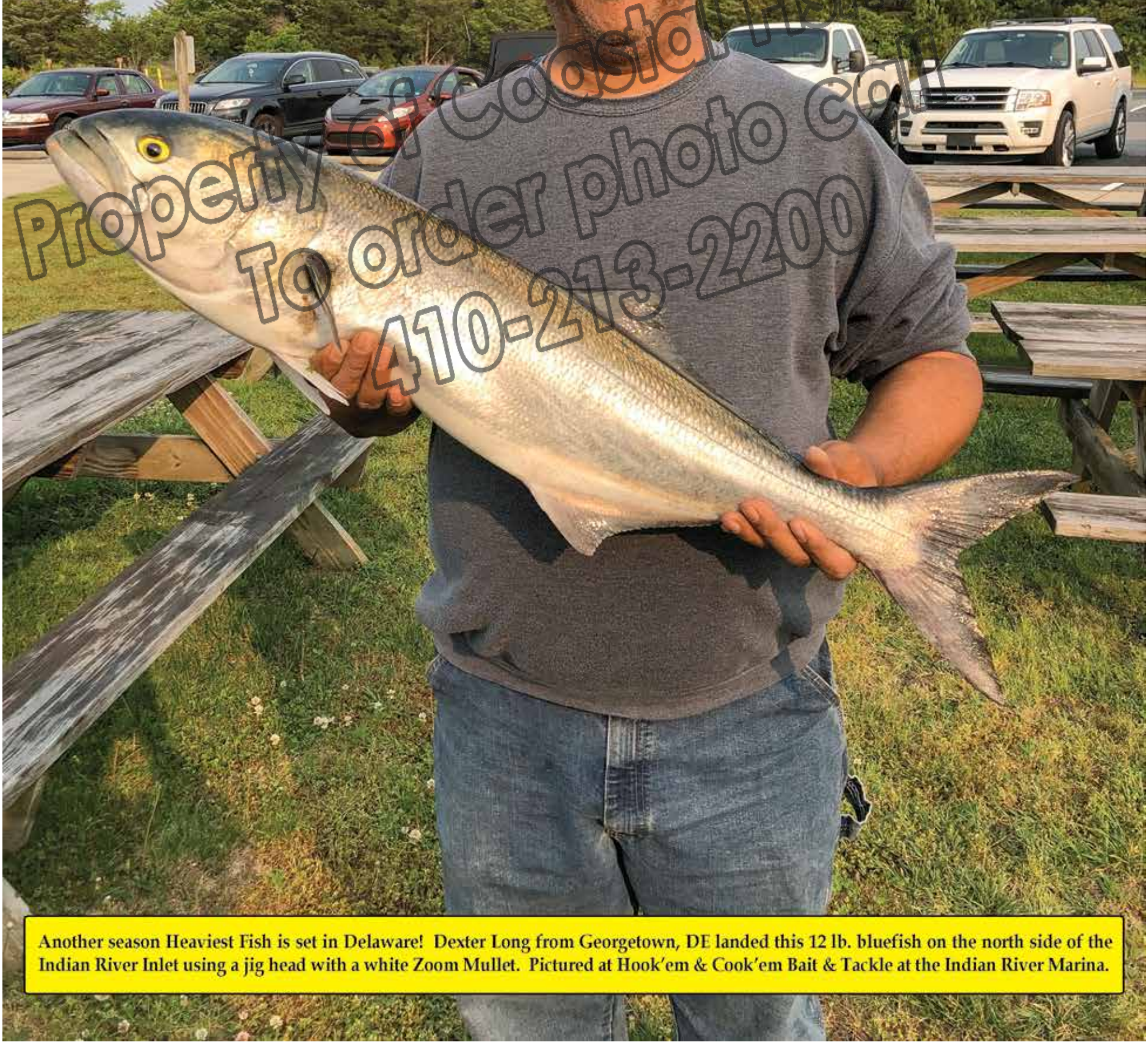


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Another season Heaviest Fish is set in Delaware! Dexter Long from Georgetown, DE landed this 12 lb. bluefish on the north side of the Indian River Inlet using a jig head with a white Zoom Mullet. Pictured at Hook'em & Cook'em Bait & Tackle at the Indian River Marina.



Chic Stearrett of Ocean View, DE found a pretty speckled trout at an inland marsh. The 21" speck hit on a Bass Assassin.



The charter boat "Boss Hogg" has been on fire with tuna! They had a recent 3 day run of back charters bringing in 54 yellowfins total! This was the first day with 18 from the Poor Man's Canyon at 60 fathoms. Capt. Brian Porter was at the wheel with mates Alex Beane and Jack Hannum in the pit.

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We suspect that Morgan Mericle is practicing his kayak fishing skills for the upcoming Fish N Paddle Saltwater Slam Kayak Fishing Tournament at the end of the month! He reeled in and released this 36" striper in the bay behind Assateague Island using a Roy Rig. Note the crazy scars on top and the side from a propeller or predator.

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The Offshore Report

by Larry Budd

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 the bite slowed. Perhaps from a combination of all angler pressure and a weaker Solunar forecast. This opened up an opportunity for some deep dropping for tilefish. Rod Taylor and his wife Pam put their boat "Playmaker" in 600 feet in the Poor Man's for some tile fishing and perhaps some scouting for Pam's Tuna & Tiara Ladies Tuna Tournament next weekend! Rod reeled up a beautiful golden tilefish using tuna belly.

Another angler was \$5,000 richer last week! Keith Garner was fishing with Capt. Chris Ragni last Wednesday on the "Bill Slayer" out of the Indian River Marina when he connected with a white marlin early in the morning on a Habanero Lures skirted ballyhoo. While this was not the first for the season, it was the first from a member of the Ocean City Marlin Club, earning them the club's \$5,000 prize. It was the first white from a Delaware boat and only the 2nd we have heard this season. The private boat "Reel-Lee" reported they released a blue marlin in the Poor Man's Canyon that hit on a purple and black Ilander lure.

There were also some interesting shark reports last week too. Our Chum Lines author Capt. Mark Sampson reported a couple interesting encounters. First was a pair of great white sharks on the same trip. The first was estimated at 13' and about 2,000 pounds. The 2nd one appeared to be about 10' and ~500 lbs. On another trip his angler caught and released an ~7' smooth hammer head shark while fly fishing! Rich Daiker on the "Delicious" was trolling the Chicken Bone hoping to raise a thresher shark. No luck there, but the crew did release an estimated 150 lb. mako. Our last

This Week Last Year

- Angler Kevin Gibbs caught the first white marlin for 2022 on June 6th. He was fishing on the "Wrecker" just north of the Baltimore Canyon.
- The yellowfin tuna had moved closer to shore with the Baltimore being the hot spot followed by the north Wilmington.
- The charter boat "Bill Slayer" brought in a 75 lb. yellowfin from the Baltimore and the "Hooked Up" had one at 80.6 lbs. from the Wilmington.
- The first bigeye tuna of the season was caught in the Baltimore. It weighed 242 lbs. even without a tail that was lost to a mako.

There was beautiful and funky weather around Delmarva over the last week. Early on saw sunny, warm days and then smoke from the Canadian wildfires were channeled our way creating a dystopian haze. The only upside were really pretty sunrises and sunsets! Fortunately for us, those pesky winds we have been dealing with most of the spring kicked in and shifted the smoke away by last weekend. The smoke did not keep anglers out of the canyons, and even the wind settled a bit, offering several windows to get offshore.

Tuna again dominated the offshore action last week; however, we did get our 2nd report of a white marlin release and the first wahoo of the season made its way to the scales at Sunset Marina!

Early last week again saw a huge yellowfin tuna run with waters in the mid 60° range from the Norfolk to just north of the Poor Man's Canyon. Even so, almost all of the action was in the Poor Man's southern waters in 50 to 100 fathoms. Capts. Brian Porter and Alex Beane on the charter boat "Boss Hogg" lead the way with 3 limit trips back to back bringing 54 yellows to the cleaners at Sunset Marina! The "Spring Mix II" and "Pumpin' Hard" had success trips there as well, finding consistent water in the 68° range. The charter boat "Marli" made a rare, private trip when owner Mike Bostic and crew wanted in on the action. They filled the box with their limit of 18 yellowfins using Capt. Mark Hoos preferred Sterling Tackle spreader bars and Crazy 8 chains. Most captains reported spreader bars, wide trackers and chains with naked or skirted ballyhoo as their tools of choice. Some like the "Full Service" and "Absolut Pleasure" reported success with a good ol' cedar plug.

Outside the Poor Man's we had reports as far north as the Baltimore Canyon where the "Bill Slayer" got their limit and the "Reel Blessed" got 9 on their wide trackers. The "Grande Pez" headed a little further south with members of the OC Light Tackle Club. They worked the Rock Pile in 55 fathoms and boxed 16 yellows. On that trip light tackle was not on board!

After that strong start however,



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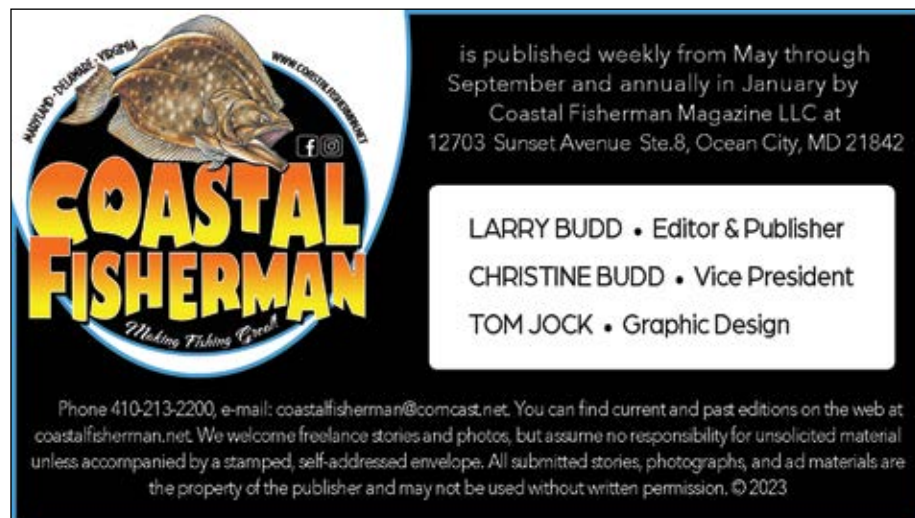
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shark encounter was reported by Derrick William. He and his family were fishing the suds on Assateague Island and caught and released a 6'-8' sand tiger shark using a tuna head for bait. It was the only bite for the day.

