

Priceless

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COASTAL FISHERMAN

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This is the time of year that flounder fishermen have been waiting for as the fish begin stacking up in our inlets, preparing for their migration to ocean reefs and wrecks. The Indian River Inlet has been producing some good size flounder in recent weeks as shown by the 28.5-incher caught on live spot by John Russell of Severna Park, MD. The big flattie weighed in at 11 lbs. 6 oz. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

Fish Facts



Spot
Leiostomus xanthurus

Key Distinguishing Markings:

- Spot have 12-15 dusky oblique bars on their upper side.
- They have a distinct dusky to black spot just behind the top of the gill opening on their body.
- The tail fin is distinctly forked, the body is deep and compressed and the mouth is small and inferior.

Size:

- Maximum length of spot is 14 inches.
- Spot mature at ages two and three and lengths of seven to eight inches.

Distribution:

- Spot occur along the Atlantic coast in estuarine and coastal waters from the Gulf of Maine to Florida. However, they are most abundant from the Chesapeake Bay south to South Carolina.
- Spot have one of the most extensive distributions of any marine-estuarine fishes in the Bay.

Food Preference:

- Spot are opportunistic bottom feeders primarily eating worms, small crustaceans and mollusks.

Spawning:

- Spawning occurs in offshore coastal waters in late fall to early spring.
- Females produce at least 70,000 - 90,000 eggs.
- After spawning, adults may remain offshore, whereas larval spot will enter the Bay as early as December and appear in nursery areas in April and May.
- Young spot grow rapidly over the summer months and by fall, reach an average total length of five inches.

Fun Facts:

- Spot are known for the croaking or drumming sound they produce by resonating their large swim bladder.
- The Chesapeake Bay angling record in MD was caught in Tangier Sound and weighed 2 lbs.

Reference: <http://www.dnr.state.md.us/fisheries/fishfacts/spot.asp>



Charlotte Sampson of West Ocean City, MD is all smiles after setting an I.G.F.A. world record by catching this 7 lb. bonnethead shark on 6 lb. tippet. Charlotte was fly fishing in the Florida Keys with her husband, Capt. Mark Sampson. This is Charlottes 15th world record with 5 still standing. She also has another 2 pending world records, awaiting I.G.F.A approval. Congratulations, Charlotte!

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After Hurricane Irene blew through the area, Capt. John Oughton and mate Joe Bonvetti on the charter boat "That's Right" found some yellowfin tuna and a wahoo in the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons on Wednesday. The 55 lb. wahoo was caught by Patrick Curran of Hanover, PA while fishing with John Duvall from Hanover, PA, Matt and Andrew Conner from Howard County, MD, Eddie Liberto from Sykesville, MD and Mark Mitton from Westminster, MD. The fish were caught on ballyhoo and spreader bars. Pictured at Fisherman's Marina.

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Debbie Collins from Newark, MD released her first white marlin while fishing in the Washington Canyon on the "All In" with Kelly Macomber, Angie Vermillion, Barbara Sheets, Capt. Chad Meeks and mate Steve Moore.



Aaron Balog from Lambertville, NJ landed this 22-inch, 3 lb. 14 oz. flounder during a trip aboard the headboat "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe and mate Serge Garder. The flattie was caught on a shiner and squid combination and weighed at Bahia Marina.



Christopher Clasing caught his limit of flounder, measuring between 18.5 and 20.5-inches, while drifting Gulp! artificial baits in the bay around Harbour Island during the incoming tide.

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Roger Hudson from Pittsville, MD landed this 46-inch, 37 lb. dolphin during a trip aboard the "Hanna M" with Dan Sargent and Rick Jones. The mahi-mahi was caught on a trolled ballyhoo in 40 fathoms inside the Poor Man's Canyon.



Mark Eckerd from Pittsburgh, PA caught this 60-inch wahoo while fishing on the "Madness" with Scotty DiPalma from Pittsburgh, PA and Mike Mewshaw from Ocean View, DE. The wahoo, along with 4 dolphin, were caught on green machines at the Tea Cup.



Robert Stella from Long Island, NY was fishing across the tip of the South Jetty with live spot when he hooked into this 34-inch, 18 lb. striped bass.

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Dominick Gallo and Heather Steckler from Holmes, NY caught a couple of keeper flounder while fishing on the charter boat, "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Bill Kelly. The fish measured 19 and 21-inches and were caught on white Gulp! Swimming Mulletts.

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Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



I wish I could say that fishing is red hot right now, but that just isn't the case. The seas got pretty stirred up after Hurricane Irene, and unfortunately we have another system churning things up further offshore and a tropical storm heading inland up the coast. Both of these could really put a damper on fishing this week, but once things get settled down, I have a sense that we will see good yellowfin and marlin fishing out of Ocean City.

Labor Day Tournament

Thirteen boats entered this year's Labor Day White Marlin Tournament, which was one boat more than last year. As always, the last day provided excitement when the "D.A. Sea" released 9 white marlin to overtake the "Reel Joy" for 1st place in the Billfish Division. Their 2-day total of 14 releases was 2 more than the 12 releases on the "Reel Joy", with their final hook-ups coming during the last few minutes on Sunday.

Susan McCart continued her hot streak, landing a 62.2 lb. yellowfin in 500 fathoms in the Washington Canyon on the



On Friday, the crew on the "Jade II" got into some yellowfin and dolphin while trolling ballyhoo and spreader bars inside the Baltimore Canyon. Fishing with Capt. Ed Kauffman and mate Will Hathaway were Tony Pallas and Kevin Smoker from Lancaster, PA, Mark Hess from Hockessin, DE, Rob Petersen from New Zealand, Mark Young from Ardmore, PA and Eric Spross from Wenonah, NJ. The anglers ended their day with 10 yellowfins and 2 dolphin in the box. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

first day of the tournament and held on to win the Tuna Division.

The "Predator" had a good tournament, both in white marlin releases (8) and in the

Dolphin Division, where they won 1st and 2nd place with 29.2 and 23.4 lb. mahi. These fish were caught deep, in 1,000 fathoms between the Washington and Norfolk Canyons.

The Master Angler Award for the tournament went to Jon Duffie, Sr. on the "Billfisher" with 3 self-hooked white marlin releases.

Marlin

Over 70 white marlin were released during last weekend's Labor Day White Marlin Tournament. The bite was stretched from the Poor Man's down to the north end of the Norfolk Canyon. Most boats centered on the Washington Canyon, where the bite moved from deep water on Friday and Saturday to 60-100 fathoms on Sunday.

A couple of blue marlin were also released during the week. On Saturday, the "No Quarter" returned from an overnight trip from the Washington Canyon with a release and on Sunday, the "Commocean" returned to action and recorded a blue marlin release in the Baltimore Canyon.

Tuna

It was feast or famine for tuna fishermen last week. Many boats came in with between 1 and 3 tuna, but a few really had good days. On Wednesday, the "Osprey" caught 10 yellowfins and "That's Right" caught 9 between the Poor Man's and Baltimore Canyons. On Friday, the "Marli" boated 10 yellowfins in the Washington and "Pumpin' Hard" caught 12 inside the Baltimore.

Dolphin

A lot of dolphin hit the docks last week by boats fishing mostly in 60-100 fathoms between the Poor Man's and Norfolk Canyons. Several gaffer dolphin were caught, with the "Hanna M" returning with a 37 pounder, the heaviest of the week. This fish was caught in 40 fathoms inside the Poor Man's Canyon.

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Wahoo

The largest wahoo caught so far this year was landed on Saturday aboard the "Reel Desire", when they returned with an 89 pounder from the Washington Canyon.

On the same day, the "Sea Hunt" boated a wahoo in the Baltimore Canyon where "That's Right" also landed a big wahoo earlier in the week.

In the Surf

We didn't see much coming from anglers fishing off the beaches. Prior to the hurricane, snapper blues were abundant in the suds and there were still some spot, kingfish, big rays and sharks around. Anglers even reported catching some weakfish.

Flounder

It was not a good week for flounder fishing in our bays. The water still hasn't cleaned up from Hurricane Irene, making it difficult to find consistent action. Anglers are still weeding through a lot of throwbacks.

Flounder fishing on ocean reefs, wrecks and shoals has really started to improve. We saw several fish over 5 lbs. coming in off headboats venturing offshore. The "Morning Star" returned with a 6.1 pounder on Friday and a 6.4 lb. flattie on Saturday. I also heard reports of commercial fishermen around Little Gull Shoal coming up with good catches of flounder.

This is the time of year where we will see flounder "stacking up" in our bays, preparing for their migration to ocean structure. Typically, the areas around the Cement Plant, the rocks along the north wall of the Inlet, the deep holes just south of the Rt. 50 Bridge and around the South Jetty will give you your best shot at a large flounder.

Anglers fishing ocean structure had good results from using the bellies of dolphin, bluefish or flounder. In the bay, minnows, spot and the ever-popular Gulp! artificial baits were the top

producers. I know I mentioned this a couple of weeks ago, but Gulp! just came out with a larger, 6-inch version of their popular Swimming Mullet. Remember, big baits can equal big fish, so you may want to consider giving the larger Gulp! a try. Some local tackle shops are now carry them.

Sheepshead

We haven't seen many sheepshead this year, but the majority of those hooked came in from around the North Jetty where, on Saturday, Kevin Javins was fishing with peeler crabs when he caught a beautiful 11 pounder.

Sea Bass & Croaker

Sea bass fishing last week was absolutely fantastic for those who ventured off to ocean structure. Headboats returned with good catches of fish weighing up to 5.26 lbs. That fish was caught by Travis Sturgill on the "Morning Star" while fishing with clams at an artificial reef, somewhat near the Jackpot.

There were days last week when croaker fishing was off the hook for anglers who were also fishing ocean structure. Headboats got into good numbers of hardheads on several days. Fish weren't huge, but made for some fine dinners.

