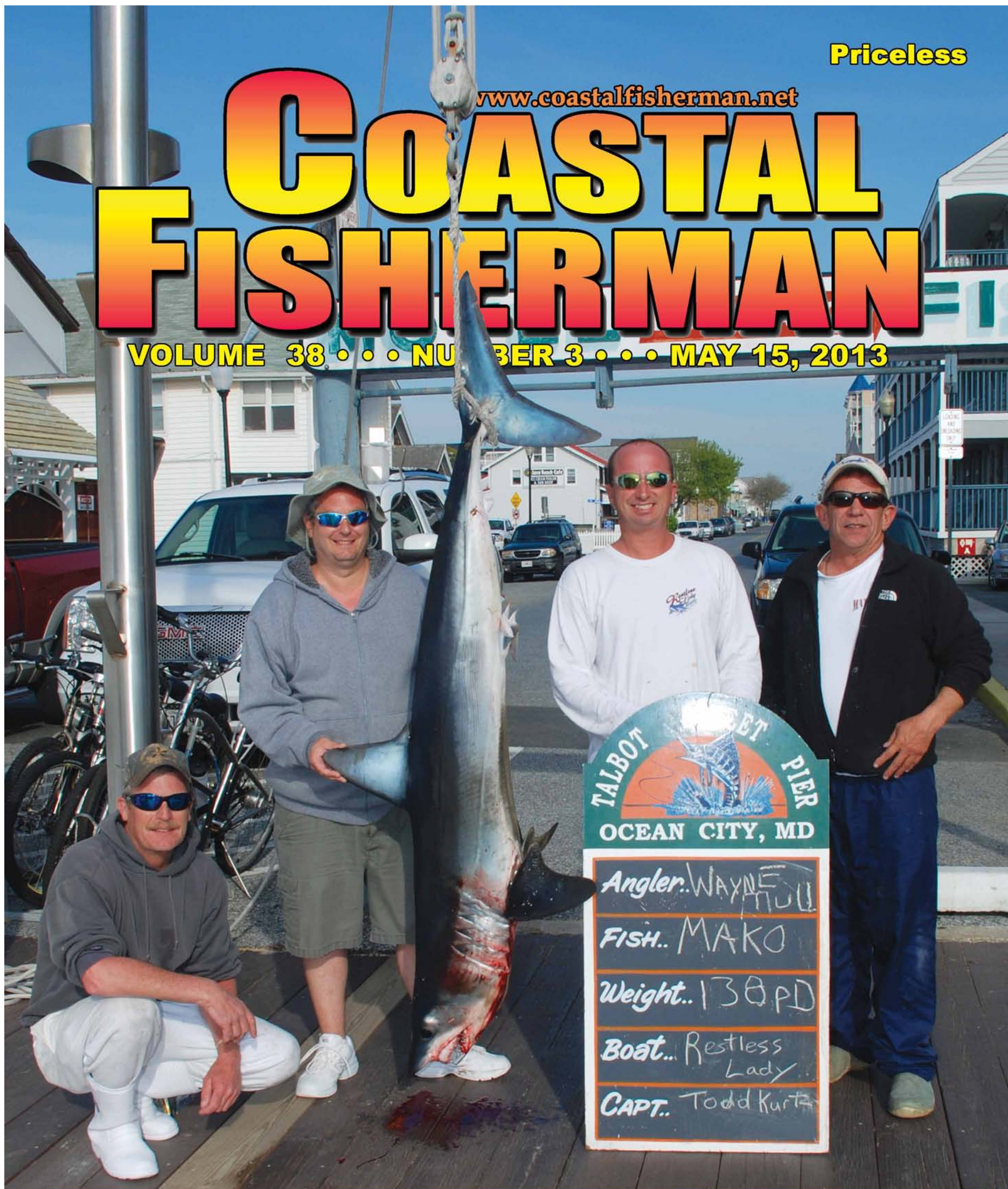


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COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 38 • • • NUMBER 3 • • • MAY 15, 2013



With a shot of warm water sitting around the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons for the last week, anglers have been chomping at the bit to get out there in search of sharks and tuna. On Friday, the crew on the charter boat, "Restless Lady" made the trip out to 200 fathoms in the middle of the Baltimore Canyon where they found whales, false albacore tuna, blue sharks and this 138 lb. mako shark that was captured by angler, Wayne Mull from Bernville, PA. The shark ate a whole bluefish in 67.4-degree and took only 8 minutes to get to the boat. Wayne was fishing with Captain Todd Kurtz, and mates Chuck Dammann and Sean Welsh. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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Capt. John

If you have a Tip or Trick you would like to share with Coastal Fisherman readers, please email it to coasalfisherman@comcast.net



It's black drum time in the Chesapeake Bay and Richard Bloom and Mason Newsham were there to take advantage of it, nailing these 4 that tipped the scale at 24, 36.8, 64 and 75.7 lbs. The duo was fishing at the Coral Beds aboard the "Local Girl" with Mike Newsham and Geoff Klopp and weighed their catch at Lewes Harbour Marina.



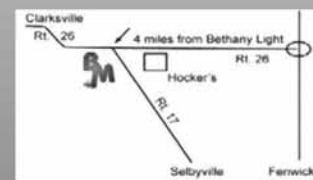
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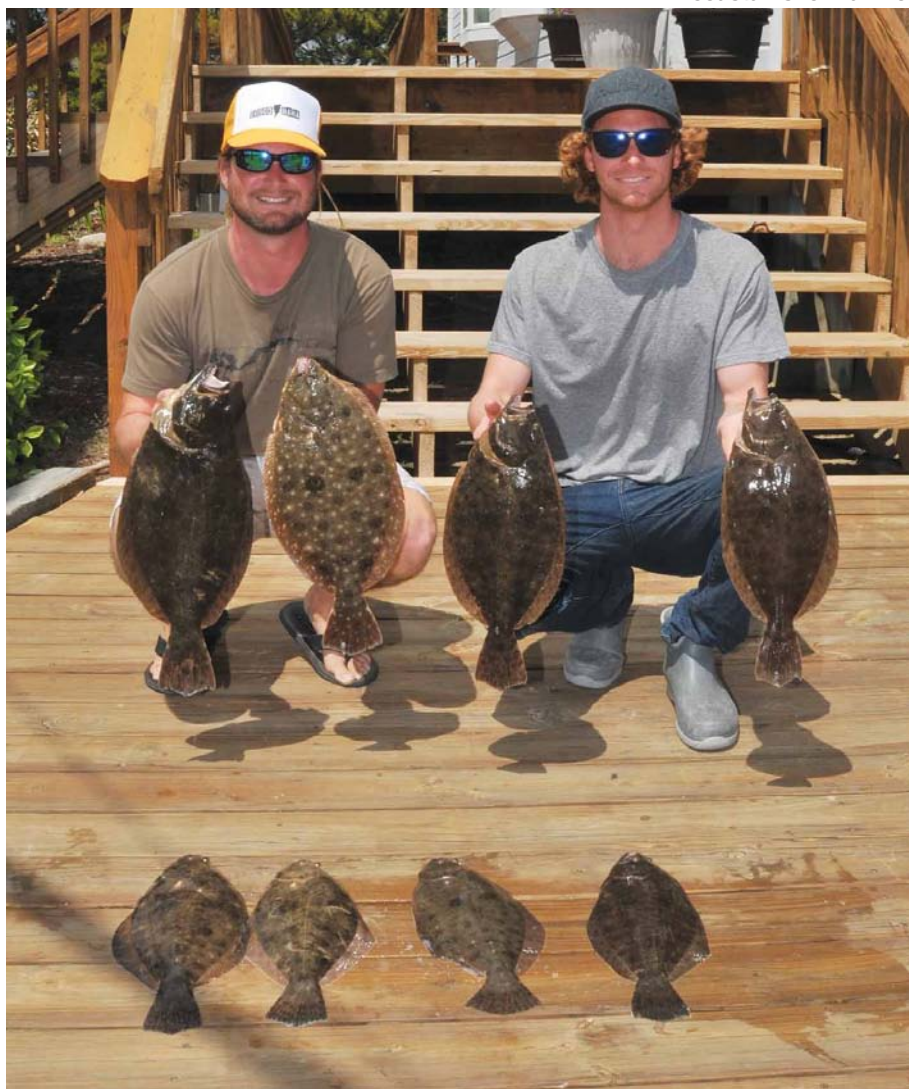
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On Friday, it was a bad day to be a flounder in the Thorofare where Mark Twilley of Fenwick, DE and Mike Haun from Berlin, MD caught their limit while drifting minnows and pink Gulp! Swimming Mulletts aboard the "Key West". Their largest fish measured 21.5-inches. Pictured at Ake Marine.

*The Ake Family
would like to thank
everyone who donated to
the
Ocean City
Volunteer Fire Dept.
and the
Ocean City
Reef Foundation
for their generosity,
thoughtfulness and
contributions
to the memory of
Doug Ake*



Ron Rodimak caught a personal best 43-inch, 31 lb. striped bass while fishing with bunker off 3R's Road in Delaware.



Dave Leizear and Big Bird Cropper took their good luck charm, Tammy Cropper, along for a fishing trip near the Assateague Bridge and ended their day with an 18-inch flounder and 30 snapper bluefish in the cooler. The fish were caught on Roy Rigs during the outgoing tide.



John Gudknecht was flounder fishing in the Lewes Canal when this 21-inch weakfish ate his Gulp! artificial bait. Picture courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.



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Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



After what seemed to be a case of never-ending wind, anglers got a reprieve last week and were able to put in some time on the water.

SHARKS

Offshore, a couple of warm water eddies have been hovering around the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons over the past couple of weeks, tempting offshore anglers with visions of tunas and sharks. The "Nontypical", "Wrangler" and the "Restless Lady" answered the call and each took a run out to see what they could hook up.

On Wednesday, Terry Layton and his crew on the "Nontypical" ventured out to 100 fathoms in the Poor Man's Canyon and released a load of blue sharks in addition to breaking off a mako shark on the troll. Terry reported water temperatures at 48-degrees until they reached the 100 fathom line where it spiked to 63-degrees.

