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COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 40 • • • NUMBER 21 • • • SEPTEMBER 16, 2015



Last Saturday, as a storm was rolling through Ocean City, the crew on the "First Light" arrived back at Sunset Marina with an 88 lb. wahoo caught by angler Jim Rodgers while trolling in 250 fathoms between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons. Jim was fishing with Walt Schrade, George Kalwa, Capt. Corey Kennington and mate Wil Kennington. The speedster is the largest wahoo caught out of Ocean City this past season, just beating out the 84 pounder boated by Judd Fitchett back on July 14th.

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Chris Hemmerich muscled in this 62 lb. wahoo during a trip to the Washington Canyon with Ryan Murray, Douglas Iehle and Scott Murray. The wahoo, along with a load of dolphin, was caught while trolling skirted ballyhoo. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Izzy Wade caught her first Spanish mackerel while trolling a Clark spoon between "DA" and "DB" Buoys. Izzy was fishing with her dad, Dave Wade on the "Chief's Call".



Last week, we started to see an increase in the number of black sea bass being caught on ocean structure and Pat Hurley, Steve Spindler and Joe Hurley returned with a nice catch of 28 knothead bass after fishing on the "Slack Grabber" at the Attwater wreck, south of the Ocean City Inlet. The fish were caught on Gulp! and clams with the largest bass measuring 20-inches and weighing 2 lbs. 4 oz. Pictured at Sunset Provisions.



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OCEAN CITY FISHING REPORT

BY LARRY JOCK



Well, unfortunately I could write the last fishing report of the season on a matchbook cover. Fishing in the bay continues to be dismal and weather conditions kept most offshore anglers at the dock on many days. The inshore structure bite continues to be the bright spot, and quite frankly, seems to be something that will only get better in future years as the Ocean City Reef Foundation's reef system expands. Enough positive comments cannot be said about the Reef Foundation along with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Wes Pollit and Dan Iacangelo on the headboat, "Morning Star". Those guys put a lot of time, effort and money into dropping material on ocean bottom, something that is guaranteed to benefit many, many anglers in the future. A simple \$50 donation to join the Reef Foundation is well worth it and will help the group continue their good work.

Flounder

Like I said, the flounder

bite in the bay has not been good for several weeks. However, the bite over the weekend wasn't on life support, but it was close. Anglers reported a bunch of fish being caught, but unfortunately 99% of them were in the 14 to 15-inch range. Those fishing in the Thorofare, East Channel and in the West Channel, both north and south of the Rt. 50 Bridge seemed to get the most bites over the weekend.

The flounder action on ocean structure is an entirely different story. It just keeps chugging along with excellent bites at the Old Grounds (off Indian River Inlet), at the African Queen, Bass Grounds and Russell's Reef. Headboats "Morning Star" and "Angler" have been burning them up with anglers dropping strips of mahi belly and flounder belly getting the best results. The charter boat, "Fish Bound" returned several times last week with boat limits of fish up to 25-inches and 6 lbs. Nice fat fish!

Striped Bass & Bluefish

Doug Maguire at Talbot

Street Bait & Tackle reported an excellent snapper bluefish and short striper bite during the evening around the Rt. 50 Bridge. In the East Channel, just off the Angler Restaurant stripers and bluefish could be found busting through schools of shiners.

Mahi

When it comes to offshore fishing, the mahi bite continues to be the star of the show. Most of the boats that headed out to the Baltimore Canyon throughout the week and the Poor Man's Canyon over the weekend returned with good catches of bailers with a few gaffers mixed in. Both were caught primarily on the troll, but several boats reported having a blast casting cut bait on spinning reels.

Wahoo

On Saturday, Jim Rodgers on the "First Light" boated the largest wahoo of the year, an 88 pounder while trolling in 250 fathoms between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyon

Billfish

Bad weather put a damper on the billfish scene last week. Before the seas became too snotty, the "Miss Annie" took an overnight trip to south of the Norfolk Canyon and released 17 white marlin and

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a blue marlin. The "Makara" also ventured down to around the same area and had a super trip, releasing 17 white marlin, 2 spearfish and a sailfish. The following day, the "Seaflame" went 5 for 5 on white marlin in the Baltimore.

Upcoming Tournament

On September 18th and 19th, the 37th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Challenge Cup will be held pitting Ocean City anglers against those coming down from Cape May, NJ. The visitors have won the last 3 Challenge Cups, so hopefully this is the year for our local boats. Best of luck to all participants.

Thanks!

Since this is the last issue of the season, I wanted to take some space to thank everyone who made it a great one.

Working 7-days a week from May through September can be difficult and not for everyone, but I am fortunate to have a great team that takes a lot of pride in the *Coastal Fisherman*. Our artist, Tom Jock, Office Manager and Food Columnist, Maureen Jock, Vice-President of Everything, Larry Jock, Sr., my wife Mary, son Larry III and our Sales Representative, Kendra Maccari all work extremely hard for our advertisers and readers and I am very fortunate to have such a dedicated team.

A big thank you goes out to our columnists. We started out the season on a very sad note with the passing of

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COASTAL FISHERMAN

is published weekly from May through September and annually in January by Coastal Fisherman, Inc. at 12748 Sunset Ave., Ocean City, MD 21842.

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tackle shop owner and longtime columnist, Sue Foster, but Mark Sampson, Steve Katz, Julie Ball and rookie, Lance Smith all did a wonderful job providing our readers with informative and entertaining columns each week. Trust me, it isn't easy coming up with a topic every week and I give them a lot of credit for the job they do. It's always nice to hear from readers how much they enjoy the columns in the Coastal Fisherman. It's a tough job and our writers do it extremely well!

Thanks also go out to all the dockhands and mates who help get the photographs set-up after the boats arrive back at the marinas. Getting a nice photograph set-up of anglers with 50 bailer dolphin is tedious and definitely not glamorous, but the dockhands are always there to get the job done and I really appreciate the job that they do.

I want to thank all of our

readers who have to be the most loyal and appreciative folks I have ever seen in my newspaper career. Their positive comments really make our day and I know my Mom always loves it when folks come into the office and tell her how much they love her recipes.

Finally, thank you to our advertisers who make the *Coastal Fisherman* a reality each season. Being a "Priceless" publication, the advertising revenue pays the bills and I truly hope that our readers recognize this and patronize our advertisers every chance they can. This will keep the fishing community alive and well for our generation and those that will follow.

It looks like there is still plenty of good fishing ahead of us this year. We know that the flounder bite on reefs and wrecks should continue running strong and black sea bass action looks like it is starting to improve. The epic

bluefish run we experienced in the spring has anglers wondering if we will see similar action in the fall, something we haven't seen in many years. Will we see a shot of yellowfin in the canyons this year like we have seen in the past? Right now, it doesn't look promising, but hopefully the billfish bite will pick-up and everyone will be chasing white and blue marlin. Finally, will the effects of El Nino create outstanding fall striper fishing like it did a few years ago? Although we can only keep 1 striper per person/trip until December 31st, we should return to our "normal" 2-fish creel on January 1st.

For those of you who enjoy hunting, keep an eye out for the next *Coastal Hunter* that will hit the streets on October 1st. If you have any pictures of harvests made since January 1st, you can email them to coastalhunter@comcast.net.

September 16, 2015 Coastal Fisherman Page 7

I hope everyone has a wonderful and safe rest of the season. Our next issue of the *Coastal Fisherman* will come out on January 1st and should be chock full of pictures from now through December. If you don't live on the coast, you will be able to pick up our Winter Issue at boat/outdoor shows in Baltimore, Harrisburg, Atlantic City, Ocean City and several smaller regional shows.

Thanks again to everyone! The "Paperboy", with it's orange motors, courtesy of East Coast Performance, should be in the water next week and will soon be pointed towards the reefs and wrecks, hoping for that 10 lb. flounder. I am really looking forward to a great striped bass run later this year. Hopefully, this will be the year I break the 40 lb. mark. That picture might actually make it in the next *Coastal Fisherman*!

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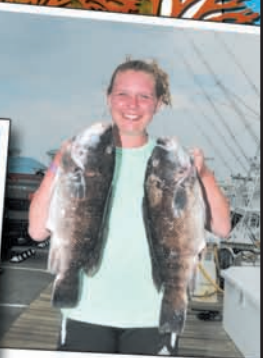
MORE CORAL MORE FISH!

photo credit Michael Eversmier

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J.L. Cropper of West Ocean City jumped on a good flounder bite at the Great Eastern reef and caught herself a pair, weighing up to 4 lbs. 14 oz., on 4-inch Gulp! with 6 oz. of lead. J.L. was fishing with her husband, Hugh Cropper on the "Myra HT". Pictured at Captain's Galley in West Ocean City.



Kenny Berry of Bishopville, MD was fishing in the ocean off 28th Street with his dad, Tom Berry, when he caught and released this sandbar shark after hooking it on a live spot.


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Lloyd Williams from Relay, MD and Wes Rineer from East Petersburg, PA each released their first white marlin while fishing on the charter boat, "Marli" with Thomas Cutugno and Randy Lambert from Hershey, PA, Paul Williams from Glen Burnie, MD, Capt. Mark Hoos and mate Mark Stephens. The anglers also captured a load of dolphin and some blueline tilefish, all in the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured back at Sunset Marina.

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Species	2015	2014	Species	2015	2014
 Sea Bass	May 15, 2015 Chester Sadowski, Jr. "Jezebel" Great Eastern Reef	May 19, 2014 Ki Kim "Fish Bound" 2nd Lump	 Mako Shark	March 25, 2015 Andy Smelter "Nontypical" Baltimore Canyon	May 9, 2014 Hayden Christoff "Restless Lady" Poor Man's Canyon
 Tautog	January 2, 2015 Ken Westerfeld "Fish Bound" Ocean Wreck	January 1, 2014 Si Chiarizia "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	 White Marlin	May 24, 2015 Dale Downey "Got-R-Done" Baltimore Canyon	June 11, 2014 Jon Henry "No Worries" Baltimore/Poor Man's
 Striped Bass	January 2, 2015 Danny Cox Little Gull	January 2, 2014 Karl Hoelper 130th Street Surf Ocean City	 Blue Marlin	May 29, 2015 Derek Damon "Sea Box" PM/Wash Canyon	June 16, 2014 Crew "Boss Hogg" Baltimore Canyon
 Weakfish	August 10, 2015 Ben Schassler Star Site Reef	April 22, 2014 Tom Burke Broadkill Beach	 Bluefin Tuna	May 8, 2015 Austin Ensor "Matetrix II" Wilmington Canyon	May 19, 2014 Ed Comley "Out-Rea-Geous" Baltimore Canyon
 Flounder	April 17, 2015 Jeff Purdy Lewes Canal	January 3, 2014 Stanley He "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	 Yellowfin Tuna	May 8, 2015 Tony Burr "Knock on Wood" Spencer Canyon	May 18, 2014 Tim McGuire "Nontypical" Balt/Wilm Canyon
 Bluefish	April 18, 2015 Mike Hastings Assateague Surf	May 7, 2014 Big Bird Cropper South Jetty	 Longfin Tuna	August 31, 2015 Steve Zarick "No Limits" Poor Man's Canyon	June 14, 2014 Mike Watts "Second Chance" Poor Man's Canyon
 Black Drum	April 17, 2015 Tom Nelson Assateague Surf	April 9, 2014 Bill Powell Assateague Surf	 Bigeye Tuna	May 24, 2014 Josh Thompson "Over Billin" Baltimore Canyon	May 27, 2014 Jacquelyn Keeney "Seaduction" 461 Lump
 Sheepshead	May 25, 2015 Hugh Cropper, IV South Jetty	May 26, 2014 Rob Antonucci "OC Guide Service" Assateague Bridge	 Dolphin	May 9, 2015 Drew Holladay Wilmington Canyon	May 26, 2014 Julian Jerry "Lady Luck" 461 Lump
 Thresher Shark	May 15, 2015 Matt Rivenburg Sausages	May 17, 2014 Joseph Foley "Just Right V" "DB" Buoy	 Wahoo	June 12, 2015 Dan Piscioneri "Second Chance" Baltimore Canyon	June 9, 2014 Chase Cummings "Moore Bills" Poor Man's Canyon

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

CHUM LINES

BY CAPT. MARK SAMPSON



This winter, thousands of experienced boaters will strive to get a U.S. Coast Guard captain's license. The diversity of those who take on this quest will be equal to the assortment of their compelling reasons for getting the credential. Men, women, high school kids, senior citizens and every age in between will be represented. Some will want the license so that they can run para-sail boats, some water-taxis, some sport fishing charters, some will want to take out hunting parties, some to operate fire and rescue boats, tug, tow, or tour boats, and some just because they always wanted the opportunity to be called "captain" by their peers.