Rounding out the week were a couple notable catches. The report of the first wahoo caught for the season came to us from Josh Short of Smyrna, DE. He found the 53 lb. speedster in the Poor Man's Canyon. Our avid angler friends Tracey Heltzinger and Dean Miller dropped by the office to share a unique catch they had on the "Restless Lady". They were fishing for tilefish and sea bass when Tracey reeled up a bright orange swallowtail bass!

As of Monday when I write this report, the weather in the canyons looks good for the weekend. That should mean lots of action during the 3rd Annual Tuna & Tiaras Ladies Tuna Tournament. Weigh-ins will be at the Ocean City Fishing Center right by Mickey Fins.

So until next time, I will see you at the scales! §

Upcoming Tournaments

• The **Annual Tuna & Tiara's Ladies Tuna Tournament** returns for its 3rd season on June 16 & 17 at the Ocean City Fishing Center. Scales are open from 4 - 7PM. Come by and check out the action.

• The last weekend in June, the 24th & 25th sees *three* separate tournaments!

- The Indian River Marina hosts the **8th Annual Kids Catch All Tournament**. The event is for all ages and includes inshore and offshore categories. More at KidsCatchAll.com.

- The Ocean City Marlin Club's is holding it's **44th Annual Small Boat Tournament**. You do not need to be a member to participate. Scales are at Sunset Marina from 3:00 to 6:30 PM.

- The **Fish N Paddle Saltwater Slam** returns to Atlantic Tackle for it's 5th year! This kayak only tournament continues to grow, attracting anglers from all over the East Coast. Last year's winner was a 46.25 lb. cobia! Weigh ins are from 12-4 PM.

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This Rising Sun, MD crew of Capt. Phil Lyons Jr, Xander Baugess, Ron Beuguess, Tom Zatalava, Connor Rowe, Phil Lyons Sr. and Dylan Lagano snuck out on the "Reel Blessed" before the NE blow last week and got on some tuna. They put 9 yellowfins in the box from the Poor Man's Canyon using Sterling Wide Trackers.



Mike Danaher decided to get out of the heat in Amelia Island, FL and take a trip to Ocean City. He was fishing with Glenn Rutkowski at the Rt. 50 Bridge when Mike hooked into this 25" and 4¼ lb. flounder. He was fishing the end of the incoming tide using live spot.

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Registration: June 23, 6:30-8:00pm

Fishing Days: (1 of 2) June 24 & 25

Weigh-Ins: June 24 & 25, 3:00-6:30pm
at Sunset Marina

**41st ANNUAL
CANYON KICK OFF ***

Registration: June 29, 6:30-8:00pm
FREE TO PAID OCMC BOAT MEMBERS

Fishing Days: (2 of 3) June 30, July 1 & 2

Weigh-Ins: June 30, July 1 & 2,
5:00-7:30pm at Sunset Marina

**19th ANNUAL
KID'S CLASSIC ***

To benefit the Wish-A-Fish Foundation

Registration: July 21, 6:00-8:00pm

Fishing Days: (1 or 2 of 2) July 22 & 23

Weigh-Ins: July 22, 3:00-6:30pm and
July 23, 3:00-6:00pm at Sunset Marina

**8th ANNUAL
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**15th ANNUAL
OCMC LADIES' TOURNAMENT
"HEELS & REELS"***

To benefit the Marlin Club Crew of
OC Scholarship Fund

Registration: August 3, 6:00-8:00pm

Fishing Days: (1 of 2) August 4 & 5

Weigh-Ins: August 4 & 5
5:30-7:30pm at Atlantic Tackle

**65th ANNUAL
LABOR DAY WHITE MARLIN
TOURNAMENT ***

Registration: August 30, 6:30-8:00pm

Fishing Days: (2 of 3) September 1, 2, & 3

Weigh-Ins: September 1, 2, & 3
6:00-8:00pm at Sunset Marina

**45th ANNUAL
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Registration: Sept. 13, 6:00-8:00pm

Fishing Days: (2 or 3) Sept. 14, 15 & 16

No Weigh-Ins

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We think this crew is going to need a bigger dock. The Ocean View, DE crew of Capt. Tim Tribbitt, Mathew Tribbitt, Tyler Tribbitt, Matt Mudry and Taylor Deemer caught their limit of 18 yellowfin tuna trolling in the Poor Man's Canyon. The fish ranged from 40 to 60 lbs. and hit on their spreader bars and wide trackers.



The two man crew of Levi and Jeff Dunlap had a lot to smile about from this trip trolling in the Poor Man's Canyon. They were fishing on the "Reel-Lee" and caught 2 yellowfin tuna as well as releasing a blue marlin using 353 Custom Tackle Lures.

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OCEAN CITY

FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



The winds have finally slowed down and made for pretty calm conditions on the ocean. The wild fires in Canada brought us smoky and foggy type days making anglers travel slower than usual to reach their destinations safely. Sea bass is still a little slow compared to past years, however, the flounder and blues are coming on strong.

Sea Bass & Flounder Near Shore

Near shore fishing has been pretty consistent with decent catches of sea bass and a few flounder thrown into the mix. Averages of 10 keeper fish to limits is common. Deeper water and jig fishing is producing the best results. Kevin Twilley, the Captain of "Fish Bound Charters" reported he was glad to see calmer seas after all the northeast wind we have had for the past several weeks. The anglers pulled in some nice

limits of sea bass as well as their first flounder of the year. Kevin stated that as the seas calm down they will start to target flounder, but for now they will stick with their limits on sea bass. They managed limits on both morning and afternoon trips.

The "Restless Lady" gave the tuna a break and stayed inshore for sea bass. The crew had limits of bass. The "Judith M" said the fishing has been great on their 8 hour trips. The "Ocean City Girl Charters" was out fishing for bass and enjoying the calmer days. They had a group from the Pittsburgh area and the bass were more than willing to cooperate. The group got their 7 man limit of 105 keepers. That is an impressive haul. Great job guys!

The "Ocean Princess" had its first triggerfish. The crew reported decent catches of bass during the week. Korale Filipaik

from Dayton, Ohio, caught the triggerfish for the boat. For any anglers that have never had this, the meat is very thick and firm, and has a taste much like halibut. The skin on a trigger is a cross between the toughness of leather and steel. Many anglers including myself have a special knife just to fillet this specie. After one fish the knife will usually need to be resharpened.

"Double Trouble Charters" took some time off from their tuna trips to catch a few sea bass and were rewarded with several nice fish. Pulling up two fish at a time was commonplace with at least one fish being a keeper. "Line Dancer" was out with captain Lance Beisecker, Karen Biesecker along with Faith & Josh Rosenberg, and managed a few keeper flounder. Their biggest fish was 17.5 inches. Pat DeGroot decided to stay close to land, fishing structure

on Gull Reef. He pulled in a couple fluke and then realized he needed longer arms when he pulled in a few king sized sheepshead. He was fishing with sand fleas when the big fish decided it was time to eat. Many anglers don't realize the amount of sheepshead we have here on the near shore wrecks. Up in Delaware Bay on the breakwalls they are very common, but the wrecks of Ocean City hold many sheep as well as triggerfish for those looking for them. Small circle hooks and sand fleas are your best rigs, although using a sheepshead style jig is also very productive. Remember, these fish have small mouths and will not usually go after big baits on big hooks. Bigger is not always better.

Back Bay Areas

The back bays of Ocean City have been very productive and continue to get even better as the water warms. The 2 hour headboats are beginning to run their charters on a regular basis. The "Miss Ocean City" was out last week and had several good trips for the bay flounder.

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"Bottom Bouncer Fishing" was also out targeting the flat fish for their clients. These back bay trips are usually shorter than the ocean trips and a great way to see the bay areas of OC. Many boats fish behind Assateague Island, allowing you to catch a glimpse at the wild ponies on the island while at the same time catching a delicious dinner. Jeff and Adylynn Dunlap caught 2 fluke using the deadly double rigs. They fished on their boat named the "Reel-Lee". 9 years young John Lawrence from Hanover, PA caught a 19 inch fish in the East Channel on a Gulp minnow combo. He fished with his sons Greg and Dave and his grandson Dylan. John caught another keeper in the Thorofare. The area to the north near Ocean Pines has also been producing better fishing. The channels are warming up and more fish are being caught. As warmer temps are predicted for the upcoming week, this would be the spot I would try.

Surf Fishing

Assateague Island beaches are still producing some quality

stripers early in the morning as well as just at and after sundown. Most of these fish will not fit in the new slot limit and will have to be released, but they're still a great fish on light tackle. I did not hear of many drum being caught on the island, but I'm sure a few black as well as red drum are still hanging around. Eric Field got one of the bigger rockfish that the island is known for, but being over the 31 inch limit the fish was returned to swim another day. If you are looking for a hard fighting fish, tossing a chunk of bunker or a big circle hook loaded with surf clam, it may be the ticket to a fish of a lifetime.

Ryan Mende was on the MD beaches, but stated that the skates and rays were too aggressive. He enjoyed catching numerous rays but did not manage to catch anything else. Dale Thomas was near 133rd Street and managed to catch a couple blues and a dogfish shark on a 10 lb. test line with small hooks. He was surprised the hook held on the shark.

Until next week
Tight lines and fins up \$



The crew on the "Horizon" was the first boat to bring in a 4 man limit of 16 flounder to Hook'em & Cook'em Bait and Tackle at the Indian River Marina. They were fishing at an ocean structure using squid strips. The largest caught by Tim Yerkes was 23½" and weighed 4.9 lbs.



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Sometimes light tackle fisherman need to gear up and work the heavy stuff. That is exactly what these members of the Ocean City Light Tackle Club did last week. They joined Capt. Ryan Freese on the charter boat "Grande Pez" and put 16 yellowfin tuna in the box from 55 fathoms just outside of the Rock Pile. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Capt. Monty Hawkins on the headboat "Morning Star" finally found a calm day to head out, well mostly calm! The sea bass were fussy on this trip despite the sonar marking good schools. The anglers did okay with a couple bruisers coming over the rail. Brett from Cincinnati, OH took the days pool money. The trip home was quite sporty as they ran into the big squall that hit last Thursday.

