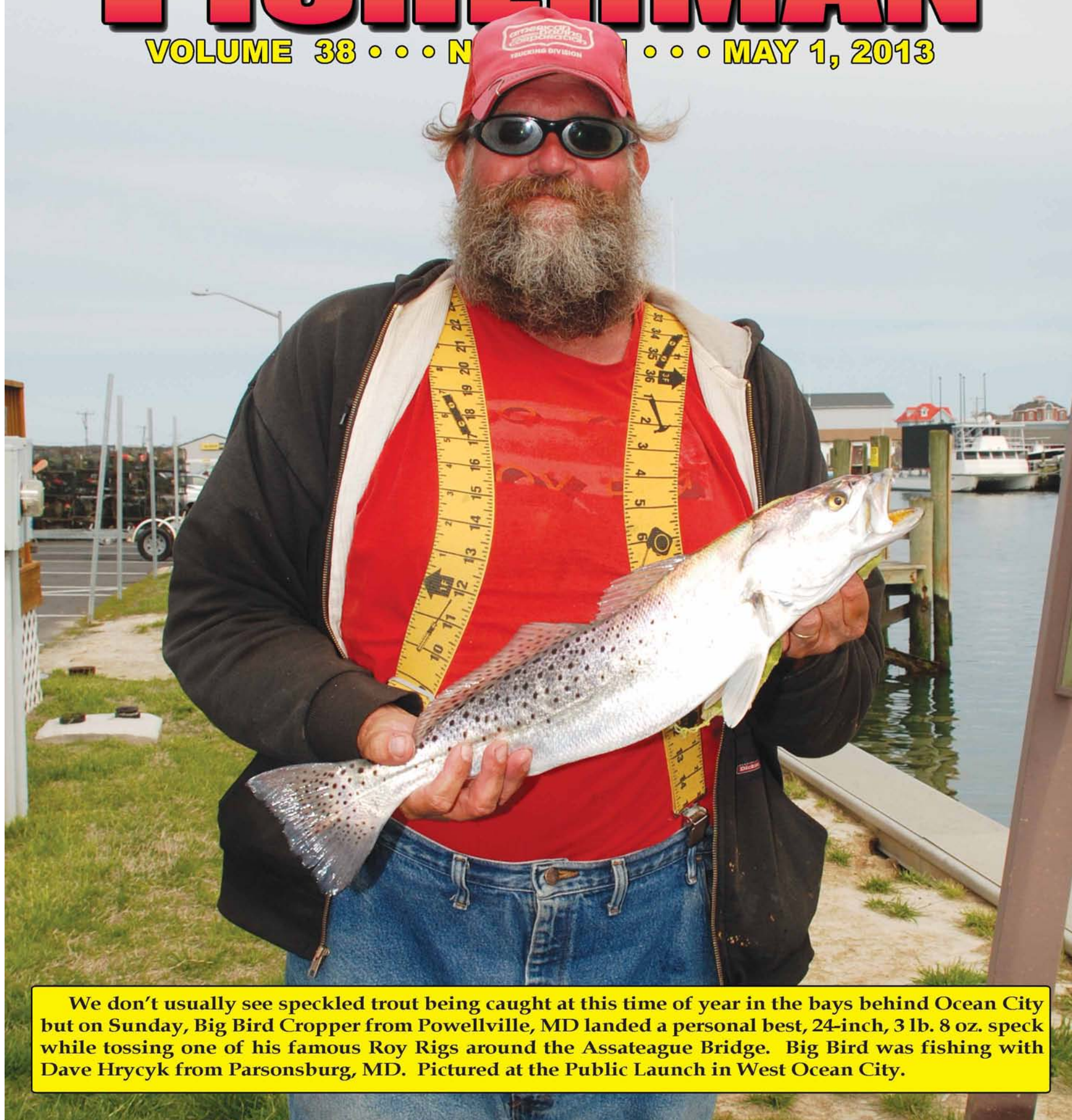


Priceless

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COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 38 • • • NUMBER 1 • • • MAY 1, 2013



We don't usually see speckled trout being caught at this time of year in the bays behind Ocean City but on Sunday, Big Bird Cropper from Powellville, MD landed a personal best, 24-inch, 3 lb. 8 oz. speck while tossing one of his famous Roy Rigs around the Assateague Bridge. Big Bird was fishing with Dave Hrycyk from Parsonsburg, MD. Pictured at the Public Launch in West Ocean City.



Last Friday, Rusty and Rhonda Daub from Ocean Pines, MD captured these 3 flounder while drifting bucktails tipped with live minnows at the intersection of the East Channel and the Thorofare. The largest flattie measured 23.5-inches and weighed 4 lbs. 8 oz. All of the fish were caught in 54-degree water.



Matt Bomberger of Downingtown, PA was fishing from the beach at 3R's Road in Delaware when he hooked into this 41.5-inch striped bass. Matt was using fresh, cut bunker and weighed the 23.2 pounder at Hook'em & Cook'em in South Bethany Beach, DE.

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In mid-April, Amanda Peterson caught and released this 26-inch, 15 lb. female tautog while fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder. The blackfish ate a large white crab at a coral reef.



On April 21st, this 5 lb. 14 oz. chopper bluefish fell at the hands of Noah Graulich of Lewes, DE while fishing from the beach at Cape Henlopen State Park. Noah used bunker for bait and weighed his catch at Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE.



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AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: For many years "RATTLE & REEL" has been Delmarva's largest independent Hunting, Fishing and Outdoor Retailer. All new merchandise from all major manufacturers. These are the remaining items from the larger sale in April. If you need hunting or fishing supplies, this sale is for you. Get ready for the summer season. Everything will be SOLD item by item and in small lots.



Joe and Amanda Morris, owners of Lewes Harbour Marina, took their annual trip to Cudjoe Key, FL and were rewarded with these 2 big amberjacks. Amanda's tipped the scale at 70 lbs. and Joe's weighed in at 69 lbs. Both were caught on live pinfish at an ocean wreck in 400 feet of water.



On April 1st, Kevin "The King" Weber of Ocean City, MD caught the first flounder of the year, a 21-incher, while drifting a 6-inch Gulp Swimming Mullet just north of the Assateague Bridge. The good size flattie weighed in at 3 lbs. 7 oz. Pictured at the public launch in West Ocean City.

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Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



Up until last weekend, I truly wondered if this issue of the *Coastal Fisherman* would have only a couple of pictures of recent catches. That's how slow fishing has been.

It's really been like that since the beginning of the year. Striper fishermen suffered through a dismal fall/winter season, where we saw one good day of weather followed by 6 days of wind. It's really a shame because when we could get out into the ocean to catch some linesiders, we got into them pretty good, with some nice size ones in the mix.

Anyway, we are now into late April, and the nasty weather has definitely caused a late start to the season.

Surfcaster off Assateague were kept busy in April with a fantastic run of black drum. It has cooled off lately, but for a couple of weeks the bite was pretty hot. There has been nothing to really report, striper wise, off Assateague. Some nice fish have been caught (and released), but nothing to really crow about. Lately, it seems like puffers have dominated the action, especially from the beach off Ocean City and further north.

In the bay, for the last 3 weeks, anglers trolling in the Thorofare have reportedly been quietly returning with some nice catches of flounder, but I'm not entirely sold on these rumors. Anglers I spoke to who have fished up in that area, prior to last weekend, said that there wasn't much action, so who knows.

What I do know is that this



On Sunday, Joe Dragunas from Jarrettsville, MD and Kevin Weber from Ocean City, MD had a great day flounder fishing, returning to Bahia Marina with their limit of 8 flatties in the box. The fish were caught while trolling Gulp! Swimming Mulletts and minnows. The heaviest weighed 3 lbs. 6 oz. and

past weekend was fantastic for fishing behind Ocean City. Water temperatures during the incoming tide hovered around the mid-50's, but would get as high as 64-65 degrees at the end of the outgoing. This resulted in an excellent flounder bite from as far south as the Assateague Bridge all the way up to the Rt. 90 Bridge.

If you haven't heard, this year Maryland anglers will be allowed to keep 4 flounder that are a minimum size of 16-inches. I would anticipate seeing more flatties at the scales, like we did over the weekend.

On Saturday, it seemed like the best bite was right around the bend where the East Channel meets the Thorofare off Harbour Island. Anglers drifting or trolling bucktails tipped with live

minnows did well. Gulp! Swimming Mulletts also produced some fish, but not as many as with live bait. Fish were also caught on the flats, north of the Thorofare as well. Brooke, Moorea, Christie and Jay Phillips trolled and drifted shiners in the Thorofare and ended their day with 13 flatties in the box. The headboat, "Bay Bee" had 7 keepers during their afternoon trip.

On Sunday, we continued to see flounder hooked in the East Channel and up in the Thorofare, but the better bite was in the bay behind Assateague Island. A good number of boats were seen drifting by the duck blinds and behind Frontier Town. Fish were also caught in good numbers along the channel, north of the Assateague Bridge. As shown in the picture to the left, Joe Dragunas and Kevin Weber had a great day, coming home with 8 keepers after hooking 14 just north of the Assateague Bridge. The guys were trolling several rods with flounder rigs. Some were baited with minnows, others with big, 6-inch Gulp! Swimming Mulletts. Kevin reported good results from the pink artificial bait.

Some anglers are starting to fish with Alabama rigs, made popular on the freshwater bass tour. These are basically small umbrella rigs with a 1/4 ounce weight on the front of it. Rigs can vary from 3 arms up to 7 arms. Anglers need to remember that, in Maryland, you are only allowed to have 2 hooks on your line, so you don't want to exceed that on your Alabama rig.

Elsewhere in the bay, small stripers have been caught around the bridges and we saw a nice 34-inch come in on Sunday by Brian Behe who was fishing down by the Assateague Bridge.

The surprise catch of the week was the 24-inch speckled

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COASTAL FISHERMAN

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Arthur Guido from Bel Air, MD looks like he still can't believe he caught this 18 lb. 6 oz. tautog while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder. The big blackfish was hooked on a green crab at an ocean wreck on February 6th. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

trout landed by Big Bird Cropper who was also down by the Assateague Bridge. Big Bird landed the trout on his trusty Roy Rig, which can now be purchased in several area tackle shops.

Headboat anglers heading to ocean wrecks and reefs have returned with some nice catches of tautog. The heaviest one so far in 2013 is pictured above, an 18 lb. 6 oz. hog caught by Arthur Guido back in early February. Unfortunately, tautog is all that has been on the menu since the feds are dragging their butts on the opening of our sea bass season. Nothing has been written in stone, but everyone is

banking on May 19th.

Finally, we are always getting calls from people asking how they can get their picture in the *Coastal Fisherman*. Well, there are several ways to get your picture on the list:

- Call us at 410-213-2200 and we can take your picture.
- Email your picture to coastalfisherman@comcast.net
- Stop by our office at the corner of Sunset Avenue and Golf Course Road in West Ocean City and we will take your picture.

Let's hope that the good bite from the weekend continues and we will hopefully see your picture in an upcoming issue!

