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COASTAL FISHERMAN

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Francis Anthony "Franky" Pettolina, III. 1973 - 2021

As an icon of the fishing community and beloved contributor to the Coastal Fisherman, Franky touched and influenced so many lives. Those who met him were instantly a friend and all that did were better for knowing him. He left far too soon but will never be gone as he has left us with so many memories, not only in his writing, but in how he lived. Rest in peace my friend.

Photo by: Hooked on OC



Jeff Bugman and Lori Alloco from Dalton, NY found some nice 61° water on the outgoing tide last week to find 3 keeper flounder, the largest at 19". They were using green Otter Tail Split Tails while fishing on the charter boat "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford and mate Ethan Nock.



Jack Dennis, Tom DiCamppli, Corey Evans, Greg Polanin, Gavin Denison and Capt. Kevin Denison (not pictured) on the charter boat "3 Amigos" from Indian River Marina fished Site 11 using green crabs and sand fleas to bring home some nice tautog weighing up to 7.62 lbs. Pictured at Hook'em & Cook'em.



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Glen Odor from Berlin, MD took an early April trip to Hatteras, NC and caught this monster 50" red drum on a white & green bucktail. Nice Job!

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Even the anglers at the Oceanic Fishing Pier in Ocean City sometimes can't believe their catch! This lucky guy landed this nice 42 inch rockfish on Saturday April 3rd. (not Chris Pratt by the way...)

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The OFFSHORE REPORT

by Larry Budd



Welcome back for the 46th Edition of the Coastal Fisherman!

I really did not think I would be starting 2021 as we did in 2020 with more loss to our community, but sadly we have. Captain Franky Pettolina, longest serving President of the Ocean City Marlin Club, Captain of the charter boat "Last Call", owner of Pettolina Marine Survey, loving husband to Jennifer and son of Frank and Madelyn Pettolina Jr. left us much too early on March 22nd. Our readers of course know Franky for his "Fish Stories" that he submitted faithfully to be published each week in the

Coastal Fisherman! These little glimpses were truly snippets of a life lived for fishing & by fishing and were definitely favorites to many of our readers. The many tributes that have been made on-line as well as shared memories paint a beautiful picture of the man Franky was; always open, giving, generous, loyal and always ready to lead the fun. These are his legacies and now our memories to sustain us. I was lucky to call him a friend. We will be reprinting some of his most popular articles throughout this year to continue to share his unique perspectives and experiences!

We also lost Ed and Laura Bartholme over the winter. Married for almost 50 years, together they ran Edward's Marine & Sons, providing mobile diesel repair and re-power to many in our community. They were a fixture that many depended on for high quality service and support. Fortunately, their sons Ed and Chuck will carry on the business. You can learn more about this couple in a tribute on page 27.

Turning to offshore fishing, the colder weather this spring has limited the offshore action to date. Only a few years ago we would be reporting some yellowfin and bluefin tuna, some mahi and even mako caught by now. Changes to the mako regulations a couple of years ago have reduced that catch and we haven't had April tuna reports in a while. This year's high wind hasn't helped either. We did see warm waters a few days recently as close as 72 miles, so it is coming! The trend of early white marlin catches may continue as well. Last year's catch was May 23rd, so we are keeping our eyes and ears open. This year that marlin could be worth up to \$17,000! The Town of

Ocean City puts up \$5,000 to the lucky angler releasing the first white and the Ocean City Marlin Club offers the same to the first member to report. Additionally, Fisherman United Ocean City, a group of local business owners including the Coastal Fisherman will contribute \$7,000 this year. So that first white could add up to a nice payday.

The real fishing action right now is inshore and in the bays. It has been a good season for tautog nearshore and over the last 2 weeks there have been nice flounder catches in the bays when anglers have found warmer water. More details on what's 'catchin', where and with what can be found in our Ocean City and Delaware reports.

Also remember to check our Delaware, Maryland and Federal regulation listings. Not alot has changed, but



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you will want to make sure you have the latest. For example, Maryland has now posted regulations for cobia, the creel limit for tog is reduced to 2 fish per day from July 1st to October 31st and the keeper size for speckled trout has gone up to 14". Delaware remains largely the same as 2020, however regulations for croaker are still 'TBD'. No big updates on the Federal Size & Creel limits, just remember however that there are new permit and

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reporting requirements for tilefish that went into effect last September.

New for the Coastal Fisherman this year will be our inclusion of social



media. We will be posting catch pictures and details as we get them and other posts of interest to our readers, so be sure to follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

Lastly, there is optimism in the air that we may see a more normal summer season and I am sure we all are hoping for the same. I do want to share that there are still lingering restrictions for capacities at restaurants and other venues that vary by state. This is further complicated by an extreme lack of labor available or willing to work these seasonal jobs. This is affecting all aspects of services at the shore, so we do ask for everyone's patience.

Likewise, some supplies like bait and tackle are still limited, so plan ahead if you can. Some good news came for Maryland late last month, the Governor's latest update to Covid Executive Order removed the restriction on capacity for head boats and in a brief conversation I had with the Maryland DNR, the requirement for masks on commercial and recreational boats has been lifted. As of this edition, Delaware still requires masks for non family groups where social distancing of 6' cannot be maintained and it appears headboats may be limited to 50% of Coast Guard capacity rating. Most of these boats don't operate at to near capacity normally anyway, so reservations are always a good idea. I expect these regulations to change quickly and it is unclear what level of enforcement is taking place. As with supplies, planning early and calling ahead is highly recommended.



Capt. Franky & Jen Pettolina

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Local flounder legend Rich "Delicious" Daiker is on the board! He raised these 17" and 18.5" spring fatties on April 24th while trolling in only 6 feet of water in the Thorofare on the outgoing tide. Chartreuse Gulp did the trick to fool these two.



Local angler Nick Fornaro took a trip in early March to the Outer Banks, NC for a trip with Capt. Willie Zimmerman and mate Daniel Ames on the charter boat "RoShamBo". The crew landed 6 yellowfin tuna and 1 blackfin tuna as well. They did lose a little bit of the one up front to the "Taxman"!

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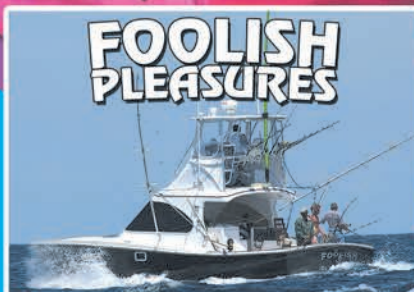
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Founder of Pure Lure Performance Fishing Apparel, Brendan Hanley, got a rare day off when traveling Florida with business. He made the most of it! Fishing with his sons Curran and Ian with Ian’s wife Lisa, they went 6 for 6 on sailfish before lunch. For the trio of Curran, Ian and Lisa, this was also their first sailfish catch ever! The crew was fishing on the “Trip Wire” with Capt. Croft Upchurch and mate Travis Upchurch out of North Palm Beach FL



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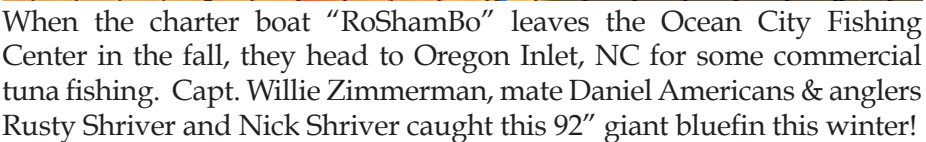
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OCEAN CITY

FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



As the 2021 fishing season begins, many look to this new year with a renewed sense of hope. The past year has been a hard one with Covid shutdown, sickness, and uncertainty. As more people are vaccinated and begin to return to a sense of normal we look to the new fishing season with anticipation. Last year gave the fish a much needed break with fewer anglers on the water. For anglers living by the beach, fish seemed to be more plentiful and less wary to bite a hook than in past years. Many anglers look to see if this restock of the population will affect the bite as the summer crowds return to a normal size.

Sea bass will open in two

weeks on the 15th. I have received a few reports from tog fishermen that sea bass are starting to show up on the wrecks but most are on near shore wrecks where the water is warmer. On the deeper wrecks the tog bite is some of the best we have seen in years. Large fish can be found on the African Queen site as well and most wrecks in the 60-120 ft. range. If you can find peeler crab that will be your best bait to try and catch one of these elusive fish. Tog or blackfish stay very close to the wrecks only coming a short way out of their holes to snatch a crab that got too close. Sand fleas usually work well this time of year, however most anglers are telling me

that this year the tog want very little to do with them. Sunset Marina as well as other tackle shops in the area have some green crab but supplies are low and slow to be restocked. So if you find some get them because the odds are when you return they won't be there. Bluefish and stripers are beginning to show up off our shores and even in our back bays. Ocean City Fishing Pier reports some nice keeper rockfish being caught off their dock on predominantly high tides. Cut bait such as bunker is producing the best bites. On the near shore humps small stripers can be trolled up on mojos as well as stretch 25/30's. Due to the temp of the water (about 55 degrees)

www.coastalfisherman.net not many rockfish or bluefish have been reported. I expect after this past week of warm weather that number should rise dramatically. Targeting areas very near the coast or very close to the 3 mile line tend to produce the most amount of activity this time of year.

