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COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 39 • • • NUMBER 4 • • • MAY 21, 2014


The anglers on the "Nontypical" are all smiles after catching the first yellowfin tunas of the season. The 40 lb. class yellowfins were caught on trolled, skirted ballyhoo in 100 fathoms between the Baltimore and Wilmington Canyons where they found 64 to 67-degree water. Pictured are Andy Smelter of Berlin, MD, Terry Layton and Jim Hughes of Ocean City, MD and Tim McGuire of West Ocean City, MD. Their largest fish weighed in at 41.4 lbs. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Jeremy Miller from West Ocean City, MD stopped by the Coastal Fisherman office to have his picture taken with the 43-inch striper he caught while fishing during slack tide from the suds on Assateague Island. Jeremy used fresh cut bunker to fool the 26 lb. 8 oz. linesider during a trip with Dave Wenrich and Dale Miller.



John Sikorski was drifting a Spro bucktail tipped with a chartreuse Gulp! artificial bait in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport when he hooked this 23-inch, 5 lb. flounder at the top of the incoming tide. Weighed at Buck's Place on Rt. 611.



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Eileen, Chester and Gary Smith were fishing with the big, 6-inch white Gulp! artificial baits in the Lewes Canal and ended their day with 3 keeper flounder in the cooler. The flatties measured up to 21-inches and are pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Doug Riniker bested this 8 lb. 12 oz. tautog while fishing with green crabs at the Outer Wall in the Delaware Bay. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Dave Warren from Showell, MD has had some good trips this spring while fishing on Virginia's barrier islands and on this day, Dave caught this pair of stripers, measuring up to 40-inches, while using clams for bait and was joined on the trip by Jim Powell of West Ocean City, MD.

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Eddie Kim and Kwan Chon, both from Rockville, MD, were happy that Delaware changed their flounder regulations this year to allow anglers to keep 4 fish per person, which is exactly what they did while fishing off the Cape Henlopen Pier. Eddie caught the largest flounder, a 25-incher that weighed 6 lbs. 8 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop.



On Saturday, Brianna Wiscount from Hegins, PA used a Gulp! and minnow combination to fool this 23 1/2-inch flounder while fishing in the bay behind Assateague Island. She also landed a pair of bluefish and a tautog during the trip.



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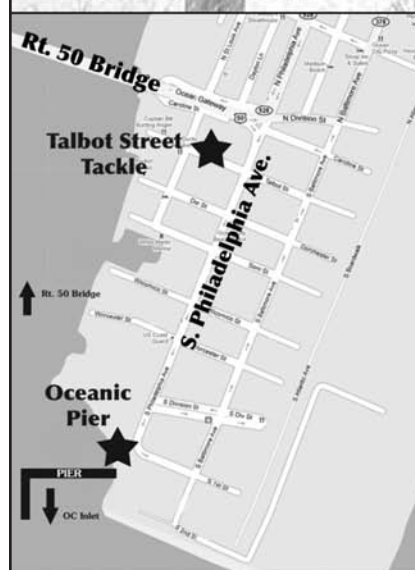
Ryan Kroh was tossing a Storm shad from the rocks at the Roosevelt Inlet when he caught a good size bluefish and a 4 lb. 10 oz. weakfish. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



It's starting to look like a fishing season, ladies and gentlemen! The days are sunnier and water temperatures are on the rise. We are still 2 to 3 weeks behind schedule, but at least the docks are getting busier.

Tuna

With warmer water being spotted within reach of Ocean City, you know there were anglers chomping at the bit to get out there. On Sunday, veteran anglers on the "Nontypical" took the trip out to 100 fathoms between the Baltimore and Wilmington Canyons and ended up with 5 yellowfins in the box. The fish were cookie-cutters in the 40 lb. range with the largest weighing in at 41.4 lbs. Terry Layton reported pretty water ranging from 64 to 67-degrees.

After hearing this, I'm sure there will be several boats heading that direction this week, so stay tuned to our daily online fishing report at www.coastalfisherman.net.

Sharks

Just in time for the annual shark tournaments beginning in a couple of weeks, we are starting to see sharks showing up at the scale.

Fresh off their 214 lb. mako caught last week, the "Restless Lady" stayed closer to shore and fished the Marine Electric wreck on Saturday, where they boated a 125 lb. mako and released 18 blue sharks and a thresher.

On Sunday, Bob and Chris Pino took some time off from their new, West Ocean City



You could usually find Tom Yarko fishing with Frank Emerson, but on Saturday he ventured out alone to waters just north of the Thorofare where he boated this 25 3/4-inch, 7 lb. 7 oz. flounder. Tom abandoned his reliable flounder belly bait and hooked his fish on a minnow and curl tail combination in shallow water.

Optical Galleria store to do some shark fishing southeast of the Jackspot. They released 12 blue sharks and a mako in 59.5-degree water. On the same day, the "Quick Draw" fished at the Marine Electric and caught a 121 lb. mako and released 8 blue sharks.

The first thresher of the year was caught by a boat out of the Indian River Marina on Saturday when Joseph Foley landed a 268.8 pounder while fishing with

whole mackerel around "DB" Buoy off the coast of Delaware.

Flounder

Water temperatures in the bay continue to rise, hovering in the mid-60's for most of the week. The Thorofare continues to be a good location for catching keeper flatties but the bay behind Assateague, running from the Ocean City Airport down to the duck blinds saw a definite increase in action. Drifting minnows, shiners or Gulp! Swimming Mulletts is your best ticket for success with white

www.coastalfisherman.net or pink being the best colors for artificial baits.

The largest flounder of the year came in on Saturday when Tom Yarko showed up at our office with a 25 3/4-inch that tipped the scale at 7 lbs. 7 oz. Tom hooked the big flounder on the flats, north of the Thorofare on a minnow and curl tail combination. Tom has graced the pages of the *Coastal Fisherman* many times over the years, and swears by flounder belly for bait, so I was surprised to see he caught the big fish on a minnow.

Over the weekend, water conditions were spotty, but we saw multi-fish catches come in on the charter boat, "Get Sum" and the headboat, "Bay Bee", both during trips to the bay behind Assateague. We also saw 3 keepers come in from Chuck Wenzel and Pete Renzi after drifting in the bay behind Castaway's Campground during the incoming tide on Sunday.

Bluefish

Snapper bluefish have invaded the bay waters behind Ocean City, so if you have a light tackle rod and a metal lure, now is the time to have some fun. How much fun? How about the anglers on the charter boat, "Happy Hooker" who caught 57 snappers in only 2 hours. All of the fish were caught on bucktails and spec rigs. Small bluefish were also hooked by anglers flounder fishing in the bay behind Assateague near the duck blinds and behind the campgrounds.

Weakfish

It's great to see an increase in the number of weakfish caught over the last few years, and it looks like this year could turn out to be even better.

Local angler, Dave Watts caught the largest weakfish of the year, an 8 lb. 2 oz. trout, while tossing a Swim shad off the Rt.

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50 Bridge at 6:00 PM on Saturday night.

Another nice weakie was caught on Sunday by Jay Hoffert while fishing on the headboat, "Bay Bee". Jay's weakfish measured 23 1/2-inches and weighed 4 lbs. 8 oz.

Tautog

On May 16th, the daily creel limit for tog dropped from 4 per person down to 2 per person, so we will probably see less anglers heading to ocean structure in search of blackfish. The charter boat, "Fish Bound" did have a limit of tog for their 6 anglers on Sunday after a 1/2-day trip to Russell's Reef.

Sea Bass

Finally, sea bass season opened up on May 19th. The minimum size continues to be 12 1/2-inches but the creel limit was reduced from 20 fish per person down to 15. We have seen some nice size fish released by anglers fishing on ocean structure recently, so look for some nice catches in upcoming issues.

In the Surf

The action in the surf, especially off Assateague Island, has really been a mixed bag. We heard from one angler on

Tuesday that there was a great striped bite going on, especially close to the VA line, yet most said that it was horrible. The bite did seem to turn on over the weekend with many good size linesiders getting caught in the suds by anglers fishing with fresh bunker. A lot of the stripers ranged from 30-inches to over 46-inches.

In addition to striped bass, surfcasters also caught some good size black drum and on Saturday, Hugh Cropper IV caught a 25-inch red drum.

Upcoming Tournament

This weekend is the first Ocean City tournament of the year. The 5th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Memorial Day Bluefish Tournament will be held on Saturday and Sunday, May 24th and 25th with anglers able to fish one of the two days. Weigh-ins will be held at Sunset Marina from 3:30 PM to 6:00 PM.

The following week is the Ocean City Shark Tournament. Historically, the tournament is held Father's Day weekend, but this year it has been moved up to May 29th to May 31st.

See you at the scales!

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Mitchell takes 1st in Lewes Canal Flounder Tourn.



With over 290 anglers competing in the 2014 Lewes Canal Flounder Tournament competition was stiff. The tournament was scheduled for Friday, May 16th, but heavy storms forced organizers to postpone it for one day, which turned out to be a good one for Chad Mitchell who took 1st place with a 4.33 lb. flounder. Tim West won 2nd place with a 3.98 pounder and Shane Townsend took 3rd place with his 3.76 lb. flattie. Ty Sherwood finished in 4th place with a 3.69 pounder, Alvin Layton won 5th place by catching a 3.6 pounder and Matt Purnell rounded out the top six places with a 3.59 lb. flounder. Gene Stalls took 7th place with a 3.44 pounder, Julie Gentile (not pictured) came in 8th place with a 3.27 lb. flattie and Jimmy Joseph won 9th place with his 3.25 pounder. Tournament organizers, Joe and Amanda Lewis of Lewes Harbour Marina along with sponsors, Dewey Beach Lions Club and Martek Electronics, made a \$1,450 donation from tournament entry fees to Camp Awareness, a program that educates youth about proper utilization of the State's natural resources and strives to instill a sense of appreciation in young outdoor enthusiasts.



