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COASTAL FISHERMAN

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Last Saturday, the first thresher shark of the season was caught by a group of anglers from Pittsburgh, PA while fishing on the charter boat, "Over-Board" with Capt. Dustin Lorah and mate Rick Fritz. The anglers all took turns fighting the 153-inch, 296 lb. male shark after it ate a whole mackerel in 50-feet of water at the Jackspot where Capt. Dustin found water temperatures hovering around 58.5-degrees. Before they hit the Jackspot, the group ventured a little further offshore where they caught 60 keeper black sea bass. Pictured are Tristan Smith, John Henry, Jerome Smith, Jonathan Tantlinger and John Boyle. Weighed at Capt. Kerry's Seaborn Seafood in West Ocean City.



Danny Cox of Berlin, MD was looking incredibly patriotic when he boated this pair of flounder while fishing with minnows in the Thorofare. The flatties measured 18 1/2 and 19-inches. Making Fishing Great Again!



The first mako shark of the year was caught last Saturday by angler Brandon Malamphy while fishing on the "FINATIC" with Mike Rasmus and Capt. Mark Malamphy. The 74-inch, 140 lb. male shark was hooked on a bluefish head in 70-fathoms in the Wilmington Canyon. Weighed at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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While soaking clams shortly after high tide in the suds off Assateague Island, angler Colin Soper from Towson, MD captured this 38-inch striped bass.



Last Friday, Daryl Mergenthaler from Delaware City, DE must have been happy that black the sea bass season opened on the 15th when he caught this knothead that weighed 4 lbs. on the boat scale. The fish ate a hunk of squid in 70-feet of water at the African Queen during a trip aboard the charter boat, "Fish Bound" with Capt. Kane Bounds and mate Kevin Twilley.

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The first weakfish of the season was caught by Jackson Chin of Ocean View, DE while fishing with clams in the Indian River Inlet. The 22-inch weakie weighed 4 lbs. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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FISHING REPORT

by Larry Jock



This Week Last Year

- bad weather washed out the weekend.
- sea bass season opened on May 15th. Best spots were Great Eastern, San Gil, Marine Electric and Jackspot.
- anglers pecked at flounder in the Thorofare.
- bluefish were caught in OC Inlet and around the South Jetty and also during the incoming tide around Rt. 50 Bridge.
- hardly any stripers caught in the surf. Only bluefish and black drum.

It has been a very windy and rainy spring, but nice weather rolled in, the boatyards were hopping and there were a lot of anglers on the water. If we get some nice weather for this weekends Memorial Day

holiday, it could be incredible at the scales!

Bluefish

We have to start off the report with everyone's toothy bay critter... the bluefish. They certainly have been a godsend for anglers this season. Although the incoming tide seems to produce the best action, snappers continue to be caught on both tides and at every possible location in the bay behind Ocean City. We really haven't seen or heard of many bluefish behind Assateague, but that could just be due to the fact that they are so numerous in the Inlet and by the Rt. 50 Bridge that there is no need to go south. We even saw a few caught up in the Thorofare last week.

Although the fish in the bay have been small-to-medium size, Ed Balcerzak reported that he was fishing around the Rt.

50 Bridge last Thursday, which is tough to do right now with all the work being done, and he hooked into a bluefish that he said was every bit of 15 lbs. Unfortunately, it came loose during the fight. He also reported a load of shad in the bay and small stripers by the bridge.

Larger bluefish were caught by anglers fishing off the beach on Assateague Island and North Ocean City.

Most anglers are tossing Gotcha plugs or bucktails to the snappers, but really anything will work on these fish when they are biting. Spec rigs, shiny lures, topwater plugs, meat, etc.

Flounder

The flounder bite has slowed down over the last couple of weeks, especially in the Thorofare. This could be a cycle or they headed for the hills when the bluefish stormed the bay. Anglers on the charter boat, "Get Sum" had good trips on Saturday when they returned with 6 keepers in the morning and another 9 in the afternoon. The biggest fish of the day measured 18 3/4-inches. Fish were caught on both tides while using white Gulp Swimming Mulletts for bait. The morning group got their fish in the bay behind Assateague and around the sandbar located south of the Rt. 50 Bridge. In the afternoon, they headed for the Thorofare where Capt. Nick said that he had 63-degree water.

Striped Bass

Small schoolies continue to be caught around all the bridges and around the South Jetty. We also saw an improvement (which isn't saying much) in the striper bite in the suds off Assateague and Ocean City.

Weakfish

We haven't seen the first weakfish caught out of Ocean City this season, but there was one just caught in the Indian River Inlet, so keep an eye out in local waters.

Sea Bass

The black sea bass season opened on May 15th. It started out rocky with snotty seas that morning making it difficult for many anglers to hold down their breakfast. When things settled down, the bite was good. Since last Wednesday, we saw numerous boats return to the dock with their limit of sea bass (15 per person). Most were fishing with squid and clams and the top locations seemed to be a good ways off the beach in 120 to 150-feet of water. We saw a 5 pounder caught up in Delaware and the largest one we have seen so far come out of Ocean City was a 4 pounder caught on the charter boat, "Fish Bound" at the African Queen.

Tautog

The Maryland tautog season is closed from May 16th to June 30th, but before it shut down we saw a few really nice fish caught on ocean structure. Rich Bizzari led the way when he caught and released a fat, 14 lb. female in 60-feet of water during a trip aboard the "Fish Bound".

Sharks

As you saw on the cover of this weeks issue, the first

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LARRY JOCK, EDITOR AND PUBLISHER
MARY JOCK, VICE PRESIDENT
TOM JOCK, VICE PRESIDENT, GRAPHIC DESIGN
MAUREEN "MAMA" JOCK, PROOFREADER
LARRY JOCK III, DELIVERY ASSISTANT

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thresher shark of the season arrived at the scale last Saturday when a group of anglers aboard the charter boat, "Over-Board" caught a 296 pounder in 50-feet of water near the Jackspot. The 153-inch fish ate a whole mackerel and took 2 hours to get to the boat.

Also on Saturday, we saw the first mako shark of the season hit a local scale after angler Brandon Malamphy muscled in a 74-inch, 140 pounder. Brandon was fishing on the "FINATIC" when he hooked the mako on a bluefish head in 60 fathoms in the Wilmington Canyon.

Bluefin Tuna & Mahi

A weather window on Saturday allowed several boats to head to the Wilmington Canyon where they found bluefins snapping. Almost everyone got their "under" fish (27" < 47") and a few even got their "over" (47" < 73") fish as well. The charter boat, "Marli" trolled in 125 fathoms and caught 3 bluefins between 32 and 34-inches in addition to a 53-incher. Anglers on the

"Bonnie Lynn" went on an overnigher on Saturday to the Wilmington Canyon and caught a pair of "under" bluefins, a mahi and lost a mako at the boat.

On Sunday, the conditions were snotty in the morning but after a squall rolled through, the seas laid out. Anglers on the charter boat, "Bubblehead" ventured out to the Wilmington Canyon where they caught 3 keeper bluefins, a skippy and a mahi in 75 fathoms. Anglers on the "Reel Precision" fished between the Spencer and the Wilmington Canyons and went 17 for 25 on bluefins. They also caught an 11 lb. mahi.

Upcoming Tournament

This weekend is the 10th Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Memorial Day Tournament on May 25th and 26th. Anglers can fish 1 out of 2 days and you do not have to be a Marlin Club member to fish in the tournament. Weigh-ins are at Sunset Marina on both days from 4:30 PM to 7:00 PM.

Until next week, I'll see you at the scales!

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Jeff Dunlap was fishing with Addy and Jody Dunlap when he muscled in this pair of flounder, measuring 19 1/2 and 22-inches, after hooking them on minnows and Gulp in the Thorofare.

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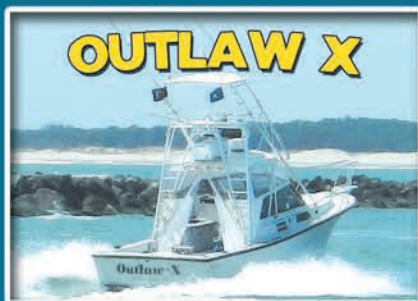
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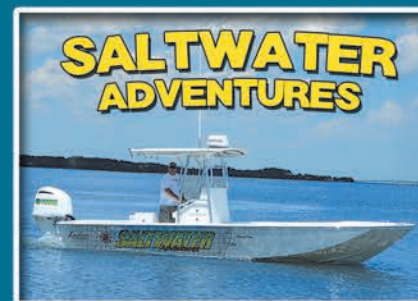
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NOAA Fisheries Revises 2019 Summer Flounder Specifications

NOAA announced increases to the summer flounder catch and landings limits for the 2019 fishing year in response to new information from a benchmark stock assessment.

Final assessment results became available to managers in February 2019. The assessment included the incorporation of revised Marine Recreational Information Program estimates of recreational catch,

which has an important impact on estimated spawning stock biomass for summer flounder. The assessment determined that the summer flounder stock is not overfished and overfishing is not occurring, enabling anglers to increase catch and landing limits for 2019.

Acceptable Biological Catch
in millions of pounds:

Previous = 15.41

Revised = 25.03

Variance = +62%

Commercial Harvest Quota
in millions of pounds*:

Previous = 6.67

Revised = 10.98

Variance = +65%

Recreational Harvest Quota
in millions of pounds:

Previous = 5.15

Revised = 7.69

Variance = +49%

*After accountability measures have been applied.

This action also revises the previous commercial fishery accountability measures in response to the improved status of the stock. NOAA is revising the previously implemented accountability measure for a 2017 overage from 1.04 million pounds to 547,000 pounds. With this new accountability measure applied, the commercial Annual Catch Target is reduced from 13.53 to 12.98 million pounds. Commercial state allocations for summer flounder are also revised.

This action does not change the current commercial management measures, including the minimum fish size (14-inch total length), gear

requirements and possession limits. The 2019 recreational management measures for summer flounder are being developed in a separate concurrent action, but according to local officials, the 2019 recreational flounder regulations are unlikely to change.

Maryland Sets 2019 Recreational Cobia Regulations

The season, catch limit and minimum size for the recreational cobia fishery in Maryland State waters will be:

- The season is open June 1 through September 30, 2019. It is closed all other dates.

- Recreational anglers may keep 1 cobia per person per day or up to 3 cobia per vessel per day if there are 3 or more individuals on the vessel.

The recreational minimum size for cobia is 40-inches total length.

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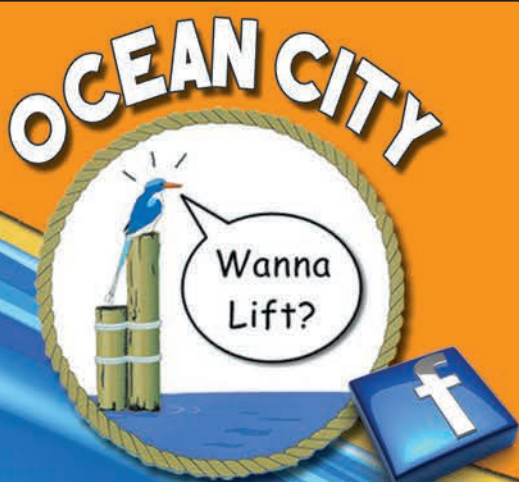
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Chris Clasing and Richard Crosariol teamed up to catch a 16 3/4-inch flounder and 15 keeper bluefish that ranged in size from 15 to 28-inches. The action took place at the end of the incoming tide and during most of the outgoing. The keeper flounder was caught in the East Channel, north of the Rt. 50 Bridge and they also hooked 3 throwbacks in the Thorofare that were spitting up grass shrimp when they got them into the boat. Once the flounder bite stopped, the anglers hit the sandbar, north of the Rt. 50 Bridge and caught the blues on Gotcha plugs and jig heads tipped with Gulp. Their largest bluefish weighed an even 6 lbs.