Tight lines.

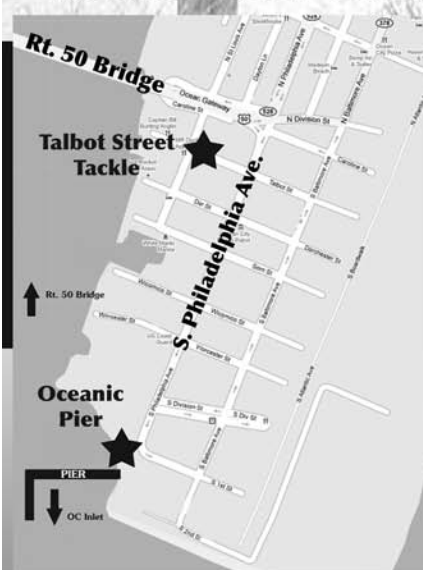


Danny Cox and Greg Volpitta revved up the "Ms' Der" on a cool and windy day in April and caught their limit of flounder while drifting minnows in the Thorofare. The fish measured between 17 and 18-inches.

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On Sunday, Joel Robinson arrived at Bill's Sport Shop with this 28-inch weakfish that he fooled with a live minnow while fishing off the beach in Lewes. The weakie tipped the scale at an even 7 lbs.



Tom Kessler caught this 22-inch flounder on a Gulp! swimming mullet in the bay behind the Ocean City Airport in mid-April. Tom was fishing with Mike Herbert.

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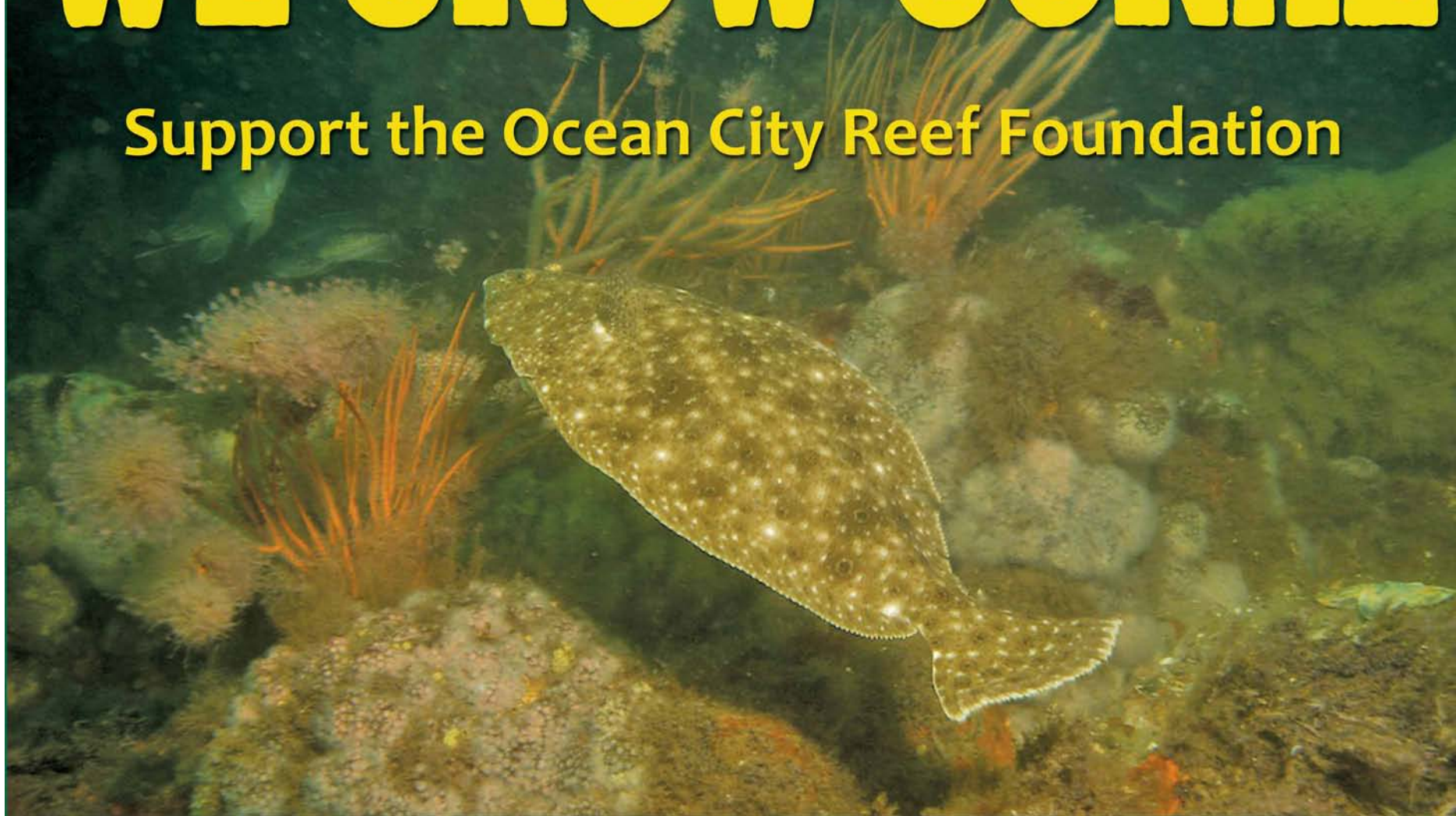
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Photo taken along Maryland's Coast. Credit: Michael Eversmier

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Driftin' Easy

—by Sue Foster



Well, It's another year and it's the first *Coastal Fisherman*. What to write about?

It's funny how many phone calls I get in the spring from anglers trying to plan their vacation around the fish running. "What two weeks can I book to catch the striper run? What's the best week to catch tautog in the spring? Will flounder be running the second week of May?"

I've found over the years that every year is different and trying to coordinate a vacation with a fish bite can be a guessing game. One thing is for sure, you need decent weather and water temperatures for fish to bite in earnest.

Easter was early this year, the last weekend in March. Vacationers came down expecting to catch fish, but the water temperatures were only in the low 40's and the fish just were not biting. When water temperatures climb to 50 degrees, almost every fish in saltwater comes somewhat alive. When the sun comes out to warm the water, a 46 degree bay temperature can soar to 56 degrees on an outgoing tide! But if it's cloudy and overcast,

this won't happen and that's what happened over Easter!

"When do the stripers bite the best in the surf?"

Stripers will start biting when water temperatures reach around 45 degrees but that can be a real "hit or miss." I saw this "post" on a forum by "SurfWalker" and I would say it's right on!

"Two of my best months have always been May (50°-56°) and November (56°- 50°). This also coincides with the bait movement."

The last three years has seen a good run of stripers in May so lets hope it's the same this year! The prospects are looking good!

"How come we get big stripers in the spring and fall, and smaller schoolie stripers during the summer months?"

Apparently there are two big striper migrations every year, one in the spring and one in the fall.

In the spring, stripers that winter in the deep waters off VA and NC head north and go up into the rivers to spawn. They feed on herring and shad in these rivers. After they spawn, they leave the rivers and hang out in our bays and

surf until the water temperatures get too warm. Then they head north, into New England and even Maine. Schoolie stripers hang close to where they were born for a couple years, while the larger spawning stripers move on. The schoolie stripers start biting at 45 degrees, but bite best when the water temperature reaches 50 degrees. When the water gets too warm, they look for deep holes and are primarily caught at night, at first light or dusk. That's why anglers do well at the end of jetties or from the deep channels close to the Bridge pilings.

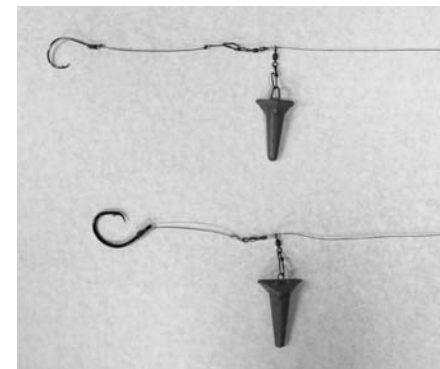
Seventy percent of the migrating stripers are from the Chesapeake Bay and the rivers flowing into it. But a lot of stripers also come from the Delaware Bay and the rivers that flow into it. So along the Delmarva coast we have stripers from both areas.

In the fall, when the waters start to cool down, the stripers move back towards their wintering grounds offshore of VA and NC. They travel down the coast feeding on silver sides, bunker and finger mullet. That's when we see birds diving on bait and stripers in feeding frenzies. The fish can be very aggressive.

Typically, we see the migrating spring stripers towards the mid-to-later part

of April and have a really good run in May.

Early season stripers can be slightly sluggish at first. Lures should be worked slowly. Bait such as a good-sized chunk of bunker is thrown into the surf and then "we wait" for the striper to pick up the bait. A lot of surfcasters prefer a "fish finder" rig so the striper can pick up the bait and not feel the weight of the sinker at first. A fish finder rig is just a simple little gizmo made out of a plastic sleeve and a sinker snap. Slide the hard plastic sleeve onto your line, attach a good quality barrel swivel or snap swivel to the end of your line and attach a single leadered hook. Many of the manufactured striper rigs come with a leadered hook with a barrel swivel attached to the leader and a loose fish finder rig just thrown in the package.



If you use bunker for bait, cut it up into big chunks. You can use the head for a big striper, but don't use the tail. It's too boney and doesn't cast good to boot. When you cut off



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the tail, you can hook that piece of bait right through that boney piece of meat at the base of the tail section and it stays on the hook really well. Some of these migrating stripers in the spring are really big, so don't be afraid to use a good size chunk of bunker.

If fresh bunker isn't available there's good quality vacuum-sealed bunker packed especially for fishing bait. It is blast frozen while it is very fresh. Fresh frozen bunker can be better than 3-day-old bunker sitting in a cooler! There is also vacuumed sealed and salted bunker fillets that work nicely. Just slice them up into good-sized chunks. They are good and really easy for the novice to use.

Some anglers like to use clam for bait. If you use clam, buy one of those high/low striper rigs made especially for clam. They have short leaders so they cast easily. Stripers tend to go for clam when the surf is turbulent. Stripers come in close looking for churned up clams, worms and crabs.

Though a little pricey, stripers will gladly grab a whole bloodworm threaded on a hook in the spring as well!

Once the water in the surf gets too warm, usually by mid-June, you don't see as many stripers but locals tell me that during the summer there's quite a bit of action at night from the Route 50 Bridge and also in the Indian River Inlet. They may not be those big migrating stripers that anglers catch in the spring and fall, but they are there. Just keep in mind that you may not find them during the middle of the day. Anglers that do want to try to catch stripers from the surf, inlets and around the bridges during the summer need to fish at dusk, at night or right before first light.

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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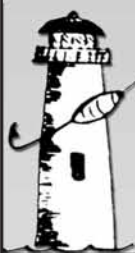
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18" - 27" 1 per person/day



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OCEAN CITY MARLIN CLUB 2013 Tournament Series

www.OCMarlinClub.com 410.213.1613 info@ocmarlinclub.com

4th Annual Memorial Day Bluefish Tournament

Chairman: Franky Pettolina

Registration: May 24, 6:30 p.m.

