

This is the time of year when flounder fishermen start licking their chops, knowing that large flounder are beginning to stage around bay structure, preparing for their annual migration offshore. On this day, Dave Ammon from Lehighton, PA caught a 30-inch, 9 lb. 10 oz. doormat flounder on a white Gulp! artificial bait while fishing at the VFW Slough in the Indian River Inlet. Weighed at Bill's Sport Shop.





Nino Mallari from Bear, DE hooked this 14 lb. 6 oz. bluefish on a Bass Assassin while fishing under the Indian River Bridge during the incoming tide. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



Butch Sample has been on a tear over the last month, and on this day he landed a pair of flounder measuring 22 and 25-inches. Butch was fishing in the East Channel and caught the flatties on live spot during the incoming tide. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.







Special thanks to Keith Fraser and AllTackle.com for supporting this helpful volunteer angler survey!



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Capt. Brent Wiest on the "Katydid" caught a 5 lb. 2 oz. flounder and a 7 lb. 13 oz. flounder, both while fishing with squid and smelts near "DA" Buoy. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



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2011 Payouts: 1st Place – Steve Dodson - \$21,875 – 51.65 lbs 2nd Place – Andrew Turner - \$43,225 – 42.45 lbs (top money winner) 3rd Place – John Patchett - \$15,410 – 41.50 lbs TOTAL PAYOUT OVER \$91,000

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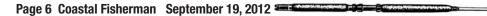
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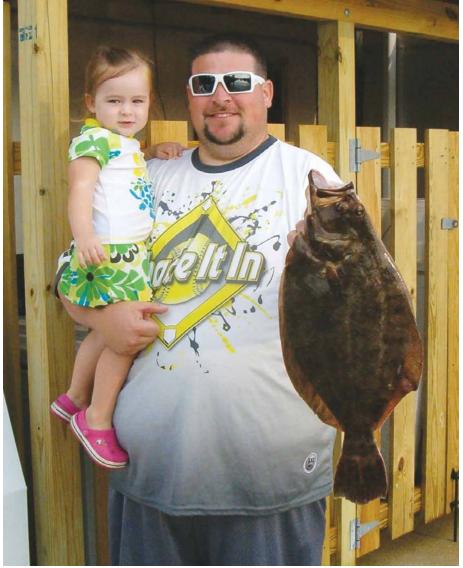


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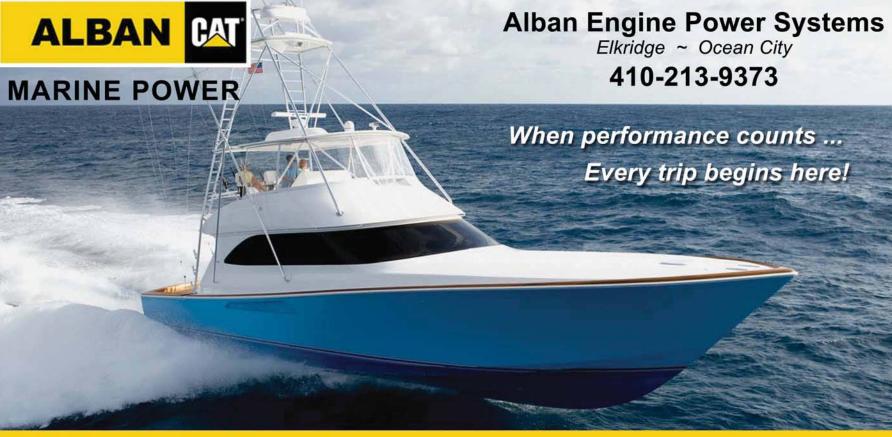
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Big Bird Cropper and David Leizear caught their limit of flounder while tossing Roy Rigs around the Rt. 50 Bridge. So many people have been asking Big Bird about Roy Rigs that he started a website where you can purchase them. You can find the website at royrig.com



Jason Henry landed this 23-inch flounder on a Gulp! and squid combination in the East Channel. The fish weighed 4 lbs. 11 oz. on the scale at Oyster Bay Tackle.



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· DO NOT use a cell phone camera.

Shoot vertical photos · Smile!

\*As always, 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.

Bait or lure used · Location of catch Please send the photo file at full size.

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## **Ocean City Fishing Report**

### by Larry Jock

#### Challenge Cup

Unfortunately, the team from the Ocean City Marlin Club didn't make it 3 wins in a row, losing last weekend to the Cape May Tuna & Marlin Club by a score of 5,700 points to 4,650 points. Cape May jumped out to an early lead on Friday, outscoring Ocean City 3,900 points to 2,550 points. "Espadon" led the way for Ocean City with 600 points.

On Day 2, boats were greeted with very rough seas and quite a few had to cut their day short with some returning home at only 8 knots. Although Ocean City put more points on the board, they could not overcome the Day 1 deficit. The "DA Sea" was the top Ocean City boat on Day 2 with 600 points.

Congratulations to the team from Cape May. We are lucky to have some of the best billfishing boats in the world sailing out of Ocean City, so beating our guys is

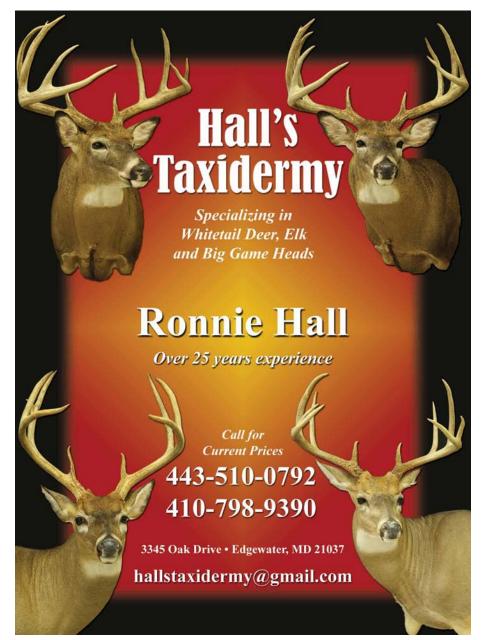


Keith Puller, Dustin Hoover, Dave Chapman and William Centineo took a trip deep in the Poor Man's and Washington Canyons and returned with 6 golden tilefish, a blueline tilefish, 8 sea bass and 5 dolphin.

no easy task.

#### Flounder

It really wasn't a good week for flounder fishing. Poor weather early in the week kept a



lot of boats at the dock and turned the water into chocolate milk. A few flatties came in from boats drifting in the Fishbowl, the East Channel and out around the South Jetty. Fishing with live bait, such as spot or mullet, was the ticket, but we also saw some fish caught on the larger, 6-inch Gulp! artificial baits as well.

On Friday, Big Bird Cropper and David Leizear caught their limit of flounder while tossing Roy Rigs around the Rt. 50 Bridge. I guess Big Bird has received so many inquiries about Roy Rigs that he started his own website at RoyRig.com, where you can not only find out about the rigs, but purchase them as well.

The better flounder action right now is definitely out on the wrecks and reefs, where local head boats returned with some nice catches of both flounder and sea bass.

This time of year, look for big

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flounder around the rocks at the Cement Plant, around the pilings of the Rt. 50 Bridge, in the deep holes by the Coast Guard Station, along the rocks on the north side of the inlet and at the South Jetty.

#### Croaker

Some good size hard heads are being caught in the bay right now by anglers fishing with Gulp! artificial baits and Fishbites bloodworms. The area just south of the Rt. 50 Bridge has been a good spot, along with the mouth of the Commercial Harbour and in the Fishbowl.

#### Sheepshead

Sheepshead have been the star of the show in the bay during the last couple of weeks. The charter boat, "Lucky Break" was on the cover last week with a fantastic catch at the South Jetty and followed that up with good days on Tuesday and Thursday when they landed 8 quality fish during their 2 trips. All of the fish were caught on sand fleas and green crabs. The outgoing tide has been the more productive tide of the day.

#### Tautog

Anglers targeting sheepshead at the South Jetty are also hooking into some tautog while using sand fleas and green crabs for bait.

#### Striped Bass

Although the striper bite has mellowed from a couple of weeks ago, striper snipers have still been hooking a few around the tip of the South Jetty and under the Rt. 50 Bridge. Bucktails, live spot and tandem rigs have been doing the trick.

#### Marlin

The excellent marlin season we have been experiencing just keeps rolling along with good catches of white marlin, blue marlin and even a few sailfish



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being recorded last week. Most of the action centered in the Washington and Norfolk Canyons. Although we didn't see any double-digit releases, a lot of boats came back with very respectable catches of 4 to 9 white marlin on several days last week.

On Wednesday, the charter boat, "Billfisher" took some junior anglers down to the Norfolk Canyon where they released 5 white marlin, a blue marlin and a sailfish.

Thursday the "Reel Joy" and "Par V" each recorded 5 white marlin releases, and the "Reel Chaos" recorded 4 white marlin releases between the Poor Man's and Washington Canyons.

Saturday was a dynamite day, despite the rough seas, with several boats releasing numerous white marlin in the Washington Canyon. The "DA Sea" and the "Fish-A-Holic" both led the way with 9 white marlin releases each.

On Sunday, seas settled down a bit and several boats had good days. The "Reel Chaos" released 6 white marlin, the "Reelentless" released 3 whites and a sailfish and the "Miss Annie" released 3 whites and a blue marlin, all in the Washington Canyon.

#### Tuna

The tuna bite continues to disappoint most anglers with only a couple coming back to the dock each week. On Friday, the "Fastbreak" did manage to land a 65 lb. yellowfin in the Baltimore Canyon.

#### Dolphin

Boats chasing billfish in the Washington and Norfolk Canyons are getting into some serious schools of dolphin. Most of the fish are bailors, but some larger fish are mixed in as well. On Wednesday, anglers on "Kylee's World" had a good deep dropping trip outside the Poor Man's and Washington Canyons, returning with 6 golden tilefish and a blueline tilefish.

#### **Upcoming Tournament**

We are heading into that time of year when surf fishing tournaments kick in, and the first one on the schedule is the 11th Annual A.M.S.A Red Drum Tournament on September 20th to 23rd. After that, the next tournament isn't until October 4th when the 3-day Mid-Atlantic Surf Fishing Tournament is held by the Ocean City Surf Anglers.

Well, that brings us to the end of our last fishing report of the 2012 season, and what a season it was. The year started off with a great striper bite in the winter and early spring. Flounder fishing was the best we have seen in a decade, and the vellowfin tuna chunking bite was fantastic while it lasted. Boats caught more bigeye tuna than anyone can ever remember and the billfish bite has been excellent for several years in a row. We are even seeing what looks like a comeback for weakfish. Wouldn't that be great!

We hope you have enjoyed the 21 issues of the Coastal Fisherman this season. It has been our absolute pleasure to bring them to you each week. A lot goes into the paper each week and I am blessed with a very dedicated staff. I would like to thank Daina Kazmaier, my Mom and Dad, Maureen and Larry Jock, my wife, Mary and son, Larry III. They all work incredibly hard to bring you the best Coastal Fisherman we can and I appreciate all of their efforts.