It looked like a beautiful day to go surfcasting off Broadkill Beach and Charlie Golden (pictured) and Adam May made the most of it, hooking 20 boomers in the suds, including this 44 pounder that was fooled with sand fleas before being released.



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Last Friday, anglers on the headboat, "Morning Star" put a whooping on black sea bass that were living on Ocean City Reef Foundation's Will Hathaway Memorial Reef with a few returning with their limit of 15 fish. Fishing with Capt. Monty Hawkins were Paul Kinsinger, Harry Carl and Eric Bechtel from Harrisburg, PA, Chuck Burnham from Bel Air, MD, Caesar Saunders from Delran, NJ, Ron Fuller from Poolsville, MD, Tim Thomas from Frederick, MD, Rob Fleming from Delmar, DE, Nick Poe from Gibson City, IL, Richie Katz from Reading, PA and Mike Grutter from Warren County, VA. The "Morning Star" is docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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by Steve Katz
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Waypoints

Over 20 years ago boaters began putting away their paper navigational charts and started using electronic chartplotters. Gone from modern day boat designs is the chart table, where a captain would mark his destination on a chart then using parallels, protractor etc., calculate his current location and a course to the destination.

Today, captains have lists of hundreds, if not thousands, of waypoints or stopping points on the water. Years ago, these waypoints were carefully written down by hand in the captain's logbook and carefully guarded when favorite fishing spots were marked. These waypoints may have also made up a route to help travel the safest and shortest path between ports. This book of waypoints hasn't changed, just the format and they are now saved in the memory of the GPS chartplotter. The chartplotter is a great place to store your waypoints, most importantly they are quickly available for

retrieval and immediate navigation using the chartplotter to calculate your course and keep you on that course for the duration of the voyage. The chartplotter can show you a graphical representation of the waypoints overlaid on a chart and it can also display the waypoints in a list that is sortable in many ways.

Okay, so most of our readers already know this and many may have begun boating while only using waypoints saved in a chartplotter. It isn't that unusual for marine electronics companies around the world to get that frantic phone call, "My waypoints are gone!"

In talking with customers, we often hear the same stories, I was updating my chartplotter and there was a power surge. The chartplotter won't start up. Lightning struck near my boat. I connected a new device on my navigational network. A friend was helping me... the stories are all similar. An unexpected event occurs and hundreds, or even thousands, of waypoints may be lost forever.

The phone calls that

electronics companies do not get are from the captains who regularly backup their waypoints and have them available to use in the event of an emergency.

What is the best way to backup and save a copy of electronic waypoints? Well that depends, and we will review a few solid methods every captain should use.

The best method is to purchase a compatible electronic storage media device that is compatible with your brand, model, vintage and software version of the marine chartplotter. Yes, there are differences that can cause you to run into problems finding or using compatible storage media. For example, the older Raymarine E120 uses a CF or CompactFlash card and Raymarine recommends SanDisk brand CF memory cards having a capacity of between 32MB and 256MB. Even new cards meeting the requirements are not always compatible! Looking at a popular, older Garmin chartplotter, the GPSMAP 4xxx and 5xxx series needed a full size SD card 2GB or smaller, unless the software was higher than 4.1, then you could use up to a 32GB memory card. Try finding a 2GB SD card. They are scarce these days.

Some of the newer marine chartplotters have the ability

to save waypoints to a USB device, such as a memory stick in addition to a traditional memory card. With the use of Wi-Fi, many chartplotters can transfer waypoints to an app on a smartphone, tablet or laptop. Some chartplotters can be configured to create a wired connection between a laptop computer and the chartplotter to copy the data.

It is best to use a new memory card for the storage of your waypoints. Do not save your waypoint to your expensive chart card or there could be problems causing you to lose the chart data or your waypoints.

Why is all this so complicated? Take a picture! Yes, you could always take a picture of the waypoints on the screen or even handwrite them if needed.

Now that you have a backup, what's next? You need to confirm that the data on the backup memory card is accurate. Did all of the waypoints get copied? What is the format? There are a couple of ways to check that your data is on the card. One quick way is to re-insert the card into your machine and see if the machine recognizes the card and "sees" your waypoints. Do not begin to transfer or overwrite the chartplotter data. Just get the chartplotter to "look" at the memory card. This may not

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tell you much about the data, though it is a good first step, especially if you do not have any other resources.

A more thorough method is to take the memory card with your saved waypoints and put it into a computer that has software that can read the waypoint file. This way you can confirm each and every waypoint has copied to the card and that the data is accurate.

Some chartplotters often give you an option for the type of data format you would like to use to save your waypoints. Generally, the machines native format is best if you plan to use the data as a backup for your existing hardware. If you are using the waypoint data to load into another brand of hardware or even newer generations, often saving the data in a generic format, like GPX (the GPS Exchange Format, a lightweight XML data format) is a good idea for cross platform compatibility. There are GPS

data conversion software programs available if you need to work with your data. It is a good idea to save your data in a few formats if possible.

So you have a good waypoint backup, what's next? Make another one! Yes, keep at least two good copies. Safely store one on the boat and one at your home or office. Is that all? No, you should regularly update your backups to keep up with the changes you have made to your waypoints in the chartplotter. Most systems will allow you to name the backup file and store multiple back-up files on one memory card. This way you will have a historical record of the past few years of your data, just in case you deleted a good waypoint and didn't realize it for a few years until you got back to that area.

Creating back-up copies is not the only reason to learn how to save waypoints. Captains with thousands of waypoints see their screen cluttered and may need to

manage their waypoints, deleting used or unneeded points. One Captain had so many waypoints he exceeded the capacity of the chartplotter. He was able to back-up and delete by geographic region, saving his waypoint data with the region name and re-loading them only when he needed them in that area.

There are many reasons a Captain may want to back-up or manage their waypoints. Obtaining the proper hardware, confirming your technique works and keeping the data fresh will ensure a quick recovery if needed and avoid that dreaded feeling of an empty waypoint list.

Captain Steve Katz is the owner of Steve's Marine Service and holds NMEA, AMEI and NMEA2000 certificates along with ABYC Master Technician certification and factory training from many manufacturers. To reach Steve, call 410-231-3191.

May 22, 2019 Coastal Fisherman Page 15



John Kenyon from Lewes, DE was tossing topwater plugs in the surf between the Cape Henlopen Pier and Herring Point when he hooked this pair of chopper bluefish. The fish weighed 6 lbs. and 13 lbs. on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Last Friday, Mike Culley from Laurel, DE and Aaron Jones from Salisbury, MD joined Big Bird Cropper for a day on the water and returned with 30 bluefish in the box, all caught on Roy Rigs around the sandbar, north of the Rt. 50 Bridge. Their largest bluefish weighed 7 lbs. 15 oz. and was caught in 63-degree water. They also hooked a dozen throwback stripers during their trip.



Adam May was fishing with sand fleas off Broadkill Beach when he caught and released this 41 lb. black drum.

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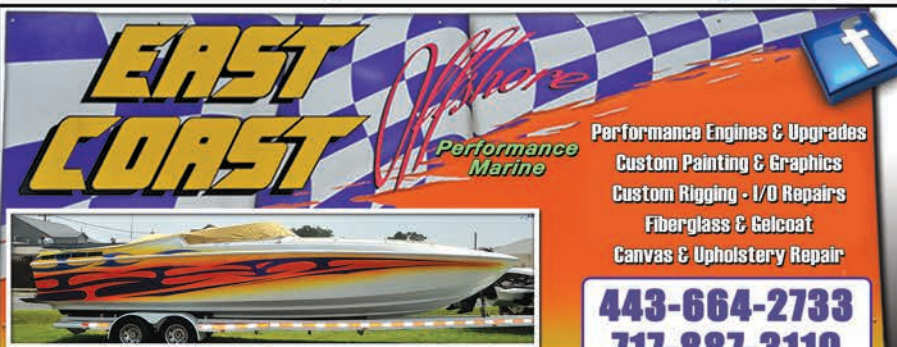
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This 12 lb. tautog was caught by Frank Whang while fishing on the charter boat, "Fish Bound" with Capt. Kane Bounds and mate Kevin Twilley. Frank fooled the big tog with a green crab in 45-feet of water.



Lee McAteer from West Ocean City, MD is all smiles after hooking this chopper bluefish while jigging bucktails in the Ocean City Inlet. This was Luke's first bluefish of the season!

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On Sunday morning, Marc Turner was fishing off 124th Street in Ocean City when he released bluefish ranging in size between 16 and 17-inches. All were caught while using fresh bunker for bait.



On Sunday, Danielle and Courtney Riffe had a great day of sea bass fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins. The sisters ended their day with 28 nice knotheads in the box. This was Danielle's first fishing trip ever and it was highlighted by 4 doubleheaders of keeper sea bass caught on squid and clams. She's going to think every trip is that easy!




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FISHING CHARTERS



The flounder bite was so good last Saturday for anglers fishing on the charter boat, "Get Sum" that even those wearing pink sunglasses could hook one! Fishing with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Marshall Freng were Jason Doody, Chris Watson, Willie Pfitzenmeyer, Anthony Watson, Jason Baptiste and Kevin Biggers. They ended their trip with 9 keeper flounder in the box after drifting white Gulp Swimming Mulletts in the Thorofare. Their 3 largest flounder each measured 18 3/4-inches and were caught during the outgoing tide. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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FISHING CHARTERS



This fat female tautog made the mistake of going after the green crab that Rich Bizzari dropped on ocean structure in 60-feet of water during a trip aboard the charter boat, "Fish Bound" with Capt. Kane Bounds and mate Kevin Twilley. The conservation minded angler released the 14 lb. fish to spawn out. The "Fish Bound" is docked at the Talbot Street Pier.



Ted Proseus from Millsboro, DE shows off the 3 lb. black sea bass he caught while dropping a jig over a natural ocean reef. Ted was fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Rich Fouts and Dean Lo.

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FISHING CHARTERS



On the opening day of black sea bass season, Tom Lane caught this 21 1/2-inch while jigging over ocean structure. Tom was fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins.



Last Friday, Mike Geisler, Bobby Almony, Sr. & Jr., Jeff Slifer, Joel Rensberger and Ron Wallace caught 90 keeper black sea bass while fishing with squid and clams at the Great Eastern Reef. The guys ventured out on the "Jezebel" with Capt. Chester Sadowski and mate Tim Kane. Their largest fish measured 3 lbs. 6 oz.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Tye Waters dropped a 1 oz. jig onto a wreck sunk in 70-feet of water and hooked this 11 lb. tautog during a trip aboard the charter boat, "Fish Bound" with Capt. Kane Bounds and mate Kevin Twilley.



While fishing off the beach in North Ocean City last week, Will Jenkins caught this 36-inch striped bass on a chunk of cut mullet.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Black drum are showing up at the Coral Beds in the Delaware Bay and Chris Nolte of Millsboro, DE was there to capture this 26 pounder while using clams for bait. Chris was fishing on the charter boat, "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Wiest.



Linda Beaty ventured down from Michigan and spent some time casting lures around the Assateague Bridge with Russ Beaty and Capt. Jason Mumford on the charter boat, "Lucky Break". She ended up releasing this striper that came up just an inch shy of the minimum. The duo did go home with some clams and a bushel of crabs, making for an extremely tasty dinner!

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FISHING CHARTERS



Last Saturday, several boats headed north to the Wilmington Canyon in search of bluefin tuna and one of those boats was the "Marli" with Capt. Mark Hoos at the helm and mates Dakota Bittner and Josh Ery in the pit. Their anglers ended up catching 3 "under" bluefins, measuring 32, 33 and 34-inches in addition to their 1 "over" bluefin that came in at 53-inches. The 4 keepers, along with over 20 throwbacks, were all hooked on Sterling spreader bars and daisy chains in 125 fathoms where Capt. Mark found water temperatures hovering around the 72-degree mark. Pictured back at Sunset Marina are anglers Casey Morris, Brian Heston and Brian Irons of Fairmont, WV, Chip Bitzer of Hanover, PA and Gary Biding of Glen Burnie, MD.