Upcoming Tournaments

On Sunday, September 11th, the 6th Annual Flounder Pounder will be held at Bahia Marina. Fishing is from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. Hopefully, this week will provide some clean bay water and some of those big flatties that are hovering around the rocks will find their way to the scale.

Also on Sunday, the 10th Annual Ocean City Fishing Center Spot Tournament will be held for those looking more to have a great time with friends than landing a big fish. Fishing will run from 5:30 pm to 7:30 PM.



Travis Sturgill of Parkesburg, PA caught a 5 lb. 4 oz. sea bass and John Lutz from Lancaster, PA caught himself a 19-inch flounder and a croaker, all while fishing on the headboat "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Mike Kinder and Rich Silvani. The sea bass and croaker were caught on clams and the flounder was fooled with a strip of squid at an artificial reef. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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Good Fishing!!



Bill Mace traveled down from Wilmington, DE to go fishing on the headboat "Judy V." with Capt. Roger Meekins and was rewarded with this 5 lb. 8 oz. flounder caught on squid and shiners at the Coral Beds. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



David Gillenwalters (right) caught this 48.5 lb. dolphin while fishing on the charter boat "Foolish Pleasures" with Capt. Dale Lisi and mate Reggie Cangemi. The mahi attacked a skirted ballyhoo, north of the Poor Man's Canyon.

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Right before Hurricane Irene blew through the area, big flounder were being caught in the Indian River Inlet as shown by this 9 lb. 15 oz. flattie landed by Bill Winkler of Frankford, DE. The 28.5-inch fish was fooled with a live cob mullet. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Doc Peoples, Lex Robertson, Harry Lewis, Her Sheetz and Donald Lynch, all from Rehoboth, DE were drifting squid and minnows around "B" Buoy and ended up with 10 flounder in the box. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.



Jamie Beall and his mother, Peggy Beall from Annapolis, MD returned to the Indian River Marina with 2 white marlin releases and a blue marlin release after spending the day fishing in the Baltimore Canyon. Peggy's white marlin was estimated to weigh 80 lbs. while the blues were estimated at 250 and 550 lbs.

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Jeremy Armolt caught this pair of flounder while drifting squid and shiners at the Old Grounds. Jeremy was fishing on the charter boat "Katy Did" with Capt. Brent Wiest. The fish weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and 8 lbs. 2 oz. on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Mark Smith from Dover, DE boated this 80 lb. wahoo while fishing with Mike Benzi just outside the Hot Dog. The speedster attacked a ballyhoo behind a chartreuse and yellow bird. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



Lots of people come down to enjoy Ocean City's second season. Anglers staying in oceanfront condos may decide that "surf fishing" might be their "cup of tea." It's easy because all they have to do is grab their fishing gear, walk up to the beach and go fishing. They don't have to drive anywhere or worry about a bunch of snags. Anglers fishing the

beach can watch sunrises that are gorgeous and enjoy the crispness of a late summer evening.

Many anglers think that since "summer" is over we suddenly have a run of big fish, like stripers. Well, that just doesn't happen overnight in Ocean City, so don't get out the "big hooks" just yet unless you are after sharks and big rays. Assateague might see some red drum, but in Ocean City, it's rather rare to get into a large one.

"So what's biting in the surf in September?"



Snapper blues are the fun fish to catch. They are usually pretty plentiful, easy to catch and tasty in the frying pan if you skin them and eat them fresh. I like to use a high/low surf rig with two Styrofoam floats on the rig. Sea Striker makes the DT34 and DT34S Fire Ball bluefish rigs that work just fine. These rigs are made out of 40 lb. mono or nylon coated wire. The 3/4-inch float models have #4 plated hooks. They have a #5 swivel at the top and a #6 link or #5 snap for sinker attachment. The "S" stands for "steelon." I personally like the monofilament leadered rig as it doesn't kink up after a day's fishing. Snapper blues rarely bite through the mono leader when surf fishing. It's only those big three footers that do that, and we rarely have that size fish this time of year in the surf!

Attach a 3 to 5-ounce pyramid or hurricane sinker to the snap and put some cut

bait on the two hooks. My favorite cut baits are finger mullet cut into one inch chunks, fresh or frozen bunker filleted and cut into strips, or fresh spot or bluefish caught from the surf and cut into strips. Another very popular bait is good old fashioned "box squid." I know there are squid strips that are easy to use and very convenient, but box squid is American squid with the smell of squid ink and squid guts that fish really like. Cut a triangle of the squid with the skin still on it for surf fishing and you can catch just about anything with it.



The nice part about the Sea Striker Fireball Rig is the size #4 hooks are still small enough to catch kingfish, ling cod or croaker. Kingfish, also called Sea Mullet or Whiting, seem to prefer fresh pieces of cut bait as the season progresses into fall. Bloodworms and Fishbite Bloodworms still work for these good eating fish, but don't be afraid to try cut bait as well. Kings usually like a small strip of bait over a "chunk." The kings this time of year tend to be more of the Southern variety that like other baits as opposed to just worms. If in doubt, use the worms or FishBites, but dress the worm bait up with a little strip of cut bait on the same hook.

Regardless, snapper blues are bait stealers, so you want to keep the rod in your hands. A nice medium-action rod in the 8 to 10-foot range is all you need this time of year. If you are fishing with an 11-

footer, grab your lighter action one. Cast out and wait for the bite. As soon as you get the bite try to set the hook. Keep bouncing it back towards the shore as you are getting bites. Blues can be quick!



If you get out there and the blues are really biting, you may want to try a "Mullet Rig." With a "mullet rig" you can fish a whole finger mullet. Even if the blues are small, this rig can really work well. A "mullet rig" is made with a split, double-hook that can be removed from a piece of stainless wire, allowing the angler to push the rig through the mouth of a finger mullet and out the anus. The hook is then reattached. The hook always lies near the tail of the finger mullet. When the bluefish bites the finger mullet, hopefully it will make contact with the sharp double hook.

Mullet rigs are made with brightly colored floats that lift the bait off the bottom floor away from troublesome crabs. You can fish this rig all day without crabs stealing your bait. These rigs come ready-to-fish with a monofilament leader and a 3-way swivel and a snap for the sinker. Be sure to use a snap swivel at the end of your line so the 3-way swivel does not twist around and tangle your rig. Always take extra hooks with you as occasionally you can lose the hook if the fish takes a sharp turn or if slack gets in your line. Keeping tension on your line once you get a "bite" will solve that problem. Regardless, it is always a good idea to purchase a couple spare hooks when you buy these rigs. I like to

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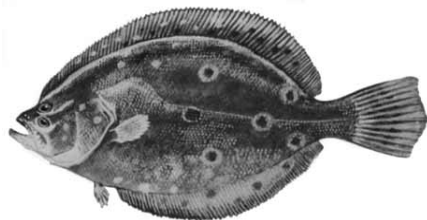


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use a size #1/0 or #2/0 this time of year for the snapper blues.

Snapper blues may come by and take a quarter or half of your mullet. Don't put on a new one yet. Throw it back out there and wait for another bite. Keep bouncing it back in towards shore and jerk your rod tip to set the hook when you get a bite.



Sometimes we catch nice flounder in the surf in September. Use your mullet rig, but chisel off the surf float. Cast it out, and slowly bring it in towards the shore. Keep it slowly moving for flounder. You can also use a simple, single leadered flounder rig with a strip of any kind of cut bait. No float. Cast it out, and slowly bounce it back towards shore.

Fishing in September. What fun!

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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Five-year-old Cassie O'Neill from Millsboro, DE caught her first keeper flounder while drifting a squid and shiner combination in the Lewes Canal. Photo courtesy of Bill's Sport Shop.



This 10 lb. doormat flounder was captured by John Quattlebaum of Bethany Beach, DE while jigging with strip bait and Gulp! artificial baits at the Old Grounds. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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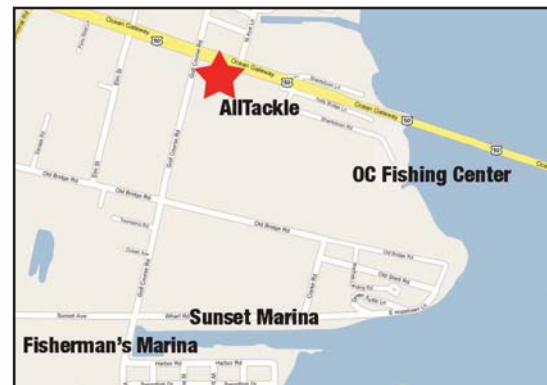
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Some big flounder have been landed in the Indian River Inlet recently and Michael Biederman of Clayton, DE was there to get in on the action. Michael landed this 29-inch, 9 lb. 15 oz. flounder on a minnow while fishing off the rocks. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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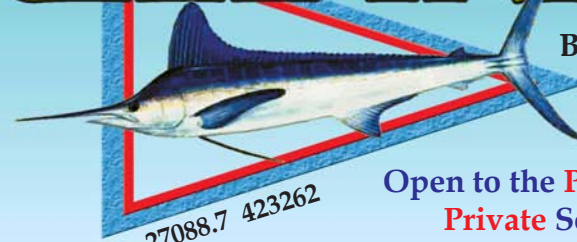
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Mike Bayshore used a squid and shiner combination to trick this 6 lb. flounder while fishing on the "Lil' Angler" at the Brown Shoal reefs. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Junior anglers, Mike Walters, Greg Pepper and Rick Bishop boated 3 nice flounder, measuring between 19 and 24-inches, while drifting minnows near the Rt. 50 Bridge. They were joined on the "One More Drift" by Hunter Walters, Trey Bishop, Cody Pepper and Preston Walls (not pictured).



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2011 Tournament Series

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33RD ANNUAL CHALLENGE CUP

Chairmen: Jon Duffie & Pat Svehla

Registration: September 15, 7:00 p.m.

