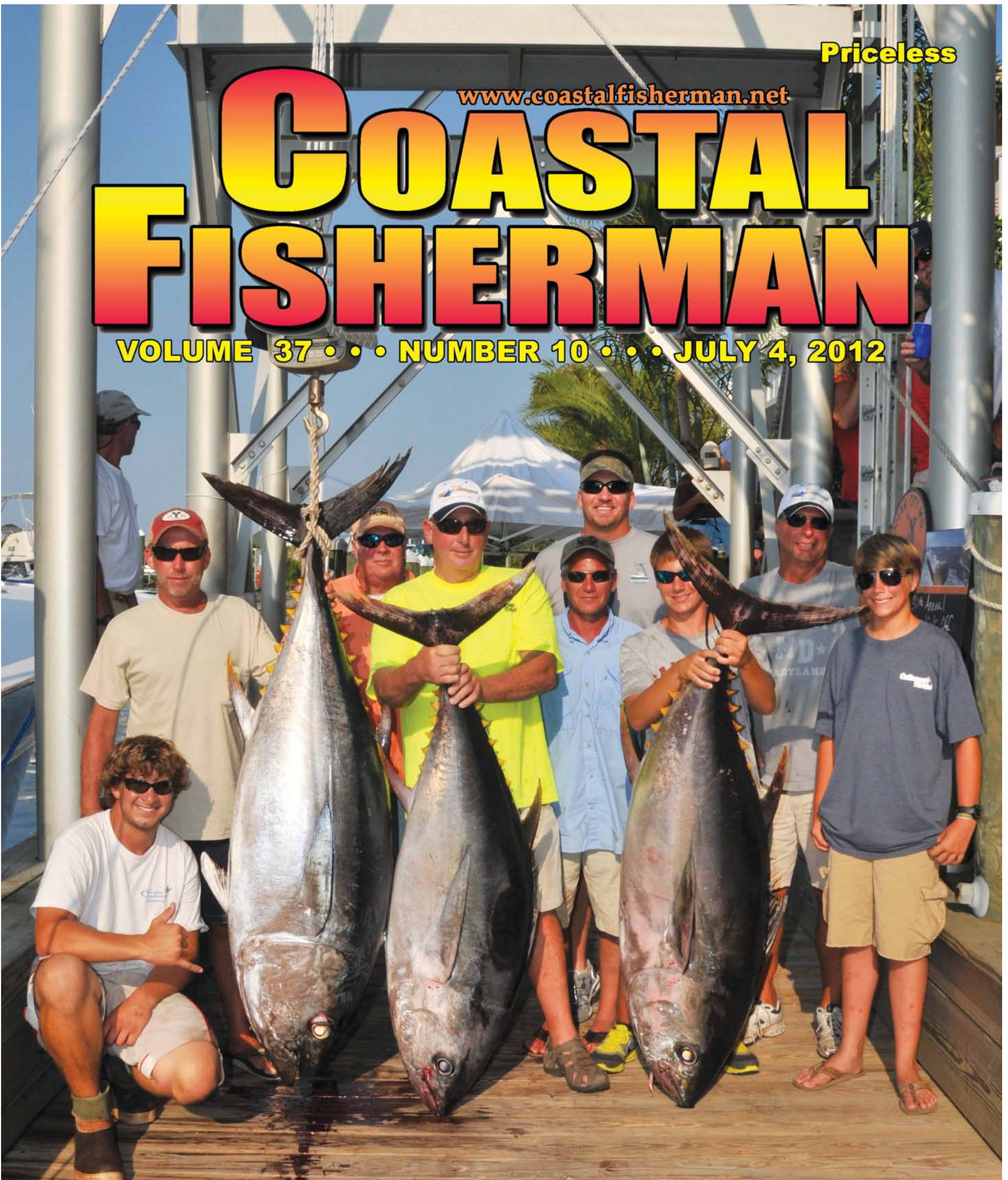


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COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 37 • • • NUMBER 10 • • • JULY 4, 2012



It was a battle of the bigeye tuna in the 30th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off. Over the 3 days of fishing, 9 bigeyes were brought to the scale at Sunset Marina and none were larger than the 224 pounder caught on the second day by Ron Marquette on the "White Lightning". Ron hooked the tuna in the Washington Canyon while fishing with Bud Morgan, John Brown, Tyler and John Dolnetch, Greg Garland, Jacob Calloway, Capt. Luke Blume and mate John Griffith. The anglers also caught two other bigeyes, weighing 163.4 and 208.0 lbs., and released a white marlin during the trip. The 1st place finish in the Tuna Division earned the "White Lightning" team \$8,078 in award money.



Flounder fishing really turned on in the bay on Thursday, as shown by this group of anglers who fished on the "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Brian Behe. They ended up with 8 keepers in the box, measuring between 18 and 20-inches, while drifting live spot and Gulp! artificial baits in the middle channel, north of the Rt. 50 Bridge. Pictured at the Ocean Ciy Fishing Center are Jax, Caden and Steve McCullough, Brian and Darrell Hughes and Anthony Nemer.



Max Hunt of Mechanicsburg, PA was pitching a pink bucktail around the South Jetty when he hooked into this 36-inch striped bass. Max was fishing on the "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford. Pictured at the dock at Frontier Town.

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Wes Olson was drifting cut bait at the Old Grounds when he caught this 8 lb. 4 oz. flounder. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Lisa Markiewicz of Baltimore, MD, Kim, Makayla and Courtney Dukes of Willards, MD, Tyler Dalton of Pennsville, NJ and Jamie Romero of Glenwood, MD whacked 9 yellowfin tuna while fishing on the "Absolute Pleasure" with Capt. Willie Zimmerman and mate Justin Hart. The yellowfins were caught on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars in 65-70 fathoms at the tip of the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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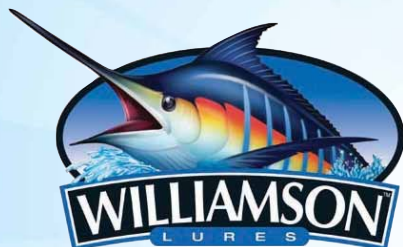
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Jen Facelo from West Ocean City, MD celebrated her birthday by doing some flounder fishing behind the Ocean City Convention Center and was rewarded with a 22-inch that weighed in at an even 5 lbs.

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Kevin and James Coats from Bel Air, MD caught these two striped bass, measuring 35.5 and 39-inches, while fishing with live spot at the South Jetty. Photo courtesy of Buck's Place on Rt. 611.



Bobby McNamee of Clifton Heights, PA released a blue marlin, estimated at 450 lbs., while fishing on the "Chain Reaction II" with Brad, Ross and Grant Clubb of Lititz, PA. The anglers also caught a 36 lb. yellowfin and a 10 lb. dolphin during the trip to the West Notch of the Wilmington Canyon. The blue marlin ate a skirted ballyhoo and took 30 minutes to get to the boat. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



If you were around the docks in Ocean City last week, and especially over the weekend, you saw the results of some incredible fishing.

Bigeye Tuna

Anglers trolling in the Washington Canyon near the 800/800 found bigeye tuna in the same place and at the same time as last year. Capt. Eric Blanks on the "Lucky Duck II" told me he literally plugged in the same coordinates as last year, and there they were mixed in with the whales. In total, 16 bigeyes were landed over the weekend. Here's how it played out:

Saturday

"White Lightning"

(163.4, 208.0, 224.0)

"Lucky Duck II"

(139.0, 188.6, 218.2 219.0)

"Billfisher" (191.8)

Sunday

"Reel Chaos"

(180.0, 189.0, 209.0)

"Sea Slammer" (223.0)

"White Lightning" (210.8)

"Tighten Up" (176.0)

"Moore Bills" (160.0)

"Foolish Pleasures" (137.0)

Yellowfin Tuna

Yellowfins were scattered up and down the 50-75 fathom line. Some boats that were targeting bigeyes in the Washington Canyon over the weekend also returned with yellowfins in the box. Others trolling ballyhoo and spreader bars further north in the Baltimore and Wilmington



Bigeye tuna showed up in good numbers over the weekend as shown by the crew on the "Reel Chaos" with their 3 whoppers caught on Sunday in the Washington Canyon. The bigeyes weighed 180, 189 and 209 lbs. and were caught on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars around the 800/800. The anglers also caught 2 yellowfin during the trip. Pictured at Sunset Marina are Barry Kintz, Paul DiFebo, Joe Bonvetti, Anthony Matarese, Sr., Sam Freas, Capt. Anthony Matarese, Jr. and mates Mike Matarese and Will Wangle.

Canyons had nice catches, with some hitting double digits.

Bluefin Tuna

We saw quite a few large bluefin tuna show up at the scales last week with the bite stretching from the Crotch to the Tea Cup, but centered at the Hot Dog and in the Baltimore Canyon. Early in the week, "That's Right" released an 80-incher but returned with a pair (44" & 52") from the Hot Dog. On Thursday, "Moore Bills" was trolling in the Baltimore Canyon and decked a 59-incher. On Saturday, "Worry Free" was at the Sausages when they hooked

an 81 lb. bluefin and the "Myra HT" returned with a 70 pounder from the Hot Dog. Finally, on Sunday the "Jezebel" was at the Hot Dog and boated a 78.4 lb. bluefin.

A reminder to everyone that the giant bluefin season is closed south of Great Egg Inlet, NJ.

Marlin

Overshadowed by the bigeye tuna bite, we saw a good number of white marlin releases last week from the Washington Canyon to the Wilmington Canyon. The marlin are in there feasting on little tunas, so anglers that picked up yellowfins had a good shot at a white marlin.

Dolphin

There was also at least one blue marlin released last week. On Saturday in the Canyon Kick-Off, the "Double Trouble" released a blue marlin in the Baltimore.

Anglers chasing yellowfin tuna continue to return with a couple of dolphin in the box and the average size of the mahi is definitely increasing. Most of the mahi were hooked in the Baltimore Canyon and around the Hot Dog.

Grouper

On Sunday, Gregory Benn from Fenwick Island caught a 50 lb. snowy grouper during a trip to the north wall of the Norfolk Canyon. Gregory used a diamond jig to hook the monster that hopefully will be recognized as a Maryland state record catch. Right now, Maryland does not have a snowy grouper category for their state records.

Flounder

This was probably the best week of flounder fishing so far this year. The best bite was in the East Channel around the Cement Plant (near the Rt. 50 Bridge), along the rocks at Martha's Landing (West Channel) and in the waters surrounding Harbour Island. We also saw several fish caught in the bay behind Assateague Island, in back of Castaway's Campground and further south near the Assateague Bridge. Rocky bottoms, whether at the South Jetty, along the bulkhead in the East Channel or along Martha's Landing, seem to be the favored spots for flatties this season.