On Thursday, the "Wrangler" headed out on an overnight trip towards the Baltimore Canyon where they spent the night in 500 fathoms and unfortunately had no marks and no bites. They



Last Friday, anglers on the charter boat, "Get Sum" had a good day on the water, landing 11 flounder while drifting white and pink Gulp! Swimming Mulletts. Four of the fish were caught in the Thorofare while the other 7 were hooked in the bay behind Assateague Island near the duck blinds. Fishing with Capt. Nick Clemente was Jeff Garner from Manheim, PA, Randy Garner and Rich and Kevin Hess from Lititz, PA and Kevin Garner from Palmyra, PA. The fish measured between 16.5 and 22-inches. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

trolled in the morning and hooked some false albacore tuna and released 11 blue sharks before returning home on Friday afternoon.

The first mako shark of the season was brought back to the dock on Friday by the crew aboard the charter boat, "Restless Lady". The 138 pounder was caught in 67.4-degree water by Wayne Mull on a whole bluefish in 200 fathoms, smack in the middle of the Baltimore Canyon. They

also released 5 blue sharks during the trip.

TUNA

The first bluefin tuna of the year was caught on Sunday by a boat out of Indian River. Chris Gaba boated a 70 pounder in 64-degree water in the Baltimore Canyon.

FLOUNDER

Things are looking up for flounder fishing with the number of keepers on the rise and a definite increase in the thickness of the fish.

It was a very good weekend for flounder fishermen in the bay behind Ocean City. Friday was especially good, with excellent catches coming in from the Thorofare and from

www.coastalfisherman.net the bay behind Assateague near the duck blinds. Another good spot was around the Rt. 90 Bridge.

Anglers found success in skinnier, warmer water and along the edges of the channels. Those drifting minnows and Gulp! combinations on the same hook seem to have the best luck. Others are swearing by the larger, 6-inch Gulp! Swimming Mulletts in either pink or white.

STRIPED BASS

Finally, we are seeing some good size stripers being landed by patient surfcasters off Assateague and from the beaches in North Ocean City.

The surf guys are a quiet bunch, especially when the spring run is on, and right now, IT IS ON! It started heating up on Thursday, and by Saturday a good number of fish were being landed. Sunday was still good, just not as good as Saturday. As always, fresh bunker was the bait of choice.

The bite wasn't limited to just the federal side of Assateague Island. A good number of linesiders were also caught on the state side and also from the beaches in North Ocean City (see picture on the right of Rich Bell's 44-incher).

We also saw some small stripers caught in big numbers around the Assateague Bridge by anglers tossing swim shads. Big Bird Cropper took the crew from Outdoors Delmarva down to the Assateague Bridge where they caught a number of small stripers and some bluefish.

TAUTOG

Anglers actually had some nice days last week where they

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COASTAL FISHERMAN

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were able to get outside the inlet and check out some ocean reefs and wrecks. Most came back with a few tautog in the box.

The nicest fish came in on Sunday when George Henning on the headboat, "Morning Star" boated a 25.75-inch, 11 lb. 8 oz. tog at an artificial reef.

SEA BASS

My contacts at Maryland's Fisheries Service have told me that when the black sea bass season opens on May 19th, Maryland will have a 12.5-inch minimum size with a 20 fish per person creel limit. This is in anticipation of the National Marine Fisheries Service approving a proposal in the coming weeks to reduce the current creel limit from 25 fish per person to 20 fish per person. So, even though Federal regulations may still be at 25 fish/person on May 19th when the season opens, anglers can only bring back 20 fish to any location in Maryland.

TOURNAMENT

The Ocean Pines Angler Club and the Maryland Saltwater Sportsman Association Flounder Tournament will be held for members on Friday (5/17) and Saturday (5/18) with weigh-ins at the Ocean Pines Yacht Club. Entry fee is only \$10. For more information, call Budd Heim at 410-726-1968.

See you at the scales!



Rich Bell was surfcasting from the beach in North Ocean City when he hooked this 44-inch, 28.5 lb. striper on a chunk of fresh bunker. Weighed at Oyster Bay Tackle.

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Nicholas Dadgostar from Felton, DE landed this 39-inch striped bass while fishing off Herring Point. The 20 lb. 11 oz. linesider ate a chunk of fresh bunker and was weighed at Bill's Sport Shop.



At the end of the spring tautog season in Delaware, Reef Site 11 was the place to be, as shown by the 14.6 pounder caught by Robbie Hummel and the 12 pounder hooked by Guy Jensen. Both were fishing with green crabs and weighed their fish at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Fully employing the Lewes Harbour Marina Stretch, Roger Aeo of Laurel, MD landed these 2 flounder while fishing off the Cape Henlopen Pier with Gulp! artificial baits. The largest fish measured 21-inches. Photo courtesy of Bill's Sport Shop.

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Nancy Cox from West Ocean City, MD caught this pair of 19-inch flounder while drifting minnows in the Thorofare with her husband, Danny Cox. These fish were 2 of 7 keepers that anglers caught this day.

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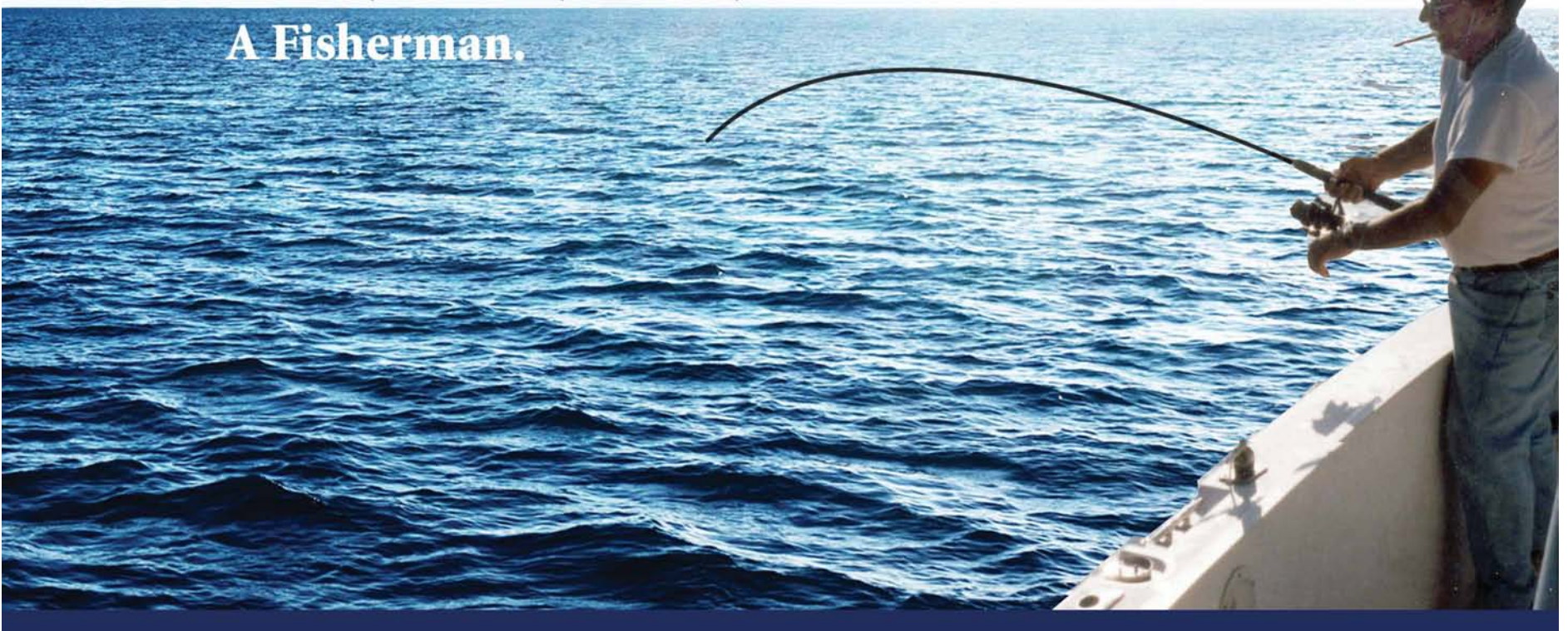
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Josh Coffman ventured down from Elizabethtown, PA and caught this 39-inch striper while fishing off Herring Point. The 21 lb. 2 oz. linesider ate a chunk of bunker and was weighed at Bill's Sport Shop.

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DNREC's 'Take a Kid Fishing!' program set for May 18th

Do you know a child or young teen who might enjoy learning about fishing and trying their hand as an angler? The Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife's "Take a Kid Fishing" program invites budding anglers age 6 through 15 and a parent/guardian to come out and cast a line on three upcoming dates.

"Take a Kid Fishing" teaches young people fundamental fishing skills and conservation concepts. The program is sponsored by DNREC's Division of Fish and Wildlife through its Aquatic Resource Education Center near Smyrna. Delaware Nature Society and Delaware State Parks partner with the Division of Fish and Wildlife to provide host sites for the program. Along with the angling, these free-admission fishing days also feature activity stations and prizes. Participants may want to pack a picnic lunch.

"Take a Kid Fishing" will be held on the following upcoming dates, with all fishing equipment provided:

10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, May 18 - Abbotts Mill Nature Center, Milford, DE.

10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, June 15 - Father's Day Fishing at Wilmington State Parks (Brandywine Park).

10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturday, July 13 - Judge Morris Estate, White Clay Creek State Park, Newark, DE.

While participation in "Take a Kid Fishing" is free of charge,

entrance fees are in effect at Delaware State Parks host sites: for each vehicle, the cost is \$3.00 with Delaware tags and \$6.00 with out-of-state tags. Free admission passes will be available at the gate for pre-registered participants.

To ensure enough supplies are on hand for these free programs, pre-registration is required. To pre-register or for more information about the program, including how to volunteer as an instructor, please call Tess Belcher at 302-735-8656 or email Theresa.Belcher@state.de.us.

Grandparents, parents, or others age 16 and older who wish to fish with the participants must have a current Delaware fishing license and a FIN number. A resident annual Delaware recreational fishing license, which covers fresh and tidal waters as well as crabbing and clamming, costs \$8.50 for anglers aged 16 through 64. Persons under the age of 16 and residents age 65 and older are not required to purchase fishing licenses in Delaware, although exempt persons may purchase fishing licenses if they so choose to help support fisheries management efforts.

