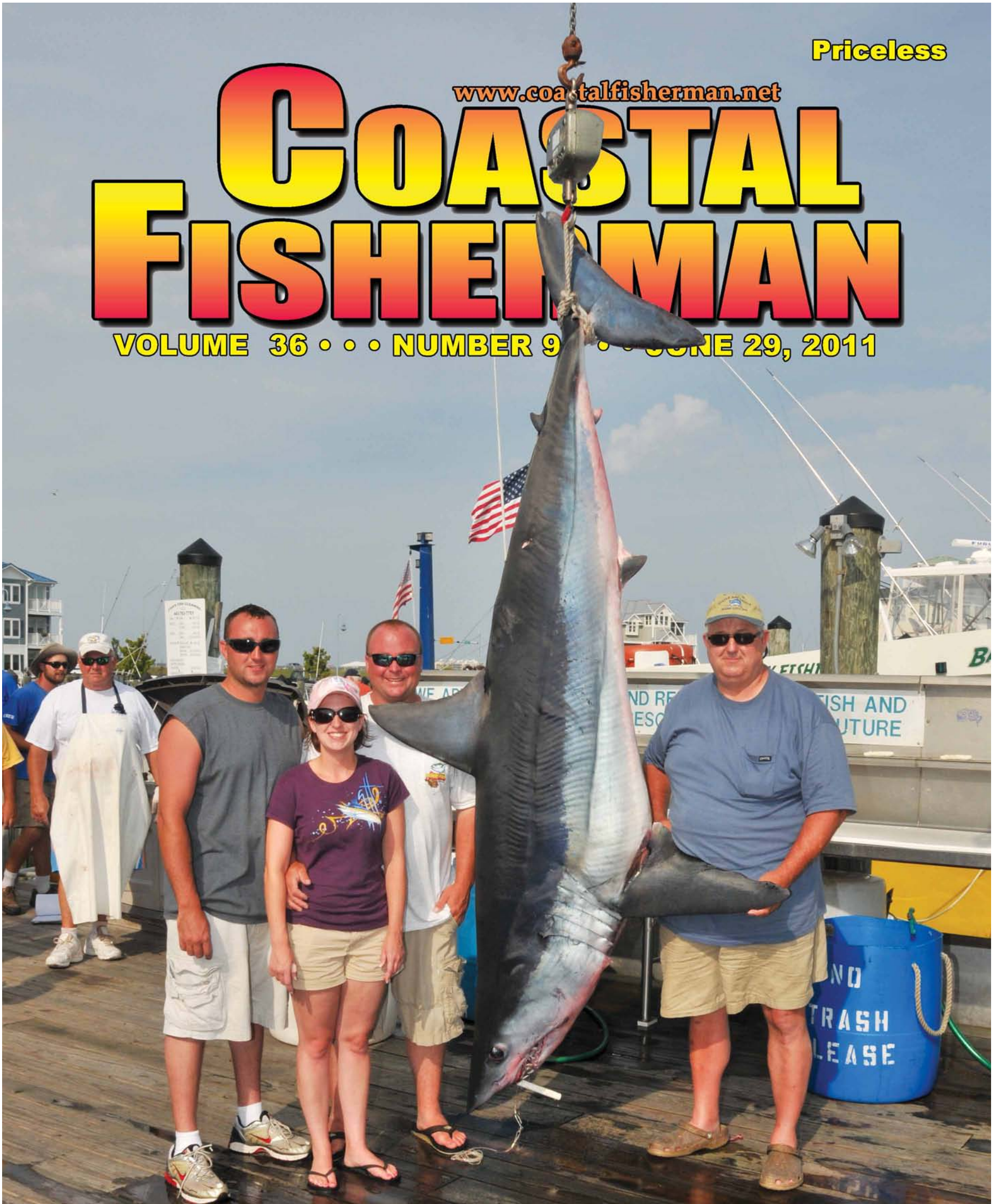


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# COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 36 • • • NUMBER 9 • • • JUNE 29, 2011



The largest mako shark landed so far this year came at the hands of Chris, Heather and Robert Powell and Lee Hagadorn, all from Hurlock, MD while sharking on the "Fish Finder" with Capt. Mark Sampson and mate Tyler Hill. The 640 lb. mako was hooked at the south end of the Fingers on a bonito rigged on a 16/0 non-offset circle hook. The shark jumped 7 times during the 3 hour fight. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



## Fish Facts



### Atlantic White Marlin *Tetrapturus albidus*

#### Key Distinguishing Markings:

- The body is dark blue above and silvery white below, with brown spots on the sides of the white portion.
- The first dorsal fin, which runs almost the length of the body, is dark blue with many black spots, although these may fade towards the back of the fin.
- The second dorsal and pelvic fins are dark blue.
- First anal, first dorsal, and pectoral fins are blunt or rounded at tips.
- The pectoral fins and caudal fin are blackish brown; the long pectoral fins may be tipped in white.

#### Size:

- The maximum length for the white marlin is 110 in and maximum weight is approximately 180 lbs. More commonly white marlin range from 51-83 inches in length.

#### Distribution:

- White marlin are found in the Atlantic Ocean from roughly 45°N to 45°S in the southwestern Atlantic and 35°S in the southeastern Atlantic.

#### Food Preference:

- White marlin feed on fish and squids.

#### Spawning:

- Once a year, white marlin migrate into subtropical waters to spawn, with peak spawning occurring in early summer in deep oceanic waters.

#### Fun Facts:

- White marlin are generally not considered a schooling fish and most often occur solitarily or in pairs.
- White marlin live to be 25-30 years of age.
- Tagged white marlin have been recaptured after being at liberty for almost 12 years.

Reference: www.dnr.state.md.us



On Thursday, Ed Schafer, Lamar Carter, Bryan Greenwood, Danny McHenry, Jimmy Scott and Roy Bain returned to the dock at Sunset Marina with 17 yellowfin tuna in the box and a blue marlin release. The fish were hooked on ballyhoo and spreader bars in the Baltimore Canyon where Roy Bain released the blue marlin. The anglers were fishing on the "Marli" with Capt. Brian Porter and mates Rick Tshudy and Anthony Pino.

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Seth Caldwell, Jim Mason and Rusty Showalter took the trip from Harrisonburg, VA to do some striper fishing on "Skip's Charter & Guide Service" and ended up with 6 keepers in the box. The fish were caught on live spot at the South Jetty where the anglers were fishing with Capt. Skip Maguire and mate Ryan Wesson. Pictured at Ake Marine.

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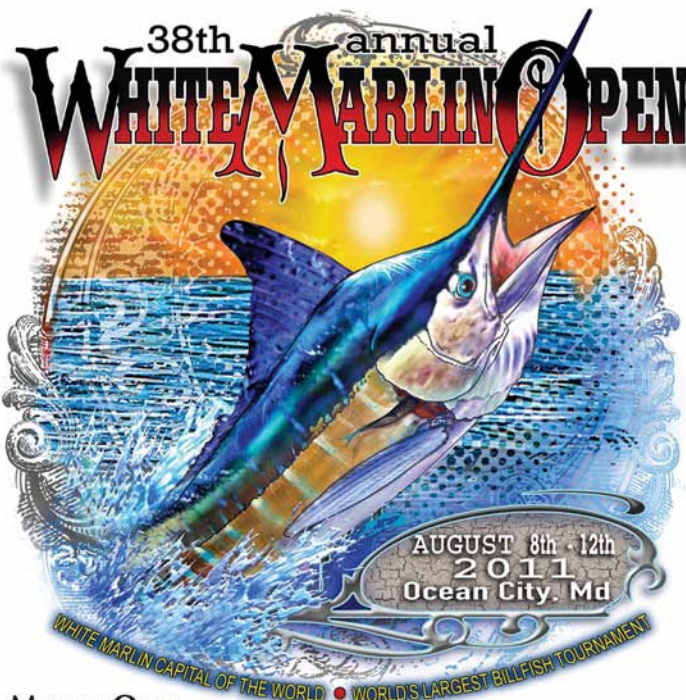
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The yellowfin bite continues to be red hot and this group of anglers on the "Playmate" were there to take advantage of it. Fishing with Capt. Chad Meeks and mate Steve Moore were Marty Shaeffer, Rachael Shaeffer, Gordon Covington, Jon Lee and Matthew Lee. The 14 tuna were caught on ballyhoo and spreader bars in the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Tom, Nick and Chris Hammond, Bryan Geyer, Tom Stebbins, John Bentley and Sam Thacker boated 10 yellowfin tuna, 1 bluefin tuna and a pair of dolphin while fishing on "That's Right" with Capt. John Oughton and mate Joe Bonvetti. The yellowfin were hooked in the Baltimore Canyon on ballyhoo and spreader bars. The bluefin was caught at the Jackspot and the dolphin were captured at the Hot Dog. Pictured at Fisherman's Marina.



Greg Wilder, George Wilder, Brice Boeke and George Wilder, Jr. had a great day flounder fishing near Brown Shoal in the Delaware Bay. The anglers ended up with 7 keepers with the heaviest tipping the scale at 7 lbs. 15 oz. All were caught on live spot. Weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle.



Tom and Jim Brinker from Selbyville, DE ventured out to north of the Poor Man's Canyon and landed 5 yellowfin tuna and a dolphin in addition to releasing a mako shark. The fish were caught on ballyhoo and spreader bars.

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# Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



It was another busy week of fishing out of Ocean City, especially for offshore anglers in search of yellowfin tuna.

Inshore, anglers continued to have good luck catching bluefins and we saw the largest shark of the year hit the scales.

In the bay, flounder fishing was slow, but the good news is that we did see the arrival of croakers late in the week.

## Yellowfin Tuna

Nobody can complain about the lack of yellowfin tuna this year as boats continue to arrive at the dock with incredible catches. The bite that had been centered in 70 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon worked its way south into the Poor Man's Canyon late in the week, but darted north again on Sunday.

On Wednesday, "That's Right" had 14 yellowfins in the Baltimore Canyon where the "Game On" (13) and "Playmate" (14) also recorded great days.

Thursday and Friday mellowed a bit for most boats, but the "Marli" did get on them good in the Baltimore Canyon returning with 17 yellowfins in the box on Thursday and an incredible 24 on Friday. Several other boats had nice, single digit catches of yellowfins in the Poor Man's.



Mike and Evan Moyer caught and released their first white marlin while fishing on the "G-Force" with Dan Zottarelli, Greg Strober, John Grimberg, Mike Davidson, Capt. Seth Obetz and mate Kevin Miller. While trolling ballyhoo and spreader bars in the Baltimore Canyon, the anglers also caught 7 yellowfin tuna, a mako shark and a dolphin.

We only saw one more double digit catch over the weekend but several boats weighed 8-9 yellowfins after their trip. On Sunday, the "Reel Chaos" had a great day, with 17 yellowfins in the box after fishing in the Poor Man's and Baltimore Canyons. The "No Quarter" also had a nice day, catching 8 yellowfins in the Poor Man's where captains reported water temperatures hovering around 72-degrees.

## Bluefin Tuna

Although overshadowed by the hauls of yellowfin tuna, anglers fishing in 20-30 fathoms from the Lumpy Bottom and Parking Lot north to the Hambone found plenty of bluefins to keep them busy. Anglers also did well a little further inshore at the Jackspot. Most of the fish are between 40 and 50 lbs.