Officially known as a "Merchant Mariners Credential," a captain's license cannot be had just by filling out a few forms and paying a fee. Before anyone can even qualify for the license they must be able to document a minimum of 360 trips on the water or 720 trips for a higher-grade "Masters" license. The license is issued by the U.S. Coast Guard, and besides the requirement of sea-time, applicants must also pass a rather extensive written exam, a drug test, a CPR course, a First Aid course and a physical, all of which come with a hefty dose of paperwork which had better be filled out properly or else the final application will do anything but "sail through" unscathed. Issuing a captain's

license is pretty serious stuff and not taken lightly by the Coast Guard review officers who don't cut corners or breaks for anyone!

Because learning the material, taking the test and getting all the paperwork properly filled out can be somewhat daunting, a lot of folks take time in the off-season to enroll in a captain's class that will help them through the process. That's what I did way back in 1986 and I'm not ashamed to say that if hadn't done it that way I probably never would have acquired my license in the first place. In 2004 I was hired by the 3B's Captain's School as an instructor for some of their classes which I now do in the fall and early winter before I leave for Florida at the end of January. After more than a decade of teaching this class, I've learned that helping folks through the process of getting their license is one of the most rewarding "indoor" jobs I've ever had.

One of the best parts of teaching these classes is when I get to tell folks that they've successfully passed the exam. I've seen such news bring tears to the eyes of grown men and others get so weak in the knees that they have to sit down. For some people, getting a captain's license can be a life changing event! The flip side of that is when I have to tell someone that they didn't pass the exam, not that it means they'll never get a

license, but it does mean that for them it's back to the books for a while.

Since this is the time of the year when a lot of folks are probably contemplating enrolling in a captain's course this fall or winter, I thought I'd throw out a few suggestions and observations I've seen from the front of the classroom:

You will need to study!

There are no short-cut classes, where you pay your money, kick-back, listen to a few days of lectures and then get your license. These courses require that students attend every class and spend a good bit of quality study time at home between classes. This is one area where younger folks sometimes have a bit of an advantage because many are either still in their school years or close enough to them that they are still in "learning mode", so cracking the books and studying for an exam is second nature. Those who have been away from school for a while might struggle a bit more with the bookwork, but they usually have an advantage of more real-time experience on the water.

Take the course seriously!

While some people take a captain's course just for "something to do," for most, getting the license is an essential step towards a new career. So the commitment they make in time and tuition fees means that they're very serious about getting through the class and getting their license and they don't want a lot of nonsense going on while they're trying to learn. We do try to keep the atmosphere light and the learning fun, but this is no place for class clowns who are

disruptive to the learning process of the other students.

Set the time aside and get it done!

The classes I teach run over three consecutive weekends, so from start to finish it covers a little more than a two week swath on the calendar. Every student has a life outside of class that might include daily commitments to work and family or pastimes such as hunting or fishing, sports, hobbies, happy hours - whatever. Regardless of their importance, all of these activities are diversions from studying and learning the class material, so the more of them that a student can put on hold for a couple weeks, the better chances they have of passing the course. I know this because traditionally, those who do the worst on the final exams are almost always the ones who tell me that they "had so much going on during the week" that they "had trouble finding time to study." It's only a two-week spread, so those who are really serious about getting their license need to put the rest of their life on hold for that little bit of time and commit to getting the job done.

There's going to be a lot of paperwork!

The class itself is pretty straightforward. Just learn the material and pass the test. But passing the test is just one step in getting a Coast Guard license. There's still a lot of other hoops the Coast Guard has applicants jump through before they issue a license. In class we review all the paperwork and help students with it as best we can but they've got to shuffle most of the paper on their own.

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The exam has five parts and is given on the last day of the course. There's no time limit on the test. Some students will breeze through it in two hours and others will take five. The time difference is not a reflection on who knows the material better, it's just that some students take their time and are more meticulous at double and triple checking their answers than others. Students can come back at a later date and re-test just the sections of the test that they don't pass, but after three failed attempts they will have to wait a year and re-test everything over again.

I've had students tell me afterwards that passing the captain's class was one of the toughest things they've ever done. However, in the same breath I can also say that even more of them have said that the course was one of the most rewarding and informative things they've ever taken and, regardless of the license, they often say that what they learned made them a safer and much more competent boater, which is exactly what I like to hear!

So I guess that's it. With this being the last issue of the *Coastal Fisherman* we won't be meeting like this again until next spring. I really hope your fall and winter season is a great one! As for me, I'll be running charters into the fall around here, doing a couple of the aforementioned captain's classes in November and January and hunting as much as possible in between. From February through the end of April I'll be in the lower Florida Keys guiding folks who come down to escape the cold weather and tug on a few tarpon, barracuda and any of the other critters that prowl the shallow flats. And if you get tired of shoveling snow up here you're certainly invited to join us under the coconut palms where the only ice you have to worry about is what's in your glass!

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

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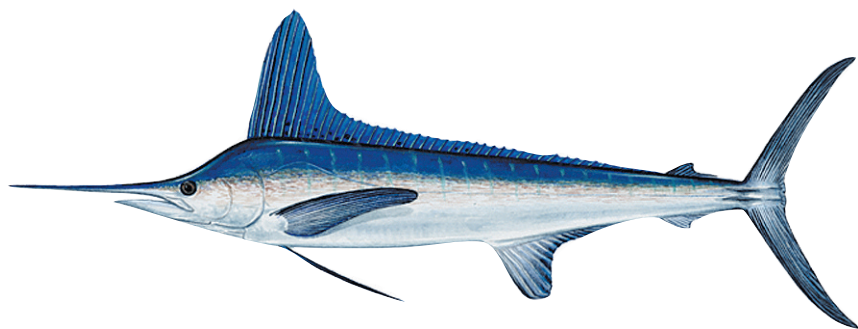
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White Marlin vs Longbill Spearfish



Size

Commonly 5.5 feet up to 7.5 feet. Weight ranges from 55 lbs. to over 100 lbs.

Distinguishing Characteristics

- First anal, first dorsal and pectoral fins blunt or rounded at tips (first anal fin shape most consistent characteristic); most of first dorsal fin low.
- Pelvic fins short, extending no longer than length of pectoral fin.
- Lateral line single (not chainlike), arched over pectoral fins, then almost straight to caudal fin.
- First dorsal fin blue-black with small dark spots; other fins brown to black.

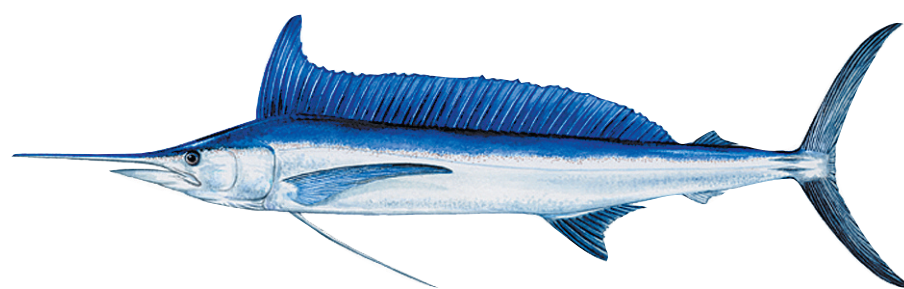
Habitat

Offshore, usually upper 65-100 feet, depending on water temperature; associated with water temperature greater than 68-degrees

Similar Species

Blue marlin - has first dorsal, pectoral and first anal fins with pointed tips; chainlike lateral line along body; lacks fin spots on first dorsal.

Longbill spearfish - has anus well in front of anal fins.



Size

Commonly 5-feet up to 6.5-feet total length and 90 lbs.

Distinguishing Characteristics

- Anus well in front of anal fins (unlike any other billfish)
- 1st dorsal fin slightly pointed and truncated at tip, moderately high over entire body length; no fin spots.
- Pelvic fins slightly longer than pectoral fins
- Pectoral fins generally wide and long.
- Upper jaw (bill) shorter than other billfish bills
- Body longer and thinner than other billfish
- Single lateral line

Habitat

Offshore, usually in waters above thermocline. Rarest of all billfish.

Similar Species

Blue marlin and **white marlin** - have anus close to anal fins and relatively longer upper bills.

Source: NOAA



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Mike Wolford was bottom bouncing on ocean structure when he hooked into this 2-tone flounder. Mike was fishing on the "Indian" and is pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Jon Henry was fishing with Noah McVicker on the "Judith M" when Jon landed 3 keeper flounder while fishing on ocean structure. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

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This 4 lb. 8 oz. flounder is part of a 4-fish limit boated by Phil Watts of Westminster, MD while fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mate Dean Lo. The flatties were caught on bucktails tipped with meat at the Old Grounds.



You would be smiling too if you caught a 6 lb. 7 oz. flounder like Bob Horton did while fishing with a squid and smelt sandwich at Site 11. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Yellowfin have been scarce, but the crew on the "Capt. Ike II" found them in the Baltimore Canyon, returning with 14 plus 21 dolphin. The yellowfins were caught while chunking at night and the dolphin were caught while pitching baits during the day. Fishing with Capt. Dave Collins were Mark Wite, Tom Hoffo, Chad Oswald, Doug Shope and Donny Bashore. Pictured at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.



Ron Mistretta, Jr., obviously a master of the Lewes Harbour Stretch, proudly displays the 6 lb. flounder he caught while drifting squid and shiners over the Old Grounds. Ron was fishing on the charter boat, "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Wiest and weighed his catch at Lewes Harbour Marina.



