

Priceless

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COASTAL FISHMAN

VOLUME 1 NUMBER 1 SEPTEMBER 16, 2020



It was anybody's tournament late day last Sunday during the 15th Annual Flounder Pounder Tournament held by Bahia Marina. There was only one hour to weigh fish and all the anglers showed up in the last 25 minutes! After a flurry of flounder, the winner was clear. The top spot was taken by local flounder legend Rich Daiker. He was fishing on his boat "Delicious" with Kenny Schoen when he found this huge 8 lb. 15 oz. fatty that he hooked on the outgoing tide using live bunker by the Rt. 50 Bridge. For this doormat Rich swept the calcuttas as well as the 1st place flounder award, winning a total of \$5,045 in prize money.



You may think Al Guippone is in Key West, but he was actually in Delaware where he caught this nice flounder just outside of Bayside Bait and Tackle at Malone’s Marina in Long Neck, DE.



Capt. Mark Hoos on the charter boat “Marli” had another good day in the Baltimore Canyon last week! Angler Mike Orchulli caught this nice approximately 42 inch dolphin while fishing with the rest of the Pennsylvania crew of Jack Arblaster, Mel Hofecker, Bill Popovitch and Jerry Holtsman. Mates Dakota Bittner and Jonathan Robertson kept up with the action as the group boated another mahi and several golden tilefish.



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Danny Cox of West Ocean City, MD has been a flounder fishing machine recently! Mike Austill of Reading, PA and Danny show off their limit catch. Danny also hit his limit on August 26th and then again on the 31st! All the fish were caught at the Rt. 50 Bridge using bunker for bait and many were in the over 21" range, largest at 23 1/2.



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THE OFFSHORE REPORT

by Larry Budd



This Week Last Year

- It was a tough week for fishing offshore as the effects of Hurricane Dorian felt late on Wednesday through the weekend.
- Inshore action was mixed with a great flounder bite before the seas got rough and a dramatic improvement in the black sea bass bite afterwards.
- Before the storm most boats headed to the Rockpile for white marlin releases.
- The dolphin bite was absolutely insane. The "Rhonda's Osprey" came back to the dock with 67 in the box, and the "Marli" returned with 60, both in the Baltimore Canyon.
- Anglers on the "Wirenut" boated an 83 lb. wahoo while fishing in 65 fathoms inside the Poor Man's Canyon.

While not an offshore event, last Sunday saw the 15th Annual Flounder Pounder held by Bahia Marina with 29 boats registered. This is a bay fishing tournament in Ocean City so the anglers were restricted to the Assawomen Bay and the Isle of Wight Bay down to the Verrazano Bridge. Even though the water was still very dirty from the recent bad weather, the anglers had fun, and with a little work found keeper flounders, mostly by the Rt. 50 Bridge followed by the East Channel.

The top spot was taken by local flounder legend Rich Daiker! He was fishing on his boat "Delicious" when he found a huge 8 lb. 15 oz. fatty. He hooked this one on the outgoing

tide using live bunker by the Rt. 50 Bridge. 2nd place was competitive with two flounders weighing in at 3 lbs. each. Tyler Smith from Bishopville, MD was fishing with Capt. Dave Caffrey on the charter boat "On the Run" when he landed his 3 lb. flatfish. Finn McCabe created the tie when he brought another 3 pounder to the scales just before they closed at 5PM. He also caught his at the bridge and was using live bunker. Tyler Smith also took 3rd place with another fish weighing 2 lbs. 14oz. In addition there were 8 other fish in the tournament that weighed over 2 lbs. Now, back to the offshore info!

The weather was not a friend to offshore fishing again this week, complements of a lingering low pressure system east of our shores. September overall has been challenging so far and next week does not look so hot either! For those boats that were able to get out Monday through Thursday of last week however, the fishing was good.

Billfish

'Tis the season for multiple white marlin releases, and early last week was no exception. The Washington Canyon was the hot spot and Capt. Luke Blume and the crew of the "C-Boys" kicked off the week releasing 5 whites last Monday and boating a nice yellowfin tuna. Wednesday

kept the momentum going with 6 releases each from the "Big Stick" & "Buckshot" who graced our cover last week with 7 releases, also from the Washington Canyon! Despite some 'spirited' weather last Friday a number of larger boats headed back to the Washington. The "Boss Hogg" had 4 white marlin releases, "Cabana" 2, and "Blood Money" reporting 4. Capt. Joe Drosey also has 3 releases from Massey's Canyon.

Tuna & Mahi

The tuna bite has definitely cooled off, but after the summer we have had it is hard to complain. Last week, before the blow, we got reports of a scattered tuna bite for single yellowfin and longfin catches, with a few low single digit boatings of false albacore. Notable for tuna last week was an early catch by the crew of the "Marli". Last Wednesday angler John Woolridge from Ocean Pines, MD connected with a 65.5 lb. longfin just north of the Poor Man's Canyon. The crew of the "Fare Cut" found luck landing false albacore near the Sausages.

As the weather has been acting up, it has pushed some of the mahi offshore. We are seeing catches in the single digit per trip versus the limit per angler catches a week or so ago. This doesn't mean there are not still big ones out there, just have to work a little harder to find them. John Mitchell for example took a 25 lb. dolphin while at the Del-Jersey-Land Reef and Mike Orchulli hooked into a 42 inch mahi while fishing in the Baltimore Canyon on the "Marli". Several reports of smaller fish were reported from the Twin Wrecks and Jack Spot inshore.

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Lastly, some anglers have been focused on deep dropping for swordfish and tilefish. We have not gotten a report of a swordfish last week. Several people did catch golden tilefish and some rosefish. Capt. Kurt Howell on the "Reel Vibrations" found some nice size tiles last week in 700 feet of water in the Poor Man's Canyon using squid.

Upcoming Tournaments

Unfortunately the 42nd Annual Challenge Cup, a competition between the Ocean City Marlin Club and Cape May Marlin & Tuna Club, has been canceled for this weekend due to a poor weather forecast. The White Marlin Tagging Tournament out of Cape May, NJ is ongoing through the 27th.

We are at the start of surf fishing tournament season and the first up is the 23rd Annual Delaware Seashore Fall Surf Fishing Classic held by Old Inlet Bait and Tackle.

That it is it for this week and until next time let us know what you have been catching! §



Anglers are reporting more deep water fishing looking for swordfish and tilefish. The crew on the "Reel Vibrations" did just that. They headed to the Poor Man's Canyon in 700 feet of water where they hit the tilefish, landing almost 20 goldens and some nice rose fish on squid. Fishing with Capt. Kurt Howell and mate Bobby West were Carmelo Montoya, James Steward, David Hoang and Holly Stillwell.

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Dianna Healy fished with her husband Ed and it's a good thing she was there since she caught most of the fish! The largest of the sea bass weighed 2.7 and 2.44 pounds. They fished on the 20 Fathom Wreck. Pictured at Lewes Harbor Marina.



Evren Bilal got a nice early 5th birthday present landing this striped bass that he caught using a live minnow that he rigged and cast all by himself on Fenwick Island's beach! Nice job Evren, and we will see you after a while crocodile.

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Chris Modine, Sara Modine, Steve Hawks and Marissa Van Lill had a great Labor Day catching a load of nice sea bass, triggerfish, a flounder and even the rare Angel Shark. The crew was using minnows and squid & shrimp fishing in both 45 and 110 feet of water with Capt. Eric Van Lill on the "MudSkipper".



The flounder action remains strong, especially at the inshore wrecks. This 5½ lb. and 25 inch monster was caught by Cheryl Engler while she was fishing on the “Reel Chaos” at Site 11 using Gulp bait. Picture at Hook’em & Cook’em at the Indian River Marina.



Steve O'Donnell, IV and his son headed to Sue's Reef and threw a spot over the stern, keeping it on the surface when they caught their first ever houndfish. It was a great fight on 15 lbs test braid. He didn't fit in the net so they swung him over the side!

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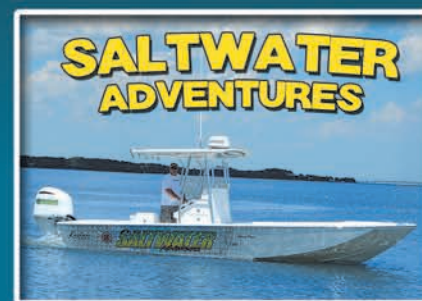
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It was our second attempt at getting the boat situated on the trailer. Well not really "our" second attempt. I wasn't helping at all. The boat owner was making his approach and his buddy was standing on the trailer guiding him in. Me? I was standing in the cockpit minding my own business. Well not really. I was watching what was going on in the launching ramp. No, I was not critiquing the trailering efforts. I know how difficult that can be, and this was a bulky thirty two footer and the wind was whipping us around. The captain and his buddy were doing just fine for the circumstances. What was I watching you ask? Whose business was I butting into? The answer may surprise you.

Those of you that have followed my column over the years know that I am mostly a deep water

guy. This season alone the majority of my columns have been stories about blue marlin, or sharks, or tournament fishing. Or my cats.... But the happenings at the launching ramp that had piqued my interest were the total opposite of deep water. What had captured this bluewater guy's attention so much? Three people and hoop net.

