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Preston Walls is passing on his flounder fishing knowledge to his grandsons who caught a couple of beauties while drifting in the East and West Channels. Wilder Evans from Easton, MD boated a 19 1/2-incher and Harrison Kincaid from Sparrows Point, MD added an 18.5-incher to the cooler after using live bunker for bait during the incoming tide.

WALKAROUNDS



While trolling at the Hambone, anglers Sarah Tate and John Skinner caught a couple of yellowfins and a pair of mahi during a trip aboard the "Quick Draw" with Capt. Ken Fleetwood and mate Jim Zimmerman.

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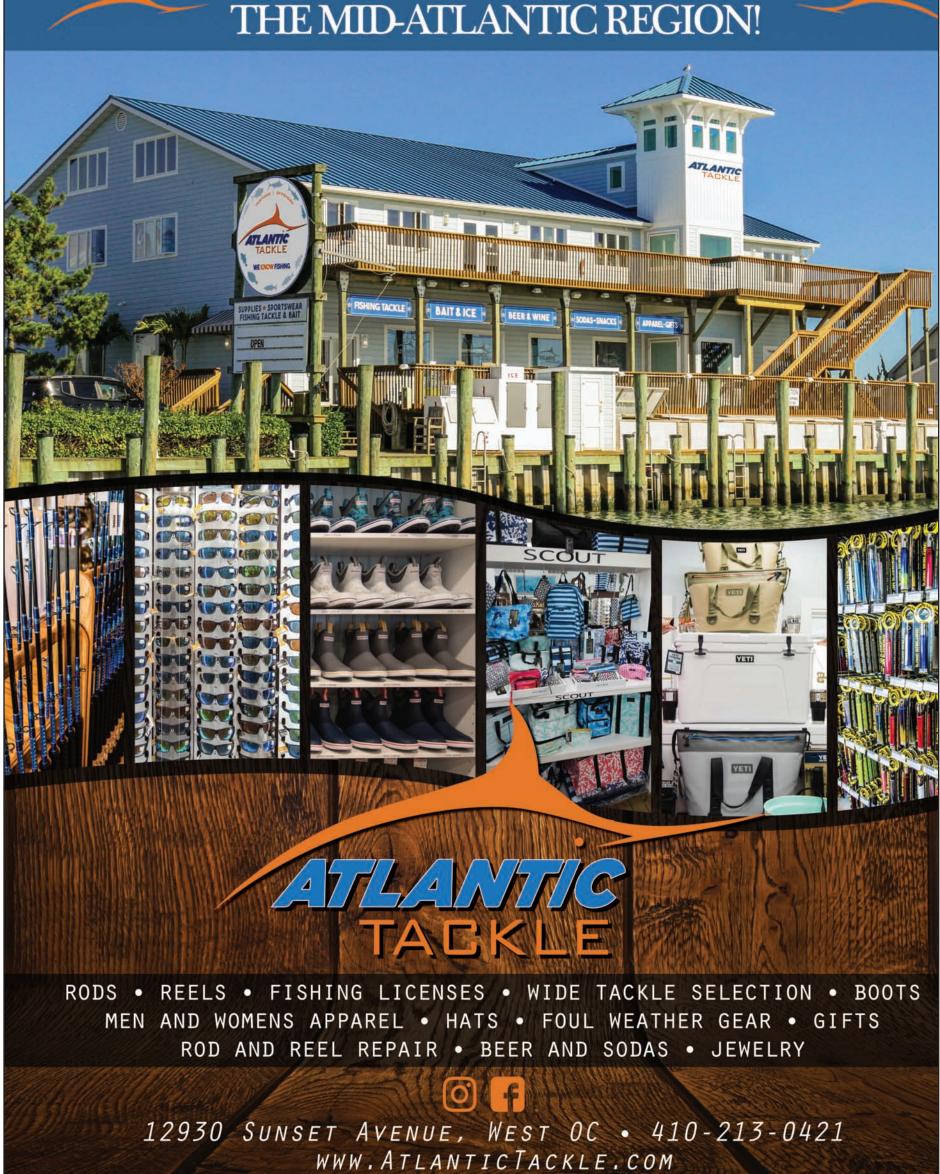
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## THE LARGEST TACKLE SHOP IN





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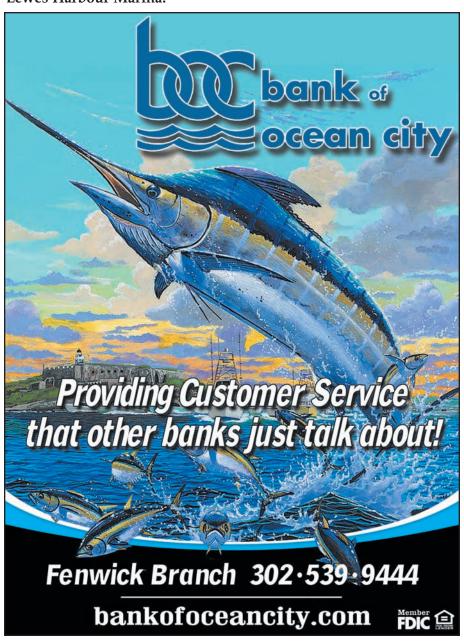


A.J. and Steve Wiles were fishing with minnows and Gulp from their kayaks around the Cape Henlopen Pier when they caught 4 flounder, measuring between 18 and 24-inches.





While fishing with peeler crabs and sand fleas at the Ice Breakers in the Delaware Bay, Ted Garman from Camphill, PA hooked into this citation-size 10 lb. 10 oz. sheepshead. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.









You would be smiling too if you caught as many big flounder as Jere Putt has this season. On this day, he muscled in his limit of 4 flatties (2 pictured), measuring 18 1/2, 19, 22 and 23-inches. All were caught on live mullet during the incoming tide in the East Channel. Pictured at the Coastal Fisherman office on Sunset Ave.



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Tom Miller and Eric Miller teamed up with Tyler Tribbitt to catch a limit of 45 sea bass, 3 tautog and a pair of flounder. All of the fish were caught on clams and squid during a trip aboard the "Strike Zone". Pictured at Hook'em & Cook'em.









As this report is being written early on Monday morning, the White Marlin Open is underway and it has the potential to be incredible. This year, 382 boats are competing for a record That's a lot of \$5,450,000. lettuce! The number of boats isn't a tournament record since back in 2005 we saw 449 boats entered. President Trump just has to keep things moving in the right direction and I'm sure that number will be flirted with in the next couple of years.

Speaking of President Trump, in an incredibly cool move, he sent a shout-out to Ocean City via his Twitter account after seeing a picture of all the boats lined up at the Ocean City Fishing Center proudly flying their "Trump - Make America Great Again"

flags. It was a great picture! I'm sure we are going to see quite a few boats pulling into the White Marlin Open scales flying Trump flags this year. I never remember seeing any Obama flags. Just sayin'.

The weather forecast for the entire week looks good and with that many boats in the tournament a lot of ground will be covered.

Mother Nature made things tough last week, but when boats could get out, we saw both white and blue marlin hooked in the Baltimore Canyon, deep outside the Poor Man's and down towards the southern end of the Washington Canyon.

Congratulations to the lady anglers who fished on the "MR Ducks" in the Marlin Club Ladies Tournament and took first place in the Billfish Release Division when they racked up a blue marlin, a white marlin and 2 spearfish in snotty seas on Friday while trolling in 1,200 fathoms outside the Poor Man's Canyon. They also added a 68.4 lb. yellowfin to the mix to

give them first place in the

Tuna Division as well.

The tuna bite has been slow the last couple of weeks and the windy weather and nasty seas didn't help. Yellowfins have been scarce with fish scattered up and down the line. Some were caught around Massey's Canyon, in the Baltimore Canyon and near the 19 Fathom Lump last week.

We have seen more bluefin tuna than yellowfin tuna lately, primarily from boats chunking in Massey's Canyon, at the Hot Dog and the 12 Fathom Lump.

The dolphin bite has continued it's trend with mostly small bailers coming in from anglers chasing tuna at the locations listed above. Every now and then we will see a "decent" size gaffer hit the scale, but they have been rare

Closer to the beach, flounder fishing continues to get better on ocean structure. Again, it was tough getting out last week but some boats returned with really nice catches. Anglers on the charter boat, "Fish Bound" continue to tear it up. On Sunday, they fished in 80-feet of water and had a boat limit of 32 flounder measuring up to 23-inches.

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Capt. Kane's anglers have had good luck with Otter Tails and squid combinations. We haven't seen Otter Tails used very often in our area and with Capt. Kane's success using them this season, I have had my fair share of questions from readers. Here's what Otter Tails look like:





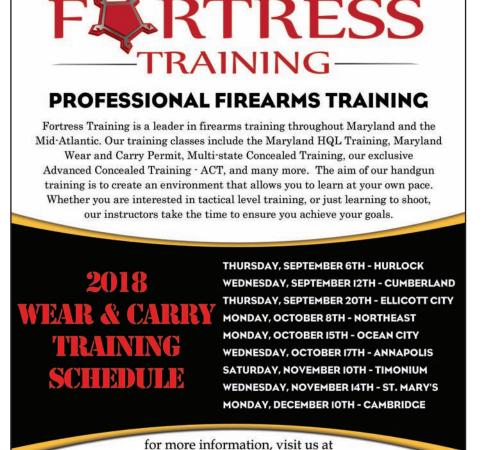
Although it looks like headboats have switched over to mainly flounder fishing, their anglers are still picking up a few sea bass and even a couple of mahi. Some of the mahi are hooked while moving between fishing locations and others are just tossed cut bait.

An interesting bite came in on Sunday when Ray Campbell returned from the Jackspot with a 12 lb. barracuda, a pair of mackerel and a couple of dolphin. All were caught on the troll.

We haven't seen a lot of cobia caught so far this season, but on Sunday, Cross Ferrara was fishing only a 1/2 mile off Bethany, Delaware and hooked a beautiful 59.5 pounder on a live eel. What made this catch even cooler was that Cross was fishing from his rigged-up jet ski. It took him an hour to get the fish into the net.

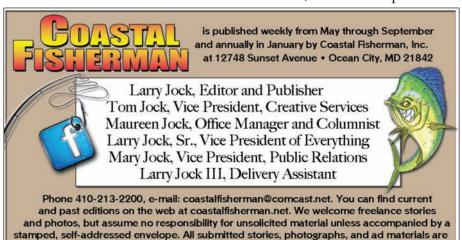
On the lumps not far from the beach, such as on Fenwick Shoal, anglers are still finding good numbers of triggerfish interested in their offerings of cut bait, clams, sand fleas and Fishbites.

Around the South Jetty, flounder, small stripers and



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sheepshead are the main targeted species but we even saw a 24-inch, 10 lb. black drum caught over the weekend by Jeremy Noel. It must have been one hungry black drum since it ate Jeremy's 4-inch Gulp artificial bait.

Anglers fishing in the bay have been battling dirty water conditions for some time, but when the water clears up, the fish are snapping. The bite is scattered with fish being caught mainly in the East Channel, the Thorofare, the West Channel and at the mouth of the Commercial Harbor. We also saw an improved bite come in from the Fish Bowl, which is located in the middle of the bay, just north of the Rt. 50 Bridge. As always this time of year, finding clean AND cooler water is the key. On Monday morning, with only about an hour left of the outgoing tide, water temps were hovering around a warm 78-degrees.

The conditions on Saturday didn't stop 160 anglers from competing in the Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce minnows or bunker.

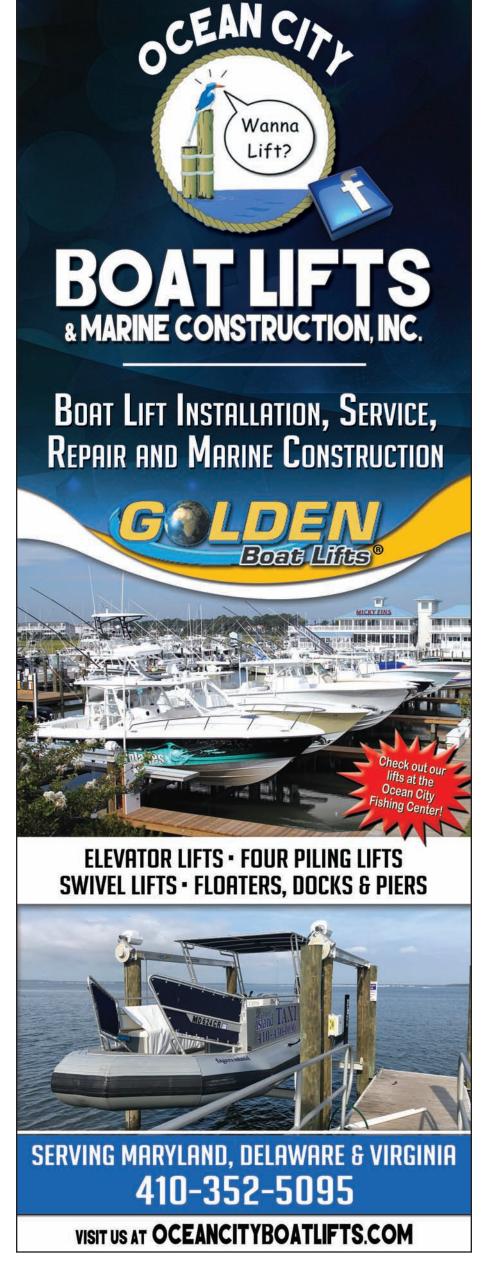
In addition to flounder being caught in the East Channel, croakers beginning to show up. Fishbites and cut bait are two baits that will get you a shot at a hardhead.

Small stripers are roaming all over the inlet with reports coming in from anglers catching them at night in the Most are West Channel. having luck just tossing lures.

### **Upcoming Tournament**

With the White Marlin Open ending on Friday, the upcoming weekend is free from tournaments. The next one on the schedule is the famous Capt. Steve Harman Poor Girls Open at Bahia The tournament, known as the World's Largest Womens Billfish Tournament, starts on Thursday, August 16th and runs through Saturday the 18th. It is definitely one of the best tournaments of the year, and you have to see the weigh-ins to believe it. The excitement is amazing and each year the tournament makes a donation in contributions.





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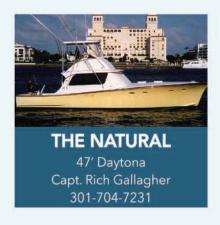
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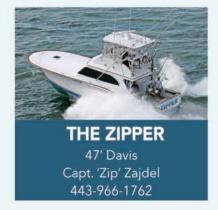


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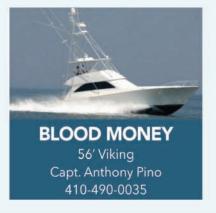












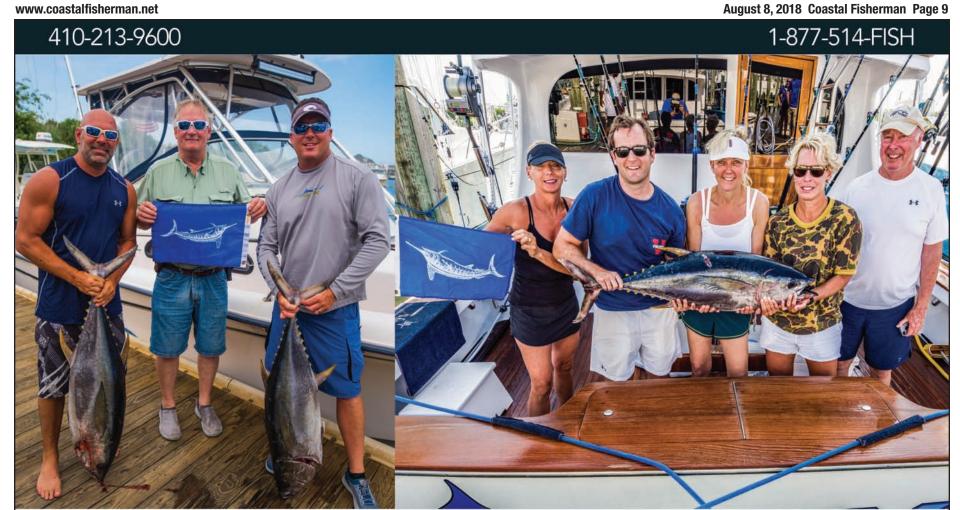
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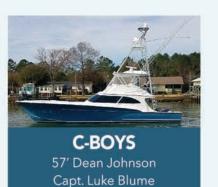


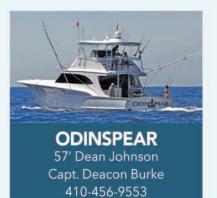


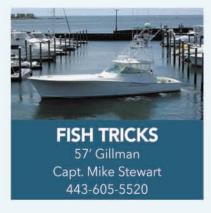




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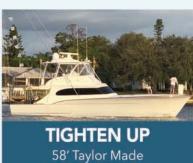






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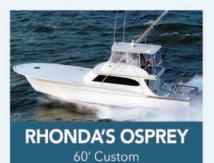




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After getting his new boat, "Delicious", flounder pounder Rich Daiker hit the water with his fishing buddy, Kenny Schoen and the duo whacked them pretty good. They ended their day with a limit of 8 keepers, measuring from 17 1/2 to 23-inches. The fish were caught during the incoming tide in the East Channel near the old Concrete Plant.