Both resident and non-resident anglers age 16 and older also are required to obtain a Delaware Fisherman Information Network (FIN) number. The free number is included as part of a Delaware fishing license purchase. License-exempt anglers, including Delaware residents 65 and older, may visit www.delaware-fin.com or call 800-432-9228 toll-free to obtain their free FIN number.



Richard Cropper joined Jeremy and Chris Smith for a day of flounder fishing in the Thorofare on Friday and ended up with 6 keepers in the box. All of the fish were caught on squid and minnows during the outgoing tide.



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Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



"What are these blowfish that I'm catching?"



Blowfish, or Northern Puffer (*Sphoeroides maculatus*) fish suddenly showed up in the Ocean City area the last week of April. They were in the surf, the bay, the inlet, and caught from the Oceanic Pier. Not to be confused with the Southern Puffer that can be poisonous when eaten, Northern Puffer meat is perfectly safe to eat. I read that no one in the United States has ever died from eating a Northern Puffer, although we are told that we should not eat the skin, liver, entrails or roe.

"What do they look like?"

This is from the Chesapeake Bay Program website:

- Yellow, brown or olive body covered in small prickles
- Yellow or white belly
- Puffs up into a ball in self-defense
- Dark, vertical, splotchy bars on the sides
- Small, black spots on the back, sides and cheeks
- Tiny, beak-like mouth
- Small dorsal fin set far back, near the tail
- Usually grows 8-10 inches long

Northern pufferfish feed on crustations and have rabbit like protruding teeth that they use to crush clams and mussels. Yes, they can bite off your short-shanked hooks, so if you're into catching blowfish, use Pacific Bass long shanked hooks. If you are surf fishing, use a small bluefish rig. Their mouths are small, so a size #4 or #6 hook is all you need.

Blowfish eat just about anything, but since their natural diet is crustations of any kind, anglers do best with shrimp, squid, bloodworms or Fishbite bloodworms. I like to use a combination bait of either bloodworm or Fishbite bloodworm and a little strip of box squid. Use a high/low rigs with size #6 or #4 hooks. If nothing else is biting that day, maybe the blowfish will! They may not be the greatest fight in the world, but they sure are good eating!

Blowfish tend to swim in schools. Where there is one, there is more. Though not the world's greatest fighter they are definitely good eating!

"I always just throw them back! How do you clean them?"

First of all, wear gloves, as their skin is like course sandpaper and even though the fish are not poisonous their prickly outer skin can irritate your hands. Without gloves, the blowfish hide can take the skin right off your fingers!!! Cut the blowfish

with a sharp knife right behind the gills and cut all the way through the meat till you get to the skin. At this point, you can pull the meat away from the skin. It looks like a skinned chicken leg. This is a hard pull. Some people do the second step with a knife. Once you cut down to the bottom skin, turn your knife away from you and run the knife down the fish and the skin will peel off.

You can Goggle search "YouTube Cleaning Northern Puffers" and see many demonstrations of anglers cleaning blowfish. Some are better than others for sure. Some anglers use skinning tools. I like to use a sharp knife!

Most anglers cook the meat as a whole piece like a chicken leg. You can dip it in egg and coat with your favorite fish breading and pan or deep fry, or you can simply sauté them with butter and lemon. I have also taken the whole piece of meat and filleted out the middle cartilage to get two boneless fillets. These are good too!

I have found that any fish that feed on crustations are always tasty! Blowfish don't have sharp bones like other fish either, so they are easy to eat.

Blowfish tend to run in schools in the spring. Anglers in the surf fish for them with a kingfish rig or small high/low bluefish rig. Again, bait up with a combination bait of some kind of worm with a little strip of squid or shrimp. They aren't that particular. Rinse the sand off them, before putting them in the cooler. Many anglers fish a long rod for stripers, and a small rod in close for the blowfish, kingfish or whatever pan fish comes along!

Anglers in the bay tend to catch blowfish while fishing from the Sea Wall. They can also catch them from the Oceanic Pier, the 9th Street Pier and even Homer Gudelsky Park. If you are in a boat, I like fishing around the

Route 90 Bridge or back in the bay behind Assateague around the Verrazano Bridge and Buoys #8 and #10. Anywhere there is rough bottom and some structure you can catch blowfish all season long. They are usually in 6 to 15 foot of water. Any place you usually catch croaker and spot later in the season would be typical blowfish territory in the spring.

When I grew up, blowfish were everywhere! We'd sit on the Talbot Street Pier and catch them one after another while fishing for winter flounder in the spring. My brother and I could bait a hook with a chicken neck in the lagoon at Captain's Hill and dip a half dozen at a time with a landing net when you pulled in your line. Mom cooked them all the time. Markets were selling them as sea squab and Chicken of the Sea in the 70's. I remember catching and boiling them up for the cats in the garage. (I can still smell that...)

Northern puffers practically disappeared in the 1980's. Traditionally a by-product of certain fisheries, commercial fishermen are using peeler pots to catch blowfish for sale. They say to their friends: "I'm goin' toadin'!" and they bait up their peeler pots with crab scraps and catch Northern pufferfish!

Instead of calling them sea squabs or Chicken of the Sea, they are now calling them blow toads or sugar toads and they are becoming popular again!

Regardless, I've been eating them since I was a kid, and have continued to eat them whenever I catch a few. And yes, I have been known to target them because they are ummm, ummmm good!

Good fishing....

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



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Allen Dodson from Bunker Hill, WV used fresh bunker to fool this 43-inch striper while fishing from the Assateague surf. Photo courtesy of the Lucky Angler Bait & Tackle.



Herring Point in Delaware was a striper hot spot last week and Paul Powalski was there to capture this 37-incher that weighed 15 lbs. 15 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop.

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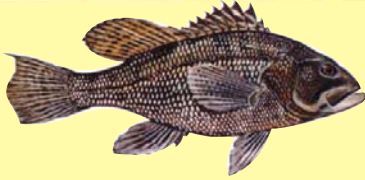
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9" minimum 25 per person/day



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18" - 27" 1 per person/day



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2 per person/day



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16" minimum
1/1 - 5/15 4 per person/day
5/16 - 10/31 2 per person/day

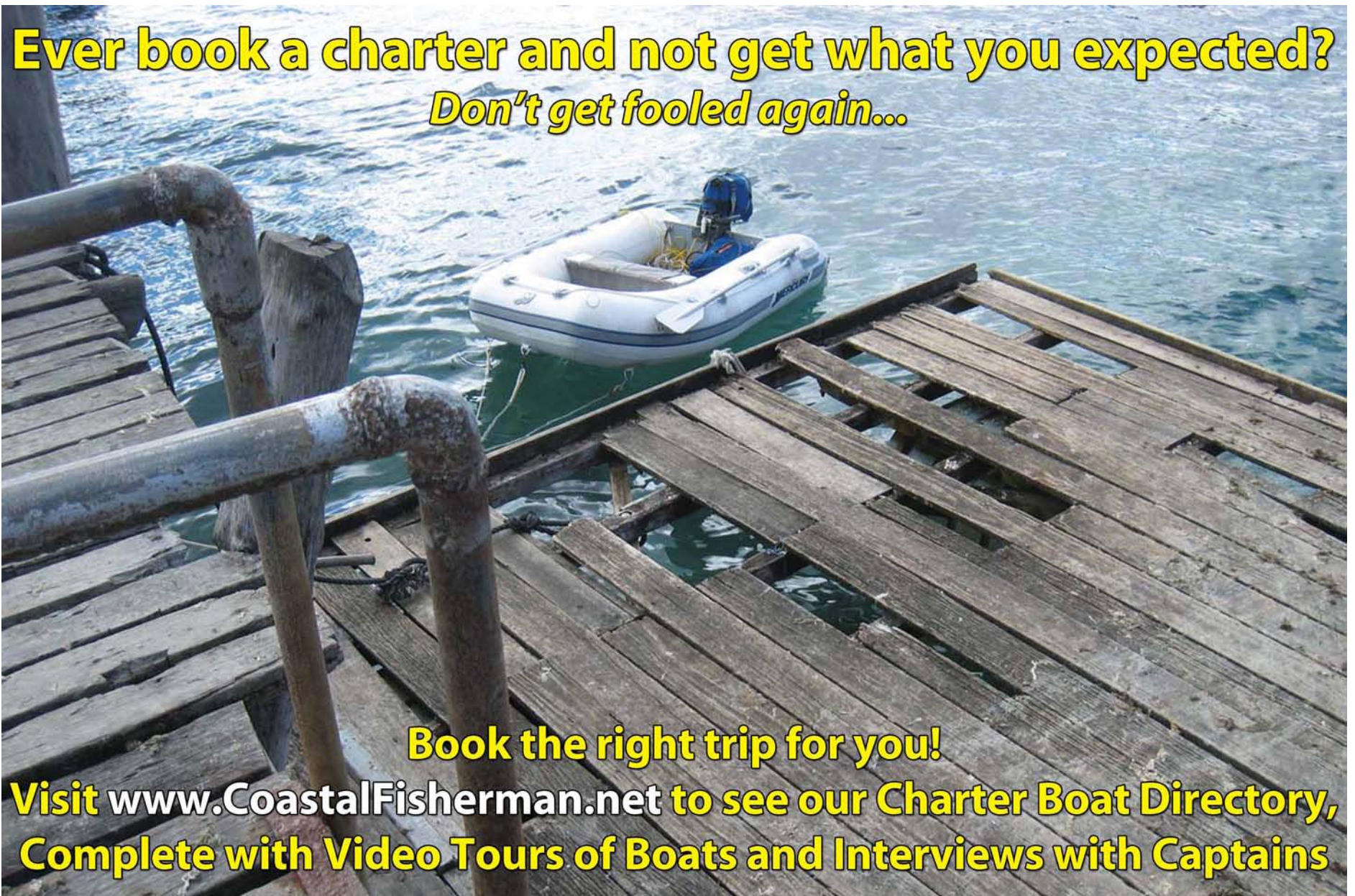


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Jeff and Jody Dunlap from Windsor, PA were fishing in the Thorofare when they caught 3 keeper flounder on live minnows. The fish measured 18, 22 and 24 inches, with the largest fish tipping the scale at an even 5 lbs.