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|  STRIPED BASS 28" minimum 2 per person |  TAUTOG 15" minimum 7/17 - 8/31 - 5 per person |  SUMMER FLOUNDER 16" minimum 4 per person/day |  WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day |



This 17 1/2-inch, 3 lb. 10 oz. flounder was captured by Maddie Daub of Williamstown, PA. Maddie fooled her first flounder with a live minnow while fishing with her uncle, Rusty Daub in the bay behind Assateague Island.



Cody Dmitchik dug some sand fleas on Broadkill Beach to use for bait and captured this 26 lb. black drum while fishing from the surf. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



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Nevaeh Lowman from Bethany Beach, DE caught this pair of beautiful flounder while fishing with live minnows at the VFW Slough. Nevaeh's flatties weighed 3 lbs. 8 oz. and 3 lbs. 14 oz. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.



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David Rice from Hellertown, PA took advantage of a good striper bite in the Indian River Inlet on Saturday, landing this 36 1/2-inch, 17 lb. 8 oz. linesider. David caught the fish on a Tsunami swim shad and weighed his catch at Hook'em & Cook'em.



This had to be one tired group of anglers after taking a trip on the "Restless Lady" with Capt. Todd Kurtz and mate Will Hathaway. The anglers ventured out to the Marine Electric wreck and released 18 blue sharks, a thresher shark and boated this 136 lb. mako. Eric Nietschke hooked the mako on a whole mackerel and was joined by John Carroll, Mike Keil, Craig Cannon, Tim Connelly and Mike Connelly. Capt. Todd reported water temperatures hovering between 56 1/2 and 59-degrees. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



knowl•edge

1. *facts, information, and skills acquired by a person through experience or education; the theoretical or practical understanding of a subject.*

2. *awareness or familiarity gained by experience of a fact or situation.*

"I want to learn about fishing!"

I get people all the time e-mailing me about fishing guides and classes to learn about fishing. There's limited classes out there and unfortunately, several of the "shore" guides couldn't make it and had to close down. One that has stayed active over the years is a group class sponsored by Old Inlet Bait and Tackle that teaches anglers the basics of rigging, baits, and how to cast in the surf. I've watched the class and I would say it's quite informative.

I've had several anglers who have taken the class "step up" and purchase a nice surf outfit so they could really get into the surf fishing experience.

Other than this class, anglers are pretty much on their own, unless they pay the price for a charter. There are a few local captains that fish the bay who will teach you whatever you want to know about fishing in the bay or

possibly from the surf. It's definitely worth giving them a call. Capt. Jason Mumford on the charter boat, "Lucky Break" advertises Guided Surf Trips and I'm sure he'd teach you a trick or two! Capt. Jeff Hurley on "Whatever Charters" is also a good guy to call. He'll do whatever you want! You can find ads for both of these boats in the "Bay Fishing" section of this issue.

I also have anglers ask me who can teach them about crabbing and clamming. Paying a charter price may be steep, but you can learn from some local captains. I know Captain Nick Clemente on the "Get Sum" will also teach you about crabbing and clamming, along with a whole lot about fishing if you keep your eyes open. You can also get all of his information from his ad in the "Bay Fishing" section.

If you want to learn a little about fishing in the bay and can't afford a charter price, there's no better way to learn than to go out on one of Ocean City's many party boats. Some of these boats head out into the ocean and others fish mainly in the bay. They are all advertised in this issue of the *Coastal Fisherman*.

Some of the head boats go out for 4 hours and others have 2 hour trips. If you want to learn about flounder

fishing, see where the channels are and learn the basics about setting up a rod and reel for bottom fishing and drifting for flounder, a few trips out on these boats will help you a lot. Of course, you need to keep your eyes open and watch what is going on. Don't be afraid to ask a lot of questions. You can learn a lot with an open mind. You learn nothing with a closed mind and opinions already made.

The smaller, 2-hour boats can sometimes get into places where the larger boats can't go. If you want to learn about "skinny water fishing", a couple trips on these boats may be worth the money spent! I get anglers all the time tell me they just got a new boat and want to learn the local waters.

Recently, I have learned a lot of things from YouTube! (I always use private browsing!) Log onto Goggle and search for what you want to learn. Make sure you add YouTube in the search and often times you can get a video that will teach you a multitude of tricks. I watched several this winter about jigging Gulp! artificial baits for flounder. Wow!

If you want to learn about surf fishing, go to your browser and punch in "YouTube surf fishing." There are tons of videos! Way more than you can imagine. Watch several and look for videos filmed close to our area. If you want to learn about clamming or crabbing, search "YouTube Crabbing". To get area specific, add a "Maryland" to

your search criteria. That way, you will filter out clamming for soft shell clams and razor clams or clamming out in CA where it may be totally different. If there's a certain product you want to know more about, do the same thing! Search in YouTube for "MoJo Surf Rod" for example. Some of the videos may be techie while others may be simple. Some are amateur and some are professional. Always watch several to get a good cross section of training and ideas.

The other thing you can do is to hang out at the local tackle store and ask a lot of questions. During slow times, especially during the week, the clerks have plenty time on their hands and will show you how to rig up your rods, how to tie knots and how to select the best bait for the fish you are going after. Ask a lot of questions and if you need your rods rigged up, bring them in with you. Watch, learn, and listen, and most importantly, avoid a busy Saturday morning... please!

If you want to go fishing from a pier and are totally a novice and feel insecure about tying on rigs or getting a fish off the hook, I'd suggest going to a pay pier, such as the Oceanic Pier or the Ocean Pier, (when it is fixed) where there is always an attendee at the on-site tackle store who can give you a hand.

I have found that anglers on a pier are always willing to

Continued on Page 16



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Driftin’ Easy, cont’d.

help a novice out. Just be careful about knowledge of rules and regulations. I have had other anglers tell me things that just aren’t true! Be sure to take the page of size and creel limits in this issue of the *Coastal Fisherman* with you whenever you go fishing. It’s much better than the State Books that have “to be announced” in many of the categories! The size/creel limits in the *Coastal Fisherman* have pictures of the fish next to them that make them even easier to read. Also know that most public piers have a sign with the size limits on it.

If you were trying to learn surf fishing, I’d spend some time on the beach watching and talking to good anglers. In Ocean City, the northern beaches between 120th and 146th Streets are popular “local” haunts and you could learn a lot watching and listening.

If you are up in Delaware, pay to go to the beach at 3 R’s

and just talk to and watch the anglers. Might be the best \$10 you ever spent!

I personally write this *Coastal Fisherman* article once a week and I have lots of articles archived on my website www.oysterbaytackle.com: On the left hand side click on “Drifting Easy.” Scroll down until you find a subject that interests you!

Learn, watch, and listen. Then go fishing. Experience is the best teacher. You can’t really learn without going out there and trying it. Once you go fishing a few times, you’ll know what questions to ask the next time you go into the tackle store! As Libby at Oyster Bay Tackle says: “It’s time to quit analyzing now. Put some meat on the hook and go fishing!”

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

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| Black Drum | 48" | 50 lbs. or 45" | Blue Shark * | Any Size | 100 lbs. or 66" |
| Bluefish | 34" | 14 lbs. or 33" | Hammerhead * | Any Size | 100 lbs. or 66" |
| Blue Marlin ** | Any Size | Any Size | Mako * | Any Size | 100 lbs. or 66" |
| Cobia | 44" | - | Thresher * | Any Size | 100 lbs. or 66" |
| Croaker | 18" | 3 lbs. or 19" | Tiger * | Any Size | 100 lbs. or 66" |
| Dolphin | 45" | 15 lbs. or 41" | Swordfish | Any Size | Any Size |
| Flounder | 24" | 7 lbs. or 25" | Tautog | 24" | 7 lbs. or 25" |
| Golden Tilefish | 35" | 35 lbs. or 40" | Tuna: | | |
| Kingfish (Northern Whiting) | 14" | 1 lb. or 13" | Longfin Albacore | 36" | 30 lbs. or 32" |
| King Mackerel | 40" | 10 lbs. or 36" | False Albacore | 24" | 12 lbs. or 26" |
| Red Drum * | 36" | 45" | Bigeye *** | 60" | 70 lbs. or 48" |
| Sailfish * | Any Size | - | Bluefin *** | 55" | 100 lbs. or 60" |
| Sea Bass | 20" | 3 lbs. or 17" | Yellowfin *** | 50" | 70 lbs. or 48" |
| Sheepshead | 20" | 8 lbs. or 22" | Wahoo | 60" | 20 lbs. or 50" |
| Spanish Mackerel | 22" | 5 lbs. or 22" | Weakfish | 24" | 3 lbs. or 20" |
| Speckled Trout | 24" | - | White Marlin ** | Any Size | Any Size |
| Striped Bass | 40" | 30 lbs. or 40" | | | |

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

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



Ayrton Pryor caught this 8 lb. 3 oz. bluefish while drifting a strip of bunker in the bay behind Assateague Island on Saturday. Ayrton was helped by his sister, Jillian Lebling who handled netting duties.