Richard Hoenes, age 9, from Lutherville, MD caught his first mahi while fishing on the "Sea Hunt" at the Hot Dog.



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Aiden Whitely, age 11, from Quakertown, PA caught this 17 1/2-inch flounder while fishing with live minnows between 2nd Street and Chicago Avenue in Ocean City. Pictured at Fenwick Bait & Tackle in Fenwick Island, DE.



It's thumbs up for Palmer Hopwood of Chestertown, MD after catching an 18-inch flounder on a white Gulp Swimming Mullet while drifting in the East Channel, north of the Rt. 50 Bridge.





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I was sitting at my desk wrestling with ideas of what to write about this week. One of my first thoughts was to share some old White Marlin Open stories from over the years. There have really been some doozies, that's for sure. Like the time we all sat at the Reel Inn until the wee hours waiting for a BIG blue marlin to be brought in. It seemed like everybody had a friend who heard from somebody on the boat on the Single Side Band radio (this was in the glorious days before SAT phones and InReach). All of these friends were telling us that the boat would be in as soon as they boated the fish. When a lady who actually had heard from someone on the boat came into the bar and told us that the fish had been lost none of us wanted to believe it. I am not sure if we just wanted to keep drinking or if we were all that optimistic that we would get to see the biggest blue marlin ever to be weighed. Either way we stayed at the bar. I am positive that Spunky liked tallying the receipts the next morning. I am also pretty positive that he started most of the rumors

about the fishing coming in that kept us at the bar longer!

One of my other ideas was to write about nicknames of fishermen that I have known over the years. There have been plenty of good ones. Capt. Splash (who had a habit of falling overboard while his drinking morning "coffee"), Rear Admiral Moon (who might have been a little too fond of showing everyone his backside) and Ensign Eel (the rank and file mate who rigged a pretty mean double hooked eel) all came to mind right away.

It was that train of thought that started me thinking about the "The Fleet Commander". Most of the current fishing folks here in Ocean City don't remember the Fleet Commander. He has been gone from the town since the mid 90s and, unfortunately, gone from this life since 2004. The Fleet Commander's real name was Warren Sauers and he was the owner and captain of a boat called the "Sea Warrior". He was a big man with a big personality. My earliest memories of him are from when I was a little kid on the docks at the White Marlin

Marina and he seemed unapproachable. In my mind's eye he was kind of like a heavier version of Judge Smails from the movie Caddyshack. Overdressed for the job with collared shirts and fancy pants, and he had an air about him of being better than those around him. Of course those were just a little kid's impressions and the truth was Warren was a snappy dresser and he was just a natural leader. He told you where the fishing was going to be good, he told you how to catch whatever was there and he told you how he was going to do it. A little intimidating? But he could Maybe. definitely back it up.

As I got a little older I learned to truly appreciate the man. When I was in my midteens I spent many mornings talking to Warren before getting the "Last Call" ready to go fishing. I would purposely get to the marina an hour or more before I needed to because I knew Warren would be sitting behind the "Sea Warrior" drinking a six pack of Diet Coke. He didn't sleep much, and like another more current Commander, Diet Coke was his drink of choice. Warren helped me through my teenage years. We talked about fishing, weightlifting, girls, football and life. When I was second guessing my relationship with my father, as www.coastalfisherman.net

teenage boys who think they are smarter than they really are often do, Warren would listen and give me fatherly advice. In a non-fatherly way. I was learning and not even realizing it. At times when I would have probably made stupid moves and strained my bond with my Dad, Warren would nudge me in the right direction and make me think that I came up with the idea on my own. Like I said, he was a natural leader.

But that isn't how he got nickname of Fleet Commander. Warren was not afraid of the VHF radio when he was out fishing. Quite the opposite. Warren made sure you knew where he was, where the bite was, where the bite wasn't, who caught what and who didn't. At times it seemed like Warren was talking on three different channels at once, all while backing down on a marlin. Another captain in the fleet, whose nickname was Smut by the way, commissioned a caricature painting up on the boardwalk that depicted Warren at the helm of the "Sea Warrior" with all of his charter holding microphones up to him like a press conference. The painting was titled, "The Fleet Commander."

Warren embraced the nickname. It fit him.

The VHF radio got strangely quiet after Warren



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stopped fishing in Ocean City. In the years since then it has gotten even more quiet. Maybe I am being a bit old fashioned in the era of satellite communications, but just maybe it is time for a new generation to follow the example of the old Fleet Commander. Put your bites on the air. Let people know what is working and where it is working. Sharing information will come back to you tenfold. Who knows, you might even see a cartoon picture of yourself with a whole bunch of microphones held up to you on Instagram.

Good luck in the White Marlin Open everybody! Be safe out there and talk to one another!

Capt Franky Pettolina is Co-Captain of the charter boat, "Last Call", owner of Pettolina Marine Surveying, Inc. and multi-term President of the Ocean City Marlin Club. To book a trip on the "Last Call", call 443-783-3699.



It was a "Flounderpalooza" on the charter boat, "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Wiest and mate Chris Vann. Anglers Ernie Stone, Tom Wood, Chris Thawley, Rob Crossley, Ron Mistretta, Sr., Shawn Avanzota, Rob Wilson and Ron Mistretta, Jr. caught a load of flatties on ocean structure with Ernie leading the way with a 4 lb. 15 oz. fish. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.









Bill Foreman from Oley, PA was fishing with Batman when he caught a couple of flounder including a 5 lb. 6 oz. flattie in the Roosevelt Inlet. Bill hooked the fish on a top and bottom rig tipped with minnows. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Last Saturday, Ray Campbell from Federalsburg, MD stopped short of reaching the Jackspot and started trolling in 95-feet of water. He ended up catching a couple of mackerel, 2 dolphin and a 42-inch, 12 lb. barracuda, all on skirted ballyhoo. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle in West Ocean City.

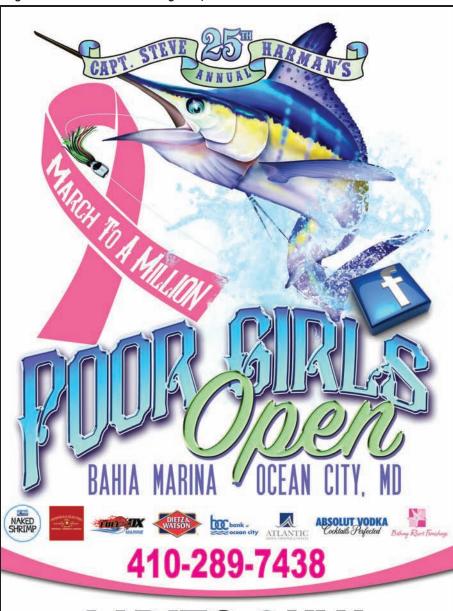












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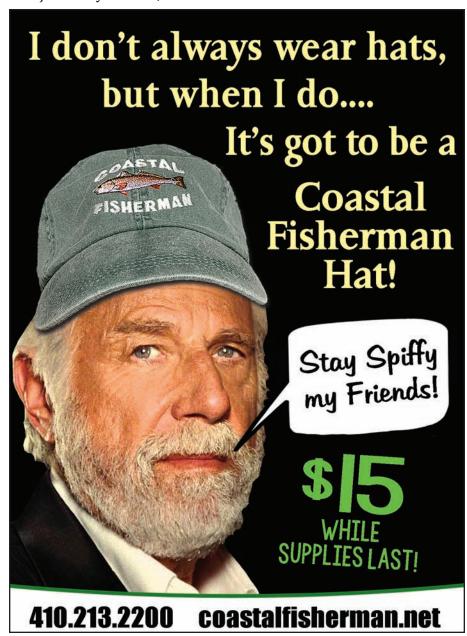
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Cross Ferrara was fishing a 1/2 mile off the Bethany, DE coastline when he hooked this 59.5 lb. cobia on a live eel. It took Cross one hour to get the fish in the net while fishing from his jet ski. Cross was joined by his dad, Nick Ferrara.

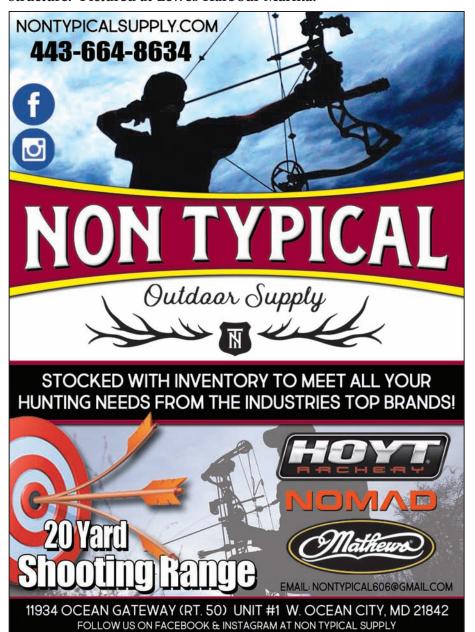








A Philadelphia Flyer fan wearing an Iron Maiden t-shirt may give a clue to the reason behind the expression on Mikey Williamson's face as he displays the 18-inch flounder and black sea bass he caught while dropping jigs tipped with squid on ocean structure. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.





Joe Chvatal and Courtney Bennoff caught 4 keeper flounder while fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts. Their largest fish weighed 4 lbs. and was hooked on a strip bait at a natural ocean reef.

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Kevin Thomas caught a pair of mahi, weighing 13 and 14 lbs., while trolling in the Norfolk Canyon. Kevin was fishing with Lee Slagle and Dan Dirks. The mahi were 2 of 13 caught during their trip.



Last Saturday, Jeremy Noel was fishing in the Ocean Pines Flounder Tournament when he caught this 24-inch, 10 lb. black drum on a 4-inch Gulp artificial bait at the South Jetty.

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Blue Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size
Cobia	44"	45 lbs. or 48"
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 26"
Red Drum *	36"	45"
Sailfish *	Any Size	-
Sea Bass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"
Speckled Trout	24"	-
Striped Bass	40"	34 lbs. or 44"
Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"

<sup>\*</sup> Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program

	MIN	<u>DE</u>
Shark:		
Blue Shark *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Hammerhead *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Mako *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Thresher *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Tiger *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Swordfish	Any Size	Any Size
Tilefish - Blueline	•	10 lbs. or 28"
Tilefish - Golden		35 lbs. or 40"
Tuna:		
Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lbs. or 32"
False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"
Bigeye ***	60"	70 lbs. or 48"
Bluefin ***	55 <b>"</b>	100 lbs. or 60"
Yellowfin ***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"
Wahoo	60"	20 lbs. or 50"
Weakfish	24"	3 lbs. or 20"
White Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size

<sup>\*\*</sup> Only released fish are eligible in MD and DE programs

<sup>\*\*\*</sup> Use curved-fork-length measurements





















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### FISHING CHARTERS

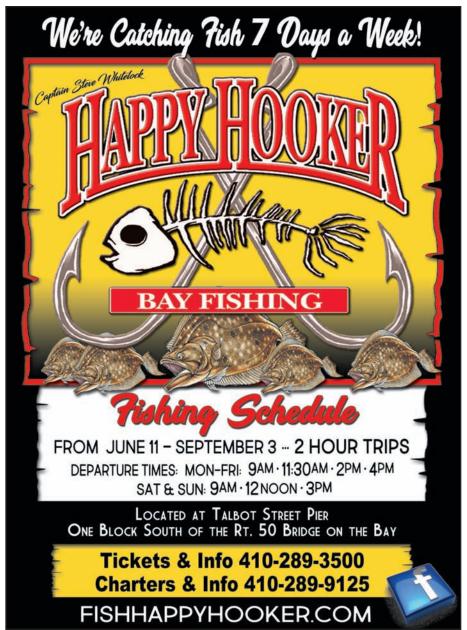


This time of year, headboats are switching over to flounder fishing and that was a good thing for these anglers on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins. Anglers Larry Gresh, David White, Jayson Hartman and Steve Hammerstone went home with flatties measuring up to 24-inches after hooking them on cut bait and squid over natural ocean bottom.





Ronnie Smith from Morgantown, WV muscled in a 23 3/4-inch flounder during a trip aboard the headboat, "Morning Star" with Mike Zeigler, Sandra Beghardt and Capt. Monty Hawkins. All three anglers caught good size flounder while fishing with cut bait and squid on an artificial ocean reef site. The "Morning Star" is docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



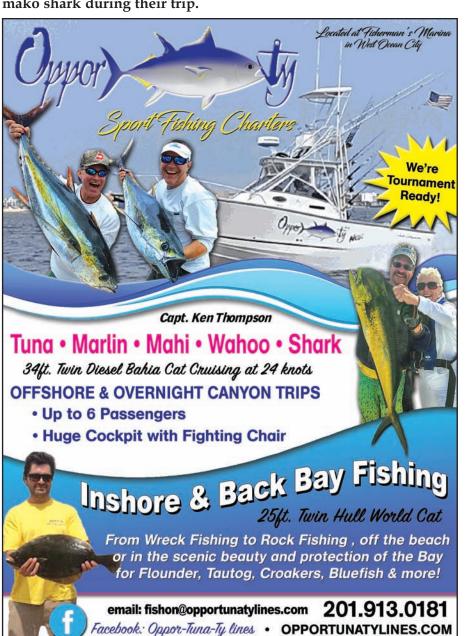


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## FISHING CHARTERS



This 20 lb. bull dolphin now regrets going after the naked ballyhoo being trolled along a weedline in 50 fathoms inshore of the Poor Man's Canyon. Alec Burke from Severna Park, MD ended up hooking the dolphin during his first offshore trip with David and Daniel Grossman on the "Canyon Blues". They also released a make shark during their trip.