I also want to thank our readers. Nothing makes our day



more than to hear great feedback from our very loyal readers. Over 20,000 people read the paper each week and rarely does one go by without hearing something nice from our readers and how much they look forward to each issue. My Mom especially loves the comments about the recipes!

Thanks also to our wonderful columnists. Sue Foster, Mark Sampson, Pat Schrawder, Julie Ball and the folks at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources and the Delaware Division of Fish & Wildlife each take time out from their busy schedules to write an informative and entertaining column. It is not an easy task to come up with 21 topics to write about during the season and they all do a great job.

Finally, thanks to all of our

September 19, 2012 Coastal Fisherman Page 9hear great feedbackadvertisers. Since we are a freeloyal readers. Overpublication, they make it allread the paper eachpossible, so if you enjoy readingely does one go bythe Coastal Fisherman, pleaseing something nicemake every effort to give themlers and how muchyour support and let them knowward to each issue.the to gate

Our next issue doesn't come out until the first week in January, our 38th year of publication, but we will continue to collect pictures for the Winter Issue throughout the fall and early winter. If you have a picture you would like to submit, simply email it to coastalfisherman@comcast.net. Also stay in touch through our fishing online report www.coastalfisherman.net.

So until next year, have a safe and happy rest of 2012.

Bring on the stripers!





\$75 Entry Fee includes a FREE 2-Hour Buffet every Friday during the tournament (8 weeks) at Irish Eyes on the bay, a custom T-Shirt, entry for door prizes at the buffet and eligibility to win wild card prizes on the final Friday of the tournament! Last year's prizes included \$500 in cash, full day charters, a custom model boat and more!

Plus, it's only an extra \$25 to add a guest for the buffet!

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Linda Wright from Ocean City, MD caught this 22-inch flounder on a live minnow while fishing from a pier in Cape Isle of Wight.

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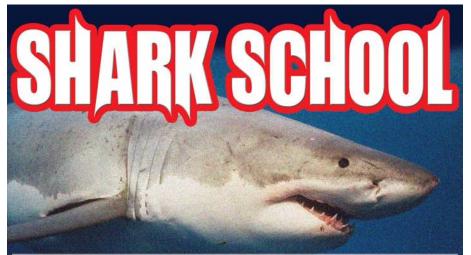
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Dexter Long from Georgetown, DE was fishing with a bucktail in the Indian River Inlet when he captured this 22-inch, 5 lb. 5 oz. flounder. Weighed at Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE.



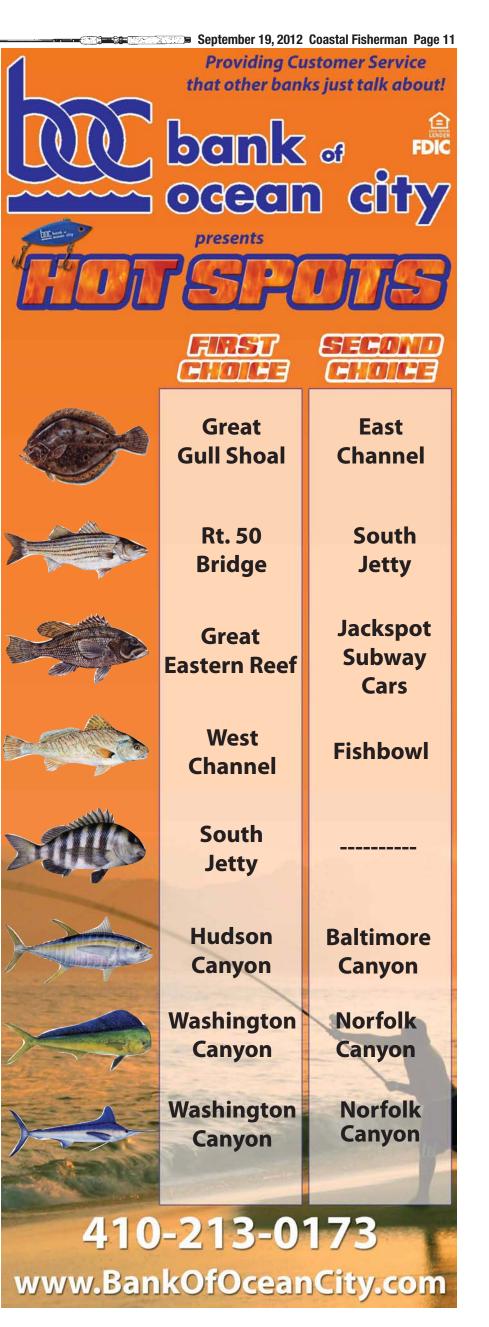
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Brady Nye from Mechanicsburg, PA used a large strip of squid to fool this 23 1/2-inch, 4 lb. 8 oz. flounder while fishing around the USS Blenny wreck.

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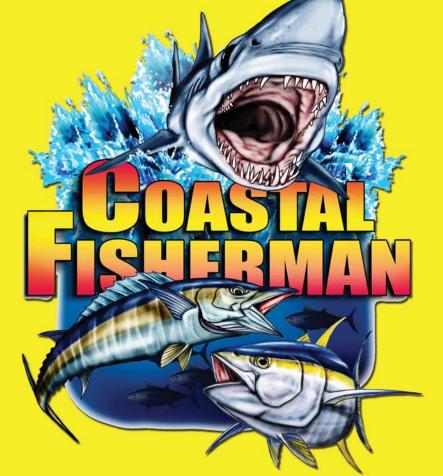
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A R 5



A regular at the 2nd Street Bulkhead, Bob Spetzler of Ocean Pines, MD landed this 25-inch, 5 lb. 9 oz. flounder while fishing with live peanut bunker.



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It happened again for the third year in a row. The showroom is empty; we are just about sold out. Almost every truck load of boats that has come in for the month of May, June, July and August have been sold before they get here.

### Captain Glen of RT113BoatSales.com says:

"Jimmy Metts, the owner of Tidewater Boats, builds a great boat and we give customers great deals!"

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How does Jimmy Metts build such a good boat and keep the price down? Lots of experience, design knowledge, assembly skills, and a team of skilled Carolina craftsman is what you would expect to find at any factory that builds quality boats. But there is more to the Jimmy Metts-Tidewater success story. Jimmy runs a tight ship... He does not waste money and he does not live large. There are no big, expensive fancy Dealer meetings, there is no Co-Op advertising, no giveaway trinkets like hats, T-Shirts and cooler bags... Our little store buys over 2.5 million of Tidewater Boats every year, we have been to the factory three times and I did not even get a lunch... The man just does one thing and does it very well. Jimmy builds a great boat at a price no one can touch.

OK, so how do YOU get the best deal on a new boat?

First, buy here at RT113BoatSales.com. We wholesale our boats so we have great prices.

Have your boat built before December 15<sup>th</sup>. September, October, November and December are "always" the best time to get a deal. Yep, not Boat Show time, and I will guarantee it! After the boat shows start, Tidewater has all the orders they can handle and are booking twelve weeks out.

For this time period, we have several packages available to save you big on a new boat. **Upgrade My Boat Package** - for boaters that have a trade-in and want the best deal. **No Payments For Six Months Package** - for boaters that want the best deal on a new boat but no payments til spring. **Special Order Discounts** - for boaters that want the best deal on a custom built-to-order boat.



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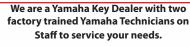
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## Driftin' Easy

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– by Sue Foster

We've been in the bait and tackle business for 32 years, and over that time I have seen a lot of products, makes and brands, come and go. Sometimes people ask me, "What are your top sellers?"

When it comes to reels I would quickly answer Penn. If it was five years ago, I would have answered Okuma. That's how fast things can change in a fast changing market. It's all about affordability in my neck of the woods. It's also about dependability and endurance. Put the two together and you have a winner.

Penn has changed hands a couple times in the last decade and there are a lot of grumbles that they aren't made in USA anymore. But, the company has come out with four lines of reels called Pursuit, Fierce, Sargus and Battle that cover all sizes and price ranges from \$39.99 to \$119.99. Each step up has more ball bearings and more features, but all of these reels are smooth, solid and durable.

The Penn Company has also done away with the antireverse switch. If anyone has been reading my last couple of columns, you know how many problems are associated with an anti-reverse. Sand gets in the mechanism and it quits working, making the reel turn both ways. Newbie's switch it off, and make a total mess of their line. Kids mess with the switch and there's no joy. I love the fact that Penn has done away with this anti-reverse switch and I wish every company would follow their lead. When I sell a customer a Penn reel, there's no thought in my mind that says, "Oh boy, I wonder if he'll be bringing it back tomorrow with some kind of problem..."

"What are your best selling rods?"

That question is a little harder because each of my employees like and show their favorite brands. If you walk into Fenwick Tackle, Buddy Seigel will put a lightweight, 9foot Tica rod in your hands every time. At Oyster Bay Tackle, Libby Kelly will show you a Daiwa Emcast surf rod for the beach. I will search for the Sea Striker Beach Runner surf rod for a combination of price and a lightweight feel for the beach, and a Shakespeare Ugly Stick for the bay. I'm also partial to Star rods, while Walter Moore loves St. Croix. Both are wonderful if you are in the market for a higher dollar rod.

Shakespeare Ugly Sticks have been around for a long time and it's hard to beat them for price and durability. If an angler wants to horse big stripers up on the Route 50 Bridge, I will sell them an Ugly Stick in a heartbeat so that little voice in my head won't ask... "I wonder if he'll break it...."

"What is your best selling lure?"

Well, that's got to be the Got-cha Plug! We sell Got-cha Plugs for bluefish, stripers, shad and trout. These versatile lures are not real expensive, bluefish can't bite the tails off and you don't have to be an expert to use them. Got-cha Plugs are real popular with anglers fishing on the Route 50 Bridge, Oceanic Pier and in the Inlets. The Sea Striker site says: "The ORIGINAL GOT-CHA™ plug comes in several styles and colors. The lure is excellent for bluefish, Spanish mackerel, trout and other fish that feed on small bait fish. It is great for fishing from piers and bridges and is also a favorite of boat fishermen jigging for trout and bluefish." We've even had anglers catch fish in the surf with them. Small ones are good for shad, medium sized for bluefish, and the 2-ounce models are excellent for stripers. When we first started carrying Got-cha Plugs several years ago, we stocked about 6 models. Now we stock around 50 plus different kinds and send quite a few out to Internet customers. They are especially popular in Texas and the Carolinas.

## "What is your best selling terminal tackle?"

Top and bottom rigs for sure. Those plain, simple, TW1040 rigs that everyone puts two snelled hooks on to go fishing everywhere and anywhere. The heavy duty top and bottom rigs are also very popular. Leadered hooks and sinkers and swivels would be next. These items are ones that no tackle store can run out of because if you don't have hooks, swivels, sinkers and rigs you can't run a tackle store!

"What are the 10 items besides hooks, top and bottom rigs, sinkers and swivels that you would never, ever run out of without going through a major panic attack during a busy summer day?"

