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COASTAL FISHERMAN

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The billfish bite was hot last weekend as a small eddy of rich gulf stream water slipped in behind the Baltimore and northern Poor Mans Canyon. Capt. Shaun Hockstad on the private boat "Nauti Norwegian" was trolling in the Baltimore Canyon for marlin when the crew got a hit on a naked ballyhoo early at 7:52AM. Hayley Norris jumped on the rod and reeled in her first white marlin ever! Molly Helms also released a white marlin and a couple of mahi made their way to the box. Rounding out the crew were Charlie Coates, Shawn Hockstad, Tom Coates, Fishbone and Bob K.



Seth Ross of Ocean City and Capt. Chris Ortolani from Rehoboth Beach, DE on the "Sir Reel" headed out of the Indian River Marina and battled a strong southeast wind to get out to the Washington Canyon. They trolled the inner ledges all the way up to the Poor Mans Canyon getting a few early morning bites. These two keepers were caught a few hours apart hitting first on a Pink Crazy 8 and then a Joker Crazy 8. Pictured at Hook'em & Cook'em.

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TALBOT STREET PIER - OCEAN CITY, MD



Rich Daiker was back at it in earnest! He was fishing around the Rt. 50 Bridge on his boat "Delicious" using live spot and got his limit of 4 keeper flounder, the largest at 20".



Dan Crocker and Rob Calcara cashed in their winnings from the Ocean City Reef Foundation benefit auction to spend the day fishing with Big Bird Cropper. They worked the bay south of the Rt. 50 Bridge with Roy Rigs where Roy landed this red drum. Overall they caught 7 bluefish, 2 reds and lots of undersized rocks.

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THE Offshore Report

by Larry Budd

This Week Last Year

- The weather finally gave anglers a decent week on the rip. Heat and fog were still an issue though.
- The "RoShamBo" released their first swordfish of the season in the Washington Canyon.
- The "Reel Passion" out of the Indian River Marina caught a 234 lb. bigeye tuna in the Washington on a naked ballyhoo setting the bar for Heaviest of the season so far.
- The "Kilo Charlie" ran north to the Spencer Canyon and released 2 white marlin and put 3 yellowfins in the box including on at 94 lbs. That also a seasonal record to date.

The weather sure did play tricks on us last week. The forecast mid-week painted a dicey picture in the canyons for the weekend to the point where the Ocean City Marlin Club canceled their 42nd Annual Canyon Kickoff. Fortunately, or unfortunately for the club, the weather was better than anticipated. It turns out a small eddy of the gulf stream had pushed into deep water behind the Baltimore and northern Poor Mans Canyons. This warm, bait rich water lit up the offshore action with billfish, yellowfins and some bigeyes being caught over the weekend.

The hot bite for the week was definitely white marlin. It started last Wednesday and

our first report came from Tuna & Tiaras Tournament Director Pam Taylor. She let us know that Capt. Anthony Pino on the private boat "Sea Hag" had returned to Sunset Marina with 8 white marlin release flags flying. He was followed by a string of great reports through Saturday. The bite seems to have started in the Baltimore and moved slightly south to the Poor Mans by the weekend. The "Nauti Norwegian" who is on this week's cover released two whites in the Baltimore Canyon on the 4th of July. The same day, the "ChaseEm" out of Harbor Island released a blue marlin in the Baltimore that hit on a Black Bart plug. The charter boat "Absolut Pleasure" had a charter in the Baltimore as well trolling in 200-600 fathoms finding 72° water. They went 1 for 4 on whites including a first for angler Josh Swindel and bagged a lot of tuna. More on that below! The private boat "Kilo Charlie" spent last Friday in deeper water behind the Baltimore, in 1000 fathoms. They went 3 for 5 on whites and lost a blue. Charter boat owner Todd Willard of the "Fish On" reached out Friday to share their trio there as well. They release 4 whites and boxed

a mess of mahi. They went out on Saturday as well, this time to the Poor Mans and released 6 whites, missing many more. The private boat "Christine Marie" tried the Baltimore the same day and had an outstanding trip, going 8 for 13 on whites. Naked ballyhoo was a common refrain for bait. As Sunday arrived however it seems the party was over as the rich water had seemed to dissipate.

The tuna bite was strong with more bigeyes in the mix. That's a good sign for the Ocean City Tuna Tournament this weekend. The Baltimore Canyon was also the hot spot for big yellowfins and eyeballs followed by the Poor Mans.

The white marlin release on the "Absolut Pleasure" was only part of their story that day. They put 10 yellowfins in the box from the Baltimore. Likewise, the "ChaseEm" caught a bigeye and several yellowbirds that all hit on Joe Shute Lures with ballyhoo. Other fish from there include 7 yellowfins from the charter boat "Wrecker", 3 from a charter on "Pumpin' Hard", 7 from the charter "MARLI" and 9 from the charter on "Foolish Pleasure". The "Wrecker" had a notable yellow at 105.5 lbs. Spreader bars from Sterling Tackle and



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353 Custom were hot as was skirted and naked ballyhoo.

The private boat "Old Hatt" (named as such as she is an old Hatteras!) was deep in the Poor Mans where they landed a 67" and 183.5 lb. bigeye. It hit on a skirted ballyhoo and took almost 2 hours to boat. The charter boat "Reel Chaos" also bagged a big eyeball. Theirs was from the Washington Canyon in 300 fathoms and 72° water. That one hit on a ballyhoo as well.

Mahi were in the mix, but still not in huge numbers. The largest catch of the week we saw was from the "Fish On" as I mentioned above with 15. They do seem to be getting larger and there were a couple notables. The "Boss Hogg" brought a nice bull and cow pair back to Sunset Marina. The "Reel Chaos" had a big bull on the same trip where they bagged the bigeye. Bria Masters was fishing on the "HotLine" where she boated a 20 lb. bull mahi on a ballyhoo rig in the Baltimore. Closer to shore, Owen Conrad trolled over an inshore lump and put 2 in the box. The largest weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle was 20 lbs. making it the Heaviest of the season so far for a Delaware boat! With all the tuna and billfish action, we have seen less anglers targeting tilefish, however some still did with great success. The crew on the "McFish" for example went deep dropping and returned with 5 golden tiles up to 27 lbs. and almost a limit of bluelines.

All eyes will be on the week to come with the 37th Annual Ocean City Tuna Tournament to be held this

weekend. Considered by many to be the start of the big money tournaments and considered a bell weather for the season. Last year's event faced sporty weather. This year the forecast is mixed but could be a repeat. It is still early as I write this on Monday afternoon. Weather however does not deter anglers for this event, even in the small boat category! Last year's big winner was the "Cabana". Their heavier than most boats took the top spots in both Heaviest Tuna and Heaviest Stringer, a tournament first. With an estimate purse of a million dollars or more, I am sure there will be stories to tell next week. Good luck to all the anglers and crews. §



Upcoming Tournaments

- The world's largest tuna tournament returns to the Ocean City Fishing Center on July 12-14. The **37th Ocean City Tuna Tournament** promises more action and big money payouts. The purse is expected to exceed \$1M. Scales will be open at the Fishing Center from 4-8PM on Friday & Saturday and 4-7:00 PM on Sunday.
- The **Jimmy Johnson Atlantic City Quest for the Ring Tournament** returns to Atlantic City this year and adds a new twist. This year there will be a weigh station in Ocean City at Sunset Marina. The event runs from July 15 - 20 with scales every day from 5 - 9PM.
- The **Ocean City Marlin Club holds the 20th Annual Kids Classic** on July 21st and 22nd. You do not have to be a member of the Club to participate in this fun & family friendly event and parents may help reel in fish. More at ocmarlinclub.com.



Capt. Anthony Pino on the "Sea Hag" kicked off the white marlin bite over the past week by releasing 8 whites on a single trip last Wednesday. Pictured in the slip at Sunset Marina.



The "Christine Marie" was finally back in the water last Sunday after 2 weeks of repairs. Capt. Brian Behe was anxious to catch the tail end of a small eddy that had moved in from the gulf stream. He reported they got lucky trolling in 1100 fathoms behind the Poor Mans and went 8 for 13 on white marlin!



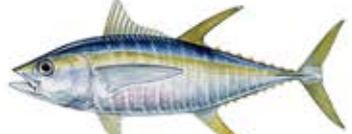
Bryan Keith checked in with Fenwick Bait & Tackle to report his striped catch at the Rt. 50 Bridge. He caught and released this 33" rock using live spot.



The waters behind the Ocean City Airport were the hot spot for Liz Grier from Stevensville, MD. She netted this 20" flounder there using Gulp on a slack tide. She was fishing with husband Richard and son James on the "Blue Eyed Lady".

2024 FEDERAL SIZE & CREEL LIMITS

3-200 Miles

 <p>BLUE MARLIN 99" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>YELLOWFIN TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length 3 per person/day</p>	 <p>BIGEYE TUNA 27" Curved Fork Length No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>GOLDEN TILEFISH No minimum • 8 per person/day</p>
 <p>WHITE MARLIN 66" Lower Jaw Fork Length No Retention Limit</p> <p>NOTE: Blue Marlin, White Marlin and Roundscale Marlin combined 250 Limit</p>	 <p>BLUEFIN TUNA 27" to <47" curved fork length 2 per vessel/day or trip 47" to < 73" curved fork length 1 per vessel/day or trip 27" to <47" curved fork length 3 per Charter/day or trip 27" to <47" curved fork length 12 per Headboat/day or trip 47" to < 73" curved fork length 2 per Headboat/day or trip</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>BLUELINE TILEFISH 5/1 - 10/31 3 per person (Recreational) 5 per person Uninspected (Charter) 7 per person Inspected (Charter)</p>
 <p>DOLPHIN No minimum Length Boat Limit 54 Charter Limit Daily 10 per angler</p>	<p>SAILFISH Minimum Length 63" • No Retention Limit</p>	 <p>WAHOO No Minimum Length • 2 per person/day</p>	

SHARKS

AUTHORIZED SPECIES

- No Minimum Fork Length
Atlantic Sharpnose, Bonnethead
- 54" Minimum Fork Length
Atlantic Blacktip, Bull, Lemon, Nurse, Spinner, Tiger, Blue, Common Thresher, Porbeagle, Finetooth, Atlantic Blacknose
- 78" Minimum Fork Length
Great Hammerhead, Scalloped Hammerhead, Smooth Hammerhead

NOTE: Only 1 shark from the lists above may be retained per vessel per trip. In addition, 1 Atlantic Sharpnose, 1 Bonnethead and 1 Oceanic Whitetip may be retained per person per trip. If a hammerhead shark is retained, no tunas, billfish or swordfish may be retained.