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### FISHING CHARTERS

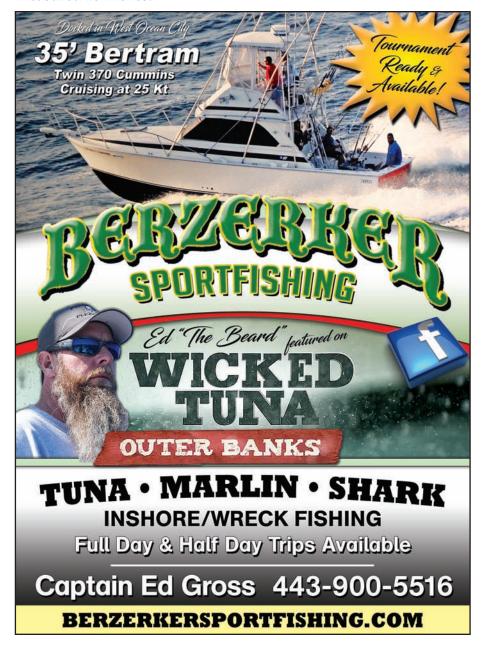


David and Will Ethridge, Stephen and Nolan Soulas and Larry and Derek Budd ventured out on the charter boat, "Restless Lady" with Capt. Todd Kurtz and mate Dan Imhoff and returned with 3 bluefin tuna measuring between 43 1/2-inches and 45-inches. The largest weighed 49 lbs. All were caught while chunking near Massey's Canyon. Weighed at the Talbot Street Pier.



Kirby Bounds of Ocean City, MD was fishing off the 3rd Street Bulkhead when she caught 2 flounder (1 pictured). Her largest fish measured 18-inches.







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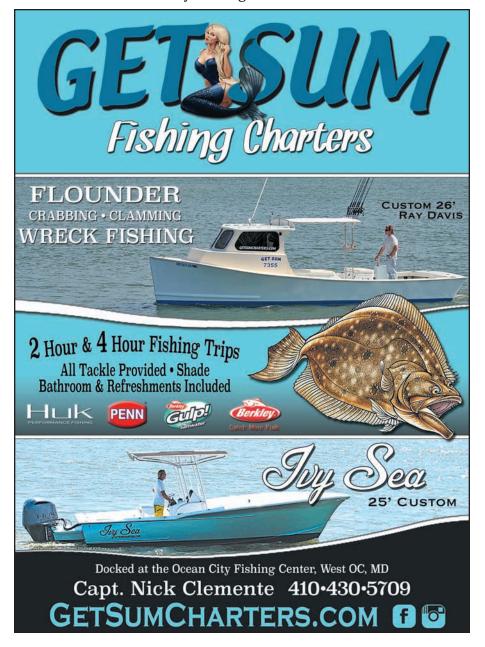


Adam King of Pasadena, MD is feeling good after catching this 17 1/2-inch flounder during a trip aboard the charter boat, "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Willie Poole. The flounder made the mistake of going after the white Gulp Swimming Mullet that Adam was drifting near the South Jetty. Pictured at the **Ocean City Fishing Center.** 



These 2 flounder, measuring 17 and 19-inches, fell at the hands of Bob Schock of Allentown, PA while fishing on the charter boat, "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Willie Poole. Both fish were hooked on white Gulp Swimming Mullets in the East Channel. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.









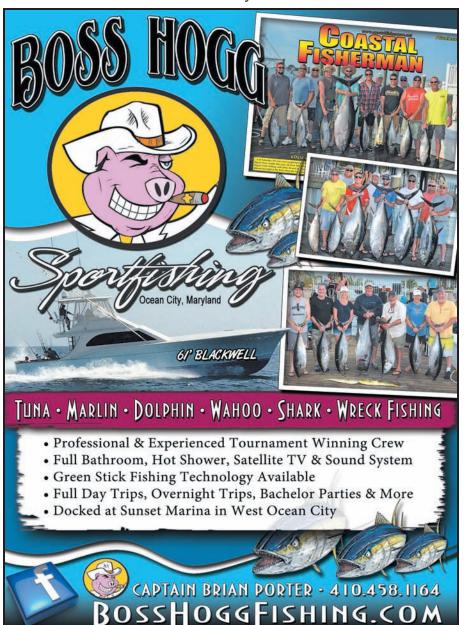


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### FISHING CHARTERS



Allan Reed, Colin Buch, Tim Pearson, Graham Pearson, Brennan Pearson, James Buch and Mike Buch teamed up to catch 4 bluefin tuna and a mahi while fishing on the charter boat, "Boss Hogg" with Capt. Brian Porter and mates Rick Tshudy and Marshall Freng. All of the fish were caught by chunking in Massey's Canyon. Their largest bluefin measured 54-inches and weighed 96 lbs. on the scale at Sunset Marina in West Ocean City.





Hunter Walsh has had a great season of flounder fishing and on this day he captured a 23-inch flattie while soaking a bucktail tipped with Gulp and shiners at the Inner Wall. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.





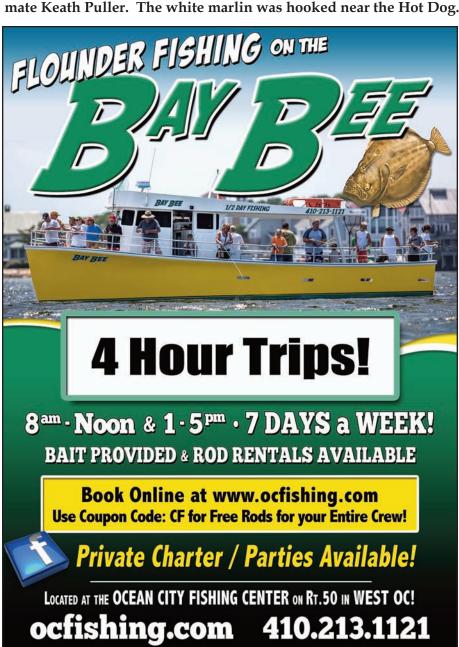
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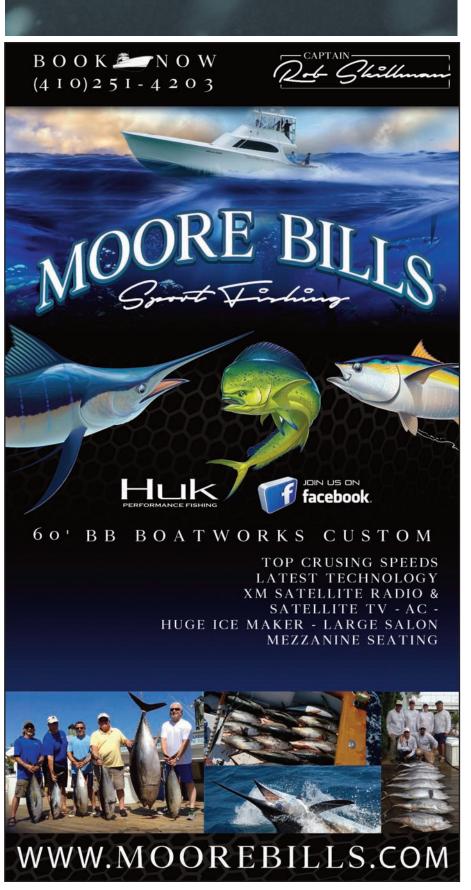
## FISHINGCHARTERS



Rachel Crosby from Annapolis, MD caught and released her first white marlin (right) while fishing on the "Talkin Trash" with Bill Eid, Jim Frazetti, Chuck Eid, Chuck Eid, Jr., Capt. Chris Little and mate Keath Puller. The white marlin was hooked near the Hot Dog.









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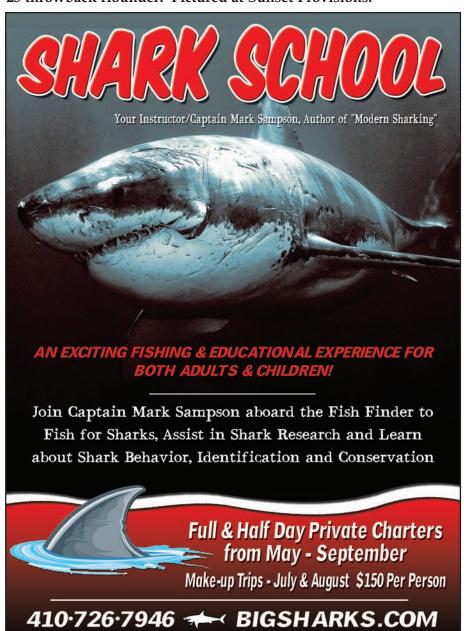


While fishing with cut bait at Fenwick Shoal, Parker Boomer (pictured), Jeff Boomer and John Jendrek had a good catch of triggerfish during a trip aboard the "Lady BEET".





During a trip aboard the charter boat, "Helbent" with Capt. Jeff Grimes, anglers Robyna and Tyler Goretke from Mt. Joy, PA captured a pair of 17 1/2-inch flounder on live minnows during the incoming tide. One flattie was hooked in the East Channel and one came in from the mouth of the Commercial Harbor. The anglers, along with Tim and Ashley Goretke, kept the rods bent with 25 throwback flounder. Pictured at Sunset Provisions.





### **—**

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### FISHINGCHARTERS



It was "Stogie Time" again for Dave Walker and his buddies after chunking at the 12 Fathom Lump. Dave, Tony Vansant and Joe Walker returned with a pair of bluefins, weighing 40 and 102 lbs., along with a 60 lb. yellowfin. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Levi Ebersol and Sam Riehl, both from Lancaster, PA caught a pair of flounder measuring 18 and 20-inches while fishing on the charter boat, "On the Run" with Capt. Dave Caffrey. Both fish were caught on Gulp Swimming Mullets over ocean structure. Pictured back at the dock at Bahia Marina.







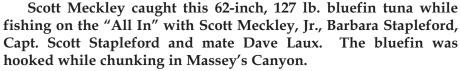


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### FISHING CHARTERS



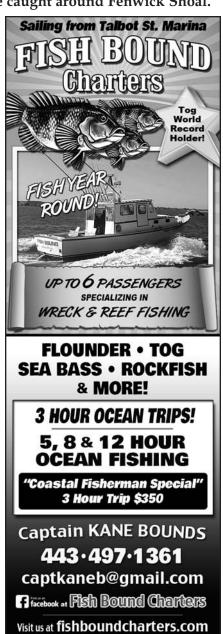




Chad and Heather Beam joined Capt. Kane Bounds and mate Kevin Twilley for a trip on the charter boat, "Fish Bound" and returned to the Talbot Street Pier with 10 keeper flounder (4 pictured) and 25 triggerfish. Windy weather kept the group closer to the beach, so all of the fish were caught around Fenwick Shoal.







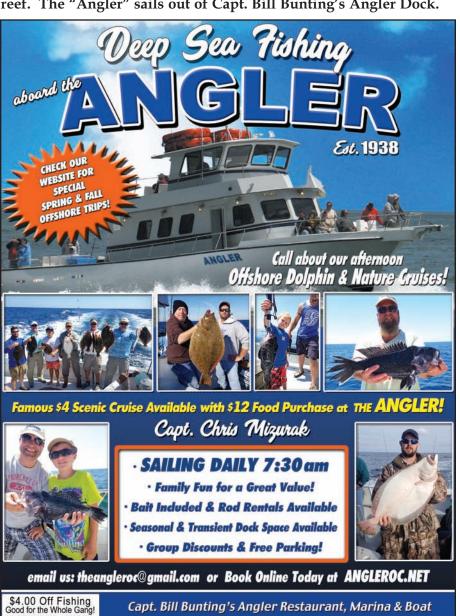


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Strip baits were the downfall for this pair of flounder caught by Darrell Doupnick during a trip aboard the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts. Darrell's largest fish weighed 3 lbs. 8 oz. and was caught on a natural ocean reef. The "Angler" sails out of Capt. Bill Bunting's Angler Dock.



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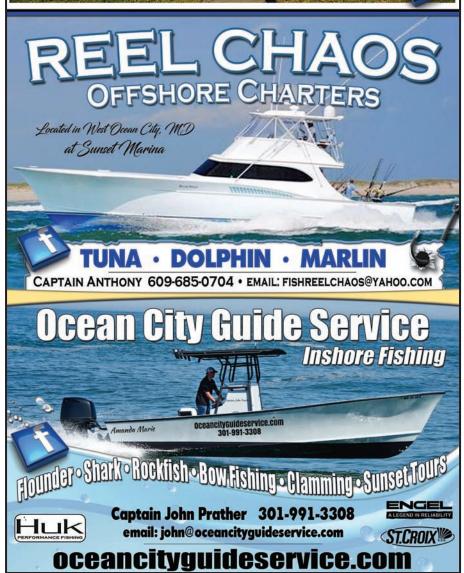
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Finn Burkhardt caught this Spanish mackerel while trolling a Clark spoon at Fenwick Shoal with his father, Bob Burkhardt and his uncle, Bill Burkhardt.







### **-**�

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### FISHINGCHARTERS



Russ Silinski from Linesville, PA caught this 17-inch, 1 lb. 12 oz. flounder to take Top Fish honors during a trip on the bay headboat, "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe and mates Serge Garder and Matt Harris. The winning fish was hooked on a squid and shiner combination in the West Channel and weighed at Bahia Marina.



It looks like a crime scene on the "Brass Monkey" after Colin McConahy and Bryce Pensyl each caught their first bluefin tuna while chunking in Massey's Canyon. The largest fish was a 46-incher that weighed 54 lbs. The other bluefin weighed 44 lbs.





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### FISHINGCHARTERS

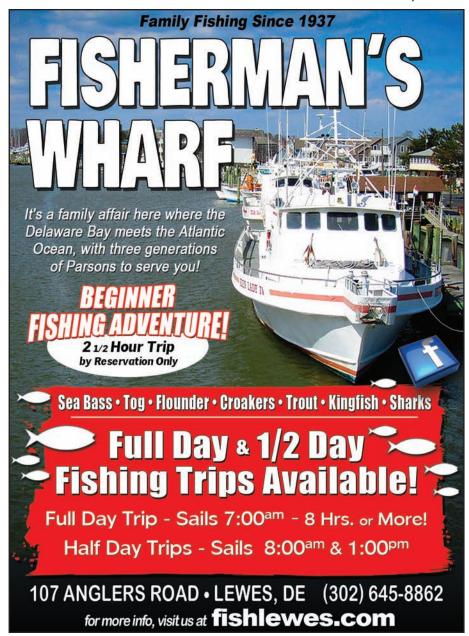


It took Joe Lofink 37 years to catch a citation-sized flounder, but he left no doubt when he hooked this 7 lb. 5 oz. flattie while jigging on ocean structure during a trip aboard the headboat, "Thelma Dale IV" with Capt. Rick Yakimowicz. The "Thelma Dale IV" is docked at Fisherman's Wharf in Lewes, DE.





Donnie Kinkaid from Manchester, MD caught this 6 lb. 8 oz. flounder while jigging a squid and sea robin strip combination at the Old Grounds. All of the action took place while fishing on the headboat, "Thelma Dale IV" with Capt. Rick Yakimowicz. The "Thelma Dale IV" is docked at Fisherman's Wharf in Lewes, DE.





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Krystal Jackson from Doylestown, PA is all smiles as she shows off the pair of flounder she caught while fishing with a squid and minnow combination over ocean structure. Krystal's largest flounder measured 22 1/2-inches and weighed 4 lbs. 6 oz. on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Just in time for the Paradise Grill Flounder Tournament on August 15th-19th, big flounder are snapping at the Old Grounds where Earl Kegel captured this 23-incher. Earl and his fishing buddies also boated some other flounder, sea bass and sea robins during their trip. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.





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Zach Napolitano, Bill Bollhorst and Mark Scott took their 20-foot center console 60 miles out to the canyons where they went 2 for 3 on white marlin in addition to boating a nice size yellowfin. All of the fish were caught while trolling ballyhoo.



# DELIJURE FISHING REPORT by Larry Jock

It's White Marlin Open week so the action around the docks will be hot and heavy and always entertaining. If you want to head down and see the weigh-ins in person, you need to head to Harbour Island off 14th Street in Ocean City. Weigh-ins run from 4:00 PM to 9:15 PM each day.

At Lewes Harbour Marina, Tommy reported spot, croaker and flounder in the Lewes Canal along with good slot striper action, primarily near the Drawbridge. The flounder bite isn't on fire, but it is steady and Tommy feels that it is getting better. The flatties they have seen arrive at the cleaning table are in the 17 to 23-inch range.