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4th Annual Memorial Day Bluefish Tournament

Chairman: Franky Pettolina

Registration: May 24, 6:30 p.m.
Fishing Days: (1 of 2) May 25 & 26
Awards Banquet: May 26, 6:30 p.m.

You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament

34th Annual Small Boat Tournament

Chairman: Bill Regan

Registration: June 21, 6:30 p.m.
Fishing Days: (1 of 2) June 22 & 23
Awards Banquet: June 23, 6:30 p.m.

You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament

31st Annual Canyon Kick Off

Chairmen: Bill Regan & Annette Cropper

Registration: July 3, 6:30 p.m.
Fishing Days: (2 of 3) July 5, 6 & 7
Awards Banquet: July 7, 6:30 p.m.

You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament

9th Annual Kid's Classic

Chairmen: Bill Regan, Annette Cropper & Pat Svehla

Registration: July 19, 6:30 p.m.
Fishing Days: (1 or 2 of 2) July 20 & 21
Sunday Carnival & Awards: July 21, 5 - 8 p.m.

You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament

5th Annual OCMC Ladies' Tournament

Chairmen: Franky Pettolina & Amanda Shick

Registration: August 1, 6 p.m.
Fishing Days: (1 of 2) August 2 & 3
Awards Banquet: August 3, 6:30 p.m.

You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament

55th Annual Labor Day White Marlin Tournament

Chairmen: Franky Pettolina, Al Rittmeyer, Bob Wimbrow & Bill Fenwick

Registration: Aug. 29, 6:30 p.m.
Fishing Days: (2 of 3) Aug. 30, 31 & Sept. 1
Awards Banquet: Sept. 1, 6:30 p.m.

You do not need to be a member of OCMC to participate in this tournament

35th Annual Challenge Cup

Chairman: Jon C. Duffie

Registration: Sept. 12, 7 p.m.
Fishing Days: (2 of 2) Sept. 13 & 14
Awards Banquet: Sept. 14 6:30 p.m.

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WHERE: Submit your catch for measurement at participating local tackle shops. If your catch meets the fish species minimum size requirements, you will receive an award certificate and invitation to the Maryland Fishing Challenge final awards celebration on September 7th, 2013.

WHEN: The contest runs through midnight, September 2, 2013 (Labor Day).

SPECIAL YOUTH CATEGORY: The Maryland Fishing Challenge features a special category to recognize and award prizes to specially selected youth anglers from selected events and from youth members of the Maryland Youth Fishing Club who provide entries to DNR's Angler's Log: <http://dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries/fishingreport/log.asp>

For more information about the citation award program contact Keith Lockwood: klockwood@dnr.state.md.us or (410) 226-0078, Ext 107. For additional information regarding the Maryland Fishing Challenge contact Marty Gary: mlgary@dnr.state.md.us.



Ryan Taylor, Ed Holston and Jerry Cannon caught 10 keeper flounder (3 shown) while fishing out of Wachapreague, VA with minnows and dual-tailed grubs. Their 3 largest fish measured 22-inches.



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This 36-inch striper fell at the hands of Rich Johnson from Felton, DE while tossing bucktails in the Indian River Inlet. The fish weighed 16 lbs. 13 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE.

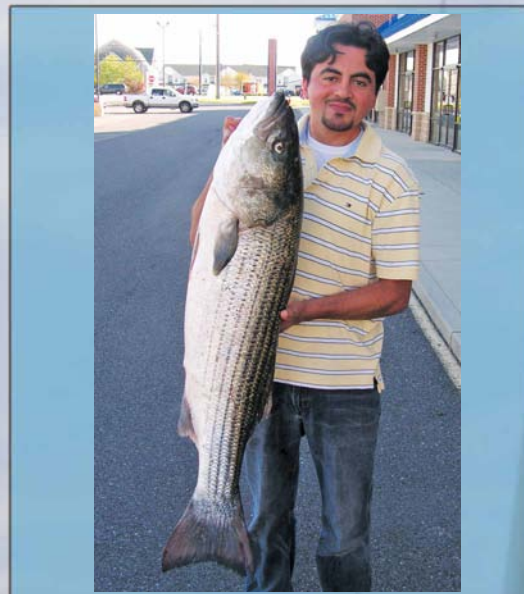
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BAY FISHING CHARTERS

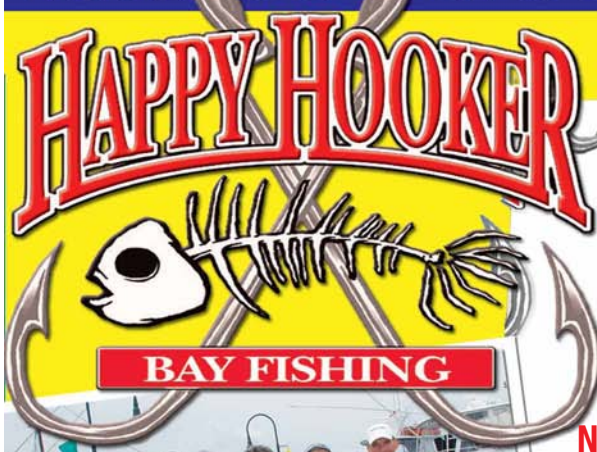


Charlie Carney from Bahia Marina caught his limit of flounder while fishing with Kevin "The King" Weber near the Rt. 90 Bridge. The fish were all caught on Gulp! Swimming Mulletts. Apparently, "The King" got skunked! Pictured at Bahia Marina.



Jacob Cockman and Charlie Brinker caught 3 keeper flounder while fishing on the charter boat, "Ocean City Guide Service" with Capt. John Prather. The flatties were hooked on white Gulp! Swimming Mulletts in the bay behind Assateague Island near the duck blinds and measured 16 1/4, 16 1/2 and 20-inches.

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BAY FISHING CHARTERS



Last weekend was a good one for flounder fishermen and once again, the Thorofare was the place to be. Jim Hughes, owner of the 7-Eleven on Rt. 589 joined Scott Peters for a day on the water and ended up catching 15 flounder, keeping 8, while drifting minnows and white Gulp! Swimming Mulletts. Only 3 of the fish were under 18-inches with the largest flattie measuring 24-inches. Great day!



Two-year-old Ivy Clemente muscled in her very first flounder during a trip with her parents, Michelle and Capt. Nick Clemente on the charter boat, "Get Sum". Ivy caught her 17-incher on a white Gulp! Swimming Mullet, while her mom landed a 20-incher on a pink Gulp!. Both fish were caught while drifting in the Thorofare. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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BAY FISHING CHARTERS



With Capt. Mike Walsh and mate Cale Layton leading the way, anglers fishing on the headboat, "Bay Bee" have had some excellent days of flounder fishing this spring, as shown by this catch on Friday when 8 flounder ended up in the box. Hannah Reed and Autumn Bennett from Harrisburg, PA, George Henning from Ocean City, MD, Barry Taylor from Pensacola, FL, Mark Watson from Winchester, VA, Ted Pike from Gainesville, VA, Keith Mutchler from Berlin, MD and Chris Reider from Reading, PA all went home with flounder in the cooler after fishing with squid and shiners in the Thorofare. The fish measured between 17.5 and 19.5-inches. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Carlos Chavez from Millsboro, DE captured this 43-inch striper while tossing a Storm lure in the Indian River Inlet. The big linesider weighed 28 lbs. 8 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop.

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OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Don Benjamin from Ocean View, DE, Harry Lewis and Kenny Vincent from Rehoboth, DE and Doc Peoples from Dagsboro, DE finally made it out for some tautog fishing at Fenwick Shoal and caught 8 keepers (4 pictured) while using green crab, shrimp and clams for bait. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em at the Indian River Marina.



Stelios Gatanas, John Riccardi, Alex Levantovsky and Walter Moore had a spectacular day tog fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder. All of the fish ate white crabs except Walter's 15 pounder, which fell for green crab.

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On Saturday, Brian Smith from Delmar, MD was drifting a pink Gulp! Swimming Mullet near the Rt. 90 Bridge when he hooked into this 27-inch, 8 lb. weakfish. Brian also had 3 keeper flounder during the trip. Weighed at Ake Marine.

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Frank Lanigan looks like he is jumping for joy after muscling in this 32-inch chopper bluefish while drifting in the bay behind Assateague Island.



Justin West from Millsboro, DE used fresh clams to fool this 45-inch black drum while surfcasting off Herring Point.

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William Merashoff from Woodbine, MD caught this 21-inch flounder and a 17-inch bluefish while drifting squid and shiners south of the Rt. 50 Bridge. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.



Donald Lewis was tossing a jig and minnow combination in the Lewes Canal when he hooked into this 6 lb. 15 oz. flounder. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Tim Kane and Don Riggins from Ocean City, MD joined Capt. Chester Sadowski and mate Frank Steuernagle for a day of tautog fishing at the Bass Grounds and ended up with 5 fish in the box. The tog were hooked on green crabs. Capt. Chester reported a lot of 15-inch tog being released during the trip. Pictured at Sunset Provisions.

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On Sunday, George Henning from Ocean City, MD and Eleni Kangas from Frankford, DE each landed a tautog while fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Mike Kinder and Jake Shaffer. George's blackfish measured 25 3/4-inches and weighed 11 lbs. 8 oz. Both fish were caught while using crabs for bait at an artificial reef. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



The first bluefin tuna of the year was landed on Sunday by Chris Gaba while fishing in 64-degree water in the Baltimore Canyon. Chris was on the "Hook'N Up" with Andrew Hill and John Dolmetsch when he hooked the 70 pounder on a skirted ballyhoo.

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Hugh Cropper of West Ocean City, MD is all smiles after catching and releasing this 46-inch striper after hooking it on a chunk of bunker. Hugh was fishing off Hog Island with Jay Phillips and Joe Dashiell.

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Delaware Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



It finally looks like we have a fishing season with nicer weather allowing anglers to get out on the water.