PROHIBITED SHARKS

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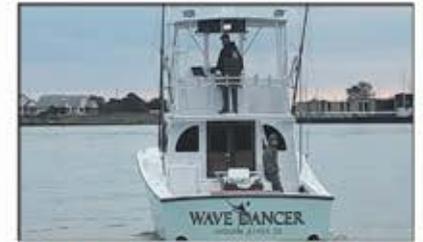
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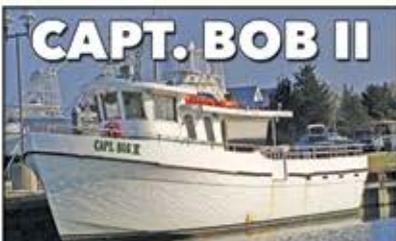
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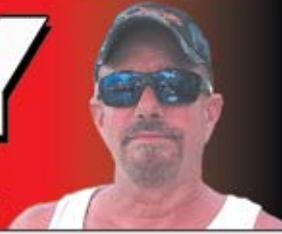
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OCEAN CITY FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



We had mixed weather with a few very cool days and a few very hot days last week. The ocean surface temperatures which were in the high 70s have dropped to the high 50s. Flounder has slowed in the nearshore wrecks but many nice fish can still be found if you put in the time and effort. The back bays continue to get better each day with more keeper fish brought in daily. Assateague Island surf fishing has slowed some with kingfish and skates being the main catches.

Nearshore Wrecks & Reefs

Nearshore wrecks and reefs have slowed with the

changing water temps.

John Burbage reports he started his early morning at Fenwick Shoals trolling for spanish macks and blues but found the water cold and dirty, and the fish missing. Heading to Little Gull, he found more of the same. It wasn't until he reached Winter Quarters that he finally found warmer water and fish willing to bite. He said the water near Chincoteague Island was very dirty and almost chocolate in color.

The "Angler" reports a mixed catch of keeper flounder as well as some sea bass.

"TLT Charters" were spearfishing when they

found a wreck holding several big flatties. The group speared several fish, all in the 20 plus range. The charter says it has dates open if you are looking to go out spearfishing.

Taylor Snyder took advantage of a decent weather day and hit the deep wrecks to score a 2 man limit of sea bass. Brandon Miller said fishing was easy, but despite the tough conditions they caught 10 keeper flounder for dinner.

Back Bays & Inlets

The back bays and inlet continue to get better each day with more keeper flounder coming in as the water warms up. Your hot spot of the week is the Thorofare just north of the bridge as well as the bay just south of the bridge on the west side.

Mark Logullo fished the inlet and caught a chomper blue fish. Mark went out later in the week with light tackle and used sand fleas to catch a nice sheepshead near the bridge pilings. He couldn't believe the fight these fish put up on the light line and tackle. Small jig heads tipped with shrimp or sand fleas work best when targeting these fish. The tog/sheepshead jigs can be found at any tackle shop in the area as well as from many local jig makers in the area.

Sheepshead have been reported all along the rocks at the OC Inlet as well as the Rt. 50 Bridge pilings. Using a light line on a small spinning rod is the best way to get these light lures down to the

bottom where the fish are. Fresh live sand fleas will be your best lure, but small crab chunks or shrimp will also work. Mark Locklear fished the Rt. 50 Bridge and reeled in a big 31 inch blue along with several stripers. Mark Jameson with his son Brian fished the bridge at night. Brian caught a personal best 25 inch tank of a weakfish. Dan Crocker and Rob Calcare took a trip with Big Bird Cropper and landed several nice sized bluefish along with two red drum. Mark Jameson caught around 30 fluke and landed 2 keepers. He stated this was his first time fishing for flounder and had a blast despite the new size limits. Luke Wry had a strong day at the bridge catching various blues and rocks and even landed a keeper slot striper. Gerry Rosales was at the inlet using a Thing-a-ma-Jig catching a few keeper fluke. He tipped the lures with live minnows.

"Miss Ocean City" reports that the fishing is improving in the back bays, with more keepers observed. Their catches have been caught using squid, shiners and Gulp. They also reported their biggest catches came from the women anglers who seemed to outfish the men two to one. Go girl power!

The "Bay Bee" continues its success on the water putting their clients on flounder, croaker and bluefish. The crew reports that their anglers are also leading the leaderboard at the Ocean City Fishing Center "Keeper of the Year". The big 6.15 lb. fluke beat out the standing 3 lb. champion Amando Steimel, who fished on the "Get Sum". Knowing Captain Nick Clemente of the "Get Sum", I'm sure he will be getting big flounder this next week to regain his

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spot on the leaderboard. But congrats to the "Bay Bee" for catching a true trophy fish in the back bays. Ocean City Fishing Center.

Shawn "Nature Boy" Flaherty was out near the bridge and caught a limit of bluefish and small rocks. His biggest fish was a 34 inch bluefish.

Steve Bassett Jr. pulled his new personal best 33 inch bluefish from the Rt. 50 Bridge. He stated it was a hell of a fish and wore him out.

Surf Fishing

The Assateague Island surf fishing has transitioned to the summer season with kingfish being the main catch. Large rays and shark are also being caught in the surf. A few redfish and black drum still remain in the area but are becoming harder to find.

David Skeval spent 4 days on the island catching 12 kings and 4 rays. He hooked a hard fighting fish that ran him all over the beach. He believes it was a big red, but after a good fight the fish spit the hook. Skylar Rehanek caught a solid sandbar shark while fishing at night on the island. The fish was safely released to be caught another day. David Moore had a great night on Assateague when he hooked and brought two big redfish to shore. The big reds measured 45 and 50 inches. He further reported catching rays and sand tiger sharks along with blacktips and blues. There have been several big reds caught off the beach at night this year, so using cut bait and crab chunks is a great option for fishing at night.

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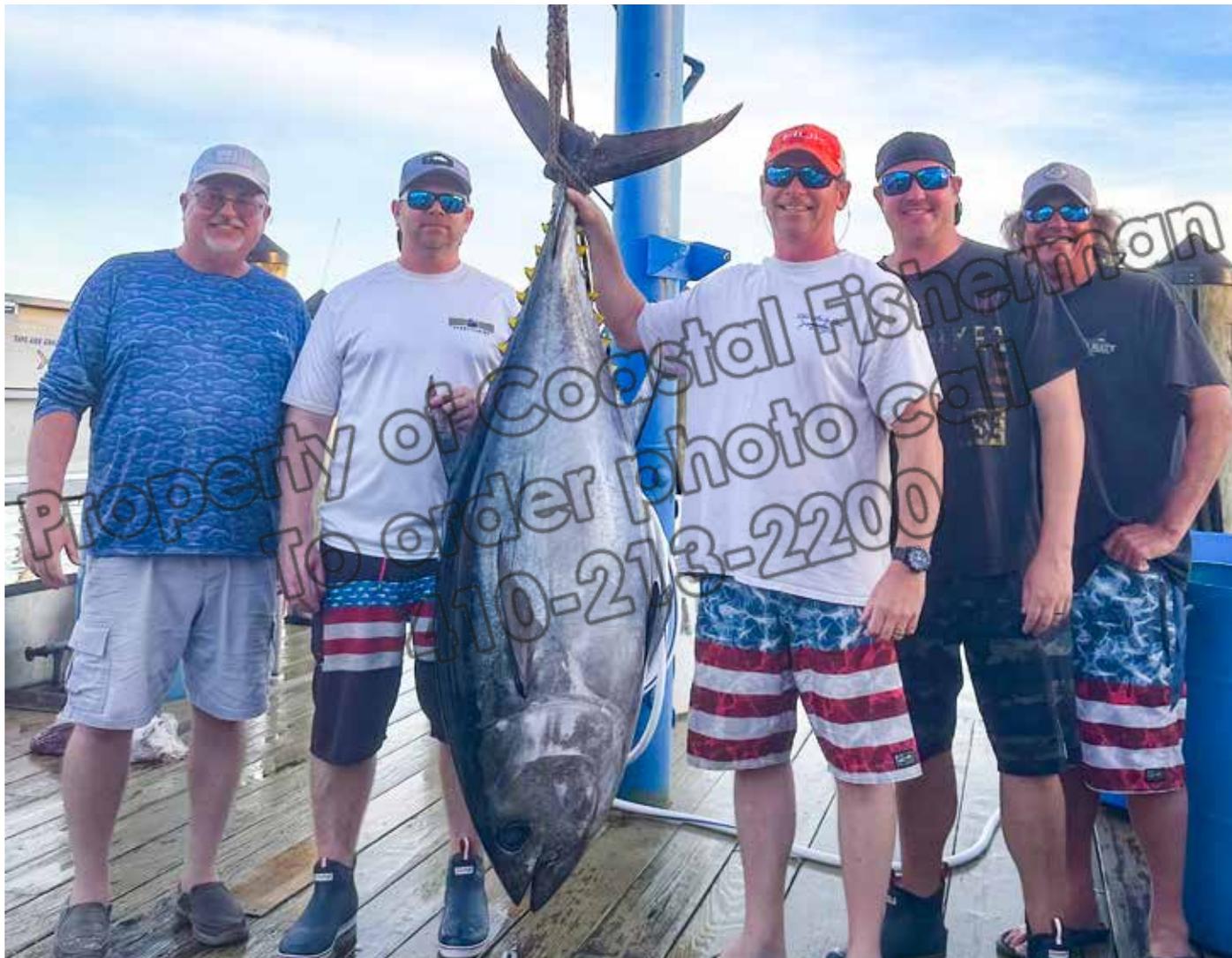
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It was a star spangled trip the day before July 4th for Capt. Al Hunter and crew on his boat "Old Hatt". He had the boat deep in the Poor Mans Canyon where this big eyeball hit on a skirted ballyhoo. It took angler Brian Fink of Kent Island, MD just about 2 hours to get the 67" and 183.5 lb. bigeye to the boat. Rounding out the crew were Jim Frazzetti, Rich Reider, Brian Fink and mate Steve Hunter. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.

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To benefit the Wish-A-Fish Foundation

Registration: July 19, 6:00-8:00pm

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

Weigh-Ins: July 20, 3:00-6:30pm and
July 21, 3:00-6:00pm at Sunset Marina

16th ANNUAL
FRANKY PETTOLINA
"HEELS & REELS" TOURNAMENT *

To benefit the Marlin Club Crew of
OC Scholarship Fund

Registration: August 1, 6:00-8:00pm

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

Weigh-Ins: August 2 & 3
5:30-7:30pm at Atlantic Tackle

44th ANNUAL
CHARLES KRATZ & SCOTT SMITH
CHALLENGE CUP

Registration: Sept. 11, 6:00-8:00pm

Fishing Days: (2 of 3) Sept. 12, 13 & 14

Weigh-Ins: NO WEIGH-INS This is strictly a
release tournament. Catch reports will be
turned in to the Marlin Club Office nightly
Sept. 12, 13 & 14, 6:00pm - 8:00pm

66th ANNUAL
LABOR DAY WHITE MARLIN TOURNAMENT *

TBD

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If you fish on a boat named "Crushin It" you better bring your A game. That is exactly what Lauren Romanowski of Salisbury, MD did on this trip to the East Channel. She landed these 2 keeper flounder using Gulp with the largest at 19.5".