Dave Watts from West Ocean City, MD was tossing a swim shad off the Rt. 50 Bridge at dusk on Saturday when he hooked into this 29-inch, 8 lb. 2 oz. weakfish.

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2014 EVENTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, May 28

Registration: 5 p.m.

Captain's Meeting: 7 p.m.

Sunday, June 1

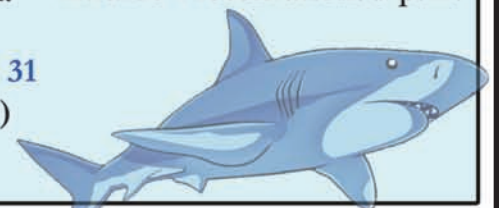
Awards Banquet: 1 p.m.

Awards Presentation: 3 p.m.

Thurs., May 29 - Sat., May 31

Fishing Days (fish 2 of 3)

Weigh-Ins: 3:30 - 7 p.m.



Fishing from: Indian River, DE • Ocean City, MD
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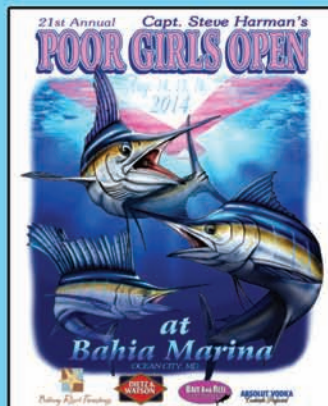
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Sunday, Sept. 7
10am Bimini Start
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**Captain's Meeting
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24 hr Rockfish Tournament
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Alex Price and P.J. Schenk from Ocean View, DE jumped on the good striper bite on Saturday in the Indian River Inlet. The anglers boated this pair of linesiders, measuring 36 3/4 and 38-inches, after hooking them on Storm swim shads and Chesapeake lures. Pictured at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Jonathon Masten muscled in this 18 lb. striped bass while fishing with bloodworms off the beach in Fenwick Island, DE. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Phil Williams from Rehoboth Beach, DE ventured 132 nautical miles from the Indian River Inlet, deep outside the Norfolk Canyon, and caught this mahi-mahi while trolling a skirted ballyhoo in 72-degree water.

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On Sunday, during a trip aboard the flounder headboat, "Bay Bee" with Capt. Cale Layton and mate Tyler Hasenei, Jay Hoffert from Bethlehem, PA caught a 23 1/2-inch, 4 lb. 8 oz. weakfish and Bob Frietag and Rob McDaniel each landed a flounder, all while fishing with shiners, squid and Gulp! artificial baits. The weakfish and Rob's flounder were caught behind Castaway's Campground and Bob's flattie was hooked by the Rt. 50 Bridge. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Mike Kilakis from Mechanicsville, MD captured this 37-inch striped bass on a Tsunami lure in the Indian River Inlet on Saturday. The fish weighed 16 lbs. 8 oz. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Gary Chandler and Rich Harpel, both from Lewes, DE caught 6 tautog on green crabs while fishing at Site 10. The 2 largest fish weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz. and 8 lbs. 13 oz. on the scale at Rick's Bait & Tackle on Long Neck Road in Long Neck, DE.

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The striper bite really turned on for a couple of hours, midday on Saturday in the Indian River Inlet and Curtis and Tim Auman from Harrisburg, PA were there to capitalize on it. They caught these 3 linesiders with Storm lures and Berkley Powerbaits. Their fish measured between 33 and 40-inches, with the largest fish weighing 21 lbs. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Jason Ellison was casting a spot/kingfish rig baited with Fishbites from the beach in Fenwick Island, DE when he caught this black drum. Photo courtesy of Fenwick Bait & Tackle.

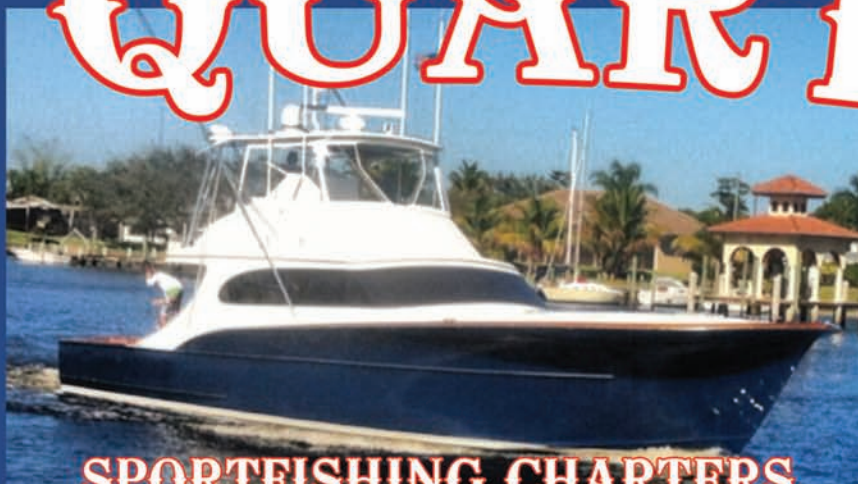


Tom, Tim and Jim Brinker, all from Selbyville, DE trailered the "Carol's Teakettle" down to Oregon Inlet and caught these 3 mahi along with a yellowfin tuna and a small mako. They were trolling ballyhoo at The Point in 75-degree water.

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Jack Schenk, Brian Smith and Michael O'Neill took a trip on "Gale Force Charters" with Capt. Aaron Hurd and were rewarded with a pair of stripers weighing 12 lbs. 6 oz. and 19 lbs. 13 oz. Both linesiders were caught on white bucktails and weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.



Greta Guigley of Mohnton, PA was drifting shiners in the Thorofare with Mike Guigley when she captured a couple of flounder, the largest measuring 19 1/2-inches.

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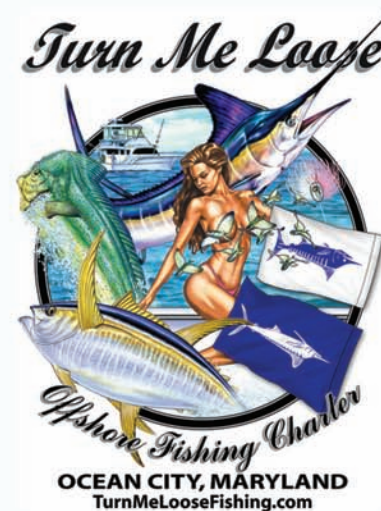


Here's a doubleheader you don't see very often from a surfcaster. Bradford Jaeger made a single cast from the beach on Assateague Island and hooked this black drum and flounder on a high/low rig baited with sand fleas and fresh bunker. The black drum measured 28 1/2-inches and weighed 12 lbs. and the flounder taped out at 23-inches and tipped the scale at an even 4 lbs. Both were weighed at Buck's Place on Rt. 611.

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Andy Lano was fishing with bunker from the surf at Herring Point when he landed this 17 lb. linesider. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



The happiest fisherman in North Ocean City was Eddie Iannucci from Oyster Bay Tackle after catching his first black drum while casting a kingfish rig baited with Fishbites from the beach on 142nd Street.

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On Sunday, this group of anglers were kept busy when a school of snapper bluefish invaded the East Channel behind Ocean City. In 2 hours, they ended up with 57 bluefish in the cooler after fishing on the flounder head boat, "Happy Hooker" with Capt. Steve Whitelock and mate Cody Smith. Pictured back at the Talbot Street Pier are Renee, Bill and Billy Rice, Gary Williams, Doug and Jeff Stine, Dave Krissinger, John and Tony Magobet, Chris Huffer, April Hickman, Kelsey Wilkinson and Shawn Hickman.



Michael Guigley from Mohnton, PA was drifting a minnow with a yellow skirt in the Thorofare when he hooked into this 20 1/2-inch flounder.

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BAY FISHING CHARTERS



This 16 1/2-inch flounder fell at the hands of Tyler Cannella from Baltimore, MD. Tyler was fishing on the flounder head boat, "Bay Bee" with Dawn, John and Jim Cannella, Capt. Cale Layton and mate Heather Dabroski. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



On Saturday, Megan Mellott and Bob Green, both from Newville, PA, took a trip on the charter boat, "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Lizzy Brittingham. The anglers ended up with 3 keeper flounder and a snapper bluefish in the box, all caught on pink and white Gulp! Swimming Mulletts in the bay behind Assateague Island. Megan landed the largest flounder on the trip, measuring 22-inches and weighing 3 lbs. 10 oz. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Bud Campbell from Berlin, MD caught 3 flounder (2 shown), measuring between 16 1/2 and 19-inches, while fishing on the charter boat, "Flounder Pounder" with Capt. Chase Eberle. The flatties were fooled with shiner and squid combinations in 64-degree water in the Thorofare. Pictured back at the dock behind Hooper's Crab House in West Ocean City.



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Include in the email:

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- Bait/lure used
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- Have the angler face into the sun to minimize shadows
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- Set your camera to the best quality and largest picture size available
- If you are using a cell phone, make sure it is taking photos at the largest setting possible
- Shoot vertical photos
- Smile!

