

Priceless

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COASTAL FISHERMAN

VOLUME 34 • • NUMBER 17 • • August 26, 2009

MID-ATLANTIC \$500,000

MID-ATLANTIC \$500,000
Ocean Yachts
HOSTED BY

SPECIES White Marlin
 WEIGHT 95 lbs.
 BOAT Topless5
 CAPTAIN Chris Martin
 ANGLER Scott Lathroum
 DATE 8/21/09

On the final day of the Mid-Atlantic \$500,000, Scott Lathroum of Bishopville, MD captured this 95 lb. white marlin to win 1st place in the White Marlin Division and set a new tournament record previously held by both the "Phat Mann" in 2007 and the "Reel Joy" in 2008 at 92 lbs. Scott was fishing on the "Topless" with Scott Steele of Catonsville, MD, Glenn Steele of Tyaskin, MD, Capt. Chris Martin and Mates Matt Mosley and Gar Womer. The white marlin, measuring 72.5-inches (LJFL) with a girth of 31.25-inches, was caught in 56 fathoms between the Poor Man's and Baltimore Canyons. The "Topless" crew won \$653,375 for their 1st place finish. This is the third year in a row that a boat fishing out of Ocean City has won the White Marlin Division. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

Double Lines


by Dale Timmons




Talk about an amazing finish! I have to congratulate angler Scott Lathroum, a.k.a. "Spunk", of the Reel Inn, along with owner Scott Steele and the crew of the "Topless" for their winning 95 lb. white marlin in the Mid-Atlantic \$500,000 tournament, held last week at Sunset Marina in OC and South Jersey Marina in Cape May, NJ. The big white was caught on the final day of the tournament, when very few other boats were even fishing. I wasn't at the weigh-in, but publisher Larry Jock said the fish was a true white and not a roundscale spearfish. Larry also said that his win marks three years in a row that a boat fishing out of OC has won the white marlin division. The winning fish has been caught on the last day for the last two years. So again, nice going, guys...

 A news release from the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission last week confirmed what most fishermen already know—the weakfish (gray trout) "biomass" is in the toilet. An independent panel of scientists "confirmed that stocks are at an all time low and current fishery removals are unsustainable under existing stock conditions. It agreed with the stock assessment's conclusions that weakfish abundance has declined markedly, total mortality is high, non-fishing mortality has recently increased, and the stock is currently in a depleted state." The release states that the weakfish stock is at a low of 2.9 million pounds, "far below the proposed biomass threshold of 22.4 million pounds." That

means it is only 10 per cent of what it should be at minimum. One positive note in the release says that "juvenile surveys indicate young-of-the-year weakfish continued to be present in numbers similar to previous years..." The ASMFC Weakfish Management Board is currently preparing Draft Addendum IV, which will propose a range of options to reduce fishing mortality, including a possible complete harvest moratorium and limited bycatch-only fisheries. A public comment period will begin sometime this fall. The days are gone when we could fill coolers with the big purple gold trout in spring and fall. I just hope that whatever actions are taken are not too late and the trout get a chance to come back, though probably not in my lifetime. In fact, we probably should have had a moratorium on weakfish 10 years ago...

 I was reading an article last week on fishing the back bays of Ocean City in another local

fishing publication when I came across the statement, "The Thorofare, the long stretch of deep water between the sea wall behind OC near 8th street and the western shore of the bay..." Gosh, I guess I'm not doing my job, because I sure wasn't aware that they had moved the Thorofare. I mean, I've been here my whole life, and the Thorofare was always a short stretch of deep water between the mainland and Dog and Bitch Islands on the west side of the bay, just about opposite Harbour Island. Of course, most of Dog and Bitch Islands has now washed away, but I don't think they moved the Thorofare all the way across the bay to 8th Street...

 Had a call from a friend of mine, Del Baker, who is an OC paramedic and firefighter. Seems that Del, his sister and some friends were recently attacked by the same "chiggers on steroids" that tore me up a couple of years ago while I was clamming. Del told me there has been quite an outbreak,

Continued on page 6

marlin → tuna → dolphin → wahoo → shark → bluefish

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Anglers Larry Graham, Randall Hamme and Justin Weaver, all from Mechanicsburg, PA released 2 white marlin while fishing on the "SeaMent" with Capt. Mike Wesson and Mate Matthew Graham. The whites were hooked on naked ballyhoo in 100 fathoms, north of the Wilmington Canyon.



Steve Hammond of New Castle, DE (right) takes the lead for heaviest flounder caught in Ocean City this year with this 11 pounder that measured 29.5-inches. Steve was fishing in the East Channel, north of the Rt. 50 Bridge, with Harry Goliszek of Bear, DE when the big flattie ate a Gulp! 4-inch Swimming Mullet. Weighed at Sunset Provisions.



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This 36 lb. golden tilefish was caught by Jesse Kegley of Townsend, DE while deep dropping in the Norfolk Canyon on the "Patient Lady" with John Schneider. Weighed at Bill's Sport Shop.



Bob Piper from Shippensburg, PA caught this 46-inch dolphin in the Baltimore Canyon while fishing on the "Blue Collar Man" with Capt. Jim Mahoney. Pictured at the Indian River Marina.

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Double Lines continued: and that some folks have even had to go to the hospital. The culprit is a parasite, not "crab larvae", and the condition is known as Schistosomal Cercarial Dermatitis. A gentleman named Dr. Rick Kutz sent me information about the parasite after I complained originally. According to Dr. Kutz, "The parasite is a fluke (flatworm) that cycles between waterfowl and snails. The waterfowl release eggs in their feces, and the snails ingest the eggs, which further develop within their bodies. In the fall, the infective state (called cercariae) is released in the water from the snails and search for waterfowl to infect. The cercariae sometimes attempt to infect hosts that are refractory to the infection (like humans). In humans, the infective stage can only penetrate a few layers of the skin, but they cause a severe itch! Sometimes the site becomes infected." Apparently, some folks (like me) are more allergic to the little critters

burrowing into their skin than others. At the time, Sue Foster told me the only way she had found to prevent being attacked was to slather on bug spray and suntan oil before going clamming. Del did some research on his own, and he said that if you start to itch when you come out of the water, flushing with fresh water is the best initial treatment. If you do become infected, there is a topical ointment, which is by prescription, called Fluocinonide Cream, which helps considerably. I think muddy areas, like the west side of Skimmer Island, are more infected than sandy bottoms, and the presence of green "cabbage" seaweed makes it even worse...you have been warned...

Speaking of warnings, I was reading a discussion on one of the local web sites about being hit by the barb on a stingray tail and what to do about it. The best advice, of course, is to avoid getting hit in the first

place, but accidents do happen, and all I know is that a lot of the "old timers" who gigged flounder in the sounds behind the Outer Banks of North Carolina years ago always carried a bottle of turpentine in the boat. If they accidentally stepped on a ray and got stuck, they immediately poured turpentine on the wound. They claimed it would keep out infection and even helped with the pain...never done it myself, just passing along the info, for what it's worth...

When I was a teenager, a friend of mine worked at the now defunct Paul's Tackle Shop, and sometimes I would go help them pack squid just for something to do (it was a little slower in OC in those days). I remember sitting in school the next day with the smell of squid on my hands. Fishermen have always had to deal with stinky hands, whether from squid, bunker, peeler crabs or whatever. An enterprising young lady from Lewes, DE has been working

on the problem, and she was kind enough to send me some samples of her Fisherman's Friend Soap, which is designed to remove those fishy smells from your hands. It is a blend of lemon and orange peels, herbs, honey and an aloe moisturizer, with very little scent of its own except for a slight hint of citrus. I went to the bait freezer and rubbed some salted, partly frozen bunker on my hands and gave it a try. I admit I was a little skeptical, but the soap really did remove the bunker smell from my hands, which is hard to do. The soap is made by Beach Bumz Gifts, 1 Whitehaven Way in Lewes, and it is available wholesale or retail by calling 302-644-8380. Might be a good item for the local tackle shops and marinas...

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Dana and Greg Zaptic took the trip down from York Springs, PA and caught 5 keeper flounder during a trip aboard the "Get Sum" with Capt. Nick Clemente and Mate Chris Mason. The fish were caught while drifting live peanut bunker in the East Channel. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Daina Kazmaier of West Ocean City, MD released her first blue marlin, and D.J. Kazmaier from Pennington, NJ caught his first dolphin, both while fishing on the "Pelagicide" with Brian Behe. The blue marlin, estimated at 250 lbs., was caught on a Pakula lure in 500 fathoms, east of the Poor Man's Canyon. D.J.'s 15 lb. dolphin was caught on a trolled ballyhoo near the Rockpile. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Sung Kim of Landover, MD caught this 43 lb. wahoo while fishing on the "Clear Shot" with Capt. Tony Battista and Mate Larry Lee. The speedster hit a Black Bart Canyon Prowler just outside the 30 Fathom Lumps. Weighed at Sunset Marina.

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FISHING REPORT
 8:30 AM Local AM
 WEDNESDAY, August 19, 2009. Bony
 everyone, for the day in updating the fishing
 report. Action has been incredible since.
 The "Morning Star" again had a nice catch of
 Rounder. Heaviest weighed 4 lbs. 13 oz.
 "Cotton & Bony" weighed a 95 lb. white marlin.
 TUESDAY, August 18, 2009. The "Morning
 Star" returned with another nice catch of big
 Rounder.
 At the Sea Atlantic 5000,000, a couple of white
 marlin were weighed, but did not meet the
 minimum weight of 85 lbs.
 The "Pud Man" weighed a 60 lb. yellowtail.
 The "Ten Dees" weighed a 22 lb. sea bream.
 MONDAY, August 17, 2009. Not much
 happening except for the 100 Atlantic
 5000,000. On the 1st day, the "Bitterman"
 weighed in a 95 lb., qualifying white marlin. A
 couple of other boats weighed white marlin that
 didn't meet the qualifying weight of 85 lbs.
 There were some other whites released, along
 with a load of dolphin. The heaviest dolphin
 weighed at the scales in OC was the "Shree"

Ocean City Fishing Report

by Larry Jock



I spent most of my time this week at the scales of the Mid-Atlantic \$500,000. With the offshore bite being pretty slow, the early part of the week was rather dull. But similar to years past, the action at the scales on the last two days of the tournament really turned things around.