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FISHING CHARTERS



This 2 lb. 9 oz. flounder made a very big mistake when it decided to go after the live minnow being drifting by Steven Warren in the Lewes Canal. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Bryan Jones, Jimmy Dobbs, Mike Herbert and John Walker took an overnight trip to the Wilmington Canyon on Saturday and returned on Sunday with 2 "under" bluefins and a couple of mahi. All of the action was on the troll in 100 fathoms where they found water temperature at 71-degrees. They also broke off a mako at the boat and released numerous bluefins during their trip.

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- If you are using a cell phone, make sure it is taking photos at the largest setting possible
- Shoot vertical photos
- Smile!

As always, we do our best to run the pictures we receive; however, we are sometimes unable to run all of the pictures due to space restrictions and other circumstances.



Anglers Tonia and Bill Johnson and Lisa Dudley teamed up with Capt. Buddy Whetzel on the charter boat, "Bubblehead" and caught their 3 keeper bluefins, a skippy and a mahi in 75 fathoms the Wilmington Canyon. Weighed at Bahia Marina.



Luke McAteer of West Ocean City caught his first bluefish of the season while jigging a bucktail in the Ocean City Inlet.

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CHUM LINES

by Capt. Mark Sampson



For the next few weeks, a lot of local anglers will be spending time spreading chum across the offshore waters in hopes of getting a hook into some of the ocean's top predators. From the smallest to the largest, when it comes to sharks, the waters off Delmarva are not lacking in variety. There are about 14 species of sharks that are relatively common catches off our coast and most of them can be caught during the entire fishing season from spring through the fall.

Of all the different species, the mako's longtime reputation of being a strong, fast, high jumping and good eating game fish has kept them at the top of the list for most area fishermen looking to do battle with one of the most exciting fish in the ocean. Unfortunately, like many fish, the popularity of makos both on the hook and on the

plate has proven to be their downfall as around the world too many of them have been plucked from the ocean to sustain what is considered to be a healthy global population.

Last year, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) initiated an emergency regulation for mako sharks that increased the recreational size limit from 54 to 83-inches. The change was made in response to a 2017 stock assessment of mako sharks that showed the species was overfished and overfishing was still occurring. Rarely do size limits on any fish change so dramatically, but in this case NMFS was tasked with the obligation to reduce the take of makos by a whopping 80%.

Since Maryland's DNR has a catch-card system that requires anglers to report and tag every shark landed, they have excellent records of how many

makos have been brought in over the last few years. That number has traditionally been around 50 to 60 a year, but by the end of the 2018 season it had only reached three. I'm no mathematical genius, but I'm pretty sure that represents a much bigger reduction than 80%! So if 2018 landings in Maryland are any indicator of how things went in all the other coastal states, NMFS did a lot more than just hit their target - they blew it away!

Anytime a species they manage is determined to be overfished, NMFS is required by law to do something to correct the problem. In a lot of fisheries, the correction can be as simple as reducing the daily catch or "creel" limit. But as it is, anglers are only allowed one shark per day anyway, so reducing creel limit from "one" would bring it to "zero" and I don't think that would sit well with most anglers. So in this case, the reduction was achieved by increasing the size limit, and what an increase it was! From 54-inches, which is roughly a 60-pound mako, to 83-inches which is closer to 200 lbs.

The increased mako size limit was initiated by NMFS as a 6-month "emergency rule" which allowed them to put it into effect much more quickly than doing it as an amendment to the current shark management plan. But since an emergency plan is only temporary, NMFS then went through the amendment process to make the new conservation measures permanent.

Along the way, however, the

folks at NMFS decided to tweak the size limits to provide a little more opportunity for recreational anglers to catch legal size mako sharks. When they first started talking about the emergency rule it was suggested that they might have an 83-inch size limit for female makos and a 71-inch limit for males. Hearing this, a lot of anglers voiced their opposition claiming that it would be too difficult for them to determine the sex of a mako shark at boatside. So NMFS dropped the idea of separate size limits for male and female makos, and just went with 83-inches for either sex. A decision that had more than just a few fishermen regretting and rethinking their complaints.

As noted, the 83-inch size limit provided a lot more conservation for mako sharks than NMFS was trying to achieve. I guess you could say that, at least for the makos, it was too much of a good thing! Therefore, after seeing how the catch numbers went last season and taking public comments into consideration, NMFS prepared a final amendment that went with the 71" male and 83" female limits.

My own catch records show that the average size makos caught off Delmarva are typically less than 130 lbs. and are pretty evenly split 50/50 males and female, while most of the big makos (+200 lbs.) are females. Since a mako with a 71-inch fork length is larger than the average mako hooked by fishermen, and since at least half of them caught will likely be females, the chances of getting a legal size male is still



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going to be pretty slim. So I don't think there will be a drastic increase in the number of makos brought back to the dock under the new amendment, but it still gives anglers a little better chance of bringing a fish home than what the regulations allowed for last year.

So from now on, anglers who wish to boat a mako shark will be tasked with the requirement of closely estimating the size and determining the sex of their catch. The good news is that unlike most fish, it's easy to tell a male shark from a female. Males have two "claspers" projecting from their pelvic fins and since a mako with a 71-inch fork length will be sexually mature, it's claspers will have grown long enough to be easily observed from the deck of a boat even when the fish is upright in the water.

Despite some of the grumbling I've heard from fishermen about this new regulation being "unreasonable" and that "it's going to put anglers in danger of being hurt

while trying to determine the sex of a shark alongside of the boat", I can say from more than just a few years of experience handling these fish that sexing a mako of that size is no more dangerous than leadering up a white marlin for a photo or lining up a tuna for a gaff-shot. I can understand why some anglers were not happy with last year's mako size limits, but this year those limits have been relaxed "a little," and while I know that the 71 and 83-inch limits are not what many anglers wish they had to fish under, they're at least a slight improvement over what we had last season. And there's a simple solution for anyone who feels strongly that their safety will be at risk trying to distinguish a male from a female mako - stay in the bay and fish for flounder!


Capt. Mark Sampson is an outdoor writer and captain of the charter boat, "Fish Finder", docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center. During the winter months, Capt. Mark runs charters in the Lower Keys.



Paul Schmidt made the long trek down to the Lower Florida Keys and spent a day fishing the flats with Capt. Mark Sampson. Paul ended up catching and releasing this big permit after hooking it on fresh shrimp.


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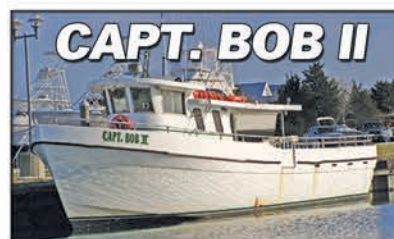
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West wins Joe Morris Canal Flounder Tournament



The Joe Morris Canal Flounder Tournament was held last Friday with 445 anglers competing for top prizes in the 1-day event, doubling participation versus last years tournament. Tim West (top left) took top honors with a 5.95 lb. flattie followed by Jeff Semans in 2nd place with a 4.07 lb. flounder. Third place was won by Jeff Purdy with a 3.73 pounder and Mark Horvath jumped into 4th place with a 3.39 lb. flattie. Artie Corson's 3.28 pounder put him into 5th place followed by Gary Ebling with a 3.27 lb. flounder and Zach Becker (not pictured) in 7th place with a 3.12 pounder. The real winner was the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network after receiving a check for \$8,500 from the tournament. If you would like to donate to the cause, you can call Amanda Morris at 302-645-6227. Donations are still being accepted.



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DELAWARE

FISHING REPORT

by Larry Jock



This Week Last Year

• a 3.91 lb. flounder won the Joe Morris Flounder Tournament.

• good size bluefish were caught off of the Cape Henlopen Pier.

• the striper bite was good in the IR Inlet and surf.

• DelJerseyLand reef produced good catches of black sea bass.

• black drum were caught off Conquest Road, Broadkill Beach & Coral Beds.

• 1st mako released at the Sausages.

• bad weather kept offshore boats at the dock. Good bite was down in the Norfolk Canyon

Compared to last year when we had horrible weather this time of year, this past weekend was a nice one and a lot of boats were on the water.

At Fenwick Tackle, Matt said that he is still seeing bluefish caught in good numbers along the beach from North Ocean City up into Fenwick, with the best bite happening around 140th Street. Surfcasters seemed to have the best luck using bluefish or bunker heads for

bait.

The Fenwick Ditch is still producing small stripers in the 25 to 26-inch range. Saturday's bite was good on light tackle both at the Ditch and around the Rt. 90 Bridge.

Some of Matt's customers had luck last week flounder fishing in very shallow water in the Thorofare. The boats are equipped with trolling motors allowing them to get into 2-feet of water.

At Hook'em & Cook'em, Capt. Bert reported snapper bluefish biting in the Indian River Inlet on Hopkins lures or anything shiny. Short stripers were also caught in the Inlet with an occasional keeper hooked while tossing swim shads off the rocks at night. Bert didn't hear of many flounder being caught in the Inlet but Tim Goodman did catch a 4 lb. 8 oz. flattie on Sunday while drifting a Gulp Swimming Mullet. Bert said he also saw a 20-incher caught this morning (Monday) by an angler fishing off the South Jetty during the incoming tide. One of the best flounder bites was in the Indian River Bay, near Buoy 5.

With black sea bass season

opening last Wednesday, and tog season being closed, headboats are loaded with fishermen looking for knotheads. Opening day for anglers fishing on the full-day "Capt. Bob" found rough seas and a mediocre bite. The best bite right now looks to be at the DelJerseyLand Reef and the Dry Docks. Structure in 120-feet of water, around 25-miles off the beach seems to be the place you want to be.

Speaking of headboats, on Saturday an angler on the "Judy V" had a thresher shark hooked up while fishing a wreck, 12 miles off the coast, but it came loose during the fight.

We did see the first weakfish of the season caught by Jackson Chin when he landed a 22-inch, 4 lb. weakie in the Indian River Inlet while using clams for bait.

In the surf, a few keeper stripers came into Hook'em & Cook'em during the week from anglers soaking bluefish heads or fishing with mullet and bunker. There are still a lot of throwback stripers and the bluefish bite is very good, but Bert said that you need to be in the right spot at the right

time.

Offshore, Indian River boats headed to the Baltimore and Wilmington Canyons where they found plenty of bluefins and a few mahi in the 8 to 10 lb. range.

Capt. Mike Behney at Rick's Bait & Tackle reported bluefish being caught by anglers fishing off Massey's Landing Pier. Most of the blues were small-to-medium size, but Mike did hear of at least one 10 pounder hooked there as well. Mike said that the bluefish are so thick in the Rehoboth Bay that he is hearing complaints from the commercial guys who are trying to net bunker. The blues are tearing up the bunker caught in the nets.

Stripers were caught in the Cape Henlopen surf and off the rocks in the Indian River Inlet, but Mike said that you really need to put in your time to get one for the cooler. Daiwa SP Minnows and swim shads have been the top producers.

Mike had some customers come into the shop with flounder they caught in the Indian River Bay, specifically from the VFW Slough during the outgoing tide. The flounder bite in the bay is slowly getting better.

In the Indian River Inlet, Mike is getting reports of a load of shad right now and he

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also heard of some ling being caught on ocean wrecks.

At Lewes Harbour Marina, the big news was the excellent participation in the Joe Morris Memorial Canal Flounder Tournament held last Friday. This year they had 445 anglers, significantly up from 200 last year, looking for flatties in the Canal and Amanda Morris said that after t-shirt sales and post tournament donations, she expects to hit her goal of \$10,000 donated to the Pancreatic Action Network in memory of her husband, Joe Morris. Joe was one of the greatest guys you could ever meet and the way that this flounder tournament has grown is a testament to how fondly the fishing community felt about him. I wouldn't be surprised if next years event is even larger. The winner of this years tournament was Tom West with a 5.95 pounder followed by Jeff Semans with a 4.07 lb. flattie. Third place was won by Jeff Purdy with a

3.73 pounder.

