

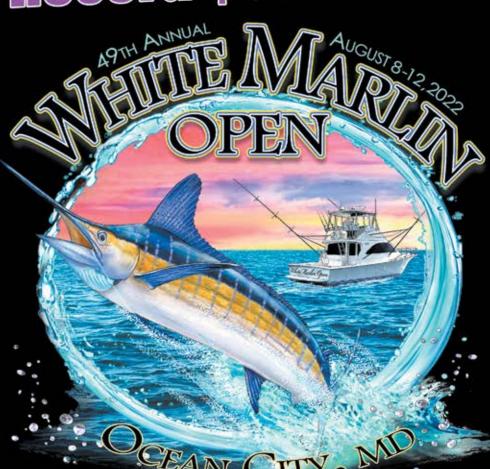


It was a big swordfish for the "Big Stick" last week! Capt. Ronnie Fields and mate Brad Wilson had the boat in the Poor Man's Canyon when they got hit with a double header using dolphin belly. Angler Steven Stallings spent the next 2.5 hours getting this one to the boat. They also got the other 80 lb. sword!



Canadian Gerry Chaveca from Montreal is a regular visitor to OC, however he has been unable to come down for two years due to Covid. He got right to work landing these two 17.5" keeper flounder in the Thorofare using minnows on the outgoing tide on the "Mr. Sea".

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Luckily for JC Dennis of Berlin, MD the Fish & Paddle Saltwater Slam Kayak Tournament was going on when he pulled up to the docks at Atlantic Tackle in West OC. He had a big sheepshead and the tournament had a certified scales all set up! He caught this 13.75 lb. convict at the rocks on the north end of Assateague Island on an ebb tide using peeler crab. His fat fish is now the Heaviest sheepshead of the season for Maryland.





Offshore Report

This Week Last Year

- The "Big Stick" with the Trappe Queens took the top spot for Billfish Release during the 39th Annual OCMC Canyon Kick Off. They released 2 blue marlin and a white in the Washington Canyon.
- Top payout for the Canyon Kick Off was to the crew of the "Kilo Charlie" for a 14.6 lb. mahi caught in the Washington Canyon. They had the only qualifying fish presented and took home over \$8,000!
- The very hot tuna bite from the last 2 weeks of June slowed significantly with the top spot being the Poor Man's followed by the Washington.
- Rory Badger caught a 458 lb. thersher shark using mackerel while fishing on the "Sea Hawk" at the Old Grounds.

It did feel like summer finally turned on this past week. We saw several hot sunny days and large crowds for the holiday weekend. It felt good to see our coastal communities hopping and SO people enjoying themselves. Offshore things also picked up, and captains are reporting water temperature in the 70° to 75° range in the Poor Man's Canyon and below. The tuna decided to give up their picky ways from early last week and were hitting bait in earnest! We also got to see some species we haven't seen in a while. We hope this is a good sign for the upcoming 35th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament hosted at the Ocean City Fishing Center this weekend.

Billfish were in the mix as well with a number of blue marlin and swordfish catches being reported. Lot's of new entry's for the Heaviest Fish this week too, so lets see who was catching what and where!

Tournaments

I only highlight tournaments in this report because the one schedule for last weekend was canceled due to low participation. It may be a sign of the times, but when the event was canceled last Thursday, the offshore action up to that point had been poor. It also doesn't take an economist either to know that fuel prices are impacting peoples decisions to enter these events as well.



The good news however is that the tuna bite got hot over the weekend, just in time for the Ocean City Tuna Tournament this weekend. Lots of reports of double digit catches for yellowfin, as well as bigeyes and a bluefin. This is also the first big money tournament of the season and I expect we will see a crowded field and some good action at the scales.

Tuna

A group text must have gone out among the tuna last Thursday telling the yellow fins to bite! Both Thursday and Friday saw nice catches from the Washington Canyon, mostly on naked ballyhoo. The charter boat "Sping Mix II" started things off bringing in 10 good sized yellow fins



from the Washington Canyon where Capt. Chris Watkowski found warm 73.4 DEGREE water, including an 85.5 lb. yellowfin that is currently the Heaviest for the season! The "Playmate" was there too, returning with 6 nice sized fish. Despite some 'sporty' weather, Friday was even stronger. The "Marli" pulled in 9 vellowfin, the "Bar South" tagged 5 and the "Playmate" again hit 5 yellows as well as a stud 219 lb. bigeye! Only one of less than a dozen eyeballs reported this season. Capt. Jeremy Shadrowski reported that they had 10 more bites in addition to the fish caught.

Saturday saw most of the fleet at the docks as the wind picked up for the day, but when it settled down overnight, Sunday picked right back up with tuna catches reported broadly across the southern canyons and lumps. First to report was Capt. Joey Drosey on the charter boat "Rhonda's Osprey". He gave us a call at 10ÅM that he was already headed in with 6 chunky yellowfins for his 3 guest charter. They hit on 6 first thing after getting hooks in the water at Massey's Canyon and said 'that's enough! 2021's top tuna captain Chris Little on the "Talking Trash" came back with 8 good sized yellowfins to the Ocean City Fishing Center as did the "Spring Mix II" with 6 from the Washington. The big news was yet to come. I got a call from Jim Brinker on the "Carol's Teakettle" that he was coming in with a large bluefin tuna. We haven't seen



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pics to coastalfisherman.net

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one of those in weeks! While and it was chunky. Angler I was waiting for them at the scales at Sunset Marina I found the crew of the "Top Dog" hanging a 243 lb. bigeye on the scale! Teenage anglers Cash Stanton and Trent Dickerson took 45 minutes to get the newest Heaviest Fish Bluefin tuna to the boat. Jim found his bluefin at the Hambone after it hit on a naked ballyhoo. Once to the scales at Sunset Marina it registered at 132 lbs. As I said, lots of promise for the Tuna Tournament!

Billfish

Billfishing in general has been very slow this year. The warmer waters these fish crave has been elusive in our canyons, however we are seeing temps above 70 DEGREES as I mentioned above, and that has lead to several blue marlin releases and catches this week. The "Real One" is on our cover with a 340 lb. blue they caught in the Washington The fish hit on Canyon. a purple Ilander and took angler Stephen Newcomb 2.5 hours to get to the boat. The fish ended up being tail wrapped and did not survive the fight to the boat. Stephen will be warped however since this was his first offshore trip. Expectations will be high for his next adventure on the rip! Friday saw the first blue marlin release for a Delaware The "Bill Slayer" boat. released an estimated 650 lb. blue, and another DE boat, the "Miss Darline" released one as well. Both were caught in the Baltimore Canyon. We did not get any reports of white marlin releases.

The 'other' billfish action we saw was swordfish. Angler Steven Stallings on the "Big Stick" landed a monster 288 lb. sword in the Poor Man's It was actually Canyon. a double hookup and the second one caught was 80 lbs. The "Boss Hogg" also got a nice sized sword. Dolphin belly seemed to be the bait of choice.

Other Notable

The first wahoo catch of the season was reported by Capt. Chase Eberle on the charter boat "Chasin Tides"

Tim McCartney snagged the speedster after it hit on a Hoo Magic Trolling head at the Hot Dog.

The last shortfin make shark caught in Maryland for the next couple of years was caught by anglers Tyler Enslin and Andy Swope. They tricked two makos on an overnight trip in late June, keeping the legal one. The retention federal limit for shortfin makos however changed as of July 5th, and the limit is now 0 for the foreseeable future. We have posted the NOAA announcement next to this article for details.

Until next week, I will see you at the scales! §

Upcoming Tournaments

- The 5th Annual South Jersey Yacht Sales Offshore Showdown is July 6th-9th. The Showdown is intended to be a relaxing time among their family boat owners, friends. More at SouthJerseyTournaments.com.
- Our areas first big money tournament is the Ocean City Tuna Tournament. Held on July 8th - 10th with weigh ins at the Ocean City Fishing Center from 4-8PM on Fri. & Sat., and 4-7PM on Sun. More at OCTunaTournament.com.
- Jimmy Johnson's Quest for the Ring runs from July 10th -16th in Atlantic City, NJ. This is the 2nd year for this event in Atlantic City and it does draw big names and is quite an event. Details at FishHardEvents.com.
- The OC Marlin Club hosts it's annual Kid's Classic on July 16th & 17th to benefit the Wish a Fish Foundation. This 18th edition will have weigh ins from 3PM - 6:30PM on Saturday and 3PM - 6PM on Sunday at the tournament scale at Sunset Marina.
- The Paradise Bay Flounder Tournament returns after a 2 year hiatus on July 16th - 17th. Hosted by the Paradise Grill in Long Neck, DE and sponsored by Short's Marine, it is the richest strictly bay & flounder fishing tournament in the world and benewwwfits the Oak Orchard Boys and Girls Club. More at BayTournament. com.



Anglers are finding more blue marlins as they find warmer waters in the canyons. Bob Keller from Hayden, CO released this blue in the Baltimore Canyon in 70.5° water on the "Miss Darlene" with Capt. Rick Brown.



June 30, 2022

Zero Shortfin Mako Shark Retention Limit Established in Final Rule

No shortfin make sharks may be landed or retained in any U.S. Atlantic highly migratory species (HMS) fishery until further notice.

What does this final rule do?

This final rule establishes a shortfin make shark retention limit of zero in the commercial and recreational Atlantic HMS fisheries, consistent with the management measure adopted in 2021 by the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT). If ICCAT provides for U.S. harvest in the future, NOAA Fisheries could increase the shortfin make shark retention limit, based on regulatory criteria and the amount of retention allowed by ICCAT. Until that happens, the retention limit will remain at zero.

Read the full description of the final action in the final rule and supporting **Environmental Assessment**

Who is affected?

- · Any commercial fishermen with HMS permits.
- Any recreational fishermen with HMS permits.
- · Any dealers who buy or sell sharks or shark products.

What do fishermen need to do to comply with new requirements?

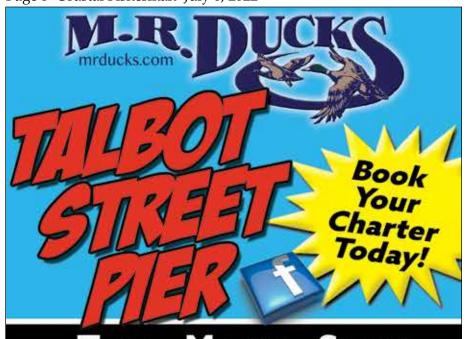
To comply with this rule, commercial and recreational fishermen (including those fishing in tournaments or on for-hire vessels) with HMS permits must release any shortfin mako sharks captured while the retention limit is zero, whether the shark is dead or alive at haulback. NOAA Fisheries will notify the public of any change to the commercial and/or recreational shortfin make shark retention limit via Federal Register notice and email. Fishermen must continue to follow other relevant fishery regulations, which are summarized in the Atlantic HMS compliance guides.

Effective Date

This rule will be effective on July 5, 2022.

This bulletin serves as a Small Entity Compliance Guide, complying with section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996.

For more information, contact Carrie Soltanoff, carrie.soltanoff@noaa.gov, (301) 427-8503.



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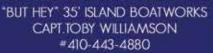
We don't know who attacked who in this photo, but we think Teddy Pararigan has the upper hand in wrestling this yellowfin tuna out of the water! He was fishing with Capt. Chris Huk and mates Shane and Tanner on the "Restless Lady II" in the Baltimore Canyon with fellow anglers Scott Fischer, James Grimes, Brian Canoles, Jeff Dukes and Connor & Tim Curtis.



