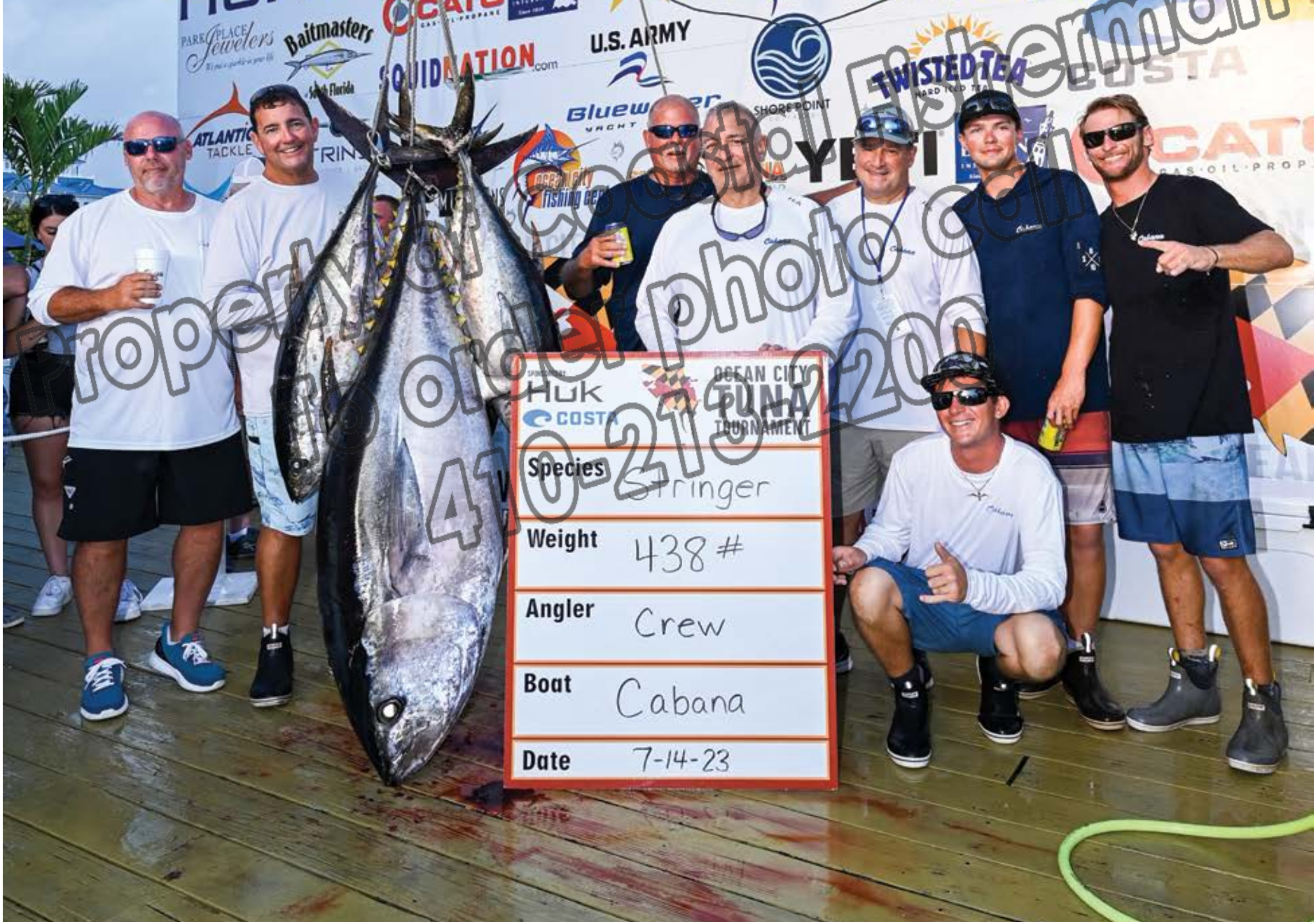


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# COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 48 • • • ISSUE 12 • • • July 19, 2023



HUK COSTA OCEAN CITY TUNA TOURNAMENT	
Species	Stringer
Weight	438 #
Angler	Crew
Boat	Cabana
Date	7-14-23

The crew of the "Cabana" had an epic weekend fishing in the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament. The weather was beyond sporty, however their 100,000 lb. boat helped fight the waves and get them on the fish. Capt. Ed Wheeler put owner Frank Sherman and anglers Donnie Carswell, Bill Britt and Mike McCarthy on the edge of the Norfolk Canyon on both of their fishing days. Friday saw the crew with mates CJ Davidson, Bret Feder & James David dominate the day with a 236 lb. bigeye tuna caught by Mike McCarthy and 4 healthy yellowfins to set a single day stringer total of 438 lbs., easily topping the leaderboard for both Single and Stringer Divisions. On Saturday Mike connected with another eyeball! That bigeye weighed 153 lbs. and combined with another four yellowfin put their 2 day stringer total at 763 lbs. taking 1st Place in the Stringer Divisions. The 236 lb. Bigeye also took the top spot for Single, a tournament first! This earned them a combined payout of \$495,100.



Capt. Raul Gonzales on the private boat "Bar South" ran south to find the tuna that were somewhat elusive last week. He took anglers Austin and Troy Purnell of Berlin, MD down to the Norfolk Canyon where the pair netted these two yellowfins.



A 22" flounder is impressive enough for most anglers, but 9 year old Ava West did one better. This 22 incher was her first ever! She was fishing with her family on the "Reel Disorder". Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.



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We got reports of 2 Atlantic sailfish releases over the past week. It is unusual to see these beautiful billfish this far north, however, we are fortunate to see a few released most years in our canyons. This one was even more special for angler Kirk Taylor. Not only was it a sailfish, it was his first billfish ever. He was trolling east of the Norfolk Canyon on the 1000 fathom line with Capt. Pat Svehla and mate Ryan Freese on the private boat "Grande' Pez".

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# THE Offshore Report

by Larry Budd

## This Week Last Year

- It was a beautiful week offshore with boats from Lewes to Cape Charles getting out. The word for the bite this time last year was consistent, but no exceptional.
- Tuna captains were beginning the shift to chunking the inshore lumps with the Hambone being the best. Those still trolling were finding yellowfins in the 50 to 60 pound range being common in the southern Poor Man's as the hot spot. Little tunny's and bonitos were common.
- The "Blood Money" reported the first sailfish release of the season from outside the Washington in 1100 fathoms. They also went 3 for 4 on whites.

Last week in the canyons the weather began beautifully, despite the intense heat, and presented some excellent fishing opportunities. There were several remarkable catches of tuna, with some breaking records. While reports of blue or white marlin releases were scarce, there were two sailfish catches and a notable swordfish capture. However, on Thursday afternoon, Mother Nature unleashed her wrath, bringing about wild weather conditions. These tumultuous elements provided many captivating stories from the boats participating in the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament.

Although technically from the previous week, we received news of an exceptional catch by the crew of the "No Woke Zone". On July 7th, in the Wilmington Canyon, owner Sen Walker,

along with Chad Fenstermacher and mate Traye Coop Matthes, had an unforgettable day. They successfully caught and released the first sailfish of the season, landed a yellowfin while also releasing a white marlin.

Now, let's delve into some details from earlier in the week. The charter boat "Spring Mix II" ventured further south into the Norfolk Canyon and hooked a white marlin, but it jumped off. However, they did manage to bring in a robust yellowfin tuna and a few bailer mahi. On Tuesday, the charter boat "MARLI" had an interesting report. While trolling in the Baltimore Canyon, Capt. Mark Hoos and his crew hooked two yellowfin tuna. As they prepared to drift and fight the tuna, a swordfish unexpectedly emerged and struck one of the baited tuna lines, which was now freely floating. It was quite an unusual occurrence, especially in the middle of the day. Angler Brian Eder fought the swordfish for 2.5 hours until they successfully brought in the 284-pounder. The day held special significance as it was both Brian's and Capt. Mark's birthdays, making it a truly remarkable gift. On Wednesday, we received our second report of a sailfish release, this time from the private boat "Grande Pez". Angler Kirk Taylor released the sailfish while trolling along the 1000 fathom line outside the Norfolk Canyon. Reports of billfish sightings diminished after Wednesday

as boats prepared for the Tuna Tournament.

Speaking of the tuna bite, we witnessed a week full of action. In the first half of the week, a new record was set for yellowfins. The aforementioned "Spring Mix II" caught an enormous 97 lb. yellowfin in the Norfolk Canyon, establishing a new seasonal record. Several other large yellowfin tuna were also reported. Dutch Workman landed two weighing over 75 pounds aboard the "Take Em," while the "Blue Hen" brought in a 74.7 lb. yellowfin at the 19 Fathom Lump. Laszo Kacso reeled in a massive 88.9 lb. yellowfin from the Hot Dog after an overnight excursion on the charter boat "No Limit." Our thanks to Hook'em and Cook'em for these reports.

Bigeye tuna also made their presence known. On the same day that "Spring Mix II" set the new yellowfin record, the charter boat "Ro Sham Bo" brought a 246.4 lb. bigeye to the scale at the Ocean City Fishing Center. This catch broke the seasonal record by over 55 pounds. Catches in the low single digits were typical during these days, with the Poor Man's Canyon to the Washington Canyon being the most frequently reported locations. The remaining action was centered around the Tuna Tournament, so let's delve into the details.

Not only is the Ocean City Fishing Center Tuna Tournament the largest tuna tournament in the world, but it also serves as our first big money event of the season. Like any tournament, participation is subject to weather conditions. Although the onshore forecast predicted

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is published weekly from May through September and annually in January by Coastal Fisherman Magazine LLC at 12703 Sunset Avenue Ste.8, Ocean City, MD 21842

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mild weather with the usual afternoon thunderstorms of the summer, the outlook for the canyons was considerably more severe. The wind forecast for Friday through Sunday indicated widespread red alerts with gusts of high intensity. Consequently, many smaller boats decided to take a pass. Nonetheless, 74 boats accepted the challenge, resulting in a total purse of \$990,570.

On Friday, 35 boats ventured out, but several others turned back shortly after leaving the Inlet upon encountering the conditions that awaited them. Despite the challenging circumstances, 19 boats made it to the tournament scales at the Fishing Center. The first boat to arrive was the "Full Service," bringing an impressive 209 lb. bluefin tuna caught by Danny Brandt at the Jack Spot. This catch set the tone for the event, not only as a substantial tuna but also as the largest bluefin caught thus far this year. Subsequently, a series of boats arrived with yellowfins weighing in the mid-40-pound range. The streak was broken by the "Ro Sham Bo," which brought the first bigeye tuna to the scales that day weighing 195 lbs. Next came the "MARLI," which left the dock exceptionally early at 3:15 AM due to the weather conditions. Despite not getting their lines in the water until 8 AM, they managed to hook a 219 lb. bigeye from the Washington Canyon at 9 AM. However, it was the "Cabana" that claimed the top spot on the first day. They arrived at the scales at 7:30 PM with a 236 lb. bigeye and four sizable yellowfin tuna. Their performance positioned them on top of both the Heavy Tuna and Stringer categories. The only qualifying mahi was also brought in on the first day. The "Lucky Duck" landed a 32" dolphin in the Washington Canyon, thereby securing the prize money for mahi and wahoo catches, resulting in a generous payout. Their mahi is also the Heaviest to date.

