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COASTAL FISHERMAN

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It was a tough day on the bay for anglers in the 18th Annual Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder. The morning was windy and the water dirty but still 121 anglers headed out from the shotgun start at the marina. At the end of the day it was Jerry Kennedy on the Miller Time" that took top honors with a fat 7 lb. 5 oz. flounder. He caught the 25 3/4" flatfish using live spot at the Ocean City Inlet and took home the top prize of \$7,300. Completing team "Miller Time" were fellow anglers 'Flounder' Bob, Brandon Miller and Ken Yuen.



David Moore and Kyle Mooney had a wild time fishing on the north side of the Ocean City Inlet. They fished hard for 12 hours and managed to catch 7 sheepshead between them. The largest two are pictured above. David's was 20" and Kyle's was 20 1/2". They also hooked some rays and saw some crazy stuff like a guy walking around with a machete and jet skis running the Inlet at 2 in the morning! Kyle even got a hook to the face when someones rod shot over the rail.



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2025 WINTER ISSUE!



Another Maryland swordfish record fell last fall when the crew of the "Ro Sham Bo" sauntered into the Ocean City Fish Market with this 393 lb. swordfish! Capt. Willie Zimmerman and the crew of Albert DeCesaris, Lisa Williams, Linda Stamp, Bob Carrino, Kelly Carrino, Jeff Jacobs, boat owner Nick Shriver and mate Daniel Ames spent a successful day trolling Washington Canyon and were preparing to head back to shore when they got a hit, a hard one. The big fish was on an eel white skirt. Angler Jeff Jacobs grabbed the rod with a Shimano Tymo 50 reel and got to work. Despite having a hard fight, he fought the fish for five and a half hours before they could get it to the boat. This new Maryland Swordfish Record is larger than the previous one set in 2021.

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The HUK Big Fish Classic Tournament is headed into their 12th year of bringing serious deep sea fishing action to the docks at the Talbot Street Pier. Besides being one of the major event of the season, the Tournament is also committed to local charities. Last week they made a \$20,000 donation to the Ocean City Volunteer Fire Department. Presenting the check were tournament officers Stephen Lewis, John Lewis, Brian Roberts and Sean Welsh. Accepting on behalf of the OCVFD were David 'Coconut' Hedges, OCVFD President Steve Price, Deputy Chief James Jester, Fire Fighter & EMT Helen Odenwald and former chiefs Roger Steger and David Cropper. Pictured at the offices of MR Ducks in West Ocean City.

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THE Offshore Report

by Larry Budd

I am finding that it is difficult to write a report about offshore fishing when nobody had been fishing offshore! Of course that is an extreme statement, but the strong winds that have been effectively blowing since Labor Day have kept most boats in their slips. This could be the shortest Offshore Report I have penned in 5 years!

As I mentioned last week, weekends recently have provided some windows to get out on the rip, and the last one was no exception. Saturday's weather turned out better than forecasted and several boats got out with great success. Billfish were the primary catch with a nice surprise of tuna showing up in the mix. One catch in particular was outstanding. When the weather creates a window for the headboats to

get out they are still finding a decent mahi bite at inshore reefs and wrecks, but we suspect that will start to ebb pretty quickly now. So if you want some tasty tacos, book a trip soon.

The Baltimore Canyon continues to be the hot spot for billfish. The private boat "Real One" started the week off there releasing 4 white marlin. That included first white marlin releases for a pair of junior anglers William and Andie Schultz. The charter boat "MARLI" also got out early in the week before the weather set in. Capt. Mark Hoos put the crew in the Baltimore and they went 5 for 5 on whites.

It wasn't until last Saturday that we got more reports from the canyons. The "Fish On" came into Sunset Marina

with 3 white marlin release flags flying. Capt. Andrew Dotterweich was also trolling the Baltimore. The "Reel Chaos" was the only boat we heard of that released a blue marlin. They also released a white marlin and filled the box with good sized mahi. The private boat "Bar South" also released a couple white marlin and loaded up on dolphin. Capt. Raul Gonzales however bucked the trend and found his fish in 100 fathoms in the Poor Mans Canyon.