J.J. at the Oceanic Pier also reported an excellent flounder bite by anglers fishing off the

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Nothing rivaled the 31-
incher we saw caught the
previous week by Bob Gummer
off the 1st Street Bulkhead, but
several fish over 20-inches were
caught. Big Bird Cropper pulled
a 22" and a 23" flattie from the
Rt. 50 Bridge pilings while using
a jig head tipped with a salt and
pepper rubber swim shad on
Friday. Also on Friday, Laurel
Pinckney on the "Ocean City
Guide Service" pulled a 23.5
incher out of the East Channel
while using live spot for bait.

There is a lot of bunker and
spot in our bays, so if you can fill
your live well with live bait, you
have the best chance at catching
a keeper. Otherwise, 4-inch and
6-inch Gulp! Alive Swimming
Mullets have also performed
well all season.

Sea Bass

Boats headed out to ocean
reefs and wrecks in search of sea
bass are seeing their throwback
percentage decreasing but still
very high. Capt. Monty on the
"Morning Star" reported that 50
fish per person would be a slow
day, but a high percentage are
tossed back. Numerous pool

winners were above 3 lbs.

Striped Bass

The striper bite around the
Rt. 50 Bridge at night has been
very good for anglers fishing
with live spot or eels. The top of
the high tide was productive but
not necessary to catch fish.
Small stripers were also hooked
around the South Jetty.

From the Beach

We are into our usual
selection of fish being caught off
the beach during the summer
months. Anglers are getting into
kingfish, spot, snapper bluefish,
skates and some larger sharks at
night.

Anglers looking for some fun
and targeting the smaller fish are
doing well when baited up with
Fishbites bloodworms.

Upcoming Tournaments

I know it is hard to believe,
but there are actually no
tournaments this upcoming
weekend in Ocean City. The
next event is the Ocean City
Tuna Tournament on July 13, 14
and 15 at the Ocean City Fishing
Center.

See you at the scales!



Gregory Benn of Fenwick Island, DE muscled in this 50 lb. snowy grouper while fishing with a diamond jig at the north wall of the Norfolk Canyon. Gregory was fishing on the "Wound Up" with his dad, Richard Benn, Capt. Dave Warren and mate Rob Belcher. Currently, Maryland does not have a state record category for snowy grouper and the world record sits at 70 lbs. 7 oz. set in 2011 with a fish also caught in the Norfolk Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Ed Swartz, Art D'Amico and Ed Richardson teamed up to land 5 yellowfin tuna, totaling 217 lbs., while trolling skirted ballyhoo in 50 fathoms between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. The heaviest yellowfin weighed 54 lbs. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Laurel Pinckney of Fernandina Beach, FL caught herself a 23.5-inch flounder that tipped the scale at 3 lbs. 10 oz. while fishing on the "O.C. Guide Service" with Chris, Heather and Cooper Pinckney and Capt. John Prather. The fish was caught on a live spot in the East Channel, where Chris also caught a 17.5 inch. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Dolores Weitzel from Sinking Spring, PA and Jerry Dietrich from Lansing, NY were drifting live spot in the West Channel when they each caught their limit of flounder. The largest measured 22.5-inches.

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Anglers pounding the Old Grounds with cut baits are returning to the dock with some great catches of flounder as shown by this group that ended their day with 20 keepers in the box. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina are Blake and Donna Reed, Josh and Henry Sharp and "Flint" Sherman.



Cliff Kauffman, Jason Beiler, James Hunsucker, Jim Hunsucker, Alana Rush and Dennis Grover took an offshore tilefish trip aboard the "Capt. Ike II" with Capt. Dave Collins and mate Brian Joseph and returned with a good catch of golden and blueline tilefish from the Baltimore Canyon. The largest tilefish was caught by Capt. Dave and weighed 19.4 lbs. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



"I'm not catching anything in the surf!"

It's summertime and it's time to scale down. Put away the 12-foot heaver and the 10/0 hooks. Unless you want to catch big sharks, it's time to use Kingfish Rigs made with size #6 or #8 hooks and bait up with little strips of cut bait and worms.

"What can we expect to catch?"

Kingfish, Norfolk spot, sea trout, snapper blues and croaker are the fare in the summer surf! Occasionally, surf anglers will also pick up a flounder along with the usual dog shark, skate or ray. What I do this time of year is start with a Kingfish Rig baited with a piece of real bloodworm or Artificial FishBite Bloodworm. Then I add a tiny strip of box squid or any kind of fresh or

frozen cut bait such as bunker, spot or mullet on the same hook. This may seem like a lot of trouble to bait a small size #6 or #8 hook with two kinds of bait, but if the fish are there, it will work! Adding the strip of cut bait to the worm bait will give you a larger size pan fish and also give you the chance to catch bluefish, flounder or trout if they are there. Just bloodworm bait will most likely catch you spot or kingfish. More variety will be available for you if you add the cut bait. (Cut bait alone may reduce your chances of catching the spot or kingfish!). Remember, two baits on a hook are better than one!

Once you catch a spot or small legal bluefish you have some good fresh bait that you can strip up for cut bait. If you start catching larger fish like

snapper blues and flounder, you can scale up and go to a small bluefish rig (size #4 hooks), flounder rig or whole finger mullet rig and fish for blues and flounder. But remember, just because you catch a couple of 11-inch bluefish doesn't mean you have to switch to a 5/0 hook and wire leaders. In the summertime, these blues might not get much bigger and small snapper blues are easily caught on a kingfish rig!

This being said, one of the most important things you can take to the beach is a sharp knife to cut small strips of fresh bait. Even one of those inexpensive bait knives will work fine as long as it is sharp. I keep one of those five dollar ceramic knife sharpeners in my tackle bucket and give it a couple swipes to sharpen the edge up before filleting up some strip baits. If you are using frozen bait like finger mullet or bunker, it actually strips up easier when it is partially frozen! (Carry a little cutting board or block of wood.)

"Do Fishbite Bloodworm baits work as well as the real thing?"

I like a real worm, but I also like the Fishbites. Fishbite bloodworms actually last on the hook longer and aren't bad as long as you change the bait once they start to fade out on the hook. The secret red material will actually melt off the white mesh after a while and won't secrete the scent as well once it's been on the hook for a while. I always carry a small pair of sharp scissors to cut the old stuff away and put on a new strip. Add a strip of cut bait to the Fishbites and you have an excellent bait. If you use squid with your Fishbites or bloodworm, use box squid over the cut and marinated stuff. It's real California squid and has a better flavor in my opinion. Save the cut and marinated squid for flounder or shark fishing.

"Should I cast out as far as I can?"

Spot, croaker, and kingfish are usually just beyond the crest of the waves. You can

actually overcast for these pan fish. What I do is cast out as far as I can and THEN, very slowly bump my rig back in towards the shore. That way, I can find out where they are biting. I also think pan fish like a slightly moving target. Also, when your rig is slightly moving, your bait is less likely to be stripped off by crabs in the surf.

Even though you are slowly retrieving your bait, you still want to use a pyramid or hurricane type sinker so it doesn't roll in too fast. A round sinker in the surf may go up or down the beach and wash in too fast. The only time you can get away with a bank sinker is if the current is very still and the surf is very calm and that doesn't happen very often!!!!

Look for a beach with a little definition. A little rip current or trough close to shore attracts kingfish and spot. Rock jetties also attract fish. If you see sand crabs digging into the wet sand that's usually a good place to fish. Remember, white crashing water is shallow. Dark rolling water is deeper. You want to cast into the dark rolling water, but if there is an outer bar, cast on the bar and let your rig fall off the bar and drop into the deeper water. A good way to read a beach is to get up on a second or higher floor and look down on the beach, or you can drive to the end of streets and look at the beach at low tide. Anglers are allowed to fish in Ocean City before 10 A.M. and after 5:30 P.M. These are good times of the day to fish because fish tend to feed when the sun is not high overhead. Sun hurts their eyes some old timers say! And don't be afraid to fish after dark. If you do, don't worry so much about using worms and go with some fresh or frozen cut bait. Croaker especially like to bite after dark. Spot generally don't bite at night. And whether you want them or not, you'll probably see Mr. Shark.

Good fishing....

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

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Austin Horning from Denver, PA was fishing off of the Rt. 50 Bridge when he hooked into this 40-inch striped bass. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.



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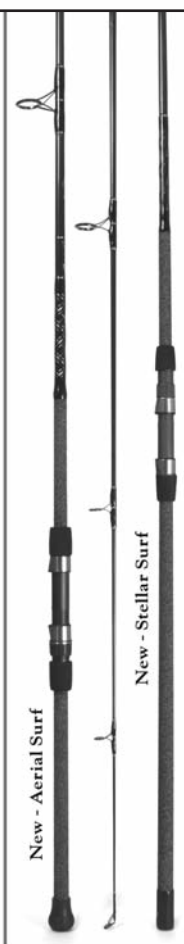
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Nathan, Kelsey and Tom Burford from New Mexico joined George and Carl Caputo from Pittsburgh, PA and George Perschke from New Castle, PA for a flounder trip on the "Ocean City Guide Service" with Capt. John Prather, and were rewarded with 8 keeper flounder and a 30-inch striper. The two largest flounder measured 24-inches and all of the fish were caught in the East Channel on live spot and Gulp! artificial baits. Pictured at Castaway's Campground.

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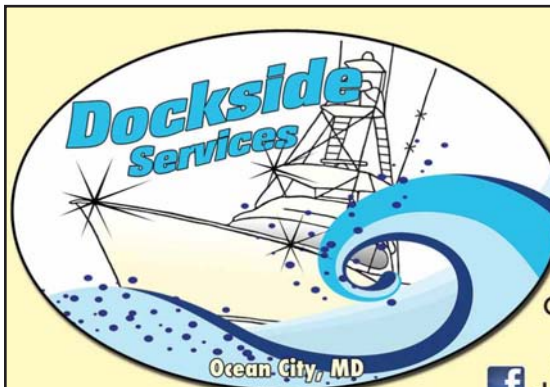
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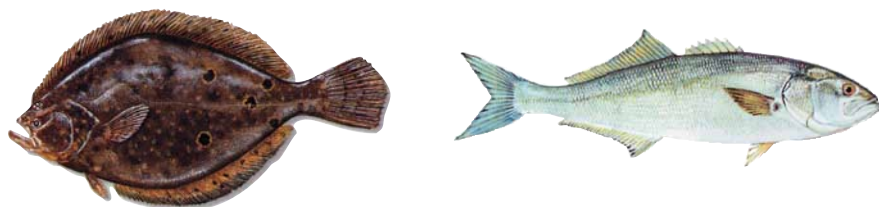


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Last Wednesday, Mark Gribbin of Monroeville, PA landed a 20-inch flounder on a live spot while fishing on the "Flounder Pounder" with his brother, Anthony, Capt. Chase Eberle and mate Joey Jenkins. Anthony caught himself a 17.5 incher, while using shiners for bait. Both fish were caught in the East Channel. Pictured at the dock at Hooper's Crab House.