In the MSSA Tuna-Ment, the "Lady Luck V" caught two bluefin at the Lumpy Bottom, weighing 105.3 lbs. and 108.3 lbs. to win 2nd and 3rd place

## Sharks

A couple of mako sharks hit the scales this week, but none were close to the 640 pounder caught on Wednesday aboard the "Fish Finder". The big mako ate a bonita at the south end of the Fingers.

## Dolphin

With warming water temperatures, we are definitely seeing an increase in the average size of dolphin being weighed. Most of the fish are being caught in the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons on trolled ballyhoo. We also saw some hooked at the Hot Dog, Jackspot, Parking Lot, Lumpy Bottom and in the Washington Canyon, where the "Lady Luck V" boated a 32.5 pounder on Sunday in the MSSA Tournament. The "Tide Up" also caught a nice pair on Sunday that weighed 17 lbs. and 17.6 lbs. on the scale at Sunset Marina.

## Billfish

All of the billfish releases we heard about last week came from the Baltimore Canyon. Early in the week, the "M'm M'm Good" recorded 5 white marlin releases and the "White Lightning" rang up three. The "Marli" released a blue marlin on Thursday and a white marlin on Friday. We didn't

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hear of any other releases until boats arrived back on Sunday, when the "Reel Chaos" and the "Blackjack" each reported one white marlin release.

### Bluefish

We continue to see most of the bluefish catches coming from anglers tossing lures around the Rt. 50 Bridge. We haven't seen many coming in from those trolling the ocean, which shouldn't surprise anyone with water temperatures as warm as they have been.

### Croaker

There should be plenty of action in the bays over the next few weeks with the arrival of croaker to our local waters. The area around Harbour Island and at the mouth of the Commercial Harbor are usually great locations to catch some hardheads. This is a fantastic fishery to get kids involved in since the action is usually fast and furious.

### In the Surf

Sue Foster at Oyster Bay Tackle said, "We're getting lots of reports of Norfolk spot in the surf. Anglers are using bloodworms, Fishbite Bloodworms and little pieces of squid or fresh bunker when available. Small croaker are mixed in with the spot, along with some small sea trout and a few kingfish. We had two good reports from 142nd and 94th Streets last week. There are still some big, big rays, sand sharks and bigger sharks for anglers fishing for them. Combination baits are great for the small fish. Use FishBites and a little strip of fresh bunker, frozen mullet or box squid.

### Sea Bass

Sea bass fishing continued its inconsistent run with anglers recording numerous doubleheaders one day and not so much the next.

Over the weekend, sea bass were caught at the Great

Eastern Reef and at Winter Quarter Shoal by anglers fishing in the MSSA and Marlin Club tournaments. Several days last week, the "Morning Star" returned with buckets of sea bass caught by happy customers using squid or clams for bait.

### Striped Bass

Anglers continue to catch stripers at the tip of the South Jetty and around the Rt. 50 Bridge when drifting spot and perch. On Wednesday, both the "Get Sum" and "Skip's Charter & Guide Service" kept their anglers busy with good catches of linesiders. The "Get Sum" hooked 13 on live spot around the Rt. 50 Bridge, while "Skip's" anglers caught their limit of keepers plus 50 throwbacks from the South Jetty.

### Flounder

It wasn't a great week for flounder fishing with most anglers feeling frustrated with the number of "shorts" they are catching.

The bite has moved from the bay behind Assateague Island up to the East Channel and Thorofare. The East Channel was the hottest location last week, especially around the Cement Plant and north behind Harbour Island.

Anglers drifting live spot are definitely having the best results, but those using white and pink Gulp! Swimming Mulletts are also holding their own

The largest flattie of the week was caught by the "Flounder King of Chester, NJ", Carl Reichel, who landed a 26.5-incher on live spot in the East Channel.

### Upcoming Tournaments

This weekend is the 29th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Canyon Kick-off. Weigh-ins are at Sunset Marina on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 5:00 pm to 7:30 pm.

See you at the scales.






Dan and Colt McCoy from Lewes, DE, Chris and Frank Claycomb from New Castle, DE, Tom Porter from Northeast, MD, and Nick Edwards from Bear, DE returned to Sunset Marina with 1 bluefin tuna, 4 yellowfin tuna and a dolphin. The anglers were fishing in the Poor Man's Canyon on the "No Quarter" with Capt. Butch Davis and mate Kyle Peet.

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Five-year-old, Hunter Selby muscled in this 6 lb. 8 oz. flounder while fishing with his dad Danny Selby on the "Misdemeanor". The 25-inch flattie along with a 20-incher were hooked on shiners in the Indian River Inlet. Hunter really took it to his dad who could only manage 5 throwbacks during the trip.

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Joe Cox from Prince Frederick, MD captured this 103 lb. yellowfin tuna while fishing on the "Muff Diver" with Lisa Cox, Matthew Swann, Larry Swann, Eddie Frere, Capt. Joe Riley and mate Wayne Bradford. The big yellowfin was hooked on a spreader bar in the Baltimore Canyon.



Andrea and Harold Schafer, Graham Strauss, Zach Rex and Kyle Koskovich were fishing on the "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford and mate Jeff Ward when they caught 3 stripers and 2 bluefish in the Ocean City Inlet. The fish were caught on live spot with the largest striper measuring 34-inches.

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Jake Stuckey from Kingsville, MD landed his first bluefin tuna during a trip to the Jackspot aboard the "Grasshopper". Jake was fishing with Ray Stuckey, R.J. Stuckey and Mike Runk, Jr. when he caught the 45 pounder on a spreader bar.



Landyn Ray from York, PA was fishing with his grandfather Stan Ilyes when he hooked this 20-inch flounder on a live minnow in the Thorofare.



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364 Acre Waterfront Farm along Jones Creek. 250 Acres in woods, 100+ acres in crop land. Fantastic hunting opportunities for waterfowl, quality deer and turkey. Diversified valuable age structure of timber which has been managed for harvest. Developmental potential for single family residential lots. This property has a lot of potential with hunting, timber harvest, and single family development as possibilities. **\$1,850,000** MLS 452381



Romantic Carolina Style Waterfront Home in a prime and Scenic setting nestled away and secluded from the world but seconds from everything the beach has to offer. Everything about this home is fantastic including His and Her's office, exotic teak floors, huge gourmet kitchen with eat up island bar, granite countertops, Hickory cabinets, M&W high wind rated casement windows, 800 sq.ft master bedroom. **\$775,000** MLS 472773



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# Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



## "Do anglers still use Fishbites?"

Fads in fishing, like styles of clothing, come and go all the time. But one fishing product that has continued to be popular year after year is Fishbites. When I go to a buying show in the winter, I might buy six of this and a dozen of that, but when I buy Fishbites, I buy over a thousand!

## "What is this stuff?"

In a nut shell, Fishbites are "fake bait." The company explains their product as such: "Fishbites products are infused with a concentrated flavor/scent that replicates natural feeding stimulants and creates a powerful scent trail, so you'll catch more fish." Several companies have tried to copy Fishbites, but none have succeeded. The process is a well kept secret.

Fishbites were invented by Dr. William Carr from St Augustine, FL in 2001. He is a marine researcher and angler. The family business continues to make this product in St. Augustine.

Although many of their products are not as popular in our area as they used to be, the one product that continues to be extremely popular is the Fishbites Bag O' Worms. These "fake bloodworms" are

actually little strips of "bubble gum" looking material that are infused on a piece of white mesh. They need no refrigeration and they retain their scent for over a year. If you keep them over the winter, take them out of the tackle box and store them in the house in a dark place like a dresser drawer. You can also put them in the refrigerator. Extreme heat and extreme light can take away their color after a long period of time. Keep the package closed and sealed.

## "How do you use them?"

Fishbites are simple to use and great for kids (and parents) that are scared to touch real bloodworms. They are less expensive than real bloodworms and are an available bait when the tackle stores are temporarily out of bloodworms. They are non-toxic and environmentally friendly. The product will slowly melt in the water, attracting the fish.

Cut a small piece of the material off, and put it on the hook. The white mesh helps keep it on the hook. If you are fishing for small fish like spot, just use a small little square of the FishBites. If you are surf fishing for kingfish, spot and croaker, use a little longer piece.

I believe in combo baits. When surf fishing, I like to use about a 1/2-inch piece of the bloodworm Fishbites and combo it with a little triangle of box squid (I think surf fish like the dirty squid over the cleaned stuff). Another great bait to combo with the Fishbites bloodworms is fresh or frozen bunker. Bunker is a natural bait in the surf, is oily and gives out a nice fresh scent of its own. Putting on a little strip of this natural bait with a 1/2-inch strip of FishBites bloodworm on a kingfish rig with size #6 hooks will give you a bait that is hard to resist. If you don't like using bunker, fillet the side of a finger mullet with a sharp bait knife and cut it in about three pieces. Combo this with your Fishbites on the kingfish rig. Another option is to just start fishing with the Fishbites Bloodworm till you catch a Norfolk spot or snapper bluefish. Fillet the fish into small strips and use it in combination with the FishBites Bloodworm.

I noticed this spring that the Fishbites Crab flavored strips became quite popular in the surf on Assateague and on the Delaware beaches for black drum. Most of the anglers dug up sand fleas (mole crabs) on the beach and combined the Fishbites Crab Strips (chartreuse color was most popular) with a couple of sand crabs on the hook and had great success.

In the fall, FishBites Clam Strips become popular for red and black drum. Orange is a good color for this bait. Again, anglers usually combo these strips with sand fleas and/or real clam or bunker.

Change your baits! Whether using real bait or fake bait, pulling off the bait that has been on there for over a half hour is a good idea. Put on a fresh piece rather than continuing to use a piece that is half melted away.

Fishbites also has a bloodworm product out in a red package that is a faster release product. I like to use

this because, since there isn't any mesh, you don't have to pull out the scissors to get the white mesh off the hook.

I also had a customer come in the other day to say he added the Fishbites Bloodworm Fishy Sauce to his Fishbites Bloodworm strips and thought it made a big difference. I haven't tried that yet. You can also drip some of the Fin-Essence Shedder Crab Oil on your Fishbites. More scent is never enough as far as I am concerned. Don't try to soak the Fishbites first, or you will have a mass of red jelly! Put it on dry, and then dribble any essences on it. Speaking of, when you cut a piece of fishbites off, never put a wet piece in the dry ziplock bag.

Fishbites Bag O' Worms is also good for flounder fishing! I know a lot of anglers that take a 1-inch piece of the red material and hang it next to the minnow or shiner bait instead of a squid strip. It's attractive, red, gives off scent and cleaner than using squid.

People fishing in the bay also use Fishbites in combination with a squid strip on a size #4 hook for croaker, blowfish, little sea bass, small sea trout or any other panfish caught in the bay off the bulkhead, piers or around the Route 90 Bridge. When croakers arrive in mass, the Fishbites Shrimp flavored Fish Strips are also popular. I like the pink color in that one.