Saturday saw 69 out of the 74 boats head out, as Sunday's forecast appeared to be the worst of the three tournament days. In keeping with tradition, the "Myra



This crew on the "MARLI" fished the Baltimore Canyon last week to celebrate the 60th birthday of Capt. Mark Hoos and the 53rd birthday of angler Brian Eder. They both share July 11th birthdays. They and fellow anglers Teresa Eder, Bill Penn, Luke Penn, Larry Cadenhead and Steve Pipino got two respectable yellowfins in the box early, then the bite shut down until the last hour of the day when they hooked another two yellowfin. They were drifting to fight the tuna when a swordfish took a tuna bait still in the water! Brian was strapped in and the fight was on. After a 2.5 hour fight the 284 lb. sword was brought aboard and the trip finished on an amazing high.

"HT" was waiting at the dock for the scales to open. They proudly displayed a substantial 108 lb. bluefin tuna caught by angler JL Cropper in the Massey's Canyon. JL's achievement earned her the Top Lady Angler Award. Once again, the majority of tuna caught were yellowfin, ranging from 40 to 55 pounds. The "Zippy," competing in the 35' and Under Category, managed to land a 65 lb. yellowfin, securing them the Heaviest Tuna award in that division. The "MARLI" returned with five robust yellowfin tuna to bolster their stringer total. However, they were closely followed by the "Cabana," which added another bigeye tuna to their haul, along with four yellowfin tuna, accumulating an impressive 325 lbs. to their two-day stringer total of 763 lbs. Once again, they concluded the day at the top of both the Heavy and Stringer categories. The final boat to arrive at the scales was the "Boss Hogg." They presented a 73" bigeye that weighed 230 lbs., propelling them into 2nd place.

Sunday, the final day of the

tournament, unfolded exactly as predicted. Storms swept through the region, and rain poured down on the scales until around 6 PM. Out of the 44 boats that ventured out, only 8 managed to bring fish to the scales. Only one boat, the "Bar South," made a significant impact on the primary leaderboard, with a 209 lb. bigeye tuna caught by Rusty Reddish in the Norfolk Canyon. This catch secured the team's 3rd place finish for Heaviest Tuna.

When all was said and done, the "Cabana" remained unrivaled, claiming 1st place in both the Heaviest Tuna and Stringer divisions, marking a tournament first! The "Boss Hogg" secured 2nd place for Heaviest Tuna, while the "MARLI" took 2nd place in the Stringer Division as well as 3rd Place for Heaviest Tuna. The "Bar South," aided by their 209 lb. bigeye tuna, secured 3rd place for the Heaviest Stringer. Complete results, payout details, and pictures can be found starting on page 58.

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

### **Upcoming Tournaments**

- The **19th Annual Marlin Club Kid's Classic** will be held on July 22-23. This event benefits the Wish-a-Fish Foundation and is always a blast for the kids. You do not have to be a member to participate.

More at [OCMarlinClub.com](http://OCMarlinClub.com).

- Marina madness is headed to the Talbot Street Pier as they host the **10th Annual Big Fish Classic** on July 28-30. Always a fun event with of course, big fish! This unique tournament allows for two 32 hour windows to fish. Friday thru Saturday or Saturday to Sunday. This allows the crews to stay overnight for more action or run in early if they have a *big fish!* Scales and the vendor village are open from 4-9PM on Friday and Saturday and 4-8PM on Sunday. Of course MR Ducks is right there too!

More at [BigFishClassic.com](http://BigFishClassic.com).

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Sunset Marina's social media and marketing czar Mariah Sterrett was doing some *applied research* with her fiance' Forrest Bleinberger on the Maryland side of Assateague Island. While the pair had to deal with a lot of shorts, their top and bottom rigs with a combo of Gulp shrimp on top with a swimming mullet on the bottom got them 3 keepers up to 18".



Another Heaviest Tuna record was set early last week by the charter boat "Ro Sham Bo". Capt. Willie Zimmerman with mate Evan Evans and crew caught this 246.4 lb. bigeye tuna in the Washington Canyon.

## OCEAN CITY INLET TIDES & MOON PHASES

<b>WED. JULY 19</b>	High 09:39 am High 10:15 pm	Low 03:54 am Low 03:24 pm
<b>THUR. JULY 20</b>	High 10:21 am High 10:48 pm	Low 04:30 am Low 04:03 pm
<b>FRI. JULY 21</b>	High 11:03 am High 11:23 pm	Low 05:05 am Low 04:45 pm
<b>SAT. JULY 22</b>	High 11:44 am High 11:59 pm	Low 05:38 am Low 05:30 pm
<b>SUN. JULY 23</b>	High ----- High 12:26 pm	Low 06:12 am Low 06:19 pm
<b>MON. JULY 24</b>	High 12:37 am High 01:11 pm	Low 06:47 am Low 07:12 pm
<b>TUE. JULY 25</b> 1st Qtr. Moon	High 01:18 am High 02:01 pm	Low 07:26 am Low 08:07 pm
<b>WED. JULY 26</b>	High 02:04 am High 02:57 pm	Low 08:09 am Low 09:06 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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Eric Nickerson of Wheeling, WV and Ian Roberts of Oak Park, IL proudly show off the 3 keeper flounder they caught while fishing with Capt. Jason Mumford on the charter boat "Lucky Break". He had them fishing with Don and Lori Nickerson in the bay behind Assateague Island using Otter Tail Curly Jig Tails.

While most nearshore anglers last week worked the lumps and wrecks for flounder, Jeff Weeks and Dave Weller from Ocean City took the "Turn Me Loose" to a spot 9 miles out and boated 28 spanish mackerel using clark spoons!

# 2023 FEDERAL SIZE & CREEL LIMITS

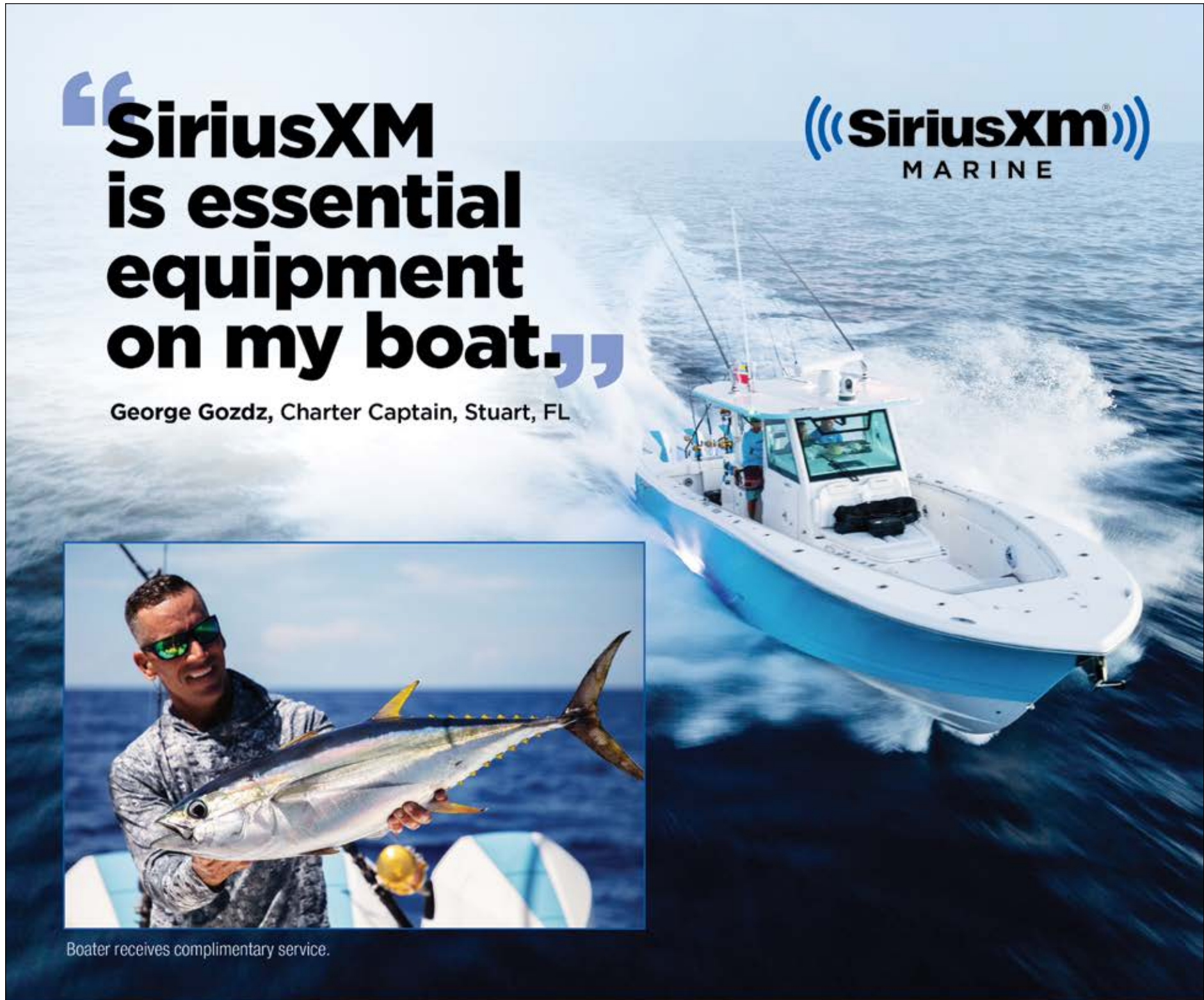
## 3-200 Miles

 <p><b>BLUE MARLIN</b> 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p><b>YELLOWFIN TUNA</b> 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day</p>	 <p><b>BIGEYE TUNA</b> 27" Curved Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p><b>GOLDEN TILEFISH</b> No minimum • 8 per person/day</p>
 <p><b>WHITE MARLIN</b> 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p> <p>NOTE: Blue Marlin, White Marlin and Roundscale Marlin combined 250 Limit</p>	 <p><b>BLUEFIN TUNA</b> 27" to &lt;47" curved fork length 2 per vessel/day or trip 47" to &lt; 73" curved fork length 1 per vessel/day or trip 27" to &lt;47" curved fork length 3 per Charter/day or trip 27" to &lt;47" curved fork length 6 per Headboat/day or trip 47" to &lt; 73" curved fork length 2 per Headboat/day or trip</p>	 <p><b>SWORDFISH</b> 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><b>BLUELINE TILEFISH</b> 5/1 - 10/31 3 per person (Recreational) 5 per person Uninspected (Charter) 7 per person Inspected (Charter)</p>
 <p><b>DOLPHIN</b> No minimum Length Boat Limit 54 Charter Limit Daily 10 per angler</p>	<p><b>SAILFISH</b> Minimum Length 63" • No Retention Limit</p>	 <p><b>WAHOO</b> No Minimum Length • 2 per person/day</p>	

<h3>SHARKS</h3> <h3>AUTHORIZED SPECIES</h3>	<p>No Minimum Fork Length Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead</p> <p>54" Minimum Fork Length Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse, Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common Thresher, Oceanic Whitetip, Porbeagle, Finetooth, Atlantic Blacknose</p> <p>78" Minimum Fork Length Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead, Smooth Hammerhead</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>	<h3>PROHIBITED SHARKS</h3> <p>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, <b>Shortfin Mako</b>, Silky, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White</p>
	<p>Resources: eregulations.com &amp; NOAA.gov</p>		

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# OCEAN CITY

## FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



It's been quite a week out on the waters of Ocean City. The scorching heat and humidity brought about some intense afternoon pop-up storms, however the seas remained surprisingly calm for most of the week. This made our nearshore trips a comfortable and enjoyable experience. And let me tell you, the flounder bite is off the charts this year!