Fishing Days: (2 of 2) September 16 & September 17

Italian Night: September 16, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Awards Banquet: September 17, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

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Vinne Myers
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The Galley

by Mama Jock



Flounder in Parchment

6 flounder fillets
6 TBSP. tomato butter, recipe follows
1 tsp. salt
1 tsp. black pepper
18 slices plum tomatoes
12 paper thin slices Vidalia onion
3 TBSP. fresh cilantro, chopped

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Cut 6 large pieces of parchment paper, 14 inches wide.

Place 1 piece of fillet on one half of the paper.

Spread 1 TBSP. tomato butter on fish.

Season with salt and pepper.

Top with 3 slices of tomato

and 2 slices of onion.

Sprinkle with chopped cilantro.

Repeat with remaining fillets.

Fold over parchment and crimp edges tightly.

Place parchment packets on a rimmed baking sheet.

Bake for 20 minutes.

Carefully open packets and allow steam to escape.

Serve immediately.

Tomato Butter:

2 very ripe tomatoes, seeded

1 tsp. salt

1/2 tsp. black pepper

1/2 tsp. sugar

1/2 cup butter, melted and cooled

In a food processor, pulse tomatoes until pureed.

Add salt, pepper and sugar, pulsing to combine.

With processor running, slowly add melted butter to tomato mixture.

Use immediately or store in an airtight container in refrigerator for up to 3 days.

Serves 6.

Grilled Tuna Packets

4 tuna steaks
1 tsp. lemon-pepper seasoning
1 cup shredded carrots
1/2 cup julienned yellow pepper
4 tsp. lemon juice
1 tsp. dried parsley flakes
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper

Sprinkle tuna with lemon-pepper seasoning.

Place each steak on a double thickness of heavy duty foil (about 12 inch square).

Top with carrots and peppers and sprinkle with remaining ingredients.

Fold foil around fish and seal tightly.

Grill, covered, over medium heat for 15-20 minutes or until fish flakes easily with fork.

Serves 4.

Scallops in Orange-Butter Sauce

1 (16 ounce) package vermicelli
5 TBSP. butter, softened and divided
1 1/2 lbs. large sea scallops
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. pepper
1 TBSP. olive oil
6 TBSP. orange juice
6 TBSP. dry white wine
1/2 tsp. orange zest

Cook vermicelli according to package directions; drain, toss with 2 TBSP. butter and keep warm.

Rinse scallops and pat dry; sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Melt 1 TBSP. butter with 1 1/2 tsp. olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat; add 6 scallops; cook 2-3 minutes on each side or until

golden.

Remove from skillet, cover with foil; keep warm.

Repeat procedure with 1 TBSP. butter and remaining 1 1/2 tsp. oil and 6 scallops.

Combine orange juice with wine in a small saucepan; cook over medium-high heat 10 minutes or until mixture is reduced by half.

Remove from heat; stir in orange zest and remaining 1 TBSP. butter.

Divide vermicelli on plates; top with scallops and sauce.

Serves 4.

Striped Bass with Mushrooms

3 TBSP. butter
5 shallots, thinly sliced
Salt and pepper
2 sprigs fresh thyme
10 oz. white mushrooms, trimmed and quartered
4 skin-on striped bass fillets, 1 inch thick
2 TBSP. extra-virgin olive oil
3/4 cup dry white wine
3/4 cup heavy cream
Parsley for garnish

Heat butter in large skillet.

Add shallots and thyme; cook 7 minutes; season with salt and pepper.

Add the mushrooms, cook until tender, about 8 minutes.

Season the fish with salt and pepper.

Heat oil in another skillet over medium-high heat.

Add the fish, skin side down, and cook until the skin is crisp, 3 to 4 minutes; transfer to a plate.

Add the wine and scrape up any browned bits with a wooden spoon.

Boil over high heat until syrupy, 2 to 3 minutes.

Add the cream and simmer to thicken slightly, 2 to 3 minutes.

Season with salt and pepper.

Pour the cream sauce over the mushrooms in the skillet, then add the fish, skin side up.

Simmer until fish is just firm and translucent, 5 to 7 minutes.

Serves 4.

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The area around "B" Buoy outside of the Indian River Inlet has been a hot spot for flounder fishermen as shown by the 2 keepers landed by Joe Fedick from Ocean View, DE. The flatties measured 20 and 25-inches and were caught on squid and minnow combinations. The heaviest tipped the scale at 4.3 lbs. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.



Buddy Martin and his son, Cody caught this 3 lb. 2 oz. flounder and some bluefish while fishing off the Rt. 50 Bridge at night. The fish were caught on Storm Lures during the incoming tide.



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	Washington Canyon	Norfolk Canyon		Baltimore Canyon	Poor Man's Canyon



On the final day of the 2011 Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament, the crew on the "D.A. Sea" released 9 white marlin to take 1st place in the Billfish Division. Their 9 released, coupled with their 5 releases a day earlier, gave the crew 14 releases for the tournament. The crew consisted of Ed and Valerie Dunn (not pictured), Tucker Dunn, Zak and Colton Williams, Capt. Chris Gornell and mate J.R. Peters. For their 1st place finish, the "D.A. Sea" team won \$20,240 in award money. Pictured in the slip at Sunset Marina.



During their first day of fishing in the 53rd Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament, anglers on the "Reel Joy" returned to Sunset Marina with 8 white marlin releases and a 62.2 lb. yellowfin tuna caught by Susan McCart in the Baltimore Canyon that held on to win 1st place in the Tuna Division and a check for \$6,397. Five of the white marlin were hooked at the same time with the anglers recording all five releases. On their second day of fishing, the crew released another 4 white marlin to win 2nd place in the Billfish Division and \$7,194 in award money. Fishing with Susan, Capt. Dale Gurgo and mates Andy Helms and Daniel Reid were John Gudelsky, Dacia Thomas (pictured) and Billy Gerlach (pictured).

53RD ANNUAL LABOR DAY WHITE MARLIN TOURNAMENT SEPTEMBER 2-4, 2011



TUNA DIVISION

1st Place
Susan McCart
"Reel Joy"
62.2 lb. Yellowfin
\$6,397

2nd Place
Barbara Wilson
"Last Straw"
33.2 lb. Yellowfin
\$621

3rd Place
NONE
QUALIFIED

BILLFISH DIVISION

1st Place
"D.A. Sea"
1,400 pts.
14 white marlin releases
\$20,240

2nd Place
"Reel Joy"
1,200 pts.
12 white marlin releases
\$7,194

3rd Place
"Billfisher"
800 pts.
8 white marlin releases
\$1,346

DOLPHIN DIVISION

1st Place
Merritt Robbins
"Predator"
29.2 lbs.
\$0 (no calcuttas entered)

2nd Place
Peter Coggins
"Par Five"
25.6 lbs.
\$0 (no calcuttas entered)

3rd Place
Al Rittmeyer
"Predator"
23.4 lbs.
\$0 (no calcuttas entered)

WAHOO DIVISION

NONE
QUALIFIED

MASTER ANGLER AWARD

Jonathan Duffie
"Billfisher"
3 self-hooked
white marlin releases

13 Boats Registered

Total Prize Money \$39,185



On Saturday, the crew on the "Predator" returned with 2 dolphin weighing 23.4 lbs. and 29.2 lbs., and held on to win 1st and 3rd place in the Dolphin Division of the Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament. Merritt Robbins caught the first place dolphin and Al Rittmeyer landed the 3rd place mahi, both while trolling in 1,000 fathoms between the Washington and Norfolk Canyons. Also fishing on the "Predator" were John Pasquariello, Brent Moore (not pictured), Donnie Moore (not pictured), Capt. Howard Lynch and mate Josh Farr. The crew also released 2 white marlin during the trip. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



On Saturday, Peter Coggins landed this 25.6 lb. dolphin to win 2nd place in the Dolphin Division of the 53rd Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament. Peter was fishing on the "Par Five" with Trish, Nick and Ginny Rodriguez, C.P. Townsend, Peggy Mumford (pictured) and Capt. Charlie Rodriguez. The dolphin was caught in 500 fathoms at the south end of the Poor Man's Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina



The last boat to hit the scale of the 53rd Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament was the "Last Straw" with Barbara Wilson's 33.2 lb. yellowfin tuna, good enough to earn 2nd place in the Tuna Division. Barbara was fishing with Mike Slocum, Pat Summers, Capt. Martin Groff and mate Bill Bower. The fish was caught in 100 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon and earned the crew \$621 in award money. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



On their first day of fishing in the 53rd Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Labor Day White Marlin Tournament, the team on the "Billfisher" released 5 white marlin in 1,000 fathoms outside the Washington Canyon. They followed that up with another 3 releases on Saturday to win 3rd place in the Billfish Division. The crew consisted of Judy and Jonathan Duffie, Capt. Jon Duffie and mates John Prather and Chris Hornung. Also pictured is Billy Gerlach. Jonathan was also awarded Master Angler honors for his 3 self-hooked white marlin releases. The "Billfisher" team took home \$1,346 for their 3rd place finish in addition to another \$3,387 in calcutta winnings in the Dolphin Division. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Sanjeev Bahri and Peter Roman, both from Pittsburgh, PA returned from the Baltimore Canyon with 2 white marlin releases, 20 dolphin (2 pictured) and 9 yellowfin tuna (2 pictured). The anglers were fishing on "That's Right" with Capt. John Oughton and mate Joe Bonvetti.