Located at The Shark on the Harbor Restaurant | 12924 Sunset Ave. in West Ocean City | 301.748.7473









"HALL PASS" 37" VIKING CAPT.GEORGE HALL #301-481-5513



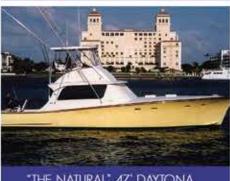
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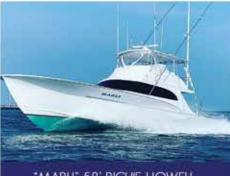
"TROUBLEMAKER" 57" DEAN JOHNSON CAPT. KAYVAN BAHRAMI #410-310-6961



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"REEL CHAOS" 60' GUTHRIE CAPT, ANTHONY MATARESE #609-685-0704



"BOSS HOGG" 61' BLACKWELL CAPT. BRIAN PORTER #410-458-1164



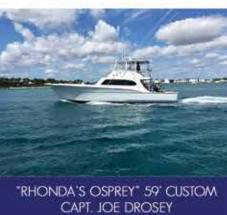
"WHITE LIGHTNING" 61' LIGHTNING CAPT, BILL RAAB #302-545-3331





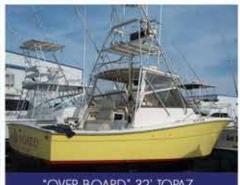
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Last week in Maryland saw some decent fishing on the inshore areas. Lots of different species were caught on many different sites.

Sea Bass & Flounder African Queen

Edward Hearn was fishing with "Bad Wind Charters" and they landed a nice limit of some big flounder. Joe Puck and Tommy Barlow also fished with Captain Bruce this week and got more nice flatties. The highlight was when Bruce tried to lip a ribbonfish. The "Judith M" out of Bahia Marina reported some good trips with some great people this week. Lots of sea bass came over the rails. Pete Dussinger brought home some nice fish for dinner along with a big smile on his face. Captain Eric Shoaff reported lots of small fish are around keeping everyone busy pulling on the rods. Friday last week, Sarah Allies brought home the biggest sheepshead this year on the "Angler". The fish was 23.5" and weighed 8.9 lbs. They were on the water all week, pulling a plethora of fish over the rail. Captain Chris Mizurak reports a lot of the fish are undersized but still enough keepers for anglers to bring home dinner. Fresh clam and squid appear to be working about equally.

Bass Grounds Reef

Jerry Hudack and Bill Shue caught a limit of flounder along with 6 over 20". The duo also caught 2 sea bass from various wrecks. The "Ocean City Girl" fished both the inshore wrecks as well as the offshore ones. Last Wednesday they had a great day catching 30 sea bass, 15 blues, and 3 false albacores. The group also ended up with a 50", 80 lb. bluefin tuna. Great job guys!

Bay Fishing

Jacqueline Fazio was fishing on the "Bay Bee" boat and tangled with a nice 19" fluke. Sue Galloway was fishing on her boat, the "Reel Life" near OC Airport with Gulp and minnows, catching a nice 25" 5 lb. trophy. Further north in the Thorofare Captain Don Hochein of the "Nameless" caught a beauty measuring 22". Camden Holz caught a nice 17.5" keeper in this same area. Mitch Pruitt was fishing a slack tide on the East Channel on the "Papa Double" and hooked a nice 19.75" fish on a bunker. Gerry Chaveca from Canada was fishing the bay this past week and managed two keepers, both measuring 17.5" as well as a few throwbacks. Fish were caught on an outgoing tide on minnows. The back bays are really heating up. Captain John Prather of the "Ocean City Guide Service" was out all last week and brought home several keeper flatfish along with a few keeper bluefish and rockfish. The fish, which have concentrated in the southern part of the bay have begun to spread out to the northern parts near the

www.coastalfisherman.net Thorofare and points north.

Great Eastern Reef & Deeper Wrecks

The deeper wrecks in the 120 ft. range are still producing the best quality fish as well as a few limits of keepers.

Bluefish & Rockfish Rt. 50 Bridge

Bay fishing for bluefish was pretty productive this week with anglers fishing the Rt. 50 Bridge pulling in some nice big keeper fish. Buddy Martin and his friend Cody fished the bridge at night last Wednesday and managed 3 keepers each between 5 and 8 lbs. Buddy reports losing several fish around 10 lbs. that jumped the hook while fishing them at the surface. Several other reports from the bridge of big blues and small rockfish. Ron Smith was out with Big Bird and managed some big keeper blues and a few small stripers. The best time to fish the bridge is at night, with the best tide being a full to outgoing tide. Cut bait such as bunker are your best baits. Fishing the down current side of the bridge and allowing the bait to drift away from the bridge



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www.coastalfisherman.net structure on or near the bottom will draw the best strikes.

The Ocean City Fishing Pier also had some good catches last week with multiple species caught. The pier is open Sunday-Thursday 8am-10pm and Friday and Saturday 8am-11pm.

Surf Fishing

Assateague Island

David Moore was surf fishing the island this past week and reported a fun evening catching multiple rays, sharks, and redfish. All were big fish with the reds over the slot. Joseph Perzanewski was out last weekend and hooked into 10 blues as well as 10 kingfish. Joseph also reports a few big The further sand sharks. south on Assateague Island you fish the better chances of catching nice drum or big sharks. Cut bait on a fish finder rig is your best set up with early morning and late evening being the best times.

Clams & Crabs

Reports from the upper bay say that crabbing has been a little slow for keepers, with many traps and pots filled with sponge crabs and small undersized crabs. The average per pot is around 5-7 keepers.

Clamming on the back bays has been steadily improving. They've been closer to the surface and easily raked up or found with your feet. As the summer continues the traffic on the state and federal parks will increase, so attempt to head out a little deeper and you'll find less crowded areas.

Until next week...
Tight lines and fins up §

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I am sure Tim Doutrich, Chris Sullivan, Matt Otto, Dan Beck and Bill Salerno must have been tired after this trip on the "No Limit" with Capt. John Azata and mate Little John. Overall the crew caught 40 yellowfin tunas with many hookups up to 9 at a time to find these 14 keepers.



Cobia in the Ocean City Bay?! Avid flounder fisherwomen Pat Borrell from New Bloomfield, PA was fishing for fatties with green Gulp when she connected with the 28" cobia near Bird Island north of the Rt. 50 Bridge. The undersized fish was measured and quickly released to grow a bit more.

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CROAKER 9" minimum 25 per person/day



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



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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



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SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 4 per person/day



WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day

eregulations.com



Nicole Klina from Ocean Pines does not have time to waste when fishing! She caught this 22" flounder last Friday off the beach on Assateague Island using a home made rig on her first cast!



Epic angler Shaun Flaherty continues to slay bluefish and stripers with Big Bird Cropper at the Rt. 50 Bridge. This trip saw the dynamic duo hit their combined limits on both bluefish and rockfish using stretch and Roy Rig lures.



UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

JULY

South Jersey Yacht Sales Offshore Showdown July 6-9 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-0177

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PARADISE BAY FLOUNDER TOURNAMENT

July 16-17 • Long Neck, DE • www.BayTournament.com

7TH ANNUAL OCMC vs. OCLTC SHOOT-OUT

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THE MARLIN INVITATIONAL

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AUGUST

14TH ANNUAL MARLIN CLUB LADIES TOURNAMENT

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August 18-20 • Bahia Marina • 410-289-7438

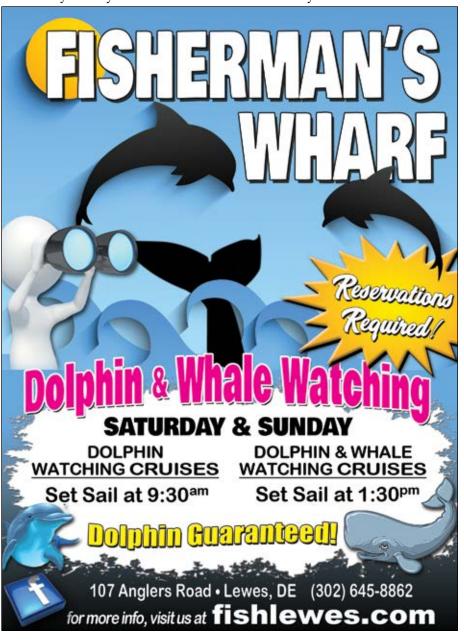
THE MIDATLANTIC

August 21-26 · Cape May, NJ & Ocean City, MD

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Anglers Jeff and Connor Hare from Charlotte, NC with mate Mario Rosales and dad Gerry Rosales from Atlanta, GA made quick work catching 6 good sized yellowfin tunas first thing in the morning. They were fishing with Capt. Joey Drosey and other mate Eric Strauss on "Rhonda's Osprey" in the Massey's Canyon and were back to the dock by 10:30 AM.





REGISTRATION: FRIDAY JULY 15 from 6:00 - 8:00PM

or Virtual Captain's Meeting available on the Club's website and Facebook page

FISH 1 or BOTH DAYS: JULY 16 and/or JULY 17

LINES IN 6:30am · · LINES OUT 3:00pm

WEIGH-INS: JULY 16 3:00-6:30PM • JULY 17 from 3:00-6:00PM

CARNIVAL & AWARDS BANQUET Sunday July 17 from 5:00-8:00pm under the Clubhouse FOOD • GAMES & PRIZES ••• AWARDS PRESENTATION 7:00 P.M. • EVERY ANGLER RECEIVES AN AWARD!

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	(AS REPORTED TO THE COASTAL FISHERMAN - MUST BE REPORTED WITH PICTURE WITHIN 48 HOURS OF CATCH)				
Species	2022	2021	Species	2022	2021
Bluefish	April 26 Morgan Mericle South OC Jetty	May 8 Gavin Murray Gull Island	Thresher Shark	May 20 Mike Eid "HotLine" Fingers	May 22, 2021 Patrick Snell "MAKO me CRAZY" Twin Wrecks
Black Drum	March 29 Jay Phillips Assateague Island	March 31 Allen Sklar Assateague Island	Bigeye Tuna	June 12 Richie Widmayer "HotLine" Baltimore Canyon	May 28 Pete Gudiatis "Blood Money" Poor Man's
Cobia	June 11 Numen Bilal Fenwick Beach Island	June 17 Shannon Pickens South OC Inlet	Bluefin Tuna	May 17 Andrew Dietz "Take Em" SE Poor Man's	May 7 James Hammond "Hot Lick" Norfolk
Flounder	April 3 Scott Lenox Thorofare	April 18 Danny Cox Rt. 90 Bridge	Longfin Tuna	June 5 Chad Tingle "Sea Bear" Wilmington Canyon	July 17 Morgan Michael "Reel Fun" Baltimore Canyon
Sea Bass	May 15 Jeremy Michalski Jack Spot	April 12 Camryn Baeder Inshore Wreck	Yellowfin Tuna	May 17 James Haren "Take Em" SE Poor Man's	May 28 Bill Pino "Blood Money" Poor Man's
Sheepshead	June 4 Blake Gunther OC Inlet	June 17 Veronica Cannuli Outside OC Inlet	Dolphin	May 29 Adam Davidson "HotLine" East of Poor Man's	June 10 Michael Seicke "Second Chance" S. Poor Man's
Striped Bass	April 20 Shaun Flaherty Rt. 50 Bridge	May 6 Buddy Martin East Channel	Swordfish	June 4 The Crew "Espadon" Poor Man's Canyon	New Category for 2022
Tautog	March 27 Michael Guigley Stinky Beach	January 1 Mike Sadowski "Tide Runner" Ocean Structure	Blue Marlin	June 13 The Crew "Rhonda's Osprey" Poor Man's Canyon	New Category for 2022
Wahoo	June 30 Tim McCartney "Chasin Tides" Hot Dog	June 17 Gary Welch Washington Canyon	White Marlin	June 6 Kevin Gibb "WRECKER" Baltimore Canyon	June 13 Brad Young "TUNAFOWL" Washington Canyon



Bucktails were the weapon of choice for Keith Chu on his trip with Capt. Chris Mizurak on the headboat "Angler". He caught 3 keeper flounder in total up to 3 lbs. at an artificial reef offshore.