Bert at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina reported water temperatures in the Indian River Inlet hovering between 54 and 58-degrees, resulting in an excellent striped bite on Thursday night for anglers casting bucktails and swim shads from the shoreline. Boaters didn't fare anywhere near as well. The fish were big, with some reaching over 40-inches. Unfortunately, the bite didn't continue and fell short on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

Anglers also caught a few bluefish in the Inlet, but the action was spotty and the fish were on the small side.

Some nice size tautog were captured by anglers on Saturday along the north side of the Indian River Inlet under the bridge.

Flounder action has improved in the bays around the VFW Slough and at Massey's Ditch. Most of the flatties being caught are in the 19 to 20-inch range.

In the surf, a few striped bass were landed in addition to a couple of red drum and 14 to 16-inch bluefish. Surfcasters continue being hounded by blowfish, skates



With the flounder bite in the Lewes Canal heating up, anglers returning with nice catches of flatties has become more commonplace, like this load caught by Bruce Phillips and D.J. Churchill. The duo boxed their limit of 8 flounder, measuring up to 23-inches, while drifting minnows. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.

and sharks. At Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck, Mike Behney reported a good striped bite for surfcasters fishing from the shores of the Delaware State Park and the first croakers showed up in the surf at Cape Henlopen. Fish were in the 10 to 11-inch range.

The flounder bite was very good off the Cape Henlopen

Pier, but the throwback ratio was very high. Mike also said a 20-inch weakfish was caught off the Pier last week.

Further north in Lewes, Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said strong easterly breezes pushed stripers in close to shore and created good surf action for guys fishing from Broadkill Beach midweek. Jack Austin, Tosh

www.coastalfisherman.net
Tryon, Chris Vann and Brent Wiest endured wind and rain in their faces Tuesday, but were rewarded with a four man limit of bass weighing up to 18.5 pounds while soaking clams in the suds. Ocean beach anglers also got into some stripers. Anthony Lano landed a 20.5 pound linesider in the wash at Herring Point, using bunker. Bert Long deployed clam baits to release 7 stripers at Herring Point on Thursday. He also had a 28 inch black drum and the season's first croakers, a pair of 14 inchers.

Black drum were active in the Delaware Bay around the new moon. Mason Newsham nailed a 75.7 pound behemoth and Richard Bloom boated a 64 pounder at the Coral Beds. They were using surf clams, and the bite happened Tuesday evening during the first of flood tide.

Joe will be stocking surf clams throughout May, but suggests calling early in the week to reserve bait for the weekend.

The Lewes Canal continues to give up good numbers of flounder. D.J. Churchill and Bruce Phillips drifted minnows and shiners in the Canal on Thursday for their limit of 8 flatties measuring up to 23 inches, and a nice bluefish (picture on left). Donald Lewis was working a jig and minnow combo when he connected with a just shy of citation 6.9 pound doormat.

Flounder aficionados are hoping for more fluke that size

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during the annual Canal Flounder Tournament, to take place Friday, May 17th. Interested anglers can sign up at Lewes Harbour Marina up until the 7am start time. Entry fee is \$25 per person, \$5 of which is donated to the Camp Awareness Youth Program. Complete details can be found in the fishing reports section at www.lewesharbourmarina.com

Flounder were also found in good supply around the Cape Henlopen Pier. Folks at the rail reported catching flatfish using speck rigs sweetened with cut bunker or shiners, and small jigs tipped with Gulp! Best bites have occurred after dark, during the beginning of outgoing current. There have been quite a few incidental catches of trout among flounder fishermen recently, so it's likely those who target weakfish around traditional shallow water structure like the Roosevelt Jetties, Ferry Wall and the Broadkill rockpile should have success.

Gulp!, Bass Assassin Sea Shads, small bucktails and MirrOLures are good choices for artificial offerings. Bait fishermen should catch using peeler crab or chicken.

Reef Site 11 yielded some impressive tautog at the end of spring season. Robbie Hummel had a 14.6 pound bruiser, Guy Jensen got a 12 pounder, and Keith Orendorf iced an 8.3 pound citation earner as part of their limit of over 6 pound tog taken there. Other boaters along the Inner and Outer Walls and Ice Breakers got in on the last of spring toggging as well.

Net fishermen doing sturgeon research in the Ocean south of Indian River continue to report seeing thresher sharks. The first hook and line catch of a sickle tail could happen soon, with sharks feeding on schools of bunker as they migrate along the edges of the Shipping Channel.

Until next week, tight lines!



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DINING ON DELMARVA

The Galley

by Mama Jock



Sauteed Striped Bass with Garlic Mustard Sauce

2 lbs. striped bass fillets, skinned and boned
1/4 cup flour
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. pepper
2 eggs, lightly beaten
1 TBSP. unsalted butter
1/4 cup olive oil

Garlic Mustard Sauce

7 TBSP. unsalted butter
4 cloves garlic, crushed
1/4 cup Dijon mustard
2 tsp. lemon zest

Preheat oven to 375 degrees.

Cut fillets into portions. Combine flour, salt and pepper in one dish and the eggs in another.

Melt 1 TBSP. butter in a saucepan and add olive oil until hot.

Dredge the fish, shake off excess, dip into egg and add the fillets to the pan one at a time.

Saute until golden brown on both sides.

Remove from pan and assemble in a baking dish.

Bake for 8 to 10 minutes.

Wipe out the olive oil and melt 7 TBSP. of butter in the saucepan.

Add the garlic, mustard and lemon zest.

Whisk in the pan until

blended, continuing to stir every 2 minutes over medium heat.

Serve with fillets.

Serves 4 to 6.

Pan Roasted Black Sea Bass

6 TBSP. olive oil, divided
1 large onion, chopped
1/2 cup Marsala or white wine
2 TBSP. butter
1 lb. mushrooms, sliced
1 cup chicken stock
Salt and pepper, to taste
4 sea bass fillets
2 TBSP parsley, chopped

Preheat oven to 450 degrees.

Heat 3 TBSP of olive oil over medium-high heat and saute the onion until translucent, about 8 minutes.

Deglaze the pan with the

wine; when reduced slightly, add the mushrooms and butter.

Reduce heat; cook until mushrooms are tender.

Add the chicken stock, salt and pepper, and let the sauce cook down until slightly thickened.

In an ovenproof saute pan, heat the other 3 TBSP. of olive oil.

Season the fillets with salt and pepper; add to the pan.

Cook fillets 3 minutes on each side, then transfer to oven for 3 to 4 minutes.

Spoon some of the onion-mushrooms onto plates and top with the pan roasted bass.

Serves 4.

Shrimp with Rice and Spice

2 TBSP. olive oil
1 lb. Andouille sausage,

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cut into 1/2-inch slices
 2 cups chopped onions
 1 TBSP. minced onion
 1 (14.5 oz.) can chopped tomatoes
 3 TBSP. minced cilantro
 3 habanero peppers, cut in half and seeded
 2 bay leaves
 1 1/2 cups Uncle Ben's Converted Rice
 3 cups canned chicken stock
 2 TBSP. salt
 1 lb. large shrimp, peeled and deveined
 1 bunch scallions, cut for garnish

Heat the olive oil in a large heavy pot over medium heat.

Add the onions, garlic, tomatoes and parsley; cook until tender, stirring frequently, about 15 minutes.

Add the sausage, bay leaves and pepper halves; cook 5 more minutes.

Add rice and chicken stock; add salt and mix gently.

Raise the heat to bring the contents to a boil; cover tightly and turn heat down to very low.

Cook for 45 minutes, stirring gently every few minutes.

With about 10 minutes to go, stir in the shrimp and scallions.

Before serving, remove pepper halves, being sure to account for all 6 pieces used in the recipe.

Serves 4-6.

Sweet and Smoky Lemon-Broiled Salmon

2 large lemons, divided
 1 TBSP. smoked paprika
 1 TBSP. honey
 3/4 tsp. kosher salt
 4 (6 oz.) salmon fillets
 Grated lemon zest, optional

Parsley

Preheat broiler.

Grate lemon zest and squeeze juice from 1 lemon to measure 1 TBSP. each.

Cut remaining lemon into 4 wedges.

Combine lemon zest, lemon juice, paprika, honey and salt, stirring to form a paste.

Spread lemon paste evenly over top and sides of fillets.

Place fillets on a rack in a broiler pan.

Broil 4 to 5 minutes on each side.

Garnish with parsley.

Serves 4.

Trout with Mustard Cream Sauce

3 TSP. olive oil
 4 trout fillets
 1/2 tsp. each salt and pepper

Cooking spray

4 TBSP. minced shallots
 1/2 cup dry white wine
 1/2 cup half and half
 2 TBSP. Dijon mustard
 2 tsp. chopped fresh tarragon

Heat oil in a large non-stick skillet over medium-high heat.

Sprinkle fish with salt and pepper; add to pan, skin side down.

Cook 4 minutes or until skin is crisp.

Coat fish with cooking spray; turn fish over and cook 1 minute or until desired degree of doneness.

Remove from pan and keep warm.

Reduce heat to medium; coat pan with cooking spray.

Add shallots to pan; saute until tender.

Add wine; cook until reduced by half, whisking

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The Galley, cont'd.
constantly.

Add half and half and tarragon; cook until thickened, stirring constantly with whisk. Serve sauce with trout.

Serves 4.

Oriental Flounder

- 3 lbs. flounder fillets
- 1/4 cup soy sauce
- 6 garlic cloves, crushed
- 1/4 cup fresh ginger, grated
- 1/4 cup karo or maple syrup
- Juice of one lemon
- 1 lemon, sliced thin
- Parsley for garnish

Mix together soy sauce, garlic, ginger, syrup and lemon juice in a bowl.

Place the salmon in a large

dish and coat the fillets with the sauce.

Cover the fish; marinate for at least one hour.

Remove and grill to desired doneness.

Garnish with parsley and thin lemon slices.

Serves 6-8.

Tog Chowder

- 2 TBSP. butter
- 1 small onion, chopped fine
- 1 bay leaf, fresh or dried
- 2 TBSP. flour
- 1 1/2 tsp. Old Bay seasoning
- 1 cup clam juice
- 1 can chicken or vegetable broth
- 2 cups whole milk or light cream
- 2 medium potatoes, peeled and diced



The Inner Wall in Lewes, DE gave up some nice size tautog this spring as shown by the 8 lb. 4 oz. bruiser caught by Jacob Webb while using green crab for bait. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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DINING ON DELMARVA



Clams were used to fool this 18 lb. 15 oz. *morone saxatilis* by Jack Austin while surf fishing from Broadkill Beach. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



David Dinsmore from Forest Hill, MD muscled in this 5 lb. 4 oz. flounder and a snapper bluefish while fishing with minnows in the Thorofare aboard the "Honey Badger".