Big Bird Cropper reports small rockfish and a few bluefish have been caught in the inlet. Casting bucktails or soft swim jigs such as the Roy rig are best when targeting these fish. The flounder have begun showing up in the back bays. Ocean City Guide Service reports several nice catches of keeper flounder on green Otter Tails in the channels behind Assateague Island. With this past week of 80 degree weather the bite should really pick up. Squid and minnow combinations are always good this time of year with gulp being a close second. Areas around the

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Verrazano Bridge are a usual hot spot during late spring. Several black drum have been reported off the beach of Assateague Island. Most of these fish are being caught on surf clams or sand fleas. The closer to the Virginia line the better your chances are. If you are looking to catch a big fish and don't have access to an offshore boat black drum beach fishing can produce fish 60 lbs. and over. In the surf, small rockfish and blues are starting to show up. I have not received any reports of keeper stripers, although small fish are being caught on a regular basis. Cut bait, clams and sand fleas being used by drum fisherman are accounting for most of the catches. Bucktails and plugs have also been catching a few. Reports are that these fish are very close to the shore line so don't cast out real far or you will be outside of their strike zone. A reminder when targeting rockfish with cut or live bait, a non offset circle hook is required.

I have not received any clam reports so far this year. With the water still in the 50's I'm sure the clams will be deep and difficult to find. Crabs in the upper bay behind north Ocean City are beginning to turn on, however, catches are very low. I spoke to a commercial crabber who reported for 130 pots set he only caught 13 dozen crabs. Cold water is the blame for the slow start. So if planning on buying crabs when you get to Ocean City just be aware that prices are definitely high.

So as we wait to see what opens and what the state regulations will be for our town, I wish you all Tight Lines and Fins Up!

Captain Martin B. J. Pietryak

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Capt. Terry Murray is a busy man. He is a 7th grade science teacher at Millsboro Middle School in DE, commercial fisherman, charter boat captain and water filtration business owner! He took a well deserved early April trip to Sanibel Island, FL and took Capt. Todd Steen, Max McCann & Jonah 42 miles into the Gulf of Mexico and caught a limit of 30 yellowtail snapper, 5 red grouper, 1 strawberry grouper, 3 porgies & 1 mangrove snapper. All caught on cut mullet, squid & live shrimp.

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

Species	2021	2020	Species	2021	2020
Bluefish 		May 29, 2020 Kathy Grab Fenwick Island State Park	Mako Shark 		April 16, 2020 Ron Griggs "Finatic" Wilmington Canyon
Black Drum 	March 31 Allen Skylar Assateague Island	April 19, 2020 Bill Grubb Fenwick Island State Park	Thresher Shark 		June 13, 2020 Charlie Boyles "Hook It Up" Old Grounds
Cobia 		June 21, 2020 Aaron Reeves "On the Run" South Jetty	Bigeye Tuna 		May 27, 2020 Ryan Turner "Full Service" Norfolk Canyon
Flounder 	April 18 Danny Cox Rt. 90 Bridge	May 5, 2020 Mackenzie Cathell Thorofare	Bluefin Tuna 		June 9, 2020 Shannon Gore Baltimore Canyon
Sea Bass 	April 12 Camryn Baeder Inshore Wreck	May 15, 2020 Brent Bortner "Green Machine" Offshore Wreck	Longfin Tuna 		June 9, 2020 Evan Winterbottom "PYY Fishing" Poor Man's Canyon
Sheepshead 		June 12, 2020 Keith Smith "On the Run" South Jetty	Yellowfin Tuna 		April 29, 2020 Dylan Wiley Washington Canyon
Striped Bass 		May 7, 2020 Patricia Cropper Rt. 50 Bridge	Dolphin 		May 23, 2020 Jeremy Phares "Reel Fin Addiction" Norfolk Canyon
Tautog 	January 1 Mike Sadowski "Tide Runner" Ocean Structure	January 2, 2020 Patrick Enoch "Morningstar" Artificial Reef	Wahoo 		June 18, 2020 Jack Hannum "Blood Money" Poor Man's Canyon
Weakfish 		June 17, 2020 Muhamad Arshad Oceanic Fishing Pier	White Marlin 		May 23, 2020 Carl Sauer "Reel Escape" Washington Canyon

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



The crew of the "Reel Magic" with local boys Bill Swords, Jeff Waxman and Roger Meekins had a big trip this February out of Cudjoe Key, FL. They caught both king and cero mackerel plus yellowtail snappers and bonito, all on live bait and spinning tackle, the biggest fish at 45 lbs. Fishing the reef edge in 65' with a chum bag, they did well even with a large lemon shark helping himself to some of the action.



Upcoming Tournament!

12th ANNUAL FRANKY PETTOLINA MEMORIAL DAY TOURNAMENT
To benefit the Catherine & Charles Kratz Memorial Foundation and Scholarship Fund
Registration: May 28, 6:30 - 8:00pm
Fishing Days: (1 of 2) May 29 & 30
Weigh-Ins: May 29 & 30 4:30-7:00pm at Sunset Marina

TOURNAMENT SERIES

2021 SCHEDULE

** YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS TOURNAMENT*



<p>42nd ANNUAL SMALL BOAT TOURNAMENT Registration: June 25, 6:30-8:00pm Fishing Days: (1 of 2) June 26 & 27 Weigh-Ins: June 26 & 27, 3:00-6:30pm at Sunset Marina</p>	<p>39th ANNUAL CANYON KICK OFF * Registration: July 1, 6:30-8:00pm FREE TO PAID OCMC BOAT MEMBERS Fishing Days: (2 of 3) July 2, 3, 4 Weigh-Ins: July 2-4, 5:00-7:30pm at Sunset Marina</p>	<p> 17th ANNUAL KID'S CLASSIC * To benefit the Wish-A-Fish Foundation Registration: July 16, 6:00-8:00pm Fishing Days: (1 or 2 of 2) July 17 & 18 Weigh-Ins: July 17, 3:00-6:30pm and July 18, 3:00-6:00pm at Sunset Marina</p>	<p>13th ANNUAL OCMC LADIES' TOURNAMENT "HEELS & REELS"* To benefit the Marlin Club Crew of OC Scholarship Fund Registration: July 29, 6:00-8:00pm Fishing Days: (1 of 2) July 30 & 31 Weigh-Ins: July 30 & 31 5:30-7:30pm at Atlantic Tackle</p>
<p>6th ANNUAL OCMC vs OCLTC SHOOT-OUT Angler Meeting: August 26, 7:00pm Fishing Days: (2 of 3) August 27, 28, 29 No Weigh-Ins</p>	<p>63rd ANNUAL LABOR DAY WHITE MARLIN TOURNAMENT * Registration: September 2, 6:30-8:00pm Fishing Days: (2 of 3) September 3, 4, 5 Weigh-Ins: September 3, 4, 5 6:00-8:00pm at Sunset Marina</p>	<p>43rd ANNUAL CHARLES KRATZ & SCOTT SMITH CHALLENGE CUP Registration: September 16, 6:00-8:00pm Fishing Days: (2 of 2) September 17 & 18 No Weigh-Ins</p>	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; transform: rotate(15deg);"> <p>CHECK FOR UPDATES on our WEBSITE & SOCIAL MEDIA</p> </div>

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FISHING CHARTERS



Capt. Kane Bounds on the charter boat "Fish Bound" was putting his anglers on the fish mid April. Sully shows off his 17+ lb. tautog he caught and released on the 20th. This group hit their limit in 40 minutes with several double digit catch anglers!



The OC flounder season is starting strong! This group went out with Capt. John Prather on the "Ocean City Guide Service" and found these keepers using Squidnation green Split Otter Tails! Capt. John shares the green works well in clear water.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Ocean City charter boat "Spring Mix II" had a great first winter season in Islamorada, FL. Located at the Post Card Inn they attracted locals as well as many visitors from Delmarva, the Coastal Fisherman included! This group included Mike Birmingham, Katie Birmingham, Alex Birmingham and local radio hosts Brendan Kashuba and Chrissy Auker better known as "BK and Chrissy". They are streaming live, mornings on www.RadioOceanCity.com. Capt. Chris Watakowski put them on some nice mahi, a school of 10 blackfin tuna and even a smiley barracuda.

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Ocean City, Maryland Islamorada, Florida

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FISHING CHARTERS



Serenity Boats from Hanover, PA is all smiles with this 16.5" flounder she caught in mid April on a Squidnation Otter Tail/shiner combo! She was fishing in the Thorofare on the incoming tide with Capt. Jason Mumford and mate Ethan Nock on the charter boat "Lucky Break".



Florida was the place to be this winter for many from Delmarva. This 45 lb. king mackerel was caught in early March off Cudjoe Key, FL on the reef by Lauren Gravatt from Magnolia, DE. and was gaffed by Christopher Keller shown helping her hold the beast. Capt. William Swords put them on the meat. Christopher Keller is captain of the charter boat "Strike Zone Sportfishing" in Lewes, DE.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Capt. Monty Hawkins on the headboat "Morning Star" did his part to both preserve the stock and give anglers the opportunity to catch some elusive tautog! He's set his boat limit to 2 per angler (half the state limit) and limited it to one female. Lucky Jennifer Bradt Massey shows off hers.



Joe Truitt from Girdletree, MD shows off the 34", 29 lb. black drum he caught off of Assateague, VA with peeler crabs.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Local boat "Rhonda's Osprey" with Capt. Joe Drosey keeps the action going in the winter months out of Singer Island, FL! Aaron Evans, Sarah Evans, Matt Giardina, Jess Giardina, Sarah Delligatti and Brian Delligatti, all from Ocean City came to visit and had a great day in April with 2 sailfish releases, a mahi and a blackfin tuna!

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FISHING CHARTERS



Dale Frampton, Nick Ciccone, Fisher Stewart, Luke Schons, Jesse Shumaker from PA. caught a "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford and mate Ethan Nock! They found warmer water (up to 58°) on the outgoing tide in the south Ocean City Bay and landed 9 keeper flounder and also had 6 throw backs. These flatties were fooled with minnows and Squidnation Otter Tail lures. Three fish were 21.5 inches with the next largest at 20 inches.