2023 MARYLAND REGULATIONS

STATE WATERS ONLY

 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 13" minimum / 15 per person/day May 15 - December 11</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH 8" minimum 3 per person/day or 5 per person/day Charter</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day up to 6 per boat/day</p>	 <p>COBIA 40" minimum 1 per person/day 6/15 - 9/15 Boat limit 2 for up to 2 anglers</p>
 <p>CROAKER 9" minimum 25 per person/day</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 18-27" minimum 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD 4 per person/day</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 4 per person/day</p>
<p>NEW!</p>  <p>STRIPED BASS 28-31" Less than 3 miles from shore 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>SUMMER FLOUNDER 16" minimum 4 per person/day</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/15 2 per person/day 7/1 - 10/31 4 per person/day 11/1 - 12/31</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>

eregulations.com



The private boat "Absolute Pleasure" reeled in an absolute treasure of yellowfin tuna on this trip! Capt. Steve Moore with mates Scott Peters & Rich Hastings put anglers Jeff Moore, Rick Rodgers, Ronnie Hall, Joe Hauer and boat owner Jamie Romero in the Poor Man's Canyon where they found some nice temperature breaks and lots of action. For the day they boated 24 yellowfins including a bunch from their last hookup where they had 11 rods on a fish.

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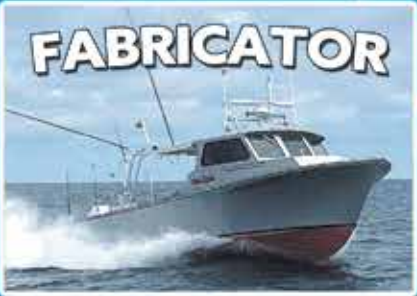
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Capt. Nick Skidmore 717-615-0644



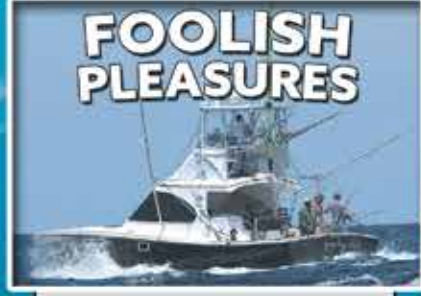
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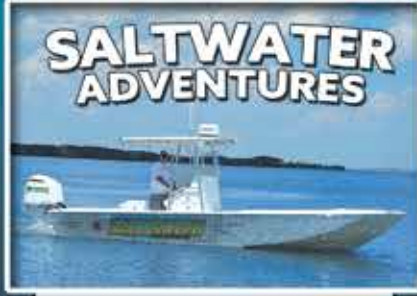
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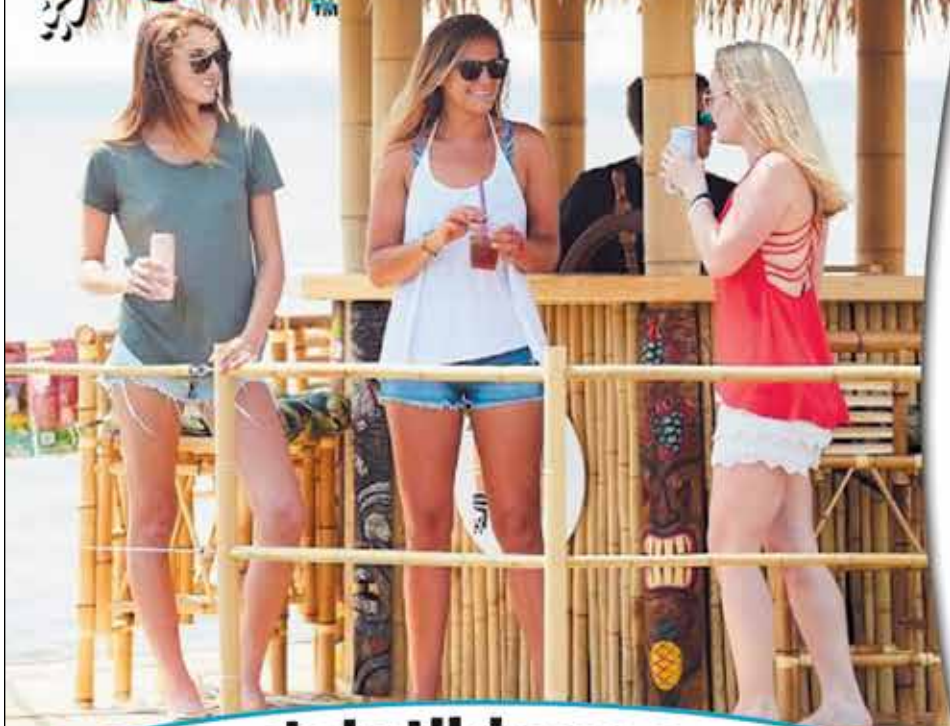
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HEAVIEST

Fish of the Year

2023



(AS REPORTED TO THE COASTAL FISHERMAN - TIES GO TO FIRST FISH REPORTED. HOOK & LINE ONLY)

Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE	Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE
 Bluefish	May 19 Rich Daiker OC Jetty 14.5 lbs.	 June 8 Dexter Long Indian River Inlet 12 lbs.	 Thresher Shark		
 Black Drum	April 4 Tom Berry Assateague 19 lbs.	May 19 Eric Feinauer Delaware Bay 53 lbs.	 Bigeye Tuna	June 2 Brendan Hanley Baltimore Canyon 164 lbs.	 June 2 Derek Burkert Poorman's Canyon 42 lbs.
 Cobia			 Bluefin Tuna	May 29 "Marli" Crew Baltimore Canyon 216 lbs.	
 Summer Flounder	May 6 David Borrell Thorofare 5.75 lbs.	 June 6 John Wilkins Lewes Canal 8 lb. 10 oz.	 Longfin Tuna		
 Sea Bass	May 20 Wayne Small Ocean Structure 5 lbs.	May 22 Richard Krauss Ocean Structure 4.3 lbs.	 Yellowfin Tuna	June 1 Talkin' Trash Crew Baltimore Canyon 40 lbs.	
 Sheepshead	May 5 Anthony Carrieri Ocean City Jetty 1.8 lbs.	 June 9 Jim Mack Massey's Landing 4.8 lbs.	 Dolphin	June 1 Randy Ridgely Baltimore Canyon 13.5 lbs.	
 Striped Bass	June 1 Buddy Martin Rt. 50 Bridge 12 lbs.	May 22 Chic Stearrett Bethany Beach 18.7 lbs.	 Swordfish		
 Tautog		May 6 James Milano Ocean Structure 22.9 lbs.	 Blue Marlin		
 Wahoo			 White Marlin		

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Many anglers head offshore to the deeper sites in 60-80 ft. to find fat flounder. 16 year old Jake Wilkins took a much shorter trip to the Lewes Canal and caught this 26" monster. At 8 lb. and 10 ozs., it is the Heaviest Flounder caught in Delaware this season.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Capt. Chris Watkowski with mate Chase Porter on the charter boat "Spring Mix II" got this crew onto 11 yellowfin tuna and mahi in the Poor Man's Canyon. They were trolling in 70 fathoms and 68° water. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

Spring Mix II
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FISHING CHARTERS



John Eum and his son Eric had a great day with Capt. Chris Adams on the headboat "Capt. Bob II"! They caught their limit of flounder on the full day trip from Hook'em & Cook'em Bait & Tackle at the Indian River Marina.



The headboat "Tortuga" based at the Bahia Marina had a good day fishing the Ocean City Bays. This trip saw a nice mix of keeper flounder.

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Capt. Mike Burt on the charter boat "Pumpin' Hard" got off to a solid start on their first charter for the year. They took out a crew from local company Spicer Brothers Construction out to the southern Poor Man's Canyon. They reeled in these 11 yellowfin tuna in 50 fathoms and 67.5° water

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FISH: Yellowfin
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LENGTH: 23.5 in
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BOAT: Pumpin' Hard
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FISHING CHARTERS



As if shark fishing is not hard enough, angler James Andrew of Annapolis, MD decided to fly fish for them! He went out on the "Fish Finder" with local shark expert Capt. Mark Sampson and mate Jake Konka where Jake landed this smooth hammerhead shark. After some research info was gathered, back in the sea he went.



The charter boat "Boss Hogg" was tearing it up last week in the Poor Man's Canyon! On this trip with Capt. Brian Porter with mates Alex Beane and Jack Hannum, the crew worked in 60 fathoms and put 18 yellowfins in the box.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Capt. Chris Mizurak on the headboat "Angler" got his customers on a mix of fish this week. They did have to work through a lot of undersized fish, but keeper sea bass, flounder and a few triggerfish made their way into the coolers.



Capt. JD Eddy of the charter boat "Green Reaper" got this crew onto a mess of sea bass! He had anglers Jacob & Mary Eddy from Ellicott City, MD, Ken Zucknick of Gambrills, MD and Malynnda Eddy of Dover, DE fishing at the Jack Spot. Malynnda also caught a 5 lb. pollock!

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FISHING CHARTERS



Derek Burkert and his group from Kutztown, PA got into some tuna with Capt. Christopher Keller on the charter boat "Action Jackson". Overall, they landed 8 yellowfin tunas from the Poormans on the 100 Line.



The headboat "Judith M" based at the Bahia Marina has been getting it's anglers onto a good mix of sea bass and flounder on it's recent trips to natural and artificial reefs.

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Young Aubrey Jersey from Pittsburgh, PA was in the money! She fished the morning trip on the headboat "Tortuga" with her father Alan. She used a Deadly Double rig with squid and shiner, fooling this 16.5" flounder. It was the top fish of the trip earning her the pool money! Pictured at Bahia Marina.



The boys from Kuhn's Home Repair and Champion Builders had a busy day with Capt. Chris Ragni on the charter boat "Bill Slayer". They put 18 yellowfin in the box for a combined total of 610 lbs. of fish! Pictured at Hook'em & Cook'em at the Indian River Marina.

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Chum Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson

A while back I had a speaking engagement at an area fishing club and on a last minute whim, before we got into our discussion on "fishing," I asked the group if they had any questions or comments about chartering a fishing boat or hiring fishing guide. Knowing that many of the folks in the room did a lot of charter fishing I figured this might lead to an interesting discussion. And since I'm a captain and guide myself, I knew this would be an opportunity for the group to get the answers to questions they've wondered about but maybe felt awkward asking the captains or guides they usually fish with.

As it turned out the topic was a hit, lots of good questions, discussions, and afterwards a number of the club members approached me to say that they were glad to hear openly from someone in the industry. It was enlightening for me too. Usually I'm talking to my own clients who (understandably) temper their thoughts and opinions to keep from asking awkward questions or maybe from hurting my feelings. It was interesting to hear

uncensored comments from fishermen about both the good and bad trips they've been on.