Flounder fishing in the Delaware Bay looks like it is just starting to get good with action seen around Sites 6, 8 and 9. Anglers are also finding small weakfish, snapper bluefish and a few sea bass at the same areas.

At the Walls, triggerfish have been the primary species found by anglers fishing with clams and sand fleas. Only on a rare occasion is a sheepshead also being caught.

At the Cape Henlopen Pier, anglers are catching spot, croakers and some keeper flounder. Kayakers around the pier are also catching a few stripers and triggerfish as well.

Mother Nature made it tough last week with very windy conditions, so fishing off the coast was challenging. However, the flounder bite at the Old Grounds has gotten better with good numbers coming in from Sites 10 & 11 and around "B" Buoy. Anglers on the charter boat, "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Wiest at the wheel returned with 20+ keeper flounder after hitting Sites 10 & 11 last week.

Capt. Bert Adams at the Hook'em & Cook'em Tackle

Shop in the Indian River Marina and Hook'em & Cook'em Outfitters in Bethany told me that croakers are being caught on both the north and south sides of the Indian River Inlet by anglers fishing with Fishbites and cut bait. The fish are on the small side, coming in at 8 to 10inches. A few flounder have also been caught in the Inlet, but the bite is scattered. Anglers are finding them around the Indian River Bridge, on the south side of the Inlet and around the Coast Guard Station Wall. Some flatties were also caught last week behind Burton Island.

Bert said that he hasn't seen any spot come in from the Inlet but a few were caught in the back bay near Buoy 20. Anglers in the Indian River Inlet are still finding short stripers at night along the rocks and a few snapper bluefish under the lights by the Coast Guard Station. Lures, swim shads or cut bait will do the trick for both of these species.

Inshore, the wind made it tough for headboats, but the croaker bite was decent up until Saturday. Most of the headboat anglers are interested in flounder, and the bite was very good on Sunday when they headed 10 miles off the coast and found them on coral bottom in the afternoon. Strip baits and Gulp Swimming Mullets are always good baits for ocean flatties. Be prepared for dealing with a lot (and we mean a lot) of throwbacks.

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It's been a good year for catching triggerfish. Anglers who are fishing the wrecks around Fenwick Shoal are finding plenty interested in their offerings of Fishbites, cut bait, clams and sand fleas. Bert said that one boat headed out on Saturday, in very nasty conditions, and had 4 tautog, 3 flounder and small bluefish end up in their cooler.

There was a 59.5 lb. cobia brought into Hook'em & Cook'em on Sunday by Cross Ferrara who hooked it while fishing from his rigged-up jet ski only a half mile off the coast of Bethany. Cross fooled it with a cobia favorite - the beautiful eel.

At Fenwick Bait & Tackle, Capt. Matt said that dirty water conditions made it difficult for his customers to find flounder in the bay waters behind Ocean City. Small stripers are still being found in The Ditch.

Offshore, most boats had difficultly getting out due to tough sea conditions, but those who did break the inlets found bluefins inshore at Massey's Canyon, the 12 Fathom Lump and the Hot Dog. Those looking for marlin found whites deep outside the Poor Man's Canyon, in the Baltimore Canyon and at the south end of the Washington Canyon.

### **Upcoming Tournament**

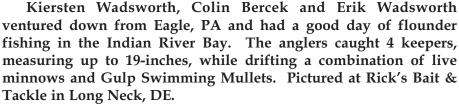
The White Marlin Open of the flounder world is once again coming to the Paradise Grill on August 15th through the 19th. This year, organizers are predicting over \$235,000 in prizes.

Until next week, have fun and tight lines!











Taking advantage of the Delaware Slot Striper Season, Jack Henrikson captured a 25-inch linesider and Rick Mills boated a 22 1/2-incher, both while drifting eels in the Lewes Canal. The slot season in Delaware runs from July 1st to August 31st. Anglers may keep striped bass measuring 20 to 25-inches that are caught in the Delaware River, Delaware Bay and their tributaries. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.

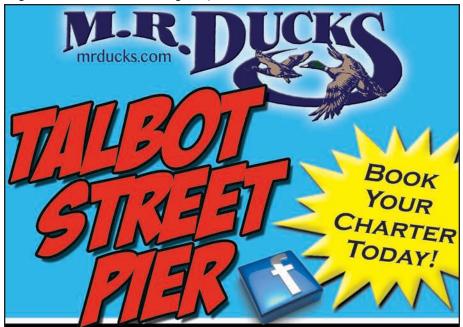








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**RESTLESS LADY II** Capt. Ed Kaufman



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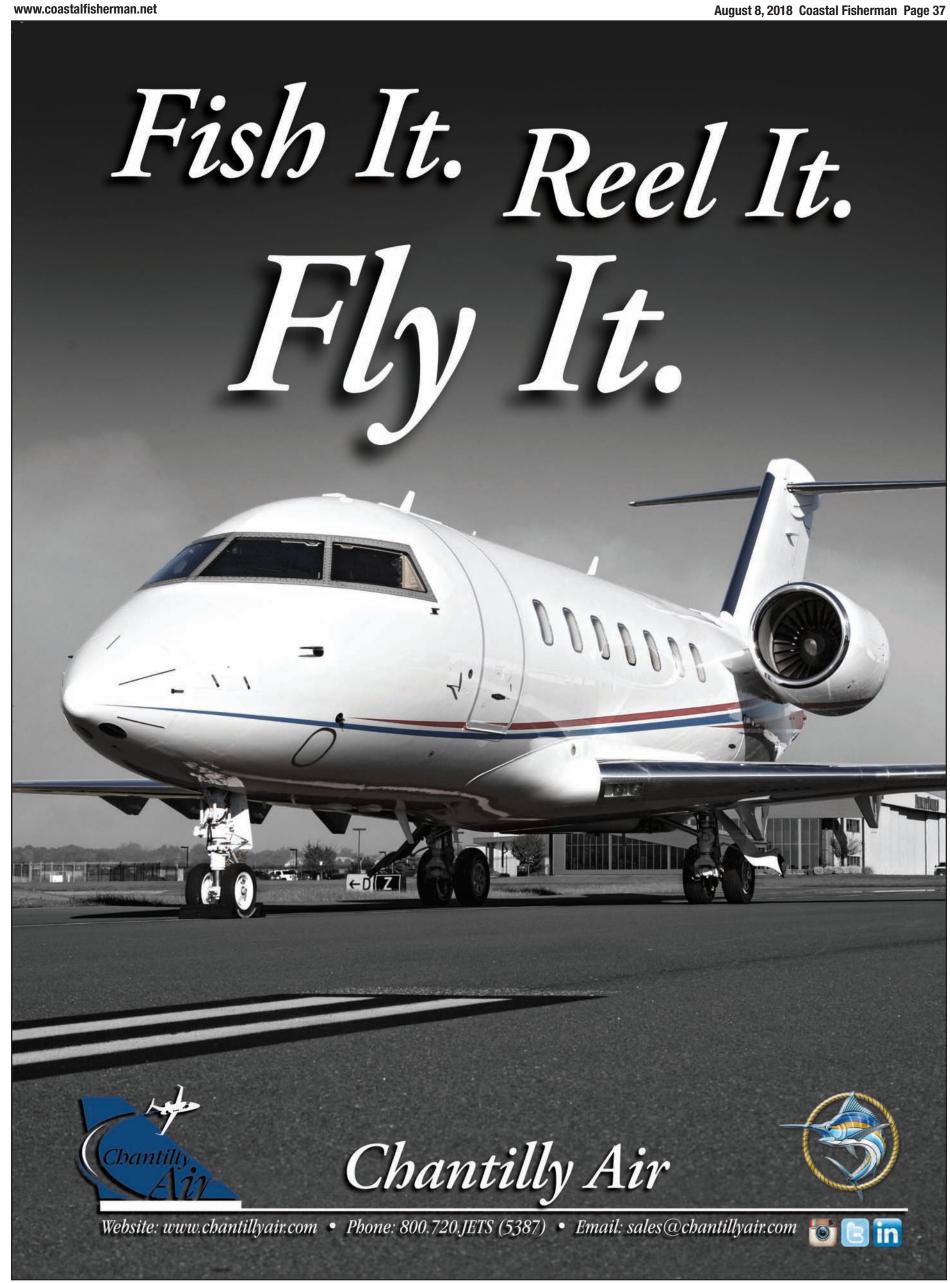
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Jere Putt from Lebanon, PA has caught some big flounder this season and none were bigger than this 26 1/2-incher that tipped the scale at 7 lbs. 8 oz. Jere hooked the big flattie during the incoming tide in the East Channel while drifting a white Gulp Swimming Mullet and live minnow combination.





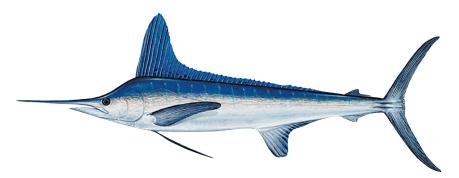




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# White Marlin vs BlueMarlin



#### Size

Commonly 5.5 feet up to 7.5 feet. Weight ranges from 55 lbs. up to over 90 lbs.

#### **Distinguishing Characteristics**

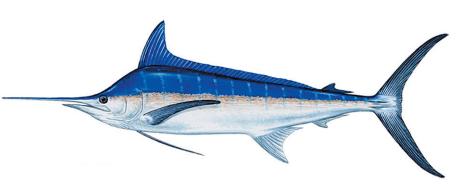
- First anal, first dorsal and pectoral fins blunt or rounded at tips (first anal fin shape most consistent characteristic); most of first dorsal fin low.
- Pelvic fins short, extending no longer than length of pectoral fin.
- Lateral line single (not chainlike), arched over pectoral fins, then almost straight to caudal fin.
- First dorsal fin blue-black with small dark spots; other fins brown to black.

#### Habitat

Offshore, usually upper 65-100 feet, depending on water temperature; associated with water temperature greater than 68-degrees

#### **Similar Species**

**Blue marlin** - has first dorsal, pectoral and first anal fins with pointed tips; chainlike lateral line along body; lacks fin spots on first dorsal. **Longbill spearfish** - has anus well in front of anal fins.



#### Size

Commonly 8-9 feet up to 14.5 feet. Blue marlins over 350 lbs. are most likely female.

#### **Distinguishing Characteristics**

- First anal, first dorsal and pectoral fins generally pointed at tips; most of first dorsal fin low
- Pelvic fins short, extending no longer than length of pectoral fins
- First dorsal fin blue-black, lacking fin spots; other fins brown to black.
- Lateral line chainlike over entire body surface (rather than single line) in juveniles, unclear in adult.

#### **Habitat**

Offshore; usually in surface water between 71 and 88-degrees.

#### Similar Species

White marlin - has first dorsal, pectoral and first anal fins with rounded tips; spotted first dorsal membranes.

**Longbill spearfish** - has anus well in front of anal fins.



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# White Marlin vs Longbill Spearfish



#### Size

Commonly 5.5 feet up to 7.5 feet. Weight ranges from 55 lbs. up to over 90 lbs.

#### **Distinguishing Characteristics**

- First anal, first dorsal and pectoral fins blunt or rounded at tips (first anal fin shape most consistent characteristic); most of first dorsal fin low.
- •Pelvic fins short, extending no longer than length of pectoral fin.
- Lateral line single (not chainlike), arched over pectoral fins, then almost straight to caudal fin.
- First dorsal fin blue-black with small dark spots; other fins brown to black.

#### Habitat

Offshore, usually upper 65-100 feet, depending on water temperature; associated with water temperature greater than 68-degrees

#### **Similar Species**

**Blue marlin** - has first dorsal, pectoral and first anal fins with pointed tips; chainlike lateral line along body; lacks fin spots on first dorsal. **Longbill spearfish** - has anus well in front of anal fins.



#### Size

Commonly 5-feet up to 6.5-feet total length and 90 lbs.

#### **Distinguishing Characteristics**

- Anus well in front of anal fins (unlike any other billfish)
- •1st dorsal fin slightly pointed and truncasted at tip, moderately high over entire body length; no fin spots.
- Pelvic fins slightly longer than pectoral fins
- Pectoral fins generally wide and long.
- Upper jaw (bill) shorter than other billfish bills
- Body longer and thinner than other billfish
- •Single lateral line

#### Habitat

Offshore, usually in waters above thermocline. Rarest of all billfish.

#### Similar Species

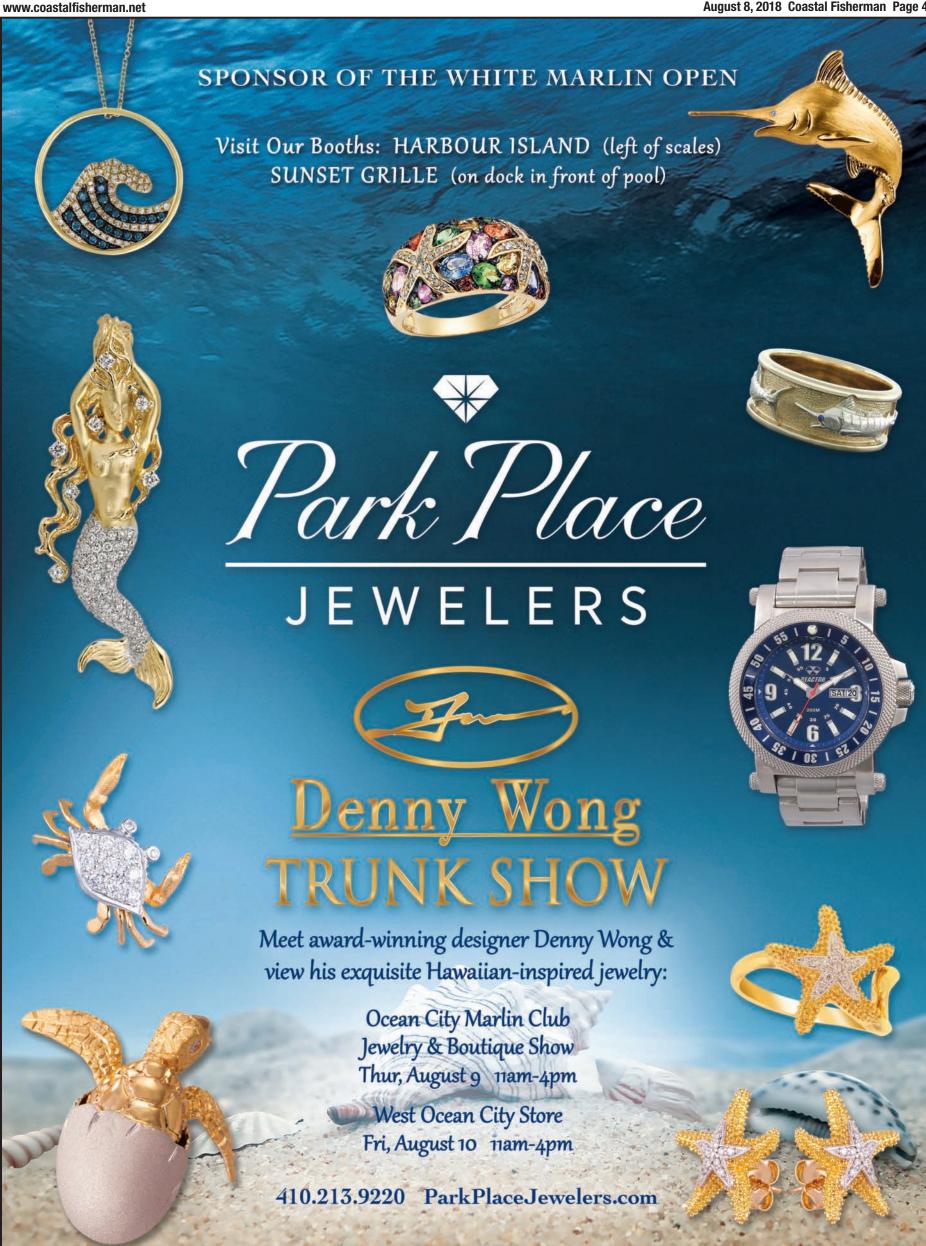
**Blue marlin** and **white marlin** - have anus close to anal fins and relatively longer upper bills.













