

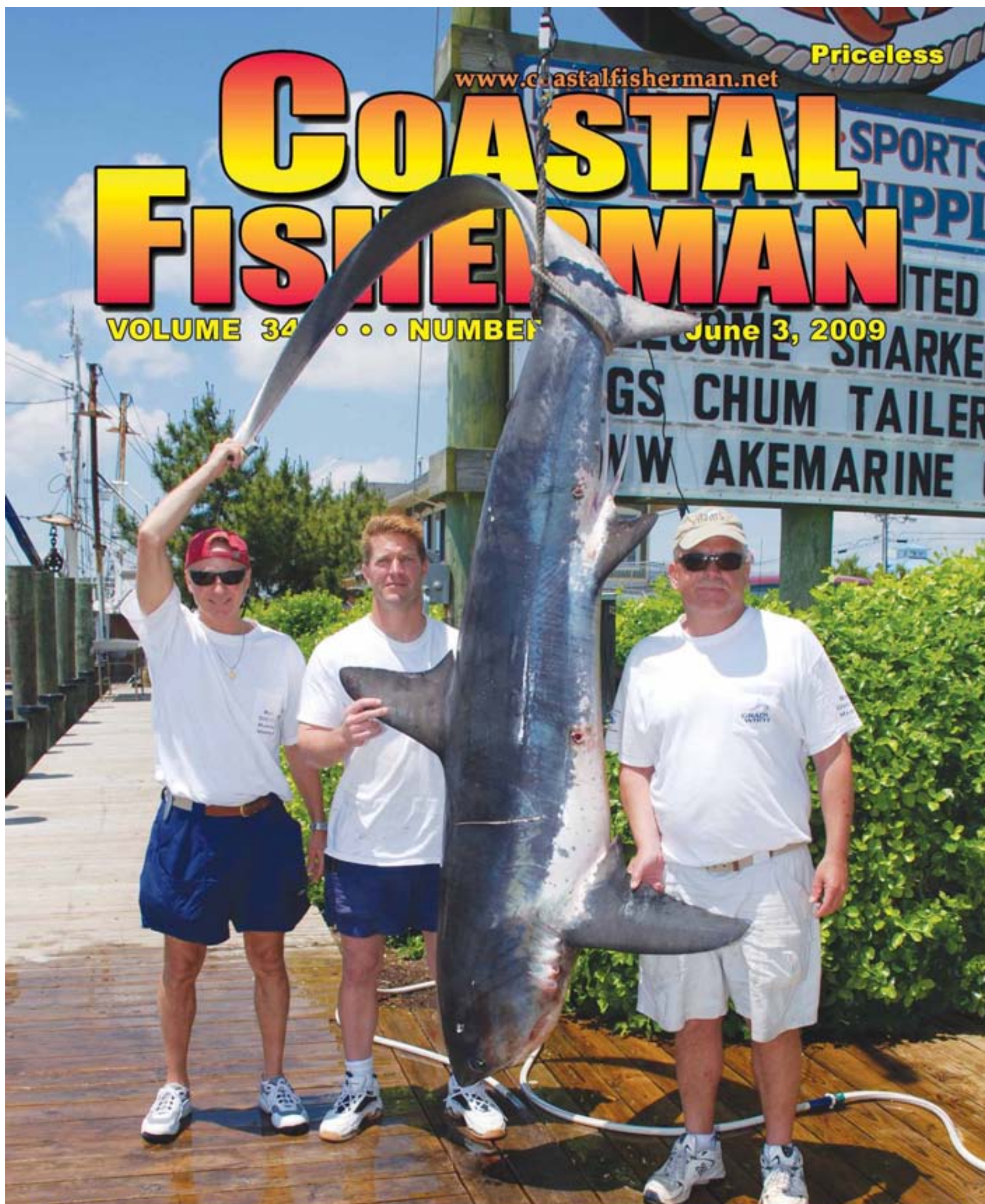
COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 34 • • • NUMBER

June 3, 2009

Priceless

www.coastalfisherman.net



Just in time for the start of local shark tournaments, a good number of sharks hit the scales this past weekend and none were heavier than the 350 lb. thresher caught on Sunday by Mike Weber of Emmaus, PA. Mike was fishing on the "Fine Lines" with Brian Kalamar of Bethlehem, PA and Bob Schillinger of Kennett Square, PA. After the thresher hit a mackerel bait at the Fingers, the fight lasted 3 hours and 25 minutes before the fish was boated. Weighed at Ake Marine in West Ocean City.

Double Lines

by Dale Timmons



We received the following note from Stan and Nancy Geesey, of Conestoga, PA last week. Thought we'd pass it on.

"Here is a fishing story that you may want to share!! It is the honest to goodness truth!! On May 20 my husband and I were surf fishing at Assateague Island on South Beach. We each had our lines in the surf and were standing there holding our rods. About 100 ft. to our left was another couple fishing. Their rods were in sand spikes and they were sitting in their beach chairs a distance back from them. I happened to glance over to see the husband and wife both at the surf, scanning the water - while the husband was holding his empty sand spike!! We could only assume that it was the story of the 'one

that got away - - rod and all!! Shortly after, I decided it was time to check my bait. I began reeling in and thought I had somehow snagged something. But I soon realized that I was bringing the line in, but it was 'extremely' hard to reel. I thought I must have snagged my husband's line, but he didn't feel anything. The closer I got, we could see that I was indeed on another line, but it wasn't my husband's. Got my line in and then my husband decided he would bring his in also. Again. . . . extremely hard reeling!! Didn't take long before we spotted the fishing rod in the water. We realized later that I had snagged the line, and in pulling it in my husband had also snagged it. I quickly retrieved the rod and began

reeling in the line. Once my husband had his line in, I pulled the rod and line down the beach to the fisherman asking if this was his rod. He was thrilled to see it and began trying to reel it in. It was quite a chore. My husband and I eagerly watched to see what was on the end. The fisherman kept saying . . . 'Whatever fish is on the end is yours. You got my rod back . . . you 'caught' the fish . . . it's yours.' He finally landed a 35" striper!!! That poor fish couldn't even put up a fight. Guess he was tuckered out from dragging that fishing rod around! This is a fishing story that we don't expect to ever repeat!!"

It's amazing how many rods and reels are lost overboard or pulled into the surf. This story had a happy ending, but most often the equipment disappears forever, or it is "caught" a month or two later by some unsuspecting angler. A friend of mine, who shall remain nameless, recently lost not one, or two, but three surf rods out

of four that he had out. Even though he had the drags set loose, he was cleaning a fish and messing with the truck and not paying attention when a school of stripers, or maybe black or red drum, came along and absconded with his equipment. The rods included two brand new 12-foot Lamiglas conventionals and a slightly older 10-foot Lami. Those new 12-footers retail for over \$300.00 each. I think he lost a pair of Calcutta 700s and a Daiwa Grand Wave with them. Would have made me sick to my stomach. He was by himself on a Virginia barrier island, so he stripped down "buck naked" and waded out to the outer bar with his remaining rod and cast a big Hopkins lure for over a half hour to no avail (Is that too much information?). Water was only about 60 degrees then, too. The late Bob Coolick, a.k.a. "The Mad Russian," used to fish five or six rods at a time when he was targeting flounder, and he often told me

Continued on page 6



The new website is here!

www.CoastalFisherman.net

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Fishing Report updated daily!

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Welcome to the Coastal Fisherman newspaper, Online! The Coastal Fisherman is a free paper published weekly from May through September in addition to our popular Winter issue in January. Since 1976 we have offered concentrated news coverage of saltwater fishing along the Maryland/Delaware/Virginia coast.

FISHING REPORT

SUNDAY, April 26, 2009: A few flounder were caught today, both up by the Rt. 90 Bridge and also down in the South Bay behind Assateague. Water was surprisingly clear.

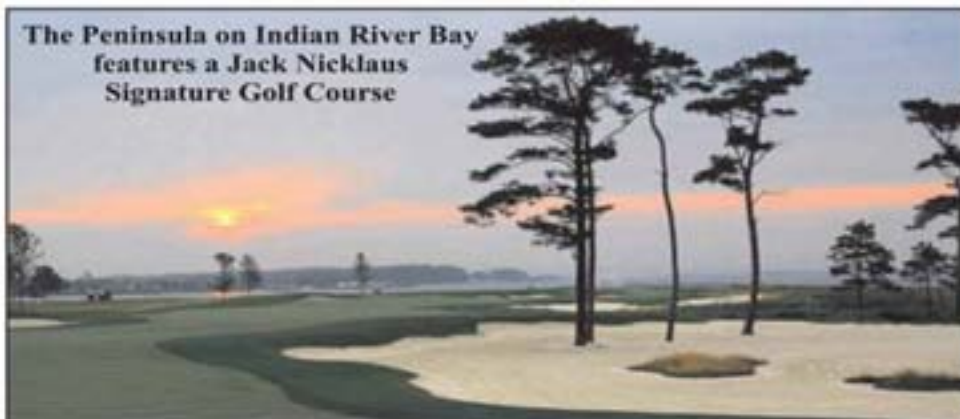
Black drum and striped bass were caught by surfcasters off Assateague over the weekend. Anglers had to work through sharks and skates.

SATURDAY, April 25, 2009: Decent flounder fishing in the bay. The "Bay Bee" had 5 keepers on their morning trip with the largest measuring 19.75 inches. All were caught in the South Bay on the troll, with shiners and squid for bait. In the afternoon, the "Bay Bee" had 3 keepers with the largest measuring 23 inches. Same location and bait.