On the fishing front, Capt. Tommy said that the flounder bite in the Lewes Canal lightened up a bit over the weekend, probably from all the pounding it received on Friday. There are bluefish all over the Canal with fish in the 14 to 18-inch range going after anything meaty or shiny. Unfortunately, the striper bite in the Canal has fallen off.

Black drum were caught by anglers fishing off Broadkill Beach and at the Coral Beds. Tommy heard that they are really whacking them good over on the Jersey side of the Delaware Bay for anglers fishing with clams.

At the Cape Henlopen Pier, bluefish are getting bigger and the flounder bite was sporadic.

Bluefish are also being caught in good numbers off Herring Point and Cape Henlopen State Park. Anglers are even finding a few schoolie stripers in the mix.

Until next week, tight lines!

May 22, 2019 Coastal Fisherman Page 39



Last Sunday, Tim Goodman from Lancaster, PA captured a 4 lb. 8 oz. flounder while drifting a jig tipped with a Gulp Swimming Mullet in the Indian River Inlet. The fish measured 23 1/2-inches and was caught on the "Sea Six" with McKinley Goodman.

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2019 First Fish of the Year COASTAL FISHERMAN

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

Species	2019	2018	Species	2019	2018
 Bluefish	April 17, 2019 Big Bird Cropper South Jetty	May 1, 2018 Big Bird Cropper South Jetty	 Mako Shark	NEW May 18, 2019 Brandon Malamphy "FINATIC" Wilmington Canyon	May 23, 2018 Fred Weinhold "Marli" Marine Electric
 Black Drum	April 9, 2019 Allen Sklar Assateague Surf	April 19, 2018 Allen Sklar Assateague Surf	 Thresher Shark	NEW May 18, 2019 All Anglers "Over-Board" Jackspot	May 26, 2018 Don King "Shallow End" Fingers
 Cobia	No Reported Catches	July 10, 2018 Mitchell Clark "Judith M"	 Bigeye Tuna	No Reported Catches	May 26, 2018 Tanya Devine "Wrecker" Poor Man's Canyon
 Flounder	April 4, 2019 Kristin Lenox Sinepuxent Bay	April 14, 2018 Mike Tuel Thorofare	 Bluefin Tuna	May 7, 2019 Scot Wells "Restless Lady II" Wilmington Canyon	May 24, 2018 Donna Gutridge "Marli" Poor Man's Canyon
 Sea Bass	NEW May 15, 2018 Tom Lane "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	May 15, 2018 Wayne Diaz "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	 Longfin Tuna	No Reported Catches	June 9, 2018 Mike Lloyd Wilmington Canyon
 Sheepshead	No Reported Catches	June 4, 2018 Hanna Bartell "On the Run" South Jetty	 Yellowfin Tuna	No Reported Catches	May 24, 2018 Mike Curran "Marli" Poor Man's Canyon
 Striped Bass	April 12, 2019 Kern Ducote Rt. 90 Bridge	January 2, 2018 Jon Pulsifer Little Gull Shoal	 Dolphin	NEW May 19, 2019 Bill Johnson "Bubblehead" Wilmington Canyon	May 24, 2018 Steve Cumor "Marli" Poor Man's Canyon
 Tautog	January 4, 2019 Dan Iacangelo "Morning Star" Ocean Wreck	January 3, 2018 Dennis Muhlenforth "Morning Star" Artificial Reef	 Wahoo	No Reported Catches	July 12, 2018 Jon Gross "Restless Lady" Washington Canyon
 Weakfish	NEW May 19, 2019 Jackson Chin Indian River Inlet	June 2, 2018 Matt Boyer Indian River Inlet	 White Marlin	No Reported Catches	June 13, 2018 Ron Bennett "Stalker" Poor Man's Canyon

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



The 2019 black sea bass season got off to a good start and the knotheads were snapping at the Will Hathaway Memorial Reef for anglers fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins. Tom Lane led the way with a 21 1/2-incher caught on a jig head. Tom is pictured with Bo Schultz, Caesar Saunders, Charles Bullock, Rusty and Rhonda Daub, Steve Hannon and Jim Haney.



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Crab Quiche

center comes out clean.

- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 2 TBSP all-purpose flour
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 cup crab meat
- 1 cup diced Swiss cheese
- 1/2 cup chopped green onions
- 1 (9-inch) unbaked pie crust

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In a medium bowl, beat together eggs, mayonnaise, flour and milk until thoroughly blended.

Stir in crab, cheese and onion.

Spread into pie shell.

Bake for 40 to 45 minutes, or until a knife inserted in the

Parmesan Crusted Tautog with Herbed Lemon Sauce

- 4 tautog fillets
- Smoked paprika
- Olive oil for baking and 1/4 cup for the sauce
- Shredded parmesan cheese

Even amounts of each, all chopped: mint, basil, chives, parsley, rosemary.

Juice of 1 lemon

Zest of 1 lemon

1 TBSP butter

Preheat the oven to 475.

On a baking sheet, grease it with a little olive oil and arrange fillets.

Sprinkle each fillet with parmesan cheese then sprinkle a little bit of paprika on each.

Bake for 8 minutes or until fish is cooked through.

In a saucepan, heat 1/4 cup olive oil, butter and lemon juice for 5 minutes.

Add the zest and herbs then stir to combine.

Let that simmer for 5 minutes while the fish cooks.

Using a strainer, pour the sauce through and discard of the herbs (or leave them if you want).

Drizzle each fillet with the sauce and serve.

Pan-Fried Tautog Fillets With Warm Herb Vinaigrette

- 4 tautog fillets, skin attached
- Kosher salt
- Ground pepper
- 4 tsp. olive oil
- 3 TBSP sherry vinegar, or more as needed
- 3 TBSP extra-virgin olive oil

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2 TBSP mixed chopped fresh parsley, chives,

Scrape off any remaining scales and season the fillets on both sides with salt and pepper.

Heat 2 to 4 tsp. of olive oil in a large pan or skillet over medium heat, using the smaller amount of oil for a nonstick pan.

Add the fillets and adjust the heat according to their thickness. The thicker the fillet the lower the heat.

Cook the fillets for about 4 minutes altogether for a 1/2-inch-thick fillet, turning them halfway through the cooking time.

Transfer them to hot plates or a hot platter.

Wipe the oil out of the pan with a paper towel.

Add the vinegar, extra-virgin olive oil and the herbs.

Return the pan to the heat and bring the sauce to a rapid boil for half a minute.

Remove from the heat.

Season with salt and

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pepper to taste.

Spoon over the fillets and serve immediately.

Pan-Seared Tuna with Avocado, Soy, Ginger and Lime

2 handfuls fresh cilantro leaves, finely chopped
1/2 jalapeno pepper, sliced
1 tsp. fresh ginger, grated
2 garlic cloves, grated
2 limes, juiced
2 TBSP soy sauce
Pinch of sugar
Sea salt
Freshly ground black pepper
1/4 cup extra-virgin olive oil
2 tuna steaks
1 ripe avocado, halved, peeled, pitted and sliced

In a mixing bowl, combine the cilantro, jalapeno, ginger, garlic, lime juice, soy sauce, sugar, salt, pepper and 2 TBSP of olive oil.

Stir the ingredients together until well incorporated.

Place a skillet over medium-high heat and coat with the remaining 2 TBSP of olive oil.

Season the tuna generously with salt and pepper.

Lay the tuna in the hot oil and sear for 1 minute on each side to form a slight crust.

Pour 1/2 of the cilantro mixture into the pan to coat the fish.

Serve the seared tuna with the sliced avocado and the remaining cilantro sauce drizzled over the whole plate.

Pan Fried Sea Bass with Lemon Garlic Herb Sauce

3 TBSP butter divided
1 TBSP extra-virgin olive oil
4 sea bass fillets
1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1 tsp. kosher salt

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Tossing shiny spoons around the Cape Henlopen Pier proved successful for anglers Shaun Wilson and Joey Simpler when they captured over 20 bluefish, measuring up to 35-inches. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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From the looks of it, Tommy Barbetta wasn't the only one interested in this bluefish that was in the suds off North Ocean City. It looks like another bluefish or shark had it's sight set on the chopper.



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1/2 tsp. black pepper
3 cloves garlic, minced
1/4 cup dry white wine
1/2 cup chicken broth
2 TBSP lemon juice
1 TBSP fresh oregano,
roughly chopped
1 TBSP fresh thyme,
roughly chopped
1 TBSP fresh parsley,
roughly chopped
Lemon wedges for serving

Pat the fish dry with a paper towel.

In a shallow dish, mix together the flour, salt and black pepper.

Dredge each piece of fish in the flour mixture, coating the entire surface. Shake off any excess.

In a large nonstick skillet, melt 1 TBSP of the butter over medium-high heat and add the olive oil.

Cook the fish in the skillet for 3-4 minutes on each side, until golden brown and fully cooked.

Remove fish from the skillet to a plate.

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Add the white wine to the skillet to deglaze, stirring up any browned bits.

Continue heating until almost all the wine has evaporated.

Add 1 TBSP of butter to the skillet.

Once it's melted, add the minced garlic and fresh herbs to the skillet and sauté until fragrant, about 30 seconds.

Add the chicken broth and bring to a simmer.

Turn off heat and stir in remaining 1 TBSP butter and lemon juice.

Taste and adjust seasoning if necessary.

Serve sauce on top of fish.

Crab Mac 'n' Cheese with Prosciutto & Asparagus

6 oz. uncooked small
pasta shells

1 lb. asparagus, cut into 1-
inch pieces

6 TBSP butter, divided

1/4 cup all-purpose flour

3 cups whole milk

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1/4 to 1/2 tsp. coarsely
ground black pepper
1 cup shredded
Gruyère cheese
2 cups shredded Brie
cheese
1/2 tsp. salt, divided
1 lb. jumbo lump crab
1/4 cup chopped
prosciutto
2 garlic cloves, minced
2/3 cup panko
breadcrumbs

Preheat oven to 375-
degrees.

Prepare pasta according to
package directions, stirring in
asparagus during last 2
minutes of pasta cooking time.

Drain pasta and asparagus.

Melt 4 TBSP butter in a
large saucepan over medium
heat.

Whisk in flour and cook for
1 minute.

Pour in milk and bring to a
boil over medium-high heat,
whisking constantly.

Reduce heat to medium-
low and simmer 3 minutes or
until sauce is smooth and

thickened.

Remove from heat and
whisk in black pepper, cheeses
and 1/4 tsp. salt.

Toss pasta with cheese
sauce, asparagus, crab and
prosciutto.

Spoon mixture into 6
greased ramekins or a greased
13x9-inch baking dish.

Melt remaining 2 TBSP
butter in a saucepan over
medium heat.

Add garlic and cook 1
minute.

Stir in panko and
remaining 1/4 tsp. salt,
tossing to coat. Sprinkle
evenly over pasta mixture.

Bake 40 minutes or until
topping is crisp and sauce
bubbles.

Let stand 5 minutes before
serving.

Broiled Flounder with Lemon Cream Sauce

2 TBSP butter melted
2 flounder fillets
1 tsp. Old Bay seasoning
1/3 cup heavy cream

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On the opening day of black sea bass season, Mother Nature threw some saucy conditions at anglers in search of knotheads, but those that persevered ended up with some nice catches. On the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins, anglers Paul Kinsinger won the pool with a 3 lb. 5 oz. sea bass and is pictured with Lucy and George Miller and Tom Lane. All were caught on squid and clams.