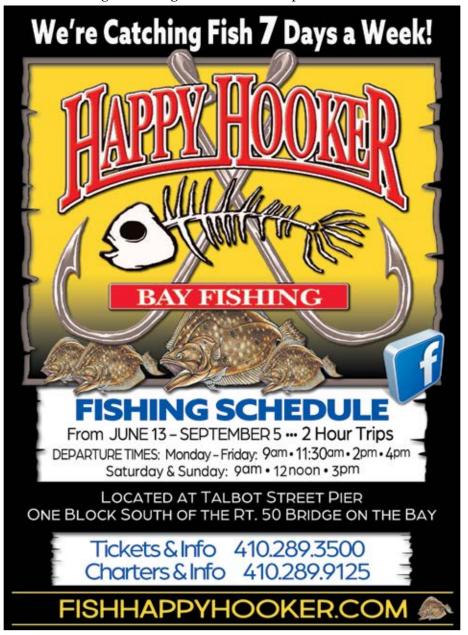
The sea bass clearly preferred squid on this trip to the Bass Grounds on the headboat "Judith M". Little angler Quinn Mueller from Monkton, MD hedged his bets with both squid and clams for bait to snag this sea bass.

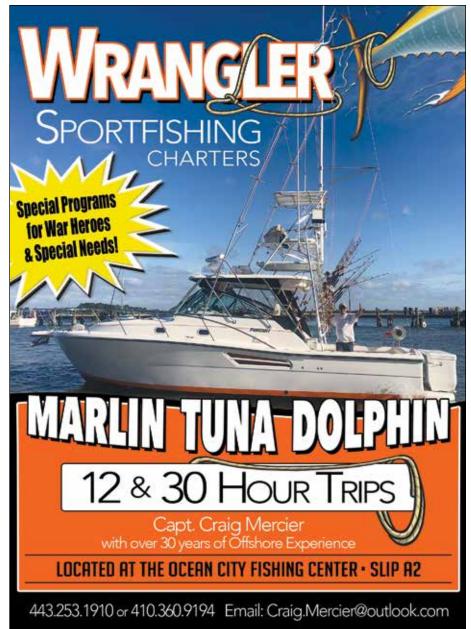


FSH CCHARTERS



This is a tough crowd, even with 7 keeper flounder only one angler smiles! Federalsburg, MD anglers David, Erin and Faye Dorman with Wendall & Dwayne Meredith spent the day with Capt. Nick Clemente on the charter boat "Get Sum". They picked these flatfish from the Thorofare using Nick's signature white Gulp!



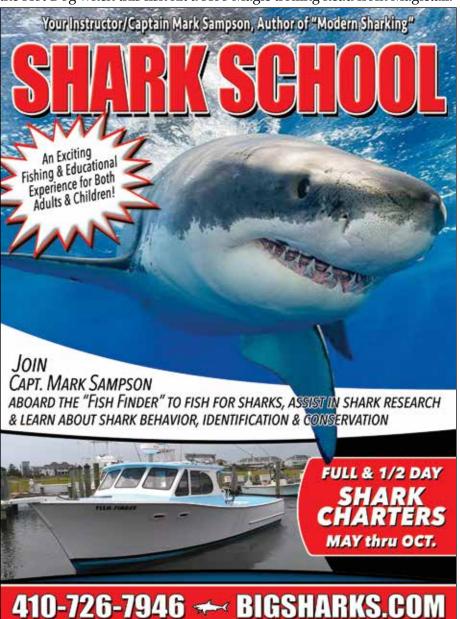


FISHICCHARTERS





The first wahoo of the 2022 season arrived last week when angler Tim McCartney connected with this 72" and 80 lb. speedster! He was fishing with Capt. Chase Eberle and mate Nick Cayzedo on the "Chasin Tides" at the Hot Dog when this fish hit a Hoo Magic trolling head from Magictail.





We nicknamed Jacob Dunn and Andy Powell of Pittsburgh, PA the 'Wawa Brothers' because they are holding their flounder like hoagies! They snagged these 2 keeper flounders between the A and B Buoys on their half day offshore trip with Capt. Roger Meekins on the "Judy V".



FSINGE ARTERS



Thursday was a good day for tuna on the rip! Capt. Jeremy Shandrowski with mate Ben Wheeling on the charter boat "Playmate" put this group of anglers on 6 solid sized yellowfin tunas from the Washington Canyon. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



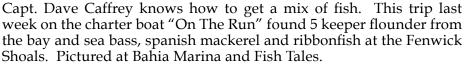


Nate Powell from Scranton, PA has a nice smile showing off one of the keeper sea bass he caught while fishing with Capt. Eric Shoaff on the headboat "Judith M" based at Bahia Marina. This was a half day trip to the Bass Grounds using squid and clams for bait.





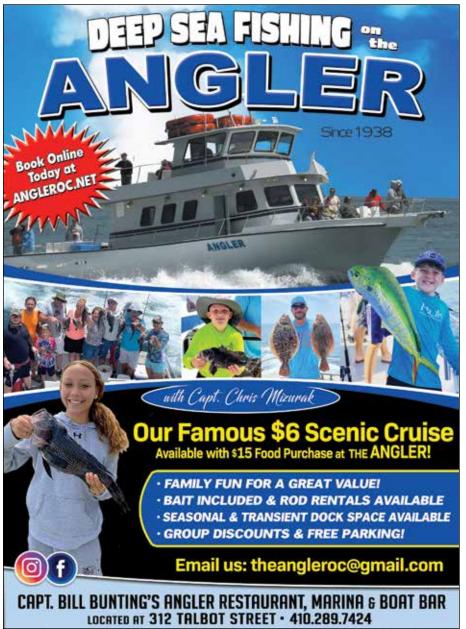






The deep sea fishing vessel "Angler" is on its summertime half day flounder schedule making two trips/day. They have been seeing solid flounder action the past week and the sea bass bite has not been too bad! Dave Sliwinski reeled in a 4.9 lb. flounder using a chunk of clam at a natural reef.



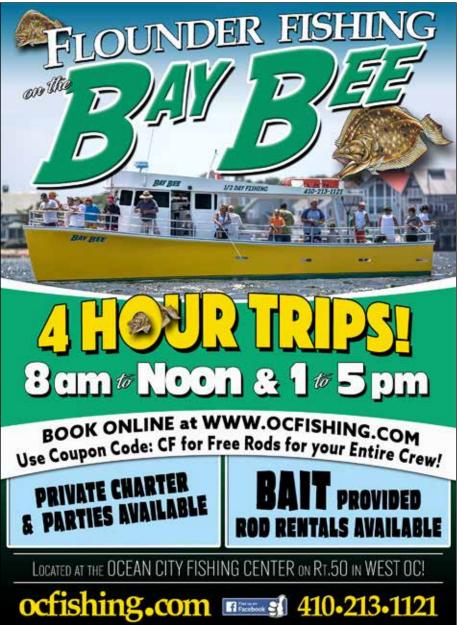




FSH CCHARIERS

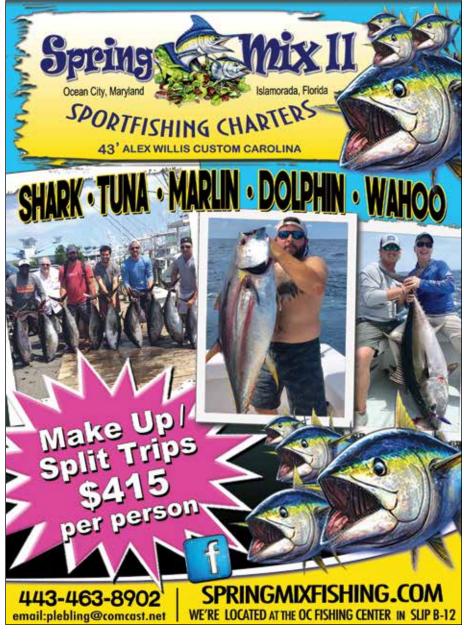


Apparently it helps to present yourself well when going fishing. Jacqueline Fazio from Pittsburgh, PA was sure to have her nails done before her trip on the headboat "Bay Bee" last week! It worked as she tricked this 19" flounder.





The charter boat "Spring Mix II" was the top boat returning to the Ocean City Fishing Center last Thursday with 10 nice yellowfin tuna. Capt. Chris Watkowski and mate Jacob Bialk had anglers Tim Rayser, Josh Foraker and Brian Mayer in the Washington Canyon where they found warm water up to 73.4°. The largest at 85.5 lbs. was caught by Brian and is the new Heaviest for the season in Maryland.







Charter boat owner Howard Berger of the "Boss Hogg" got in on some deep dropping last week. Howard and fellow anglers Hank Dahl and John Lester with mates Jack Hannum, Steven Stallings and Brent Feder ended the day with a nice swordfish and 20 golden tilefish. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

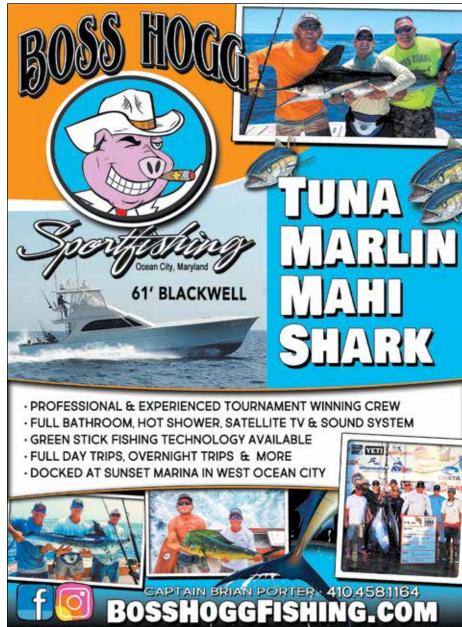


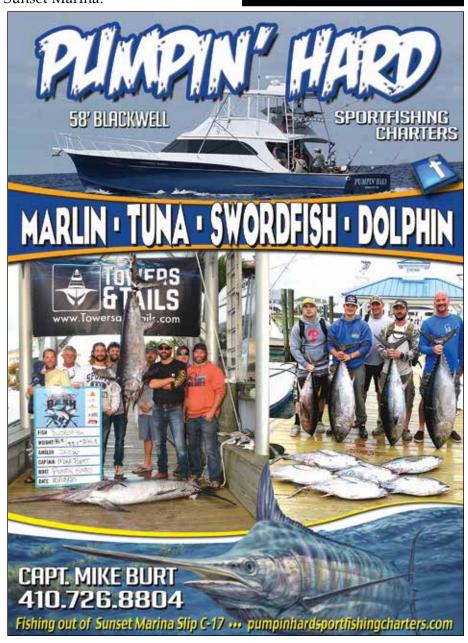
INCLUDE IN THE EMAIL:

- Angler's full name and town
- Names & towns of others in photo
- Weight and/or length of fishBait/lure used
- Location of catch

Name of boat, if any Please do not compress the photo and do not run it through any photo software.

- Have the angler facing into the sun to minimize shadows
- Make sure the side of the fish is facing flat towards the camera
- 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 & always Smile!