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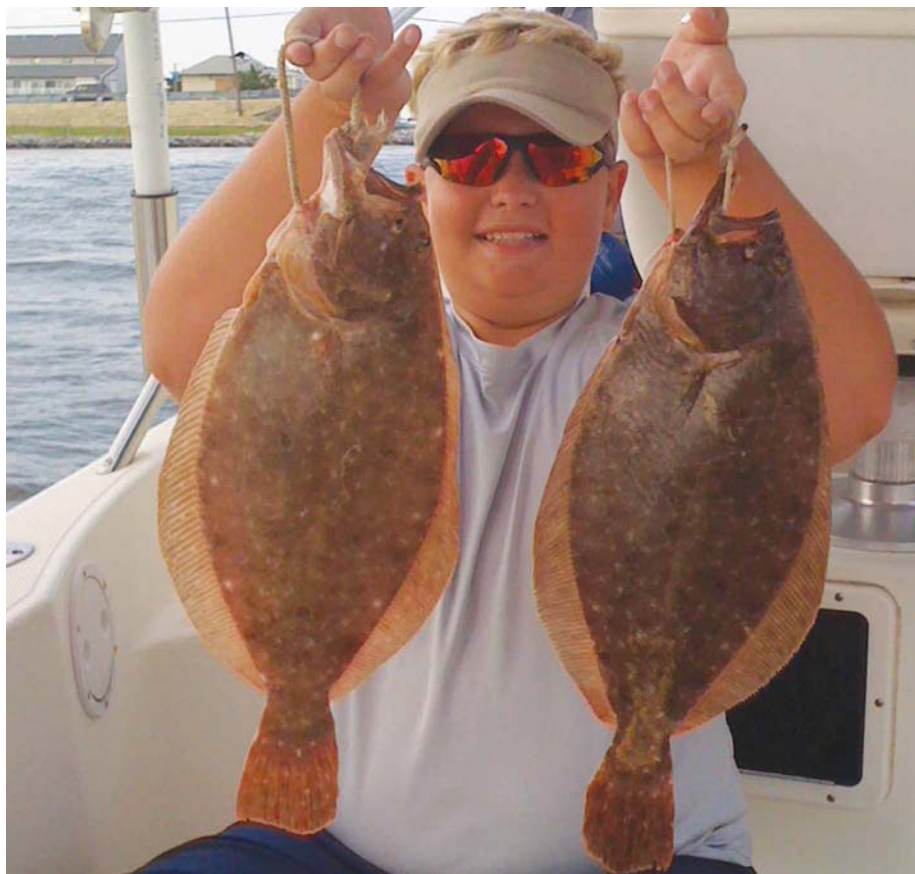
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Christian Rasmus from Lancaster, PA landed a 19.5-inch flounder and Allan Rogers from Ocean City, MD captured a 6 lb. pollock while fishing at the Great Eastern Reef on the "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Matt Temple. Both fish were caught on chunks of clam.



Brady Nye caught these 18-inch flounder on Gulp! artificial baits in the East Channel. Photo courtesy of Oyster Bay Tackle.

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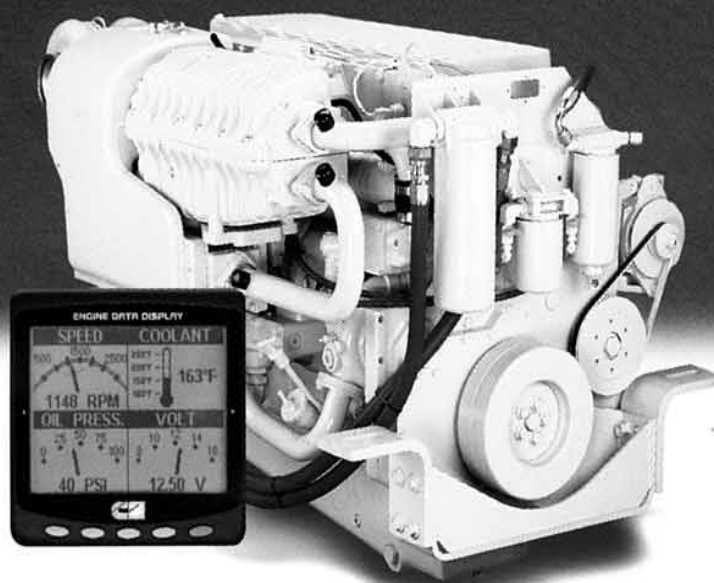


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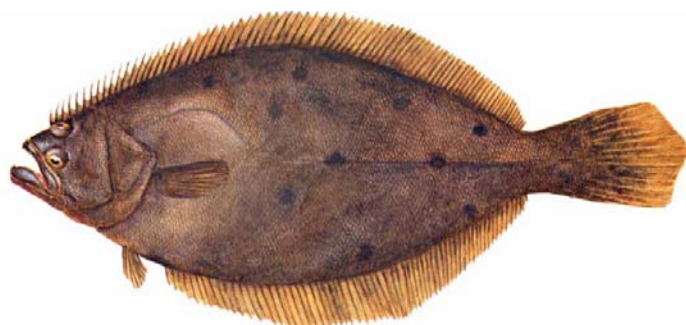
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7TH ANNUAL FLOUNDER POUNDER

Sunday, Sept. 11

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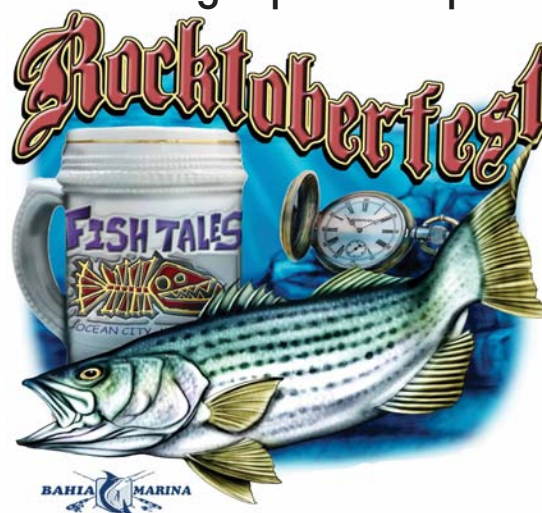
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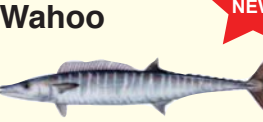


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2011 COASTAL FISHERMAN 2011

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
Sea Bass 	May 25, 2011 Ricky Herbert "Morning Star" 6 lbs. 4 oz.	May 27, 2011 Hobby Isaacs Reef Site 11 5 lbs. 10 oz.	Mako Shark 	June 22, 2011 Robert Powell "Fish Finder" 640 lbs.	June 8, 2011 Chris Bowden "Misdemeanor" 231 lbs.
Tautog 	March 30, 2011 Scott Allison Ocean Wreck 19 lbs. 8 oz.	July 2, 2011 William Bonniwell Wreck 11 lbs. 11 oz.	Thresher Shark 	May 29, 2011 Charlie Lutes Fingers 470 lbs.	May 31, 2011 Alex Capozio "DB" Buoy 487 lbs.
Striped Bass 	April 20, 2011 Robert Remo Rt. 50 Bridge 36 lbs.	May 18, 2011 Bill Winkler Indian River Inlet 45 lbs. 2 oz.	Bluefin Tuna 	July 17, 2011 J.L. Cropper Hot Dog 128 lbs.	July 23, 2011 Chip Roman Poor Man's Canyon 108 lbs.
Weakfish 	June 1, 2011 Paul Gillespie East Channel 4 lbs. 6 oz.	No Weights Reported	Yellowfin Tuna 	June 10, 2011 Joe Cox Baltimore Canyon 103 lbs.	August 19, 2011 Darren Evans Baltimore Canyon 96.5 lbs.
Speckled Trout 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Longfin Tuna  NEW	August 21, 2011 Al Rittmeyer Baltimore Canyon 35 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Flounder 	August 2, 2011 Trace Shaffer West Channel 9 lbs. 3 oz.	July 22, 2011 Randy Colona Indian River Inlet 12 lbs.	Bigeye Tuna 	July 6, 2011 Crew "Marli" 280 lbs.	August 17, 2011 Ryan Cene Baltimore Canyon 182.5 lbs.
Bluefish 	May 21, 2011 Alexa Lamplugh Fingers 14.8 lbs.	August 21, 2011 Duncan Rine Indian River Inlet 12 lbs. 6 oz.	Dolphin 	July 30, 2011 Noah Citron Washington Canyon 65 lbs.	July 7, 2011 Kelly Horning Baltimore Canyon 42.6 lbs.
Sheepshead 	June 18, 2011 Michael Guigley South Jetty 13 lbs.	July 2, 2011 Kyu Sok Yi Ice Breakers 12 lbs. 9 oz.	Wahoo  NEW	September 3, 2011 Mike Cusimano Washington Canyon 89 lbs.	NEW September 2, 2011 Mark Smith Hot Dog 80 lbs.
Cobia 	July 10, 2011 Gail Pulvere "Lisa's Way" 35 lbs.	August 18, 2011 Timmy Barnette Delaware Lightship 68.2 lbs.	White Marlin 	Most Releases in One Day August 13, 2011 "Billfisher" Washington Canyon 20 releases July 5, 2011 "Outlet" Baltimore Canyon 5 releases	

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



Anglers on the "Partner-Ship" took time off from slinging pancakes, pouring Slurpees, selling real estate and suing people to venture out to south of the Rockpile where they went 5 for 8 on white marlin, caught one yellowfin tuna and a couple of dolphin. Pictured are Jim Hughes, Joe Schneider, mate Spencer Cropper, Terry Layton and Mark Cropper.

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

Delaware Fishing Report

by Rick Willman



Dirty water and floating debris were not enough to keep local fishermen off the water last week. Those fishermen who got their boats back in the water and ventured out into the Atlantic did so with a fair amount of success. Scott Fluharty and his crew fished the Baltimore Canyon to score some nice yellowfin and dolphin to near 30 pounds. Hunter Culver got his first white marlin release while fishing the Baltimore with his father Donnie.

Inshore fishermen have started to catch more keeper sea bass while fishing the "DA" and "DB" Buoy areas. Boyd Lord on the "Capt Snooze" fished between "B"



Showing perfect technique while utilizing the Lewes Harbour Marina Stretch, Wes Olson displays the 8 lb. 12 oz. flounder caught while drifting strips of squid southeast of "DB" Buoy. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

and "A" and got into some nice sea bass, croaker, and a few flounder.

Back bay action has been a bit slow since the storm and probably is due mostly to dirty water. Successful anglers have been fishing just inside the Indian River Inlet. The water there seems to be a little cleaner and therefore providing more activity.