When, and how much to tip the mate or guide was the biggest topic of discussion. When it was put to me, I responded that 15-20% of the trip price is an average tip on most boats. But those percentages don't necessarily apply to all boats in all places so I highly recommend that, when booking the trip anglers ask the captain how much they should tip the mate and then just figure that number in when calculating their total charter price for the day.

Tips should never be lower than what's recommended unless the anglers feel that service was lacking, and if that's the case the clients should tell the captain why they weren't happy so he can either defend the actions of his mate or take corrective measures for future charters.

On a charter boat, the mate is always expected to be tipped, but the captain is only sometimes tipped and certainly isn't going to feel insulted if he (or she) isn't.

On guided trips, where there is only a captain and no mate, the captain should usually be tipped.

Someone asked how to tip if there aren't any (or very few) fish caught. I reminded the group that no matter how good a fisherman someone might be, or how hard they try, there will always be days when the fish simply won't bite. Crew members usually work their hardest on these days because they're constantly trying new baits or lures, moving from one place to another, contacting other boats for reports from other locations, reviewing charts and logs, and enduring an extra measure of stress as they try to pull off a decent catch before the day is over. By all means, even if not a single fish is caught, as long as an honest effort was made to find and catch fish - standard tips should still be paid.

Someone else asked about where and how to choose a captain or guide. No matter where in the world someone plans to fish, finding a list of captains and guides for a particular area is as simple as doing an Internet search. These

days it's hard to find a charter service that doesn't have a their own website or who isn't at least listed on someone else's. Of course anglers must remember that while websites are wonderful sources of information, they are also advertising tools for businesses and almost always going to be choc-full of pictures of smiling fishermen holding up big fish and commentary slanted to make you think that "on our boat the sea is always calm and the fish are always biting!"

I've seen websites where the photos used were of fish caught from other boats, and text that makes even inexperienced captains sound as if they're the ones who invented fishing! Websites are great tools for finding out who and what boats are available in certain areas, but anglers should not make a decision based exclusively on what they see and read on their computer monitor. Once someone finds a captain, boat, or guide that peaks their interest, it's then time to start the "research" process.

I would suggest that anglers start by first calling the captain or guide. The initial conversation will alert the caller as to what the booking schedule looks like and if there's even a day available that might work. Talking to the one who is going to be running the

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show will also alert fishermen as to whether or not he (or she) is the type of person that they, and maybe their friends or family, actually want to spend a day on the water with. Face it, captains and guides are just "people," and within any group of people there's going to be a representative sample of jerks just as well as there will be a bunch of really good and pleasant people.

Because boats can be run by both idiots and Einsteins, it's up to the "buyer to beware" and book with the type of person they want to spend their hard-earned money and well-deserved leisure time with. One of the best ways to choose a captain or guide is after a close friend or acquaintance that has been out with them before tells you of the great time they had. There are a lot of successful charter captains and guides who live by the referrals they get from their past and present customers. Talking to the captain, and to folks who have fished with him before, as well as those who work in local tackle shops and marinas should help give the angler a pretty good understanding of what kind of fishing operation he runs and what his personality is like.

It's also good to talk to the captain or guide ahead of time so that the two of you

can agree on what the goals of the trip are going to be. If you have your heart set on catching a marlin and don't want to waste time messing with dolphin or tuna, let him know days ahead of time so that he can start working-up a game plan to accomplish your goal. Likewise, if the target species is sharks but you would also like to drop some lines down to a wreck to catch a couple sea bass for dinner, have that discussion with him when you're booking the trip, not part-way through your fishing day and then end up blaming him for not having the right sea bass bait aboard or not being within striking distance of a fishable wreck.

Also, when booking a trip be sure and give your captain or guide an idea of what your fishing party will be like. Are they all somewhat experienced - or not at all? Will there be women or children in the group? Fill him in as best as possible and then listen to him if he makes suggestions or tells you that the crew you're bringing may not be appropriate for the type of fishing you're requesting. For instance, a family with mom, dad and three kids are going to have a problem on offshore trips when the primary catch is 100-pound tuna, however, near shore trolling for king mackerel and bluefish might



The Indian River Bay flounder action is heating up. Buddy Brewer from Dagsboro, DE found a good bite in the morning hours and caught this 25" and 5.6 lb. flounder using minnows and cut bait. Pictured at Hook'em & Cook'em at the Indian River Marina.

be just perfect.

With fuel prices hitting all-time highs, charter prices have risen to levels where for most folks it's probably more important than ever to milk

every bit of enjoyment possible from charter or guided fishing trips. A little research and a few phone calls can be the difference between fishing-fun and fishing-flop! §

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Species	2023	2022	Species	2023	2022
 Bluefish	April 19 Dave Moore Assateague Island	April 26 Morgan Mericle South OC Jetty	 Thresher Shark		May 20 Mike Eid "HotLine" Fingers
 Black Drum	April 3 Jeremy Zinn 145th Street, OC	March 29 Jay Phillips Assateague Island	 Bigeye Tuna	May 5 Jeff Rosenkilde "Full Service" Baltimore Canyon	June 12 Richie Widmayer "HotLine" Baltimore Canyon
 Cobia		June 11 Numen Bilal Fenwick Island Beach	 Bluefin Tuna	May 29 The Crew "Marli" Baltimore Canyon	May 17 Andrew Dietz "Take Em" SE Poor Man's
 Summer Flounder	March 27 Dakota Bittner Thorofare	April 3 Scott Lenox Thorofare	 Longfin Tuna		June 5 Chad Tingle "Sea Bear" Wilmington Canyon
 Sea Bass	May 15 Mike DePalma Sr. Great Eastern Reef	May 15 Jeremy Michalski Jack Spot	 Yellowfin Tuna	May 6 Chris Kroh "Kilroy" Poorman's Canyon	May 17 James Haren "Take Em" SE Poor Man's
 Sheepshead	May 5 Anthony Carrieri Ocean City Jetty	June 4 Blake Gunther OC Inlet	 Dolphin	May 6 Brad Hubbard "Talkin' Trash" Poorman's Canyon	May 29 Adam Davidson "HotLine" East of Poor Man's
 Striped Bass	April 15 Shaun Flaherty Rt. 50 Bridge	April 20 Shaun Flaherty Rt. 50 Bridge	 Swordfish		June 4 The Crew "Espadon" Poor Man's Canyon
 Tautog	January 31 Josh Schwemiein Ocean Structure	March 27 Michael Guigley Stinky Beach	 Blue Marlin	June 1 Steve Sylvester "Talkin' Trash" Norfolk Canyon	June 13 The Crew "Rhonda's Osprey" Poor Man's Canyon
 Wahoo	 June 9 Josh Short Poorman's Canyon	June 30 Tim McCartney "Chasin Tides" Hot Dog	 White Marlin	 June 2 Joe Huk "RESTLESS LADY II" Baltimore Canyon	June 6 Kevin Gibb "WRECKER" Baltimore Canyon

To report your catch, call the Coastal Fisherman at 410-213-2200 or email to coastalfisherman@comcast.net



Frank Sadowski with Dennis Newman and First State Marine owner Anthony Puglisi were just 1 flounder short of their 3 man limit when they caught 11 fish on a natural bottom offshore. The largest were 26" and 25".



This picture really captures the smoky sky we experienced last week. Travis Gosnell and his dad Steve took in the sunset at the 2nd Street bulkhead in Ocean City. Travis caught this striper on a live minnow and Steve hooked a 17½" triggerfish on a sand flea.

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The weather was nice on this trip to the 3R's, but the fishing conditions were tough. Joe Corbino was able to snag on striper midday after the wind changed. With the new striper regs, this one was just a little too big and was released.

Capt. Monty Hawkins on the headboat "Morning Star" enjoyed the milder weather last week. His anglers did however have to put in more work to find some keepers. He reported times of no action or having to deal with lots of throwbacks. Conditions changed at the end of the trip and some boxed up double digits. This one Maria caught was just shy of taking the daily pool.

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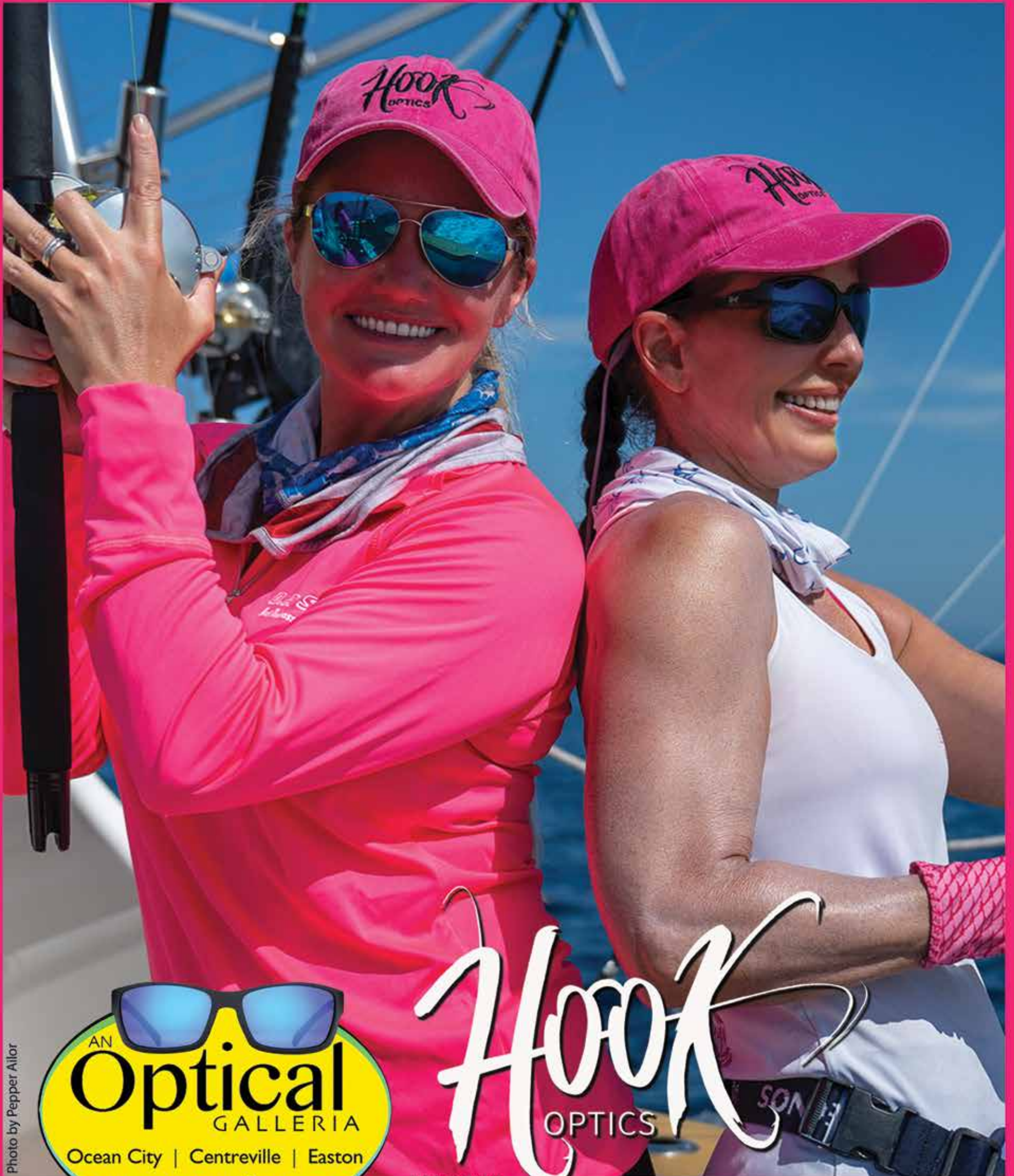