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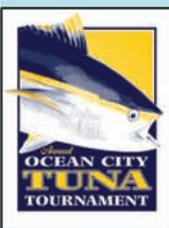
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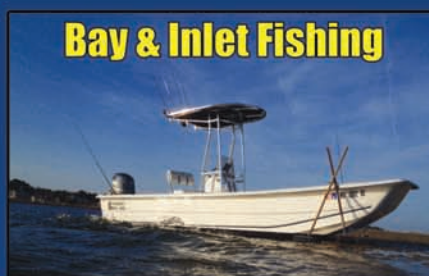
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Delaware Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



With slightly warmer air and increasing water temperatures hitting Delmarva last week it actually looks like we have a fishing season going on although most will tell you that it looks like it is lagging 2-3 weeks behind for some species.

Bert Adams at Hook'em & Cook'em was much happier this week giving his fishing report with increased activity in the Indian River Inlet and surrounding waters.

Bert was excited about a striper blitz that occurred on Saturday morning from 10 AM to around noon. Bert said it was all the stripers you wanted for the lucky anglers on the water and the fish were nice, measuring in the 30 to 41-inch range. The area on the north side of the inlet, in 60-degree water, from the handicap pier to the pilings of the old Indian River Inlet Bridge was the hot spot for anglers tossing Storm shads, bucktails and purple/silver Bass Assassins.

Anglers in the inlet also found good numbers of 1 to 3 lb. bluefish, especially on Sunday morning. Snappers also showed up on the south bar outside the inlet on Sunday night.

A few weakfish were caught in the inlet by anglers targeting stripers with Storm

shads, including one on Sunday that weighed 4 lbs.

Flounder fishing continues to be on the slow side with only a few caught, primarily around the VFW Slough.

The first mako arrived at the Indian River Marina on Sunday when angler Jake Blair returned with an 88.2 pounder caught on a whole mackerel at the Marine Electric.

The marina also saw its first thresher on Saturday, caught by Joseph Foley of Warwick, MD. Joseph caught the 268.8 lb. thresher on a whole mackerel between Site 10 and DB Buoy. It took Joseph and his fellow anglers on the "Just Right V" over 5 hours to get the fish to the boat and they had to remove the sharks fin to get it into the boat.

From the beach, surfcasters saw black drum, stripers, bluefish, blowfish and even a few croakers last week, which is early for hardheads.

Further north, Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said, after being rescheduled due to Friday's nasty weather, the 2014 Canal Flounder Tournament took place on Saturday. Joe and Amanda extended appreciation to all who participated to make the annual event a success. Special thanks went to those who juggled schedules to fish the

later date along with sponsors the Dewey Beach Lions Club, and Martek Marine Electronics Specialists.

Conditions were much nicer on Saturday, and over 290 anglers drifted in the Lewes Canal and Broadkill River with their own favored flounder offerings that included minnows, shiners, smelts, strip baits, Gulp! and even some secret rigs. A decent number of keepers were captured, most during the end of incoming tide and beginning of outgoing tide in the middle of the day. Chad Mitchell earned big bucks and bragging rights for his 4.33 lb. first place flounder. Tim West took second place with a 3.98 pounder. Shane Townsend secured third with a 3.76 lb. flattie. A \$1,450 donation to Camp Awareness will be made from tournament entry fees.

Chuck Hazel didn't have any contenders to weigh in during Saturday's tourney, but it was such a nice afternoon, he decided to fish a little longer after the contest was over. As luck would have it, Chuck caught a 4.77 lb. flounder that would have taken top money just a couple hours earlier!

Surfcasters noticed improving action this past week. Chris Vann had a big batch of blowfish on clams and bloodworms from the sand in

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South Bethany early in the week. Chris and Jack Austin had 14 bluefish from the same spot on Tuesday. Chris worked the beach at 3R's Road on Wednesday for more bluefish measuring up to 31-inches. Jonathan Masten had an 18 lb. striper along with a kingfish, a croaker and a puffer from the surf on Thursday. Andy Lano landed a 17 lb. striper while soaking bunker at Herring Point during Friday's crappy weather. Richard Lantz hooked his first ever surf striper on Saturday, a keeper caught on bunker off Dewey Beach. Jeff Sherwood and Mike Thompson had a great Saturday on the sand in Bethany. They beached a pair of black drum, 15 bluefish, a blowfish and a 13.1 lb. striped bass. Andy Lano fished the beach north of Indian River on Sunday morning for an 18.2 lb. bass and some short stripers too. Dave Furio had a 15.2 lb. rockfish there as well. Dustin Schell scored stripers of 37 and 39-inches while fishing bunker from Broadkill Beach during the week.

Croakers also moved into the wash of Broadkill Beach, and casters caught plenty of hardheads from 10 to 14-inches using clams and bloodworms.

Anglers at Roosevelt Inlet hooked croakers and even the first few spot, along with blues and the occasional legal flounder. Ryan Kroh was tossing a Storm Shad from the Roosevelt rocks and connected with a 4.5 lb. weakfish.

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drum found boomers around the submerged piles off Fowler Beach. Norman Martzell decked a 34.2 pounder there on Saturday evening aboard the "Pirate King II". John Strong released a 65 lb. drum near the piles aboard "Miss Kirstin". Clint Clauser checked in a 30.1 pounder from the Coral Beds, and Patrick Karpin brought in his first black drum, weighing 30.1 lbs.

Crews anchoring in shallow water off Broadkill Beach got into drum too. Captain Carey's drummers on the "Grizzly" had a dozen fish measuring up to 48 1/2 inches there on Saturday night. They harvested 4 small ones for the table, and released the rest.

Dustin Schell said he was anchored on the Coral Beds using bunker and hooked a good sized sand tiger. Seems early for those sharks, but not much in the Delaware Bay has been on a normal schedule this spring.

The much anticipated reopening of sea bass season on May 19th will have many anglers working mid-range structure this week in hopes of putting some tasty knotheads in the box. The minimum size for sea bass in Delaware is 12 1/2-inches, and the creel limit has been lowered from 20 to 15 per person, per day.

Until next week, tight lines!



Kyle Forney caught a 23 1/2-inch, 4 lb. 11 oz. flounder and a 38-inch, 20 lb. 6 oz. striper while fishing with pink Gulp! artificial baits in the Indian River Inlet.

May 21, 2014 Coastal Fisherman Page 35



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|--|---|--|---|--|--|
| Sea Bass  | No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported | Mako Shark <i>100 lb. minimum</i>  | May 9, 2014 Hayden Christoff "Restless Lady" 214 lbs. | NEW May 18, 2014 Jake Blair Marine Electric 88.2 lbs. |
| Tautog  | February 9, 2014 Bob Rochelle "Morning Star" 19 lbs. 2 oz. | NEW May 10, 2014 Paul Matthews Outer Wall 12 lbs. 13 oz. | Thresher Shark  | No Weights Reported | NEW May 17, 2014 Joseph Foley DB Buoy 268.8 lbs. |
| Striped Bass  | May 11, 2014 Jeremy Miller Assateague Surf 26 lbs. 8 oz. | April 27, 2014 Steven Thompson Lewes Canal 24 lbs. | Bluefin Tuna  | No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported |
| Weakfish  | NEW May 17, 2014 Dave Watts Rt. 50 Bridge 8 lbs. 2 oz. | NEW May 10, 2014 Tim Caswell Roosevelt Inlet 7 lbs. 1 oz. | Yellowfin Tuna  | NEW May 18, 2014 Tim McGuire Balt/Wilm Canyon 41.4 lbs. | No Weights Reported |
| Speckled Trout  | No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported | Longfin Tuna  | No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported |
| Flounder  | NEW May 17, 2014 Tom Yarko Thorofare 7 lbs. 7 oz. | May 3, 2014 Melanie Bowden Lewes Canal 7 lbs. 5 oz. | Bigeye Tuna  | No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported |
| Bluefish  | NEW May 17, 2014 Ayrton Pryor Synepuxent Bay 8 lbs. 3 oz. | May 8, 2014 George Frigm Fenwick Surf 7 lbs. 8 oz. | Dolphin  | No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported |
| Sheepshead  | No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported | Wahoo  | No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported |
| Black Drum  | NEW May 11, 2014 Cameron Caldwell Assateague Surf 9 lb. 12 oz. | May 9, 2014 Larry Taylor Broadkill Beach 70.5 lbs. | White Marlin  | Most Releases in One Day No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported |