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Fred Nelson used a bucktail with an orange teaser, sweetened with squid and shiners to fool this 4 lb. 6 oz. flounder while fishing at the Old Grounds on the headboat, "Thelma Dale IV" with Capt. Ricky Yakimowicz. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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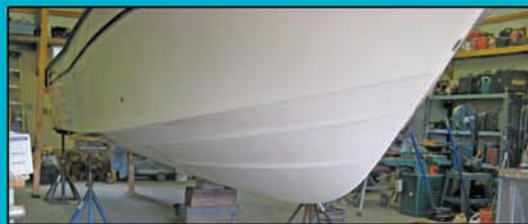
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During an overnight trip to the Washington Canyon, Bill Brown, Thad Bittner, Sam Stewart and Jimmy Parrott boated this bigeye tuna, estimated at 160 to 180 lbs., in addition to 2 yellowfins and 9 mahi.



Phil Stillman released his first white marlin during a trip aboard the "My Cin" with Ryan Ziegler, Steven Plimack, Todd Twele, Russ Miller, Capt. Dave Black and mate Mike Aikens. The anglers also boated a 68 lb. wahoo and some dolphin, all in 300 fathoms in the Washington Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



On this day, 28 flounder made the mistake of not scattering when they heard the charter boat, "Fish Bound" coming and ended up being caught by Jason Wanex, Daryl Doupnk, Shannon Pickens, Tom Carlson and Tony Askins while fishing with Capt. Kane Bounds and mate Kevin Twilley. The fish were boated near the Old Grounds on skirts and strip baits. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



James Walker of Ocean View, DE caught this 2 lb. flounder while fishing at the Old Grounds aboard the headboat, "Judy V" with Capt. Eddie Wheedleton. The flattie was hooked on a top and bottom rig tipped with cut bait. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Brooke Duvall took his grandson, Noah McVicker on an offshore trip aboard the charter boat, "Last Call" with Capt's Frank and Franky Pettolina and mate Chris Evans and the duo ended up with a load of mahi after trolling ballyhoo in the Baltimore Canyon.



Bruce Cox of Severn, MD caught his limit of 4 flounder, weighing up to 4 lbs., while dropping bucktails at an ocean wreck. Bruce was fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mate Dean Lo.

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OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Heather Trombley from Gloucester Point, VA caught this black sea bass while fishing near the Rockpile on the charter boat, "Boss Hogg" with Capt. Brian Porter and mate Rick Tshudy.



Matt Borys released his first white marlin after hooking it on a trolled ballyhoo in 40 fathoms inshore of the Baltimore Canyon.

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OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



This group of Super Flukers show off part of their limit of quality flounder caught while fishing on the charter boat, "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Wiest. Bob Murphy, Bob Trento, Ron Mistretta and Dan McGeady hooked these flatties, weighing between 5 lbs. 6 oz. and 6 lbs. 6 oz., by drifting squid, smelt and Gulp! artificial baits at Site 11. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



The 2015 season has been a great one for those looking to put some mahi in the box and this group on the charter boat, "Spring Mix II" caught a load of them in the Baltimore Canyon. Ed Scully, Randy Gubich, George Glanden, Chris Burns, Cole Ciber and Kyle Ciber, all from Wilmington, DE caught 15 mahi, weighing up to 23 lbs., while fishing with Capt. Chris Watkowski and mates Ayrton Pryor and Riley McCabe. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Jock Bowers released this 60-inch white marlin in the Poor Man's Canyon while fishing with Robert Rosado, Jeff Fenstermacher and Brian Fenstermacher.

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BAY FISHING CHARTERS



The Blurbaugh clan ventured down from Westminster, MD and spent 4 hours fishing on the "Ivy Sea" with Capt. Nick Clemente at the Bass Grounds. Jonathan, Lauren, Galen and Amy Blurbaugh caught 8 keeper flounder, up to 19-inches, while using 5-inch white Gulp! and flounder belly for bait. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center in West Ocean City.



Dave Beach of Ocean City, MD was soaking live mullet off the 2nd Street Bulkhead during the incoming tide when he caught this 21-inch flounder.

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- Make sure the side of the fish is facing flat towards the camera
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Mike Birmingham from Fenwick Island, DE did something that not many people have done over the last several weeks, catching a limit of 4 flounder while fishing in the Thorofare with jig heads tipped with white Gulp! and minnows.



Jeff Pittsnogle from Martinsville, WV and Leroy Hurst of Stevens, PA each caught a 17 1/4-inch flounder and Chad McNair from Emmitsburg, MD boated a 21-incher, all while fishing on the headboat, "Happy Hooker" with Capt. Steve Whitelock and mate John Lewis. The flatties were fooled with shiners in the East Channel. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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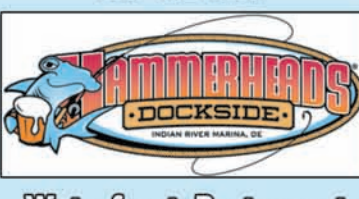
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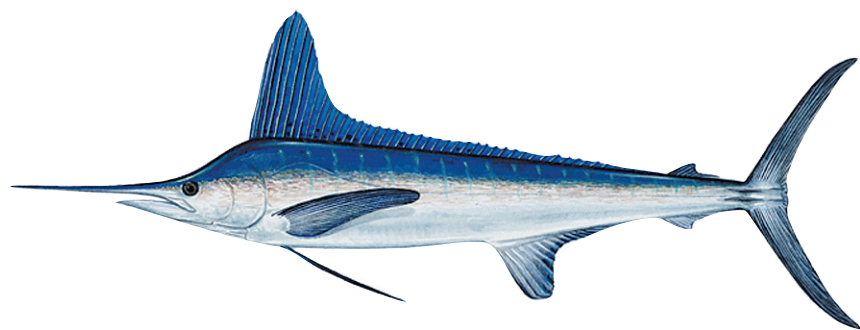
Burt Campbell from Dagsboro, DE, Mike Esham from Frankford, DE and Steve Hagen from Bethany Beach, DE caught their limit of flounder (6 pictured) while fishing at the Old Grounds. The two largest flatties tipped the scale at 5 lbs. 6 oz. and 5 lbs. 11 oz. and were caught on Gulp! and cut baits. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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White Marlin vs Blue Marlin



Size

Commonly 5.5 feet up to 7.5 feet. Weight ranges from 55 lbs. up to over 90 lbs.

Distinguishing Characteristics

- First anal, first dorsal and pectoral fins blunt or rounded at tips (first anal fin shape most consistent characteristic); most of first dorsal fin low.
- Pelvic fins short, extending no longer than length of pectoral fin.
- Lateral line single (not chainlike), arched over pectoral fins, then almost straight to caudal fin.
- First dorsal fin blue-black with small dark spots; other fins brown to black.

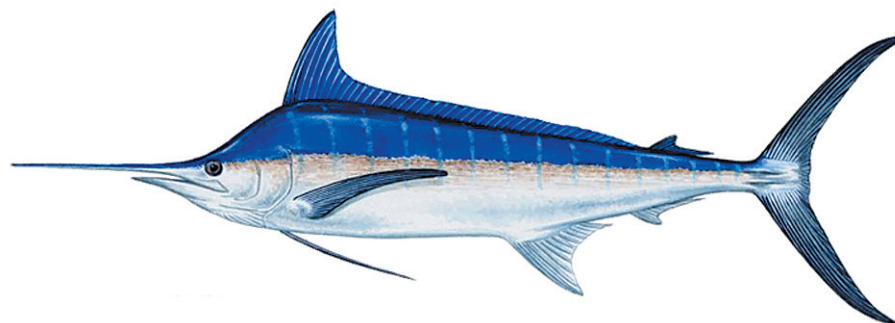
Habitat

Offshore, usually upper 65-100 feet, depending on water temperature; associated with water temperature greater than 68-degrees

Similar Species

Blue marlin - has first dorsal, pectoral and first anal fins with pointed tips; chainlike lateral line along body; lacks fin spots on first dorsal.

Longbill spearfish - has anus well in front of anal fins.



Size

Commonly 8-9 feet up to 14.5 feet. Blue marlins over 350 lbs. are most likely female. Current world record is 1,376 lbs.

Distinguishing Characteristics

- First anal, first dorsal and pectoral fins generally pointed at tips; most of first dorsal fin low
- Pelvic fins short, extending no longer than length of pectoral fins.
- First dorsal fin blue-black, lacking fin spots; other fins brown to black.
- Lateral line chainlike over entire body surface (rather than single line) in juveniles, unclear in adult.

Habitat

Offshore; usually in surface water between 71 and 88-degrees.

Similar Species

White marlin - has first dorsal, pectoral and first anal fins with rounded tips; spotted first dorsal membranes.

Longbill spearfish - has anus well in front of anal fins.

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Bert Scanlon from Avon, OH caught and released his first white marlin while trolling in 70 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon. Bert was fishing on the "Haulin' N Ballin'" with his wife, Teres Scanlon, Capt. Howard Lynch and mates Josh Farr and Aaron Jezierski.



Shawn Bohlen, Jason Bohlen and Don Blottenberger teamed up to release a pair of white marlin and a doubleheader of blue marlin while trolling plugs and ballyhoo south of the Baltimore Canyon aboard the "JEB".

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BY STEVE KATZ

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What is a heading sensor?

Before we can talk about the electronic heading sensor, let's review some navigational terms. For some, these terms can be confusing at times and easily misunderstood. This is often the case when it comes to navigation and the ships heading.

Course over the Ground (COG) - this is calculated automatically by the GPS; it takes several positional fixes per second and plots them on a digital chart. The direction of the track created by this succession of position fixes is your Course over the Ground. This is NOT the ships heading.

Bearing to Waypoint (BNG) or Course to Waypoint (CSE) or Course to Steer (CTS) - This is calculated by the GPS and is the compass direction from your vessel to the waypoint you have chosen, the bearing is calculated at your initial location and may need to be re-calculated if you become off-course on

your journey.

True North and Magnetic north - These are not in the same place, they are two different angular measurements. The ship's compass will align itself with the magnetic field it 'sees'. This may or may not be the same as the Earth's magnetic field due to possible interference. Boaters may use either magnetic or true, though be sure you know which you are using and that all of your equipment is set-up for the same chosen North.

Magnetic Variation - Is the horizontal angle (or difference) between true north and magnetic north, measured east or west of true north.

Now that we have the terminology covered, let's review the heading sensor. Modern electronics often need to know the ships heading to properly display information on the screen such as a radar overlay. A radar overlay is when the GPS chart plotter overlays the radar screen image over

an electronic chart in a fashion that allows you to see both the radar and chart at the same time. This can be extremely useful as a navigation and collision avoidance tool. In order for this to work properly and accurately, the chartplotter needs to know the actual heading (not course) so it can precisely adjust the radar image in regards to the front of your boat.

If you are using a Garmin chartplotter, you may be wondering what all the fuss is about, since Garmin is one of the few companies that can show a radar overlay without a heading sensor, using the calculated GPS course.

If you have Furuno or Simrad/Lowrance you will need a heading sensor to enable radar overlay. As we reviewed above, the ships heading and course over ground many not be the same. For example, steering the bow into the wind or current but traveling in a slightly different direction (sometimes called crabbing). To produce the most accurate radar overlay, we need a heading sensor to tell the chartplotter exactly where the bow is pointed and not just the direction of

travel.