Venturing out to the nearshore reefs and wrecks has been an absolute delight lately. Anglers have been reeling in some monster flounder on almost every trip. The key to success has been using big Gulp baits and squid, which have been irresistible to these flatfish. The fluke are hanging around the down current side of wrecks and scattered across the lower reef structures, providing ample opportunities for a thrilling catch.

Capt. Jason Mumford on the charter boat "Lucky Break" took out a group of anglers, including Bob, Connor, and Logan Hall from Severna Park, along with Bob and Diana Graham and it was a spectacular flounder trip! The action was non-stop, and the group managed to secure their limits of these delicious

flatfish. Meanwhile, over at the Bass Grounds, Steve Balliet, Peyton Balliet and Taylor Good stumbled upon a fishing paradise. Initially targeting flounder, they were in for a surprise when they hooked an unexpected giant trophy red drum. Peyton's catch was a true behemoth, weighing in at around 40 pounds, and they released it back into the water safely. But the surprises didn't end there! Steve then landed another redfish, slightly smaller than the first. Landing two big red drum in one trip, especially at this time of year, is quite an accomplishment!

The "Judith M" crew is singing the same tune. The weather has been nothing short of spectacular, the seas have been calm, and the fish have been biting left and right. Captain Rick Shoaff is keeping his fingers crossed, hoping that this winning streak continues in the days to come. Meanwhile, aboard the "Ocean Princess," Captain Matt Moran and his crew are still reeling in sea bass on their 4-hour trips. But that's not all, they've also been encountering some hefty flounder and triggerfish on most of their excursions. The "Judith M" has been having some fantastic trips as well,

with anglers hauling in some impressive sea bass and a few flatties. The action has been steady, with anglers constantly pulling fish up onto the deck.

The flounder bite has been nothing short of phenomenal, as Kevin McNelis will attest. Limits of flounder are coming in daily, and anglers like Pete Renzi, using an Atlantic Tackle "Wreck Wrecker Rig" with a 5" salmon Gulp are reeling in some jaw-dropping 24" fluke. Limits of flounder are becoming the norm on Pete's boat, with a few ribbon fish thrown in for good measure. Even with plenty of borderline fish, "Covered Up Sport Fishing" managed to fill their cooler with a bountiful catch. Andrew Timko, on a personal mission to beat his previous year's record of 95, has already caught 40 fluke and shows no signs of slowing down. His goal this year? Breaking the 100 mark! Now, that's determination my friends.

Capt. Kane Bounds of "Fish Bound Charters" treated Kurtis Berry to an awe-inspiring afternoon trip. Originally planned as a spanish mackerel outing, the macks proved elusive, but Capt. Kane quickly adapted, anchoring the crew up on a wreck. Lo and behold,

they hauled in ten flounder, including a magnificent five-pounder! Meanwhile, "Double Trouble Charters" has been keeping their customers busy reeling in sea bass, flounder, and even some tilefish. Captain D.J. Churchill assures us that it's been an outstanding start to the year and expects things to keep getting better. And speaking of great catches, Mike Byrnes had a fruitful outing at the Great Eastern and Twin Wrecks Reef, hooking bass and flounder using clams and squid. Jeff Weeks and Dave Weller, out of Ocean City trolled small Clark spoons nine miles out and managed to hook 28 spanish mackerel. After getting tired, they went for sea bass and caught a few of those just for the heck of it before heading home.

Moving to the back bay action, although they haven't matched the nearshore wrecks, they've still provided some consistent flounder action this past week. Areas behind Assateague Island and the deeper channels near the inlet have been the prime spots for these flatfish. Capt. Derek Gogov managed to find a productive fishing spot last Saturday afternoon, and his group returned with a limit of nice-sized flounder just in the nick of time before the rain rolled in. Similarly, "Miss OC Fishing" has been capitalizing on the hot weather & clear water which make the flounder hungry. The crew has been working on both

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www.coastalfisherman.net  
 the incoming and beginning of outgoing tides, resulting in a lot of action. Although there's been numerous throwbacks, several keepers have found their way onto the boat. For families with little ones, the back bay fishing trips on smaller head boats offer constant action to keep the kids entertained at a reasonable price, and within a shorter time frame to prevent boredom.

"Bay Bee" had an extraordinary week, including their 15th Annual Sigma Pi Flounder Pounder. The release of around 50 flounder made for an incredible experience. Droop took home the biggest fish prize with an impressive 18" fluke. Taylor Bakke also had some exciting action on the bridge bite during the last three nights, reeling in several overslot stripers on jigs and spot baits. All fish were released unharmed. And let's not forget Kendra Stoutzenberg from York, Pennsylvania, who was on the "Happy Pappy" in the back bays and hooked a true trophy fish – a nice 23 1/4", 4 lb. 2 oz. flounder. Now, that's a catch to remember!

Sam Klejka, Riley Bowser and Mario Marissa had their fair share of success as well, jigging in the East Channel during the incoming tide and landing a limit of flounder, with the largest measuring an impressive 22".


As for surf fishing enthusiasts, Assateague Island has been a promising destination. Forrest Bleinberger and his fiancée, Mariah Sterretts enjoyed several days of flounder action, reeling in three keepers ranging between 17" and 18" with some undersized ones mixed in. Bucktail rigs with 4" swimming mullet did the trick. And speaking of first catches, young Ledger Ibez experienced the thrill of surf fishing at 70th Street, catching his very first fish ever using Fishbites bloodworms. That young man's smile, holding his kingfish up high, is a sight to behold. It warms the heart to witness the next generation of anglers taking their first steps into this wonderful world of fishing.

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



Sam Klejka, Riley Bowser, and Mario Marisa had a good day in the East Channel. They were jigging bucktails and Roy Rigs during the incoming tide using flounder belly and mullet for bait. They boated 6 keeper flounder with the largest at 22".

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Travis Habecker of Ephrata, PA checked into Old Inlet Bait & Tackle with a 'just inside the slot' rockfish! He caught the 30.5" fish using a swim shad in the Indian River Inlet.



Capt. Richard Harpel anchored over a wreck at the Fenwick Shoals and caught several fish. He was free lining clams on a 15 foot leader of 12 pound test with a red 1/0 hook. This rig landed 2 triggerfish, 2 spadefish and a sea bass!

# 2023 DELAWARE REGULATIONS

## STATE WATERS ONLY

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

eregulations.com





12 year old Luke McAteer of West OC caught this 40" cobia just east of the Little Gull Shoal on a spanish mackerel fillet on a shark rig. He was fishing with his brother Lee McAteer, his Dad Kyle McAteer, Gabriel Dalfonso and Capt. Dave Dalfonso aboard the "Drop Money". They also managed a few spanish mackerel, perhaps for future cobia bait!

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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
 <b>Bluefish</b>	May 19 Rich Daiker OC Jetty 14.5 lbs.	June 8 Dexter Long Indian River Inlet 12 lbs.	 <b>Thresher Shark</b>		
 <b>Black Drum</b>	April 4 Tom Berry Assateague 19 lbs.	May 19 Eric Feinauer Delaware Bay 53 lbs.	 <b>Bigeye Tuna</b>	<b>New</b> July 10 Crew "Ro Sham Bo" Washington Canyon 246.4 lbs.	July 1 Crew "Reel Passion" Washington Canyon 234 lbs.
 <b>Cobia</b>			 <b>Bluefin Tuna</b>	May 29 Crew "Marli" Baltimore Canyon 216 lbs.	July 4 Bri Stevenson 12 miles of S. Jersey 88 lbs. 2 oz.
 <b>Summer Flounder</b>	June 21 Haleigh Davis Ocean Structure 7 lbs.	<b>New</b> June 26 Mike Lewis Old Grounds 9.6 lbs.	 <b>Longfin Tuna</b>		
 <b>Sea Bass</b>	May 20 Wayne Small Ocean Structure 5 lbs.	May 22 Richard Krauss Ocean Structure 4.3 lbs.	 <b>Yellowfin Tuna</b>	<b>New</b> July 10 Crew "Spring Mix II" Norfolk Canyon 97 lbs.	<b>New</b> July 13 Laszo Kacso Hot Dog 88.9 lbs.
 <b>Sheepshead</b>	<b>New</b> June 24 Rob English Ocean City Jetty 14 lbs.	June 5 Paul Mathews Outer Wall 13.78 lbs.	 <b>Dolphin</b>	<b>New</b> July 14 Tina Boykin Washington Canyon 32 lbs.	
 <b>Striped Bass</b>	June 1 Buddy Martin Rt. 50 Bridge 12 lbs.	May 22 Chic Stearrett Bethany Beach 18.7 lbs.	 <b>Swordfish</b>	June 16 Crew "Wrecker" Poor Man's Canyon 100 lbs.	
 <b>Tautog</b>		May 6 James Milano Ocean Structure 22.9 lbs.	 <b>Blue Marlin</b>		
 <b>Wahoo</b>			 <b>White Marlin</b>		

To report your catch, call the Coastal Fisherman at 410-213-2200 or email to [coastalfisherman@comcast.net](mailto:coastalfisherman@comcast.net)



Some captains have started to chunk butterfish for tuna at the inshore lumps. That was a solid strategy for Capt. John Azato on the charter boat "No Limit" who chunked at the Hot Dog as part of an overnight trip. They boated 13 yellowfin including this one caught by Laszo Kacso. At 88.9 lbs. it is the Heaviest Yellowfin for 2023 from a DE based boat!

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# **FISHING CHARTERS**



It was a great day on the Ocean City Bay for anglers Steve, Ken, Dave and Mya Sebastian with Aubrey Baird. They were fishing just north of the Rt. 50 Bridge with Capt. Nick Clemente on the charter boat "Get Sum" based at the Ocean City Fishing Center. All were tricked with Nick's signature white Gulp Swimming Mullets.

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# FISHING CHARTERS



Steve, Sue, Karly and Nolan Soulas with Connor Speaker and Thomas Lopez set a 'no passing the rod' policy on their trip aboard the charter boat "Talkin' Trash". That meant work for Sue as she reeled in this blueline tilefish from 300' along with another on a double hookup! Capt. Chris Little put them in the Washington Canyon where they also put 2 yellowfin in the box.



Capt. Walt Hammond & Rick Shoaff on the headboat "Judith M" had a mix of nice days and some bumpy ones last week! They only got one 5 hour trip out last Thursday as things got sporty in the afternoon. They did have triggerfish and sea bass coming over the rail on this and other trips. Keeper flounder too!

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# FISHING CHARTERS



Capt. Chris Watkowski with mate Chase Porter ran to the southern canyons last week with this crew. They trolled in 500 fathoms in the Norfolk Canyon and got these two 2 yellowfins and a few mahi. The big tuna weighed 91 lbs., one of the heaviest for the season.