No this wasn't some sort of pick up game, and the best I can tell the Catch 23 has left town and without the G.O.A.T. here I have zero interest in basketball. This was literally three people with a hoop net and some kind of chum. I was enthralled. This trio of fishing folks consisted of an older gentlemen, and a younger man and woman. I have no idea of the relationship among the three other than the younger pair was in charge of

the chumming and the cooler. The old salt was master of the net.

For those of you that are unfamiliar with what a hoop net is, basically it is a mesh net with a rigid rim (the one I was watching was probably thirty inches in diameter), a weighted middle and pull lines to pick it up. These are best suited for shallow water, but I have seen them used in twenty feet or more of depth down on the bait patches in the Florida Keys. The idea is to sink the net to the bottom and chum over top of it. Once the unsuspecting fish swim over the net, the fisherman snatches it up and voila! Net full o' fish!

Now back to the triumvirate of fishing folks at the ramp. I am not quite sure what they were using for chum, but whatever it was it was mixed in a can with water from the ramp. The younger guy and the young lady were mixing the chum and spritzing it around the floating dock. The net master was directing them as to where to lay it down thicker. After a couple of minutes he positioned the net and let it sink. Then some heavier chumming began. I am pretty sure that the chum was thickened with some sort of camouflaging agent. Maybe sand or oats. The heavy barrage lasted for about twenty seconds or so and then the trap was sprung!

I was amazed to see the amount of life that came up in the net when the elder fisherman hauled back his tool. From my vantage point it looked to be several dozen minnows. And by several I mean four or five dozen. Maybe six. Quite a catch. The bounty of bait was quickly deposited into a cooler and the scenario played out again.

In the time it took for the boat to get situated on the trailer and hauled up the ramp the hoop net was hauled up three or four times. Maybe five. Each time the amount of minnows matched the multitude of the first catch I was witness to. I wondered how many were caught before we got there?

I have always been fascinated by the amount of life that can be found around launching ramps and docks. As a kid I would throw my cast net for hours on end just walking around the marina. Other days my friend Blaine and I would take a little boat to the sandbar north of the Kelley Drawbridge and we would cast net and seine whatever we could in the knee deep tidal pools. Later in life my cast net skills would help fill coolers with menhaden to be used for tuna bait, or fill livewells with ballyhoo to chase sailfish. Watching that young lady and those two fellas on the ramp filled me with so many memories of netting fish in shallow water. I hated to have to go back to work. I wanted to go help chum or beg for a turn on the hoop.

When I decided to write this column this week I thought about what must be going on over top of that net as the fish feeding frenzy was taking place in the clouds of chum, right before the net was hauled up. I remembered that my friends Christine and Cesar Campos have a pretty cool video of just that sort of thing. I texted Christine before I started to write the column to see if the video was available for public consumption anywhere. She informed me that it was not, but she has promised me that it will be soon (hopefully before this issue of the Coastal Fisherman hits the streets). So head on over to www.youtube.com and check out Campos Media for the video they filmed off of the pier behind their home. There are also several other cool videos of happenings in Ocean City (just in case Christine doesn't get the video up right away, there will be stuff there to keep you coming back for more!)

This is the next to last issue of the Coastal Fisherman for the year. The wind is blowing a bit as I write this and it looks like the weekend might be a wash weather wise, at least as it applies to deep water fishing. I may just have to head to the tackle shop and pick me up a hoop net and a few cans of chum... \$

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Before the weather turned rough offshore this last week, Keith, Adam, Allison, Cheryl and Jacob Martin made a run to the pots between the Twin Wrecks and the Jack Spot on the boat "Turning Green". 7 year old Adam landed this nice dolphin and the rest of the crew boated some mahi as well. Their catch hit on a daisy chain with small squid on spinning rods.

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Big smile for Kathleen Emche of Ocean Pines, MD with the first red drum she ever caught, and what a fish it was! This one measured 48 inches and fell for spot as did several others. Fortunate for all the drum, they were released to swim another day. Kathleen was fishing with Capt. Jim Emche and mate Jake Emche on the “No Caballo”.

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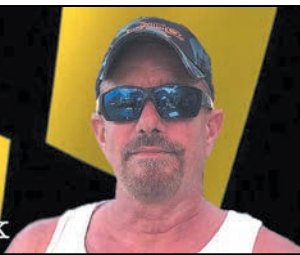


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OCEAN CITY

FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



The traditional tourist summer is over and the beginning of local summer is here! Either way you say it, this means the best fishing near shore is coming. The schools of bunker have already arrived and the predator fish that feed on them such as big bluefish, rockfish, and trout will be feeding under these schools of bait. Sea bass fishing, which has been great all summer, should get even better with many more fish being keepers.

Sea Bass

This season has been nothing short of fantastic for sea bass. Many big knotheads have been caught all summer. As the water cools, the bigger fish will head inshore onto the wrecks. The big fish we have been catching all summer should only get better as the fall weather comes. The best baits for these big fish remains salted clam followed by squid, however the fall also gives us

a chance to catch these big fish on diamond as well as butterfly jigs. Many anglers don't have a lot of experience fishing artificial lures for sea bass and this is the time to learn. Using a butterfly jig like those made by Shimano in the 6-8 oz size is a great way to learn these techniques. Most of the strikes will come on the fall down into the water, so pay attention to your line on the way down. Any stoppage of line or change in direction can indicate that a fish has your lure. When retrieving the lure, small soft jerks up and allowing the lure to fall uninhibited will cause the most strikes. The nice thing about these jigs are that they target bigger fish. The bass grounds were the hot spot this week for overall catches and The Great Eastern Reef was the hot spot for big fish.

Flounder

The inshore water is still very warm. In the back bays, plenty

of fish can still be found but most are small. Keeper ratios are about 12-1 right now. Some nice size fish have come from the inlet area as well as near the Verrazano Bridge leading to Assateague Island. Squid with shiners are the best baits for the back bay. On the near shore, the front of the Coral Grounds near the Lightship was on fire this week with several fish being reported up to 7 lbs. in the areas of deeper wrecks. Using big Gulp baits on a bucktail seems to be the ticket for catching that fish of a lifetime. On the near shore wrecks, the flounder have been good but not as many big fish coming in as in past weeks. Targeting wrecks on the down current side is reported to be the best option in these areas.

Cobia/Rockfish/Bluefish

The mullet are here and that means the big predator fish will be close behind. Many schools of breaking bunker can be found

www.coastalfisherman.net in the near shore area. Using a live wounded bunker as bait, sent down below these schools can bring up some really big fish. Reports of nice bluefish from the Ocean City fishing piers have come in all week. Many of these fish are being caught on cut bunker as well as bluefish strips and flounder bellies. A few reports from the Rt .50 Bridge highlighted that at night, nice big slammer blues could be found and caught on finger mullet and cut bait. Most fish are right on the bottom so using a heavy sinker will keep your bait on the strike zone longer. A few reports of stripers have come from the bridge as well, however most of these fish are below keeper size. Targeting the bigger keeper fish requires you drop your baits directly in front of the bridge pilings and letting the bait get caught in the eddie of stopped water created by the bridge structure. You will lose a few rigs doing this but the reward is a keeper rockfish or slammer blue.

Surf Fishing

Many of our beaches were a lot less crowded this week. This lack of people in the surf has sparked

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2018 VIKING 38 Billfish

This 2018 Viking 38 Billfish only has 285 Hours on Cummins QASB 6.7L 550hp with extended warranties until 10/24. Featuring a Sea Keeper SK6 this is a solid fishing platform. Rigged with a Simrad Electronics package, Lower Helm, Cummins Joystick, Full Galley and Full Head this boat packs all the features of a much larger vessel into an easier to handle offshore battlewagon.

2008 FOUNTAIN 38 Sportfish

This Tournament Winning 2008 Fountain 38 Sportfish was repowered in 2017 with 350hp Mercury Verados, these produce a top speed of 65mph and an economical 4500rpm cruise at 45mph. Upgraded with Full Garmin Electronics, Mercury VesselView, AquaTraction decking, Kohler gas generator, Lumitec Underwater Lights and a JL Stereo System there is nothing else you need for a good day offshore.

2009 JUPITER 38FS

2009 Jupiter 38FS with twin Yamaha 350s. This Jupiter has a Garmin electronics package including radar and autopilot with an Icom VHF. In-deck fish boxes, outriggers, center rigger, forward seating and a rear-facing seat make for a great offshore fishing setup. This boat also had an anchor w/ windlass and a bow thruster.

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www.coastalfisherman.net the fish to come in closer. Now is the start of our fall surf fishing season which is always noted for big fish, and lots of them. Several surf fishing tournaments are usually over the fall, fewer this year due to the pandemic. The 23rd Annual Delaware Seashore Fall Surf Fishing Classic organized by Old Inlet Bait & Tackle is on for September 26 and 27th, check their website for details and registration. Using big cut baits for rockfish and blues is a great way to target these huge fish. Don't forgo the finger mullet rigs as they catch a ton of big fish every year. Casting to the cuts and eddies along the beach will produce your best chances at a large fish. An insider's tip is to survey the beach at low tide to find these ditches and other fishing hot spots.


Clams and Crab

Clamming remains great as always on the beaches of the Assateague Bay. Crabbing in Maryland is great with lots of big males being caught. Many are calling this the best year for crabs they have ever had.