FRIDAY, April 24, 2009: Went striper fishing in the Chesapeake Bay today on the "Playmate" with Capt. Willie Zimmerman. Had a fantastic day! We caught 9 fish, kept 5. Fish were FAT and measured between 36 inches and 44 inches. Had to throwback a 42 inch since we already had our limit. Trolled umbrella rigs and mojos in the bay between Solomon's Island and Hooper's Island. It was a blast!!! Here's the great part. Capt. Willie will now pick people up at Rippons Seafood & Marina on Hooper's Island on the Eastern Shore. That is only 1 hour and 45 minutes from Ocean City, MD. A far cry from the 4 hour car ride to Solomon's. This definitely makes the trip worthwhile, not to mention that you will be fishing on a 60-foot Custom Carolina boat! If you want to take advantage of this fishery (which is hot right now) and only have to make a fairly short car ride, then you can call Capt. Willie at 443-370-7144.

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28' 2003 Sea-Fox	287 CC	S/Yamaha 300HPDI	On Display	\$53,000
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24' 2001 Pursuit	2460 Denali	S/Volvo 5.7L EFI	On Display	\$34,500
23' 2001 Pro-Line	23 Sport	S/Mercury 250 EFI	On Display	\$26,500
23' 2005 Nautic Star	230 Deck Boat	S/Yamaha 150	On Display	Pending
20' 2004 Trophy	2052 Walkaround	S/MerCruiser 4.3L	On Display	\$17,500
18' 2007 Maycraft	1800 Skiff	S/Yamaha 90	On Display	\$13,995

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Anthony Lano was fishing with his dad, Andy, at the Coral Beds in the Delaware Bay when he hooked into this 82.3 lb. black drum. The big boomer was one of 10 caught during the trip (released 7) and was weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina in Lewes, DE.

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This photo could very well be labeled “The Thrill of Victory and the Agony of Defeat” with Daina Kazmaier of West Ocean City holding her 22-inch, 4 lb. flounder caught while fishing with Brian Behe, also of West Ocean City, MD. Daina’s flattie was caught on a live minnow near Harbor Island while Brian’s 18-incher was also hooked on a minnow, but in the bay behind Assateague Island.

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Double Lines continued:

he lost them all the time since they were usually just leaned up against the gunnels and not in holders. I've heard a lot of these horror stories over the years, including some that involved Penn International 50s or 80s that disappeared forever in the offshore canyons. I don't know what the point or moral of this story is, except to say if you value your gear make sure your drags are backed off, check and reset your sand spikes on the beach and use rod holders in the boat whenever possible...



I like to experiment and try new things when it comes to lures or rigs. Some things work, some don't, but I enjoy it when they do. Sometimes when I order something from a catalog and it comes, I look at it and say, "What the heck am I going to do with that?" One of my suppliers recently added some very large spinner blades, for instance. They had a nice finish and some fancy

colors, so I thought I would try a few. These things were huge; I guess they were made for musky fishing or something, so I ordered the smallest one, which was an Indiana blade that turned out to be two inches long, an inch-and-a-quarter wide, and probably about a sixteenth of an inch thick. (In case you don't know, an Indian blade is kind of oblong, while a Colorado blade is more rounded.) Anyway, it was super heavy duty and heavy as heck. I laughed at myself, then I took one and rigged it above a 4/0 Kahle hook with a Mylar skirt and several beads. Because of the weight, I put an oblong float about an inch-and-a-half long above the blade to give it some buoyancy. I put the whole thing on a leader about six feet long, followed by an in-line swivel with about 10 inches of dropper to a snap for the sinker. It was kind of a monstrosity, I admit, but I figured the rig might work well for deepwater flounder fishing at someplace like Cape

Charles, VA. That evening, however, I went out in the south bay with Capt. Jason Mumford and his first mate/boat engine mechanic Paul Turner. Jason was spanking Paul and me with my own rig, a Delmarva Double with small chartreuse blades that he has dubbed the "Deadly Double." To make a long story short, in desperation I put on the new rig with the big blade, and I immediately caught a couple of fish, even though they were "shorts." We were only fishing in five or six feet of water, so now I am even more convinced that the rig will work well in deep water. Now I just have to come up with a name for it...I'm thinking maybe something like the "Sinepuxent Snake"...



Contact Dale Timmons at coastfish@verizon.net or call 410-629-1191.



Tony Warmer of Owings, MD captured this 36-inch striper from the South Bethany surf on cut bunker. The bass weighed 16 lbs. on the scale at Fenwick Tackle.

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This is the second large flounder we have seen this year coming from Sidni Schlegel of Stevens, PA. Sidni caught the big flattie on a live minnow in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport. The fish measured 24.5-inches and weighed 5 lbs. 8 oz. on the scales at Buck's Place.

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Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



I'm happy to report two things. First, the National Marine Fisheries Service increased the bluefin retention limit. Effective June 1st, recreational anglers can now keep two bluefin tuna per trip. One must measure between 27 inches to less than 47 inches and the other needs to be between 47 inches to less than 73 inches.

Second, our new website launched on June 1st at www.coastalfisherman.net. The new site contains current and past issues, photos, videos, recipes, tournament schedules and a host of various fishing information. I hope you like it!

Now to the fishing. You can feel it in the air. The season is picking up steam with some nice fish hitting the scales.

SHARKS

What do you get when you have good weather, rising water temperatures, bluefish roaming the ocean and boats out fishing? You get plenty of sharks hitting the docks, and that's what we had this weekend.

On Saturday Eddie Valasquez on the "Give Um Da Bird" returned with a 258 lb. thresher shark caught on a bluefish fillet, east of "DB" Buoy. Funny thing is, just the



According to many anglers last Thursday, the water in the bay was as clear as anyone could remember and it resulted in a fantastic flounder bite. Capt. Bruce McGuigan and Brenton McCleary of Capt. Mac's Bait & Tackle had an epic day, catching 30 flatties, keeping 6. The fish were caught behind the OC Airport on Assateague Tackle Double Flounder rigs tipped with flounder belly and cut bait in the bay. Bruce took heaviest fish honors, landing a 24.5-incher that weighed in at 5 lbs. 4 oz.

previous day I was commenting to another angler about no one catching a thresher shark yet around "DB" Buoy, a common spot for anglers to do so. It just seemed odd.

On Sunday, Mike Weber on the "Fine Line" caught a 350 lb.

thresher at the Fingers, another popular shark fishing spot. The third thresher we saw over the weekend came from anglers on the "Gag Order" who brought back a 289 pounder, weighed after being gutted. This shark was caught east of the Jackspot.

On the mako front, catches were made at the Sausages, the Marine Electric and in 20 fathoms behind the Jackspot.

Most shark fishermen reported an incredible number of blue sharks roaming the ocean around the Marine Electric, the Hambone and the Sausages. Some boats in search of makos and threshers actually had to change locations to escape them. Most effective baits were split 50/50 between bluefish and mackerel fillets.

All of this is just in time for the Mako Mania Shark Tournament held at Bahia Marina on June 5th, 6th and 7th. After that, the next big shark tournament is the South Jersey Shark Tournament held in Cape May, NJ from June 11th to the 14th. The Ocean City Shark Tournament is scheduled for June 18th to the 20th at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

BLUEFIN TUNA

I heard bluefin tuna were spotted busting the water in the Hambone area and Jenn Pettolina managed to hook into one just south of the Hambone at the Pork Chop.

FLOUNDER

It was a really good week for flounder fisherman with nice weather and very, very clean water. I received numerous reports from anglers who commented that the water was cleaner than they had ever seen it.

continued on page 13



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Our Fisherman of the Week is

Mike Weber
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Coastal Fisherman

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Here's something you don't see very often on a dock in Ocean City. J.D. Eddy caught this 47.95 lb. snowy grouper while fishing for tilefish on the "Green Reaper" with Doug Eddy, Mary Eddy and Alvin Powell. The grouper took a squid in 700-feet of water between the Baltimore and Poorman's Canyons. The current All Tackle World Record for a snowy grouper is 68 lbs. and was caught in 2008 off the coast of Virginia. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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Dale Timmons of Berlin, MD (top) and Moe Cropper of West Ocean City, MD took a trip down to a Virginia barrier island to do some surf fishing and released a couple of nice red drum. Dale's measured 44-inches and was caught on a puppy drum rig tipped with a peeler crab. Moe's big red was hooked on an Assateague Tackle Drum & Striper rig, tipped with a peeler crab. Dale also released a 41-incher during the trip.

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Joseph Parsons of Millville, DE muscled in this 9 lb. 13 oz. flounder while drifting a bucktail in the Indian River Inlet. The fish measured 30-inches and had a 28-inch girth.

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Ocean City report continued:

The best bite seemed to center around the bay behind Assateague, near the airport and at the north end of the East Channel, near Harbor Island.

Some small flounder were reported by surf fishermen fishing off Assateague Island.

Anglers fishing with minnows, flounder belly (yes, it's legal) and the Gulp! Alive swimming mullet are having the most success.

SEA BASS

We saw good numbers of sea bass caught this week by anglers fishing the ocean wrecks. The "Ursula Priscilla" came back on Saturday with 80 fish, caught on the Solvang Wreck, also known as the Terror Wreck. The "Morning Star" also had several sea bass this week weighing between 4 and 5 lbs. Anglers using clams for bait seem to be outfishing those using squid.

BLUEFISH

Finally, bluefish in good numbers are being caught in our local waters. Small blues

are roaming the bay while the larger choppers are being caught around the Hambone and by surfcasters off the beach. It doesn't really matter what bait you are using when the gators are in good numbers because they will hit practically everything.

STRIPED BASS

There has been a great bite around the tip of the South Jetty. Anglers drifting the point with bucktails tipped with curly tails are doing extremely well.

Ron Humphress reported that the striper bite on Assateague was really good on Saturday morning. Ron and his wife Michelle caught 4 stripers larger than 40-inches. There was also a 50-incher caught off Assateague on Thursday evening. Bunker heads continue to be the bait of choice.