Capt. Brin Parsons on the headboat "Thelma Dale IV" saw a beautiful day on this trip out of Fisherman's Wharf in Lewes, DE. She reported a hot morning flounder bite with big keepers like this one followed by a dry spell on the slack tide. They found some more at the end of the day getting several anglers on their limits.

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# FISHING CHARTERS



The ladies on this trip ruled the day! Capts. Mike & Wendy Martino on the Indian River Marina based charter boat "Pole Dancer" took Alejandra Russell and Leslie Carpenter with their husbands on a trip to the Old Grounds where the girls reeled in some fat flounder using bucktails and Gulp!



Capt. Chris Adams on the headboat "Judy V" out of the Indian River Marina reported the sea bass and flounder fishing has been good overall. Some days the drifts have been tricky though. This group on one of their full day trips filled their coolers!

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# FISHING CHARTERS



It was another beautiful day on the headboat "Angler". Capt. Chris Mizurak put the crew over a natural reef on this trip and Floyd Zirkle took advantage of a solid sea bass bite. Several 15 fish limits were hit.

Capt. Brian Porter & Alex Beane with mate Jack Hannum have been tearing it up this summer. Jack caught this large bigeye in the Washington Canyon. It was 74" and tipped the scale at Sunset marina at 245 lbs. They also boxed 2 yellowfin that day.

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# FIRST 2023

## *Fish of the Year*

(AS REPORTED TO THE COASTAL FISHERMAN - MUST BE OF LEGAL LIMIT AND REPORTED WITH PHOTO)

Species	2023	2022	Species	2023	2022
 <b>Bluefish</b>	April 19 Dave Moore Assateague Island	April 26 Morgan Mericle South OC Jetty	 <b>Thresher Shark</b>		May 20 Mike Eid "HotLine" Fingers
 <b>Black Drum</b>	April 3 Jeremy Zinn 145th Street, OC	March 29 Jay Phillips Assateague Island	 <b>Bigeye Tuna</b>	May 5 Jeff Rosenkilde "Full Service" Baltimore Canyon	June 12 Richie Widmayer "HotLine" Baltimore Canyon
 <b>Cobia</b>	July 4 Gabriella Kendus Faithful Steward	June 11 Numen Bilal Fenwick Island Beach	 <b>Bluefin Tuna</b>	May 29 The Crew "Marli" Baltimore Canyon	May 17 Andrew Dietz "Take Em" SE Poor Man's
 <b>Summer Flounder</b>	March 27 Dakota Bittner Thorofare	April 3 Scott Lenox Thorofare	 <b>Longfin Tuna</b>		June 5 Chad Tingle "Sea Bear" Wilmington Canyon
 <b>Sea Bass</b>	May 15 Mike DePalma Sr. Great Eastern Reef	May 15 Jeremy Michalski Jack Spot	 <b>Yellowfin Tuna</b>	May 6 Chris Kroh "Kilroy" Poorman's Canyon	May 17 James Haren "Take Em" SE Poor Man's
 <b>Sheepshead</b>	May 5 Anthony Carrieri Ocean City Jetty	June 4 Blake Gunther OC Inlet	 <b>Dolphin</b>	May 6 Brad Hubbard "Talkin' Trash" Poorman's Canyon	May 29 Adam Davidson "HotLine" East of Poor Man's
 <b>Striped Bass</b>	April 15 Shaun Flaherty Rt. 50 Bridge	April 20 Shaun Flaherty Rt. 50 Bridge	 <b>Swordfish</b>	June 16 Crew "Wrecker" Poorman's Canyon	June 4 The Crew "Espadon" Poor Man's Canyon
 <b>Tautog</b>	January 31 Josh Schwemiein Ocean Structure	March 27 Michael Guigley Stinky Beach	 <b>Blue Marlin</b>	June 1 Steve Sylvester "Talkin' Trash" Norfolk Canyon	June 13 The Crew "Rhonda's Osprey" Poor Man's Canyon
 <b>Wahoo</b>	June 9 Josh Short Poorman's Canyon	June 30 Tim McCartney "Chasin Tides" Hot Dog	 <b>White Marlin</b>	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](mailto:coastalfisherman@comcast.net)



If you are going to own one of the most prolific tuna boats in Ocean City, this is the kind of catch you want to see! Charter boat "MARLI" owner Mike Bostic with Gary Fuss, Fred Wick, Tony Wood, Carl Zierfuss and Bob Schlenzig headed out on July 10th with Capt. Mark Hoos and mates Jake Pinkerton & Jax Moore. They ran 80 miles out into the Washington Canyon and had a fantastic day, catching 8 yellowfin tuna and one stud bigeye! The eyeball that measured 72" and weighed in at 234 lbs. held the title of Heaviest Bigeye for the season for a couple of days before being bested during the Ocean City Tuna Tournament. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



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Curtis Mercer of Curtis Mercer Remodeling in Selbyville, DE wanted to get some pointers for catching fish off of his boat. So he engaged Capt. Dave Caffrey from "On the Run" charters! Capt. Dave ran Curtis and Ralph West, Marlow Pinkett, Winwood Gregory and Chester West out to the First Lump where they slayed some serious spanish mackerel with the largest at 24 inches.



Young Geo Trala with his dad, Sunset Grille owner Buddy Trala, took some time off from the busy Ocean City summer to get out on the water with Capt. John Prather of the "OC Guide Service". Geo caught this 21½" flounder, his first, in the bay behind Assateague Island near the Ocean City Airport using minnows.

# 2023 MARYLAND REGULATIONS

## STATE WATERS ONLY

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

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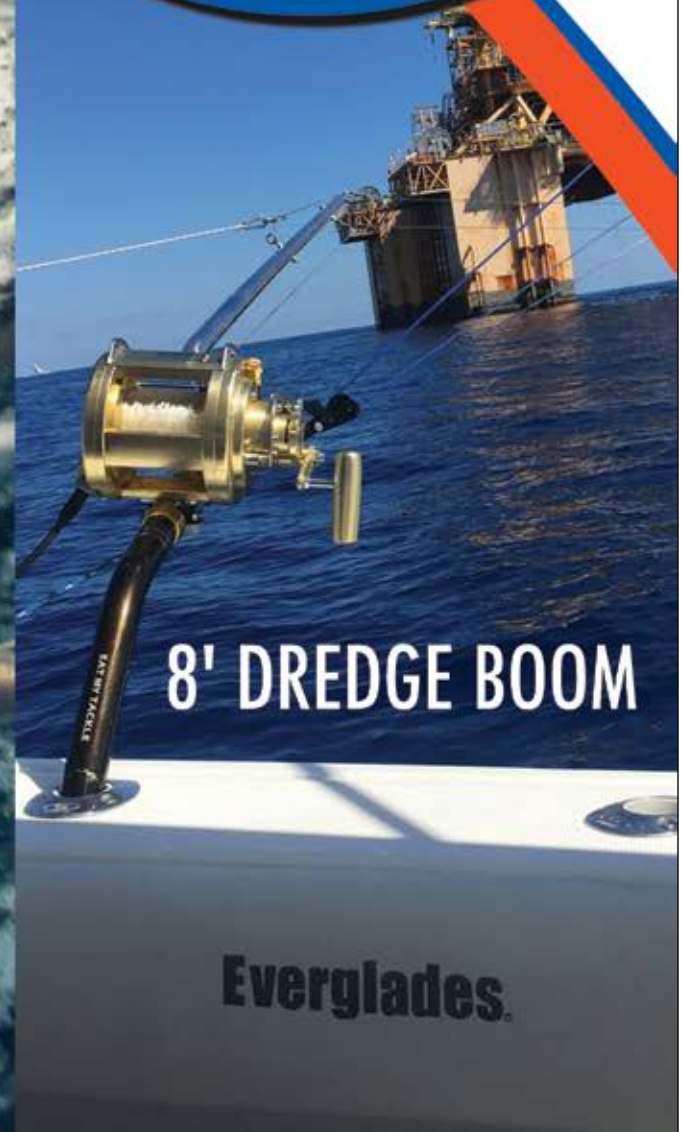
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### Sticky Business

When it comes to boat repair, maintenance or even boat building, there are many methods used to join and seal materials together.

Traditionally, pleasure boats had mechanically fastened joints and connections held together with self-tapping screws or through bolted with nuts and bolts. Modern boats are built with a variety of materials and require a variety of different fastening methods, often taking advantage of modern adhesives and sealants in addition to mechanical fasteners. Some production boats even use special adhesives such as methacrylate adhesive in

place of traditional mechanical fasteners for structural joints.

Choosing the correct adhesive or sealant should be done carefully, since products are often intended for a specific purpose and used in the wrong situation or incompatible materials will yield poor results or even a joint failure.

### Adhesives vs Sealants

Sealants are used to seal joints, gaps, and cracks between two different surfaces. These surfaces are mechanically fastened. While the sealant needs to have some limited adhesive properties, enough for the sealant to stick to the surface of the materials but not designed to bond the materials. Some sealants

are approved for use below the waterline, some sealants include UV stabilizers that reduce failure when exposed to sunlight, some sealants are for indoors only, some sealants can be painted over, some sealants can cover a wide gap, each type of sealant has its own properties, be sure to use the correct product for your needs.

Adhesives are designed to bond two materials together. Most adhesives have specific properties where they perform best and often function as a sealant too. There are many types of adhesives designed for the materials that are intended to be bonded together. Using the wrong adhesive for the materials can result in inferior bonding or

even damage to the material.

### 3M 5200

Walking through a boatyard or marina you cannot go far without seeing a tube of 3M 5200 or a blob of the white ubiquitous paste stuck somewhere it should not be! This is the most popular but often misused adhesive/sealant product in boating, let us see why:

What makes 5200 such a popular product? It can seal and adhere to almost anything! This paste is sold in various size tubes and the manufacturer describes it as a one-component, high-strength, moisture-curing, gap-filling polyurethane for permanent bonding of wood, gelcoat, and fiberglass. It cures to form a firm, rubbery, waterproof seal on joints and boat hardware, above and below the waterline. 3M indicates that this product can be used to bond: Fiberglass deck to hull, through hull

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fittings, wood to fiberglass, portholes and deck fittings, motors on fiberglass transoms and hull seams above and below water line. Based on 3M's description, this product seems to be a one-size-fits-all making it popular BUT it may be too good for everyday use on a boat!

Tensile strength is "the resistance of a material to breaking under tension" or a measure of the bonding strength of a material. Tensile strength is one of the significant differentiation properties between 3M 5200 and other related products by 3M and competitors. 3M 5200 has one of the highest tensile strengths of any marine adhesives at 600 psi and 3M indicates that it should be used for permanent bonding, meaning that the two materials are not intended to be separated (ever again!). Many boaters have learned this the hard way when they try to disassemble bonded items with much difficulty and often damage the substrates.

**5200 Alternatives**

Comparing 5200 to another popular 3M adhesive, 4200FC, a polyurethane chemical base product which has a 180 PSI tensile strength, designed to work above and below the waterline as a sealant/adhesive and is formulated so that the two items can be disassembled (for replacement, service, repair etc.). This is often a

better choice than 5200 for most projects.