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FISHING CHARTERS



The anglers on the ThelmaDale IV out of Fisherman's Wharf in Lewes have been hitting the tautog pretty hard. This group braved some early weather and cold, but had lots of action in late April.



We have to remember the great mahi season we had late last summer! This October trip on the charter boat "Finatic" was a perfect example! Angler Anthony Zajko and his crew from PA. boated 59 mahi caught in the Baltimore Canyon with Capt. Mark Malamphy and mate Brandon Malamphy.

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Capt. Chase Eberle and mate Chris Huk on the charter boat "Tide Runner" hit the tautog early. On this trip at the beginning of March, angler Kyle Walzack landed this 11.2 lb. nice one on sand fleas. Fishing with him were James Diotte, Capt. James Foley and James Milano. Capt. James landed the largest for the day at 15.7 lbs.



Big smiles for Scott Ward of Westminster MD. He wrestled this 30", 22 lb. black drum to shore on Assateague Island, VA after it took his sand flea bait!

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In Memory of Ed & Laura Bartholme



October 22, 1951 -
November 14, 2020

March 8, 1950 -
January 23, 2021

**Edward's Marine
& Sons**



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing earlier this year of Eduard William Bartholme, Jr. and Laura Elizabeth Bartholme, longtime fishing community icons here in Ocean City.

Ed was born on March 8, 1950 in Baltimore, Maryland and graduated from Parkville High School in 1968. Ed first entered the marine diesel industry in 1972. Working for a local CAT dealer Ed learned the trade and became a certified marine diesel mechanic.

Laura was born on October 22, 1951 in Baltimore, MD graduating from Parkville High School in 1969. She was a past Honor Queen (1970) and active member of Job's Daughters.

Ed and Laura married in 1972 and lived in Harford County before relocating to Salisbury, MD in 1985. In 1994 they started and built a successful family business, Edward's Marine & Sons.

Ed enjoyed car racing from a young age and particularly relished his time traveling with his son and watching him race. He was loved by all, humans and animals alike. An avid gardener, he enjoyed his plants, ponds and spreading beauty. He liked to travel alongside his wife and together their trips spanned many countries and bodies of water.

Laura was incredibly proud of her family and loved spending time with her grandchildren. She was passionate about traveling and greatly enjoyed planning and taking cruises. She was a voracious reader and loved watching the latest movies.

They are survived by their two sons, Eduard Bartholme (Nina) of Silver Spring, MD & Charles Bartholme (Rebekah) and grandchildren Sadie Grace and Camden Nikolaus of Salisbury, MD.

SHIP TO SHORE

by Steve Katz

STEVE'S MARINE SERVICE



Spring Forward

Welcome to the 2021 Coastal Fisherman! I am honored to continue the Ship-to-Shore column and working with the Coastal Fisherman crew!

Thank you to Coastal Fisherman Editor and Publisher, Larry Budd - who re-started the Coastal Fisherman during a time of economic uncertainty and succeeded with flying colors in his first year and the helm and continues to provide a fantastic publication free-of-charge to the local and beyond fishing community.

Last spring, our industry was off to a slow start with many unknowns, so much has changed for the good this year. We are off to a fast start this season, with lots of activity in the fishing and boating industry.

Just a few weeks ago I toured the Lindgren-Pitman manufacturing facility in Pompano Florida. Lindgren-Pitman (often referred to as L&P) is the premier deep sea fishing equipment manufacturer. They are busier than ever, working as fast as possible to fill orders; parts and people speeding throughout the factory. Shelves of electric reels

waiting for final testing, Long Line fishing reels being packed up for air freight shipping to overseas destinations, miles of monofilament spooling up from the extruder.



L&P SV-1200 Electric Reel

This bustling scene is repeated at other marine manufacturers, whether boat builders, boat yards, marinas and service companies - demonstrate both a surge in demand and shortage of materials and often the workforce. Boaters around the country have embraced patience, or at least settled for long delays when getting work done on their boat or buying parts and supplies. Luckily, most of the major marine manufacturers have been accurate in projecting delays, allowing boaters to schedule appropriately. Many informed boaters and anglers

saw this industry backorder landscape this winter and put their orders and service calls in earlier than ever. Just recently a customer ordered a new Garmin radar in March (knowing there was a backorder situation) was given a delivery date about a month later in April and to their credit, Garmin shipped the radar on the scheduled day!

What's new and trending for Spring 2021

While the annual Miami boat show was canceled this winter along with other winter shows, there was a Fall Ft. Lauderdale boat show and most recently the Palm beach boat show in March. The exhibitors indicated that the Palm beach boat show was one of the best attended shows of all times. I was able to visit the show and found by mid-morning there were crowds of people at almost every exhibit in the tents and walkways.

Marine manufacturers often introduce new products during the winter boat shows and this year the announcements were spread out through the winter, but new and updated products still hit the market and often instantly created backorders!

KVH, the global leader in mobile connectivity announced two important items for the VSAT, voice and internet market. First, they announced that the data network for their oldest

www.coastalfisherman.net
TracPhone® V/VIP series antenna systems will be discontinued on January 1, 2022 BUT they also announced they are offering major (up to 50% hardware discount plus labor) incentives to existing customers to upgrade to the newest VSAT systems. KVH also announced a new offering in the VSAT market with the TracPhone V30. This new antenna system is an ultra-compact, fast, and affordable digital VSAT system with new metered and unlimited use plans, worldwide coverage, and faster speeds that ever before -as fast as 6 Mbps/2 Mbps (down/up). Importantly for boaters who only need satellite internet and phone for a portion of the year, KVH now offers affordable month-to-month service plans, allowing you to sign up for service only when you need it and not paying when you don't. This new V30 has a few additional features that make it great for smaller boats that once could not utilize a stabilized VSAT system - a single cable connection from dome to below deck equipment (previously a bundle of large cables interconnected these components) and the new below deck equipment is much smaller that the traditional 19" rack mounted hardware and is powered by 12v or 24V. These features make the V30 a perfect fit for larger center consoles and traditional sportfish that did not have space for wiring or



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equipment.

While software almost tops the list for spring tune-ups, this year is no different. This winter, both Furuno and Simrad released software that enables the SiriusXM fish mapping features on their modern multi-function. Many Furuno and Simrad customers already had the necessary hardware and were patiently waiting for this software. While there were many new features and fixes by both Simrad and Furuno, the SiriusXM fish mapping was the most desired feature customers were anticipating.

Garmin also released lots of new features in their

winter software updates: Jack-plate position message currently utilized in Bob's Jack Plate products, the Reactor™ 40 Steer-by-wire autopilot is now compatible with the Uflex Integra EPS System, heave PGN (127252) support on NMEA2000, added new fish species supported by the SiriusXM Fish Mapping service and many other features and fixes. Compatibility with the Mercury Marine Smart Craft engines is expected in the second quarter of 2021.

I could not start this Coastal Fisherman season without recognizing the passing of Franky Pettolina. He will be missed on the pages of the Coastal Fisherman but also amongst many of the Ocean City fishing community and beyond. I enjoyed Franky's company, both personally and professionally over the years and express my sincere condolences to Franky's family, friends and colleagues.

Until next time, stay grounded!



Angler Kurtis Berry from Hatfield, PA with a nice chunky late April tautog. This 22.7 pounder was his new personal best breaking the previous record of 21 lbs. He was using whole white-leggers for bait while fishing with Capt. Chase Eberle and mate Tanner Virden on the charter boat "Tide Runner".



Pure Lure Ambassador and mate Joesluis "Bumby" Enrriques works the winter months in Los Suenos, Costa Rica before returning to Ocean City and the "Kilo Charlie". He shared this awesome mahi caught last month!

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The race to the first reported flounder of the season was tight. Two from Maryland were reported on Sunday April 20th, but Danny Cox of West Ocean City got in first! He landed this 23" fattie near the Rt. 90 Bridge using a Gulp and minnow combo.



Young Dawson Wells from Delmar, DE muscled out this nice tautog he caught in the Delaware Bay. He was fishing the last week of April with Faith Mitchell when this 20 incher took his sand flea.