Fishbites also comes in squid flavored strips. I've never been especially impressed with it, but maybe I didn't give it enough time. I imagine it would work fine offshore for sea bass combined with a piece a clam or shiner. Since flounder are site feeders, it would look nice on the hook next to a minnow or shiner. Personally though, I'd stick to the bloodworm flavor! It's the best!

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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Brad Pecoraro hooked this 4 lb. 15 oz. flounder on a white Gulp! artificial bait while fishing in the Broadkill River. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.

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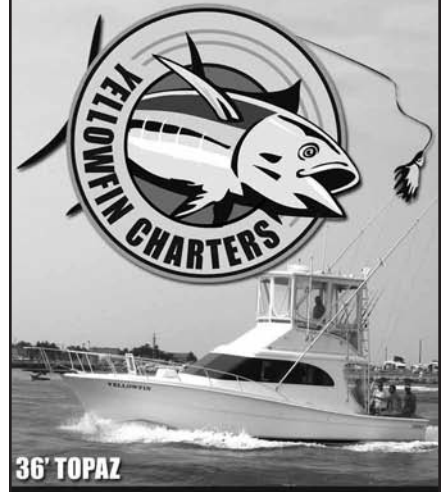
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Sheri Harvey-Miller from Long Neck, DE muscled in this 9 lb. 3 oz. flounder while drifting in the Indian River Inlet. The fish measured 30.5-inches and was caught on a live spot. Photo courtesy of Rick's Bait & Tackle.



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Anglers on the "Bill\$ 4 Bills" ventured out to the Poor Man's Canyon on Saturday and returned with 5 yellowfin tuna caught on ballyhoo and spreader bars. Fishing with Capt. Jim Conkel and mate Marty Whitehurst were Cully Pettenati, Tommy Pridemore, Greg Tanner and Jimmy Valiga, all from Rockville, MD, Gary Tanner from Ocean View, DE and Kevin Fox from Silver Spring, MD. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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On Friday, Carl Reichel, the "Flounder King of Chester, New Jersey" boated this 26.5-inch flattie while drifting live spot in the East Channel. The fish weighed in at 6 lbs. 11 oz. Carl is pictured with Charles Daigle from Dallas, TX.

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# The Galley

by Mama Jock



## Pasta Shells with Mussels and Peas

3/4 lb. large pasta shells  
3 TBSP. olive oil  
2 medium onions, peeled and chopped  
2 cloves garlic, minced  
1/4 pound mushrooms, quartered  
1/4 cup dry vermouth  
3 cups mussels, steamed and shelled  
3/4 cup clam broth  
3/4 cup chicken broth  
2 tsp. dried basil  
2 cups frozen peas, blanched 1 minute  
Pepper  
Parsley, for garnish

Cook pasta according to directions on box.

Heat the oil in a skillet; sauté the onions 5 minutes, then add the garlic and mushrooms; sauté for a couple minutes, stirring.

Add the vermouth and cook rapidly to reduce by half.

Stir in the mussels, broth and basil; bring to a simmer.

Drain pasta, mix with the sauce, folding in the peas and heat through.

Season with the pepper; serve with parsley sprinkled on top.

Serves 4.

## Ziti with Honey Mustard Tuna

1 lb. tuna fillet  
1 TBSP. honey  
1/2 tsp. pepper  
1 TBSP. oil  
1 onion, diced  
1/3 cup dry white wine  
1 tsp. Dijon mustard  
3/4 cup heavy cream or half and half  
1 1/4 tsp. salt  
2 TBSP. parsley, chopped  
3/4 lb. ziti pasta

Heat oven to 400 degrees. Lightly oil a small roasting pan.

Place tuna, skin side down. Spread the honey over the tuna; sprinkle with 1/2 tsp. pepper.

Roast tuna for 12 minutes, depending on the thickness.

Remove from oven.

In a medium saucepan, heat oil over low heat.

Add onions; cook 5 minutes.

Add wine; simmer 2

minutes.

Whisk in the mustard, cream, salt and remaining 1/4 tsp. pepper.

Turn off heat and flake the cooked tuna; stir it and the parsley into sauce.

Cook ziti according to package directions; drain and toss with the sauce.

Serves 4.

## Deep Fried Bluefish

1 lb. bluefish fillets, skin removed  
1 egg  
4 to 5 TBSP. dry sherry  
1 1/2 TBSP. soy sauce  
Dash of garlic powder and nutmeg  
1/3 cup bread crumbs  
1/3 cup parmesan cheese  
1/3 cup corn starch

Cut fillets into bite size chunks.

Combine the egg, sherry, soy sauce, garlic powder and nutmeg in a shallow dish.

Marinate fish for at least three hours; turn chunks occasionally.

Mix bread crumbs, parmesan cheese and corn starch in a bowl.

Cover chunks with mixture and deep fry in oil at 375 degrees for 4 minutes.

Serves 4.

## Shrimp Bruschetta

submitted by Amanda Pulsifer

1 French baguette  
1 lb. medium shrimp, cooked and finely chopped  
2 tsp. Old Bay Seasoning  
1/4 tsp. garlic powder  
1 plum tomato, seeded and finely chopped  
2 TBSP. green onion, finely chopped  
2 tsp. olive oil  
1 egg white  
3 to 4 TBSP. mayonnaise

Preheat broiler.

Cut baguette into 24 slices.

Place on baking sheet and broil until lightly toasted, 4 to 5 minutes per side. Let cool.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In a medium bowl, combine shrimp, Old Bay, garlic powder, tomato, green onion, olive oil and egg white, mixing until well blended.

Spread each slice thinly with mayonnaise and then add shrimp mixture evenly over bread slices.

Bake until heated through and lightly browned, 10 to 12 minutes.

Serves 24.

## Crisp Flounder with Apple-Celery Slaw

submitted by Sandy Pulsifer

1 lemon  
1/3 cup mayonnaise  
1 TBSP. honey  
3 stalks celery, thinly sliced  
1 Granny Smith apple, thinly sliced  
1 cup shredded red cabbage  
1 to 1 1/2 lbs. flounder fillets  
1/3 cup yellow cornmeal  
1 tsp. chili powder

Cut half of the lemon in wedges; set aside.

Juice remaining half into large bowl.

Combine mayonnaise and honey with juice; reserve 2 TBSP. juice mixture.

Stir in celery, apple and cabbage into juice mixture in bowl; set aside.

Sprinkle fish with 1/2 tsp. salt and brush on reserved juice mixture.

In shallow dish combine cornmeal and chili powder; coat fish with mixture.

In a 12-inch skillet, heat 2 TBSP. oil over medium heat.

Cook fish 3 to 4 minutes per side until golden brown.

Serve fish with slaw and lemon.

Serves 4.

If you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share with Coastal Fisherman readers, you can email it to [coastalfisherman@comcast.net](mailto:coastalfisherman@comcast.net) or mail it to: Mama Jock, Coastal Fisherman, 12748 Sunset Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842.

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Owen Scott from Port Deposit, MD was fishing on the "Bay Bee" with his dad Ken Scott and Capt. Bob Gower when he hooked into this 18-inch flounder. The fish was fooled with a squid and shiner combination in the bay behind Assateague Island.

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On the final day of the Ocean City Marlin Club Small Boat Tournament, Wil Kennington landed a 4.2 lb. flounder to win 1st place in the Flounder Division while fishing on the "Señor Cigars" with Carolyn, Bruce and Corey Kennington. The winning fish, along with 3 other flatties weighing between 2.2 and 3.4 lbs., were caught on minnows and mullet in the Inlet and by the Rt. 50 Bridge. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



First place in the Dolphin Division in the Ocean City Marlin Club Small Boat Tournament was won on the final day when Evan Kaplow boated a 17.6 pounder in the Baltimore Canyon. Evan was fishing on the "Tide Up" with Bob McClanahan, Matthew Graham and Andrew Davis. Evan also landed a 17 pounder to take 2nd place in the tournament. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



First place in the Tuna Division of the Ocean City Marlin Club Small Boat Tournament was won by Ken Maurer for his 85.2 lb. bluefin hooked on a ballyhoo at the Hambone. Ken was fishing on the "M'm M'm Good" with Ken Thompson, Rob Simington, Ed Quick and John O'Leary. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Brody Fields, Dawson Fields and Cole Barrett each caught a 10 lb. rockfish to share 1st place honors in the Rockfish Division of the Ocean City Marlin Club Small Boat Tournament. Cole also landed a 7.2 lb. bluefish to take 1st place in the Bluefish Division. All of the fish were caught using spot and perch for bait around the South Jetty and the Rt. 50 Bridge. The anglers were fishing on the "Git R Done" with Capt. Jimmy Fields and mate Jennifer Fields. Pictured at Sunset Marina.





John Morton (far right) released a white marlin at 10:25 am to win the Billfish Release Division in the Ocean City Marlin Club Small Boat Tournament. John hooked the white in 70 fathoms, south of the Baltimore Canyon while fishing on the "Blackjack" with Curtis Campbell, Connor Campbell, Capt. Eric Schline and mate John Adams. A 41.6 lb. yellowfin was also boated during the trip. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Sharon Curtiss boated a 2.4 lb. tautog on the first day of the Ocean City Marlin Club Small Boat Tournament and held on to win 1st place in the Tautog Division. Sharon was fishing on the "Seacraft 23" with Doug Curtiss and Jay and Lynette Catha. The tog, along with Doug's 2.2 pounder that took 2nd place, was caught on green crabs at Russell's Reef. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

# 32ND ANNUAL SMALL BOAT TOURNAMENT

JUNE 25 - 26, 2011



## FLOUNDER DIVISION

1st Place  
"Señor Cigars"  
4.2 lbs.

2nd Place  
"Fluke U"  
3.8 lbs.

3rd Place (Tie)  
"Gundawg" 3.4 lbs.  
"Señor Cigars" 3.4 lbs.

## SEA BASS DIVISION

1st Place  
"Ocean Rebel"  
2.2 lbs.

2nd Place  
"Empty Pockets"  
2.0 lbs.

3rd Place (Tie)  
"Ocean Rebel" 1.4 lbs.  
"Empty Pockets" 1.4 lbs.

## BLUEFISH DIVISION

1st Place  
"Git R Done"  
7.2 lbs.

2nd Place  
"Git R Done"  
3.0 lbs.

3rd Place  
"Jacqueline Maria"  
2.4 lbs.

## TAUTOG DIVISION

1st Place  
"Seacraft 23"  
2.4 lbs.

2nd Place  
"Seacraft 23"  
2.2 lbs.

3rd Place  
"Ocean Rebel"  
1.8 lbs.

## ROCKFISH DIVISION

1st Place (Tie)  
"Git R Done" 10 lbs.  
"Git R Done" 10 lbs.  
"Git R Done" 10 lbs.

2nd Place  
"Git R Done"  
8.6 lbs.

## TUNA DIVISION

1st Place  
"M'm M'm Good"  
Bluefin Tuna  
85.2 lbs.

2nd Place  
"Lizard Lips"  
Yellowfin Tuna  
48.8 lbs.

3rd Place  
"Reelin' & Rockin'"  
Yellowfin Tuna  
47.6 lbs.

## BILLFISH RELEASE DIVISION

1st Place  
"Blackjack"  
White Marlin 10:25 a.m.

2nd Place  
"Tide Up"  
White Marlin 2:39 p.m.