As mentioned earlier, this weekend is the Mako Mania Shark Tournament at Bahia Marina. The tournament is Friday, Saturday and Sunday with scales opening at 4pm each day. I hope to see you there!



The largest bluefish we have seen this year was caught by Troy Schifflett while fishing on the "#1 Hooker" with Capt. Ken Swinehart. The 13 lb. 13 oz. chopper was caught on the troll at the 12 Fathom Lump, southeast of the Delaware Lightship. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em at the Indian River Marina.

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Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



"I want to go fishing on a party boat!"

Going out on a party boat is a great way to get offshore without spending a bundle. Many people start asking about chartering boats and have no idea what they want to do. There's a big difference in price between going out on a party boat and going out on a charter boat. Charter boats take a group of approximately 6 people at a set boat price. A party boat (in the old days they called them "head boats") takes 25 to 80 people out at a time, for a certain price per person. Full days on a party boat generally cost somewhere between \$60 and \$100. Half days cost less.

"Where do the boats go?"

The party boats out of Ocean City go to wrecks and Artificial Reef Sites, 8 to 30 miles offshore. Generally they go to a different spot every day so as not to put too much pressure on the same fishing grounds. There are lots of artificial reef sites offshore, and more artificial reef materials are going in every year!

"What do they fish for? What are we going to catch?"

In the summer season the most sought after fish is the sea bass. Sea bass average 1/2 to 3 lbs. with an 8 pounder being the state record. A "keeper" sea bass is 12 1/2 inches this year, which

will run a little over a pound. An 18 to 20-inch fish weighs about 3 lbs. Black sea bass are stout, chunky fish with a rounded tail that sometimes has a long streamer trailing out from the top edge. Each gill cover has a flat spine near the outer edge so be careful when handling sea bass. Their teeth won't get you, but the gill plates and spines on their backs will!

Sea bass are good fighters, but not necessarily considered a big game fish. They are wonderful to eat and even if you just get enough fish for dinner, you will be pleased with the pure white meat. Since the size limit has been increased you will generally catch 10 sea bass to get a "keeper" so with that in mind, just remember that fishing is fishing and the days of catching enough fish to freeze and feed the whole neighborhood as well are basically over. The limit for sea bass in 2009 is 25 per person, so there is the opportunity to get a limit, just not always the probability.

BUT, it has been done! Some of the party boats are offering 12 hour trips once a week, so if you are after quantity or quality (bigger fish) you can pay extra and go out on one of these extended trips. The boats can travel out further and stay longer.

Some days it pays off with more and bigger fish, and some days it just turns into a longer day of fishing and an extended boat ride, which is fun in itself! If you are a fishhead like me who never gets tired of fishing, it's worth doing!

"I hear I might catch a tautog?"

There are varieties of other fish in the sea you may catch including tautog. The half-day boats in particular are likely candidates to catch a tautog, as tautog frequent inshore wrecks and artificial structure. These fish can get large! The state record is over 20 lbs! Tautogs generally take sand crabs, green crab, or clam, but sometimes they will grab squid. Depending upon the time of year, the creel limit in Maryland varies. In the summer of 2009 the creel limit is two. But two big tautogs can give you several dinners!

"What else might we catch?"

Bluefish, sharks, codfish, triggerfish, red hake, porgy, flounder, croaker, cunners, spade fish, drum and sheepshead. Occasionally, in the summer, full day party boats have even been known to cast to a dolphin!

"How long is full day?"

Usually a full day trip runs from 7 A.M. until 3 P.M. Part of these hours will be traveling to and from the fishing grounds, which may take anywhere from one to two hours. That's what is fun about a party boat. You'll have plenty time to chit chat, tell fish stories with others, and enjoy the ride. Be sure to take some food and something to drink. You can expect to see dolphins, sea turtles, and even a whale. Sometimes you can see fish jumping out of the water. Be sure to take sunscreen, sunglasses, a hat, a rag and shoes that will not slip on a boat. Check the weather, and if there's a chance of rain, a lightweight raincoat may be part of your attire. I use mine as a windbreaker as well. Sometimes it is hot on the water, and sometimes it can be cool. I always "layer" so that I can "take off" or "put back on."

It's generally a rule of thumb to get to the boat a half hour before they depart. If you do not have reservations, I would get there an hour before departure if it is a busy weekend and you like a certain spot on the boat.

"How do I catch a sea bass

and tautog?"

Your best bet is to let the mate rig up your line for you if you are inexperienced. Basically, what the mate will do is tie a monofilament leader material of 30 or 40 lb. test into your line, make two dropper loops, and insert two Kahle styled size 3/0 to 4/0 hooks into the loops. He will make another dropper loop at the bottom of the rig and insert a 6 to 8 oz. bank sinker. It's a simple rig that works! It also does not snarl up too badly if you tangle with your neighbor.

Party boats generally fish with squid and clam. Sometimes they have sand fleas or green crab for tautog. Bait up with a good size piece of bait and keep your bait on your hook full and fresh. Clam is messy, but the fish really like it. Pierce it thru the hard part, then run it on the hook two or three times, with the black or dark brown yucky stuff draped right over the point of the hook.

Let your line down to the bottom. As soon as you feel the bottom, reel up until your line is taut but still on or close to the bottom. Generally you get a bite right away when the boat first stops. Set the hook and bring in the fish. Sea bass pretty much hook themselves. Tautog, you want to put your bait on the bottom and try to keep your bait as still as possible. Point the rod towards the water and don't let your sinker move. When you feel a tap, tap, tap.... slowly raise your rod tip and see if the weight of the fish is there. A large tautog will actually SLAM your bait sometimes. Get it up quick before it gets snagged in the bottom. Big fish will go for cover immediately when they realize they are hooked. The faster you get a fish off the bottom, the more likely you will get it in!

"I don't know if I should go on a "full day" trip or a "half day" trip?"

I would always suggest a full day trip if you are a serious fisherman. The boats can go further, fish longer, and the angler has more of a chance to catch some "keepers" for dinner. For half day party boat trips I would suggest for the following: First time ocean anglers who suspect they might get sea sick and are not sure if they are going to like it in the ocean or not. Anglers with young children who want to give them a fishing experience but

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don't want them to get bored. Anglers who are fishing with a spouse or girlfriend that wants to "try it" but are not absolutely "enthused!" Vacationers that want a boat ride and the experience of an hour or so of fishing. And of course, the angler that only has a half day to go fishing or who has gotten up late and missed the early morning departures!

"Where can I find the listings for party boats?"

In this paper of course!

"Why are some boats more expensive than others?"

Party boats like the "Morning Star" limit the number of anglers onboard, so there is always plenty of elbow room. Rigs and sinkers are part of the deal as well.

"Should we rent or bring our own equipment?"

If you have rods and reels that will handle at least 6 oz. of sinker weight, bring them along. If not, go for the rental rods.

"What else should we know?"

Bring a cooler with ice, tip the mate, don't be hung over, watch and listen to the captain and mate, watch the marine weather and if the seas are going to be over 5 feet consider another day, and above all, bring a good attitude. Enjoy the day! The ocean is a beautiful place. God's earth.

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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Isaiah Ross captured these two weakfish while fishing in the Broadkill River using peeler crab for bait. The trout weighed in at 3 lbs. 6 oz. and 6 lbs. 8 oz. Weighed at Bill's Sport Shop.



The first thresher shark landed in Ocean City this year came at the hands of Eddie Velasquez of Frederick, MD. Eddie was fishing on the "Give Um Da Bird" with Capt. Denny Forrest and Mate Dave English when the 258 pounder took a bluefish fillet in 66-feet of water, east of "DB" Buoy. Weighed at Ake Marine.

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Marlin Thomas of Shillington, PA landed this 34-inch, 12 lb. 1 oz. striped bass while fishing with cut bunker off Assateague Island



Tom Tatum of West Chester, PA caught 3 keeper flounder (2 pictured) while fishing on the "Open Debate" in the Thorofare. The largest flattie measured 23-inches and weighed an even 5 lbs. after being caught on a top and bottom rig tipped with Gulp! Alive Swimming Mullet and Flounder Candy.

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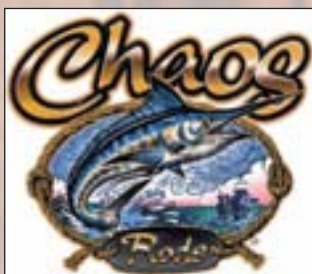
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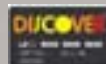
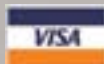
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rolls
- 4 tuna fillets (6 oz. each)
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1/3 cup Alouette garlic-
herb spread
- 1 pkg. (10 oz.) frozen
chopped spinach,
thawed and squeezed
dry.

Unroll crescent dough and separate into four rectangles; seal perforations.

Place a tuna fillet in the center of each rectangle; sprinkle with salt and pepper.

Spoon cheese spread over each; top with spinach.

Fold dough over filling and pinch edges to seal.

Place on an ungreased baking sheet.

Bake at 400 degrees for 20 to 25 minutes or until golden brown.

Serve immediately.

Serves 4.

Shrimp Quesadillas with Mango

- 2 TBSP. olive oil
- 1 large red pepper, sliced
in strips
- 1 large yellow pepper,
sliced
- 1 large onion sliced
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 3/4 lb. medium-size
shrimp, shelled and
deveined
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- 2 limes
- 2 tsp. chili powder
- 1 large ripe mango, peeled

- and cut into chunks
- 1 pkg. fajita-size flour
tortillas
- 1 1/4 cup shredded
Monterey Jack cheese
- 1/2 cup sour cream

Heat 1 TBSP. of the oil in a large non-stick skillet.

Add peppers, onion and salt.

Cook for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally, until vegetables are soft and slightly browned.

Remove to a bowl.

Place shrimp in a resealable bag and add garlic, remaining olive oil, juice of 1/2 lime and chili powder.

