# Federal Size & Creel Limits (3-200 miles)



(both Maryland & Delaware follow federal regulations)



**WHITE MARLIN**  
66" Lower Jaw Fork Length  
No bag limit



**DOLPHIN**  
No minimum length  
10 per day/person



**SHORT FIN MAKO**



**YELLOWFIN TUNA**  
27" Curved Fork Length  
3 per person/day  
includes Capt. & Mate



**BLUE MARLIN**  
99" Lower Jaw Fork Length  
No bag limit



**WAHOO**  
No minimum length  
2 per person/day



**THRESHER**



**BLUEFIN TUNA**  
1 BFT per vessel/day/trip  
27" to less than 73"  
Curved Fork Length  
**PLUS**  
1 BFT per vessel/year  
73" and greater  
Curved Fork Length



**SWORDFISH**  
47" Lower Jaw Fork Length  
1 per person / 4 per vessel  
Charter boats - 1/customer



**LONGFIN TUNA**  
No minimum length  
No bag limit



**BLUE SHARK**

For allowed species other than Atlantic sharpnose and bonnethead sharks, anglers are allowed to keep one shark per vessel, per trip with a minimum size of 54 inches fork length.

## THE 2009 T-SHIRTS ARE IN!



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Rod 'n' Reel - Chesapeake Beach, MD  
October - May Rockfishing**

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# 1-888-6-FISH-ON

## Maryland toughens penalties for fishing violations

Last week, Governor Martin O'Malley signed three new bills into law which will impose more serious penalties for fishing law violations in Maryland.

"This legislation, like so many other efforts we are working on in Maryland, reflects our steadfast resolve to protect and maintain our State's vast and diverse fishery population," said Governor O'Malley. "Poaching and other illegal fishing activity amounts to stealing the valuable natural resources that are critical to maintaining healthy rivers and bays. This legislation establishes much needed, more timely and consequential penalties that are necessary to prevent theft from and harm to the resources we hold in the public trust."

House Bill 1355 will allow DNR to apply a reasonable commercial license suspension or revocation when someone is convicted of violating a commercial fishing law. Prior to enactment of this legislation, DNR could not suspend a commercial fishing license unless an individual incurred multiple convictions over two to five years. The bill does away with the need to first consider the frequency of convictions, as well as the need to first consider multiple convictions before a suspension or revocation can take place. This will provide a more serious consequence for fishing law violators, whose current penalty is generally a minimal fine, which in most cases is not a sufficient deterrent.

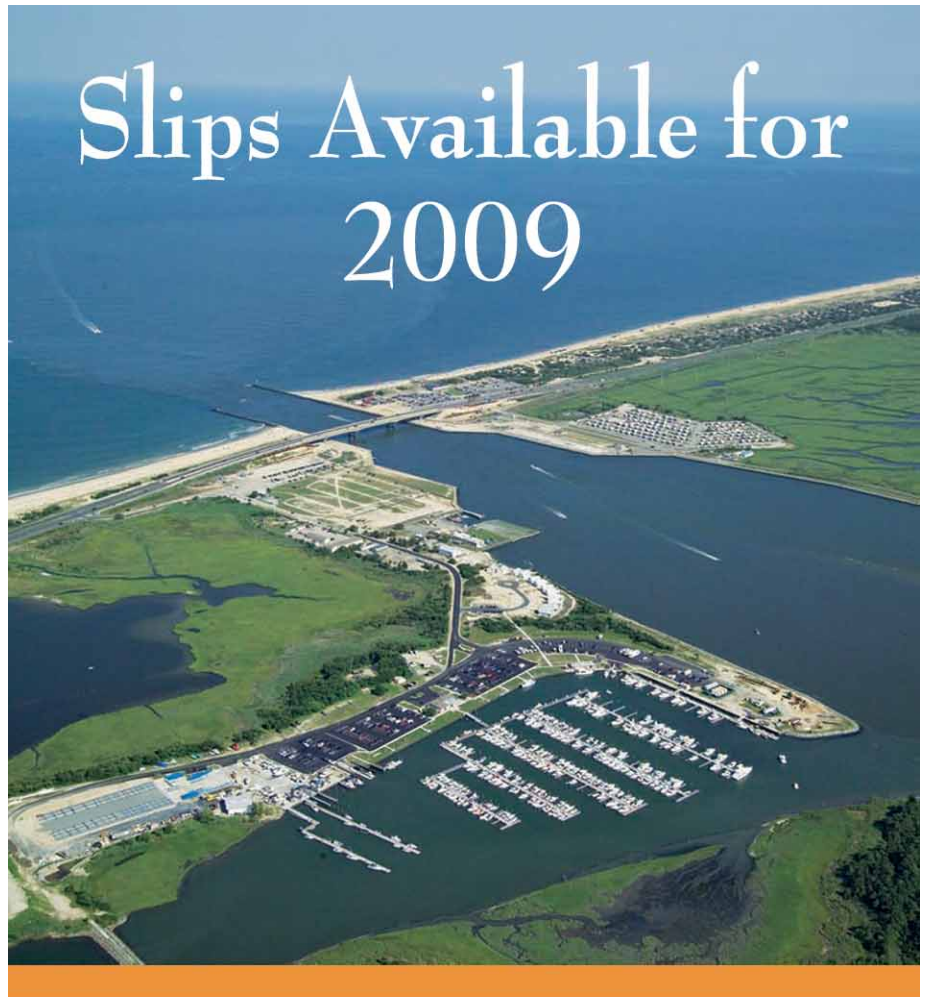
House Bill 1419 was born from recommendations of the Task Force on Fisheries Management. The bill will