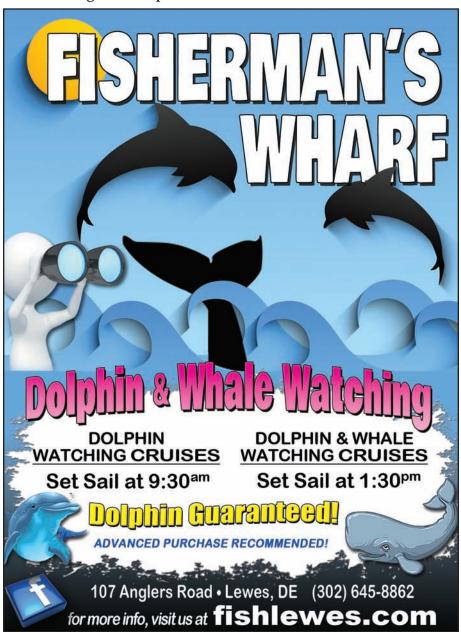
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Brent Hill had a good day fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts. Brent captured flounder weighing up to 3 lbs. and some black sea bass while fishing with strip baits on a natural ocean reef.



Tyler Ludwig from Germantown, MD fished on the "G3" off Broadkill Beach and caught a pair of flounder measuring 17 and 21-inches. Tyler fooled the flatties with top and bottom rigs tipped with minnows. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.







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Tim and Connor Brown show off the 3 keeper flounder they caught while fishing aboard the "On Point" with Reggie and Nathan Roberts. The fish, measuring between 17 and 20-inches, were caught in the Commercial Harbor and the East Channel while drifting jigs tipped with Gulp Swimming Mullets.

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Charlie, Jody and Henry Gessford had to weed through a lot of throwback flounder to get their 3 keeper flatties while drifting in the bay behind the campground. They hooked 25 fish during their trip with their 3 keepers measuring 16 1/2, 17 and 18-inches. All were caught on jigs tipped with Gulp artificial baits.



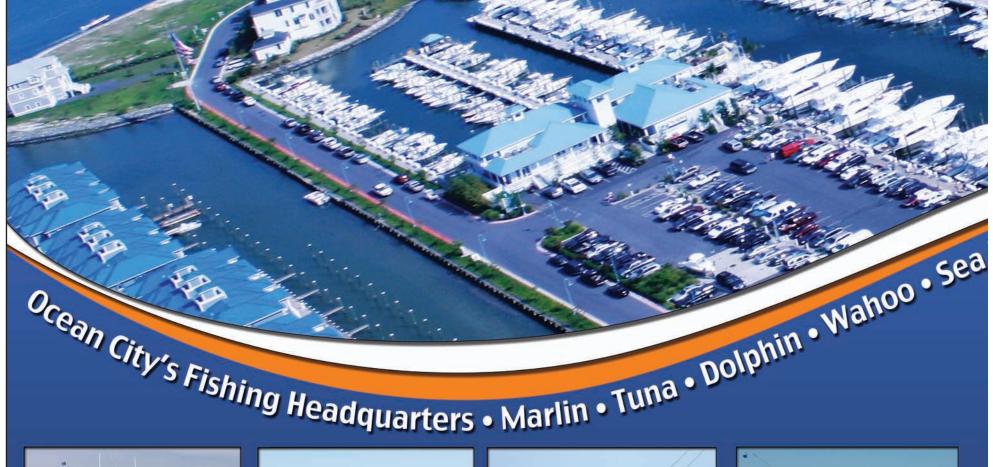
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PLAYMATE **60 FT. CUSTOM CAROLINA** Capt. Jeremy Shandrowski



MOORE BILLS **60 FT. BUDDY CANNADY** Capt. Rob Skillman



GAME OVER **58 FT. CUSTOM CAROLINA** Capt. Steve Pfeiffer



TALKIN" TRASH 58 FT. GILLIKIN Capt. Chris Little

•



LAST CALL 46 FT. POST Capts. Frank & Franky Pettolina Capt. Chris Evans



FINATIC 43 FT. VIKING Capt. Mark Malamphy



SPRING MIX II 43 FT. WILLIS Capt. Steve Selander Capt. Chris Watkowski



HUSEVO **42 FT. OCEAN YACHT** Capt. Mark Robbins Capt. Mark Radcliffe



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**GET SUM** 26 FT. CUSTOM Capt. Nick Clemente



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GAME ON

**47 FT. BUDDY DAVIS** Capt. Jon Yost



**40 FT. OCEAN SUPER SPORT** Capt. Mike Conner Capt. Ron Callis



FISH FINDER

40 FT. CUSTOM Capt. Mark Sampson



GAME CHANGER

38 FT. SONNY BRIGGS Capt. Fred & Matt Husman Capt. Mike Moss



PLAYTIME

35 FT. CAROLINA Capt. Ron Taylor



MORNING STAR

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butter.

Add garlic and cook until fragrant, 1 minute.

Add red pepper flakes and shrimp and season with salt and pepper.

Cook until shrimp is pink, 1 to 2 minutes per side.

Add parsley and combine. Set shrimp aside on a plate but keep juices in the skillet.

To the skillet, add spinach and season with salt.

Let spinach wilt, approximately 2 minutes, then add tomatoes, heavy cream, 1/4 cup pasta water and Parmesan cheese.

Simmer for 5 minutes.

Add shrimp and cooked pasta and stir until combined. (If you want the dish to be more saucy, add remaining 1/4 cup pasta water.)

Garnish with Parmesan cheese and serve.

## Creamy Shrimp & Corn Soup

1/2 cup onions 1/2 cup bell peppers





#### Garlicky Shrimp Dip

2 TBSP. extra-virgin olive oil

1 lb. shrimp, peeled and deveined

4 cloves garlic, minced Kosher salt

Freshly ground black pepper

Juice and zest of 1 lemon 8 oz. cream cheese,

softened

1/4 cup mayonnaise

3/4 cup shredded mozzarella

1/4 cup grated Parmesan

3 TBSP. fresh parsley, divided

Pita chips, for serving

Preheat oven to 350-degrees.

Heat oil in a large skillet

over medium heat.

Add shrimp and garlic.

Season with salt and pepper.

Cook until shrimp is firm and pink, 3 to 4 minutes.

Set aside to cool slightly, then coarsely chop.

In a large bowl, mix together lemon juice and zest, cream cheese, mayonnaise, mozzarella cheese, Parmesan cheese, 2 TBSP parsley and cooked, chopped shrimp.

Season with salt and pepper.

Transfer to a small baking dish and bake until bubbly and golden, 25 minutes.

If desired, broil on low for the last 2 to 3 minutes for a more golden top.

Garnish with remaining parsley and serve with pita

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#### Parmesan Shrimp Pasta

Kosher salt 12 oz. penne pasta 2 TBSP. butter 4 cloves garlic, minced Pinch of crushed red pepper flakes 1 lb. medium or large shrimp, peeled and deveined Freshly ground black pepper 1 TBSP. chopped parsley 3 cups baby spinach 1 cup crushed or diced canned tomatoes 3/4 cup heavy cream 1/2 cup freshly grated Parmesan cheese, plus more for garnish

In a large pot of salted boiling water, cook penne pasta until al dente.

Drain, reserving a 1/2 cup pasta water.

Return pasta to the pot. In a large skillet, melt





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- 1/2 cup celery
- 4 TBSP. butter
- 1 TBSP. olive oil
- 1 large red potato, peeled and chopped into 1inch cubes
- 1 1/2 tsp. creole seasoning (divided)
- 1 lb. medium shrimp (70/90 ct.)
- 1 (14.5 oz.) can whole kernel corn, drained
- 1 (14.5 oz.) can creamstyle corn
- 4 oz. cream cheese, cubed
- 2 cups half and half

In a large pot, heat butter and olive oil.

Saute onions, bell peppers, celery and potato for 10 minutes.

Season with 3/4 tsp. creole seasoning.

Season shrimp with remaining creole seasoning and add to veggies. Cook 4 to 5 minutes over medium to medium-high heat.

Add cans of corn, cream cheese and half and half.

Bring to a simmer and stir

to melt cream cheese.

Cook over low until cream cheese is melted.

Serve with fresh parsley, if desired.

#### Cucumber and Crab Stacks

- 4 large radishes
- 1/2 cup fresh corn kernels
- 4 oz. fresh lump crabmeat
- 1/2 ripe avocado
- 1 TBSP. red onion
- 1 TBSP. fresh lime or lemon juice
- 2 tsp. jalapeño hot pepper sauce
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 24 slice English cucumber Cilantro leaves and radish strips

Thinly slice enough radishes to make 24 slices.

Finely chop remaining radishes.

In a small bowl, combine corn, chopped radish, crabmeat, avocado, onion, lime juice, pepper sauce and salt. Stir well.



Keith Lockard from Gardners, PA and Mike Johns from Newport, PA spent the day chunking in Massey's Canyon and returned to the Talbot Street Pier with 4 bluefin tuna, measuring up to 56-inches. The anglers were fishing on the charter boat, "Restless Lady" with Capt. Todd Kurtz and mate Kevin Kurtz. All 4 tuna were caught in 100-feet of water where Capt. Todd said temperatures hovered around 81-degrees.







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Hunter Clanton released a blue marlin and Connor Clanton released a white marlin, both while fishing on the "Instigator" with Mike, Darrell and Ernie Clanton, Capt. Josh Wentling and mate Daniel Caison. The marlins, in addition to a couple of mahi, were hooked on trolled ballyhoo in the Washington Canyon.



#### ww cucumber slice chives. ler

Top each cucumber slice with a radish slice.

Spoon crabmeat mixture on top.

Garnish each with a cilantro sprig and radish strips.

#### Buttery Crab Bread Pudding

10 oz. lump crab meat 1 TBSP. finely chopped parsley

1 TBSP. finely chopped chives

2 tsp. fresh lemon juice 1 pinch cayenne pepper Kosher salt

Freshly ground pepper

1 stick unsalted butter

1 24-inch day-old baguette

4 large eggs

1 cup milk

1 cup half-and-half

Preheat the oven to 350-degrees.

Butter a 9x13-inch ceramic baking dish.

In a medium bowl, toss the crab meat with the parsley,

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chives, lemon juice and cayenne pepper.

Season with salt and black

Butter each baguette slice and stand up the slices in the prepared baking dish.

Using a spoon, tuck the crab mixture evenly between the slices of bread.

In a bowl, whisk the eggs with the milk, half-and-half, 1 tsp. of salt, and 1/2 tsp. of black pepper.

Pour the custard evenly over the bread and let stand for 10 minutes.

Bake the bread pudding for 30 minutes, until the top is lightly browned and the custard is set.

Let stand for 10 minutes before serving.

## Swordfish Kabobs with Balsamic Glaze

2/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for oiling the grill grates3 TBSP. balsamic vinegar3 TBSP. lemon juice





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Shirley Bowen from Camp Hill, MD captured a 16 1/2-inch flounder while drifting a white Gulp Swimming Mullet in the Thorofare. Shirley was fishing on the "Anchor Management" with Jeff, Brandon and Connor Bowen, Elissa Larkin and Ken Bechtel. The anglers had to weed through a lot of throwbacks to get their lone keeper. Pictured at the Coastal Fisherman office on Sunset Avenue in West Ocean City.

Our Menu offers a Variety of Choices Including: Overstuffed Specialty Deli Sandwiches & Hoagies Jumbo Lump Crab Cakes Soft Crabs
 Fresh Fish Order Lunch for your Burgers
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1 TBSP. Dijon mustard Kosher salt Fresh black pepper 2 lbs. swordfish, cut into 1-inch pieces

1 medium head fennel, cut into 1-inch pieces

1 pint grape or cherry tomatoes

If using wooden skewers, soak them in water in a casserole dish or baking sheet for 30 minutes prior to grilling.

Prepare a grill or grill pan for medium-high heat; oil the grill grates with olive oil.

Mix the balsamic, lemon juice and mustard in a small bowl.

Add the olive oil in a slow stream while whisking. Season with salt and pepper.

Thread the fish, fennel and tomatoes onto 8 skewers, alternating between fish and vegetables. There should be roughly 3 pieces of fish per skewer.

Season all sides of each skewer with salt and pepper.

Brush the balsamic mixture

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over all the skewers.

Add the skewers to the grill and cook until there are clear grill marks on the flame side, 3 to 5 minutes.

Flip the skewers and cook for an additional 3 to 5 minutes.

Continue to rotate the skewers and cook on each side until all sides are cooked and have a slight char.

Serve hot!

#### **Sweet Crab Cakes**

1 1/2 lbs. lump crabmeat

3/4 cup mayonnaise

1/3 cup chopped red bell pepper

1/3 cup finely chopped red onion

1 1/2 tsp. Old Bay Seasoning

11/2 tsp. kosher salt

1/4 tsp. freshly ground pepper

2 cups fresh bread crumbs

3 TBSP. unsalted butter

1/4 cup vegetable oil

1/4 cup balsamic vinegar

1/4 cup unsulphured





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molasses

3 medium tomatoes, sliced 1/4-inch thick

8 fresh basil sprigs 1 TBSP. plus 1 tsp. Chive Oil

In a large bowl, gently mix the crabmeat, mayonnaise, red bell pepper, onion, Old Bay Seasoning, salt and pepper.

Stir in 1 cup of the bread crumbs and shape the mixture into eight crab cakes.

Spread the remaining 1 cup of bread crumbs on a plate and coat each cake with the crumbs.

Set the crab cakes on a baking sheet, cover and refrigerate for at least 20 minutes or up to 4 hours.

In a large skillet, melt 1 1/2 TBSP. of the butter in 2 TBSP. of the oil.

Add 4 of the crab cakes to the skillet and cook over moderate heat, turning once, until crusty, golden brown and heated through, about 10 minutes.

Transfer to a baking sheet

and keep warm in a low oven while you cook the remaining crab cakes in the remaining butter and oil.

In a small non-reactive skillet, combine the balsamic vinegar and molasses.

Simmer over low heat until slightly thickened, about 2 minutes.

Arrange the tomato slices in the center of 8 plates and set the crab cakes on top.

Garnish with a basil sprig.
Drizzle 2 tsp. of the molasses glaze and 1/2 tsp. of the molasses glaze and 1/2 tsp. of the Chive Oil around each serving.

#### **Shark Bite Sipper**

1 1/2 parts Vodka 1/2 part Vermouth 1/2 part Olive Juice Olives for garnish

Shake all ingredients, including the olives for garnish, and strain into a chilled cocktail glass.





Mason Newsham boated this 87.5 lb. bluefin tuna while fishing at the 12 Fathom Lump with Jeff Klopp, Bill Swords and Mike Newsham on the "Local Girl". Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.