- 1) Crab Throw Lines
- 2) Crab Nets
- 3) Minnow Buckets
- 4) Minnows, chicken necks and squid
- 5) Sand spikes
- 6) Fishbite Bloodworms
- 7) Berkley Gulp
- 8) Inexpensive 10-foot combos for the surf
- 9) Inexpensive 6'6" combos for the bay
- 10) Kingfish rigs for the surf

We are a predominately an inshore tackle shop and sell to anglers fishing in the bay and surf. If you asked these questions to a marina selling offshore bait and rigs, the answers would be totally different!

Some of the above items are bait, which would make one ask...

## "What is your most popular bait?"

At Fenwick Tackle, it would be finger mullet, bunker, bloodworms and Fishbite squid. At Oyster Bay Tackle, it would be bloodworms, Fishbite bloodworms, live minnows, Berkley Gulp and squid. I guess you noticed that two artificial baits are very important products that I would hate to run out of at any time. Berkley Gulp! and Fishbite Bloodworms have continued to be very good sellers and I would say it is





because they work! My most popular natural bait would have to be squid, only because it is so versatile and almost everyone uses it at one time or another.

"What is your most popular non-tackle related item you sell in your store?"

No question about it, White Marlin Open T-shirts for sure! Almost every tackle store around sells lots of products that are fishing related. Some of the items that are popular for us, and I'm sure other tackle stores as well, are polarized sunglasses, suntan lotion, hats, visors, t-shirts and tire deflators. Tackle stores and marinas offer different brands and kinds of products that you can't find in average outlet mall. Customers come in to find unique gifts, fishing t's and just "something different" to take back home. I do a lot of my clothes shopping at the marinas downtown and in West Ocean City because they offer neat and different clothes I can't find in the mall. (ask Michelle at the OC Fishing Center and Sunset Marina!) I'm often seen poking around upstairs at Ake Marine to see what's on the rack as well.

Well, that gives you a glimpse of our most popular, best selling products. Thanks to everyone for a great season, especially my customers, without whom I would not have a business. Thanks to Larry Jock and his staff at the Coastal Fisherman for putting out the best fishing paper ever. Thanks to my employees who worked hard this summer to make our stores succeed. Thanks to my parents in heaven, Irv and Juanita Mumford, who helped to build Oyster Bay Tackle, starting in 1980. I miss you every day. Thanks to my brother Dan who works behind the scenes. We have a small family business and WE DID BUILD IT! Good Fishing...

Sue Foster is an outdoor writer and owner of Oyster Bay Tackle in Ocean City, MD and Fenwick Tackle in Fenwick, DE..



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**RED DRUM** 18" - 27" 1 per person/day



TAUTOG 16" minimum 5/16 - 10/31 2 per person 11/1 - 11/16 4 per person



**Maryland Regulations** 

BLUE CRAB 5" minimum 1 bushel/person or 2 bushels/vessel



SHEEPSHEAD No limit



SUMMER FLOUNDER 17" minimum 3 per person/day 4/14 - 12/16



**BLACK DRUM** 16" minimum 1 per person/day or 6 per boat/day



SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 10 per person/day



WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day

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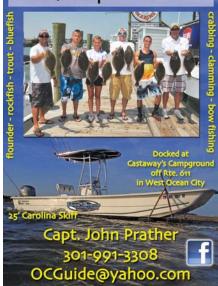
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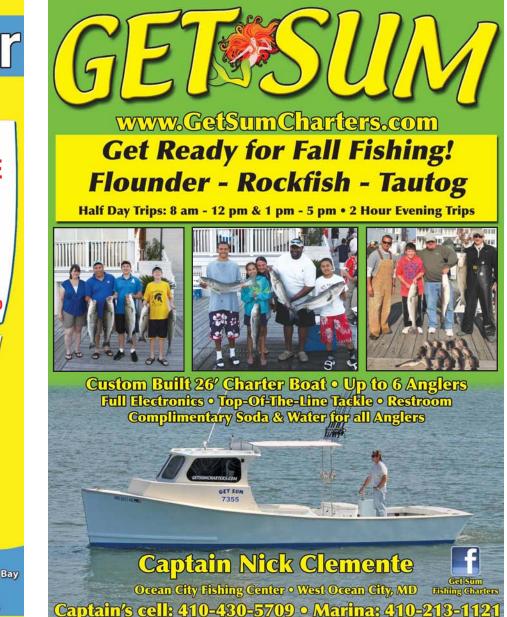
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The striper bite has turned on recently in the Ocean City Inlet and Jen Eschenburg was there to capture this 36-incher while fishing with Seth Hetherington on the "Wreckless".



Tom Bryan, Tommy Bryan, Briana Kuntz, Matt Clark and Fran Clark teamed up to land 6 keeper flounder while fishing on the charter boat, "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Lizzy Brittingham. All of the fish were caught on live spot in the East Channel. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

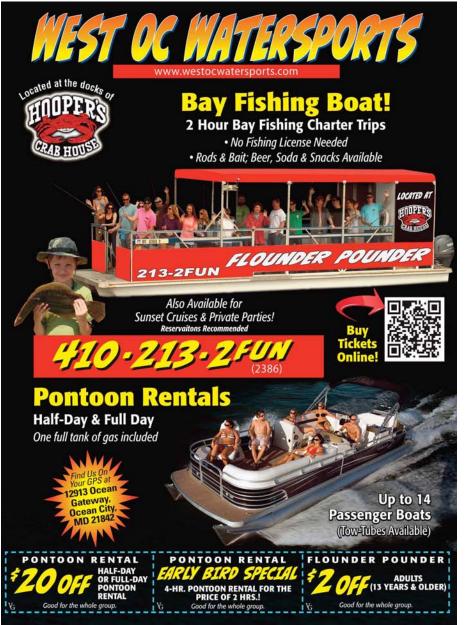




## **Bay Fishing Charters**



Ron and Debbie Richey caught this pair of stripers, measuring 30 and 34-inches, while drifting with live spot near the Rt. 50 Bridge. The anglers were fishing on the charter boat, "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford.





Anglers on the charter boat, "Lucky Break" have really been catching sheepshead lately, as shown by the 8 pounder muscled in by Tiffany Parks from Chandler, AZ. Tiffany caught the sheepshead while using crabs for bait at the South Jetty. Pictured with Capt. Jason Mumford.



Captain Jason Mumford Captain's Cell: 443.5 | 3.2006 CaptJasonMumford@yahoo.com www.luckybreakcharters.com

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<image>

Linda Cooper from Glen Burnie, MD, Joe Farrone from Ashland, PA, Greg Weddle from Elkton, MD, Gordie Spangler from Ocean City, MD, Ronald Shultz from Exeter, PA, Hugh Dymaki from Chicopee, MA and Chantel Farrone from Ashland, PA had a great day fishing on the head boat, "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe. The anglers returned to the dock at Bahia Marina with 7 keeper flounder, all caught in the East Channel while using squid and shiners for bait. Chantel caught the largest flounder on the trip, a flattie measuring 22-inches and weighing 3 lbs. 12 oz.



www.DuskToDawnBowfishing.com



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FLOUNDER FISHING

## **Bay Fishing Charters**

and the



Fred Hoch from Levittown, PA caught a 17 1/2-inch flounder and Dale Kline from Riverdale, MD landed a pair of flatties, measuring 18 1/2 and 19-inches, both while fishing on the "Bay Bee" with Capt. Mike Walsh and mate Cale Layton. The fish were caught in the East Channel on Gulp! and shiners or squid and minnow combinations. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

Largest black sea bass caught in the month of September aboard the LIL' ANGLER II using a Montauk Fishing Gear reel and weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina will receive a Montauk Cerbus reel.

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1. Standard sea duck hunt is 6 hours. Cost of the hunt is \$600 for up to 4 people and \$100 per person over 4 to a maximum of 6 people. LIL'ANGLER II can and will accommodate more than 6 hunters, call Capt. Brian (302-430-3414) for more details. Hunting license, stamps, gun and ammunition are NOT included.

2. Combo hunting and fishing is a 10 hours. This will be a half fishing/half hunting trip, with your choice of either striped bass or tautog as the target species of fish. Cost of the trip is \$900 for up to 4 people and \$150 per person over 4 to a maximum of 6 people. LLL'ANGLER II can and will accommodate more than 6 hunters, call Capt. Brian (302-430-3414) for more details. Hunting license, stamps, gun and ammunition are NOT included.

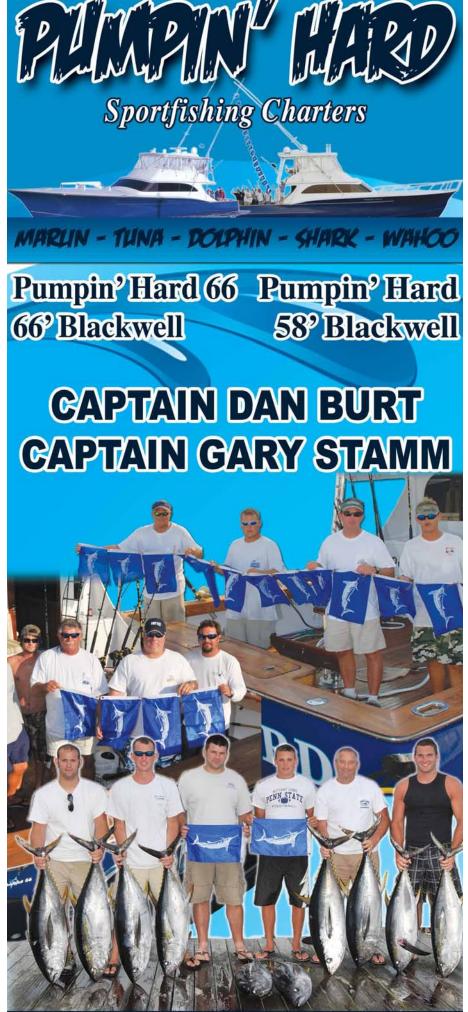
THE FOLLOWING POLICIES APPLY TO ALL CHARTERS INVOLVING HUNTING: No alcohol permitted on any bunting trips. Hunters must provide their own Delaware state hunting license, Delaware state waterfowl stamp, federal waterfowl stamp, and Delaware HIP number. Lewes Harbour Marina (302-645-2277) is a Delaware state licensing agent. Federal waterfowl stamp may be purchased from the US Post Office. A 3 day non-resident hunting license valid for small game and waterfowl \$50, Delaware state waterfowl stamp S9. Hunters born after January 1st, 1967 must have a valid hunter safety education certificate.

 Ammunition non-toxic size 3 or larger (we recommend a minimum of 50 rounds), and gun (no guns under 20 gauge)
 Hunters must provide the following information to the guide as required by Delaware state law:
 Name, address, hunting license number, Delaware HIP number

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 All birds will be tagged with hunter's information
 Hunters must take all harvested birds with them

 Unsafe hunting practices will result in the hunt ending early with no refund Unsafe hunting practices will result in the hunt ending early with no refund

## **Ocean Fishing Charters**



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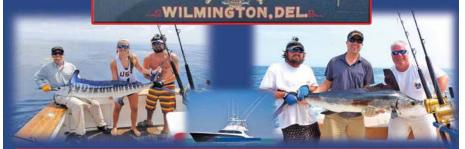


Gene Hazzard, Mike Mewshaw and Ronnie Minnich released a white marlin and caught 2 yellowfin tuna, a wahoo and some dolphin while trolling ballyhoo and spreader bars in the Baltimore Canyon.



