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COASTAL FISHERMAN

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Last week, anglers on the charter boat, "No Quarter" returned to Sunset Marina with the first Fantasy Slam (5 billfish species) in Ocean City history. During their epic overnight trip to the Norfolk Canyon, the guys released 23 white marlin, 2 spearfish, a sailfish and a blue marlin. They also caught a 350 lb. swordfish and free gaffed a 263 lb. mako shark. The Fantasy Slam was set on Tuesday when they released 14 white marlin, a spearfish, a blue marlin, and a sailfish in addition to catching the swordfish. Fishing with Capt. Kyle Peet and mates Parker Marshall and Erik Mateer were Bao Thai, Adam Fischer, Darren Pike, Mike Budny and Brian Brown. See the OC Fishing Report on page 6 for more details.



Last week, Tim Tribbitt and Tim Parrill joined Justin, Craig, Steve and Cory Lednum for a trip to the Poor Man's Canyon where they went 3 for 3 on white marlin and caught 24 dolphin, all on trolled ballyhoo aboard the "Get Bent".

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Mary Pat Armstrong from Ocean City, MD, Vivian Martin from Rocky Ridge, MD and Dennis Speelman from Uniontown, PA spent part of the day fishing on the headboat, "Happy Hooker" with Capt. Steve Whitelock and mate Cody Smith and ended up with 3 flounder caught on shiners in the East Channel. Dennis led the way with a 20-incher that weighed an even 4 lbs. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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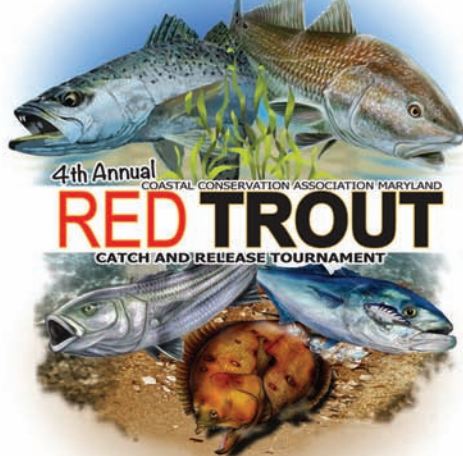
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James Guinan from Thornton, PA and Mike Reynolds from Ocean Pines, MD each released their first white marlin during a trip last week aboard the charter boat, "Rhonda's Osprey" with Capt. Joe Drosey and mates James Doerzbach and Eric Strauss. The anglers left them snapping after releasing 6 whites and catching 2 dolphin in the Washington Canyon. Pictured back at Sunset Marina.

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Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



Well, this is the last issue of the season for the Coastal Fisherman and we are ending it on a high note with the return of the Challenge Cup to Ocean City, the epic overnight trip on the "No Quarter", a good flounder bite and improving sea bass action on ocean structure and solid white marlin release numbers in the canyons.

First, let's talk about the trip that everyone is still talking about on the charter boat, "No Quarter". On Wednesday, Capt. Kyle Peet and his crew returned from an overnight trip to the Norfolk Canyon with the very first Fantasy Slam ever recorded by a boat in Ocean City. A Fantasy Slam consists of releases of 5 different billfish in a single day. During their overnight trip in 77-degree water, the anglers released 23 white marlin, 2 spearfish, a blue marlin and a sailfish. If that wasn't enough, they also caught a 350 lb. swordfish and a 263 lb. mako shark. Their Fantasy Slam took place on Tuesday with 14 white marlin releases in addition to a blue marlin, spearfish and a sailfish. An epic trip that included several highlights including mate Parker Marshall free gaffing the mako while it was munching on the swordfish at the side of the boat. Congratulations go out to Capt.

Kyle, mates Parker Marshall and Erik Mateer and their anglers for their major accomplishment!

The other big news last weekend was the return of the Challenge Cup trophy to Ocean City after a 4-year absence. The Challenge Cup pits boats from the Ocean City Marlin Club against boats from the Cape May Marlin & Tuna Club. Cape May has won the Cup for the last 4-years, but our anglers came through in the clutch, winning decisively with a 787.5 to 500 point performance. For the 1-day shoot-out, Ocean City boats released 126 white marlin and a blue marlin compared to Cape May's 58 white marlin and 1 blue marlin. Most of the action took place in the Washington and Norfolk Canyons with the better bite in the Norfolk. Here's how our boats ended up (white marlin releases in parenthesis): "Makara" (13), "Billfisher" (12), "Bar South" (9 & 1 blue), "Sea Slammer" (11), "Intents" (9), "Gret's Three J's" (7), "Contango" (7), "Griffin" (7), "Buckshot" (6), "Par Five" (5), "Reel Joy" (5), "Odinspear" (5), "Reel Toy" (5), "Tighten Up" (5), "Wrecker" (3 & 1 spear), "Instigator" (4), "First Light" (4), "Top Dog" (4), "Game On" (3), "Brenda Lou" (3), "Liquid RX" (3).

Congratulations to all of the participants who represented

Ocean City in the tournament.

Outside of the Challenge Cup, boats heading to the 800/800 and down to the Norfolk Canyon found cooperative white marlin throughout last week. A lot of boats came back with high single-digit releases and a box full of dolphin. I do want to mention the overnight trip to the Norfolk Canyon made mid-week by Mike and Dave Burt on the "Pumpin Hard". The duo returned with 27 white marlin after hooking 19 on Tuesday and 8 on Wednesday. Quite a trip for only two guys!

Yellowfins popped up again in the Washington Canyon with fish up to 72 lbs. Greensticking continues to be an effective way of hooking yellowfins, but trolling ballyhoo and spreader bars was also effective.

In addition to the swordfish caught on the "No Quarter" we also saw one come in on the Moore Bills when they returned with a 74 pounder in addition to 7 white marlin releases, 2 blue marlin releases, a small mako and a load of dolphin from the 800/800.

If you are looking for dolphin, you can find them pretty much everywhere in the canyons and even closer to shore at any 20-fathom lump. There are plenty of bailors, but we have seen a definite increase in larger mahi as well. If you come across any floating debris, chances are you will find dolphin, and maybe some triggerfish underneath.

Fishing on inshore structure continues to improve with good catches of flounder and sea bass last week. Headboats found the

best action on artificial reefs and wrecks in 100+ feet of water. The bite should only get better as flounder begin moving from the bay to inshore structure. The Old Grounds is still the best location for inshore flounder, but you can also find cooperative flatties at the Great Eastern Reef, the Bass Grounds and the Jackspot.

Fishing in the bay has not been very good this season, but if you are going to catch a big flounder, now is typically the time. The fish have fattened up and are stacking up as they prepare for their migration to the east. Look for fish along the 2nd Street Bulkhead, along the north wall in the Inlet, along the rocks at Martha's Landing and around the South Jetty. Bucktails tipped with flounder or mahi belly always seems to produce nice fish, but white Gulp! Swimming Mulletts combined with minnows can also do the trick.

We also saw keeper size striped bass caught in the Inlet over the weekend, which is surprising since the water temperature is still in the low-to-mid 70's. You can also look for weakfish around the South Jetty and Rt. 50 Bridge as well.

Speaking of trout, now is the time to anchor north of the Rt. 50 Bridge between the East and West Channel if you are looking to tangle with a speckled trout. Most seasoned speckled trout anglers will be tossing MirrOlure lures.

As mentioned earlier, this is the final Coastal Fisherman of the season. If you have any pictures you would like to submit for the big Winter Issue, you can email them to coastalfisherman@comcast.net. I'm looking forward to seeing a lot of big striper pictures in my inbox and I wish everyone a productive and safe fall fishing season.

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Brandon Arnett of Royersford, PA (pictured) ventured out to the Old Grounds with Bill Faithful and John Robinson on the "Fishing Bear" and brought back some nice size flounder after hooking them on squid and minnows. Brandon's largest flounder measured 27 1/2-inches and weighed 6 lbs. 10 oz. on the scale at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Mackenzie, Brooke and James Cathell were fishing on some ocean structure last weekend when they caught bluefish, croaker and flounder. Karen Cathell unfortunately got skunked!

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Rob and Tammy Simington, Ben Cooper, Ed and Kim Hileman and John Wooldridge ended their day with 8 white marlin releases, 19 dolphin and a 50 lb. wahoo, all during a trip aboard the charter boat, "Marli" with Capt. Mark Hoos and mate Mark Stephens. The fish were caught while trolling ballyhoo near the Rockpile. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Ben Keck was drifting a squid and minnow combination in the Thorofare when he hooked into this 2 lb. 10 oz. flounder. Weighed at Bahia Marina.



Chase Porter of Ocean City, MD hooked this 2 lb. 1 oz. flounder on a live minnow while fishing in the West Channel, north of the Rt. 50 Bridge. Weighed at Bahia Marina.

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Chum Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson



Most anglers are familiar with the term “post release mortality” (PRM) which is used to describe a fish that dies after it has been released. While weak or erratic swimming actions will sometimes clue anglers to the fact that a particular fish they just released probably isn’t going to make it, it’s impossible to tell for certain what the fate of any fish is just by watching it swim away. Even if a fish appears healthy when it swims away from the angler who caught it, factors such as strength, stress, internal and external damage from the catch and release process, as well as predation for other fish (like sharks) all play a part in whether or not a particular fish will be able to fully recover from being caught and released.

Researchers, however, have certain tools and techniques that allow them to more accurately determine PRM in certain fisheries. One tool in particular is the pop-up satellite archival tag (PSAT). The PSAT is a device that can measure water temperature, depth, light,

location and other environmental factors. These external tags are attached to the fish by a small dart that is planted just under the skin. Usually about the size of a large cigar, these tags are typically reserved for use on larger species of fish that can carry them without complications. PSATs are programmed to release from the fish after a specific number of days and then float to the surface where they can upload their archived data to a satellite. When they can be used, PSATs are great tools for determining PRM because they will very accurately show when and where a fish has quit swimming.