The best fishing of the season should be getting underway anytime soon. Normally some of the largest flounder of the year are captured between September and Thanksgiving. This year, the flounder season closes on October 24th, so now is the time to go after that big flattie.

Striper season will be starting very soon and now is

the time to gear up!

Offshore fishing should continue to improve if Mother Nature does not send us too many storms.

Capt. Bill Baker of Bill's Sport reports that he was joined on the "Slicker III" by his grandson, Joey Neely, Dave McDowell and his son Vince for a trip to the Old Grounds and "B" Buoy where they ended up with a 19" flounder along with a few throwbacks. They also managed some lingcod.

Jim Mahony of "Blue Collar Man Charters" reported releasing 4 white marlin while trolling the east wall of the Baltimore Canyon.

A 28-inch, 8-pound flattie was pulled from the Old Grounds by Captain Joe

Huk. The party also hooked 20 more flounder (3 keepers) along with some bluefish and croaker.

Brett Hamstead and Bill Weiss fished Herring Point with fresh spot on top and bottom rigs and had plenty of bluefish action, with the largest being 14 to 15 inches.

Capt. Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina informed us that after the passage of Hurricane Irene, inshore fishing action slowed down considerably. By week's end, catching began to improve, with best reports coming from the ocean, on live bottom surrounding "DB" Buoy. Big croakers made up most of the take, with fair numbers of legal sea bass mixed in. Keeper flounder were hard to come by, but Mike Shockley managed a near citation 6.9-pound doormat while casting a Gulp! from Lewes Beach on Saturday evening.

Bottom fish in the Delaware Bay were affected by the storm as well. Hardheads and flounder were uncooperative in their usual haunts for the most part. Captain Ted on the "Pirate King" did find some willing croakers on Saturday at the red and green "DF" Buoy, outside the mouth of the Bay.

Snapper bluefish didn't seem to mind the blow, and were caught at the Star Site and around the Outer Wall.

Finger mullet have begun moving through near shore tidal areas, and schools were seen inside Cape Henlopen, in the Roosevelt Inlet and Canary Creek.

Spot are still around in good numbers, and anglers at the rails of the Cape Henlopen Pier pulled in plenty using bloodworms and FishBites. Bunker remain in the Bay.

The combination of baitfish here now should

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attract and hold gamefish for some time. The major influx of freshwater due to rain and runoff from Irene has stirred things up in the Bay for a while, but it's likely that catching will bounce back.

During the last few days of tautog season, toggers at the Outer Wall had good success with blackfish during parts of the tide with clean water. This bodes well for the reopening of tog season on September 29th.

Slot stripers were taken around the Lewes Drawbridge and the Roosevelt Coast Guard Station before the minimum size changed back to 28 inches on September 1st.

Boats running offshore encountered yellowfin tuna between the Baltimore and Poor Man's Canyons after the hurricane. There was a pretty good bite during the first half of the week in 50 fathoms along the 42100 line. Some nice wahoo were mingled in with the tuna. Those fish scattered as the week wore on, but crews picked a few tuna among masses of false albacore in south-moving current near the tip of the Baltimore over the weekend.

Normally, the period leading up to the August full moon kicks off some good swordfish action. Squid and tinker mackerel bunch up in the deep and are available for swords to work over by the moonlight. Wes Olson found

that to be true Friday night when he and his son hooked four swords aboard his "Bad Habit", while drifting live squids through the Bight of the Baltimore Canyon. They put one nice swordy in the box to take home, and released the others.

Crews chasing other billfish released a few scattered white and blue marlin. Richard Fischer and his crew had a good trip to the 461 Lump on Saturday. They went 3 for 5 on white marlin, and filled the box with 37 dolphin. Some additional boats trolling southern canyons had multiple releases, but any big concentration of tailing and cutting whites working bait, like the past couple seasons, has yet to materialize.

Deep-water bottom fishing was productive for the Saturday group aboard "Skipjack". Captain Chris Thurman had a decent drift on the edge of the Baltimore, despite strong current, and got into some nice tilefish. The guys ended up with 20 golden tiles, several in the 20-pound class. Patti Schneider earned a citation for the 3.45-pound knothead sea bass she wrestled from the Triple Wrecks aboard the "Patient Lady".

'Til next week, have fun and be safe!

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



Matt Wolynetz from Wilmington, DE hooked this 29-inch striped bass on a black and purple Bomber lure during the incoming tide in the Indian River Inlet. The striper weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

Marlin - Tuna - Shark - Dolphin - Wahoo - Bluefish

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No minimum size
10 per person/day



SUMMER FLOUNDER
18" minimum 4 per person/day
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TAUTOG
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14" minimum 10 per person/day
9-29-11 - 3-31-12



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5" minimum 1 bushel/person



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20" - 27" 5 per person/day



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No limit



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Flounder fishing on ocean reefs and wrecks is really starting to heat up and Charles Frank from Essex, MD was there to take advantage of it, landing this 6 lb. 2 oz. flounder while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Mike Kinder and Rich Silvani. Charles hooked the big *paralichthys dentatus* on a Spro bucktail tipped with dolphin belly at a reef 14 miles off the beach. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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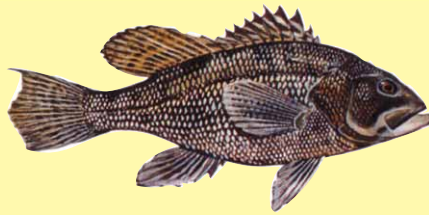




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BLUEFISH
8" minimum 10 per person/day



CROAKER
9" minimum 25 per person/day



TAUTOG
14" 2 per person/day 5/16 - 10/31
14" 4 per person/day 11/1 - 11/30
Closed 12/1 - 12/31



WEAKFISH
13" minimum 1 per person/day



COD
22" minimum 10/person/day



SUMMER FLOUNDER
18" minimum 3 per person/day
April 16th to November 30th



SPECKLED TROUT
14" minimum 10 per person/day



STRIPED BASS
28" minimum 2 per person/day



SHEEPSHEAD
No limit

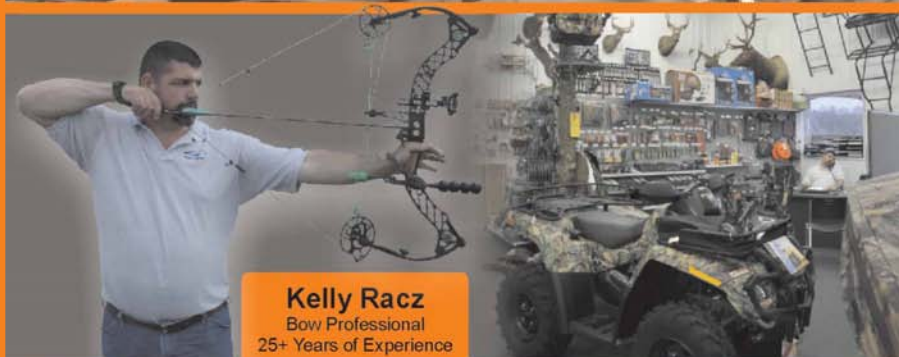


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NMFS Backs ICCAT on Recommendations for Sharks

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) announced the implementation of the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT) recommendations, which prohibit the retention, transshipping, landing, storing or selling of hammerhead sharks in the family *Sphyrnidae* (except for bonnethead sharks) and oceanic whitetip sharks caught in association with fisheries managed by ICCAT. This rule affects the commercial Atlantic Highly Migratory Species (HMS) pelagic longline, (PLL) fishery and recreational HMS fisheries for tunas, swordfish, and/or billfish in the Atlantic Ocean, including the Caribbean Sea and Gulf of Mexico.

As of September 28, 2011, the retention of hammerhead and oceanic whitetip sharks will be prohibited for:

- Atlantic HMS commercially permitted vessels that have PLL gear on board; and
- Recreational fishermen fishing with a General Category permit when participating in a HMS tournament or fishing under an HMS Angling or Charter/Headboat permit where tunas, swordfish and/or billfish are also retained.

The retention of hammerhead and oceanic whitetip sharks is still allowed for the following activities because they target sharks and are not associated with ICCAT fisheries:

- Shark recreational fisheries when tunas, swordfish and billfish are not retained; and
- Commercial shark bottom longline, gillnet or handgear fisheries.

For further information on this proposed rule and draft EA, contact Peter Cooper at 301-713-2347. Copies of the proposed rule and draft EA are available upon request from the Highly Migratory Species Management Division, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910 (phone: 301-713-2347, fax: 301-713-1917). The information will also be posted on the HMS website at: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/sfalhms/>.

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Ship To Shore

by Pat Schrawder



THE NEW AGE OF INTERFACING - NMEA 0183 VS. NMEA 2000

If you have been looking for new electronic equipment to purchase lately, you will have undoubtedly noticed that just about everything "talks" to everything else. Your radio is connected to your GPS for DSC emergency calling and/or selective calling. Your GPS plotter is connected to your autopilot or your radar. Your fishfinder is communicating with both of them. If you are not particularly adept at computers and technology, this can be overwhelming. It's like going to buy a replacement cartridge for your printer and the whole row is

full of toner but you are left trying to figure out which one fits your model.

An attempt has been made for a while now to simplify things by standardizing some of these electronic communication features. An organization called the National Marine Electronics Association or NMEA has become the standard bearer for the field of electronics on boats and they have set standards for equipment outputs. When you look at the marine equipment models and their spec sheets, you will see the terms, NMEA0183 and/or NMEA2000 prominently displayed. However, do you know what they mean? Is it important to you in deciding what item to

purchase?

In its most basic design, the terms NMEA0183 and NMEA2000 refer to the type of input/output "sentences" that an item of equipment has. For different models of equipment to communicate with each other, you need to do more than just connect them together. They have to have fittings that match and they have to have compatible formats or data exchange sentences. In a perfect marine electronic's world, everything should be able to "talk" to everything else but it doesn't quite work out that way, although things are improving.