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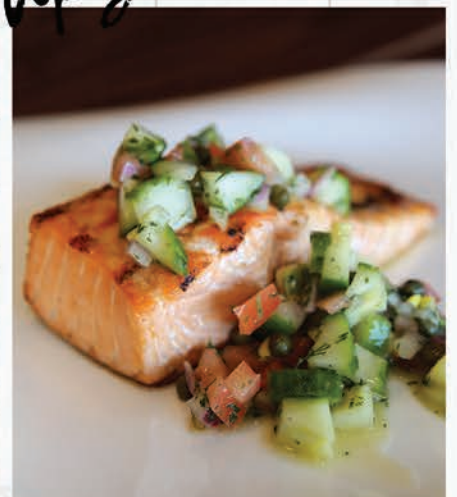
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The bluefish were snapping on the west side of the sandbar, south of the Rt. 50 Bridge where Neighbor Dave Leizear and Big Bird Cropper were there to catch their limit of 20 fish in addition to throwing another dozen back. The guys caught some bluefish during the outgoing tide, but when the tide switch and the clean water moved in, it was GAME ON! All were hooked on Roy Rigs and jig heads. Pictured at the Coastal Fisherman office.

3 garlic cloves, minced
2 TBSP lemon juice
2 TBSP butter
Salt and pepper

Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil.

Preheat broiler.

Brush a little melted butter on foil.

Place flounder on top, skin side down.

Sprinkle with Old Bay and drizzle with remaining butter.

Broil for about 8 minutes, or until cooked through.

In a small saucepan, bring cream and garlic to a simmer.

Remove from heat and whisk in lemon and butter until the butter is melted.

Season to taste with salt and pepper.

Serve sauce with fish.

Salt and pepper to taste
Sage, optional

Melt the butter in a casserole dish under the broiler.

Sprinkle the striped bass fillets lightly with Old Bay Seasoning, salt and pepper.

Transfer fillets to the casserole dish.

Return the dish to the oven and broil the filets for 6-8 minutes, rotating halfway through.

Remove from the oven and baste with the melted butter.

Place the lemon slices on top and sprinkle with sliced sage, if desired.

Return to the oven long enough to char the lemon.

Garnish with sage and serve hot.

Striped Bass with Lemon Butter & Sage

2 striped bass fillets
4 TBSP butter
Old Bay Seasoning
1 lemon, sliced

If you have any favorite seafood recipes that you would like to share with Coastal Fisherman readers, you can email them to coastalfisherman@comcast.net. You will be famous!!!

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BRUNCH & LUNCH MENU

BRUNCH ITEMS SERVED DAILY UNTIL 3PM
SUNRISE SKILLETS

BEEF TENDERLOIN CHEESESTEAK AND EGGS OVER HASH BROWNS 12
tender and well marbled steak served with toast
LOADED BREAKFAST FRIES WITH BACON, SCRAMBLED EGGS, CHEDDAR, SALSA, SOUR CREAM AND CHIVES 9
homemade fresh salsa and hand cut fries with toast
THREE SAUSAGE GRAVY OVER HASH BROWNS OR TOAST 9
chef jim's slightly spicy secret recipe
SCRAPPLE OVER HASH BROWNS WITH GOUDA AND AN OVER EASY EGG 9
an eastern shore favorite with choice of toast
HUEVOS RANCHEROS 11
peppers, onions, roasted garlic, black beans, sunny side up egg, salsa, cilantro, sour cream and avocado over a tortilla with choice of protein and toast
FRITTATA 10
potato crust with asparagus, fresh bell peppers, onions and parmesan cheese with choice of protein and toast

HOUSE BRUNCH SPECIALTIES

GRILLED AVOCADO TOAST 9
mango tomato salsa, roasted garlic, sunny side up egg, and micro cilantro
BACON GRILLED EGG AND CHEESE 11
candied thick cut bacon, fried egg, avocado, tomato, gouda and pepper jack with choice of toast
BANANA BREAD BELGIAN WAFFLES WITH CHOCOLATE CHIPS 12
chef jim's homemade batter with fresh bananas
CLASSIC BELGIAN WAFFLES AND FRUIT 9
choice of mangoes, strawberries or bananas served with fresh honey whipped cream
CHURRO FRENCH TOAST STICKS 10
vanilla maple cream cheese

SIDES AND TOAST

CHOICE OF PROTEIN 5
short rib, pulled pork, sausage link, thick cut bacon, scrapple
CHOICE OF TOAST 3
texas style white, wheat, rye, buttermilk biscuit, english muffin

KEEP THE KIDS HAPPY

substitute fries for fruit or salad
BACON CHEESE SCRAMBLED EGGS 8
FRENCH TOAST STICKS 8
CHICKEN FINGERS WITH FRIES 8
HOT DOG WITH FRIES 8
SMALL BURGER WITH FRIES 8
MAC AND CHEESE 8
ICE CREAM DOUBLE SCOOP 5.75
vanilla bean, chocolate, cookies & cream, pistachio, mint chocolate chip, strawberry, salty caramel truffle, coffee

LIBATIONS, CREATIONS AND MORNING WAKE UPS

WAKE UP COFFEES
THREE ANCHORS COFFEE 8 grand malinor, kahlua and irish cream
CAJUNIAN COFFEE 7 myers dark rum and kahlua
LIMERICK COFFEE 7 tulamore dew and brown sugar
RUSSIAN COFFEE 7 kahlua and cold vodka
NUTTY IRISH COFFEE 7 irish cream and hazelnut liqueur

FRESH FRUIT CRUSHES
ORANGE CRUSH 8 smirnoff orange vodka and fresh squeezed orange juice, triple sec, topped with a splash of apple
Grapefruit Crush 9 smirnoff grapefruit vodka and fresh squeezed grapefruit juice, triple sec, and a splash of apple
Lemon Crush 8 smirnoff lemon vodka and fresh squeezed lemon juice, triple sec, and a splash of apple

SOMETHING SWEET

CHEF JIM'S SCONE OF THE MORNING 5
AUNT WANDA'S SWEET POTATO BISCUITS THREE FOR 5
MADE FROM SCRATCH CINNAMON ROLL 5

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CANARY ISLANDS peanut butter, banana & chocolate
FLA strawberries, banana, chocolate syrup and yogurt

SHAKES THICK HAND DIPPED MILK SHAKES 5.75

vanilla bean, chocolate, cookies & cream, pistachio, mint chocolate chip, strawberry, salty caramel truffle, coffee, black and white (vanilla with Hershey's syrup)

MAILED MILK SHAKES 6.25

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HOUSE COASTAL BLEND COFFEE AND TEA 3
regular and decaf, house coffee blend of beans from brazil, guatemala, new guinea, colombia & sumatra
COLD BREW COFFEE 5
JUICE 3.50
orange, grapefruit, cranberry and apple juice
SODA 3
coke, diet coke, sprite, birch beer, raspberry tea, ginger ale, lemonade, unsweetened iced tea

BRUNCH COCKTAILS
PUPPY BLOODY 9 absolut pepper vodka with a seafood seasoning rim, worcestershire, guinness
SEAFOOD BLOODY 12 deep eddy vodka, seafood seasoning rim, shrimp skewer
MILK LOVER'S BLOODY 12 deep eddy vodka, grilled aleak, peppercorn skewer

CHAMPAGNE AND SANGRIA
MIMOSA 8 champagne and orange juice
THE GRAND ROYAL 12 grand malinor and champagne
BLUEBERRY MIMOSA 9 champagne, blueberry simple syrup, and raspberry mimosa 9 champagne, raspberry simple syrup, and peach mimosa 9 champagne, orange juice, and fresh muddled mango mimosa 9 champagne, mango simple syrup, and red mango flight 12 try all four flavors in a flight

RED SANGRIA 10 red wine, elderflower liqueur, smirnoff or white sangria 10 white wine, elderflower liqueur, peach



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SOUP DU JOUR CUP OR BOWL MARKET PRICE
daily sourced from local watermen and farmers
SCALLOP CHOWDER CUP 6 BOWL 9
cream base with locally harvested scallops
FRESH SEASONAL FRUIT SALAD WITH LIGHT MINT DRESSING 8
SPINACH SALAD 11
oven dried tomato, onion, goat cheese, olives, prosciutto with herb vinaigrette
ASIAN PEAR SALAD 11
romaine, bean sprouts, curried cashews, avocado with a citrus soy dressing
SHRIMP SALAD 15
available on a small house garden salad or as a sandwich on broche with lettuce, tomato and onion
GRILLED CAESAR with parmesan twists 9
ARUGULA SALAD 10
bacon, maple pecans, sharp cheddar, pretzel croutons and dijon vinaigrette
SEASONAL GARDEN SALAD 8
herb vinaigrette, citrus soy, caesar, dijon, bleu cheese and ranch
CEVICHE AND AVOCADO 12
local scallops, crabmeat and shrimp with shallot, diced tomatoes and cucumber in a citrus dressing with old bay croutons

SMALL PLATES & APPETIZERS

1/2 POUND OF STEAMED SHRIMP 9
house made seasoning with cocktail sauce or seasoned butter
ONE POUND OF JUMBO WINGS WITH YOUR CHOICE OF SAUCE 11
maple sriracha, bbq, old bay, chipotle mango bbq, buffalo, jerk, honey mustard, love sauce all served with bleu cheese or ranch
CLAM STRIPS CASINO 10
fried clam strips with garlic, bacon and provolone dip
FLASH FRIED CALAMARI 11
tossed in california style seasoning with tiger sauce, ponzu aioli and sweet & sour dipping sauces
CALIFORNIA GARLIC FRIES WITH SRIRACHA KETCHUP 7
crispy shoestring fries with garlic, parsley and parmesan
OYSTERS ROCKEFELLER 12
bacon, anisette, spinach, parmesan and pepper jack
DAILY CREATION SEAFOOD DIP MARKET PRICE
served with pretzel bread
DAILY SEASONAL CHEESE & CHARCUTERIE BOARD MARKET PRICE

SOFT TACOS

PULLED PORK OR SHORT RIB 11
SHRIMP, SCALLOP OR TUNA 15
avocado, mango salsa, pickled onion, queso blanco and cilantro

BREAKFAST BEERS AND FRUITS OF THE MALT

BREAKFAST HARD CIDERS AND SHANDYS 6
Austin East Blood Orange Cider, Grapefruit Cider or Pineapple Cider -Austin, TX 5.0%
Summer Shandy -Chippewa, WI 4.2%
Hoop Tea Mango & Hoop Tea Watermelon -Ocean City, MD 4.5%
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BRUNCH BURGER 13
house made burger, bourbon bacon jam, hash browns, sunny side up egg, sharp cheddar and smokey aioli
BLOODY MARY BURGER 13
seasoned house made burger, bloody mary aioli, lettuce, tomato, onions and a pickled vegetable skewer
BLACK AND BLEU BURGER 14
blackened house made burger with rich bleu cheese sauce
SIGNATURE VEGGIE BURGER 12
house made quinoa based burger as you like it
THE CLASSIC T.O. BURGER 12
house made burger as you like it, add thick cut bacon for 2
SWORDFISH BURGER 12
seasoned ground swordfish, caramelized onions and cheese

SANDWICHES

CAROLINA HOUSE SMOKED PULLED PORK WITH KALE SLAW 12
FRENCH DIP 13
short rib, port wine cheese, pickled onions, potato stix, au jus
HOUSE SMOKED SALMON BLT 13
thick sliced bacon and pepper mayo on a baguette
APPLE BACON GRILLED CHEESE 11
cheddar and brie, granny smiths, bourbon bacon jam, arugula, on pretzel bread
CHICKEN AND WAFFLE SLIDERS 11
pepper jack, sriracha and smoky maple aioli
BLACKENED AHI TUNA SANDWICH 17
coconut jicama slaw and mango pineapple chutney
FRIED LOCAL STYLE CRABCAKE SANDWICH 17
lettuce, tomato, onions and remoulade on brioche



Sheepshead vs. Black Drum



Size

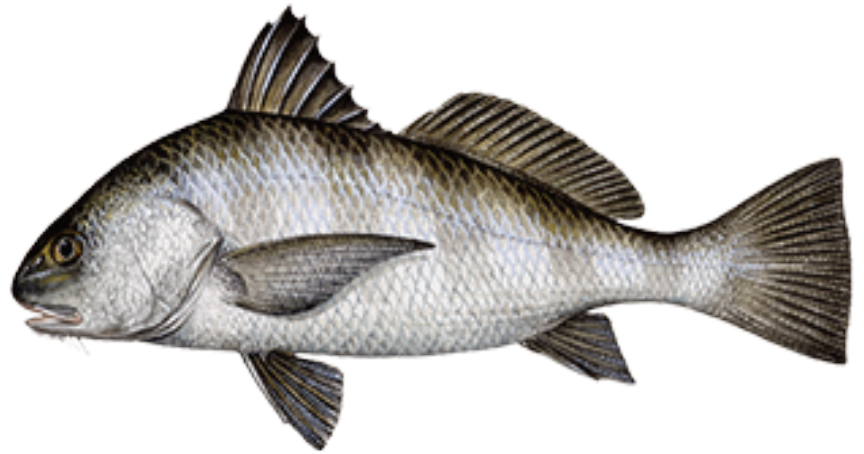
Common from 1 to 7 lbs. but exceeding 10 lbs. is not rare. Can exceed 20 lbs.