Fishing Days: (1 of 2) May 25 & 26

Awards Banquet: May 26, 6:30 p.m.

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

34th Annual Small Boat Tournament

Chairman: Bill Regan

Registration: June 21, 6:30 p.m.

Fishing Days: (1 of 2) June 22 & 23

Awards Banquet: June 23, 6:30 p.m.

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

31st Annual Canyon Kick Off

Chairmen: Bill Regan & Annette Cropper

Registration: July 3, 6:30 p.m.

Fishing Days: (2 of 3) July 5, 6 & 7

Awards Banquet: July 7, 6:30 p.m.

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

9th Annual Kid's Classic

Chairmen: Bill Regan,

Annette Cropper & Pat Svehla

Registration: July 19, 6:30 p.m.

Fishing Days: (1 or 2 of 2) July 20 & 21

Sunday Carnival & Awards: July 21, 5 - 8 p.m.

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

5th Annual OCMC Ladies' Tournament

Chairmen: Franky Pettolina & Amanda Shick

Registration: August 1, 6 p.m.

Fishing Days: (1 of 2) August 2 & 3

Awards Banquet: August 3, 6:30 p.m.

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

55th Annual Labor Day White Marlin Tournament

Chairmen: Franky Pettolina,

Al Rittmeyer, Bob Wimbrow & Bill Fenwick

Registration: Aug. 29, 6:30 p.m.

Fishing Days: (2 of 3) Aug. 30, 31 & Sept. 1

Awards Banquet: Sept. 1, 6:30 p.m.

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

35th Annual Challenge Cup

Chairman: Jon C. Duffie

Registration: Sept. 12, 7 p.m.

Fishing Days: (2 of 2) Sept. 13 & 14

Awards Banquet: Sept. 14 6:30 p.m.

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Surfcaster fishing off Assateague Island experienced a fantastic black drum run in April and Bill Powell landed the very first one while fishing with Allen Sklar. The dedicated duo had gone 21 days without a fish prior to landing this black drum.

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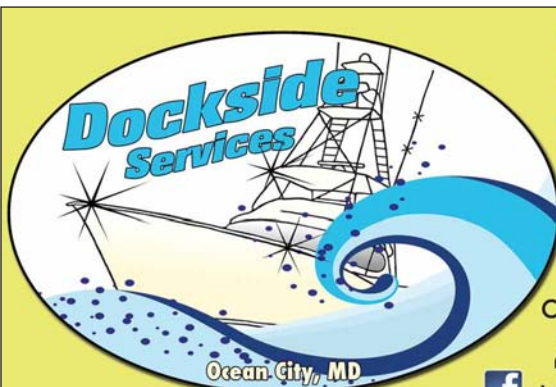
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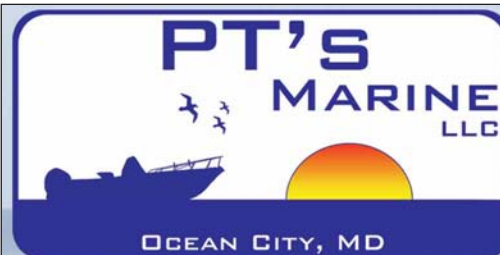
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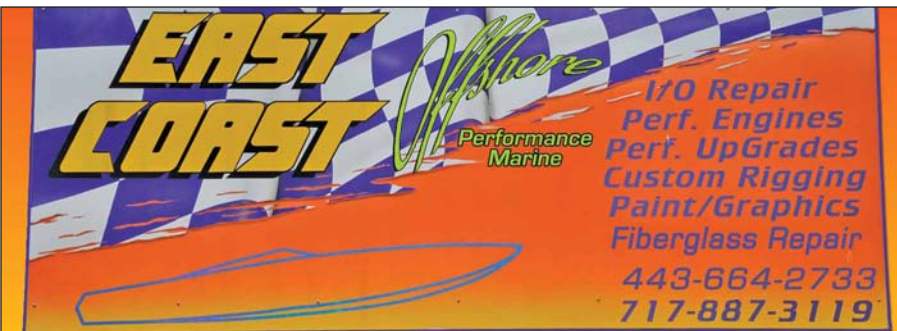
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On Saturday, Cole Jarman, age 6, reeled in this 19 1/2-inch flounder during a trip aboard the charter boat, "Ocean City Guide Service". Cole hooked the flounder on a Gulp! Swimming Mullet north of the Rt. 50 Bridge. Pictured at Castaway's Campground.




Rusty Daub of Ocean Pines, MD fooled this 22-inch flounder with a bucktail tipped with a minnow while drifting in the Thorofare last weekend.

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Anglers on the headboat, "Bay Bee" took advantage of a good flounder bite on Saturday, returning with 7 keepers in the box. All were caught near Harbor Island on shiners with Capt. Mike Walsh at the wheel and mate Cale Layton working the deck. Pictured are Katie Fingles, Ray Davis from Salisbury, MD, Paul DiForte from Trappe, MD, Nick Gammill from Hyattsville, MD and Joe Bertsch from Ocean Pines, MD. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Keith Sherman landed this 40-inch, 25 lb. 8 oz. striped bass while fishing with bunker at the Conquest wreck in the upper Delaware Bay. Keith also caught 10 bluefish during the trip. Weighed at Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE.

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On March 22nd, Doran Brown, Rob Marchalonis, Tony Vanderwal, Tom Washburn and Capt. Mike Davidson took the "G-Force" down to Oregon Inlet and were rewarded with this wicked 201 lb. bluefin tuna. The fish ate a horse ballyhoo dressed up with a pink and white Ilander, east of The Point.

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While celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary in February, Lori and Steve Trattner of West Ocean City, MD took a trip to Costa Rica where Lori landed this big mahi. The duo also hooked quite a few sailfish during the trip. They also found time to fish inshore where they caught snappers, big amberjacks and roosterfish.



Over the winter, Ken Thompson caught this pair of mahi while fishing offshore of Georgetown in the Bahamas.

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Seth Obetz caught and released this sailfish during a trip to Isla Mujeres, Mexico with Mike and Tami Davidson.



Local angler, Jeff Greenwood, took a road trip to Oregon Inlet with Kevin McCabe and caught this 300 lb. mako shark on the chunk. It took 2.5 hours to get the big mako to the "Double Trouble" after spooling them several times.

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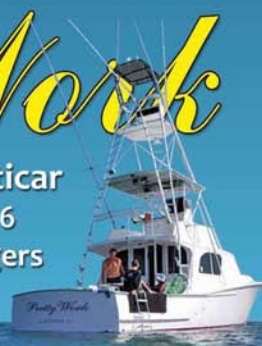
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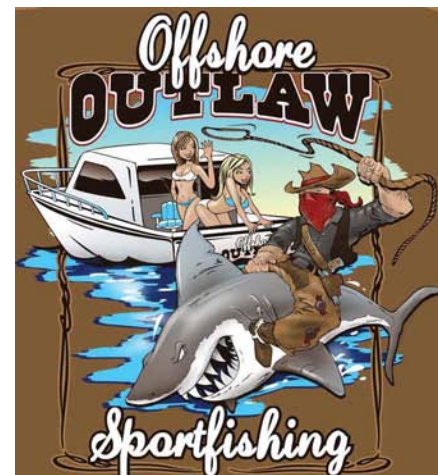


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Judah Lynam captured this 17 lb. black drum while fishing with clams from the surf at Herring Point in Delaware. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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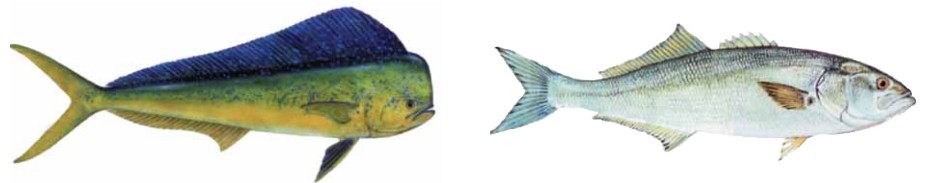
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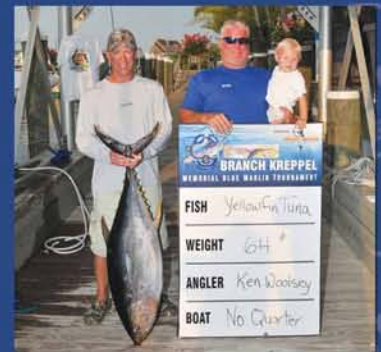
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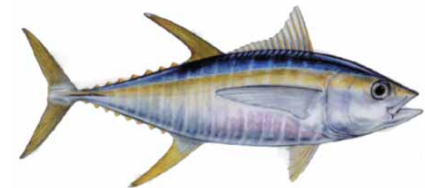
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Bob Telford, Rich Fouts, Capt. Chris Mizuak and mate Dean Lo returned with their limit of tautog, weighing up to 13 lbs., after fishing at the Bass Grounds aboard the headboat, "Angler".



While fishing from the surf along Broadkill Beach, George Sharp hooked this 17 lb. 5 oz. striper on a bloodworm and weighed his catch at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Brian Wright took the trip down from Stamford, CT to go fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder in late January and ended his day with a pair of tautog in the cooler. The larger blackfish weighed 13 lbs. 9 oz. and was caught on deep water hermit crabs at an ocean wreck.



On February 22nd, Alex Levantovsky, Greg Williams and Dennis Muhlenfirth had a good day fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder. Alex caught a nice sea bass, Greg landed a 16 lb. tautog and Dennis hooked himself a 5 lb. 6 oz. sea bass.

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Doug Ake Remembered

by Larry Jock

The Ocean City fishing community lost an icon over the winter when Doug Ake, owner of Ake Marine in West Ocean City, passed away on March 22nd at the age of 69 after a long battle with cancer.

Doug, the son of Jean Ake Miles and the late Marshall Ake and stepson to Joshua W. Miles, II, was raised in Gumboro, Delaware and worked at Wallops Island prior to earning his degree in Ocean Engineering from Florida Atlantic University.

After marrying Elena

Danforth in 1975, Doug and his new wife founded Ake Marine in 1977. The original location for the business was at the south side of the White Marlin Marina before relocating next to the Ice House on Philadelphia Avenue. Their final move was in 1990 when they relocated to its present location on Sunset Avenue in West Ocean City.

In addition to his wife of 38 years, and his mother Jean, Doug is survived by daughters, Dr. Jennifer Marie Romanow and Christina Ake Harrison. He was an adored grandfather to Haven Victoria Harrison and leaves

behind his beloved dogs "Trouble" and "Dirty Harry".



Funded by donations in Doug's memory, the Ocean City Reef Foundation has built a reef in Doug's name. The Ake Reef will be located at the center of Russell's Reef.

Over the last 38 years, many people, including myself, were touched by Doug, his knowledge, his generosity and his kindness.