It is nice to see several cobia being caught in the surf up and down the coast. Mark Lettieri caught and released this 37" man in the brown suit while fishing at 3 R's drive on beach in DE using Fishbites Bloodworms.

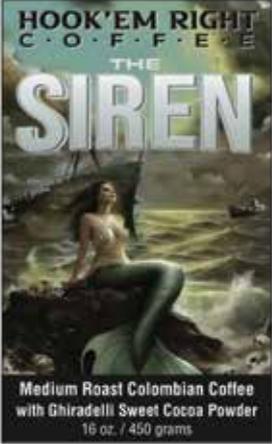
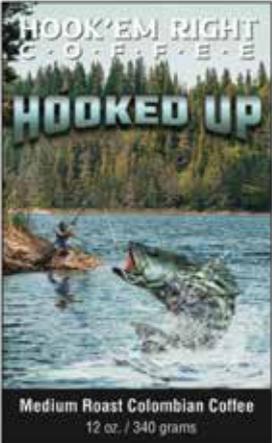
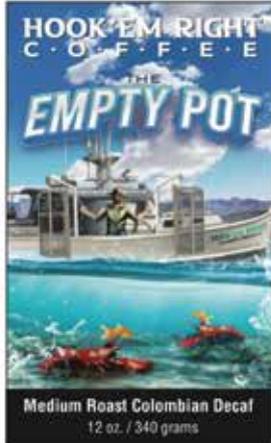
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Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE	Species	OCEAN CITY	DELAWARE
 Bluefish	June 7 Craig Cropper Rt. 50 Bridge 12 lbs.	 July 2 Capt. Rich Harpel Indian River Inlet 13 lbs.	 Weakfish	May 21 Jim Hitchens Delaware Bay 7.26 lbs.	June 17 Claude Davis Indian River Inlet 11 lb. 6 oz.
 Black Drum		May 3 Lacey Moffett Coral Beds 58 lbs.	 Bigeye Tuna	June 18 Tony Nicholas Washington Canyon 229 lbs.	
 Cobia	June 8 Tyler Adams OC Beach 40 lbs.		 Bluefin Tuna	June 14 Crew "Loaded Up" Poor Mans Canyon 160.5 lbs.	June 12 Will Hall Poor Mans Canyon 143 lbs.
 Summer Flounder	June 19 Chris Boaston OC Inlet 7 lb. 3.5 oz.	June 16 Mike Newcomb Ocean Structure 9.6 lbs.	 Longfin Tuna		
 Sea Bass	May 24 Tom Sullivan Ocean Structure 5 lbs.		 Yellowfin Tuna	June 22 Crew "Full Service" Baltimore Canyon 161 lbs.	
 Sheepshead	June 23 Capt. Wayne Anderson Ocean Wreck 11 lbs. 10 oz.	June 19 Dan Sander Ocean Structure 10.8 lbs.	 Dolphin	June 14 Lisa Cherivtch Poor Mans Canyon 30.5 lbs.	 July 2 Owen Conrad Inshore Lump 20 lbs.
 Striped Bass	May 19 Justin Field Rt. 50 Bridge 13 lbs.	May 13 Chic Stearrett Indian River Inlet 42 lbs.	 Swordfish	June 1 Bobby West Poor Mans Canyon 125 lbs.	
 Tautog	February 5 Jeff Johnson Ocean Structure 22 lbs.	April 15 Scott Shoup Ocean Structure 8.4 lbs.	 Blue Marlin		
 Wahoo			 White Marlin		

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



Don Meyer of Newburgh, IN was with Mike Austill on the "Lil' More" working the Rt. 50 Bridge. He netted this 29" keeper striper using spot.



It may look like Jack Harris of Frankford, DE is in Florida, but he was actually in West Ocean City. He caught these 2 keeper flounder using a Gulp/minnow combo with a red jig head at the entrance of the Ocean City Commercial Harbour.

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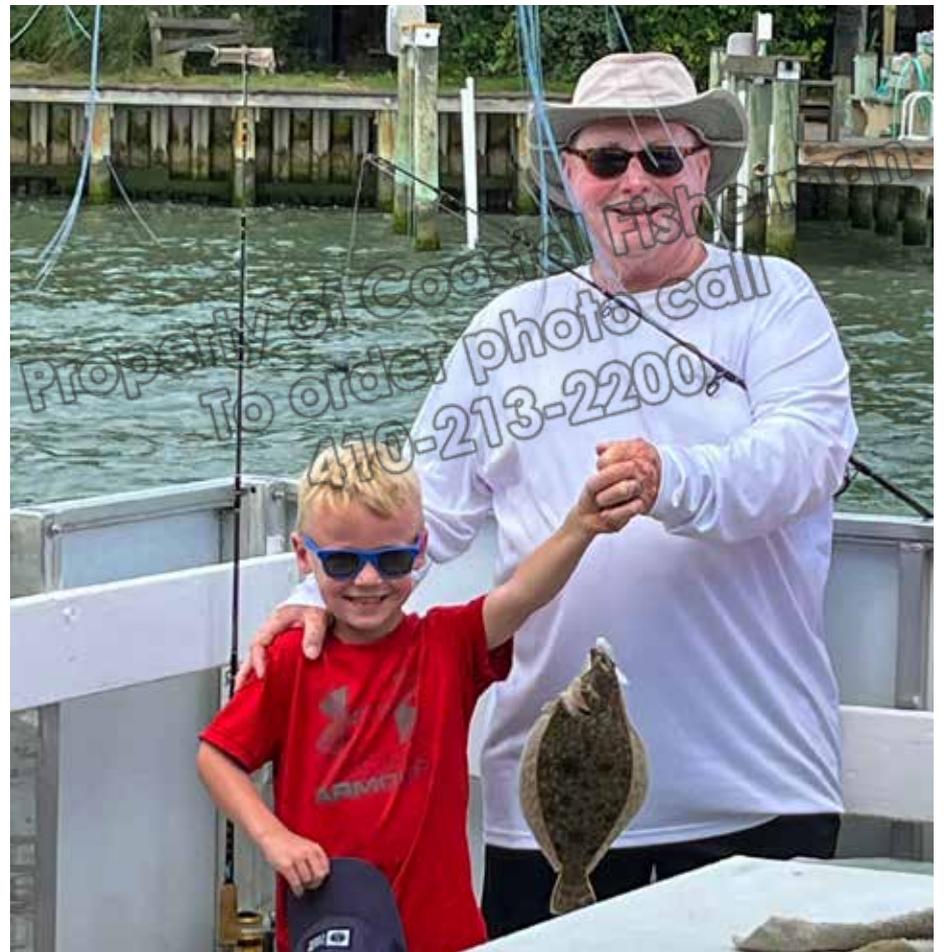
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FISHING CHARTERS



Beth Harris from Allison, PA picked a beautiful day to head out on the headboat "Judith M" on a 5 hour trip. Capt. David Goldman had her and the other anglers fishing a natural bottom with lots of action on sea bass and flounder. Double hook ups were common with the crew dealing with a lot of shorts.



5 year old Sean Feeley was beaming after catching his very first flounder! He was on the bay boat "Happy Hooker" on a 2 hour trip when he caught this fish in the Ocean City Bay. Pictured with his grandfather Jim Feeley.

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FISHING CHARTERS



The yellowfins were snapping for Capt. Bobby Layton and mate Cody Smith on the charter boat "Wrecker". This trip to the Baltimore Canyon in 100 fathoms saw 6 yellowfins put on ice with the big one tipping the scales at 105.5 lbs. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



8 year old Gianna Leitao from Westminster, MD was already an accomplished bay fisherman when she decided it was time to try offshore. Her first trip was with Capt. Chris Mizurak on the headboat "Angler" where she caught this seabass using squid over a natural bottom. It was the second largest fish that day!

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FISHING CHARTERS



The bay boat "Tortuga" based at the Bahia Marina crushed the flounder on this trip just before the holiday. These 8 flounder were some of the keepers from this trip in the Ocean City Bay.



Three anglers and three nice fish! Jenna, Nick and Will D'Alesio spent the day in the Baltimore Canyon with Capt. Mike Burt and mate David Burt on the charter boat "Pumpin' Hard" landing these 3 yellowfins. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Capt. Alex Beane and mate Jack Hannum headed back out to deep east of the Poor Mans Canyon to raise some tuna. They did just that bring 3 yellowfins back to Sunset Marina as well as a couple gaffer mahi.

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 - Names & towns of others in photo
 - Weight and/or length of fish
 - Bait/lure used
 - Location of catch
 - Name of boat, if any
- Please do not compress the photo and do not run it through any photo software.*

- Have the angler facing into the sun to minimize shadows
- Make sure the side of the fish is facing flat towards the camera
- Set your camera to the best quality and largest picture size available
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FISHING CHARTERS



It was a big day for anglers Justin Brenneman, Kenny Hudson, Doug Burns, Chris Sharpe, Pete March and BJ Truitt. They were fishing with Capt. Dale Lisi and mate Jake on the newest "Foolish Pleasure" and put 8 yellowfins on the docks at Bahia Marina.



You probably could not describe a more perfect trip than this one aboard the charter boat "Absolut Pleasure". Capt. Steve Moore with mate Rich Hastins had Craig, Cory and Justin Lednum of Bethany Beach, DE with Josh Swindel from Colorado trolling in 200 - 600 fathoms of the Baltimore Canyon in 72° water. They went 10 for 11 on yellowfins and 1 for 4 on white marlin including Josh's first.

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It was a good weekend for marlin fishing and the private boat "Kilo Charlie" took full advantage. Capt. Howard Lynch with mates Burro Gonzalez & Pete Pendleton were trolling in 1000 fathoms east of the Baltimore Canyon. They went 3 for 5 on white marlin including these from Aiden Burns (his first), Brianna Lynch and Elizabeth Ashwell. They also lost a blue marlin and put 3 mahi on ice.



It was taco time for Owen Conrad! He went trolling over some inshore lumps and snagged 2 beautiful mahi. The bull at 20 lbs. is now the Heaviest of the season from Delaware. Pictured at Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck DE.

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Reid Padfield of Mechanicsburg, PA is too cool for school showing off this keeper flounder! He was fishing the Indian River Inlet from the south side by the camp grounds when he caught this 22" and 4.8 lb. flounder using live minnows.

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Owner Anthony Puglisi of First State Marine Services was able to slide out on the blue for a tuna trip aboard the "Click Bait". He was in the Baltimore Canyon when this yellowfin hit on a spreader bar from 353 Custom Tackle. Ken Pfeiffer and Jake Kessell were aboard also, catching a mess of tilefish.



Cousins Emery, Kilian, Ruby Finn and Chloe all got in on the action with Uncle Ryan Falgowski while fishing with a seine net. They were at the Lewes Beach during an incoming tide when one haul included this 24" striper.