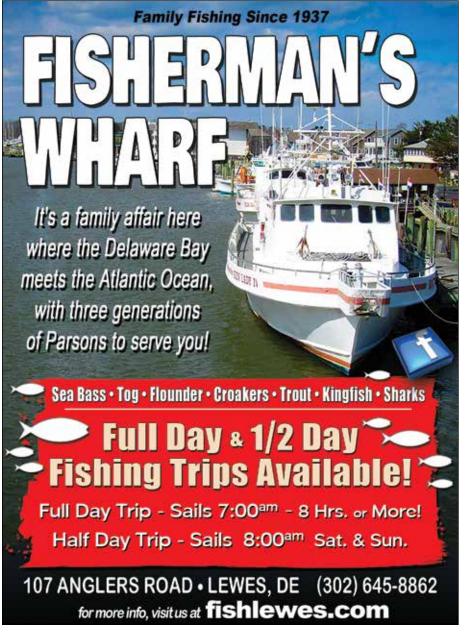




FSH CCHARTERS



Fisherman's Wharf out of Lewes, DE runs full day headboat offshore trips for anglers who want more time on the hook than a half day trip! They have been seeing good flounder catches like this threesome caught on a trip last Thursday.





There have been a lot of sheepshead reported over the last week as the convicts move their way in. Hunter Barone from Hebron, MD snared a nice 8 pounder using a sand flea at the OC Inlet. He was fishing with Capt. Jason Mumford on the charter boat "Lucky Break".



Terry and Mary Beth Perry from Berlin, MD and crew had a great day catching 9 big yellowfin tunas on the charter boat "MARLI" with Capt. Mark Hoos and mates Jake Pilkerton and Jax Moore (the Cactus Kid). The big tunas feasted on the famous Sterling Bars and Fathom Squid Chains, all caught in 72° water in the Washington Canyon.



Rumors started to circulate last Friday as word of a bigeye tuna catch made the rounds. Sure enough the charter boat "Playmate" hit the docks at the Ocean City Fishing Center with a monster 216.6 lb. eyeball that is only one of a handful caught this year and the Heaviest to date. The crew of Rob Farrell, Jimmy Nelson, Mike Bravn, Bryan Stefanic and Chris Kavanagh wrestled this fish for an hour in the 200 fathoms at the Washington Canyon. They also caught 6 yellowfin tunas in the warm 72° water they found and had 10 other bites. Capt. Jeremy Shandrowski was at the helm with mate Ben Wheeling in the pit.

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7-Eleven - 139th St. WEST OCEAN CITY

Primos Hoagies - 134 St.

Wawa - Rt. 50 Mione's Pizza - Outlets

WEST OCEAN CITY

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Frontier Town - Country Store Rt. 611 Cheers - Berlin Food Lion - Berlin Crabs To Go - Rt. 50 Walmart - Rt. 50 (both entrances) Food Lion - Ocean Pines

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Lewes Ice House Bait & Tackle - Rehoboth
ACME - Rt. 1 Rehoboth
Fisherman's Wharf - Lewes
Wawa - Rehoboth (near Fresh Market)
Wawa - Rehoboth (Northside near Walmart)

BETHANY, OCEAN VIEW & MILLVILLE

Hook 'em & Cook 'em Outfitters - Rt.1 G&E Supermarket G&E Hardware - Cedar Neck Rd. Hocker's Deli - Rt. 26 Gull's Way Campground Tuckahoe Campground Hocker's Supermarket - Rt. 26 Wawa - Rt. 26 Bethany Auto & Marine - Rt. 26 Downtown Bethany by Bandstand Bob's Marine

LONG NECK

Short's Marine Rick's Bait & Tackle



STEVE'S MARINE SERVICE by Steve Katz

Safety at Sea

Two news stories this week provide the real-life example of boating safety aided by technology.

The first story made national headlines about a rescue at sea during a Clearwater Florida ladies fishing tournament held on Saturday June 25, 2022. A 39' center console with two crew and five lady anglers was on a 100mile trip back to the dock from a day of fishing. They were running through a storm when lightning directly hit their boat. Owner, Mr. Glenn Rumer indicated "The outrigger that actually got struck exploded into splinters and was on fire when it landed." "The motors, the electrical, everything went out. We were completely dead in the water."

What made this even more newsworthy is that Joshua Guy,

the local captain on-board for the tournament was using his smartphone filming the trip home and captured the lightning strike in a video and inadvertently captured himself being shocked by the lighting. Glenn Rumer said, "The electricity from the lightning actually went through him and caused him to black out and go to the floor," Rumer told the station, adding that their friend "came to immediately" after falling over."

The crew quickly realized that the engines and all the electronics were knocked out by the lightning strike, leaving them stranded and adrift 100 miles out in the Gulf. Boat owner, Glenn Rumer had a EPIRB onboard and quickly activated the rescue beacon. After a two-hour flight, a Coast Guard Air Station Clearwater MH-60 helicopter found their boat and hoisted all seven people aboard

the helicopter and brought them to safety.

As a standard operating procedure, the USCG contacted the registered owner of the EPIRB by telephone and in this case, Coast Guard District Seven command was able to contact the EPIRB owner's wife who said her husband and others where part of a fishing tournament. This information put the USCG into immediate action. The USCG also indicated that this event where lighting hits a moving boat is exceedingly rare.

An unregistered or improperly registered EPIRB can delay a response by rescue authorities. In the USA, The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) handles EPIRB registration, they have a registration website, www. beaconregistration.noaa.gov or you can call them at 301-817-4515. EPIRB registration data must be renewed every two years and updates can be made at any time.

If you sell your boat, you should keep your EPIRB with you or unregister your EPIRB if you leave it for the buyer. Recently a Captain told me that the boat owner was called about his EPIRB activation, though the boat and EPIRB were both safe. It turns out the activation was from a EPIRB that stayed on a sold boat through two additional owners, none of the new owners bothered to register the EPIRB with their personal information.

This anecdote reminds us on how important it is to have a good working EPIRB and that it is properly registered.

A second story in our own backyard two weeks ago is the rescue of a sinking boat fifteen miles east of Ocean City. The boat "Hot Pursuit" with four people aboard began taking on water and the crew was not sure if they could make the trip back to Ocean City without sinking.

In this case, the crew used the marine VHF radio's DSC distress feature to automatically contact www.coastalfisherman.net the USCG. A Coast Guard Station Ocean City 47-foot Motor Lifeboat crew was launched to assist. When the crew arrived on scene, they embarked two of the four passengers and stabilized the vessel with dewatering pumps.

The DSC feature is built into all modern marine VHF radios, Digital Selective Calling or DSC, is the ability of the marine VHF to transmit digital information to another VHF radio, it can be used to hail other boaters but, in this case, it can be used to automate an emergency call to the USCG.

This distress call is initiated by pressing the button under the red protective cover on the VHF. The idea is that the red button is pre-programmed with information about your boat so that, in the event of a life-threatening situation, you can send an effective automatic mayday distress call while you are busy with other tasks. For the emergency call to work properly your VHF radio needs two things:

First the VHF radio needs to know your vessels position, latitude and longitude, this is accomplished by interconnecting the VHF to an onboard GPS system or some of the newest VHF radios come with a built-in GPS receiver, allowing standalone operation.

Second, the VHF radio needs to be programed by the radio owner with the vessels Maritime Mobile Service Identity (MMSI) number, this is a unique 9-digit number issued to the vessel, available from the FCC or other issuing groups like BoatUS, United States Power Squadrons and others. NOTE: if you operate your vessel in foreign waters, including Canada, Bahamas, Mexico etc. or regulations require your vessel to have an MMSI number, you will need to obtain the MMSI from the FCC.

These two stories are an example of situations that can happen to any boater, any distance from port. The immediate aid and rescues were a result of boaters being prepared with the correct, properly registered safety equipment and the knowledge of how and when to operate the distress equipment. §





Last Sunday saw some good tuna action with a couple of species we have not seen in a while! Most notable was this 243 lb. bigeye tuna caught by Cash Stanton and Trent Dickerson on the "Top Dog" in the Washington Canyon. It took the boys 45 minutes to get the eyeball to the boat after it hit on a ballyhoo. Rounding out the crew were owner Todd Dickerson, Capt. Ryan Knapp, mate Josh Rose and fellow anglers Carter Malalewski and Ryan Carr. Pictured and weighed at Sunset Marina.



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35" Carolina Classic Express Capt. Damian Fuscellaro 302-299-0667



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28' Carolina Classic Express Capt. Larry Coyle 302-463-3778



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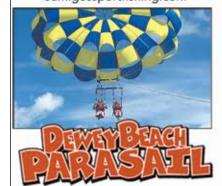
RIVERS RUN BOAT TOURS

40' Cecil Robbins Long Cabin Capt. Brian Marks 804-654-1626 riversrun.net



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BILL SLAYER

47' Cabo Convertible Capt. Chris Ragni 302-531-6031 billslayersportfishing.com



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37' Stapleton Capt. Ed Wagner 302-335-3869



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30' Grady White Sailfish Capt. Mike Martino 302-507-6582



65' HEADBOAT

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45' Young Brothers Capt. Jon Azato 302-345-0545



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29' Aquasport Capt. Joe Noble 302-740-3731 missdonnasportfishing.com



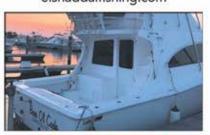
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Anglers on the headboat "Morning Star" often get more sea bass when they head out with Capt. Monty Hawkins. This trip last Thursday saw catches of false albacore, and the sea bass gave the crew a hard time!





Jacob Webb has set the newest Heaviest Fish for sheepshead in Delaware with this big whopper that tipped the scales at Lewes Harbour Marina at 11.43 lbs. He fished with sand fleas at an ocean structure and was supported by his kids Ryan and Luke.





Sue Galloway of Mullica Hill, NJ and Ocean City found a nice fattie while fishing on the "Reel Life" in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport. She tricked the 25" and 5 lb. flounder with Gulp and a minnow.



Tuna fishing has been tough lately, but first time tuna anglers Carlos Maya and Darryl Lowery put in the work on their charter aboard the "Dorado Loco" out of the Indian River Marina. Capt. Demetri Diniakos put them in the Baltimore Canyon where they went 5 for 5 on yellowfin tuna with 2 keepers, the largest at a hefty 64 lbs.







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Last week in our Delaware waters we saw a ton of big fish coming back to the docks. Tautog season opened July 1st with a minimum size 16", creel limit of 4.

Sea Bass & Flounder A Buov

Daryl Barthelmess took his daughter Grace along with Katie Noel out last week for a test run on his new boat and were rewarded with several keeper sea bass up to 3 lbs as well as a few keeper flatties. The big catch for them was when Katie pulled in a double header of ribbonfish. The ribbon fish have been very thick this year and the size of these fish are very large compared to the ones we typically catch. Daryl said the girls caught all the keeper fish. Ways to show girls can often out fish the guys. Out of Lewes Harbour Marina, the boat "Surface Tension" fished the ocean structure in this area bringing home quite a few of the prized flatfish. The fish were caught on Gulp baits and weighed up to 5 lbs. Also out of Lewes, the Freeman family was fishing on the "Jay Sea 2" and were a few shy of a limit for black bass. Nomad jigs, clams,

and squid did the trick to bring the fish on board. Chris Marker was out at the reefs fishing and returned with several nice fluke for dinner. Also on the reef was Frank Tucker coming back with 5 keepers 16.5 lbs at 25" along with a few blackfish. Dylan Patrick reported he found them when returning to Indian River Marina with his first limit of the year. Lorne Seifert showed her husband how it was done returning with 2 big keepers. Her husband reports she even carried the cooler. Great job!