A heading sensor is similar to the standard ships compass you many have on the helm, but instead of a clear window to read the card, electronic sensors read the card electronically and now most modern heading sensors consist of a solid state components without a moving card. These heading sensors often contain a 3-axis rate gyro with a 3-axis accelerometer or even a 9 axis solid-state gyro. These heading sensors output electronic data using industry standard protocol such as NMEA0183 or NMEA2000 and is read by the modern GPS chartplotters.



A heading sensor needs to be calibrated, either automatically or manually depending on the exact model. If the heading sensor is not calibrated, it can cause your boat icon to be pointed in the wrong direction on

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your chartplotter.

You may already have a heading sensor on-board; most autopilot systems incorporate a heading sensor as part of the electronics that keep your boat on-track when the autopilot is engaged. Often, this same heading information can be shared and sent to the modern GPS chartplotter for use as a heading sensor. While this often works, it is best to have an independent heading sensor as part of your navigation electronics package.

Using a heading sensor with a marine radar system allows for even more features than radar overlay, such as Mini-Automatic Radar Plotting Aid (MARPA) target tracking, real motion target trails, and radar chart overlay that matches on the chart what your bow is really pointing to. It is also reassuring to be able to acquire a target on the radar, and within a few sweeps, know its heading and speed.

Because of the features gained in the radar capability alone, the purchase of a heading sensor may be one of the most value packed electronics investments you can make beginning at a few hundred dollars. Now when you choose "heading up" orientation on a chartplotter, the bow is really pointing at what the chart shows even if you are stopped or slow, circling for that perfect fishing spot.

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



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Dan Lehman, Leigh Ann Lehman, Chris Williams, Letha McLaren and Bill Horrocks had a memorable day fishing on the charter boat, "Marli" with Capt. Mark Hoos and mate Mark Stephens. The anglers caught 45 mahi while trolling between the Poor Man's and Baltimore Canyons. Pictured back at Sunset Marina.



Parker Marshall and Tyler Green took advantage of a day off from offshore fishing with a quick trip to Russell's Reef where they caught 4 flounder, measuring up to 22-inches, while using 5-inch Gulp! for bait. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Federal Size & Creel Limits

3 - 200 Miles

 <p>BLUE MARLIN 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No creel limit</p>	 <p>DOLPHIN No minimum length 10 per person/day</p>	 <p>YELLOWFIN TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day</p>	<p>SHARKS AUTHORIZED SPECIES</p> <p><u>No Minimum Fork Length</u> Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead, -----</p> <p><u>54" Minimum Fork Length</u> Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse, Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common Thresher, Oceanic Whitetip, Porbeagle, Shortfin Mako, Finetooth, Atlantic Blacknose -----</p> <p><u>78" Minimum Fork Length</u> Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead, Smooth Hammerhead, -----</p> <p>Only 1 shark from the lists above may be retained per vessel per trip. In addition, 1 Atlantic Sharpnose and 1 Bonnethead may be retained per person per trip. No size or creel limits on dogfish sharks.</p> <p>Prohibited Sharks Atlantic Angel, Basking, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Sixgill, Bigeye Thresher, Bignose, Caribbean Reef, Caribbean Sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin Mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Sand Tiger, Sevengill, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White</p>
 <p>WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No creel limit</p>	 <p>WAHOO No minimum length 2 per person/day</p>	 <p>BLUEFIN TUNA (Recreational) 1 per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL 1 per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 73"</p> <p>(Charter Boat) 2 per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL 1 per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 73"</p>	
 <p>SWORDFISH 47" Lower Jaw Fork Length 1 per person / 4 per vessel (Rec) 1 per person / 6 per vessel (Charter)</p>	 <p>BIGEYE TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length No creel limit</p>		

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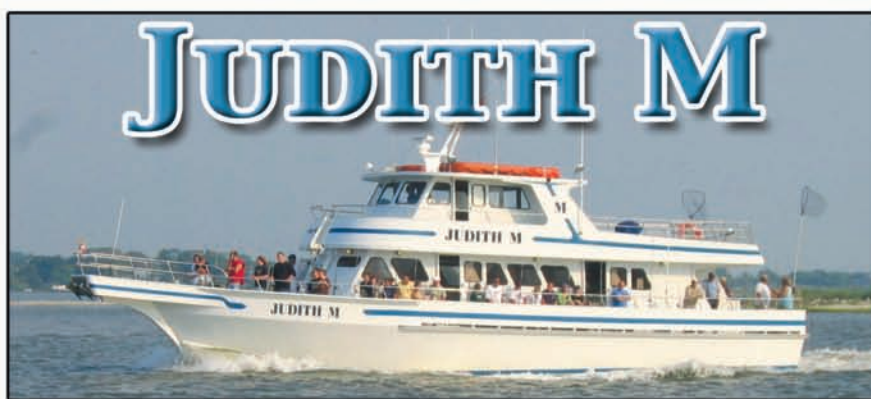
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DELAWARE FISHING REPORT

BY LARRY JOCK



The weather last weekend was spotty with windy conditions making it tough to get out. Upcoming cool weather should make for better fishing, bringing down water temperatures in the bay and inshore waters.

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said it may sound like a broken record, but ocean flounder catching remained steady again last week. Artificial structure at Sites 9 and 10 held staging flatties, but fluke continued to move along open natural bottom between "DB" Buoy and "DE" Light as they get ready for a fall migration offshore.

Seems like flounder have started to push out of the Delaware Bay. Captain Ted of Anglers Fishing Center said he intercepted fair numbers of flatfish mid-week in "The Valley" area at the Bay Mouth, between #8 and #8A Buoys. He also mentioned numerous croakers had gathered in deep water at the head of "The Pit", between #4 and #6 Buoys, which is normally a sign they're preparing for a movement as well. Captain Brent found more fish for his flounder pounders on recent trips aboard the "Katydid". Bill and Charlotte Hughes joined Brent and Chris Tuesday to assemble a limit of 16 quality fluke from the Old



Tom Cornell, Matt Yost, Justin Strouse and Jason Woody, all from Dover, DE had a great time pitching baits to mahi in the Baltimore Canyon. The anglers loaded the box with fish weighing up to 28.6 lbs. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.

Grounds. The Wednesday All Stars have been on a streak, and this outing was no different. The "Katydid" regulars boxed a boat limit of 44 flatfish to bolster their stock of freezer fillets for the winter.

On Thursday, Captain Brent's flukers surpassed the 2,000 keeper mark for this summer when they put 29 in the cooler. Conditions were a little tough Saturday, but Ernie Stone and his gang ended up with 21 to

take home from their trip on the "Katydid", topped off by Ron Mistretta Jr.'s 6 pounder. On Sunday, seas were a little lumpy again, but the guys on the "Katydid" captured 20 keeper fluke and a dozen nice bass. Steve Kiibler took big fish honors with a 7.06 pound citation earner, plus another weighing 5.5 pounds. Wes, Shane and Sean Olson endured rough water on the Old Grounds on "Sunday", but returned with their limit of flatties to 4.5 pounds.

Boaters told of sea bass mixed in with flounder on structure, and were glad to have a few more for the table before bass season closes September 18th.

In the Delaware Bay, a mix of late season small species including croakers, spike trout, kingfish, blowfish, spot, porgies, pigfish, lizardfish, banded rudderfish, snapper blues and triggerfish was available around Reef Site 8. Wade Guinn got a 3.34 pound trigger at Site 8 on Saturday aboard the "Angler". Other anglers told of some hefty hardheads around the Ice Breakers, and bluefish off Cape Henlopen Point. Snappers could be seen crashing through pods of silversides and anchovies in current rips, and would strike at flashy lures like Kastmasters or Sting Silvers, and bucktails tipped with shiners.

Folks at the rails of the recently reopened Cape Henlopen Pier reported croakers and snapper blues on bloodworms and fresh mullet. Mullet have started to move



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along both the Delaware Bay and ocean beaches, and gamefish in the region have been keying in on mullet as forage. Not much in the way of sizeable predators, but 10 to 15-inch blues and kingfish were beached by surfcasters soaking mullet baits at Herring Point. Quite a few small black drum have been roaming the wash too. The 6 to 12-inch puppies bit on clam, bloodworms, Fishbites or shrimp on small float rigs fished close to the beach.

At Hook'em & Cook'em Tackle Shop in the Indian River Marina, Capt. Bert Adams reported a lot of bait (spot, shiners & mullet) in the Indian River Inlet, but unfortunately the action is still slow. Some small bluefish, in the 12 to 14-inch range, have been caught during the incoming tide by anglers casting Tsunami Midwave jigs, Kastmasters or any other type of metal lure.

Some keeper flounder were caught over the weekend, but the pickings continued to be slow. Anglers had to fish all day, and weed through throwback flatties to get their keepers. Short stripers were also caught, with a few keepers mixed in, primarily under the Indian River Bridge. Croaker fishing in the Inlet is very sporadic. Bert feels that the fish have moved out of the bay and can be found anywhere out to 4-miles off the beach.

The most interesting catch

in the Inlet last week was a small cobia hooked on Sunday. The anglers ended up throwing it back because they weren't sure what it was or whether they could keep it.

In the surf, small bluefish and small black drum are being caught along with some kingfish.

Those fishing within a few miles of the coast are mainly finding croakers and some triggerfish on wrecks located 4-miles out. Flounder fishing continues to run strong, particularly on ocean structure at the Old Grounds. Further south, anglers are having good results at the Bass Grounds and at the African Queen wreck.

Offshore action has been dismal, except for the exceptional mahi bite going on in the canyons. Mahi have also been found closer to shore, but the canyons are producing the vast majority of the action. A few white marlin continue to be caught in the Baltimore Canyon along with an occasional wahoo.

This is the final issue of the *Coastal Fisherman* for the 2015 fishing season. Keep an eye on our online fishing reports at www.coastalfisherman.net.

A special thanks to Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina and Capt. Bert Adams at Hook'em & Cook'em Tackle Shop for their reports each week.

Until next season, tight lines.



Steve Kiibler caught a personal best 7 lb. 2 oz. flounder while drifting squid and shiners on the Old Grounds. Steve was fishing on the charter boat, "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Wiest. Steve also added a 5 lb. 8 oz. citation flounder to his cooler. Pictured at LHM.

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Marco Graham caught his first white marlin and followed that up with a release of this blue marlin, estimated at 150 to 200 lbs., all while fishing on "The Legasea" with Jeff Lessin, Capt. Buddy Sorace and mate Dom DiSanto. The blue marlin was hooked at the 461 Lump.

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 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 12.5" minimum 15 per person/day 5/19 - 9/21 & 10/22 - 12/31</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH 8" minimum 10 per person/day</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day or 6 per boat/day</p>	 <p>COBIA No limit</p>
 <p>CROAKER 9" minimum 25 per person/day</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 18" - 27" 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD No limit</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 4 per person/day</p>
 <p>STRIPED BASS 28" minimum 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 5/16-10/31 2 per person/day</p>	 <p>SUMMER FLOUNDER 16" minimum 4 per person/day</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>

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Herb-Crusted Flounder with Cauliflower Mash

- 4 1/2 cups cauliflower florets, baby gold potatoes and/or peeled carrots, coarsely chopped
- 2 oz. semisoft cheese with garlic and fine herbs
- 4 skinless, boneless flounder fillets
- 1 egg
- 2/3 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 2 TBSP. snipped fresh dill weed
- 1 TBSP. olive oil

Place vegetables in a dutch oven and add 1/2 tsp. salt.