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Derrick Williams and his family spent the day fishing the suds off of Assateague Island. Overall the fishing was very slow with only 1 bite, but it was a good one. They reeled in this 6' to 8' sand tiger shark using an Avet 80W reel and a tuna head for bait. The shark was left in the surf to remove the hook and then released.



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Bill Krug and Nick Hatton killed it at the Old Grounds last week. They boxed up their 2 man limit of 8 decent sized flatties. Pictured at Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck , DE.



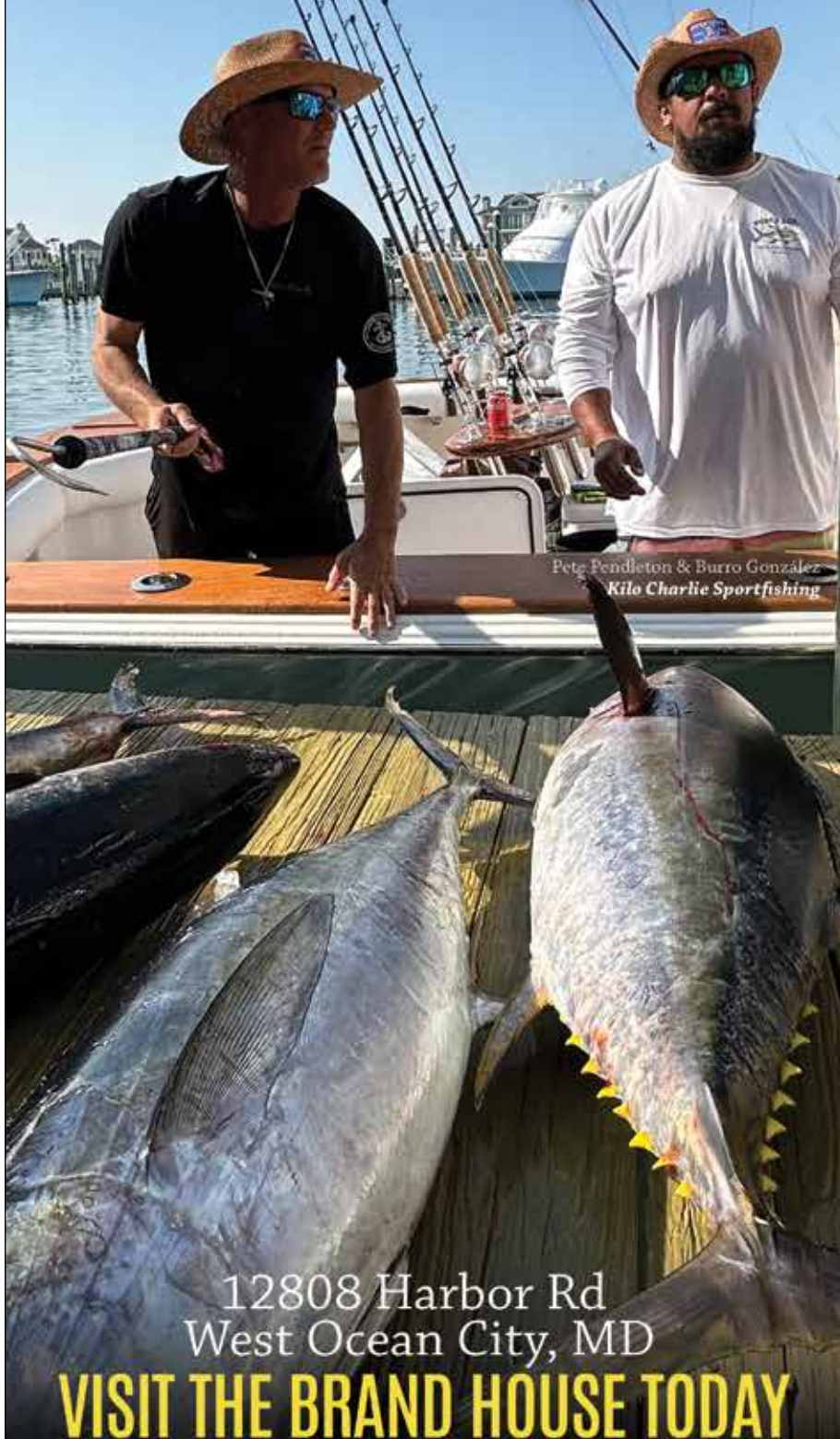
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THE GALLEY

by Chef Christine



Garlic Herb Tuna Steak Marinade

Ingredients:

2 - 4 tuna steaks

Marinade:

1/3 cup olive oil

1 tablespoon honey

1 tablespoon minced garlic

1 tablespoon finely chopped cilantro

1 tablespoon finely chopped parsley

1 teaspoon salt

1/2 teaspoon cumin

1/2 teaspoon coarsely cracked black pepper - or 1/4 teaspoon ground pepper

1/2 teaspoon smoked paprika

Juice of 1/2 lemon - about 2 tablespoons

Directions:

Combine all of the marinade ingredients and whisk vigorously.



Place tuna steaks in a gallon ziploc bag. Add the marinade, toss to coat the tuna steaks, press out excess air and seal (if using ziploc bag).

Transfer to the fridge and chill for 30 minutes.

Grill 6-8 minutes on each side until easily flaked with a fork and

center of tuna steak is just barely pink. Internal temperature should read 90-95 degrees when done. Alternately, steaks can be seared in a skillet over medium-high heat, or broiled in the oven at 400 degrees.

Flounder with Lemon Butter Sauce

Ingredients:

Four (4- to 6-ounce) 1/2-inch-thick (not frozen) flounder fillets (or substitute sole, snapper, catfish, tilapia, or any thin white fish)

1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

1/4 teaspoon ground black pepper

1 teaspoon or so all-purpose flour* (optional)

2 tablespoons mild vegetable oil

3 tablespoons (1 1/2 oz) unsalted butter cut into 4 slices

Juice of 1 lemon (about 1/4 cup)

2 tablespoons finely chopped fresh herbs such as basil, chives, and/or flat-leaf parsley

Directions:



Pat the fish dry with paper towels and season with salt and pepper. Pat the fillets dry a second time just to be sure to remove all the moisture. If desired, sprinkle a little flour over both sides of the fillets and use your fingers to evenly coat both sides.

Note: The key to crisp perfection is to make sure the fillets are extra dry by patting them with paper

www.coastalfisherman.net towels and dusting them with just a tiny bit of flour.

Heat the oil in a large skillet (preferably cast-iron or stainless steel rather than nonstick) over medium-high heat until the oil shimmers but isn't smoking, 1 1/2 to 2 minutes. Add the fillets to the skillet and cook, without moving, for 2 minutes. Slide a thin metal spatula underneath the fillets (making sure to use a little pressure to scrape up any of the golden crust that may be sticking to the bottom) and carefully flip the fish. If it seems impossible to slip the spatula beneath the fillet and the skillet, wait 30 to 60 seconds or so and try again. The fish will release when it's ready—and only when it's ready.

Note: You may be tempted to pull out your nonstick skillet, but to get that coveted crisp crust, you're better off with a heavy-bottomed stainless steel pan.

Place a slice of butter on top of each fish fillet and stand idly by as the butter melts and infuses the fish with flavor. Cook the fish until it springs back from light pressure, about 2 minutes. Use a spatula to transfer the fish to a platter or to 4 plates.

Carefully squeeze the lemon juice into the skillet and, with the skillet still over medium-high heat, use

a wooden spoon to scrape up any browned bits stuck to the bottom of the skillet. Stir in the fresh herbs and spoon the sauce over the fish.

Speckled Trout in Capers and White Wine

Ingredients:

1 pound fresh speckled trout

2 tablespoons butter

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- 1 tablespoon lemon pepper
- 1 teaspoon capers
- 1 pinch paprika, or to taste
- ¼ cup white cooking wine

1 teaspoon minced fresh parsley, or to taste



Directions:

Preheat oven to 400 degrees F. Line a baking dish with aluminum foil.

Place trout in the middle of the aluminum foil; top with butter, lemon pepper, capers, and paprika. Pour cooking wine over trout. Close foil around the trout.

Bake in the preheated oven until

fish flakes easily with a fork, about 30 minutes. Garnish trout with parsley.

Cheesy Hot Crab Dip

Ingredients:

- 8 ounces cream cheese softened
- 1/3 cup sour cream
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1 teaspoon Old Bay Seasoning
- 1/2 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1/2 teaspoon seasoned salt or to taste
- 2 green onions thinly sliced
- 8 ounces lump crab meat
- 1 cup cheddar cheese shredded, divided

Baguette for serving

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375°F.

Combine cream cheese, sour cream, mayonnaise, old bay, seasoned salt, and garlic powder in a bowl. Mix on medium speed until fluffy.

Add green onions, crab meat and half of the cheddar cheese. Gently fold until incorporated.

Spread into a 1 ½ QT dish (8x8”).



Top with remaining cheese and bake 15-20 minutes or until melted and bubbly.

Serve with toasted baguette.