A couple weeks ago at a National Marine Fisheries Service Highly Migratory Species Advisory Panel meeting in Silver Spring, MD, I was in the audience for a presentation by Dr. John Graves from the Virginia Institute of Marine Science about a study he and his team conducted to determine the post release mortality of white marlin in the recreational fishery. While trolling from

sport fishing boats out of the Virginia Beach area, the researchers caught 20 white marlin on J-hooks and 59 on circle hooks. All the marlin were tagged with PSATs and released without bringing them out of the water. After 30-days, the tags released and the data showed that 7 of the 20 marlin caught on J-hooks had died, resulting in a PRM of 35%. Of the 59 circle hook caught fish, only one died for a PRM of only 1.7%.

Most will agree that a 35% mortality rate for such a valuable fish as a white marlin is way too high and should not be tolerated. On the other hand, the 1.7% PRM for circle hook caught fish is very acceptable and a good testament on why anglers using dead bait for billfish should always use circle hooks.

Taking his studies one step further, Dr. Graves then tried to determine the effects of air exposure on PRM when white marlin are not released in the water, but are brought out of the water as anglers sometimes do in order to have a photograph taken of them with their catch. In this study, 18 white marlin were caught while trolling ballyhoo on circle hooks and all were fitted PSATs. Six marlin were brought out of the water for 1-minute, five came out for 3-

minutes, and seven were out for 5-minutes. All of the marlin were laid on a wet deck with a wet towel over their head to help calm them and prevent injury while aboard. After the prescribed time, all the marlin were promptly released.

The results of this study, combined with the previous study where the marlin were released in the water, are both eye opening and somewhat frightening. Comparing the time out of the water to the mortality rate, they observed the following:

0-minutes out, 59 tagged, 1 died, PRM = 1.7%

1-minute out, 6 tagged, 1 died, PRM = 16.7%

3-minutes out, 5 tagged, 2 died, PRM = 40%

5-minutes out, 7 tagged, 3 died, PRM = 42.9%

Even though all of these fish were caught on circle hooks and, therefore, the mortality should have been very low, 33% of them died within the first 30-hours! The simple conclusion of this study is that air exposure dramatically increases the likelihood of PRM. Dr. Graves gave an interesting analogy of why a white marlin might so often succumb to being pulled out of the water, even for a short time, when he asked us to imagine running as fast as we could for a long time and

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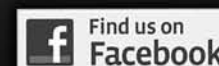
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then have someone hold our heads underwater for a minute or so. We'd be deprived of oxygen at a critical time when our bodies needed it the most. If this study is accurate, it could be that one out of every three marlin plucked out of the water for a photo-shoot ends up dying.

What does all this mean to us fishermen? We'll, there's a lot of evidence, both online and in printed media, that not all marlin are being released in the water. Many anglers might not be aware of the federal regulation requiring all HMS species (billfish, tuna, sharks, swordfish) not be pulled from the water prior to their release. Obviously, by the amount of photos that show up everywhere with HMS fish out of the water, this is not a regulation the NMFS has strived to enforce, but with this new evidence of white marlin PRM, the regulation could become more of a priority. At the very least, fishermen who are now aware of the high risk to white marlin from air exposure should think twice before plucking their catch out of the water and opt instead for a picture of the fish in the water with the proud angler leaning over the gunwale above it.

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



David Sterling was fishing on the "Black Pearl" with Lauren Blair, Justin Gorman and Mike Gorman when he captured this 62.4 lb. wahoo while trolling a skirted ballyhoo at the Elephant Trunk. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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While fishing at the Great Eastern Reef aboard the headboat, "Morning Star", Silvin Chiarizia caught and released this cobia after hooking it on a flounder rig. Although there is no size or creel limit for cobia caught in Maryland or Delaware state waters, cobia are not permitted to be kept while fishing in Federal waters.



This 6 lb. 10 oz. flounder was caught by Mark Mohn of Reading, PA during a trip on the headboat, "Judy V" with Capt. Ed Wheedleton. The flounder ate cut bait at "A" Buoy and was weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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 <p>WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No creel limit</p>	 <p>WAHOO No minimum length 2 per person/day</p>	 <p>BLUEFIN TUNA (Recreational) 2 per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL 1 per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 73"</p>	
 <p>SWORDFISH 47" Lower Jaw Fork Length 1 per person / 4 per vessel (Rec) 1 per person / 6 per vessel (Charter)</p>	 <p>BIGEYE TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length No creel limit</p>	<p>(Charter Boat) 3 per vessel/day/trip 27" to less than 47" CFL 1 per vessel/day/trip 47" to less than 73" Southern Trophy Fishery closed through December 31, 2016</p>	



Sarah Trattner, Carleigh Kufchak, Rena Bishop, Loren Manzione, Regan Martin, Mariah Clock and Caitlin Rose teamed up to release 9 white marlin and a spearfish in addition to catching a dolphin during a trip aboard the "Maverick" with Capt. Joel McCloud and mate Neal Ashley. Five of the anglers recorded their first white marlin releases with all the action taking place near the Rockpile. Also pictured at Harbour Island is Kevin Clark.

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Robert Hartman and his sons, Jeff and Jon fished outside the Rockpile last week on the "De-Bait-Able" and went 7 for 8 on white marlin in addition to catching 9 dolphin, all on ballyhoo. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



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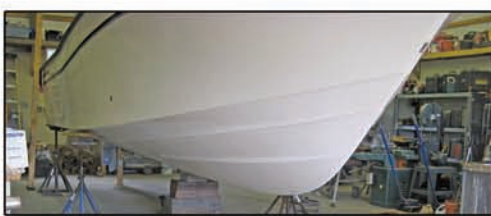


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Anglers on the charter boat, "Moore Bills" returned on Saturday afternoon from an overnight trip to the 800/800 with 7 white marlin releases, 2 blue marlin releases, a 67 lb. mako shark, a 74 lb. swordfish and a bunch of dolphin (not pictured). Greg Kirkpatrick from Saratoga, NY caught a Grand Slam when he released a white marlin and a blue marlin in addition to catching the swordfish during the night. Greg was fishing with his dad, Jim Kirkpatrick, his brother, Geoff Kirkpatrick, Matt Rasette, Capt. Rob Skillman and mate Steve Moore. Capt. Rob reported water temperatures around 74-degrees in 120 fathoms. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Wes Pollitt, mate on the "Morning Star" showed Capt. Monty Hawkins how it's done, boating a pair of flounder while fishing with Gulp! artificial baits and strips of flounder belly on an ocean reef. The flatties measured 19 and 23-inches.



Bill Scheivert caught this good size dolphin while trolling ballyhoo in the Baltimore Canyon. Bill was fishing on the "Turn Me Loose" with Joey Collins (pictured) and Capt. Dave Weller.

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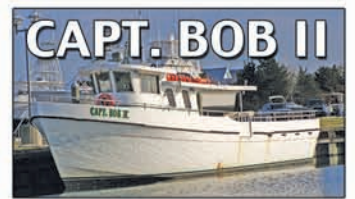
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While drifting live mullet in the West Channel, Finn McCabe, Brad McCabe, Brian McCabe and Greg Donahue caught 3 flounder, weighing up to 2 lbs. 14 oz., while fishing on the first day of 6th Annual MSSA Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle.



John Kaminaris from Baltimore, MD is all smiles after weighing this 2 lb. 2 oz. flounder on opening day of the 2016 MSSA Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament. John caught the 17.5-inch flattie on a white Gulp! at the Rt. 50 Bridge. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle.

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BAY FISHING CHARTERS



Darrell Douppnik from Easton, MD caught his limit of 4 flounder last Saturday while fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts. Darrell's largest weighed 3 lbs. 8 oz. and was hooked on squid at an artificial reef.



In the 6th Annual MSSA Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament, David Wilder of Baltimore, MD caught a 20-inch, 3 lb. 1 oz. flounder and Jim Barbey of White Marsh, MD boated a 17.5-inch, 2 lb. 1 oz. flattie, both while fishing with Gulp! artificial baits and squid near "A" Buoy. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle.

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OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Harry Sullivan, Mark Ozolins and Admiral David Konick caught flounder measuring up to 21-inches and a sea bass while fishing on ocean structure aboard the headboat, "Morning Star".

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Rodney Hufford's very first flounder weighed 5 lbs. 6 oz. and was caught on a live spot in the Indian River Inlet. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.



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OCEAN FISHING CHARTERS



Flounder Pounder, Chan Park (left) brought his buddy, Young You along for a trip aboard the headboat, "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Dan Iacangelo and Wes Pollitt. Maybe it's "Beginners Luck" but Young ended up besting Chan for largest fish honors with a 23-incher caught on a bucktail tipped with Gulp! Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Although they primarily target flounder and sea bass, anglers fishing on the headboat, "Angler" will occasionally get a chance to tangle with a dolphin, like Douglas Brown who boated this 12 pounder after hooking it on a strip of squid. Douglas caught the dolphin at an artificial reef while fishing with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Rich Fouts (pictured) and Hunter Phillips.

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Niki Pino from An Optical Galleria caught and released her first white marlin while fishing on the "Poore Sport" with her husband, Bob Pino and her two sons, Anthony and Chris. Niki hooked the white marlin last Sunday while trolling ballyhoo, south of the Washington Canyon during a trip that was generously donated by Capt. Steve Poore to help raise funds for the Ocean City Reef Foundation.

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Last Tuesday, Mike and Dave Burt on the "Pumpin Hard" took an overnight trip to the Norfolk Canyon and released 27 white marlin in 40 to 100 fathoms. The duo released 19 on Tuesday and 8 on Wednesday, all while trolling naked ballyhoo.



John Honigsberg, Laurence Gensler and Dave Tolbert took a trip to the Wilmington Canyon on Saturday and boated a 50 lb. wahoo.

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On the first day of the 2016 MSSA Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament, Jason Courtney of Pasadena, MD and Rick Schafer of Havre de Grace, MD weighed the three flounder they caught on squid and minnows at the Great Eastern Reef. Their flatties tipped the scale at 2 lbs. 9 oz., 3 lbs. 11 oz. and 4 lbs. 3 oz. at Atlantic Tackle.