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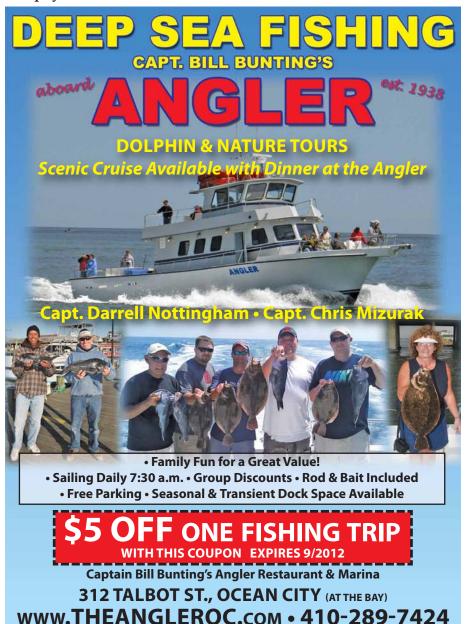
Docked at Sunset Marína, West Ocean Cíty, MD

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## **Ocean Fishing Charters**



Jamie and James DeMoss, Leroy Daisey, Chris Dougherty and Steve Mayhew teamed up to land 4 yellowfin tuna and a wahoo while trolling in 50 fathoms near the Rockpile. The anglers were fishing on the "Fin Chaser" with Capt. Dan Stauffer and mate Kip Murphy.





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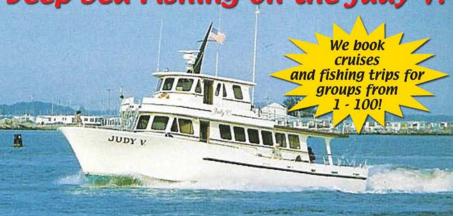
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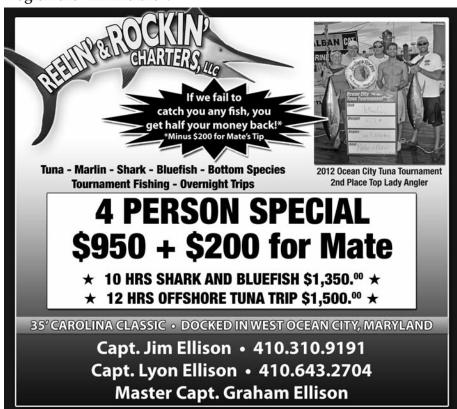
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Andy Maiss celebrated his 47th birthday with this white marlin release while fishing on the "Hurricane" with Capt. Karl Roscher and mate Andy Mayr. The white marlin was hooked in 100 fathoms in the Washington Canyon.



Joshua Perry caught this yellowfin tuna during a trip to the Hot Dog on the "Invincible".



## **Ocean Fishing Charters**



Junior anglers Spencer Paquette from Ocean City, MD and Ayrton Pryor from Fenwick, DE had a memorable day fishing on the charter boat, "Billfisher" with Robby Paquette, Paul Lebing, Erik Windrow, Capt. Jon Duffie and mates Chris Hornung and Austin Robins. Ayrton released 3 white marlin and a sailfish while Spencer recorded 2 white marlin releases and a blue marlin release. All of the fish were hooked in 50 fathoms in the Norfolk Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



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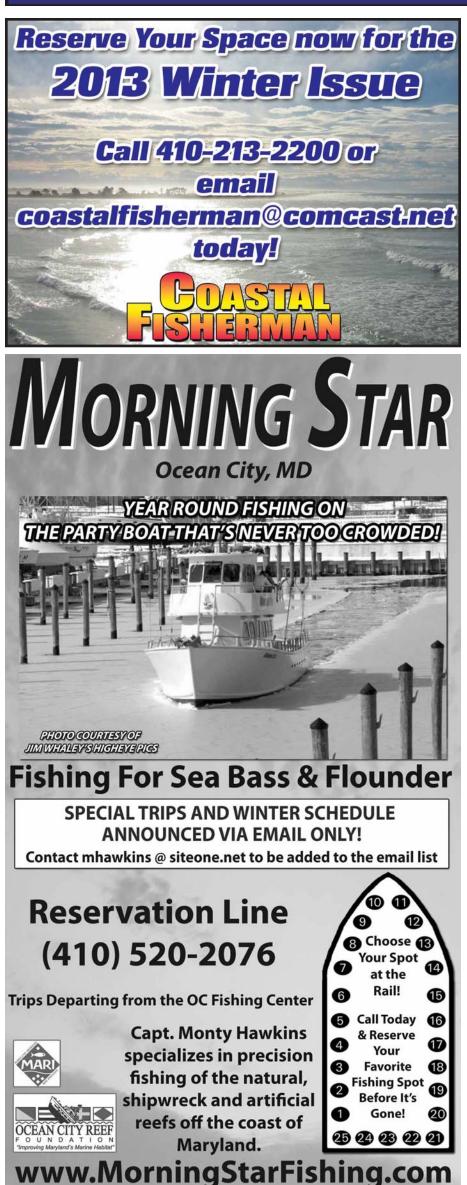
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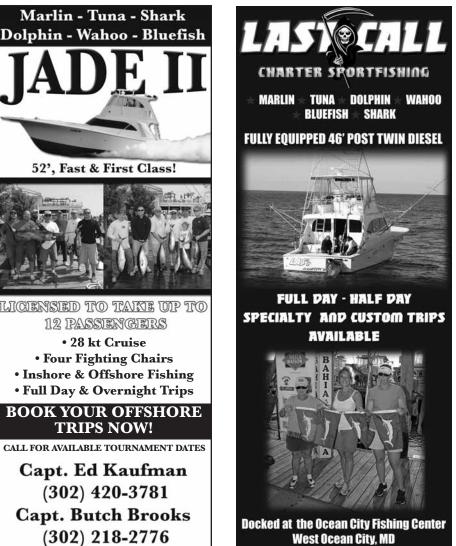
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## **Ocean Fishing Charters**





Dan Shine from Drifting, PA and Roy Hurd from Snow Shoe, PA caught a pair of 4 lb. sea bass while using clams during a trip aboard the head boat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Mike Kinder and Todd Zimmerman. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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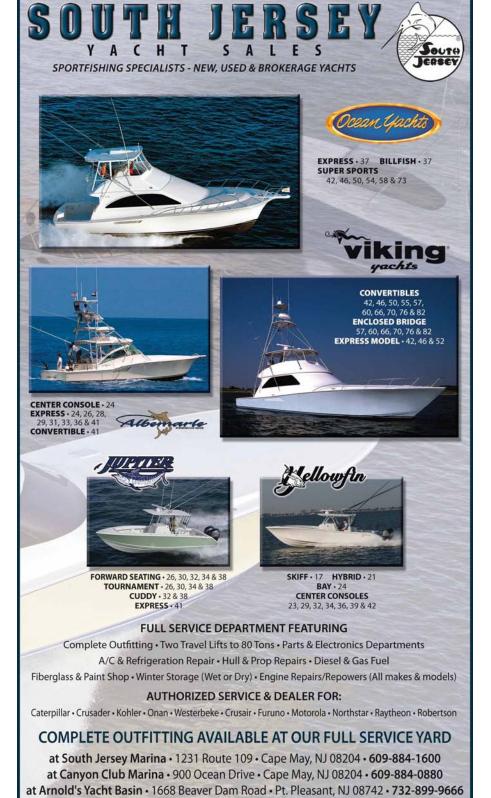
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Patrick Coomes and Chris Trovitch caught a load of sheepshead, a couple of tautog, a triggerfish and a flounder, all while fishing with sand fleas and crabs at the South Jetty. Patrick caught the largest sheepshead of the day, weighing 10 lbs. 2 oz. on the scale at All Tackle Ocean City.



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Joe, Ryan and Paul Pergeorelis, Wayne De Marco and B.J. Elgart joined Capt. Pete Haines on the "Top Fin" for a flounder fishing trip in the Delaware Bay and were rewarded with this catch of 15 good size flatties. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina. Petersener Autor A

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Richard Cease from Seaford, DE muscled in this 4 lb. 8 oz. flounder after hooking it on a Gulp! artificial bait in the Indian River Inlet. Pictured at Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE.



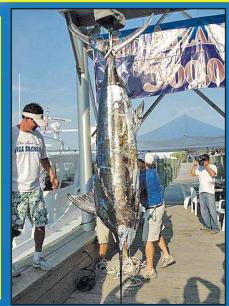
Dylan Wiley of Smyrna, DE was fishing with a squid and minnow combination near "A" Buoy when he hooked into this 6 lb. 6 oz. flounder. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



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## **Delaware Fishing Report**

by Larry Jock

Well, this is the last issue of the Coastal Fisherman for the 2012 season, and I am happy to report that it was a good one. Flounder fishing was fantastic, the tuna bite was good for a majority of the summer and the billfish bite continues to put the Delmarva Peninsula back on the map as a hot spot for white marlin fishing in the late summer/fall.

Before we get into the fishing report, I really want to thank Bert Adams at Hook'em & Cook'em, Bruce McGuigan at Capt. Mac's Bait & Tackle, Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina, Bill Baker at Bill's Sport Shop, Joe Ribinsky at Whitetail Taxidermy & Outdoor Supplies and Paul Ferenczi at Rick's Bait & Tackle. They all assisted in bringing you the Delaware Fishing Report each week and I appreciated their knowledge and input.

Now, onto the report...

Bert Adams at Hook'em & Cook'em reported croakers, puppy red drum, flounder, stripers and bluefish in the Indian River Inlet. Croakers are getting larger, with some reaching the 14-16" range, but most are measuring 10 to 12inches. Red drum bites have been pretty good for anglers fishing with Fishbites



Kannon Cropper from Dagsboro, DE used shrimp to fool these 2 flounder, measuring 20 and 22-inches, while fishing near "B" Buoy.

bloodworms and clams. The fish are too small to keep, averaging 15 to 16-inches, but are giving anglers a good pull on light tackle.

A few flounder are still being caught in the Inlet, but the fish have been small and the bite has been sporadic. Those that are catching keeper flatties are using the larger, 6-inch Gulp! artificial baits or live spot. Most flounder fishermen are hitting ocean structure around "A" and "B" Buoys for better action and larger fish.

Striped bass are being caught under the Indian River Bridge. One of the hot artificials is the "Opening Night" Bass Assassin which has a purple topside and a silver, speckled underside.

The half-day head boat, "Judy V." had some good sea bass and flounder days during the week, before the rough seas rolled in.

In the surf, anglers fishing around 3R's Road saw a good snapper bluefish bite on Saturday, but are still mainly seeing sharks, skates, rays and some 15 to 16-inch red drum.

Further north, Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said that gusty winds hampered efforts on Saturday, but pretty weather during the week offered up conditions conducive to good bottom fishing.