Shake bag and marinate for 15 minutes.

Puree mango with the juice from 1 lime in a food processor. Set aside.

In same skillet, cook shrimp, 2 minutes per side and remove to a bowl.

Wipe out skillet and spray with nonstick cooking spray.

Top a tortilla with 1/5 of the shrimp, onions and peppers.

Sprinkle with 1/4 cup of cheese.

Place another tortilla on top and cook in skillet for 1 to 2 minutes per side until lightly browned.

Repeat with remaining tortillas.

Serve with sour cream, mango puree and remaining lime.

Makes 5 quesadillas.

Broiled Flounder with Vermouth

- 1/2 stick butter
- half of 1 lemon
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 1/2 shot of Vermouth

Melt butter in a saucepan.

Squeeze the lemon juice into the pan.

Add the mayonnaise and Vermouth and stir with a fork.

Lay the fillets on a foil lined broiler pan.

Spread the mixture from the saucepan evenly over the fillets and let sit for 5 to 7

minutes.

Sprinkle top of fillets with paprika and broil close to the flame.

Tops will be brown and bubbly.

Do not overcook.

Test with fork.

Stuffed Striper

- 4 striped bass fillets
- 2 TBSP. butter
- Juice of 1 lemon
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 slice of white bread,
crumbled
- 1 cup bread crumbs
- Dash of onion powder
- 1/2 tsp. parsley
- 1 egg, beaten

Lay the bass fillets in a shallow baking dish and dot with butter.

Drizzle lemon juice over the bass and season lightly with salt and pepper.

Combine white bread, bread crumbs, onion powder, salt, pepper and parsley for stuffing.

Add egg and mix. Mound mixture on each of the bass fillets; cover with aluminum foil.

Bake in preheated oven at 350 degrees for about 10 to 15 minutes or until fish flakes.

Baked Striped Bass

- 2 lbs. bass fillets
- 6 oz. teriyaki sauce
- Lemon juice
- Lemon pepper
- 1 medium onion, thinly
sliced

Marinate the bass fillets overnight in the teriyaki sauce.

Place bass in pan lined with aluminum foil.

Sprinkle lemon juice and lemon pepper over the bass fillets.

Place onion slices on the fillets.

Cover with foil and bake at 375 degrees for approximately 20 to 25 minutes.

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Brent, Luke and Ben Boone from Annapolis, MD along with Mike and Austin Mendes from Lewes, DE teamed up to land 80 sea bass and a pollock while fishing on the "Ursula Priscilla" with Capt. George Merrick and Mate John Griffith. The fish were caught on clams and squid in 140 feet of water at the Solvang wreck. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.




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SUMMER FLOUNDER
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18" - 27" 1 per person/day

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Ben, Zach and Brady Goodrich from Kent Island, MD teamed up to land these 5 stripers while jigging Bass Assassins at the South Jetty aboard the "Reelmembrane". The fish measured between 32 and 40 inches and weighed between 15 and 20 lbs.

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Past the Breakers

by Sam Kilgore



"I am not even sure there are any fish here," I said to my Dad after feeling a wave of hopelessness. He began laughing as if I had just told a joke. I had been sitting in my beach chair scanning the surf and wondering if I was reading the beach correctly. Eventually I had convinced myself there were no fish anywhere near us. "The waves just don't look right here," I thought to myself. I wanted to pack up and drive down the beach to look for something different. Finally, I gave up the thought of getting Dad out of his chair. There was no way he was going anywhere after catching a 34" striper from that spot only an hour earlier.

Surf fishing is unlike any other type of activity I have ever experienced. The thrill of fighting a large striper or drum from the beach is incredible and anyone can do it! It does not require an off-road vehicle, expensive equipment or even fishing experience. All a person really needs to do is make an effort and be in the right place at the right time.

As humans, we are



Earl "Mr. Drysdale" Conley of the Bank of Ocean City took some time out to go surf fishing with Jay and Jimmy Phillips off Paramore Island, VA, and released his first red drum and black drum. The surfcasters released 7 black drum and 4 red drum after hooking them on peeler crabs during the incoming tide.

constantly striving to improve. At a young age, life brings us new goals and we begin learning the best possible way to reach those goals. By utilizing the

techniques we learn and by working hard, we become increasingly successful with every attempt. However, in my experience, this theory does not apply to surf fishing.

I have spent countless hours reading fishing books and magazines. I have scanned the internet researching various techniques, and looking for new and improved methods. I have spent a lot of money on rods, reels, hooks, sinkers, bait and I even bought a vehicle for the sole purpose of driving on the sand.

When I first started targeting striped bass, I was obsessed with every detail. Each day, I would check the weather forecast in case there was a front moving in or the wind had decided to blow off the water. I usually had the tide chart memorized and always kept an eye on the water temperature. I would go online and look up the previous year's fishing reports, make notes on the dates, tides and any other details regarding a successful day of fishing. I had set a realistic goal to catch a striper that was at least 40 inches and I had no doubt it was going to happen.

Soon, I was on the beach implementing everything I had learned from other angler's experiences. Before every trip to the beach, I would go out of my way to find the freshest bait, ensure my hooks were sharp, my knots were strong and everything was just right. I fished the best beach structure I could find, varied the distances in my casts and constantly moved the bait a little closer to keep it from getting buried in the sand. From what I understood, the conditions for catching large fish were often apparent and I was doing everything right. According to all of the research I had done, I should have been worn out from catching fish. However, it was just the opposite.

I sat many long hours swatting at biting flies and feeding that precious bait to relentless crabs, small sharks and skates. Other times, the ocean seemed void of life completely, but I kept fresh



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bait on the hooks and patiently waited and wondered what I could possibly be doing wrong.

One evening, after many unproductive and expensive trips to the beach, I finally caught that fish. To my surprise, it was during a full moon, a West wind was blowing and the ocean was as calm as a lake. These were all conditions I had learned to avoid when striper fishing. I remember thinking to myself, "I am so lucky!"

I have often looked back on that night and have even told other anglers how "lucky" I was when I caught that fish. However, deep down I really felt I had earned that fish the hard way and had been rewarded for spending so much time in the pursuit of my goal. It would be easy to assume that "luck" had little to do with it.

Last week, I was fishing next to a very good friend and angler. After a few hours, he began to express how upset he was with his fishing skills. He told me that he had fished several days this year and has yet to catch anything but skates and dogfish. He began trying to rationalize what he was doing wrong. He started second guessing his tackle, then the spot we were fishing and finally he decided it was because of the tide. As I sat and listened to him, I recognized the same desperation I have often felt. I did my best to assure him he was doing everything right, but I do not think he was

convinced.

Make no mistake, several days of surf fishing and nothing to show for it will certainly test any angler's passion. However, if my friend keeps putting in the time I have no doubt that he will hook into that fish. When he does, not only will it be a memorable and rewarding catch, he will once again be reminded that his techniques are solid and his confidence will be restored.

Certainly, it is best to understand and utilize the basics when surf fishing and doing so will put you on the right path. Keep an open mind when talking with other anglers and don't be afraid to try different methods. Over time, through your own experiences, you will find the best technique that works for you. If you find yourself second guessing your techniques, do not be too hasty to change what you have learned.

For me, I had to face the fact that fresh bait, sharp hooks and strong knots would not guarantee catching fish. Once I realized that success is ultimately up to the fish, I was able to relax, enjoy my surroundings and feel "lucky" to have such a beautiful place to fish.

Sam Kilgore is an avid surf fisherman and administers AtlanticAnglers.com, a free, family friendly website devoted to helping anglers learn all aspects of fishing.



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BLUEFISH
No minimum size
10 per person/day



SUMMER FLOUNDER
18 1/2" minimum 4 per person/day



TAUTOG
15" minimum 3 per person/day



PORGY (SCUP)
8" minimum 50 per person/day



RED DRUM
20" - 27" 5 per person/day



SHEEPSHEAD
No limit



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Michael Brinton of Lewistown, PA captured 2 flounder weighing 3 lb. 7 oz. and 5 lb. 5 oz. while drifting a Gulp! artificial bait in the Indian River Bay. Weighed at Rattle & Reel Sporting Center on Long Neck Road in Long Neck, DE.



Mark Forrester came all the way from Kentucky and caught his first flounder in 15 years on a Gulp! and shiner combination while wading the Henlopen Flats. Photo courtesy of Rattle & Reel Sporting Center.

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CF Please mail survey for each trip to:
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Tawes State Office Building, B-2
ATTN: Summer Flounder Survey
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____ - _____ - _____

Date Fished: _____

Location Code (circle one): Atlantic Ocean 012
Assawoman Bay 001 Isle of Wight Bay 049
Sinepuxent Bay 084 Chincoteague Bay 033

Time Started: _____ am/pm Hours Fished: _____

Number of Anglers: _____

Fished from (circle one): Shore Boat Pier Surf Charter

Fishing Method (circle one):
Bottom Fishing Drifting Trolling Casting Fly

Please tell us how you submit fish lengths to our survey (circle one):

- 1) Record fish lengths on paper during my fishing trip and submit later
- 2) Submit information from memory within 48 hours of my fishing trip
- 3) Submit information from memory 48 hours or more after my fishing trip

CATCH INFORMATION

Total # of Summer Flounder Kept: _____

Total # of Summer Flounder Released: _____

For each trip, measure each summer flounder caught, kept or released, up to a maximum of 20. Place an "X" in the appropriate kept or released box for each summer flounder caught. If you don't catch any flounder during your trip, still complete the survey and mail to the Maryland DNR.

Length	Kept	Released	Length	Kept	Released



Jack Koslosky of Lanham, MD reeled in this 26-inch flounder that weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. while fishing with his dad, Jack Koslosky, Sr. in the bay near Harbor Island. The big flattie took a minnow and squid combination at the start of the outgoing tide.