While fishing at the Bass Grounds last Saturday on the "Bonnie Lynn", Butch Baxter, Jeremy Jefferson, Mike Herbert, Cecil Jones and Bryan Jones caught 5 flounder, weighing up to 3 lbs. 4 oz., on bucktails tipped with Gulp!, cut bait and minnows. The anglers were fishing on the first day of the 2016 MSSA Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament and are pictured at Atlantic Tackle.

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The sea bass bite on ocean structure has picked up over the last couple of weeks and Jeremy Oswald captured a pair of knotheads weighing up to 2 lbs. 8 oz., during a trip to an artificial reef. Jeremy was fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts.



Anglers on the headboat, "Morning Star" battled through rough seas in the morning but ended the day on a good note, as shown by the pair of flounder caught by pool winner John Niedermair of Silver Spring, MD. John's winning fish measured 22-inches and was caught while using Gulp! for bait over natural bottom.

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 <p>CROAKER 9" minimum 25 per person/day</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 18" - 27" 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD No limit</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 4 per person/day</p>
 <p>STRIPED BASS 28"- 38" and 44" and greater Any Combination 2 per person/day</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 5/16-10/31 2 per person/day</p>	 <p>SUMMER FLOUNDER 16" minimum 4 per person/day</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>

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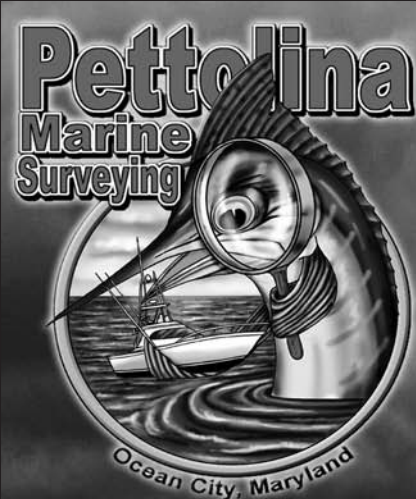
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Vincent and Nicholas Penna came down from Connecticut and took a trip aboard the charter boat, "Lucky Break" with Capt. Jason Mumford. The duo ended up with a nice catch of bluefish and mackerel after fishing in the Ocean City Inlet.



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Tim O'Toole of Ocean City, MD caught a pair of flounder, weighing up to 2 lbs. 12 oz., during a trip on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Rich Fouts and Dean Lo. Tim caught the flatties while drifting at the Old Grounds.

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VOLUME 41... NUMBER 12... JULY 20, 2016
July 15-17, 2016

The world famous Ocean City Marlin Club Kid's Classic was held... On opening day of the tournament, Luke Duffie, John Duffie and Tyler Knight teamed up to release 5 white marlin and a sailfish to win 1st place in the Billfish Release Division. The anglers were fishing on the "Billfisher" with Jonathan Duffie, John Knight, Jeremy Duffie, Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Jake Emche and Noe Gonzalez when they released their billfish in 600 fathoms below the Norfolk Canyon. Their 6 releases gave them a 1 fish lead over the anglers aboard the "The Chaser", who released 5 white marlin, and the "Max Bet" who recorded 3 white marlin and 2 sailfish releases on the final day of the tournament. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Delaware Fishing Report

by Larry Jock

Fishing right now is a mixed bag with sub-par action in the bay, very good fishing offshore and so-so on the inshore lumps.

Capt. Bert Adams at the Hook'em & Cook'em Tackle Shop in the Indian River Marina told me that anglers fishing in the Indian River Inlet are really struggling right now to find anything to bend the rod. Hardly any flounder are being hooked in the Inlet and only a few in the back bays. They have seen a few weakfish lately in the Inlet in addition to short stripers near the Coast Guard Station and around the North Jetty. Bert said that he is surprised there aren't more fish being caught in the Inlet, especially bluefish, since big schools of mullet have been seen moving in and out during the course of the week. The stripers have mostly been in the 12-inch range and the largest have measured around 23 to 24-inches. We did see some larger, keeper size linesiders caught in the Ocean City Inlet last weekend, so hopefully that is a sign that they will be showing up around Indian River as well.

In the surf, anglers are finding waves of bluefish in the 13 to 16-inch range, but nothing consistent. The blues are being caught mainly on mullet rigs with fresh mullet (if you can find some). No striped bass have been reported by surfcasters.

Inshore, Bert said that nothing seems to be hitting within the first 7-miles off the beach because the water is still murky from the last storm.



Jonathan Freeberg from Osceola Mills, PA (left) caught a 26.5-inch, 8 lb. 3 oz. flounder in addition to a 3 lb. 8 oz. flatie while fishing on the headboat, "Judy V" with Capt. Ed Wheedleton. Jonathan was joined by Nathan Jones of Morrisdale, PA and Derek Jones of Houtzdale, PA. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

Flounder are biting around Site 11 and at the Radford wreck where several boats returned with their limits last weekend. The sea bass bite is picking up with the best action continuing to happen at the DelJerseyLand Reef. This site has been a top producer over the last month. It takes some motoring to get there, being around 23 miles from both the Indian River and Ocean City inlets, but right now it seems like it is worth the trip. Flounder are

biting on strips of mahi or flounder belly in addition to Gulp! artificial baits and live minnows or spot. Sea bass like to snap at strips of squid or chunks of clam.

The offshore scene is the bright spot right now with wahoo being caught in both the Poor Man's and Wilmington Canyons. Trolling lures in the colors of black and purple have always been the top choice for those seeking speedsters.

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Yellowfins showed back up in the Wilmington and Washington Canyons. Most boats looking for yellowfins headed to the Wilmington where reports came back of acres of fish seen airing out in 100 fathoms.

Bert said that a couple of swordfish came back last week from anglers on overnight trips to the Washington Canyon. One weighed 81 lbs. but the other was a bruiser that tipped the scale at 190 lbs. gutted.

White marlin were hooked in decent numbers last week by boats trolling ballyhoo in the Wilmington, Poor Man's and Washington Canyons. Most of the boats came back with 4 to 7 white marlin releases in addition to loads of mahi caught along weed lines or any floating debris.

Since this is the last issue of the season for the *Coastal Fisherman*, I would like to thank Capt. Bert Adams at Hook'em & Cook'em for his weekly reports. The big *Coastal Fisherman* Winter Issue will come out on January 1st, so if you have any pictures you would like to submit, you can email them to coastalfisherman@comcast.net.

There should still be plenty of good offshore and wreck fishing action to experience this season, so keep that boat in the water and head out into the Atlantic. Hopefully, we will have a better striper season this fall since last years was absolutely pathetic, although we did see a few 50 pounders caught in December. When water temperatures hit 50-degrees the bite should turn on and the party is over when it falls into the 30's.

I wish everyone a great fall fishing season. Don't forget to email you pictures to coastalfisherman@comcast.net.

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Brice Smyth from Fenwick Island, DE, Chad Murray from Selbyville, DE, Cliff Stoecker from West Ocean City, MD, Scott Breasure from Bridgeville, DE and Tony Smythe from Millville, DE ended their day last Saturday with 2 white marlin releases and 26 dolphin in the box after fishing on the "White Lightning" with Capt. Terry Murray and mate Paul Daisey. The white marlin and most of the dolphin were hooked while trolling ballyhoo and some of the dolphin were caught on cut bait. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



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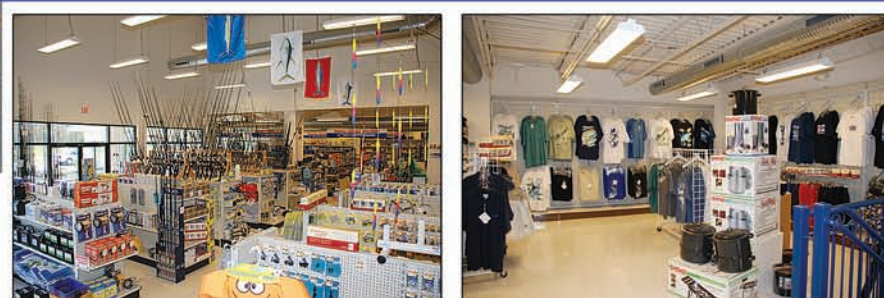
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Matt Marsiglia of Essex, MD (left) took top fish honors during a trip aboard the headboat, "Morning Star" last Saturday. Matt boated a 26-inch, 6 lb. 8 oz. flattie while fishing on an artificial wreck with Adam Wizbicki of Baltimore, MD, "Hurricane" Murray Adams of Ellicott City, MD, Capt. Monty Hawkins and mates Dan Iacangelo and Wes Pollitt. "Hurricane" was on a 10-day straight fishing marathon and could barely hold his eyes open.