3M also offers a similar product, a Marine Adhesive/Sealant 3M 4000 UV is a one-part Silane-modified polymers (SMP) adhesive sealant that cures to form a firm, rubbery waterproof seal. 4000 has a tensile strength over 400psi and is recommended for above and below the waterline. Its superior UV resistance properties make this an ideal cosmetic adhesive sealant.

**Silicone**

Another popular product used on boats to seal and adhere is marine silicone, the 3M marine grade product has a 220 psi tensile strength, slight higher than 4200 but is designed for above the waterline and is not paintable (most paint does not stick well to silicone) Marine silicone has one of the largest elongation rates of all marine sealants and adhesives, able to stretch without breaking, up to 350% of the original size, great for joints move and flex.

**Bedding**

One overlooked sealing product is a "bedding compound." A bedding compound is a heavy bodied compound for bedding-in deck hardware, molding, and other items where a waterproofing compound is needed that is not an adhesive. Items need to be mechanically fastened before being bedded. The popular Pettit Dolfinite

Bedding Compound can be used on canvas, glass, metal, fiberglass, and wood or wherever two pieces are fitted together, and a waterproof, dustproof seal is desired. Bedding compounds remain soft and flexible, though the exterior surface of a bedding compound skins over and can be painted to match the adjoining areas.

The variety of adhesives and sealants in a marine supply store seems endless, choosing and using the correct product for the job is critical, most manufacturers offer detailed technical documentation that can assist in selecting the right sealant or adhesive for the job - read up on the products before you begin your project.

NOTE: Airmar- the popular manufacturer of depth sounder transducers recommends Boatlife®'s Lifeseal® or 3M 4200 as a sealant/adhesive during the installation of many of their

products and not 5200.

NOTE: Read the manufacturer's instructions for surface preparation, application, and curing for any sealant & adhesive. For example, the 3M 5200 instructions indicate that "Alcohol should not be used in preparation for bonding as it will stop the curing process, causing the adhesive to fail."

NOTE: if you are working with HDPE plastic, such as Starboard, there are not many products that will adhere or seal to Starboard, including 3M 5200, as indicated by the manufacture of Starboard, King plastics. King recommends mechanical fastening or welding, though if needed, the following adhesives including Lord 7542-AB, Scotch-Weld DP-8005, or Chem-Set™ 6105 Polyolefin Bonder could be used with Starboard, carefully following King's preparation procedure. §

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Ledger Ibex from Perry Hall, MD was super happy to share his first fish catch! He tricked this croaker from the surf at 70th St. in Ocean City using Fishbite Bloodworms.



Anglers Conn Cooper, Jimmy Machamer and 15 year old Mahala Cooper took a trip to near the Baltimore Canyon on the "Reel Fishey" for some deep dropping. Mahala reeled in this big 15 lb. blueline tilefish!

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# DELAWARE

## FISHING REPORT *by Capt. BJ Pietryak*



Over the past week, Delaware experienced scorching temperatures in the 90s, coupled with humid air and occasional thunderstorms. However, amidst these weather challenges, the nearshore reefs and wrecks continued to deliver exceptional results, yielding abundant limits of flounder.

The nearshore Coral Grounds have been nothing short of fantastic for targeting flounder. In fact, on many occasions this week, anglers found themselves spending less time reaching the Coral Grounds than actually catching their limit of flounder. The combination of tranquil seas and outstanding fishing has made enduring the sweltering 90-degree heat more bearable.

John Coffey, who checked in at Hook'em and Cook'em tackle at the Indian River Marina, shared an impressive story. His group departed at 7am and managed to secure their limit by 9am. Eager for a trophy-sized catch, they continued fishing until around 11am, but the intense heat prompted them to call it a day. Regardless, they achieved a remarkable feat, filling their coolers with a four-man limit of flounder in less than two hours. If this doesn't underscore

the excellent fishing on the nearshore coral, I don't know what does.

Brandon Miller has been experiencing flounder abundance, with plenty of "flatties" to go around, and even a few knothead sea bass joining the mix. He mentioned that even during afternoon trips, there's still enough time to make it back to the dock for some Miller Time at the new Dockside Bar at the Indian River Marina. Bart Stolp had his luck while fishing the Old Grounds, using Gulp as bait, landing an impressive flounder measuring 26.5 inches and weighing 6.8 pounds. Well done, Bart!

Brett McKune has been having a stellar run, consistently reaching his flounder limit on every trip, and often reeling in trophy-sized specimens ranging from 20 to 22 inches. Cheryl and John Angler from Ocean View, DE shared their delightful experiences, soaking up the sun, making memories and reveling in the abundance of flounder. Darryl Mergenthaler Jr. and crew enjoyed a successful morning fishing the Old Grounds, achieving a seven-man limit of flounder before the storm clouds rolled in. On the charter

boat "Grizzly", Capt. Carey Evans and mate Josh welcomed Debbie Mumford and Wendy Jane Wallace, who expressed their gratitude to the captain for putting them on so many flounder. The group returned with a limit, including the largest catch measuring approximately 24 inches.

Ocean Arsenal Tackle shared their successful tactics, utilizing OA Squid Things adorned with freshly caught spanish mackerel strips to lure in flounder. However, sea bass preoccupied with natural planktonic shrimp proved less cooperative. Despite the curveballs thrown by Mother Nature, Capt. Brin Parsons and the crew of "Thelma Dale IV" out of Fisherman's Wharf in Lewes managed to secure some good catches, with 29 flatties finding their way into the coolers. The anglers were entertained by twice as many throwbacks and even had some sea bass to show for their efforts.

Cindy Lou experienced an exciting day at the Old Grounds when, using long squid strips as bait, she hooked a near-citation flounder. Delaware Flounder Fishing reported Dave and Mike's success in landing a flounder limit at A Buoy

using Dave's double top secret "special weapon." Captain Kevin and mate Gavin took Don Pulver and his family out on the "Jay Sea 2" for a memorable fishing trip. Don's grandson, Evan, proudly caught his very first keeper flounder, creating lifelong memories. Al, returning to Lewes Harbour Marina, displayed some impressive flounder catches. He employed Spro bucktails and 6-inch Gulp grubs on deep ocean structures, even encountering a few ribbon fish. For those unfamiliar, ribbon fish provide thrilling fights and are a joy to bring aboard, although filleting them can be challenging. "Get the Gaff Charters" showcased their flounder prowess throughout the week, consistently limiting out on most trips with nonstop biting action all day. To their surprise, a few cobia joined the party further enhancing the experience. Although they successfully enticed the largest cobia to bite, it fell short of the limit, leading to its safe release. Nonetheless, the crew celebrated with a cleaning table full of flatfish. Nine-year-old Ava West's inaugural catch aboard the "Reel Disorder" turned out to be a 22-inch flounder – a true trophy fish for a young angler!

Turning to the back bays, the "Runnin' Do" embarked on a Sunday morning adventure with the young ones, enjoying calm waters and hungry stripers. Chadwick Spence had

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 a rewarding experience at the Roosevelt Canal, reeling in a 16.75" fluke. Chris Zwigart and Maddison Carter proudly shared their flounder catches from the Lewes Canal, including a noteworthy fish measuring 24.5". According to Lewes Harbour Marina, the Lewes Canal continues to yield good fish. Kenney Sr. and Kenney Jr. fished the canal using Gulp and were rewarded with a satisfying catch of flatfish, some measuring up to 21 inches. On the "Pamela," Julie Delgiorno and Steve Rosier had an impressive day, landing sheepshead weighing 5.54 and 5.56 pounds, as well as 15 triggerfish. Julie's fishing prowess truly deserves a Girl Power Award. Ronald Newswanger embraced his first dive of the year at Indian River Inlet, with visibility around 2 to 3 feet. His midnight expedition proved fruitful, spearing a 20-inch and 25-inch, 6-pound flounder. Joseph Fanelli showcased his flounder skills, catching fluke measuring 16.5, 19, 20, and 21.5 inches from the canal. Meanwhile, 16-year-old

Carlina Briggs hooked a 17.5-inch flounder using a squid rig and Gulp, while her 12-year-old sister, Dalaina Briggs, matched her success with a 17" flounder, also employing a squid rig and Gulp. Both impressive catches were made at Indian River Inlet.

In surf fishing news, Tim Turner enjoyed a variety of kingfish and sea bass catches from the surf. Gabriella Kendus, while fishing at Faithful Stewart Beach, fulfilled a long-held dream of catching a cobia, an exciting accomplishment from the surf. Another angler, Paul Marley, managed to hook a nice keeper fluke using squid at 3Rs Beach.

Old Inlet Tackle reports fishing action has been a hit with the summer heat. Nighttime shark fishing remained consistent, while tog and sheepshead kept rock hoppers content. Occasionally, small blues and shad made appearances with the tides, and flounder could still be found close to the rocks.

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



Mike Lewis, Sr. of Ocean View, DE crushed it on his trip to the Old Grounds! He was jigging with Gulp bait on Spro Bucktails when he landed these two doormats! The largest was 28½" and tipped the scales at Hook'em and Cook'em at 9.6 lbs. setting a record for the Heaviest Flounder for the season in DE! Even the other fish was impressive at 6.5 lbs.

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# THE GALLEY

by Chef Christine



## Coconut Crusted Mahi-Mahi with Pineapple Beer Butter Sauce

Ingredients:

### For the Fish:

- 4 6-oz mahi fillets, skin off
- 3 tsp kosher salt
- 2 tsp white pepper
- 2 tsp ground coriander
- 2/3 cup all purpose flour
- 2 eggs plus 2 Tbsp cold water
- 2/3 cup toasted shredded coconut (unsweetened)
- 1/3 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 3 Tbsp unsalted butter

### For the Sauce:

- 4 oz Mexican beer
- 4 oz Pineapple juice
- 1 tsp kosher salt
- 8 Tbsp cold butter

### Garnish:



Fresh cilantro leaves

### Directions:

Thoroughly dry the fish fillets. Coat with the salt, pepper, and ground coriander. Place on a rack over a sheet pan and refrigerate for 15-30 minutes.

Preheat your oven to 425°F.

Set up a breading station with

flour in one bowl. Combine the eggs and water and beat until thoroughly combined in another bowl. Finally, combine the coconut and breadcrumbs on a large plate or sheet tray. Remove the fish from the refrigerator and coat the fillets in flour. Then coat the fish in the egg wash, and finally, coat in the coconut mixture. Gently press the coconut and breadcrumbs into the fish to make it adhere better.

In a large nonstick, oven-safe skillet or sauté pan, melt the butter over medium high heat. Cook the fillets for about 2 or 2 ½ minutes per side. You want the coating to darken, but not to burn. Remove from the heat and put the entire pan in the oven for about 10 minutes. You can test for doneness by pulling a fillet with two forks - it should flake easily, which means it is done.

### Prepare the Sauce:

In a saucepan, combine the beer and pineapple juice and reduce over medium heat until there is about 2 Tbsp of liquid remaining. Remove from the heat and whisk in 1 Tbsp of butter at a time. If the mixture gets too cold to melt the butter, return to a low heat to warm it up but do not let the sauce boil. Once all the butter is incorporated, add the salt and taste. You can add more if necessary.

Serve the fish with a drizzle of the sauce at the table and fresh cilantro.