So tight lines and fins up! §

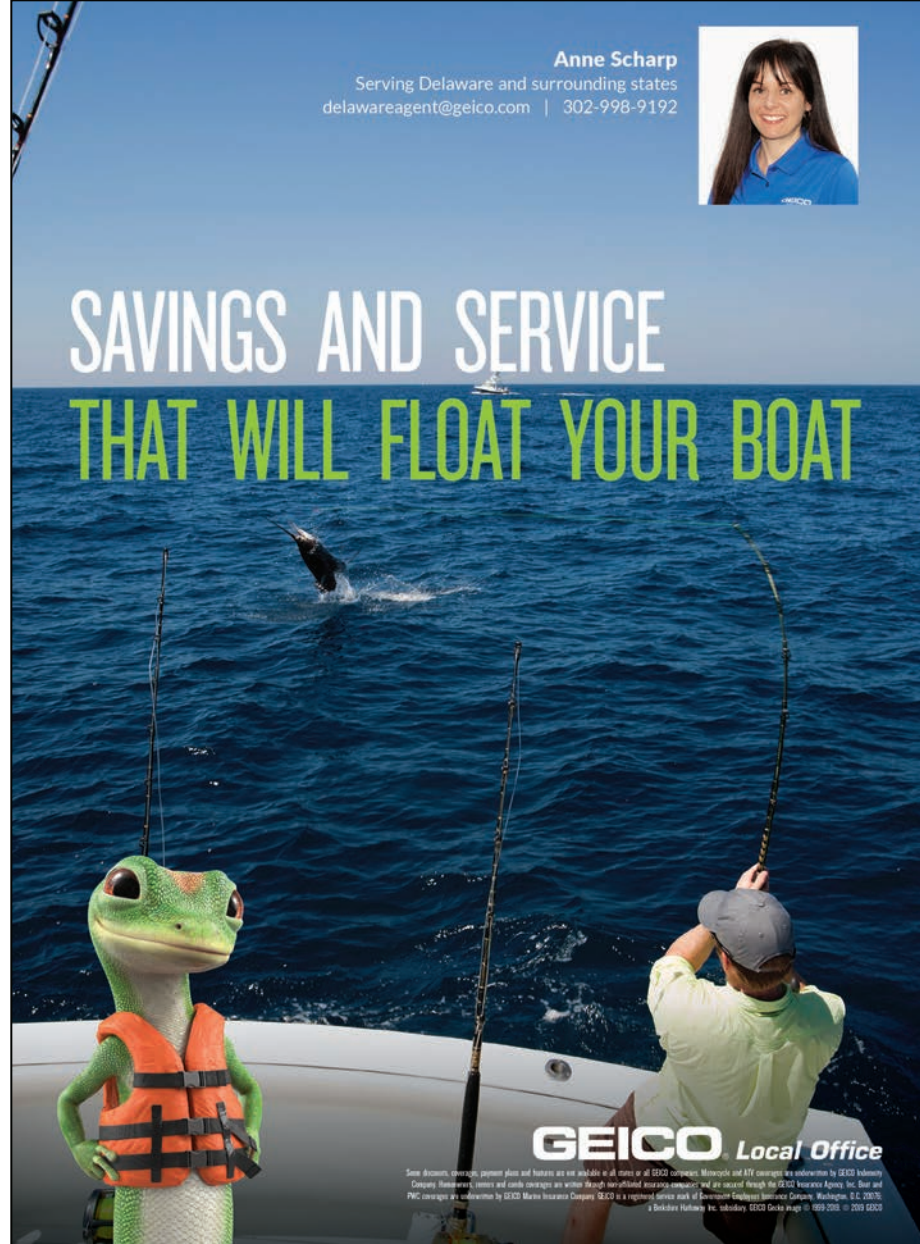


Capt. Adam Wilson and mate Jake Vermillion of “Chasin’ Tides” charters found a good bite while trolling on Labor Day weekend. They were working the inshore wrecks with Pittsburgh natives Chris Mitchell, Jason Santo Colombo, Ben Aiden and Dan Lutz. Pictured at the Marina Deck Restaurant marina.




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(As reported to the Coastal Fisherman - TIES GO TO FIRST FISH REPORTED. HOOK & LINE ONLY)

Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE	Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE
Bluefish 	July 4, 2020 Rich Daiker Rt. 50 Bridge 17.5 lbs.	July 5, 2020 Kelly Kramarck Hotdog 15.2 lbs.	Mako Shark 	June 9, 2020 Joe Wilkenson Baltimore Canyon 330 lbs.	June 13, 2020 Todd Middendorf Baltimore Canyon 330 lbs.
Black Drum 	July 13, 2020 Kyle Mooney Rt. 50 Bridge 21.5 lbs.	May 18, 2020 Benjamin Attanasi Broadkill Beach 82.4 lbs.	Thresher Shark 	No Weights Reported	June 13, 2020 Charlie Boyles Old Grounds 321 lbs.
Cobia 	July 1, 2020 Justin Cronshaw Little Gull Bank 32 lbs.	^{New} September 7, 2020 Wally Borgmann Inshore Wreck 78.5 lbs.	Bigeye Tuna 	June 21, 2020 Griffin Wingenroth Poor Man's Canyon 270 lbs.	June 25, 2020 Jerry Calder Baltimore Canyon 214 lbs.
Flounder 	June 26, 2020 Karen Rhody Ocean Wreck 7.11 lbs.	September 1, 2020 Evan Falgowski Ocean Structure 11.48 lbs.	Bluefin Tuna 	August 3, 2020 Travis Ort Shallow Water North 114.5 lbs.	No Weights Reported
Sea Bass 	May 27, 2020 Conrad Lesnewski Offshore Wreck 3.5 lbs.	June 29, 2020 Levi Wingert B Buoy 2.9 lbs.	Longfin Tuna 	^{New} September 8, 2020 John Woolridge Poor Man's Canyon 65.5 lbs.	September 2, 2020 Russell Marsh Poorman's Canyon 49.9 lbs.
Sheepshead 	June 17, 2020 Derek Taylor OC Jetty 11.6 lbs.	July 18, 2020 Hunter Walsh Outer Wall 10.5 lbs.	Yellowfin Tuna 	August 15, 2020 Trish Walsh Poorman's Canyon 149 lbs.	June 26, 2020 Brian Lecont Washington Canyon 40 lbs.
Striped Bass 	July 11, 2020 Rich Daiker Rt. 50 Bridge 15.6 lbs.	June 14, 2020 Sue Krepshaw Indian River Jetty 13 lbs.	Dolphin 	August 7, 2020 Matt Wagner White Marlin Open 73.5 lbs.	July 19, 2020 Michelle Dadisman Baltimore Canyon 34.8 lbs.
Tautog 	No Weights Reported	July 30, 2020 Kevin Cross OnShore Wreck 13.69 lbs.	Wahoo 	July 30, 2020 Ryleigh Archer South Dump Site 84 lbs.	August 30, 2020 Brad Boyer Baltimore Canyon 69.2 lbs.
Weakfish 	No Weights Reported	July 16, 2020 Hunter Grundy DE Bay 2.37 lbs.	White Marlin 	August 8, 2020 Brandon Golueke Norfolk Canyon 97 lbs.	August 8, 2020 Shannon Toth Poorman's Canyon 72 lbs.

To report your catch, call the Coastal Fisherman at 410-213-2200 or email to coastalfisherman@comcast.net



Andy Batson from Mechanicsburg, PA headed out on his boat "The Jean Machine" to near the B Buoy out of the mouth of the Indian River Inlet. He caught these 2 fatties, the larger one measuring 23 inches, on white Gulp on a Spro bucktail combo. He also caught a nearly 40 inch ribbon fish.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Capt. Chris Mizurak on the deep sea fishing vessel "Angler" continues to put his anglers on the meat. Recent trips report good flounder and sea bass catches at several natural reefs. Mark Sun on the left landed these two flounder, one at 5 lbs., using cut bait. On a separate trip, Tom Adkins on the right got his limit of flatfish up to 4.5 lbs. using bucktails. Mates were Rich, Steve and Jeff.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Dave Popovich and Cindy Popovich took grandsons Mathew Popovich and William Bushy fishing on the "Grizzly" with Capt. Carey out of Lewes, DE. They headed to an ocean structure where the crew caught a smörgåsbord of sea bass, flounder and mahi.



Where do you vacation when you live in fisherman's paradise? Well if you are Bo and Pam Bowen from West Ocean City you head to Homer Alaska and go fishing there! They are pictured on the "Kingpin" with a whole lot of halibut.

Ocean City, Maryland

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FISHING CHARTERS



The boys on the "C-Boys" had a great day last week. Capt. Luke Blume with mates Wyatt Melocik and Josh Blume took anglers Lance Crampton and Matt Wollenweber to the Washington Canyon where they caught and released 5 white marlin! To top that off they bagged a nice yellowfin tuna. Pictured at Sunset Marina.




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FISHING CHARTERS



Sam Parise from New York give us a nice shot of his flounders two topside eyes! Sam caught this nice flatfish on the "Judith M" out of Bahia Marina with Capt. Walt Hammond at the helm. They were fishing inshore at an artificial reef using squid and shiners for bait.



Bahia Marina always offers a most colorful backdrop for pictures! This is a good thing for Capt. David Caffrey on the charter boat "On the Run" which is docked there. He shares with us Annie and Gabe Fisher's 20" flounder caught in the East Channel with Gulp.