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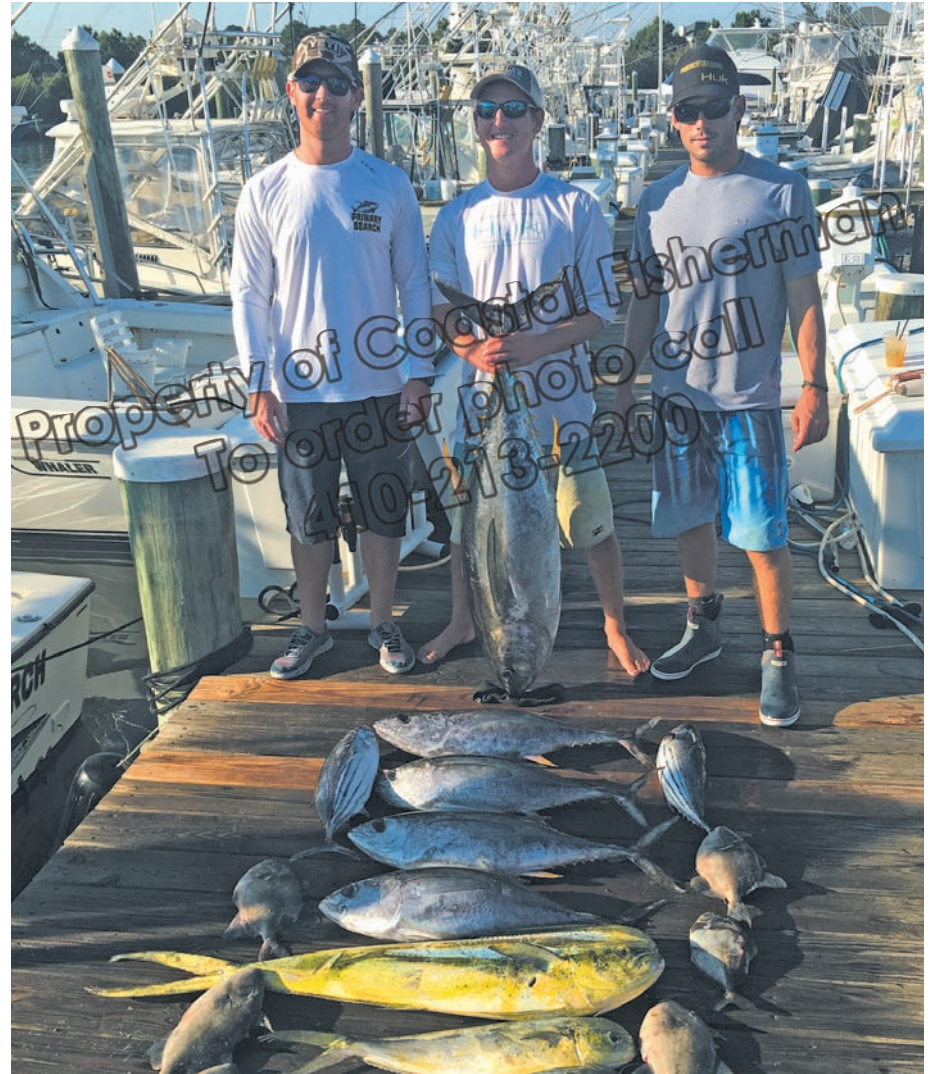
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Cobia	44"	-	Thresher *	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
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Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"	Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lbs. or 32"
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 36"	False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"
Red Drum *	36"	45"	Bigeye ***	60"	70 lbs. or 48"
Sailfish *	Any Size	-	Bluefin ***	55"	100 lbs. or 60"
Sea Bass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"	Yellowfin ***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"	Wahoo	60"	20 lbs. or 50"
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"	Weakfish	24"	3 lbs. or 20"
Speckled Trout	24"	-	White Marlin **	Any Size	Any Size
Striped Bass	40"	30 lbs. or 40"			

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

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



On opening day of the 2016 MSSA Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament, Rob Mako of Reisterstown, MD caught a 19-inch, 2 lb 13 oz. flounder while drifting minnows in the Ocean City Inlet. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle.



Last Saturday, Austin Ensor, Jason McFadden and Jamie Coats headed to the Washington Canyon where they caught 5 yellowfin tuna, weighing up to 72 lbs. and a load of dolphin. All of the fish were caught on the troll. They also jumped off 3 white marlin while attempting to chunk for tuna. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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Last weekend, Mark Cooper from Bishopville, MD was fishing with Josh Fallon from Yellowfin's Bar & Grill when he caught a couple of flounder at the Bass Grounds and 2 striped bass in the Ocean City Inlet. Mark's largest striper measured 34-inches and was caught on a live spot.



Ashton Clark, age 9, caught and released his first white marlin during a trip aboard the "Wigg One" with his dad, Robert Clark, Mike Wiggins, Billy Waterman and his grandfather, Bob Clark. Ashton hooked the white marlin while trolling at the Rockpile.



Junior angler, Joshua Blume caught and released his first white marlin while trolling in the Washington Canyon. Joshua was fishing on the "C-Boys" with Paul Crampton, Jr., Paul Crampton, III, Jamie Prather, his dad, Capt. Luke Blume and mate Jon Henry.



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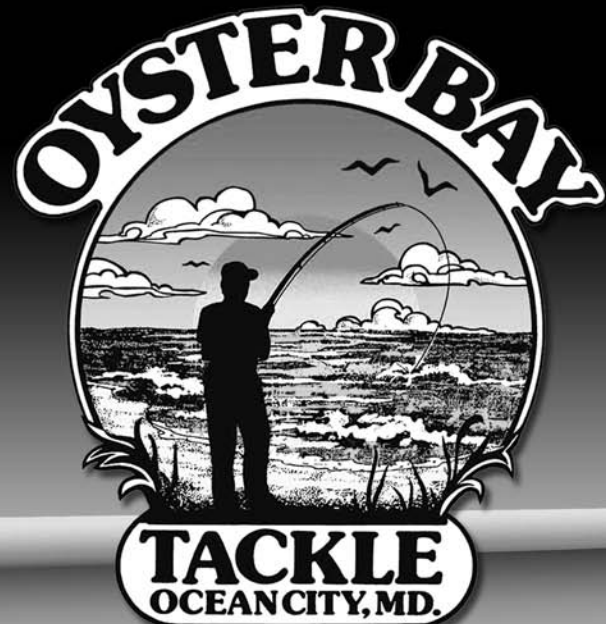


Jai Enck from Boiling Springs, PA caught a pair of 21-inch flounder while drifting live bunker in the bay behind Harbour Island. Jai was fishing with Brad Richwine on the "PA Posse".



We are not sure whether Dave Weller is in pain or extremely happy after releasing this white marlin while trolling in the Baltimore Canyon with Joey Collins. We are betting on happy!

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Matt and Cherie Williams, Ralph and Beth Redden and Rick and Dee Stone ventured out on the "White Lightning" with Capt. Terry Murray and mate Paul Daisey when they caught a load of mahi in addition to 3 white marlin releases by the ladies. All the action took place in the Poor Man's Canyon. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Gretchen Hancock and Zach Freistat, teachers in the Worcester County School District, took some students out on the "Fish Finder" with Capt. Mark Sampson for a school trip to study sharks. The students were able to tag sharks, take skin samples and dye the vertebrae of some of the 6 sandbar sharks they caught that day. Pictured with Gretchen and Zach are Stephen Bontempo, Emma Hancock and Brody Shockley.



Maria Copeland from Oxon Hill, MD caught a 19 1/2-inch flounder on a strip of flounder belly while drifting in the East Channel, south of the Rt. 50 Bridge. Photo courtesy of Bahia Marina.



Darrel and Sandy Hawk caught a pair of 14 lb. dolphin while trolling near "A" Buoy aboard the "Sea Hawk".

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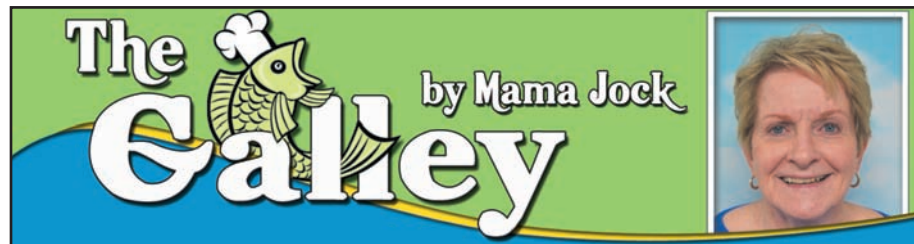
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- 3/4 cup white sesame seeds
- 3/4 cup black sesame seeds
- 1 cup poppy seeds
- 1/4 cup dried minced onions
- 3/4 cup dried minced garlic
- 1 TBSP. salt

For the tuna:

- 4 tuna steaks
- Salt
- 1 large egg white
- Canola oil for frying
- Soy sauce
- Wasabi paste

Combine all of the crust ingredients in a jar and mix well.

Season the tuna with salt.

Beat the egg white in a shallow bowl until frothy.

Pour about 1 cup of the crust mixture onto a plate.

Store the remaining mix in a glass jar out of direct light.

Dip each piece of tuna into the egg white.

Let the excess drip off and then coat the fish on all sides with the crust mixture, patting it to make sure it adheres.

Place the tuna on a rack over a baking sheet and refrigerate while you heat the oil.

Pour 3-inches of oil into a large deep saucepan and heat to 365-degrees.

Fry the tuna one piece at a time until the dried onions brown, 1 minute or so.

Drain the fish on a rack.

Cut each portion into slices 1/3-inch thick and serve with soy sauce and wasabi paste.

Shrimp Fried Rice

- 1/4 cup canola oil
- 8 oz. medium shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 3 eggs, lightly beaten
- 2 tsp. grated ginger
- 2 tsp. minced garlic
- 1 bunch scallions, white and green parts only
- 5 cups cold cooked white rice
- 2 cups frozen vegetable medley (peas, carrots and corn), thawed
- 1/4 cup soy sauce

In a wok or large nonstick skillet, heat 2 TBSP. of the oil over high heat.

Add the shrimp; stir fry until pink and opaque throughout.

Remove the shrimp and set aside.

Place the skillet or wok back on the heat.

Add the eggs in one layer and cook until set; remove to a cutting board and coarsely chop.

Wipe out the skillet or wok,

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place it back over the heat and add the remaining 2 TBSP. of oil.

Add the ginger, garlic and scallions, thinly sliced, and cook just until fragrant, about 30 seconds.

Add the rice, and stir fry until it begins to brown, 1 to 2 minutes.

Add the vegetables and the soy sauce; stir to combine and continue cooking for another 1 to 2 minutes.

Add the shrimp and the chopped egg back to the skillet and stir fry for another minute.

Serves 4-6.

Shrimp Burgers with Remoulade

- 1 lb. medium shrimp, peeled, deveined, chopped
- 1 bunch green onions, chopped
- 1 medium shallot, minced
- 1 tsp. lemon zest
- 2 TBSP. fresh lemon juice
- 1 TBSP. chopped fresh parsley

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1 TBSP. chopped fresh chives
1 TBSP. chopped fresh dill
1 tsp. Old Bay Seasoning
3/4 tsp. kosher salt
1/2 tsp. black pepper
1 large egg, lightly beaten
1 1/2 cups panko breadcrumbs
2 TBSP. vegetable oil
4 semi-hard sandwich rolls
Lettuce

In a large bowl, combine shrimp and the next 11 ingredients.

Add egg and 1 cup panko crumbs, mixing to combine.

Shape mixture into 4 patties.

In a nonstick skillet, heat oil over medium-high heat.

Cook burgers until golden brown, 6 to 8 minutes per side.