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Paul, Jenna, Liam, Alec and Audrey Sullivan from Wenonah, NJ caught 3 keeper flounder while fishing with Gulp! artificial baits at the South Jetty. The anglers were fishing on the "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford. Pictured at Frontier Town.



Reign Scott (20"), Burt Hussey (21"), Trent Smith (18") and Ryan Smith (19" & 22") had a good day flounder fishing on the "Bay Bee" with Capt. Mike Walsh and mate Spencer Cropper. The fish were caught on squid and shiners in the bay behind Harbour Island. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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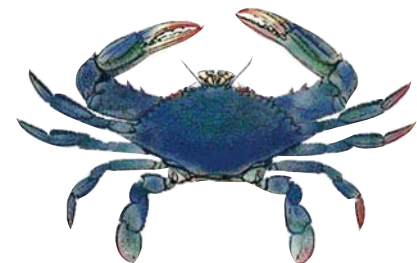
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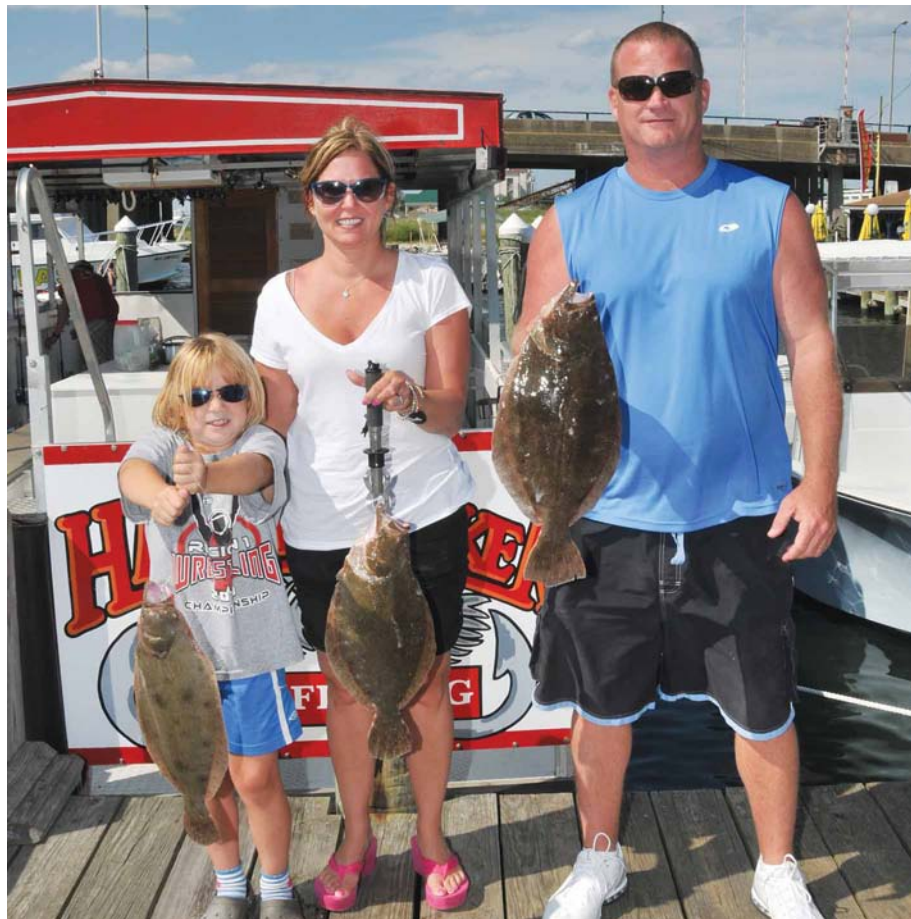
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Sherry Overly from Boyers, PA used a live spot to fool this 30.5-inch striper while fishing at the South Jetty. Sherry was aboard the "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Lizzy Brittingham. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.




Brooke Rudy and Tracy Zayac each landed a 19.5-inch flounder and Sam Martin boated a 21-incher, all while fishing on the "Happy Hooker" with Capt. Steve Whitelock and mate Drake Cropper. The fish were all caught on live spot around Harbour Island. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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On Wednesday, this group of anglers ventured out to the Hot Dog and returned with 10 yellowfin tuna and 2 bluefin tuna in the box of "That's Right" with Capt. John Oughton and mates Jason Norton and Jimi Fickling. The fish were caught on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars. Pictured are Joe Matera from Closter, NJ, John Matera from Oak Ridge, NJ, Paul DaPrato from Lake Hopatcong, NJ, Timothy Gillespie from West Milford, NJ and Amaury Perez from Hewitt, NJ.

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On Saturday, J.L. Cropper and her son, Hugh Thomas Cropper teamed up to land this 70 lb. bluefin tuna while fishing on the "Myra HT" with Capt. Hugh Cropper. The big bluefin hit a trolled ballyhoo at the Hot Dog and was weighed at Ake Marine.

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The warmer water temperatures brought the first triggerfish to the "Morning Star" last week, landed by Jeff Ruby from Shady Side, MD. Jeff was fishing with Myron Toombs from Oxon Hill, MD who landed a 3 lb. 15 oz. sea bass, Rick Williamson from Mt. Airy, MD who caught a 3 lb. 7 oz. sea bass, Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder. All were caught on ocean wrecks. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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This 6 lb. 2 oz. flounder fell at the hands of Matt Horst from Perry County, PA while fishing with shiners on the "Judy V." in the Shipping Channel. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Mickey Payne of Millsboro, DE used a bucktail to hook this 23.5-inch, 5 lb. 3 oz. flounder while fishing in the Indian River Inlet. Mickey now sits in first place in the 2012 Rick's Bait & Tackle Memorial Tournament.



Austin Moore, Adam Moore, Jr., Adam Moore, III, and Trevor Hathaway, all from Jarrettsville, MD had a great day fishing on the "Moore Bills" with Capt. Rob Skillman and mate Wayne Blanks. Austin caught a 59-inch bluefin tuna and released a white marlin during the trip. In total, the anglers caught 8 yellowfin tuna, 2 bluefin tuna and recorded a white marlin release, all outside the Hot Dog. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Samantha Fouts caught a 4 lb. 8 oz. tautog, Darien Fouts landed a 2 lb. sea bass and Brenden Fouts muscled in some sea bass, all while fishing on the "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Rich Fouts and John Lewis. All were caught on strips of squid at a natural ocean reef. Pictured at Capt. Bill Bunting's Angler Dock.



Zoe Sheller from Quantico, MD, Dean Roe, III from Salisbury, MD and Ryan Johnson from Hebron, MD caught 4 yellowfin tuna during a trip aboard "Wayne's World" with Capt. Darin Roe. The fish were caught on trolled ballyhoo and artificial lures, inside the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Bert Campbell of Ocean View, DE and Will Emmert of Milton, DE caught their limit of flounder while fishing on the the south side of the Indian River Inlet. The duo used live spot for bait and fished the end of the outgoing tide. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Ship to Shore

by Pat Schrawder



CHIRPING IS NO LONGER JUST FOR BIRDS

Many of today's new fish finders incorporate the use of CHIRP technology and you may see the unit listed as CHIRP compatible or featuring CHIRP, but just what is it and why would you want it?

All fish finders are actually at least a two-part system. You must have the main unit transceiver and a display which could be combined into one unit or made as two separate units. You also must have a transducer mounted on the boat bottom either on the transom or through the hull or, in some cases, sitting inside the hull. These transducers are the critical part of the system that sends and receives the

signals from the main unit which ultimately show up on your display screen as fish, bottom, wrecks, thermo clines, etc. Traditional transducers operate at mostly 50 or 200 kHz and transmit pulses of relatively short duration.



The CHIRP (Compressed Hi-intensity Radar Pulse) broadband transducers sweep a pattern of many frequencies in the range of 28 kHz to 210 kHz and their pulses are of longer duration. With all these frequencies sweeping in rapid succession, targets are detected in the entire beam width instead of just what is

identified in the 50 or 200 kHz range. One major result is that the sound energy transmits 10 to 10,000 times greater than the conventional transducers. The company making these CHIRP broadband transducers is Air Mar, a well known manufacturer who makes most of the conventional transducers used today. These new CHIRP transducers utilize Air Mar's exclusive Transducer ID® new piezoceramic elements. The Transducer ID® feature measures and then stores the operating specs for each transducer which, in turn, enables the transducer to configure itself automatically to the transducer being used. Air Mar manufactures a total of 24 models of these in 7 different mounting options.

However, not every fish finder is capable of using a CHIRP transducer. The main unit must use DSP (Digital Signal Processing) and must indicate that it can use a CHIRP transducer. Your unit may already come with one, but it is a good thing to check at the point of purchase to see if that is the case, or if one can be ordered to go with your unit. At this writing, I understand Garmin and Simrad are the only two manufacturers using it, but others are on the way. Furuno, for example, has announced that it will have a model available in late 2012. If this feature really catches on, you can expect almost all units to start advertising the capability of CHIRP.

According to Air Mar, CHIRP technology results in 5 to 10 times greater detail and resolution, 10 to 10,000 times more energy on targets, precise separation between baitfish and game fish, superior performance in noisy environments and improved bottom tracking at high boat speeds. This improved performance is due in part to something called the "Q" value which measures the rise and fall times of target echoes. Conventional transducers



Dubí Mejía from Georgetown, DE caught this 20.25-inch flounder on a Gulp! artificial bait at Canary Creek. The flattened weighed 3 lbs. 2 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop. have a "Q" value of 25-30 whereas CHIRP units have a "Q" value of 1.6 to 30. The lower the "Q" value, the better the performance when it comes to fish separation and bottom imaging, especially in fast changing water depths.

As you can see, the transducer is the key to this system. Having a DSP fish finder will do you no good unless you pair it with a CHIRP transducer. These transducers physically look the same as the conventional ones but they range in price from around \$600 to almost \$1500, so they will not fit everyone's budget. As they become more popular, you could reasonably expect the prices to drop somewhat.