I can remember the day, shortly after I had purchased the Coastal Fisherman and was hoping that people liked what I was doing, when Doug pulled me aside and said, "I just want to let you know that I think you are doing a great job with the paper. I wasn't sure how it was going to go, but I feel good about what you are doing with the paper." This comment was one I really needed and came at a perfect time.

Others also have fond memories of Doug:

Captain Monty Hawkins, of the "Morning Star" remembered, "Only time I think I ever irritated him was back in 1986 or 1987. I sent a then 14-year-old mate, who would work with me for many, many years, to get points & plugs for our 12 cylinder Detroit diesel engines, which, of course, don't have spark plugs. I

expected the youngster to get a swift kick out the door. Instead, what was easily the prettiest counter help at any marine supply business in the world (Annette Cropper), wrote out a special order. Doug called me at home and told me to knock it off. Not a lot of men I truly looked up to. He was one."

Bob Lemley, owner of 1st Service Refrigeration & Air Conditioning Service said, "When I started my business, Doug told me 'Treat the customers like you would want to be treated and they will be hooked.' He would always lend an ear when I got frustrated. He will be a tough act to follow."

Jack Keaufer, long time captain of charter and private boats in Ocean City remembers his first encounter with Doug. "I walked on over to his Talbot Street store because I had heard that he dealt with a lot of engine parts and was the most knowledgeable guy around. On this day, Doug was hardhat diving under a boat. After waiting 20 minutes for Doug to come up, I ran out of patience and stood on Doug's air hose, forcing him to come to the surface. Well, he came up and told me that if I didn't get off the hose he was going to come out of the water and kick my butt. We have been friends ever since."

Tommy Fowler at North Bay Marina, said, "When I got into the boat business and started dealing with Doug, I quickly found out that he was "The King" when it came to boat parts. You could always count on Doug to get you what you needed and charge you a fair price. I know there were times when we needed a \$.10 part and Doug would bring in \$20 worth

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of them just to get the one you needed. The thing that always stood out about Doug was that he always said 'Thank you for your business', even if he lost money selling you the part. Doug Ake was truly one of the nicest people to walk on this earth."

Captain Franky Pettolina of "Last Call Charters" remembers, "There are so many stories about Doug over the course of thirty years of friendship that it is tough to choose a single one. I can remember going into his store behind the White Marlin Marina (we always called it the Ice House store) and asking him to order me some "Bob Schneider Rattle Yap" teasers. This was during the 1980's when getting stuff custom ordered from Florida was almost impossible. Doug had a crowded store and in comes this demanding 14 year old (me) wanting him to do the near impossible. He took me to the back where we found order sheets, and within a week or two I had my teasers. Over the years Doug always found my "stuff" for me. He was my catalog, my tackle.com, askDoug.com, and most of all, my friend."

Dennis McDermott, Reel Doctor at Ake Marine, relayed the following story: "Doug was very serious about working on pumps and motors and things like that. Someone would come in with a problem with their motor and Doug would come back to the Reel Room where he kept two 5 gallon buckets, one empty and one filled with water. He would connect hoses to the

motor in question and test it with a car battery. As he was working on the motor, Doug would be explaining to me what he was doing. One day a customer brought in a motor that they said was only dribbling water, and as he was connecting the motor to the hoses, he was so engrossed in telling me that the motor wasn't pumping water that he forgot to place the hose into the 5-gallon bucket. Needless to say, as soon as he connected the motor to the battery the water came blasting out of the hose and right into Doug's face. Well, he was spitting nails mad, and I was trying to hold in the laughter. After a minute, Doug cooled off and we both were laughing hysterically. It was quite a sight!"

No doubt, Doug Ake left a lasting mark on the entire fishing community in Ocean City and will be greatly missed.



Donations are being accepted in Doug's name, by the Ocean City Reef Foundation, P.O. Box 1072, Ocean City, MD 21843 or by the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Company, P.O. Box 27, 1409 Philadelphia Ave., Ocean City, MD 21842.

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Delaware Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



Like elsewhere, the start of the 2013 season has been hampered by colder than normal temperatures resulting in frigid water temperatures. Looks like we are going to have a late season for sure.

Fishing in the Indian River Inlet has been slow. Bert at Hook'em & Cook'em reported a few tautog being caught and a couple of small stripers off Bubble Gum Beach. Water temperatures are hovering around 54-degrees during the incoming tide.

Capt. Bruce McGuigan at Capt. Mac's in Fenwick said that this weekend, anglers found very clean water in the bay, which really heated up the flounder action with fish coming in from as far south as the Assateague Bridge up to the Rt. 90 Bridge. He heard about one angler "tearing up" the flounder in the Thorofare while drifting a rig on a bobber that was baited up with shrimp.

North of the Ditch, anglers have been seeing small red drum and even a few speckled trout.

The surf in lower Delaware has been producing good catches of tasty blowfish, a few kingfish, bluefish, skates and stripers. Mike at Rick's Bait & Tackle said that he saw 6 stripers caught around 3R's Road by anglers using bloodworm for bait.

Mike also reported an excellent tautog bite on ocean reefs #10 and #11. Fish came in weighing up to 13 lbs.

At Bill's Sport Shop, Capt.



On April 24th, Mike Guerrier was fishing at Broadkill Beach when he hooked into this 41-inch black drum while using bloodworms for bait. The fish weighed 38 lbs. 15 oz. on the scale at Bill's Sport Shop. Also pictured are Christine and Austin Larson.

Bill said that late Sunday night Joel Robinson arrived with a 28-inch weakfish that he caught on a live minnow off the beach in Lewes. Capt. Bill said that he has also seen stripers up to 37-inches

and some flounder coming in from the Broadkill River.

Further north, it looks like all the tog you want can be found at the Outer Wall.

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour

Marina said the Lewes Canal produced a decent number of keeper flounder through the end of the week. Even with strong currents from the full moon and murky water, flatties fed actively during outgoing tide. Flukers drifting the Canal had success using minnows, shiners and Gulp!. Harry Aiken reported that chartreuse hair rigs tipped with shiners were the ticket for his four fish limit from the Canal Sunday. Flatfish also came from the Cape Henlopen Pier, with some of the better catching on the edge of the lights at night.

Fishing should be in full swing for the annual Lewes Canal Flounder Tournament taking place Friday May 17th. Interested anglers can register at Lewes Harbour Marina for an entry fee of \$25. Five dollars of that will be donated to the Camp Awareness Youth Program. More details on the event can be found in the fishing report section at www.lewesharbourmarina.com.

Bay surf fishermen continue to hook stripers, drum and bluefish from Broadkill Beach. Bloodworms, clams and bunker were the baits of choice.

After this recent full moon, the first few black drum were taken by boaters anchored in the evening around the submerged pilings off Slaughter Beach. That action should heat up through May, and peak around the next full moon on the 24th. Joe said he'll be stocking surf clams, but strongly suggests drummers looking for bait by the bushel reserve them early in the week to make sure they get what they need for their trip.

Togging was good around the Walls and on Reefs 6 and 7 prior to the big moon, but was challenging over the weekend

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Phil Cathell boated this 16.5 lb. tautog while fishing with Charlie Grinath on the "Ocean Rebel". The 29-inch tog was fooled with a green crab on an ocean wreck.

due to hard running currents. Toggers who stuck it out through the whole tide usually ended up with keepers to take home. Lance and Chad Hitzelberger, Gil Waddington and "Vito" enjoyed a terrific trip to Site 11 Saturday. They culled an impressive limit of blackfish over 8 pounds from many they caught. Among the take were tog of 9.6 pounds, 10.6 pounds, and a 13 pound bruiser.

Along the Ocean Beach, surf casters caught bluefish in the 1 to 5 pound range and a few legal stripers near the Herring Point access area. A bright spot has been the number of blowfish in the suds this spring. Anglers report catching lots of tasty puffers in the wash at spots like Keybox Road, the Old Coast Guard Station and 3 R's Road. Bloodworms or pieces of clam on small hooks did the trick. Even though they have little beaklike mouths, the pan sized blowtoads can be ravenous. George Sharp hooked one with a whole clam on an 8/0 circle meant for stripers.

Lower Bay boaters haven't done much with stripers yet, but the Upper Bay rockfishing has been hot. Wayne Wilson said limit catches of linesiders to 47 inches were common for guys using fresh bunker at 6L and 7L Buoy.

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FISH OF THE WEEK

Mike Guerrier
38.9 lb., 41" Drum



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DINING ON DELMARVA

The Galley

—by Mama Jock



Welcome to another season of the Coastal Fisherman. I look forward to sharing some delicious recipes with all of our readers. If you have a favorite recipe that you would like to share, please email it to me at coastalfisherman@comcast.net. Happy cooking!

Mama Jock

Chicken-Fried Flounder

Salt and pepper
4 flounder fillets

3/4 cup flour
1/4 tsp. paprika, plus
more for sprinkling
2 large eggs
1/4 cup vegetable oil
1 1/4 cups low-sodium
chicken broth
1/4 cup whole milk
2 TBSP. cream cheese
1 TBSP. chopped fresh
parsley

Sprinkle fish all over with salt and pepper to taste.

Combine flour and paprika in a shallow dish.

Beat the eggs in another dish.

Dip each fillet in the eggs, then dredge in flour mixture, turning to coat.

Reserve the flour mixture. Heat 3 TBSP. of oil in a skillet over medium-high heat.

Working in batches, fry fish until cooked through, 3 to 4 minutes per side.

Transfer to a plate and tent with foil.

Wipe out the skillet.

Heat the remaining vegetable oil in the skillet over medium-high heat.

Whisk in 3 TBSP. of the reserved flour mixture, then add the chicken broth and 1/4 cup water; bring to a boil, whisking.

Add the milk, cream cheese and parsley; cook, whisking until slightly thickened, about 2 minutes.

Season with salt and pepper.

Divide fish among plates; top with the sauce and sprinkle with paprika.

Serves 4.

Black Sea Bass with Corn and Lump Crab Saute

12 oz. black sea bass
fillets, skin on
Salt and pepper, to taste
1/4 cup olive oil
1 small bag frozen corn
kernels
1/2 cup diced onion
1 red bell pepper, diced
2 tsp. diced poblano
pepper
4 oz. lump crab meat
2 TBSP. minced chives
2 tsp. fresh thyme leaves,
chopped
1 cup chicken stock
1 stick cold butter
4 to 6 roasted red potatoes

Score the skin of the sea bass fillets.

Season with salt and pepper.

Preheat a saute pan over

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high heat and add 2 oz. of olive oil.

When the oil is smoking, add the fish, skin side down.

Reduce heat to medium and press fillets with a spatula to crisp skin.

When the skin is browned, flip fish. Do not overcook.

Remove from pan and keep warm.

Add the remaining oil to the saute pan.

Add corn, onion, red pepper and poblano pepper and saute for 1 minute.

Add crabmeat, chives and thyme, stirring to blend.

Adjust seasoning to taste.

Add chicken stock and whisk in the butter to form a sauce. Reduce slightly.