Whole Sea Bass Roasted with Potatoes & Thyme

Ingredients:

- 2 pounds baby Yukon Gold potatoes, halved
- 18 small cipollini onions or large shallots, peeled and quartered
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 12 sprigs of thyme

Kosher salt

Freshly ground black pepper

2 (2-pound) cleaned whole sea bass

1 lemon, thinly sliced, plus a lemon half, for squeezing

2 tablespoons finely chopped parsley

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 425°F and line a large, rimmed baking sheet with parchment paper.

In a bowl, toss the potatoes and onions with 1 1/2 tablespoons of the olive oil and 4 thyme sprigs, and season with salt and pepper. Spread on a large rimmed baking sheet and roast for 20 minutes, until the potatoes are blistered in spots and barely tender.

Rub both fish all over with the remaining 1 1/2 tablespoons of oil; season generously with salt. Stuff the cavities with the lemon slices and the remaining 8 thyme sprigs. Stir the potatoes, pushing them toward the sides, and set the fish on the baking sheet. Roast for 30 minutes, until the fish are just cooked through and the potatoes and onions are tender.

Transfer the potatoes and onions to a platter. Using two forks, pull the skin off the top of the fish

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1 large green onion finely sliced, to serve

Directions:

Slice your tuna into 1/4-inch cubes and place them in a mixing bowl.

In a small bowl, whisk together the ginger, soy sauce, lime juice and sesame oil until combined.

Pour the sauce over the tuna and gently mix until incorporated.

Transfer into serving bowls and sprinkle with the chopped chives and toasted sesame seeds.

To Store: Keep it in an air-tight container, refrigerated, for up to two days. Do not consume raw fish if kept longer than three days.

To Freeze: Do not freeze tuna tartare or raw tuna, as it will become rubbery and yield a foul smell once thawed.

and discard. Remove the fillets from the bones and transfer to the platter. Squeeze the lemon juice over the fish, potatoes and onions, sprinkle with the parsley and serve.

Tuna Tartare

Ingredients:

- 1 lb fresh tuna sushi grade
- 1 teaspoon fresh ginger
- 1 1/2 tablespoons soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons lime juice freshly squeezed
- 1 1/2 tablespoons sesame oil
- 1 tablespoon sesame seeds to serve



Coastal Cocktail Hour

Father's Day Manhattan

Ingredients:

- Ice
- 2 ounces rye whiskey
- 1 ounce sweet vermouth
- 2 dashes of Angostura bitters
- 1 maraschino cherry, for garnish

Directions:

Fill a pint glass with ice. Add rye, vermouth, and bitters and stir well.

Strain into a chilled coupe and garnish with maraschino cherry. §



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Capt. Jim Bugg knows how much we like a good fish catch on the transom shot! He and Anna Schumann, Richard Hutchison, Chris Daugherty, Matt Frantz and C.J. Wood with mate Gunner Reynolds headed out of Sunset Marina and trolled the Poor Man’s Canyon. They found a 58°-66° temperature break in around 70 fathoms and had a solid bite starting at 8AM. They went 11 for 16 bites using both plastics and natural baits, and decided they had enough with the eleven yellowfin in the box at 10:30AM!

2023 MARYLAND • DELAWARE • VIRGINIA									
CITATION			ATLANTIC COAST			SIZES			
	MD	DE **	VA		MD	DE **	MD		
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-	8 lbs. or 22"	Wahoo	60"	20 lbs. or 50"	35 lbs.		
Black Drum	48"	50 lbs. or 45"	80 lbs. or 46"	Weakfish	24"	3 lbs. or 20"	30"		
Black Sea Bass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"	5 lbs.	White Marlin*	Any Size	Any Size	Any Size		
Bluefish	34"	12 lbs. or 29"	16 lbs. or 36"	SHARK:					
Blue Marlin*	Any Size	Any Size	Any Size	Blue Shark*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"	72"		
Cobia	44"	45 lbs. or 48"	55 lbs. or 50"	Hammerhead*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"	72"		
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"	3 lbs. or 20"	Thresher*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"	72"		
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"	25 lbs.	Tiger*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"	72"		
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"	6 lbs. or 26"	Swordfish	47"	Any Size	100 lbs.		
Golden Tilefish	35"	35 lbs. or 40"	30 lbs.	TUNA:					
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"	1.5 lb. or 16"	Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lb. or 32"	40 lbs.		
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 26"	20 lbs.	False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"	32"		
Red Drum*	36"	45"	-	Bigeye***	60"	70 lbs. or 48"	70 lbs.		
Sailfish*	Any Size	-	-	Bluefin***	55"	100 lbs. or 60"	100 lbs. or 60"		
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"	10 lbs. or 24"	Yellowfin***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"	70 lbs.		
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"	4 lbs. or 26"						
Speckled Trout	24"	-	5 lbs. or 24"						
Striped Bass	40"	44"	44"						
Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"	9 lbs. or 23"						

* Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program
 ** DE - Lengths only apply to Live Release
 *** Use curved-fork-length measurements



Our bearded buddy Tim Goodman had a slower start this year, but he finally got on the board with some keepers. He caught this 19³/₄" flounder in the Indian River Inlet on a top teaser with a white & chartreuse Gulp Swimming Mullet. His mom Robin also got in on the action with a 17¹/₂" keeper!

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JUNE

- 3rd Annual Tuna & Tiaras Ladies Tuna Tournament**
June 16-17 • Ocean City, MD • 410-212-7159
- School's Out Tuna Tournament**
June 21 - 25 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2400
- 8th Annual Indian River Kids Catch-All Tournament**
June 24-25 • Indian River Marina • 302-227-3071
- 44th Annual OCMC Small Boat Tournament**
June 24-25 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613
- 5th Annual Fish N Paddle Saltwater Slam Kayak Fishing Tournament**
June 24-25 • Ocean City, MD • 410-868-5488

JULY

- 41st Annual Canyon Kick Off**
June 30 - July 2 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613
- MidAtlantic Cup**
July 4 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-0177
- South Jersey Yacht Sales Offshore Showdown**
July 5-8 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-0177
- 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament**
July 14-16 • Ocean City Fishing Center • 410-213-1613
- AC Quest for the Ring**
July 16-23 • Atlantic City • www.QuestfortheRingAC.com
- 19th Annual Marlin Club Kid's Classic**
July 22-23 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613
- Cape May Marlin Tournament**
July 27-30 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-0177
- 10th Annual HUK Big Fish Classic**
July 28-30 • Talbot Street Pier • 410-213-0325

AUGUST

- Marlins for Mason**
August 4-5 • Ocean City Fishing Center • 410-213-1613

For complete tournament coverage results, pick up the Coastal Fisherman every week from May through September or go to our website at **www.coastalfisherman.net**



What Time Is It?

Let's review a popular topic during fishing tournaments - Time of day. While many crew many not wear a watch while fishing, keeping track of the correct time is even more critical during a tournament. With so many electronic gadgets supplying the time, we expect the time we see to be correct and synchronized between all devices. A marine Chartplotter or GPS, as with most modern time keeping devices, it needs to be properly programmed to your location for the proper time zone and day light savings time. Many of us on a boat have come to rely on the time on the chartplotter or related device for the proper time.

How does a GPS Chartplotter know the correct time?

These chartplotters receive the time-of-day from the GPS satellites. In addition

to longitude, latitude, and altitude, the Global Positioning System (GPS) provides a critical fourth dimension - time. Each GPS satellite contains multiple atomic clocks that contribute very precise time data to the GPS signals. GPS receivers decode these signals, to the UTC standard and effectively synchronizing each GPS receiver to the world's atomic clocks. This enables users to determine the exact time-of-day to within 100 billionths of a second, without the cost of owning and operating atomic clocks.

The manufacturers of these GPS receivers' generally automate the device's time settings, allowing the time to be automatically adjusted based on your boat's GPS location, just like a smart phone. Seems like a good idea, right? Well many of the devices may be too smart; they know when your boat moves into a

different time zone or time of year and even when it has exceeded the coastal 12 mile territorial waters of the USA. Once beyond the 12 mile coastal limit, the Chartplotter often automatically eliminates the daylight savings time (subtracting one hour in the summer) on the way to the distant fishing grounds and then adding back the one hour on the return trip to port, at that same 12 mile territorial water limit.

The best way to deal with this issue and synchronize the vessels time to the same time zone at port is to manually configure the time zone (or offset) of your GPS display systems. Often, the time of day menu on the chartplotter has a setting for display format and offset adjustment from UTC. Keeping the same time at sea and at port will also allow your calculated ETA to be correct. Here in Maryland during the summer, the time zone is -4

(minus 4 hours) from UTC. The Garmin chartplotter devices seem to need manual time zone configuration more than other brands since they default to the automatic time zone settings for simplicity. The steps below are for the most popular current Garmin devices, other brands may be similar.

- Start from the Home screen
- Select Configure/Settings
- Select Preferences
- Select Units
- Select Time
- Select Time Zone
- Select Custom

GMT or UTC?

Many of us once referenced time based on Greenwich Mean Time (GMT).

GMT is actually a time zone in England that also happens to be the same as UTC. The Universal Time Coordinated (UTC) is an international standard referenced around the world. UTC is an atomic timescale; it usually has 86,400 seconds per day but is kept within 0.9 seconds of the mean solar time as by the introduction of

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occasional leap seconds. If you are curious, there are currently 37 worldwide time zones, with some zones 30 or 45 minute intervals as compared to the traditional one hour differentials based on 1 hour per 15 degrees longitude.

If you are using a digital video camera or still camera (especially in tournaments) be sure you check and set the devices time so the images timestamp is correct with the time zone and season.

Setting your ships clocks and devices to the correct time will allow you to be sure you start and stop fishing at the correct time, fill out the catch reports properly and have the correct estimated time of arrival (ETA) for your trip. §



Mike Bostic and his crew put the smack down on yellowfin tuna on his charter boat "MARLI" with Capt. Mark Hoos and mates Jake Pinkerton and Jax 'Cactus Kid' Moore. The limit of tunas were in the box by 11:30AM inside the Poor Man's Canyon in 75 fathoms. The hungry yellowfins couldn't resist the Sterling spreader bars and Crazy 8 chains!