## DOLPHIN DIVISION

1st Place  
"Tide Up"  
17.6 lbs.

2nd Place (Tie)  
"Tide Up" 17.0 lbs.  
"Four Eights" 17.0 lbs.

## SHARK DIVISION

None Weighed

33 Boats Registered

Total Prize Money  
\$9,990

Dale Brown Award  
Heaviest Flounder  
"Señor Cigars"  
\$500

Heaviest Tuna Award  
"M'm M'm Good"  
\$500





Philip Cathell caught a 2.2 lb. sea bass to win 1st place in the Sea Bass Division of the 2011 Ocean City Marlin Club Small Boat Tournament. Philip was fishing on the "Ocean Rebel" with Alexis Cathell (pictured) and Kathy and Phil Cathell. The winning fish was caught at Winter Quarter Shoal while using clams for bait. Alexis also caught a 1.8 lb. tog and a 5 lb. cod during the trip. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Amanda and Donna Matarese from Pennsville, NJ, Jason Harman from Ocean City, MD, Barry Kintz from Hockessin, DE, Scott Hughes from Cambridge, MD and Sam Freas from Pennsville, NJ teamed up to land 17 yellowfin tuna and 4 dolphin in addition to releasing a white marlin, all while fishing on the "Reel Chaos" with Capt. Anthony Matarese, Sr. and mate Mike Matarese. The fish were caught on ballyhoo in the Poor Man's and Baltimore Canyons. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Anglers on the "Katy Did" really crushed the flounder over the weekend, returning with 36 fish weighing up to 8.02 lbs. The fish were caught on squid, minnows and shiners at Reef Sites 9 and 10. Pictured are Richard Adams, Bob Murphy, Tyler Long, Steve Kibler, Doug Mickowski, Ron Minstretta, Capt. Brent Wiest and mate Dave Walker. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.





This 6 lb. 4 oz. flounder was caught by David Wyszynski while casting a Storm Shad off the Indian River Jetty. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



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

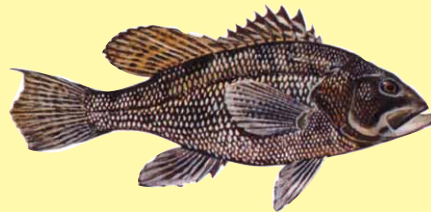




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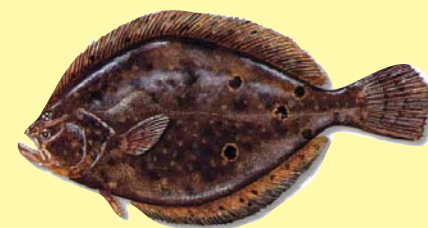
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Phil Wood caught and released this Atlantic sailfish while fishing in the Washington Canyon aboard the "White Lightning" with Capt. Frank Murphy and mate Joe Sbriglia.




Bart Aldridge, Brian Spitzer, Brendan Sullivan, Andy Alcares, Tommy Altemus and John DiPietro returned to the Indian River Marina with 8 tuna after trolling in the Baltimore Canyon aboard the "Mega Bite" with Capt. Tom Murphy. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.




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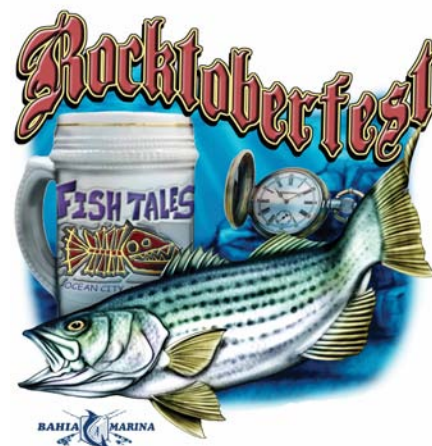
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# Delaware Fishing Report

by Rick Willman



Hi folks. Flounder, croaker, bluefish, blowfish, stripers and sharks can all be caught in the back bays. Flounder fishing has picked up and the stripers are still providing action in the Indian River Inlet. Spot are also available around #19 and #20 buoys and are a good way to get yourself some fine bait for catching flounder and striper. If the spot you catch are too large to use for bait, try some in the pan or on the grill. They do make for some tasty table fare. Croakers are just starting to show up and hopefully be in full swing for the July 4th weekend. They sure provide a bunch of fun on light tackle, and not bad on the plate either.

The big flounder catch of the week was Sheri Harvey-Miller's 9 lb. 3 oz. flounder caught on live spot on the south side of the Indian River Inlet.

Offshore fishing remains hot



Wayne Demarco, Paul Berrier, Bill Wiest, Garrett Shipley and Paul Pergeorelis teamed up to boat 11 yellowfins and a pair of dolphin while fishing on the "Katy Did" with Capt. Brent Wiest and mate Dave Walker. The fish were caught in 100 fathoms between the Baltimore and Wilmington Canyons. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.

with great catches of yellowfin tuna going to those trolling the canyons. Bluefin and a few yellowfin can be found around the Hot Dog and Sausages. Capt. Barry Brittingham and crew went between the Wilmington and Baltimore Canyons for a great score, bringing home 8 nice yellowfins.

Capt. Bill at Bill's Sport Shop informed us that the winner of their flounder tournament was Bob Scharmer from Baltimore, MD who received a \$500 check for his 23.5-inch, 5.25 pound flounder from Bill's Sport Shop.



At Rattle & Reel Sports Center, Pat reported that Scott Swarter took his sons Kyle and Josh to the Indian River Inlet to drown some spot when Kyle scored two 30-inch stripers and Josh took home a 34 inch.

Deanna at Hook'em and Cook'em Bait and Tackle said that the west side of the Indian River Inlet is producing a lot of nice keeper flounder. These fish are generally being caught on

live spot, squid and minnows and jig heads tipped with Gulp! baits.

Rockfish are also being caught, although anglers are finding mostly throwbacks during the day with more keeper-sized fish showing up at night to early morning. Some are throwing out flies, some are using live spot and some are now using poppers. You will find these fish up by the bridge pilings down to the Coast Guard Station wall.

There have also been many medium-sized bluefish running through the Inlet. These fish are being caught on bucktails, Hopkins lures or Kastmasters. They are running anywhere from 2 lbs. to 6 lbs. in size.

Offshore, tuna are still out to the Canyons, mostly from the Baltimore to the Wilmington. Yellowfin are being caught by boats trolling ballyhoo and some are having luck with green machines on a spreader bar.

The inshore bite is still pretty much the same as last week. There are good days and then there are some not so good days. Throwbacks are plentiful for black sea bass with some keepers in the mix and occasionally you will see a flounder or two come on board. These fish are still on the wrecks but sometimes if you

get the right conditions you can see them on open bottom. We even saw our first triggerfish come in on Friday.

The surf report remains the same with small kingfish, small spot and some blowfish being caught. These fish are all getting hooked on live bloodworms or Fish Bites.

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said tuna fishing remained hot. Yellowfins were spread from 70 to 100 fathoms and popped up at several locations between the Baltimore and Wilmington Canyons. The "Grizzly" had a great overnight trip offshore. During the darkness, the guys released 7 large dusky sharks, then, when daylight broke, it was full on with tunas. They trolled up 19 keeper yellowfins and headed for home. The "Katy Did" headed out to 70 fathoms along the 380 line on Wednesday and found schools of yellowfins. While pulling ballyhoo and spreader bars, they landed 16 keeper yellowfins weighing up to 45 lbs. and released many more. The crew had some added excitement when a 10-foot long hammerhead ate two of the tuna right behind the boat.

Billfish have been mixed in with tuna and several whites and some big blue marlin were reported.

Inshore trollers had success with bluefins on traditional structure. The Hambone, Chicken Bone, Hot Dog, 19 Fathom Lump, Fingers and Jackspot all yielded bluefins to boaters pulling cedar plugs, green machines, spreader bars and skirted ballyhoo. It was common to capture a keeper bluefin within the 27 to 59-inch slot limit.

Ocean bottom bouncers found flounder on the Old Grounds between "DB" and "DA" Buoys. Reef Sites 9 and 10 started to produce flatties too. Flukers fooled fish by employing a 3 oz. bucktail tipped with squid and a hair teaser on a dropper about 18-inches ahead of the jig. Captain Brent on the "Katy Did" worked several piles of rubble on Saturday and managed to cull a limit of keeper flounder up to 5.6 pounds for his anglers. Reef sites in the Delaware Bay produced flounder also when drift and water



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conditions were favorable. Will Burdette wound in a 6.49 pound flounder, and Don Moss took a 2.74 pound triggerfish over a reef on the "Lil' Angler II". Flounder continue to come from the Lewes Canal. John Northeimer nailed a 5.26 pounder in the Canal using Gulp!. Some big flounder were landed from the jetties at Indian River Inlet. Ryan Wieber was tossing a Gulp! along the rocks when an 8 lb. 11 oz. doormat grabbed his lure. David Wyszinski was casting a Storm Shad for stripers and connected with a 6 lb. 4 oz. flatfish.

Fishermen at the Cape Henlopen Pier caught plenty of small spot, along with a few croakers.

Ron Smith told of good action with stripers in the 20 to 26 inch range, while throwing 4 inch Storm Shads along the rocks of the Outer Wall.

Until next week, have fun and be safe!

*Rick and his wife Deb are owners of Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck, DE.*



Trevor and Jeff Karchner of South Williamsport, PA caught 3 keeper flounder while fishing on the south side of the Indian River Inlet. The fish were caught on bucktails tipped with either a chartreuse or pink Gulp! artificial bait. The heaviest flattie weighed 4 lbs. 15 oz. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.



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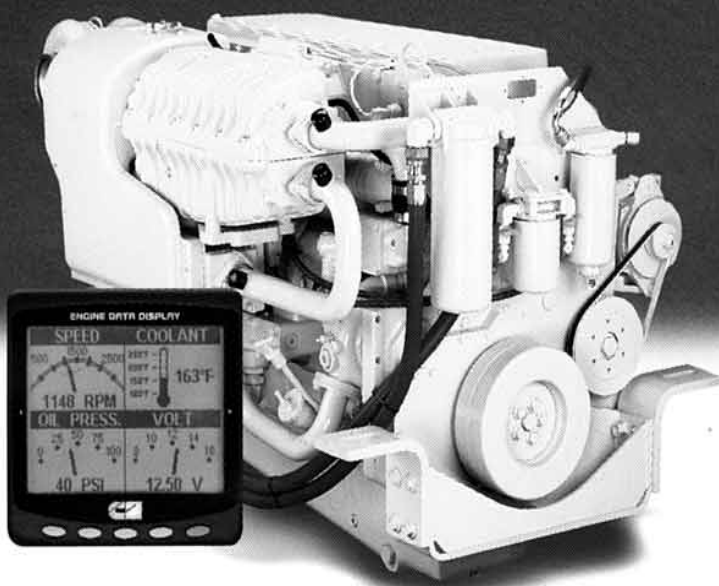
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Kevin Carlisle from Davidsonville, MD caught and released this white marlin while fishing in 500 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon. Kevin was fishing on "Rhonda's Osprey" with Capt. Joe Drosey.