On Thursday, the "Phat Mann" weighed a 78 lb. white marlin to take a short-lived lead in the White Marlin Division. Mark Granville-Smith hooked the white on a naked ballyhoo in 70 fathoms inside the Washington Canyon. Very shortly after the "Phat Mann" weigh-in, a boat in Cape May weighed an 84 pounder to take the lead. This fish would later be pulled from the tournament by the owner of the boat after a load of ice was found in the stomach of the fish by the biologist.

The "Predator" arrived at the scales a little while later with a 69 lb. yellowfin tuna to take the lead in the Tuna Division. This fish, caught by Donnie Moore, ended up tying for 1st place in the Tuna Division with a New Jersey boat called the "Sea Hag". Donnie used 30 lb. test line to hook the yellowfin on a naked



Garrett Hoffman from Deep Creek Lake, MD was drifting a live spot in the East Channel when he hooked into this 28.5-inch, 8 lb. 8 oz. flounder at the end of the outgoing tide.

ballyhoo in the Poor Man's Canyon.

As in past years, the real excitement occurred on Friday, the final day of the tournament,

when the "Topless" brought a 95 lb. white marlin to the scales, locking up 1st place in the White Marlin Division and winning over \$653,000 in award money. Angler Scott Lathroum, owner of the Reel Inn at Harbour Island, caught the white marlin on a naked ballyhoo in 56 fathoms between the Poor Man's and Baltimore Canyon, around the 200 line. This fish was big, really big.

Here are the measurements:

- Lower Jaw Fork Length
72.5-inches
- Tip of Bill to Tip of Tail
95.5-inches
- Girth
31.25-inches

Scott's catch set a new tournament record. The previous record was set in 2007 by the "Phat Mann" at 92 lbs. and was tied last year by Susan McCart on the "Reel Joy", making this the third year in a row that an Ocean City boat has taken the top prize in the tournament.

Overall, there were 36 boats fishing out of Ocean City. Those boats released 114 white marlin and 1 blue marlin during their 3 days of fishing. The top 5 boats for white marlin releases out of Ocean City were:

- "Dealer Incentive" - 10
- "Phat Mann" - 9
- "Billfisher" - 7
- "Topless" - 7
- "Miss Annie" - 7

The only local boat to release a blue marlin during the tournament was the "Fish Whistle", with Capt. Charlie Horning at the helm.

Dolphin

With the effects of Hurricane Bill hitting our area late in the week, we didn't see much offshore action, other than those boats entered in the Mid-Atlantic \$500,000.

We continue to see dolphin being caught up and down the line by anglers still searching for the elusive yellowfin tuna. The nicest catch of dolphin this week was made on Sunday by anglers on the "Fish Bonz". Capt. Mark Radcliffe brought back 6 dolphin and a yellowfin tuna from 100 fathoms in the Washington Canyon. The

continued on page 13



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Scott Lathroum

95 lb. White Marlin - 1st Place Mid-Atlantic \$500,000

* New Tournament Record *

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dolphin, on average, were larger than we have seen with the heaviest tipping the scales at 35 lbs.

Yellowfin Tuna

Unfortunately, for the 4th year in a row, yellowfin tuna have been hard to come by. Donnie Moore on the "Predator" caught a 69 pounder in the Poor Man's Canyon. The "Phat Mann" also caught one early in the week on a trolled ballyhoo in 65 fathoms in the Spencer Canyon. As mentioned earlier, the "Fish Bonz" brought back a nice one on Sunday from 100 fathoms in the Washington Canyon.

Unlike last year, the Jersey boys are not having a good run of yellowfin for those chunking at night. Rumor has it that the yellowfins have stayed offshore, in around 1,000 fathoms. I'm going to try to confirm this rumor and report back next week with my findings.

Wahoo

On Thursday, Sonney Forrest on the "Size Matters"

caught a 60 lb. wahoo on a naked ballyhoo in 100 fathoms in the Washington Canyon.

You will see another wahoo in this issue that was caught on the "Clear Shot" over a week ago. This 'hoo was hooked just outside the 30 Fathom Lumps.

For those of you who enjoy fishing for wahoo, the Wahoo Rodeo and Flounder Round-up will be held on September 11-13 at Sunset Marina. Last year, the "Last Call" won the tournament with a 45 pounder and took home \$7,500 in award money. The top flounder was worth \$1,300, so this is definitely a tournament to keep your eye on.

Croaker

Anglers are still having a fun time croaker fishing around the mouth of the Commercial Harbor and in the Inlet. Some are still being caught around Harbour Island, but that bite has slowed down.

Flounder

I know it sounds like a broken record, but the flattie bite in the bay continues to

center around the East Channel. We saw an 11 pounder caught by Steve Hammond early in the week come from this area. Steve was drifting a couple hundred yards, north of the Rt. 50 Bridge and hooked the doormat on a chartreuse Gulp! Swimming Mullet.

We should start seeing flounder beginning to stack up around the Rt. 50 Bridge and in the Inlet, preparing for their exit from the bay. Don't be afraid to fish along with rocks on the north side of the Inlet.

A much better bite is still happening on the ocean wrecks and reefs. Local anglers are finding out that making the 20 mile run to the Old Grounds results in some really nice catches of flounder. The areas around "DA" and "DB" Buoys in the Delaware Bay Shipping Channel are producing good numbers of flatties.

Closer to home, action around the Bass Grounds, the Twin Wrecks and the African Queen has been solid.

Top baits right now are still live spot, peanut bunker, minnows, flounder belly and

August 26, 2009 Coastal Fisherman Page 9 the Gulp! artificial baits. Those using the Gulp! baits are finding the best results with the Swimming Mullet in either white or chartreuse.

Surf

Sue Foster at Oyster Bay Tackle reports, "Surf was good early in the week on bluefish and kingfish and sharks, but Hurricane Bill put a damper on the action. Anglers could not hold bottom on the weekend!"

The next tournament on the schedule is the Ocean City Marlin Club's Labor Day White Marlin Tournament on September 4th, 5th & 6th. One change this year will bring back the Meatfish Division, popular among dolphin and tuna fishermen.

Another tournament on the schedule is the new M.S.S.A. Beach-N-Boat Tournament on September 12th and 13th. Weigh-ins will be held at Sunset Marina.

After a rare weekend without any tournaments, I will see you at the scales over the Labor Day weekend.

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Isaac McCullough of York, PA captured this 19.5-inch sea bass while fishing with squid at an ocean wreck south of the Jackspot.

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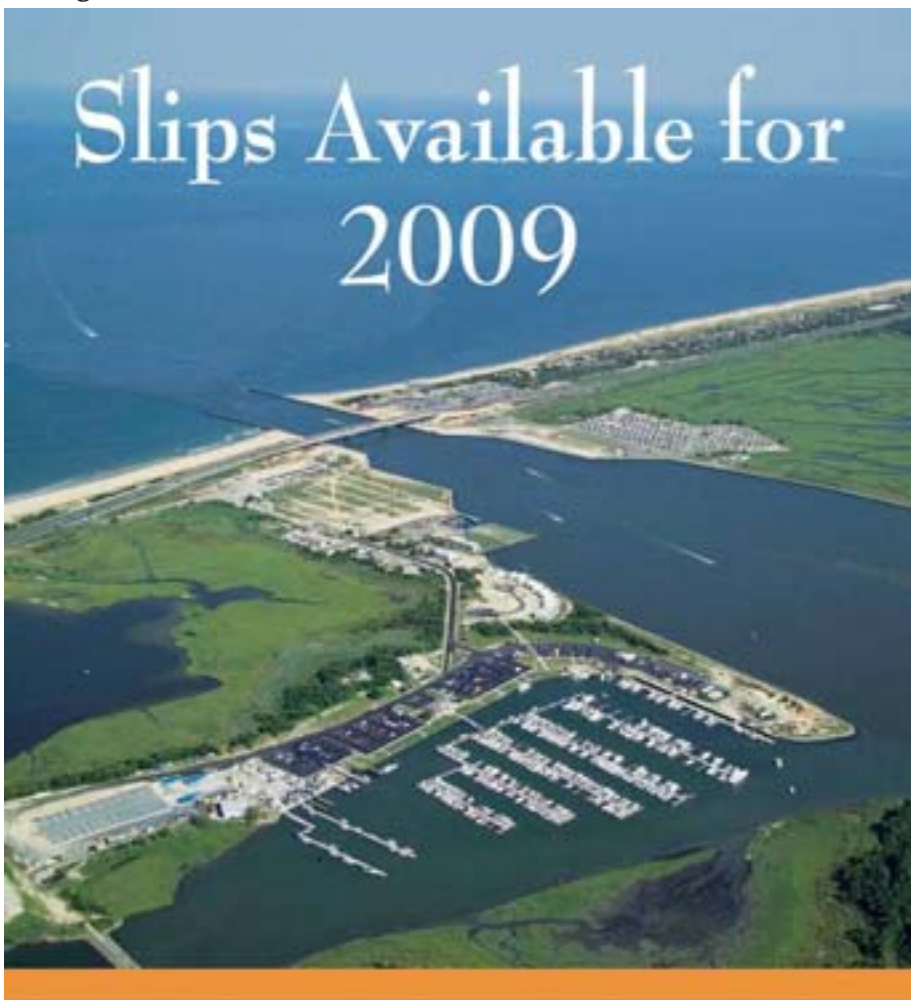
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Marylee Swell released a white marlin while fishing on the "Gag Order" with Debbi Thurlow, Diane Spalt, Jamie Persels, Capt. Joe Thurlow and Mate Tony Gay. The marlin, estimated at 75-80 lbs., was caught on a naked ballyhoo in 50 fathoms in the Washington Canyon. Capt. Joe reported water temperatures hovering around 78-degrees.