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A photograph of a yellow fishing boat named "BAY BEE" on the water. Several people are on board the boat, some are fishing. The boat is a small, open-deck vessel with a white cabin. The background shows a calm body of water and a clear sky.

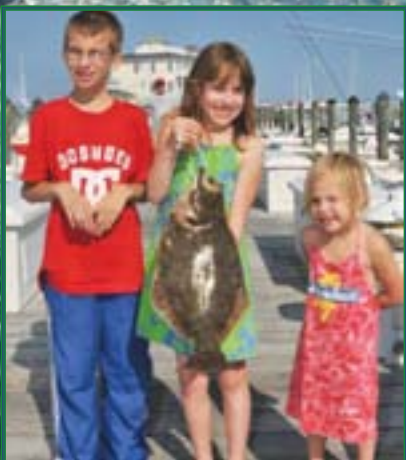


Mark Berry of Telford, PA, Guy Sandridge of West Ocean City, MD, Sue Foster of Oyster Bay Tackle, George Henning of Ocean City, MD and Vonnie Zeigler of York, PA caught some really nice sea bass, tautog, a bluefish and even a cod while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mates Tucker Colquhoun and Mike Kinder. The fish were caught on a natural reef using sand fleas, crabs and clams for bait. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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Delaware Fishing Report

by Rick Willman



Hi folks. What a beautiful weekend. The weather was great and the fishing was trying real hard to match the sunny skies.

Back bay flounder action continues to be the most productive. Striper action in the Indian River Inlet is also hot. Some really nice fish have come out of the Inlet recently. Ocean activity has consisted of mainly sea bass with a few reports of keeper flounder. Big bluefish have been taken on the troll between "DA" Buoy and the Delaware Lightship. A few threshers have been reported near the Shipping Channel.

Julie Stevenson of Lewes, DE fished in the Indian River with her dad, Joe Viscuglia, and caught a citation flattie weighing 7 lbs. 12 oz. Don



Sharks are showing up just in time for local shark tournaments and Louis Sartori of Rehoboth Beach, DE captured this 168.5 lb. thresher shark while fishing at the Lightship with Robert Keen of Bowling Green, KY. The anglers were targeting bluefish when the thresher hit one of their trolled Stretch 30's. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em at the Indian River Marina.

Montgomery came all the way from Myrtle Beach, SC. and boated a 5 lb. 6 oz Indian River flattie using a minnow for bait. Bill Taylor of Kennett Square, PA also used a minnow to fool a 5 lb. 13 oz. Indian River flounder. Jim Beam of Palmyra, PA fished the "DB"

Buoy area and caught a 4 lb. 6 oz. flattie using a squid and minnow combo. Mickey Payne of Georgetown, DE had a great day in the Indian River Inlet, boating his limit of stripers weighing up to 23 1/4 lbs.

Capt. Eric Ludwig of

"Hook & Cook" Charters had a great day shark fishing the 20 fathom line and released 2 threshers estimated at 250 lbs.

At Rattle & Reel Sporting Center on Long Neck Road, Ron reports good flounder action in the Rehoboth Bay and in the Indian River for anglers using minnows and squid along with GULP! tipped Spec rigs. Striper action in the Indian River Inlet is also improving.

At Henlopen Bait and Tackle on Savannah Road in Lewes, DE, Dan said stripers, measuring up to 38 inches, have come from the surf at Cape Henlopen to those soaking fresh bunker. Flounder action continues to be good in all the usual spots such as the Lewes Canal.

Bert at Hook'em & Cook'em Bait and Tackle told us that striper fishing in the Indian River Inlet has been good. Shad have also been plentiful in the Inlet. Josh Mummert of New London, PA took a 12 lb. striper from the Inlet. Blues have also been invading the Inlet along with flounder up to 22 inches. Headboat fishing has been fair-to-good for those bottom fishing in the ocean. Capt. John Nedelka on the charterboat "Karen Sue" has been putting his parties on some nice sea bass. Sharks and short stripers have been coming from out of the surf.

Thresher sharks are starting to be caught. The "#1 Hooker" brought in a 156 lb. thresher caught by the party of Josh Bentz, John Bentz, John Swietzer, Mike Drobick, and Vince Skimski, of Gettysburg, PA. A 201-pound thresher was captured by Jack and Mike Barrow, Drew Jones and Sean Fisher. They used a live bluefish to fool their catch. On the "Rock On", Tim Tribbitt and Josh Moran of Ocean View, DE fished in the Poorman's Canyon and caught the 1st bluefin of the year out of the Indian River Marina. It weighed in at 25.5 lbs. The "Stress Relief" had a great day of dolphin fishing

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Deborah Wilson landed his 3 lb. 6 oz. flounder during Bill's Sport Shop Flounder Tournament that runs until June 12th.

with 7 year old Colby Hook catching a 13.1 and 11.6 pounder.

Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes gives the standings in his ongoing flounder tournament.

1st Place - Tom Bailor 7.34 lbs. and 28 inches.

2nd Place - Dillon Mitchell 6.1 lbs. and 25.25 inches.

3rd Place - Michael Bott

6 lbs. and 25 inches.

4th Place - Billy Rawlings 5.99 lbs. and 25.5 inches.

Elsewhere, Bill Keyser of Rehoboth, DE caught a 14.90 lb. striper at Herring Point on fresh bunker. Victor Thao of Lititz, PA caught a citation striper on a Storm Lure at the Indian River Inlet that weighed 23.52 lbs. and

measured 39 inches. Eddie Kim of Silver Spring, MD caught a 24-inch, 6.78 lb. flounder in the Indian River Inlet on a Storm Shad. Kerry Lodsh was fishing the rocks in the Indian River Inlet and landed a citation 24.20 lb. striper that measured 40-inches and had a 24-inch girth. Isaiah Ross beached trout up to 27 inches on peeler crab at the Broadkill. Andrew and John Snyder, along with Matt Hamilton, caught 20 blueline tilefish and 12 cod weighing up to 20 lbs. on clams and squid in 2,000 feet of water. Captain Mike Rivera, on the "On Delivery" out of the Indian River Marina, brought in the first Delaware thresher this year. The shark weighed in at 158 lbs. and was caught on light tackle while trolling for blue fish off the NJ coast. He reported that it took more than 4 hours to boat. Captain Carey Evans on the "Grizzly" reported that drum fishing was excellent over the Memorial Day weekend. Black

June 3, 2009 Coastal Fisherman Page 31
drum fishing should remain good thru early June.

'Til next week, have fun and be safe!

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

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48' Ocean Yacht
Capt. Jeff Powell



Fortune Cookie
48' Ocean Yacht
Capt. Dan Cook



Last Call - 46' Post
Capt. Franky Pettolina
Capt. Frank Pettolina



Why Not
45' Ricky Scarborough
Capt. Wade Lober



Skirt Chaser
42' Hatteras
Capt. Anthony Thomas



Hot Spot - 42' Bertram
Capt. Al Van Wormer
Capt. Ken Antkowiak



Fish Bonz
42' Ocean
Capt. Mark Radcliffe



Ranger
41' Viking
Capt. Steve Wheeler



Mak Atak - 40' Pace
Capt. Steve Reddish
Capt. Rusty Reddish



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Capts. Ken & Justin Tackett



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36' Topaz
Capt. Dale Lisi



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Capt. Greg Ignash



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Capt. Ron Taylor



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2009 COASTAL FISHERMAN 2009

1st Fish of the Year

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

Species	2009	2008	Species	2009	2008
Sea Bass 	January 26, 2009 Dean Lo "Arno" Wilmington Canyon	March 27, 2008 Susan Samsock "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	Mako Shark 	May 22, 2009 Jim Hughes "Nontypical" Baltimore Canyon	April 26, 2008 Thomas Dame "Free Spool" Elephant's Trunk
Tautog 	January 4, 2009 Billy Collins "Ocean Princess" Offshore Wreck	February 4, 2008 Joe Restuccia "Karen Sue" Wreck	White Marlin 	None Reported	June 9, 2008 Jim Miner "Judge" Norfolk Canyon
Striped Bass 	January 3, 2009 Baron Daiker "Baron Sea" Little Gull	January 1, 2008 RJ Roppelt "Reel Persuasion" Little Gull	Blue Marlin 	None Reported	June 9, 2008 Jason Hinton "No Limits" Middle Sausage
Weakfish 	May 13, 2009 Rich Bell Sinepuxent Bay	May 16, 2008 Nick Sharp Roosevelt Inlet	Bluefin Tuna 	May 23, 2009 Butch Bradshaw "DILLIGAF" Baltimore Canyon	April 11, 2008 Greg Hook "Stress Reel-ief" Wilmington Canyon
Flounder 	April 18, 2009 Bo Smeltzer "Gotta Jones" Verrazano Bridge	March 23, 2008 Preston Walls Rt. 90 Bridge	Yellowfin Tuna 	None Reported	May 25, 2008 Kevin King "Marli" Norfolk Canyon
Bluefish 	May 13, 2009 Henry Busby Bethany Surf	April 24, 2008 John Foreman Assateague Surf	Longfin Tuna 	None Reported	June 20, 2008 Jim Short "Not Right" Baltimore Canyon
Black Drum 	April 25, 2009 Chris Tenbusch Assateague Surf	April 24, 2008 Capt. Mac Simpson Assateague Surf	Bigeye Tuna 	None Reported	August 25, 2008 Bert Long "Lewestown Lady" Wilmington Canyon
Sheepshead 	May 23, 2009 Tassos Argyros Ocean Wreck	June 5, 2008 Joe Shaffer North Jetty	Dolphin 	May 21, 2009 Chuck Dammann "Restless Lady" Poorman's Canyon	May 25, 2008 Janan Mohamed "Marli" Norfolk Canyon
Thresher Shark 	 May 25, 2009 Ron Skenk "On Delivery" Lightship	May 24, 2008 Justin Michalski "Uptite" S.E. of Jackspot	Wahoo 	None Reported	July 1, 2008 Matt Migliore "Marli" Lumpy Bottom

To report your catch, call the Coastal Fisherman at 410-213-2200



Anthony Grayo of Smyrna, DE was surfcasting off the beach at Cape Henlopen State Park and hooked into this 12 lb. striper while using bunker for bait. Weighed at Henlopen Tackle in Lewes, DE.