John Northeimer, obviously a master of the "Lewes Harbour Stretch", shows off the 5 lb. 4 oz. flounder he landed while drifting a Gulp! artificial bait in the Lewes Canal. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



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Steve, Cody and Austin Shirk from Grantville, PA landed 5 stripers on Calcutta baits in the Indian River Inlet. The largest fish measured 39-inches and weighed 21.65 lbs. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop.



Matthew Rineman caught 2 flounder, measuring 18 and 22-inches, while fishing with his dad Bill Rineman in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport. The fish were caught on Gulp! Minnows.

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Bob Slater from Millsboro, DE captured this 24-inch flounder while fishing off the Rt. 50 Bridge. The flattie ate a shiner during the incoming tide and is pictured at Alltackle Ocean City.



Nate Gregory of Ocean City, MD released a white marlin and teamed up with Rich Sosnowski of West Ocean City, MD, Mike Johnston from Fenwick, DE and Mark Low from Jacksonville, FL to land 10 yellowfin tuna and a dolphin while fishing on the "???" in the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Provisions.

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# Ship to Shore

by Pat Schrawder



## A CLEVER GADGET WITH A REAL SAFETY BENEFIT

Every now and then a product comes along that makes you go "Hey, that's pretty clever. I haven't seen that before." And so it is with this next item called the "Autotether". Simply put, it is a man overboard wireless motor shut off.



If you can imagine the worst of all incidents, which happens all too often on a

boat, especially when you are alone and you slip or reach over for something, a wave hits and you lose your balance falling overboard. There you are swimming and trying to get back to the boat but its engines are running and it's still moving so you can't catch up. What do you do? Well, the Autotether might just save the day.

Consisting of two pieces, the main unit and the remote that are both operated by AAA batteries, the Autotether is a wireless lanyard that connects directly to the engine kill switch. There are up to 3 extra remote "passenger" keys and one "operator" key available. You wear these on your person. If the operator falls overboard, the motor will

shut off and an alarm will sound. If a passenger falls overboard, just the alarm will sound.

This is a pretty simple system actually. Run by batteries, when turned on the two units "talk" to each other by radio frequency. If one of the keys (sensors) falls in the water, that radio signal is interrupted and that triggers the alarm and/or kill switch.

Installation couldn't be easier. Mount the main unit (receiver) to the boat near the ignition by simply peeling the adhesive strips and then attach the clip to the kill switch. Put the key (sensor) in your pocket and turn on the main unit. The batteries are estimated to last for 100 hours. This unit normally retails for around \$235.00

The manufacturer, aptly named Autotether, Inc., also makes a similar unit called "The Screamer". It is a wireless alarm system that is based on the same principle

as the Autotether. Consisting of a main unit and up to 4 sensors, when the system is turned on, an alarm squeals if any of the remote sensors goes under water or strays more than 100 feet from the main unit. This can certainly be used on your boat but I imagine all sorts of other uses. For moms and dads looking after small children at home where there is a pool or nearby stream, while shopping in the supermarket or some other store or even on your dog. What if someone tries to kidnap your child or pet? You will know within seconds that something is awry.

I say, "Hats off" to the Autotether folks for coming up with a really good idea.

*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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Carl Dallura from Fayetteville, PA, Donnie Butler from Frederick, MD, Steve Sweigart from Lewes, DE, Jeff and Maggie Kugler from New York, NY and Chris Kamaras from Trenton, NJ teamed up to land 14 yellowfin tuna while fishing on "That's Right" with Capt. John Oughton and mate Joe Bonvetti. The fish were caught in 72-degree water in the Baltimore Canyon on ballyhoo and spreader bars. Pictured at Fisherman's Marina.





Olivia and Kyle Peet from Wilmington, DE caught 3 striped bass while fishing with live spot around the Rt. 50 Bridge at night. Olivia's striper was the largest of the trip, measuring 35-inches.

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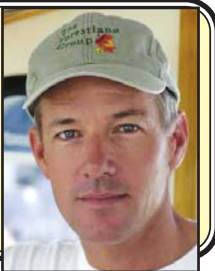
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# Chum Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson



On the dash of my boat are two slightly used "fish tags." One came from the back of a mako shark that was originally caught off New Jersey three years prior to us landing it; the other was recovered from a yellowfin tuna that was taken the year before off Massachusetts. Whether or not it's their original intention when they head out for a day of fishing, any angler might, at any time,

become involved in the tagging process. From flounder to blue marlin, there's a lot of fish swimming around out there that are sporting tags attached to their fins, back, tail or gill, and no one can know if their next cast is going to have them hooked up to one.

Tags are typically planted either by recreational or commercial fishermen, or in some cases, directly by researchers doing a particular study. Tags come in a variety of designs and can be as simple as a spaghetti-like strip of plastic to an expensive high tech electronic gizmo that automatically uploads its data to a satellite. Some tags are designed specifically for one type of fish such as sharks or billfish, while other tags can be used on multiple species such as flounder, sea bass or stripers. All are printed with a unique tag number and some sort of return address or instructions for fishermen to follow if they recapture the fish.

What a lot of anglers wish to know is, "do I have to release a fish that's been

tagged?" In almost all cases, the answer is "no" as long as the fish is of a legal size and species. The simple fact that it has been previously caught and tagged does not mandate that it be released. Considering that in most cases the reason fish are tagged is so that biologists can track the movements and growth rate of a particular species, it would stand to reason that if a tagged fish was recaptured and then, after recording the tag number, location, and measurements, the angler was to re-release the fish with the tag still in it, that particular fish could provide an extra measure of valuable data to those doing the study, particularly if the fish was ever to be captured a third time. So it would be "better" to release a fish that has a tag in it, but not mandatory.

It's both fun and quite interesting to catch a tagged fish and learn where and by whom it was originally caught, and each tag recovery provides researchers with a little more knowledge about a particular species. But I think it's the one who first landed and actually tagged the fish that gets the most sense of accomplishment and really deserves the bragging rights for each tag recovery. When a fish is tagged, the angler's name and details of the catch will be recorded in the files of the tagging program. Whether it's a day, a year, or many decades later, if the fish is recaptured, the tagging program that issued the tags usually notifies the angler, congratulating them and providing details about the recapture and in some cases providing a certificate or award of some sort.

Occasionally, when a fish has traveled a particularly long distance or has been at liberty for an extraordinary length of time between captures, a press release might even be sent out to notify the public that a

significant tag recovery has been made.

Face it, most successful anglers like to bring home some kind of evidence of their conquest, particularly after all the time, effort, and resources that so often go into catching a fish in the first place. At times, just turning the fish loose as soon as it's brought to the boat or shoreline might seem akin to erasing all traces of the effort that was made to catch the fish. But add a tag to the process and suddenly there's a way for anglers to basically put their "mark" on a fish so that if it's ever caught again, the original tagger will get credit for being the first one to land it. It's just a way of saying "I was here", kind of like carving your name in a tree or adding graffiti to a wall – but in a good way.

Tagging gives fishermen a fun reason to practice careful catch-and-release tactics and a good argument that one of the greatest benefits to a fishery from a tagging program is not so much the science produced, as the conservation efforts made by the fishermen involved with it.

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www.billfish.org

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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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Kevin, Dustin, Tyler and Austin Wimsatt were fishing on the "White Lightning" with Capt. Luke Blume and mate Eddie Smith when they caught 15 yellowfin tuna, keeping 9, and released 3 white marlin. The fish were caught on ballyhoo in the Wilmington Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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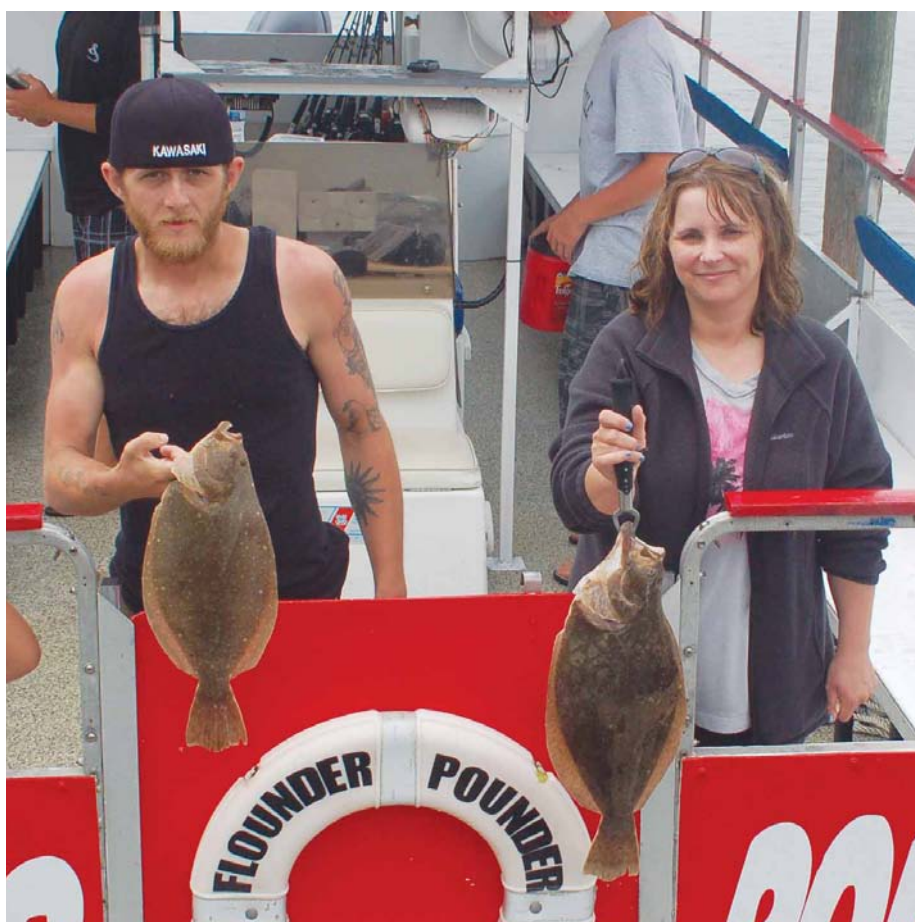




The Stephen Decatur Fishing Club spent a day on the water aboard the "Judith M" and returned with a catch of tautog, cod and sea bass. The 53 student anglers were under the tutelage of Professor Todd Martinek and Professor Tommy Hinkle. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



Holley Kline, Nocole Hengst and Devon Knauss were fishing in the Indian River Inlet aboard the "Hook and Cook" when they boated these 3 striped bass. Holley's linesider was the largest of the three, measuring 31-inches.



Angie Johnston captured a 23-inch flounder and Bryan Benedict caught himself a 19-incher, both while fishing on the "Flounder Pounder" with Capt. Chase Eberle and mate Joey Jenkins. The fish were caught on squid and shiners in the East Channel. Pictured at the Hooper's Crab House Dock.

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Tom, Steve, Zach, Bob and Emily Jarome, Max Curschmann and Lisa, Alan and Hannah Rosenberg took a trip out to the Wilmington Canyon aboard the "Game On" with Capt. Willie Zimmerman and mate Justin Hart, and returned to the Ocean City Fishing Center with 13 yellowfin tuna. The fish were caught on ballyhoo and spreader bars.