The first attempt at standardization was the NMEA0183 model. It is still in use today. It is not a network but rather a serial data interface and has been the universal method for data exchange between two devices. It transmits at 4800 bits per second. It allows

equipment that is NMEA0183 compatible to communicate with each other but not with non-NMEA0183 electronic equipment. It is considered a single "talker", multiple "listener" device.

As more and more combination units and accessories have been developed, the need for multiple items to "talk" back and forth has prompted the NMEA to come out with a newer, faster and more flexible interface called the NMEA2000. This interface is designed as a multiple "talker" and multiple "listener" data network. It uses Controller Area Network (CAN) technology that was originally developed for the auto industry. It has a higher transmit rate of 250,000 bits per second and uses special cables that come in two sizes (mini and micro). The maximum distance for any device from the "bus" is six meters. On larger vessels, a

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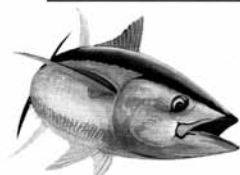


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single "backbone" cable is used to run the main line and then shorter cables are run from the component to the backbone. NMEA2000 devices are not compatible with NMEA0183 units but there are some interface adapters that allow you to send and receive data between different types.

In spite of the fact that NMEA2000 was designed to improve compatibility among units, speed up the data transfer and allow more back and forth communication from multiple sources, it has some remaining complications. The starkest of these is that manufacturers have designed their units with their own proprietary networks. Furuno's is called NavNet, Simrad's is Simnet, Raymarine's is called Sea Talk and Garmin is called the Garmin Marine Network. Simnet is a standard NMEA2000 network but uses non-standard plugs so you have to order their own. In other case, adapters are

available to convert to standard NMEA2000.

So what is the bottom line? If you buy new equipment that you plan to connect to other equipment, you want to check to see which format it uses- NMEA0183 or NMEA2000. Then check to see if they use standard cables or special ones unique to their equipment. In either case, must they be purchased separately and need to be added into the cost? Is there programming that needs to be done after installation to set up the desired "sentences"? If all this overwhelms you, consult their website or call their tech support line for help. Otherwise, it may be best to leave it to the professionals who know what is needed and how it is to be done.

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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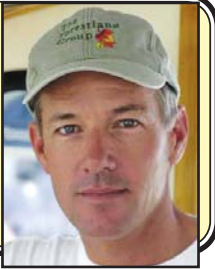
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Chum Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson



According to a 2006 fishing and hunting survey 68% of sportsmen who hunt also fish, but only 29% of anglers also hunt. Unless someone is in the sporting goods or outdoor recreation business those numbers probably have little significance. I would have



thought that the number of hunters who fished would have been higher, but as this was a national poll, it would have to take into account those who live in areas where there is far more land than water and going fishing might require a lot more effort than just slipping out behind the house to shoot a few squirrels.

I expect the fact that there is a disparity between the two doesn't surprise most sportsmen since we all know our share of fishermen who don't hunt, and while I for one cannot quite understand

"why" they don't, I can at least accept the fact that it's an outdoor activity that's not for everyone. My wife loves to fish, but while she can cook up one mean cut of venison, she's not partial to being the one who pulls the trigger or loosens the arrow that puts it on the ground. As someone who loves to hunt, I can't help but feel a little sorry for her and so many other non-hunters because I know darn-well the kind of outdoor adventures and experiences they will miss out on. Other hunters know what I'm talking about.

I bring all this up not because I wish to make a point about hunting as much as a way to break into what I really want to discuss, which is "fly-fishing." And if you're wondering where the correlation between the two lies, just bear with me a moment and I'll try and clear things up.

Just like hunting, a lot but not all fishermen fly-fish. Though I couldn't seem to track down a published figure, I'm certain it would be far less than the 29% of anglers who both hunt and fish. Also,

similar to hunting, a lot of us who do fly-fish pity other fishermen who have not been so fortunate to take up the sport because we know how much they are missing out on. Other fly-fishers know what I'm talking about and it's kind'a hard to put into words, but I'll see what I can do with the space I have to work with.

I often say that fly-fishing is to "fishing" in the same way that bow hunting is to "hunting." Hunters know that you don't just purchase a bow, sight it in, and go hunting with it the next day. Effective bow hunting requires a commitment of practice and plenty of patience and while the end result still might not mean a freezer full of meat at the end of the season, bow hunters tend to be an enthusiastic bunch who embrace the challenges of taking game with a bow and their times spent in the woods doing so is cherished. Such is the case with fly-fishermen who are willing to work within the limitations of their equipment to catch fish that at times could very easily be taken on conventional bait and tackle. While I don't like to generalize about how other people "feel" about things, I think it's safe to say that in most cases, hunters who take game with a bow and anglers who land fish on fly-tackle have a better feeling of accomplishment than those who use guns or conventional tackle to do the same job.

Then again, since (according to statistics) such an analogy to hunting might only

be understood by 29% of the fishermen reading this column, I guess I'm not adequately getting my point across to enough folks. So for the other 71% of you I'll try to move this along in another direction. I'll start by saying that fly-fishing is not all about catching fish. Not that fly-anglers don't want to catch fish, they certainly do, it's just that the fun of fly-fishing is in the entire process of "fishing" not just the "catching." The "process" involves a lot of decision making which includes; what kind of line to use (floating, sinking, intermediate), the length of leader, the test of the tippet, the use (or not) of a wire or heavy mono bite tippet, the size, shape, color, and pattern of the fly, the type, distance, and accuracy of the cast and the method by which the fly is retrieved or "stripped" back to the fisherman. Depending upon the target species and just how willing they are to feed, catching fish on a fly can, at times be ridiculously easy, or so extremely difficult that unless every facet of the "process" is done precisely not a single bite will be had.

When everything clicks, and fly-fishers actually get a bite, they have a right to take a little extra pride in their accomplishment because in most cases, the reason the fish was attracted to take their fly was not because of the built-in action of some highly engineered "lure" that requires the fisherman to do little more than cast it out and crank it back. With fly-fishing it's the

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angler who determines the action of the fly by the movement of their own hand as he or she strips it back in after each cast. Every sweep of the arm or slight twitch of a finger is transmitted directly to the fly, making it react in a different and hopefully tantalizing manor that will solicit a strike.

There's something about the sport of fly-fishing that gets under the skin of fishermen and makes it downright addictive. I was bitten hard by this bug a couple decades ago and still haven't been able to shake it. Since then fly-fishing has pretty much become the way I choose to fish whenever I'm not out running charters, no matter if it's big fish or small, if I'm out for fun I'll be using a fly-rod.

Saltwater fly-fishing opportunities abound here on Delmarva as just about any fish that can be had on conventional tackle will, under the right circumstances, resort to taking a fly, and the late

summer and fall period can sometimes be prime time providing offshore anglers shots of hooking tuna, dolphin, wahoo, sharks, bonito and false albacore while inshore fishermen will have the chance to land bluefish, rockfish, shad, flounder, croaker, seatrout and even puppy drum.

Just as there will always be fewer hunters than there are fishermen, the time and commitment required to become proficient at fly-fishing assures that there will never be as many fly-anglers as there are conventional fishermen, and those of us who are lucky enough to know the joys of both of these sports will always have a little pity for those who don't.

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



Wes Olson, Beaver Ruff, Barney Gallagher and Matt Gallagher returned to Lewes Harbour Marina with 13 flounder and some peanut dolphin after spending the day drifting southeast of "DB" Buoy. The heaviest flounder weighed 5 lbs. 8 oz.



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Jody Dunlap from Windsor, PA and Duffy Dunlap from Red Lion, PA ended their day with a couple of flounder in the box after drifting minnows in the West Channel just south of the Rt. 50 Bridge. The anglers were fishing with Jeff Dunlap on the "Fish Whispers Neighbor".

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Virginia Fishing Report

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



Hurricane Irene stirred local waters into a mess, but the great early fall fishing action is picking back up where it left off. As anglers make their way back out to test the fishing grounds, several species are willing to respond. The fall's main players, such as spot, speckled trout and puppy drum, are beginning to draw more interest. Anglers are also imparting farewells to summer favorites such as flounder, cobia and red drum as they stage to leave.

The flounder scene was good before Irene and reports indicate that the bite is already back on the upswing. Anglers using live bait and drifting

with cut bait near the 3rd and 4th Islands of the CBBT are finding keeper fish. The Thimble Shoal and Baltimore Channels and most ledges and drop-offs are good places to drift for flounder right now. The folks at Greg's Bait Shack report that a boat fishing the Hampton Bar early in the week also found a good limit of flatties up to around 22-inches. Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets are giving up a few smaller flounder, but the action should pick back up when the water clears. Offshore flatfish in deeper water are also a good alternative. Strip baits bounced over structure works well for wreck flounder. Expect nice sea bass as a by-catch on many of the same wrecks.



The cobia scene is taking on its typical early fall pattern, with fish schooling on the surface in lower Bay waters and along the oceanfront. Nice fish are lurking around lower Bay buoys and along the pilings of the Bay Bridge Tunnel. Before the hurricane, boats were hooking up multiple fish per trip, with some pushing into the 50 and 80-pound class range. A well placed bucktail or live bait will

do the trick.



The best post-storm news is the explosion of the croaker and spot action along the oceanfront and along the southern shorelines and inlets of the Bay. The folks at Ocean's East 2 report that the bite is awesome, with nice yellowbelly spot and horse croaker ravaging angler's bloodworms ever since Irene blew through. Pier anglers are taking advantage of the first big spot run, toting away coolers full of spot ranging to 3/4-pound and croaker pushing to over 20-inches.

Schools of big red drum continue to delight anglers near the CBBT and off the Virginia Beach shorelines. Spanish mackerel are zipping through tide rips near the Bridge Tunnel, along Cape Henry and along the buoy lines at the mouth of the Bay. After Irene, Spanish mackerel made a surprise showing within the Lynnhaven Inlet basin. Surf anglers casting spoons from the shore near the Lesner Bridge are thrilled with great catches of keeper Spanish mackerel and Tailor bluefish this week. A few king mackerel encounters are occurring off Sandbridge, but nothing significant as of yet.