Arrange the sauteed vegetable mixture in a large serving dish.

Top with the warm bass fillets and roasted potatoes.

Serves 2.

Shrimp, Leek and Garlic Pizza

Olive oil

1 to 2 leeks, white part only, chopped

6 garlic cloves, peeled and left whole

Prepared pizza dough for 10-inch pizza

1/2 lb. medium shrimp, peeled, deveined and cooked until pink

1 ripe medium tomato, seeded and diced

1/2 tsp. dried basil or oregano

Salt and pepper

1 TBSP. freshly grated Parmesan cheese

Preheat oven to 500 degrees for 1 hour.

Lightly coat a pizza pan with olive oil.

In a medium skillet, heat 2 TBSP. olive oil.

Add leeks and garlic; cook on low for 20 minutes, or until garlic is soft but not brown.

Set aside.

Roll or hand stretch dough into a 10-inch circle; place on pan.

Just brush edges of dough lightly with oil.

Spread leek-garlic mixture over dough, leaving a 1/2 inch border.

Place shrimp and tomato over leek mixture.

Sprinkle with seasonings.

Bake 5 to 10 minutes, or until crust is golden.

Remove from oven and sprinkle with Parmesan cheese.

Serves 3 to 4.

Tautog with Mushrooms

2 lbs. whole tautog

Salt and pepper, to taste

1/3 cup almonds, chopped

1/3 cup butter, softened

1/2 cup fresh mushrooms, chopped

2 TBSP. fresh parsley, minced

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Clean fish and place in a shallow casserole dish.

Season with salt and pepper.

Mix almonds, mushrooms and butter; spread over fish.

Sprinkle with parsley and bake for 20 minutes.

Serves 4.

Crispy Flounder with Tarragon Tartar Sauce

1 lb. flounder fillets

1/2 cup freshly squeezed lemon juice (2 - 3 lemons)

2 eggs, lightly beaten

1/2 cup Parmesan cheese, grated

1 cup corn flake crumbs

1/4 cup vegetable oil

2 cups cold water

1/4 tsp. salt

1/2 cup mayonnaise

1/2 cup finely chopped dill pickle

1/2 of a lemon, zested and juiced

3 TBSP. finely chopped onion

2 TBSP. chopped parsley

3/4 tsp. dried tarragon leaves, crushed

1/8 tsp. pepper

Combine water, lemon juice and salt in a shallow dish.

Add the fish; turn to coat well.

After 5 minutes, drain and pat dry with paper towels.

On a plate, combine the corn flake crumbs and Parmesan cheese.

Dip fillets into beaten eggs and then into crumb mixture, then repeat the process.

Set the fillets aside for a few minutes to allow the coating to adhere.

Combine mayonnaise, dill

pickle, lemon, chopped onion, parsley, tarragon leaves and pepper to make the tartar sauce. Chill.

In a skillet, heat the oil and saute the fillets 3 to 4 minutes on each side until lightly browned and fish flakes easily.

Serve with the tartar sauce.

Serves 4.

Creamy Baked Striper

3 lbs. striped fillets

Dry sherry

Pepper

2 cups sour cream

1 cup mayonnaise

1 onion, chopped fine

Lemon wedges

Rinse striped in cold running water and pat dry.

Place fillets in shallow dish with the dry sherry; marinate for 2 hours.

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DINING ON DELMARVA

The Galley, cont'd.

Remove fillets and dry again.

Place them in a shallow oven proof baking dish and sprinkle with pepper.

In a separate dish mix the sour cream, mayonnaise and onion.

Cover fish with mixture.

Bake uncovered for 45 minutes at 350 degrees.

Serve with lemon wedges.

Serves 6.

Sea Bass Italiano

4 sea bass fillets

1/4 tsp. salt, plus more for seasoning fish

1/2 tsp. pepper, plus more for seasoning fish

2 cups flour

6 TBSP. extra-virgin olive oil, divided

3 garlic cloves, chopped

1 (14 oz.) can crushed tomatoes

1/2 cup water

1 TBSP. chopped fresh parsley leaves

1 TBSP. chopped fresh basil leaves

Season both sides of the fish with salt and pepper.

Place the flour in a shallow bowl, dredge the fish, tapping off the excess flour to create a light coating.

Transfer fish to plate.

Wipe out the pan with a paper towel and heat remaining 3 TBSP. olive oil over medium heat.

Add the garlic, tomatoes, water, parsley, 1/4 tsp. salt and 1/2 tsp. pepper; cook at a simmer for 10 minutes.

Add the basil and the fish for 2 minutes.

Serve immediately.

Serves 4.



Supermate Mike Kinder on the headboat "Morning Star" caught and released a personal best tautog, measuring 25-inches, while fishing with green crabs over a coral reef in mid-April.

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On Saturday, Lamont Hilbert caught his limit of flounder, up to 22-inches, while drifting in the bay behind Assateague. He also landed a 16-inch tog in the Ocean City Inlet.



Skeeter Lokey used a bloodworm on a #1 perch hook to fool this 38-inch striped bass while fishing from the shore in Nanticoke, MD.

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Ship to Shore

by Pat Schrawder
L&L Marine Electronics



MARINE ELECTRONICS WHAT'S NEW OR HOT FOR 2013

Sadly, last season stood out for the fact that marine electronics' manufacturers did not produce much that was new. Perhaps, and most likely, it was the stalled economy, higher gas prices or economic uncertainty but, whatever the reason, there just wasn't much that was new. While the economy continues to struggle, it seems that marine equipment companies this year have decided they must come out with some new or improved items in order to stay in the running with their competition. Setting aside my personal preferences, I'll try to give you a complete overview of what is hot and what is new for 2013.

Companies come and go but there are a few that appear

to be in it for the long haul, so I will concentrate on only those. In my opinion, the top major full-line manufacturers right now (in alphabetical order) are: Furuno, Garmin, Lowrance, Raymarine and Simrad. Over the next few weeks, we'll take a close look at what each brand is bragging about in 2013. If there is time, we'll cover some of the other new items on the market as well looking at what's happening in the charting world. So let's take a quick look at some of what's ahead.

FURUNO

This year, Furuno introduced two new models for the smaller boat market, the GP1670F and 1870F with new styling, C-Map 4D cartography and a built-in GPS antenna. Both units include their "Accu-fish" fish size analyzer and exclusive bottom discrimination technology.



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- Bottom discrimination function



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They also added the availability of the 200WX Ultrasonic Weather Station by Airmar providing live weather data with no moving parts as an add-on to their popular 3D and TZTouch displays.

GARMIN

One look at Garmin this year and you will be struck by the large number of new products, all the way from integrated flight deck equipment for experimental aircraft to electronic dog training collars. However, in the marine division, they are touting their new GPSMAP8000 series of GPS/plotter/fish finder units. Starting at 8-inches and going as far up as 19-inches for their BlackBox 8500 units, they promote their "pinch-to-zoom" touchscreens and their new "Smartmode" operating systems.

LOWRANCE

Still primarily considered by many a brand that is designed for more in-shore and/or lake use, Lowrance keeps expanding their lines to include more sophisticated and higher priced items. This season, they are promoting their new HDS Gen2 Touchscreen MFD's (multi-function displays) that are an improved version of the previous HD Gen units.

Available in 7-inch, 9-inch and 12-inch models, they feature something they call "StructureScan®" HD Sonar Imaging that is now built-in to the head unit eliminating the need to mount a separate box.

RAYMARINE

In February of this year, Raymarine introduced their

new CHIRP powered "Dragonfly™" Sonar/GPS with High Resolution "downvision" sonar imaging. These models use Navionics MicroSD charts in the silver and gold format. They also introduced two new models in their new a-series MFD's. The new a65 and a67 units come with built-in Wi-Fi to allow the user to control their displays from a Smartphone and/or tablet.

SIMRAD

This year Simrad has concentrated on software enhancements to their popular series of MFD's. They have added "Insight Planner™", PC software for marine navigation planning that allows you to create routes, waypoints and points of interest on your computer and transfer them to your MFD using a standard SD card. They also have "Insight Genesis™", which is an on-line service providing the ability to create customized contour maps from your own sonar logs. In addition, they offer "GoFree™" wireless solutions with support for "WIFI-1™".

In the weeks ahead, we'll take a closer look at each of these. Since you will be hearing a lot about CHIRP, sonar technology, Wi-Fi and charting options, we'll first examine the new terms and technologies that you need to understand to become a smart marine electronics shopper.

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



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Edward (left) and Nick Richardson took a family trip to Grand Lake, OK and muscled in these paddlefish. Edward's catch weighed 58 lbs. and Nick's tipped the scale at 37 lbs. The boys mom, Christine, caught a 52 pounder and their father, Ed caught one weighing 40 lbs. They also released 3 others, all within 2 hours.



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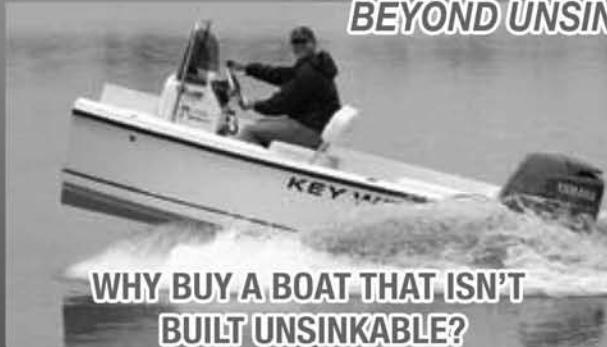
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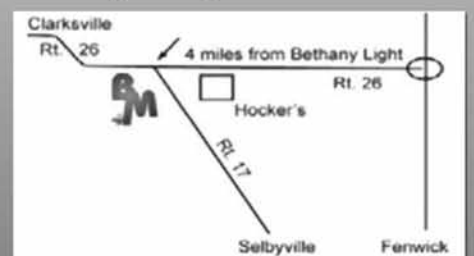
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Chum Lines

—by Capt. Mark Sampson



When I'm running fishing charters I don't have the option of choosing who I'll spend the day with. But when it comes to "personal" fishing the choice of a fishing partner can be a consideration that's critical to my enjoyment of the trip. And since I don't get the opportunity to fish just for "fun" as much as I'd like to, when those days come along, I want to make the most of them and that means fishing with someone whom I enjoy spending time with even when we aren't fishing, and in my case that would be my wife, Charlotte.



Although a lot of women are content to do things other than fish, there's no doubt that if they wish to, women are just as capable of excelling at fishing as any man. But, too often men miss opportunities to welcome their spouses into their world of fishing because they consider the sport so much of a "guy-thing," and angling becomes something a husband does when he goes off with his buddies, not his wife. All that is good if the wife is absolutely not interested in fishing, but I can't help but wonder if the lack of interest in

fishing is often a result of not being properly introduced to it. I've noticed that men can be very patient when it comes to teaching their kids or friends about fishing, but too often the same courtesy is not afforded to their wife. At times it's almost as if the men don't want their wives to go fishing with them.