Old Grounds

David Wagoner was out at the Old Grounds and took home a few nice keepers measuring 17 and 17.5". David also reported several short fish to keep the action constant. Daryl Mergenthal, Jr. was at the Grounds and returned to the docks with limits for his crew. Kevin Flaherty managed a few nice fish to take home for dinner last week. This fishing spot is really turning on for flounder and will only get better as the weeks continue. Josh Tavenner literally snagged a beautiful 21" fish on a bucktail. Snagged or not, that's a great catch and will make a great dinner. The boys at Hook 'em and Cook 'em Tackle

told me the bite is really heating up at the Old Grounds. They

Nick Garcia was on the back bays last weekend and brought home 4 nice fish measuring 17-20". Nick always has a way of finding quality keepers. Keep it up! Ronald Roosevelt was out with his son and caught a nice keeper off the pier in Lewes. Old Inlet Bait & Tackle reports that the rocks at the inlet are

www.coastalfisherman.net holding small rockfish and blues at night along with some decent size flounder during the day.

Sheepshead

Sheepshead have been coming on strong with some real quality fish being brought back to the docks. Grady Falgowski was fishing the "Ice Breakers" with his parents and hooked into a mammoth 10 lb fish. The fish gained young Grady a Delaware citation. Just goes to show, you take your kids fishing and they will show you how it's done! I know of many long time sheepy anglers, myself included, that have never caught a ten pound trophy. Way to go Grady! Billy Mister was also looking for these fish and brought home 5 nice keepers. Steve Andrews was using sand fleas and brought home a nice sheep from off the rocks at Indian River Inlet. Hook 'em and Cook 'em reports that Osama, Amin, and Mo fished the "Reel Deep" out at the Fenwick Shoals and caught big sheepshead, triggerfish, and spanish mackerel. Osama caught a citation 8.8 lb sheepy. Further north Jacob Webb was cheered on by his sons, Ryan and Luke when he brought in a huge 11.43 lb. one he caught on sand fleas. Paul Matthews also got a big 11.04 lb. one on sand fleas. There are some really big sheepshead coming in this year, so if you're searching for the trophy of a lifetime now is the

reported that Bill Klemkowski and Will Emmert returned to the dock with six nice keepers. Great job guys. Hook 'em and Cook 'em Tackle also reported that the Elizabeth Ann was on the fish with limits of sea bass and spanish mackerel. "Judy V" out of Indian River Marina was out on the water this past week and reported that although lots of the fish were undersized, they did have several good catches of keeper bass and fluke. Jacob Dunn and Andy Powell were some of the lucky ones on the "Judy V" returning with a couple big flatties. The "Katydid" showed up to the dock in Lewes Harbour Marina with a 7 man limit of fish. The largest was 4.97 lbs with several other fish also near 5 lbs. Great job guys! **Back Bays**

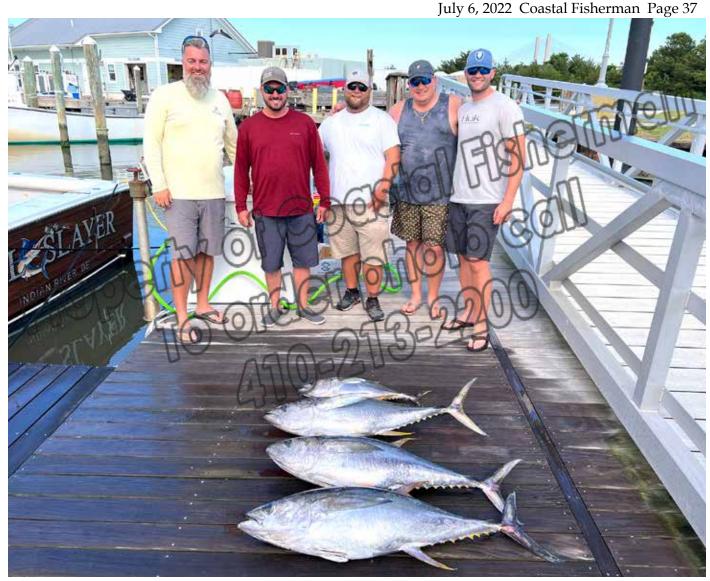


www.coastalfisherman.net time to hit the water.

Spanish Mackerel & Other Fish

Looking back to the Fenwick Shoals, spanish mackerel have come on strong this past week with some real quality fish coming on board. Brandon Miller reported it was a rare week when he could fish 2 days in a row and was rewarded with a box full of macks as well as several other species of bottom The "Savannah Lynn" returned to the docks last week with bluefish, macks, bonita, and even managed to hook a sand tiger shark. "Miller Time Charters" were trolling the shoals and came home with a boat load of fish. Small Clark Spoons are taking most of the fish out at the Shoals. Start by slow trolling them behind the boat, and then adjust your speed to see what the fish prefer. Bluefish are still pretty thick out there and love those shiny spoons.

Until next week... Tight lines and fins up §



It was a good day for the crew of the charter boat "Bill Slayer" last Wednesday. Christian Hudson, Jordan Plivelich, Bill Brittingham, Andrew Parsell and Robby Stephens with Capt. Chris Ragni & mate Skippy Campbell worked in the Baltimore Canyon and caught a total of 8 yellowfin tuna to find 4 keepers. Pictured at the Indian River Marina.





The boat "Unreal" most likely boated the last make shark in Maryland for several years as new Federal restrictions starting on July 5th ban their capture! Capt. Joe Schweiger with Tyler Enslin and Andy Swope left Snug Harbor and took an overnight trip in the Washington Canyon. They caught this make and one other using bluefish and also grabbed one yellowfin tuna and 16 tilefish.



Sarah Alles got herself a citation sized sheepshead last week while fishing on the headboat "Judith M" out of Bahia Marina. The fish measured 23.5" and weighed 8.9 lbs, well above the 20" citation minimum for Maryland!

STATE WATERS ONLY



BLACK SEA BASS 13" minimum / 15 per person/day May 15 - December 11



CROAKER 8" Minimum • No Limit



STRIPED BASS 28-35" 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



BLUEFISH No minimum size 3 per day / 5 per day Charter



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



SUMMER FLOUNDER 16" minimum 4 per person/day



BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 3 per person/day



SHEEPSHEAD No limit



TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/15 4 per person/day 7/1 - 12/31



COBIA 37" Minimum • 1 per person or vessel



SPECKLED TROUT 12" minimum No creel limit



WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day

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FORM BIJE MOTH

DESCRIPTION

The current World Record is 1,402 lbs.

Females are often 3 or 4 times larger than males when they are fully mature.

Their bill is very long and thin, but it is also very powerful for helping them get food (see below).

The body has 24 vertebrae and is created to allow them to swim fast and easily without using very much energy.

They can reach speeds of up to 60 miles per hour.

The upper part of the body is a dark blue color. Underneath is a white or cream color.

DISTRIBUTION

They spend most of their life in the deeper locations of the Atlantic Ocean.

They prefer warmer water and can be found as far north as George's Bank and the canyons along the continental shelf off Cape Cod. In 2011, a 575-pound Atlantic blue marlin traveled 4,776 nautical miles in just 120 days, swimming from Puerto Rico across the Equator and ending up near the coast of Angola, Africa.

FEEDING

Blue marlin congregate along deep-water edges and seamounts where bait is prevalent.

They've been known to feed on a wide range of bait but their diet consists mostly of finfish and squid.

Some top menu choices include mackerel, anchovies, sardines, small tunas and flying fish.

A 2007 Japanese study of stomach contents of fish captured in a commercial trolling
fishery found that 130 undigested prey items obtained from 227 blue marlin had
spearing, slashing and other injuries that were judged to have been inflicted by the bill.

REPRODUCTION

Females are mature for mating at 265 lbs. or below. For males it occurs when they are about 3 years old.

Maturity often has to do more with size than with their age.

The late summer and early fall are the mating times for the Atlantic blue marlin.

Females may spawn up to 4 times per season and can release up to 7 million eggs per season.

However, less than 1% of them will ever make it to the age of maturity.

These eggs offer a huge feeding source for various forms of aquatic life.

The average lifespan is 27 years for females and 18 for males, but depends heavily on conditions.

CONSERVATION

Adult blue marlin have few predators other than killer whales, sharks and humans.

The are sought after as a highly prized game fish by sport fishermen who are at the forefront of efforts to conserve Atlantic blue marlin populations.

THE GALLE Sty Chef Christine

Blackened Flounder with Pineapple Salsa

Ingredients:

Flounder:

4 4-6 oz. Flounder Fillets or any other whitefish

2-3 Tablespoon Olive Oil

Blackened Seasoning:

1.5 Tablespoon Cumin

1.5 Tablespoon Chili Powder

½ Tablespoon Paprika

2 teaspoons Onion Powder

2 teaspoons Garlic Powder

1/2 teaspoons Oregano

½ teaspoons Salt

1/4 teaspoons Pepper

Pineapple Salsa:

1 pineapple

2-3 avocados

Juice of 1 lime

Small bunch cilantro



½ cup diced tomatoes

Salt and pepper to taste

Cauliflower Rice:

2 small or 1 large head cauliflower

410-289-3511

Chili-Lime Drizzle:

½ cup coconut milk

1 teaspoons lime juice

1/4 teaspoons chili powder

1/4 teaspoons salt

1/4 teaspoons pepper

Directions:

Make the Blackened Seasoning:

Mix all the seasonings together in a small bowl.

Pineapple Salsa:

Dice the pineapple and roughly chop the cilantro. Quarter the tomatoes and avocado. Mix all the ingredients together in a large bowl and season to taste.

Cauliflower Rice:

Chop the cauliflower into bite sized pieces. In batches, pulse in a blender or food processor until broken down to the size of rice. Saute in a pan over medium-high heat for 4-5 minutes, stirring often. Season to taste.

Cook the Fish:

Defrost the fish and pat fry with a paper towel. Optional: Cut each fillet in half.

Drizzle the fish with oil and sprinkle all sides of the fish with about 2-3 tbsp blackened seasoning. Rub the seasoning into the fish to fully coat it on all sides.

Pan fry or grill for about 2 minutes per side over medium-high heat.

Make the Chili Lime Drizzle:

Stir all of the ingredients together in a small bowl.

Assemble and Serve:

Divide the cauliflower rice among four bowls. Top with the blackened fish, pineapple salsa, and spoon on the chili lime drizzle. Serve with a slice of lime and a few extra cilantro leaves.

Shrimp Salad

Ingredients:

1 1/2 lemons divided

2 pounds medium shrimp peeled and deveined

1 tablespoon kosher salt

2/3 cup mayonnaise or 1/3 cup mayonnaise and 1/3 cup plain yogurt or sour cream

2 teaspoons Dijon mustard

2 teaspoons capers coarsely chopped

3 tablespoons minced fresh dill

www.coastalfisherman.net 1 medium shallot minced

1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice from about ½ lemon

Freshly ground black pepper to taste

3 ribs celery diced small

Butter lettuce leaves optional

Directions:

Cut one lemon into wedges. (Reserve remaining half lemon for dressing.)

Prepare ice bath for shrimp.

Bring 2 quarts water, lemon wedges and kosher salt to boil in a large pot over medium-high heat. Stir in shrimp and cover; remove from heat and let stand until just cooked through, about 3 minutes. Transfer with slotted spoon to ice bath.

When shrimp are cool, lift out of ice bath with slotted spoon. Pat dry and add to large salad bowl.

To a separate bowl add mayonnaise, dijon mustard,



capers, dill, and shallot. Squeeze remaining lemon half over (about 1 tablespoon of fresh juice). Whisk until well combined. Season to taste with pepper.

Add celery to shrimp in salad bowl. Spoon mayonnaise mixture over and gently toss to coat evenly.

If desired, line 6 individual serving bowls or salad plates with butter lettuce leaves.

Divide shrimp salad among 6 bowls or plates and serve.

Notes:

You'll need 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ lemons for this recipe - one for the shrimp boiling water and another $\frac{1}{2}$ for the dressing.