Matt Jester was fishing near "DB" Buoy when he caught this 6 lb. 9 oz. flounder on a bucktail tipped with cut bait. Weighed at the birthplace of the "Lewes Harbour Marina Stretch".



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Zach and Rich Klina of Glenolden, PA, Sean Topci of Green Bay, WI and Derek Topchi of Orin, UT caught some nice size flounder while fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mates Rich Silvani and Mike Kinder. Zach's 22.5-inch flattie was the heaviest of the day, weighing 4 lbs. 10 oz., and was caught on a strip of flounder belly. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



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Driftin' Easy

by Sue Foster



Teaching Tiny Tots

"I want to teach my son how to fish!"

Well this can be a grand idea. And the whole concept of "taking a kid fishing" can swell up Dad's head. He gets all fired up, goes to the tackle store and buys some really neat rods and reels for himself and his son and plans a great "getaway" for just the two of

them while Mom goes to the beach. They get to the pier, and the son decides he'd rather play sword fight with the fishing rod instead of fishing, and Dad gets upset and takes the fishing rod out of his hands and the little boy starts to cry. Mom shrugs her shoulders as if she knew this was going to happen.... hey, the little boy is only 4 years old!

"How do you get preschoolers interested in fishing?"

First and foremost, don't get your expectations up too high. They are only little children with a short attention span. Plan on a short outing when the child is fresh and not tired, and keep it short and simple. If the child loses interest, don't lose your patience. Let him play while you enjoy your fishing. Then try letting him hold the rod again for a short time later. Let the child see you are having fun fishing. If he or she sees you fussing and getting irritated, they might get the idea that this fishing thing isn't so much fun after all. Set

a good example and have a good time. Don't force the child to be interested. He or she will either enjoy fishing or not, and that's just the way it is. Like art or a sport, present fishing to the kids, let them dabble in it, and what will be, will be! If it doesn't work out the first time, try it again later.

"What kind of rod and reel should I buy them?"

Children less than 5 years old do best with the push button type fishing rods. Zebco brand is the most reliable and often come with Disney or other cartoon characters on the packaging. Buy something bright and bold that will catch the child's interest. The main thing is to buy a rod and reel that is short, so someone doesn't get poked in the eye! If you buy a rod and reel that is not shrink wrapped, check out the rod and reel and make sure it works properly before leaving the store. Sometimes kids (and adults) play with the rods and reels on display and they get snarled up before ever leaving the store!

To test a push button type outfit, put your thumb on the button, pull out a few feet of line, crank the handle, and while holding the line between your thumb and forefinger, reel the line back on. If you are in a "real" bait and tackle store you can ask the clerk to do it for you.

Next is what is the ruin of many a fishing trip. After the purchase, the adult gives the rod and reel to the child, and says, "OK, here's your rod and reel!" All of a sudden, the rod and reel turns into a toy. The line can get all snarled up because it has no sinker on it yet. Sometimes the kids are allowed to take the rods and reels into the back yard to "play." I've untangled many a fishing rod for the parents after "playtime."

"I want to take my daughter fishing, but I know nothing about fishing either!"

This is where the Mom and

Pop tackle stores come into play. There are many single parents out there that want to give their child a taste of the great outdoors, but have no idea where to start or what to do. So, the best thing to do is come into a tackle store, and lay it right out on the table. "I know nothing, but want to teach my child to fish. Sell me a fishing rod and reel, rig it up for me and show me how to use it, please." It's as simple as that. You don't have to buy an expensive outfit. In fact, at a very young age, it's best that you don't! Lots of childrens combos are available for less than twenty bucks.

If you need a lot of help, the best approach is to either leave the child at home in someone's care, or bring someone along to watch your child. A tackle shop looks like a giant candy store with all kinds of colorful lures with hooks that shouldn't be touched and plastic worms that shouldn't be eaten. Some tackle stores have back doors leading out to water. If the clerk has to keep one eye on your child while trying to help you, you are not going to get the full attention and specialized help that you need. In fact, the clerk will probably try to finish with you as soon as possible.

"Where should we go to fish?"

Go to a simple place, close to the water, without a lot of snags. In North Ocean City, the pier behind the ball field at 125th Street at Northside Park is a good place for the first fishing experience. Go at high tide so you are more likely to catch the little spot or sand perch that are there. Use a single or top and bottom rig with size #8 hooks with night crawlers, bloodworms, or Artificial Fishbite Bloodworms. You can also go to the pier at the Isle of Wight off the Route 90 Bridge. The Convention Hall behind 41st Street is also good during the higher tides. If you are

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downtown, 9th Street is good. Ask the clerk what time the high tide will be on the day you want to go fishing.



Have the rod and reel already rigged up before you go. Toss it in the water, and try to hook a fish. Then let the child reel it in! In most cases I hear that the tiny tots are tickled to catch one fish and that may be the end of the fishing experience for one day.

Kids love colored bobbers. You do not need a bobber to catch fish because you want to be on the bottom. But children love bobbers, so if you use a bobber, place the bobber a couple feet up on the line so the bait is close to the bottom.

"What else can we do while we are at the piers?"

The tiny tots are almost always interested in crabbing. Take a line, a net, and some chicken necks and let them pull in a crab. Even if the crabs are only small, kids just find crabs interesting. Instead of buying a crab net, you can buy a fine meshed shrimp net, and dip all kinds of things in the water. Kids find jelly fish especially interesting. Teach them to look, but not touch! Especially when it comes to crabs and jellyfish!

Taking pre-school children fishing for the first time can be a very rewarding experience. Plan a short trip on a good continued on page 17

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Lauren Lobo of Bethany Beach, DE caught this 29 lb. 8 oz. cobia on a live eel while fishing around an ocean buoy. Weighed at Ake Marine.

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Driftin' Easy continued:

tide. If you are totally inexperienced, go to a place where others are fishing so someone will be around to help you. Try to go with a friend, so you have four hands instead of only two! Scope it out the day before and see what others are doing and catching. See what they are using for bait and look and see how big the hooks are. If you want to try a boat, go on one of the two hour pontoon boat trips. And if you want to fish yourself, while teaching your tiny tot, bring a friend or spouse to watch the child once the attention span wanders off to other things like jelly fish, fishing rod sword fights, or pretty shells along the shore....

Good fishing....

Sue Foster is an outdoor writer and co-owner of Oyster Bay Tackle in Ocean City, MD and Fenwick Tackle in Fenwick, DE.



The flounder bite has been very steady around the "DA" and "DB" Buoys in the Delaware Bay Shipping Channel, as shown by the good catch made by anglers on the "Seafood Searcher". Dylan Fodi and Andy Fodi, Jr. of Millsboro, DE, Andy Fodi and Michele Fodi of Dagsboro, DE, Capt. Jack Power and Mate Sue Power caught these flounder on squid and minnow combinations. Dylan took heaviest fish honors with a 4 pounder. Weighed at Sunset Marina.

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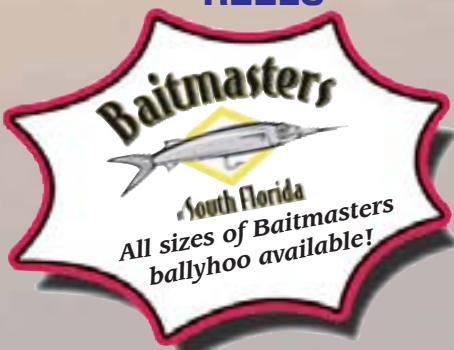
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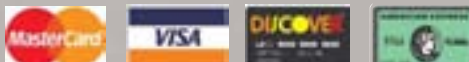


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The Galley

by Mama Jock



Roasted Tuna with Rice Pilaf

- 1 whole tuna fillet
- 1 TBSP. chopped fresh oregano
- 1 TBSP. chopped fresh parsley
- 1 TBSP. chopped fresh thyme
- 2 cloves garlic, minced
- 1 TBSP. fresh lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 1/4 tsp. black pepper

1/4 cup olive oil

Preheat oven to 400 degrees.

Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil and spray lightly with nonstick spray.

Place fillet on foil and set aside.

In a small bowl, combine herbs, garlic, salt, pepper, lemon juice and olive oil.

Spread mixture over tuna and let sit for at least 15 minutes or up to an hour in the refrigerator.

Roast for 10 to 12 minutes in oven.

Rice Pilaf:

- 3 cups chicken stock
- 1 cup water
- 6 TBSP. butter, divided
- 1/2 cup finely diced onion
- 2 cups long-grain rice (do not use instant)
- 2 tsps. lemon zest
- 1 TBSP. lemon juice
- 2 TBSP. chopped fresh parsley
- 2 TBSP. chopped fresh thyme
- 1/2 cup sliced almonds

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

In a medium saucepan, bring chicken stock and water to a simmer.

In a large, ovenproof saucepan melt 4 TBSP. butter; add onions and saute until soft.

Add rice and stir until completely coated with butter.

Measure 3 1/4 cups of simmering chicken stock; add to rice.

Bring rice to a boil, add lemon zest, lemon juice and fresh herbs.

Cover tightly.

Bake for 18 to 20 minutes until liquid is absorbed and rice is done.

Place rice in bowl, fluff with fork and stir in remaining butter and almonds.

On a large platter, place the rice and top with the tuna fillet.

Serves 8.

Beer Battered Flounder with Red Chile Mandarin Orange Sauce

- Olive oil
- 3/4 cup flour, divided
- 2/3 cup beer
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 1 1/2 tsp. baking powder
- 4 flounder fillets
- Salt and pepper
- 2 TBSP. fresh lemon juice
- 2 tsp. red chili paste
- 1 (11 oz.) can mandarin oranges, drained and chopped
- 1 TBSP. fresh cilantro leaves

Heat enough oil to fry the fish in a large skillet over medium-high heat.

In a shallow dish, whisk together 1/2 cup flour, beer, egg, and baking powder.

Place remaining 1/4 cup flour in a separate dish.

Season both sides of the flounder with salt and pepper.