Broadband seems to be the new thing that is generating a lot of interest this season and so we see it here in select fish finder/transducer models. Broadband is also being used in some radar dome units and is being advertised also as having superior signal detecting especially at close range. Expect to see and hear more about this as time goes by.

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

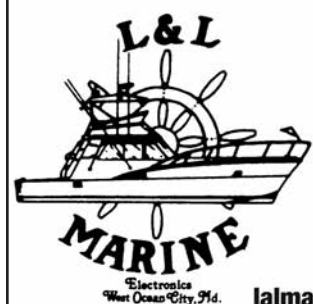
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Utilizing the Lewes Harbour Stretch to it max, Patti Tatum of West Chester, PA displays the 21-inch flounder she caught while drifting in the Thorofare with a Gulp! Alive Swimming Mullet.



On Friday, Bob Weaver, Tom Altemus, Dave Taylor and Rob Creamer had a good day fishing on the "Fin-Ness", landing 12 yellowfin tuna, a dolphin and recording a white marlin release between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. The anglers were fishing with Capt. Josh Ruskey, first mate Mike Runk and mate-in-training Brian Porter. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Diana Greenfield from Selbyville, DE was drifting south of the Rt. 50 Bridge when she captured this 20-inch flounder that tipped the scale at 2 lbs. 11 oz. Weighed at Fenwick Tackle.



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2012 - 230 CC F250 Yamaha 4-stroke, Dual Battery, Compass, Stereo, Electronics, Hard Top T-Top, Leaning Post, Fresh Water, Raw Water, Full Cushions and seating for 10 adults, Porta potty, Ice Blue & White Bottom

2012 - 250 CC Twin F150 Yamaha 4-stroke, Dual Battery, Compass, Stereo, Electronics, Hard Top T-Top, Leaning Post, Fresh Water, Raw Water, Full Cushions and Seating for 12 adults, Porta potty, LED T-Top lights, LED Underwater Lights & More, Ice Blue & White

Delaware Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



There is a lot of good fishing going on right now from Lewes down to the Fenwick line. Inshore anglers are really whacking the flatties and offshore anglers have their hands full with tuna, dolphin and marlin.

Flounder

There were good numbers of flounder caught last week, both by anglers drifting the bays and canals and by those venturing off the beach.

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said that the ocean flounder bite was quite good. Numerous flatfish were caught on open bottom surrounding "DB" Buoy, and on the Old Grounds between there and "DA" Buoy. The artificial structure of Reef Sites 9 and 10, and nearby wrecks also gave up plenty of flatties. Boaters drifting squid, mackerel and other cut offerings, along with minnows, smelts and shiners on fluke killers had success. Bucktail jigs tipped with Gulp! or natural cut baits were also very effective. Those jigging on inshore structure had good luck with fluke killer rigs set-up with long leadered hooks placed a foot above a Spro bucktail. Anglers reported the bites split evenly between both hooks.

There were also good bites on Delaware Bay reefs and near the Ferry Jetty. Joe at Whitetail Taxidermy & Outdoor Supplies and Bert at Hook'em & Cook'em both reported an excellent

flounder bite in the Indian River Inlet throughout the week. The action did die out on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, but picked up again in the afternoon highlighted by an 8 pounder caught from the rail. The key to the Indian River Inlet bite was moving water and fishing close to the rocks, according to Bert.

Joe also mentioned good flattie bites at the VFW Slough and at Massey's Ditch. There were also reports of flounder being caught in the Ditch next to Harpoon Hanna's, where a couple of 5 pounders were decked.

Triggerfish / Sheepshead

Paul at Rick's Bait & Tackle said that anglers fishing the Inner and Outer Walls of Lewes were rewarded with good catches of triggerfish and sheepshead. The best bites came while using sand fleas and clam for bait.

Sea Bass

The good news is that the high throwback ratio that has plagued anglers over the last month improved greatly last week. The bad news is that the number of bass being caught decreased. Bert at Hook'em & Cook'em said that with sea bass spawning, the bite has slowed, but most of those that are being caught are big enough to keep. The Old Grounds, as well as Site 10, have given up generous amounts of sea bass, according to Paul at Rick's Bait & Tackle.

Bluefish

Small bluefish were caught during the incoming tide in the Indian River Inlet on cut bait and metal jigs. Anglers also found bluefish in the 14-inch range on Fenwick Shoal.

Striped Bass

The striped bass summer slot season opened on July 1st in Delaware waters. Only the Delaware River, Delaware Bay and their tributaries are effected. The season runs through August 31st and anglers may keep 2 fish between 20 and 28-inches. These regulations do not apply to coastal waters, the Indian River Inlet or inland bays where the regulations remain at 2 fish per person, 28-inches or larger.

Joe at Lewes Harbour Marina reported good fishing in the Lewes Canal and Broadkill River for slot stripers by anglers casting lures around the drawbridge or along bulkheads, docks and marsh banks with Storm shads, Rat-L-Traps and 8-inch Gulp! eels. Those fishing with natural baits on bottom rigs did well with clams, bunker, squid heads or live eels.

Anglers fishing with Tsunami lures at the Inner Wall got into a good striper bite and walked away with 7 keepers between 30 and 39-inches.

Weakfish

Anglers drifting and trolling on Fenwick Shoal over the weekend hooked into some small weakfish. There were also a few

caught during the early morning hours in the Indian River Inlet.

In the Surf

We are seeing the typical summer offerings in the surf. Anglers are catching kingfish on bloodworms, small bluefish on cut bait and at night, crazy kayakers are paddling their baits off the beach and hooking up with big tiger sharks.

Offshore

Offshore anglers were busy chasing yellowfin tuna, bluefin tuna, dolphin and big eye tuna last week. Although there were quite a few eyeballs landed by Ocean City boats in the Washington Canyon, we didn't see the numbers show up on the docks in Delaware. Joe Fenstermaker on the "Hearts and Diamonds" did catch a 76 pounder at the Hot Dog while trolling ballyhoo.

Those trolling ballyhoo and artificial lures at the Tea Cup between the Hot Dog and Baltimore Canyon got into good numbers of yellowfin tuna with a few bluefins mixed in. Some boats chunking butterfish were also rewarded with tuna at the Hot Dog.

Dolphin are also being caught in decent numbers by anglers chasing tuna, and the good news is that there is a noticeable increase in their average size.

The first white marlin out of Lewes Harbour was released by Adam Bellen while fishing on the "Quintessa".

Upcoming Tournament

The 4th Annual Pier Point Marina Flounder Tournament starts on July 7th and runs until August 11. For more information, call 302-227-2808.

Until next week, tight lines!

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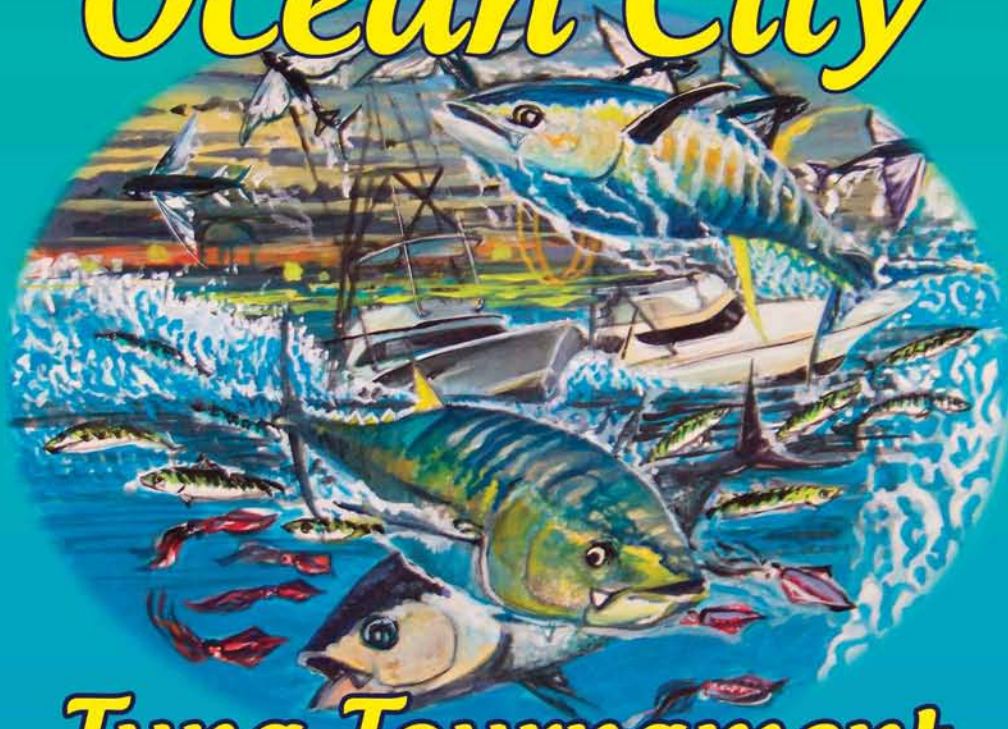
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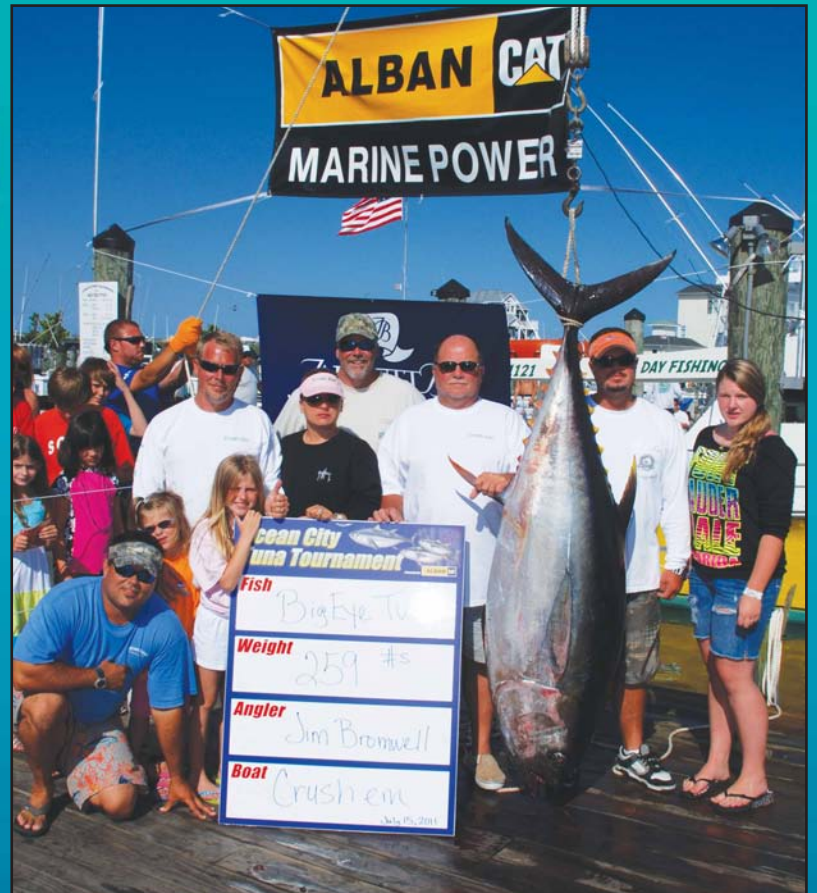
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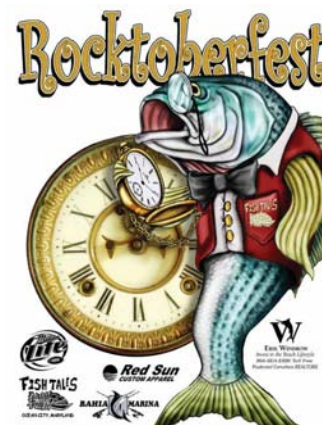
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Dining on Delmarva