Distinguishing Characteristics

- Forked tail.
- Massive, protruding teeth.
- Vertical black stripes against a dull white, gray or yellowish background.
- Spines of the dorsal and anal fins are heavy and sharp.

Habitat

Mostly bays and protected coastal waterways, but also inhabit inshore reefs. Sticks mostly to rock or shell bottom and loves dock and bridge pilings, artificial reefs and any other structure with barnacles.



Size

Typically found in the 5 to 50 lb. range, but catches in excess of 75 lbs. are not rare.. It is the largest fish in the drum family


Distinguishing Characteristics



- Broad, flat tail
- Juvenile black drum have black vertical stripes on dusky white sides.
- Adults are deep bronze to dingy black.
- All size fish have chin barbels.

Habitat

Juveniles like shorelines, bar edges and shallows while larger fish prefer surf, channels and open water. Loves to hang around piers and bridges.

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FISH

STORIES

by Capt. Franky Pettolina



It was the summer of 1985. One of those rare weekend days when the "Last Call" didn't have a charter. I was in the fighting chair locked in to a dead heat standoff with a tuna that was being extra persnickety. And it was raining.



Twenty minutes earlier, I was sitting in the salon of the boat having some sort of heated debate with my friend Blaine. I don't remember the topic. To be honest, back in the day (with credit to my good friend Capt. Mark Sampson's recent column) Blaine and I weren't the best of friends. Yes, we would spend most every waking moment together. His Dad and my Dad worked

together and were very good friends. We were around each other all the time. Friends might have been a bit of an exaggeration though. After all, he was 8 and I was 11. He may have been 9. Boys will be boys. We scrapped more than a bit. I am glad to say that we both grew up and grew close over the years. To say friends now might not even be correct though. More like brothers. Anyways, we were in a heated debate right about the time the right outrigger bait came out of the clip and line started peeling off of the reel. We both ran out to the fighting chair and a shoving match ensued. I had both a weight and height advantage, so I ended up in the chair fighting the fish.

As I was soaking wet from the rain and getting my butt kicked by the tuna, I am not sure I truly won the battle to get in the chair. Yes, I was in the chair, but Blaine was inside, and dry, and his arms were not burning. Jay, Blaine's Dad, was telling my Dad that he saw the bite and the fish didn't look that big so he couldn't figure out why I was having such a tough time getting it in. For another twenty minutes the

battle was a true tug of war. I would get a few inches. The fish would take a few back. Jay kept saying that it wasn't that big of a fish.

Then all of a sudden I could gain line like crazy. I cranked the fish right to the boat. When the tuna broke the surface it was obvious what had been happening. The water was dyed red with blood and the yellowfin had a big chunk of its backside missing in the perfect outline of a mako shark's mouth. That was the first time I ever had the "taxman" demand payment of one of my fish.



The next time I was taxed was in Venezuela in 1997. We were fighting our third blue marlin of the day. Steve, the angler, was in good shape and was using great technique, but the fish was just whooping him. After an hour, we had him harnessed to the rod and things were really at a stalemate. Blaine's dad was running the boat and I had a weird sense of Déjà vu when he kept saying that he saw the fish on the bite and that it was not any bigger than the other fish

we had encountered that day. Both of those had been released in a half hour or less.

About two and a half hours into the fight, Steve started winding like mad and we all thought the fish had got away. There was hardly any bend in the rod. Steve kept saying that he felt something on the line. When the leader came up I grabbed it and pulled what was left of our blue marlin into the boat. Nothing but tail! That's right. The fish had somehow been foul hooked in the tail and a shark, or sharks, had taken the rest. I put the tail in our freezer and Steve later had a mount made of it. Complete with shark bite marks.

That following summer, I caught the largest yellowfin I have ever caught in Ocean City. At the time it was one of the biggest ever caught in Ocean City. That has changed since then, but it still remains an awesome catch. The fish weighed 144 lbs. and was caught on a dink rod (30 lb. test) with 60 lb. leader. It was an epic struggle, taking my angler 4 hours to land the beast. On this particular trip, my Dad was running the boat and I was splitting cockpit duties with my old mate Joey. The first time the leader came on to the rod was at the three and a half hour mark. Joey and I could both see the long streamer fins so we knew it was a big yellowfin (we had been thinking bigeye). We picked up



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our gaffs. The fish was ours. Until it ran out over half of the spool again. The entire boat was dumbfounded. The fish had that much energy left after that much time on the hook!?!?



Just like the other times I have dealt with sharks, however, as soon as the long run stopped there was a bit of a tug and then the angler was able to crank the fish right to the boat. Unlike the other times though, this time the fish was in tact with just a few teeth marks where the mako had grabbed it. The bite marks were bleeding, but no meat was gone. We got lucky I guess. Well we did, the big yellowfin not so much.

In the first twenty years of my sportfishing career those were the only times I ever had sharks take fish from me while we were fighting them. Maybe I just was fortunate enough not to be fishing in shark infested areas. I don't know. But I never really heard much about it from other boats either. In the last 15 years that has been changing.

I started noticing that we had a heck of a lot more sharks showing up while we were tuna fishing down in the Washington Canyon about 8 or 10 years ago. Put sharks around struggling tunas that are hindered by hooks and lines and there is only one outcome. The sharks get their snacks and we get "taxed!" It gets so bad some days that we don't even bother trying to catch the tunas. We just troll away and look for other stuff.

This past winter I have been following the fishing pages on social media from the boats in South Florida. Darn near every day there were pictures or videos of snappers

and sailfish that had been sharked while they were being brought in. The captains down there were saying that it has really become a nuisance.

Just yesterday I saw a picture on one of my North Carolina buddy's Facebook pages of a mess of bonito and skipjacks. The caption said that they had a bunch of yellowfin bites too, but couldn't get them past the "Taxman".

I get it, sharks gotta eat too. But the fact that this is becoming more and more common raises some questions in my mind. Are sharks just in an upward swing in their population cycle? Have they learned our fishing habits and how to capitalize on them? I don't know the answer. I do know that in the past few years the regulations on both commercial and recreational shark fishing have been made tighter (don't get me started on how asinine the new mako retention limits are for recreational anglers. NMFS should be ashamed for coming up with such nonsense). I

May 22, 2019 Coastal Fisherman Page 51

spoke to someone in fishery management the other day and he told me that the science tells us that shark populations are low. From what I am seeing this can't be true. Maybe the sharks have just become more adept at avoiding the scientists.

The first tunas of the Ocean City season were caught a couple of weeks ago and it was great to see the the first mako and thresher hit the scale as well. It will be interesting to see how the season goes for both sharks and tunas. Being a diehard Conservative, I can only hope that we don't get "taxed" too bad in the canyons this summer. Maybe I should send a tweet out to our Commander in Chief and see if I can get some offshore tax cuts proposed.

Capt Franky Pettolina is Co-Captain of the charter boat, "Last Call" which is docked at the Ocean City Fishing Center, owner of Pettolina Marine Surveying, Inc. and multi-term President of the Ocean City Marlin Club.

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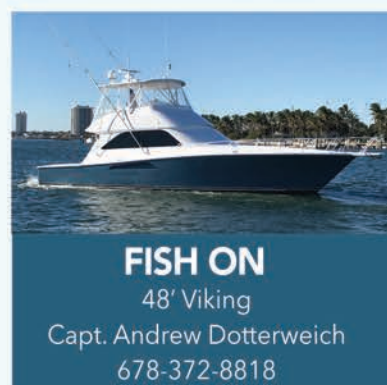
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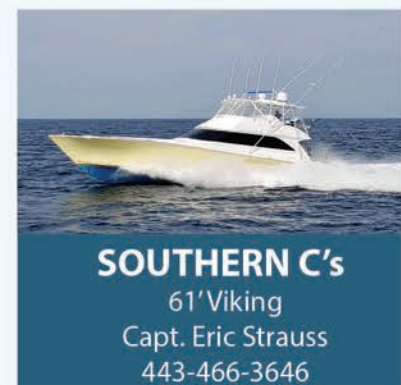
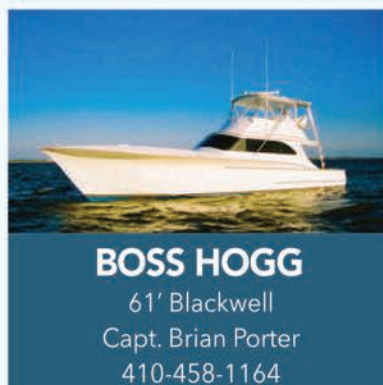
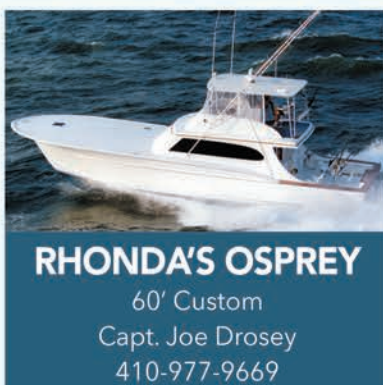
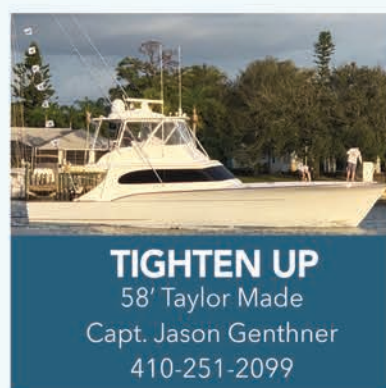
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Keith Lipton from Long Neck, DE had a great day fishing for bluefish in the Rehoboth Bay, ending up with 8 keepers (2 pictured) measuring up to 29-inches. All were caught on fresh bunker. Pictured at Rick's Bait & Tackle.



Bob Testa is very happy to show folks the 21-inch flounder he caught while drifting with fresh bunker in the Lewes Canal. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Last Friday, Zach Baker caught a 3.12 lb. flounder to finish in 7th place in the 2019 Joe Morris Canal Flounder Tournament.



With no homework and no lacrosse practice, Mackenzie Cathell, Layton's Junior Angler of the Week, could hit the water in search of striped bass. She ended up catching and releasing this 25-incher after hooking it on an artificial lure by the Rt. 50 Bridge.