Serve on rolls with the lettuce and Remoulade.

Remoulade
1 cup mayonnaise
2 TBSP. rinsed chopped capers
2 TBSP. chopped kosher

baby dill pickles
2 TBSP. chopped fresh dill
2 TBSP. chopped fresh chives
2 TBSP. chopped fresh parsley
1 TBSP. coarse ground mustard
1 tsp. lemon zest
2 TBSP. fresh lemon juice
1 tsp. Worcestershire sauce
1/2 tsp. hot pepper sauce
1/2 tsp. paprika
1/2 tsp. each salt and pepper

In a medium bowl, combine all ingredients. and refrigerate for 2 hours before serving.

Store covered in fridge for up to 5 days.

Serves 4.

Mahi-Mahi Fingers

For the batter:

1 large egg
1 3/4 cups cold seltzer or club soda
2 cups cake flour
1 1/2 tsp. baking powder

September 21, 2016 Coastal Fisherman Page 43



Dave Prince from Berlin, MD caught a pair of flounder while fishing on the "I Apologize" with Rob Prince, Scott Penchansky and Eric Penchansky. His heaviest flounder weighed 3 lbs. 5 oz. and hit a white Gulp! just north of the Rt. 50 Bridge. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

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Keith Hoyer from Bethany Beach, DE took a trip on the headboat, "Judy V" and ended up with a pair of flounder caught while jigging at Site 10. The smaller flounder measured 20-inches but the larger fish measured 23 1/2-inches and tipped the scale at 4 lbs. 13 oz. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

1/2 tsp. salt

Whisk egg in a medium bowl.

Pour in 1 1/2 cups seltzer or club soda and whisk. If it is too thick, add more seltzer or club soda by the tablespoon, it should be the consistency of lightly whipped cream.

Cut the mahi into fingers.

Season with salt and pepper and refrigerate until you heat the oil.

In a deep pot or Dutch oven, heat at least 3-inches of oil to 365-degrees. Set a rack over a baking sheet to drain the fat.

When the oil is hot, drop a few pieces of mahi into the batter, covering them completely.

Lift out the fish one piece at a time, letting the excess drop off.

Fry, turning the fish with a slotted spoon so it fries evenly, until rich golden brown, about 4 minutes.

Remove to the rack to drain.

Repeat with remaining

mahi.

Serve with your favorite sauce, such as tartar.

Serves 4.

New England Clam Chowder with Wine

- 1 cup water
- 48 littleneck clams, scrubbed
- 3 TBSP. unsalted butter
- 4 slices thick-cut bacon, chopped
- 1 large onion, chopped
- 1 carrot, minced
- 2 celery ribs, minced
- 1 leek, white and light green parts, minced
- 2 TBSP. flour
- 1 cup dry white wine
- A handful of parsley stems, 4 sprigs thyme, 1 bay leaf, (tied together for a herb bouquet)
- 1/2 lb. red-skinned potatoes, scrubbed and diced
- White pepper
- 2 cups heavy cream or half-and-half

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1/4 cup fresh chives or
parsley
1 TBSP. chopped fresh dill
Half a lemon

Bring the water to a boil in a wide deep pot or skillet.

Add the clams, cover immediately, and shake the pan.

Steam until they open, 5 minutes.

Drain in a colander set over a bowl.

When the clams are cool enough to handle, pull them out of their shells, coarsely chop and refrigerate, covered.

Pour the liquid into a measuring cup, leaving the last tablespoon or so in the bowl and add enough water to make 2 cups. Set aside.

Place the butter and bacon into a stockpot.

Cook until the bacon has rendered its fat (don't brown the bacon).

Add the onion, carrot, and celery; stir, cover and cook until the onion is translucent.

Add the leek, cover and cook another minute.

Stir in the flour and cook, stirring for 2 minutes, scraping the bottom of the pot.

Stir in the wine and the herb bouquet and bring to a boil.

Add the reserved clam liquid and potatoes.

Season with pepper; bring to a simmer for 10 minutes.

Refrigerate for a few hours or overnight.

Remove bouquet and bring soup back to a simmer.

Add the cream or half-and-half and bring to a simmer.

Stir in clams, chives or parsley and dill.

Check the seasoning.
Finish with the lemon.
Serves 6.

Tuna with Roasted Vegetables

4 tuna fillets
Nonstick cooking spray
1 TBSP. fresh dillweed,
snipped
1/2 tsp. salt
1/4 tsp. black pepper
2 medium zucchini or

September 21, 2016 Coastal Fisherman Page 45



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yellow squash, cut in
1/4-inch slices
1 cup grape or cherry
tomatoes, halved
4 green onions, cut into
1-inch pieces
1 TBSP. Dijon mustard

Preheat oven to 450
degrees.

Rinse fish and pat dry with
paper towels. Set aside.

Line a 15x10x1 in. baking
pan with foil and lightly coat
with cooking spray. Set aside.

In a small bowl, combine
dillweed, salt and pepper. Set
aside.

In a large bowl, combine
zucchini, tomatoes and
onions.

Generously coat vegetables
with the cooking spray.

Sprinkle with half of the
dillweed mixture, tossing to
coat evenly.

Spoon vegetable mixture
into one side of the prepared
baking pan.

Place fish in other side of
pan.

Stir mustard into
remaining dillweed mixture.

Spread this mixture evenly
over the fish.

Bake uncovered 4 to 6
minutes or until fish begins to
flake when tested with a fork
and zucchini is fork tender.

Serves 4.

Fried Flounder with Cornmeal Chili Coating

4 flounder fillets
3/4 cup yellow
cornmeal
1 TBSP. finely minced
jalapeno
2 cloves garlic, finely
minced
1 tsp. Cajun or Creole
seasoning
Canola or peanut oil
Fresh salsa

Rinse and pat the fillets
lightly, leaving them a little
moist.

Combine cornmeal,
jalapeno, garlic and seasoning
in a wide, shallow bowl.

Add 1-inch of oil in a large
skillet and heat over medium-
high heat.

Dip each fillet into the
cornmeal mixture, then place
in hot oil, turning carefully
with spatula when fish is
browned on the underside.

Fry until other side is
brown and fish just begins to
flake when tested with a fork.

Transfer to a warm platter
and keep warm.

Serves 4.

Seafood and Chorizo Stew

1 TBSP. extra-virgin olive
oil
6 oz. chorizo sausage,
quartered lengthwise,
sliced 1/2-inch thick
1 onion, chopped fine
4 garlic cloves, minced
1 TBSP. chopped fresh
oregano
2 (14.5 oz.) cans diced
tomatoes
1 (8 oz.) bottle clam juice
1 lb. extra-large shrimp,
peeled and deveined
with tails removed
2 skinless fillets, any white
fish, 1 in. thick, cut into

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1-inch chunks
Salt and pepper

Heat oil in large saucepan
over medium-high heat until
shimmering.

Add chorizo and onion;
cook until both are lightly
browned, 7 to 9 minutes.

Stir in garlic and 1 tsp.
oregano. Cook until fragrant,
about 30 seconds.

Add tomatoes and their
juice and clam juice, scraping
up any browned bits, and
bring to simmer.

Cook until slightly
thickened, about 10 minutes.

Pat shrimp and fish dry
with paper towels and season
with salt and pepper.

Gently stir seafood into
stew and cook until opaque
and cooked through, about 5
minutes.

Stir in remaining 2 tsp.
oregano and season with salt
and pepper to taste.

Serve stew into bowls and
drizzle with little oil.

Serves 4.

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Mussels Posillipo
Mussels in marinara, served with foccaccia bread.

SALADS
Caprese Salad
Fresh mozzarella and tomato with fresh leaf basil and extra virgin olive oil.
Romaine & Gorgonzola Salad
Crisp romaine lettuce, plum tomatoes, imported gorgonzola cheese and balsamic vinaigrette dressing.

SPECIALTIES
Linguine Posillipo
Jumbo shrimp, baby clams, fresh mussels, and sea scallops, in our famous marinara sauce, with white wine and fresh basil.
Vitello Alla Parmigiana
A generous portion of lightly hand breaded veal topped with sauce and imported parmesan cheese, served with spaghetti.
Linguine Con Scampi
Jumbo shrimp, lots of garlic, white wine, lemon juice and fresh herbed butter.