The Galley

by Mama Jock



Tuna with Summer Tomato Salsa

Salsa:

- 1 cup chopped fresh tomato
- ½ avocado, chopped
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1 TBSP. balsamic vinegar
- 1 tsp. olive oil
- ½ cup cooked corn kernels
- ¼ cup minced red onion
- ¼ cup chopped fresh cilantro
- Salt and pepper, to taste

Combine all of the above.
Set aside.

Tuna:

Heat oven to 325 degrees.
Season tuna lightly with salt and pepper.

Bake 15 to 20 minutes, or until cooked thoroughly.

Serve tuna surrounded by the salsa and 1 lime, cut into wedges.

Can serve either hot or cool. Serving cool tuna with salsa is a great summer meal.

Serves 4.

Clams and Flounder Chowder

- 2 dozen hard shell clams
- 1 quart water
- 2 garlic cloves
- 4 bay leaves, divided
- ½ cup butter
- 2 cups potatoes, peeled and cubed
- 2 celery stalks, chopped
- 3 bacon strips, cooked crisp

- 2 TBSP. fresh thyme, or ½ tsp. dried
- 1/3 cup flour
- 2 ounce bottle clam juice
- ½ tsp. sea salt
- 2 cups heavy cream
- 2 cups milk
- 4 lbs. flounder fillets, cut in 1-inch pieces

Wash and scrub clams well. Bring water to a boil in a large soup pot and add clams.

Add the garlic and 2 bay leaves.

Cover and steam over medium heat for 5 to 10 minutes until the clams open.

Discard any that do not open.

Remove clams from shells, roughly chop and set aside.

Strain the broth through cheesecloth as an added precaution to remove any grit. Save the broth.

Melt butter in the pot, saute potatoes, celery and onion for 5 minutes until well coated.

Add the bacon, thyme and remaining bay leaves.

Make a roux by sprinkling in flour and stirring until dissolved.

Add the reserved clam broth, bring to a boil, stirring constantly to avoid lumps.

Continue to simmer, stirring for 15 minutes, or until thickened.

Add the chopped clams, bottled clam juice and sea salt.

Pour in the cream and milk, cover and cook until heated through.

Add the fish fillets and continue to simmer another 5 minutes until the fish is opaque.

Season with salt and pepper.

Serve with oyster crackers or crusty bread.

Serves 6-8.

Baked Flounder

- 4 flounder fillets
- ¼ tsp. kosher salt
- Ground pepper
- 1 jar roasted peppers, chopped



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| WEDNESDAY | The Stims or John LaMere 9-1 |
| THURSDAY | Opposite Directions 9-1 |
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Cooking spray
1 small onion, chopped
3 large cloves garlic
2 tomatoes, seeded and chopped
1 TBSP. minced fresh tarragon or 1 tsp. crushed dried
1 TBSP. balsamic vinegar

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Place the fillets in an ovenproof baking dish.

Sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Set aside.

Coat a nonstick skillet with cooking spray.

Saute the onion and garlic, being careful not to burn the garlic.

Add the peppers and tomatoes and cook over high heat for 3 minutes.

Stir in the tarragon and vinegar.

Spoon the vegetables over the fish fillets and bake for 15 to 18 minutes until fish is just opaque.

Serve immediately.

Serves 4.

Mahi-Mahi with Summer Vegetables

4 mahi fillets
2 TBSP. extra-virgin olive

oil, divided
¾ tsp. fine sea salt, divided
1 large tomato, diced
1 green bell pepper, diced
1 yellow squash or zucchini, diced
½ cup pitted Kalamata olives, halved
4 cloves garlic, finely chopped
½ tsp. black pepper

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Brush fillets with 1 TBSP. oil, sprinkle with ¼ tsp. salt and place in a 9x13 baking dish.

In a large bowl, combine tomato, bell pepper, squash, olives and pepper.

Sprinkle with remaining 1 TBSP. olive oil and ½ tsp. salt; toss to combine.

Spoon mixture over the mahi and bake until vegetables are tender and fish is cooked through, 20 to 25 minutes.

Spoon juices from pan over top of cooked mahi.

Serves 4.

Wahoo on the Grill

½ cup butter, melted
½ cup extra-virgin olive oil

continued on page 30



Brian Knill from Mt. Airy, MD, Keith Warner from Manchester, MD, John Brown from Tawneytown, MD, Bill Shamer from Finksburg, MD and Tammy and Brian Harris from Glen Rock, PA had a great day fishing on the "White Lightning" with Capt. Luke Blume and mate John Griffith. The anglers caught 12 yellowfin tuna on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars in the Wilmington Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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The Galley continued:

6 garlic cloves
½ cup cilantro or parsley
2 TBSP. cajun seafood
seasoning
1 lemon, juiced
6 wahoo fillets
lemon wedges

Spray grill with oil.
Preheat.

Mix first six ingredients in a
blender; puree until smooth.

Brush both sides of fish
with the sauce.

Cook on the grill, turning
once or twice.

Brush on more sauce if
needed.

Grill about 5 minutes.

Serve with lemon wedges.

Serves 4-6.

Pan Fried Shark

4 shark steaks or fillets
½ tsp. ground dried
mustard
½ tsp. ground dried

ginger
¼ tsp. ground
peppercorns
¼ cup soy sauce
¼ cup lemon juice
1 cup Panko bread crumbs
1 TBSP. butter
1 TBSP. extra-virgin olive
oil
Sriracha Hot Chili Sauce

Trim away skin from fish.

Whisk seasonings, soy
sauce and lemon juice together
in a dish and marinate fish for
5 minutes.

Put Panko bread crumbs in
a sealable bag and add fish.

Shake to coat and press
crumbs into fish.

Heat nonstick skillet on
medium low.

Brown fish on each side
until golden brown, taking
care not to remove

Panko when turning.

Drain on paper towels.

Plate and drizzle with hot
chili sauce.

Serve immediately.

Serves 4.

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This 8 lb. 8 oz. flounder was caught by Ron Schmier while using a 6-inch Gulp! Alive Swimming Mullet at Reef Site 5 in the Delaware Bay. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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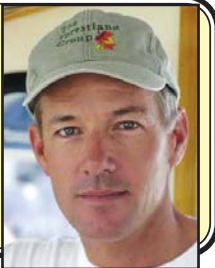
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Chum Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson



I don't have to tell anyone what a great tool the internet is for finding information on just about anything. No matter what the topic, "Google it" and in a flash you'll have 10-thousand sources of information about whatever it is you're researching. And what a great tool for us fishermen; you want to learn how to sharpen a hook, clean a particular fish, or replace an outboard's water pump? It's all there and a whole lot more!

While it's great to get "good" information, it's the "whole lot more" part of the search results that can be very problematic for those who aren't able to sort out fact from fiction. And as easy as it is for anyone with a computer and a connection to get their words published on the web these days, it seems there's just so much fiction out there that it's more than just a little bit difficult to find the truth about anything. I'm talking about stories like the one about the huge great white shark that was caught off Sandy Point State Park a few winters ago by a commercial fishing boat that was towed backwards for three hours.

The accompanying photo turned out to actually be of a large mako that was caught somewhere off Nova Scotia. Funny how those internet stories and photos go. I recently saw a picture of "the worlds largest potato" which totally covered an 18-wheeler flat-bed. I wonder how many French fries you could get out of that spud!

I'd guess that those two hoaxes were fabricated merely for fun, and I doubt anyone who might have fallen for either ruse had their life turned upside-down by it, except maybe for the few folks that opted out of doing the

Annual Sandy Point Polar Bear Plunge because they didn't want to deal with both hypothermia and a shark attack on the same day, or Mrs. Gertrude Pinefat from Kansas who thought that it was "she" who had the largest potato in the world on a shelf in her root cellar right next to the jars of pickled beets.

When anglers do searches for anything about fishing, it's likely that among the results will be links to any of a number of message boards that are tied-in to some of the more popular web forums such as Atlantic Anglers, Tidal Fish, and Sportfishermen.com, all of which are quite popular among fishermen in our region. These sites are not only great sources of information about all kinds of fishing and boating products, charter and guide services and classifieds, they are also a great way to hear straight from the horse's mouth exactly who has been catching what, where, and how. Because anglers can narrow their searches down to a particular type of fishing (like "tuna") in a certain area (such as Ocean City) they can get reports from fishermen sometimes just hours after their trips. Since postings are dated, readers know the freshness of each report and can even scroll back through time to see what they missed last month when they drove out to Kansas to see the world's 2nd largest potato.

But as good as the message boards, forums, threads or whatever you wish to call them are for the fishermen who choose to use them, they have an inherent flaw that everyone has to watch out for. Since the postings are made by almost anyone who has registered with the site, it's not unheard of to have someone



John Bickleman was fishing with his daughter, Lexie, and caught this 6 lb. 4 oz. flounder in the Roosevelt Inlet. The big flattie ate a tandem jig rig tipped with live minnows. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

spouting off as if they were experts on whatever it is the subject matter happens to be that day, but actually have no idea what they're talking about. Though I personally choose to be more of a forum "reader" than a "poster," some of what I've read tempts me to jump in and set someone straight who is obviously way off track on whatever they're blabbing about, but I resist the urge because I've found that a lot of folks don't like to be corrected publicly and I'm not inclined to get into an online argument with someone I don't even know. There are some very knowledgeable fishermen who make regular posts to fishing forums - then there are the rest of them!