On Sunday, Edward Richardson of Laurel, MD (third from left) caught his first mako shark while fishing on the "Stretchin' Lips" with Steve Frey, Daniel Hetrick, Jeff Wood, Robert Spillman and Capt. Edward Richardson, Sr. The 147 lb. mako ate a bluefish south of the Marine Electric where the group also released 5 blue sharks. Weighed at Ake Marine.

marlin → tuna → dolphin → wahoo → shark → bluefish

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Bob Hayes of Selbyville, DE spent an afternoon surf fishing off the beach in Fenwick Island and landed this 47-inch striped bass on a bunker head. Bob's striper weighed 34 lbs. on the scales at Hook'em & Cook'em Outfitters in South Bethany.



On Saturday, this group of anglers trolled the Hambone where they landed this bluefin tuna on a Stretch 30. They then headed out to 100 fathoms where they deep dropped for golden tilefish. Pictured are Norman Harrington, John Unkart, Bob Moore, Mo Summerlin and Capt. Josh Ruskey.



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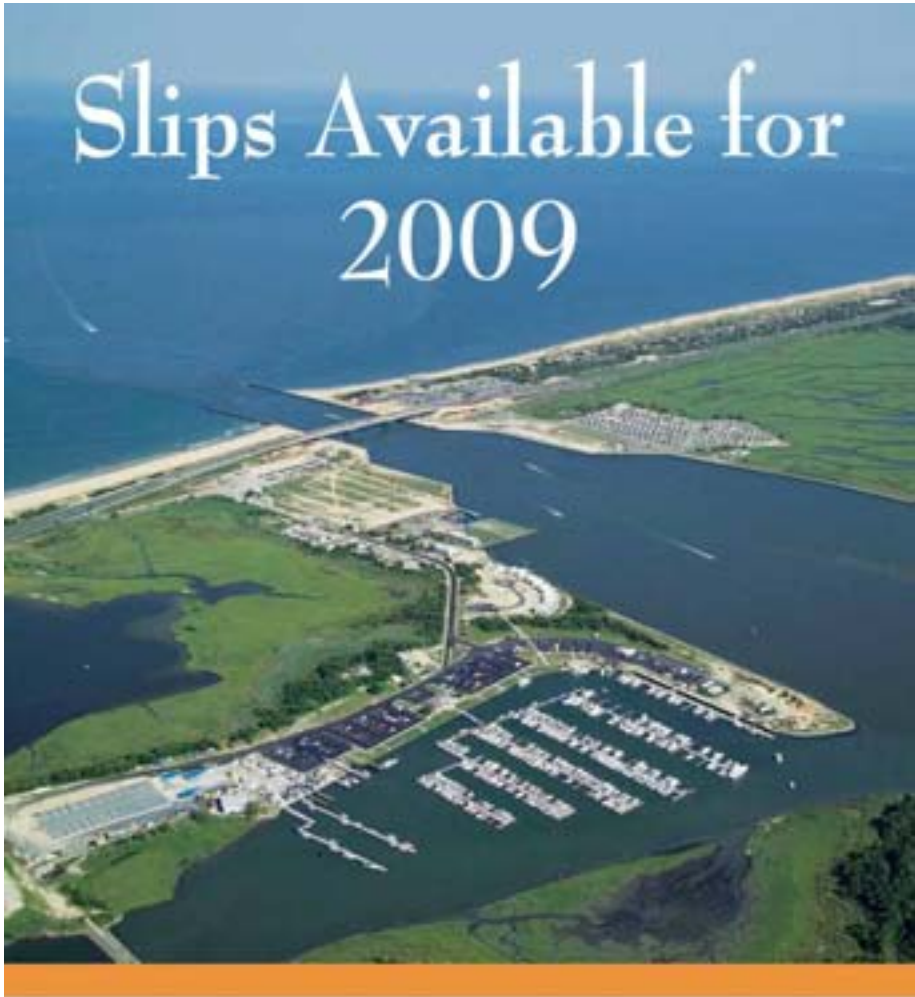
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Ship To Shore

by Pat Schrawder



VIDEO CHART DIFFERENCES

The situation with chart plotters today is that there are several of them on the market and they have various features that might make you select one over the other such as size, price, waterproofness, etc. But one of the main differences is the type and brand of chart they use.

When these electronic charts were first introduced, people took whatever chart came with the unit. Now that chart plotter units have all developed very similar designs and features, much of the focus has settled on the charts themselves.

Some manufacturers make the same model with the choice of chart style. There are two basic types

of charts, raster and vector. A raster chart is an exact duplication of the paper chart that was scanned to produce it. A vector chart is one that is produced in layers of information so that the operator can select the data they want to see and eliminate the rest.

The industry standard and the one that most boaters prefer is the vector chart. These vector charts are created from raster charts. They take a NOAA raster chart, redraw only the coastline information, then create individual layers of all other NOAA chart information such as spot soundings, depth contours, nav-aids, etc. The two major competitors in the market for most major brands are C-map and Navionics.

Navionics has consistently maintained that their charts are

more convenient for the user because they are "seamless" and redraw the screen image faster when zooming in from one area to another. C-Map maintains that this "seamless" technique sacrifices additional detail. Navionics believes that all the really important information is there.

Both C-Map and Navionics have enhanced charts that are impressive. They have taken their original charts and added to them special features. Navionics calls their best charts the "Platinum and Platinum Plus Series" and C-Map markets theirs as "NT+" Max and Max Pro. The list prices range from \$499 down to \$169 depending on the charts and the manufacturer.

Charts from both Navionics and C-Map contain some very similar features, each with their own little "twist" and nomenclature such as, Perspective 3D mode with pan & zoom; 3D and photographic chart views; Seamless coastal roads & points of interest; aerial photos & diagrams of marinas; Panoramic navigation photos & top down aerial photos; Dynamic Elevation data-land & bottom; 3D Bathymetric chart plotting; Fully animated tides & currents; Extended wrecks database; Marina port plans w/slip detail & facilities; Enhanced ports & service guide; Dynamic animated Nav-Aids; Geo referenced Coast Pilot Guide.

Last year, Furuno added their 3-D NavNet series to the mix - a unit that is preprogrammed with charts and needs no external chart card. However, the trade-off to giving you that data free is that

its source is the Federal Government map data that may lag behind the others until it is periodically updated.

Not all charts work with all units. So you have to be very careful when purchasing a plotter. If you have seen a chart that you like, check first to see with which units it will be compatible. Don't be fooled by first impressions either. There is no doubt that when you see a 3-D image on a display screen, it is truly impressive. The same could be said for the aerial views of ports and marinas. However, the fact that a chart contains these features does not necessarily mean they have them for the area where you do your boating. You would be well advised to see the actual chart for your area first.

Also, compare the price of the chart to your expected use. While the more expensive charts are pretty "snazzy", so is their price. You could argue that, once you've seen the aerial shot of the marina, you won't likely continue to look at it. Similarly, the 3-D view is a representation of the bottom contour based on depth readings. It is not the actual "real time" bottom display. We all know that seabed bottoms continually shift so be very careful to rely on your depth finder and not your 3-D plotter to keep from running aground.

Over time, I think all manufacturers of charts will continue to add features because the buying public will ask for them, even if they don't really use them. In the meantime, I would be reluctant to buy a plotter based solely on the chart. It is certainly a major factor but find the best plotter you can with the features you want and a brand name you trust. Then select the best chart for my area and, if it has everything you are likely to need, go enjoy it. There is every reason to think that you will be able to get a new chart later on that has some newer features and will allow you to update.

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




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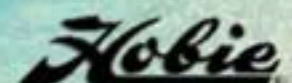
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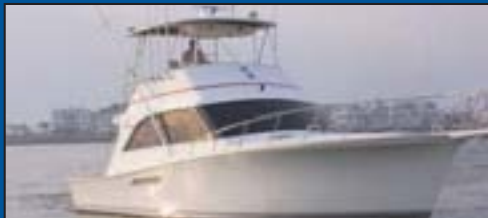


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(As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - ties go to first fish reported)

Species	Ocean City	Delaware	Species	Ocean City	Delaware
Sea Bass 	March 6, 2009 Noah Fowler Bow Mariner 7 lbs.	February 25, 2009 Paul Twilley Wilmington Canyon 7 lbs. 5 oz.	Mako Shark 	May 22, 2009 Jim Hughes "Nontypical" 185 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Tautog 	March 15, 2009 Capt. Kane Bounds "Judith M" 19 lbs. 8 oz.	May 3, 2009 Bill Gable "#1 Hooker" 14 lbs. 10 oz.	Thresher Shark  	May 31, 2009 Mike Weber Fingers 350 lbs.	 May 30, 2009 Louis Sartori Lightship 168.5 lbs.
Striped Bass 	May 17, 2009 Donald Hatfield Assateague Surf 45 lbs. 8 oz.	May 13, 2009 Derek Bair Indian River Inlet 35 lbs. 6 oz.	Cobia 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Weakfish 	May 16, 2009 Chris Tilghman Rt. 90 Bridge 7 lbs. 8 oz.	 May 24, 2009 Isaiah Ross Broadkill River 6 lbs. 8 oz.	Bluefin Tuna  	May 30, 2009 Jennifer Pettolina Pork Chop 39 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Speckled Trout 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Yellowfin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Flounder 	May 14, 2009 Scott Peters Thorofare 7 lbs. 12 oz.	 May 26, 2009 Joseph Parsons Indian River Inlet 9 lbs. 13 oz.	Longfin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Bluefish 	No Weights Reported	 May 24, 2009 Troy Schifflett 12 Fathom Lump 13 lbs. 13 oz.	Bigeye Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Sheepshead 	May 23, 2009 Tassos Argyros Ocean Wreck 8 lbs. 8 oz.	No Weights Reported	Dolphin 	May 21, 2009 Chuck Dammann "Restless Lady" 30 lbs.	May 24, 2009 Ron Frank "Da Chief" 19.6 lbs.
Black Drum 	No Weights Reported	 May 22, 2009 Anthony Lano Coral Beds 82.3 lbs.	Wahoo 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported

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



There was a good flounder bite throughout last week and Maria Kaleyias of Damascus, MD took advantage of it, catching this 21-incher while fishing on the "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe and Mate Serge Garder. The 3 lb. 8 oz. flattie was caught on a squid and minnow combination in the Thorofare and weighed at Bahia Marina.