DESSERT
Tiramisu
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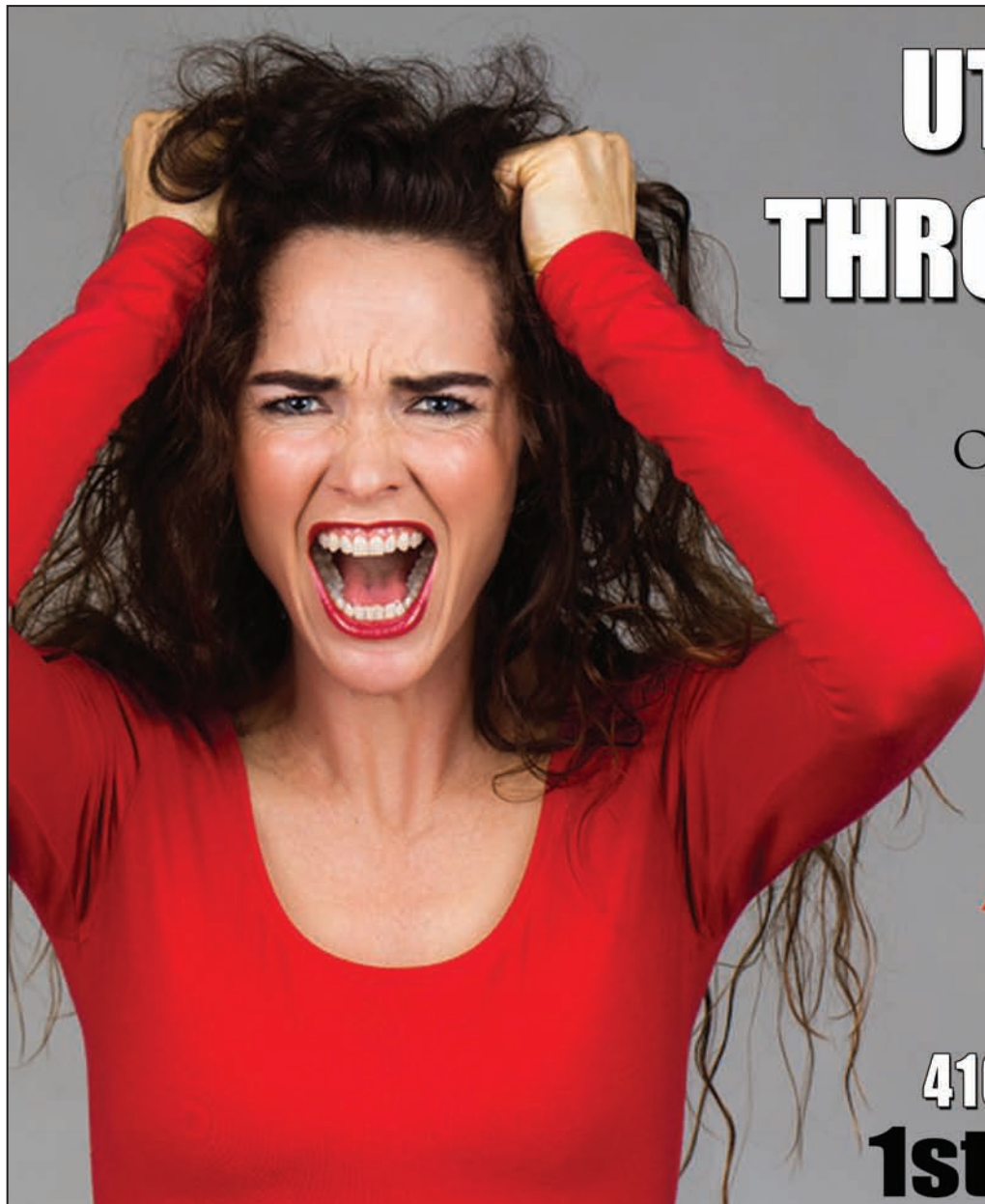
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Anthony Hojnicky, age 10, from Bear, DE was drifting minnows in the Lewes Canal when he hooked into 3 flounder measuring up to 22-inches. Photo courtesy of Lewes Harbour Marina.



Rob Anen caught his limit of flounder and Rob Iannaccone boated flatties weighing up to 3 lbs. and a sea bass, all while fishing on the headboat, "Angler" with Capt. Chris Mizurak and mates Dean Lo and Rich Fouts. The fish were caught at the Old Grounds on bucktails tipped with squid.



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It was a Father/Son trip for Marty and Jason Wildt of Baltimore, MD and they ended up with 3 nice size flounder after fishing on the headboat, "Capt. Bob II" with Capt. Roger Meekins. The flatties were fooled with cut bait at "A" Buoy. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em at the Indian River Marina.



Kevin Huey, Eddie Kehl, Eric Van Lil and Brian Wolfenberger ventured out to the Wilmington Canyon last weekend and caught 5 yellowfin tuna, weighing up to 75.5 lbs., in addition to a load of dolphin. All were caught on trolled ballyhoo.

DELAWARE REGULATIONS

State Waters Only



BLACK SEA BASS
12.5" minimum
15 per person/day
10/22-12/31



BLUEFISH
No minimum size
10 per person/day



BLACK DRUM
16" minimum
3 per person/day



CROAKER
8" minimum
No creel limit



STRIPED BASS
28" - 37" or 44" or greater
2 per person/day



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



SHEEPSHEAD
No limit



SPECKLED TROUT
12" minimum
No creel limit



COBIA
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9/29-12/31



WEAKFISH
13" minimum
1 per person/day

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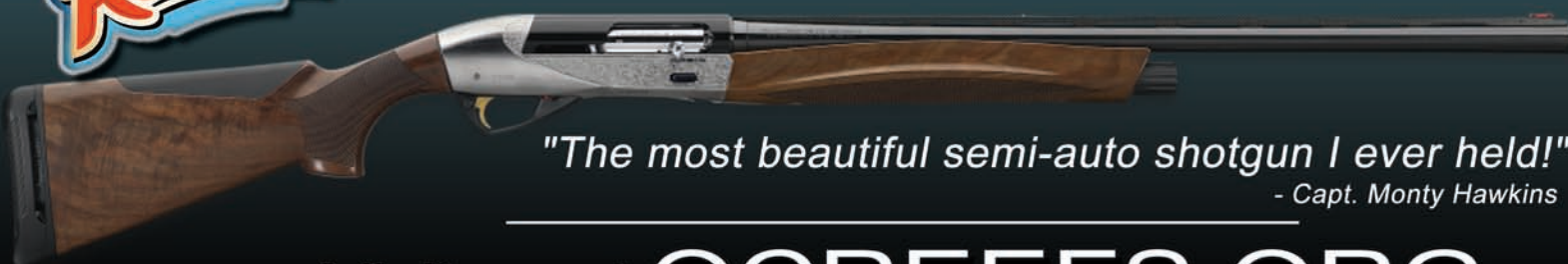
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Fish Stories

by Capt. Franky Pettolina



People always ask me, of all the places that I have had the opportunity to fish, which one is my favorite? The first time someone asked me that question I was very quick to blurt out an answer. At the time, it was a no brainer. But over the years, I have given more thought to that question and realized that I may not have a favorite place to fish, rather I have favorite things about each place that I go to fish.

That first time I was asked, the answer that I blurted out was Venezuela. In today's political climate that probably sounds like a stupid answer. However, back in the 90s the town of Caraballeda would play host to some of the top sportfishing boats in the world in the fall and the spring. The country was mostly stable, the people were friendly and the waters surrounding the LaGuaria Bank were teeming with billfish. Oh yeah, diesel fuel averaged about 30 cents per gallon too! Venezuela was known as the prime destination to capture a Billfish Grand Slam (three different species in a day- i.e. white marlin, blue marlin, sailfish), or a Super Grand Slam (add swordfish to the previous three).

During my first season over there in 1997, Venezuela

became known for something even more amazing. The Fantasy Slam. What is a Fantasy Slam you ask? A Fantasy Slam is five different species of billfish in a single day (white marlin, blue marlin, sailfish, swordfish, and spearfish). Capt. Robbie Moore and the crew of the "Escapade" caught the very first one that fall. I was fishing next to him when he caught the spearfish. I caught a spear as well that day, but did not catch any blues or sails, let alone a sword. Yup, Venezuela is pretty incredible. I wish the country would get its political head out of it's butt!!!

The more I thought about it, however, fishing isn't the only thing about a "favorite destination." Yes, fishing is the big part, but there is much, much more to it. When you get off of the boat it is nice to have some good restaurants and a little nightlife to go along with the fishing. In that regard, back in my traveling sportfishing days, Cancun was the prime hot spot for fishing, good restaurants and nighttime festivities. The winter and springtime sailfish bite out of Cancun and Isla Mujeres is red hot. Slow days are 15 or 20 bites, and the good days are upwards of 50 or more shots at sails. Once the

fishing day is over, the dining options range from awesome roadside taquerias to white tablecloth fine dining. And of course, Cancun is known for its bar and nightclub scene. I rigged many a ballyhoo with a blistering hangover back in those days! In today's world, I would say that Costa Rica has replaced Cancun and Isla for the exact reasons I just listed, plus the seas are relatively calm as opposed to the rough water fishery in Mexico. Perhaps my only regret from my days as a traveling crew member is that Los Suenos had yet to be built and Costa Rica was not available as an option to me.

All this international stuff is great, but sometimes it is nice to order dinner in English and not have to worry about drinking the water. So I have to add South Florida and the Keys to my list of favorites. Down there you have good fishing for a mixed bag of species. Yeah, the areas off of South Florida and the Keys definitely have that covered. Tasty eats and nightlife? I would have to say both of those are on the list down there as well. And you don't need a passport to get there. I definitely would include the Palm Beach area and Islamorada as some of my favorite places to also wet a line.

You know what though? As I am compiling this list of my favorite fishing destinations, I realize that there is one place that has all of my criteria rolled into one.

The Eastern Shore. God's Country. The White Marlin Capital of the World. Home. Good Old Ocean City, Maryland. Home of crabs coated in Old Bay, some of the best bars on the planet (I was going to name some, but the space allotted for this column does not allow for all of the good ones to be listed....ok maybe a few initials... OCMC, TCB, HS, SSG+T, MF, FT, MRD, HI, RI, FMS, OCFC, TLL, F, S, TBC, TA, BSD, P+P..... see what I mean? Sorry if I missed any of your favorites, but like I said, space is limited), top notch dining experiences and some of the best fishing known to man. We have great bottom fishing in our back bays and on our near shore ledges and reefs. Tunas, yeah we got tunas. And how about those marlins! We ain't called the White Marlin Capital of the World for nuthin! If you walked the docks over the past few weeks you would see more blue flags than you could shake a fishing stick at! Less than a handful of release flags flying and you would be thinking you had a slow to average day. I also have to give a shout out to my buddies Kyle, Eric, and Parker on the "No Quarter" for bringing a Fantasy Slam home to OCMD. Way to help your crew help themselves become a part of history!!! Ocean City is second to none.

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morning to watch the boats leave on the first day of the White Marlin Open. When I look behind me as I leave the inlet in the morning, I see the lights of the hotels and highrises along the beach. When I come back through in the evening, I can see the lights on the boardwalk and possibly my favorite lights, the ones on the Ferris Wheel. A place where the beaches are full and the people are friendly. Ocean City, Maryland.

Maybe I really do have a favorite place to fish after all.

As this is the last regular issue of the *Coastal Fisherman* for the season, I would like to take a minute to thank Larry and the Jock family for giving me the opportunity to tell y'all a fish story or two. I have really enjoyed writing this column, and I hope you have enjoyed reading it. We raised some money for the Ocean City Reef Foundation and nobody laughed too hard about the picture of me in my skivvies (at least not to my face anyway). Thanks for letting me into your lives each week. See ya next summer!!!

Capt. Franky Pettolina is Co-Captain of the charter boat, "Last Call" and President of the Ocean City Marlin Club.