Which brings us to another down-side to online forums and that's the issue of "anonymity." Though some posters do indeed use their real name as their screen name, most seem to instead be recognized by something they made-up along the way. So if you read a post by "Fishwacker22" or "Hawghooker" you really don't know if the fishing tip or

report is coming from the guy in the boat-slip next to yours or some 14-year-old girl in Iowa. Which of course is a problem that plagues the internet as a whole; anyone with just a little computer savvy can always find a way to get whatever message they're trying to convey published somewhere and not worry at all about neighbors, friends, or family knowing that it was actually they who started the buzz about the 44-foot potato!

So I guess the moral of my story is that just like anything we find on the internet these days, even fishing forums need to be taken with a grain of salt and maybe even with a little skepticism. Particularly if some guy with a screen name like "Justafooln-U" posts that the great whites are hitting white bucktails on the incoming tide at the west side of the Bay Bridge.

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



Kirt Guyer used a live bluefish to fool this 65 lb. cobia while fishing on the “Cool Hand Luke” in the Shipping Lane. Kirt was fishing with Matt Giampietro, John Rhoades, Andrew Cavallaro and Eric Ludwig.



Holly Ann Firuta pulled this 4 lb. knothead sea bass from a deep wreck while fishing on the “Katy Did” with Capt. Brent Weist. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Jack Phillips from Sarasota, FL caught his limit (3) of flounder and Capt. Nick Clemente (not pictured) also caught a keeper while fishing on the “Get Sum” around the South Jetty. The fish, measuring between 18 and 19-inches, were caught on Gulp! Swimming Mulletts. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center with Jack is Lizzy Brittingham, mate on the “Get Sum”.

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No limit



SPECKLED TROUT

12" minimum No creel limit



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Lucas Franzetti from Ocean City, MD muscled in this 23-inch flounder after hooking it in the West Channel on squid and shiners. Lucas was fishing on the "Flounder Pounder" with Capt. Chase Eberle and mate Joey Jenkins. Pictured at the dock at Hooper's Crab House.



Austin, Dustin, Tyler and Kevin Wimsatt from Westminster, MD and Harry White from Ocean Pines, MD captured 10 yellowfin tuna and released a mako shark while fishing on the "White Lightning" with Capt. Luke Blume and mate John Griffith. The fish were caught in 40-60 fathoms between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Big Bird Cropper of Powellville, MD, prior to the upcoming beard removal, was tossing a Roy rig under the Rt. 50 Bridge and hooked these 2 flounder measuring 22 and 23-inches. A Roy rig is a short-shanked jig head tipped with a salt and pepper swim shad.

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



On opening day of the 30th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off, Paul Gentry caught this 24.2 lb. dolphin and held on to win the Dolphin Division and a check for \$8,078. Paul was fishing on the "Shadowfax" with Mike Simpson, John Simpson (not pictured) and Capt. Dave Burkett. The winning dolphin was caught in the Baltimore Canyon on a cedar plug. The anglers also landed dolphin weighing 10.2 and 12.8 lbs. during the trip and released a white marlin. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Avery Arrowood boated a 79.0 lb. bluefin tuna to win 1st place in the Bluefin Division of the 30th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off. Avery was fishing on the "Miss Emily" when he hooked the big bluefin on a trolled ballyhoo at the Hot Dog. Fishing with Avery were Adam Pivec, Chris Stafford, John Brittingham and Capt. Frank Pivec. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



There were some tired anglers on "Lucky Duck II" when they arrived at the scales on the 2nd day of the 2012 Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off with 4 bigeye tuna caught in the Washington Canyon on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars. Their largest two bigeyes, weighing 218.2 and 219.0 lbs. were heavy enough to win 2nd and 3rd place in the Tuna Division. Their other 2 bigeyes tipped the scale at 139.0 and 188.6 lbs. Pictured at Sunset Marina are Art and Tina Boykin, Steve Dayton, Capt. Eric Blanks and mate Robby Paquette. The "Lucky Duck II" crew took home a check for \$2,453 for their 2nd and 3rd place finishes.



Garrett Hart caught a 20.8 lb. dolphin on the first day of the 2012 Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off to win 2nd place in the Dolphin Division. Garrett was fishing on the "Dawg Haus" with Wil Kennington, Charlie Pino, Jim Henderson, Jeff Lee, Steve Pezzetti, Gunnar Zorn, Capt. Corey Kennington and mate John Morton. The 2nd place dolphin was caught in 60 fathoms inshore of the Baltimore Canyon and earned the "Dawg Haus" anglers \$1,472 in award money. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



On the final day of the 30th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off, Jason Courtney on the "Jezebel" captured a 78.4 lb. bluefin tuna to win 2nd place in the Bluefin Division and a check for \$2,205. Jason hooked the 54-inch bluefin in 72-degree water at the Hot Dog while fishing with Tim Kane, Jim Kane, Michael Courtney, Jane Burton, Tammy Jordan, Capt. Chester Sadowsky and mate Frank Steuernagle. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



The last boat to arrive at the scales of the 30th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off was the "Salty Sons" with a 19.6 lb. dolphin, good enough to win 3rd place in the Dolphin Division and a check for \$918. The dolphin was caught by Capt. Shane McGinnis in 100 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon. Also fishing on the "Salty Sons" was Tom Roberts, Hank Ladd, Jebb, Nathan, Justin and Mel McGinnis and mate Mel McGinnis, Jr.

30th Annual Canyon Kick Off Tournament

June 29 - July 1, 2012



Bluefin Division

1st Place
"Miss Emily"
79.0 lbs.

2nd Place
"Jezebel"
78.4 lbs.
\$2,205

3rd Place
"A Salt Weapon II"
36.8 lbs.
\$315

GibsonOriginals.com
Barrett Gibson

Tuna Division

1st Place
"White Lightning"
224.0 lbs.
\$8,078

2nd Place
"Lucky Duck II"
219.0 lbs.
\$2,453

3rd Place
"Lucky Duck II"
218.2 lbs.

winnings included above

Billfish Release Division

1st Place
"Double Trouble"
250 points, 12:46 p.m.

2nd Place
"Billfisher"
200 points, 10:41 a.m.
\$3,195

3rd Place
"Nontypical"
200 points, 12:36 p.m.
\$702

Dolphin Division

1st Place
"Shadowfax"
24.2 lbs.
\$8,078

2nd Place
"Dawg Haus"
20.8 lbs.
\$1,472

3rd Place
"Salty Sons"
19.6 lbs.
\$918

53 Boats Registered
Total Prize Money \$28,710



Third place in the Bluefin Division of the 2012 Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off was won by the crew on the "A Salt Weapon II" with a 36.8 pounder caught by John Kohl. The bluefin was hooked in the Baltimore Canyon and earned the crew \$315 in award money. They also landed a 39.0 lb. yellowfin and released a white marlin during the trip. Pictured with John at Sunset Marina are Steve Hoyer, Jack McMichael, Monica Freese and Capt. Ryan Freese.



In the 2012 Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off, the crew on the "Billfisher" took 2nd place honors in the Billfish Release Division by releasing a pair of white marlin during their 2 days of fishing and just missed placing in the Tuna Division with a 191.8 lb. bigeye tuna caught on the second day of the tournament. The bigeye was caught on a skirted rubber ballyhoo trolled WWB in the Washington Canyon. The "Billfisher" team won \$3,195 in award money. Pictured at Sunset Marina are Dan Gough, Phil Blevins, Capt. Jon Duffie and mates Chris Hornung and Austin Robins.

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Dave Beach from Ocean City, MD was fishing from the 3rd Street Bulkhead during the high outgoing tide and landed 3 keeper flounder on live mullet. The fish measured 17, 18 and 21.5-inches. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.



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30th Annual Canyon Kick Off Tournament

Chairman: Franky Pettolina
Registration: June 28, 6:30 p.m.
Fishing Days: (2 of 3) June 29 & 30, July 1
Awards Banquet: July 2, 1-3 p.m.
You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament
Free to all OCMC Boat members

8th Annual Kids' Classic

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

4th Annual OCMC Ladies' Tournament

Chairmen: Franky Pettolina & Amanda Shick
Registration: August 2, 6 p.m.
Fishing Days: (1 of 2) August 3 & August 4
Awards Banquet: August 4, 6:30-9 p.m.
You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament

54th Annual Labor Day White Marlin Tournament

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

34th Annual Challenge Cup

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








































Virginia Fishing Report

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



As we reach the Independence Day Holiday, the fishing trend is transitioning into mid-summer mode. Many species are available, so the holiday should provide some notable catches.

The flounder action rebounded again last week, with good catches coming from most of the usual flounder spots around the lower Bay. A nice class of flatfish, with many ranging to over 22-inches, and a few doormats pushing to over 7-pounds, are keeping flounder anglers content. The bigger fish are falling for live bait presented near structure, and 2-ounce jig heads adorned with plastics or Gulps are working well for jigging around the rocks and pilings.



Chris Tilghman from Ocean City, MD took a trip down to Kiptopeake, VA and was rewarded with this 38.5-inch cobia. Chris hooked the "man in the brown suit" on a chunk of clam while fishing on the "Wedgie2" with Dan Oliver and Mike Tuel.

Keith Cole of Virginia Beach enticed a huge 12-pound doormat while working these areas with live bait last week. Strip baits are also producing some decent fish drifting on the outgoing tide, especially near the 1st Island of the CBBT. Good hauls came in from within Rudee Inlet last week, where anglers lined the rails to get in on the action.

Cobia action was still good last week, but lots of smaller fish are stealing the scene since the rain the previous week. Sight casters are still working hard for their fish, while chummers were having better luck last week with a few fish pushing to over 50-pounds. Boats that offered chum slicks across the Inner Middle grounds and Latimer Shoal areas found the best results on cut bait. Those working the Nine-foot and Nautilus shoals also found a mix of red drum and sharks among the cobia.

Red drum are also spreading out into the lower Bay providing incidental by-catches for those bottom fishing around the Bay Bridge Tunnel, and even pier fishing at the 1st Island.

The Spanish mackerel scene is hot right now. Folks trolling the Virginia Beach shorelines are finding good limits of big Spanish mackerel and a smattering of Tailor bluefish. Small silver and gold spoons weighted with in-line sinkers or planers will do the trick while trolled in anywhere from 18 to 30 feet of water from Cape Henry to Sandbridge.