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FISHING CHARTERS



One of the last O.C. based charters for "That's Right" before she headed back to the Keys was a tuna palooza! Justin Drost, Brent Gossman, Jim Stephens, Ryan Huebel, Brett Pearman, Mike Santmyer and Bo Brooks brought back these 9 yellowfin after chunking in the Hotdog.



Another happy angler from the headboat "Judith M". Mary Pappert from Highlands, NJ holds up her 18" flounder caught on green Gulp at an artificial reef. Nice shot of the fatties teeth too.

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FISHING CHARTERS




Capt. Monty Hawkins on the headboat "Morning Star" has made the most of the inshore mahi run these past few weeks. While this particular trip saw some nice dolphin, including the 20 pounder above, it did have it's downside. Specifically one broken helm seat and catching a float in his port prop. B.O.A.T. - Break Out Another Thousand.....

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"Poaching" deprives the public of the opportunity to use and enjoy Maryland's natural resources. Preserving our natural resources for our present and future enjoyment is everyone's responsibility.

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Hayden Williams had two important catches this day. The first was a live spot she then used to catch this 29 inch striper in the Indian River Inlet just past high tide as the water started to move out of the bay.




The bay around the Jolly Roger Amusement Park at 32nd Street in Ocean City was productive this past week. Angler Mike Byers caught this 18 inch, 4 lb. triggerfish at the Crab Cove hole off of 32nd Street using Gulp. He was on the “One Moor” with Capt. G-Dog and mate Annette Byers.



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Atlantic Coast



	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>		<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u>
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-	SHARK:		
Black Drum	48"	50 lbs. or 45"	Blue Shark*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Bluefish	34"	12 lbs. or 29"	Hammerhead*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Blue Marlin**	Any Size	Any Size	Mako*	Any Size	250 lbs. or 83"
Cobia	44"	45 Lbs. or 48"	Thresher*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"	Tiger*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"	Swordfish	Any Size	Any Size
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"	Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"
Golden Tilefish	35"	35" or 40"	TUNA:		
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"	Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lb. or 32"
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 26"	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"	34 lbs. or 44"			

* Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program

*** Use curved-fork-length measurements

** Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program

eregulations.com



Long time Coastal Fisherman friends and fans the Mooney family from NJ stopped by the office to drop off some lemon cake and photos! Kyle Mooney and his buddy David Moore from MD caught this shark on an Assateague beach. It fell for his kingfish bait and was not the only shark during that trip. This one measured 76"

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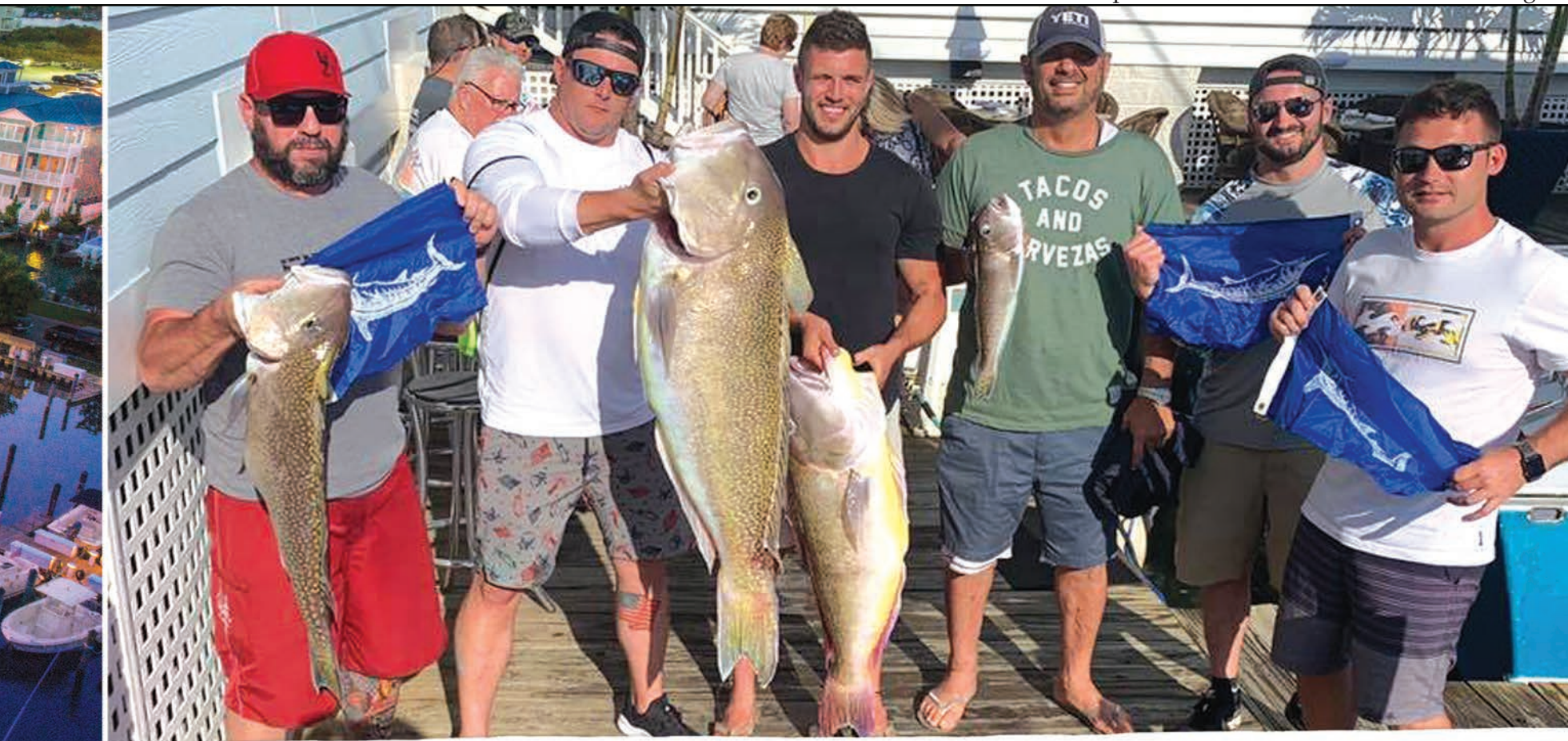
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MORNING STAR
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 Capt. Monty Hawkins



Kayaks are a great way to get on the water and catch some fish. Several tournaments are even available for these anglers such as the Fish N Paddle Saltwater Slam held in Ocean City in June. This year's event paid out \$7,000, including \$4,000 to the top angler! John Thomas used his kayak to catch this 21 inch, 3½ lb. flatfish using a 5 inch Gulp.

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FACTS ABOUT FLOUNDER

- The IGFA world record summer flounder weighed 22 lbs. 7 oz. and was caught in Montauk, NY in 1975.
- The IGFA world record winter flounder weighed 7 lbs. and was caught in Fire Island, NY in 1986.
- Color of the body depends on the habitat. Flounder are usually brown colored with various red, orange, green and blue markings on the body. They can change the color of their body to blend in with the colors of the environment in 2 to 8 seconds.
- The color of the body also indicates the emotional state of the flounder. Threatened animals are usually pale-colored.
- Flounder have bulging eyes on two short stalks that are located on one side of the head. Their eyes can move independently from each other. Based on the position of the eyes, flounder can be divided into two basic categories: right eye and left eye flounder.
- Flounder are a carnivore (meateater). Its diet is based on fish, shrimp and crabs.
- Flounder are ambush predators. It lays motionless and waits for potential prey to appear and grabs it in a blink of an eye.
- Well-camouflaged flounder are also safe from numerous sea predators when it lays motionless on the sea floor.
- Flounder use it's fins to bury itself into the sand. Eyes are usually the only visible part of the body.
- Natural enemies of flounder are sharks, eels and humans.
- Mating season of flounder takes place during the warmest months of the year.
- Female flounder release up to 100,000 eggs in the water at the same time when male flounder release sperm cells. Larvae (fry) hatch from the fertilized eggs a couple of weeks later.
- Larvae look like typical fish with eyes on both sides of their head. It freely swims and feeds on miniature crustaceans and plankton.
- Transformation of larvae into juvenile fish (metamorphosis) starts a couple of days after hatching. Their body starts to flatten, dorsal and anal fins become more elongated and young flounder lose it's swimming bladder (it provides buoyancy required for active swimming). Either the left or right eye migrates toward the top of the head. Side of the body where eyes are located becomes darker colored and represents the top of the fish. Other side starts to fade and becomes bottom part of the body.
- Flounder can survive from 3 to 10 years in the wild.

Source: softschools.com



SHIP TO SHORE

by Steve Katz

Steve's Marine Service



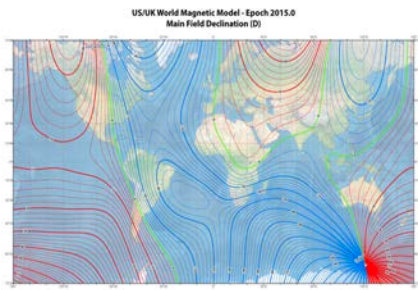
Heads-Up

Whether low cost or high cost - today's navigation electronics and even a smartphone can supply the modern Captain with an abundance of navigation information and perform numerous calculations that would have been a chore years ago. Whether you are headed to your favorite back bay fishing spot or traveling across an ocean, learning about and understanding your marine navigation data can help make the journey safer and more accurate.