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It was a busy day on the charter boat "Fish On" last Friday. Anglers Mike Reddaway, Jay Freebery, Joseph Freebey and boat owner Todd Willard released 4 white marlin in the Baltimore Canyon as well as putting 16 mahis in the box. Capt. Andrew Dotterweich was at the wheel and *first white marlin of the year* angler Jake Emche was in the pit. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



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Remington Mowbray, Tommy McDonald, Grayson Wilson, Tom McDonald and Steve McDonald slammed some tilefish on the this trip aboard the "McFish". They caught several golden tilefish with the largest at 27 lbs. and almost a limit of bluelines. While it was young Grayson's first trip he already looks like a pro!

2024 MARYLAND REGULATIONS

STATE WATERS ONLY

 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 13" minimum / 15 per person/day May 15 - September 30 October 10 - December 31</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH 8" minimum 3 per person/day or 5 per person/day Charter</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day up to 6 per boat/day</p>	 <p>COBIA 40" minimum 1 per person/day 6/15 - 9/15 Boat limit 2 for up to 2 anglers</p>
 <p>CROAKER 9" minimum 25 per person/day</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 18-27" minimum 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD 4 per person/day</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 4 per person/day</p>
 <p>STRIPED BASS 28-31" Less than 3 miles from shore 1 per person/day</p>	 <p>SUMMER FLOUNDER 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/31 - 16" 6/1 - 12/31 - 17.5"</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/15 2 per person/day 7/1 - 10/31 4 per person/day 11/1 - 12/31</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 13" minimum 1 per person/day</p>

eregulations.com



The Indian River Inlet was good to Nick Lano of Dagsboro, DE. He caught this 21.5" keeper flounder there using Gulp on a top/bottom rig while fishing on the "Crimson Chin" out of Frankford, DE.



Now this is a big dolphin! Bria Masters was fishing on the "Hotline" when she hooked this mahi in the Baltimore Canyon on a 353 Custom Tackle spreader bar.

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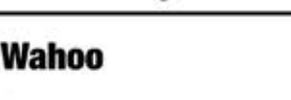
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Fish of the Year

(AS REPORTED TO THE COASTAL FISHERMAN - MUST BE OF LEGAL LIMIT AND REPORTED WITH PHOTO)

Species	2024	2023	Species	2024	2023
Bluefish 	April 19 Aiden Sparano Assateague	April 19 Dave Moore Assateague Island	Weakfish 	May 2 Jim Hitchens Delaware Bay	
Black Drum 	March 31 Chris Taylor Assateague	April 3 Jeremy Zinn 145th Street, OC	Bigeye Tuna 	May 31 Tyler Lanza "Canyon Crew" S. of Poor Mans Canyon	May 5 Jeff Rosenkilde "Full Service" Baltimore Canyon
Cobia 	June 1 Chuck Guerra OC Beach	July 4 Gabiella Kendus Faithful Steward	Bluefin Tuna 	May 31 Andrew Link "Marli" Poor Mans Canyon	May 29 The Crew "Marli" Baltimore Canyon
Summer Flounder 	April 8 Paul Musser Jr. Thorofare	March 27 Dakota Bittner Thorofare	Longfin Tuna 	June 18 Mark Steiner "Don't Ask" Baltimore Canyon	
Sea Bass 	May 17 Bob Houser Ocean Structure	May 15 Mike DePalma Sr. Great Eastern Reef	Yellowfin Tuna 	May 18 Chris Mentlik "Full Service" Washington Canyon	May 6 Chris Kroh "Kilroy" Poor Mans Canyon
Sheepshead 	May 7 Joe McNeal Ocean Structure	May 5 Anthony Carrieri Ocean City Jetty	Dolphin 	May 28 Finbar Rishko Baltimore Canyon	May 6 Brad Hubbard "Talkin' Trash" Poor Mans Canyon
Striped Bass 	January 3 Brian Reynolds Rt. 90 Bridge	April 15 Shaun Flaherty Rt. 50 Bridge	Swordfish 	June 1 Bobby West "Relentless" Poor Mans Canyon	June 16 Crew "Wrecker" Poor Mans Canyon
Tautog 	January 8 Anthony Emerick Ocean Structure	January 31 Josh Schwemiein Ocean Structure	Blue Marlin 	June 12 Tom Healy "Elizabeth Ann" Poor Mans Canyon	June 1 Steve Sylvester "Talkin' Trash" Norfolk Canyon
Wahoo 		June 9 Josh Short Poor Mans Canyon	White Marlin 	June 1 Jake Emche "Fish On" E. of Baltimore Canyon	June 2 Joe Huk "RESTLESS LADY II" Baltimore Canyon

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



Charlie Flaig found some nice flounders at Site 10. He caught this pair from the "Audrey V" using a squid and minnow combination, the largest was 5 lbs.



It was a mixed grill catch for Mike Berry and C. J. Wally on the "Undertaker" out of the Indian River Marina. Mike caught a 91.9 lb. yellowfin and C.J. boated the 19.3 lb. mahi.



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Snarky Lines

by Capt. Mark Sampson



Boat Renters (Part 2)

Last week I started a discussion about my younger years when I worked at Bahia Marina and some of the crazy antics of our many boat renters. I also left you hanging in the middle of a story about some forien-alien dude who rented a boat from us to take his young daughter out for a simple ride around the bay. The second his boat was untied he hit full throttle and at the boat jumped ahead his body absolutely froze in horror. Not looking left, not looking right, not trying to turn or even slow down "popsicle man" and his passenger blasted off on a short-lived voyage neither would forget!

Of course, as any boater knows, a little weight on one side of a small boat will make it want to turn in that direction. His daughter just happened to be sitting on the port side of the middle seat which made the boat run in a circle. The problem

was the boat couldn't make a complete circle because there was an entire Marina in it's way. Popsicle man left from one slip, made a perfect 180 and ended blasting straight in to another slip that was (fortunately) empty, and since he was "frozen" he never let up on the throttle "ever" even after his bow hit the dock and the boat literally jumped right up onto it. The boat then became a giant see-saw tipping up and down with the little girl "giggling" at one end and smiling-daddy-popsicle-still-in-full-throttle-man at the other. The boat would tip up and the motor would rev as the prop came out of the water, then it would tip down and go back in the water as if trying to push the boat farther up on the dock. I ran down the dock, hopped in the boat, slid down to the stern, and hit the motor's kill-switch. The sudden silence seemed to thaw the popsicle man who finally lost his smile, allowed his eyes to slip back into his

head, looked around and asked, "What happened?" I told him, "You just had your ride in the bay". Apparently his daughter thought it was great because as they walked down the dock (daddy leaving a trail of ice water) I heard her say something about it being better than the rides at Jolly Roger!

I know I'm already going fry or (hopefully) "cancelled" for calling someone an "alien" so while I'm in the pan I might as well go ahead and tell this story about a boat riding incident that involved a couple very-VERY large people. The plywood boats we rented had no transverse (side to side) ribs in them to keep the sides from flexing outward when the flat-bottomed boats would run into waves. Instead they had three wooden benches running side to side and attached to the inside of the hull that acted as ribs by keeping the sides from flexing outward. So one afternoon a XXXXL

couple rented a boat to enjoy a couple hour ride which took them north as far as the Rt.90 Bridge. The problem was, because it was a typical summer afternoon the wind had picked up quite a bit out of the SW and the open bay waters had become more than just a little choppy when they decided to run back to the marina on 22nd Street. Going north they were running with the seas but to get back they had to bang the flat-bottom boat right into the heavy chop. Eventually the couple returned and as you can imagine they were quite wet.

Butwait! There's more!"Yes", the couple returned, but they came back as passengers on someone else's boat because our boat...sank! They said that they were just running along when suddenly water flooded in and they were clinging to life vests. Fortunately no one was hurt and they were pretty much laughing as they squeezed into their Pennsylvucky road machine and drove off. We had never had one of our boats sink so we couldn't imagine what happened until we recovered it and pulled it out of the water. The

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evidence was clear. The seam or "chine" where the bottom of the boat connected to the side was split wide open the entire length of the boat. No wonder it took on water so fast. Why it happened was also clear. The middle bench where the passenger would have been sitting and the aft bench where the one running the boat would have been sitting were both split in half by too much weight bouncing on them in the choppy conditions.

Never saw that one coming! Just as we never expected on a busy Memorial Day weekend that a couple guys who rented two boats would take them up to the old Isle Of Wight ramp (between the two 90 bridges) and steal the brand new motors off them. Because our boats were not allowed outside the inlet we didn't expect to get a call from the beach patrol informing us that one of our rentals was out of fuel and on the ocean beach way up in Fenwick Island. Also didn't expect to get a call from someone at Harbor Island saying that a couple of drunk guys in one of our boats was running wide open around the harbor bouncing off boats and piers. And I was totally caught off guard one afternoon to get

a call that two guys were running back and forth in front of the Bayshore Drive condos while standing up, totally naked, and yelling obscenities at the people on their docks and porches! The same goes for the time we had a group of "riders" who rented two boats (yeah double trouble!) and ran out to the middle of the bay where they took the motor off one boat and put it on the other so that they could have a twin engine row boat! Obviously they put the motor back before they returned with the boats so we never knew what they had done until after they were in their cars and gone and folks from other boats came in and gave us the report. Since then I've always wondered how the boat actually performed with the two motors and I'm still surprised we didn't try that trick ourselves.

Today at Bahia they rent a lot more than just rowboats with little motors and I'm guessing my accounts "ain't nothing" compared to what the folks there have witnessed over the years since I was there. I expect also that as long as Pennsiltuckyins keep rolling into "Ba-ha" Marina there will always be a supply of fresh stories to tell! §

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THE GALLEY

by Chef Christine



Baked Dogfish

Ingredients:

- 4 dogfish steaks, about 2.25 lbs.
- 2 2/3 pounds small potatoes
- 1 teaspoon paprika
- 2 medium onions
- Pepper (to taste)
- Nutmeg (to taste)
- 1/2 cup olive oil
- Juice of one lemon
- Salt (to taste)

Directions:

Preheat the oven to 350°F. On a baking dish, add the sliced onions, fish and the peeled potatoes. Season with salt, pepper, nutmeg, paprika and lemon juice. Drizzle with olive oil and bake for about 1



hour. Occasionally, drizzle the fish and the potatoes with the sauce.

Remove from the oven and serve.