## Kingfish Steaks with Lemon Garlic Butter

Ingredients:

- 2 kingfish steaks, preferably 1-inch thick
- 1/2 cup soy sauce
- 3 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons water
- 1/4 teaspoon garlic powder

1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

1/4 teaspoon salt, preferably pink Himalayan salt

1/2 teaspoon brown sugar

1/2 cup unsalted butter divided

2 tablespoons olive oil, divided

1/2 head garlic minced

1 tablespoon lemon juice

Directions:  
Prepare the fish, rinse well and drain the excess water. While draining the fish, prepare the marinade.

In a container, mix soy sauce, lemon juice, water, garlic powder, black pepper, salt, and brown sugar. Make sure the ingredients are properly dissolved before adding the fish steak. Flip it once to evenly distribute the marinade. Cover it and refrigerate for at least 2 hours before frying.

Tip: Use an airtight container in



preparing the marinade so you can just add in the fish and seal it for refrigeration. It's more hygienic and less mess!

In a non-stick grill pan, melt 2 tablespoons of butter and add 1 tablespoon olive oil. Fry the fish for 3 to 4 minutes each side at moderate heat. After 3 to 4 minutes, spread 2 tablespoons of butter on top of the king fish, then flip it to fry the other side. Remove the fish from the heat and place on a serving platter.

In the same non-stick grill pan, melt ¼ cup unsalted butter. Once melted, add remaining olive oil and stir fry the minced garlic until fragrant. Add in the remaining marinade plus 1 tablespoon lemon juice. Simmer for at least 3 to 4 minutes.

On a serving platter, pour the sauce over the kingfish steaks. Garnish with lemon slice, garlic

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### Smoky Citrus Butter Baked Redfish

#### Ingredients:

2 lbs. redfish fillets, rinsed and patted dry  
1 tsp salt  
Dash cayenne pepper  
2 tsp smoked sweet paprika  
Juice of one small lemon  
3 Tbs. finely chopped onion  
1/4 cup melted butter



#### Directions:

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees and position a rack in the center. Sprinkle both sides of the fish with the salt, cayenne and smoked sweet paprika. Place the fillets with the side that once contained the skin facing up. In a bowl, combine the lemon juice, onion and butter. Pour over fish fillets.

Bake until the fish is cooked through, opaque and flakes easily with a fork--about 15 minutes.

### Herb Crusted Golden Tilefish with Lemon Leek Risotto

#### Ingredients:

#### Lemon-Leek Risotto:

2 tablespoons unsalted butter  
1 leek, thinly sliced  
1 shallot, finely diced  
1/2 cup white wine  
3/4 cup Arborio rice  
4 cups chicken or vegetable stock (low sodium)  
1/2 cup grated or shaved parmesan cheese

Zest and juice of one half lemon

#### Herb-Crusted Golden Tilefish:

Egg wash - 1 egg lightly beaten with 1/4 cup milk or water

1 cup breadcrumbs

Zest of 1/2 lemon

Fresh garlic clove, finely minced

Finely chopped fresh herbs (we used thyme and sage)

#### Directions:

#### Risotto:

In a heavy-bottom pan, melt butter over medium heat. Meanwhile, keep the chicken or vegetable stock hot in a pan on another burner. Add leeks and shallots and sauté until soft, around 3 - 5 minutes. Add the rice and cook for 2 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Add the wine and stir until the wine is absorbed by the rice. Raise the heat to medium-high and add one cup of heated stock to the rice. Stir frequently until the broth is absorbed. Repeat this process until you have used all the broth, making sure the broth is absorbed before each addition. The rice will be al dente and creamy. Stir in



the parmesan, lemon zest, and lemon juice at the end. This is best when served immediately. Alternately, you could cover it and set it aside until you are ready to use it. You may need to stir in a little additional liquid over low heat if you feel it has thickened too much during this time.

#### Tilefish:

Mix the zest, garlic, and herbs into the breadcrumbs. Portion the fish and dip the top side in the egg wash, and then into the breadcrumbs. You don't need to bread or coat the entire piece of fish, just the top. Set the fish aside.

Heat a small amount of olive oil over medium-high heat in a large pan. Put the fish, coated side down in the pan. Make sure there is a little room between the pieces so they brown rather than steam. After the breadcrumbs have browned and it has formed a crust, remove the fish from the pan and place on a baking sheet. Transfer to a 400-degree oven and bake until the fish is cooked through. (This took about 5-7 minutes for us and will vary depending on the thickness of the fish you use.)

All that is left to do is build your plate! We started with the risotto and nestled the fish on top.

#### Grilled Tuna Steaks

#### Ingredients:

2 6-8 oz. tuna steaks  
1/3 cup of light soy sauce  
1/4 cup of sesame oil  
4 cloves of fresh minced garlic  
2 tsp of fresh minced ginger  
3 Tbsp of sesame seeds

#### Directions:

Combine all ingredients except the sesame seeds into a resealable plastic bag and marinate for 30 minutes.

Heat your grill to medium-high heat while you wait.

After 30 minutes remove the steaks and discard the remaining bag of marinade.



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Sprinkle the 3 Tbsp of sesame seeds on a plate and roll the steaks around coating them evenly.

Using a pair of tongs wipe the grill grates with a paper towel coated in vegetable oil.

Grill steaks for 2-3 minutes per side being careful not to overcook the tuna or burn the seeds.

Remove the steaks, slice and enjoy!

### Lemon Butter Triggerfish

Ingredients:

- 2 triggerfish fillets ( approx 1 lb.)
- 1 lemon, sliced
- 1 Tbsp lemon juice
- 2 Tbsp unsalted butter, melted
- 2 Tbsp parsley, chopped and divided
- Salt
- Black pepper

Directions:

Preheat oven to 375°F

Place fish in a baking dish and lightly salt and pepper.



In a small bowl, whisk together melted butter, lemon juice, 1 tablespoon parsley, pinch of salt and a pinch black pepper.

Drizzle butter mixture over fish and top with sliced lemon.

Bake around 10 minutes or until fish is light and flaky. Add salt to taste, garnish with remaining parsley, and add a squeeze of lemon if desired.

### Easy Shrimp Ceviche

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. cooked shrimp, peeled and

deveined

- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice about 2 lemons

- 1/4 cup fresh lime juice, about 3 limes

- 1/2 cup fresh squeezed orange juice

- 4 whole plum tomatoes, seeds removed and diced

- 2 whole jalapeno peppers, seeds and vein removed, minced

- 1 cup jicama diced, or diced peeled apple

- 1/2 cup fresh cilantro, chopped

- 1/4 cup red onion finely, chopped

- 1 avocado, pitted and diced

Kosher salt and fresh ground pepper

Directions:

Chop the shrimp into 1/2" pieces and transfer to a bowl. Set aside.

In a small bowl, whisk together the lemon, lime, and orange juice to combine. Pour 1/2 cup of the citrus juice over the shrimp and toss to combine. Allow the shrimp to marinate in the juice for 15 minutes.

Add the tomato, jalapeño, jicama (or apple), cilantro and red onion to the shrimp. Toss the ingredients to combine and allow to marinate for an additional 10 minutes. Stir in the avocado and remaining juices.

Season the ceviche with salt and pepper to taste. Serve immediately with tortilla chips, if desired.

Notes:

Do not use lemon, lime or orange juice from a container. Fresh squeezed is recommended for best results.

Shrimp ceviche is best enjoyed the same day it's made. §



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Forrest Bleinberger and his finance' Mariah Sterrett found a beautiful day to get out on Maryland's Assateague Island over several days last week. The pair were able to get three keeper flounder up to 18" using a bucktail rig tipped with 4" Gulp on the bottom with a 3" Gulp shrimp on a teaser hook above.



Before the weekend blow offshore, anglers Eric Johnson, Bob Schaubert, Nick Hall, Will Calder, Pete Cosgrove and Jilian Johnson enjoyed a beautiful day in the Washington Canyon. They set out spreader bars and ballyhoo and snagged 3 yellowfin and a mahi before deep dropping to catch 16 blueline tilefish. Pictured at Fisherman's Marina.

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So here we are, smack in the middle of July, a tick on the calendar that for a lot of fishermen means that they're close to, if not at, the middle of their fishing season. By September many will be back to school, back to work, back to their home in the big city, back to anywhere but where they want to be - the deck of their boat, favorite fishing pier, or stretch of beach, spending time doing what they really want to be doing - fishing!

With this season being so far along, anglers can now look back at the last few month's accomplishments to consider if they're on a trajectory to accomplish some of the goals they might have set for themselves back in the offseason. Have they caught that big flounder? Their first billfish, a keeper rockfish, a red drum? A bunch of tilefish, maybe a giant tautog? Have they made it to the cover of the Coastal Fisherman?

Since their final day on the water last year, many anglers spent a lot of time during the cold, fishless months, setting

goals for themselves that they hoped to fulfill this season.

Personal goals are good for fishermen. They keep us focused and provide reason to explore new waters, try new techniques, and to keep fishing when others have given up. In 2000 I set a goal to catch a permit on a fly. It took me 13 years to finally catch that fish, but the quest kept me returning to Florida each winter for another shot at it. There's a lot of other fishermen who pursue goals every bit as lofty, but what's easy to lose track of is that there's an even larger number of folks out there with very simple fishing goals of their own that, while they might seem rather humble to the rest of us, are just as important and every bit as challenging to them.

Maybe they're too young or too old to fish by themselves and have no one to take them, or they might have financial issues that makes even the most modest of fishing trips too much of a luxury for them to afford. Perhaps they

have physical complications, or they might simply have no clue about how to get started in fishing because they've never been exposed to it. Those of us who fish all the time might find it hard to comprehend, but there are so many people who are not worried about what they may or may not catch because just to be at the water's edge trying to catch a fish is enough, their goal is nothing more than to "go fishing." Just being able to get on a boat for a half day of deep-sea fishing, stand on the Rt.50 Bridge and fish for flounder, or sit on a quiet dock and catch snapper bluefish and spot would be enough to make their fishing dreams come true.

As anglers, we know that there is something very primal about fishing. It does something for us that goes far beyond providing a fish dinner once in a while, it's in our blood and we can't imagine not having it as part of our lives. Now consider living with that desire but having no opportunity to

quench the thirst for it. Living here on Delmarva, just as we are bordered by water, we are also surrounded by folks who have the strong desire, but not the means to go fishing. From children living with single parents who don't have the ability to take their kids fishing, to elderly men and woman who may have spent a lifetime on the water but just can't go fishing on their own anymore, there's a lot of heart-breaking stories about people who could use an assist by those of us who have the ways and the means to make it happen.

The remedy is simple - just take someone fishing! You won't have to look far to find someone who would like to go, they're everywhere. As a fishing guide and charter captain I have the privilege every year to be included in plans to make fishing available to folks who don't usually have a chance to go. The most rewarding part of my job is when I'm able to help a child catch their first fish or an elderly person hook what could be their last. The satisfaction that comes from making this happen is something all fishermen have an opportunity to enjoy for themselves by simply offering to take someone

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along on some of their fishing adventures.