Cover with water and bring to a boil.

Reduce heat to medium. Cook, covered 15 to 20 minutes or until tender.

Drain vegetables, reserving some of the water.

Using a potato masher, mash vegetables to desired consistency, adding the reserved water as needed.

Stir in the cheese; season with salt and pepper.

Cover and keep warm.

Preheat oven to 300 degrees.

Rinse fish and pat dry with paper towels.

Cut fish into 8 equal pieces.

In a shallow dish beat egg.

In another shallow dish combine the breadcrumbs, dill, and 1/2 tsp. each of salt and pepper.

Dip fish pieces into egg, then into the breadcrumb

mixture.

Set aside.

In a large skillet, heat olive oil over medium-high heat.

Add half of the fish.

Cook 2 to 3 minutes on each side or until golden brown.

Drain on paper towels.

Keep warm in oven while frying remaining pieces.

Serve with the cauliflower mash.

Serves 4.

Baked Shrimp with Tomatoes and Parsleyed Breadcrumbs

- 1/4 cup butter
- 3/4 cup plain breadcrumbs
- 1/2 cup minced fresh parsley
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- Salt and black pepper, to taste
- 1 lb. medium or large shrimp, peeled
- 12 thick, sliced ripe tomato

Preheat oven to 450 degrees.

Melt about half the butter over medium heat in a 12-inch nonstick skillet, then toss in the breadcrumbs, parsley and garlic.

Cook until the crumbs are nicely browned, stirring occasionally.

Turn off the heat and let cool.

Spread 1 to 2 tsp. of the remaining butter around the bottom of an 8 or 9-inch square baking dish.

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Arrange the shrimp in the dish.

Cover with half of the breadcrumb mixture and arrange the tomatoes on top.

Sprinkle with the remaining breadcrumbs and dot with remaining butter.

Bake until the shrimp are pink and hot, 8 to 12 minutes, depending on the size of the shrimp.

Serves 3-4.

Roasted Striped Bass with Tomatoes

- 1 striped bass, scaled, gutted, head on
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 1 TBSP. ground cumin
- 1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper to taste
- 2 TBSP. olive oil
- 1 TBSP. minced garlic
- 1/2 cup minced cilantro
- 2 cups roughly chopped tomatoes, if canned, drain
- 1 cup fish or chicken stock, dry white wine or water
- 1 lemon, cut into thin slices

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Rinse the fish and make several shallow cuts on each side, from top to bottom.

Rub the fish with the salt, pepper, cumin and cayenne.

Pour half the olive oil into a baking dish and lay the fish on it.

Top the fish with the remaining oil, garlic, and half of the cilantro.

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Spread some of the tomatoes over the fish and the rest around it.

Pour the stock around the fish.

Roast for a total of 30 to 45 minutes, basting occasionally with the pan juices, until the fish is done.

Flesh should be white and opaque throughout.

Serves 4.

Sea Bass Fillets with Nutty Butter

1/2 cup flour
1/4 tsp. cayenne
1/4 tsp. ground thyme
1 TBSP. paprika
Salt to taste
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1/2 cup milk
4 sea bass fillets
1/2 stick butter
2/3 cup walnut halves
Salt and pepper to taste
Juice of 1 lemon
2 TBSP. minced fresh parsley

Mix together the flour, half the cayenne, the thyme, paprika and salt in a bowl.

Heat the oil in a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat.

Place the milk in a bowl.

Dip the fillets in the milk, dredge them in the seasoned flour, then place them in the pan.

Cook over high heat, turning once until browned on both sides.

Remove the fish to a platter and keep warm.

Wipe out the pan.

Melt the butter in it over medium heat.

Add the nuts, remaining cayenne, salt, and pepper and cook, stirring frequently, until the nuts are lightly browned and fragrant.

Add the lemon juice and parsley.

Spoon a portion of nuts over each fillet and serve immediately.

Serves 4.



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Bob Gunkel from Baltimore, MD caught his limit of flounder (1 pictured) during a trip aboard the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mate Dean Lo. Bob was dropping bucktails tipped with meat at the Old Grounds and landed fish weighing up to 4 lbs. 8 oz.

Curried Striper Fillets

- 4 striped bass fillets
- 1 TBSP. minced garlic
- 2 TBSP. fresh lemon juice
- 1 tsp. tumeric
- 2 cups plain yogurt
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 TBSP. peanut oil
- 1 small onion, chopped
- 1 TBSP. peeled and minced fresh ginger
- 1 tsp. ground cumin
- 1 tsp. ground coriander

Marinate the fish in a bowl with the garlic, 1 TBSP. of the lemon juice, tumeric, yogurt, salt and pepper while you cook the other ingredients.

In a large deep skillet, heat the oil over medium heat.

Add the onion and cook, stirring until limp.

Add the ginger and cook another minute.

Add the cumin and coriander. Stir for 30 seconds.

Pour the fish and its marinade into the skillet, bring to a simmer and cook

until the fillets are white and firm, about 10 minutes.

Serve immediately with basmati rice.

Serves 4.

Sauteed Hardhead

- 2 TBSP. fresh lemon juice
- 2 TBSP. dry white wine
- 1 tsp. fennel seeds
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 cloves garlic, smashed and peeled
- 1/2 cup minced fresh basil
- 2 croaker, skin on and cleaned
- Salt and pepper to taste

Mix together the lemon juice, wine, fennel seeds, half of the olive oil, garlic and half of the basil.

Marinate the fish in this mixture for about 15 minutes, turning once or twice.

Heat a 12-inch nonstick skillet over medium-high heat.

Add the remaining olive

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oil; remove the fish from the marinade and dry with paper towels.

Cook 4 minutes on each side until the fish is lightly browned and cooked through.

Sprinkle with the salt and pepper, garnish with the remaining basil and serve.

Serves 2.

Scallops with Garlic

1 1/2 lbs. bay scallops
1/2 cup flour
3 to 4 TBSP. extra-virgin olive oil
2 garlic cloves, minced
Salt and pepper to taste
Lemon wedges

Wash scallops and pat dry.

Place flour in a shallow bowl; roll scallops in flour.

Heat olive oil over medium low heat.

Add scallops and cook for 3 to 4 minutes, stirring occasionally.

Halfway through cooking,

stir in minced garlic.

Stir in parsley.

Serve with lemon wedges and hot cooked rice or small pasta.

Serves 4.

Flounder with Tumeric and Dill

2 TBSP granulated sugar
2 TBSP. fresh lime juice
2 TBSP. Asian fish sauce
1/2 tsp. minced jalapeno
6 medium scallions
1 small bunch dill
2 flounder fillets
1/2 tsp. ground ginger
1/4 tsp. ground tumeric
Salt and pepper to taste
1 TBSP. canola oil

In a small bowl, combine the sugar and lime juice and stir until the sugar has dissolved.

Add the fish and jalapeno. Set aside.

Trim the scallions and cut them into 2 inch long pieces.

Quarter the white and



Courtney Ritter shows off 2 of the 5 flounder caught while fishing with Mike Johnston on the "Hellbent". The fish were hooked on strip baits and 5-inch Gulp! artificial baits at the Old Grounds. Courtney's largest fish weighed in at 4 lbs. 15 oz. and 6 lbs. 3 oz.

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Brett Glatfelter released this white marlin while trolling skirted ballyhoo in 100 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon. Brett was fishing on the "Just Got Reel". The ballyhoo was dressed up with a green and yellow Joe Shute skirt. The group also landed a pair of mahi during their trip.

light green pieces lengthwise; leave the dark green pieces whole.

Cut the dill into 2 inch long pieces.

Pat the fish dry with paper towels.

Sprinkle the ginger, turmeric, 1/4 tsp. salt and a few grinds of black pepper all over the fillets.

Heat the oil in a 10-inch nonstick skillet over medium-high heat.

Add the flounder; cook, flipping once, until just firm and opaque in the center of the thickest part, about 4 minutes.

Transfer to serving plates.

Add the scallions to the pan, cook, stirring frequently until they just about start to wilt.

Add dill; continue to cook until it has wilted slightly.

Pile the scallions and dill over the flounder and serve the sauce on the side for drizzling.

Serves 2.

Crab Quesadillas

- 1/4 lb. fresh lump crab meat
- 1 lime, zested and juiced
- 1 jalapeno, chopped
- 1 green onion, chopped
- 1 handful cilantro
- 1 tsp. ground cumin
- Salt and pepper to taste
- 2 flour tortillas
- 1/4 tsp. butter or oil

Mix the lime juice, zest, jalapeno, green onion, cilantro, cumin, salt and pepper in a bowl.

Add the crab and marinate for 10 to 30 minutes.

Melt butter in a pan.

Place a tortilla in the pan; rub it around to coat.

Flip it a few times until air pockets form.

Set aside. Repeat same for the second tortilla but leave it in the pan.

Drain the liquid from the crab and place the mixture on the tortilla in the pan.

Place cheese on; then top

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with the other tortilla.

Cook the quesadilla until golden brown on both sides and the cheese is melted, flipping once.

Serves 1.

Parmesan Crusted Pesto Flounder Bruschetta

4 flounder fillets
Salt and pepper to taste
1/2 cup parmesan grated
2 cups tomato, diced
1 tsp. balsamic vinegar,
optional
1/4 cup basil pesto

Season the fillets with salt and pepper.

Sprinkle on the parmesan and broil until the parmesan is golden brown and the fish is no longer translucent, about 10-12 minutes.

Toss the tomato in the balsamic vinegar, salt and pepper and let sit while the fish cooks.

Serve the fish topped with pesto and diced tomatoes.

Serves 4.

Shrimp and Garlic Pizza

1/2 lb. thawed frozen
shrimp, peeled and
deveined
Prebaked pizza crust
1 1/2 TBSP. extra-virgin
olive oil
1 1/2 TBSP. minced garlic
1 cup halved grape
tomatoes
2 TBSP. finely grated
Parmesan cheese

Slice shrimp in half horizontally.

Place a prebaked pizza crust on a shallow baking pan.

Combine olive oil and minced garlic in a small bowl; brush oil mixture onto crust.

Top crust with halved shrimp, halved grape tomatoes and Parmesan cheese.

Bake 10 to 12 minutes or until shrimp are cooked

through.

Cut into 8 slices.

Serves 4.

Citrus Shrimp with Asparagus

2 cups water
1 cup dried couscous
1/2 tsp. sea salt, divided
1/2 tsp. black pepper,
divided
4 TBSP. fresh lemon juice,
divided
3/4 lb. raw large shrimp
(about 18), peeled and
deveined
1 TBSP. fresh lime juice
3 1/2 tsp. extra-virgin
olive oil, divided
3 minced garlic cloves
Olive oil cooking spray
3/4 lb. asparagus spears,
trimmed
1 tsp. honey
1/4 cup chopped chives

Bring 2 cups water to a boil in medium saucepan.

Remove from heat, and stir in couscous.