Black tip sharks ranging from 2 to 4-feet long are also providing some good action for anglers chumming around 2-miles off the oceanfront area.

Spadefish are pretty much everywhere right now. The Chesapeake Light Tower and Reef along with the CBBT are giving up good numbers of decent fish, with a few

exceeding 7-pounds.

Sheepshead anglers are finding takers along the entire span of the CBBT using crab, fiddlers and clams. Lots of patience is the secret to a successful sheep trip. A good showing of nice triggerfish in the same areas and on many inshore wrecks is also keeping things interesting.

Spot are available in both the Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlets, and croaker are an easy target throughout the lower Bay. Some hardheads are pushing to 1.5-pounds near the Bay Bridge Tunnel and the Cell. Croaker also made their debut in the back waters of Oyster, where tarpon sightings also continue to taunt anglers.

Amberjack are a good bet at the southern towers and some offshore wrecks such as the Triangles and the Ricks and Hanks wrecks. Live bait is working well, while jigs are also a good alternative.

Deep droppers are still finding plenty of nice tilefish, wreckfish, and blackbelly rosefish in deeper water near the Norfolk Canyon. Some nice sea bass are available on many local wrecks as well as scattered among catches of blueline tilefish in deeper water.

The offshore season is offering great options right now with yellowfin tuna action at the top of the list. Plenty of yellowfin ranging up to 65-pounds, along with some tackle-busting bigeye tuna are making it a great season so far. Bluefin tuna are also adding to the menu. Some nice gaffer dolphin and wahoo are also around. A 122-pound wahoo caught last weekend is now pending as the new state record. The massive fish was boated aboard the "Teaser" out of Wachapreague by angler Susan Nelson of Whiteford, MD.

Dr. Julie Ball is the I.G.F.A representative for Virginia Beach. For more information, go to www.drjball.com.

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Michael Dorsey from Towson, MD boated this 20.5-inch flounder after hooking it on live spot in the bay behind Assateague Island. Michael was fishing on the "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Lizzy Brittingham. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Bill Bossler from Reading, PA reeled in this 81 lb. bluefin tuna in 79.5-degree water at the Sausages on Saturday. Bill was fishing on the "Worry Free" with Mel Haas, Morty Morton, Jeremy Troxell, Mario Matesic and Greg Care and hooked the big bluefin on a trolled, skirted ballyhoo.



Flounder fishing at the Old Grounds is really heating up as shown by the 16 keepers landed by this group of anglers out of Lewes Harbour Marina. The flatties were caught while drifting cut baits with the heaviest fish coming in at 5 lbs. 11. oz. Pictured are Kevin and Tammy Parker, Lance Cochran and Flint Sherman.

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Jordan Wetzstein caught his first yellowfin tuna while fishing with his dad, Fred Wetzstein aboard the "Boy's Toy" in the Wilmington Canyon.



Pending
Virginia
State
Record

On June 23rd, Susan Nelson from Whiteford, MD landed a 122 lb. 1 oz. wahoo, setting a pending Virginia state record, while fishing on the "Teaser" out of Wachapreague, VA. The fish measured 80.25-inches and had a massive girth of 33-inches. The speedster was caught at the Lumpy Bottom on a ballyhoo dressed up with a Joe Shulte lure rigged on 130 lb. monofilament. The current Virginia state record wahoo weighed 109 lbs. and was caught in 1994 off of Virginia Beach. Pictured at Wachapreague Marina.

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SHORT FIN MAKO SHARK



WHITE MARLIN

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No creel limit



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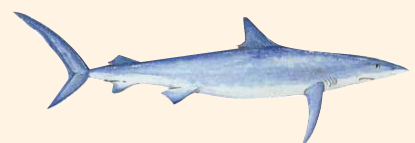
1 BFT per vessel/day/trip
27" to less than 47" CFL
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1 BFT per vessel/day/trip
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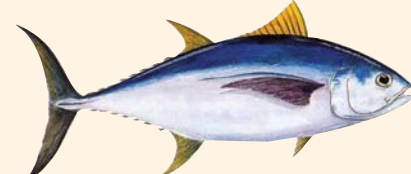
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John Ferenbach, III of Odessa, DE released a white marlin and Charlie Burris from Smyrna, DE released a blue marlin, both while fishing on the "Fin-Ness" with John Ferenbach, IV of Odessa, DE, Steve Jacono of Middletown, DE, Tony Jacono and Brian Sayer of Clayton, DE, Capt. Josh Ruskey and mates Rick Tshudy and Mike Runk. The anglers also caught 13 yellowfin tuna and 6 dolphin during the trip. All were caught on trolled ballyhoo and spreader bars in the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Rich, Debbie and John McCann, Rick and Maria Herron and Chris Eiserman, all from West Chester, PA teamed up to land this 223 lb. bigeye tuna while trolling skirted ballyhoo in the Washington Canyon. The anglers were fishing on the "Sea Slammer" with Capt. Joe Nolan and mate Frank Mattes, Jr. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



The heaviest sea bass caught so far this year was captured by Alicia Scelsi while fishing on the “Judith M” with Kayla Adams, Donovan Gaffney, Stephen Murphy, Capt. Todd Colabella and mate Anton Postnikov. Alicia’s 5 lb. 10 oz. knothead, along with other sea bass, flounder and triggerfish were caught on chunks of clams at an artificial reef. Pictured at Bahia Marina.




On Friday, Jason McCabe, Fred Bowen, J.R. LaPearl, Danny Rohls, Rory Buckwalter, John Conrad and Nevin Martin teamed up to catch 2 bluefin tuna and 2 yellowfin tuna while fishing on the “Marli” with Capt. Mark Hoos and Mates Eric Strauss and Frank Mattes. The heaviest bluefin weighed 137 lbs. and was caught at the Hot Dog. Pictured at Sunset Marina.




Katie Bohn landed her first keeper flounder while fishing with fishing instructor, Josh Fallon of Bahia Marina. Katie hooked the pair of flatties on live minnows in the East Channel aboard the “Can Ya Snell It”. The largest flounder measured 23.5-inches and weighed 4 lbs. 8 oz. on the scale at Bahia Marina.

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Straight from the Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife

As we move into July, the big striped bass of spring are a memory and most anglers are targeting other fish species. Striped bass may be around, but it is not that common to catch striped bass bigger than the 28-inch minimum size in Delaware waters during the heat of the summer. But all is not lost for the dedicated striped bass angler wanting to catch some keepers as Delaware has a special summer striped bass season during July and August that can provide both striped bass fishing excitement along with some fillets for great grilling.

Delaware's summer slot striped bass season begins on July 1 and ends on August 31. This summer's slot season is only open in the Delaware River, Delaware Bay and the

tidal tributaries of the bay and river. During this season, the daily limit is two striped bass between 20 and 26 inches long. The striped bass size limit remains at 28 inches year round in Delaware waters other than in these locations.

Delaware's push for a summer slot season began several years ago as more and more anglers told the Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife (DDFW) that they were catching plenty of undersized striped bass in the Delaware River, Delaware Bay and their tidal tributaries during July and August, and were wondering if there was any way the size limit could be reduced during the heat of the summer.

DDFW began to investigate the possibility of

creating a summer fishery for smaller striped bass. DDFW had demonstrated to the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC) back in 1998 that the Delaware River was a striped bass production area. In addition to proving that the Delaware was one of the major striped bass spawning areas, responsible for producing 5 to 10 percent of the Atlantic migratory population, DDFW found that there was a significant resident striped bass population in the Delaware. An interesting aspect of these resident striped bass was their sex; they were almost all males. DDFW proposed opening a summer slot season to ASMFC that would target these resident, mature male striped bass.

Mature male striped bass are usually smaller than mature female striped bass and mature resident male striped bass are usually smaller than migratory male striped bass. The slot size limit would help ensure that only resident male striped bass were taken during this season. The evidence that DDFW presented to ASMFC convincingly demonstrated that this resident population of male striped bass could support a limited summer recreational fishery with no negative effects to the overall striped bass population. Delaware's summer slot season was approved by ASMFC in 2008 and the summer slot season began in 2009.

The summer slot season has not been as big an attraction as DDFW thought it would be when it was introduced in 2009. The stock of resident striped bass had apparently peaked in the years prior to the opening of the summer slot season and

the action during the summer slot seasons during the past three years has been spotty. However, many anglers have reported good catches of slot-sized striped bass at a wide range of locations. Some of the hot spots reported are up in Delaware River around Reedy Island, tidal tributaries in Kent County such as the area around Woodland Beach, and the Outer Wall in lower Delaware Bay. While fresh chunk bunker was the bait of choice in the Delaware River and tidal tributary spots, live spot was the preferred bait for catching slot stripers in lower Delaware Bay.

The presence of this population of resident male striped bass in the Delaware River, Delaware Bay and their tidal tributaries is yet another example of how the more we learn about striped bass, the harder time we have generalizing striped bass life history. Although most striped bass join the great migratory schools that move up the Atlantic coast during the summer, back down the coast in the fall and winter, and then up into the spawning areas in the spring, there are entire populations of striped bass that do not migrate very far, if at all.

The Chesapeake Bay is the source of more than half of the Atlantic coastal migratory striped bass population, but the Chesapeake is also home to a large resident striped bass population that rarely leaves the bay. Striped bass have also formed self-sustaining populations in large lakes and reservoirs across the country. Thus, finding a resident population of striped bass in the Delaware is not unusual, but the overwhelming predominance of male striped bass in this resident population is unusual. The resident male striped bass that DDFW has sampled over the past three seasons have been small for their age compared to migratory male striped bass. Oddly enough, many of

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Rich Johnson from Felton, DE landed this pair of 31-inch stripers while fishing with a bucktail in the Indian River Inlet.

the resident male striped bass caught during the summer slot season have been underweight for their length.

The Delaware River, Delaware Bay and their tidal tributaries are at their most

productive during the summer and there seems to be plentiful forage for the resident male striped bass, yet these striped bass are not eating enough. Perhaps the high temperatures and low

dissolved oxygen levels during summer stress the striped bass and reduce their feeding rates.

DDFW put tracking tags in ten resident male striped bass in the spring of 2010. These tags emit a signal that is picked up by recorders that DDFW and other agencies have placed throughout the Delaware River, Delaware Bay and the Atlantic Ocean. Several of the tagged striped were tracked for months. Two of the tracked males never went further downstream than the C&D Canal. These two did move upstream of Philadelphia for a period, but mostly remained between Pea

July 4, 2012 Coastal Fisherman Page 55
Patch Island and the Commodore Barry Bridge. Two other tracked males did much more moving around. One of them went as far down the bay as Cross Ledge Lighthouse, while the other was picked up by recorders off of Cape Henlopen during the fall. Both of them were back up in the river by the following spring. This tracking project showed that there was much variation in movements even among these resident male striped bass.