Of course anglers should keep in mind that not all fishing trips are appropriate for all people. A 36-hour overnight trip to the canyons might be a once in a lifetime fishing experience but it could also be a bit overwhelming to someone who has never been out on the ocean before. When taking people with physical limitations, children, or those with little fishing experience it's usually best to keep it simple, at least in the beginning and until it's apparent that they can handle more extreme fishing. If you're trying to introduce a child to fishing, the last thing you want to do is run them 40-miles offshore on a choppy day and have them be seasick for ten hours. Remember, many people just yearn for the chance to get out on the water and go fishing, they don't necessarily need a 60-pound tuna or

200-pound shark to make their day. Bay or nearshore fishing that provides a little action with modest size fish can be all that's needed to make someone really happy. Then, if all goes well, maybe future trips targeting larger fish further offshore can be planned, but the first time out the focus should be on keeping the experience comfortable and enjoyable for the special guests.

Every new season provides Delmarva anglers with a lot to look forward to, good reasons to have high expectations, and maybe even the chance to set and pursue some challenging goals. But those fishermen who also take the time and make the effort to share some of their experiences on the water with those who do not have the opportunity to do so on their own are sure to end their season with so much more than just a freezer full of fish. §



For a brief but shining moment, Cole Hutchison held the title for Heaviest Yellowfin Tuna caught by a DE boat in 2023! This 74.7 lb. tuna was caught at the 19 Fathom Lump while he and Matt Griffis, Dalton Turner and Capt. Robbie Hutchison were chunking with squid on the "Blue Hen". Sadly it was surpassed a few days later. Pictured at Hook'em & Cook'em at the Indian River Marina.



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David Rarrick from Lafayette Hill, PA likes to challenge himself. He set out last week running about 60 miles offshore to hunt tilefish with a spinning rod. He caught this chunky golden tilefish in 400' of water using squid for bait.



**UPCOMING TOURNAMENT!**

**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

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**8th ANNUAL OCMC vs OCLTC SHOOT-OUT**  
**TBD**

**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

**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

**45th ANNUAL CHARLES KRATZ & SCOTT SMITH CHALLENGE CUP**  
Registration: Sept. 13, 6:00-8:00pm  
Fishing Days: (2 or 3) Sept. 14, 15 & 16  
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Anglers Lucas Mutter, Logan Faller, Aiden Faller, and Cole Henry look like a police line up sharing their catch at Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck, DE! They spent the morning jigging at the Old Grounds and raised these 6 keeper flounder using Gulp. The largest was 22".

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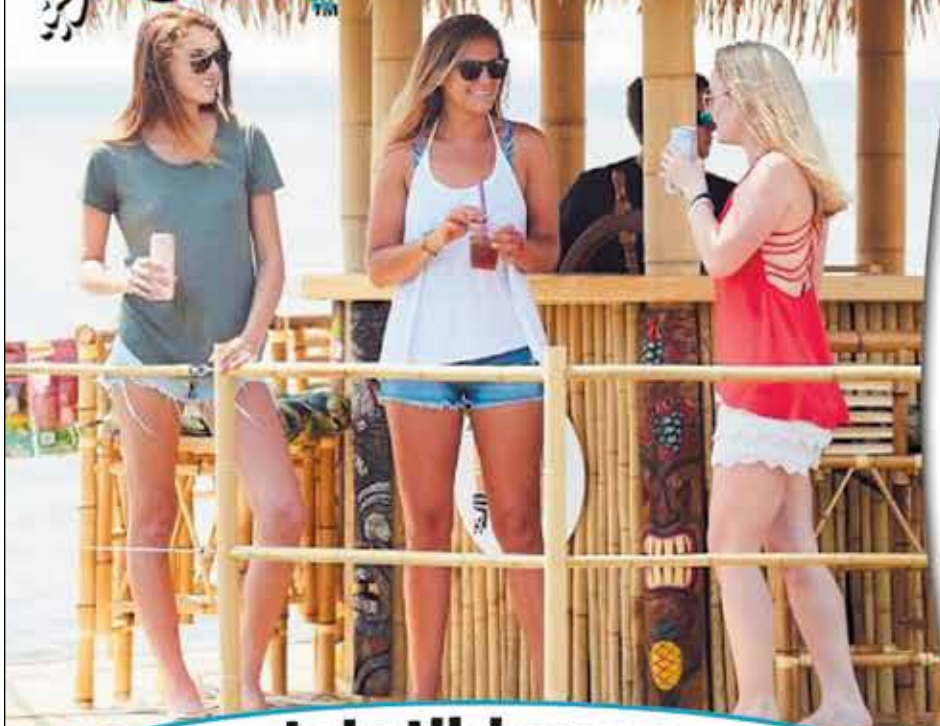
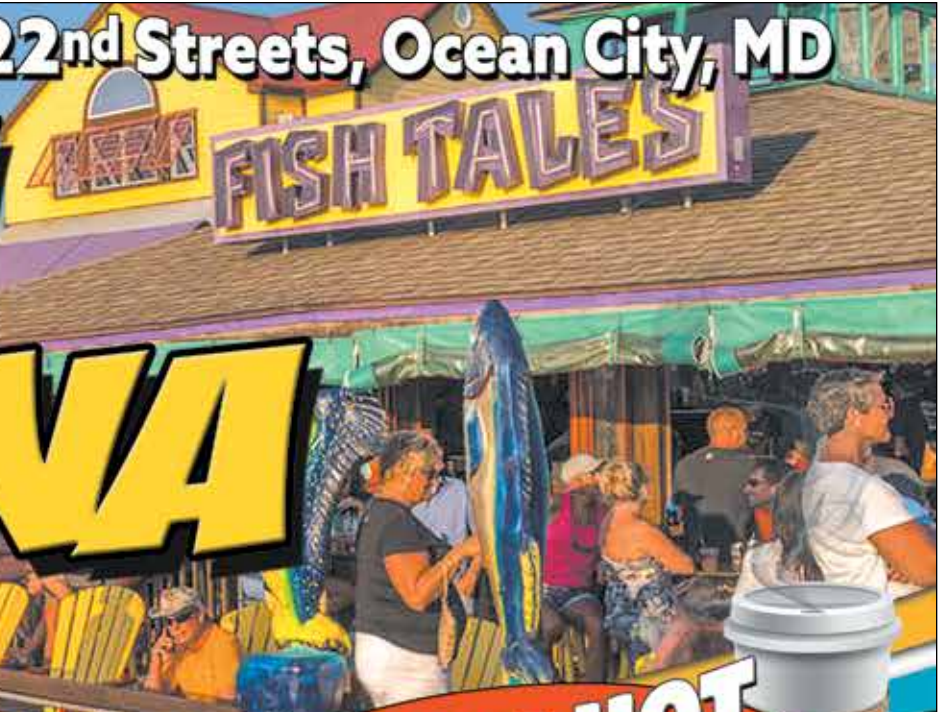
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301-325-0420



### OLD JESSUP

**48' Ocean Yacht**  
Capt. Robert Grimes  
443-864-7681



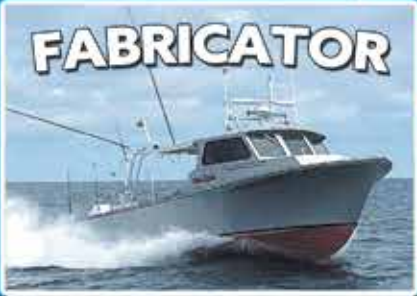
### JACKED UP

**45' Ocean**  
Capt. Dean Metcalfe 717-404-3331  
Capt. Nick Skidmore 717-615-0644



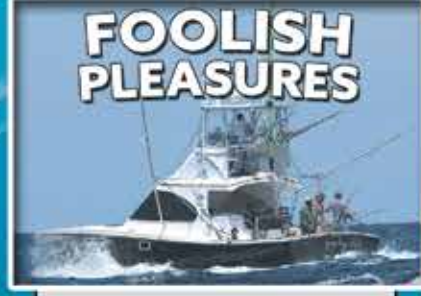
### OBSESSION

**45' Custom Sportfish**  
Capt. Bobby "Mack" McCormack  
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### FABRICATOR

**36' Custom**  
Capt. Kevin Marshall  
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### ANOTHER MARGARITA

**33' Blackfin**  
Capt. Troy Collins  
301-928-7620



### OUTLAW X

**31' Rampage**  
Capt. Mike Hutchins  
443-871-7354



### JUST A TOY

**30' Century**  
Capt. Wayne Anderson  
443-880-7516



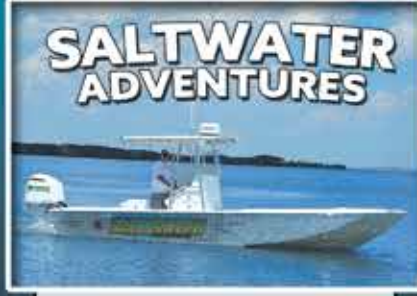
### ON THE RUN

**28' Parker**  
Capt. Dave Caffrey  
410-251-9645



### BILL COLLECTOR

**27' Grady White**  
Capts. Lisa Dudley & Buddy Whetzel  
443-340-2723



### SALTWATER ADVENTURES

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Lots of blueline tilefish were making their way to the docks last week. Young Lauren West of Salisbury, MD reeled up this 27" one using squid.



Andrew Trackim of Ocean Pines, MD got offshore to the Poor Man's Canyon with his dad Bill. He caught this 44" and 55 lb. yellowfin that hit on a skirted ballyhoo while trolling.

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# VIRGINIA FISHING REPORT

by Capt. Matt Abell



As the temperature rises, the air seems to get heavier, and a bead of perspiration finds its way into your eyes to administer a summertime sting. We realize that these hated hot weather symptoms can only be soothed by spending some time on a body of water which emulates the same salinity as the sweat that you just wiped from your brow. So let's go fishing .... if nothing else, for your health!

Light winds and calm seas have allowed for some "fantastic" floundering around the barrier islands of the ESVA. The inshore bite has been encouraging as we have been blessed with clear water in and around the many inlets of the shore. The cleanest, clearest and coolest waters have arrived on the last part of the flood. We did best this week on a chartreuse and pink or a chartreuse and orange color combination tipped

with minnows and silversides. The nearshore reefs are also producing bent rods as flatfish fly over the gunwales. If the oceanic current allows, hovering directly over the fish laden structure and offering 2 oz. jigs tipped with Gulp or large strips of cut bait seem to ring the dinner bell. This week Captain John of Huntress Charters out of Chincoteague has been as hot as the weather. To bring these impressive catches to the dock, he keeps his clients on top of the reef and in the strike zone.

While you are sampling the salty Atlantic, you may want to try your luck at some triggers and spades. These tropical looking ESVA residents come home this time of year to shallow wrecks and reefs and readily take small #4-#1 hooks on fluorocarbon leaders suspended near the structure. A little clam chum will

help improve your chances for success.

The offshore scene is still a little lack luster. Some yellowfin and big eyes have been trolled up, many in and around the Washington Canyon. The mahi bite has improved greatly as good numbers of small to medium sized fish have been chunked up and bailed around any floating flotsam from the canyon to the 20 fathom line. On those days that the trolling bite does not promote both screaming drags and fishermen, a quick stop for tilefish breaks the boredom and cure the hunger pains associated with an empty cooler.

The central Chesapeake has been fairly quiet as the summertime doldrums dig in their heels. Sheepshead still are cooperating and the many reef sights. Chunks of crab fished near the bottom have coerced most of these sneaky

striped bait stealers into the net. A nice class of bluefish also continue to call the Tangier and Pocomoke Sounds their home. Rapala x-raps seem to attract the most attention and are a sure bet for bullish bluefish runs and aerial acrobatic exhibitions.