James and Julie Trickey took a trip out to 100 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon and went 1 for 2 on white marlin in addition to catching a dolphin. The whites were hooked on trolled ballyhoo dressed up with blue and white Ilanders.

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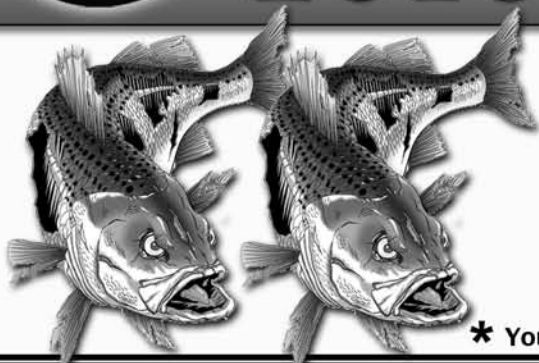
Challenge Cup - Welcome back. We missed you!



After a four year absence, the Challenge Cup trophy, awarded to the winner of the billfish release competition between teams from the Ocean City Marlin Club and the Cape May (NJ) Marlin and Tuna Club, returned to Ocean City after our local anglers beat the visitors by a score of 787.5 points to 500 points. The top six boats from Ocean City released 61 white marlin and a blue marlin versus Cape May's releases of 38 white marlin and a blue marlin during the 1-day shootout. Boats representing Ocean City were (white marlin releases in parentheses) "Makara" (13), "Billfisher" (12), "Sea Slammer" (11), "Bar South" (9 plus blue marlin), "Intent's" (9), "Gret's Three J's" (7), "Contango" (7), "Griffin" (7), "Buckshot" (6), "Par Five" (5), "Reel Joy" (5), "Odinspear" (5), "Reel Toy" (5), "Tighten Up" (5), "Wrecker" (3 plus a spear), "Instigator" (4), "First Light" (4), "Top Dog" (4), "Liquid RX" (3), "Brenda Lou" (3) and the "Game On" (3). Most of the action took place in the Norfolk Canyon on Saturday, but some boats also did well in the Washington Canyon. Pictured at the Ocean City Marlin Club.



Ocean City Marlin Club 2016 Tournament Series



4th Annual OCMC Rockfish Tournament*

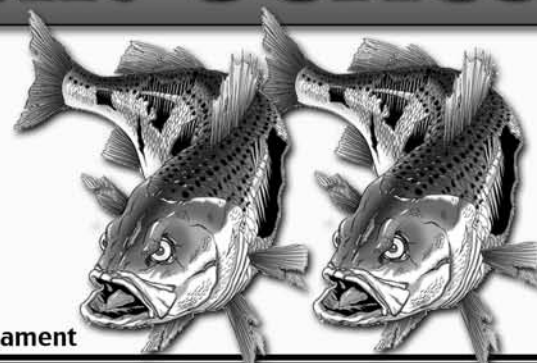
To benefit the Jimmy Fund

Registration: December 2, 6:00 PM

Fishing Days: (5 of 9) December 3-11

Awards Banquet: December 11, 6:30 PM

* You do NOT have to be a Member to participate in this tournament



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Bob Shaw from Berlin, MD used a minnow to fool this 16 3/4-inch flounder while fishing at the Rt. 50 Bridge during the incoming tide.



Hunter Shivoock from Ocean View, DE was fishing from the rocks at the Indian River Inlet when he caught this 21 1/2-inch, 3 lb. 11 oz. flounder while using Gulp! for bait. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em in the Indian River Marina.

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Kaitlyn Bompiani from York, PA caught her very first fish and it was a good one. The 22-inch flounder was hooked on a squid and minnow combination at Site 10 while fishing on the "Sidewinder II" with Jeff Starner.







A hunger for naked ballyhoo was the achilles heel for this 48 lb. wahoo caught by Robb Coulbourn from Milton, DE. Robb hooked the speedster while fishing on the "Always Something" in the Baltimore Canyon. Weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.


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2016 COASTAL FISHERMAN Heaviest Fish of the Year

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

Species	Ocean City	Delaware	Species	Ocean City	Delaware
 Sea Bass May 29, 2016 Irving Drummond "Morning Star" 5 lbs.		June 13, 2016 Kevin DiPoalo DelJerseyLand Reef 6 lbs. 3 oz.	 Mako Shark <i>100 lb. minimum</i> September 14, 2016 Hunter Pusey "Rumor Has It" 223 lbs.		June 16, 2016 Luke Brubaker "Michael D" 231 lbs.
 Tautog May 9, 2016 Karl Maier "Fish Bound" 20 lbs. 2 oz.		March 1, 2016 Rich Seagraves Ocean Wreck 14 lbs.	 Thresher Shark June 4, 2016 Jeff Green Fingers 455 lbs.		June 4, 2016 Rick Passwaters "A" Buoy 477 lbs.
 Striped Bass May 9, 2016 Rick Findley Ocean City Surf 35 lbs.		April 24, 2016 Nick Rholetter Upper DE Bay 31 lbs. 15 oz.	 Bluefin Tuna April 23, 2016 Josh Ensor Wilmington Canyon 133 lbs.		July 11, 2016 Brooks Vaughn Massey's Canyon 142 lbs.
 Weakfish July 19, 2016 Finn McCabe West Channel 3 lbs. 10oz.		June 2, 2016 Rod Grodzicki Inner Wall 7 lbs. 8 oz.	 Yellowfin Tuna July 3, 2016 Brian Stempowski Rockpile 125.8 lbs.		September 4, 2016 Wyatt Greene Baltimore Canyon 76.7 lbs.
 Cobia June 30, 2016 Emma Zajdel Little Gull Shoal 94.6 lbs.		August 1, 2016 Darin Cathell Delaware Coast 76.6 lbs.	 Longfin Tuna July 2, 2016 John Brittingham Fingers 48 lbs.		June 5, 2016 Jeff Drury Lindenkohl Canyon 54 lbs.
 Flounder July 5, 2016 Jennifer Vojna Martha's Landing 9 lbs. 13 oz.		August 20, 2016 Tony Munoz Old Grounds 11 lbs. 14 oz.	 Bigeye Tuna August 10, 2016 Rich Kosztu Wilmington Canyon 236.5 lbs.		August 20, 2016 Mason Coursey Poor Man's Canyon 210 lbs.
 Bluefish August 19, 2016 Big Bird Cropper Rt. 50 Bridge 15 lbs. 4 oz.		May 1, 2016 Andrew Stuchlik Henlopen Pier 17 lbs. 11 oz.	 Dolphin August 3, 2016 Jimmy Willey Washington Canyon 54 lbs.		August 1, 2016 Nick Kincaid Hot Dog 28.8 lbs.
 Sheepshead July 20, 2016 Bill Bollhorst Ocean City Surf 10 lbs. 3oz.		July 18, 2016 Joseph Crowley Outer Wall 14 lbs. 6 oz.	 Wahoo July 1, 2016 Charlie Long Washington Canyon 102 lbs.		September 10, 2016 John Mancuso Poor Man's 74 lbs.
 Black Drum May 15, 2016 Timothy Witig "Fish Bound" 65 lbs.		May 14, 2016 Rylie Tingle Coral Beds 66.7 lbs.	 White Marlin Most Releases in One Day (trolling only) August 5, 2016 "Billfisher" 23 releases		August 7, 2016 "Boy's Toy" 10 releases

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



First place in the 2016 MSSA Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament was won by Rob Pellicot and his crew on the "Reel Screamer" with a 5.4 lb. flattie caught out of Chincoteague, VA. The team took home \$4,825 in award money.



On opening day of the MSSA Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament, anglers on the "Sweetie" arrived at Atlantic Tackle with 3 quality flounder caught on a wreck 10 miles offshore. Their largest fish weighed 4.95 lbs. and it held on to win 2nd place in the tournament, worth \$1,863 in award money. In addition to their 2nd place fish, Brian Perry, Morty Morton and Jim Papaccio caught flatties weighing 4.45 and 4.2 lbs. Their 4.45 pounder would have taken 3rd place in the tournament but anglers are only allowed to have one fish finish on the leaderboard.



2016 MID-ATLANTIC FLOUNDER TOURNAMENT RESULTS

Visit us at mssa.net

Main Tournament Flounder

- 1st - "REEL SCREAMER"
5.4 lbs. • \$2,205
- 2nd - "SWEETIE"
4.95 lbs. • \$1,223
- 3rd - "GREEN SUBMARINE"
4.4 lbs. • \$782

\$150 Single Heaviest Flounder

- 1st - "REEL SCREAMER"
5.4 lbs. • \$1,210
- 2nd - "SWEETIE"
4.95 lbs. • \$630

\$200 3 Stringer Flounder

- 1st - "REEL SCREAMER"
13.6 lbs. • \$1,410
- 2nd - "GOT R DONE"
10.9 lbs. • \$345
- 2nd - "GREEN SUBMARINE"
10.9 lbs. • \$345