North

The magnetic compass is familiar to many boaters but is often overlooked in favor of today's marine electronics. In basic terms, this compass will point to the earth's magnetic north, no matter which way we turn the boat and no electricity needed! The compass will constantly re-align itself to the north and allow us to interpret the heading printed on the card in degrees, 0-360, indicating where our vessel's bow is pointed. For those purists out there: the compass actually points in the direction of the

horizontal component of the earth's magnetic field where the compass is located, and not to any single point.



Magnetic North or True North?

Magnetic north is the direction the compass points, which is the earth's magnetic North Pole. This is not the same as the earth geographic North Pole. The magnetic north pole is a continuously moving point, dependent on the changes in the earth's core and therefore magnet field. True north then can be calculated by applying the magnetic declination for your geographic area.

So why is this important? Today's modern electronics calculate magnetic north through the use of your position obtained by GPS signals so that your ship's compass, and the marine electronics are all on the same reference format. There are some electronic

navigation systems that allow you to change the amount of magnetic north variation and even some that allow you to set up your system on true north (the geographic North Pole). Most pleasure boats should use magnetic north for all of their navigational needs and it's not recommended to mix true north and magnetic north - this will cause much confusion at the helm.

12,000 Miles in the Sky

How can modern GPS chart plotters calculate your direction of travel without a compass? A GPS chartplotter uses the data received from multiple GPS satellites orbiting the earth in a medium Earth orbit (MEO) 12,550 miles from the earth surface to calculate your vessel's speed, location AND course over ground. A vessel's course is an imaginary line based on the vessel's past locations - calculated very fast on a chartplotter, and often provided as a graphical track line and numerical compass degrees abbreviated as COG (course over ground) or GPS heading.

A vessel's heading is the direction the bow is pointed and is not always the same as the vessel's course. A boat on the water can be subject to wind and current, causing the vessel to be pushed or pulled in direction other than the

intended path of travel. While this variation could be very slight, the captain may have to steer the boat in a direction not exactly dead center of the bow to get the vessel to stay on track to the intended waypoint, buoy or desired destination.

My chartplotter or autopilot screen shows a heading, where does this come from?



If you have an autopilot, you usually have a heading sensor. The autopilot needs to know which way the bow is pointed so it can calculate how best to keep you on course while engaged. Most autopilots have a screen that reads a compass heading from its internal heading sensor. While this number should be close to the ship's compass, it may not be exact due to numerous variations including mounting location, local magnet fields etc. This autopilot heading sensor is similar to the standard ships compass you may have on the helm, but instead of a clear window to read the card, electronic sensors read the card. Today's modern heading sensors consist of solid-state

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www.coastalfisherman.net components without a moving card. These heading sensors often contain a 3-axis rate gyro with a 3-axis accelerometer or even a 9-axis solid-state gyro. Heading sensors output electronic data using industry standard protocol such as NMEA0183 or NMEA2000 and are read by the modern autopilots and chart plotters. You can interconnect the autopilot heading sensor to your chartplotter, which will then display heading information along with GPS course information provided by the chartplotter. Remember - the course the vessel is traveling and the direction the bow is pointed are two different pieces of information, while they are the same number at times, they are calculated differently.

Some GPS chartplotters report a GPS heading without a heading sensor, this a calculated value based on the vessel's past position and is only useful when the vessel is underway and is actually course over ground (COG). This is most helpful to keep the boat's icon on the GPS screen pointed in the direction of travel and this GPS heading cannot be used as a source of heading for an autopilot system or other shipboard system requiring actual heading.



If you do not have an autopilot, you can install a standalone heading sensor and connect it to your chart plotter to provide heading, these start at a few hundred dollars. A heading sensor needs to be calibrated after installation, either automatically or manually depending on the exact model. The newest heading sensors use multiple GPS antennas to calculate your vessels heading, not requiring magnetic sensors, these were at one time very

expensive and only practical for larger boats. Today, a few manufactures offer satellite heading sensors for the pleasure boat market, one of those was recently introduced by Furuno - the SCX 20, selling for less than \$1000. Another benefit of a satellite compass is that it can be connected to some autopilot systems, putting an end to autopilot compass errors and issues.

Modern electronics often need to know the ships heading to properly display information on the screen such as a radar overlay. A radar overlay is when the GPS chart plotter overlays the radar screen image over an electronic chart in a fashion that allows you to see both the radar and chart at the same time. This can be extremely useful as a navigation and collision avoidance tool. In order for this to work properly and accurately, the chart plotter needs to know the actual heading (not course) so it can precisely adjust the radar image in regard to the front of your boat.

Another use of a heading sensor is to enable features like Mini-Automatic Radar Plotting Aid (MARPA) or ARPA target tracking and real motion target trails. Using ARPA/MARPA is a great feature allowing you to be able to acquire a target on the radar screen and within a few sweeps know the other vessels heading and speed while tracking the other vessel. Because of the features gained in the radar capability alone, the addition of a heading sensor may be one of the most valuable add-on navigation electronics investments you can make.

Incorporating a heading sensor in your system allows you to choose "heading up" orientation on a chart plotter, the result is that the bow is really pointing where the electronic chart screen shows - even if you are stopped or moving slowly, especially circling for that perfect fishing spot.

That's the head-up on heading! \$











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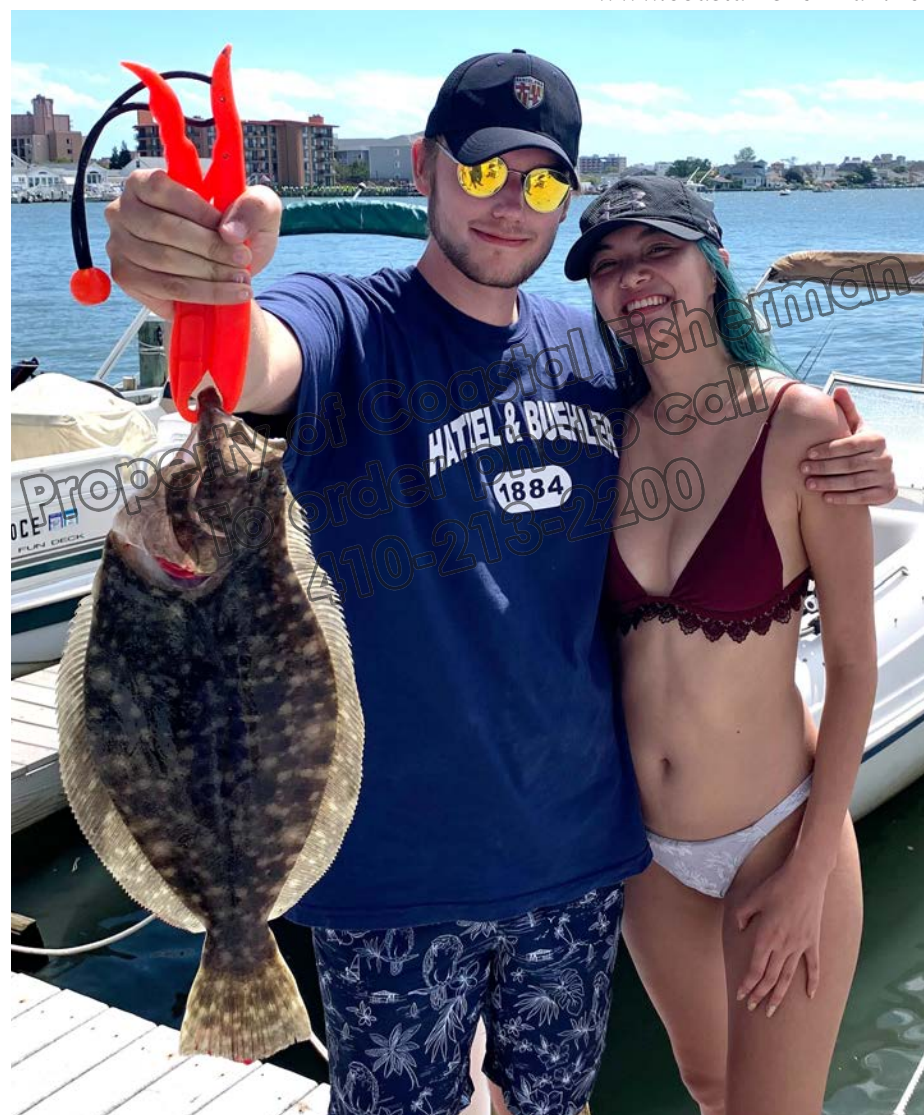
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Corwin Standen from Baltimore, MD caught his first ever flounder while fishing with Anna Chan. This one measured 19 inches and was picked right off a Bayshore Drive dock in Ocean City, MD using Gulp.

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The daytime striper fishing has picked up in the Indian River Inlet. Angel Williams was fishing with Mike Williams and Hayden Williams on the outgoing tide just after the hightide slack when she landed this 28½ rockfish on a live spot.

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DELAWARE

FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



The unofficial end of summer went out with a bang this past Labor Day weekend. Light winds and lots of bunker both off the beach as well as inshore had anglers targeting blues, rockfish and trout.