Ben Wagner, age 2 1/2, from Fenwick Island, DE caught and released his first fish, a little snapper bluefish while fishing with his dad, Steve Wagner of Ocean Pines, MD. The bluefish was caught on a Rattletrap by the Hole in the Wall. Pictured at Ake Marine.



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Chum Lines

by Mark Sampson



A lot of folks probably remember back in the mid-to-late 90's when tuna chunking was so hot that fishermen were often able to attract blue and yellowfin tuna into feeding frenzies behind their boats. When the action was "right" it was as easy as sticking a butterfish on a hook, dropping it overboard, and WHAM you had one on! As much fun as it was to catch those fish, the most amazing thing to me was

the opportunity to witness free-swimming tuna gliding through the water as they eagerly snapped up chunks of baitfish just a few feet from the boat. It was an incredible sight that I would often point out to my charter clients and comment, "take a good look at all those fish and always remember what you're witnessing here, this is something you might never see again."

But at the time the tuna were so abundant, it was almost absurd to think that Delmarva anglers wouldn't always be able to enjoy such a strong and productive tuna fishery. Of course all things are subject to change, and even though our offshore tuna fishing can still be pretty darn good at times - it doesn't hold a candle to the way things used to be just a decade ago. Thinking back to how good we all had it, (particularly the season when we easily caught our daily limits of tuna just 16-miles out near the Twin Wrecks), I for one am glad I paused long enough to take it all in and contemplate and appreciate the wonderful opportunity I had as a fisherman to participate in such an incredible fishery.

Thoughts of those "glory days" of fishing came to mind last Monday as I sat in

attendance of the Memorial Day ceremony at the Worcester County Veterans Memorial in Ocean Pines. As the various narrators spoke of wars, battles, honor, freedom, and sacrifices, I couldn't help but connect the dots and come to the conclusion that the only reason we fishermen have the opportunity to enjoy and witness such sights such as a school of tuna feeding behind our boat, is because of all the heroic men and women who have served our country and made it a place where the rest of us can live safe, be happy, and have opportunity for recreational pursuits such as sport fishing. Think about all the countries around the world that are bordered by waters that, even if they were teeming with fish, the average citizen would still have no chance to go out and fish strictly for "fun" because they live under such poverty or oppression that the concept of doing anything for "recreation" is something they cannot even comprehend. Our country abounds in natural beauty and resources that are both the envy of the world and accessible to our citizens. For hundreds of years, members of our armed forces have suffered and sacrificed to ensure that this country and the way of life that it affords us all remains free from the perils others would impose upon us if they could.

The freedom to hunt and fish is something we sportsmen have probably taken too much for granted

because it's a privilege we've never been without. Imagine if our military slipped up and allowed the "bad guys" the opportunity to wreak havoc right here on our own soil. With all of our fellow countrymen struggling daily just to survive there wouldn't be much recreational hunting or fishing going on, and you can bet that if we ever fell under the rule of some dictator we'd no longer have the right to bear arms or cruise around wherever we wanted in our fishing boats and four-wheelers. There's a lot of bad people in this world that would deny us those rights if given the chance. Thank God our military has taken the fight to them and kept the conflict "over there" so that we can live the lives we do in the United States. Our country might be going through some tough times right now - but things could surely be a whole lot worse!

A few weeks ago I had another sobering moment when I had an illness that put me in the hospital for almost a week. Believe me, when you go from feeling fine to flat on your back, with more wires and hoses sticking out of you than Frankenstein on a stormy night, you sure do appreciate the thought of someday having not a care in the world other than whether or not the fish are going to bite. We all know sportsmen who will never again have the opportunity to set foot on a boat, sit in a duck blind, or climb into a tree stand, and regardless of how young or healthy we might be, none of us knows if or when we might be overcome by accident or illness ourselves. Things happen, things change and suddenly the good life we had always known and took for granted can take a dramatic turn for the worse and might never be the same again.

I can still visualize beautiful summer days when 200 boats would be anchored up on the Jackspot and everyone was catching tuna.

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Back then we couldn't imagine the action ever coming to an end, but things changed and here we are! As we plow headlong into yet another fishing season that will certainly provide Delmarva anglers with a multitude of experiences, I hope that anglers will pause now and again to ponder and appreciate each moment for what it is. Just as God grants us the good health we need to enjoy the magnificent world He created, for generations our service men and women have fought and died to ensure that we'll always live in a country that allows its citizens the opportunity to enjoy life and recreation as we do. Hopefully we'll always appreciate what we have when we have it, and never take any of our blessings for granted.

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



Roger Guiderian from Claymont, DE reeled in this 35-inch striper in the Broadkill Slough after hooking it on a bloodworm. The fish weighed 12 lbs. 13 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE.



Christopher Harrison, Jr. landed this 19-inch flounder while drifting a Gulp! artificial bait in the Rehoboth Bay. Photo courtesy of Rattle & Reel Sporting Center.

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Alyssa Gerben of Berlin, MD caught her very first flounder while fishing on the "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and Mate Ben Pollmeier. Alyssa hooked the 20-inch flattie on a minnow and squid combination in the bay near Harbor Island. Pictured with Alyssa on the dock at the Ocean City Fishing Center is Jordan Hilty and Sophia Rivera.



The "Topless" out of Greenbackville, VA ventured south to a warm water eddy off the coast of Oregon Inlet and captured a mako shark and a yellowfin tuna on the troll. After setting up for the night, the crew released 2 more makos and a hammerhead shark. The next morning they caught a dolphin before heading home. Pictured are Bill Littora, Capt. Perry Romig, Mike Pruitt and Curt Conley. Not pictured is Mate Kyle Krabill.



Steve Rounds of Ocean Pines, MD was trolling a squid and minnow combination in the Ocean City Inlet when he hooked into this 26-inch flounder. Steve was fishing on the "Sod Bank" with Chris Jensen of Ocean Pines, MD.

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Virginia Fishing Report

by Dr. Julie Ball



On the fishing front, the Memorial Day weekend was a success along Mid-Atlantic waters. Although not outstanding as it was mid-month, the drum action has returned to a more normal pattern, which is still good. Regardless of the state of the bite, anglers are roosting on the Eastern Shore shoals hoping for a chance to tangle with a big drum.

Black drum are still biting off Cape Charles near buoys 10, 13, and 16 where fish to over 80 lbs.



Matt Powell of West Ocean City, MD went fishing in the Hog Island Bay with his dad, Jim Powell and Dave Warren. Matt caught and released this black drum, estimated to weigh 60 lbs., after hooking it on a chunk of clam.

were boated lately. Chowder clams and sea clams are still the top baits. We are on the downward trend for catching these brutes from these areas; they will soon disperse to the four artificial islands and the 9-foot shoal area of the CBBT. Big red drum are still roaming the shoals and breakers off Fisherman's Island and within the Inlet, especially at night. Blue crab has worked well all season.

The prelude to the summer fishing pattern is right on target with the arrival of one of the most anticipated warm water residents, the cobia. Scattered hookups and confirmed sightings around the lower bay are just the beginning as these covert hunters quietly glide into local waters. Sheepshead are also

making a low-key debut, as scattered reports trickle in of incidental catches mostly by drum and surf anglers.

Spadefish are appearing at the Chesapeake Light Tower, inshore wrecks, and lower bay structures, with a few fish already boated. Water temperatures need to inch up a few more degrees for the action to really take off. The best is yet to come with the spadefish.

Flounder action is still frustrating anglers. Folks are catching flatfish, but finding fish that meet the 19-inch minimum is a challenge. The best catches of keepers are coming from near the small boat channel area of the CBBT and the Cell, where one boat caught five fish ranging from 7 to 8 lbs. this week.

Striped bass are still making up for the flounder shortage, with catches of rockfish to 44-inches coming from the HRBT and the islands of the CBBT. Snapper bluefish in the 5 to 8 lb. range are everywhere in local waters, which can make catching anything else a challenge.

As for bottom fishing, croaker are active throughout the lower Bay. Medium-sized hard heads are available off Little Creek, along the CBBT and the along the HRBT. Larger fish are available near the Cell. Pier anglers are also catching good numbers of hardheads weighing up to a pound off the Sea Gull Fishing Pier at the First Island. A few keeper sized speckled trout and snapper bluefish are still biting within Rudee Inlet. Puppy drum are a sure thing within both Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlets, as well as along the lower Bay surf lines, where most any lure is working. Boats are finding very good round head action off the Concrete Ships lately, with most fish pushing to just under a pound.