Natural structure near "DA" Buoy in the ocean yielded decent action with sea bass and flounder. Captain Brent ran the "Katydid" to that area Wednesday, where his fares connected with 16 keeper fluke to over 5 lbs., plus a bunch of bass. The "Katydid" returned to

#### www.coastalfisherman.net

the same spot Thursday for 12 more flounder, some triggerfish and croakers, and a mess of sea bass weighing up to 3 lbs. During that trip, Brent put the 800th keeper flattie of the season in the box himself. He followed that 5.1 pound fish with a 7.8 pound citation doormat.

Bottom bouncers in the Delaware Bay continued to find a mixed bag on Reef 8, the Star Site. Rigs baited with clams, squid or bloodworms produced croakers, kingfish, puffers, spot, sea trout, triggerfish, spadefish, porgies and others.

Bluefish remained plentiful. Snappers could be found chasing baitfish under birds off Cape Henlopen. False albacore, occasionally mixed in with blues, would hit the same metal jigs boaters were casting for choppers.

Anglers using bloodworms or Fishbites in the Lewes Canal and the lower Broadkill River hooked hand-sized spot. Some legal stripers were caught at the mouth of Canary Creek, and near the Lewes Canal Drawbridge with clams, eels or cut bunker.

Offshore boaters found billfish between the Poor Man's and Washington Canyons. There was a good white marlin bite in the Norfolk for those willing to make the long run. Kyle Hamilton reported that he and the crew aboard the "Sea Slammer" released 4 whites in Norfolk Canyon the Thursday. Ed Sigda and the boys on "Snow Goose" fished the Wilmington Friday, where they released a mako, dropped for 10 tilefish, and bailed several gaffer mahi off some floating gear.

That's it for this week's report. Before we know it, chopper bluefish and big stripers will be rolling through and striper snipers will be in their glory. Until then, anglers will hopefully see a lot more good flounder fishing in the Inlets, as fish begin staging for their offshore run, and on the reefs and wrecks where we are already seeing some big fish hitting the deck.

Until next season, please support our local tackle shops and all of the advertisers in the Coastal Fisherman.

Have a safe and happy fall/winter. See you next year!



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D.J. Puharic released his first white marlin after hooking it on a trolled green machine in the Baltimore Canyon. D.J. was fishing on the "Fish Tank" with Dan Pappa and Mike Treml (not pictured).

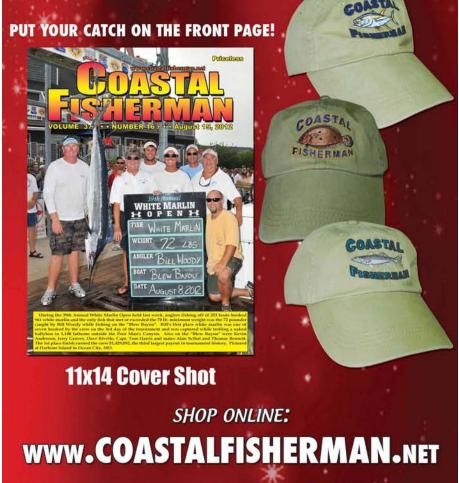


While fishing off of the Rt. 50 Bridge on Saturday, James Bell from Abingdon, MD landed a 24-inch, 6 lb. 10 oz. flounder on a bucktail tipped with a minnow. Gregory Bell, from Nottingham, MD caught a 20-incher from the Rt. 50 Bridge.



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## **B**



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## **Now Taking Seasonal Slip Reservations for 2013!**

## **Dining on Delmarva**

## The Galley

by Mama Jock

Well, another season has come to a close. I hope you have enjoyed all the recipes this year and I really appreciated all the great feedback from those of you who have tried some of them. I'm already thinking about what recipes to include in the Winter Issue, so if you have a favorite you would like to share, please email it to me at maureenjock@comcast.net. Until then, keep cooking!



### Tuna with Lemon-Horseradish Sauce

1 tsp. vegetable oil 1 tuna fillet Salt and pepper ½ cup dry white wine ½ lemon



- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup sour cream
- <sup>1</sup>⁄<sub>2</sub> jar prepared horseradish, drained
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup parsley, finely chopped
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- 1 ½ cup heavy or whipping cream Lemon and cucumber
- slices, for garnish

Preheat oven to 425 degrees. Line a jelly roll pan with parchment paper.

Lightly brush parchment with oil.

Place tuna on parchment and sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Place pan on rack and pour wine into pan around tuna.

Cover pan with foil.

Bake 20 to 25 minutes or until fish is opaque throughout. From lemon, grate ½ tsp.



zest and squeeze 2 tsp. juice.

In large bowl, with mixer on medium speed, mix sour cream, horseradish, parsley, garlic, lemon zest, lemon juice, and ½ tsp. salt until combined.

Add cream; beat until soft peaks form.

Cover and refrigerate up to 1 day.

Bake tuna, uncovered, 5 minutes.

Cool slightly.

Using corners of parchment, lift tuna out of pan and onto a serving platter.

Slide parchment carefully from underneath tuna.

Cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate at least 4 hours or until cold.

To serve, garnish tuna with lemon, cucumber; serve with horseradish sauce.

Serves 6.

### Flounder with Tomatoes and Olives

2 cloves garlic, smashed 2 TBSP. olive oil 1 ½ lbs. tomatoes,

### quartered

- 3 TBSP. chopped pitted kalamata olives
- 1 TBSP. chopped marjoram
- 4 flounder fillets
- <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup Panko breadcrumbs

Heat broiler.

Cook garlic in 1 TBSP. oil in broiler-safe pan over medium heat 1 minute.

Add tomatoes, olives and majoram.

Simmer until tomatoes have wilted, 5 minutes.

Add fish; cook until almost done, about 6 minutes.

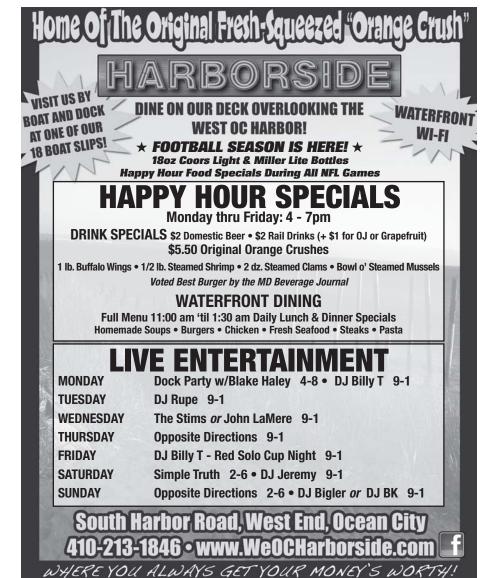
Top fish with the breadcrumbs.

Broil until crumbs are golden and fish is done, 1 to 2 minutes.

Serve with sauce and drizzle with 1 TBSP. oil. Serves 4.

### Crab Cakes with Spicy Remoulade

Remoulade: <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup mayonnaise 2 TBSP. chopped shallots



## **Dining on Delmarva**

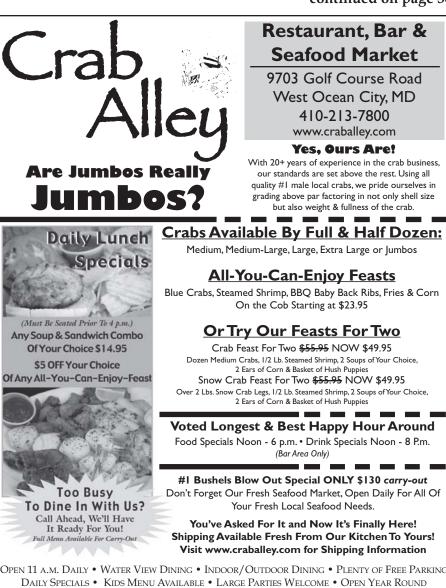
3 TBSP. capers, drained and chopped
4 tsp. Creole mustard
2 tsp. fresh lemon juice
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> tsp. ground red pepper
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> tsp. salt

Combine <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> cup mayo and remaining ingredients in a small bowl; stir well.

Crab Cakes:

2 TBSP. finely chopped chives
1 TBSP. chopped fresh parsley
1 <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> TBSP. mayonnaise
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tsp. lemon zest
1 TBSP. lemon juice
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> tsp. black pepper
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>8</sub> tsp. red pepper
1 large egg
<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> cup Panko breadcrumbs
1 lb. lump crabmeat
2 TBSP. olive oil, divided

Combine first 8 ingredients. Add Panko and crab, tossing gently to combine. Cover and refrigerate 30 minutes.



Heat 1 TBSP. oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat. Add 4 crab cakes to pan; cook until bottoms are golden. Turn cakes; cook until they

are thoroughly heated. Remove and keep warm.

Heat remaining oil in same pan and repeat procedure with 4 more cakes.

Serve remoulade with crab cakes.

Serves 4.

### Roasted Flounder with Light Herb Sauce

4 flounder fillets 2 tsp. olive oil <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tsp. salt <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tsp. pepper 1 shallot, thinly sliced <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> tsp. dried rosemary, crushed 1 TBSP. butter <sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> cup marinade for chicken 2 TBSP. half and half cream

Place fillets in a greased 15x10x1 baking pan.

continued on page 36



Gerry Chaveca ventured down from Montreal, Canada and landed this 17-inch *Le carrelet* while fishing with his son, David Chaveca in the bay behind 28th Street. The flounder was hooked on a live spot and will be smuggled across the border to enjoy with a cold Molson.



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## **Dining on Delmarva**

#### The Galley, cont'd.

Brush with oil; sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Bake at 450 degrees for 14 to 18 minutes or until fish flakes easily with a fork.

In a small saucepan over medium heat, cook and stir shallot and rosemary in butter until tender.

Stir in marinade for chicken; cook and stir for 1 minute.

Add cream; cook and stir for 1 minute longer.

Spoon over fish. Serves 4.

### Crab or Shrimp Omelette

3 large eggs
Pinch salt
Dash pepper
4 tsp. canola oil, divided
3-5 drops sesame oil
1 small yellow onion, sliced thinly

5 oz. crabmeat or shrimp 1 tsp. light soy sauce

1 stalk scallion, chopped <sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> TBSP. red chilies,

chopped (optional)

Brick Oven Pizzeria

Lightly beat eggs with the salt and pepper; set aside.

Heat wok or skillet with 2 tsp. oil and sesame oil.

Add onion and fry until soft.

Push to one side of the skillet and add crabmeat or shrimp and stir fry well.

Stir in soy sauce, more salt and pepper if desired, then remove crabmeat mixture and set aside.

Heat remaining 2 tsp. oil in the wok or skillet, add the beaten eggs.

Swirl the pan around to spread the omelette evenly.

When eggs have set, add the crabmeat/shrimp mixture and sprinkle with the onion and red chilies.

Fold in the four corners of the omelette to cover the filling.

Cover pan with a lid for 1 minute, the turn out onto a plate and serve immediately. Serves 2 to 3.

and Restaurant



The Coastal Fisherman's favorite radio personality, DJ BK of Ocean 98.1, looks thrilled with the 15-inch croaker he caught while fishing on the "Overcast" with Shawn Harman (not pictured) and Phil Boylan. BK and Phil didn't have to travel far, hooking their hardheads on a strips of squid right behind Bahia Marina.