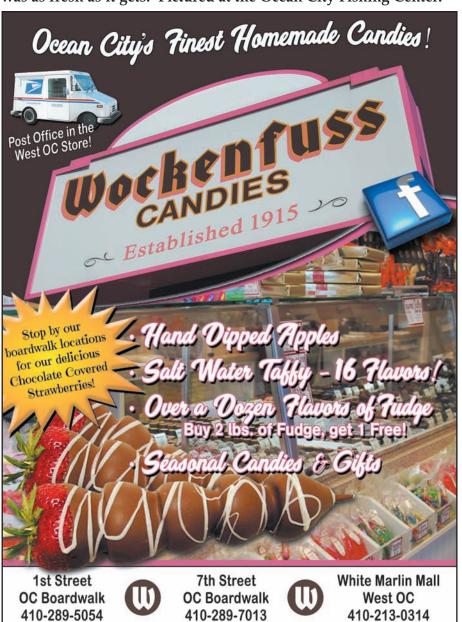




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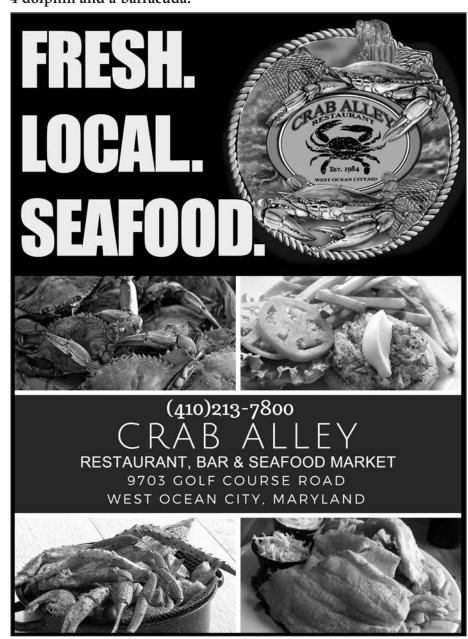


Anglers who jump on the charter boat, "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Willie Poole can have some fun crabbing and clamming in the bay after putting in some time flounder fishing and that is exactly what Nick, Anjelica, Julia and Bill Regine did last week. After losing a big flounder right at the boat, the anglers decided to do some crabbing and clamming. They ended up with a 1/2 bushel of crabs and a load of clams. That night's seafood dinner was as fresh as it gets! Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



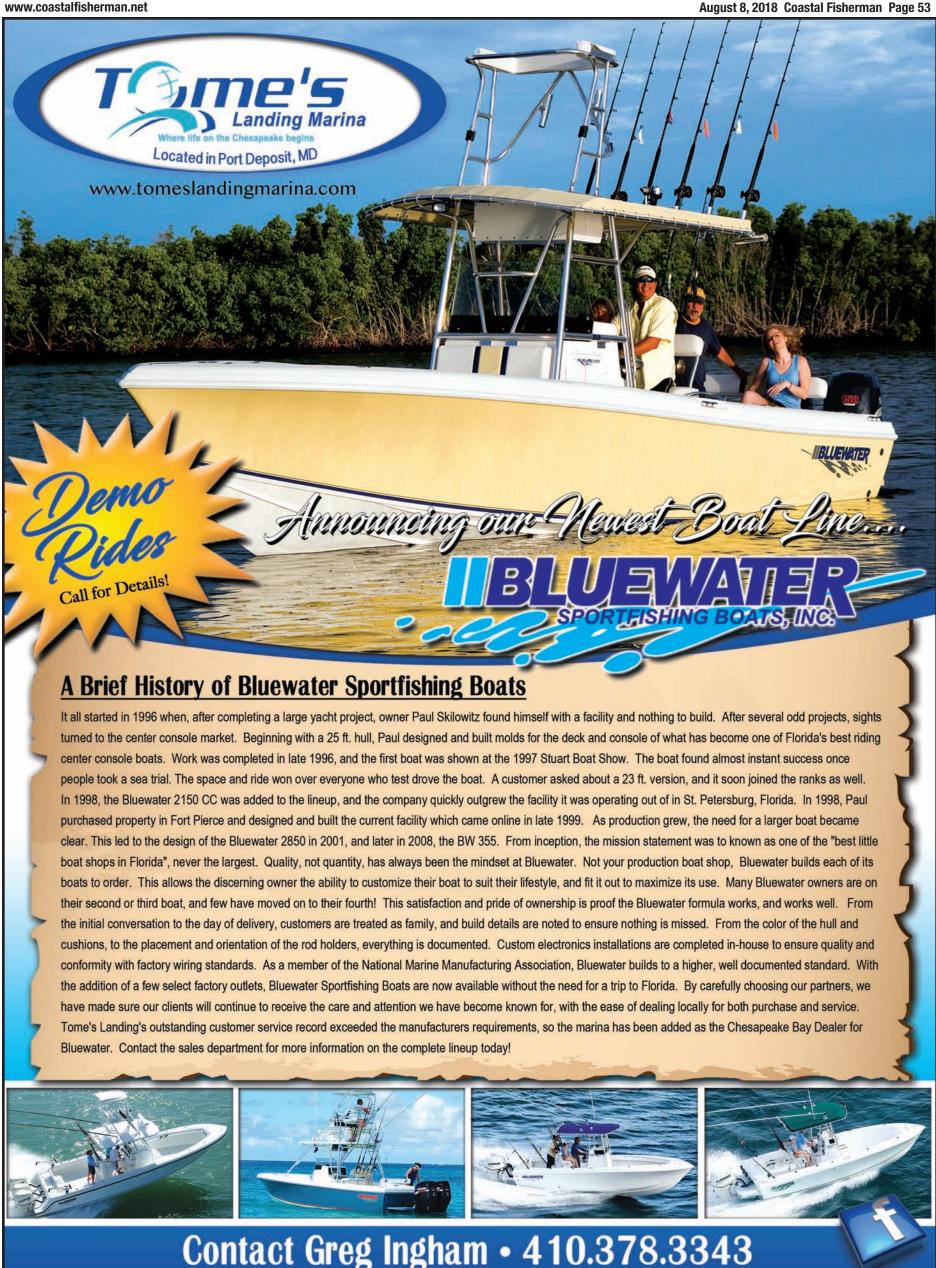


Ron Vito and Robin "Wheels" Ritter (pictured) ventured out to the Rockpile where they released 2 white marlin and caught 4 dolphin and a barracuda.





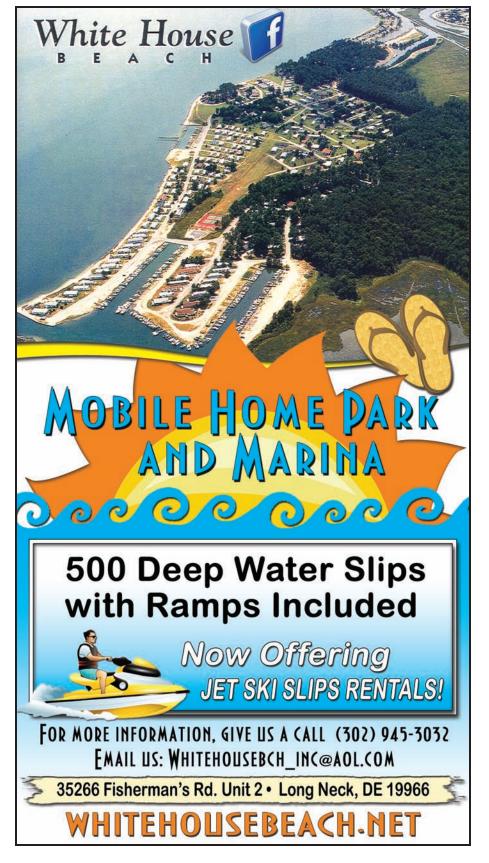








During a trip aboard the "Myra HT", Adam Corry caught this 46-inch bluefin tuna while chunking in Massey's Canyon with Chris McCabe (pictured) and Hugh Cropper. They ended their day with 2 "under" bluefins in the box.





This is what it looks like when your little sister catches a much bigger flounder than you did! Ella McCarter muscled in an 18 1/2-inch flattie and Will McCarter caught a 16 3/4-incher while fishing on the charter boat, "On the Run" with Capt. Dave Caffrey. Both fish were caught on Gulp Swimming Mullets in the East Channel. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



#### **-♦**-

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Sittle grown





Noah Fish of Harford County, MD is smiling ear to ear after winning the pool for largest fish caught during this trip aboard the headboat, "Morning Star". Noah caught the 18 1/2-inch black sea bass on a chunk of clam over a natural ocean reef. Money winnings were undisclosed. The "Morning Star" is docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Tom Adkins caught his limit of 4 flounder, weighing up to 3 lbs. 8 oz., while fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mate Dean Lo. All four fish were hooked on bucktails at a natural ocean reef.



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# CHUN LINES by Capt. Mark Sampson

Last week we had a fishing charter with a group of six guys from out of town. I didn't know them well because they had never fished with us before, but they seemed to be a pretty nice bunch. The weather was great and the fishing was good, so as we went through the day my first mate and I were somewhat confused by why our party was so "quiet". It wasn't that they didn't talk at all - they did, but not much. Or perhaps I should say that they didn't talk as much as most of our clients do, instead of jabbering on with each other, and us, the group was content to sit in mostly silence as they waited for the next bite. We struck up usual small-talk conversations with them to try and get a little rapport going on, but the conversations were mostly one-sided on our part until the conversation would taper off to silence again.

So, it's not like we had a problem with the how quiet the group was. Lord knows we've had plenty of groups at the other end spectrum that are more than just a "little" vocal. It's just that you always hope your clients are enjoying

themselves, and it can be a little worrisome when you don't hear the usual banter between anglers. By the end of the day everyone was all smiles and a lot more chatty, so I'm guessing that maybe they just had a big night the night before and needed a little "recovery time" before livening up to the day. Whatever the reason for their silence, it was a unnerving for my mate and I because for a while we just didn't know if there was some kind of problem with our people for the day.

While that group spooked us by being a bit too quiet, we're more likely to be put-off by folks who are way too chatty. Don't get me wrong, we like it when our clients engage us in conversation, but every now and then there will be one guy out of a group who just never stops talking, and it's not usually a two-way dialog as much as a one-sided day-long lecture with every sentence starting with the work "I". I did this, I did that, I went here or there, I have this or that, I caught this and that. Yikes! That can make for a really long day on the water!

It's really makes for a much more pleasurable day when our clients talk "with" us, not "at" us. I think most folks in this business enjoy getting to their clients swapping stories back and forth, and not just about fishing and what's happening on the boat that day, but also all the other stuff that friends talk about when they're passing time together. Of course, there will also be times when it's good not to be engaged in conversation, like maybe when the crew needs to focus their attention driving the boat under adverse conditions anything else that might need their undivided attention for a while, so a little quiet time now and again can be a good thing as well.

If only for the selfish reason that they want folks to come back as repeat customers, the crews on charter boats typically have a genuine interest in seeing that their clients have an enjoyable time while aboard their boat. Crews don't want their clients seasick, bored, uncomfortable, sunburned, aggravated or anything else that will divert them away from having anything but a wonderful experience - that just makes good business sense.

But most crews will do a lot more than just paint a

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smiley face on in the morning and through choreographed day catching fish and making small talk. They really have a genuine desire to make their people happy by providing them with a fishing experience that goes beyond their expectations. Crews on charter boats usually get into the business because they're passionate about fishing and enjoy the opportunity to share their passion and use their expertise to enrich the lives of others. These men and women are not just bus drivers who haul anglers out and back, collect their pay and load-up another group. Unfortunately some clients don't come to realize that because they shy away from having any meaningful dialog with them.

The best way to start a charter-fishing trip on a new boat is to strike up a (twoway) conversation with the crew so that you can get to know them better and they you. In the process they'll get a better understanding of what they can do to help make your trip all that you'd hoped for, and you'll know more about what they can and cannot do for you. Then, as the day rolls along and everyone gets more comfortable fishing conversing with each other, the anglers and crew will no longer be two separate camps but will have merged into one



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efficient team all working toward similar goals.

Of course captains and mates are just "people", and some march to a different drummer, so "yes" there are bad eggs out there as I'm certain that some readers can attest to with vivid memories of being on boats with crews that apparently had no desire to form any kind of friendly bond with their clients. But those are the exceptions. Local anglers and would-be charter clients should take solace that the folks who run most of the charter and head boats around Delmarva will work hard to ensure that a trips with them will be a fun, memorable and hopefully a productive fishing experience. Get to know some of them and you'll see what I mean!

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



While fishing on the "C-Boys" with Capt. Luke Blume and mates Wyatt Melocik and Jon Henry, anglers Joe Nibali from Yorba Linda, CA, Rusty Lavely from Atlanta, GA and Tim Stout from Baltimore, MD released a white marlin, boated a yellowfin tuna and caught 37 dolphin in the Washington Canyon. The anglers bailed the dolphin and caught the white marlin and the yellowfin on the troll. Pictured at Sunset Marina in West Ocean City, MD.