Will Burdette captured this 6 lb. 8 oz. flounder while drifting squid over a Delaware Bay reef. Will was fishing on the "Lil' Angler" with Capt. Chet Harer and weighed his catch at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Paul Feehley from Middle River, MD released his first white marlin while fishing on the “Marli” with Tim Layte, Matt Roby, Joe Bucci, Justin Polsinelli, Chris Layte, Capt. Mark Hoos, Jr. and mate Anthony Pino. The anglers also caught 7 yellowfin tuna, releasing 24, and a gaffer dolphin all in the Baltimore Canyon on ballyhoo and spreader bars. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Clark Wagner from Cambridge, MD, Simona Eng from Salisbury, MD, Brian Snow from Cambridge, MD and Jody Sachs from Crofton, MD returned to the Talbot Street Pier with 9 yellowfin tuna, 3 dolphin and a mako. The anglers were fishing on the “Sea Witch” with Capt. Donny White and mate Tim Mullray in the Baltimore Canyon and caught the fish on ballyhoo and spreader bars.



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 <b>South Jetty</b>	<b>Rt. 50 Bridge</b>	 <b>Baltimore Canyon</b>	<b>Poor Man's Canyon</b>



# Virginia Fishing Report

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



Summer has officially started and it looks like the cobia finally got the word. Although the bite is still not great, it is improving each day. Those who are offering chum and cut bunker are still having the best luck. The bite off Hampton slowed, but several fish are coming from the Eastern Shore side of the Bay this week. According to Chris at Chris' Bait and Tackle, chummers sitting on Latimer Shoals and the Inner Middle Grounds have weighed in fish to over 70-pounds. Most of these boats are toting in two to three fish, mostly in the 25 to 45-pound range. Sightcasters are also seeing an improvement in the top water cobia action, with several fish falling to eels and bucktails this week.

With the clearer water lately, flounder action is picking up. The biggest surge is coming from the Cell this week. At the Bay Bridge Tunnel, the 4th Island and the bend at the 3rd Island is producing for drifters, while those working structure with jigs and live bait are finding good numbers of nice keepers. Anglers fishing in the Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlet are still having good luck with the flatfish, but shorts are defiantly dominating catches.

The Virginia Beach Fishing Center reports that the Spanish mackerel bite along the Virginia Beach oceanfront is still steady. Boats are filling their limits with nice fish ranging from 16 to 24-inches. Small Clark and Drone spoons trolled at 5 to 6 knots is

enticing the best response, along with an abundance of tailor bluefish.

Spadefish are still skittish at the Chesapeake Light Tower and near shore wrecks, but folks are enticing a few takers. The best luck on spades is coming from Plantation Light, the Cell and around the islands of the CBBT where fish are averaging around 4-pounds.

Sheepshead action turned on over the past week, with several fish over 10-pounds boated from the CBBT complex. If you happen to catch a tautog while fishing these same areas, you are in luck since the season reopened last week. Triggerfish should also start biting in these same areas soon.

Black drum are schooled around the artificial islands of the Bridge Tunnel. Several blacks have been caught by anglers targeting spadefish. Remember that black drum require extra time while reviving them in order to increase their survival rate. A few red drum are still taking baits along the Eastern Shore shoals, especially the Nine Foot Shoals.

Larger croaker are lurking around the James River Bridge, the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel, the Monitor-Merrimac Bridge Tunnel and off Ocean View. The Oyster croaker run also started up this week. One boat caught 40 hardheads in the medium to

large range while fishing this area. Croaker are also up for grabs within Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlet, along with spot, scattered puppy drum, and speckled trout.

Amberjack are enticing a few anglers to make the long run to the Southern Towers lately where many pups are willing to take your bait along with a few big fish also testing a few backs.

Deep droppers are still doing well, but the escalating offshore trolling scene is shifting interest to more bluewater species. For those still dropping a line to the bottom, some tilefish, wreckfish, grouper, rosefish, and nice sea bass are good possibilities.

The offshore scene continues to heat up, with quite the mixed bag available. Some yellowfin tuna are around, with a few hogs pushing to over 100-pounds thrilling a few crews. The bluefin tuna action is good, with most fish ranging in the 50-pound school sized class. Most catches of bluefin tuna are coming from the Fingers area and 26-mile Hill, with scattered king mackerel, wahoo, and dolphin in the mix. A few gaffers are pushing to over 20-pounds. Billfish are also available, with several whites and a few blues checking out spreads this week. Scattered mako sharks are also making it back to the docks lately. For more information, go to [www.drjball.com](http://www.drjball.com).

*Dr. Julie Ball is the I.G.F.A representative for Virginia Beach, VA. For more information, go to [www.drjball.com](http://www.drjball.com).*

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- Taking fish outside of established hours

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Tyler, Dave and George Nolan, all from Pasadena, MD returned from the Jackspot with this bluefin tuna. The fish was caught on a green machine and is pictured at Ake Marine.

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Lana and Jerry Brown from Upper Marlboro, MD caught these 2 sea bass during a trip aboard the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Mike Kinder and Rich Silvani. Both fish were caught using clams for bait at an ocean wreck. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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On Friday, Trevor Mathias from Ocean City, MD was fishing just south of the Rt. 50 Bridge when he hooked this 23-inch, 4 lb. 8 oz. flounder. Trevor was using minnows for bait and also caught a Northern Stargazer during the trip.

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Some larger dolphin are starting to hit the scales as shown by the 17.7 pounder caught by Jeff Guest while fishing on the "Port-A-Bella" with Capt. Tom Smith. The dolphin was hooked on a trolled ballyhoo near the Tea Cup. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Bryan Allnutt from Silver Spring, MD (left) captured this 34-inch bluefish while tossing a Gotcha plug from the Rt. 50 Bridge. Bryan is pictured at Oyster Bay Tackle with Jake Allnutt.



Ben Boykin caught a 35 lb. yellowfin and Luke Boykin boated a 20 pounder, both while fishing on the "Lucky Duck II" with Cameron and Drew Kolega, Capt. Art Boykin and mates Matt and Steve Magassy. The fish were caught just south of the Rockpile.

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No minimum size 10 per person



**CROAKER**  
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**TAUTOG**  
14" minimum 4 per person/day



**COBIA**  
37" minimum 1 per person/day



**RED DRUM**  
18" - 26" 3 per person/day



**STRIPED BASS**  
28" 2/person/day 5/16 - 12/31



**SPECKLED TROUT**  
14" minimum 10 per person/day



**SHEEPSHEAD**  
No minimum size 4 per person



**SUMMER FLOUNDER**  
17.5" minimum 4 per person/day



**WEAKFISH**  
12" minimum 1 per person/day

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# Straight from the Maryland DNR Fisheries Service

**Marty Gary**  
Assistant Director - Fisheries Ecologist

## The Endless Summer Bite

It started before Memorial Day, it hasn't stopped yet, and it shows no sign of quitting. Offshore, the yellowfin tuna bite continues to be white hot at the Canyons, with the Baltimore the very hottest location of late. Bluefin tuna continue to turn up in outstanding numbers on lumps from the 20 to 30 fathom line inside to the Jackspot. "Morningstar" Captain Monty Hawkins has even gotten in on the action, putting out spreads of cedar plugs resulting in multiple hookups of bluefin. DNR Fisheries biologist Steve Schneider was on board for one of the "bluefin blitzes". He professes it was an experience he'll never forget! The nearshore wrecks are producing nice catches of black sea bass and a few tautog. The Atlantic cod appear to be moving gradually north, but what a memory the last few weeks have been. Inshore, stripers have been on the south jetty

and caught near the Rt. 50 Bridge at night. Flounder catches continue to be solid. Speaking of flounder, DNR launches a brand new survey on July 1st. Read on for details.

## Maryland DNR Summer Flounder Catch Rate Survey

Maryland DNR is teaming up with volunteers from the Maryland Saltwater Sportfishermen's Association and back bay sport fishermen to conduct a first ever of it's kind survey to put to the test concerns we have heard from local fishermen regarding the harvest estimates for summer flounder from the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). If you are an avid summer flounder fishermen, and you have followed the year-to-year process to develop regulations for flounder, you may know that the minimum size, daily creel limit and season length we put in place are in part a function of the estimated catch from the NMFS Marine Recreational

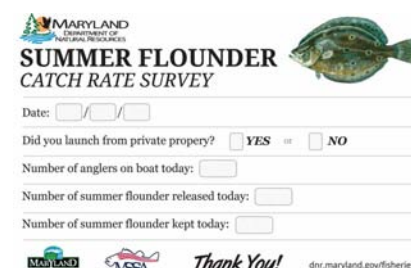
Fisheries Statistics Survey (MRFSS) as it relates to Maryland's annual quota for flounder. In simplest terms, the survey combines a telephone survey (which will now use the database from the National Saltwater Angler Registry) to address fishing effort (time spent fishing) coupled with a second component, a dockside angler survey, which seeks to estimate angler catch rates. The two components are used in tandem by NMFS to develop estimates of harvest. The harvest estimates for a given year can significantly impact the next year's fishing season guidelines, particularly if they indicate the quota was exceeded. For Maryland's flounder fishermen, this has often meant highly variable seasons from one year to the next. In some years where the quota was exceeded, the minimum size has been raised, or the season was shortened or the daily creel limit was reduced. In some years a combination of these three occurred. Performance of the stock plays a role too, but fishermen have focused their ire on the survey estimates.

Ocean City recreational summer flounder fishing enthusiasts have voiced concerns that the estimates are not entirely accurate, because the dockside surveys are conducted at public fishing launches only, and that boats launching from private property or marinas have not been included. As I have pointed out in past columns, complaints without solutions seldom lead to productive outcomes, but solution minded thinkers exist in every group. Enter MSSA Atlantic

Coast Chapter member Frank Watkins. Frank suggested to DNR staff, and ultimately, DNR Fisheries Statistician, Dr. Linda Barker, an idea to test whether the sampling affects the outcome of the estimates. Based upon the creative collaboration of Frank and Dr. Barker, DNR proposes to test the assertion by developing separate "private access" and "public access" catch rates for summer flounder and comparing our information against the federal survey estimate.

So, a unique survey has been developed that will run during the months of July and August of this summer, during a time period that coincides with "wave 4" of the federal survey. The survey, known officially as the "Summer Flounder Catch Rate Survey" will confine sampling to "Flounder Alley" in Isle of Wight Bay and Sinepuxent Bay.

MSSA volunteers will distribute simple, easy to fill out survey cards to anglers on the water during their fishing trips, capitalizing on the rapport between fellow anglers. Here is an example of the survey card that will be handed out to other boat fishermen on the water by the MSSA volunteers.



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**SUMMER FLOUNDER  
CATCH RATE SURVEY**


Date:  /  /

Did you launch from private property? ☐ YES or ☐ NO

Number of anglers on boat today:

Number of summer flounder released today:

Number of summer flounder kept today:

  **Thank You!** dnr.maryland.gov/fisheries

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Thomas, Brendan and Caitlin Conrad from Montgomery County, MD and Samantha Lenox, also from Montgomery County ended their day with 3 keeper flounder in the box after fishing on the "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Lizzy Brittingham. The fish were caught on Gulp! Swimming Mulletts in the south bay behind Castaway's Campground. Their largest fish measured 21.5-inches.

recreational fishing survey (MRIP). So if you are fishing on the water and a fellow fisherman approaches you with a card in hand, please consider taking a moment to listen to them, fill out the survey card at the end of your trip, and drop it in the mailbox. If having a role in a historic, never conducted survey isn't enough motivation, we'll be pulling one lucky name from the list of submitted catch rate cards each month (July and August) to win a special prize. The survey begins this Friday, July 1st!