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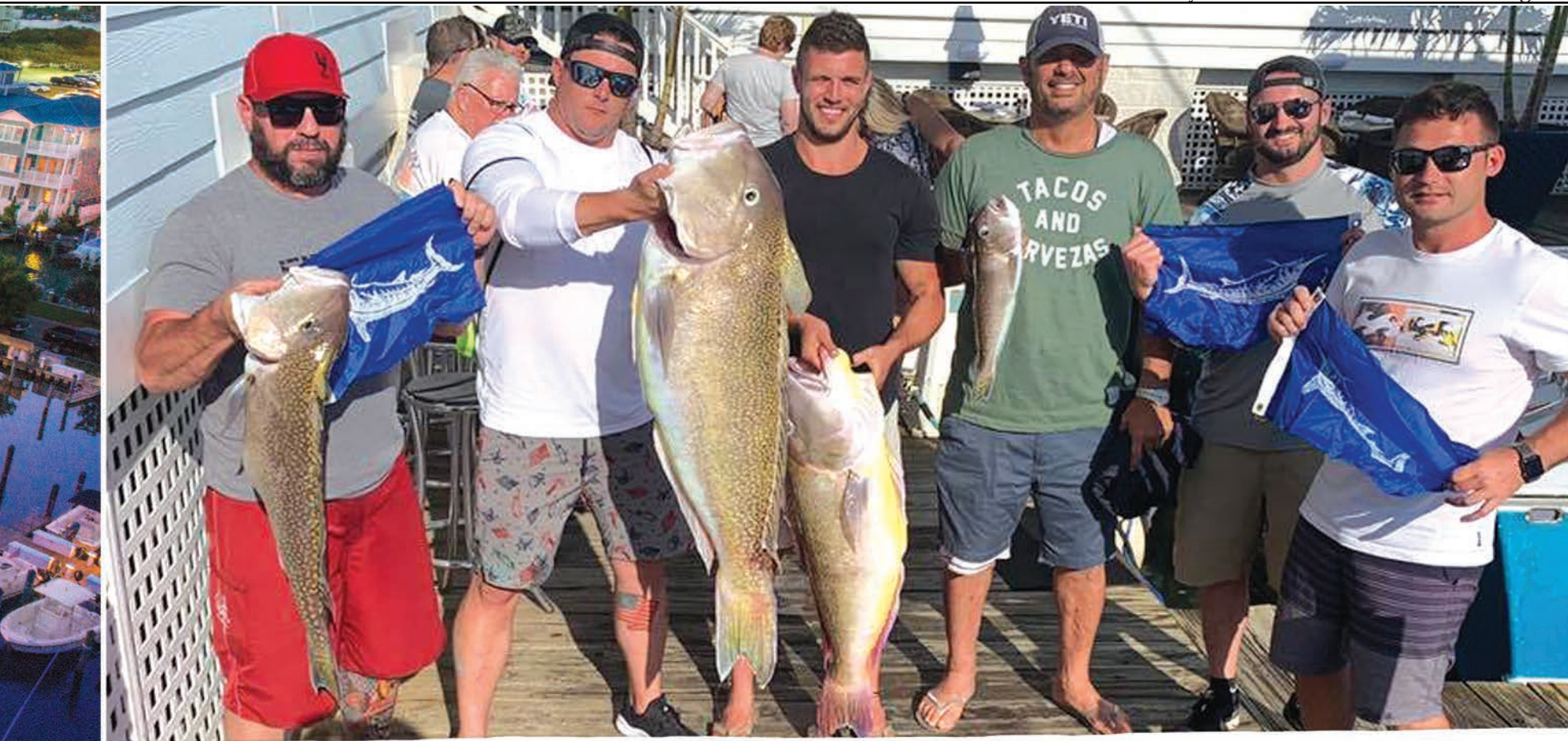


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Mid April was the time for black drum off of Assateague Island beaches! Shown here on April 11th are Emily Blume with a 48 lb. beast and Alyssa Simpson with a 29 pounder. They were fishing with Derrick and Shannon Simpson when these monsters fell for their sand fleas! Too bad Capt. Luke Blume was busy working on the “C-Boys”!

MARYLAND REGULATIONS

STATE WATERS ONLY

 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 12.5" minimum / 15 per person/day 5/15 - 12/31</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH 8" minimum 3 per day / 5 per day Charter</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day or 6 per boat/day</p>	 <p>COBIA 40" minimum 1 per person/day 6/15 - 9/15 Boat limit 2 for up to 2 anglers</p>
 <p>CROAKER 9" minimum 25 per person/day</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 18-27" minimum 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD 4 per person/day</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 4 per person/day</p>
 <p>STRIPED BASS 28-35" Less than 3 miles from shore 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>SUMMER FLOUNDER 16.5" minimum 4 per person/day</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/15 2 per person/day 7/1 - 10/31 4 per person/day 11/1 - 12/31</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>

eregulations.com



Bluewater Advisory chief Mark Debinski made the most of a late April trip to Key West, FL! Here a few of a dozen species that were caught over the weekend, notably a 168 lb. tarpon from the harbor with Capt. Anthony Solmo, and a tuna and permit (shown) they found 55 miles offshore with Capt. Chris Trosset.

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INCLUDE IN THE EMAIL:

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- Names & towns of others in photo
- Weight and/or length of fish
- Bait/lure used
- Location of catch
- Name of boat, if any

Please do not compress the photo and do not run it through any photo software.

- Have the angler facing into the sun to minimize shadows
- Make sure the side of the fish is facing flat towards the camera
- Set your camera to the best quality and largest picture size available
- If you are using a cell phone, make sure it is taking photos at the largest setting possible
- Shoot vertical photos & always Smile!

We do our best to run the pictures we receive, however, we are sometimes unable to run all of the pictures due to space restrictions and other circumstances.



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flounder with Loghan Slaughter bringing in a nice 20" flounder to Lewes Harbour.

Bluefish & Rockfish

Bluefish are around, although not in the numbers as last year. Cut bait on a short wire leader is the best producer. Areas just outside of the inlet have seen small schools of these fish mostly on high tides. The near shore wrecks are also producing some decent fish although most are small. The bigger blues should be here in a week or two as more baitfish (mullet) make their move into the area. Trolling for bluefish at the Fenwick Shoal is always a good producer. Spoons, jigs, bucktails and stretch 25 plugs trolled slightly faster as compared to speeds for rockfish will take many of these fish. Around 3-5 mph seems to be the perfect speed when targeting bluefish.

Small stripers are around but I haven't heard of many keepers. Catching a 28-35" is not an easy fish to find in the ocean. Several small rockfish are being caught in the surf. Mike Brown caught several of them on surf bullets

DELAWARE

FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



Welcome back to a new year of the Coastal Fisherman. What a year it has been, between Covid shutdowns and new restrictions, lack of supplies, and social distancing. As we start to return to a more normal lifestyle much is still different. At this time most businesses are still operating at a reduced capacity and a distancing mandate. When booking a charter or headboat please bear this in mind.

Sea Bass & Tog

Colder air than this time last year has slowed our start. Sea bass is set to open in two weeks. At this time last year the water was much warmer and several reports of nice size sea bass being caught by tog fisherman were coming in on a regular basis. This year very few sea bass reports are heard. As for tog, several reports have been received that tog are here and biting in big numbers.

Mark Steelman on the Savanna Lynn out of Lewes Harbour tells me he has been catching several big tog on recent trips. Mark says when he can find crab that is the best bait. Mark reports that peeler crabs are very hard to find this year. Deep water in the 100-130 ft range is producing the best tog. A reminder as we start this year tog are notorious bait stealers. Pay close attention to small bites on your line because if you wait too long the tog and your bait will be gone. Tog rarely ventures far from the wrecks so paying attention to your line will also reduce wreck hang ups. Tog along the rock walls of the Indian River inlet have been producing some keeper tog, however most are under size. Sand fleas and cut blue crab have been producing the best on a flood tide. Austin Mendes weighed in a 10.21 pounder at Lewes Harbour caught on ocean structure.

Flounder

Flounder in the back bays are beginning to show up. I mentioned earlier the water temp is around 53 degrees. The end of this past week brought our first true warm spell. Temps in the mid to upper 80s have begun to warm our back bays. The deeper channels such as those near the inlet mouth tend to hold the bigger fish, however on warm days fish can be found on the flats and shallows where the sun warms the water. Minnows and squid combos are the best baits for this time of year. Slow moving current produces the best presentations and therefore the best chance for a bite. Other reported areas holding fish are the area near and in Massey ditch, the north side of the channel near the VFW, and the area by the power plant. Lewes canal has produced a few nice

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just north of the inlet. Remember,
if using bait inline, circle hooks
are required this year.

Drum

Several black drum have come
off the beaches. Sandra and Nick
Roof of Dover caught a nice
drum on Broadkill beach. They
were fishing with sand fleas.
Robert Willis caught a big drum
on clams, also at Broadkill beach.

Clams & Crabs

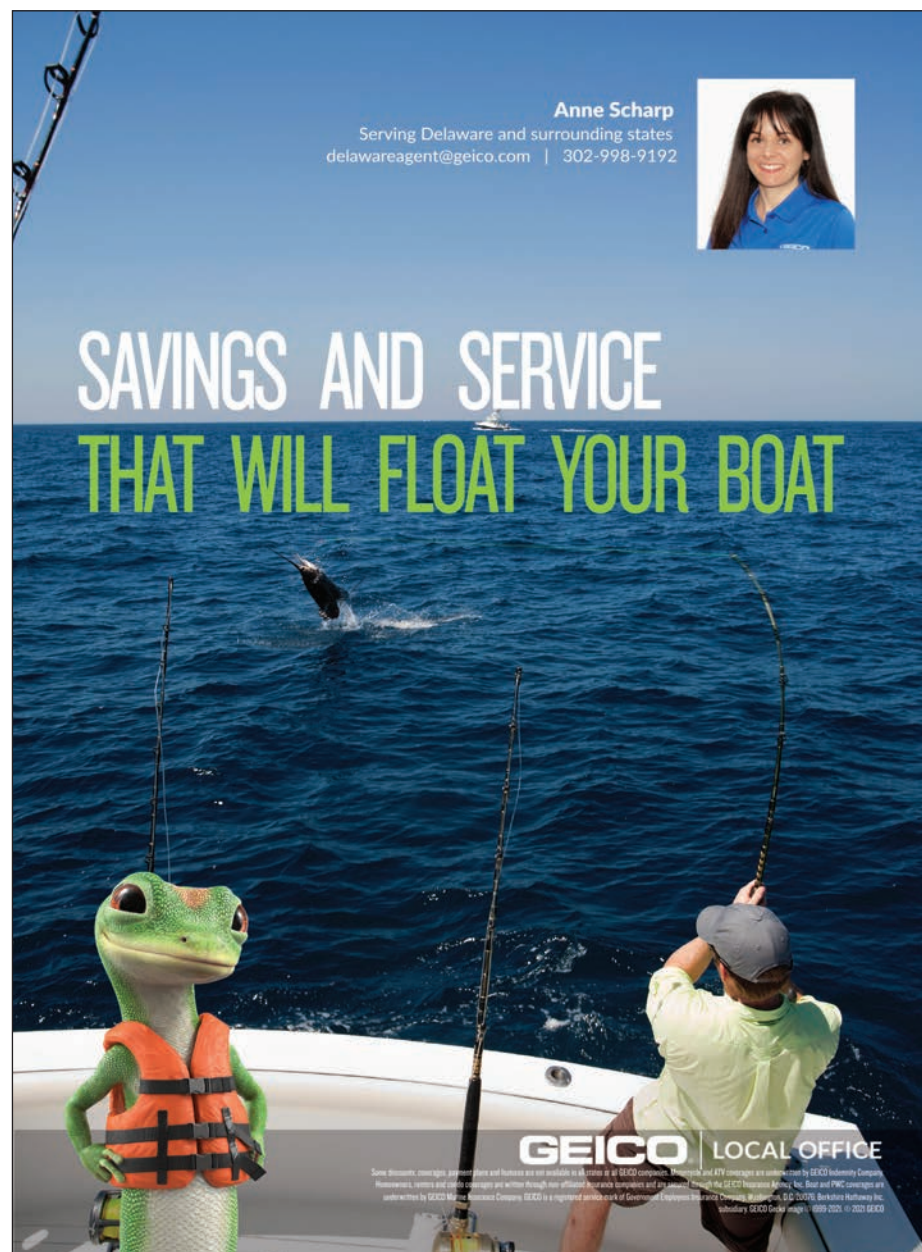
Due to the colder water,
crabbing has been a little slow so
far this year. Samantha and I are
averaging about 6 keeper crabs
per pot compared to last years
10-12 per pot. The key seems to
be finding water around 6 ft. and
seeing snails in the pots when
you pull them up. An occasional
oyster cracker fish also signals
that crabs are in the area. I have
received only one report of clams
and that was from the area by
Holts Landing. We are receiving
reports that they are very deep
and lots of effort must be used
for a modest return.