Cover and let stand for 5 minutes.

Fluff with a fork and stir in 1/4 tsp. each of salt and pepper and 1 TBSP. lemon juice.

Bring another pan of water to a boil.

Toss shrimp in 1 TBSP. each lemon and lime juice, 1 1/2 tsp. olive oil, garlic, and remaining 1/4 tsp. salt and pepper.

Marinate for 5 minutes.

Preheat grill pan or grill.

Lightly coat with cooking spray; grill shrimp, turning once, 3 minutes or until just cooked through.

Cover and keep warm.

When water is boiling, add asparagus, and cook 3 minutes or until just tender.

Drain, and cover.


Whisk together honey, chives, and remaining lemon juice and olive oil.

Arrange couscous and asparagus on serving plates, and top with shrimp.

Drizzle with dressing.




Brayden Kluxen was fishing at the Bass Grounds with his dad, Robert Kluxen, when he caught this 21-inch flounder on a top and bottom rig sweetened with a live minnow and squid.




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Dru Baldwin from Birdsboro, PA caught a 5 lb. 6 oz. flounder and a 3 lb. sea bass while fishing with cut bait at the Old Grounds. Dru was joined on the "Green Hornet" by Todd Buccannon. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.



Art Plantas and Bill Betz from Ellicott City, MD joined Steve Richardson from Middle River, MD for a trip aboard the charter boat, "Marli" with Capt. Mark Hoos and mate Mark Stephens. The anglers returned to Sunset Marina with a box full of mahi caught while trolling ballyhoo in 200 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon.

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Dave McDonough, John Russell, Steve Schad, Mike Otto, Dave Hearth and Shawn Brant returned to Bahia Marina with 32 flounder and some sea bass after fishing on the charter boat, "Fish Bound" with Capt. Kane Bounds and mate Kevin Twilley. Dave took Biggest Fish honors with a pair of 25-inch flounder caught on strip baits and Gulp! on ocean structure.



During an overnight trip, south of the Norfolk Canyon, anglers on the "Miss Annie" teamed up to release 17 white marlin and a blue marlin. Tuesday was the big day with 11 white marlin releases and the blue marlin release. Fishing on the "Miss Annie" were Barry Weshnak, Roy Mittman, Steve Fetcho, William Salcedo, John Janoski, Capt. Randy Yates and mates Tyler Morris and Dave Caffrey. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Ross Kendall, Mark Harrington (not pictured), Chad Harrington and Doug Jacobs (not pictured) ventured out to the Washington Canyon where they boated 23 dolphin. They then moved to the Bigeye Hole where Chad caught his first tuna, a 62 lb. yellowfin, on a skirted ballyhoo. They switched to chunking and added 4 more yellowfins before heading home.



Todd Breisch, Nick Schossig, Frank DiGregorio and Ken Magaw returned with a boat load of mahi after trolling south of the Baltimore Canyon aboard the charter boat, "Reel Chaos" with Capt. Anthony Matarese, Sr. and mates Rich Hastings and Mike Matarese. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Vech, Mutchler, Hoos & Morton take top spot in OC Fishing Center Spot Tournament



In the 15th Annual Ocean City Fishing Center Spot Tournament, 71 anglers battled for largest spot honors but Jesse Vech, Keith Mutchler, Michael Hoos and Alex Morton ended the tournament tied for 1st place with each muscling in a 7 3/4-inch spot last Friday night. Chris Fortner won 2nd and 3rd place in the Spot Division with 7 5/8 and 7 1/2-inch fish. Chris also caught the most fish in the tournament, decking 109 during the 2 hours of fishing. Spencer Beauchamp caught a gar to win Most Unusual Fish honors. The Longest Fish Division was won by Colin Deng with a 27-inch eel. Fisher Zimmerman won the 1-5 age group, Joshua Blume took the 6-10 age group and Alex Morton won the 11-15 age group, each winning \$100 courtesy of sponsor, Chesapeake Waste Industries. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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BUCKTAILS TO BALLYHOO

BY CAPT. LANCE SMITH



Well, if you haven't booked a charter for a trip to the offshore canyons yet this year, it's a good thing you saved your money. The next few weeks, until about the middle of October, are my favorite time of year to fish for pelagics. If you have your own offshore-capable vessel, and are fed up with the lack of tuna, don't put your boat up on blocks just yet. Yes, the weather this time of year can be spotty, but the fishing certainly isn't. We had a terrific run of nice-sized yellowfin in late May and early June when the water temperatures were to their liking. Unfortunately for tuna fisherman, waters quickly warmed into the high 70's and low 80's and the yellowfin either moved north or stayed in town but remained below the thermocline. Offshore, water temperatures are about to start falling again and tuna, wahoo, marlin, and mahi will be schooling up and feeding heavy for their next journey South or East.

I can remember reading a study many years ago which stated that larger yellowfin do not feel comfortable coming to the surface in water temperatures over 74-degrees. The inshore lumps and

canyon edges have been sustaining surface water temperatures well over that mark since the end of June. As the days shorten, and the water temperatures drop correspondingly, yellowfin will soon (as in by the time you read this) be fattening up on sand eels and squid anywhere between the Sausages and Norfolk Canyon. The absolute best way to get in on this action is to book, or go your own overnigher. If you don't feel comfortable spending 24 hours offshore, you can still take advantage of this sometimes mad-dog tuna bite.

By listening to the dock chatter, and reading the reports here in the *Coastal Fisherman*, where the yellowfin are staging will quickly become apparent. Places like the Hot Dog, that have been devoid of life all summer, will soon be loaded with fish. It won't last long however. They will be there one day and gone the next. Starting your day somewhere around the 50-fathom line this time of year is always a good bet. I have personally found great fishing by simply watching the watercolor and water temperature while on my way to the day's

destination. While running offshore, keep a sharp eye out for changes in anything. Watercolor, temperature, slicks and upwellings can all put you on the fish. If you happen to spot a bunch of tuna-chick birds picking at the water surface over a slick calm portion of water, stop the boat and get some lines in! Always keep in mind that while we are out there fishing for sport, the birds are there to survive! Tuna have no boundaries and can show up anywhere from 40 fathoms inshore of the Baltimore to 500 fathoms in the Norfolk Canyon.

Much like yellowfin, dolphin (mahi-mahi) will begin heading south and east as the days grow shorter. I can remember a day, in 50 fathoms inshore of the Poor Man's Canyon, where I found well over a hundred large dolphin schooling underneath a single yellow wireman's glove. I will let this cat out of the bag as well - whenever you come upon a floating object or weedline, include a large chrome rattle trap in your spread of lures. Put this lure out on a lightweight outfit and it will quickly notify you of any mahi in the area. The Northeast winds of the fall will not only convince pelagics to start foraging for their journey; they will also begin to stack weed and debris lines. Not only dolphin school around these surface obstructions, white marlin

and tuna will feed on the many baitfish taking refuge beneath them.

During the next few weeks, my favorite offshore fish, wahoo, will school in numbers great enough to make them your only target for the day. For most of the summer, wahoo are an incidental bycatch caught by boats trolling for tuna and marlin. Over the past decade or so, there has been a very consistent wahoo bite in the fall between 30 and 50 fathoms. I have had days where we have set out to do nothing else than catch fall wahoo, and some of them have been spectacular.

Tweaking your normal tuna spread is all that is required to catch some of these toothy speedsters. Firstly, make sure that every lure or bait behind the boat is on single strand wire instead of a monofilament or fluorocarbon leader. If not, you will quickly find that you have had strikes, but no longer have any lures! Instead of trolling at your normal 6 to 7 knot speeds, try kicking the throttles up so that you are moving along at 8 knots or slightly more. Deploy large bonito-style lures such as the Marauder on your flatlines, and heavy Ilander style lures with ballyhoo to fill in your spread. The downriggers that you have used all summer to drag dredges for white marlin can become deadly wahoo catching tools this time of year. Try setting ballyhoo

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with black/red or black/purple skirts down 25 to 50-feet in the water column. We have had days of 4 or more wahoo over 40 pounds caught from areas such as the Hotdog and points slightly south and east, out to about 50 fathoms. Anywhere that you spot a surface upwelling or "rip" is an excellent place to begin trolling for wahoo. While solitary in nature for most of the summer months, these giant mackerels begin to concentrate on the same lumps while competing for the same forage base.

The star of the fall offshore season is unquestionably the white marlin. As I write this, somewhere around the Washington Canyon and down to the Norfolk Canyon, our city's namesake fish will be schooling and cutting bait in incredible numbers. It isn't uncommon to find hundreds of whites in an area less than an acre in size that are feeding voraciously with their dorsal fins slicing the surface. It is

truly a site to behold. These marlin are typically feeding on small baitfish in the 3 to 5-inch range and using the smallest available ballyhoo will get you the most bites. Dredges, sometimes run in double or triple configurations, and rigged with natural mullet or ballyhoo will help to pull the whites away from their natural forage and into your spread. It certainly isn't unheard of to have five or six white marlin smacking your trolled baits at the same time. This is when professional crews rack up catches of twenty to thirty white marlin in a single day. The fishing is reminiscent of far away tropical destinations and will last for about two weeks right here in our own backyard.

Some boats, especially those out of Virginia Beach, have begun to use live bait for catching whites. Typically, these boats will mark schools of tinker mackerel on the bottom, somewhere between

50 and 80 fathoms. They load large livewells with sophisticated circulation systems by dropping small surgical tube lures (rigged with five or six lures) into the depths and jigging them. Often times, the marlin are right where the bait is being caught and there is no need to run and find them. In recent years this has become somewhat of a contentious method of fishing. Boats that drag natural dead baits contend that fishing with live mackerel is too easy and isn't the "proper" way to go about loading the riggers with flags. In my opinion, anyway you can catch a fish is the right way. Fishing methods advance every year and if the guys using live bait are catching more fish, than you need to step up your game and learn how to do it! Don't hate. A flounder in the frying pan tastes the same whether it was caught on a GULP! Swimming Mullet or an actual live mullet. A flag

September 16, 2015 Coastal Fisherman Page 57

flying on the rigger waves the same in the breeze regardless of how the fish was caught. I make no distinctions and charters should learn to do the same.

Whether you choose to leave your boat in the water for this incredible fall bite, or opt to charter one of the many boats that advertise here in the *Coastal Fisherman*, there is no better time than the next few weeks to get your butt offshore! Whitey is waiting, wahoo are schooling and the yellowfins are ready for the air conditioning to kick in. Get out there and tell your captain what species you would like to concentrate on. Next thing you know it will be snowing and we will all be dreaming of next spring.

Lance Smith is an outdoor writer and Captain of his family's boat, "Longfin".