The southern bay has been the scene of some great cobia and red drum action. The CBBT has housed the best of these hot weather wonders. Schools of reds have been spotted around the pilings and the islands, and readily take jigs presented to them from afar. It may take a while to find them, but when you do it's game on and you will be having so much fun that you will forget worries, stress, and even the heat.

This week you will have a choice... either stay inside and hide on a climate controlled couch or get out on the water and feel the cooling salt spray on your face. If you give it a try, the Lord will provide AC and the ESVA will provide the fun. So get out there, grab some cold bottles of water, and enjoy this wonderful place we home! §



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It is always fun to see kids catch fish as big as they are! Isabella Zeccola from Fenwick Island, DE headed down to the Virginia Eastern Shore to do some fishing for the man in the brown suit with her brother Luke and family. They had a great day on the "Rock Bottom" with Capt. Will Petka and caught their limit of cobia as well as releasing several others.

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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"	<b>SHARK:</b>			
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.	<b>TUNA:</b>			
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





Dutch Workman from Salisbury gets up close and personal with these two 75 pound plus yellowfin tuna he caught on the private boat "Take Em". He was fishing with Richard Osborne and is pictured at Harbour Island in Ocean City.



Lewes Harbour Marina was busy last week with anglers bringing a wide variety of fish to the cleaning table. Julie Delgiorno and Steve Rosier pulled up these 2 sheephead at an ocean structure. Julie's were both over 5 lbs. The pair also boated triggerfish, a few sea bass and a sea trout!

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# 36th Annual OCEAN CITY TUNA TOURNAMENT RESULTS

## SINGLE LARGEST TUNA

1st- "Cabana"	236 lbs.	\$495,100
2nd - "Boss Hogg"	230 lbs.	\$49,800
3rd - "Marli"	219 lbs.	\$132,325

## HEAVIEST STRINGER WEIGHT

1st - "Cabana"	763 lbs.	\$ Included Above
2nd - "Marli"	506 lbs.	\$ Included Above
3rd - "Bar South"	471 lbs.	\$ 59,565

## HEAVIEST DOLPHIN

1st - "Lucky Duck"	32 lbs.	\$61,230
--------------------	---------	----------

## TOP LADY ANGLER

1st - JL Cropper	108 lbs.	\$2,000
2nd - Jen Shellman	56 lbs.	\$1,500
3rd (T) - Danielle Robertson	48 lbs.	\$375
Alyssa Privitera	48 lbs.	\$375

## TOP JUNIOR ANGLER

1st - Ramie Caiola	54 lbs.	\$1,500
2nd - Colt Duffie	52 lbs.	\$1,000
3rd - Cutter Stanton	51 lbs.	\$500

## BOATS 35' & UNDER

Single Heaviest Tuna - "Zippy"	65 lbs.	\$2,250
Heaviest Stringer - "Cluster Fish"	130 lbs.	\$2,250

## BOATS 36' - 51'

Single Heaviest Tuna - "Full Service"	209 lbs.	\$67,690
Heaviest Stringer - "Fluid Dynamics"	308 lbs.	\$13,500

## BOATS 52' & UP

Single Heaviest Tuna - "Cabana"	236 lbs.	Included in Total
Heaviest Stringer - "Cabana"	763 lbs.	Included in Total

**Total Prize Money**  
**\$990,570**

**2023 Boats Entered - 74**

### BOATS DAYS FISHED

Day 1 - 35      Day 2 - 69      Day 3 - 44



Angler Mike McCarthy set the tone during the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament! On day 1 of the event he landed this 236 lb. bigeye while trolling the edge of the Norfolk Canyon on the private boat "Cabana". Day 2 saw him land another eyeball from the same place, this one at 153 lbs. These two fish combined with yellowfin caught by fellow anglers Donnie Carswell, Bill Britt and boat owner Frank Sherman captured 1st Place in both the Single and Stringer Categories. Capt. Ed Wheeler was at the helm with CJ Davidson, Brent Feder and James David working the pit.



The last boat to the scales on day 2 of the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament rattled the leaderboard with this 230 lb. bigeye tuna caught by Mike Runk, Sr. on the charter boat "Boss Hogg". He was fishing with owner Howard Berger and Mike Dahl, Glenn Orr, Ted Riche, Paul Hannum and Richie McCann. Capt. Brian Porter with mates Alex Beane and Jack Hannum had the crew trolling at the Whale Hole in the Norfolk Canyon where the 73" inch fish kept Mike on the rod for 40 minutes. The eyeball slid into 2nd Place where it finished the event earning \$49,500.



The crew of the charter boat "Marli" was the first to bring a bigeye tuna over 200 lbs. to the scales on the first day of the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament. Capt. Mark Hoos had anglers Joseph Stein, Tommy Distefano, Robert 'Boots' Digiacommo, Paul DiFebo, Mike Bromwell, Kevin Lougheed and JP Turansky leave at 3:15 AM so they could have lines in at 8 AM due to the weather. The bigeye hit in the Washington Canyon on a pink Sterling Spreader Bar with Joseph and Tommy teaming up to land it. The 219 lb. eyeball took 3rd Place for Single tuna and combined with the yellowfin tuna from the other crew members gave the boat a 2 day stringer total of 506 lbs. locking in 2nd Place for Heaviest Stringer taking a total of \$132,325 in prize monies.

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The "Bar South" was one of the few boats that braved the extreme weather on the last day of the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament. Capt. Raul Gonzales with mates Zach Howell and James McDougall had the boat in the Norfolk Canyon when angler Rusty Reddish hooked this 209 lb. bigeye tuna that slid into 4th Place. It also combined with their day 1 stringer creating a 2 day total of 471 lbs. taking 3rd Place in the Stringer Division as well. That earned owner Robert Gothier and fellow anglers Al Smith, Cooper Nalley and Cory Lednum a combined payout of \$59,565.



It was "one & done" for "Ro Sham Bo" anglers Nick Shriver, Rusty Shriver, Bill Zimmerman, Mike Wheaton, Adam Forinash and Glen Heitman on their first day of the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament. Glen Heitman was on the rod and caught this 195 lb. bigeye in the Washington Canyon, their only bite for the day. It was the first bigeye to the scales and held on to take 4th Place in the Single Division. Their day 2 catch put their 2 day Stringer total to 439 lbs., taking 4th Place in that category earning a combined \$27,835. Capt. Willie Zimmerman was at the wheel with mates Joey Marowski and Evan Evans keeping the lines tight.

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The "Full Service" kicked off the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament in style. Anglers Jeff Rosenkiled, Danny Brandt, Tom Brandt, Mike Freiji with Capts. Jim & Brendan Barbey and mate Charlie Fielder were the first boat to the scales on day 1 bringing in a beautiful 209 lb. bluefin tuna as well as 2 yellowfins from the Jack Spot. That one held out to take the top spot in the 36' to 51' Division as well as 7th Place overall earning \$67,690.



The "Fluid Dynamics" decided to fish the weekend days during the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament despite the harsh Sunday forecast. Capt Nick Mislak with mates Chip Raynor & Rob Steiner and anglers Chuck Falter, Eddie Quick, Chris Groncki, Steve Richardson and Jeff Wills fished the southern canyons. Day 1 saw a 136 lb. stringer. On day 2 they were one of the last boats to the scales and reported dealing with 14' waves! They managed another 3 yellowfin creating a 2 day stringer total of 308 lbs. That was enough to take the top spot for boats 36' to 51' earning \$13,500.



Would it really be the Ocean City Tuna Tournament without the "Myra HT" with Capt. Hugh Cropper and JL Cropper waiting for the scales to open on their first fishing day? Their strategy was to stay a little closer to shore and get JL on a big bluefin. Well it worked, she landed this 108 lb. bluefin in the Massey's Canyon taking only 20 minutes to get it to the boat and taking the Top Lady Angler Award again! She was joined by her son Hugh Thomas and his friend Marshall Mumford who also caught a big king mackerel.

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Cape May Marlin Tournament  
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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

15th Annual OCMC Ladies Tournament "Heels & Reels"  
August 5-6 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

16th Annual Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce Flounder Tournament  
August 5 • Ocean Pines Yacht Club • 410-641-5306

50th Annual White Marlin Open  
August 7-11 • Harbour Island Marina • 410-289-9229

Paradise Grill Flounder Pounder  
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30th Annual Capt. Steve Harman Poor Girl's Open  
August 17-19 • Bahia Marina • 410-289-7438

The MidAtlantic  
August 20-25 • Cape May, NJ & Ocean City, MD

## SEPTEMBER

65th Annual OCMC Labor Day Tournament  
September 1-3 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

22nd Annual Ocean City Fishing Center Spot Tournament  
September 10 • OC Fishing Center • 410-213-1121

18th Annual Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder  
September 10 • Bahia Marina • 410-289-7438

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It definitely was a tough day for Art Boykin, Ben Boykin, Greg Kolega, Brian Schiffer, Mike Pitarra and Tina Boykin on the "Lucky Duck" during first day of the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament! Despite the rough weather they and Capt. Eric Strauss with mate Sergio Patruso headed out to the Washington Canyon. While they had no tuna bites and most got ill, Tina did catch this nice 32 lb. bull mahi! Since no other qualifying mahi or wahoo were weighed all that prize money rolled up and awarded the team \$61,230!

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These boys from Long Island, NY earned their keep during the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament. They trailered their center console down and braved the waves over the weekend. On their first day Capt. Josh Swan took Lance Swan, Dan Feuring, Jason Arro, Sylan Hopkins and PJ Nunez out to the Poor Man's Canyon. Despite a couple of knockdowns they were only able to get 3 yellowfin in the box, but the largest at 65 lb. was enough to secure the Single Tuna for a boat Under 35' and earned \$2,250.



There was good competition in the Junior Angler Division of the 36th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament. The top 3 anglers had yellowfins separated by only 3 pounds. It was however 16 year old Ramie Caiola wearing his Capt. Chris Little Starter Kit necklace on the charter boat "Talkin' Trash" that would prevail! He landed this 54 lb. yellowfin tuna on day 1 of the event in the Washington Canyon that held on to take top honors earning a cool \$1,500 plus many prizes.

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**BARRATUNA - 2008 53' Sculley  
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**2023 39' HCB  
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**HADLOCK - 2002 61' Viking Convertible  
Call Ronnie Fields**



**SEA HUNTER - 2019 45' Mark Willis  
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**1985 47' Hines-Farley  
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**CONSTELLATION - 1984 37' Sunny Briggs  
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**DRIFTWOOD - 2017 28' Harrison  
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**2003 35' Carolina Classic  
Call Chris Workmon**



**MOONSHINE - 1996 38' Duffy  
Highshare - Call Mark Pagano**



**1998 45' Ocean Yacht  
Call Chris Workmon**



**1986 28' Ocean Master  
Call Glenn Cameron**



**2017 27' Cobia  
Call Colton Cunningham**



**2003 38' Fountain  
Call Terry Layton**



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



**TWIN BILLS - 1970 36' Hatteras  
Call Jeff James**



**CARIBEÑA - 1982 35' Bertram  
Call Jimmy Fields**



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