As always,Tight lines and fins
up!

Captain Martin B.J. Pietryak



April was a solid month for black drum up and down the coast. Sandra and Nick Roof from Dover, DE posed with this eater sized drum that Nick caught off of Broadkill Beach with sand fleas from Lewes Harbor Marina.



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BLACKFISH BEIGNETS with SPICY SAUCE

Ingredients:

Sauce

- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup sour cream
- 2 tablespoons ketchup
- 1 tablespoon Sriracha or other hot chili sauce

- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh chives
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice

Batter

- 3/4 cup all-purpose flour
- 1/2 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 large egg yolk
- 1 cup soda water
- 2 tablespoons minced fresh chives
- 2/3 cup canola oil
- 1 pound blackfish (tautog) or other firm white fish fillets, cut into 1/2-inch slices (about 12)

Salt



Directions:

For the Sauce:

Mix all the ingredients thoroughly in a bowl. Cover and refrigerate until needed.

For the Batter:

Put the flour, baking powder, egg yolk, and half the soda water in a bowl and mix until smooth with a whisk. Add the rest of the soda water and the chives and mix well. (The batter can be made up to a few hours ahead and refrigerated.)

For the Beignets:

Preheat the oven to 175 degrees. Heat half the oil in a large skillet,

preferably nonstick, until hot. Dip 4 pieces of the fish into the batter until coated on all sides and place in the hot oil. Cook for 2 1/2 to 3 minutes on each side. Transfer to a wire rack set over a baking sheet, sprinkle with salt, and keep warm in the oven. Repeat with the remaining fish, adding more oil to the skillet as needed. Serve with the sauce.

Note: If making the beignets ahead, reheat them under a hot broiler for a couple of minutes on each side before serving.

SIMPLE OVEN BAKED SEA BASS

Ingredients:

- 1 lb. sea bass (cleaned & scaled)
- 3 garlic cloves, minced or crushed
- 1 Tbsp. extra virgin olive oil
- 1 tsp. Italian seasoning or 1 tablespoon fresh parsley leaves
- 2 tsp. fresh coarse ground black pepper
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 lemon wedges
- 1/3 cup white wine vinegar



(optional) or 1/3 cup white wine (optional)

Directions:

Preheat oven to 450°F.

In a cup, mix garlic, olive oil, salt, and black pepper.

Place fish in a shallow glass or ceramic baking dish.

Rub fish with oil mixture.

(Optional) Pour wine over fish.

Bake fish, uncovered, for 15 minutes; then sprinkle with parsley or Italian seasoning and continue to bake for 5 more minutes (or until the thickest part of the fish flakes easily).

Drizzle remaining pan juices over fish and garnish with lemon wedges.

20-MINUTE BAKED FLOUNDER AU GRATIN

Ingredients:

- 4 - 6 oz. flounder fillets, or any

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other white fish will do

1/4 cup melted butter

1 cup panko crumbs

2/3 cups freshly grated Parmigiano Reggiano cheese

1/2 tsp. kosher salt

Cracked black pepper, to taste



1 tsp. dried thyme

Chopped fresh parsley, for garnish (optional)

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 400° F.

Place the flounder fillets on a lightly oiled baking dish. Brush the tops of the fillets with 1 Tbsp. melted butter.

In a small bowl, combine the panko bread crumbs, grated cheese, kosher salt, ground black pepper, and thyme. Add the rest of the melted butter to the crumb mixture and mix it until the crumb mixture becomes buttery, crumbly, and golden in color.

Sprinkle the crumb mixture over the fillets and lightly press the crumb mixture down into the fillets.

Bake the fish for 12-15 minutes, or until the fish is opaque, flakes easily with a fork, and reaches an internal temperature of 145° F.

This recipe goes great with a vegetable side, pasta, potatoes—pretty much anything!

ROCKIN' OYSTERS ROCKEFELLER

Ingredients:

48 fresh, unopened oysters

1 1/2 cups beer

2 cloves garlic seasoned salt to taste

7 black peppercorns

1/2 cup butter

1 onion, chopped

1 clove garlic, crushed

1 (10 ounce) package frozen chopped spinach, thawed and drained

8 oz. Monterey Jack cheese, shredded



8 oz. fontina cheese, shredded

8 oz. mozzarella cheese, shredded

½ cup milk

2 teaspoons salt, or to taste

1 teaspoon ground black pepper

2 tablespoons fine bread crumbs

Directions:

Clean oysters, and place in a large stockpot. Pour in beer and enough water to cover oysters; add 2 cloves garlic, seasoned salt, and peppercorns. Bring to a boil. Remove from heat, drain, and cool.

Once oysters are cooled, break off and discard the top shell. Arrange the oysters on a baking sheet. Preheat oven to 425 degrees F (220 degrees C.)

Melt butter in a saucepan over medium heat. Cook onion and garlic in butter until soft. Reduce heat to low, and stir in spinach, Monterey Jack, fontina, and mozzarella. Cook until cheese

melts, stirring frequently. Stir in the milk, and season with salt and pepper. Spoon sauce over each oyster, just filling the shell. Sprinkle with bread crumbs.

Bake until golden and bubbly, approximately 8 to 10 minutes.

BLACK SEA BASS with SHRIMP in LEMON SCAMPI SAUCE

Ingredients:

12-14 ounces black sea bass fillets

6 - 16-20 count shrimp peeled & deveined

1 tablespoon capers

1 clove garlic – finely chopped

Juice of one half lemon

Splash of white wine

2 ounces vegetable stock

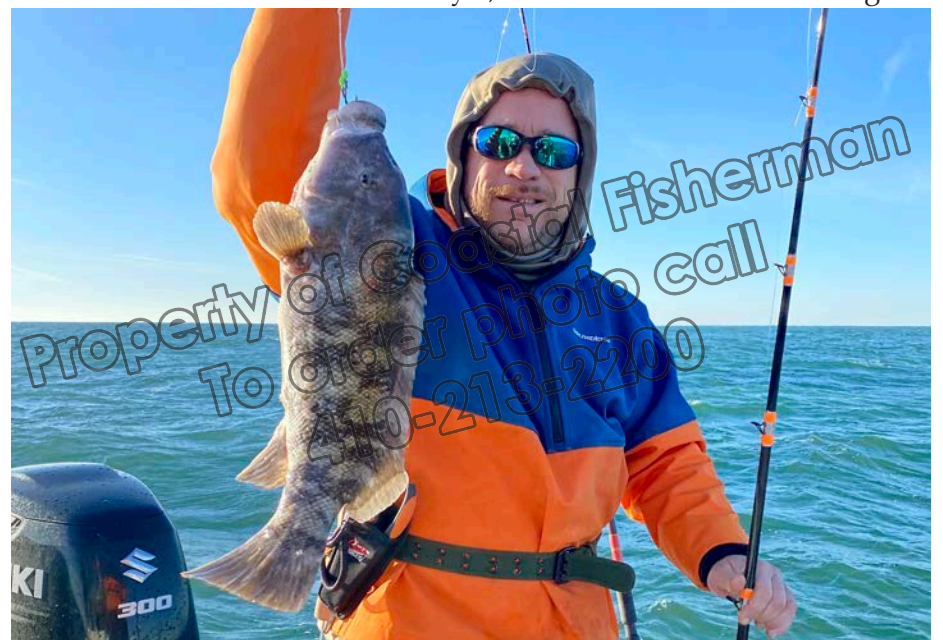
1 tablespoon of butter rolled in flour

1/2 teaspoon Italian parsley – finely chopped

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350°

Place sea bass fillets in a baking pan and drizzle with extra virgin olive oil, then sprinkle with sea salt and black pepper. Add a little water to the pan to help keep the



Mike Sadowski braved the weather on January 1st and was rewarded with the first toga of the year! He was fishing with Capt. Chase Eberle, mate Chris Huk and James Milano on the charter boat "Tide Runner". They were fishing 20 miles off the beach and caught several others with the largest at 19 lbs.

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After a little delay due to engine work, Big Bird Cropper was back at it. On this trip last week with neighbor Dave, the pair spotted some birds active by the Rt. 50 bridge. They found all the schooler stripers you could want with almost 2 on every catch. He used small Spec Rigs for this size rockfish.

sea bass moist.