Shawn Harman from Bahia Marina escaped the crowds and fished in the bay behind Assateague Island where he captured this 19-inch flounder. Shawn hooked the 2 lb. 2 oz. flattie behind Snug Harbor on a minnow dressed up with a white mylar skirt while fishing on the "Overcast" with DJ BK and Phil Boylan. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

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Mike Amos from Ocean City, MD joined Buzz Scalzo from Parkton, MD and Dwight Baumgardner from Jarretsville, MD for a flounder fishing trip to the Bass Grounds where the trio was rewarded with 6 keepers, measuring up to 22-inches. All of the fish were caught on Gulp! artificial baits.



Jay, Josh and Keith Anderson, Kenny Findley and Mike McIntyre on the "Kristy Anne" recorded this white marlin release after hooking it in the Poor Man's Canyon.



## BARRETT IN BERLIN



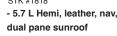
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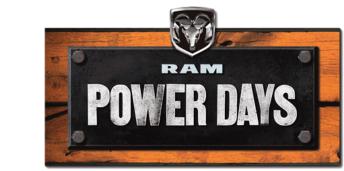


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# Ship To Shore

by Pat Schrawder L&L Marine Electronics

#### WHAT TO EXPECT IN MARINE ELECTRONICS IN THE MONTHS AHEAD

As the Coastal Fisherman season draws to a close, it is a good time to think about what we might expect in the way of new products for next season. While manufacturers are pretty "tight-lipped" about things that are currently on the drawing board, some reasonable expectations can be made.

The plain and simple fact is that most manufacturers are, and have been, holding back on new products due to the slow economy. It takes a lot of funding to design, develop, produce and market any new item. It just doesn't make good sense from a financial standpoint to be putting that kind of money into new products right now. There may



be items in the planning stage, but most companies will hold off on them until they have a reasonable expectation that the economy will pick up.

The market is still very competitive and manufacturers will feel the need to do something, so we may see some further enhancements of already existing models. You can expect to see that around boat show time in late January or early February. On the other hand, this might just be the best time for you to buy something new because there are likely to be some really good sales as companies try to clear out some inventory before the end of the year.

In the meantime, there is still some great fall fishing to be had, but when you finally decide to put your boat away for the winter, don't forget to take some standard measures to protect your equipment and keep it in good shape for the next season.

Unless your equipment is flush mounted, you do not want to leave anything on your boat that can reasonably be removed. Therefore, all major display items should be taken off, cleaned and stored away in a closet or other dry location. The plugs and connections that are left on the boat should be sprayed with some anticorrosion chemical (I prefer CRC 2-26) and bagged. It is a good idea to mark these connections. Some of them may be unique to their own item of equipment, but several others are quite similar, if not identical. This is especially true when it comes to antenna connectors. While you may think you know perfectly well what goes to where now, when it comes to next year, it may not be so clear in your mind. An easy way to do this is to wrap the ends with colored electrical tape available at most hardware stores. Put the corresponding color on the case of the equipment and, when it comes time to hook them back

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up, you just match the colors. Since power plugs that look the same may not be wired the same, getting them mixed up can be costly.

While you have that anticorrosion chemical out, use it or plain old Vaseline, to coat the metal brackets and fittings on your boat. It will easily wash off next year and, in the meantime, it will protect that metal from becoming dull and developing surface corrosion that can bleed off on your white surfaces.

If you can manage it, remove your batteries and store them in the garage on cardboard or paper. Putting them directly on concrete will allow them to drain down. The battery posts should be coated with a substance made just for batteries.

Taking these few simple steps will help to assure that your equipment is ready to go next year. Here's wishing you a safe, healthy and happy winter.

Pat and her husband, Larry are owners of L&L Marine Electronics on Golf Course Road in West Ocean City, MD.





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Coastal Fisherman Page 39

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#### Page 40 Coastal Fisherman September 19, 2012

## Chum Lines by Capt. Mark Sampson

On Saturday, September 22nd at 10:49 AM, Autumn officially begins. To those who live for the days when there's a nip in the air, the leaves are a blaze of color and they can sit along some trail in the woods or edge of a marsh and wait for wings or hooves to bring their quarry within range, the change of season is welcome news. On the other hand, the start of fall also marks the end of summer, and to a lot of anglers who have been enjoying the heck out of the last few months, that's not necessarily an event they're ready to celebrate.

Fortunately, regardless of the angle of the sun or the length of the day, one thing September 22nd does not mark is the end of the 2012 fishing season. As the weeks pass and the waters cool, the multitude of inshore and offshore species

that are available right now will wane to just a few of the hardier fish that can handle the change. But even when we're knocking on the door of winter, there will be more than just a few options to give anglers a reason to keep their hooks sharp and a couple packs of bait in the freezer. And if it stays on the warm side like last year - who knows? We might once again still be catching big stripers right into March, which pretty much translates to a year-round fishing season.

But right now it's still officially summer, and most of everything that has been biting since May is still here and hungry, along with a few additions. But fishermen who want to get in a couple more "blue water flings" with any of the warm water species had better get cracking because, as



evidenced by some of what we saw the first week or so of this month, like it or not, change is on the way! This is the time of year when cold-fronts start pushing through from the west and lows start moving up from the south and either one can spell "no-fishing" for more than just a day or two. Put things off too long and those last few marlin or dolphin you've been hoping to catch might have to wait until next year.

Over the last couple weeks anglers have enjoyed some of the best billfish action of the year, and there also seems to be plenty of dolphin out there along with a few wahoo. Although yellowfins haven't exactly been consistent, anglers have been picking away at a few and usually about this time they start to come on a bit stronger, so there could be some good news to report about the tuna bite over the next few weeks.

For those who wish to get in on some really fast and fun offshore action, but aren't worried so much about bringing home anything to eat, there are plenty of false albacore 15 to 25 miles offshore including the waters on and around the Jackspot. While these 6 to 15 pound speedsters have virtually no food value, on light tackle they offer excellent sport and can at times prove so abundant that anglers get physically exhausted from pulling so many in. False albacore can be caught by trolling small to medium size spoons and feather jigs, or by chumming and casting plugs or flies back in the slick. In September and early October, anglers fishing for albacore around the Jackspot might also encounter oceanic and Atlantic bonito, dolphin, sharks and bluefish. It's some of the best light-tackle fishing of the year and I simply can't understand why more anglers don't get in on the fun.

Even though there are now, and will continue to be lots of fish out there, in the weeks and months ahead the amount of anglers heading out to take advantage of the inshore and offshore opportunities will get less and less with each passing

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week. For many local anglers that's probably a good thing. For those of us in the for-hire industry it's pretty much a bum deal. When you're in the charter fishing business it's tough to sit at the dock with no charters when the fishing is good, particularly with winter creeping closer all the time. But I guess that's just the way it has always been and always will be in this business, June through August, the phone rings off the hook and you're turning customers away. Then Labor Day rolls around, the kids go off to school, hunting seasons kickin, not to mention football and other diversions, and before you know it "fishing" is just not on everyone's mind like it was all summer. What's wrong with people!?

Anyway, it has been a great summer and as this is the last issue of the Coastal Fisherman until the "Winter Issue" in January, I would like to thank everyone who took the time to read this column now and then, particularly those who made a point to mention to me that they did - writers really do need assurance once and while that people actually read their stuff! We'll be running the "Fish Finder" at least until early November, maybe longer if the weather stays good. November through February I'll be teaching a few captain's classes for the 3B's Captains School, (one in Ocean City in December if anyone is interested) then we'll head down to the Keys for March and April. Charlotte has another record or two to pursue and I'll be tying flies and throwing them at every permit I see. Of course, while we're there we'll mess around with some Florida sharks just to "stay in practice" for the 2013 season up here, and before you know it, we'll all meet again on the docks or in the tackle shops and have the chance to squawk with each other about how our winter went and what's in store for the new season. So until then ....

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





Chris Vann celebrated his 40th birthday with a trip on the "Katydid" where Chris and his buddies caught 34 flounder while using flounder belly for bait. The fish were hooked at some Delaware Bay reef sites and weighed as much as 5 lbs. on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina. Fishing with Chris were Ron Mistretta, Bob Murphy, Rob Crossley, Ernie Stone, Chris Thawley, Joe Lanyon, Rob Wilson, Capt. Brent Wiest and mate Dave Walker.



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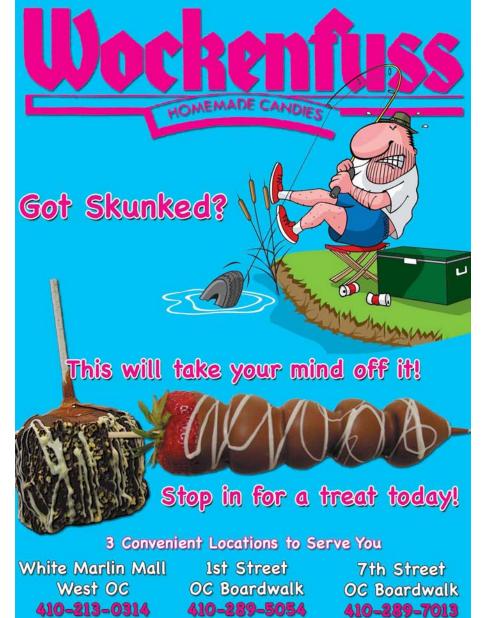


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The 11th Annual Memorial Spot Fishing Tournament was held at the Ocean City Fishing center with 55 anglers competing for cash and prizes. Zach Morton and Jeremy Blunt tied for 1st place in the Spot Division with 7 3/4-inch fish, splitting \$110 in award money. Zach's brother, Alex Morton took 2nd place with a 7 1/2-incher and Lane Jones tied Zach for 3rd place with 7 1/4-inch spot. Breezy Popp won Top Female Adult Angler honors with 33 fish caught and Jon Yost won the Top Male Adult division with 19 fish caught. Dorian Messick and Ivy Clemente won Youngest Angler honors in the tournament. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.





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Terry Lennon from Sykesville, MD caught and released her first white marlin while fishing in the Washington Canyon on the "Tighten Up" with Lynn Runk, Capt. Jason Genthner and mates Michael Murray and Spencer Cropper. The white marlin was big, estimated at 90 lbs.



Brie Burke was fishing with squid in the Indian River Inlet when she landed this 2 lb. 2 oz. croaker. Pictured courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em at the Indian River Marina.