increase the maximum allowable fine upon conviction from \$500 to \$1,000 for a first offense and from \$1,000 to \$2,000 for a second or subsequent violation of fisheries law. These fines have not been increased since their adoption in 1973. The bill also allows the DNR to impose restitution or other monetary penalties on a person convicted of violating certain fisheries laws and authorizes the DNR to establish a list of monetary and ecological values for aquatic species. Restitution paid will be used for replacement, habitat management, or enforcement programs for fish or protected species.

Senate Bill 164 was also developed from recommendations of the Task Force on Fisheries Management. This legislation gives DNR consistent authority to suspend recreational fishing privileges across both tidal and non-tidal waters. A clearer, more consistent process will promote compliance with fishing regulations, give DNR greater enforcement tools and send a clear message to the public about the process of fishing license suspension.



Marianne McDaniel of Ocean City, MD, along with her husband David, took their 48-foot Ocean Yacht down to San Salvador, Bahamas and Marianne boated this 98 lb. wahoo. The speedster hit a Black Bart lure trolled at 10 knots.





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# VIRGINIA REGULATIONS

## (State Waters Only)



**BLACK DRUM**

16" minimum 1 per person/day



**BLACK SEA BASS**

12 1.2" minimum 25 per person/day



**BLUEFISH**

No minimum size 10 per person



**CROAKER**

8" minimum No creel limit



**TAUTOG**

Closed until June 24th



**PORGY (SCUP)**

8" minimum 50 per person/day



**RED DRUM**

18" - 26" 3 per person/day



**STRIPED BASS (COASTAL REG)**

5/1 to 5/15 32" 1 per person/day  
5/16 to 12/31 28" 2 per person/day



**SPECKLED TROUT**

14" minimum 10 per person/day



**SHEEPSHEAD**

No minimum size 4 per person



**SUMMER FLOUNDER**

19" minimum 5 per person/day



**WEAKFISH**

12" minimum 6 per person/day



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- ◆ Crabbing Equipment
- ◆ Marine Supplies
- ◆ Charts
- ◆ Custom Rods
- ◆ Custom Tackle
- ◆ Rigged & Unrigged Offshore Baits
- ◆ Bay, Surf, Inlet Bait of all kinds
- ◆ Taxidermy Agent

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# Pick Up Your Coastal Fisherman at These Maryland Locations

## Ocean City

- Wockenfuss Candy - Boardwalk
- Oyster Bay Tackle
- Talbot Street Pier
- Old Town Marina
- Oceanic Fishing Pier
- Park Place Hotel
- Anthony's Beer & Wine
- General's Kitchen
- Layton's Restaurant - 92nd St.
- Advanced Marina
- High's Market
- Montego Bay Market
- Seven Eleven
- Superfresh - Gold Coast Mall
- Superfresh - 94th St.
- Liquid Assets
- Exxon Wine Rack
- Seaside Super Thrift
- Convention Center
- Minit Market
- 7-Eleven - 28th St.
- Bahia Marina
- Layton's Dip & Donuts
- Bailey's Drug Store