4 slices cooked crisp bacon, chopped
1-2 lbs. tog fillets, cubed
Salt and pepper to taste
Chopped fresh chives

In a soup pot, melt butter over medium heat.

Add onion and bay leaf; cook 2-3 minutes.

Whisk in flour and Old Bay; cook 2 more minutes.

Whisk in clam juice and broth; cook until broth begins to thicken.

Slowly stir in milk.

Add potatoes and raise heat to a boil.

Reduce heat to a simmer; cook 12-15 minutes or until potatoes are tender.

Add bacon and tog. Cook 2-3 more minutes or until tog begins to flake.

Season with salt and pepper and garnish with chives.

Serves 4-6.

Oyster Croquettes

1 cup oysters
1 cup seasoned mashed potatoes
1/4 stick butter
2 TBSP. cream
1 egg
Cracker crumbs
Oil for frying

Chop oysters very finely. Add mashed potatoes, seasoned with butter, salt, pepper and cream.

Shape into croquettes, dip in beaten egg, then roll in cracker crumbs.

Fry until golden brown in hot deep oil.

Serves 4-6.

You can find all of Mama Jock's recipes at www.coastalfisherman.net. Just click on "Recipes" at the top of the page.

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Ship to Shore

by Pat Schrawder
L&L Marine Electronics



MARINE ELECTRONICS UNDERSTANDING THE LANGUAGE

Before we take a closer look at some of today's "hot" items and technology, let's examine some of the new terminology you're likely to run into when shopping for electronic equipment. These terms are common to most, if not all, of the equipment on the market today.

"WI-FI" - This is basically just a term for wireless communications between two or more items of equipment on your boat. Many of today's new items have the capability of wireless data sharing. In some cases, it is built-in and in others, it is an option that can be added. There are variations of Wi-Fi depending on the exact piece of equipment and

the manufacturer but they all operate with the same basic technology. That is to say that the main item, generally a multi-function display (MFD), is able to be controlled by one or more other items such as your smart phone and/or smart tablet. This gives you the ability to make a 2nd station display or control head that is portable and can be used anywhere on the boat. With the right software or "app", you can do many things. In some cases, you can sit at home and plan a trip with waypoints and routes on your home computer, then save it on an SD chip or transmit wirelessly to your MFD.

The term Wi-Fi may be a little confusing because we hear about it in relation to our computers and phones using

the internet. When it comes to marine electronics, there are units that make use of the Internet but there are others that just communicate with each other without the use of the Internet. The term "networking" is often used interchangeably with Wi-Fi but not always accurately.

There are a couple of things to keep in mind when looking at purchasing new equipment advertised with Wi-Fi capability. Does it require the use of the Internet and, if so, will you have access to it? Are there any "hot spots" near you? Is your smartphone within range of the Internet? Do you have to have a smartphone or tablet to use the features of the equipment on your boat? Do you need an "app" and is it free? This is relatively new technology for boat use and it is likely to expand over the months and years ahead, so this year may be the time to start familiarizing yourself with its features, costs and requirements.

"CHIRP" - Many of today's fishfinders make use of so-called CHIRP (Compressed High-Intensity Radar Pulse) technology for improved fish detection. In order to use this technology, you need a fishfinder that has DSP (Digital Signal Processing - sometimes referred to as CHIRP enabled) and you need to purchase a CHIRP broadband transducer. Airmar is the leader in those transducers and is, in fact, the supplier for most transducers available today, CHIRP and regular.

All transducers send signals from the boat through the water to the bottom. Conventional transducers mostly use one or two frequencies, typically 50 KHz and 200 KHz. Once the signal reaches a target, it reflects back to the sounder on the boat which interprets the returning signal and displays it on the fishfinder.

CHIRP transducers send signals of multiple frequencies

(sometimes 90 or more) using a longer duration than a usual pulse with energy that is 10 to 1,000 times greater than conventional transducers. The result is that they cover more area under the boat with 5 to 10 times greater detail and resolution. They offer precise separation of bait, game fish and underwater structures and promise superior performance in noisy environments.

Who wouldn't want all these features? You might ask yourself, "What's the catch"? The answer can be found in the price at this point in time. Most of the CHIRP transducers are thru-hull models and their price range is \$740 to \$1,500, so this won't be the choice for the majority of boaters but, for those who can afford it, they will have a distinct advantage over those without CHIRP.

"BACKBONE" - Most multi-function units on the market today are NMEA2000 compatible which just refers to their networking protocol. This is the way units connect together to "communicate" and share data. Ideally, a boat (especially a new one) will have one main transmission line called the BACKBONE running the length of the boat and accessible for the addition of "T" connectors and other lead lines that run to other items of equipment. I would expect that newly manufactured boats will start providing a basic "backbone" transmission line with one or more "T's" and/or drop cables.

If you are shopping for a new boat, try asking about this option. It is far easier to install while the boat is under construction.

Next time we'll take a look at the latest in charting.

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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- Capt. Mark Sampson, Fish Finder Adventures



Hugh Cropper must be getting slow in his old age and Jay Phillips (pictured) took full advantage of it, getting to Hugh's rod first to catch and release this 45.5-inch striper while fishing off Hog Island last Friday.

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Chum Lines

—by Capt. Mark Sampson



Besides maybe toadfish and sea robins, there's not too many fish caught around here that don't have some kind of minimum size limit on them. Therefore, along with hooks, weights and bait, most anglers are going to consider some sort of measuring device, a very important piece of equipment to have close at hand whenever they're fishing. One way or the other, not having a ruler will come back to haunt fishermen, because just as no one wants to get a fine for keeping a fish that's undersize, they also don't want to lose an opportunity to bring home a great tasting, legal size fish for dinner.

Measuring tools can be as simple as a pencil mark on the seat or gunwale of a boat, or as elaborate as the vinyl stick-on rulers that not only show the inches but also have notes that show what the legal size for

local species are; 12.5-inches for black sea bass, 16-inches for flounder, 28-inches for striped bass, and so forth. Depending upon what they are likely to catch, some anglers make out fine by just using the measuring tools that are often molded into the lid of their coolers, but be careful because these measurements can sometimes be off.

Depending upon the species, the regulations will stipulate either a fork-length or a total length measurement and anglers need to know which one is applicable. Measuring a fish is usually as simple as bringing it aboard and laying it out over the ruler or laying a tape measure over the fish. Usually the hardest part of the process is getting the fish to lay still long enough to get the reading.

The most problematic fish to measure are those that are quite

large because the measuring must be just as accurate as when dealing with small fish, but they are so much more difficult to handle. Compounding the problem is the fact that big fish must usually be measured in the water because if it's not a "keeper" it will have to be released and it can sometimes be impossible to bring a big fish aboard and release it without banging it up so much that it dies after being turned loose. It shouldn't be hard to imagine the hassles and hazards associated with trying to hang over the side of a rocking boat to accurately measure a big tuna, marlin or shark.

Over the years fishermen have come up with clever ways to measure large fish in the water including affixing measuring devices to the outside of their hull along the waterline, putting marks on a pole that they can hold down close to the fish, or attaching a pre-measured string to a pole that is held at the fish's nose whereby if the end of the line clears the fish's tail it's too small. Any of these methods might work but none are without their inaccuracies and inherent problems.

www.coastalfisherman.net

sharks, marlin, swordfish, Atlantic sailfish and tarpon. This measuring device is calibrated not only in inches but also with colored blocks that indicate the estimated weight of the fish being measured.

Using the Release Ruler requires that fishermen first mount one end to some sort of rigid pole such as a tag stick, gaff or mop handle. The company suggests that anglers attach a tennis ball to the other end. While the boat is slowly moving forward, the fish is brought to the side of the vessel and the end of the pole holding the Release Ruler is placed down in the water close to the front of its head. The ruler is allowed to trail back alongside of the fish with the tennis ball providing just the right amount of drag in the water to keep the ruler straight. From the deck, anglers should be able to read the inches and get a length, or at the very least, see the colored block that indicates the weight of the fish. Either way they come away with a pretty close estimate of the exact size of their catch.

Measuring a fish in this fashion will quickly tell anglers if their fish meets or exceeds minimum size limits set forth in fishery regulations or under tournament rules. No more guessing if a fish is big enough to keep, anglers who use the Release Ruler will see for themselves before they bring it aboard if their catch qualifies to be brought home. And as anyone who has ever fished a big money tournament knows, a few inches or a couple pounds one way or the other can be all it takes to end up in the winner's circle.