Instead of serving shrimp salad over lettuce leaves, you can make shrimp salad sandwiches on soft bread (like brioche buns) or make a shrimp pasta salad by tossing shrimp salad with 4 cups of short pasta (8 ounces) like bowtie (farfalle) or medium shell and extra lemon juice and zest.



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Spicy Caribbean Mahi Mahi

Ingredients:

1 pound mahi fillets cut into four portions

5-6 green scallions thinly sliced

5 cloves garlic minced

3 shallots thinly sliced

3 tablespoons olive oil

1 8- oz can good quality tomato sauce

1/4 to 1/2 teaspoon red pepper flakes depending on how spicy you like it

2 bay leaves

1/2 teaspoon kosher salt

2-3 grinds of black pepper

3/4 cup water divided

Juice of half a lemon

Chopped parsley for garnish

Serve with 2 cups cooked long grain white rice - you want the rice to be sticky -- NOT converted rice.

Directions:

In a 9" or 10" skillet with a lid add the olive oil and heat over medium low heat. Add the scallions, garlic and shallots and cook, stirring occasionally until vegetables are soft and translucent, about 10-15



minutes. (Don't crank up the heat - you don't want these vegetables to brown).

Add the tomato sauce, red pepper flakes, bay leaves, salt, pepper and 1/2 cup water. Stir to combine and continue cooking, uncovered until sauce has thickened somewhat, about 10 minutes.

Stir in the remaining 1/4 cup water and place the fish fillets in the poaching liquid. Put the lid on securely and poach the fish on low

to medium low heat for about 8 minutes. Using tongs or a spatula, flip the fish over and continue to poach an additional 7-8 minutes. Remove from heat. Squeeze lemon juice over the fish and chopped parsley. Serve on top of sticky white rice. A cool cucumber salad is really good with this to take the heat off.

Notes:

Poaching liquid should be looser than a typical tomato sauce. If

July 6, 2022 Coastal Fisherman Page 41 it's too thick, stir in two to three tablespoons of water to loosen it up. Taste sauce and adjust seasonings as needed.

Grilled Citrus Tuna Steak with Avocado & Spinach

Ingredients:

1 tuna steak (ahí or yellowfin)

Pinch of salt and pepper

3 Tbs. extra-virgin olive oil, divided

2 Tbs. soy sauce

1 tsp freshly minced ginger

2 cloves garlic, minced

1/2 cup chopped cilantro

Juice of 1 lime, plus the zest

1 tsp. sugar

1/2 avocado, thinly sliced

4 cups spinach

Directions:

Season both sides of the tuna with salt and pepper.

In a small bowl, whisk together 2 Tbs. oil, soy sauce, ginger, garlic, cilantro, lime juice, zest and sugar. Add the fish and marinate for at least 2 hours in the fridge.

In a small skillet heat the last Tbs



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of oil. Add the spinach and wilt slightly. Toss in a teeny pinch of salt and pepper. Remove from heat and set aside.

Remove the fish from the marinade and grill (or sear) for 2 minutes on each side. Keep it rare in the center. PLEASE!

Pour the remaining marinade into a small saucepan and reduce until it becomes thick, 2 minutes.

Top the wilted spinach with the grilled fish, followed by the sliced avocado and a nice drizzle of the reduction.

Baked Lemon Sheepshead

Ingredients:

2 lbs. sheepshead fillets

3 tablespoons lemon juice 2 tablespoons melted butter 1 small onion, chopped 1 bunch fresh parsley, chopped Salt and pepper

Dill

Olive oil

Directions:

The night before, place fillets in a ziplock and mix the salt, pepper and lemon juice in it. Let the fillets marinate all night or for at least a minimum of 4 hours before preparing.

Get a baking sheet and aluminum



foil and place a little olive oil on it before the sheepshead fillets. Once this is done, place the marinated fillets on a baking sheet on top of the aluminum foil. Coat the outside of the fillets with melted butter. (**Coating should be in a

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brushing motion not to over do it**)

Carefully chop up onions, fresh parsley, and fresh dill to place on and around the fillets.

Place all the onions and parsley around the fillets and the fresh dill on top. Drizzle a little bit of olive oil on top of the fillets.

Cover your fillets with another piece of aluminum foil making a small covering over the fillets to ensure they will keep the moisture in and not to dry out.

Preheat the oven to 450 degrees to ensure proper cooking of the fish. Once the oven reaches this temperature reduce the temperature to 400 degrees and place the fish on the ovens top rack.

Cook the fillets for 12 minutes or until cooked.

After this is done cooking, pair it with your favorite rice and vegetable.

Grilled Cobia

Ingredients:

2 cobia fillets

2/3 cup prepared Italian dressing

1/2 tsp. oregano

1/2 tsp. thyme

1/4 tsp. basil

1/4 tsp. marjoram

1/8 tsp. garlic powder

1/8 tsp. onion powder

Pinch of salt

11/2 Tbsp. olive oil

Directions:



Add fish to a small baking dish or ziplock bag.

Pour the Italian dressing over the top of the fish.

Cover with plastic wrap. Place in the fridge for at least 30 minutes. Marinate for about an hour.

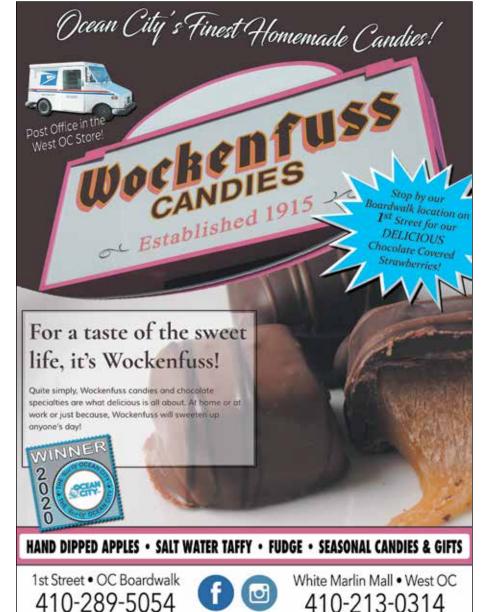
While your fish is marinating, add the remaining ingredients together into a small bowl.

Mix the spices all together. Voila, you have just made your own greek seasoning!

Remove fish about 15 minutes before you grill so it isn't super cold. Sprinkle the greek seasoning over both sides of your fish. I like to reserve a little of the spices to use after the fish comes off the grill.

Grill your fish at 350° for about 10 minutes, flipping once.

Once the fish turns white, it is ready to remove from the grill. Sprinkle the remaining greek seasoning over the top of the fish.





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Jerry Hudack of Reading, PA and Bill Shue from York, PA spent the day offshore at several local wrecks on the "Bill's Toy". They used Gulp and minnows to get their limit of 8 flounder, with 6 of them over 20" as well as a couple of sea bass.



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The weather was too calm for the Brinker family on this trip to the Washington Canyon on the "Carol's Teakettle". Brothers Tim and Jim with their dad Capt. Tom Brinker tried for tuna in the 72° water but did not get one bite, so Tim took a shot at tile fishing and caught this nice 12 lb. fish using an 8" whole squid in 735' of water.



Chris Gupko and his son Hunter from the Poconos in New York had quite the day fishing at the Indian River Inlet. Hunter caught this 24" flounder using a live minnow and then had blue colored ice cream to celebrate.





It was a little 'sporty' offshore last Friday, so it was mainly the bigger boats that tried their luck. One of those was the 60' "Bar South" with Capt. Raul Gonzales. He took anglers Blair Rinnier, Brandon Viska, Cory Ledman and Rusty Reddish to the Washington Canyon where they got these 5 yellowfin tuna out of 8 bites. Also pictured are Andrea and little Charlotte Gowndry at Sunset Marina in West OC.

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	MD	DE **	
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-	
Black Drum	48"	50 lbs. or 45"	
Bluefish	34"	12 lbs. or 29"	
Blue Marlin*	Any Size	Any Size	
Cobia	44"	45 Lbs. or 48"	
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"	
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"	
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"	
Golden Tilefish	35"	35 lbs. or 40"	
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13" 10 lbs. or 26" 45"	
King Mackerel	40"		
Red Drum*	36"		
Sailfish*	Any Size	-	
Sea Bass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"	
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"	
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"	
Speckled Trout	24"	ĕ	
Striped Bass	40"	44"	
Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"	

	MD	DE **		
Wahoo	60"	20 lbs. or 50"		
Weakfish	24"	3 lbs. or 20"		
White Marlin*	Any Size	Any Size		
SHARK:				
Blue Shark*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"		
Hammerhead*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"		
Thresher*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"		
Tiger*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"		
Swordfish	Any Size	Any Size		
TUNA:				
Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lb. or 32"		
False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"		
Bigeye***	60"	70 lbs. or 48"		
Bluefin***	55"	100 lbs. or 60"		
Yellowfin***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"		

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*** Use curved-fork-length measurements

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Chum Lines by Capt. Mark Sampson

Boat ramps will always be sources of joy and misery for the boating community. They bring joy to boaters because they're the gateway to happy times and great adventures on the water. But the misery rests in the fact that traveling through that gate is not always a smooth and graceful journey. Stories of the antics and mishaps that have occurred on boat ramps could fill a library and certainly prompt more than just a few skippers into reconsidering their decision to take up boating rather than something less technically and physically challenging like extreme rock-climbing or maybe demolition-derby racing.

In a "perfect world" ascending or descending a ramp would be as simple as shoving a boat off a trailer and into the water, or cranking our vessel out of the water and onto a trailer, and surely it occurs that way enough times to

perpetuate the myth. But since none of us really live in "Nirvana," the fact is, there's enough trials and tribulations that go on in the process as well-meaning folks endeavor to launch or pull their boats that "rampwatching" could become a pastime that eventually draws audiences away from more mundane events such as professional football and NASCAR racing.

Having spent so much of my life working on and around the water, I've had the privilege of attending some of the best "rampshows" ever produced by both local and visiting boaters. I've seen boats sink because the owners forgot to unstrap the sterns from the trailer, automobiles launched, and I can't even begin to say how many back-up collisions, boats launched without the drain plugs installed, folks slipping and falling into the water, and vehicles

with burned out tires, transmissions, or clutches from trying to pull big boats up steep inclines that I've seen. The escapades that occur on boat ramps are like the wonders of nature; just when you think you've seen it all - you're suddenly treated to something new that blows you away!

Such was the case many years ago while I was working at a local marina. It was early spring and four guys in an 18' boat had just been towed in after their engine died while fishing out in the bay. You could tell they had a rough time of it because they were all soaked from the waist down, covered in salt and sand, and the inside of the boat looked as though someone tried to paint it with strips squid, bloodworms, seaweed, and black marshmud. A case (or two) of empty beer cans floating around in the bottom of the boat indicated that the crew

www.coastalfisherman.net may have tried to drown their sorrows long before they were ever handed a towline.

It was early evening and I would soon be locking up the shop for the night, so I asked the guys if there was anything they needed. One of them replied, "no, we just want to yank this lousy boat out of the water so we can get back to our motel, shower, and forget about this horrible day"!

As bad a shape as their boat was in, their trailer looked even worse. It was covered in rust and squeaked and creaked as they tried many times to get it backed straight down the ramp. Then, after fumbling for 15-minutes with the winch, they finally got the cable snapped to the bow and proceeded to sweat and swear as they took turns cranking the boat onto the trailer. Finally the bow neared the trailer post, and while keeping his words in perfect rhythm each turn of the winch handle, the guy doing the cranking proudly announced, "Now-we-canfinally-end-this-miseryand-get-outta-here"!