## Berlin

- Post Office
- Buck's Place
- Cheers
- Charlie's Barber Shop
- Harley-Davidson
- Ocean Pines Marina
- American Pride - Rt. 589
- 7-Eleven - Rt. 589
- WalMart

## Pittsville

- Pittsville Motors

## Annapolis

AllTackle.com

## West Ocean City

- Ocean City Marlin Club
- Wockenfuss Candies
- Ocean City Fishing Center
- Superfresh
- Rhode River Boat Sales
- Ocean City Visitors Center
- PNC Bank
- Fisherman's Marina
- Ake Marine
- Sunset Marina
- Sunset Provisions
- Crab Alley
- L&L Marine Electronics
- Harborside Bar & Grill
- American Global Yacht Group
- Mid-Shore Electronics
- Trader Lees
- Martek Marine
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Only 1850 hours. 3208 Cats, 450 gal fuel, 75 gal fresh water, new Garmin 3010 GPS & Sounder with XM and Weather Data Marine Radar, auto pilot, other upgrades. Must sell due to health. **Reduced to \$123,500**  
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4 BR, 3.5 BA, overlooks Sunset Marina, 2 kitchens, handicap ramp and elevator, upscale, 5 decks, immaculate. For more info call **(703) 901-8255.**

### HOUSE FOR RENT - WMO

4 BR, 3.5 BA townhouse. Direct bayfront. Available 8/1 - 8/8. Harbour Island \$6,500. Stay where the action is!  
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### BOAT FOR SALE

1997 23' Wellcraft, 200 hp Johnson, Furuno Fishfinder, GPS & Radar, VHF Radio, outriggers, downriggers, extra propeller and many more options. Reduced to \$16,000!  
**Call 410-213-0232**

**Place your ad for only \$12 per week!**  
**Call (410) 213-2200 or visit www.CoastalFisherman.net**



Capt. Drew Zerbe who runs the "Tortuga" flounder fishing boat in the summer goes for slightly larger fish in the winter. Here, Capt. Drew poses with a 290 lb. bluefin tuna caught while fishing on the "Irie" out of Beaufort, North Carolina.

## TIDES & MOON PHASES

### OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. May 13	Low 05:25 am Low 05:12 pm	High 11:33 am High 11:58 pm
Thurs. May 14	Low 06:09 am Low 05:59 pm	High ----- High 12:18 pm
Fri. May 15	Low 06:56 am Low 06:51 pm	High 12:44 am High 01:06 pm
Sat. May 16	Low 07:43 am Low 07:45 pm	High 01:31 am High 01:58 pm
Sun. May 17 Last Quarter	Low 08:29 am Low 08:42 pm	High 02:23 am High 02:54 pm
Mon. May 18	Low 09:15 am Low 09:40 pm	High 03:16 am High 03:49 pm
Tues. May 19	Low 10:02 am Low 10:37 pm	High 04:09 am High 04:42 pm
Wed. May 20	Low 10:49 am Low 11:34 pm	High 05:02 am High 05:32 pm

These are Ocean City, MD tides at the Ocean City Inlet.  
 Add 1.5 hours for bay tides at the Rt. 50 Bridge.  
 Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high 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.

### Pick Up Your Coastal Fisherman at These Delaware Locations

#### Rehoboth / Lewes / Milford, DE

Casapulla's • Lewes Harbour Marina • Henlopen Tackle  
 Superfresh - Rt. 1 • Bill's Sport Shop

#### Long Neck, DE

Rick's Bait & Tackle • Rattle & Reel Sporting Center

#### Fenwick, DE

Captain Mac's Bait & Tackle • Fenwick Bait & Tackle  
 Uncle Willies • Mini Mart • Mancini's Italian Restaurant  
 Harris Teeter • North Bay Marina

#### Indian River, DE

Hook'em & Cook'em • Indian River Marina

#### Bethany / Millville / Ocean View, DE

Hocker's Deli • Hocker's Supermarket • G&E Hardware  
 Giant Supermarket • Bethany Auto Parts & Marine Supplies  
 Hook'em & Cook'em Outfitters

# UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

~ MAY ~

## Bill's Sport Shop Flounder Tournament

May 1 - June 12 • Bill's Sport Shop  
 302-645-7654

## Lewes Harbour Canal Flounder Tournament

May 22 • Lewes Harbour Marina  
 302-645-6227

~ JUNE ~

## 13th Annual Mid-Atlantic Mako Mania

June 5-7 • Bahia Marina  
 410-289-7473

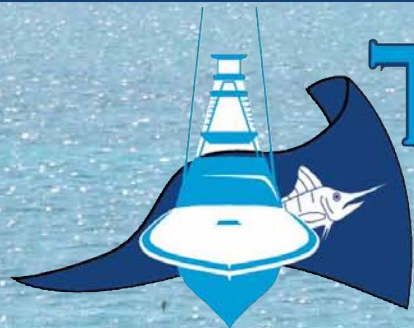
51st Annual Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament  
 June 6-13 • Morehead City, NC  
 252-247-3575

## 29th Annual South Jersey Shark Tournament

June 11-14 • Cape May, NJ  
 609-884-2400

## 29th Annual Ocean City Shark Tournament

June 18-20 • OC Fishing Center  
 410-213-2442 or 410-213-1121



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**Wrenegade** ~ 64' 2003 Paul Spencer Custom Carolina. 3412 CATs. 3 SR. Teak interior. Mezzanine, ice & water makers. Call Jimmy



**Front Runner** ~ 61' Spencer 2006. 1650 C-32 CATs. 3/2 teak interior. Pipewelders tower, 2 gens, ice & water makers, SAT phone & TV. Mezz w/cockpit AC. Call Jimmy



**Masada** ~ 58' Dean Johnson 2005. CAT 1015 hp C-18s. 3/2 w/satin finish cherry interior. Watermaker, Eskimo Ice machine, Release chairs, underwater lights. Call Jimmy



**Mass Transit** ~ 57' 1996 Island Boatworks. 1100 hp MANs. 40 kt @2300 rpm. New SubZeros, Murray chair, ice & water makers, teak deck. Two Phasor 21 kw gens. Call Jimmy



**Thee Wanderer** ~ 57' 2000 Custom Express. 800 hp 3406E CATs. 2/1 layout. Spacious interior. Great sea ride. Call Jimmy



**Hattitude** ~ 55' Custom Carolina. Twin C-12 2007 CATs, 26 kts @ 1900 rpm, 12kw gen. Mezzanine style seating, spacious cockpit. Rigged to fish and well maintained. Call Jimmy



**Olivia Grace** ~ 54' 2006 Vicem Sportfish. 1050 hp MANs, bow thruster. 3/2 layout. Luxurious mahogany interior. Loaded. Call Jimmy



**Oil's Well** ~ 44' 1991 Garlington. 460hp Luggers, economical 25gph fuel burn. Teak interior. Many '07 updates. 2 boat owner. Call Jimmy



**Attitudes** ~ 43' Cabo 2005. 900 hp MANs. 2/2, PB pod, custom Pipewelders HT, great electronics, Murray chair. Next to be sold! 2 boat owner, bring offers! Call Jamie



**2009 34 Blackfin Fish Around** ~ Twin 300 Mercury Verados, 50+ mph, 38 hrs. dual stations, gen, All American triple axle trailer included. Call Paul



**Finest Kind** ~ 31' Bertram Express Cruiser. Twin Crusader 350 hp V8 fresh water cooled gas engines. Refit by Ed Murray, no detail missed. Call Jimmy



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**Ripple** ~ 1998 Albemarle 305 Express. 3116 CATs, low hours. 70 hrs on gen. Economical fuel at 30 gph at a 26 kt cruise. Call Jimmy



**Jazz** ~ Albin 28' Express. 230 HP Volvo Penta single diesel. Vetus electric bow thruster. Well equipped and very clean. Call Steve



**Candy Man** ~ 27 Albemarle Express. Twin 350 Volvo fresh water cooled straight IBs. Tower, rigged to fish or cruise. Many new upgrades in 2007. Call Steve



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Capt. Robby Lawson: 561-346-9863

Capt. Ben DeGutis: 561-310-2718

Capt. Jamie Van Winkle: 772-285-8444

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### Additional Listings - Call For More!

57' 2003 Sullivan Custom Carolina – Call Jamie

53' 1985 Sunny Briggs – Call Ben

52' Ricky Scarborough – Call Ben

51' 2004 Crown Marine – Call Jimmy

45' 1978 Chris-Craft Commander – Call Jimmy

21' 2005 Sailfish 218 CC – Call Steve