Even though Release Rulers are designed to be used for the aforementioned species, they can certainly be used to measure other types of fish as well as used to get the length and girth of fish that have been brought into the boat or up on a beach. More information on the Release Ruler can be found at www.releaseruler.com

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



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Dave McKay of West Ocean City, MD has been absolutely electric, landing his limit of flounder on multiple days last week. Dave is pictured with his lovely wife, Syd, after catching these 4 flounder on pink Gulp! Swimming Mulletts near the Rt. 90 Bridge. The fish were thick and the largest one measured 20.5-inches. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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The Lewes Canal is starting to heat up, producing some fat flounder like the one landed by James Mitchell on a live minnow. The fish weighed 5 lbs. 14 oz. on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Black Drum	48"	50 lbs. or 45"	Blue Shark *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Bluefish	34"	14 lbs. or 33"	Hammerhead *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Blue Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size	Mako *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Cobia	44"	-	Thresher *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"	Tiger *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"	Swordfish	Any Size	Any Size
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"	Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"
Golden Tilefish	28"	35 lbs. or 40"	Tuna:		
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"	Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lbs. or 32"
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 36"	False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"
Red Drum *	Any Size	45"	Bigeye ***	60"	70 lbs. or 48"
Sailfish *	Any Size	-	Bluefin ***	60"	100 lbs. or 60"
Seabass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"	Yellowfin ***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"	Wahoo	60"	35 lbs. or 40"
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"	Weakfish	24"	3 lbs. or 20"
Speckled Trout	24"	-	White Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size
Striped Bass	40"	30 lbs. or 40"			

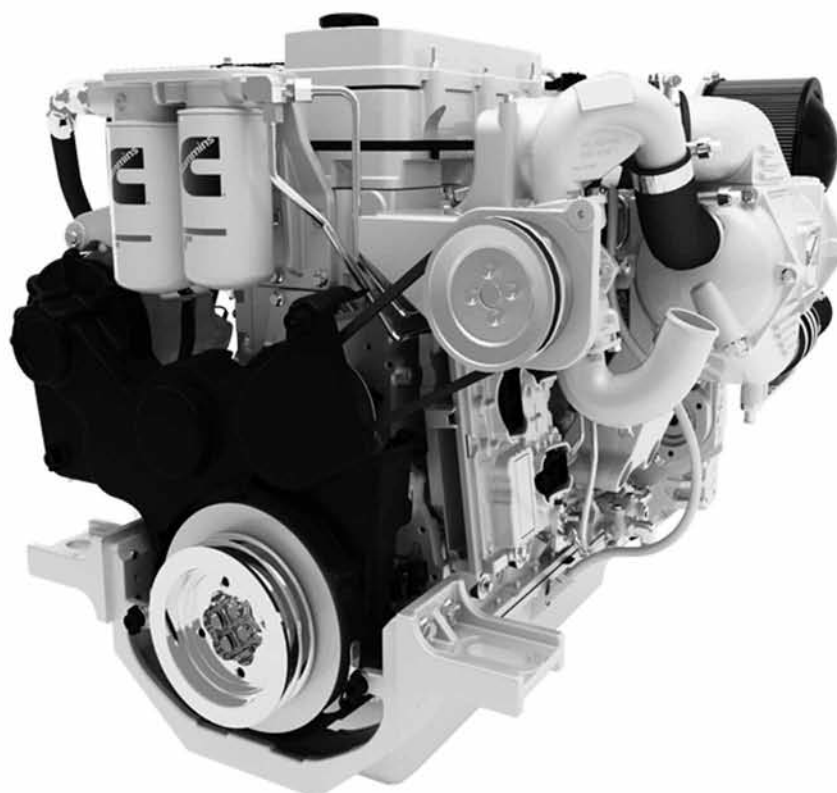
* Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program
 *** Use curved-fork-length measurements

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It was a bad hair day, but a good one for tautog fishing for Noulack Mouynivong of Frankford, DE. Noulack landed this 22-inch, 5 lb. 10 oz. blackfish on a green crab under the Indian River Bridge. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

HAVE A PHOTO OF YOUR CATCH?

Email it to coastalfisherman@comast.net

Include in the email:

- Angler's full name and town
- 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.

KEYS TO TAKING A GOOD FISH PICTURE:

- Have the angler face 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
- 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.

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2013

2013

COASTAL FISHERMAN

First Fish of the Year

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

Species	2013	2012	Species	2013	2012
 <p>Sea Bass</p>	<p>January 8, 2013 Mike Behney Cape May Rocks</p>	<p>May 22, 2012 J.C. Dennis "Morning Star" Artificial Reef</p>	 <p>Mako Shark ★ NEW</p>	<p>May 10, 2013 Wayne Mull "Restless Lady" Baltimore Canyon</p>	<p>April 29, 2012 Joseph Cangianelli "Reel Life" Baltimore Canyon</p>
 <p>Tautog</p>	<p>January 1, 2013 Mike Acito "Morning Star" Artificial Reef</p>	<p>January 1, 2012 John Murter "Morning Star" Artificial Reef</p>	 <p>White Marlin</p>	<p>None Reported</p>	<p>May 27, 2012 Grant Clubb "Chain Reaction II" Baltimore Canyon</p>
 <p>Striped Bass</p>	<p>January 1, 2013 Charlie Sitskorn "Slack Grabber" Little Fenwick</p>	<p>January 1, 2012 Josh Fallon "Patty Wagon II" Little Gull</p>	 <p>Blue Marlin</p>	<p>None Reported</p>	<p>May 28, 2012 John Elmes "Reel Desire" Washington Canyon</p>
 <p>Weakfish</p>	<p>April 28, 2013 Joel Robinson Lewes Beach</p>	<p>May 12, 2012 Adam Ford Broadkill Beach</p>	 <p>Bluefin Tuna ★ NEW</p>	<p>May 12, 2013 Chris Gaba Baltimore Canyon 70 lbs.</p>	<p>April 29, 2012 Mike Sears "Wrangler" Baltimore Canyon</p>
 <p>Flounder</p>	<p>April 1, 2013 Kevin Weber "Patty Wagon" Sinepuxent Bay</p>	<p>April 14, 2012 Aric Gilley "Martini Time" Thorofare</p>	 <p>Yellowfin Tuna</p>	<p>None Reported</p>	<p>May 11, 2012 Eric Myers "Foolish Pleasures" Baltimore Canyon</p>
 <p>Bluefish</p>	<p>April 21, 2013 Noah Graulich Cape Henlopen State Park</p>	<p>May 13, 2012 Big Bird Cropper Rt. 50 Bridge</p>	 <p>Longfin Tuna</p>	<p>None Reported</p>	<p>None Reported</p>
 <p>Black Drum</p>	<p>April 11, 2013 Bill Powell Assateague Surf</p>	<p>April 20, 2012 Lennie Foxwell Assateague Surf</p>	 <p>Bigeye Tuna</p>	<p>None Reported</p>	<p>June 9, 2012 Matt Boomer "Four Eights" Wilmington Canyon</p>
 <p>Sheepshead</p>	<p>None Reported</p>	<p>May 26, 2012 Robert Reno "Stroker" African Queen</p>	 <p>Dolphin</p>	<p>None Reported</p>	<p>May 1, 2012 Eric Polansky "Always Late Too" Baltimore Canyon</p>
 <p>Thresher Shark</p>	<p>None Reported</p>	<p>May 26, 2012 Baron Daiker "Tuna Tango" Fingers</p>	 <p>Wahoo</p>	<p>None Reported</p>	<p>May 27, 2012 Michael Willis "Karen Leigh" Baltimore Canyon</p>

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



Joe DiNorscia from Kennett Square, PA captured this 7 lb. 6 oz. tautog while fishing with green crabs at the Outer Wall. Weighed at Bill's Sport Shop.



Walter Moore from Oyster Bay Tackle hooked 1 flounder in the Thorofare and the other behind Harbor Island while drifting minnows and squid early last week.



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Here's another big flounder caught in the Lewes Canal last week. This one was boated by Chuck Hazel while drifting shiners. The fish weighed 5 lbs. 12 oz. on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Heaviest Fish Division

1st, 2nd, 3rd: Mako, Open (Shark), Bluefish

Release Division

Most Release Points: 1st, 2nd, 3rd

Daily Release Points: Thurs., Fri., Sat.

“Fish Bomb” Most Makos Released: Overall & Daily

Separate Added Entry Divisions

Heaviest Mako/Open, Shark Release, Bluefish, Tuna/Dolphin*

Levels - \$1,000, \$500, \$250, \$100, \$50, Daily

***New in 2013!**

“Reel Attitude” Youth Division 15 years or younger

2013 EVENTS SCHEDULE

Wednesday, June 12 Registration: 5 p.m. Captain's Meeting: 7 p.m.	Saturday, June 15 Outdoors Delmarva Event Under the tent: 1 - 7 p.m.
Thurs., June 13 - Sat., June 15 Fishing Days (fish 2 of 3) Weigh-Ins: 3:30 - 7 p.m.	Sunday, June 16 Awards Banquet: 1 p.m. Awards Presentation: 3 p.m.

Fishing from: Indian River, Ocean City, Chincoteague

For full tournament details, visit:

f OCSharkTournament.com

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Captains/Registration Meetings

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Alltackle, Ocean City | Capt. Steve's Bait & Tackle, Chincoteague, VA
Seaside Marina, Wachapreague, VA

**For more information & to register visit
www.mssa.net or call MSSA at 410-255-5535**



The surf off Herring Point has given up some big stripers lately and Lance Cochran was there to hook this 21 lb. 11 oz. linesider on a chunk of bunker. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Joe Dashiell was surfcasting off Hog Island when he caught and released this 46-inch striped bass after hooking it on a chunk of bunker. Joe was fishing with Hugh Cropper and Jay Phillips.



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2013





















COASTAL FISHERMAN

2013



Heaviest Fish of the Year

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

Species	Ocean City	Delaware	Species	Ocean City	Delaware
 Sea Bass	February 2, 2013 Jerry Thadenfelder "Morning Star" 5 lbs. 9 oz.	January 8, 2013 Mike Behney Cape May Rocks 5 lbs.	 Mako Shark	NEW May 10, 2013 Wayne Mull "Restless Lady" 138 lbs.	No Weights Reported
 Tautog	February 6, 2013 Arthur Guido "Morning Star" 18 lbs. 6 oz.	NEW May 10, 2013 Robbie Hummel Reef Site 11 14 lbs. 10 oz.	 Thresher Shark	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 Striped Bass	NEW May 11, 2013 Rich Bell North OC Beach 28 lbs. 8 oz.	April 29, 2013 Steven Matarese, Jr. Collins Beach 37 lbs. 12 oz.	 Bluefin Tuna	No Weights Reported	NEW May 12, 2013 Chris Gaba Baltimore Canyon 70 lbs.
 Weakfish	NEW May 11, 2013 Brian Smith Rt. 90 Bridge 8 lbs.	April 28, 2013 Joel Robinson Lewes Beach 7 lbs.	 Yellowfin Tuna	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 Speckled Trout	April 28, 2013 Big Bird Cropper Assateague Bridge 3 lbs. 8 oz.	No Weights Reported	 Longfin Tuna	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 Flounder	NEW May 10, 2013 David Dinsmore Thorofare 5 lbs. 4 oz.	NEW May 10, 2013 Donald Lewis Lewes Canal 6 lbs. 15 oz.	 Bigeye Tuna	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 Bluefish	May 5, 2013 Tammy Reiter Assateague Island 9 lbs. 9 oz.	April 21, 2013 Noah Graulich Cape Henlopen State Park 5 lbs. 14 oz.	 Dolphin	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 Sheepshead	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	 Wahoo	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
 Golden Tilefish	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	 White Marlin	Most Releases in One Day None Reported	None Reported

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

Tackle Shop

by Larry Jock



Abu Garcia, long known for their round baitcaster reels, has come out with their 3rd generation of the low profile Revo Inshore saltwater reel.