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2015 Tournament Series



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37th Annual Charles Kratz & Scott Smith Challenge Cup

Chairmen: Jon C. Duffie & Andy Helms

Registration: September 17, 7:00pm

Fishing Days: (2 of 2) Sept. 18 & 19, No weigh-ins

Italian Night: Sept. 18, 6:30-9:00pm

Awards Banquet: Sept. 19, 6:30-9:00pm

Invitation Only



3rd Annual OCMC Rockfish Tournament

To benefit the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

Chairmen: Colin Campbell & Jeremy Blunt

Registration: December 4, 6:00pm

Fishing Days: (5 of 9) December 5-13

Weigh Ins: December 5-13, Time: 3:00-5:00pm

Awards Banquet: December 13, Time: 5:00-7:30pm

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Always a threat in the Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder, the team on the "Yellowfin" finally came through with a big win on Sunday when Josh Fallon (right) arrived at the scale with an 18.5-inch, 2 lb. 15 oz. flounder to win 1st place in this year's tournament. Josh caught the winning flounder on a live spot in the East Channel while fishing with his mom, Judy Fallon and Adam Hoerner. For their 1st place finish, the "Yellowfin" team took home \$4,100 in award money. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



Matt Hanson of Germantown, MD is all smiles after becoming \$600 richer for his 2nd place finish in the 2015 Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder held last Sunday. Matt landed a 2 lb. 9 oz. flounder while drifting live spot in the West Channel in front of Martha's Landing. Joining Matt on the "Catchin' Flounder" were Melinda Hanson, Cynthia Tibbs, Gene Stalls and Mary Stalls. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

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9TH ANNUAL FLOUNDER POUNDER TOURNAMENT RESULTS

1 ST PLACE	2 ND PLACE
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The first boat to arrive at the Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder was the "Sunny Side Up" with Jesse Donahue's 18.5-inch, 2 lb. 4 oz. flounder that held on to win 3rd place in the tournament. Jesse was fishing with Andy Donahue, Geoff Ebling and Ryan Donahue when he caught the flattie on a bucktail tipped with a 4-inch Gulp! while drifting in the bay behind 14th Street. For his 3rd place finish, Jesse took home a check for \$400. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



Scott Kulp of Manheim, PA caught and released his first white marlin while trolling ballyhoo in the Baltimore Canyon aboard the "G-FORCE" with Seth Obetz, Capt. Tony Diesel (not pictured) and mate Marston Jones.



Mark Sun caught his limit of flounder, up to 4 lbs. 8 oz., Travis Peters caught a 3 lb. 8 oz. flattie and Tom Adkins caught his limit of flounder, weighing up to 4 lbs., all while fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Dean Lo and mates Rich Fouts, Hunter Phillips and Justin Hammond. The fish were caught at the Jackspot on cut bait.



Donna and Ron Ellis from Manchester, PA joined Dale and Virginia Ellis from Talbott, TN for a day of flounder fishing in the West Channel, north of the Rt. 50 Bridge. The anglers ended up with 5 flatties measuring between 17 and 22-inches.

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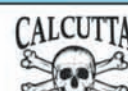
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Gary Tanner of Ocean View, DE caught this 53-inch yellowfin and William, Janene and Bill Garrison teamed up to land several small tunas while trolling at the Rockpile and the Bigeye Hole on the "Game Changer" with Capt. Matt Hussman.



Jeff Taylor, Dominic Linder and Bernie Matthews were spearfishing at the Bass Grounds and the Great Eastern Reef where they shot tautog, sea bass, lobster and flounder, measuring up to 23.5-inches. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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A Letter to Mid - Atlantic Fishermen on Upcoming Management Action

Fellow Mid Atlantic Fishermen:

With White Marlin season peaking in the Mid-Atlantic and all of the great days spent on the water this summer still fresh in our minds, it's important we still look to the future, and think about the seasons to come.

Any fisherman worth his salt knows that to find the fish, you need to find them feeding on bait. It's this bait, also known as forage fish, which are the basic foundation of all of the fish that we pursue. Anchovies, silversides, mackerel, squid and many more are all important food sources for game fish in our region. It doesn't take many trips to the canyon or near shore waters to realize that when you find plenty of bait, you also find tuna, marlin, sharks, mahi, flounder, bluefish and many more.

Many of the region's fish species are managed by the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission (ASMFC), which oversees state waters (out to 3 miles from Maine to Florida) or the Mid Atlantic Fisheries Management Council (MAFMC) that oversees federal waters (3-200 miles from New York to North Carolina). To many fishermen, the fisheries management process is a complex and frustrating process, but regardless of how you view it, there are a lot of hard working and well-meaning people that dedicate a lot of time and effort into properly managing the large and valuable shared public resources that are our marine resources. It's a lot easier to complain about the tough changes that managers make to our fisheries, and it's rare that managers get a THANK YOU.

All too often, fisheries managers are tasked with chasing a snowball down the fisheries management hill. They have to follow federal laws and try to rebuild fisheries, limit overfishing, and not negatively effect the economic benefit of both recreational and commercial fisheries. It's quite the heavy lift, and that's one of the reasons it can seem so difficult, and quite frustrating.

The MAFMC is now undertaking unmanaged forage fish management, and it is one of the few actions that is allowing managers to be pro active for once and get out in front before problems exist. At the December MAFMC meeting, an action to protect these vital unmanaged forage species was taken. The following motion passed to ***"initiate a regulatory action to prohibit the development of new, or expansion of existing, directed fisheries on unmanaged forage species until adequate scientific information is available to promote ecosystem sustainability"***. Since December, MAFMC staff and council members have been preparing and now the public meetings have been set.

So what species are unmanaged? A list can be found in the scoping materials on the mafmc website (link below)

What will this action do? "Freeze the fishing footprint", and allow managers to ensure that vital forage species stocks can remain at necessary levels before fishing effort is expanded.

Why should it matter to you? All of the commercially and recreationally important species in our region rely on an abundant level of food. Shouldn't we be proactive and make sure that we don't negatively impact food sources, rather than have to deal with unknown and possibly wide reaching negative impacts if fisheries expand?

Is this a Recreational vs. Commercial initiative? Heck no...We all rely on abundant fish stocks to succeed at our craft, and we all can have negative impacts if we catch too many fish. Protecting forage species helps all fishermen ensure the fish we catch have plenty of food.

What forage species are important to your fisheries? Are they on the list of species to be protected?

Captain John McMurray, an MAFMC member from New York shared his views on the issue in a recent blog. It's worth the read and can be found here (<http://conservefish.org/2015/09/11/of-sandeels-and-tuna-we-need-your-help-getting-ahead-of-the-curve/>),

or on the Coastal Conservation Association Maryland's facebook page : <https://www.facebook.com/CCAMARYLAND>

More information can also be found at the MAFMC website: <http://www.mafmc.org/newsfeed/2015/forage-scoping-hearings>

Delmarva fishermen will have a chance to voice their opinions on:

Wednesday September 30, 2015. 6:30 pm – 8:30 pm.- Worcester County Library Ocean Pines Branch Meeting Room. 11107 Cathell Road, Berlin, MD

Check out the information above and give me a shout if you'd like to discuss this issue at any time. .

I hope to see many of you there. If we fishermen don't show up and provide input to the process we will only have ourselves to blame if we don't like the outcome.

Tight Lines,



David Sikorski
CCA Maryland Government Relation Chairman
443-621-9186
davidsikorski@ccamd.org





















Coastal Conservation Association Maryland
Recreational Anglers Working to Conserve, Protect and Enhance Maryland's Marine Resources
ccamd.org

2015 COASTAL FISHERMAN 2015

HEAVIEST FISH OF THE YEAR

(As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - Ties go to first fish reported)

Species	Ocean City	Delaware	Species	Ocean City	Delaware
 Sea Bass June 7, 2015 Gary King "Morning Star" 4 lbs. 15 oz.		May 30, 2015 Mike Surowiec "Katydid" 3 lbs. 3 oz.	 Mako Shark <i>100 lb. minimum</i> June 5, 2015 Joe Stein "Marli" 281.6 lbs.		July 18, 2015 Christian Ostrowski Fingers 667 lbs.
 Tautog January 2, 2015 Ken Westerfeld "Fish Bound" 28.8 lbs.		February 7, 2015 Shawn McCulley Ocean Wreck 15 lbs. 2 oz.	 Thresher Shark June 6, 2015 Jeff Green Fingers 500 lbs.		June 7, 2015 "Indian" Crew "DB" Buoy 509.5 lbs.
 Striped Bass May 16, 2015 Phillip Gray Ocean City Surf 42 lbs. 8 oz.		May 4, 2015 Noulack Mouyniung Indian River Inlet 43 lbs. 2 oz.	 Bluefin Tuna June 24, 2015 Lawrence Sutter "That's Right" 129 lbs.		June 19, 2015 Ed Brown Poor Man's Canyon 104.9
 Weakfish No Weights Reported		August 1, 2015 Jenn Harpel Delaware Bay 1 lb. 2 oz.	 Yellowfin Tuna NEW September 8, 2015 Scott Kulp Baltimore Canyon 141 lbs.		July 7, 2015 Bobby Dunn Washington Canyon 72 lbs.
 Cobia August 21, 2015 Dan Imhoff South Jetty 73 lbs.		NEW September 3, 2015 Kevin Mundy 3R's Road 9 lbs.	 Longfin Tuna August 31, 2015 Steve Zarick Poor Man's Canyon 53 lbs.		No Weights Reported
 Flounder June 23, 2015 Bob Weaver East Channel 9 lbs. 6 oz.		August 15, 2015 Steve Mattson "B" Buoy 11 lbs. 8 oz.	 Bigeye Tuna June 30, 2015 Crew "Pumpin' Hard" 296 lbs.		July 7, 2015 George Merrick Washington Canyon 242 lbs.
 Bluefish May 14, 2015 Matt Peel East Channel 13 lbs. 9 oz.		May 6, 2015 Bob Hilton Indian River Inlet 19 lbs. 8 oz.	 Dolphin July 28, 2015 Darryl Boyer Poor Man's Canyon 56 lbs.		July 24, 2015 Brad Cave Baltimore Canyon 37 lbs.
 Sheepshead July 10, 2015 Scott Burns South Jetty 10 lbs.		June 16, 2015 John Lindsay Indian River Inlet 11 lbs. 11 oz.	 Wahoo NEW September 12, 2015 Jim Rodgers Poor Man's Canyon 88 lbs.		July 19, 2015 Dean Dibler Hot Dog 84.2
 Black Drum April 17, 2015 Tom Nelson Assateague Surf 20 lbs.		May 25, 2015 Kyle Moore Coral Beds 71 lbs.	 White Marlin Most Releases in One Day September 4, 2015 "D.A. Sea" 13 releases		August 1, 2015 "Knot Again" 6 releases

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



Bill Keefer from Mechanicsburg, PA and Bob Murphy from Milton, DE boated their limit of flounder (4 pictured), including a set of 3 fish that weighed exactly 5 lbs. All were caught while fishing with cut bait and squid on ocean structure aboard the "Thelma Dale IV" with Capt. Ricky Yakimowicz.



Bryan Jones on the "Bonnie Lynn" caught this good size bigeye tuna while trolling a Joe Shute lure in the Baltimore Canyon at 8:30 last Friday night.

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With 15 white marlin releases during their 2 days of fishing in the 56th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament, the crew on the "D.A. Sea" took top honors in the Billfish Release Division. On opening day, the anglers released 13 whites in the Norfolk Canyon and another 2 in the Baltimore Canyon on the final day of the tournament. Fishing on the "D.A. Sea" were anglers Pat McAteer, Ed Dunn, Mark Aiello, Valerie Dunn (not pictured), Capt. Chris Gornell and mate Dan Prettyman. For their 1st place finish, the "D.A. Sea" team won \$5,355 in award money. Pictured with Tournament Chairman, Bill Fenwick (left) at the Ocean City Marlin Club.