Introducing a woman to fishing in such a way that she not only puts up with it but actually "enjoys" the process and looks forward to going again can require an entirely different approach than a guy might be accustomed to when he's out fishing with the "boys." Just because some men might allow their social manners to slack when they're fishing "stag" doesn't mean that it's still going to be OK to carry on the tradition when women are aboard. A lot of women will feel a bit awkward and out of place when they take their first steps into what is typically considered to be mostly a man's territory, and guys shouldn't do anything to perpetuate such myths. It would be wrong to think that most women would take it as a compliment to be welcomed into the world of fishing by being treated like just like one of the guys. Being rude and crude around a woman is just as wrong aboard a boat as it is anywhere else.

When possible, it might be best to leave the guys behind and fish with just the wife or perhaps with her and another

couple until she feels more comfortable and confident with her new activity. Needless to say the type of fishing shouldn't be physically draining or demanding. Spending 12-hours on a boat 60-miles offshore on a hot choppy day is not a good way to decide if you like fishing anymore than standing along some marsh bank knee deep in mud and slapping mosquitoes would be. Whether or not a boat is equipped with a head (bathroom) must also be taken into account when taking women fishing. I know some folks with small boats who have solved the problem by always keeping a 5-gallon bucket and a poncho aboard. Even in the middle of the bay with other boats around, a guy or gal can don the poncho and sit on the bucket. I know it sounds kind of awkward and funny but it's a clever way to handle a common predicament.

Men who take their wives fishing should also keep in mind that there will be tasks that they might not be physically capable of doing, or that they would prefer not to do. When my wife and I are fishing offshore, I'm going to be the one who goes up on the bow to pull the anchor and if we're dealing with large fish that require any kind of wrestling around on deck or alongside the boat, it'll likely be me doing it. When it comes to cutting the bait and cleaning the catch, that too will likely be done by me, although if necessary she's always willing to lend a hand. Oftentimes, I'll even bait her hooks and de-hook fish for her. Again, it's not that she can't or won't do these things for herself, it's just that when the two of us are fishing we enjoy

working as a team and since we know each others strengths and weaknesses it's only natural to help each other out.

Most of all, men who want to get their wives interested in fishing must BE PATIENT and not get snappy with them. Remember that fishing is supposed to be "fun" and not a time to get ticked off with your partner because she makes a mistake or isn't as adept at fishing as you think maybe she ought to be. Remember, most of us started fishing when we were kids and learned how to tie knots, cut bait and net a fish over a period of many years and we also goofed up a lot along the way. We can't expect a spouse who is new to fishing to have it down pat after just a few trips.

Having your wife as a fishing partner is a great way to spend quality time together while forging memories that will last a lifetime. It also frees us from the guilt of leaving our spouse back home when we're out having a great time. We know how much fun it is to go fishing - why in the world wouldn't we want to share such times with the one we love? With enough practice anyone can learn to become a "good" fisherman, but having the skill, determination and patience to teach someone else how to fish is the mark of a "great" fisherman. Give your wife time to learn, laugh-off her mistakes, revel in her successes and you'll cultivate the best fishing buddy you've ever had!

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

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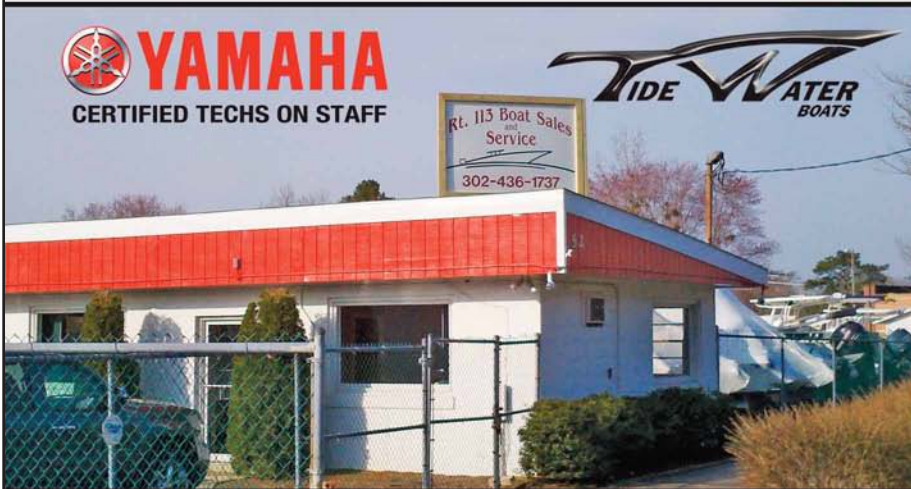


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In early January, Mike Behney captured this 5 lb. sea bass during a trip to the Cape May Rocks inside the Wilmington Canyon. Mike was fishing on "Another Bill" with Cory and Gil Waddington and Chuck Cook. The 26-inch fish hit a Fishbites clam flavored strip in 275 feet of water. Photo courtesy of Rick's Bait & Tackle.

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It took a while for flounder to show up in the Lewes Canal, but when they did John Mitchell was there to capitalize on it, catching this trio of flatties while drifting minnows and shiners. The heaviest flounder weighed 3 lbs. on the scale at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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Mike Maney of Lewes, DE is all smiles after catching this 15 lb. 2 oz. tautog during a trip on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder. The fish, 1 of 3 Mike caught on this January trip, measured an even 27-inches and was caught while using crab for bait. Weighed at Bill's Sport Shop.

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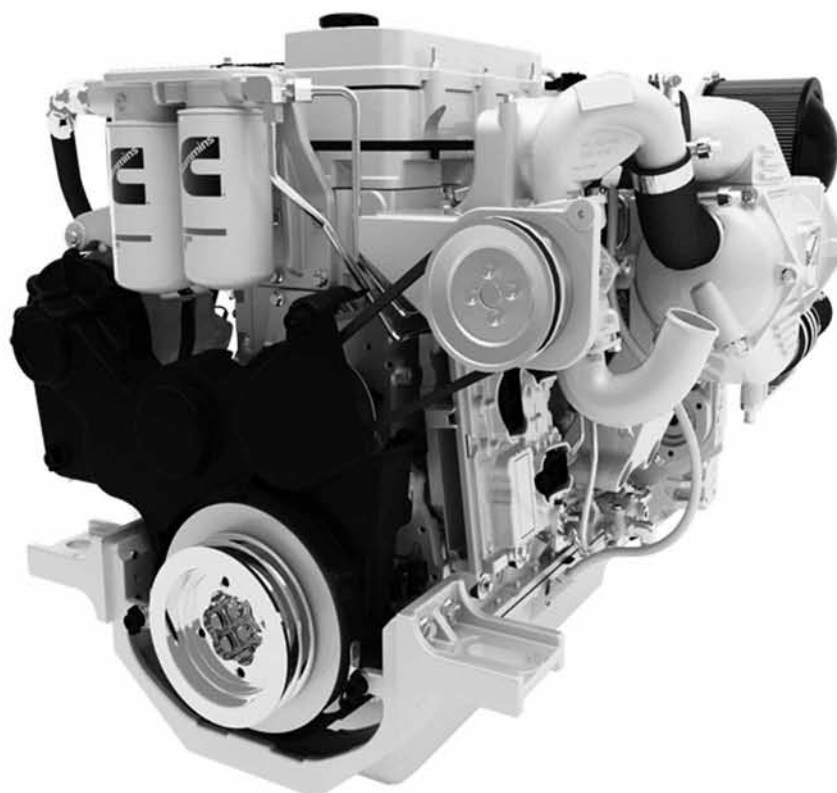
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Tackle Shop

by Larry Jock



My dad was in Alltackle Ocean City the last week and brought back this cool, fairly new product called the Ultimate Line Winding System. As always, I was skeptical of these types of things, since we have seen other line winding systems that produce less than stellar results. However, this one looked different, so I had the company, American Premier Corp., send me one to check out.



Well, I came away impressed with several things about the Ultimate Line Winding System. First, it works. You don't get the twist in your line like you do when spooling spinning rods on other devices. Second, it is really well made and looks like it will stand up to the abuse fishing equipment tends to get. Third, the system won Best in Show at the 2012 ICAST show that features all the latest and greatest fishing equipment.

The system is designed to spool both casting and spinning reels and can

accommodate several different spool sizes ranging from flat spools up to 1/2 lb. spools. The main feature of the system is the rotating carriage that automatically eliminates twists by turning the line as it is being transferred to the reel. Pretty cool!

The system features a graphite frame, ball bearing system and easy line tension adjustment. It is fairly compact and easy to store in your boat.

Just make sure you are putting the spool on in the right direction and you should have no problem spooling up your reel. The Ultimate Line Winding System retails for \$39.99.

For more information or to check out a video on the system, go to www.americanpremiercorp.com.

Move over Hammerhead, there's a new favorite Costa Sunglasses frame at the Coastal Fisherman, and it is called the Tuna Alley. I've been wearing a pair for 6 months now and absolutely love them.

The Tuna Alley's stylish, indestructible nylon frame is large, lightweight and comfortable. It's wrap-around

design keeps the glare from coming in from the sides and vents in the frame are supposed to eliminate fogging.



Frames come in white, black, crystal (kind of metallic looking), blackout and tortoise.

Although the frame is wonderful, it's the Costa lenses that really separate them from the pack, and the Tuna Alley allows you several options in lens type and color, including the 400G and 580G glass lenses and the 580P plastic lens in colors such as amber, gray, green, blue, silver and copper.

Depending on the lens you choose, the MSRP for the Costa Tuna Alley ranges from \$169 up to \$249. Check with your favorite local tackle shop for availability.

Wearing jewelry on my wrist or fingers really isn't my thing, but I was sent a Survival Strap by a vendor and decided to give it a try.



The main feature of the bracelet is that it is made of

strong 550 parachute cord, so in an emergency (like your outboard motor konks out and you need a pull cord to manually pull to get the motor started again), you can unravel the bracelet and have several feet of strong military spec paracord.

The bracelet also has a stainless steel shackle and breakaway pin for safety.

The cool thing about the bracelet is that if you do use it in an emergency situation, the company will send you a new one for free.



There are over 50,000 color combinations to choose from and the company has arrangements with colleges, the PGA tour, the Wounded Warrior Project, Guy Harvey and several others, so you can pick up a Survival Strap that features logos from many different teams and organizations. You can also get ones made that hold a personal photograph or a custom embossed dog tag.

Depending on the model, you can purchase a bracelet for \$25.00 up to \$30.00. For more information, go to www.survivalstraps.com.