"here" The word had barely left his lips when frayed-old trailer's winch cable snapped and the boat started to roll back down the trailer and into the water. With a firm grasp on the bow cleat, one brave soul tried to hold the boat in place only to be dragged down the trailer and across every roller until being deposited in chest-deep water at the end of the ramp. With no other lines attached to stop or even slow its progress, the boat entered the water with enough momentum to send the vessel on a backwards unmanned voyage across the marina basin at alarming speed. The boat's progress only temporarily was halted when it collided stern-to-stern with another boat moored directly across from the ramp. No damage was incurred by the moored vessel, but as fate would have it, the cowling for our friend's outboard motor popped off and quickly sank. To make matters worse (if that's possible) there was a brisk wind blowing from the east which proceeded to push the boat out towards the open bay. In a bold display of bravado, one of our heroes literally dove into the water and swam out to recapture the boat. Of course it wasn't until he clamored aboard that he remembered that the motor didn't run. His efforts only left him colder, wetter, and steadily drifting out into the bay - alone!

Fortunately I was able to hop in my own boat and tow the casualty back to the ramp. Maybe they were just numb from the cold or maybe from the entire incident, but either way, there wasn't

a whole lot of talking going on as the four guys repaired their winch cable and tried again to crank the boat up on the rusty old trailer. By then it was a little bit easier because the tide had come in a bit, and two additional ropes tied to the bow cleat and looped around their truck's bumper ensured that if the cable snapped again, at least the boat would stay put.

The numbing silence was finally broken by whoops of joy when the truck (and boat!) finally crested the ramp and stopped on the level parking lot. By then it was almost dark and quite obvious that, more than ever, the gang was ready for a hot shower, dinner, and something that would help them forget about the entire experience. About a half hour after they squeaked their way out of the parking lot I finished locking up the tackle shop, hopped in my own vehicle, and started home.

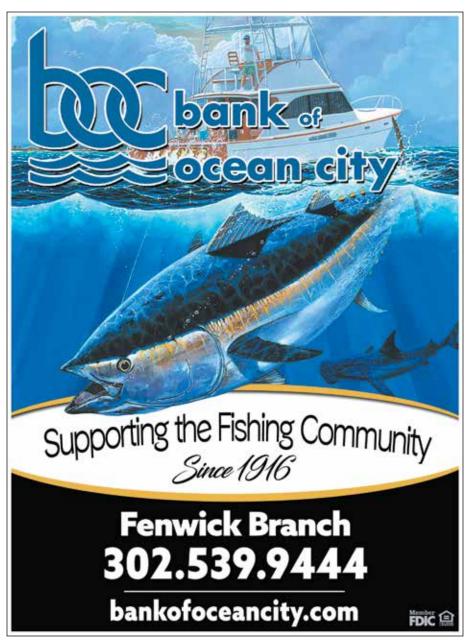
I had only gone five blocks when I encountered what I'm guessing was "icing on the cake" for the four unlucky boaters. In the far right lane was a large pothole, next to the pothole was a trailer tire with hub and part of the axle still attached. About thirty yards further down the road was the same boat and same trailer (minus one tire and part of its axle). The truck and its four occupants were nowhere to be seen.

In the months to come lots of boats will surely be traveling up and down our local boat ramps. Tickets for the show go on sale Monday!§





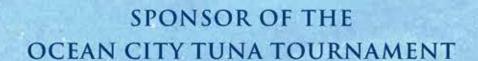
Good thing this croaker was caught by young Avery Shlossman of Springfield, PA. After catching this using Fish Bites in the suds off of the Fenwick Island State Park, she insisted her grandfather Phil release it.





Another first timer! 5 year old Kelly Wecker caught not only his first keeper 17" flounder, but it was his first fish ever! He was fishing with Capt. Pap Weckler behind Assateague Island and used a combination of squid with live minnows for bait.









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Joe Pluck & Tommy Barlow from Doylestown, PA had a great day with a boat limit of ocean flatties up to 4 lbs. while fishing with Capt. Bruce Lynch and Mate John Bruning of "Bad Wind" Charters. The highlight of the day was when Capt. Bruce tried to get Tommy to lip a ribbonfish!

end and me Low 07:32 am High 01:17 am WED. JULY 6 High 01:55 pm Low 07:54 pm 1st Qtr. Moon Low 08:17 am High 02:04 am THUR. JULY 7 Low 08:54 pm High 02:51 pm Low 09:05 am High 02:58 am FRI. JULY 8 Low 09:58 pm High 03:50 pm High 03:55 am Low 09:58 am SAT. JULY 9 Low 11:04 pm High 04:49 pm High 04:53 am Low 10:55 am SUN. JULY 10 High 05:47 pm Low ----Low 12:08 am High 05:51 am MON. JULY 11 Low 11:54 pm High 06:46 pm High 06:50 am Low 01:07 am TUE. JULY 12 High 07:47 pm Low 12:52 pm Low 02:02 am High 07:50 am WED, JULY 13 Low 01:48 pm High 08:48 pm **Full Moon** source:usharbors.com

Add 1.5 hours for bay tides at the Rt. 50 Bridge. Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide

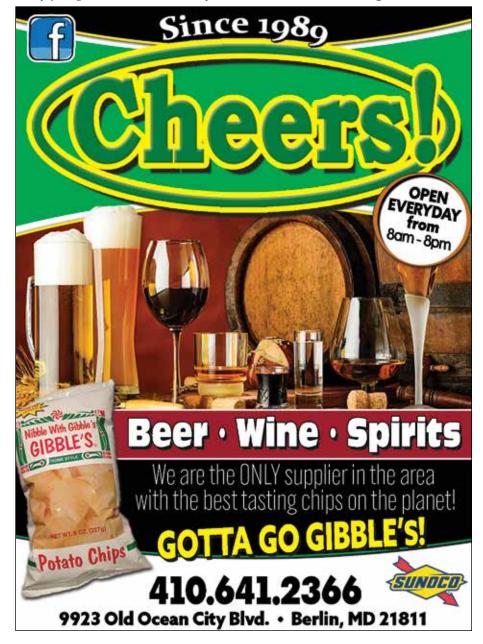
Delaware Bay Entrance - subtract 1 hour 25 minutes to high tide - subtract 45 minutes to low tide

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.



We normally only get to see Cody Martin in dark photos of him and his dad Buddy fishing at night off the Rt. 50 Bridge. Fortunately for us their cameras were dead so they had to take the pic at home. The pair caught a lot of bluefish that night with each getting a 10 pounder as well as having many jump off the hook as they raised the fish to the bridge deck.





Like many anglers this season, the Brown Boys of Ocean View, DE are targeting other species as the tuna bite is so fickle this year. This trip to the Baltimore Canyon with Wes Hobbs and Maria Cusimano on the "Miss Darlene" saw a nice catch of blueline tilefish as well as golden tilefish and a little rosie.

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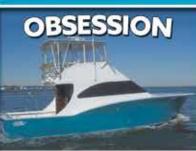


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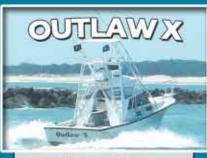
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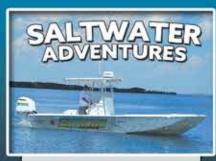
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FISHING REPORT by Capt. Matt Abell

The ESVA has gotten a little busier with the holiday weekend upon us. More traffic on the roads, more trailers at the ramp and more boats in your secret spot. Luckily there is plenty of fish and fun to go around during this incredible Independence Day!

The inshore wrecks have been getting a lot of attention as anglers target a mixed bag of spades, triggers, ribbonfish, flounder and even tog as the season reopened. The flounder have been lured into the cooler with a variety of baits like long squid strips, minnows, silversides and smelt deployed on bottom rigs. This technique works well when the current requires extra weight to stay in the strike zone on the bottom. However, when the current subsides, a 5-6 inch Gulp displayed on a 1-1/2 to 4 ounce jig like a spro bucktail seems to do the trick. Ribbonfish are an

incidental addition to the trip as they actively prey on the baits intended for hungry flatfish. The shallower structure has produced suspended spades and triggers. A small piece of clam fished under float are all that is needed to tempt these tropical looking trophies to the dinner plate. Don't forget, cobia are lurking in some of these same areas, so make sure you have an eel or jig to capitalize on a chance encounter.

Speaking of cobia, the Chesapeake continues produce some quality fish, although action has cooled off considerably. Bunker chunks fished on the bottom using fish finder rigs has still been the most consistent producer, while sight casting has accounted for good numbers as well. The lower bay has also had good reports of spanish being trolled up on 0 and 00 Clarke spoons behind #1-#2

planners. Sheepshead continue to take baits of crab in and around structure like pilings and reefs. Bull reds are still patrolling the grassy flats for shedding crabs. Anglers continue to enjoy bent rods on these scrappy spot tails as long as they can stand the shear numbers of rays that plague the sultry summertime shallows.

The seaside barrier islands and their shorelines of surf and suds have entertained anglers with an array of aquatic offerings. Flounder continue to be the guest of honor on the table of many hungry anglers. These tasty bottom dwellers have been taking silversides and minnows coupled with Gulp swimming mullet or squid strips on brightly colored teasers fished during both sides of high water in and around the inlets of the ESVA. Hardhead fishing has been fairly consistent although the size of

www.coastalfisherman.net these little croaking creatures has been less impressive. The catch and release shark fishery is in full swing as sandbars, blacktops, and lemons invade the coastal bays to pup a new generation of toothy tussling trophies. Cut baits like bunker and mackerel fished with chum in deeper holes on a ebb tide are all that is required for ripping drags and smiling young'uns. This past Wednesday I was lucky to take a father and his two sons fishing. After catching a few flounder for dinner we set up for some incredible inshore shark action that had those two boys sweating and smiling. We boated about a dozen pugnacious predators in short order with three of the fish approaching the 6 foot length. You can only imagine the delight of my cranking crew as we made memories that will last forever..

I hope we all take a minute to reflect on how lucky we are to live in a country that affords us the opportunity to enjoy the blessings that God has given. Everything a sportsman or woman could ask for right here in this wonderful place we call home! §





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The Virginia Barrier Islands have been giving up some nice flatfish catches recently. On this trip with "Sea Hawk Charters", anglers Dave Gedra and George Lenard, both from Manassas, VA reached their 2 man limit of 8 keeper flounders.



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It was a long day for this motley crew on the "Restless Lady". Anglers Michael Thiel & Connor Speaker from West Chester PA joined Nolan Soulas and Amanda Pasquale of Ocean View, DE, Karly Soulas from Nashville, TN and South Bethany based Northwestern Mutual Certified Financial Planner Steve Soulas felt the full brunt of the slow tuna bite in late June. Capt. Todd Kurtz is known for his tuna finding skills, but they could only find one bite that day in the Washington Canyon. The group is pictured with Karly's son Colin at Talbot Street Pier.









The sheepshead are thick in the Delaware Bay. Paul Matthew went to his favorite bay structure last week and hooked this citation size 11.04 lb. fish using sand fleas.



Capt. Don Hochrein on the interestingly named "Nameless" caught the pretty 22" flounder in the Thorofare. He used a minnow and fished the outgoing tide.