Dredge both sides of fish in the flour; then shake off excess.

Dunk fish into the beer mixture and turn to coat both sides.

Add fish to hot oil and cook 2 to 3 minutes per side,

until cooked through.

Remove fish and place on paper towel lined plate

While fish is frying, in a medium bowl, whisk together lemon juice and chili paste.

Add mandarin oranges and cilantro. Toss and serve over fish.

Serves 4.

Flounder Gumbo

- 1/4 tsp. pepper
- 1 tsp. garlic salt
- 1 tsp. Cajun seasoning
- 1 bay leaf
- 2 TBSP. vegetable oil
- 1/3 cup diced onions
- 1/3 cup diced celery
- 1/2 green pepper, diced
- 1 1/2 TBSP. flour
- 1 (10.5 oz) can chicken broth
- 1 (14.5 oz) can diced tomatoes
- 3 oz. tomato paste
- 1 small package frozen cut okra
- Splash of hot sauce
- 3/4 lb. to 1 lb. flounder, cut into chunks
- Cooked rice

In a small bowl, combine the pepper, garlic salt, Cajun seasoning, and bay leaf.

Mix well and set aside.

In a large pot, heat the oil over high heat.

Add the onions, celery, and green peppers and stir.

Add the flour and stir until blended.

Add the chicken broth and stir until smooth.

Add the tomatoes, tomato paste, and okra. Stir until mixed well.

Add the hot sauce and seasoning mixture. Mix well.

Bring the gumbo to a boil, reduce heat to a simmer for 20 minutes.

Serve with rice.

Serves 4 to 6 servings.

If you would like to share your favorite seafood recipe with Coastal Fisherman readers you can email it to www.coastalfisherman@comcast.net or mail it to Coastal Fisherman Recipes, 12748 Sunset Avenue, Ocean City, MD 21842.

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Shawn Bielert of Chesapeake City, MD caught this 4 lb. flounder on a Gulp! artificial bait in the Roosevelt Inlet.



Hailey Beswick from Glen Burnie, MD landed her first flounder while fishing on the "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe. The 22-inch, 4 lb. flatie ate a squid and shiner combination near Harbour Island. Weighed at Bahia Marina.

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On the 4th day of the Mid-Atlantic \$500,000, Donnie Moore of Salisbury, MD landed this 69 lb. yellowfin tuna and held on to tie for 1st place in the Tuna Division. Donnie was fishing on the "Predator" with Adam Glushakow of Salisbury, MD, Capt. Howard Lynch and Mate Jul Airey. The yellowfin ate a naked ballyhoo in the Poor Man's Canyon and won the "Predator" crew \$55,000 in award money. Weighed at Sunset Marina.



Charlie Grazioso muscled in this 97 lb. wahoo to win 1st place in the Wahoo Division of the 18th Annual Mid-Atlantic \$500,000. The catch also set a new tournament record. Charlie was fishing on the "Joanna" and won the crew \$10,000 in award money. Weighed at South Jersey Marina in Cape May, NJ.

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18TH ANNUAL MID-ATLANTIC \$500,000

AUGUST 16-21, 2009



HEAVIEST WHITE MARLIN

1ST PLACE

“Topless”

Scott Lathroum

95 lbs.

\$653,375

2ND PLACE (TIE)

“Phat Mann”

Mark Granville-Smith

78 lbs.

\$106,415

“Sea Mistress”

John Raimondo

78 lbs.

\$118,290

MOST POINTS

“Mehl Ticket”

825 points

STATISTICS

Blue Marlin Boated - 2

Blue Marlin Released - 14

White Marlin Boated - 28

White Marlin Released - 322

Dolphin - 5

Tuna - 15

Wahoo -5

Billfish Release - 91.8%

HEAVIEST TUNA

1ST PLACE (TIE)

“Predator”

Donnie Moore

69 lbs.

\$55,000

“Sea Hag”

Louie Aboyoum

69 lbs.

\$173,600

3RD PLACE (TIE)

“Beast”

Bob Belansen

67 lbs.

\$66,557

“Shark Byte”

Peter Cherasia

67 lbs.

\$66,557

“April Fool”

Jeffrey Scanelli

67 lbs.

\$54,682

HEAVIEST BLUE MARLIN

1ST PLACE

“Cookie II”

Luke Spano

453 lbs.

\$381,665

2ND PLACE

No qualifying fish

3RD PLACE

No qualifying fish

HEAVIEST DOLPHIN

1ST PLACE

“Foray”

Mike Ackley

37 lbs.

\$10,000

HEAVIEST WAHOO

1ST PLACE

“Joanna”

Charlie Grazioso

97 lbs.

\$10,000

Total Boats Entered

36 from Ocean City, MD

102 from Cape May, NJ

Total Payout \$1,761,595



On Day 4 of the 18th Annual Mid-Atlantic \$500,000, Mark Granville-Smith of Manassas, VA caught this 78 lb. white marlin and held on to tie for 2nd place in the White Marlin Division. Mark was fishing on the "Phat Mann" with his wife, Amy Granville-Smith, Capt. Dave Warren and Mates Chris Kubick and Mike Folgham. The 73-inch white (LJFL) hit a naked ballyhoo in 70 fathoms in the Washington Canyon and earned the "Phat Mann" team \$106,415 in award money. Weighed at Sunset Marina.



Although it wasn't heavy enough to win the "Winner Take All" Wahoo Division of the Mid-Atlantic \$500,000, this was still a nice catch by Sonney Forrest of Solomons Island, MD. Sonney boated this 60 lb. wahoo while fishing on the "Size Matters" with Gigi St. John, Dale Weems, Ed Okonski, Don Henderson, Capt. Randy Yates, Capt. Paul Spencer and Mates Daniel Spencer and Dave Caffrey. The speedster hit a naked ballyhoo in 100 fathoms in the Washington Canyon.

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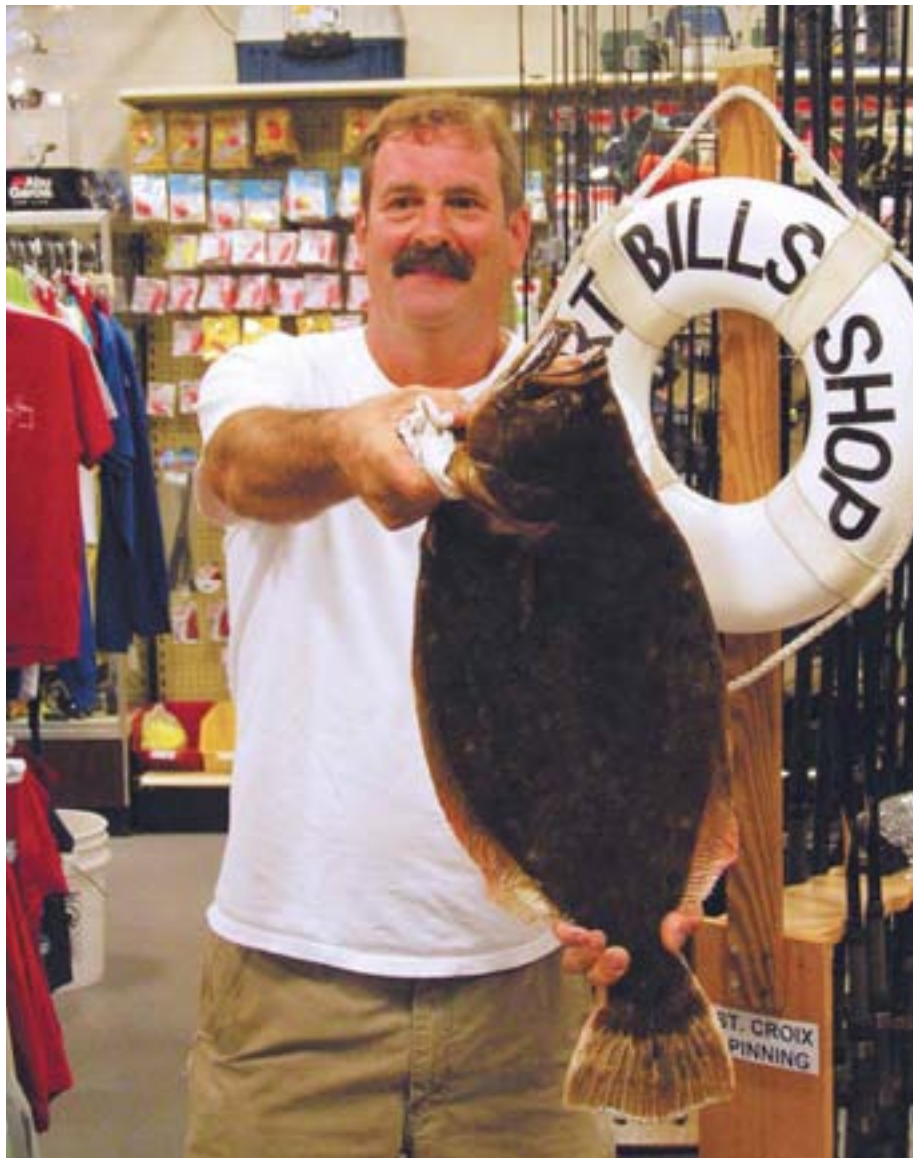
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Ed Pilling of Lewes, DE was fishing at the Haystacks with a squid and minnow combination and hooked into this 7 lb. 8 oz. flounder. Weighed at Bill's Sport Shop.