Blackened Tuna Bites with Sweet Pickle Dipping Sauce

Ingredients:

- Sweet Pickle Dipping Sauce:
- 1/2 cup sour cream

- 1/2 cup mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons sweet pickle relish
- 2 tablespoons chopped fresh parsley
- 2 teaspoons lemon juice

Tuna Bites:

- 1.5 pounds fresh tuna, cut in 1 inch cubes
- 1 tablespoon paprika
- 1 teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 teaspoon onion powder
- 1 teaspoon dried thyme
- 1 teaspoon dried basil
- 1 teaspoon dried oregano
- 1 teaspoon kosher salt
- 1/2 teaspoon cayenne pepper
- 1/2 teaspoon pepper
- 2 tablespoons salted butter
- Lemon wedges for serving

Directions:

Make the dipping sauce. In a small bowl combine the sour cream, mayonnaise, sweet pickle relish, parsley and lemon juice. Set aside.

www.coastalfisherman.net Prepare the tuna bites. In a medium sized bowl, combine the paprika, garlic powder, onion powder, dried thyme, dried basil, dried oregano, kosher salt, cayenne pepper, and pepper. Add the tuna and toss to thoroughly coat each piece with the spice blend.

Melt the butter in a large sauté pan over medium heat. When the butter begins to foam, add the tuna in a single layer. Cook for 30 seconds to 1 minute per side. The lesser cooking time is for tuna that will be slightly rare on the inside and the longer cooking time is for more well done tuna.

Remove the tuna from the pan to a platter. Serve with the dipping sauce and lemon wedges.

Sautéed Flounder & Spicy Rémoulade

Ingredients:

- 3/4 cup uncooked orzo
- 3 tablespoons chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley, divided
- 3/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper, divided
- 1/2 teaspoon kosher salt, divided
- 1/4 cup canola mayonnaise
- 1 tablespoon chopped cornichons
- 1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
- 2 teaspoons whole-grain Dijon mustard
- 2 teaspoons Sriracha
- 1 teaspoon chopped capers
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, divided
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 4 (6-ounce) flounder fillets

Directions:

Cook orzo according to package directions, omitting salt and fat. Drain, and stir in 2 tablespoons parsley, 1/4 teaspoon pepper, and 1/4 teaspoon salt.

Combine remaining 1 tablespoon parsley, mayonnaise, and next 5



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ingredients (through capers) in a small bowl.

Heat a large nonstick skillet over medium-high heat. Add 1 tablespoon oil; swirl to coat. Place flour in a shallow dish. Sprinkle fillets evenly with remaining 1/2 teaspoon pepper and remaining 1/4 teaspoon salt; dredge fillets in flour. Add 2 fillets to pan; cook 1 1/2 minutes on each side or until desired degree of doneness. Remove fish from pan. Repeat procedure with remaining 1 tablespoon oil and 2 fillets. Serve with rémoulade and orzo.

Fast Vietnamese Caramel Bluefish

Ingredients:

4 (6-ounce) skin-on bluefish fillets

1 tablespoon peanut, grapeseed or safflower oil

1 stalk lemongrass, or use lemon or lime zest (see note)

1/3 cup light brown sugar
2 tablespoons asian fish sauce
1 1/2 tablespoons soy sauce
1 teaspoon grated ginger
1/2 teaspoon black pepper
Sliced scallions, as needed
Thinly sliced jalapeño, as needed

Fresh cilantro, as needed
Cooked rice, for serving (optional)

Directions:

Brush fish all over with oil. Remove outer layer of lemongrass stalk and cut stalk into 2-inch lengths. Using the butt of a kitchen knife, pound and bruise stalks all over.

Place lemongrass pieces, sugar, fish sauce, soy sauce, ginger and black pepper in a large skillet. Bring to a simmer over medium/high heat, and reduce sauce for 1 to 2 minutes, until syrupy.

Place fish, skin side-down, in pan. Simmer, basting fish frequently with pan sauce, for 2 minutes; carefully turn fish and continue cooking until fish is just cooked through, 2 to 3 minutes longer.

Transfer fish to a serving plate and garnish with scallion, jalapeño and cilantro. Drizzle with additional sauce. Serve over rice, if desired.



Trish had two big honors on the headboat "Morning Star". First she helped push some of Capt. Monty Hawkins artificial reef pyramids into the deep, and then dominated the day taking high hook with this sea bass.

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Note: If you can't get lemongrass, peel a 2-inch strip of lemon or lime zest with a peeler and use that instead. You don't need to bruise the peel.

Crab Soup

Ingredients:

- 3 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 3 tablespoons all-purpose flour
- 4 cups Half & Half
- 1 teaspoon Dijon mustard
- 1 tablespoon Old Bay seasoning,

- plus more for serving
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 1/8 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 2 tablespoons dry sherry
- 1/2 pound lump crabmeat, picked over to remove any shells
- Finely chopped chives, for garnish
- Lemon wedges, for serving (optional; see note)



Directions:

Melt the butter in a medium saucepan over medium-low heat. Add the flour and whisk for about 1 minute, until well blended.

Whisking constantly, gradually add the Half & Half. Add the mustard, Old Bay seasoning, salt, and pepper. Bring to boil, whisking frequently (be sure to scrape the edges of the pot, where the flour mixture tends to settle). As soon as the soup starts to boil, reduce the heat to a simmer and cook, uncovered, until thickened, about 30 seconds. Stir in the sherry and crabmeat. Taste and adjust seasoning if necessary. If the soup is too thick, add water, little by little, to thin it out (it will thicken the longer it sits on the stove, even off of the heat). Ladle into bowls and sprinkle with chives. Serve with lemon wedges, if desired.

Note: Lemon is really only necessary if not using the sherry.

Mexican Street Corn

Ingredients:

- 4 ears grilled corn
- 1/3 cup mayonnaise (see note)



KITCHEN CONVERSION COACH

Measurement

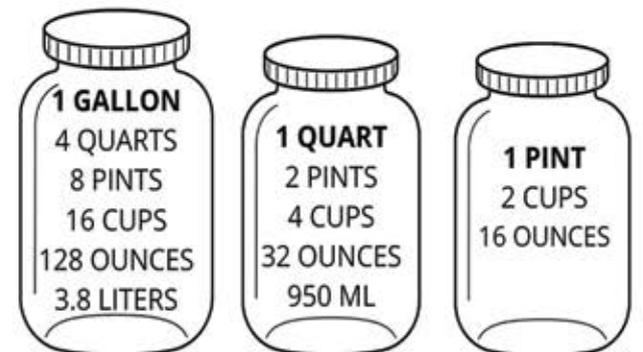
CUP	ONCES	MILLILITERS	TABLESPOONS
8 cup	64 oz	1895 ml	128
6 cup	48 oz	1420 ml	96
5 cup	40 oz	1180 ml	80
4 cup	32 oz	960 ml	64
2 cup	16 oz	480 ml	32
1 cup	8 oz	240 ml	16
3/4 cup	6 oz	177 ml	12
2/3 cup	5 oz	158 ml	11
1/2 cup	4 oz	118 ml	8
3/8 cup	3 oz	90 ml	6
1/3 cup	2.5 oz	79 ml	5.5
1/4 cup	2 oz	59 ml	4
1/8 cup	1 oz	30 ml	3
1/16 cup	1/2 oz	15 ml	1

Temperature

FAHRENHEIT	CELSIUS
100 °F	37 °C
150 °F	65 °C
200 °F	93 °C
250 °F	121 °C
300 °F	150 °C
325 °F	160 °C
350 °F	180 °C
375 °F	190 °C
400 °F	200 °C
425 °F	220 °C
450 °F	230 °C
500 °F	260 °C
525 °F	274 °C
550 °F	288 °C

Weight

IMPERIAL	METRIC
1/2 oz	15 g
1 oz	29 g
2 oz	57 g
3 oz	85 g
4 oz	113 g
5 oz	141 g
6 oz	170 g
8 oz	227 g
10 oz	283 g
12 oz	340 g
13 oz	369 g
14 oz	397 g
15 oz	425 g
1 lb	453 g



LIQUID MEASUREMENTS

8 ounces = 1 cup	2 pints = 1 quart	4 tbsp = 1/4 cup
2 cups = 1 pint	4 quarts = 1 gallon	8 tbsp = 1/2 cup
16 ounces = 1 pint	3 tsp = 1 tbsp	1 pinch = 1/8 tsp or less
4 cups = 1 quart	2 tbsp = 1/8 cup	

1 teaspoon fresh lime juice, plus wedges for serving

1/2 teaspoon lime zest

1/2 teaspoon chili powder or ancho chile powder

1/3 cup Cotija cheese

2 tablespoons chopped fresh cilantro

Sea salt, to taste

Directions:

Grill the corn according to this recipe.

In a small bowl, stir together the mayonnaise and lime juice and zest.

Spread the mayo mixture over the corn and sprinkle with the chili powder, Cotija cheese and cilantro. Season to taste with salt and serve with lime wedges for squeezing.

Note: A mix of 1/4 cup Mexican crema or sour cream and 1/4 cup mayonnaise is a delicious alternative to all mayo. §

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It was a spectacular 4th of July for Max McGuire of West Ocean City. He caught his first yellowfin tunas while fishing with his dad Tim in the Poor Mans Canyon aboard their boat "Reely Movin". He was joined by Jeff Erhard, Kevin King and Jay Fisher. Pictured at the Ocean City Fishing Center.



Gary Johnson and Jessica Riffle had a good day fishing at the Inner Wall in Lewes. Gary hooked these 2 sheephead and Jessica netted a nice tog. All caught using sand fleas.

2024 MARYLAND • DELAWARE • VIRGINIA CITATION ATLANTIC COAST SIZES

	<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u> **	<u>VA</u>		<u>MD</u>	<u>DE</u> **	<u>VA</u>
Atlantic Spadefish	24"	-	-	Wahoo	60"	20 lbs. or 50"	35 lbs.
Black Drum	48"	50 lbs. or 45"	80 lbs. or 46"	Weakfish	24"	3 lbs. or 20"	30"
Black Sea Bass	20"	3 lbs. or 17"	5 lbs.	White Marlin*	Any Size	Any Size	Any Size
Bluefish	34"	12 lbs. or 29"	16 lbs. or 36"	SHARK:			
Blue Marlin*	Any Size	Any Size	Any Size	Blue Shark*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"	72"
Cobia	44"	45 lbs. or 48"	55 lbs. or 50"	Hammerhead*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"	72"
Croaker	18"	3 lbs. or 19"	3 lbs. or 20"	Thresher*	80"	100 lbs. or 66"	72"
Dolphin	45"	15 lbs. or 41"	25 lbs.	Tiger*	Any Size	100 lbs. or 66"	72"
Flounder	24"	7 lbs. or 25"	6 lbs. or 26"	Swordfish	47"	Any Size	100 lbs.
Golden Tilefish	35"	35 lbs. or 40"	30 lbs.	TUNA:			
Kingfish (Northern Whiting)	14"	1 lb. or 13"	1.5 lb. or 16"	Longfin Albacore	36"	30 lb. or 32"	40 lbs.
King Mackerel	40"	10 lbs. or 26"	20 lbs.	False Albacore	24"	12 lbs. or 26"	32"
Red Drum*	36"	45"	-	Bigeye***	60"	70 lbs. or 48"	70 lbs.
Sailfish*	Any Size	-	-	Bluefin***	55"	100 lbs. or 60"	100 lbs. or 60"
Sheepshead	20"	8 lbs. or 22"	10 lbs. or 24"	Yellowfin***	50"	70 lbs. or 48"	70 lbs.
Spanish Mackerel	22"	5 lbs. or 22"	4 lbs. or 26"				
Speckled Trout	24"	-	5 lbs. or 24"				
Striped Bass	40"	44"	44"				
Tautog	24"	7 lbs. or 25"	9 lbs. or 23"				

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 *** Use curved-fork-length measurements

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Bruce Howell, Myles Deppe, Ian Hanley, Austin Deppe and Andrew Mercer had a blast tuna fishing with Pure Lure's Brendan Hanley on the "Roll Tide". Capt. Damon Deppe had the crew just inside the Poor Mans Canyon where they went 5 for 6 on yellowfin tunas, all in the 40 - 50 pound range.