Sea Bass

After Labor Day usually starts the beginning of our fall sea bass season. This summer has been exceptional for sea bass and I for one am looking forward to seeing the big trophy sea bass come in this fall. As the temperature in the ocean begins to cool, sea bass should begin to move further inshore. We saw some of that last week as lots of nice sea bass were coming to the docks including a few large knotheads. Clam remains the hot bait but squid is a very close second. As the fall

season gets under way trying a flat fall jig or diamond jig is a great alternative to bait. Ocean Arsenal offers a new sea bass jig which I have heard is already making a big mark on the sea bass population. The key to jig fishing is a slow fall and not using too aggressive of a retrieve on the upward pull of the lure.

Flounder

Flounder at the Old Grounds remains good. Big Gulp baits on a high low rig as well as bucktails tipped with 6" gulp remains your top baits. Most coral grounds are full of small and medium sea bass making it a little more difficult to reach the flounder before getting bit by a sea bass. Try using a live spot or larger bait to keep sea bass at bay. Inshore Site #10 has also

produced some nice fish up to 6 lbs. As the tourists leave, Site #10 will be less crowded and should yield better and bigger numbers of fish. In the back bays the water is still very warm. Keeper ratio is about 10:1. At the Indian River Inlet, the flounder are tight against the rocks. Fishing a slower moving tide will help to keep you from hanging up.

Cobia/Rockfish/Bluefish

The mullet are here. Many large schools can be found just a short distance from shore. Many fish such as rockfish, blues, and sea trout are feeding below these schools. The best method for fishing these pods from a boat is to use a snag hook and catch a fresh bunker, insert a circle hook in the back and send it back down. This injured baitfish will quickly draw the attention of predators cruising the area. Snag hooks can be purchased at both Hook-em and Cook-em locations, Rick's Bait & Tackle and Old Inlet as well as. Old Inlet reports that many schools came in close to the inlet this week resulting in catches of blues and even some keeper rockfish. The cobia fishing has been fair but growing with several fish being caught just outside the inlet areas. Wally Borgmann boated a whopping 78.5 lb, 63½ inch monster last Tuesday inside the 3 mile limit between Bethany and Fenwick Beaches using live bunker. Casting an eel or swimbait to these sighted fish is the method being used with live eels accounting for most of the fish being caught. As a reminder, the cobia season ends Sept.15th and the minimum size is 40".

Surf Fishing

The surf has been producing a mixture of bluefish and

kingfish. Small cut baits or bloodworms are still your best baits. As the colder weather moves in over the fall, fishing on the beach is usually the best of the year! Several surf fishing tournaments are usually held over the fall, fewer this year due to the pandemic. The 23rd Annual 2020 Delaware Seashore Fall Surf Fishing Classic organized by Old Inlet Bait & Tackle is on for September 26 and 27th, check their website for details and registration. Big bluefish will begin to move in as temps cool off. Big rockfish and slammer bluefish can be caught on cut bait. I have also heard several reports of pompano being caught off the Delaware beaches this week. Most are fairly small but still make a tasty sandwich.

Clams and Crabs

Clamming remains red hot. The areas have cleaned up and the mud we dealt with earlier in the year is mostly gone leaving a sandy area with easy raking. I went out this past week near the VFW in Ocean View and managed around 50 clams in less than an hour. Most clams were medium to large but several smaller (but legal) clams were found making a nice dinner of clams casino. Now if I could only catch bacon! Crabbing remains solid however the salinity levels seem to be low. This means if your pots are left for a full three days you will find a few crabs dead in the pots. I believe this to be from lack of oxygen in the water combined with all the rain lately. We have started pulling our pots every two days and that has made a big difference. Bunker remains the best bait. Note that we were checked again by DNR at Vines Creek Marina this week. As always, our encounter with DNR was very pleasant and we even got one of their boat towels they were giving away.

So as temps cool the fishing gets hot... Tight lines and fins up. §

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No, this is not photo-shopped. Evan Falgowski from Lewes, DE spent the day fishing on the boat "Perfect Mixture" at an ocean structure when this true doormat size flounder fell for his pink & white Gulp Grub. Measured at Lewes Harbor Marina, this Delaware citation fattie was 11.48 lbs., 32 inches long and had a girth of 26 inches! One for the record books and our new heaviest flounder for DE.

THE GALLEY

by Christine Budd

THE VERY BEST CRAB CAKES RECIPE

Ingredients:

- 1 pound jumbo lump crab meat picked over for shells
- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce
- 1 teaspoon hot sauce like Tabasco
- 1 large egg lightly beaten
- 1/8 teaspoon fresh ground pepper
- 2 tablespoons fresh chopped parsley
- 1/4 cup panko bread crumbs
- 1 tablespoon olive oil



Directions:

In a medium bowl, carefully pick over the crab and remove any shells.

In a small bowl, stir together the mayonnaise, Dijon, Worcestershire sauce, hot sauce, egg, pepper and parsley.

Add the mayonnaise mixture to the crab and carefully fold together being careful not to break up the crab meat too much. Gently fold in the breadcrumbs.

Form 1/3 cup of the crab mixture into 8 patties and transfer to a baking sheet lined with parchment. Chill for 15-20 minutes.

Heat the olive oil in a large skillet over medium-high heat.

Add the crab cakes and cook over medium heat until golden, approximately 3-4 minutes. Turn the crab cakes over with a spatula. Cook until golden brown, crispy and cooked through,

approximately 3 minutes.

Transfer to a serving platter and serve immediately with tartar sauce and lemon wedges, if desired.

SEARED SEA BASS WITH LEMON-OLIVE WHITE BEANS

Ingredients:

- 4 (6-oz.) sustainable skinless sea bass fillets
- 3/4 teaspoon kosher salt, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon black pepper, divided
- 3 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 5 garlic cloves, sliced



- 2 teaspoons fresh thyme leaves
- 8 cherry tomatoes, quartered (about 1/2 cup)
- 2/3 cup unsalted chicken stock
- 1 (15-oz.) can unsalted cannellini

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beans, rinsed and drained

- 5 ounces fresh baby spinach
- 2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice
- 1 ounce pitted Castelvetrano olives, quartered (about 1/3 cup)

Directions:

Heat a large nonstick skillet over medium-high. Sprinkle fish with 1/4 teaspoon salt and 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Add 1 tablespoon oil to skillet; swirl to coat. Add fish; cook to desired degree of doneness, about 3 minutes on each side for medium. Remove fish from pan; discard drippings. (Do not wipe skillet clean.) Lightly tent fish with foil to keep warm.

Heat remaining 2 tablespoons oil in skillet over medium-high. Add garlic; cook, stirring often until light golden brown, about 1 minute. Stir in thyme and tomatoes; cook, stirring often until heated through, about 1 minute. Add stock and beans; bring to a simmer. Add spinach in batches, and cook, tossing gently, until spinach is wilted after each addition. Stir in lemon juice, olives, remaining 1/2 teaspoon salt, and remaining 1/4 teaspoon pepper. Divide bean mixture among 4 shallow bowls; nestle 1

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6 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
1 medium onion, chopped (about 1 1/2 cups)
3 large garlic cloves, minced
2/3 cup fresh parsley, chopped
1 1/2 cups of fresh chopped tomato (about 1 medium sized tomato) OR 1 14-ounce can of whole or crushed tomatoes with their juices



2 teaspoons tomato paste (optional)
8 oz. of clam juice (or shellfish stock)
1/2 cup dry white wine (like Sauvignon blanc)

1 1/2 pound fish fillets (use a firm white fish such as halibut, cod, red snapper, or sea bass), cut into 2-inch pieces

Pinch of dry oregano

Pinch of dry thyme

1/8 teaspoon Tabasco sauce (or more to taste)

1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, plus more to taste

1 teaspoon of salt, plus more to taste

LIME GINGER ALBACORE

Ingredients:

1 lb. fresh albacore, trimmed and cut into two steaks

Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper, to taste

Juice from 2 limes

4 tablespoons soy sauce or gluten-free tamari sauce

1 tablespoon fresh ginger root, finely grated

1 tablespoon olive oil

1 lemon, sliced

Directions:

Season the fish with salt and pepper.

Combine the lime juice, soy sauce,



Night time is when the Indian River Inlet can come alive and be very productive. Young anglers Brody Barrowcliff and Liam Hauck went out with Brian Barrowcliff one evening last week and had a great time landing these snapper bluefish.

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fresh ginger, and olive oil in a bowl.



Lay the fish steaks in a small casserole dish, and pour the lime ginger marinade over it.

Let it sit in the refrigerator for about 10 minutes.

Heat a medium cast-iron skillet over medium high heat.

Cook the fillets for about 5 minutes on each side, until cooked through.

Transfer to a plate and garnish with a couple of slices of lemon.

GRILLED OR PAN-COOKED LONG FIN TUNA (ALBACORE) WITH SOY/MIRIN MARINADE

Ingredients:

- 1/4 cup low-sodium soy sauce
- 2 tablespoons mirin (sweet Japanese rice wine)
- 1 tablespoon seasoned rice vinegar

1 tablespoon minced or grated fresh ginger

1 teaspoon sugar

1 tablespoon plus 1 teaspoon dark sesame oil

1 1/2 pounds albacore steaks



Directions:

Combine the soy sauce, mirin, vinegar, ginger and sugar in a bowl and whisk together well. Whisk in the sesame oil.