Brian Binkley of Salisbury, MD, Jeff Mick of West Ocean City, MD and Danielle Withee of Cecil County, MD ended their day with some flounder and sea bass after fishing on the "Morning Star" with Capt. Monty Hawkins and Mate Tucker Colquhoun. The fish were caught at a natural reef while using flounder and dolphin belly for bait. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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Patrick Meaney from Columbia, MD, Paul Vodak of Salisbury, MD, Larry Taylor from Bel Air, MD, Steven Shirk of Grantville, PA, Walt Cook of Lake George, NY and Garrett Corlew of Lake George, NY returned with 7 flounder in the box after fishing on the "Bay Bee" with Capt. Bob Gowar and Mate Tyler Adkins. The flounder were caught on squid and shiners near Harbour Island. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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| 23 | 2008 | 2300 DV CC | 250 HP - 4S | Center Console |
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| 23 | 2010 | 2320 SL | 250 HP - 4S | Sport Cabin |
| 25 | 2008 | 2500 SE CC | 250 HP - 4S | Center Console |
| 25 | 2008 | 2501 DV CC | 150 HP - 4S | Center Console |
| 25 | 2008 | 2510 XL WA | 250 HP - 4S | Walkaround |
| 25 | 2008 | 2510 XLD WA | T-150 HP - 4S | Walkaround |
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Mike Czawlytko muscled in this 46 lb. wahoo while fishing with Gary Corkran, Sr. and Gary Corkran, Jr. The 64-inch wahoo hit a trolled ballyhoo/Ilander combination at the Chicken Bone.



Jack Hannum, age 6, of Germantown, MD caught his first flounder while tossing a Storm lure near the Rocks at the Indian River Marina. The 19-inch, 2 lb. 6 oz. flounder was weighed at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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Ryan Keller of Selbyville, DE was fishing off of the rocks at the entrance to Sunset Marina when he hooked into some nice size croaker while using squid for bait.

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Delaware Fishing Report

by Rick Willman



Hi folks! Back bay fishing remains fair to very good, depending on your perspective.

If you are just looking for plenty of action, then fishing is great. If you feel you must put a flounder fillet on the table, then you may be disappointed. The keeper ratio on the flounder has gone down a bit, but there are plenty of flatties out there that will bite.

Croakers are providing great activity, and some days there seems to be more good-sized fish than others. Blues continue to set up camp in the Indian River Inlet on the incoming tide. The Berkley GULP! artificial baits still seem to be the most consistent offering for any fishing in the back bays.

Ocean bottom fishing is



Mike Reneer of Marietta, PA took advantage of a good flounder bite at Reef Site #10, landing this 9 lb. 4 oz. flounder on a squid and minnow combination. Weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle.

still on the upswing for those looking for keeper flounder. Finding keeper sea bass continues to be tough, although there are a few being

caught. The Old Grounds and the "DA" Buoy areas seem to be the best spots for the sea bass. Reef Site #10, the "DB" Buoy and the Old Grounds seem to be the key places to find flounder.

Some of the recent catches have been from Tim King fishing the Rehoboth Bay for a limit of flounder to 23-inches using minnows on a bucktail.

Bill Burkhart also fished the Rehoboth Bay for a limit of flatties up to 20-inches using pink GULP!. A couple of days later, Bill fished the area again with his son Bill Jr., and they both took their limit of flounder to 24-inches. Once again, GULP! was the ticket.

Francis March of Manheim, PA used a "Zoom" and minnow to fool a 6 lb. 12 oz. flattie at Gull Island. Bonnie Schildt used a live spot to take

a 6 lb. 5 oz. flounder from Massey's Ditch. Jordan Price, age 7, was fishing the Old Grounds with his grandpop, John King, and boated a 22-inch flattie.

Mike Riniker fished Reef Site #11 to boat a 9 lb. 4 oz. citation flounder. Bill Hamilton on the "RY-TE-KA" fished the Old Grounds to trick his citation flounder of 7 lbs. 13 oz. Bob Cleveland on the "Deputy Dawg" fished near the "DA" Buoy for a limit of flounder using minnow and cut bait.

Offshore fishing continues to be rather slow other than dolphin action and some shark activity. Scott Riniker was fishing on the "That's Right" with John Oughton and got his first white marlin, releasing the 64-incher.

With any luck at all, Hurricane Bill will stir things up and the offshore action will start to heat up.

From Bill's Sport Shop in Lewes, DE, we were told that the flounder are just about everywhere. Some of the catches and reports coming into Bill's have been consistent in the fact that there are plenty of fish, but you have to work hard to find the keepers.

Jesse Kegley of Townsend DE caught a 35.8 lb., 41-inch golden tilefish while fishing the Norfolk Canyon aboard the "Patient Lady" with John Schneider at the helm.

Shawn Bielert caught a 4 lb. flounder on GULP! artificial baits at the Roosevelt Inlet.

Jack Cael, age 8, weighed in a 4.75 lb. flounder that he boated in the Delaware Bay with a squid and minnow sandwich.

Savage's Ditch produced kingfish up to 12-inches, blues up to 14-inches and flounder to 17-inches for Mark and Carol Stiegler and Bill Weiss. The group used top-and-bottom rigs for the kings and flatties, and whole mullet rigs for the larger blues. The preferred bait was fresh mullet.

Bob Adams of Bill's Sport Shop, Gordon, Tom, Tomas

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and Ritchie caught between 125 and 150 flounder at a reef site, with all fish being between 17 and 24-inches. Catching was non-stop from the time they got there until they left due to threatening weather.

Captain Mike Rivera of "On Delivery" Charters reported that his anglers have been tearing up flounder.

Dan at Henlopen Bait & Tackle on Savannah Rd. in Lewes reported that things are pretty much the same as they have been throughout the past few weeks. The flounder are still hiding out on the reef sites and the croakers are just about everywhere. Spot and croaker are being brought onto the Cape Henlopen Pier along with a few flounder.

For those fishing the surf, it has been a few blues mixed with some croaker and kingfish action. Of course, this past weekend was a bust due to Hurricane Bill. Dan was fishing Reef Site #11 and said it was loaded up with flounder,

but it was tough finding a keeper. The strip of squid never got a chance to hit the bottom and a fish was on.

At Rattle & Reel Sporting Center on Long Neck Rd., Ron reported great flounder action at the "DB" Buoy and the Old Grounds. The hot bait seemed to be the Berkley GULP! belly strips tipped with a minnow. The good ol' minnow and squid combo has also been getting a good share of attention.

Folks fishing the Massey's Ditch have been scoring well on croakers and stripers at night. The Indian River Inlet is also giving up stripers, mostly at night.

Joe Morris at Lewes Harbour Marina said the passage of Hurricane Bill over the weekend hampered the efforts of ocean anglers. Even though the storm was far offshore, big swells and nearshore rip currents made for tough conditions. However, boaters were still able to fish the Delaware Bay,

and flounder came in from reefs 6, 7 and 8. Earlier in the week, Captain Les Clemmer checked in a 6 lb. flounder that he added to his group's catch aboard the "Martha Marie". Joe Walker and his granddaughters Kaela and Krysta Gray enjoyed good flounder fishing on the Brown Shoal reefs. The girls were quick learners, and returned with 4 nice keepers to 4.13 lbs. Nathan Harding had a 7.41 lb. citation fluke on the "Top Fin".

Croakers continued to be found in many places in the Delaware Bay. The biggest fish oriented themselves to the structure of reefs 5 and 8. Crews did report some large hardheads outside the Outer Wall, and this is the time of year when "Cadillac" size croakers congregate on bottom contour changes leading out of the bay.

Surf fishermen along the bay shoreline caught croakers from Broadkill Beach. Snapper blues, spot and a few spike trout were mixed in.

Bloodworms, Fishbites and cut mullet did the trick. The slot striper season is winding down, but Lewes Canal anglers had success while casting Rat-L-Traps and Storm Shads near the drawbridge at night.

Tuna remained elusive to offshore anglers. Sometimes, a hurricane helps the action by moving in new water containing a fresh shot of baitfish and game fish.

Billfish catches were good early in the week between the Spencer and Wilmington Canyons. Scott Stapleford and crew released 5 white marlin and 1 blue marlin while trolling a weed line there in fifty fathoms. They also put 7 gaffer dolphin in the box.

"Til next week, have fun and be safe!

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Capt. Franky Pettolina
Capt. Frank Pettolina



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45' Ricky Scarborough
Capt. Wade Lober



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42' Hatteras
Capt. Anthony Thomas



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



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Capt. Mark Radcliffe



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Capt. Steve Wheeler



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Lynn and Chris Laiby, Tom Brennan, Bill Sauer, Randy Coates and Randy Coates, Sr. released 3 white marlin and caught a skipjack tuna and a dolphin while fishing on the "That's Right" with Capt. Chad Meeks and Mate John Griffith. Pictured in the slip at Fisherman's Marina.



Angela Lamplugh released her 1st white marlin, estimated at 85 lbs., while fishing on the "Reel Naughty" with Capt. Guy Talbot and Mates David Walker and George Lamplugh. The white hit a Walker rig/ballyhoo combination in 50 fathoms in the Wilmington Canyon.

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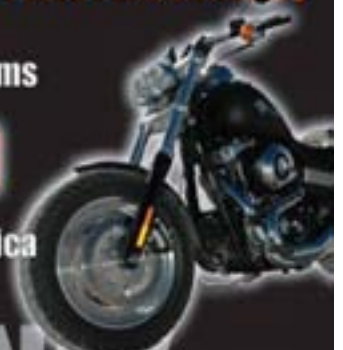
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Cary Rutherford was fishing at Reef Site #6 when he captured this 7 lb. 7 oz. flounder, and weighed his catch at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Ray Cooper of Ocean Pines, MD landed this 68 lb. yellowfin tuna while fishing on the "Wanderer" with Bill Steward and Steve DeBrander. The yellowfin was caught on a ballyhoo/Ilander combination in the Poor Man's Canyon. The group also released a barracuda during the trip.

Videos

Current & Back Issues

Photos

Weather

Fishing Report

Records

www.CoastalFisherman.net

Recipes

Charter Boat Directory

Tides

Tournaments

Regulations

Citation Sizes



Robert Perry from Ocean City, MD was fishing between the Hambone and the Bear Claw when he caught and released this white marlin while fishing aboard the "Invincible".