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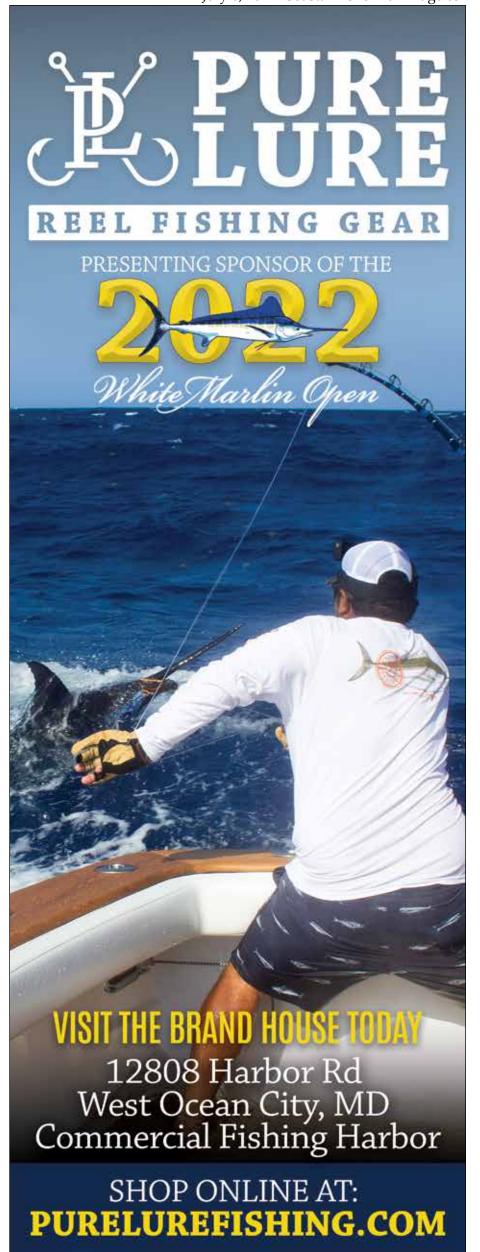
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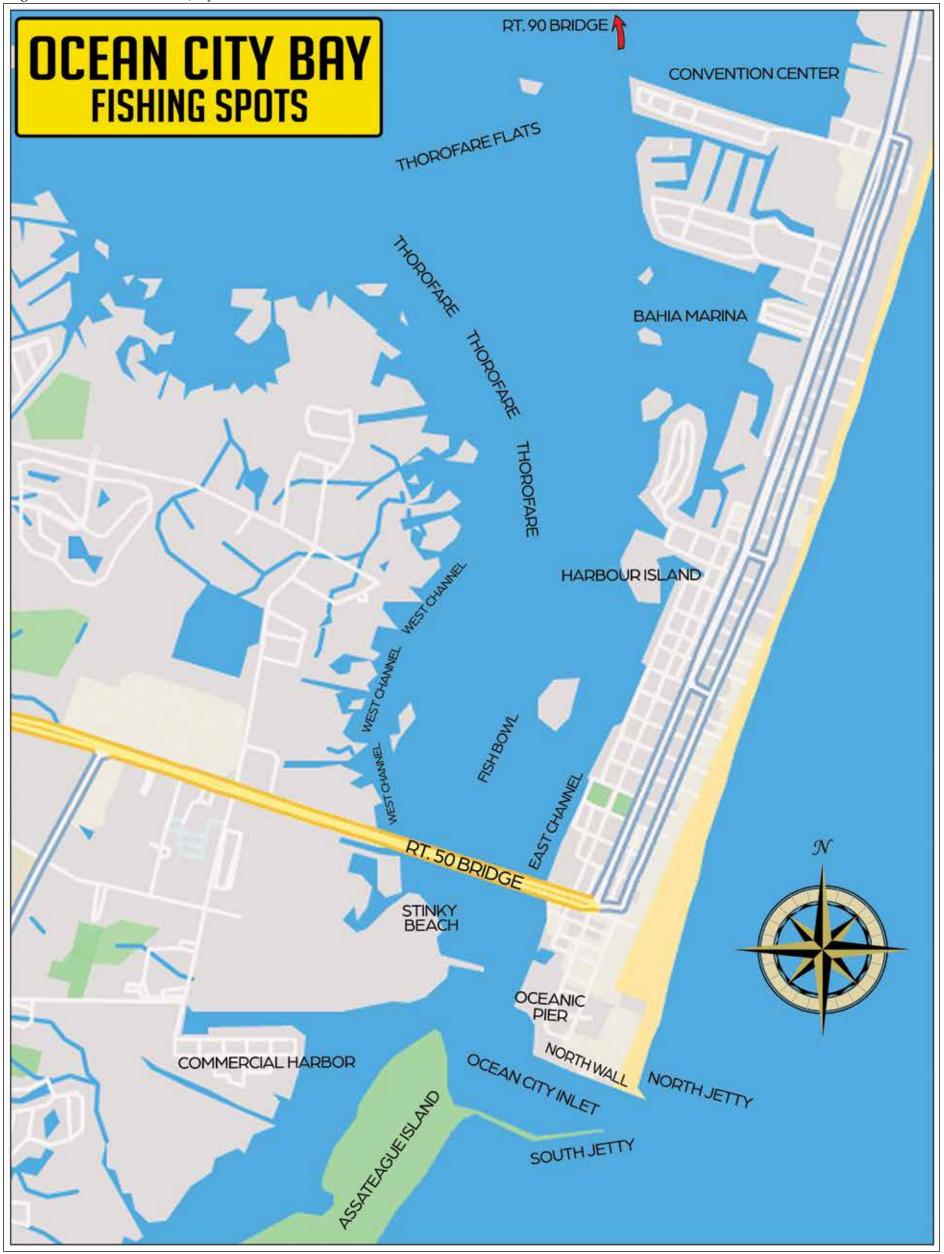


(AS REPORTED TO THE COASTAL FISHERMAN - TIES GO TO FIRST FISH REPORTED. HOOK & LINE ONLY)						
Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE	Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE	
Bluefish	June 5 Mike Botsaris S. OC Jetty 12.5 lbs.	May 27 Mike Greene 3 R's 10 lbs. 12 0z.	Thresher Shark	May 30 Dan Cavey Fingers 373 lbs.		
Black Drum	April 16 CW Wells Assateague Island 70 lbs.	May 22 Mike Strain Coral Beds 78 lbs.	Bigeye Tuna	July 3 Cash Stanton Washington Canyon 243 lbs.		
Cobia	June 25 John Stackhouse Kelly's Reef 46.25 lbs.		Bluefin Tuna	June 10 Corey Healy Baltimore Canyon 243 lbs.		
Flounder	May 24 Dave Skirka Thorofare 5.5 lbs.	June 9 John Gudneck Ocean Structure 6.35 lbs.	Longfin Tuna		June 5 Chad Tingle Wilmington Canyon 49.5 lbs.	
Sea Bass	May 31 Justin Eddy Poor Man's 4.7 lbs.	May 26 Kase Andrews Ocean Structure 3.125 lbs.	Yellowfin Tuna	June 30 Brian Mayer Washington Canyon 85.5 lbs.	June 10 John Savoca Baltimore Canyon 75 lbs.	
Sheepshead	June 27 JC Dennis OC Inlet 13.75 lbs.	June 30 Jacob Webb Ocean Structure 11.43 lbs.	Dolphin	June 26 Joe Rogers Norfolk Canyon 20.6 lbs.		
Striped Bass	May 20 Bud Martin Rt. 50 Bridge 17.19 lbs.		Swordfish	June 30 Steve Stallings Poor Man's Canyon 288 lbs.		
Tautog	April 22 Kelly Langion-Milano Artificial Reef 18 lbs.	April 22 Billy Thornatore Ocean Wreck 7.5 lbs.	Blue Marlin			
Wahoo	June 30 Tim McCartney Hot Dog 80 lbs.		White Marlin			



7 year old Camden Holz from Fairfield, PA snagged his first keeper flounder ever on a live minnow in the Thorofare. He was fishing on the "MiniChaos" with Capt. Dennis Kaler and the fish measured 17.5"





www.coastalfisherman.net

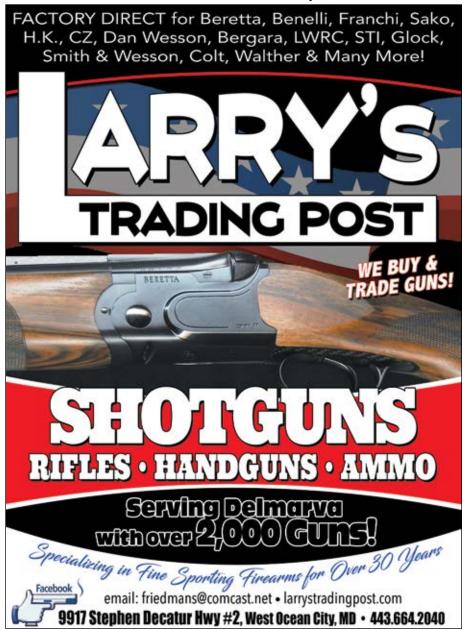


Jamie Seifert schooled her husband Lorne last week! She caught these two keeper flounder in the Lewes Canal while he ended the day with a goose egg!





It was a nice surprise to hear from Capt. Jim Brinker last Sunday that he and the crew of the "Carol's Teakettle" had caught a bluefin tuna. We haven't seen one of those in weeks. He and other OC locals Tom Brinker, Brianna Drumond and Christine Drumond found the 132 lb. tuna at the Hambone after it hit on a naked ballyhoo.





"Bad Wind" charters got on the flounder last week. Capt. Bruce Lynch with Edgar Hearn from Frankford, DE were joined by Bruce Lynch, Sr. who was instrumental in getting the crew to a 12 flounder boat limit. Bad Wind Flounder Rigs were the hot ticket.



Several anglers caught their first sheepshead over the past week including Christina Puglisi. She caught her first convict off of the 3R's with Capt. Dan Icangelo, and it was chunky at 5.1 lbs.

FEDERAL SIZE & CREEL LIMITS 3-200 Miles





WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit

NOTE: Blue Marlin, White Marlin and Roundscale Marlin combined 250 Limit



DOLPHIN
No minimum Length
Boat Limit 60
Charter Limit 10 per person/ 60 per Boat



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



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



BIGEYE TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length No Retention Limit



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



Minimum Length 63" • No Retention Limit



GOLDEN TILEFISH No minimum • 8 per person/day



BLUELINE TILEFISH
5/1 - 10/31
3 per person (Recreational)
5 per person Uninspected (Charter)
7 per person Inspected (Charter)



WAHOO No Minimum Length • 2 per person/day

SHARKS AUTHORIZED SPECIES 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 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.

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

Resources: eregulations.com & NOAA.gov





JULY 29 - 31, 2022 TALBOT STREET PIER · OCEAN CITY, MD

For official Rules & Regulations visit:

www.bigfishclassic.com (1988)



2021 RECORD PAYOUT

SMALL BOAT DIVISION

- LEVEL 3 Heaviest Stringer \$1,000
- LEVEL 4 Heaviest Billfish \$500 WTA
- LEVEL 5 Heaviest Tuna \$500 WTA



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2005 64' Sculley Call Jimmy Fields

BARRATUNA - 53' 2008 Sculley **Call Steve Hedrick**

AND

ISLANDER - 40' 1971 Warren O'Neal

\$1,649,000



\$2,995,000

Featured Boat of the Week



Producer Too - 2008 41' Bahama - Call Colton Cunningham



WOODCUTTER - 38' 1983 Buddy Davis **Call Jeff James**

\$449,900



SLOB KING - 57' Island Boatworks Call Jimmy Fields

TOBASCO - 1979 48' Whiticar

Call Jimmy Fields

\$410,000

\$200,000



SALVATION - 1977 Omie Tillet Sportsman 50' Custom Carolina · Call Jeff James



DARK HORSE - 34' 1979 Glenn Bradley **Call Jeff James**



CONSTELLATION- 37' 1984 Sonny Briggs **Call Ronnie Fields**



HONKY TONK - 61' 1989 Buddy Davis

DOUBLE NICKEL - 1997 42' Buddy Harris - Call Ronnie Fields



2021 24' St. James Custom Boatworks

2018 25' Custom Blackfin **Call Jimmy Fields**



Call Glenn Cameron



2006 38' Fountain Tournament Edition **Call Terry Layton**



25' 2018 Regulator **Call Mark Barton**



29' 1996 Luhrs **Call Ronnie Fields**



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