The deep dropping scene is still good if you want to make the run out to 50-fathoms or more. Boats making a go are rewarded with excellent catches of big blueline and golden tilefish, grouper, and blackbelly rosefish. Captain Skip Feller expertly guided his crew out of the Fishing Center on a recent recreational trip, and loaded up with super-sized grouper, blueline tilefish, and golden tiles weighing up to 50 lbs.

The offshore trolling scene is just getting rolling, with gaffer-sized dolphin stealing the glory. Boats are also finding a smattering of yellowfin tuna, mako sharks, blue marlin, and wahoo in the mix. Captain Mike Standing had a good week aboard the "Waterman", running out of the Fishing Center. Captain Mike returned to the dock each day with yellowfin tuna, mako sharks, wahoo, and up to 50 mahi-mahi, weighing to over 25-pounds. Roark Linn of Gloucester had the biggest fish of the week with his 31-pound gaffer. This trend will only improve, as long as the warm water stays around.

Dr. Julie Ball is the I.G.F.A. Representative for Virginia Beach, VA. You can find Dr. Julie's reports at www.drjball.com.

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Jeff Eby was surf fishing with Kyle Krabill off Cedar Island, a barrier island off of Virginia, when he landed his first black drum on a peeler crab at the start of the incoming tide.

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3. Set your camera to the best quality and largest picture size settings available.
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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.*



Lee Conklin of Lewes, DE muscled in this 26.5-inch flounder while drifting a spoon at Massey's Landing. The fish tipped the scales at 6 lbs. 14 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop.

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Steve Dorfler caught this sailfish during a trip to Costa Rica with Steve Peterson, Dave Rogerson and Larry Cheyney. The anglers fished with Capt. Howard Lynch on the "Tuna Bite" and over 4 consecutive days of fishing, recorded a grand slam on 3 of the days. The tally after the 4th day of fishing was 1 black marlin, 2 blue marlin, 11 striped marlin, 9 sailfish and a couple of big dolphin.



Little Austin from Baltimore, MD won the fish pool on the "Angler" with this 4 lb. sea bass. Austin was fishing with Capt. Chris Mizurak and Mates Dean Lo and Matt Temple at the Great Eastern Reef and caught his money fish on a strip of squid.



David Harring of Tremont, PA, Mark Swinehart from Pitman, PA, Bill Hass of Elysburg, PA and Willie Norton from Annapolis, MD caught some good size sea bass during a trip on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mates Rich Silvani and Tucker Colquhoun. All of the fish were caught on clams on a natural reef and Willie's sea bass won the pool, weighing 4 lbs. 8 oz. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Jenn Pettolina of West Ocean City, MD muscled in this 39 lb. bluefin tuna while fishing on the "Blackjack" with her husband, Franky Pettolina, Danielle Schline, Capt. Eric Schline and Mate John Adams. The bluefin was caught on a trolled cedar plug 7 miles south of the Hambone at the Pork Chop. The anglers also released 9 blue sharks at the Hambone. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

M.S.S.A and Ocean Pines Angler's Club Flounder Frenzy



The Maryland Saltwater Sportsmen's Association and the Ocean Pines Angler Club held their Flounder Frenzy Tournament over the Memorial Day Weekend. Bill Walsh (top) took first place honors with a 26-inch caught in the bay behind Assateague Island. Jim Giles won second place with a 24.5-inch flounder and Dave Rippi won third place with a 23.5 inch.

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Sam Griffith of York, PA caught two flounder while fishing on the "Pony Island Express" with Capt. Howard Cleaver and Mate Matt Graves. The fish, measuring 18 and 22-inches, were caught in the East Channel on live minnows. Pictured at Old Town Marina.

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It was “Shark Sunday” off our coast and the “Gag Order” was there to catch this thresher shark that weighed 289 lbs. gutted. Bob O’Malley of Ocean Pines, MD and Gene Palese of Baltimore, MD teamed up to land the shark while fishing with Capt. Joe Thurlow in 70-feet of water, east of the Jackspot. The thresher hit a whole bluefish and was weighed at Ake Marine.



On Sunday, the Jim Kirk on the “Tuna Box” captured this 180 lb. mako shark during a trip with Capt. Shane Heimer and Mate Don Reynolds. The mako took a mackerel fillet in 20 fathoms behind the Jackspot and fought Jim for 20 minutes before getting to the boat. Capt. Shane reported the water temperature at 65-degrees. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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For Membership or more information about the Marlin Club Summer Tournament Series please contact the club: Ocean City Marlin Club • 9659 Golf Course Rd. • Ocean City, MD 21842



Dave Wisniewski from Westminster, MD reeled in this 69.9 lb. black drum at the Pin Top with Capt. Carey Evans on the "Grizzly". Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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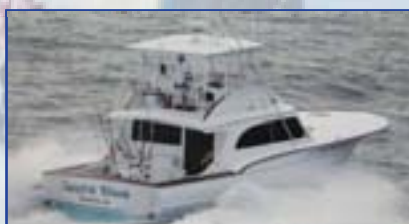
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"Morning Star" Mate Tucker Colquhoun, sporting a safety helmet after a career threatening fall off a stationary bike at the gym, along with Capt. Monty Hawkins, arrived back at the dock with a nice catch of sea bass. Marvin "Shark Bait" Rucker of Annandale, VA led the pack with a 4 lb. 8 oz. sea bass while Nareg Khachadorian of North Potomac, MD reeled in one weighing 3 lbs. 12 oz. Both fish were caught at an ocean wreck on chunks of clam. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Back in January, John Yoder of Dover, DE took a trip to the Baltimore Canyon aboard the "On Delivery" with Capt. Mike Rivera and caught this 29-inch, 7 lb. 2 oz. sea bass on a strip of squid.



Carroll Cockran and Andie McCullars, both from Cambridge, MD found clean water and a good flounder bite while fishing on the "Stag Hound" with Kelly McCullars and Capt. Bruce McGuigan. The fish measured between 18.5 and 19.25-inches and were caught on Assateague Tackle Delmarva Double Flounder Rigs in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport. Photo courtesy of Capt. Mac's Bait & Tackle in Fenwick Island, DE.

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Jennifer Blunt of Ocean Pines, MD caught and released this blue marlin, estimated to weigh 150 lbs., while fishing on the "Shotgun" out of Los Sueños, Costa Rica in early May. The fish was hooked on a black Moldcraft Wide Range lure and took over 25 minutes to get to the boat.



Dillon Mitchell landed this 6 lb. 2 oz. flounder, measuring 25.25-inches in the Bill's Sport Shop Flounder Tournament.

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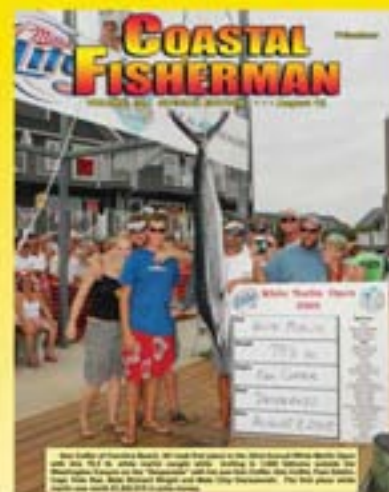
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TIDES & MOON PHASES

OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. June 3	Low 11:03 am Low -----	High 05:16 am High 05:52 pm
Thurs. June 4	Low 12:06 am Low 11:51 am	High 06:06 am High 06:38 pm
Fri. June 5	Low 12:58 am Low 12:36 pm	High 06:53 am High 07:22 pm
Sat. June 6	Low 01:42 am Low 01:19 pm	High 07:36 am High 08:03 pm
Sun. June 7 Full Moon	Low 02:22 am Low 02:00 pm	High 08:19 am High 08:46 pm
Mon. June 8	Low 03:01 am Low 02:41 pm	High 09:01 am High 09:27 pm
Tues. June 9	Low 03:39 am Low 03:21 pm	High 09:44 am High 10:09 pm
Wed. June 10	Low 04:18 am Low 04:02 pm	High 10:26 am High 10:50 pm

These are Ocean City, MD tides at the Ocean City Inlet.

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

Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high 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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Fenwick, DE

Captain Mac's Bait & Tackle • Fenwick Bait & Tackle
Uncle Willies • Mini Mart • Mancini's Italian Restaurant
Harris Teeter • North Bay Marina

Indian River, DE

Hook'em & Cook'em • Indian River Marina

Bethany / Millville / Ocean View, DE

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~ MAY ~

Bill's Sport Shop Flounder Tournament

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~ JUNE ~

13th Annual Mid-Atlantic Mako Mania

June 5-7 • Bahia Marina
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51st Annual Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament

June 6-13 • Morehead City, NC
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29th Annual South Jersey Shark Tournament

June 11-14 • Cape May, NJ
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29th Annual Ocean City Shark Tournament

June 18-20 • OC Fishing Center
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Baby Grand ~ 52' Carolina Ricky Scarborough. 2003 DD 765 hp 892 DDC III. 2SR/2HD layout. Very clean. Great fuel economy. Call Ben



Justified ~ 48' 1988 Ocean. Proven fish raiser. Constant maintenance program. Motivated seller. Call Jimmy



Pretty Work ~ 43' Whitticar 1974. 490 C series. Good electronics. New Awlgrip '06-08. Classic ride. Call Jimmy



Wirenut ~ 45' Chris Craft Commander. Rebuilt GM 8V71 TI w/low hours. Rybovich tower, chair & riggers. Call Jimmy



Oil's Well ~ 44' 1991 Garlington. 460hp Luggers, economical 25gph fuel burn. Teak interior. Many '07 updates. 2 boat owner. Call Jimmy



Out of Bounds ~ 41' Viking. Twin 450 hp GM6-71 Detroit. Constant maintenance, transmissions. Transmissions rebuilt in '08. Call Jimmy



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30' 1983 Rybo Runner – Call Jimmy

23' 2004 Polar/Dynasty – Call Steve