Whoever said you can't catch flounder at night didn't fish with Noah and Jake Good of New Holland, PA. The young anglers were fishing at night with their grandfather, Laverne Good, when they caught these four flounder near the Rt. 50 Bridge. Noah's flatties weighed 5.25 and 4.5 lbs., while Jake's tipped the scales at 5.9 and 3.95 lbs. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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BLUEFISH
No minimum size
10 per person/day



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



TAUTOG (7/1-8/31)
14" minimum 10 per person/day
Closed 9/1-9/28



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



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



SHEEPSHEAD
No limit



SPECKLED TROUT
12" minimum No creel limit



STRIPED BASS (7/1-8/31)
20"-26" 2 per person/day



CROAKER
8" minimum No creel limit



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Ryan, Nick and Mike Bradley of Richfield, CT, along with Carey Weigel, had a productive day fishing on the "Marli" with Capt. Mark Hoos and Mate Mark Hoos, Jr. The group caught a flounder and some sea bass at the Great Eastern Reef. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



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Richard Steffie of Gilbertsville, PA released a white marlin and Todd Stevens of Frederick, PA released a blue marlin, both while fishing on the "A Salt Weapon" with Capt. Ryan Freese and Mate Monica Freese. The fish were hooked on trolled ballyhoo in the Poor Man's Canyon.



Keri Lounge from Pasadena, MD and Brooke Canova of Charlotte, NC caught this flounder and sea bass while fishing on the "2 FAR OUT" with Rick Sorber, Josh Canova, Brent Lounge and Capt. Al Rittmeyer. The group ended their day with this one flounder and 50 sea bass (kept 12), all caught on squid and sand fleas at the Great Eastern Reef.



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WHITE MARLIN
TOURNAMENT**
 September 3-6
 Registration &
 Captain's Meeting:
 September 3rd
 Fish 2 of 3: September 4th - 6th
 Awards Banquet: September 6th

Due to a programming error, all catch reports submitted on and between the dates of Tuesday, August 4th, and Monday, August 17th, were lost. We kindly ask that you resubmit any catch reports online at www.ocmarlinclub.com if they were entered on and between 8/4 and 8/17. Thank you.

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 Registration & Capts. Meeting:
 Sept. 17th
 Fish 2 of 2: September 18th & 19th
 Awards Banquet: September 19th

































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Dennis Darragh from Poolesville, MD and David Darragh of Frederick, MD caught these 19.5-inch flounders on squid and minnow combinations behind the Ocean City Airport during the incoming tide.




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Chum Lines

by Mark Sampson



As we draw closer to the end of August, Labor Day, and the beginning of Delmarva's "Second Season," I expect that some bluewater anglers are by now beginning to get a bit weary of making the long run many miles offshore to pursue billfish, dolphin and the all too elusive tuna. At the same time I know that there's a number of back-bay anglers who would appreciate the opportunity to do something besides bottom bouncing the channels and weeding through flounder after flounder that just seem to know when they need to stop growing to avoid ending up on someone's dinner plate. I'm not suggesting that anyone is ready to call it "quits" on those fishing options, it's just that after a long summer of doing the same thing trip after trip, I figure by now some folks are ready for a little "change."

For the offshore guys a

welcome change might be in the form of a simple fishing trip that isn't as intense as running 60-miles offshore to do battle with giant fish on heavy tackle, while inshore anglers might appreciate the prospect getting their small boats a little ways out in the ocean and have a shot at occasionally hooking up to something that might actually pull a little drag off a reel. The good news is that opportunities are available right now where anglers aboard an 18-foot center console can fish the same waters as those on a 60-foot sportfisherman, and both crews can enjoy the kind of fishing fun they crave.

Since July, those traveling offshore have probably noticed that their fish finders have been lighting-up with a lot of baitfish in the zone from the beach out to about five miles. At the same time, a lot of folks standing on the beach have likely seen school after school of bait working up and down the shoreline. For weeks these waters have been filling up with menhaden, herring, rays, and scads of other species of big and little baitfish. Most recently, game fish such as snapper bluefish, croaker, kingfish, and seatrout have also joined the party. And of course, no such gathering is going to occur without the presence of larger predators such as sharks.

With all of this "life" presently residing just off the beach (and more moving in all the time) anglers now have a wonderful

opportunity to enjoy some late season fun without burning 200-gallons of fuel to run a million miles offshore, or having a pleasant day of fishing periodically interrupted by passing wagon-trains of back-bay jet ski renters.

How exciting or how relaxing a trip can be depends upon how little or how much effort anglers wish to put into their adventure. Those who have spent the summer studying water temperature charts, meticulously rigging baits, setting drags, and perfecting trolling "spreads" might choose to keep things simple - maybe just a notch or two above a cane pole, a can of night crawlers and a farm pond, just as those who have spent the past few months poking hooks through the eyes of shiners and measuring 17 1/2 inch flounder would like to have a shot of rumbling with a fish that leaves them late for dinner and wondering if maybe they should consider a "bigger boat."

The simple fishing is just that - "simple" and requires that anglers do nothing more than head out to the waters around Little Gull or Great Gull Shoal or almost anywhere a mile or two off Assateague or Ocean City and drop two-hook rigs to the bottom tipped with strips of squid or just about any cut bait that's available. For their effort they'll likely hook into a menagerie of croaker, snapper bluefish, and small seatrout, as well as the occasional kingfish, flounder, spot, skate and sand shark. In August, most (but not all) of these fish will likely be too small to keep, or at least smaller than a lot of anglers will want to keep, but worrying about cleaning fish at the end of the day just tends to complicate things anyway, so not

bringing home a cooler of fish might not be a bad thing - the idea is to have FUN right?

To change "simple" to "exciting", anglers need only to ramp things up a bit by recognizing that they are not the only ones privy to the fact that there's so much bait and other small-to-medium size fish cruising about the nearshore waters. Sharks (yes I said "SHARKS!") swarm these same waters to take advantage of the abundant buffet of fish, and while most of the sharks are juveniles in the 3-5 foot range there are certainly enough whoppers out there to occasionally have anglers wondering if it was really a good idea to put a chum bucket over that morning!

Live bluefish, croakers, spot, or just cut baits sent out from the boat beneath floats, under kites, or sent down to the bottom will tempt duskies, sandbars, spinners, Atlantic sharpnose, and the occasional sand tiger, blacktip or thresher shark. By regulation this nearshore shark fishery is primarily catch-and-release so anglers who choose to target sharks had better have a very good understanding of what's legal and be well versed in shark identification before they consider bringing any of these animals home for dinner. Then again, if anglers are willing to keep their focus on having "fun" and not worry about feeding the cooler, they can have an absolutely wonderful time tangling with some hefty critters that will have their back muscles begging for a return to the Thorofare and some friendlier adversaries!

Last year when President Obama was running for office he spoke a lot about "change" and "finding common ground." I don't know if he's found any of that yet, but maybe he needs to look a little closer at the Eastern Shore, because from now until well into the fall local offshore and inshore fishermen will certainly be enjoying a lot of change from their normal routines when they muster together and fish the common nearshore waters off Delmarva's coastline.

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

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Adrian Castillo of Middletown, NY and Chad Beirsto, also from Middletown, NY each caught a dolphin while fishing on the "Hot Pursuit" with Andrew Velazquez, Nick Velazquez and Capt. Mark Sewell. The fish were caught on skirted ballyhoo at the Hambone. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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BLACK DRUM
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BLACK SEA BASS
12 1/2" minimum
25 per person/day



BLUEFISH
8" minimum 10 per person/day



CROAKER
9" minimum 25 per person/day



TAUTOG
Until 10/31
14" minimum 2/person/day



WEAKFISH
13" minimum 6 per person/day



BLUE CRAB
5" minimum 1 bushel/person
no more than 2 bushels per boat



SUMMER FLOUNDER
18" minimum 3 per person/day



SPECKLED TROUT
14" minimum 10 per person/day



STRIPED BASS
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SHEEPSHEAD
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RED DRUM
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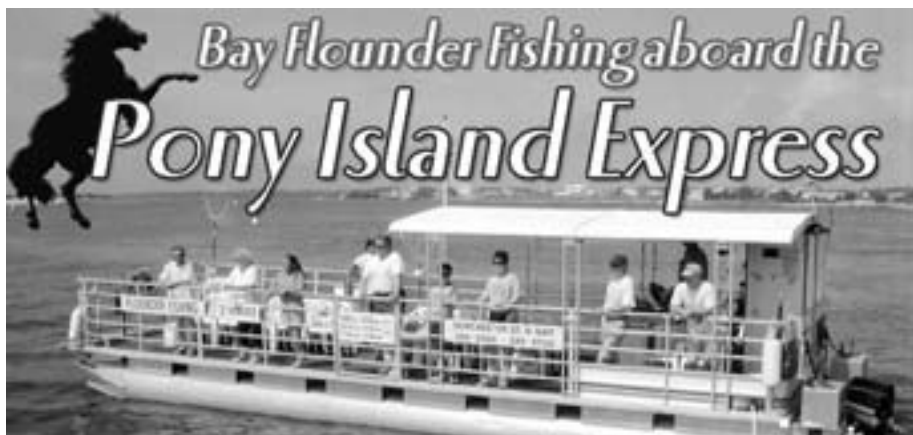
Jessica Cromer and Debbie Freeman each released a blue marlin, and Kelley Catterton landed a dolphin, all while fishing on the "Press Time" with Kathy Genthner, Capt. Luke Blume and Mate Jason Genthner. All of the fish were caught while trolling in the Spencer Canyon. Pictured in the slip at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Jessica Burkett, Dan McGovern, Sam Krugle, Matt Salerno, Torey Krugle and David Carr had a good day flounder fishing at the Old Grounds with Capt. Bruce Coffiey on the "Michael D". The fish were caught while using flounder belly for bait. Photo courtesy of Hook'em & Cook'em.