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It was Capt. Mark Hoos' reliable Sterling Tackle spreader bars and Magictail Outfitters Sea Witches with ballyhoo that put this crew onto some yellowfin tunas. Anglers Dawn Chance, Richy Eason, Tammi Cummins, Laura Moore and Melissa Swartz raised 7 tuna in the Baltimore Canyon while trolling in 80 fathoms and ~75° water. The mates were Jake Pilkerton and Jax Moore.



Sam and Joe Lessner from Hampstead, MD had a good time on the sands at 145th in Ocean City. They caught this croaker using frozen squid.

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DELAWARE FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



Last week in Delaware the wind blew out of the west most of the week and storms both north and south of us charged up on many evenings. This has turned over our ocean water making it dirty and a lot cooler. The surface temperature has dropped almost ten degrees back in the upper 50s. The change in water temps has really shut fishing down. Flounder can still be found on the reefs however, they are far less anxious to bite a hook.

Captain Chris on the "Judy V" reports they dropped a temperature gauge down to the bottom and found the water close to 50 degrees. With a surface temperature of 57-61 degrees and a cold bottom temp, we are displaying a water closer to April than the first week in July. Despite the

water turning over, several nice fish have been caught.

I also received reports that mahi are around the pots nearshore mainly in the Massey's Canyon area. These fish are still very small but definitely making an early appearance.

Nearshore Wrecks & Coral Grounds

The nearshore grounds were hit or miss for most anglers. With cooler bottom temps and windy days, fishing was tough for most.

Sandy Hawk caught a nice 24.25 inch, 4.6 pound flattie while fishing on an ocean structure.

Lexi Zeigler also got in on the girl power landing a nice 22.5", 3 lb flounder on white Gulp.

"Bad Wind Charters" reported

a first for them. After getting hung up in the bottom structure, they freed the line only to find that a large lobster had released its claw. Catching lobster off our wrecks does not happen often in my experience running head boats in Ocean City. I have only seen one lobster brought in by hook and line. The crew reported flounder fishing has been good, with anglers bringing home fish for dinner, just not the limits they are used to seeing.

The "Katydid" charter had a few good trips bringing home flounder as well as sea bass for their clients.

"Bottom Line Sportfishing" reports the mahi are getting closer to the beach with each passing day. The pots are showing signs of life and it shouldn't be long until the bigger fish arrive. For many anglers this pot hopping for mahi is the best alternative to going far offshore and still being able to catch these pelagic beauties.

Steve Kuhlman had a good day last Tuesday fishing the Old Grounds between A & B buoys, catching twin keeper fluke, several throwback sea bass and even 6 Mylar balloons.

Please remember, do not release balloons as they are often the play targets of turtles that get tangled in the string and end up dying. Great job bringing them in guys!

Back Bays & Inlets

The bays and inlets have been fairly consistent of late. Several flounder are being caught both at the inlet areas as well as the Delaware Bay and Indian River Bay.

With the 4th of July crowds arriving the boat traffic on the water has been some of the heaviest I've seen in years. Try

www.coastalfisherman.net targeting less traveled areas to have a better chance of catching that keeper you're looking for.

At night, small rockfish and blues can still be found at the inlet near the Coast Guard station. Sea trout and flounder are being caught near the Henlopen Pier.

Randy Padfield and his son Reid checked into Old Inlet Tackle with a 22 inch, 4.8 lb. flounder that Reid caught at the inlet on live minnows. That's a nice size flounder for the bay area.

Tony Walls caught a 24" rockfish along with a smaller one while fishing the rocks at the inlet. Although these fish did not make the slot limits, they are still a great catch for this time of year.

Lewes Tog Club's Jim Osborne put a few keeper tog in the cooler last week. Fresh sand fleas and crab were the bait of choice for these hard to catch fish. The following trip he went on to catch 4 tog, a 7 lb. sheepshead, two nice triggerfish and a 41 lb. black drum. The black drum are hanging around late this year probably due to the cooling off of the water.

Little Finley caught her first keeper flounder along with her second keeper while fishing with her parents at Indian River Inlet. The fish were 20.5 and 21 inches. Great job young lady! The fish were checked in at Rick's Bait & Tackle.

Miguel Denisar caught his limit of weakfish with the biggest being a 16" fish. William Petry fished the inlet rocks at night and was rewarded with a few nice sized bluefish as well as a striper and flounder. Nice trifecta William.

Kenny Cooper wanted to thank the guys at "Flip N Fins" for helping his daughter catch her biggest bluefish to date. The fish was 34 inches and weighed 11.5 lbs. Melanie Trzcinski Burrige also fished with "Flip N Fins" and was rewarded with a huge bluefish. She said the instructions and advice they

gave her was second to none. Great job showing off the girl power!

Bob Trento caught several nice keeper flounder in the bay, making sure to invite a few home for dinner.

Nick Garcia was out on Delaware Bay with his grand pop and cousin Caleb Wednesday. He reported temperature changes made fishing tough, however, they did manage a few flounder keepers with the biggest at 22.5 inches. The fish were caught in 18-24 feet of water.

Surf Fishing

Surf fishing in DE is producing tons of kingfish along with sharks and rays.

Clint Colyer must have thought he hooked a truck when he pulled in a huge ray from Gordon's Pond. The fight took 40 minutes to land the beast. Denis Lackner landed a cobia from the Fenwick surf on Wednesday. There have

been more cobia caught off the beach than I can ever remember in past years. Brent Douglass had a good morning at Faithful Steward catching a bunch of kingfish for dinner.

Clams & Crabs

Clamming remains about the same with big chowder clams being the most consistently caught. Raking in water deeper than your knees is still producing some little necks, however, many areas are picked over leaving only big clams behind. Rehoboth Bay and Holt's Landing are the 2 hot spots of the week.

Crabbing is average with 8-10 keepers per pot. Due to the high heat expected over the next several days, be sure to pull your pots as often as you can. Allowing the pots to remain in the water for the full 3 days will likely result in dead crabs from lack of oxygen and deteriorated food in bait bins.

Till next week...
Tight Lines and Fins Up §



The Lewes Canal continues to produce nice flatfish. Lexi Zeigler caught this 22.5" and 3 lb. flounder using Gulp. It was measured and weighed at Rick's Bait and Tackle in Long Neck, DE.

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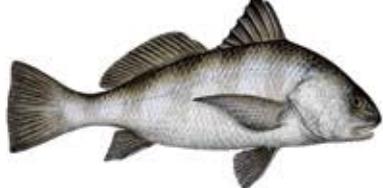
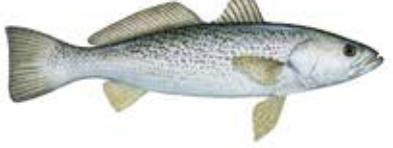
The Rt. 50 Bridge is a great place to fish day or night. Mark Locklear choose a day trip for this outing and landed several bluefish and stripers. This bluefish at 31" set a new personal best for him.



J.C. Dennis of Berlin, MD kicked off the 4th of July holiday by fishing the Ocean City Inlet and Rt. 50 Bridge. He used a white Gulp with Minnow combination to land his limit of 4 flounder. The largest was 22" and a personal best for him.

2024 DELAWARE REGULATIONS

STATE WATERS ONLY

 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 13" minimum / 15 per person/day May 15 - September 30 October 10 - December 31</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH No minimum size 3 per day / 5 per day Charter</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 3 per person/day</p>	 <p>COBIA 37" Minimum • 1 per person or vessel</p>
 <p>CROAKER 8" Minimum • No 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 28-31" except 20-25" only from 7/1 - 8/31 in DE Bay 1 per person/day Catch & Release only from 4/1 - 5/31 on Spawning Grounds</p>	 <p>SUMMER FLOUNDER 4 per person/day 1/1 - 5/31 - 16" 6/1 - 12/31 - 17.5"</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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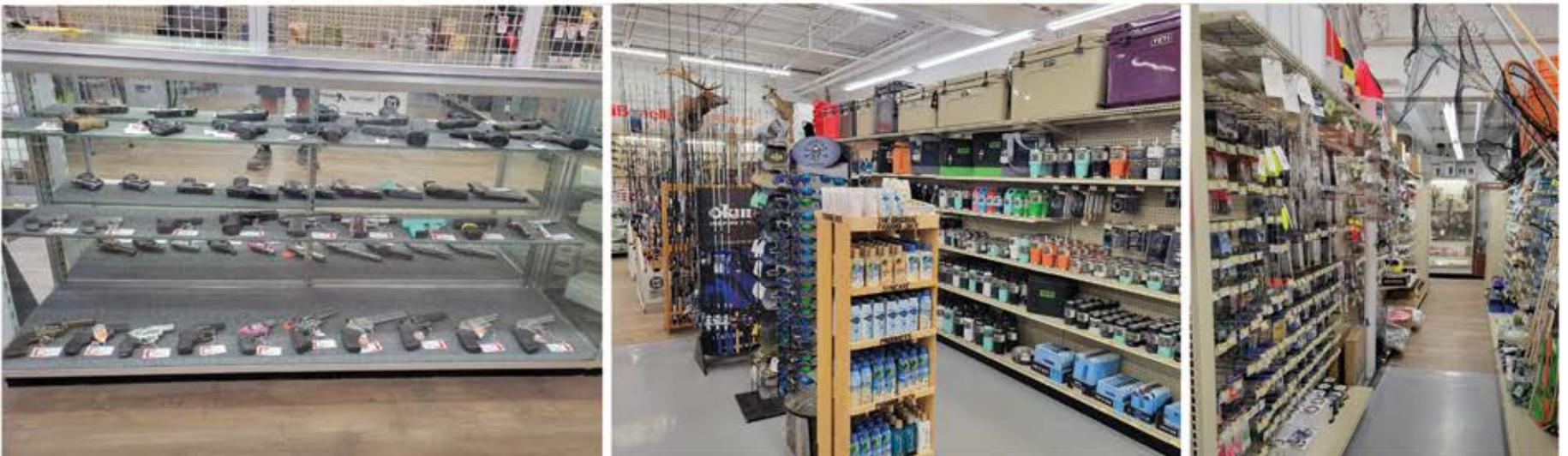


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Pat and Dave Borrell of New Bloomfield, PA put their pontoon to good use again! This time pulling up 18" and 20" flounders from the West Channel in Ocean City using Gulp.