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This 4 lb. 13 oz. flounder was caught by John Mitchell of Milford, DE while drifting minnows in the Lewes Canal during the incoming tide. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Nam Dong was fishing on the charter boat, "Top Fin" with Capt. Pete Haines when he hooked this 16 lb. 2 oz. bluefish on a lure off Herring Point. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Last Saturday, the flounder were snapping in the Thorofare for anglers fishing on the charter boat, “Get Sum” with Capt. Nick Clemente and mate Marshall Freng. They ended their trip with 6 keepers in the box, with the largest three all measuring 18 1/2-inches. The fish were caught on Gulp Swimming Mulletts during both tides in the bay behind Assateague Island and in the East Channel, south of the Rt. 50 Bridge. Pictured with Capt. Nick at the Ocean City Fishing Center are Troy Chute and Sean Davis of West Ocean City, MD, Guy Ercol, Joel Smith and Gabe Ercol of Shamong, NJ and Lynn Smith of Hebron, MD.



MARYLAND & DELAWARE CITATION SIZES

Atlantic Coast

	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-
Black Drum	48"	50 lbs. or 45"
Bluefish	34"	12 lbs. or 29"
Blue Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size
Cobia	44"	45 lbs. or 48"
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"
Golden Tilefish	35"	35 lbs. or 40"
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 26"
Red Drum *	36"	45"
Sailfish *	Any Size	-
Sea Bass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"
Speckled Trout	24"	-
Striped Bass	40"	34 lbs. or 44"

	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>
Shark:		
Blue Shark *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Hammerhead *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Mako *	Any Size	250 lbs. or 83"
Thresher *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Tiger *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Swordfish	Any Size	Any Size
Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"
Tuna:		
Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lbs. or 32"
False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"
Bigeye ***	60"	70 lbs. or 48"
Bluefin ***	55"	100 lbs. or 60"
Yellowfin ***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"
Wahoo	60"	20 lbs. or 50"
Weakfish	24"	3 lbs. or 20"
White Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size

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



















** Only released fish are eligible in MD and DE programs

2019 Heaviest Fish of the Year

COASTAL FISHERMAN



(As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - TIES GO TO FIRST FISH REPORTED)

Species	Ocean City	Delaware	Species	Ocean City	Delaware
Bluefish 	May 9, 2019 Clark Haller Assateague Surf 9 lbs. 8 oz.	NEW May 15, 2019 Nam Dong Herring Point 16 lbs. 2 oz.	Mako Shark 	NEW May 18, 2019 Brandon Malamphy Wilmington Canyon 140 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Black Drum 	No Weights Reported	NEW May 15, 2019 Charlie Golden Broadkille Beach 44 lbs.	Thresher Shark 	NEW May 18, 2019 "Over-Board" 296 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Cobia 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Bigeye Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Flounder 	May 3, 2019 Randy Garner Thorofare 3 lbs. 10 oz.	NEW May 17, 2019 Tim West Lewes Canal 5 lbs. 15 oz.	Bluefin Tuna 	May 7, 2019 Scot Wells "Restless Lady II" 90 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Sea Bass 	NEW May 15, 2019 Bobby Eberhard Ocean Wreck 5 lbs.	No Weights Reported	Longfin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Sheepshead 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Yellowfin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Striped Bass 	May 9, 2019 Dan Rivera Ocean City Inlet 37.5 lbs.	May 9, 2019 Bob Holsberger Indian River Surf 15 lbs. 6 oz.	Dolphin 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Tautog 	May 7, 2019 Eddie Santiago "Fish Bound" 20 lbs.	January 7, 2019 Steve Kiibler Site 11 19 lbs. 13 oz.	Wahoo 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Weakfish 	No Weights Reported	NEW May 19, 2019 Jackson Chin Indian River Inlet 4 lbs.	White Marlin 	Most Releases in 1 Day (trolling only)	
				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



It was a tough act to follow after her husband muscled in that 46-inch striper while fishing off the Oceanic Pier a couple of weeks ago, but Sheila Rivera of Rockville, MD couldn't be happier with her very first bluefish, caught off the north side of the Ocean City Inlet. Sheila fooled the 24 1/2-inch snapper with a paddletail.



Joe McNeal ventured out to the Bass Grounds on the charter boat, "Fish Bound" with Capt. Kane Bounds and mate Kevin Twilley and ended up catching this 3 lb. black sea bass while dropping a jig head tipped with a Gulp artificial bait in 65-feet of water.

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While fishing from the beach on Assateague Island, Julie Stevenson of Lewes, DE braved the cold, rainy weather and was rewarded with a 44-inch striper that weighed in at an even 35 lbs. Julie hooked the personal best linesider with a peeler crab. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.



Kenny Mack is all smiles after boating a 2 lb. 12 oz. black sea bass while fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Rich Fouts and Dean Lo. The knothead made the mistake of going after the strip of squid that Kenny dropped on to an artificial reef.



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Ocean City Fishing Center Ocean City Golf Club Old Pro Golf PKS & Company P.A.
Premier Flooring Installation Proper Pitch LLC Pruitt P3 & Company P.A.
PT's Marine LLC PYY Marine Racetrack Auto & Marine Red Sun Custom Apparel
R.J. Lock & Security Rt. 113 Boat Sales Sea Bay Hotel & Cafe SeaBoard Media
Senor Cigars Shannon Management Co., Inc. Smoker's BBQ Pit
Stanley & Richstone P.A. Steen Homes Sugarloaf, Inc. Sunset Marina
Superior Electrical Services Inc Tanks Direct Tax & Financial Services LLC
Taxi Taxi LLC The Windrow Group - R. Erik Windrow Top Dog Services
West O Bottle Shop

<p>10th Annual Memorial Day Tournament*</p> <p>Registration: May 24, 6:30 PM</p> <p>Fishing Days: (1 of 2) May 25 & 26</p> <p>Awards Banquet: May 26, 6:30 PM</p>	<p>40th Annual Small Boat Tournament*</p> <p>Registration: June 14, 6:30 PM</p> <p>Fishing Days: (1 of 2) June 15 & 16</p> <p>Awards Banquet: June 16, 6:30 PM</p>	<p>37th Annual Canyon Kickoff*</p> <p>FREE TO PAID OCMC BOAT MEMBERS</p> <p>Registration: July 3, 6:30 PM</p> <p>Fishing Days: (2 of 3) July 5, 6 & 7</p> <p>Awards Banquet: July 7, 6:30 PM</p>	<p>15th Annual Kid's Classic*</p> <p>To benefit Wish-A-Fish Foundation</p> <p>Registration: July 19, 6:30 PM</p> <p>Fishing Days: (1 or 2 of 2) July 20 & 21</p> <p>Sunday Carnival & Awards: July 21, 5:00 PM</p>
<p>11th Annual OCMC Ladies Tournament "Heels & Reels"*</p> <p>To benefit the Marlin Club Crew of OC Scholarship Fund</p> <p>Registration: August 1, 6:00 PM</p> <p>Fishing Days: (1 of 2) August 2 & 3</p> <p>Awards Banquet: August 3, 6:30 PM</p>	<p>61st Annual Labor Day White Marlin Tournament*</p> <p>Registration: August 29, 6:30 PM</p> <p>Fishing Days: (2 of 3) August 30, 31 & September 1</p> <p>*with overnight option</p> <p>Awards Banquet: Friday/Saturday or Saturday/Sunday</p> <p>Awards Banquet: September 1, 6:30 PM</p>	<p>4th Annual OCMC vs. OCLTC Shoot-Out</p> <p>Angler Meeting: September 5, 7:00 PM</p> <p>Fishing Days: (2 of 3) September 6, 7 & 8</p> <p>Awards Banquet: September 8, 6:30 PM</p>	<p>41st Annual Charles Kratz & Scott Smith Challenge Cup</p> <p>Registration: September 11, 7:00 PM</p> <p>Fishing Days: (2 of 3) September 12, 13 & 14</p> <p>Italian Night: September 13, 6:30 pm</p> <p>Awards Banquet: September 14, 6:30pm</p>

410.213.1613

info@ocmarlinclub.com





The black drum bite heated up at the Coral Beds in the Delaware Bay and Quintin Bailey from Lancaster, PA jumped on it, boating this 14 pounder while using clams for bait. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Tim Lynch was fishing in the surf off South Bethany when he hooked into this 37-inch bluefish while using a whole mullet for bait.

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Naadia Walls (center) from Philadelphia, PA caught this 6 lb. black drum while fishing on the charter boat, "On the Run" with Nasir and Devon Walls and Capt. Dave Caffrey. The black drum was hooked on a crab at the South Jetty. Weighed at Bahia Marina.

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Ronnie Baker was fishing off the beach on Assateague Island when he caught 3 striped bass, measuring between 40 and 45-inches and weighing between 30 and 35 lbs. He also caught a black drum and some bluefish during his trip.

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This monster mahi was caught by local angler, Joe Fenstermaker during a late March trip to Los Suenos, Costa Rica. The 60-inch fish ended up tipping the scale at an even 70 lbs.



After fooling this big tog with a green crab on ocean structure, Mike Thompson of Wilmington, DE threw it on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina where it registered an impressive 16 lbs. Mike was fishing on the charter boat, "Katydid" with Capt. Brent Wiest and mate Chris Vann.

DELAWARE REGULATIONS

... STATE WATERS ONLY ...



BLACK SEA BASS
12.5" minimum
15 per person/day
5/15 - 12/31



BLUEFISH
No minimum size
10 per person/day



BLACK DRUM
16" minimum
3 per person/day



COBIA
No limit



CROAKER
8" minimum
No creel limit



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



SHEEPSHEAD
No limit



SPECKLED TROUT
12" minimum
No creel limit



STRIPED BASS
28" - 37" or 44" and greater
2 per person
Catch & release only on spawning
grounds 4/1 - 5/31



SUMMER FLOUNDER
16.5" minimum
4 per person/day



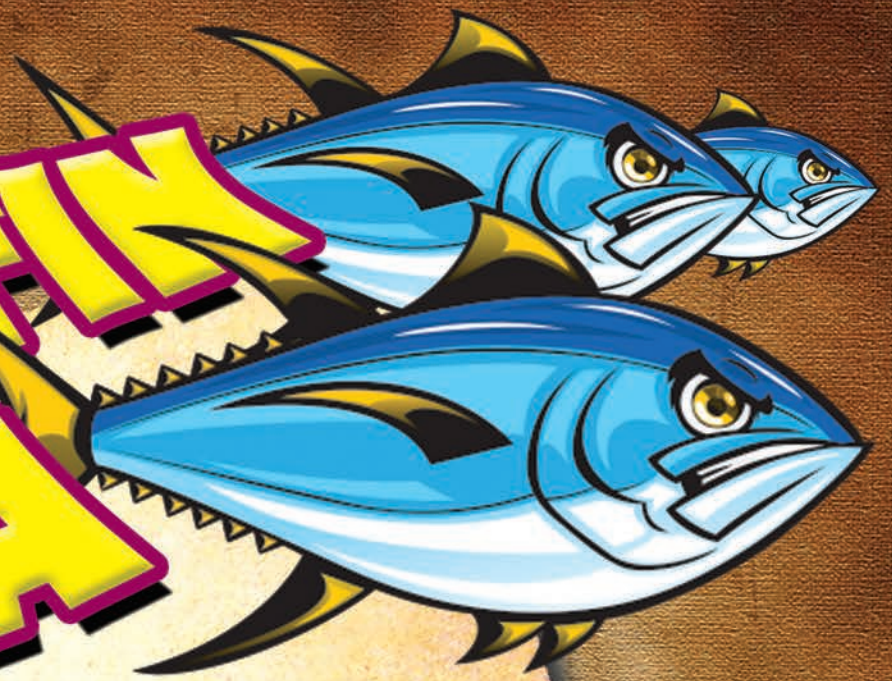
TAUTOG
Closed 5/16 - 6/30



WEAKFISH
13" minimum
1 per person/day

Facts about

YELLOWFIN TUNA



- The current I.G.F.A. All Tackle World Record yellowfin tuna weighed 427 lbs. and was caught off Cabo San Lucas, Mexico in September 2012.