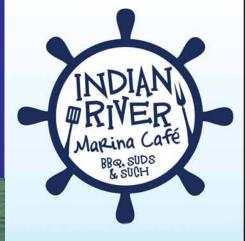


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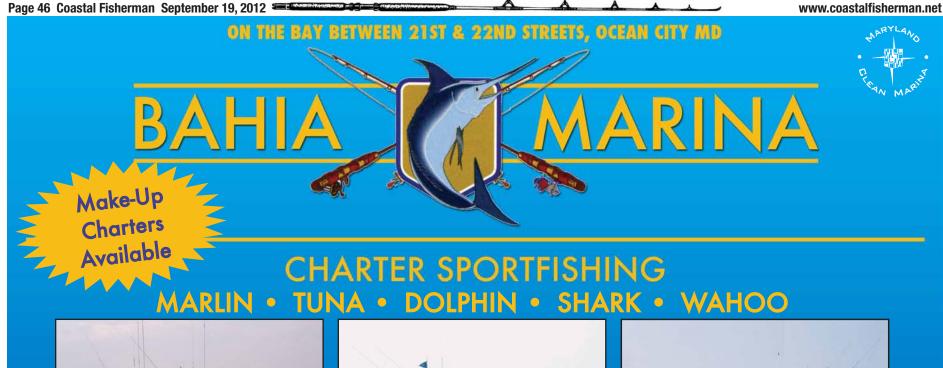
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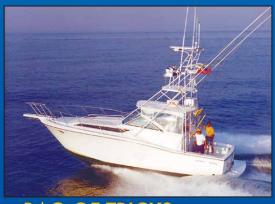
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All photos taken along Maryland's Coast. Credits: Nick Caloyianis, Michael Eversmier, Rick Younger

# Straight from the Maryland DNR Fisheries Service

#### **Artificial Reef Update**

In this edition of the Coastal Fisherman magazine, we will bring you up to date on the status of the artificial reefs in Maryland's coastal waters. Artificial reefs are manmade modifications to aquatic environments, which provide ecological benefits and enhance opportunities. fishing The myriad shipwrecks off Delmarva could be considered the first of our coastal artificial reefs. These wrecks became destinations for fishermen largely because much of the waters off the Delmarva Peninsula are a vast expanse of sand, with little natural threedimensional relief. The wrecks provided a point of attachment for a wide variety of marine invertebrate organisms, from anemones to blue mussels and even northern stony corals. The colonizing invertebrates provide food for crustaceans and fish.

In special locations designated as artificial reef sites, fishery managers have tried to imitate the effects of shipwrecks, by placing a variety of materials to obtain the same results. Artificial reefs are built in defined areas. Areas in the ocean or coastal bays are permitted by the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, and when in State territorial the Maryland waters. Department of the Environment. All materials must be placed within the bottom boundaries of these permitted areas, and the placement materials and protocols adhere to guidelines

established in NOAA's National Artificial Reef Plan.

Maryland has ten permitted artificial reefs in its coastal waters. One is located in Sinepuxent Bay behind Ocean City, and the other nine are located in the offshore waters. All of the permitted sites are destinations for sport fishermen. Here is a guide to the sites.

#### Mason's Reef

Located in Sinepuxent Bay behind Ocean City in the East Channel between 2nd and 5th Streets. This reef is composed of concrete prefabricated pyramids. This is an ideal location for boat anglers drifting with the tide, or for fishermen casting from the shore along the Chicago Avenue promenade. In addition, the shoreline was recently designated a license free fishing area. Fish species that may be found here include: summer flounder, black sea bass, striped bass, bluefish and Atlantic croaker.

#### Kelly's Reef

Located three nautical miles southeast of the Ocean City Inlet. This reef is 467 acres in size. Reef materials include concrete rubble, prefabricated concrete units and a sunken barge. This is an ideal site for small boat anglers on calm days. Fish species that may be found here include: black sea bass, tautog, Atlantic croaker, sea trout, summer flounder and Atlantic spadefish.

#### Purnell's Reef

Located 2.4 nautical miles northeast of the Ocean City inlet,



this 413 acre reef site has prefabricated concrete modules, and concrete rubble. Another excellent site for small boat anglers, fish species that can be found here include black sea bass, tautog, Atlantic spadefish, Atlantic croaker, and gray triggerfish.

#### **Great Gull Reef**

Also known as Russell's Reef, this site is slightly less than 1,000 acres in size, and is located 4.2 nautical miles southeast of the Ocean City inlet. Materials on the reef site include prefabricated concrete modules, concrete rubble and obsolete vessels. This site is within range of small boat anglers who can find the following species of fish: black sea bass, tautog, Atlantic croaker, Atlantic spadefish, and gray triggerfish.

#### Isle of Wight Reef

Located 6.2 nautical miles northeast of the Ocean City inlet, this 90 acre reef is situated on a gentle slope from 65 to 48 feet in depth. The reef has 22 stainless steel subway cars and concrete rubble and modules. Located between Fenwick and Isle of Wight Shoals, this is a good location for anglers to catch black sea bass, Atlantic croaker, Atlantic spadefish, and during late autumn, bluefish. On calm days, small boat anglers can easily access this site. Fish species anglers can expect to encounter include: black sea bass, tautog, cunner, gray triggerfish, Atlantic croaker, Atlantic spadefish, and bluefish.

#### **Research Reef**

Located 7 nautical miles due east of the Ocean City inlet, this reef is 304 acres in size in 70 feet of water with 22 stainless steel subway cars placed on this site. Tautog, black sea bass, Atlantic croaker, Atlantic spadefish summer flounder, and gray triggerfish can be caught at this location.

#### **Bass Grounds Reef**

Originally permitted as two distinct areas, the reef was repermitted as one 804 acre area, 8.4 nautical miles southeast of the Ocean City inlet. The depth at this site slopes gently from 70 www.coastalfisherman.net

feet on the west side of the reef to 50 feet on the eastern side. Materials on this reef include concrete pipe, cable mounds, subway cars and several sunken vessels. Fish species that can be found on this reef include: black sea bass, cunner, summer flounder, tautog, Atlantic spadefish, and bluefish.

#### African Queen Reef

Located 12 nautical miles southeast of the Ocean City inlet, this 800 acre site surrounds the wreck of the "African Queen", a freighter that sank in the late 1950's. The vessel broke in half and today the bow and stern sections rest a short distance from each other. The wreck is a very popular location for sport anglers and scuba divers. Materials that have been placed around the periphery of the Queen African include prefabricated concrete units, cable mounds, an M60 tank, the submarine USS Blenny, the tug boat J.R. Martin (named after Jim Martin, a Maryland DNR fisheries biologist) and several sunken vessels. A variety of fish species can be found here, including black sea bass, tautog, Atlantic spadefish, gray triggerfish, amberjack, bluefish and summer flounder. Scuba divers have caught large lobsters off of the African Queen reef site.

#### **Great Eastern Reef**

Also known as the Twin Wrecks, this reef is slightly over 1,000 acres in size and is 20 nautical miles east of the Ocean City Inlet. Depths range from 95 to 110 feet on the reef. A wide variety of materials have been placed on this reef site, including cable piles and concrete. Lobsters are plentiful in the cable piles for divers that visit the site. Fish species encountered at this site include black sea bass, tautog, cunner and bluefish.

#### Jackspot Reef

The Jackspot is an undersea knoll with a sand hill that rises up off the ocean floor from 110 feet on its periphery to 50 feet at its crest. A popular destination for sportfishermen dating back for more than a half century, this is a high energy area with strong currents. The permitted reef is located on the NW side of the knoll. Materials include 44 stainless steel subway cars, cable piles and a 78 foot trawler. The wreck of the "Gordon Cook" is also located on the Jackspot. A diverse array of fish species can

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be found on the Jackspot depending upon the time of year. Pelagic species such as white and blue marlin were historically encountered here in abundance, but are no longer seen in great numbers. Wahoo, dolphin, tuna, bluefish, amberjack and a variety of sharks can be caught here and black sea bass, tautog and summer flounder can be found in and around the placed structures. **The Status of the Subway Cars** 

Retired, stainless steel subway cars from the New York Transit Authority were placed on the Jackspot Reef in May 2008. Later in 2008 and 2009, additional subway cars were placed on the Isle of Wight Reef, Bass Grounds Reef, and Research Reef. Maryland received an allocation of subway cars along with the States of New Jersey, Delaware, Virginia and South Carolina. The shipments of stainless steel subway cars successful followed а deployment of cars made of carbon steel off Delaware, Georgia and South Carolina. The carbon steel cars showed excellent durability in the marine environment, and were quickly and effectively colonized by



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2012



2012

## Heaviest Fish of the Year (As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - ties go to first fish reported)

D

(As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - ties go to first fish reported)					
Species	Ocean City	Delaware	Species	Ocean City	Delaware
Sea Bass	June 29, 2012 Alicia Scelsi "Judith M" 5 lbs. 10 oz.	June 25, 2012 Holly Ann Firuta "Katy Did" 4 lbs.	Mako Shark	June 3, 2012 John Loar Sausages 280.9 lbs.	June 10, 2012 Alex McClure Massey's Canyon 221.5 lbs.
Tautog	January 11, 2012 Charlie Donohue "Morning Star" 23 lbs.	April 21, 2012 Clark Koehn Delaware Bay Reef 17 lbs.	Thresher Shark	June 1, 2012 Dave Nolan Fingers 576.5 lbs.	July 14, 2012 Bob Henry "B" Buoy 373 lbs.
Striped Bass	February 10, 2012 John Rogowitz Little Gull 41 lbs.	May 18, 2012 Chris Long Upper DE Bay 42 lbs. 14 oz.	Bluefin Tuna	June 29, 2012 John Conrad "Marli" 137 lbs.	June 19, 2012 Dave Cook & Sean Herlihy 19 Fathom Lump 162.6 lbs.
Weakfish	August 26, 2012 Ashton Schoen South Jetty 3 lbs. 2 oz.	May 12, 2012 Adam Ford Broadkill Beach 6 lbs. 2 oz.	Yellowfin Tuna	July 30, 2012 Frank Rotondo "Espadon" 174 lbs.	August 4, 2012 Phil Young Poor Man's 156.3 lbs.
Speckled Trout	August 7, 2012 Tim Sakawski Montego Bay bulkhead 2 lbs. 6 oz.	July 14, 2012 John Davis Indian River Inlet 3 lbs. 4 oz.	Longfin Tuna	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Flounder	June 21, 2012 Bob Gummer 1st St. Bulkhead 12 lbs. 6 oz.	July 30, 2012 Joe Walker Site 10 11 lbs. 6 oz.	Bigeye Tuna	July 28, 2012 Kevin Banagan "Bill\$ 4 Bills" 304 lbs.	July 14, 2012 David Kaplan Washington Canyon 250 lbs.
Bluefish	June 24, 2012 Hugh Thomas Croppe Tea Cup 15 lbs. 4 oz.	September 12, 2012 r Nino Mallari Indian River Bridge 14 lbs. 6 oz.	Dolphin	August 21, 2012 Kenneth Chouinard "Moore Bills" 43 lbs.	August 9, 2012 Casey Smith Baltimore Canyon 40 lbs.
Sheepshead	July 20, 2012 Mike Orchulli, Jr. "Lucky Break" 14 lbs.	July 31, 2012 Vic Gross Ice Breakers 8 lbs. 2 oz.	Wahoo	July 13, 2012 Matt Keller Poor Man's 80 lbs.	August 7, 2012 Rick Rossman Tea Cup 69 lbs.
Golden Tilefish	August 18, 2012 Paul Hannum "Oasis" 54 lbs.	August 4, 2012 Jake Kaplan Washington Canyon 43 lbs. 8 oz.	White Marlin	<b>Most Releas</b> August 2, 2012 "Billfisher" Poor Man's Canyo 32 releases	es in One Day August 6, 2012 "Fish Whistle" n Baltimore Canyon 6 releases
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marine invertebrates. The more modern stainless steel cars that followed were expected to have even greater durability in the marine environment. It was soon discovered that during decades of service, cracks in the subway cars outer shell were soldered with an aluminum alloy and fasteners of carbon steel were installed over years of maintenance. These dissimilar metals appear to have accelerated corrosive а breakdown that led to a premature collapse of the cars. Anticipated to maintain integrity for 20-30 years, in some cases the cars began to breakdown in less than a year.