Sporto Gray found a real treat at the Outer Wall in Lewes. He caught this trigger fish using sand fleas. He was fishing with Jim Osborne who caught a 41 lb. drum and a tog.

OCEAN CITY INLET TIDES & MOON PHASES

WED. JUNE 10	High 11:45 am High -----	Low 05:53 am Low 05:39 pm
THUR. JUNE 11	High 12:05 am High 12:30 pm	Low 06:33 am Low 06:31 pm
FRI. JUNE 12	High 12:43 am High 01:18 pm	Low 07:10 am Low 07:24 pm
SAT. JUNE 13 1st Qtr. Moon	High 01:25 am High 02:09 pm	Low 07:45 am Low 08:18 pm
SUN. JUNE 14	High 02:12 am High 03:04 pm	Low 08:21 am Low 09:15 pm
MON. JULY 15	High 03:03 am High 04:00 pm	Low 09:01 am Low 10:14 pm
TUE. JULY 16	High 03:56 am High 04:54 pm	Low 09:47 am Low 11:13 pm
WED. JULY 17	High 04:48 am High 05:46 pm	Low 10:38 am Low -----

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.

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The "ChaseEm" out of Ocean City, MD found a lot of fish in the Baltimore Canyon last week. Chris Shields of Pasadena, MD released a blue marlin, Steve Joyce of Ocean City muscled in a bigeye tuna and John Walker of Laural, DE & Chris Shields both caught 3 yellowfins. The marlin hit on a Black Bart Plug and the tuna favored a Joe Shute/Ballyhoo combo.

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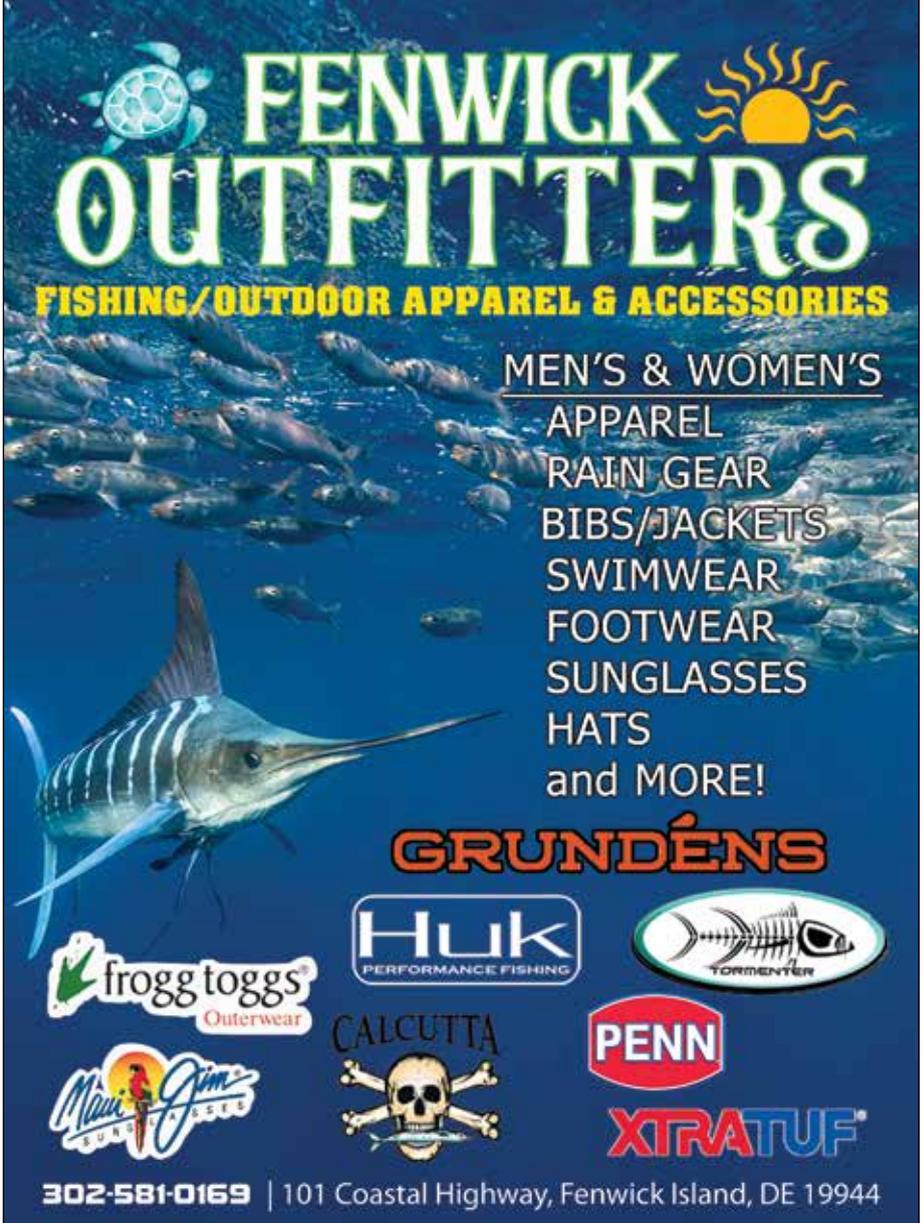
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Hook, Line & Anchor Time

Understanding how to set the anchor and retrieve an anchor is critical—an anchor can hold your boat in place in a productive fishing spot, secluded cove for swimming, a sandbar for a party or an overnight stay, but it is also an essential piece of safety gear.

While each boat, location and equipment may vary, here are the basic steps that apply to most anchoring situations:

Deployment

Select an area to anchor with plenty of room. Ideally, it should be a well-protected area with adequate water depth and a sandy or muddy bottom.

Head slowly into the wind or current to a position upwind or up current of where you would like to anchor. Keep in mind wind, waves and current will cause your boat to swing while on anchor, be mindful of other boats and nearby fixed objects.

While moving ahead, stop the boat and slowly lower

the anchor over the bow to the sea bottom. Never anchor only from the stern as this can cause the boat to swamp. The stern may be hit by waves or pulled down, allowing excess amounts of water to enter the boat.

Once the anchor is on the bottom, slowly back the boat away downwind or down current. Deploy about seven to ten times as much anchor line as the depth of the water, depending on the wind strength and wave size. Tie off the line around a bow cleat and pull on the anchor line to make sure the anchor is set.

After anchoring, take visual sightings of onshore objects

or buoys in the water to help you know where your boat is positioned. While at anchor, recheck these sightings frequently to make sure the anchor is not dragging.

Periodically check connecting knots and hardware on your anchor line.

When possible, use splices instead of knots. Knots weaken a line more than splices.

Retrieval

Identify the direction of your anchor line and location of your anchor. Slowly move the boat toward the anchor while pulling in the line. As you get close to the anchor

and your boat is directly above the anchor, pull briskly straight up, this should cause it to release from its hold on the bottom.

If the anchor is stuck, slowly pilot your boat in a large circle with the anchor in the center of the circle while keeping the anchor line pulled tight until it hopefully releases from the bottom.

When the anchor releases from the bottom, stop the boat, and retrieve the anchor. Never drag the anchor behind the boat.

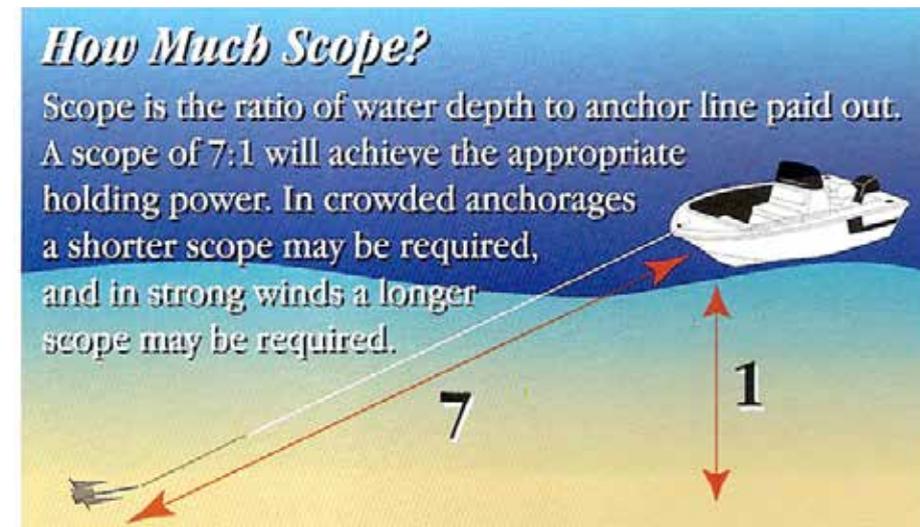
How to Choose the Correct Anchor

Choosing an anchor is easy, choosing the right one for your boat can be difficult. Your first task in choosing an anchor is to understand three things:

- Your boat's size, weight and design characteristics affect what kind of anchor you will need to use.

- Location - Where you plan to anchor often dictates what type of anchor you should use. Is the bottom rock, sand soft mud? If you are not familiar with the area, ask around or look at a local chart.

- Local Conditions - Anchoring in a calm protected cove can be quite different to anchoring



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into bottom sediments. It should not be used to anchor large boats, since its holding power is weak. You should never depend on a mushroom anchor to hold a boat in rough water or rough weather.

Rode

An anchor is only as good as the connection to the boat, an anchor line or "rode" is the connection system between the anchor and the boat and its sturdiness during mooring is undoubtedly essential. The critical point is often the splice(s) where the rope and chain are connected to each other, the anchor, and the boat. A typical pleasure boat rode consists of a short section of chain connected to a much longer section of rope. The rode needs to be rated to accommodate the strength or load of the anchor system. The length of the rode is dependent on the size of the boat and depth of the water. It is recommended that you use a scope of 7:1, meaning that for every foot of water depth, you should use 7 feet of rode.

Combining the proper size and type of anchor for your boat, along with the necessary length of rode will help to make the task of anchoring much more enjoyable and safer for all aboard. §

offshore or on a large open bay. And do not forget the weather--high winds, tides and waves can all make anchoring difficult, if not impossible.

Holding Power

Anchors are rated by their holding power, or the amount of pull force the anchor will withstand to hold the boat in place, this is different than the actual weight of the anchor.