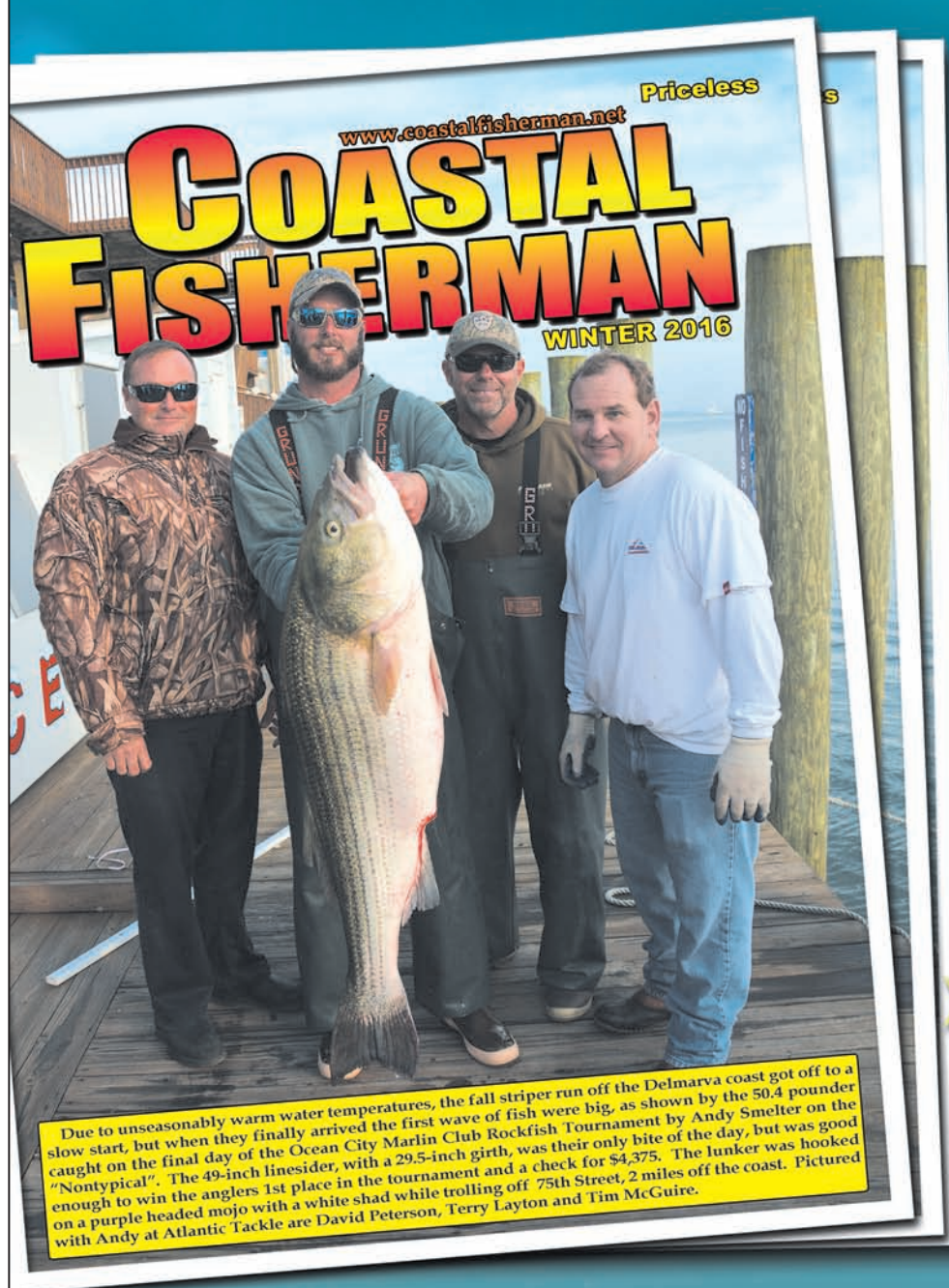
\$100 Other Than Flounder

- 1st - ROB FULLERTON
Atlantic Sharpnose 8.3 lbs.
\$1,000

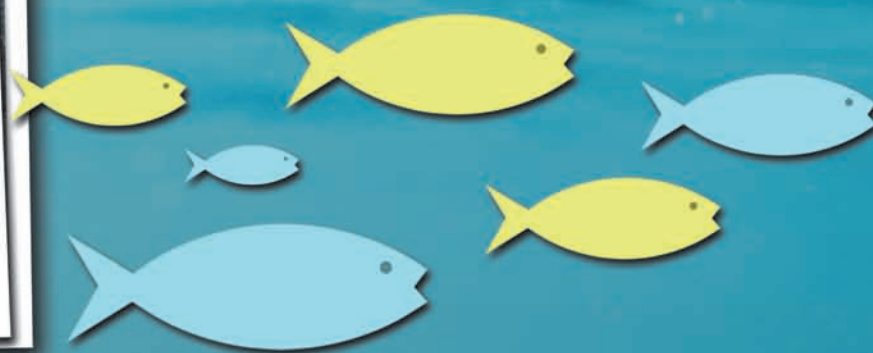
46 Boats Entered



Greg Donahue caught a 4.4 lb. flounder on the final day of the 2016 MSSA Mid-Atlantic Flounder Tournament to jump into 3rd place, winning \$1,127 in award money. Greg hooked the flattie on a live mullet in the Fish Bowl while fishing on the "Green Submarine" with Finn McCabe and Brad McCabe. Pictured at Atlantic Tackle.



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Virginia Fishing Report

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



Fall fishing is very good when anglers get out on the water, but some intermittent blustery conditions will roll through in the form of a coldfront. Right now, most anglers are heading offshore to partake in the good bluewater billfish bite.

Inshore, cobia are still providing good action for catch and release anglers, but not for much longer. Look for fish in pods on the surface heading south, or lingering on bridge pilings and navigational buoys providing easy marks with eels or jigs.

Flounder action is showing some promise, with a few doormats caught last week from Lynnhaven Inlet ranging from 5 to 9-pounds. Flounder continue to gather at the mouth of the Chesapeake Bay, where fishing could be good with some clearer water. More

flatfish are also collecting on inshore and offshore wrecks, along with good sized sea bass and hungry triggerfish, but sea bass become off limits on the 21st of September.

Big red drum are still roaming about the lower Bay shoals and barrier islands, and it is also time for reds to begin showing more activity around the artificial islands of the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel. Fresh cut bait and live bait work well. Big bull reds can debut in the surf lines along Sandbridge and the Wildlife Preserve at any time. The recent blow from the north can jump start some good drum action, with the best offerings including fresh mullet and spot.

Puppy drum action is picking up in most shallows, inlets and creeks, and in the surf off Dam Neck, Sandbridge

and the Eastern Shore Barrier islands. Both Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets are good locations for pups right now, where juvenile reds are favoring cut fresh mullet.

Fall speckled trout catches are slowly improving, with specks hitting in Hungar's Creek, and Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlets, with a few fish pushing to over 3-pounds.

Spot action has been decent so far this season, and the bite continues to remain steady for these fall favorites. Decent fish ranging to around 12-ounces are biting along the southern and western sections of the lower Bay and along the oceanfront. Favorite locations include the Monitor-Merrimack Memorial Bridge Tunnel, the Hampton Roads Bridge Tunnel and Rudee and Lynnhaven Inlets. Local fishing piers are also reporting

catches of nice spot, with the best bites happening on the incoming tide last week. Small bluefish are also hitting in these same areas. Croaker are active, with good catches of fish ranging up to around 1.5-pounds taking bait in most any deep water location in the Bay. The lower Bay inlets are also holding some nicer fish.

Spanish mackerel are available along tide rips from the shorelines off Virginia Beach on small spoons. King mackerel are also still taking some trolled offerings, but this action has slowed with the dirty water. The king action could last for up to a few more weeks.

Big sheepshead are still lingering along the structure of the Bridge Tunnel, along with decent triggerfish. Tautog action is rekindling for the fall trend now that the season has reopened. Remember you can keep three fish stretching to at least 16-inches.

Most folks are not interested in amberjack since there is plenty going on

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offshore, but big AJs will likely hang around the Southern Towers through the end of October. Deep droppers continue to reel in nice catches of big blue line tilefish, black bellied rosefish and jumbo sea bass in water ranging from 300 to 700 feet.

The offshore fall billfish action is still very good. Depending on the day and the weather conditions, boats are flying various amounts of marlin flags back at the dock. Some sailfish are still around, along with some spearfish and scattered blue marlin. A few decent yellowfin and bigeye tuna are also still biting in the Norfolk Canyon. Gaffer and bailer dolphin are still plentiful, with a few nice wahoo around. The swordfish scene could heat up as the waters cool, with a few decent fish caught recently.

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



Jennifer Wojcik, Chris Phillips, Rachel Eaton, Ro Shoemaker, Sharon Smith and Janet Powell brought a pair of dolphin to the scale after spending the day fishing on the "Moon Dog" with Capt. Eric Mooney and mate Jimmy Taylor. The lady anglers hooked the good size dolphins while trolling in the Washington Canyon. Pictured at Bahia Marina.

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Tides & Moon Phases

OCEAN CITY INLET

Wed. Sept. 21	Low 05:38 am Low 06:34 pm	High ----- High 12:20 pm
Thurs. Sept. 22	Low 06:36 am Low 07:39 pm	High 12:37 am High 01:26 pm
Fri. Sept. 23 Last Quarter	Low 07:38 am Low 08:43 pm	High 01:39 am High 02:42 pm
Sat. Sept. 24	Low 08:48 am Low 09:47 pm	High 02:49 am High 04:00 pm
Sun. Sept. 25	Low 09:46 am Low 10:49 pm	High 04:03 am High 05:07 pm
Mon. Sept. 26	Low 10:50 am Low 11:45 pm	High 05:09 am High 06:02 pm
Tues. Sept. 27	Low 11:49 am Low -----	High 06:04 am High 06:48 pm
Wed. Sept. 28	Low 12:34 am Low 12:42 pm	High 06:52 am High 07:28 pm
Thurs. Sept. 29	Low 01:17 am Low 01:29 pm	High 07:34 am High 08:03 pm
Fri. Sept. 30 New Moon	Low 01:56 am Low 02:12 pm	High 08:12 am High 08:33 pm
Sat. October 1	Low 02:32 am Low 02:53 pm	High 08:49 am High 09:04 pm
Sun. October 2	Low 03:05 am Low 03:32 pm	High 09:25 am High 09:38 pm
Mon. October 3	Low 03:36 am Low 04:11 pm	High 10:01 am High 10:14 pm
Tues. October 4	Low 04:08 am Low 04:51 pm	High 10:39 am High 10:52 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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Lewes Harbour Marina Tautog Tournament
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37th Annual Mid-Atlantic Surf Fishing Tournament
October 6-8 • Ocean City, MD • 410-251-2203

12th Annual A.M.S.A. Ronald Bounds Fishing Tournament
October 20-22 • 443-944-3036

17th Annual Rocktoberfest Tournament
October 22-23 • Bahia Maring • 410-289-7438

... NOVEMBER ...

Lewes Harbour Marina Striper Tournament
November 1-30 • Lewes, DE • 302-645-6227

24th Annual MSSA Chesapeake Bay Fall Classic
November 17-18 • MSSA • 410-255-5535

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