Roast sea bass for 15-20 minutes

In a sauté pan add olive oil and chopped garlic, when the garlic starts to cook add the shrimp.

Turn the shrimp over and add the



capers.

When shrimp are almost fully cooked add a splash of white wine.

Add stock, lemon juice and butter rolled in flour.

As the sauce begins to thicken up add chopped parsley, remove from heat and serve over plated black sea bass fillets.

Garnish with sliced lemon and serve with your favorite sides.

BLACKENED DRUM

Ingredients:

Sweet Potatoes:

2 tablespoons grapeseed oil

2 1/2 pounds sweet potatoes, peeled and diced

1/4 cup molasses

1 teaspoon chili powder

1 pinch cayenne pepper

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

Green Beans:

Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

2 1/2 pounds green beans, ends trimmed

2 tablespoons unsalted butter

Juice of 1 lemon

Blackened Drum:

1 cup Cajun blackening spice

1 tablespoon kosher salt, if needed

6 skinless black drum fillets

1/4 cup grapeseed oil

Herb Butter, recipe follows, for serving

Directions:

For the sweet potatoes: Heat a large skillet over high heat until smoking hot. Add the grapeseed oil and then the sweet potatoes. Allow the potatoes to sear for 2 to 3 minutes and then turn the heat down to medium. Toss the sweet

www.coastalfisherman.net potatoes and cook until tender, 15 to 20 minutes. Add the molasses, chili powder and cayenne and toss to coat. Cook for 2 to 3 minutes more. Season with salt and pepper and keep warm.

For the green beans: Bring a large pot of water (seasoned with 2 tablespoons salt per gallon of water) to a rolling boil. Prepare an ice bath to shock the beans. Add about one-quarter of the beans to the boiling water (you don't want to add so many beans that the water loses the boil) and cook until crisp-tender, 2 to 3 minutes. Remove the beans from the water with a skimmer and shock in the ice bath. Repeat until all of the beans are cooked. Remove the beans from the ice bath and dry with a towel.

Heat a large skillet over high heat. Melt the butter and then add the green beans. Sauté the green beans until tender and slightly browned,



2 to 3 minutes. Add the lemon juice, season with salt and pepper and keep warm.

For the blackened drum: Combine the blackening spice and salt, reducing or omitting the salt as needed (taste the spice mix first as some brands already have salt added). Spread the spice mixture on a plate and coat each side of the fish fillets.

Heat a large skillet over high heat. Add the grapeseed oil, gently lay the fish in the skillet and sear until the spices have blackened and formed a nice crust on the fish, 3 to 4 minutes. Gently flip the fish and sear on the second side for 3 to 4 minutes more. Remove from the pan and allow the fillets to rest for a few minutes before plating.

For serving: Mound some of the sweet potatoes in the centers of 6 plates. Place the green beans on top of the sweet potatoes and then top each plate with a fillet of fish. Top the fish with some herb butter and serve while the butter is melting over the hot fish.

Herb Butter:



Question on Where to Eat?

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Administrated by Ed Chambers

Combine the butter, lemon juice, lemon zest and parsley in a bowl and mix well. Season with salt and pepper. Cover and store in the refrigerator for up to 1 week.

VIRGINIA CRAB IMPERIAL

Ingredients:

2 tablespoons finely diced red bell pepper

2 tablespoons finely diced onion

1 tablespoon butter

¾ cup mayonnaise, divided

1 teaspoon Dijon mustard

2 teaspoons Worcestershire sauce

1 egg, lightly beaten

¼ teaspoon pepper

½ teaspoon Old Bay seasoning

1 lb. crabmeat (jumbo lump, lump or backfin)

¼ cup grated Parmesan cheese

Directions:

Preheat oven to 400°. Spray 4 (8-ounce) ramekins or one (1-quart) casserole dish with cooking spray and set aside.

Sauté the bell pepper and onion in butter to soften. Cool before



mixing.

In a large bowl, whisk together ½ cup of the mayonnaise, Dijon mustard, Worcestershire sauce, egg, pepper and Old Bay seasoning. Stir in the cooled vegetables. Add the crab and gently fold to mix, being careful not to break up the crab.

Divide the mixture among the 4 prepared dishes. Use the remaining ¼ cup of mayonnaise to spread about 1 tablespoon on top of each dish. Sprinkle with parmesan cheese.

Bake for about 20 minutes, or until brown and bubbly.



You never know what you going to find with early spring fishing! Action at the Oceanic Fishing Pier in Ocean City was good in late April with plenty of short stripers, some tautog, puffers and skates. Even a shark!

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Local ladies Kourtney Duffie, Judy Duffie and Kelly Gerlach headed down to the 2021 Pescadora Ladies Billfish Tournament in Quepos, Costa Rica and they ruled! The "Agitator Babes" won first place overall with 5400 points earning \$118,800 in award money! Kourtney was also recognized as the tournaments "Top Female Angler of the Year, Hook in Hand Champion". Over the course of the 3 day February tournament the team caught 4 marlin, 2 dorado and 42 sailfish on their 2 fishing days! Rounding out the crew were Noah McVicker, Jonathan Duffie, Chris Weyandt, Noe Gonzales, and Billy Gerlach.



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A while back, someone asked me how long I've been writing outdoor columns. The question kinda set me back a bit because when I got done pondering the dates and counting the decades I came up with "somewhere around 38-years." Having recently endured the constant ribbing and reminders that go along with a birthday, I didn't need another reason to feel my age anymore than I needed to answer the follow-up question of, "Gheez! If you've been writing for 38-years, how old were you when you started?"

With the line of questioning not exactly heading off in the direction I wanted it to go, I looked for an opportunity to redirect the angle of attack by mentioning that after 38-years I was hoping to soon be finding a letter in the mail from the corporate headquarters of some publication indicating that I've finally done my time and

qualify for retirement on a fat pension. "You'd think that after all this time there would be something in there for me. Right?"

He didn't exactly follow my logic but asked instead, "After doing 52-columns a year for so many years, isn't it tough to come up with a new topic each week?" Having successfully shifted the conversation to a subject that was a lot less revealing I was happy to explain that as a weekly columnist I'm always on the lookout for new story ideas, some of which quite literally swim up to me when I least expect them while others take a lot of pondering before I have a "Eureka" moment that sends me scurrying to the keyboard to hammer out the thought before the idea evaporates from my brain just as suddenly as its image condensed somewhere in the gray matter. And while I'm not one who likes to procrastinate, for some reason this all typically

comes to play within dangerous proximity to an editor's deadline.

Back in my school years if anyone ever told me that I'd be earning a paycheck someday by writing anything but my own signature on a time-card I'd have told them that they were plumb loco-in-the-coco. In making such an admission I know a gaggle of English teachers from my past who would be quite surprised that there was finally something that came out of my mouth (let alone in print) that they could whole heartedly agree with.

Despite any successes I've had in outdoor writing I've never forgotten a bit of advice from an elderly fellow who was quite successful in his own life endeavors and therefore someone whose opinion I respected. I was working in the tackle shop at Bahia Marina when my first ever column hit the streets. He came into the store one morning and I proudly laid the paper in front of him and declared, "Let me know what ya think!"

Backing away, I left him with his morning cup of coffee and my literary

masterpiece. A half hour later I returned to find him still flipping through the pages trying to find my column. "Second to the last page." I told him. "At the very bottom, just after the Legal Section and below the obituaries."

I gave him ten more minutes and returned to hear what I hoped would be a great review from someone who's opinion I respected above all others. I couldn't wait to ask, "Well, what do you think?"

"I think I need a dozen bloodworms, a box of squid and pack of mullet."

I knew he was messing with me so I got him his bait and rang him up. But when he headed for the door I called out, "Wait! What about the article?"

That's when my "mentor" delivered four simple words of advice that to this day still guides my career in outdoor writing, "Keep your day job," was all I heard as the door shut behind him.

"OK," I thought, "So I'm no Hemmingway. But if someone is willing to read, and more importantly, willing to "pay" for my chicken-scratch each week, I'm going to stick with this writing thing as

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long as I can - or a least until my old English teachers conspire to save their own reputations by putting a contract on my head!"

So here I am today, 38-years and 1,900 or so articles later. I kept my day-job at the marina until 1987 when I transitioned into the charter fishing and guide service which has proven to be a good line of work as it has allowed me to do all the things I used to do just for "fun", like tinker with boats, build rods, tie flies, and of course - go fishing - but now I get paid for it! Of course, a side effect of a career in fishing is that it provides a lot of fodder for my weekly columns. From broken lines to unique catches, rotten bait, interesting sea birds, skilled (and not-so-skilled) clients, lousy sea conditions, boat handling, fishing

ethics, regulations, and lots of bumbles - what happens on the Fish Finder "doesn't" always stay on the Fish Finder!

Now that the Coastal Fisherman is back on the streets, no one can dispute that the 2021 fishing season is in full swing and I'm looking forward to both the fishing and the writing. And just as I have no idea from day to day what might come wandering up my chum line, I can't really say what will flow from this column each week either. So stay tuned for a mish-mash of fishing news, stories, tips, how-to's, and perhaps a grumble or two about something that's going on that I think shouldn't. And if you want to help-out this struggling writer-to-be please feel free to email comments or story ideas to me at ModernSharking@gmail.com. §



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Nick Benjamin recently shared this cool shark mount he made from a 2018 trip on the “Foolish Pleasures” with Capt. Dale Lisi. The jaws are from the 121”, 636 lb. mako caught on that trip, as is the hook used and the cover shot of the catch on the Coastal Fisherman! Shout out to Capt. Mark Sampson for prepping the jaws for the mount.