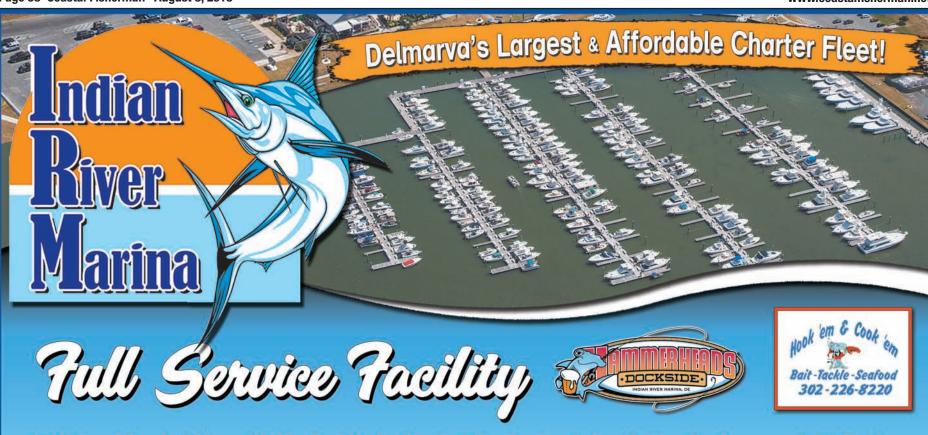












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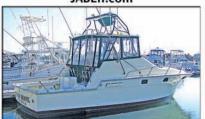
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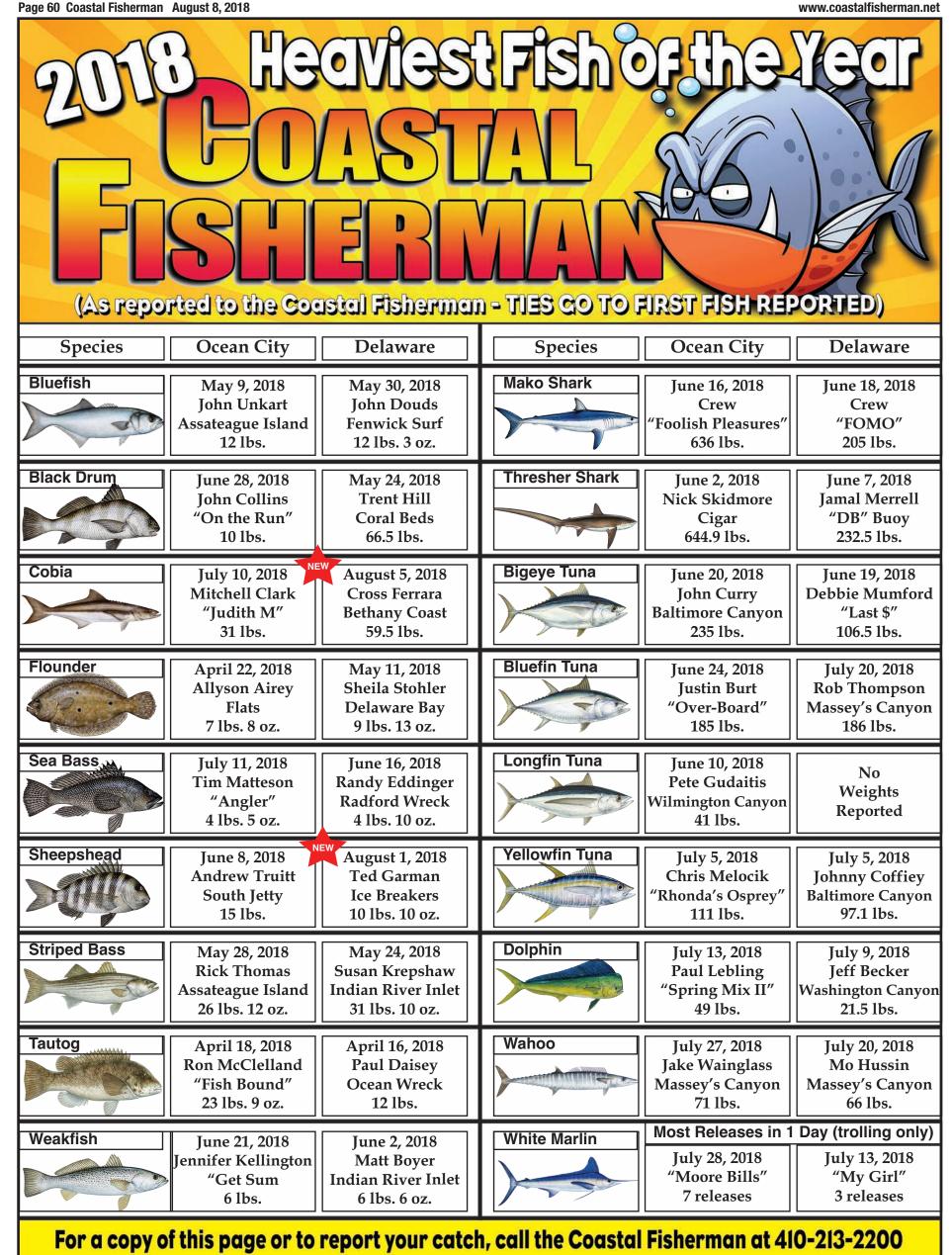
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On the final day of the 2018 Big Fish Classic, Collin Macomber brought in a 59 lb. yellowfin tuna that ended up being the third heaviest yellowfin caught during the 2-day event. Collin was fishing on the "Stalker" with his dad, Curtis Macomber, Dave Edelstein, Colby Macomber, Jake Rites, John Wlock, Logan Marshall, Capt. Steve Moore and mate Ron Bennett. The yellowfin, along with a white marlin that was released, were hooked in 1,500 fathoms between the Spencer and Lindenkohl Canyons. For their 3rd place yellowfin, the "Stalker" team took home \$2,160 in award money. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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It was a busy day at the scale on the final day of the 2018 Big Fish Classic, and one of the boats that arrived with a good size fish was the "Sea Wolf" with Brian Wilfong's 60 lb. yellowfin tuna that ended the tournament in 2nd place in the Heaviest Yellowfin Tuna Division. Brian caught the yellowfin on a spreader bar between the Spencer and Wilmington Canyons while fishing with Matthew Lasinski, Mike Dotson, Mike Schmitt, Brian Acquavella, Brian Wilfong, Jr. and Capt. Donnie White. For winning 2nd place in the Yellowfin Division, the team won \$5,400 in award money. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.











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In the 2018 Big Fish Classic, anglers Tina Boykin and Eleni Kangas caught a pair of bluefin tuna, weighing 46 and 54 lbs., while fishing on the "Lucky Duck II" with Ben Boykin, Peter Kangas, Corey Kennington, Capt. Art Boykin and mate Bill Mengason. Both bluefins were caught on the chunk in Massey's Canyon. Weighed at the Talbot Street Pier.



On the last day of the 2018 Big Fish Classic, Brook Stevens from Huntingtown, MD arrived at the Talbot Street scale with a 27.5 lb. dolphin that was caught in 450 fathoms outside the Washington Canyon. Brook was fishing on the "Seakeeper" with Monty Suder, John Bosley, Joe Kovatch, who released a white marlin during the trip, and Capt. George Penna. The dolphin was hooked on a trolled ballyhoo and the marlin ate a pink marlin plug.

# Federal Size & Greet Limits

# **3-200 Miles**



BLUE MARLIN 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No creel limit



WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No creel limit



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1 per person / 4 per private vessel
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DOLPHIN No minimum length 10 per person/day



WAHOO
No minimum length
2 per person/day



BIGEYE TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length No creel limit



YELLOWFIN TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day



#### **BLUEFIN TUNA**

(Recreational)
2 per vessel/day/trip
27" to less than 47" CFL
1 per vessel/day/trip
47" to less than 73"

(Charter Boat)
3 per vessel/day/trip
27" to less than 47" CFL
1 per vessel/day/trip
47" to less than 73"

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No Minimum Fork Length
Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead,

54" Minimum Fork Length
Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse,
Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common
Thresher, Oceanic Whitetip,
Porbeagle, Finetooth, Atlantic
Blacknose

78" Minimum Fork Length Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead, Smooth Hammerhead,

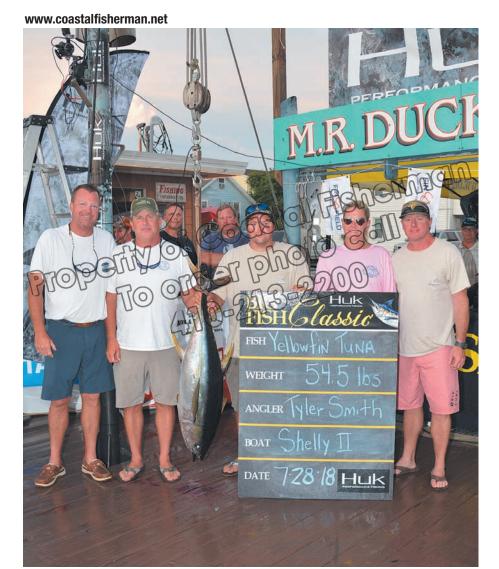
Only 1 shark from the lists above may be retained per vessel per trip. In addition, 1 Atlantic Sharpnose and 1 Bonnethead may be retained per person per trip. No size or creel limits on dogfish sharks.

> 83" Minimum Fork Length Shortfin mako

#### **Prohibited Sharks**

Atlantic Angel, Basking, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Sixgill, Bigeye Thresher, Bignose, Caribbean Reef, Caribbean Sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin Mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Sand Tiger, Sevengill, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White





Local boat, "Shelly II" arrived at the scale of the 2018 Big Fish Classic with a 54.5 lb. yellowfin tuna caught by Tyler Smith while trolling in the Washington Canyon. Tyler was joined by Bo Duke, Greg Steen, Deacon Burke, Brian Smith, Krista Drescher, Capt. Don Haines and mate Joe Nolan. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.









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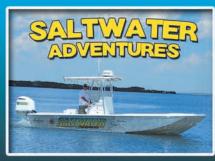
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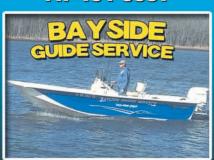
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#### **Tournament Time!**

the tournament With season in full swing on the East Coast, the fishing boats and crews are being pushed to their limits. Back-to-back fishing days and long offshore runs can wear on the crew and the equipment. Even with a full crew, it's easy to overlook a maintenance item or fail to realize a problem may be near. Here are a few tips to keep your fishing boat in top tournament shape.

#### **Batteries**

A fully charged engine or house battery should read 12.65 volts at rest or 25.3 volts for a 24v system. A battery charger or engine alternator needs to output a higher voltage, usually between 13v and 14v (and between 26v and 28v for a 24v system) to be able to recharge the battery or at least keep the battery fully charged. On larger boats, there are many places to monitor voltage, such as the helm, the main panel, the charger and the battery itself. If you are ever in doubt with

what is happening on your boat, use a good test meter to check the voltage at the batteries, at rest, on charger and when the engine is running (alternator). Since the captain at the helm is usually the one to monitor and spot irregularities, it is important to know what and where the helm voltage display is really measuring.

Being in the marine electronics business, I am always concerned if the navigation electronics or VHF has low voltage, since this can cause operational difficulties, and in the case of a VHF radio, decreased performance including range. Modern marine engines are also not very tolerant of low voltage. Their computers and senders will not operate properly in a low voltage situation.

Sometimes a good battery charger will mask an electrical problem with the engine or generator alternator. It is a good idea to test your systems with the battery charger off, both with and without the engine running. This can help find a problem before it becomes an

issue while fishing.

## Air Conditioning and Refrigeration

By this time in the season, many boats have been in use for a few months in warm water. This water is full of organisms that tend to grow in the sea water plumbing for the air conditioning and refrigeration systems. Once the marine growth gets too bad, you may notice a reduction of water flow in the sea water discharge line or your systems will shut off due to high pressure. The best way to maintain the sea water cooling system is to de-scale the system with environmentally friendly cleaners available at local boat supply stores. Do not use any type of acid since it can harm the system and damage your equipment. Products like Barnacle Buster and Rydlyme are designed for marine cooling systems and if used as directed, are not detrimental to the equipment. These products are generally circulated through cooling systems to descale the inside of hoses and pipes, killing the growth and leaving you with a clean surface for proper water flow and to allow the necessary heat transfer from machinery to the sea water.

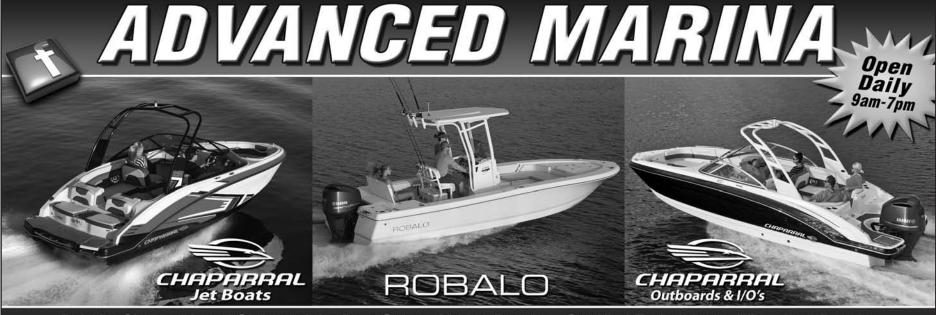
A common issue with air

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conditioning systems is the high head pressure alarm, which shuts off your system to prevent catastrophic damage.

The two most common causes for high pressure are a lack of sea water cooling and a lack of air flow at the evaporator. The sea water issue should be addressed as discussed above. evaporator is the part of the air conditioning system where the air blows across cold coils and sends that cool air into the cabin of the boat. These systems have inlet air filters, sometimes more than one, that are usually a washable element that can be removed and cleaned. Sometimes the metal evaporator become clogged and need careful cleaning with a vacuum or chemical wash to restore the proper airflow and transfer to heat evaporator.

While you are working on the evaporator, be sure to check and clean the condensate drain. The drain is usually a hose connected to a metal or plastic pan under evaporator. condensate drain hose goes to a main drain trunk line or to a sump or bilge. On hot and humid days an evaporate can remove gallons of water from the cabin air and needs a good path to drain that water.



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#### www.coastalfisherman.net Steering

Another maintenance point is the boats steering system where long days, long runs and fighting fish puts stress on the best systems.

Check your steering before you head out, looking for tell tale signs of oil leaks, metal wear or rubbing, loose or worn joints and connections. Be sure to check the steering oil level and pressure where needed. Use only the proper steering fluid. Other types of oil may not be compatible and result in leaks or increased steering effort.

Most importantly have fun and catch that winning fish!

Captain Steve Katz is the owner of Steve's Marine Service and holds NMEA, AMEI and NMEA2000 certificates along with ABYC Master Technician certification and factory training from many manufacturers. To reach Steve, call (631) 264-1600.





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The flounder were snapping for this group of guys fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins. Anglers Dan Davis, Sr. & Jr. of Glen Burnie, MD, D.J. Hutton of Baltimore, MD, Michael Haseman of Ocean City, MD, Corey Morgan of Ocean City, MD and Clinton Workman of Salisbury, MD went home with coolers filled with flounder and sea bass after fishing on ocean wrecks and natural reefs with squid, cut bait, Gulp Swimming Mullets and clams. Dan, Sr. had the largest flounder of the day with a 22-incher.





Just like in the old days, Capt. Jim Swagler put his anglers on the meat when he ventured out to Massey's Canyon to do some chunking. Anglers Kelly Swagler and Karen Turner teamed up to catch this 115 lb. bluefin tuna after having their lines in the water for only 10 minutes. The big bluefin put up a 2 hour and 10 minute fight, but Kelly and Karen wore it down enough for Jim Swagler, Jr. to stick it with a gaff. All of the action took place on the "Swagger".





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Kern Ducote and Ed Wagener caught 6 keeper flounder (4 pictured) while fishing with 4-inch Gulp Swimming Mullets and 4-inch Gulp Shrimp at Little Gull Shoal, the South Jetty and in the East Channel. Their fish measured between 17 and 23-inches.



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Robert Kozlowski from Ocean Pines, MD was soaking some spot head in the suds off Assateague Island when he hooked into this butterfly ray.

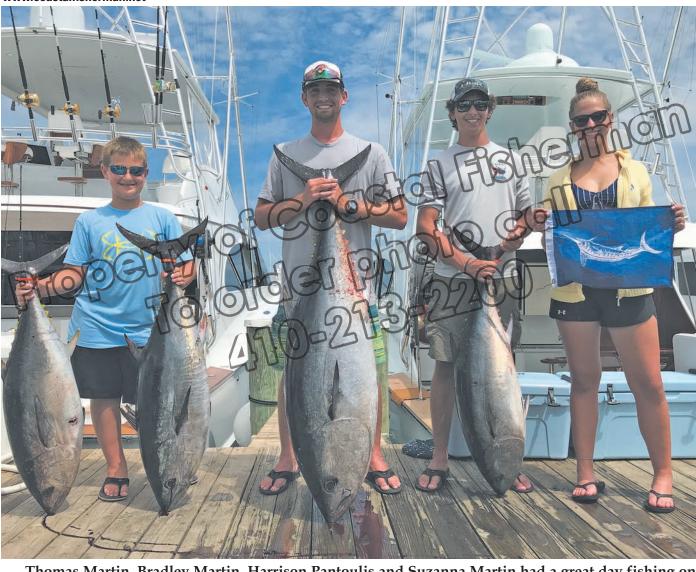


Ed Winkler, Mike Dittmann, Frank Hebert, Wade Kuhlmann, Buzz Hennessy, Joe Kuhlman and Jerod Kuhlman took an afternoon trip on the charter boat, "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Wiest and mate Chris Vann and returned with a load of triggerfish and a couple of sea bass after dropping cut bait on ocean structure. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Thomas Martin, Bradley Martin, Harrison Pantoulis and Suzanna Martin had a great day fishing on the charter boat, "Marli" with Capt. Mark Hoos. The anglers caught 3 bluefins that measured over 47-inches (released 2) and 3 that measured between 27 and 47-inches. Suzanna also released a white marlin during their trip to the Washington Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.









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Mackenzie Cathell, age 13, is a fishing machine and on this day she muscled in a 10 lb. bull dolphin while chunking in Massey's Canyon. Mackenzie was fishing on the "Stealing Paradise" with her parents, James and Karen Cathell and Capt. Ed "The Beard" Gross.