### Radford Update

Last week we updated you on the status of the USS Radford, a 573 foot long Spruenc Class Navy Destroyer which Maryland, Delaware, New Jersey and the US Navy are collaborating on. The ship is being prepped just outside the Philadelphia Navy Yard. Jeff Tinsman from the State of Delaware (DNREC) is the lead for the project, working with American Marine's Tim Mullane. Jeff's update for this week is a real teaser. He is

optimistic final testing of the vessel will soon be completed by the US Coast Guard and the EPA, clearing the way for potential mid-July deployment. If this holds true, look for next week's update to possibly have the definitive breaking news. We could be just two short weeks away from the largest ship ever sunk for an artificial reef on the Atlantic Coast, and the newest go-to fishing spot off the Delmarva.

### Questions From Coastal Fishermen Readers?

I welcome any questions you may have on fisheries management, sport fishing licenses, or any other fisheries related questions. Please email your questions to: [mlgary@dnr.state.md.us](mailto:mlgary@dnr.state.md.us)

Until Next Week.....Good Fishing!

*Marty Gary is Assistant Director/Fisheries Ecologist at the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, Fisheries Service.*

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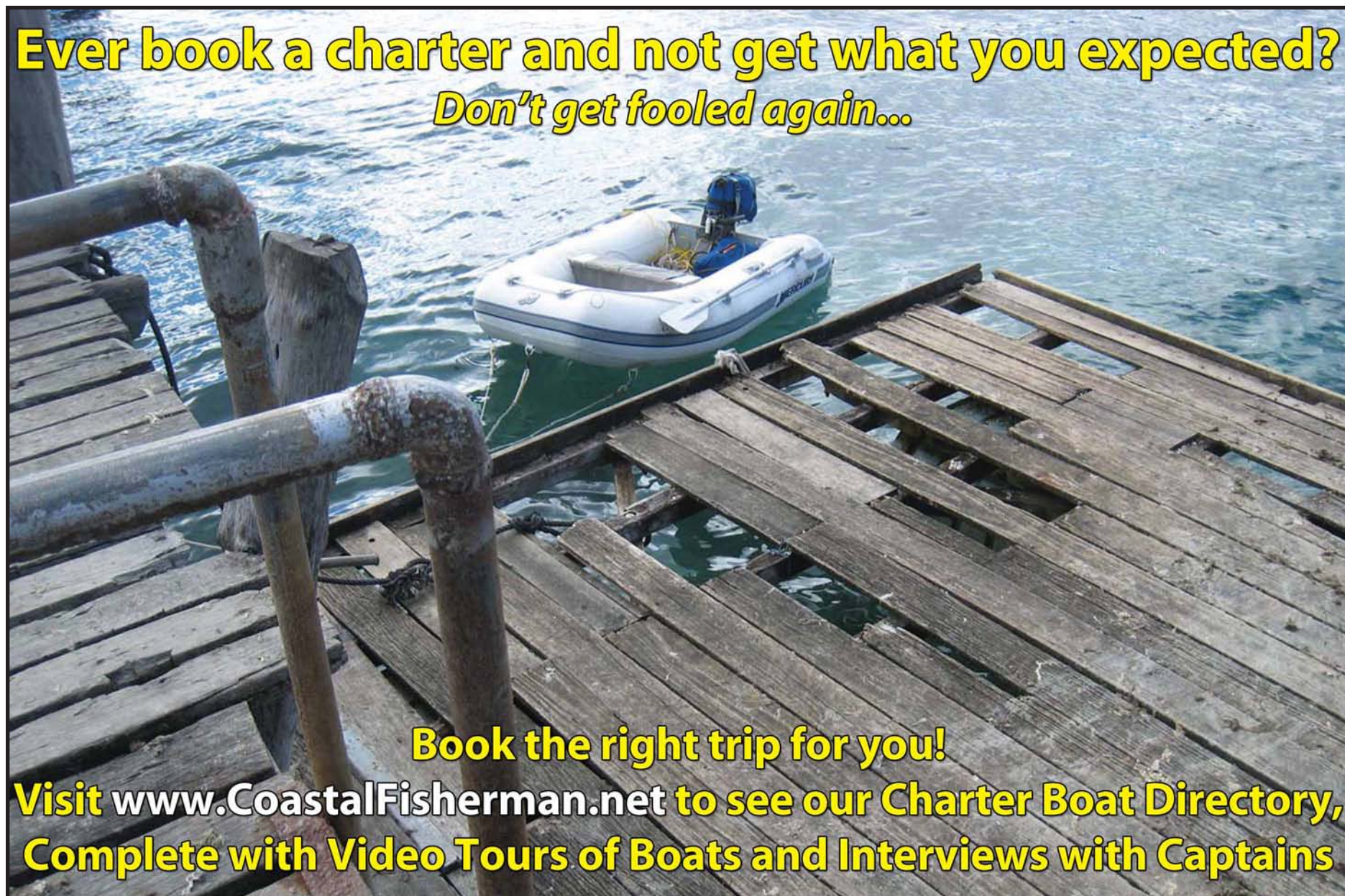
1 BFT per vessel/day/trip  
47" to less than 59" CFL



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Terri Koshi from Powellville, MD caught the largest flounder on the "Bay Bee" Thursday morning, landing a 20.25-inch flattie on a shiner and squid combination in the bay behind Assateague Island. Steve Mendoff of Lebanon, PA caught an 18-incher and Caleb Schaeffer boated a 19.75-incher during the trip. The anglers were fishing with Capt. Bob Gowar and mate Spencer Cropper. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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# 2011 COASTAL FISHERMAN 2011

## 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
<b>Sea Bass</b> 	May 25, 2011 Ricky Herbert "Morning Star" 6 lbs. 4 oz.	May 27, 2011 Hobby Isaacs Reef Site 11 5 lbs. 10 oz.	<b>Mako Shark</b> <b>NEW</b>	June 22, 2011 Robert Powell "Fish Finder" 640 lbs.	June 8, 2011 Chris Bowden "Misdemeanor" 231 lbs.
<b>Tautog</b> 	March 30, 2011 Scott Allison Ocean Wreck 19 lbs. 8 oz.	April 26, 2011 Sam Green DE Bay Reef 10 lbs. 2 oz.	<b>Thresher Shark</b> 	May 29, 2011 Charlie Lutes Fingers 470 lbs.	May 31, 2011 Alex Capozio "DB" Buoy 487 lbs.
<b>Striped Bass</b> 	April 20, 2011 Robert Remo Rt. 50 Bridge 36 lbs.	May 18, 2011 Bill Winkler Indian River Inlet 45 lbs. 2 oz.	<b>Bluefin Tuna</b> 	June 19, 2011 Bill Walls "Restless Lady" 110 lbs.	<b>NEW</b> June 14, 2011 George Cady Jackspot 87 lbs.
<b>Weakfish</b> 	June 1, 2011 Paul Gillespie East Channel 4 lbs. 6 oz.	No Weights Reported	<b>Yellowfin Tuna</b> <b>NEW</b>	June 10, 2011 Joe Cox Baltimore Canyon 103 lbs.	June 12, 2011 Tony Burr Wilmington Canyon 90.6 lbs.
<b>Speckled Trout</b> 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	<b>Longfin Tuna</b> 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
<b>Flounder</b> 	May 28, 2011 Bob Spetzler East Channel 8 lbs. 8 oz.	June 17, 2011 Mike Esham Indian River Inlet 9 lbs. 3 oz.	<b>Bigeye Tuna</b> 	May 31, 2011 Aaron Saulsbury Washington Canyon 172.4 lbs.	June 12, 2011 C.C. Lee Wilmington Canyon 157.6 lbs.
<b>Bluefish</b> 	May 21, 2011 Alexa Lamplugh Fingers 14.8 lbs.	June 2, 2011 Lex Robertson 12 Fathom Lump 10 lbs.	<b>Dolphin</b> <b>NEW</b>	June 26, 2011 Melissa Sexton Washington Canyon 32.5 lbs.	June 18, 2011 Dustin Kope Baltimore Canyon 27.3 lbs.
<b>Sheepshead</b> 	June 18, 2011 Michael Guigley South Jetty 13 lbs.	June 12, 2011 Mark Adams Reef Site 5 5 lbs. 8 oz.	<b>Wahoo</b> 	No Weights Reported	May 22, 2011 Dave Woods Linden Kohl Canyon 11.9 lbs.
<b>Cobia</b> 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	<b>White Marlin</b> <b>NEW</b>	<b>Most Releases in One Day</b> June 21, 2011 "M'm M'm Good" Baltimore Canyon 5 releases	June 10, 2011 "Blue Water Obsession" Wilmington Canyon 1 release

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





The crew on the "American Ambition" ventured out to the Baltimore Canyon and returned to the Indian River Marina with 7 yellowfin tuna and a little bonita. Pictured are John, Travis and Shane Kucyk, Capt. Vernon Lee and mate Rob Dorman. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Dave Beach of Ocean City, MD landed the first reported croaker from the bay after hooking the 18-inch on a minnow/Gulp! combination off the 4th Street Bulkhead. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.

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Jack Pearson from Ocean Pines, MD (center) caught a bluefin tuna and a sea bass while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Bud Bricker, Rick Meyer, Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Rich Silvani. Bud caught a 25-inch cod while Rick landed himself a sea bass, both on chunks of clam. The bluefin was caught on a trolled cedar plug. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

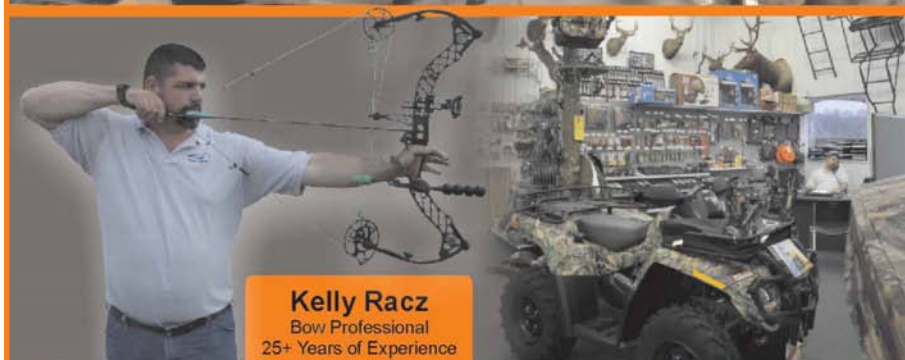


Ashley, Lauren and Carroll Arnold from Crofton, MD caught 3 keeper flounder while drifting minnows and squid in the bay behind Assateague Island. Lauren caught 2 flatties measuring 18.5 and 19-inches and Ashley also caught an 18.5-incher. Pictured at Ake Marine.