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Saad Soliman boated this 7 lbs. 4 oz. tautog on the last day of Delaware's spring tautog season. Saad was fishing with green crabs at the Outer Wall and weighed his catch at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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| 5th Annual Memorial Day Bluefish Tournament <i>To Benefit the Catherine & Charles Kratz Memorial Foundation and Scholarship Fund</i> Chairmen: Franky Pettolina & Chris Evans Registration: May 23, 6:30-8:30pm Captain's Meeting: 8:00pm Fishing Days: (1 of 2) May 24 & 25 Weigh Ins: May 24&25, 3:30-6:00pm Awards Banquet: May 25th 6:30-9:00pm Awards Presentation: 7:00pm | 35th Annual Small Boat Tournament Chairmen: Bill Regan, Annette Cropper & Colin Campbell Registration: June 20, 2014, 6:30pm Captain's Meeting: 8:00pm Fishing Days: (1 of 2) June 21 & 22 Weigh Ins: June 21 & 22 3:00-6:30pm Eastern Shore Style Crab Feast: June 22, 6:30-9:00pm Awards Presentation: 7:00pm | 32nd Annual Canyon Kickoff Chairman: N. Dave Birkett Registration: July 3, 2014 6:30pm FREE TO PAID OCMC BOAT MEMBERS Captain's Meeting: 8:00pm Fishing Days: (2 of 3) July 4, 5 & 6 Weigh Ins: July 4, 5 & 6, 5:00-7:30pm Awards Banquet: July 6, 6:30-9:00pm Awards Presentation: 8:00pm | 10th Annual Kid's Classic <i>To benefit the Wish-A-Fish Foundation</i> Chairmen: Pat Svehla, Annette Cropper & Bill Regan Registration: July 18, 2014, 6:30pm Captain's Meeting: 7:30pm Fishing Days: (1 or 2 of 2) July 19 & 20 Weigh Ins: July 19 3:00-6:30pm, July 20 3:00-6:00pm Sunday Carnival & Awards: July 20, 5:00-8:00pm Awards Presentation: 7:00pm Every Angler receives an award! |
| 6th Annual OCMC Ladies' Tournament "HEELS & REELS" <i>To benefit the OCMC Auxiliary Scholarship Fund</i> Chairmen: Franky Pettolina & Amanda Shick Registration: July 31, 6:00pm Captain's Meeting: 8:00pm Fishing Days: (1 or 2) August 1&2 Weigh Ins: August 1&2, 5:00-7:30pm Awards Banquet: August 2, 6:30-9:00pm | 56th Annual Labor Day White Marlin Tournament Chairmen: Franky Pettolina, Bob Wimbrow & Bill Fenwick Registration: August 28, 6:30pm FREE TO PAID OCMC BOAT MEMBERS Captain's Meeting: 8:00pm Fishing Days: (2 of 3) August 29, 30 & 31 Weigh Ins: August 29, 30 & 31, 5:30-7:30pm Awards Banquet: August 31, 6:30-9:00pm Awards Presentation: 8:00pm | 36th Annual Charles Kratz & Scott Smith Challenge Cup Chairmen: John C. Duffie & Andy Helms Registration: September 11, 7:00pm Captain's Meeting: December 5, 6:00pm Fishing Days: (2 of 2) Sept. 12&13, No weigh-ins Italian Night: Sept. 12, 6:30-9:00pm Awards Banquet: Sept. 13, 6:30-9:00pm Invitation Only | 2nd Annual OCMC Rockfish Tournament <i>To benefit the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital</i> Chairmen: Colin Campbell & Jeremy Blunt Registration: December 5, 6:00pm Captain's Meeting: 7:00pm Fishing Days: (5 of 9) December 6-14 Weigh Ins: December 6-14, Time: TBA Awards Banquet: December 14, Time: TBA |

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At the end of Delaware's spring tautog season, Paul Matthews fought this 12 lb. 13 oz. tautog to the death after hooking it on a green crab at the Outer Wall in the Delaware Bay. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Chuck Wenzel from West Ocean City, MD and Pete Renzi from I.G. Burton caught 3 flounder and a snapper bluefish while drifting Gulp! Swimming Mulletts in the bay behind Castaway's Campground. Pete landed the largest flattie, a 21 1/2-inch that weighed 3 lbs. 14 oz. Pictured at the O.C. Fishing Center.



Jenny Mitchell spent Mother's Day fishing with her children, Hunter and Faith, and the trio ended their day with 3 flounder in the box, measuring up to 21-inches. The flatties were caught on Gulp! and minnow combinations in the Lewes Canal. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.



Leland Damon from Magnolia, DE was fishing out of Cedar Creek, DE with Burton Betts on the "Ransomed" when he caught this 45-inch, 36 lb. striped bass while using cut bunker for bait.



Jen Sullivan caught this 22-inch flounder while slow trolling Gulp! artificial baits in the bay behind Assateague Island near the duck blinds. Jen was fishing with Steve Yuhas from Alltackle Ocean City.

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Chum Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson



Last week I received a notice from NMFS informing me that; "Starting May 15, NOAA will begin conducting a periodic survey of saltwater anglers across the nation designed to estimate the amount of money spent by anglers on saltwater fishing trips and fishing-related equipment." My reaction to the notice was twofold, the first being, "Oh-boy, after spending a big chunk of the winter filling-out forms and applications for all the licenses, permits, and other hoops I have to jump through just to go fishing this season - here we go again with more paperwork!"

At the same time, I just couldn't help but think of all the fishermen I know who will take this news with a lot more distain than I. It doesn't matter if it's voluntary or not, a lot of folks just can't stand the thought of being asked to give up any kind of personal information of any kind, let alone details about critically important and highly confidential activities such as fishing! Why does "Big Brother" need to know what I spend on minnows or how many hooks I use?

According to NOAA, "The information gathered in the survey will provide a

better understanding of the economic impacts generated from saltwater recreational fishing across the U.S. and contribute to more informed decisions on recreational fishing issues. NOAA and the saltwater angling community need timely economic data to help evaluate the economic importance of the recreational fishing industry and the economic impacts of fishing regulations and changes in the ecosystem caused by natural or manmade events."

So NOAA wants more details about what anglers spend to do what they do, so that they (NOAA) can do a better job of managing our nations fisheries. I don't think anyone will argue with the need for better fishery management, but it sort of hits home when someone asks you to fill out a seven page questionnaire!

After at least three decades of being involved in fishery management issues, either as an advisor, a representative or just a member of the public willing to sit in on meetings and provide comments and recommendations, it has become painfully clear to me that, like it or not, economic impact is a huge facet of fishery management. In a

perfect world, fishery managers could set rules and regulations solely on the premise of what's best for the fish, but of course rules means government, and government means politicians. The resulting process can tend to divert actions away from what's best for the fish to what's best for the people with the loudest voice and/or the most money.

Since fishery managers are required to take the economic impact of their actions into account before implementing new regulations or management plans, it's important that anyone who is affected by changes in a fishery stand-up and be counted. Otherwise, potentially negative financial consequences might be overlooked as the plans are drawn up, leaving an unnecessary burden on some folks.

For a long time, the economic impact of recreational anglers played a very small role in fishery management and any considerations for the economics of fishing were directed at the commercial fisheries. Back then, they were the "fishing industry" while we were just a bunch of folks who where out to have a good time catching a few fish on the weekends.

That's all changed, and now as fishery managers and perhaps most importantly,

www.coastalfisherman.net
"politicians" have come to realize, recreational fishermen are indeed a force to be reckoned with. Word is getting out that there are a lot of us, we spend a lot of money and a lot of businesses and communities prosper both directly and indirectly from the money spent by the millions of folks who get out of bed each morning with the intention of catching a fish that day.

Although we might not want to think about it, we fishermen know that we spend a lot of money in our pursuits, but what's most important is that we make sure that both the non-fishing population is aware of the economic impact we make and that our elected officials know that we spend a lot of money in our communities. Some communities don't need to be reminded of the positive impacts made by recreational anglers and they embrace fishing as a boon to their economy and promote the heck out of the thrills that await anglers who fish their local waters. Florida is so big on promoting their fishing opportunities that it's tough to watch a sportsman's channel without being bombarded with commercials inviting anglers to "come on down and fish Florida."

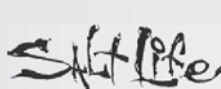
That doesn't seem to be the case here on the Delmarva coastline where the spotlight seems to so often shine

Continued on Page 43

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Louie Hionis from Fenwick Island, DE was fishing with a couple of buddies off the Indian River Jetty when they caught these 5 stripers during the early morning hours. The fish measured between 30 and 40-inches and were caught on Rappa plugs.

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Chum Lines continued:

brightest on the beach, boardwalk, hotels, restaurants and golf courses. For the most part, Delmarva fishing is promoted by those directly involved in the fishing industry, such as tackle shops, charter and head boats, marinas, tournaments and specific fishing productions and publications. Fishing opportunities draws people to the coast, and while they're there they stay in hotels, eat in restaurants, shop in the outlets and buy gas for their cars. But apparently the memo didn't get out to enough non-fishing related businesses that they ought to be courting the heck out of the fishing public because there are a lot of anglers and they spend a lot of money!

I just throw all that out there so that if anyone reading it happens to be selected for the economic survey that they will

understand that even though filling it out might seem like a bit of an unnecessary pain in the butt, the results will provide marine managers and maybe even some of our political leaders something to consider when they are making decisions that affect recreational fishermen either directly or indirectly, and the numbers might also help to open the eyes of coastal business owners and community leaders, helping them to understand how valuable the angling community is to our local economy. Everyone wants to be recognized and appreciated for the good things they do; for fishermen, the saltwater angling survey might be a step in that direction.

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

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 ½ lb. sea scallops
 1 small zucchini, cut into ½ inch pieces
 1 small red bell pepper, cut into ½ inch pieces
 1 small red onion, cut into wedges
 12 large mushrooms
 1 (8 oz.) bottle Italian salad dressing
 2 tsp. Italian seasoning, divided
 1 ½ cups uncooked brown rice
 2 cans chicken broth (14 oz. each)

Place shrimp, scallops, zucchini, bell pepper, onion, mushrooms, salad dressing and 1 tsp. Italian seasoning in large resealable food storage bag.

Seal bag and turn to coat.

Marinate in refrigerator 30 minutes, turning after 15 minutes.

Combine rice, broth and remaining 1 tsp. Italian seasoning in medium saucepan over high heat.