Matthew Wolfe of Freeport, PA and Andy Smeltzer from North Huntingdon, PA each landed themselves a flounder, while Skylar Ensor of Hanover, PA caught a 3 lb. triggerfish, all during a trip aboard the "Tortuga" with Capt. Drew Zerbe and Mates Serge Garder and Mike Abbattichio, Jr. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



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Ship To Shore

by Pat Schrawder



PROPER BOAT BONDING

No, I'm not talking about making new friends on your dock. What I'm referring to is the electrical bonding system on your boat and its proper ground. If you've ever been offshore in an electrical storm, you know how precarious and downright frightening that can be. If you are one of the unlucky ones whose boat happens to take a direct hit from a lightning bolt or even a close one, you know the potential damage that it can cause. That's where your vessel's bonding system really becomes important. Aside from the protection factor, there are plenty of other good reasons to have a well grounded boat that has to do with the efficient operation of your electronics. So, you might ask, just what constitutes a good ground or bonding system?

During a storm event, a good bonding system can save you from very expensive damage to your electronics. Lightning is looking for a connection to ground. It will instinctively seek the shortest path with the least resistance. If your vessel's ground system is to be effective, you need to provide just that; a short, easy path to ground for the lightning bolt to follow that doesn't compromise your electronic equipment. If you do not, lightning will "wander" around your boat, looking for a way out to ground. This can cause complete melt-downs of equipment and mini "explosions" of electrical components in your equipment that can rarely be fixed. In fact, even if an item has been successfully repaired for the moment, past experience has shown us that the repair seldom

holds for the long run. Sooner or later (and it's usually sooner), the equipment will develop additional problems. Often, these problems are intermittent and hard to track down. Even if you're lucky enough to not be the target of a direct hit, you're still not out of the woods. I have even seen instances where a lightning strike on one boat in a marina has jumped over to other boats, continuing its search for ground until it finally finds it, wreaking havoc along the way.

Aside from the lightning situation, on a day to day basis proper grounding of your equipment will usually result in improved performance of your equipment. It reduces noise and interference in some items and is absolutely essential for successful performance of your single sideband radio. Most manufacturers recommend running a separate ground wire to their unit. Many of them provide a ground bolt or wing nut on the back of the unit for just that purpose. It usually isn't a difficult thing to do and I would highly recommend you take the time and effort to do it. The way equipment ground connections are designed, they make it somewhat more cumbersome to remove your equipment from the boat and for that reason, people often ignore them. For example, it is more often than not a bolt with a wing nut onto which you put a wire with a ring tongue terminal. A good solution is to make that wire connection to the equipment a short one of six inches or so and on the other end, place a "quick disconnect" terminal end that connects to another long wire which is permanently linked to your

ship's ground system.

A good ground for your boat consists of a complete system—not just one or two critically run wires. Ideally, it starts with a ground plate. Ground plates are made of thousands of tiny copper beads, fused together into a rectangular block that is about one half inch thick and comes in several sizes. Because the beads are round, they provide a great deal of copper surface in a small space. The larger the block, the greater the resulting ground equivalent. In any case, a ground plate provides ground that is electrically equal to a huge copper plate. They have a hole drilled in each end so that the ground plate can be secured with copper bolts which run through the hull to the outside in order to make contact with the water. The ground plate is then attached to the bolt at one end with a copper strap, braid and/or wire, which is then run to a central place on the boat that is accessible. A single large bolt run through the bulkhead to which the ground wire is attached makes a good, easy source for ground hookup. The important thing is that your ground is completely bonded to a single point. In other words, you do not want several separate grounds, each doing its own thing. You need all of your grounding run to one central location and then connected to a single wire that runs straight to the ground (water).

If you do not have a ground plate, you can use an existing thru hull fitting. Do not use a transducer thru hull fitting, however, as that can only lead to another problem like electrolysis. If you are having



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problems with thru hull fittings corroding off or taking on a strange color, you already have evidence of electrolysis and need to address it soon before it causes damage. Whether your primary purpose for installing a good ground system network is lightning damage reduction or improved performance of your electronics, the fact is that you will get both results. Don't forget to inquire with your insurance carrier if you qualify for a better insurance rate because of this bonding. Some companies will give you a better rate. All companies should do so because a good ground will prevent future damage to your equipment in a storm. In any event, proper bonding on your boat is a worthwhile endeavor and ground plates are relatively cheap, running less than \$100 and up, depending on the size. It is an expense that is well worth it.

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



Linda and Bob Grove of Ocean City, MD were fishing minnow and Gulp! combinations just north of the Rt. 50 Bridge and boated three flounder between 18.5 and 20.5-inches. The heaviest fish weighed 3 lbs. 6 oz. on the scale at Oyster Bay Tackle.

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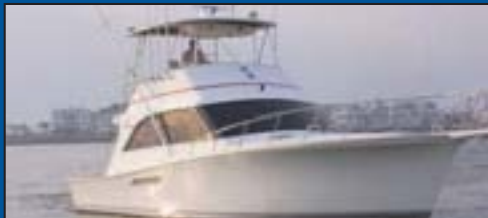
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Virginia Fishing Report

by Dr. Julie Ball



While keeping a watchful eye on hurricane threats to the southeast, anglers were scrambling to get in some fishing before any inclement weather moves in.

Cobia action has been outstanding so far this year, and last week was no different. Their late summer trend of favoring buoys and bridge pilings is gaining momentum. More fish are also cruising along the surface, making promising targets for sight casters. This pattern will only improve over the next several weeks. Cobia chummers are still scoring with decent fish within Bay waters, with Bluefish Rock and Latimer Shoal favorite cobia spots lately.

With the recent rain and easterly winds, the incredible flounder activity from a couple of weeks ago has eased up. Although not on fire, some nice fish are still available for those putting in the time. Larger fish are responding to live bait along the Bay Bridge Tunnel. Drifters are finding keepers in the lower bay inlets, the small boat channel south of the 1st Island, the Baltimore Channel passing near Cape Henry, the Thimble Shoal Channel, Buoy 42, and Back River Reef. Fresh strip bait is working well right now for drifters. Glenn Plomchok of Midlothian boated a nice 8 pound, 12-ounce doormat while working live bait near the CBBT.

The sheepshead were alert last week, with nice fish taking fiddler crabs, crab, and clam. The entire span of the Bay Bridge



Julie Ball caught this 14 lb. 13 oz. tautog to set a new Women's 16 lb. Line Class I.G.F.A world record. Julie caught the tautog while fishing at an ocean wreck with Skip Feller, Larry Regula and Joshua Regula.

tunnel, as well as all the tubes of the artificial islands, are holding fish. Justin Hurst of Suffolk found several willing sheepshead while working the CBBT structure with fiddler crabs, with his largest going to just over 11-pounds. The trigger fish action is still a go, with bigger fish starting to show. With no limits on triggers, anglers are loading up on these fish from the CBBT structure.

Spanish mackerel are available off Cape Henry, the Ocean Front, over the tubes of the CBBT, and along tide rips in the lower and middle Bay areas. These fish will chase small spoons trolled at a quick clip. King mackerel are beginning to

show promise off the coast line from Virginia Beach to the Carolina line, where mostly smaller kings are hitting trolled baits and spoons lately. Captain Jake Hiles aboard the "Matador" out of Rudee Inlet had a few snake sized kings take his trolled offerings several miles off the beach last week.

Red drum are on a late-season roll, with good action around the 3rd and 4th islands of the CBBT, the Nine Foot Shoal, and Latimer Shoal. Black drum are still schooled at the 3rd and 4th islands, but not for long.

Decent croaker are available near the MMBT and the CBBT, with the 2nd island a good place to try lately. Areas off Kiptopeke

and Cherrystone on the Eastern Shore are also holding big hardheads. The croaker bite in Oyster slowed a little last week, but should pick back up with warming temperatures. Nice spot are also making a showing near the 1st island, and within Lynnhaven and Rudee Inlets. Puppy drum are still a good bet in both Rudee and Lynnhaven, with cut bait working well.

Virginia's tarpon action is down once again. According to Chris at Chris' Bait and Tackle, the recent cool-down dropped the water temperature to 77-degrees on the seaside of Oyster. Tarpon thrive in tropical waters, so a few hot days could rekindle the bite. Before the water temperatures dropped, Ryan Walten of Mechanicsville released a huge 76-inch silver king on live bait while fishing on the Eastern Shore.

Big amberjack will take any offering at the South A Tower right now. Several boats are detouring to the Tower after a slow offshore bite. Jack Crevelle will settle in at the Chesapeake Light Tower later this month. We spotted a school cruising up the Baltimore Channel at the mouth of the Bay last week.

Offshore, the billfish bite is heating up, and should continue to improve through the month. Blue and white marlin are possibilities, with a good number of sailfish in the mix this year. The "Backlash", skippered by Captain Steve Richardson out of the Virginia Beach Fishing Center, released two white marlin and a blue while fishing at the Canyon last week.