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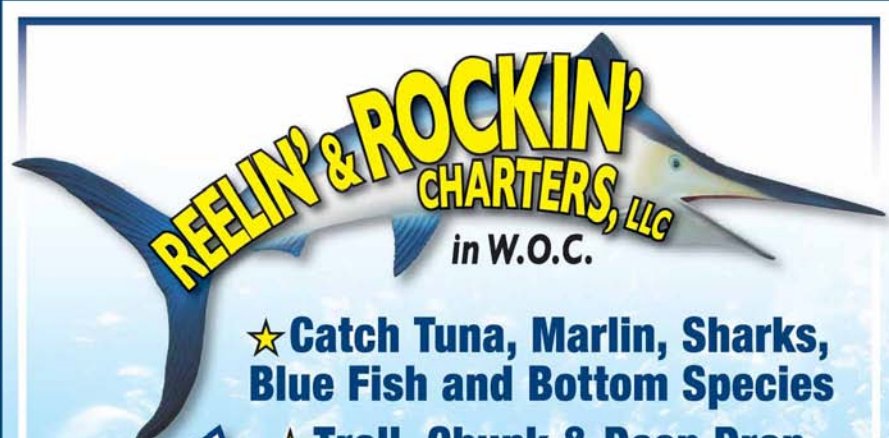
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Garrett Herring, Mark Robbins and Dennis Robbins, all from Milford, DE teamed up to land 7 yellowfin tuna while fishing between the Tea Cup and the Baltimore Canyon. The largest fish caught that day weighed in at 64.3 lbs on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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T.J. Dean and Justin Havard from Davidsonville, MD released this white marlin while fishing in the Baltimore Canyon aboard "Rhonda's Osprey" with Capt. Joe Drosey.



Chris Clasing from Essex, MD, Danielle Meumeister from Nottingham, MD, Stefan Esapala from Dundalk, MD and Rhiannon Sneeringer from Essex, MD returned to the Ocean City Fishing Center with a couple of flounder and a bushel of crabs. The anglers were fishing on the "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Lizzy Brittingham and used Gulp! artificial baits to fool the flatties.



Joshua Judy from Rockwood, PA caught this 19-inch flounder while fishing on the "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe. Joshua caught the fish in the East Channel and is pictured at Bahia Marina.

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Nancy Cox of Ocean City, MD captured 2 flounder while fishing on the "Ms Der" with Danny Cox of Ocean City, MD and Tom Cox from Conway, SC. The fish, 2 of 6 caught this day, were hooked on minnows in the Thorofare. Nancy's flatties tipped the scales at 2 lbs. 11 oz. and 3 lbs. 9 oz.



George Cady from Dunkirk, MD boated this 87 lb. bluefin tuna while shark fishing at the Jackspot. George was fishing on the "Plan B" and used mackerel for bait. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Jeff Hale and Earl Sheats from Pocomoke, MD and Langston Majette from Upper Marlboro, MD brought back some cod and a sea bass after spending the day fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mates Mike Kinder and Tucker Colquhoun. The fish were caught on clams at an ocean wreck. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Moe Cropper of Ocean City, MD landed this 32-inch striper and a 20-inch flounder while fishing with top water lures in the Ocean City Inlet.



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Mikey Adams from Lebanon, PA caught 3 flounder (2 pictured) while fishing with his grandfather, Randy Weaber. The anglers were fishing in the Indian River Inlet using squid and minnows for bait. Pictured at Hook'em & Cook'em.



Ben and Steve Mahan from Rosedale, MD were drifting minnow/Gulp! combinations in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport when they hooked into these 18 and 18.5-inch flounder. The duo were fishing on the "Rylie & Boomer" with P.J. DiCarlo.

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# 2011 COASTAL FISHERMAN 2011

## 1st Fish of the Year

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

Species	2011	2010	Species	2011	2010
<b>Sea Bass</b> 	May 22, 2011 Tyler Sumpter "Keep 'Er' Wet" Jack Spot	April 18, 2010 George Henning "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	<b>Mako Shark</b> 	May 1, 2011 Brett Coakley "Wrangler" Washington Canyon	May 20, 2010 Josh Dolan "Nontypical" Washington Canyon
<b>Tautog</b> 	January 6, 2011 Mike Grybos "Morning Star" Ocean Wreck	January 7, 2010 John Smith "Morning Star" Offshore Wreck	<b>White Marlin</b> 	May 29, 2011 Anthony Pino "Marli" Rockpile	June 8, 2010 Eric Van Orden "Bimini" Washington Canyon
<b>Striped Bass</b> 	April 14, 2011 Capt. Skip Maguire "Skip's Charter" Sinepuxent Bay	January 1, 2010 Max Thumma "Hard Times" Little Gull	<b>Blue Marlin</b> 	June 10, 2011 Stevie Ramsey "Lady Luck V" Baltimore Canyon	June 8, 2010 Scott Brooks "Stress Reel-ief" Outside 461 Lump
<b>Weakfish</b> 	June 4, 2011 Paul Gillespie East Channel	April 16, 2010 Tim Thorpe Assateague Surf	<b>Bluefin Tuna</b> 	May 1, 2011 Mike Sears "Wrangler" Washington Canyon	May 16, 2010 Tom Dorwart "Margin" Norfolk Canyon
<b>Flounder</b> 	April 17, 2011 Tommy Fowler Thorofare	April 5, 2010 Paul Turner Thorofare	<b>Yellowfin Tuna</b> 	May 26, 2011 Phil Falgowski Wilmington Canyon	June 11, 2010 Tom Zapf "Darlin" 461 Lump
<b>Bluefish</b> 	May 1, 2011 Alex Levantovsky "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	April 17, 2010 Dana Zapcic "Get Sum" Sinepuxent Bay	<b>Longfin Tuna</b> 	None Reported	None Reported
<b>Black Drum</b> 	April 30, 2011 Melson MaGee Fenwick Surf	May 2, 2010 Lucas May "Jam-Man" Coral Beds	<b>Bigeye Tuna</b> 	May 31, 2011 Aaron Saulsbury "Magic Moment" Washington Canyon	June 13, 2010 Ron Los, Jr. "Marli" Washington Canyon
<b>Sheepshead</b> 	May 7, 2011 Sheldon Thomas "Kimberly Ann" Winter Quarter Shoal	May 23, 2010 Dave Pasun Inshore Wreck	<b>Dolphin</b> 	May 22, 2011 Daryl Bathelmess Linden Kohl Canyon	June 8, 2010 Tina Boykin "Lucky Duck II" Poor Man's Canyon
<b>Thresher Shark</b> 	May 25, 2011 Jimmy Bunting "B" Buoy	May 16, 2010 Tenille Schrier "Hookin' Wubbas" Jack Spot	<b>Wahoo</b> 	May 22, 2011 Dave Woods Linden Kohl Canyon	None Reported

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



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Ed and Peggy Krug from Ellicott City, MD caught 3 flounder on minnow/Gulp! combinations. Ed's flattie measured 22-inches while Peggy's came in at 18 and 19-inches. Two of the fish were caught in the West Channel and one was caught near Harbour Island.

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# ocean City Marlin Club

## 2011 Tournament Series

### 410-213-1613

## info@ocmarlinclub.com www.OCMarlinClub.com

**29<sup>th</sup> Annual Canyon Kick Off Tournament**  
**NO OCMC MEMBERSHIP NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE**  
Chairman: Franky Pettolina  
Registration: June 30, 6:30 p.m.  
Fishing Days: (2 of 3) July 1, July 2, & July 3  
Awards Banquet: July 4, 1-3 p.m.  
**FREE TO ALL OCMC BOAT MEMBERS**

**7<sup>th</sup> Annual Kids' Classic**  
**NO OCMC MEMBERSHIP NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE**  
Chairmen: Bill Regan, Annette Cropper, & Pat Svehla  
Registration: July 22, 6:30 p.m.  
Fishing Days: (1 or 2 of 2) July 23 & July 24  
Cook-Out: July 16, 6:30 p.m. for Wish-A-Fish Kids  
Carnival & Awards Banquet: July 24, 5-8 p.m.

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual OCMC Ladies' Tournament**  
**NO OCMC MEMBERSHIP NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE**  
Chairmen: Alison Sappington & Franky Pettolina  
Registration: August 4, 6 p.m.  
Fishing Days: (1 of 2) August 5 & August 6  
Awards Banquet: August 6, 6:30-9 p.m.

**53<sup>rd</sup> Annual Labor Day White Marlin Tournament**  
**NO OCMC MEMBERSHIP NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE**  
Chairmen: Bob Wimbrow & Bill Fenwick  
Registration: September 1, 6:30 p.m.  
Fishing Days: (2 of 3) September 2, 3, & 4  
Awards Banquet: September 4, 6:30-9 p.m.

**33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Challenge Cup**  
Chairmen: Jon Duffie & Pat Svehla  
Registration: September 15, 7 p.m.  
Fishing Days: (2 of 2) September 16 & September 17  
Italian Night: September 16, 6:30-9 p.m.  
Awards Banquet: September 17, 6:30-9 p.m.  
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June 18, 2011

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Tom Coyle caught this pair of 6 lb. flounder while drifting squid and shiners over a Delaware Bay reef site. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Exxon Wine Rack  
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OC Convention Center  
Minit Market  
7-Eleven - 28th Street  
Bahia Marina  
Bailey's Drug Store  
General's Kitchen  
Layton's Restaurant - 92nd Street  
Oyster Bay Tackle  
7-Eleven - 139th Street

### **West Ocean City**

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PNC Bank  
Ocean City Fishing Center  
Micky Fins  
Crab Alley  
Ocean City Marlin Club  
L&L Marine  
Harborside Bar & Grill  
Ake Marine  
Sunset Marina  
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25.5 foot

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Dale Mancuso from Ocean City, MD was fishing on "Bob's Joy" when he hooked this 24-inch flounder in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport.

## HAVE A PHOTO OF YOUR CATCH?

Email it to the Coastal Fisherman at

**coastalfisherman@comcast.net**

*Include in the email:*

Angler's name & town

Names & towns of others in photo

Weight and/or length of fish

Bait or lure used

Location of catch

Please send the photo file at full size.

**Do not compress it 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.
  - **DO NOT use a cell phone camera.**
  - Shoot vertical photos
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\*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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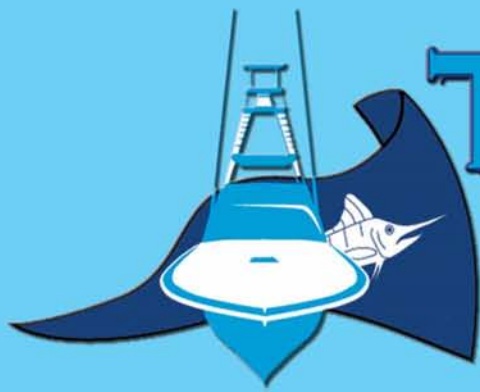
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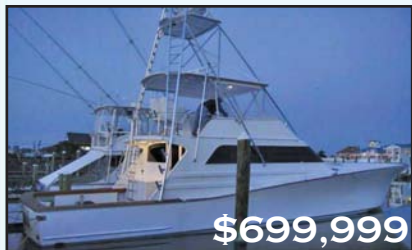
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