Place the albacore steaks in a large bowl or baking dish and toss with the marinade. Cover the bowl, or transfer the fish and marinade to a large zip-top bag and refrigerate for 1 to 2 hours, or longer.

Prepare a hot grill or heat a heavy cast-iron or nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Remove the fish from the marinade. Cook the steaks for 2 to 4 minutes on each side, depending on how well done you like the fish to be. Serve hot.

GRILLED TUNA STEAKS WITH MANGO HABANERO MOJO

Ingredients:

For the tuna and marinade:

- 1/4 cup finely chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley
- 1/2 cup finely chopped fresh cilantro
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1/4 cup dry sherry
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1 tsp. kosher salt; more to taste

Freshly ground black pepper to taste

4 tuna steaks, 6 oz. each

Sprigs of cilantro for garnish

For the mojo:

1 ripe, juicy mango, peeled, pitted, and coarsely chopped

1/4 cup Chardonnay or other dry white wine

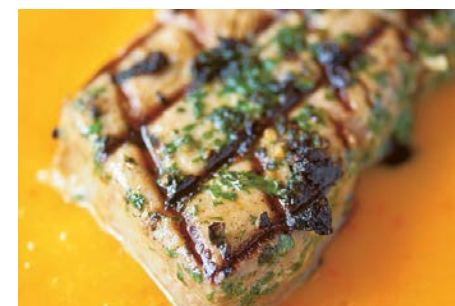
Juice of 1/2 orange (about 1/4 cup)

1/2 to 3/4 tsp. minced habanero, or other hot chile (seeds removed)

Directions:

Make the marinade:

In a large, shallow dish, mix the



parsley, cilantro, garlic, sherry, olive oil, salt, and pepper. Add the tuna and toss to thoroughly coat, pressing the herbs all over the steaks. Let sit for 30 minutes.

Make the mojo:


In a blender purée the mango with the Chardonnay and orange juice until smooth. Stir in the habanero and set aside. (This mojo is served at room temperature or very slightly warmed – don't boil it.)

Cook the tuna:

Light a charcoal or gas grill. When the grill is very hot, remove the tuna from the marinade and season it with salt and pepper. Sear tuna for 3 to 5 minutes on each side for medium-rare (or more, depending on the thickness of the tuna). Drizzle some mojo on each plate, set the tuna on the mojo, drizzle on a little more mojo, and garnish with cilantro.

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 <p>BLUE MARLIN 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>DOLPHIN No minimum Length 10 per person/day</p>	 <p>YELLOWFIN TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day</p>	<h3>SHARKS AUTHORIZED SPECIES</h3> <p>No Minimum Fork Length Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead</p> <p>54" Minimum Fork Length Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse, Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common Thresher, Oceanic Whitetip, Porbeagle, Finetooth, Atlantic Blacknose</p> <p>71" Minimum Fork Length Male Shortfin Mako</p> <p>78" Minimum Fork Length Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead, Smooth Hammerhead</p> <p>Only 1 shark from the lists above may be retained per vessel per trip. In addition, 1 Atlantic Sharpnose and 1 Bonnethead may be retained per person per trip. If a hammerhead shark is retained, no tunas, billfish or swordfish may be retained.</p> <p>83" Minimum Fork Length Female Shortfin Mako</p> <p>Prohibited Sharks Atlantic Angel, Basking, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Sixgill, Bigeye Thresher, Bignose, Caribbean Reef, Caribbean Sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin Mako, Narrownose, Night, Sandbar, Sand Tiger, Sevengill, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White</p>
 <p>WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>WAHOO No minimum Length 2 per person/day</p>	 <p>BLUEFIN TUNA (Recreational) 2 per vessel/day/trip 27" to <47" CFL 1 per vessel/day/trip 47" to <73" CFL</p> <p>(Charter Boat) 3 per vessel/day/trip 27" to <47" CFL 1 per vessel/day/trip 47" to <73" CFL</p> <p>(Headboat) 6 per vessel/day/trip 27" to <47" CFL 2 per vessel/day/trip 47" to <73" CFL</p>	
 <p>SWORDFISH 47" Lower Jaw Fork Length 1 per person / 4 per vessel (Rec) 1 per person / 6 per vessel (Charter) 1 per person / 15 per Headboat</p>	 <p>BIGEYE TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>		

Southern Trophy Fishery closed through December 31, 2020

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Before the weather turned sour last week, several boats got out to the canyons and found the bluefin tuna bit. One of those boats was the "Marli" out of Sunset Marina. Anglers Rob Simington, Tam Simington, Kimmie Hileman, Ed Hileman, John Wooldridge and Mike Williams went out with Capt. Mark Hoos and mates Dakota Bittner and Jonathan Robertson to north of the Poor Man's Canyon to land these 3 beauties. The center one weighed in at 65.5 lbs. making it our new "Heaviest" for Maryland!

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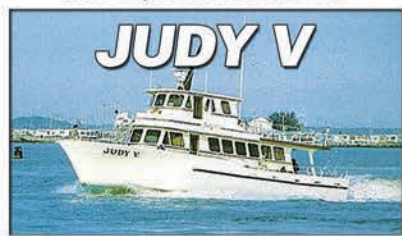
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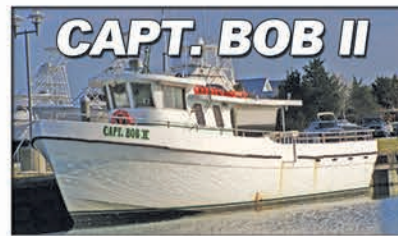
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CHUM LINES

by Capt. Mark Sampson



Anyone who has done even a moderate amount of shark fishing is probably familiar with the NOAA Fisheries "Cooperative Shark Tagging Program" (or CSTP). Maybe they first learned about it when they caught a shark that had been tagged by someone else, or perhaps they heard from other anglers that tags were available and took it upon themselves to apply for a supply of their own that they could attach to the sharks they release. In existence since 1962 the CSTP is the longest continuous shark tagging program in the world and through it more than 295-thousand sharks have been tagged by the combined efforts of research scientists, recreational, and commercial fishermen. Data generated by more than 17,500 recaptures of CSTP sharks has been critical to learning important details about shark migration and distribution, has provided the basis for determining essential fish habitat for 38 shark species, and is used to study the age and growth of sharks, stock structure,

distribution, movements, migration patterns, population abundance, age and growth rates, behavior, and mortality.

For more than 40-years I've been actively involved in tagging sharks for the CSTP. In that time we've tagged thousands of sharks and have had hundreds of them recaptured. I can't say how the data derived from those specific recaptures has increased the knowledge of sharks or worked its way into shark management, I have seen first hand how shark tagging has led directly to the conservation of sharks by providing both friends and clients with great incentive to release rather than boat their catch.

Besides being an effective tool to help generate scientific data, tagging provides recreational fishermen with the satisfaction of knowing that the tag they planted could make an important contribution to science and better management of the fishery. Anglers who tag also appreciate the benefit that if their fish is ever recaptured

they'll have the opportunity to learn interesting details about where it went, who caught it, and how much it grew since they originally caught it. For many anglers the tag itself becomes enough of a trophy to steer them away from the desire to bring their catch home, and in more than 30-years of charter fishing I have come to know that the option to tag a fish is often the determining factor my clients will use to decide if they wish to keep or release their catch.

Until recently, to tag sharks through the CSTP anglers needed only to fill out a simple application form and a small supply of tags with instructions would be mailed to them at not cost. Once those tags were used up anglers could request and would receive a re-supply. But in recent years tags have become increasingly difficult to get, and when I questioned the folks at NMFS about this I was told that, due to budget cuts, they have not been able to obtain tags and operate the program at the level that it traditionally has and unless they get more funding the entire CSTP will come to an end sometime next year!

Considering NMFS is tasked with the duty to manage our marine resources at balanced and sustainable levels by

www.coastalfisherman.net providing better science and sound management, I would suggest that the CSTP is a valuable tool that directly addresses those goals. The CSTP has been instrumental in instilling a desire in recreational anglers to learn about proper identification, conservation, and safe handling techniques of sharks. Thanks to the program many anglers have become so passionate about sharks and tagging that they have taken it upon themselves to regularly visit schools, fishing clubs, and other organizations to help spread the word about shark tagging, biology, and conservation. Thanks to the CSTP countless sharks have been released rather than being boated simply because anglers had the option and the strong desire to tag their catch. And since the CSTP is not involved in the regulatory end of things, it has allowed anglers a refreshing opportunity to engage and work with NMFS on a positive note.

The partnership between NMFS and recreational fishermen for the benefit of sharks is enough reason to keep the CSTP alive, add to it the invaluable data and science that has come either directly or indirectly from the Narragansett Research

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Lab and it should be very clear that this program has been successful at both providing a foundation for shark research and conservation in this country as well as setting a positive example for other countries to follow. At this time in history when so much global effort is going toward finding ways to accomplish what the CSTP has already done to enhance the conservation of sharks, it's incomprehensible that this program would be allowed to fizzle out due to lack of adequate funding.

I cannot suggest where long term funding for the CSTP might come from, but certainly "where there is a will - there's a way" even if it requires NMFS to look outside the box by considering private funding from the public or through corporate sponsorship.