Bring to a boil; cover and reduce heat to low.

Simmer 35 minutes or until broth is absorbed.

Prepare grill for direct cooking over medium-high heat.

Drain seafood and vegetables, reserving

marinade.

Place seafood and vegetables in lightly oiled grill basket. Place on grill.

Cover and grill 4 to 5 minutes.

Turn and baste with marinade; discard remaining marinade.

Grill until shrimp are pink and opaque.

Serve seafood and veggies over rice.

Serves 4 to 6.

Grilled Oyster Shooters

8 fresh oysters in shells
 1/3 cup fresh lemon juice
 3 TBSP. Worcestershire sauce

Hot pepper sauce to taste
 Salt to taste

Preheat outdoor grill on high.

Assemble ingredients while grill heats up.

Place the oysters on hot grill.

Cook until they open, 5 to 10 minutes.

Remove the oysters from the grill and pry off the top shell (wear heavy gloves to protect from heat).

Slide a knife between the oyster and shell to disconnect.

Top each one with 2 tsp. of lemon juice, 1 tsp. of Worcestershire sauce, and hot pepper sauce; sprinkle salt to taste.

Serve in shell while still warm.

Serves 4.

Poached Striped Bass

1 ½ lbs. striper fillets
 ¼ cup Vermouth
 2 bay leaves
 10 peppercorns
 Salt
 2 TBSP. butter

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DINING ON DELMARVA

½ cup cucumber, finely chopped
¼ cup celery, finely chopped
¼ cup onion, finely chopped
2 TBSP. flour
1 TBSP. orange juice
2 TBSP. minced parsley

Bring Vermouth, bay leaves, peppercorns, ½ tsp. salt and enough water to cover the fillets to the boiling point; boil for 5 minutes.

Cut the fillets into 4 serving pieces and add to the boiling water, cover and simmer for 10 minutes, until fillets flake.

Drain and keep warm on a serving platter.

Melt butter in a frying pan and saute cucumber, celery, and onion until soft but not brown.

Blend in flour, then 1 cup of the poaching liquid.

Just before serving, add the orange juice and season to taste.

Pour over fillets and sprinkle with the parsley.

Serves 4.

Steamed Flounder

1 ½ lb. flounder fillets
1 carrot, thinly sliced
1 onion, thinly sliced
1 stalk celery, thinly sliced

3 ½ TBSP. butter
Salt and pepper
¾ cup chicken stock
2 tsp. parsley, minced
¼ cup white wine
1 ½ TBSP. flour

Cook vegetables in 2 TBSP. of the butter in a large frying pan until soft but not brown.

Lay fillets on top of the veggies.

Add salt and pepper, parsley, stock and wine.

Cover and simmer until fish flakes, about 6 to 8 minutes.

Remove the fish to a warm serving dish.

Turn up the heat to reduce the liquid by a quarter.

Mix 1 ½ TBSP. cold butter and flour together into small chunks (can mix together with your fingers) and drop them in the liquid, stirring constantly to thicken the sauce.

Ladle sauce and vegetables over the cooked fillets and serve immediately.

Serves 4.

Pan Fried Cajun Striped Bass

2 TBSP. flour
1 to 1 ½ tsp.. Cajun or Caribbean jerk seasoning
1 egg white

Continued on Page 46



Brady Cichocki shows off the 6 lb. 4 oz. tautog he caught while fishing with green crabs at the Outer Wall in the Delaware Bay. Brady is pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina with his dad, Chris Cichocki.

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DINING ON DELMARVA

The Galley, cont'd.

2 tsp. water
1/3 cup seasoned bread crumbs
2 TBSP. cornmeal
4 skinless striped bass fillets
1 tsp. butter
1 tsp. olive oil
Chopped parsley
4 lemon wedges

Combine flour and seasoning in medium resealable food storage bag.

Beat egg white with water in small bowl.

Combine bread crumbs and cornmeal in another small bowl.

Add 1 fillet at a time to bag; shake to coat lightly with flour mixture.

Dip in egg white mixture; let excess drop off.

Roll in crumb mixture; pat to adhere.

Repeat with remaining fillets.

Discard any remaining flour, egg white or crumb mixture.

Melt butter and oil in large skillet over medium heat until butter is bubbly.

Add fillets; cook 4 to 5 minutes each side until golden brown and fish is opaque in center.

Sprinkle with parsley and serve with lemon wedges.

Serves 4.

Sticky Glazed Tuna

3 TBSP. maple syrup
1 TBSP. soy sauce
2 tsp. rice wine vinegar
1/4 tsp. ground ginger
4 tuna fillets

In small bowl, whisk together first four ingredients.

Sprinkle tuna with 1/8 tsp. salt and 1/4 tsp. pepper.

Place fillets in a 12 inch nonstick skillet; brush with



On May 8th, Stan Petrick ventured down to Assateague Island from Drums, PA and was rewarded with this 43-inch striper caught on fresh bunker at low tide.

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DINING ON DELMARVA

some glaze.

Cook on medium heat 9 to 10 minutes or until opaque throughout, brushing often, turning once.

Serves 4.

Fiesta Shrimp Cocktail

1 lb. cooked medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
1 medium tomato, chopped
½ cup Italian salad dressing
1 can (4 oz.) chopped green chilies
3 green onions, thinly sliced
2 tsp. honey
1/8 tsp. hot pepper sauce
2 TBSP. fresh cilantro, minced
Romaine leaves

In a large bowl, combine the first eight ingredients.

Cover and refrigerate for at

least one hour.

Arrange romaine in serving dishes.

Using a slotted spoon, add about ½ cup of shrimp mixture to each.

Serves 6.

Clams with Garlic Sauce

3 dozen clams, scrubbed
½ cup cornmeal
1 TBSP. salt
¼ cup olive oil
1 small onion, minced
½ cup dry white wine
1 TBSP. lemon juice
1 small dried red chili
2 bay leaves
¼ tsp. hot paprika
Pepper

In bowl, cover the clams and cornmeal with water; add the salt and soak 45 minutes; drain and rinse.

Heat the oil in a large non-reactive skillet.



Cameron Caldwell caught this 9 lb. 12 oz. black drum while fishing with fresh mullet from the beach on Assateague Island. Weighed at Buck's Place.

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DINING ON DELMARVA



Tim Caswell from Georgetown, DE landed this 28-inch weakfish while tossing a swim shad in the Roosevelt Inlet. The trout weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE.

Add the onion; cook until soft.

Add the clams, wine, lemon juice, chili, bay leaves, paprika and pepper.

Cover and cook over high heat, stirring constantly, removing the clams as they open.

Serves 4.

Garlic Sauce:

4 garlic cloves, minced
 ¼ cup parsley, minced
 ½ cup fish stock or ¼ cup bottled clam juice diluted with ¼ cup water

In blender, puree garlic with 5 TBSP. of the parsley, add the fish stock and garlic mixture to a skillet; cook until sauce is slightly thickened.

Divide the clams among 4 soup plates.

Spoon the garlic sauce on top and garnish with remaining parsley.

Crab-Stuffed Flounder with Cajun Sauce

½ cup butter
 3 celery ribs, diced
 1 small onion, diced
 1 small green bell pepper, diced
 1 TBSP. minced garlic
 1 TBSP. fresh lemon juice
 2 tsp. Cajun seasoning
 1/8 tsp. hot sauce
 ½ lb. fresh lump crabmeat
 1 cup Panko bread crumbs
 6 flounder fillets (at least 1-inch thick)
 1 TBSP. olive oil
 1 tsp. paprika
 Vegetable cooking spray
 Salt and pepper

Melt butter in large skillet; add celery and next three ingredients; saute until tender.

Stir in lemon juice and next two ingredients; cook 1 minute.

Gently stir in crabmeat, breadcrumbs, and, if desired,

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Larry and Brayden Coverdale landed this nice pair of flounder while drifting shiners and Gulp! artificial baits in the lower end of the Broadkill River. The largest flattie tipped the scale at 3 lbs. 9 oz. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

more Cajun and hot sauce.

Remove from heat; let cool completely.

Preheat oven to 425 degrees.

Butterfly fillets, carefully cutting, but not through the opposite side; unfold fillets.

Spoon crab mixture down center of one side of each fillet; fold opposite side over filling.

Brush fillets with olive oil; sprinkle with paprika and desired salt and pepper.

Place fillets on a wire rack coated with cooking spray in a jelly-roll pan.

Bake at 425 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes.

Serve with Cajun sauce.

Serves 6.

Cajun Sauce:

½ cup dill pickle relish,
drained

½ cup mayonnaise

¼ cup yellow onion, diced

¼ cup celery, diced

¼ cup red bell pepper,
diced

¼ cup parsley, chopped

3 TBSP. ketchup

3 TBSP. yellow mustard

2 TBSP. minced garlic

2 TBSP. Creole mustard

2 TBSP. prepared
horseradish

2 TBSP. fresh lemon juice

3 dashes of hot sauce

Salt and pepper

Process first 3 ingredients, salt and pepper in food processor until finely chopped.

Serve immediately or chilled.

Refrigerate in airtight container up to 3 days.

Makes 2 cups.

If you would like to share your favorite seafood recipes with fellow Coastal Fisherman readers, you can email them to Mama Jock at MaureenJock@comcast.net. All of Mama Jock's past recipes can be found at www.coastalfisherman.net.