The yellowfin tuna is among the larger tuna species, reaching weights over 400 pounds, but is significantly smaller than the Atlantic and Pacific bluefin tunas, which can reach over 990 pounds, and slightly smaller than the bigeye tuna and the southern bluefin tuna.

- The second dorsal fin and the anal fin, as well as the finlets between those fins and the tail, are bright yellow, giving this fish its common name. The second dorsal and anal fins can be very long in mature specimens, reaching almost as far back as the tail and giving the appearance of sickles. The pectoral fins are also longer than the bluefin tuna, but not as long as those of the longfin albacore. The main body is a very dark metallic blue, changing to silver on the belly, which has about 20 vertical lines.
- Yellowfin tuna are epipelagic fish that inhabit the mixed surface layer of the ocean above the thermocline in 65 to 88-degree water. Sonic tracking has found that although yellowfin tuna, unlike the related bigeye tuna, mostly range in the top 330 ft. of the water column and penetrate the thermocline relatively infrequently, they are capable of diving to considerable depths. An individual fish tagged in the Indian Ocean with an archival tag spent 85% of its time in depths shallower than 246 ft., but was recorded making dives to 3,810 ft.
- Yellowfin tuna often travel in schools with similarly sized companions. They sometimes school with other tuna species and mixed schools of smaller yellowfin and skipjack tuna. They are often associated with various species of dolphins or porpoises, as well as with larger marine creatures such as whales and whale sharks. They also associate with drifting flotsam such as logs and pallets, and sonic tagging indicates some follow moving vessels

Spawning occurs throughout the year with the peak during summer months. They typically reach weights of slightly over 8 lbs. after only 18 months.

- Yellowfin tuna prey include other fish, pelagic crustaceans and squid. Like all tunas, their body shape is particularly adapted for speed, enabling them to pursue and capture fast-moving baitfish such as flying fish, sauries, and mackerel. Schooling species such as myctophids or lanternfish and similar pelagic driftfish, anchovies, and sardines are frequently taken. Large yellowfins prey on smaller members of the tuna family such as frigate mackerel and skipjack tuna. In turn, yellowfin are preyed upon when they are young by other pelagic hunters, including larger tuna, seabirds and predatory fish such as wahoo, shark and billfish. Adults are threatened only by the largest and fastest hunters, such as toothed whales, particularly the false killer whale, pelagic sharks such as the mako and great white shark, large Atlantic blue marlin, Pacific blue marlin and black marlin. The main source of mortality, however, is industrial tuna fisheries.

Yellowfins are able to escape most predators, because unlike most fish, tuna are warm-blooded and their warm muscles make them extremely strong swimmers, with speeds of up to 50 miles per hour. They can navigate enormous distances, sometimes crossing entire oceans.

- Yellowfin tuna have a typical lifespan of 8 years.

Source:
Wikipedia.com

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Bobby Eberhard was fishing with Eddie Mathews and Capt. Shannon Pickens when he hooked into this 22-inch, 5 lb. black sea bass. The big knothead was one of 45 fish the guys caught this day with all being fooled with clams, squid and Gulp on an ocean wreck in 150-feet of water. Weighed at Atlantic Tackle in West Ocean City.



Pick Up Your Coastal Fisherman At These Locations

OCEAN CITY

Angler Restaurant
Talbot Street Pier
Wockenfuss Candy - Boardwalk 1st St.
Wockenfuss Candy - Boardwalk 7th St.
Layton's Restaurant - 16th St.
Reel Inn - 17th St.
Bahia Marina - 22nd St.
Anthony's Beer, Wine & Deli - 33rd St.
Minit Market - 33rd St.
Dough Roller - 41st St.
Seacrets - 49th St.
64th Street Market - 64th St.
Advanced Marina - 66th St.
Holiday Inn - 67th St.
Mione's Pizza - 67th St.
Dough Roller - 69th St.
Exxon Wine Rack - 86th St.
Layton's on 92nd St.
Liquid Assets - 94th St.
Coffee Beanery - 94th St.
Wawa - 120th St.
Montego Bay Market - 130th St.
7-Eleven - 139th St.

WEST OCEAN CITY

Ocean City Visitors Center
Wawa - Rt. 50
Mione's Pizza - Outlets
Wockenfuss Candy - Outlets
Bank of Ocean City
West-O Bottle Shop & Bar - Rt. 50
All Tackle Ocean City - Rt. 50
Chick-Fil-A - Rt. 50
Starbucks - Rt. 50
Ocean City Fishing Center
Ocean City Marlin Club
Harborside Bar & Grill
Atlantic Tackle
Sunset Grille
Sunset Marina
Sunset Provisions
Harbor Marine
Food Lion - Rt. 611
Larry's Trading Post - Rt. 611
Optical Galleria - Rt. 611
Southside Deli - Rt. 611
Marlin Market - Rt. 611

BERLIN & PITTSVILLE

Walmart - Rt. 50 (both entrances)
Berlin Post Office
Buck's Place - Rt. 611
Frontier Town - Check-In
Frontier Town - Country Store
Assateague Market - Rt. 611
7-Eleven - Rt. 589
Crabs To Go - Rt. 50
Royal Farms - Rt. 50
Pittsville Ford

FENWICK/SELBYVILLE

Fenwick Tackle
Mancini's Italian Restaurant
Uncle Willie's
Rt.113 Boat Sales
Harris Teeter
Food Lion Rt.54
Lone Mullet Seafood Market
INDIAN RIVER
Indian River Marina
Hook 'em & Cook 'em Tackle Shop

BETHANY, OCEAN VIEW & MILLVILLE

Hook 'em & Cook 'em Outfitters - Rt.1
G&E Supermarket
G&E Hardware - Cedar Neck Rd.
Hocker's Deli - Rt. 26
Gull's Way Campground
Tuckahoe Campground
Giant Supermarket - Rt. 26
Hocker's Supermarket - Rt. 26
Wawa - Rt. 26
Bethany Auto & Marine - Rt. 26
Bob's Marine

DEWEY, REHOBOTH & LEWES

Pier Point Marina
Lewes Harbour Marina
ACME - Rt. 1

LONG NECK


Short's Marine
Rick's Bait & Tackle



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**Tides & Moon Phases
OCEAN CITY INLET**

Wed. May 22	Low 05:20 am Low 04:58 pm	High 11:08 am High 11:40 pm
Thurs. May 23	Low 06:12 am Low 05:47 pm	High 11:53 am High -----
Fri. May 24	Low 07:03 am Low 06:40 pm	High 12:24 am High 12:41 pm
Sat. May 25	Low 07:54 am Low 07:35 pm	High 01:12 am High 01:35 pm
Sun. May 26 LAST QTR. MOON	Low 08:41 am Low 08:33 pm	High 02:04 am High 02:34 pm
Mon. May 27	Low 09:26 am Low 09:31 pm	High 02:59 am High 03:34 pm
Tues. May 28	Low 10:08 am Low 10:29 pm	High 03:52 am High 04:29 pm
Wed. May 29	Low 10:48 am Low 11:25 pm	High 04:40 am High 05:18 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.

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS MAY

10TH ANNUAL MARLIN CLUB MEMORIAL DAY TOURNAMENT
MAY 25-26 • OCEAN CITY MARLIN CLUB • 410-213-1613

JUNE

23RD ANNUAL MAKO MANIA
JUNE 7-9 • BAHIA MARINA • 410-289-7438

39TH ANNUAL SOUTH JERSEY SHARK TOURNAMENT
JUNE 5-8 • CAPE MAY, NJ • 609-884-0177

61ST ANNUAL BIG ROCK BLUE MARLIN TOURNAMENT
LADIES TOURNAMENT - JUNE 7 • TOURNAMENT - JUNE 10-15
MOREHEAD CITY, NC • 252-247-3575

40TH ANNUAL MARLIN CLUB SMALL BOAT TOURNAMENT
JUNE 15-16 • OCEAN CITY MARLIN CLUB • 410-213-1613

THE MIDATLANTIC TUNA TOURNAMENT
JUNE 19-23 • CAPE MAY, NJ • 609-884-2400

5TH ANNUAL INDIAN RIVER KIDS CATCH-ALL TOURNAMENT
JUNE 21-23 • INDIAN RIVER MARINA • 302-227-3071

CBSFA TUNA-FORTUNA TOURNAMENT
JUNE 21-23 • OCEAN CITY, MD • 410-868-5488

JULY

THE MIDATLANTIC CUP
JULY 4 • CAPE MAY, NJ • 609-884-0177

37TH ANNUAL MARLIN CLUB CANYON KICK-OFF
JULY 4-7 • OCEAN CITY MARLIN CLUB • 410-213-1613

CBSFA FLOUNDER SOUNDER TOURNAMENT
JULY 6 • OCEAN CITY, MD • 410-868-5488

SOUTH JERSEY YACHT SALES OFFSHORE SHOWDOWN
JULY 10-13 • CAPE MAY, NJ • 609-884-0177

32ND ANNUAL OCEAN CITY TUNA TOURNAMENT
JULY 12-14 • O.C. FISHING CENTER • 410-213-1121

15TH ANNUAL MARLIN CLUB KID'S CLASSIC
JULY 20-21 • OC MARLIN CLUB • 410-213-1613

53RD ANNUAL YACHT CLUB OF STONE HARBOR MARLIN TOURNAMENT
JULY 28 • CAPE MAY, NJ • 609-884-0177

5TH ANNUAL BIG FISH CLASSIC
JULY 26-28 • TALBOT STREET PIER • 410-213-0325

AUGUST

11TH ANNUAL OC MARLIN CLUB LADIES TOURNAMENT
AUGUST 2-3 • OC MARLIN CLUB • 410-213-1613



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561-762-0096



Joel McLeod
772-834-8549



Mike Ivancevic
561-202-7102



Brian Speedy
561-685-2055



Steve Hedrick
717-586-9841



Dave Shockley
561-262-6726



Terry Layton
410-726-7991



Erik Anderson
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TRANQUILO - 2011 57' Spencer
Custom Carolina - Call Jimmy Fields



HALCYON - 1998 55' Viking
Call Jimmy Fields



IRONED OUT - 1989 61' Buddy Davis
Call Jeff James



TAKIN A BREAK - 1997 45' Ocean SS
Call Steve Hedrick



PROVIDER - 1974 46' Buddy Harris
Call Jeff James



MECHANICAL MAN - 2008 68' Weaver
Custom Sportfish - Call Jimmy Fields



COTTON PICKER - 1995 57' Ricky Scarborough
Custom Carolina - Call Joel McLeod



FLORIDIAN - 1990 60' Custom
Carolina - Call Jimmy Fields



CHUBBY - 1995 42' Liberty
Call Jeff James



REEL NAUGHTY - 1997 40' Ocean
Call Steve Hedrick



2014 25' Grady White Fisherman
Call Terry Layton



BUGGYWASHER - 2007 74' Viking
Enclosed Bridge - Call Erik Anderson



TEAZ'EM - 2004 54' Hudson Custom
Sportfish - Call Jimmy Fields



FISHIN FEVER - 1998 52' Buddy Davis
Call Jeff James



OUT OF ORDER - 1993 50' Viking
Call Jimmy Fields



2016 31' Cape Horn
Call Erik Anderson



2015 25' Chris Craft
Call Dave Shockley



MJLONIR - 2016 70' Viking
Call Jimmy Fields or Ronnie Fields



NATURAL - 1978 53' Monterey
Call Jimmy Fields



JACKAL - 2012 36' Yellowfin
Call Joel McLeod



CONSTELLATION - 1984 37' Sunny Briggs
Call Ronnie Fields



NO SWEAT - 1986 48' Billy Holton
Call Jeff James



SLAUGHTERHOUSE - 1989/2017 31' Shamrock
Call Terry Layton

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