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Looks like the speedsters have arrived! Angler Josh Short from Smyrna, DE caught this 53 lb. wahoo in the Poor Man's Canyon last Friday and it is the first we have heard of for the season! He was fishing with Tom Ford also of Smyrna. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

2023 DELAWARE REGULATIONS

STATE WATERS ONLY

 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 13" minimum / 15 per person/day May 15 - December 11</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH No minimum size 3 per day / 5 per day Charter</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 3 per person/day</p>	 <p>COBIA 37" Minimum • 1 per person or vessel</p>
 <p>CROAKER 8" Minimum • No Limit</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 20-27" minimum 5 per person/day</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD No limit</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 12" minimum No creel limit</p>
<p>NEW!</p>  <p>STRIPED BASS 28-31" except 20-25" only from 7/1 - 8/31 in DE Bay 1 per person/day Catch & Release only from 4/1 - 5/31 on Spawning Grounds</p>	 <p>SUMMER FLOUNDER 16" minimum 4 per person/day</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/15 4 per person/day 7/1 - 12/31</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>

eregulations.com



89 year old John Lawrence from Hanover, PA still knows how to get it done! He caught this 19" flounder in the East Channel on a Gulp/Minnow combo while fishing with his sons Greg & Dave and grandson Dylan.



We are seeing more convicts showing up! Billy Mister caught this sheepshead in the Delaware Bay using sand fleas!





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The crew of the "Ocean Hunter" had a good trip to the Poor Man's Canyon boating 14 1/2 yellowfin tuna! Capt. Aaron Thomas and mate Joey Collins with anglers Web Hubbard, Austin Hubbard, Dickie Hubbard, Mike Smith, Mike Brooks and Shane Gownley did well, but the *taxman* took his piece.



Young Adalynn Dunlap has to be one of the best dressed anglers we see in the Coastal Fisherman! She was fishing on the "Reel Lee" with her dad Jeff when she caught her first ever flounders on Deadly Double rigs. The largest was 18".

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DELAWARE FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



This past week in Delaware we finally saw a slowing to the winds and many anglers went out to fish the ocean. Sea bass remains spotty with an average of 6-10 keepers per person, per trip. Flounder has really come alive in the ocean, although a lot of small fish are still on the wrecks. The surf is holding some nice sized blues with a few rockfish and drum in the surf.

Sea Bass, Flounder & Near Shore Wrecks

Sea bass has started to pick up from past weeks, with lots of fish both on the reefs as well as the coral grounds. Many of these fish are undersized and must be returned. The average angler is coming home with around 10 keepers for a full day. Mark McCormick of Bethany

Beach, DE took a headboat trip out with his sons and returned to the docks with about 30 nice sized keepers to have for dinner. Mark said several flounder were also hooked, but most were just short of the 16 inch minimum size limit.

Thomas Vogel made a trip out in the afternoon, and after wading through a lot of small fish, did manage a limit of flounder as well as a few sea bass off the coral grounds near B Buoy. Thomas said the ocean was flat calm and they fished until dark. Ted Proseus was out at the reefs and used jigs to pull up tons of sea bass as well as a few keeper flounder. Short dropper loops with a jig suspended about 3 inches above the weight did the trick for both the bass and fluke. "Bottom Bouncer Charters" was also out at the

reef and used jigs with their clients to bring home a variety of fish. Several nice sea bass were taken with the jigs. "Jay Sea 2 Sportfishing" had to work a little harder than usual but the crew brought home a box full of the tasty black fish. They will be finishing out their sea bass and flounder trips soon and changing over to tuna for the rest of the summer. "Get The Gaff Charters" also had a couple of good days on the Bass Grounds. They had to weed through a lot of short fish but managed a nice full cooler to bring home to Lewes Harbour Marina.

"Bad Wind Charters" returned to the docks after enjoying the calmer seas with a boat load of sea bass for their anglers. They said they will be searching for more of the flat fish as the season continues.

The "Angler" had several good trips this past week with their clients pulling in the best size fish they have seen all of this early season. A few flounder also found their way onto the boat, however, the amount of flatties haven't reached the true summer time normal numbers. Hook'Em and Cook'em Bait & Tackle reports that "Horizon Charters" came in with a boat load limit of flounder. They had 16 flatties, one sea bass, and one bluefish. Tim Yerkes had the big fish at 23.5 inches and 4.9 pounds. Great job guys. "Surface Tension Charters" returned to the docks in Lewes with a load of sea bass. Ethan, April, Scott and Brittany pulled in a full cooler of fish. That's a lot of tasty meals.

Ryan West was out slaying fish again this week and returned home with a limit of sea bass. Ryan also got a big spadefish as a reward for his hard work.

Back Bays & Lewes Canal

The back bays remain consistent

with quality fish brought back to the docks. The hot spots are Lewes Canal approaching the high tide and the Indian River Inlet area. Tim Goodman was fishing the inlet around a slack tide and managed a 19 3/4 inch fluke weighing in at 2.86 lbs. while his mother got a 17.5 inch, 1.91 lb. fish. Both fish were caught on the top hook teaser with a minnow.

"Flip N Fins" hooked a flounder and a few bluefish near the inlet last week. Anthony Puglisi was out and got himself two nice fluke in the back bays.

Tom Passwater and crew managed an impressive 6 pack of keepers in the Lewes Canal. This year the canal has been very productive.

Buddy Brewer of Dagsboro caught himself a fat 25 inch, 5.6 pounder near the inlet. Minnow and squid strip combos are accounting for many of the keeper fish in the bays.

Jake Wilkins was fishing the Lewes Canal and was surprised when he landed a trophy 26 inch, 8 pound 10 ounce flattie. Great job on a spectacular fish!

Leon Zimmerman and friends headed out and got their limit of big fluke. Strips of squid and big bucktails were the ticket in getting these fish to bite. Brady Mills got his first keeper of the year using LHM squid, shiner and a bucktail. The fish measured 18 inches. All the more reason to take a kid fishing... they always seem to catch the biggest ones.

Ralph had bragging rights when he caught a nice 26.5 inch, 6.5 lb. fish while fishing near Steamboat Landing in the bay.

Aidan Hudson used the famous Nik Rigs and got two nice keepers from the canal. The Nik Rigs are a hot ticket item this year and Lewes Harbour Marina is having trouble keeping them on the shelves, they are selling so quickly. Larry Coverdale picked up a few of the rigs and landed 3 keepers up to 3.96 pounds. He used white Gulp on the Nik



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Buddy Brewer of Dagsboro got his personal best fluke of 5.6 pounds and 25 inches long. He kept his limit and threw back many more.

Surf Fishing

Rockfish are still around but hard to find as water warms. Joe Corbino snagged a nice just under sized striper near the inlet. The fish was safely returned to swim another day.

Lee Ireland caught a nice drum while fishing for spot on the beach. The drum should begin to move north as the water warms. You may have another week left to try to snag one of these ugly but tasty fish.

George Frigm was at Fenwick State Park and pulled in a few bluefish. He was fishing a whole bluefish rig about halfway to high tide.


Steve Sawczenko finishes off our report with 9 dogfish caught at Slaughter Beach.

Until next week...

Tight Lines and Fins up

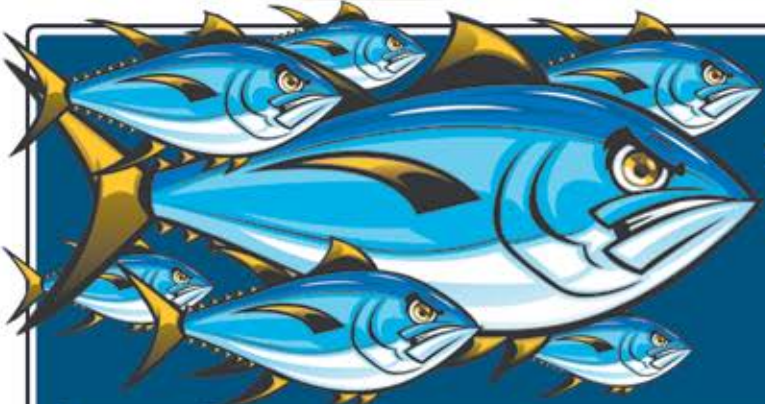
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We have not had many reports of golden tilefish being caught this season. Rod Taylor raised this one on the boat "Playmaker" with Pam, Jeff, Michelle and Brett Taylor with Max Newnam. They were in the Poor Man's Canyon in 600 feet using tuna belly for bait.

Judy Scalfaro of Telford, PA reeled in a pretty speckled trout while fishing at the Ocean City Northside Park Pier. She tricked the 19" speck using calamari and released it after a quick pic! She is pictured with her grandsons Nick & Benjamin and her son Lincoln Scalfaro.

2023 FEDERAL SIZE & CREEL LIMITS

3-200 Miles

 <p>BLUE MARLIN 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>YELLOWFIN TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day</p>	 <p>BIGEYE TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>GOLDEN TILEFISH No minimum • 8 per person/day</p>
 <p>WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p> <p>NOTE: Blue Marlin, White Marlin and Roundscale Marlin combined 250 Limit</p>	 <p>BLUEFIN TUNA 27" to <47" curved fork length 2 per vessel/day or trip 47" to < 73" curved fork length 1 per vessel/day or trip 27" to <47" curved fork length 3 per Charter/day or trip 27" to <47" curved fork length 6 per Headboat/day or trip 47" to < 73" curved fork length 2 per Headboat/day or trip</p>	 <p>SWORDFISH 47" Lower Jaw Fork Length 1 per person / 4 per vessel (Rec) 1 per person / 6 per vessel (Charter) 1 per person / 15 per Headboat</p>	 <p>BLUELINE TILEFISH 5/1 - 10/31 3 per person (Recreational) 5 per person Uninspected (Charter) 7 per person Inspected (Charter)</p>
 <p>DOLPHIN No minimum Length Boat Limit 54 Charter Limit Daily 10 per angler</p>	<p>SHARKS No Minimum Fork Length Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead 54" Minimum Fork Length Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse, Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common Thresher, Oceanic Whitetip, Porbeagle, Finetooth, Atlantic Blacknose 78" Minimum Fork Length Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead, Smooth Hammerhead</p>	<p>SAILFISH Minimum Length 63" • No Retention Limit</p> <p>NOTE: Only 1 shark from the lists above may be retained per vessel per trip. In addition, 1 Atlantic Sharpnose, 1 Bonnethead and 1 Oceanic Whitetip may be retained per person per trip. If a hammerhead shark is retained, no tunas, billfish or swordfish may be retained.</p>	<p>WAHOO No Minimum Length • 2 per person/day</p> <p>PROHIBITED SHARKS Atlantic Angel, Basking, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Sixgill, Bigeye Thresher, Bignose, Caribbean Reef, Caribbean Sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin Mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Sandbar, Sand Tiger, Sevengill, Shortfin Mako, Silky, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White</p>
<p>SHARKS AUTHORIZED SPECIES</p>		<p>Resources: eregulations.com & NOAA.gov</p>	



Angler Jim Mack has set a new seasonal record for Heaviest Sheepshead in Delaware! He was fishing at Massey's Landing using sand fleas when he snagged this 4.8 lb. convict. Pictured at Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck, DE.