Priceless

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COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 43 • • • NUMBER • • • JUNE 20, 2018

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Early Sunday morning, anglers on the charter boat “Foolish Pleasures” arrived back at the Ocean City Fishing Center with a 121-inch, 636 lb. mako shark, 12 yellowfin tuna and a pair of mahi. As can be expected, the capture of the mako shark was a team effort after it was hooked on a skipjack tuna fillet in 500 fathoms on the northeast corner of the Norfolk Canyon where Capt. Dale Lisi found the water temperature hovering around 72-degrees. The shark was hooked at 11:00 at night and took 90 minutes to get to the boat. Fishing with Capt. Dale and mate Eddie Braxton were Rob Reusch, Derek Fisher, Jason Kilby, Harvey A. Fisher, Nick Benjamin and Harvey E. Fisher.



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The Assateague Island beach was the place to be for black drum in April! Here Sean Hull shows of his 21 lb., 35" monster he landed using clam bites.

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CITATION		ATLANTIC COAST		SIZES	
	MD	DE **		MD	DE **
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-	Wahoo	60"	20 lbs. or 50"
Black Drum	48"	50 lbs. or 45"	Weakfish	24"	3 lbs. or 20"
Bluefish	34"	12 lbs. or 29"	White Marlin*	Any Size	Any Size
Blue Marlin*	Any Size	Any Size	SHARK:		
Cobia	44"	45 Lbs. or 48"	Blue Shark*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"	Hammerhead*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"	Mako*	Any Size	250 lbs. or 83"
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"	Thresher*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Golden Tilefish	35"	35" or 40"	Tiger*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"	Swordfish	Any Size	Any Size
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 26"	TUNA:		
Red Drum*	36"	45"	Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lb. or 32"
Sailfish*	Any Size	-	False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"
Sea Bass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"	Bigeye***	60"	70 lbs. or 48"
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"	Bluefin***	55"	100 lbs. or 60"
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"	Yellowfin***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"
Speckled Trout	24"	-			
Striped Bass	40"	34 lbs. or 44"			
Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"			

* Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program

** DE - Lengths only apply to Live Release

*** Use curved-fork-length measurements

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Ed Bush filled his cooler with white perch he caught in Dirickson Creek, DE. He was using live grass shrimp as bait and several fish were over 1 lb.! Pictured at Fenwick Bait and Tackle in Fenwick Island, DE.



Chris Rickards got in on the hot tautog action mid April, landing this 16.5" keeper on live sand fleas. This one was found off of Martha's Landing just north of the Ocean City Commercial Harbor.

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Local Ocean City boat "Brenda Lou" made it to Palm Beach, FL this year for the winter. Good news for Brenda Goodhart, as she caught her first sailfish and captured a nice picture of the fight! On the same trip Mandy Whitley caught her first wahoo. Rounding out the crew were Allan Whitley & Capt. Frank Goodhart (not pictured) and mating that day was Croft Upchurch (pictured).

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Johnny Justison of Newark, DE kicked off the new year with a bang! He landed this 8.9 lb. citation tautog on January 11th while fishing on the “Katydid” with Capt. Brent Wiest and mate Chris Vann.

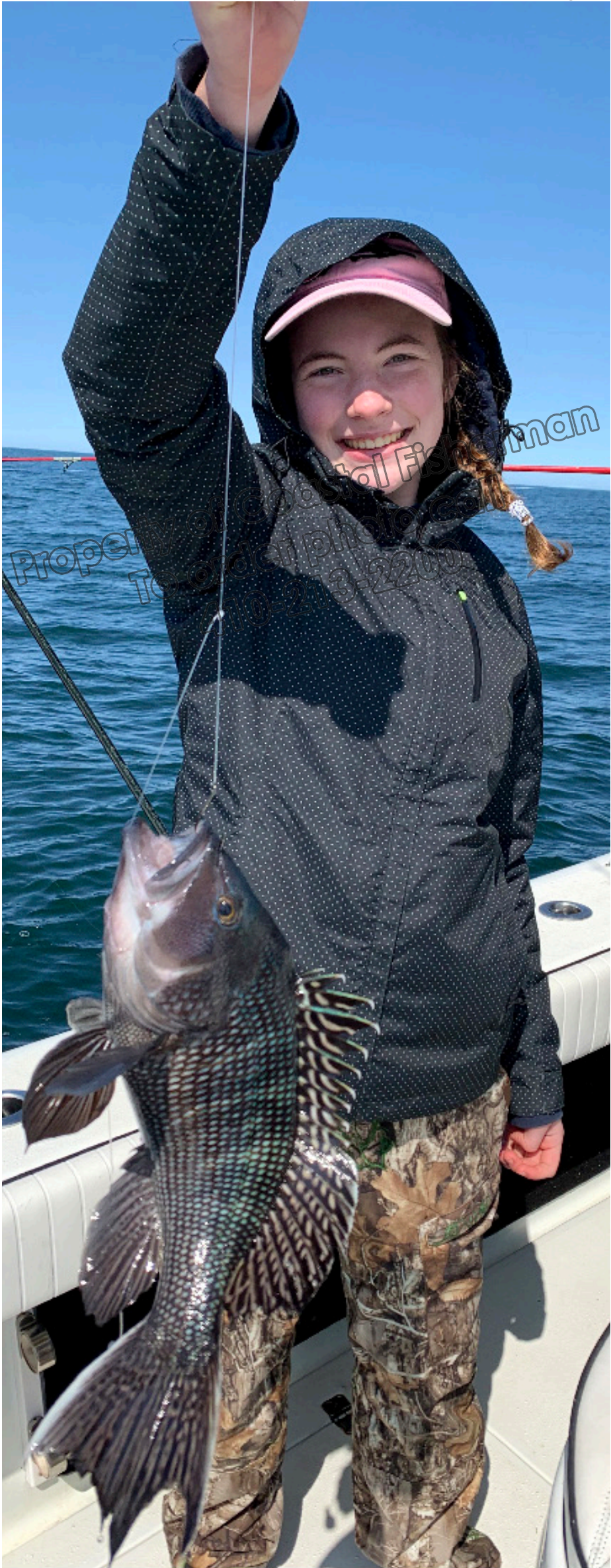
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Camryn Baeder from North East, MD is a happy girl showing off this 17” sea bass she caught on an inshore wreck using sand fleas. This one was released to grow a little more!



Alex Artese had a good day of kayak fishing the last weekend of March. He caught crappie up to 1 lb. and some nice yellow perch. Pictured at Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck, DE.



Local charter boat "RoShamBo" had a great winter season in the Outer Banks. Chris Broder, owner of Dark Seas Clothing Company, and his crew came all the way from California to wrestle with giant bluefin tuna. They were not disappointed, going 3 for 5 on giants and landing 2 big eyes and a 60 lb. wahoo. It was a great trip for the boys from the west coast with Capt. Willie Zimmerman and mate Daniel Ames.

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Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE	Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE
Bluefish 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Mako Shark 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Black Drum 	April 11 Emily Blume Assateague Island 48 lbs.	No Weights Reported	Thresher Shark 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Cobia 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Bigeye Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Flounder 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Bluefin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Sea Bass 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Longfin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Sheepshead 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Yellowfin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Striped Bass 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Dolphin 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Tautog 	April 27 Kurtis Berry Ocean Structure 22.7 lbs.	April 19 Johnny Justison Ocean Structure 8.9 lbs.	Wahoo 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Weakfish 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	White Marlin 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported

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



Ashton Cherivtch (14) from Berlin, MD caught this cero mackerel along with a few others near Johnson Key, FL while fishing with his mom Lisa Cherivtch, his grand mother Sharon Rittmeyer and his grandfather Capt. Al Rittmeyer. The fish was caught on cut ballyhoo and the group also caught porgies, yellowtails, mangrove snapper and a few grouper that were released.



Norm Thurston from Pasadena MD had a great day fishing on the "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford and mate Ethan Nock. Working the Thorofare on the outgoing tide in late April, he boated this 18.5" keeper flounder on a minnow. They also caught 6 throw back tautog and a rockfish at the Ocean City inlet on the outgoing tide as well.

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Elisha Smith has a kung-fu grip on her first ever king mackerel! Fishing with Elisha in early January on a windy, rainy day were other DE locals Bill Vernon, Jeff Waxman and Bill Swords. Her fish hit a live bait in 65 feet while anchored off of Looe Key, FL and took ten minutes or more to land on 20 lb spinning gear!



Donnie Vanderslice, of Rehoboth, DE, Roger Rabian of Wilmington, DE and Dave Lynam of Rehoboth, DE tore it up on Sunday, April 18th. They headed out to Site 10 on the “Lynam Up” and caught their limit of tog using sand fleas. Pictures at Hookem & Cookem at the Indian River Inlet Marina.

FEDERAL SIZE & CREEL LIMITS

3-200 Miles

 <p>BLUE MARLIN 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>YELLOWFIN TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day</p>	 <p>BIGEYE TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>BLUEFIN TUNA 27" to <73" curved fork length and 1 trophy fish> 73" curved fork length per vessel per year</p>
 <p>WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>DOLPHIN No minimum Length Boat Limit 60 Charter Limit 10 per passenger/day</p>	 <p>WAHOO No minimum Length 2 per person/day</p>	 <p>SWORDFISH 47" Lower Jaw Fork Length 1 per person / 4 per vessel (Rec) 1 per person / 6 per vessel (Charter) 1 per person / 15 per Headboat</p>

SHARKS

AUTHORIZED SPECIES

No Minimum Fork Length Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead	71" Minimum Fork Length Male Shortfin Mako	83" Minimum Fork Length Female Shortfin Mako
54" Minimum Fork Length Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse, Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common Thresher, Oceanic Whitetip, Porbeagle, Finetooth, Atlantic Blacknose	78" Minimum Fork Length Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead, Smooth Hammerhead	PROHIBITED SHARKS Atlantic Angel, Basking, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Sixgill, Bigeye Thresher, Bignose, Caribbean Reef, Caribbean Sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin Mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Sandbar, Sand Tiger, Sevengill, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White

NOTE: Only 1 shark from the lists above may be retained per vessel per trip. In addition, 1 Atlantic Sharpnose, 1 Bonnethead and 1 Oceanic Whitetip may be retained per person per trip. If a hammerhead shark is retained, no tunas, billfish or swordfish may be retained.