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Students and teachers from the Berlin Intermediate School's After School Fishing Academy had a great time fishing on the head boat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins, landing several tautog during their trip. Pictured with Capt. Monty are Carson Shanholtz, Kendal Vick, Alexis Miller, Robyn Hurley, Zach Tronosky, Daniel Juarez, Ryder Ridout, Chaya Horne, Diana Jolley, Nick Franklin, Josh Flores, Samantha Enders, Gavin Connors, Emma Henderson, Jacob Sturgill, Emily Stitely, Steve Wehlan, Jack Henderson, Billy King, Mrs. Shanholtz, Evan McDermott, Ben Scarfi and Jason Stitely. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

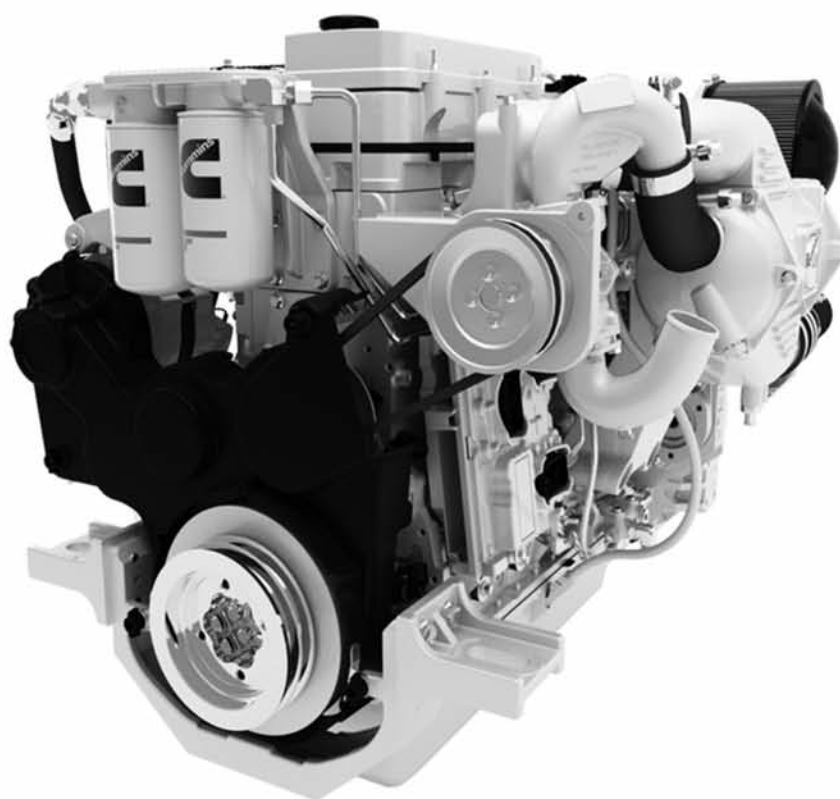
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Roberta Hennessy, owner of the Marlin Market on Rt. 611, is all smiles after landing the first fish of her life, a 41 lb. striper, while trolling off Chesapeake Beach.



David Moore was fishing from the beach on Assateague Island when he hooked into this 45-inch black drum during the incoming tide. David caught the boomer while using sand fleas for bait. Photo courtesy of Buck's Place on Rt. 611.

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Federal Size & Creel Limits

3 - 200 miles

| | | |
|---|--|---|
|  <p>BLUE MARLIN 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No creel limit</p> |  <p>DOLPHIN No minimum length 10 per person/day</p> |  <p>YELLOWFIN TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day</p> |
|  <p>WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No creel limit</p> |  <p>WAHOO No minimum length 2 per person/day</p> |  <p>BLUEFIN TUNA (Recreational) 1 BFT per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL 1 BFT per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 73" (Charter Boat) 2 BFT per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL 1 BFT per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 73"</p> |
|  <p>SWORDFISH 47" Lower Jaw Fork Length 1 per person / 4 per vessel (Rec) 1 per person / 6 per vessel (Charter)</p> |  <p>BIGEYE TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length No creel limit</p> | <p>SHARKS AUTHORIZED SPECIES No Closed Season <u>No Minimum Fork Length</u> Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead, ----- <u>54" Minimum Fork Length</u> Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse, Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common Thresher, Oceanic Whitetip, Porbeagle, Shortfin Mako, Finetooth, Atlantic Blacknose ----- <u>78" Minimum Fork Length</u> 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. <u>Prohibited Sharks</u> Atlantic Angel, Basking, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Sixgill, Bigeye Thresher, Bignose, Caribbean Reef, Caribbean Sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin Mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Sand Tiger, Sevengill, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White</p> |

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With water temperatures finally breaking the 60-degree mark, larger bluefish, stripers and black drum are being caught in better numbers by surfcasters. Late last week, Chris Vann muscled in this 31-inch chopper while casting finger mullet from the beach at 3R's Road. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.



On Saturday, May 17th the first thresher shark weighed this year was brought to the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em Tackle Shop in the Indian River Marina. Joseph Foley from Warwick, MD muscled in the 268.8 lb. thresher after hooking it on a whole mackerel just inshore of "DB" Buoy. Joseph was fishing on the "Just Right V" with John Carr of North East, MD, Kenny Gray of Rehoboth, DE, Don Foley from Warwick, MD and Brian Gray from Selinsgrove, PA.



Local angler, Jeff Waxman was fishing on the "Roland C" in the Chesapeake Bay when he captured this 41-inch striped bass. Jeff caught the 30 lb. linesider while trolling a tandem rig just south of CNR Buoy in 60-feet of water.

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COASTAL FISHERMAN

2014



First Fish of the Year

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

| Species | 2014 | 2013 | Species | 2014 | 2013 |
|--|--|---|--|---|---|
| Sea Bass  | None Reported | January 8, 2013 Mike Behney Cape May Rocks | Mako Shark  | May 9, 2014 Hayden Christoff "Restless Lady" Poor Man's Canyon | May 10, 2013 Wayne Mull "Restless Lady" Baltimore Canyon |
| Tautog  | January 1, 2014 Si Chiarizia "Morning Star" Artificial Reef | January 1, 2013 Mike Acito "Morning Star" Artificial Reef | White Marlin  | None Reported | June 15, 2013 Tim Hawn "No Quarter" Poor Man's Canyon |
| Striped Bass  | January 2, 2014 Karl Hoelper 130th Street Surf Ocean City | January 1, 2013 Charlie Sitskorn "Slack Grabber" Little Fenwick | Blue Marlin  | None Reported | June 21, 2013 Adam Waddell & Keith Cook "Muff Diver" Baltimore Canyon |
| Weakfish  | April 22, 2014 Tom Burke Broadkill Beach | April 28, 2013 Joel Robinson Lewes Beach | Bluefin Tuna  | None Reported | May 12, 2013 Chris Gaba "Hook'n Up" Baltimore Canyon |
| Flounder  | January 3, 2014 Stanley He "Morning Star" Artificial Reef | April 1, 2013 Kevin Weber "Patty Wagon" Sinepuxent Bay | Yellowfin Tuna NEW  | May 18, 2014 Tim McGuire "Nontypical" Balt/Wilm Canyon | May 17, 2013 Kenny Twilley "Muff Diver" Baltimore Canyon |
| Bluefish  | May 7, 2014 Big Bird Cropper South Jetty | April 21, 2013 Noah Graulich Cape Henlopen State Park | Longfin Tuna  | None Reported | June 14, 2013 Tom Ciconte "Tressa Lynn" Baltimore Canyon |
| Black Drum  | April 9, 2014 Bill Powell Assateague Surf | April 11, 2013 Bill Powell Assateague Surf | Bigeye Tuna  | None Reported | June 10, 2013 Phillip Seidenstricker "Reel Addiction" Baltimore Canyon |
| Sheepshead  | None Reported | June 10, 2013 Capt. Chase Eberle "Flounder Pounder" Ocean City Inlet | Dolphin  | None Reported | May 13, 2013 DJ BK "Salty Sons" Norfolk Canyon |
| Thresher Shark NEW  | May 17, 2014 Joseph Foley "Just Right V" "DB" Buoy | May 26, 2013 Charlie Lutes "Shark Killer" Fingers | Wahoo  | None Reported | June 23, 2013 Brandon Cassady "Ridin' Thirty" Baltimore Canyon |

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



Maryland Regulations State Waters Only



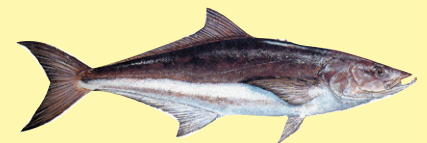
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15 per person/day
5/19 - 9/18 & 10/18 - 12/31



BLUEFISH
8" minimum
10 per person/day



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



COBIA
No limit



CROAKER
9" minimum 25 per person/day



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



SHEEPSHEAD
No limit



SPECKLED TROUT
14" minimum 10 per person/day



STRIPED BASS
28" minimum
2 per person/day



TAUTOG
16" minimum
5/16 - 10/31 2 per person/day



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AIS - what is it and do I need it?

Automatic Identification System, or AIS, is a wireless radio frequency digital data system used by boats and ships to provide tracking information to each other and land based stations. This information is used to identify and locate vessels by electronically exchanging data with other nearby vessels. AIS is often used to augment radar for collision avoidance at sea.