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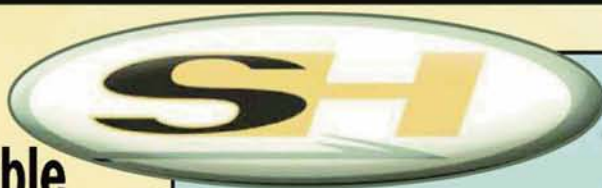


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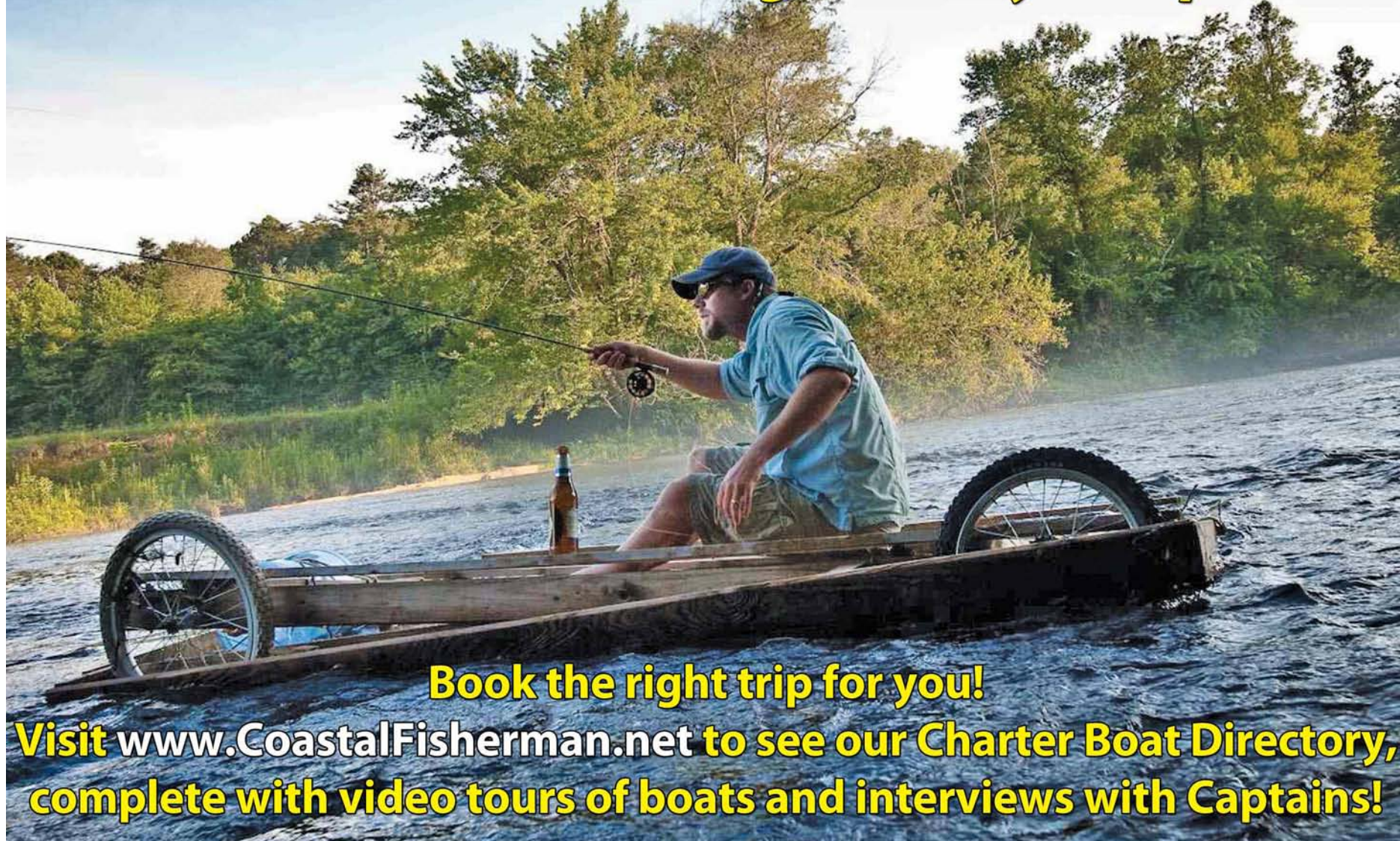
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Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"	Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lbs. or 32"
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 36"	False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"
Red Drum *	Any Size	45"	Bigeye ***	60"	70 lbs. or 48"
Sailfish *	Any Size	-	Bluefin ***	60"	100 lbs. or 60"
Seabass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"	Yellowfin ***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"
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Speckled Trout	24"	-	White Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size
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* Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program
*** Use curved-fork-length measurements

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

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Capt. Bruce

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On April 19th, Dennis Rarick from Linthicum, MD was fishing off of the Oceanic Pier when he caught these 4 flounder (2 pictured) up to 21-inches and 3 bluefish measuring up to 20 inches. All of the fish were caught on finger mullet.

TALBOT STREET TACKLE

A black and white photograph of the exterior of Talbot Street Tackle. The shop is a two-story building with a porch and a ramp leading to the entrance. There are various fishing-related items and signs visible. A sign in the foreground reads "OPEN 8 A.M. - 6 P.M. 7 DAYS A WEEK".

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Jerry Thadenfelder muscled in this 5 lb. 9 oz. sea bass from an ocean wreck during a trip aboard the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder.

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On April 19th, Dave Stone from Ocean City, MD caught this 16 1/8-inch flounder while drifting a Gulp! swimming mullet/minnow combination in the Thorofare. Stoney was fishing with Tom Tatum on the "Open Debate".

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

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Sea Bass 	April 24, 2013 Jerry Thadenfelder "Morning Star" 5 lbs. 9 oz.	January 8, 2013 Mike Behney Cape May Rocks 5 lbs.	Mako Shark 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Tautog 	February 6, 2013 Arthur Guido "Morning Star" 18 lbs. 6 oz.	April 10, 2013 Brent Wiest Reef Site 10 12 lbs. 5 oz.	Thresher Shark 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Striped Bass 	April 28, 2013 Brian Behe Assateague Bridge 17 lbs. 10 oz.	April 21, 2013 Keith Sherman Conquest Wreck 25 lbs. 8 oz.	Bluefin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Weakfish 	No Weights Reported	April 28, 2013 Joel Robinson Lewes Beach 7 lbs.	Yellowfin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Speckled Trout 	April 28, 2013 Big Bird Cropper Assateague Bridge 3 lbs. 8 oz.	No Weights Reported	Longfin Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Flounder 	April 26, 2013 Rusty Daub East Channel 4 lbs. 8 oz.	April 25, 2013 John Mitchell Lewes Canal 3 lbs.	Bigeye Tuna 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Bluefish 	No Weights Reported	April 21, 2013 Noah Graulich Cape Henlopen State Park 5 lbs. 14 oz.	Dolphin 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Sheepshead 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	Wahoo 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported
Golden Tilefish 	No Weights Reported	No Weights Reported	White Marlin 	Most Releases in One Day None Reported	None Reported

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



Curt Stephens beached this 17 lb. striper while fishing with clams from the surf at Herring Point. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



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Virginia Fishing Report

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



Despite the stiff winds over the past week, local saltwater temperatures continue to rise. But these same gusty conditions kept most anglers closer to shore. Once boats can get outside the inlets, the fish will be waiting.

Most interest is still centered around the emerging red drum bite. The full moon last week primed conditions for drum activity among the breakers along the Eastern Shore barrier islands. Big reds ranging from 45 to 50-inches are providing decent early season action off Fisherman's Island on peeler crabs, blue crabs and bunker.

Smallish black drum ranging to around 25-pounds are becoming more active in the Eastern Shore seaside inlets and near Latimer Shoal in the Bay, but larger fish will become more common in local waters soon.

The most cooperative species last week were still tautog, and you don't have to go far to target them. Boats braving the seas are still finding limits of keeper fish along the Bay Bridge Tunnel structure and inshore wrecks. Several Bay tog are pushing to over 9-pounds, with many 6 and 7-pounders around. These fish are favoring both fiddlers and



blue crabs lately. When boats could get out to reach them, good numbers of super-sized tautog were still active on deeper water wrecks, with the Triangle Wrecks a popular choice. Unfortunately, tautog season in Virginia closes on May 1st and doesn't reopen until September 20th.

Although tautog became off limits on May 1st, the Chesapeake Bay Spring Trophy Striped Bass season opened on the same day. Anglers can keep one fish per person at 32-inches or larger, which need to be reported, so review the regulations carefully.

The flounder bite is still hit and miss, but the trend is on the upswing within lower Bay waters. Scattered keepers are rewarding anglers who put in their time, with the best luck coming from the Hump, Buoy 36, the 1st and 2nd islands of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel and the Eastern Shore seaside inlets. Anglers are also hooking flatties up to 21-inches inside the Lynnhaven River, with the outgoing tide producing the best results. A few bigger fish, pushing to around 25-inches, are also in the mix, with strip bait and gudgeons still performing the best.

Depending on who you ask, the speckled trout action in the Elizabeth River is a challenge, especially in the Southern Branch. Dedicated anglers are

finding scattered fish, and most of those are impressive, stretching to over 23-inches. A few trophies from the River even exceeded 30-inches last week. The bigger fish are still responding to top water presentations, while puppy drum and small striped bass are also hitting in the same areas. Puppy drum have been particularly active within Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlets lately.

Lower Bay Rivers are still harboring larger croaker, while the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel and Ocean View areas are hosting decent numbers of medium-sized hardheads. Shrimp and bloodworms are working well right now. The folks at the Ocean View Fishing Pier report that anglers are hauling in croaker averaging to around 14-inches. Tailor bluefish were still hitting along the Oceanfront and within Rudee Inlet last week.

When boats can get out, deep dropping species such as tilefish and grouper are still available in water over 50 fathoms near the Canyon. As the dogfish begin to move out this month, more boats will venture out to try their luck.

Offshore action is heading our way. Yellowfin tuna action, along with some wahoo and dolphin, are giving the Carolina fleet some decent days. Bluefin tuna are also a possibility, with some boats trying their luck with the migrating schools passing by on their way north.

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

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In early February, Greg Liebig from Bel Air, MD landed this 13 lb. 3 oz. tautog while using white crabs for bait at an ocean wreck. Greg was fishing on the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mate Mike Kinder. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Tom Smith from Bel Air, MD captured this 19-inch flounder while drifting a bucktail north of the Thorofare during the last hour of the outgoing tide. Tom was fishing with his son, Lance Smith.



Charlie "Whiffmeister General" Sitskorn (right) landed the first striper of the year on January 1st while fishing on the "Slack Grabber" with Pat and Collin Hurley (not pictured) and Bo "Rod Hog" Smeltzer. The fish was caught at Little Fenwick Shoal on a trolled umbrella rig. Collin would have had the 1st striper of the year, but he muffed it.

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Correction to 2013 Maryland Guide to Fishing

On page 43 in the 2013 Maryland Guide to Fishing, it was incorrectly written that "It is illegal to harvest oysters or clams if you are not a resident of Maryland". Non-Maryland residents are allowed to harvest oysters and clams in Maryland waters.

The oyster season runs from October 1st to March 31st. Each person is allowed 1 bushel per day with harvest times limited to Monday through Friday from sunrise to 3 PM and Saturdays from sunrise to 12 PM. A person may catch oysters only by:

- Hand
- Shaft tongs
- Rakes
- Diving

In Worcester County, each person is restricted to 250 clams per day with a minimum size of 1-inch transverse measurement. Clams may be harvested all year long by hand, hand rake, shaft tongs or by diving. When using a hand scrape or Shinnecock rake, the season is only open from September 16th to May 31st.