The compact 2013 model features an improved X2-Craftic frame to help guard against corrosion, high performance corrosion resistant ball bearings, two types of handles with large EVA knobs, a dual anti-reverse, an improved D2 Gear Design that improves both durability and performance and finally, a brake system

that utilizes 3 spring loaded and 3 non-spring loaded brake blocks. The spring loaded blocks only come into play when the spool is under high revolutions during the first part of your cast and then will disengage to give you maximum distance. The non-spring loaded blocks are active throughout your cast to provide complete control.

For a small, compact reel that weighs only 8.7 ounces, you can pack on a decent amount of braided line with specifications calling for 180 yards of 30 lb. braid. Specs also state a respectable 7.1:1 gear ratio with 29 inches of retrieval per turn.

Abu Garcia recently sent me this reel, and although I haven't had a chance to formally test it, I can tell you that it's compact design feels

great in your hand and at only 8.7 ounces, I could see casting it all day with minimal fatigue. I did notice that in various online forums, comments were made about corrosion problems with earlier versions of this reel, but Abu Garcia has really taken notice and users now seem very happy with the results.

The Revo Inshore reel comes with a 1-year manufacturer warranty and has an M.S.R.P. of \$249.95, although like most reels you can definitely find them cheaper in local tackle shops.

If you are looking to pair your low profile Revo Inshore saltwater reel with a new rod, Abu Garcia recommends their new series of Volatile rods that feature their Nano Technology that provides 2.5 times the impact resistance of standard graphite rods through (get ready), "the manipulation of graphite on an atomic level." Wow! Whatever that means, it must be good.

The Volatile rods also feature high density EVA grips, a Texas rigged hook keeper (which I love), stainless steel guides with Zirconium inserts, Fuji reel seats and a split grip design.



The series of Volatile rods come in 7 casting models and 4 spinning models, with line ratings from 8 to 12 lbs. up to 15 to 30 lbs. These rods are long, with the shortest one measuring 6'9" and the longest coming in at an even 8 feet. Although they are long, the rods are extremely light and the length could actually come in handy when trying to maneuver around outboard engines when flounder fishing in the bay.

The M.S.R.P. for these rods ranges from \$99.95 to \$139.95.

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Virginia Fishing Report

by Dr. Julie Ball
I.G.F.A. Representative



Anglers are anxiously waiting for the water to clear up after more than a week of gusty weather and rain. Once anglers can get back out and the silt has settled, saltwater fishing should catch up to the usual springtime standards.

The spike in the drum action that usually occurs by now each spring could happen any day now. Nice weather on the horizon for the upcoming week could present a good opportunity to wrestle a red or black drum on the Eastern Shore side of the Chesapeake Bay. Black drum are making a slow start, with a few larger fish coming on chowder and sea clams from around the bayside shoals, especially near Buoys 13 and 16, but this bite has room for improvement. Red drum action is still somewhat scattered. Big reds are responding best for surfcasters right out of the wash along the barrier island shorelines, along with some huge striped bass. The reds will begin to spread out onto the shoals, where they will join the black drum. Expect this trend to improve over the next few weeks.



Derek Mergatroid, Scott Weiss, Jason Stump and Jason McNatt ended their day with 5 keeper flounder in the box after fishing out of the seaside village of Willis Wharf, VA.

With the recent muddy water and excess freshwater from the rain, the flounder scene is still slow within Bay waters around the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. The best numbers of keeper fish are still coming from the Eastern Shore seaside inlets, and the back waters of Oyster where anglers working hard for their bounties are filling modest limits using gudgeons, Silversides or squid drifted on

a bare hook or with Chartreuse skirts. Some keeper flatfish also came from within both Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets last week.

Nice-sized speckled trout, with some going to around 21-inches or more, along with big puppy drum are hitting a different array of lures within Rudee Inlet. Specks are also active within Lynnhaven River, the Eastern Shore seaside inlets and the back waters of Oyster, but the

Elizabeth River speck bite remained non-existent last week. Plenty of snapper bluefish, and even some bigger chopper bluefish pushing to nearly 35-inches, are shredding plastic lures within Rudee Inlet and near the CBBT last week also.

Rockfish are making up for some of the lull with other species lately. Striped bass measuring up to 38-inches are hitting near the 3rd and 4th Islands on top water lures, especially at first light. According to the folks at Ocean's East 2, top water lures are working best in the mornings, while Gulp jigs have been the most effective in the evenings. Be sure to review the Bay's trophy striped bass season regulations if you go, as these fish must be reported.

The lower Bay rivers are still giving up large croaker, while Little Creek, Buckroe and Ocean View are hosting nice hardheads pushing up to around 2 lbs.

Pier anglers are also thrilled with a variety of small sea mullet and snapper blue fish in these same lower Bay locations.

Anglers will have the opportunity to target black sea bass once again beginning on the 19th, which will be a nice by-catch for those trying out the deep dropping scene.

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Terry Koshi was fishing with David Rayne out of Quinby, VA when she landed this 21-inch, 4 lb. flounder while drifting with minnows and pink Gulp! Swimming Mulletts.

Blueline tilefish and black bellied rosefish fish are the mainstay for deep water droppers, and plenty of these bottom dwellers are available in water over 300-feet, along with a variety of grouper and other deep water species.

Offshore fishing will begin to improve toward the end of this month as the action off Carolina begins to move

northward. The fleets out of Carolina are finding nice yellowfin tuna, scattered billfish and respectable dolphin pushing to around 20-pounds.

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

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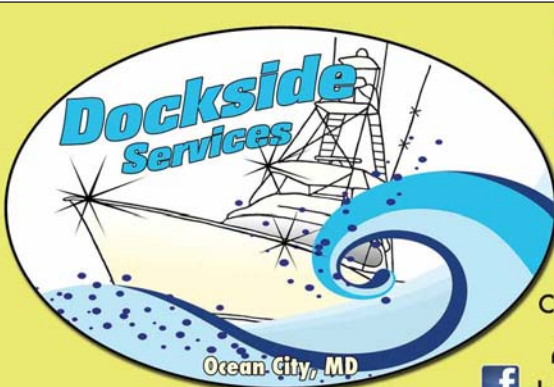
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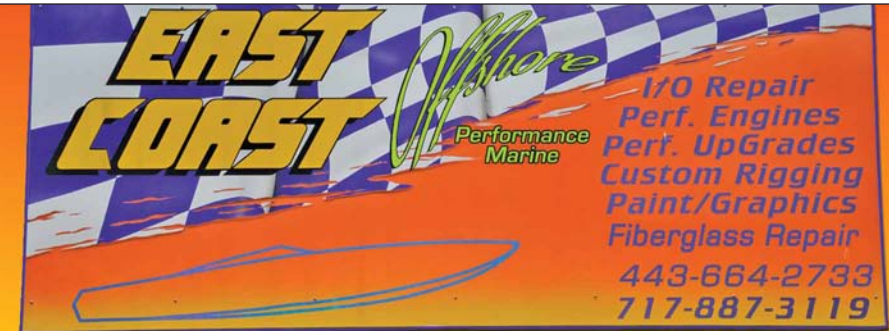


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- Bob's Marine
- Giant - Rt. 26
- Bethany Auto & Marine

Slaughter Beach

- Cedar Creek Marina

TIDES AND MOON PHASES

OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. May 15	Low 06:16 am Low 05:59 pm	----- High 12:14 pm
Thurs. May 16	Low 06:59 am Low 06:52 pm	High 12:39 am High 01:02 am
Fri. May 17 First Quarter	Low 07:44 am Low 07:48 pm	High 01:26 am High 01:57 pm
Sat. May 18	Low 08:30 am Low 08:47 pm	High 02:19 am High 02:57 pm
Sun. May 19	Low 09:18 am Low 09:47 pm	High 03:15 am High 03:57 pm
Mon. May 20	Low 10:08 am Low 10:48 pm	High 04:11 am High 04:53 pm
Tues. May 21	Low 10:59 am Low 11:48 pm	High 05:04 am High 05:45 pm
Wed. May 22	Low 11:51 am -----	High 05:55 am High 06:36 pm

Add 1.5 hours for bay tides at the Rt. 50 Bridge.
 Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide
 Delaware Bay Entrance - subtract 1 hour 25 minutes to high tide
 - subtract 45 minutes to low tide
 Wachapreague, VA - add 4 minutes for high tide,
 - 21 minutes for low tide
 Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide
 These tides are only meant to be a guide, as tides can be affected by storms and weather fronts.


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UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

• MAY •

Lewes Canal Flounder Tournament
 May 17 • Lewes Harbour Marina • 302-645-6227

4th Annual Marlin Club Bluefish Tournament
 May 25 - 26 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

• JUNE •

33rd Annual South Jersey Shark Tournament
 June 6 - 9 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2400

17th Annual Mako Mania
 June 7 - 9 • Bahia Marina • 410-289-7473

55th Annual Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament Ladies Event - June 8 • Tournament - June 10 - 15
 Morehead City, NC • 252-247-3575

33rd Annual Ocean City Shark Tournament
 June 13 - 15 • OC Fishing Center
 410-213-2442 or 410-213-1121

24th Annual MSSA Tuna-Ment
 June 21 - 23 • Sunset Marina • 410-255-5535

34th Annual Marlin Club Small Boat Tournament
 June 22 - 23 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

• JULY •

31st Annual Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off
 July 5 - 7 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

5th Annual Pier Point Marina Flounder Tournament
 July 6 - August 10 • Dewey Beach, DE
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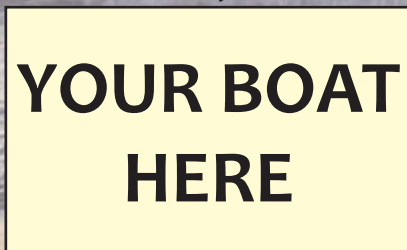


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