This winter when the NOAA's Southeast St. Petersburg Office sent me my annual Dolphin/Wahoo permit, the three pages of paper came in a cardboard Priority Mail envelope with a \$7.75 postage stamp. If NOAA has that kind of money to blow on mailing three pieces of paper they certainly should be able to either fund the CSTP or the wisdom to make a request to the private sector for help in getting it done. I would welcome the opportunity to lend my assistance within the scope of my abilities and resources to help keep the program going long into the future and I know that there are a lot of other fishermen, groups, clubs, business, and concerned citizens who are passionate enough about sharks that would do the same. The Coastal Shark Tagging Program has been a constant win for recreational anglers, science, NOAA/NMFS, the shark fishery, and certainly the sharks. With all the critical issues revolving around sharks these days this is a ball that should not - "must not" be dropped! §



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It has been a summer of firsts for many things, but this first was awesome for 15 year old Macy Seitz of Ocean Pines, MD. She caught and released this white marlin, her first, while fishing on the private “Kilo Charlie” in the Washington Canyon. She was fishing with her father Mitch and sister Leah along with owner Chris Kinsley, Capt. Howard Lynch and mate Burro Gonzalez.

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 <p>CROAKER 8" minimum No creel limit</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 20-27" minimum 5 per person/day</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD No limit</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 12" minimum No creel limit</p>
 <p>STRIPED BASS 28-35" except 20-25" only from 7/1 - 8/31 in DE Bay</p>	 <p>SUMMER FLOUNDER 16.5" minimum 4 per person/day</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/15 4 per person/day 7/1 - 12/31</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>

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Serious men catch serious fish, for tacos!. John Mitchell muscled up to hold this 25 pound dolphin he caught at the Del-Jersey Reef. Pictured at Dan’s Tackle Box in Milton, DE.



Jules Mister of Lewes, DE used sand fleas to catch this beautiful triggerfish at the Outer Wall in the Delaware Bay. As Amanda Morris from Lewes Harbour Marina would say ‘Girl Power!’.

An advertisement for South Jersey S&YS Yacht Sales. It features a white Viking yacht on the water. The text includes "viking yachts", "Your Dealer for Premium Sportfishing Boats for Over 30 Years", "SOUTH JERSEY S&YS Cape May, NJ • Point Pleasant, NJ YACHT SALES", and logos for Yellowfin, JUPITER, INVINCIBLE, and Albemarle. It also mentions "Mid-Atlantic Region's Premier New Yacht Dealer and Broker for Used Boats" and provides the website "southjerseyyachtsales.com". Social media icons for Facebook and Instagram are shown. At the bottom, it lists three locations: Brielle Yacht Club, Canyon Club Resort Marina, and Arnold's Yacht Basin, each with its address and phone number.

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BAHIA MARINA 15TH ANNUAL FLOUNDER POUNDER RESULTS



Tyler Smith from Bishopville, MD was fishing with Capt. Dave Caffrey on the charter boat "On the Run" for the 15th Annual Flounder Pounder Tournament held by Bahia Marina when he landed this 3 lb. flatfish by the Rt. 50 Bridge. This ended up in a tie for 2nd place, earning \$330 in prize money. Tyler also landed the 3rd place flounder at 2 lb. 14 oz. earning another \$435 for a total of \$765 in awards! He was fishing with Anthony Sousa and 'Floyd'.



Last year's big winner in Bahia Marina's big Annual Flounder Pounder Tournament, Blake Gunther, made a run at it again in this year's event. While he did not repeat last year's catch, Derek West from Salisbury, MD was on the trip and landed this 2.5 lb. keeper he found using peanut bunker at the Ocean City Inlet.



During Bahia Marina's 15th Annual Flounder Pounder Tournament last Sunday, the chase for 2nd place was competitive! Just before the scales closed, Finn McCabe brought in 3 lb. flounder to create a tie for 2nd. He was fishing the incoming tide mid-day at the Rt. 50 Bridge when this one fell for his live bunker. Fishing with Finn were Clay McCabe, Greg Donahue and Brad McCabe.



There were 12 flounder brought to the scales during the 15th Annual Flounder Pounder Tournament held by Bahia Marina last Sunday. The crew of the "Line Dancer" of Tom Dewees, Andy Neiderer, John Biesecker, Jim Brunner, Andy Miller, Mike Dzurak and Capt. Lance Biesecker brought in 3 of them! Two were caught on the outgoing and one on the incoming tide in the East Channel, all on live bunker and ranged from 2 to 2½ lbs.



What does powerful commercial real estate advisor Christian Phillips do to blow off steam? He heads out with his buddy Mike Haun and a couple of spear guns to get fish! Here is a catch of triggerfish and tog from a reef off of Virginia.



It was big smiles for Greg Lawrence and Lance Fino when they hit the Sausages with Capt. Kevin Gibson to boat these 3 false albacore on peanut mahi. They were fishing aboard the private boat "Fare Cut".

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This picture probably does not do justice to the 78.5 lb., 63½ inch cobia that Wally Borgmann caught on his birthday last week! Not only a remarkable catch, it is our new "Heaviest" for Delaware. Wally was fishing on the "Tear-em-Up" with Scott Stierhoff just a couple miles offshore, between Bethany and Fenwick beaches when this one took this live bunker.

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Rick's Bait & Tackle





Angler Tim Goodman is totally chill with this pair of 19" keeper flounders he snagged in the Massy's Ditch area. He was fishing at the end of the incoming tide using a white Gulp & minnow combo on a top teaser hook.

OCEAN CITY INLET TIDES & MOON PHASES

WED. SEPT. 16	High 07:21 am High 07:59 pm	Low 01:19 am Low 01:22 pm
THUR. SEPT. 17 New Moon	High 08:14 am High 08:47 pm	Low 02:02 am Low 02:15 pm
FRI. SEPT. 18	High 09:07 am High 09:35 pm	Low 02:46 am Low 03:07 pm
SAT. SEPT. 19	High 09:59 am High 10:23 pm	Low 03:31 am Low 04:01 pm
SUN. SEPT. 20	High 10:52 am High 11:12 pm	Low 04:18 am Low 04:57 pm
MON. SEPT. 21	High 11:47 am High -----	Low 05:08 am Low 05:58 pm
TUE. SEPT. 22	High 12:04 am High 12:46 pm	Low 06:02 am Low 07:03 pm
WED. SEPT. 23 1st Qtr. Moon	High 01:00 am High 01:55 pm	Low 07:00 am Low 08:08 pm

source:usharbors.com

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

Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide

**Delaware Bay Entrance - subtract 1 hour 25 minutes to high tide
- subtract 45 minutes to low tide**

Wachapreague, VA - add 4 minutes for high tide
- 21 minutes for low tide

Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide

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

UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS



SEPTEMBER

42nd Annual Ocean City Marlin Club Challenge Cup
September 17 - 19 • OC Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

**23rd Annual Delaware Seashore Fall
Surf Fishing Classic
September 26 - 27 • Old Inlet Bait & Tackle
302-227-7974**

White Marlin Tagging Tournament
September 12 - 27 • Rehoboth Beach, DE
302-227-7974

OCTOBER

39th Annual Mid-Atlantic Surf Fishing Tournament
October 1 - 3 • Ocean City, MD • 410-251-2203

Lewes Harbour Marina Tautog Tournament
October 17 - November 21 • Lewes, DE • 302-645-6227

16th Annual A.M.S.A. Ronald Bounds Fishing Tournament • October 17 - 18

NOVEMBER

Lewes Harbour Marina Striper Tournament
November 22 - December 20
Lewes, DE • 302-645-6227



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Jimmy Fields
561-801-5720



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252-216-6913



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David Fields
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Ronnie Fields
561-762-0096



Joel McLeod
772-834-8549



Rich Sowden
561-301-4429



Steve Hedrick
717-586-9841



Dave Shockley
561-262-6726



Erik Anderson
850-974-5600



Charley Pereira
252-216-6291



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



BUGGYWASHER - 2007 74' Viking
Call Erik Anderson



TRUST ME TOO - 2004 62' Titan
Call Jimmy Fields



SUTHERN'S PRIDE - 2004 61' Viking
Call Preston Stofer



IRONED OUT - 1989 61' Buddy Davis
Call Jeff James



APAVA - 1969 56' Rybovich
Call Jimmy Fields



MEGABITE - 2004 57' Dixon Custom
Carolina - Call Jeff James



HALCYON - 1998 55' Viking
Call Jimmy Fields



SALVATION - 1977 Omie Tillet Sportsman
50' Custom Carolina - Call Jeff James



NATURAL - 1978 53' Monterey
Call Jimmy Fields



NO SWEAT - 48' 1986 Billy Holton
Call Jeff James



LIBATION - 2000 46' Buddy Harris
Call Jimmy Fields



2016 43' Everglades
Call Jimmy Fields



CHUBBY - 1995 42' Liberty
Call Jeff James



DONA LUCY - 2017 41' Ronin Custom
Call Jimmy Fields



2004 35' Marlago
Call Terry Layton



CONSTELLATION - 1984 37'
Sunny Briggs - Call Ronnie Fields



BLUE ROSE - 32' 2006 SeaRay
Call Jimmy Fields



MISS SIS - 2001 31' Pursuit
Call Jimmy Fields



2002 29' Angler
Call Jeff James



1992 27' Albemarle
Call Jimmy Fields



2018 25' Custom Blackfin
Call Jimmy Fields



GRACIAS - 1975 27' Custom Carolina
Warren O'Neal - Call Jeff James