Reports from New Jersey, and later South Carolina indicted that many of the cars were losing integrity structural within several months of being placed in the ocean. Many, but not all of the cars, have begun to collapse. Interestingly, in some areas like the Jackspot, where high wave energy helped break apart the components of the cars, some cars remain perfectly intact. And even cars in a collapsed condition provide valuable, low profile, three dimensional relief. Marine

invertebrates have colonized the material, and fish are using the structure for food and refuge.

Jack and Susan Power were instrumental in providing the funding to acquire them and the area where the 44 subway cars are located is named the Susan J Powers Reef. This reef site is providing valuable ecological and economic benefits, and should continue to do so for many years. To see a video of the Jackspot subway cars go to https://www.facebook.com/ph oto.php?v=494503363911160&set =vb.332223100084&type=2&thea ter

For more information on the artificial reefs off Ocean City, visit the Ocean City Reef Foundation website (OCRF) at: http://www.ocreeffoundation.c om and the Maryland Artificial Reef Initiative (MARI) at: http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheri es/reefs/

If you have any questions regarding fishing or fisheries management in Ocean City and Maryland's Atlantic coast, please send them to Keith Lockwood: klockwood@dnr.state.md.us or call 410-226-0078.





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The fall fishing season is shaping up, but sporadic windy days can make getting out a challenge this time of year. Most inshore boats are targeting flounder and cobia, while the offshore boats are getting in on the outstanding white marlin bite.

Flounder action is still not up to where it was a few weeks ago, but some folks are finding some decent fish. Representatives at Ocean's East 2 report that anglers drifting with strip baits are experiencing the best results, while those using jigs and live bait are working harder for their catches lately. Solid keepers, measuring up to 24inches, are taking strips of squid, and fresh cut bait offered along lower Bay dropoffs and deep channel edges. keepers are Some also

available within Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlets, but the action should improve as the dirty water clears up. Offshore wrecks are also a good bet, where keeper sea bass and gray triggerfish will also compete for your bait.

Cobia are lingering on the pilings of the CBBT as well as the buoys near the mouth of the Bay. Schools of cobia are also cruising on the surface as they gather to exit the area. Some of these fish are exceeding 50-pounds, with tossed jigs and live bait working well. Spanish mackerel activity has slowed up, but a few are still around. Scattered king mackerel are also striking at trolled baits in these same areas, along with scattered false albacore. Many boats are also enjoying the abundance of sharks



meandering about the oceanfront waters. Some of these toothy critters are exceeding 48-inches.

This is the time of year speckled trout begin to earn more attention. Specks are already showing promise for a good fall season with decent numbers of fish coming from most of the usual haunts. Rudee, Lynnhaven, and Little Creek Inlets, the Elizabeth River, Hungar's Creek, the Poquoson Flats and Mobjack Bay are becoming more predictable, with some specks pushing to over 21-inches. Look for this to continue to heat up over the next month.

Big red drum are starting to make a comeback for their end of season show. When folks locate these fish, they are fat from indulging over the summer. Look for the bull reds to become active in the surf off of Sandbridge soon. Puppy drum of all sizes are also coming from the surf lines, as well as Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets and the Elizabeth River.

Decent sized spot are still hitting in the lower Bay and oceanfront areas, with the local piers experiencing good action. Both bloodworms and Fishbites are working well.

Croaker are still in the mix near the MMBT, along the deeper channels in the lower Bay, off Little Creek and off Kiptopeake. Sheepshead action is still steady along the CBBT, with triggerfish and some tautog also responding in the same areas.

Amberjack are still available on some local wrecks, the Chesapeake Light Tower and the South Tower. Jack Crevelle are also a possibility, but this action is usually hit or miss.

Deep droppers are still having good luck near the Canyon edges, with nice blueline tilefish, blackbellied rosefish and scattered jumbo





Jimmy and Mason Seager from Newark, MD took advantage of the good sheepshead bite at the South Jetty, landing this 19-incher while fishing with sand fleas.

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sea bass hitting the decks.

The blazing billfish bite is still on, with multiple releases reported from most boats making the run offshore. Exceptional numbers of white marlin, with good numbers of blue marlin and sailfish, are blossoming into grand slams most every week now. The best marlin action is coming from the Canyon to the Triple 0's area in anywhere from 45 to 140 fathoms lately.

Scattered yellowfin and even bigeye tuna are also surprising a few boats. Some wahoo are more prevalent a little further south, while dolphin are still a good backup. Overnight trips will resume with calmer waters, with good chances of catching swordfish.

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



Andrew Jobes from Ocean Pines, MD caught this 18-inch flounder on a live spot while casting from the shoreline at Gudelsky Park in West Ocean City.



Black drum have been snapping at the South Jetty for the last couple of weeks and on Friday, Walt Stofflet from Oley, PA hooked this 15 pounder while fishing on the charter boat, "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford.



AUTC

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Erica Age is all smiles after catching these 2 striped bass, and releasing several smaller ones, while drifting live spot in the Ocean City Inlet. Erica hooked the 29 and 32-inch stripers during a trip aboard the "Wreckless" with Seth Hetherington and Justin Lednum.



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Just when we thought those ugly, white framed sunglasses were going out of style, Costa has come out with a clear frame model called the Double Haul. I am a huge fan of Costa sunglasses and own several pairs myself, but when I saw the clear, nylon frames on the Double Haul, my first reaction was that they were hideous, but you know what, I must be wrong because local tackle shops can't keep them in stock. They are literally flying off the shelves, and not from just young buyers, but from older folks as well.



Double Haul's lightweight, clear frames significantly reduce the "raccoon eyes" look that many fishermen, plague although a very small number of wearers have complained about getting sunburned around their eyes since they don't have the traditional, dark frames to shield the sun. The frames are large, so if you have a big dome like myself, they are very comfortable to wear and they also have patented vents that reduce Like most Costa fogging. sunglasses, they come with the non-slip rubber pads on the nose and arms so the fit is snug, but not too tight.

Double Hauls retail for between \$179 and \$249 depending on the lens you choose (400G, 580G, 580P) and can be found at several local tackle shops. You can also get them with prescription lenses as well. They are selling like hotcakes, so you better hurry to get your pair!

With incredible the popularity of Gulp! artificial baits, anglers are finding that combining a well made jig with some type of scent attractant really improves your success, so it's not suprising to see more manufacturers taking this route. Over the summer, I received a sample of a new lure called the Oozie Jig. Basically, it is a skirted, metal lure with a curved body that has a hollow center for holding a replaceable cotton wick. This wick can be soaked with your favorite fish attractant, like bunker oil, or it can be removed and actually stuffed with chum. I didn't get a chance to test the lure myself, but gave it to a buddy of mine, the Fluke Killer, who used it to catch flounder, weakfish and bluefish. The stainless steel lure can be casted, jigged or even trolled. I think it will be deadly when fishing for bluefish and casting to stripers in the fall.



The Oozie comes in 12 different sizes, ranging from 3/8 oz. to 16 oz. and retails for between \$8.99 to \$22.49.

They are definitely worth a try!



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These die-hard anglers fished in torrential downpours during an inshore trip aboard the head boat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins. Pictured are Ryan Butler, Sam Almoney, Judy Stauffer, Mike Ziegler and Arnie Burns. The largest sea bass of the trip weighed 3 lbs. 8 oz. and the heaviest flounder tipped the scale at over 4 lbs. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



This is the smile you get when you land a 23-inch, 4 lb. 14 oz. flounder, which is exactly what Beth Russell from Baltimore, MD did while drifting minnows in the East Channel. Weighed at Bahia Marina.







Flounder fishing on ocean wrecks and reefs is on fire, as shown by this catch from anglers fishing on the head boat, "Morning Star" last Friday. Lisa Powell from Arnold, MD, "Hurricane" Murray Adams from Ellicott City, MD, Jim Wells from Baltimore, MD, Megan Sadowski from Bel Air, MD, Dave Harkins from Bel Air, MD, John Buchleitner from Anne Arundel County, MD, Michelle Valencia from Baltimore, MD, Tom Muhlenforth from Baltimore, MD, Dennis Muhlenforth from Hockesson, DE and Daniel Muhlenforth from Bear, DE teamed up to land 8 keeper flounder and a pair of sea bass while fishing on ocean structure with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Mike Kinder and Todd Zimmerman. The heaviest flounder, caught by Daniel, weighed 5 lbs. 7 oz. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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Mike Majcher hooked this 21 3/4-inch flounder on a Gulp! and minnow combination in the Ocean City Inlet.



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## **TIDES & MOON PHASES**

# **OCEAN CITY INLET**

Wed. September 19Low 04:18 am Low 05:06 pmHigh 11:01 am High 11:15 pmThurs. September 20Low 05:09 am Low 06:04 pmHigh 11:56 am Fri. September 21Low 06:05 am Low 07:07 pmHigh 12:08 am High 12:57 pmSat. September 22Low 07:06 am Low 08:11 pmHigh 01:08 am High 02:09 pmSun. September 23Low 08:10 am Low 09:15 pmHigh 02:20 am High 03:25 pmMon. September 24Low 09:16 am Low 10:17 pmHigh 03:36 am High 04:32 pmTues. September 25Low 10:21 am Low 11:14 pmHigh 05:30 pmWed. September 26Low 11:23 am Low 11:23 amHigh 05:41 am High 06:20 pm		
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Add 1.5 hours for bay tides at the Rt. 50 Bridge. Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide Delaware Bay Entrance - subtract 1 hour 25 minutes to high tide - subtract 45 minutes to low tide Wachapreague, VA - add 4 minutes for high tide, - 21 minutes for low tide Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide These tides are only meant to be a guide, as tides can be affected by storms and weather fronts.



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Rick's Bait & Tackle Long Neck Striper-Ganza Tournament October 1 - Dec. 1 • Long Neck, DE 302-945-9245

33rd Annual Mid-Atlantic Surf Fishing Tournament October 4 - 6 • Ocean City, MD 443-614-6549 • oceancitysurfanglersmd.com

13th Annual Rocktoberfest October 13 - 14 • Bahia Marina • 410-289-7473

8th Annual A.M.S.A. Invitational Surf Fishing Tournament October 18 - 20 • 443-235-2609

Bill's Sport Shop Striper Tournament October 19 - December 7 • Lewes, DE 302-645-7654

Lewes Harbour Marina Striper Tournament October 20 - November 20 • Lewes, DE 302-645-6227

## NOVEMBER •

2nd Annual Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce Rockfish Tournament November 17 • Ocean Pines • 410-641-5306

20th Annual MSSA Chesapeake Bay Fall Tournament November 17 - 18 • MSSA • 410-255-5535

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