This system was originally designed and required for large ships, but it has become very popular for smaller boats as well. The most popular system for smaller boats is the AIS receiver. This system is only a receiver and just listens to the AIS signals from other boats. These signals are digitally broadcast on a VHF

radio frequency and the range is limited to radio "line of sight", about 25 miles to a maximum of 40 miles.

The receiver is usually connected to a chartplotter screen, to act as the display, showing the location of nearby AIS vessels. Most of the newer chartplotters are capable of displaying this information. The nearby AIS vessels appear on your screen in a location relative to yours, and provide additional information such as speed, size, name, call sign, etc. These AIS receivers can share your existing VHF antenna and require connecting a few wires to power and your GPS chartplotter. Discounted street prices are as low as \$250 for some of the AIS receivers.

There are a few VHF models that incorporate AIS

receivers into the VHF, and often include a simple small screen to show nearby vessels. Standard Horizon makes an AIS VHF and ICOM has a new model coming out later this summer that has this feature.

Larger boats are required to transmit and receive AIS signals. These are called Class B and Class A transceivers. Many larger pleasure boats voluntarily install an AIS transceiver so that other boats can "see" them electronically, especially when traveling in the ocean at night. Your boat will show up automatically on a large display on the freighter's helm, so you are not relying on the other ship to visually see you on the radar or through the bridge windows.

On non-regulated vessels,, this system can also be equipped with a switch to turn off broadcasting. This may be done by the captain when traveling in waters where security is a concern. Fisherman may turn it off when fishing your special spot and do not want to "broadcast" their location to the fleet of fellow fisherman.

There are many people who find reading AIS information very interesting and there are a few websites that take marine AIS one step further by putting the information on the internet. There are now many "live" AIS websites and the most popular of the free services is MarineTraffic.com. On this website, you can scroll around the world to see ship traffic or

just monitor an area of interest. These internet sites rely on volunteer land stations to receive the signal and upload that live data to the website. These websites can be delayed in showing information and may not be able to receive all the signals in an area. Because of this limitation, these websites should not be used as your primary AIS system and does not meet regulatory standards.

AIS is also evolving into other areas of marine use, such as Aids to Navigation, where a navigational aid can broadcast its information directly to ships. AIS is also being used for search and rescue, with products such as a personal AIS beacon that is similar to an EPIRB, and is used for other boaters to "see" your location show up on their screen in the event of an emergency.

As this technology evolves, there will be many more uses for AIS and a wider adoption of this technology. If you are interested in AIS for your boat, begin by checking the features and compatibility of your chartplotter, then look for the appropriate AIS hardware. Adding an AIS receiver is the least expensive way to increase your awareness of large boats in your area.

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

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Big Bird Cropper, from Powellville, MD caught his limit of snapper bluefish, up to 17-inches, while tossing lures around the Rt. 50 Bridge.



Ken Oland from Salisbury, MD boated this 46-inch, 40 lb. striper while trolling in the Tangier Sound with Earl Starnier and Rick Klebon.

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Josh Bock from West Ocean City, MD was drifting a white Gulp! Swimming Mullet and Fishbites combination in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport when he captured this 24-inch, 4 lb. 3 oz. weakfish. Weighed at Ake Marine in West Ocean City.

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WHERE: Submit your catch - or photo(s) of your catch if submitting a catch & release entry - to a participating tackle shop. If your catch meets the minimum size requirement, you will receive a confirmation ticket, which will contain information on how to submit your entry online. DNR will then send you your Angler Award certificate and your pass to the Maryland Fishing Challenge Finale in September at Sandy Point State Park.

WHEN: The contest runs through midnight, September 1, 2014 (Labor Day).

SPECIAL YOUTH CATEGORY: The Maryland Fishing Challenge features a special category to award prizes to randomly-selected members of the Maryland Youth Fishing Club who provide entries to the online DNR Youth Angler's Log. To join the free online Maryland Youth Fishing Club, go to: www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/keepfishing. The club is open to anglers ages 6 to 15 years old.

For complete Maryland Fishing Challenge rules and online registration information, go to:

www.dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/challenge/

Virginia Fishing Report

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



The Virginia spring saltwater fishery continues to escalate, with catches improving most everywhere. Anglers are happily taking advantage of any weather opportunities to investigate this trend.

As expected, the emerging drum scene is still the biggest news, motivating anglers to gather crabs, bunker and clams, and head for the Eastern Shore coastlines with the chances of hooking into a trophy red. Big red drum continue to provide some decent action among the breakers and sloughs near Smith and Fisherman's Islands, while the best catches are happening among the breakers and in the wash right off the beach, well within Fisherman's Island Inlet where skinny water sightcasters are scoring with multiple fish per outing. Expect this action to improve as more

fish arrive.

Boats also took advantage of the influx of huge schools of bulls off the oceanfront last week, sightcasting to the schools as they pass into the Chesapeake Bay.

Larger black drum are also becoming more active along the Eastern Shore seaside inlets and on the Latimer Shoal and the Cabbage Patch areas for anglers using both chowder clams and sea clams.

The first confirmed catches of cobia occurred last week. Captain Chris O'Brien, with "Hydrologic Sportfishing" out of Norfolk, put his crew on these newly arriving stealthy fish while searching for drum last week. Cobia hunters in North Carolina continue to report good catches of fish pushing to over 70-pounds as they intercept schools heading north.

Flounder action is still picking up, but there is room for improvement in the lower Chesapeake Bay. Folks caught fish at the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT) last week, but most of the action is still coming from the more protected areas. Both Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlets are still giving up decent hauls of flatfish, with many flatties exceeding 22-inches last week.

On the Eastern Shore, the flounder action out of Oyster is still good, with strips of squid and Gulp! artificial baits working best in the Sand Shoal Inlet lately.

Snapper and chopper-sized bluefish are invading the lower Bay inlets and the CBBT area, with many fish measuring to over 20 and 30-inches recently.

Striped bass are biting in the Bay, with scattered catches of rockfish to over 36-inches

www.coastalfisherman.net
coming from the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel (HRBT) and the islands of the CBBT. Be sure to review the regulations for these fish before you go.

Croaker continue to give surf and pier anglers a run for their money as small to medium-size hardheads take squid and bloodworm offerings off the oceanfront, Ocean View, Willoughby and Buckroe areas. Some decent size sea mullet are also in the mix. A few gray trout are also still lurking around the HRBT, but remember you can only keep one fish per person.

Anglers working Rudee Inlet and the Lynnhaven River and basin areas are scoring with some speckled trout for catch-and-release action, along with some nice puppy drum, croaker and big gray trout. Speckled trout experts report that speck fishing on the Elizabeth River showed promise last week, although most days are pretty inconsistent right now. Mobjack Bay has also been productive lately, with responsive trout hitting topwater lures. School-size striped bass are also biting in these same locations.



Virginia Regulations

Coastal State Waters Only

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
|  BLACK SEA BASS 12.5" minimum 15 per person/day 5/19 - 9/18 & 10/18 - 12/31 |  BLUEFISH No minimum size 10 per person/day |  BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day |  COBIA 37" minimum 1 per person/day |
|  CROAKER No limit |  RED DRUM 18" - 26" 3 per person/day |  SHEEPSHEAD No minimum size 4 per person/day |  SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum Season closed 3/1 to 7/31 |
|  STRIPED BASS 28" 2 per person 5/16 - 12/31 |  TAUTOG Season closed 5/1 - 9/19 |  SUMMER FLOUNDER 16" minimum 4 per person/day |  WEAKFISH 12" minimum 1 per person/day |

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With sea bass season now open, expect runs to deeper water off Virginia, with jumbo sea bass available on both offshore and nearshore structures.

Spadefish should begin showing around the islands and pilings of the CBBT and the Chesapeake Light Tower, but the water needs to warm up more before the fish will respond. Sheepshead will also begin showing in numbers soon around the CBBT.

The offshore trolling scene should heat up soon off Virginia. In Carolina waters, the offshore fleet is still enjoying plenty of good action for gaffer mahi, wahoo and yellowfin tuna. A few billfish, with some big blue marlin in the mix, are beginning to make things interesting as they enter trolling spreads. Hopefully, this trend will continue to move north to Virginia waters.

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



Hugh Cropper, IV from West Ocean City, MD took advantage of a fresh batch of peeler crabs and landed this 42-inch striped bass while fishing from the beach off Parramore Island, VA. Hugh hooked 9 stripers during his trip, but kept only the one allowed during Virginia's Trophy Season.

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TIDES & MOON PHASES

OCEAN CITY INLET

| | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Wed. May 21 Last Quarter | Low 08:08 am Low 08:24 pm | High 02:01 am High 02:40 pm |
| Thurs. May 22 | Low 09:04 am Low 09:30 pm | High 03:07 am High 03:49 pm |
| Fri. May 23 | Low 10:00 am Low 10:35 pm | High 04:10 am High 04:52 pm |
| Sat. May 24 | Low 10:55 am Low 11:37 pm | High 05:08 am High 05:49 pm |
| Sun. May 25 | Low 11:47 am Low ----- | High 06:01 am High 06:41 pm |
| Mon. May 26 | Low 12:34 am Low 12:36 pm | High 06:50 am High 07:30 pm |
| Tues. May 27 | Low 01:25 am Low 01:22 pm | High 07:37 am High 08:17 pm |
| Wed. May 28 New Moon | Low 02:13 am Low 02:05 pm | High 08:22 am High 09:00 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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Contact our Brokers:

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