3B'S CAPTAIN SCHOOL  "Coast Guard Approved"			
and an	Coapt gridly	a Walanakea.	
AUG 31	WOODBRIDGE, NJ	OUPV	3 WEEKENDS
SEPT 21	WOODBRIDGE, NJ	MASTERS UPGRADE	1 WEEKEND
OCT 12	DEALE, MD	OUPV	3 WEEKENDS
OCT 12	DOVER, DE	OUPV	3 WEEKENDS
NOV 2	BRICK, NJ	OUPV	3 WEEKENDS
NOV 2	OCEAN CITY, MD	OUPV	3 WEEKENDS
NOV 2	BRICK, NJ	MASTERS UPGRADE	1 WEEKEND
NOV 30	EASTON, MD	OUPV	3 WEEKENDS
JAN 4	HACKENSACK,NJ	OUPV	3 WEEKENDS
JAN 4	OCEAN CITY, MD	OUPV	3 WEEKENDS
JAN 12	PHILA./WARMINSTER	OUPV	3 WEEKENDS
JAN 24	OCEAN CITY, MD	OUPV	3 WEEKENDS
JAN 25	OCEAN CITY, MD	MASTERS UPGRADE	1 WEEKEND



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While fishing on the charter boat, "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Willie Poole, angler Jac Tuck from West Chester, PA slayed this 17-inch flounder while drifting a white Gulp Swimming Mullet (a "Get Sum" favorite) in the East Channel. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center. August 8, 2018 Coastal Fisherman Page 73



Gunnar Ketner celebrated his birthday with a trip 14 miles off the Ocean City coastline where he caught this 11 lb. female dolphin. Gunnar was fishing on the "No Drama" with Steve Schonberger.

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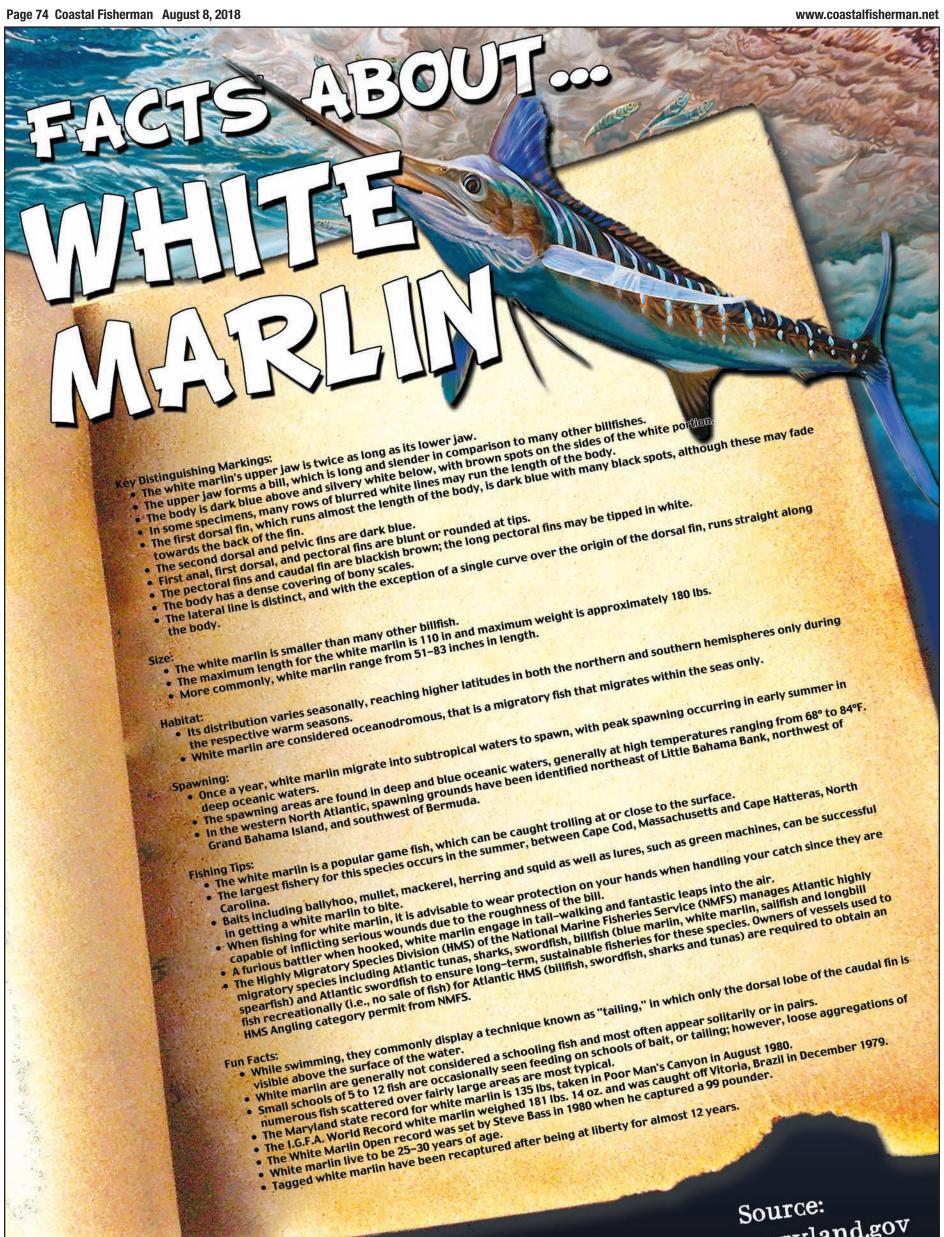


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Mike Harrison, Kevin Szymanski and Marc Levinard took on some nasty sea conditions last Saturday but were rewarded with a great catch of big flounder. Their 6 largest fish measured between 22 and 25-inches. The guys were joined by three buddies and caught a boat limit of 32 flatties while fishing with Otter Tails and squid around Fenwick Shoal. The group also caught a few triggerfish during their trip. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.





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Here's one for the scrapbook! Brook, Harrison and Carter Wilke from Wilmington, DE used Gulp Swimming Mullets and minnows to fool these 4 keeper flounders.





During a trip to the Inner Wall in the Delaware Bay, Mike Smith of Middletown, DE hooked 7 flounder, keeping 2, while using Gulp shrimp for bait. Mike's pair of keepers measured 18 and 19-inches.



Debbie and Preston Walls took their grandsons, Ryder and Harrison Kincaid out for some flounder fishing on the "One More Drift" and caught 5 keeper flounder, measuring up to 20-inches. All of the flatties were caught on small bunker in the East Channel.



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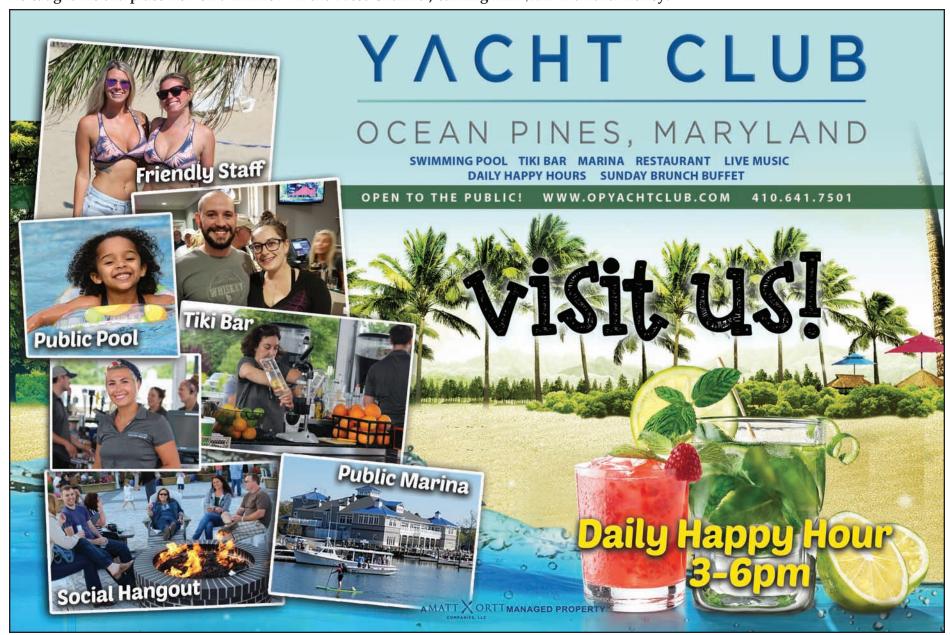
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# Triplett wins 1st and 2nd place in Ocean Pines Flounder Tournament. Ebersole takes 3rd.





It was another great Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce Flounder Tournament last weekend with 160 anglers competing for almost \$3,000 in award money. Bubba Triplett was the big winner, taking 1st and 2nd place with flounders measuring 21 1/8-inches and 20 3/4-inches. Doyle Ebersole won 3rd place with a 20 3/4-incher that lost the tiebreaker based on the weight of the fish. Bubba caught both of his flatties while drifting with live bunker in the East Channel and won \$2,768 in award money. Doyle was fishing with Mason Sweigart when he caught his 3rd place fish on a minnow in the West Channel, earning him \$221 in award money.







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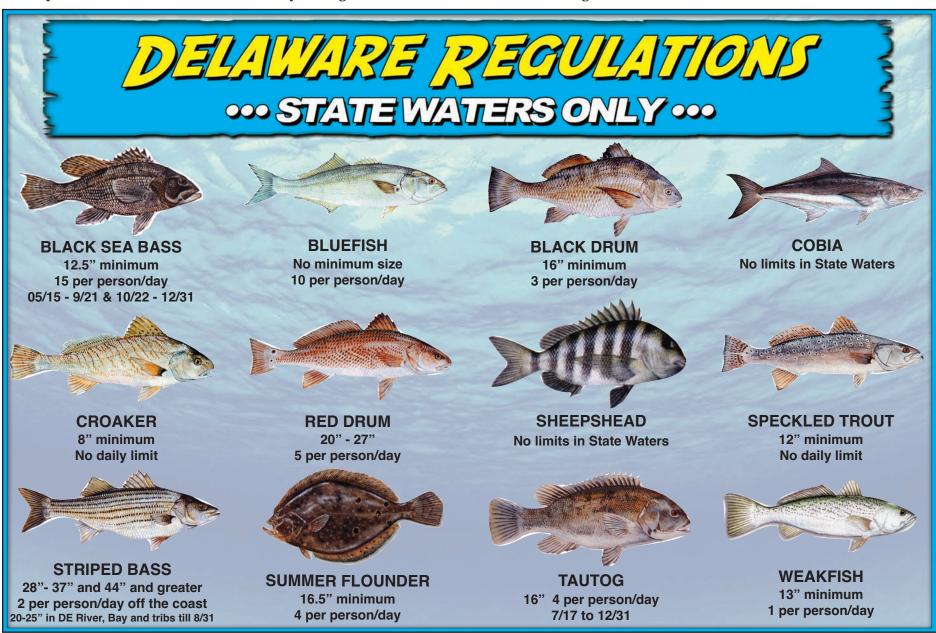
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# Mohn wins Pier Point Marina Flounder Tourney





During the Pier Point Marina Flounder Tournament held from June 22nd through July 28th, Scott Mohn (left) captured a 24-inch, 5 lb. 6 oz. flattie at the Old Grounds and held on to win 1st place and a check for \$1,480. Rodney Kurtz (far right) was also fishing at the Old Grounds when he caught a 22 3/4-incher that weighed 4 lbs. 8 oz., good enough to eke out a 2nd place finish worth \$642 in award money. Third place in the tournament went to Gary Ebling for his 4 lb. 7 oz. flounder, winning him a Penn rod and reel.













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One of the first boats to arrive at the scale on opening day of the 2018 Ocean City Marlin Club Ladies Tournament was the "Grande Pez" with a 16 lb. dolphin caught by Jaime Miller. The fish ended the tournament in 1st place in the Dolphin Division, winning the "Grande Pez" team \$7,947 in award money. Jaime hooked the dolphin while trolling at the Hot Dog with Cathy Maxwell, who released a white marlin during the trip, Chris Svehla, Amy Miller, Lynn Miller, Capt. Pat Svehla and mate Will Connelly. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle in West Ocean City.



"REEL ESTATE" • 100 Pts. • HELEN DIGIOVANNI



Top Junior Angler honors in the 10th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Ladies Tournament went to Helen DiGiovanni for her white marlin release on Day 1 of the event. Helen was fishing on the "Reel Estate" with Emma Campbell, Tatum DiGiovanni, Capt. Curtis Campbell and mates Connor Campbell and John Morton. The white marlin was hooked on a trolled ballyhoo deep outside the Poor Man's Canyon. Weighed at Atlantic Tackle.



On the final day of the 2018 Marlin Club Ladies Tournament, sea conditions were nasty, but that didn't stop Erin Wiggins from boating a 13.8 lb. dolphin to jump into 2nd place in the Dolphin Division, worth \$2,214 in award money. Erin was fishing on the "Leslie Ann" with Leslie Murphy, Jacqueline Hunteman, Allie Hager, Gabby Swann, Brittney Gowe, Capt. Mark Murphy and mate Wyatt Wiggins. The 2nd place dolphin was hooked on a skirted ballyhoo in 100 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon. Weighed at Atlantic Tackle in West Ocean City.

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With 3 white marlin releases on opening day of the Marlin Club Ladies Tournament, the team on the "Buckshot" took 3rd place honors in the Billfish Release Division with 300 points. Sandy Summers, Tamara Miller and Heather Bahrami each released a white marlin after hooking them on the troll deep outside the Poor Man's Canyon. They were joined on the "Buckshot" by angler Teresa Barnes, Capt. Gary Stamm and mates Steve Eakle and Andreas Mayorca. For their 3rd place finish, the lady anglers won \$2,376 in award money. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle.



In the 10th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Ladies Tournament, the anglers fishing on the "Reel Vibrations" took the early lead in the Dolphin Division with a 13.6 pounder caught by Lachelle Scarlato and ended the event in 3rd place. Lachelle caught the dolphin on the troll at the Sausages while fishing with Susan Bogar, Tabitha Howell, Suzie Campbell, Bobbie Jo Smith, Capt. Kurt Howell and mate Curtis Hunter. Pictured at the Atlantic Tackle tournament scale.





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On the first day of the 2018 Marlin Club Ladies Tournament, the anglers fishing on the "Slaughterhouse" arrived with a 28.4 lb. yellowfin tuna and a pair of mahi that were all caught at the Hot Dog. Kim Baer muscled in the yellowfin and Heather Hess and Corky Mock each caught a mahi while fishing with Pam Hess, Capt. Mark Hess and mate Al Rittmyer. Heather's 12 lb. dolphin ended up being the 4th heaviest weighed in the tournament and earned the team \$504 in award money. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle.



The last boat to arrive at the scale of the 2018 Ocean City Marlin Club Ladies Tournament and always one of the more colorful groups, was the "Haulin n Ballin" with Kristin Jezierski, Lisa Slagle, Shari Pitt, Claire Johnson, Jovita Lynch, Kristy Frashure, Capt. Howard Lynch and mates Jose Edwin and Burro Gonzalez. The ladies went 1 for 3 on white marlin and put 3 mahi in the box while trolling at the southern end of the Washington Canyon. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle in West Ocean City.





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While fishing on the "Marlin Gale" during the 2018 Marlin Club Ladies Tournament, Stacey Wills released 2 white marlin and Chrissy Summers released a single white marlin deep outside the Poor Man's Canyon during a trip with Tim Wills, Bob Caldwell, Steve Summers and Capt. Brandon Speilman and mate Aaron Greenberg. The lady anglers lost the tiebreaker for 3rd place based on the time of their last release. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle.



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On opening day of the 10th Annual Marlin Club Ladies Tournament, Brandie Metts released her first blue marlin and Ramona Schueler and Alexis Findley teamed up to release a white marlin, all while fishing on the "C-Boys" with Sarina Mossa, Capt. Luke Blume and mates Wyatt Melocik, Jon Henry and Lance Crampton. Both marlin were hooked on a trolled ballyhoo deep outside the Poor Man's Canyon. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle.



On the final day of the 10th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Ladies Tournament, anglers on the "Jezebel" battled nasty sea conditions but Lori Smith.Hancock managed to capture an 8.6 lb. dolphin while trolling in Massey's Canyon. Lori was joined by Lisa Moore, Karen and Mya Hamstra, Cynthia Brooks, Capt. Chester Sadowski and mates Tim Kane and Jason Courtney. Weighed at Atlantic Tackle in West Ocean City.





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