Sheepshead are still taking late season offerings along the entire span of the Bay Bridge Tunnel. Lots of hungry triggerfish are in the same vicinity. Triggerfish are also available on several inshore and offshore wrecks. Spadefish, ranging around 3 to 4-pounds, are still hanging around the 3rd and 4th Islands, although this action has slowed.

Speckled trout are starting

to make a decent showing in the Lynnhaven Inlet, the Poquoson flats, the seaside of Oyster and the Elizabeth River. Although most fish are on the smaller side, a few nicer fish, ranging up to 9-pounds, are also in the mix. Mirrolures are the best choice for specks lately. Puppy drum are hitting for those casting jigs or offering fresh bait within Lynnhaven, Rudee and Little Creek Inlets. Shrimp presented close to the bottom on jigs is working very well for large pups right now.

Amberjack are still available around offshore wrecks, the South Tower and the Chesapeake Light Tower. Jack crevalle could be a nice consolation prize. Deep dropping for blueline tilefish, golden tilefish and blackbellied rosefish is still a good choice as storms normally have little effect on the deep water species.



Offshore, the great billfish action was shut down briefly after the hurricane last week. Once the water settles out, the billfish bite should pick back up. Further south, the Carolina fleet experienced good marlin action around the 150-line early last week. A few yellowfin tuna in the 20-pound class are around and wahoo will become more common as fall endures. The "Waterman", skippered by Captain Mike Standing out of the Virginia Beach Fishing Center, took top honors in the Virginia Beach Billfish Tournament last week with 13 white marlin. The tournament was still a success, even though it was cut short due to the storm. For more information, go to 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.

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Donovan and Elena Spall from Plano, TX landed a couple of flounder while fishing on the "Miss KrisChelle" with their grandfather, Wayne Cott of Ocean City, MD. The fish were caught on Gulp! artificial baits in the Thorofare and weighed 2.4 and 3.6 lbs.



Ryan Stouten from Ocean City, MD had a great time fishing on the "Bay Bee" with his dad, Arie Stouten and his brother, Matt Stouten (pictured). Ryan captured this 18.25-inch flattie during the trip. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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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
 Sea Bass	May 22, 2011 Tyler Sumpter "Keep 'Er' Wet" Jack Spot	April 18, 2010 George Henning "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	 Mako Shark	May 1, 2011 Brett Coakley "Wrangler" Washington Canyon	May 20, 2010 Josh Dolan "Nontypical" Washington Canyon
 Tautog	January 6, 2011 Mike Grybos "Morning Star" Ocean Wreck	January 7, 2010 John Smith "Morning Star" Offshore Wreck	 White Marlin	May 29, 2011 Anthony Pino "Marli" Rockpile	June 8, 2010 Eric Van Orden "Bimini" Washington Canyon
 Striped Bass	April 14, 2011 Capt. Skip Maguire "Skip's Charter" Sinepuxent Bay	January 1, 2010 Max Thumma "Hard Times" Little Gull	 Blue Marlin	June 10, 2011 Stevie Ramsey "Lady Luck V" Baltimore Canyon	June 8, 2010 Scott Brooks "Stress Reel-ief" Outside 461 Lump
 Weakfish	June 4, 2011 Paul Gillespie East Channel	April 16, 2010 Tim Thorpe Assateague Surf	 Bluefin Tuna	May 1, 2011 Mike Sears "Wrangler" Washington Canyon	May 16, 2010 Tom Dorwart "Margin" Norfolk Canyon
 Flounder	April 17, 2011 Tommy Fowler Thorofare	April 5, 2010 Paul Turner Thorofare	 Yellowfin Tuna	May 26, 2011 Phil Falgowski Wilmington Canyon	June 11, 2010 Tom Zapf "Darlin" 461 Lump
 Bluefish	May 1, 2011 Alex Levantovsky "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	April 17, 2010 Dana Zapcic "Get Sum" Sinepuxent Bay	 Longfin Tuna	 August 21, 2011 Al Rittmeyer "Dog Haus" Baltimore Canyon	None Reported
 Black Drum	April 30, 2011 Melson MaGee Fenwick Surf	May 2, 2010 Lucas May "Jam-Man" Coral Beds	 Bigeye Tuna	May 31, 2011 Aaron Saulsbury "Magic Moment" Washington Canyon	June 13, 2010 Ron Los, Jr. "Marli" Washington Canyon
 Sheepshead	May 7, 2011 Sheldon Thomas "Kimberly Ann" Winter Quarter Shoal	May 23, 2010 Dave Pasun Inshore Wreck	 Dolphin	May 22, 2011 Daryl Bathelmess Linden Kohl Canyon	June 8, 2010 Tina Boykin "Lucky Duck II" Poor Man's Canyon
 Thresher Shark	May 25, 2011 Jimmy Bunting "B" Buoy	May 16, 2010 Tenille Schrier "Hookin' Wubbas" Jack Spot	 Wahoo	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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L to R: WGMD's Bill Collie, Capt. Bill Baker, Capt. Mike Rivera



Cam Kurtz from York, PA was drifting shiners in the West Channel when he captured these 2 flounder measuring 18.5 and 19-inches.



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Sandy & Minnie
Day Shift Employees

On The Sandbill

by Sandra Odham Myskowski

Skimming across the water,
she likes to ride high,
with the boat wash spraying,
showing our path,
as rainbows color the outriggers.

The days on the water with her
so serene, so magical, so special.

High on the tower
looking around the world,
seeing nothing but water
and feeling only peace
on The Sandbill.

The mahi-mahi jumps,
as the brilliant turquoise and yellow flash
in the crystal blue water
and against the Carolina blue sky.

The white marlin lights up and dances,
shaking the piercing bill and
fanning the ribs along the fin of midnight blue,
until we release it to fly again.

The big blue marlin,
not hungry for the swimming Spanish,
looks up at us with his big eye
as he cruises by the port side,
with his huge body shining in blues and golds,
just sunnin'.

The tuna pulls mightily
and sounds to the bottom.
The fight is on
if we are good enough and lucky enough.

Throw me in the fish box
with the big bluefin.

As the sunset paints the sky with oranges, pinks and blues,
The Sandbill puts her nose in the wind
and brings us safely home.

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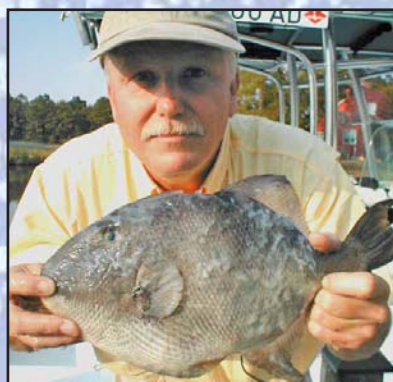
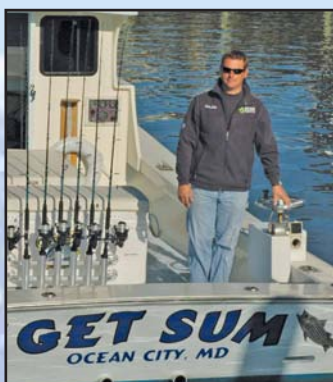
See what our current advertisers have to say!

Capt. Paul Turner of PT's Marine says, "Since most of my customers are fishermen, there's no better way to reach them than through the Coastal Fisherman. My ad has helped me establish my new business and put me in contact with new customers. I really appreciate all the calls and the business."



Capt. Bill Baker of Bill's Sport Shop says, "It's the best exposure possible if you are targeting the fishing and boating community. The Coastal Fisherman has brought many new customers through our doors that were happy to find us and the products they were looking for. Our customers wait with great anticipation for the arrival of the magazine and it flies off the racks every week."

Capt. Nick Clemente of "Get Sum" Charters says, "People see our ad and photos in the Coastal Fisherman consistently, and that really helps us book trips on a near daily basis. A lot of our customers also see the "Get Sum" video on the Charter Boat Directory section of the Coastal Fisherman website."



Capt. Glen of Rt. 113 Boat Sales says, "Our little boat store is at 46 sales year to date. All of our 2011 boats are sold and gone and we are already selling 2012 boats with several already in the water today. We have great products, give people great deals and the Coastal Fisherman gets the word out!"

COASTAL FISHERMAN

Contact the Coastal Fisherman office for advertising information:

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It has been an amazing year for catching codfish off the coast of Delmarva. Here, Stephanie Stout from Edwarsville, PA landed this 24-incher while using clams at an artificial reef. Stephanie was fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Tucker Colquhoun. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Duane Ketterman from Millsboro, DE caught this 20-inch flounder on a live minnow in the Indian River Inlet. The fish weighed 2 lbs. 15 oz. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Maryland Celebrates National Hunting And Fishing Day On September 24

In conjunction with more than 30 fishing and hunting clubs, conservation organizations and local businesses, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) will host Maryland's 5th Annual National Hunting and Fishing Day Celebration and Expo from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, September 24 at Schrader's

Bridgetown Manor in Henderson on Maryland's eastern shore. Anglers, hunters and those interested in learning more about the great outdoors are invited to this free, public event.

"National Hunting and Fishing Day is a great opportunity for Maryland families to spend time together while connecting with nature," said DNR Secretary John Griffin. "Activities such as hunting and fishing teach children the value of protecting our natural resources so they can be enjoyed for generations to come."

Participants can try fun and challenging hands-on activities including spin casting, waterfowl calling lessons, dog demonstrations and archery and target shooting with skilled instructors. Experienced and novice outdoorsmen and women can check out hunting and fishing displays and demonstrations of outdoor skills.

The event will also feature merchandise, food vendors, free giveaways and live music from The Bay Country Gentlemen.