Salem Sales with his wife Lisa Cover-Workman and Karli, Amanda and Kraig Glatfelter caught some nice yellowfin tuna with Capt. Dale Lisi on the charter boat "Foolish Pleasure". Karli caught and released a mako and another one took half of a tuna at the boat!

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ED-#443-966-1762



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#301-704-7231



"FISH ON" 48' VIKING
CAPT. ANDREW DOTTERWEICH
#678-372-8818



"NO QUARTER" 54' CUSTOM
CAPT. KYLE PEET
#302-353-8488



"PRIMARY SEARCH" 54' BLACKWELL
CAPT. AUSTIN ENSOR
#443-392-4926



"C-BOYS" 57' DEAN JOHNSON
CAPT. LUKE BLUME
#410-251-1889



"TROUBLEMAKER" 57' DEAN JOHNSON
CAPT. KAYVAN BAHRAMI
#410-310-6961



"PUMPIN' HARD" 58' BLACKWELL
CAPT. MIKE BURT
#410-726-8804



"MARLI" 58' RICIE HOWELL
CAPT. MARK HOOS
#410-456-7765



"ROLL GROOVE" 58' RICIE HOWELL
CAPT. DANNY PRETTYMAN
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#410-458-1164



"WHITE LIGHTNING" 61' LIGHTNING
CAPT. MICHAEL SALMON
#757-377-9655



"BUCKSHOT" 62' SPENCER
CAPT. GARY STAMM
#443-783-2765



"BIG STICK" 64' WEAVER
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There is good money in catching some of the first white marlins of the season! Angler Keith Garner was fishing in the Poor Man's Canyon with Capt. Chris Ragni on the charter boat "Bill Slayer" when he hooked into this white marlin on a ballyhoo with a Habanero Lure Skirt. It was the first white released from a Delaware boat, and as the first member of the Ocean City Marlin Club to catch a white for the season, he will receive \$5,000 from the club! Pictured with mates Connor Campbell and Brody Chapman.

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A photograph of two MOBJACK bags on a boat deck. One is a green bag and the other is a black bag. A mobile phone is also visible on the deck. The background shows the ocean.

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See inside at MOBJACKMARINE.COM

VIRGINIA FISHING REPORT

by Capt. Matt Abell



We on the Eastern Shore are truly blessed. A week with light winds and calm seas have redeemed us from the plague of northeasterly gusts which kept our boats moored, reels silent, and hopes subdued, like water in a blow out ebb tide.

With the return of clean, clear water comes the smiles and bent rods of the seaside flounder fisherman. The last of the flood and the first of the ebb have provided the most productive setting for extreme Eastern Shore floundering. Silversides coupled with Gulp on Sea Hawk flounder rigs have been the ticket as a good number of fantastic flounder fillets were served

on the dinner tables of those who cherish the pursuit of these spoils of the seaside shallows. The standard colors of white, chartreuse, and pink remain the reigning champs. However, the Gulp Salmon Red (blaze orange) has also added to the boat side excitement.

We at Sea Hawk Sport Fishing among other steadfast anglers, continue our quest for tenacious trophies of the Tangier. This week we were lucky enough to take several groups out to enjoy the treasures of the Chesapeake while casting a mix of Rapala, mirrolure and the shores own paddle tails from the quality manufactures of Old Skool,

and RumbleFish. While specs have been limited in numbers, the quality has been world class. The spotted shallow water scrappers have been secluded to grassy creek mouths where baitfish and shedding crabs are prevalent. Elsewhere on submerged structure, a mix of rock and blues have provided screaming drags and big smiles. We have had blues 18"-25" come over the gunwale and rock to nearly 30" fill the net. A rap-10 burned over the top of nearly any rock pile in the central Chesapeake is subject to be attacked by one of these predacious predators that will make a rod bend and a grown man













www.coastalfisherman.net forget about the trials and tribulations of life.

The lower bay has seen a good number of reds and sheepshead take the bait as anglers get ready for the opening of cobia next week. A chunk of bunker on a fish finder rig is all that's needed to dance with the man in the brown suit. This years regs include a minimum size limit of 40" total length and 1 fish per person, with no more than 2 fish per vessel. Only one of the 2 fish may exceed 50".

The deep blue of the Atlantic off Chincoteague have yielded a pretty good yellowfin bite on the troll in the canyons. Ballyhoo trolled on teasers like islander trackers have lured some of these pelagic prey to the dinner table. It won't be long before we can consistently add mahi and billfish to the targeted tally

2023 VIRGINIA REGULATIONS

STATE WATERS ONLY

 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 13" minimum / 15 per person/day May 15 - December 11</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH No minimum 3 per person/day or 5 per person/day headboat All Year</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>COBIA 40" minimum / Only 1>50" 1 per person/day • 2 per boat/day 6/15 - 9/15</p>
 <p>CROAKER No minimum 20 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 18-26" minimum 3 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD No minimum 4 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 5 per person/day All Year Only 1>24"</p>
 <p>28-31" Coming Soon! STRIPED BASS 28-36" 1 per person/day 1/1-3/31 & 5/16-12/31</p>	 <p>FLOUNDER 16" minimum 4 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1-5/15 & 7/1-12/31</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 12" minimum 1 per person/day All Year</p>

eregulations.com

Don't forget to join in for a great cause and sign up for the Mike Taylor Memorial Flounder Frenzy which will be held out of Sea Hawk Sports Center on June 16 & 17. Mike was a friend and fisherman who was taken from us far too early, and to commemorate him, the family and the Sea Hawk crew will be hosting a family friendly flounder contest in his honor. The entry is \$20 per person and kids under 16 are free. All profits of the tournament will be donated to the National Down Syndrome Society which is dear to the hearts of the Taylor family. So grab the kids and their buddies and show everyone that not only are we blessed with the some of the best fishing in the world, but also the best people in this wonderful place we call home! §



Anglers on the Eastern Shore of Virginia are seeing great action on red drum. Sandra Lotz from Chincoteague, VA caught her first red at Smith Island.

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Pittsville, MD natives Tom Phillip and his buddy Darren put some time in near the Nanticoke River last week. The pair landed 5 big red drum including two at 48" that Tom caught using soft crabs!



Hook'em & Cook'em Bait and Tackle at the Indian River Marina saw a lot of big fish last week starting with this big flounder! Bill Hoyle and Bob Shields of Bay Colony Marina fished the Old Grounds using Gulp and bucktails. They boated sea bass and flounder, including this 24 1/2" flatfish.

OCEAN CITY INLET TIDES & MOON PHASES

WED. JUNE 14	High 05:38 am High 06:30 pm	Low 11:29 am Low -----
THUR. JUNE 15	High 06:25 am High 07:18 pm	Low 12:30 am Low 12:17 pm
FRI. JUNE 16	High 07:09 am High 08:04 pm	Low 01:22 am Low 01:03 pm
SAT. JUNE 17	High 07:53 am High 08:46 pm	Low 02:10 am Low 01:45 pm
SUN. JUNE 18 New Moon	High 08:36 am High 09:26 pm	Low 02:54 am Low 02:26 pm
MON. JUNE 19	High 09:19 am High 10:03 pm	Low 03:38 am Low 03:05 pm
TUE. JUNE 20	High 10:02 am High 10:40 pm	Low 04:21 am Low 03:25 pm
WED. JUNE 21	High 10:45 am High 11:17 pm	Low 05:04 am Low 04:27 pm

source: usharbors.com

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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2 HOUR SUNSET DOLPHIN CRUISE from 7:00 - 9:00PM

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Capt. Dave Dalfonso understood reality when he named his boat "Drop Money"! The investment paid off on this trip to the Poor Man's Canyon. He and fellow anglers Gabriel Dalfonso, Earl Starner and Randy Stephens went 5 for 7 on yellowfin tuna in the 30-45 lb. range. They fished in 63° water and the tuna hit on side trackers and spreader bars.

 A promotional poster for the 'Tuna & Tiaras' Ladies Only Tuna Tournament. The background features a large yellowfin tuna on the left and a fishing boat on the right. The text includes:

- JUNE 16-17, 2023** (in a yellow box at the top right)
- OCMD** (in a circular logo at the top left)
- TUNA & TIARAS** (large stylized text)
- GIVEN AWAY NEARLY \$200K IN PRIZE MONEY PAST 2 YEARS COMBINED** (in green 3D text)
- WE HAVE GIVEN AWAY \$13,000 WOMEN SUPPORTING WOMEN (LOCAL CHARITY)** (in black text)
- Ladies Only Tuna Tournament** (in cursive script)
- WOMEN OWNED AND OPERATED** (in pink block letters)
- PHOTO CONTEST FREE TO ENTER.** (at the bottom left, with several small photos of women fishing and celebrating)
- Facebook.com/tunaandtiaras** and **Instagram@tuna_and_tiaras** (social media links)
- WWW.TUNAANDTIARAS.COM** (website URL at the bottom right)



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BARRATUNA - 2008 53' Sculley Call Steve Hedrick



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HADLOCK - 2002 61' Viking Convertible Call Ronnie Fields



\$650,000

1997 50' Alex Willis Custom Convertible Call Joel McLeod



\$625,000

SEA HUNTER - 2019 45' Mark Willis Call Chris Workmon



\$425,000

1985 47' Hines-Farley Call Ronnie Fields



\$325,000

CONSTELLATION - 1984 37' Sunny Briggs Call Ronnie Fields



\$295,000

DRIFTWOOD - 2017 28' Harrison Boatworks Call Jeff James



\$242,000

MOONSHINE - 1996 38' Duffy Highshare - Call Mark Pagano



\$180,000

1998 45' Ocean Yacht Call Chris Workmon



\$155,000

CAROLINA STYLE - 2002 35' Carolina Classic Call Jeff James



\$140,000

1986 28' Ocean Master Call Glenn Cameron



\$139,000

2017 27' Cobia Call Colton Cunningham



\$129,000

1982 31' Bertram Call Ronnie Fields



\$129,900

2003 38' Fountain Call Terry Layton



\$109,000

SAILFISH - 2018 24' Sailfish Call Jimmy Fields



\$99,500

FOWL HOOKED - 1979 35' Custom Carolina Sportfish - Call Jeff James



\$69,000

TWIN BILLS - 1970 36' Hatteras Call Jeff James

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