Clammers are reminded that they may not clam within 300 feet of any shore or wharf without owners permission.

Mid-Atlantic Fisheries Management Council Seeks Public Input on Omnibus Recreational Amendment

This week the Council will hold five public hearings throughout the Mid-Atlantic region to gather public input on

the Draft Omnibus Recreational Accountability Measure Amendment. The amendment was initiated in December 2012 to evaluate alternatives to the existing accountability measures for 5 recreational fisheries—summer flounder, scup, black sea bass, bluefish, and Atlantic mackerel.

Current regulations require that a recreational overage (when the catch exceeds the Annual Catch Limit) be paid back in a subsequent year.

The amendment will consider a range of alternatives, including both proactive management measures and reactive measures. Combinations of proactive and reactive measures can be used to prevent overages from occurring and address overages when they do occur.

Additional information about the alternatives being considered is available in the Draft Public Hearing Document.

Written comments must be received on or before 5 p.m., EST, on May 15, 2013. Comments may be submitted in one of the following ways:

1. Emailed to info1@mafmc.org with "RECREATIONAL AM AMENDMENT" included in the subject line.

2. Mailed to the Council office at: 800 North State St., Suite 201, Dover, DE 19901. Should be marked "RECREATIONAL AM AMENDMENT".

3. Online through the MAFMC website.

Please direct questions to Jim Armstrong, Fishery Management Specialist, through email (jarmstrong@mafmc.org) or telephone (302) 526-5250.



Jeff Dawson from Townsend, DE hooked this 22-inch flounder on a live minnow while fishing out of Wachapreague, VA with Rodney Jones and Jon Little.



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Gil Waddington decked this 7 lb. 3 oz. tautog while fishing with green crabs at Site 11. Gil was fishing with Joe Lombardo and Ron Campbell and weighed his catch at Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck, DE.



On Sunday, Brian Behe of Powellville, MD caught 2 flounder and a 34-inch striper while fishing with Gulp! Swimming Mulletts around the Assateague Bridge. The striper weighed 17 lbs. 10 oz. and the flatties measured 17 and 20-inches.

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2013

COASTAL FISHERMAN

2013

First Fish of the Year

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

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

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



Capt. Brent Wiest muscled in this 12 lb. 5 oz. tautog while fishing with green crabs at Reef Site 10. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.

302-436-2445

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Fenwick Lighthouse on Rt. 54

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MARYLAND FISHING CHALLENGE

Featuring Diamond Jim



WWW.DNR.MARYLAND.GOV/FISHINGCHALLENGE



TRACKER
boats



WHAT: A free fishing contest sponsored by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, providing the chance to win cash and prizes up to \$25,000 for checking in your eligible catch of any of over 80 species categories, including: flounder, croaker, weakfish, kingfish, sea bass, striped bass, tuna, sharks, marlin and many others.

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

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

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

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

CLASSIFIEDS

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BOATS FOR SALE

1989 36 FT. RAMPAGE

Only 1850 hours. 3208 Cats, 450 gal fuel, 75 gal fresh water, new Garmin 3010 GPS & Sounder with XM and Weather Data Marine Radar, auto pilot, other upgrades. Must sell due to health. **REDUCED TO \$79,800**
NO REASONABLE OFFER REFUSED!
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2007 32' REGULATOR CC

Twin Yamaha 250's w/750 hrs. Raymarine depth finder & auto pilot, Icom VHF radio, head, live well, riggers, side curtains. Located in West OC.
\$89,500 Call Bill 443-336-1327 or email bfenwick@capitoltrucks.com



2003 CUSTOM CAROLINA EXPRESS
 T 480 hp Cummins Diesel Power. Cruise 27 knots and only burn 30 gph total. Over 40k spent in 2012 on upgrades.

\$340,000

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1978 30' CHRIS CRAFT TOURNAMENT

2005 330hp Cummins x 2. 2800 hours. Engines taken out of the boat in 2012 and fully serviced at Cummins in Glen Burnie. Proven tournament winner, over \$1,200,000 in winnings. Offshore ready with great range and economy. Good electronics. **\$55,000.**
Call Charlie at 301-502-8707



2004 NITRO CC BAY 1900

'04 90hp Mercury motor, '04 trlr; boat bought new in '06. SS prop, 24 volt Minn Kota trolling motor w/2 remotes & foot control, 3 bank dual port battery charger, Lowrance LMS 334C Sonar/GPS, new wheel bearings & hub kns '11, new canvas top & canvas 7/12, major tie up, low
<http://easternshoreboatslist.com/boat/556903312.html>
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Cell: 301-222-2222 or 302-437-7555



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Full color, Sounder / GPS combination, 5.6-inch screen, accepts Furuno and Navionics cards. Antenna included. Excellent condition.
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FURUNO LS-6100 SOUNDER

Dual frequency black-and-white fish finder, 6" silver bright LCD display, 300 watts of output. Excellent condition
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Angler Restaurant
 Talbot Street Tackle
 Talbot Street Pier
 Oceanic Fishing Pier
 Wockenfuss Candy - 1st St Boardwalk
 Park Place Hotel - 3rd Street
 Wockenfuss Candy - 7th St. Boardwalk
 Layton's Restaurant - 17th Street
 Reel Inn - Harbour Island
 Bahia Marina - 22nd Street
 7-Eleven - 28th Street
 28th St. Pit & Pub
 Minit Market - 33rd Street
 OC Convention Center - 40th Street
 Advanced Marina - 66th Street
 General's Kitchen - 74th Street
 Exxon Wine Rack - 86th Street
 Layton's Restaurant - 92nd Street
 Liquid Assets - 94th Street
 Oyster Bay Tackle
 7-Eleven - 120th Street
 Wawa - 120th Street
 Montego Bay Market - 130th Street
 7-Eleven - 139th Street
 Old Tyme Barbershop - 142nd Street

West Ocean City

Ocean City Visitors Center
 Wawa
 PNC Bank
 Bank of Ocean City
 Superfresh
 Wockenfuss Candy
 AllTackle Ocean City
 Exxon Wine Rack
 Ocean City Fishing Center
 Ocean City Marlin Club
 L&L Marine
 Harborside Bar & Grill
 Ake Marine
 Sunset Marina
 Sunset Provisions
 Sunset Grille
 Harbor Marine
 Lucky Angler Tackle Shop - Rt. 611
 Trader Lees - Rt. 611
 CVS Pharmacy - Rt. 611
 Larry's Trading Post - Rt. 611
 Peppers Tavern - Rt. 611
 Razzio's Italian Deli - Rt. 611
 Mid-Shore Electronics - Rt. 611
 Marlin Market - Rt. 611
 Decatur Diner - Rt. 611

Berlin & Pittsville

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Indian River Marina
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Dewey/Rehoboth/Lewes

Pier Point Marina
 Lewes Harbour Marina
 Ice House Bait & Tackle
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 G&E Supermarket
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 Harris Teeter - Salt Pond Plaza
 Hocker's Deli - Rt 26
 Hocker's Supermarket - Rt.26
 Bob's Marine
 Giant - Rt. 26
 Bethany Auto & Marine

TIDES AND MOON PHASES

OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. May 1	Low 07:17 am Low 07:22 pm	High 01:09 am High 01:33 pm
Thurs. May 2 Last Quarter	Low 08:17 am Low 08:27 pm	High 02:15 am High 02:45 am
Fri. May 3	Low 09:15 am Low 09:33 pm	High 03:24 am High 03:55 pm
Sat. May 4	Low 10:12 am Low 10:38 pm	High 04:27 am High 04:58 pm
Sun. May 5	Low 11:06 am Low 11:39 pm	High 05:22 am High 05:53 pm
Mon. May 6	Low 11:55 am -----	High 06:11 am High 06:42 pm
Tues. May 7	Low 12:33 am Low 12:41 pm	High 06:56 am High 07:27 pm
Wed. May 8	Low 01:23 am Low 01:24 pm	High 07:37 am High 08:09 pm

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

Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide

Delaware Bay Entrance - subtract 1 hour 25 minutes to high tide

- subtract 45 minutes to low tide

Wachapreague, VA - add 4 minutes for high tide,

- 21 minutes for low tide

Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide

These tides are only meant to be a guide, as tides can be affected by storms and weather fronts.


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"LIKE" SKIP'S CHARTER
AND GUIDE SERVICE

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Charter & Guide Service

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30' CC Mako

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HALF DAY, FULL DAY, LIGHT TACKLE, INSHORE SHARK
CLAMMING, CRABBING, SIGHT SEEING, BAR HOPPING
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CELL: 410-430-5436 302-930-FISH (3474)
CaptSkip@OceanCityFishing.com www.OceanCityFishing.com

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

• MAY •

30th Annual MSSA Spring Rockfish Tournament

May 3 - 5 • MSSA • 410-255-5535

Lewes Canal Flounder Tournament

May 17 • Lewes Harbour Marina • 302-645-6227

4th Annual Marlin Club Bluefish Tournament

May 25 - 26 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

• JUNE •

33rd Annual South Jersey Shark Tournament

June 6 - 9 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2400

17th Annual Mako Mania

June 7 - 9 • Bahia Marina • 410-289-7473

55th Annual Big Rock Blue Marlin Tournament

Ladies Event - June 8 • Tournament - June 10 - 15

Morehead City, NC • 252-247-3575

33rd Annual Ocean City Shark Tournament

June 13 - 15 • OC Fishing Center

410-213-2442 or 410-213-1121

24th Annual MSSA Tuna-Ment

June 21 - 23 • Sunset Marina • 410-255-5535

34th Annual Marlin Club Small Boat Tournament

June 22 - 23 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

• JULY •

31st Annual Marlin Club Canyon Kick-Off

July 5 - 7 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

**5th Annual Pier Point Marina Flounder
Tournament**

July 6 - August 10 • Dewey Beach, DE

302-227-2808

24th Annual Ocean/Viking Showdown

July 10 - 14 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-2400



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SEA MISTRESS ~ 1985 38' Tobaz Flybridge SF
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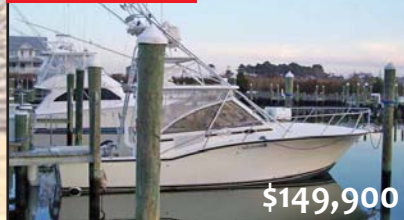
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- 36 Ricky 1991 - \$79,900 Call Steve
- 33 Grady Express 2003 - \$139,900 Call Steve
- 33 Mako Attack 1999 - \$49,900 Call Steve
- 32 Albemarle Conv. 1989 - \$59,900 Call Steve
- 31 Sportcraft 2001 - \$55,900 Call Steve
- 28 Albemarle Express 1996 - \$59,900 Call Steve
- 27 Grady Islander 2002 - \$49,900 Call Steve
- 26 Grady X-26 1999 - \$34,900 Call Steve
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