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

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2009 COASTAL FISHERMAN 2009

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 | March 6, 2009 Noah Fowler Bow Mariner 7 lbs. | February 25, 2009 Paul Twilley Wilmington Canyon 7 lbs. 5 oz. |  Mako Shark | June 20, 2009 Jim Hughes Washington Canyon 876 lbs. | July 1, 2009 Rick Sank Poor Man's Canyon 170 lbs. |
|  Tautog | March 15, 2009 Capt. Kane Bounds "Judith M" 19 lbs. 8 oz. | July 17, 2009 Alex Levantowsky "Grizzly" 16 lbs. 4 oz. |  Thresher Shark | June 19, 2009 Brent Applegit Fingers 642 lbs. | July 1, 2009 John Kazem "B" Buoy 376 lbs. |
|  Striped Bass | May 17, 2009 Donald Hatfield Assateague Surf 45 lbs. 8 oz. | May 13, 2009 Derek Bair Indian River Inlet 35 lbs. 6 oz. |  Cobia | July 25, 2009 Chris Toner "Fish Finder" 72 lbs. | August 1, 2009 Bobby Haas Site #11 22 lbs. |
|  Weakfish | May 16, 2009 Chris Tilghman Rt. 90 Bridge 7 lbs. 8 oz. | May 24, 2009 Isaiah Ross Broadkill River 6 lbs. 8 oz. |  Bluefin Tuna | July 13, 2009 Giuseppe Ferrarelli "That's Right" 170 lbs. | June 28, 2009 Collin Johnson "MEGA-BITE" 180 lbs. |
|  Speckled Trout | No Weights Reported | No Weights Reported |  Yellowfin Tuna |  August 20, 2009 Donnie Moore Poor Man's Canyon 69 lbs. | August 15, 2009 Bill Russell Middle Lump 64.3 lbs. |
|  Flounder |  August 17, 2009 Steve Hammond East Channel 11 lbs. | July 19, 2009 Jody McCullough Indian River Inlet 11 lbs. 10 oz. |  Longfin Tuna | August 4, 2009 Gunnar Zorn Wilmington Canyon 67.5 lbs. | No Weights Reported |
|  Bluefish | June 27, 2009 Mike Osifat Poor Man's Canyon 13 lbs. | May 24, 2009 Troy Schifflett 12 Fathom Lump 13 lbs. 13 oz. |  Bigeye Tuna | August 3, 2009 Doug Salter Baltimore Canyon 249 lbs. | June 21, 2009 Doug Rinicker Poor Man's Canyon 102 lbs. |
|  Sheepshead | June 11, 2009 Tassos Argyros Barnstable Wreck 11 lbs. 4 oz. | July 23, 2009 Joe Kossek Ice Breakers 10 lbs. 2 oz. |  Dolphin | August 5, 2009 Ron Bennett, Sr. Baltimore Canyon 37.5 lbs. | July 27, 2009 Ned Baumbach 19 Fathom Lump 23.6 lbs. |
|  Black Drum | August 12, 2009 Milton Crim South Jetty 15.1 lbs. | May 22, 2009 Anthony Lano Coral Beds 82.3 lbs. |  Wahoo | August 2, 2009 Greg Garman Hambone 69 lbs. | July 25, 2009 Wilson Hazzard Baltimore Canyon 75 lbs. |

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



Wade Bondrowski boated this 6 lb. flounder while drifting a squid and minnow combination at Reef Site #6 in the Delaware Bay. Weighed at Lewes Harbour Marina.



Jeff Hartman caught this 46-inch dolphin while trolling ballyhoo at the Fingers with Sandy, John and Robert Hartman. The dolphin weighed 17 lbs. 8 oz. on the scale at Buck's Place on Rt. 611.

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No bag limit



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J.D. Eddy of Ellicott City, MD and Ken Zuknick from Gambrills, MD teamed up to catch this 21 lb. dolphin along with some sea bass and flounder while fishing on the "Green Reaper". The dolphin was caught on a ballyhoo/Ilander combination in 100 fathoms in the Baltimore Canyon, while the flounder and sea bass were caught at the Twin Wrecks. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Joan Yirka of Centreville, MD caught these two flounder, measuring 20 and 18.5-inches, while drifting live minnows in the East Channel, north of the Rt. 50 Bridge. Weighed at Ake Marine.

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Angie Hammond and her son James Hammond caught these 4 flounder, measuring 19 to 21.5-inches, on squid and minnow combinations. The anglers were fishing on the "Tuna Tango" behind Harbour Island.



One of the nicest catches of dolphin we have seen this year came in on Sunday from anglers on the "Fish Bonz" with Capt. Mark Radcliffe and Mate Phil Knapp. Rich Sterling, Samuel Hanmer, Garrett Rine, Jon Chrisemer, Luke Hanmer and Steve Weikert brought back 6 dolphin and a yellowfin tuna after hooking them on trolled ballyhoo in 100 fathoms in the Washington Canyon. The largest dolphin weighed 35 lbs. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Cindy Cahill, Lisa Watson, Shantel Willey and Lisa Hart released a couple of white marlin while fishing in the Poor Man's Canyon aboard the "Amanda Sue" with Capt. Helmet Mertins and Mate Paul Daisy.


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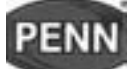
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Brian Behe of Indian Head, MD caught this 26-inch, 6 lb. flounder at the Twin Wrecks on a squid and minnow combination. Brian was fishing on the "Pelagicide" with John Behe of Glenwood, MD and Brian Behe of West Ocean City, MD (not pictured). Weighed at Sunset Provisions.



Robert Salveron of Bowie, MD was fishing off of the Rt. 50 Bridge when he hooked into this 7 lb. 8 oz. flounder. The 26-inch hit a Storm lure and was weighed at Oyster Bay Tackle.

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at 5 am**



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Maryland & Delaware Citation Sizes

Atlantic Coast

| | <u>MD</u> | <u>DE</u> | | <u>MD</u> | <u>DE</u> |
|--------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Tuna: | | | Kingfish (Northern Whiting) | 14" | 1 lb. |
| Longfin Albacore | 36" | 30 lbs. | Striped Bass | 40" | 20 lbs. |
| False Albacore | 24" | 12 lbs. | Sailfish * | any size | - |
| Bigeye *** | 60" | 75 lbs. | Seabass | 20" | 3 lbs. |
| Bluefin *** | 60" | 75 lbs. | Shark: | | |
| Yellowfin *** | 50" | 75 lbs. | Blue Shark * | any size | 100 lbs. |
| Atlantic Spadefish | 24" | - | Hammerhead * | any size | 100 lbs. |
| Bluefish | 34" | 14 lbs. | Mako * | any size | 100 lbs. |
| Cobia | 44" | - | Thresher * | any size | 100 lbs. |
| Croaker | 18" | 3 lbs. | Tiger * | any size | 100 lbs. |
| Dolphin | 45" | 15 lbs. | Sheepshead | 20" | 8 lbs. |
| Black Drum | 48" | 50 lbs. | Spanish Mackerel | 22" | 5 lbs. |
| Red Drum * | any size | - | Spot | 12" | - |
| Flounder | 24" | 7 lbs. | Speckled Trout | 24" | - |
| King Mackerel | 40" | 10 lbs. | Swordfish * | any size | any size |
| Blue Marlin ** | any size | any size | Tautog | 24" | 7 lbs. |
| White Marlin ** | any size | any size | Wahoo | 60" | 20 lbs. |
| | | | Weakfish | 24" | 9 lbs. |

* Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program

*** Use curved-fork-length measurements

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

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Luc Dennis of Brooklyn, NY was fishing off a dock at 94th street with his grandfather, Ed Pilecki, when he caught this 21-inch, 4 lb. 8 oz. flounder.

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50' Evans, up to 23 passengers
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45' Custom Carolina
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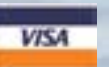
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1. Call us at 410-213-2200 and we will meet you at an Ocean City tackle shop, marina or boat ramp and take the picture of you and your catch.

2. You can email us your picture to coastalfisherman@comcast.net. Do not compress the file. Please send the picture at the largest possible size.

3. Stop by the office with your catch, and we will be happy to take your picture. We are located on Sunset Avenue behind Crab Alley.

4. Stop by the office with your camera or a picture. We can download or scan your picture directly into our computer.

5. DO NOT use a cell phone camera. The pictures will not be high resolution enough to print.

Keys to taking a good fish picture:

1. Have the angler face into the sun.
2. Make sure the side of the fish is facing flat towards the camera.
3. Set your camera to the best quality and largest picture size settings available.
4. Shoot vertical photos!!!!
5. Smile!!!!

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TIDES & MOON PHASES

OCEAN CITY INLET

| | | |
|--|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Wed. August 26 | Low 06:40 am Low 07:38 pm | High 12:45 am High 01:21 pm |
| Thurs. August 27 | Low 07:32 am Low 08:40 pm | High 01:36 am High 02:18 pm |
| Fri. August 28 First Quarter | Low 08:27 am Low 09:45 pm | High 02:33 am High 03:22 pm |
| Sat. August 29 | Low 09:24 am Low 10:49 pm | High 03:36 am High 04:27 pm |
| Sun. August 30 | Low 10:22 am Low 11:42 pm | High 04:39 am High 05:24 pm |
| Mon. August 31 | Low 11:17 am Low ----- | High 05:33 am High 06:12 pm |
| Tues. Sept. 1 | Low 12:25 am Low 12:07 pm | High 06:20 am High 06:53 pm |
| Wed. Sept. 2 | Low 01:00 am Low 12:51 pm | High 07:03 am High 07:32 pm |

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

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

Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide

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

Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide

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

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on the

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UPCOMING TOURNAMENTS

~ SEPTEMBER ~

51st Annual Labor Day White Marlin Tournament

September 3 - 6 • OC Marlin Club
410-213-1613

2nd Annual Wahoo Rodeo & Flounder Round-Up

September 11 - 13 • Sunset Marina
410-213-9600

1st Annual MSSA Beach-N-Boat Tournament

September 12 - 13 • Sunset Marina
410-255-5535

4th Annual Flounder Pounder

September 13 • Bahia Marina
410-289-7473

31st Annual Challenge Cup

September 17 - 19 • OC Marlin Club
410-213-1613

~ OCTOBER ~

Mid-Atlantic Surf Fishing Tournament

October 1-3 • Ocean City, MD
410-213-0646

5th Annual A.M.S.A. Surf Fishing Tournament

October 16-17
443-235-2609

10th Annual Rocktoberfest Tournament

October 17-18 • Bahia Marina
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Thumper ~ 2002 61' Carolina Custom Blackwell. 1200 hp MANs. Great electronics, water, ice. Fish raiser! Call Jimmy



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Front Runner ~ 61' Spencer 2006. 1650 C-32 CATs. 3/2 teak interior. Pipewelders tower, 2 gens, ice & water makers, SAT phone & TV. Mezz w/cockpit AC. Call Jimmy



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Masada ~ 58' Dean Johnson 2005. CAT 1015 hp C-18s. 3/2 w/satin finish cherry interior. Watermaker, Eskimo Ice machine, Release chairs, underwater lights. Call Jimmy



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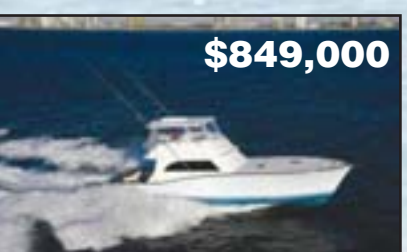
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