Resources: eregulations.com & NOAA.gov

Visit our store at
COASTALFISHERMAN.NET

410.213.2200

GET HOOKED on the COASTAL FISHERMAN LIFESTYLE!





The Price boys hit it hard this winter during their January trip to Marathon, FL! Brothers Ty and Tristan Price with their dad Phil landed this awesome 28lbs. African Pompano using pilchard for bait.

Pick Up your Coastal Fisherman at these Locations

OCEAN CITY

- Angler Restaurant
- Talbot Street Pier
- Oceanic Fishing Pier
- Wockenfuss Candy - Boardwalk 1st St.
- Park Place Hotel - 2nd St.
- Reel Inn - 17th St.
- Bahia Marina - 22nd St.
- Minit Market - 31st St.
- Anthony's Beer, Wine & Deli - 33rd St.
- Dough Roller - 41st St.
- 64th Street Market - 64th St.
- Advanced Marina - 66th St.
- Rommel's Ace Hardware - 68th St.
- Dough Roller - 69th St.
- Exxon Wine Rack - 86th St.
- Kirby's Pub - 92nd St.
- Liquid Assets - 94th St.
- Wawa - 120th St.
- Montego Bay Market - 130th St.
- Primos Hoagies - 134 St.
- 7-Eleven - 139th St.

WEST OCEAN CITY

- Wawa - Rt. 50
- Mione's Pizza - Outlets
- Wockenfuss Candy - Outlets
- Bank of Ocean City
- West-O Bottle Shop & Bar - Rt. 50
- All Tackle Ocean City - Rt. 50
- Bluewater Yacht Sales
- Ocean City Fishing Center
- Ocean City Marlin Club
- Atlantic Tackle
- Sunset Grille
- Sunset Marina
- Sunset Provisions
- Pure Lure Fishing Gear
- Harbor Marine
- Food Lion - Rt. 611
- Optical Galleria - Rt. 611
- Southside Deli - Rt. 611

BERLIN

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

FENWICK/SELBYVILLE

- Fenwick Tackle
- Mancini's Italian Restaurant
- Fenwick Hardware
- Bayside Liquors
- Food Lion Rt.54
- North Bay Marina
- Royal Farms Rt. 54
- BP Gas Station Rt. 54
- Harris Teeter
- Rt.113 Boat Sales

INDIAN RIVER

- Indian River Marina
- Hook 'em & Cook 'em Tackle Shop
- Old Inlet Bait & Tackle

DEWEY, REHOBOTH & LEWES

- Lewes Harbour Marina
- Lewes Ice House Bait & Tackle
- ACME - Rt. 1
- Fisherman's Wharf

BETHANY, OCEAN VIEW & MILLVILLE

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

LONG NECK

- Short's Marine
- Rick's Bait & Tackle





Six year old Clara Holland and her father Casey made a day trip to the Fenwick, DE drive on beach where she caught a 23" black drum using clam and squid for bait from Fenwick Tackle!

OCEAN CITY INLET TIDES & MOON PHASES

WED. MAY 5	High 04:34 am High 04:54 pm	Low 10:19 am Low 10:29 pm
THUR. MAY 6	High 05:25 am High 05:47 pm	Low 11:12 am Low 11:30 pm
FRI. MAY 7	High 06:08 am High 06:32 pm	Low 11:58 am Low -----
SAT. MAY 8	High 06:44 am High 07:11 pm	Low 12:24 am Low 12:38 pm
SUN. MAY 9	High 07:16 am High 07:46 pm	Low 01:11 am Low 01:14 pm
MON. MAY 10	High 07:48 am High 08:20 pm	Low 01:54 am Low 01:47 pm
TUE. MAY 11 • • NEW MOON • •	High 08:23 am High 08:55 pm	Low 02:33 am Low 02:17 pm
WED. MAY 12	High 09:01 am High 09:31 pm	Low 03:11 am Low 02:47 pm

source:usharbors.com

Add 1.5 hours for bay tides at the Rt. 50 Bridge.

Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide

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

Wachapreague, VA - add 4 minutes for high tide
- 21 minutes for low tide

Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide

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



UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

MAY

Old Inlet Annual Spring Surf Fishing Tournament

May 8 • Old Inlet Bait & Tackle • 302-227-7974

Joe Morris Memorial Canal Flounder Tournament

May 15 • Lewes Harbour Marina • 302-645-6227

Cast for a Cure Team Surf Fishing Tournament

May 22 • Old Inlet Bait & Tackle • 302-227-7974

12th Annual Franky Pettolina Memorial Day Tournament

May 29 & 30 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

JUNE

25th Annual Mako Mania

June 4 - 6 • Bahia Marina • 410-289-7438

MidAtlantic Tuna Tournament

June 9 - 13 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2400

Tuna & Tiaras Ladies Tuna Tournament

June 18 - 19 • Ocean City, MD • 410-212-7159

6th Annual Indian River Kids Catch-All Tournament

June 25-27 • Indian River Marina • 302-227-3071

42nd Annual Small Boat Tournament

June 26-27 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

3rd Annual Fish N Paddle Saltwater Slam

Kayak Fishing Tournament

June 26 - 27 • Ocean City, MD • 410-868-5488

JULY

39th Annual Canyon Kick Off

July 2 - 4 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

MidAtlantic Cup

July 4 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-0177

South Jersey Yacht Sales Offshore Showdown

July 7 - 10 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-0177

34th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament

July 9 - 11 • Ocean City Fishing Center • 410-213-1613

17th Annual Marlin Club Kid's Classic

July 17 - 18 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

Paradise Bay Flounder Tournament

TBA • Long Neck, DE • www.BayTournament.com

The Marlin Invitational

July 22 - 25 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-0177

7th Annual Big Fish Classic

July 23- 25 • Talbot Street Pier • 410-213-0325

13th Annual Marlin Club Ladies Tournament

July 30 & 31 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

TOURNAMENT Yacht Sales



WATCH VIDEO ON OUR WEBSITE

TournamentYachtSales.com

866-NEW-YACHT (866.639.9224)

*Every day is a Tournament
Let us compete for you!*



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561-801-5720



Jeff James
252-216-6913



Terry Layton
410-726-7991



David Fields
561-779-0759



Ronnie Fields
561-762-0096



Joel McLeod
772-834-8549



Steve Hedrick
717-586-9841



Dave Shockley
561-262-6726



Erik Anderson
850-974-5600



Charley Pereira
252-216-6291



John Caselli
954-290-8866



Colton Cunningham
561-718-4182

**Photo
Coming
Soon!**

Featured Boat of the Week



\$169,000

SINDACO - 2008 33' Ocean Master - Call Ronnie Fields



\$1,250,000

**GOLO - 2008 56' Viking
Call Jimmy Fields**



\$799,000

**DEDE V - 2003 60' Hatteras
Call Erik Anderson**



\$749,900

**FLORIDIAN - 1990 60 Custom Carolina
Call Jimmy Fields**



\$1,195,000

**MEGABITE - 2004 57' Dixon Custom
Carolina - Call Jeff James**



\$799,000

**CHIEF - 1986 57' Island Boatworks
Custom Carolina - Call Jimmy Fields**



\$699,000

**APAVA - 1969 56' Rybovich
Call Colton Cunningham**



\$599,000

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



\$395,000

**2000 50 Hatteras
Call John Caselli**



\$449,000

**THE STREAKER - 2005 44' Gillikin
Call Ronnie Fields**



\$485,000

**HEBE - 1988 43' G&S Sportfish
Call Ronnie Fields**



\$289,900

**CHUBBY - 1995 42' Liberty
Call Jeff James**



\$695,000

**DONA LUCY 2017 41' Ronin Custom
Viking - Call Jimmy Fields**



\$119,500

**DOUBLE TROUBLE - 2004 35' Marlago
Call Terry Layton**



\$125,000

**2007 33' Buddy Cannady
Call Ronnie Fields**



\$270,000

**WORK LESS PAY MORE - 2019
32' Century - Call Dave Shockley**



\$259,000

**SOUTHBOUND 2019 30' Grady White
Call Jimmy Fields**



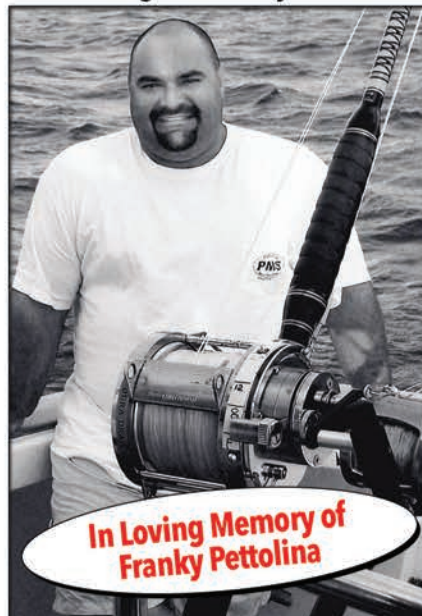
\$69,500

**2004 27' World Cat
Call Terry Layton**



\$118,000

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



**In Loving Memory of
Franky Pettolina**

Ocean City, MD • Palm Beach, FL • Outer Banks, NC