Enjoy the summer slot striped bass season and hope to see your catch in the *Coastal Fisherman*.

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| Species | Ocean City | Delaware | Species | Ocean City | Delaware |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|
|  Sea Bass | NEW June 29, 2012 Alicia Scelsi "Judith M" 5 lbs. 10 oz. | NEW June 25, 2012 Holly Ann Firuta "Katy Did" 4 lbs. |  Mako Shark | June 3, 2012 John Loar Sausages 280.9 lbs. | June 10, 2012 Alex McClure Massey's Canyon 221.5 lbs. |
|  Tautog | January 11, 2012 Charlie Donohue "Morning Star" 23 lbs. | April 21, 2012 Clark Koehn Delaware Bay Reef 17 lbs. |  Thresher Shark | June 1, 2012 Dave Nolan Fingers 576.5 lbs. | No Weights Reported |
|  Striped Bass | February 10, 2012 John Rogowitz Little Gull 41 lbs. | May 18, 2012 Chris Long Upper DE Bay 42 lbs. 14 oz. |  Bluefin Tuna | NEW June 29, 2012 John Conrad "Marli" 137 lbs. | June 19, 2012 Dave Cook & Sean Herlihy 19 Fathom Lump 162.6 lbs. |
|  Weakfish | No Weights Reported | May 12, 2012 Adam Ford Broadkill Beach 6 lbs. 2 oz. |  Yellowfin Tuna | June 23, 2012 Anthony Shanz Baltimore Canyon 70 lbs. | June 11, 2012 Billy White Baltimore Canyon 61.5 lbs. |
|  Speckled Trout | No Weights Reported | May 7, 2012 Tony Diesel Indian River Inlet 2 lbs. 10 oz. |  Longfin Tuna | No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported |
|  Flounder | June 21, 2012 Bob Gummer 1st St. Bulkhead 12 lbs. 6 oz. | June 23, 2012 Brent Weist Reef Site #10 9 lbs. 8 oz. |  Bigeye Tuna | June 22, 2012 Pat Hurley Wilmington Canyon 227 lbs. | No Weights Reported |
|  Bluefish | June 24, 2012 Hugh Thomas Cropper Tea Cup 15 lbs. 4 oz. | June 14, 2012 Dan Rogers Bubble Gum Beach 10 lbs. 10 oz. |  Dolphin | NEW June 29, 2012 Paul Gentry Baltimore Canyon 24.2 lbs. | June 8, 2012 Ray Koshinski Baltimore Canyon 25 lbs. 4 oz. |
|  Sheepshead | May 27, 2012 Robert Remo African Queen 11 lbs. 13 oz. | No Weights Reported |  Wahoo | June 24, 2012 Nunzio Litterio Hot Dog 77 lbs. | No Weights Reported |
|  Golden Tilefish | May 25, 2012 Sam Gass Washington Canyon 48 lbs. | NEW June 14, 2012 Dave Collins Baltimore Canyon 19 lbs. 6 oz. |  White Marlin | NEW Most Releases in One Day June 24, 2012 "Professional Boxer" Baltimore Canyon 2 releases | June 3, 2012 "Boy's Toy" Poor Man's 1 release |

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



Kylie Martin from Berlin, MD caught her first weakfish while fishing off of the Rt. 50 Bridge during the outgoing tide. Kylie hooked the 14-inch trout on a Rat-L-Trap lure.



Zach Blessing from Oyster Bay Tackle was drifting a live finger mullet and chartreuse Gulp! combination at the mouth of the Commercial Harbor when he hooked this 19-inch flounder. Zach was fishing with Denny Blessing, also from Oyster Bay Tackle.

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Craig Linve, Alan Anthony, Charles Watson, Chuck Grahe, Jonathan Coppage and Brian Coffman teamed up to land 9 yellowfin tuna and releases of a white marlin and a mako shark while fishing on the "Marli" with Capt. Josh Ruskey and mate Steve Moore. The fish were caught in between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



John Kenny, Sr., John Kenny, Jr. Ryan Kenny, Joe Kelly, Drew Dukes and Lee Czudanchowsky were fishing on the "Restless Lady" with Capt. Todd Kurtz and mate Brandon Baicco when they caught this 76.1 lb. wahoo, a yellowfin tuna and 3 dolphin just outside the Hot Dog. The wahoo struck a blue and white Joe Shute Fishfinder lure and was weighed at the Talbot Street Pier.

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Almost the entire Ocean City fleet was on the lookout for bigeye tuna on Sunday and the "Foolish Pleasures" found one in 150 fathoms in the Washington Canyon. The anglers went 1 for 3, landing this 137 pounder after it ate a spreader bar. Fishing with Capt. Dale Lisi and mate Phil Knapp were Anthony Amador, Thanh Do, John Ajak, Farai Musandipa and Faheem Khajaaka. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Capt. Luke Blume
410-251-1889



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58' Ritchie Howell
Capt. Mark Hoos
410-456-7765



SUSHI 57' Island Boatworks
Capt. Brian Porter
410-458-1164
Capt. Charley Pereira
252-216-6291



MISS ANNIE
52' Viking
Capt. Randy Yates
561-308-3042



ESPADON
58' F&S
Capt. Sylvain Cote
410-703-9191



THE NATURAL
47' Daytona
Capt. Marty Moran
Capt. Rich Gallagher
301-704-7231



THE ZIPPER
47' Davis
Capt. Ed 'Zip' Zajdel
Capt. Ronnie Zajdel
443-829-8857



MACKENNA JANE II
45' Judge
Capt. Jerry Judge
410-310-8038



REEL COUNTRY
47' Buddy Davis
Capt. DJ Churchill
703-477-4205 (Troy)



FIN RAZR
31' Cape Horn
Capt. Doug Smetana
302-379-1629



THE LUCKY DUCK II
37' Billfish Ocean Yacht
Capt. Eric Blanks
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877.514.FISH (3474) or 410.213.9600

12911 Sunset Ave., Ocean City, MD

www.OCSunsetMarina.com



Austin Walter from Hagerstown, MD caught 2 flounder and Buddy Hindle from Bel Alton, MD landed one keeper, both while fishing on the "Bay Bee" with Capt. Mike Walsh and mate Nate Thompson. All three fish were caught on squid and shiners near Harbour Island and Buddy's was the largest of the trip, measuring 19.5-inches. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Mike Davis and Gary Johnson from Ocean Pines, MD ended their day with 3 keeper flounder in the box after drifting 6-inch Gulp! Swimming Mulletts in the East Channel near the Cement Plant. The largest flattie measured 20-inches.



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Ronnie Spittle from LaPlata, MD, Chase Moulton from Pensacola, FL and Charlie Butz from Calvert County, MD caught 8 flounder on Sunday morning while drifting Gulp! and minnows in the bay behind Assateague Island. The largest flounder measured 20-inches. Pictured at Ake Marine.



Yianni Gagianas caught a 22.5-inch flounder and his brother, Dimitri landed a 34-inch striper, both while fishing around the South Jetty with bucktails tipped with cut bait. Also pictured is Toni Mintstein. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.

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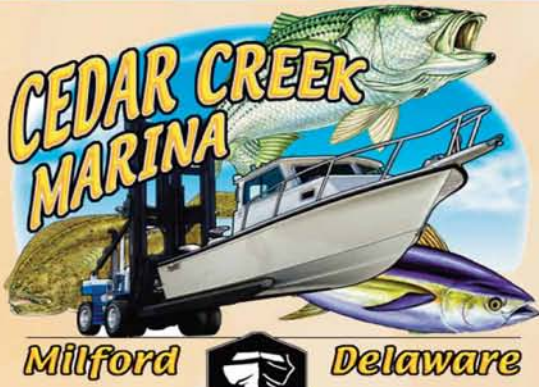


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Layton's Restaurant - 92nd Street
Oyster Bay Tackle
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Reel Inn - Harbour Island
Wockenfuss - 1st St Boardwalk
Wockenfuss - 7th St. Boardwalk

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TIDES & MOON PHASES

OCEAN CITY INLET

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Wed. July 4 | Low 02:45 am Low 02:41 pm | High 08:57 am High 09:41 pm |
| Thurs. July 5 | Low 03:34 am Low 03:32 pm | High 09:51 am High 10:28 pm |
| Fri. July 6 | Low 04:23 am Low 04:25 pm | High 10:42 am High 11:13 pm |
| Sat. July 7 | Low 05:11 am Low 05:18 pm | High 11:31 am High 11:55 pm |
| Sun. July 8 | Low 06:00 am Low 06:14 pm | ----- High 12:20 pm |
| Mon. July 9 | Low 06:47 am Low 07:11 pm | High 12:38 am High 01:11 pm |
| Tues. July 10 | Low 07:34 am Low 08:09 pm | High 01:21 am High 02:07 pm |
| Wed. July 11 | Low 08:20 am Low 09:07 pm | High 02:09 am High 03:06 pm |

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

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



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July 7 - August 11 • Dewey Beach, DE • 302-227-2808

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

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

The South Jersey "On The Meat" Overnighter
July 20 - 22 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2400

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

Branch Kreppel Memorial Blue Marlin Tournament
July 27 - 29 • Sunset Marina • 410-213-9600

• AUGUST •

4th Annual Marlin Club Ladies Tournament
August 3 - 4 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

**5th Annual Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce
Flounder Tournament**
August 4 • Ocean Pines Yacht Club • 410-641-5306

39th Annual White Marlin Open
August 6 - 10 • Harbour Island Marina • 410-289-922

19th Annual Capt. Steve Harman's Poor Girls' Open
August 16 - 18 • Bahia Marina • 410-289-7473

21st Annual Mid-Atlantic \$500,000
August 20 - 24 • Cape May, NJ & Ocean City, MD
609-884-2400

2nd Annual MSSA Beach N' Boat Flounder Tournament
August 25 • Ake Marine • 410-255-5535

54th Annual Labor Day White Marlin Tournament
August 31 - September 2 • OC Marlin Club
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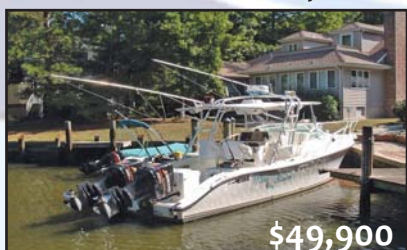
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