On the final day of the 2015 Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament, Connor Campbell of West Ocean City, MD boated a 20.8 lb. dolphin to vault into 1st place in the Dolphin Division. Connor was fishing on the "Fin Ally" with his dad, Cory Carpenter, Dustin Hansell and Joe Crisafulli. The winning dolphin was hooked on an old Chaos lure in 50 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

**56TH ANNUAL LABOR DAY
WHITE MARLIN TOURNAMENT
SEPTEMBER 3-7, 2015**

RESULTS

BILLFISH RELEASE	DOLPHIN	MASTER ANGLER AWARD
1st Place "DA SEA" 1,500 Points 1 Blue Marlin \$5,355	1st Place "FIN ALLY" 20.8 lbs. 2nd Place "IN THE BLACK" 14.8 lbs. \$1,980	3rd Place "IN THE BLACK" 14.4 lbs.
2nd Place "BILLFISHER" 1,250 Points \$1,053	PAT MCATEER 4 White Marlin Releases	
3rd Place "FIRST LIGHT" 850 Points	TOTAL CALCUTTA MONEY <h2 style="color: white; font-size: 1.5em;">\$32,760</h2>	
BOATS REGISTERED - 53		

FISHING DAYS

DAY 1	DAY 2	DAY 3
31 BOATS	46 BOATS	29 BOATS



Pat McAteer (left) on the "D.A. Sea" won the Master Angler Award in the 2015 Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament with 4 self-hooked white marlin released during the 2 days of fishing. Pat won a painting by famous local artist, George Kalwa for winning Master Angler honors and is pictured at the awards banquet with Tournament Chairman, Bill Fenwick and artist George Kalwa.



Second place in the Billfish Division of the 2015 Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament was won by the crew on the "Billfisher" with releases of 10 white marlin, a blue marlin and a spearfish. All but 3 of the white marlin were hooked on the 1st day of the tournament in the Norfolk Canyon and the final 3 whites were released on the final day near the 461 Lump. Fishing on the "Billfisher" were anglers Jonathan Duffie, Judy Duffie Danny Gough (not pictured), Capt. Jon Duffie and mates Chris Hornung and Billy Gerlach. The team won \$1,053 in award money and are pictured at the Ocean City Marlin Club with future "Billfisher" angler, Colt Duffie and Tournament Chairman, Bill Fenwick.



With releases of 7 white marlin and a blue marlin during their 2 days of fishing in the 56th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament, the crew on the "First Light" won 3rd place in the Billfish Release Division. On the 1st day of the tournament, the crew released 5 white marlin and a blue marlin between the 461 Lump and the Washington Canyon. They followed that up with 2 white marlin releases on the final day of the tournament while trolling in the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured at the Ocean City Marlin Club with Tournament Chairman Bill Fenwick are anglers, Bill Pino, Wil Kennington, Jim Rodgers and Capt. Corey Kennington.



On opening day of the 2015 Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament, Andy Urban, Paul Kelly and Chris Oliviero on the "In the Black" arrived at the scale with 3 dolphin caught while chunking around pots in 150 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon. Their 2 heaviest mahi weighed 14.4 and 14.8 lbs. and held on to win 2nd and 3rd place in the Dolphin Division worth \$1,980 in award money. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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VIRGINIA FISHING REPORT

BY DR. JULIE BALL
I.G.F.A REPRESENTATIVE



Although Labor Day marks the end of summer for many folks, local anglers know it is not the end of the good fishing for Virginia. The fall species will begin to earn more interest as the waters cool and the summer favorites prepare to leave for the season.

Flounder action was steady last week in the lower Bay. Flatfish continue to gather at the mouth of the Bay in preparation for migrating to deeper water. Folks drifting near the 1st and 2nd Islands of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel (CBBT) and near the Small Boat Channel are faring well with nice fish averaging to around 5-pounds, while working the areas near the third and fourth islands of the CBBT with live bait has also

been productive recently, with some scattered trophies pushing to over 9-pounds landed last week.

Boats working Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets are also finding a few catches of decent keepers. Good action is happening on nearshore and offshore wrecks, where solid catches of nice fish pushing to over 24-inches took fresh strip bait last week. By-catches of keeper sea bass and big triggerfish are also responding on these same structures.

Cobia are nearing the end of their reign in local waters as they move out of the lower Bay, but there is still opportunity for some great action before they depart for the season. With some days better than others, both

chummers and sightcasters are finding decent catches, with a few bruisers going to well over 60-pounds boated last week.

Big red drum continue to delight anglers as schools swarm on lower Bay shoals and near the mouth of the Bay, where some reds were hooked near the 3rd and 4th Islands recently. Surfcasters are on alert, with the drum bite in the surf along Fisherman's Island on the rise. Look for big bulls to also show in the surf off Sandbridge and near the Little Island Fishing Pier soon.

Spanish mackerel are still responding to trolled spoons along Sandbridge and Dam Neck, as well as around the artificial islands of the CBBT,

along with plenty of bluefish. There are also some rumors of a few king mackerel striking trolled baits a few miles off Sandbridge. Sharks are still a big event here, where a variety of toothy critters continue to thrill anglers.

Speckled trout are a true question mark this season, but reports of scattered catches of mostly smallish fish ranging up to around 16-inches in lower Bay protected inlets, Hungar's Creek, the Poquoson Flats, Mobjack Bay, and the seaside and Bayside areas of the Eastern Shore is encouraging. A rumor of a 6-pound citation trout coming from Rudee Inlet last week has the hush-hush speck community buzzing. If this trophy fish is confirmed, it will be the first gator trout caught in Virginia since the massive fish kill last February. Puppy drum of all sizes are still coming from the surf lines off Virginia Beach, as well as Lynnhaven and Rudee



Virginia Regulations



Coastal State Waters Only

			
BLACK SEA BASS 12.5" minimum 15 per person/day 5/15 - 9/21 & 10/22 - 12/31	BLUEFISH No minimum size 10 per person/day	BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day	COBIA 37" minimum 1 per person/day
			
CROAKER No limit	RED DRUM 18" - 26" 3 per person/day	SHEEPSHEAD No minimum size 4 per person/day	SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 5 per person Only 1 fish of the 5-fish limit may be 24-inches or greater
			
STRIPED BASS 28" minimum 1 per person/day	TAUTOG 16" minimum 3 per person/day	SUMMER FLOUNDER 16" minimum 4 per person/day	WEAKFISH 12" minimum 1 per person/day

www.coastalfisherman.net

Inlets.

Nice sheephead are still taking offerings over the tubes of the Bay Bridge Tunnel, along with a decent number of keeper sized tautog, but remember to throw them back until the 20th. Spadefish ranging to around 2 to 3-pounds are still around the 3rd and 4th Islands, although this action has slowed, but plenty of hungry triggerfish are happy to take over.

Decent-sized spot are showing along the oceanfront and the lower Bay shorelines, rivers and inlets. Some nice spot are available within both Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets on a moving tide, as well as off the Hampton Bar and Ocean View areas. Medium-sized hardheads are also showing in these same areas, as well as along the southern Small Boat Channel.

Amberjack are still active on local wrecks, the Chesapeake Light Tower and

the Southern Towers through October, with jack crevelle also a possibility. Deep droppers are having good luck near the Canyon edges with limits of nice blueline tilefish and jumbo sea bass. Blackbellied rosefish, grouper and barrelfish are also adding to the deep water variety.

Offshore action is still very good, with the billfish bite escalating recently. Good numbers of white marlin and scattered blue marlin are keeping boats busy. A few sailfish, spearfish and swordfish were also reported last week. Some 50-pound class yellowfin tuna and good numbers of bigeye tuna, along with big wahoo are also possibilities. Dolphin action remains very good, with plenty of bailers and several gaffers over 30-pounds hitting the docks.

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

September 16, 2015 Coastal Fisherman Page 69



Joe Walker used squid and shiners to fool this 5 lb. 12 oz. flounder while drifting over ocean structure. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Tides & Moon Phases

OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. Sept. 16	Low 04:01 am Low 04:30 pm	High 10:29 am High 10:43 pm
Thurs. Sept. 17	Low 04:33 am Low 05:12 pm	High 11:08 am High 11:21 pm
Fri. Sept. 18	Low 05:11 am Low 05:58 pm	High 11:49 am High -----
Sat. Sept. 19	Low 05:54 am Low 06:49 pm	High 12:01 am High 12:33 pm
Sun. Sept. 20	Low 06:43 am Low 07:43 pm	High 12:46 am High 01:25 pm
Mon. Sept. 21 1st Quarter	Low 07:37 am Low 08:39 pm	High 01:38 am High 02:25 pm
Tues. Sept. 22	Low 08:35 am Low 09:38 pm	High 02:38 am High 03:29 pm
Wed. Sept. 23	Low 09:37 am Low 10:37 pm	High 03:42 am High 04:31 pm
Thurs. Sept. 24	Low 10:41 am Low 11:33 pm	High 04:44 am High 05:27 pm
Fri. Sept. 25	Low 11:44 am Low -----	High 05:42 am High 06:20 pm
Sat. Sept. 26	Low 12:26 am Low 12:43 pm	High 06:37 am High 07:11 pm
Sun. Sept. 27 Full Moon	Low 01:15 am Low 01:39 pm	High 07:32 am High 08:03 pm
Mon. Sept. 28	Low 02:03 am Low 02:32 pm	High 08:27 am High 08:54 pm
Tues. Sept. 29	Low 02:50 am Low 03:26 pm	High 09:21 am High 09:45 pm

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

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

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

... SEPTEMBER ...

37th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Challenge Cup
Sept 18-19 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

... OCTOBER ...

Lewes Harbour Marina Tautog Tournament
October 1-31 • Lewes, DE • 302-645-6227

36th Annual Mid-Atlantic Surf Fishing Tournament
October 1-3 • Ocean City, MD • 410-251-2203

16th Annual Rocktoberfest Tournament
October 10-11 • Ocean City, MD • 410-289-7473

11th A.M.S.A Ronald Bounds Fishing Tournament
October 15-17 • Ocean City, MD • 443-944-3036

Bill's Sport Shop / Irish Eyes Striper Tournament
Oct. 16 - Dec. 04 • Lewes, DE • 302-645-7654

Lewes Harbour Marina Striper Tournament
Oct. 24 - Nov. 24 • Lewes, DE • 302-645-6227

... NOVEMBER ...

23rd Annual MSSA Chesapeake Bay Fall Tournament
Nov. 20 - Nov. 22 • MSSA • 410-255-5535

10th Annual A.M.S.A. Striped Bass Tournament
Nov. 21 - Nov. 22 • 410-944-3036

... DECEMBER ...

3rd Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Rockfish Tournament
December 5-13 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613





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Console - Call Scott Smith



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330 Express - Call Jeff James



SEA NOTE - 2001 32' Luhrs Convertible
Call Steve Trattner



IVY SEA - 2014 26' Custom Center Console
Call Gary Stamm



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XTASEA - 2000 29' Wellcraft
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