Anchor Weight vs Style

A combination of actual anchor weight and style will affect the ability of your anchor to grab ahold of the sea floor and create the holding

power. Bigger is better when choosing anchor weight. You will not need as much to hold the boat in a quiet cove, but you will need much more weight for an emergency in the wind. Holding power and weight are only as good as the anchor's ability to penetrate the bottom. In the mid-Atlantic area, Anchors that easily penetrate hard sand bottoms are best, though you get less holding power in mud. The anchor weight is more important than design in grassy bottoms.

Popular style of anchors used in our area:

The fluke-style anchor

(commonly referred to as Danforth) is like the plow style but is lighter. It is also good for most pleasure craft and gets its holding power from its pointed flukes digging into bottom sediments. (Danforth is a registered trademark of Tie Down Engineering, Inc.)

Plow-Style Anchor-The plow-style anchor is good for most pleasure craft and gets its holding power by plowing into bottom sediments.

Often Heavier than Fluke Style

Mushroom Anchor -The mushroom anchor gets its holding power by sinking

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The charter boat "Reel Chaos" put some big fish on the docks at Sunset Marina last Friday. John Rohe from Baltimore, MD reeled in a 196 lb. and 68" bigeye tuna, while Ali Rohe of Raleigh, NC nailed a bull dolphin. Both were caught in the Washington Canyon in 300 fathoms and 72° water using spreader bars and ballyhoo. Capt. Anthony Matarese was at the helm with mates Mike Matarese and Jon Henry working the lines.



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Megan DeLorenzo from Goldsboro, NC landed a real gator bluefish by the south Ocean City Jetty. She hooked the 34.5" fish using a 6" live spot on a 6/0 circle hook. She was fishing with Capt. Tommy Ottenwaelder on his 210 Boston Whaler Montauk.

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Paradise Bay Tournament

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20th Annual Marlin Club Kid's Classic

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Cape May Marlin Tournament

July 25-28 • Cape May, NJ • 609-884-0177

11th Annual HUK Big Fish Classic

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AUGUST

16th Annual OCMC Franky Pettolina "Heels & Reels" Tournament

August 2-3 • Ocean City Marlin Club • 410-213-1613

17th Annual Ocean Pines Chamber of Commerce Flounder Tournament

August 3 • Ocean Pines Yacht Club • 410-641-5306

51st Annual White Marlin Open

August 5-9 • Harbour Island Marina • 410-289-9229

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31st Annual Capt. Steve Harman Poor Girl's Open

August 15-17 • Bahia Marina • 410-289-7438

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August 19-23 • Cape May, NJ & Ocean City, MD

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66th Annual OCMC Labor Day Tournament

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For complete tournament coverage results, pick up the Coastal Fisherman every week from May through September or go to our website at www.coastalfisherman.net



Chesapeake's Medicals Mike Halsey celebrated the 4th of July with a crabbing trip with his 3 sons in the Chester River. They ended up with 3/4 of a bushel before the heat got to them. Young Miller caught the largest at 8.75" across.

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The crew on "The DON" caught dozens of flounders on this trip near Harbor Island. It was however only Salvatore Caltabiano of Reistertown, MD that caught the only keeper. A 19.5" flatfish he caught on his first cast using white Gulp!



Shaun Flaherty was out once again with Big Bird Cropper working the waters by the Rt. 50 Bridge and the bay to the south. The pair caught their limit of 6 bluefish using Roy Rigs and Stretch Lures including this 34" gator.

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2024 TOURNAMENTS

31st Annual
Capt. Steve Harman's
Poor Girls Open
AUGUST 15-17

19TH Annual
Flounder Pounder
SEPTEMBER 8

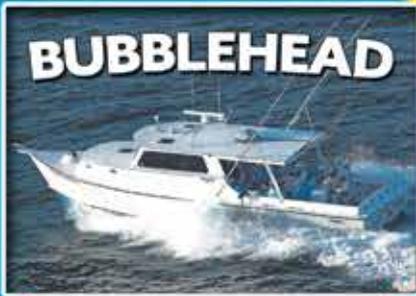
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BUBBLEHEAD

54' Chesapeake
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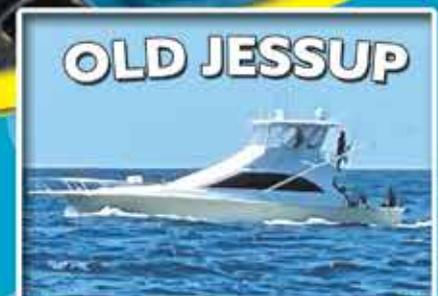
FOOLISH PLEASURES

50' Custom Carolina
Capt. Dale Lisi
443-397-8455



CAH-CHING

48' Ocean
Capt. Steve Martin
732-735-0922



OLD JESSUP

48' Ocean Yacht
Capt. Robert Grimes
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JACKED UP

45' Ocean
Capt. Dean Metcalfe 717-404-3331
Capt. Nick Skidmore 717-615-0644



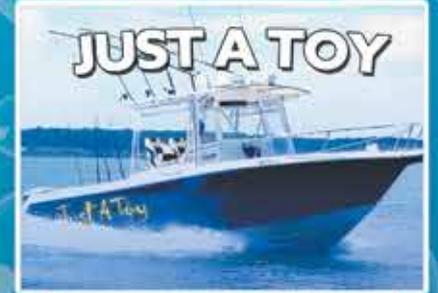
ANOTHER MARGARITA

38' Bertram
Capt. Troy Collins
301-928-7620



OUTLAW X

31' Rampage
Capt. Mike Hutchins
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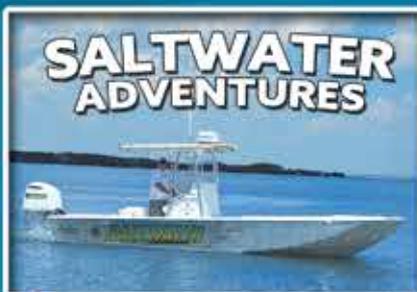
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30' Century
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VIRGINIA FISHING REPORT

by Capt. Matt Abell



After the fantastic firework finales, fellowship, and most of all July fourth reminders to ourselves as well as the world, that we are the foremost nation to ever grace our wonderful world ...we can get back to doing what we love... fishing!

The inshore seaside flounder bite has improved this week with what seems to be a new batch of flatties to bend rods and fill coolers . The fish have been most active on the last of the flood and the first of the ebb from Chincoteague inlet down to Quimby. Silversides or big minnows , coupled with Gulp have provided anglers with action around the steep ledges and the inlets of the Va Barrier Islands.

The nearshore reefs have provided some superb spade action as well as a few flounder

to find their way into the frying pan. The spades have taken small chunks of clam suspended under a slip bobber with a split shot to help keep the bait in the strike zone. A small #4-#1 octopus hook tied up on 20 pound fluorocarbon is required to tempt these striped scrappers into a sporty line stretching duel. Chumming is not always necessary but does add to the pursuit of these tropical trophies. The flounder have been most receptive to jigs bounced across and along structure like the rail cars of the Blackfish Banks Reef site. The jigsaw have mainly consisted of spro or tsunami jigs tipped with a 5"- 6" Gulp curly tail grub or swimming mullet.

The deep waters of the Atlantic have still been a bit of a disappointment as anglers continue the quest

for this year's pelagic prizes. The canyons have produced a limited number of yellowfin and bigeyes, the 20 fathom line has been the scene of the first mahi action around commercial fishing floats and flotsam that's found off our coast. The bottom fishing remains good as tiles of gold and blue have bent rods and added excitement to a lackluster offshore season. My buddy Capt Crazy Larry of the 10-4 joker had a beautiful haul of goldens , which conjured smiles and wonderful meals that made all happy.

The Chesapeake is still producing some warm water action as specs and redfish continue to provide some summertime sport. Popping corks have been the most effective method on bringing these spotted trophies to the gunwale. Most of these fish have

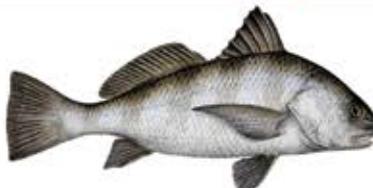
www.coastalfisherman.net been found in the expansive grass flats of the middle bay, however, some have taken up residence around some of the many structures off the Tangier and Pocomoke Sounds.

Nothing says style like a fancy brown suit. And the style from Cape Charles down to the CBBT has been in high demand. Cobia have offered high jumping, hard running, heated fights for anglers who cast a chunk of bunker on a fish finder rig. While the bait doesn't always help with the wait, some casting connoisseurs spend their time concentrating on finding fish on top by tempting with live eels and brightly colored jigs. If the cobia bite is off that day, peeler crab on bottom sweeper jigs is a sure bet for reds and sheeps around the pilings.

Grab the kids, your buddy, your dog or even the wife, and get out there and make some memories. After all, we have a responsibility to make the most of this wonderful place we call home! §

2024 VIRGINIA REGULATIONS

STATE WATERS ONLY

 <p>BLACK SEA BASS 13" minimum / 15 per person/day May 15 - July 6 August 9 - December 31</p>	 <p>BLUEFISH No minimum 3 per person/day or 5 per person/day headboat All Year</p>	 <p>BLACK DRUM 16" minimum 1 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>COBIA 40" minimum / Only 1>50" 1 per person/day • 2 per boat/day 6/15 - 9/15</p>
 <p>CROAKER No minimum 50 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>RED DRUM 18-26" minimum 3 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>SHEEPSHEAD No minimum 4 per person/day All Year</p>	 <p>SPECKLED TROUT 14" minimum 5 per person/day All Year Only 1>24"</p>
 <p>STRIPED BASS 28-31" 1 per person/day 1/1-3/31 & 5/16-12/31</p>	 <p>FLOUNDER 4 per person/day All Year 1/1 - 5/31 - 16" 6/1 - 12/31 - 17.5"</p>	 <p>TAUTOG 16" minimum 4 per person/day 1/1-5/15 & 7/1-12/31</p>	 <p>WEAKFISH 12" minimum 1 per person/day All Year</p>

eregulations.com



We have seen some nice red drum off the beaches of Maryland, but if you want a chance at a big one the sands of Assateague Island in Virginia increase your odds. Tim Correll headed there last week and caught his personal best red at 44".

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**DAY BY DAY - 2003 62' Ocean Yacht
Call Jimmy Fields**



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**FULL CIRCLE - 1984 50' Buddy Davis
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**PREDATOR - 2014 66' Viking
Call Joe Crawford**



**MAMA LOVE - 1999 56' Ocean Yachts
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**2023 41 SeaHunter
Call Colton Cunningham**



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Call Ronnie Fields**



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Call Jeff James**



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Call Ronnie Fields**



**2006 40' Topaz Express
Call Terry Layton**



**THE 3 G's 2021 38' Fountain
Call Adam Peeples**



**2003 38' Fountain
Call Terry Layton**



**2017 28' Harrison Boat Works
Call Jeff James**



**2019 35' Boston Whaler
Call Chris Workmon**



**2023 35 Insetta
Call Jimmy Fields**



**2006 36 Grady White
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