Formalized by Congress in 1971, National Hunting and Fishing Day was created by the National Shooting Sports Foundation to celebrate the conservation successes of America's hunters and anglers. Sportsmen and women generate more than \$1.7 billion annually, which benefits all who appreciate wildlife and wild places.

For more information call 410-260-8535 or visit dnr.state.md.us/wildlife/Hunt_Trap/NHFD/index.asp.



On Saturday, Kevin Javins of Havre de Grace, MD was tossing a peeler crab off of the North Jetty when he hooked into this 11 lb. sheepshead.



Walter Moore from Mitchellville, MD used cut bluefish to fool this 26-inch 6 lb. 7 oz. flounder while fishing at an artificial reef aboard the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Mike Kinder and Tucker Colquhoun. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Clint Whitton, David, Billy and Kevin Leach, Luke Whitton, Billy Vandergrift and Rhett Whitton ended their day with a swordfish and a yellowfin tuna in the box after an overnight trip aboard the "Jade II" with Capt. Ed Kauffman and mate Will Hathaway. The fish were caught while chunking butterfish in the Baltimore Canyon. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



On Saturday, Mike Cusimano landed this 89 lb. wahoo while fishing on the "Reel Desire" with Sam Gass, Joe Cusimano, Charlie O'Reilly, Capt. Scooby and mate D.J. Churchill. The wahoo was caught in 120 fathoms in the Washington Canyon where the anglers also released 4 white marlin during the trip. Sam muscled in a 46 lb. golden tilefish in deeper water. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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18" - 26" 3 per person/day



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28" 2/person/day 5/16 - 12/31



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SHEEPSHEAD
No minimum size 4 per person

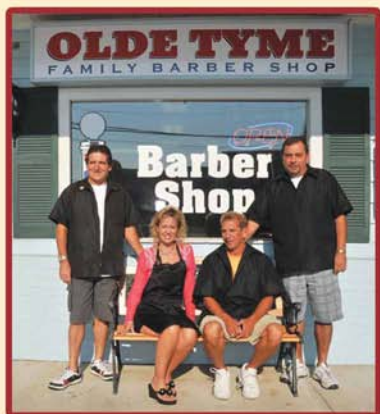


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Kyle Snyder from Whitehall, PA was tossing a Gulp! Swimming Mullet off of the Rt. 50 Bridge when he hooked into this 20-inch flounder.

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includes Capt. & Mate



SHORT FIN MAKO



BLUE MARLIN
99" Lower Jaw Fork Length
No bag limit



WAHOO
No minimum length
2 per person/day



BLUEFIN TUNA (RECREATIONAL)
1 BFT per vessel/day/trip
27" to less than 59" CFL
(CHARTER BOAT)
1 BFT per vessel/day/trip
27" to less than 47" CFL
PLUS
1 BFT per vessel/day/trip
47" to less than 59" CFL



THRESHER



BLUE SHARK

For allowed species other than Atlantic sharpnose and bonnetthead sharks, anglers are allowed to keep one shark per vessel, per trip with a minimum size of 54 inches fork length.



SWORDFISH
47" Lower Jaw Fork Length
1 per person / 4 per vessel
Charter boats - 1/customer



LONGFIN TUNA
No minimum length
No bag limit

Note: the Northern & Southern Area Trophy Fishery is Closed

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Capt. John Runkle



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LISA
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SEA WITCH
Capt. Tim Mullray

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Saturday, September 9th

Front Page News

Sunday, September 10th

Bonedaddys

Sunday, September 11th

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for current fishing reports and schedule

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Bobby Cathell from Newark, DE was drifting live minnows in the Ocean City Inlet when he hooked into this 3 lb. 3 oz. flounder. Weighed at Bahia Marina on 22nd Street in Ocean City.

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MARYLAND

Ocean City

Angler Restaurant
Skip's Bait & Tackle
Talbot Street Marina
Old Town Marina
Oceanic Pier
Park Place Hotel
Layton's Restaurant - 17th Street
Anthony's Beer & Wine
Montego Bay Market
Wawa - 120th Street
7-Eleven - 120th Street
Liquid Assets
Exxon Wine Rack
Advanced Marina
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

Ocean City Visitors Center
PNC Bank
Ocean City Fishing Center
Crab Alley
Ocean City Marlin Club
L&L Marine
Harborside Bar & Grill
Ake Marine
Sunset Marina
Sunset Provisions
AllTackle
Exxon Wine Rack
Bank of Ocean City
Wawa - Rt. 50
Trader Lees
John Henry's Bait & Tackle
Marlin Market - Rt. 611
Mid-Shore Electronics - Rt. 611
Harbor Marine
Snug Harbor Canvas
CVS Pharmacy - Rt. 611

Pittsville

Pittsville Motors

Berlin

Berlin Post Office
Barrett Chevrolet
7-Eleven - Rt. 589
Crabs to Go
Buck's Place
Ocean Pines Marina

Crisfield

Dave's RV

DELAWARE Fenwick/Selbyville

Fenwick Tackle
Capt. Mac's High Performance Tackle
North Bay Marina
Uncle Willie's
Mini Mart
Rt. 113 Boat Sales
Harris Teeter

Indian River

Indian River Marina
Hook'em & Cook'em

Dewey Beach

Pier Point Marina

Rehoboth & Lewes

Lewes Harbour Marina
Bill's Sport Shop
Superfresh - Rt. 1

Long Neck

Rick's Bait & Tackle
Short's Marine
Rattle & Reel

Bethany, Ocean View & Millville

Hook'em & Cook'em Outfitters
G&E Supermarket
G&E Hardware
Harris Teeter - Salt Pond Plaza
Hocker's Deli - Rt. 26
Hocker's Supermarket - Rt. 26
Giant - Rt. 26
Bethany Auto & Marine

OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. Sept. 7	Low 10:23 am Low 11:34 pm	High 04:33 am High 05:17 pm
Thurs. Sept. 8	Low 11:25 am Low -----	High 05:35 am High 06:11 pm
Fri. Sept. 9	Low 12:25 am Low 12:20 pm	High 06:25 am High 06:55 pm
Sat. Sept. 10	Low 01:06 am Low 01:07 pm	High 07:09 am High 07:35 pm
Sun. Sept. 11	Low 01:42 am Low 01:49 pm	High 07:49 am High 08:12 pm
Mon. Sept. 12 Full Moon	Low 02:15 am Low 02:29 pm	High 08:27 am High 08:49 pm
Tues. Sept. 13	Low 02:47 am Low 03:07 pm	High 09:06 am High 09:26 pm
Wed. Sept. 14	Low 03:20 am Low 03:45 pm	High 09:44 am High 10:03 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

~ SEPTEMBER ~

6th Annual Flounder Pounder
September 11 • Bahia Marina
410-289-7473

***Annual Sept. 11th Memorial
Spot Tournament***
September 11 • OC Fishing Center
410-213-1121

33rd Annual Challenge Cup
September 16 - 17 • OC Marlin Club
410-213-1613

**10th Annual A.M.S.A. Red Drum
Tournament
September 23 - 25 • 443-235-2609**

~ OCTOBER ~

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

**32nd Annual Mid-Atlantic
Surf Fishing Tournament
October 6 - 8 • Ocean City, MD
410-213-0646**

**7th Annual A.M.S.A. Surf Fishing
Tournament
October 20 - 22 • 443-235-2609**

**12th Annual Rocktoberfest
Tournament
October 15 - 16 • Bahia Marina
410-289-7473**

***Lewes Harbour Marina Striper
Tournament***
October 22 - November 22 • Lewes, DE
302-645-6227

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Garmin GPS, VHF, outrigger mounts,
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4-man liferaft. Excellent condition.
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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
- 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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MAMA T ~ 47' BUDDY DAVIS CONVERTIBLE 1988. Twin 8V92s, 735 hp. Custom half tower w/hardtop. 3 new CruisAir. Very clean. Call Steve.



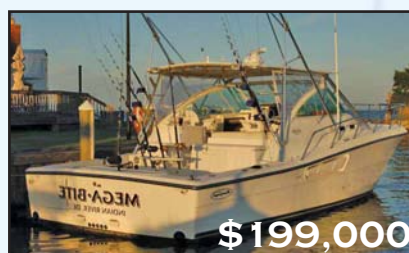
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LADY LUCK V ~ 2008 46' CARMEN. Twin Volvo IPS 600 hp engines w/825 hrs. Beautiful interior, great electronics, many upgrades. Call John.



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BOTTOM LINE ~ 40' LUHRS 40 TOURNAMENT 1987. Twin 3208 CATs w/1330 hrs. Huge price reduction. Motivated seller. Call Steve.



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SE A'LURE ~ 1987 35' VIKING CONVERTIBLE. Re-powered in '03 w/ twin Cummins 370B 375 hp engines. Updated interior, new hardtop. Call Steve.



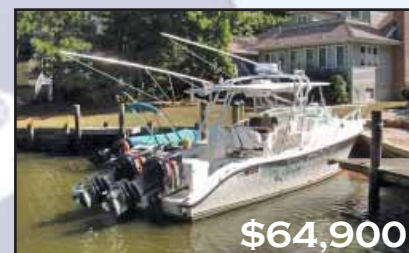
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PINTAR ~ 34' LUHRS CONVERTIBLE 2000. Cummins 370 HP diesels for a fast cruise (26-28 kts) Private qtrs. "Bridgework" Ready to fish! Call Steve.



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33' GRADY WHITE 33 EXPRESS 2003 ~ Twin 225hp Yamaha 4 stroke, 350 hrs. Sleeps 5. Updated electronics. Livewell, prep station. Turn-key. Call Steve.



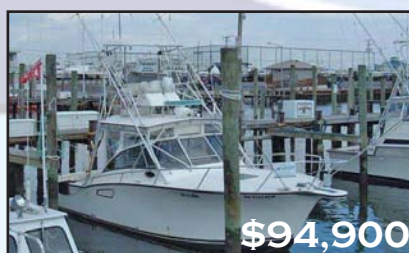
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29' Stamas Express 2005 – Reel Dream - \$99,900 - Steve