The big surprise for Saturday however was tuna. The tuna have been missing for over a month, so it was awesome when we heard that Capt. Austin Ensor on the charter boat "Primary Search" put a large yellowfin on the dock at Sunset Marina. That one came from outside the Baltimore in deeper water. It wasn't long after that when we were rocked with a report from angler Scott Love about his trip aboard the charter boat "Restless Lady II". He and his fellow anglers saw steady action all day putting 12 of the 13 yellowfin tuna they caught in the box! As if that were not enough, they also hooked 47 mahi with some gaffers in the mix. Nice to see a good meat haul again. With a clear weather forecast for the week ahead, perhaps we will see more tuna again.

In lieu of tuna, and closer to shore, many are targeting wahoo. There are several big ones included in this week's edition like the one caught on the charter boat "Boss Hogg" at the Hot Dog. I am not sure if they were targeting speedsters, but I suspect they were marlin fishing and got the wahoo with a lucky hook in the corner of the mouth. As with last week, cobia are being caught primarily south of Ocean City at the Winter Quarter Shoals. Site casting for the man in the brown suit with live eels



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seems to be the most effective. Jason Stokes took a more direct approach and speared a 50 lb. and 52" cobia at an ocean wreck. That one sets a new Heaviest of the season. Mahi continued to be abundant with sizes improving. They are being caught inshore and off with several head boats still running dedicated dolphin trips.

The week ahead does look promising, and this time of year is one of the best to get on the water. So, book a charter, jump on a headboat or finagle your way onto your buddy's boat. Just get out there!

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The charter boat "Primary Search" came back to their slip at Sunset Marina with a rare catch, a yellowfin tuna, and a fat one at that! We have not seen one of those in a while. Capt. Austin Ensor reported it was a late day catch offshore of the Baltimore Canyon after the crew had filled the box with mahi and tilefish.



Junior anglers William and Andie Schultz got to slip out before the blow last week and both caught their first white marlins! They were fishing on the private boat "Real One" in 50 fathoms of the Baltimore Canyon out of the Sunset Marina.

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Shaun Flaherty kept himself busy last week fishing off of the Rt. 50 Bridge several times. Earlier in the week he caught some nice strippers including a keeper. This trip saw colder weather but he was still able to snag a 22" flounder. He used Freedom Baits for all his trips.

2024 MARYLAND REGULATIONS

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OCEAN CITY FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



This past week in Ocean City saw strong northeast winds and rough seas. Many boats sat at the docks waiting for a change and calming of the angry oceans. For those that braved the seas, they found a difficult drift but fish willing to bite a hook. Despite the tough conditions the fishing was much better than past weeks.

Flounder limits are being caught as well as a few sea bass. The bass pots are still holding mahi but as the water cools the bigger slammer mahi are becoming less available.

The back bays are producing lots of action with tons of small fish ready to strike anything that swims by them. A few nice keeper fluke have

been taken out of the main Thorofare. Bluefish and small rockfish are located at the Rt. 50 Bridge as well as the inlet.

Nearshore Wrecks and Reefs

The rough seas kept many boats tied to the docks. A few adventurous anglers did head out and found the fish willing to cooperate, landing several limits. Big cobia are being caught near Marine Electric and mahi are on many of the nearshore bass pots.

Ann Seth managed to land a very big black drum while fishing with "Chasin Tail Charters". As the water cools I expect to see more of these fish returning to our waters.

The "Judith M" had a couple good trips with a mix of fish despite the rougher seas. A few

big sea bass were caught along with some doormat flounder. "Double Trouble Charters" has been grinding out their half day trips, catching sea bass and flounder along with pot hopping for mahi. Fishing has been fairly steady with anglers finding several fish to bring home for dinner.

Thomas Vogal took his daughter Brittany and his grandson Derek out into the ocean for some sea bass fishing. Brittany's first fish was a 15 inch bass. Thomas stated she continued to out catch the boys all day. Go girl power. The crew caught several keeper bass until the tax man showed up and began attacking their catches. Despite losing fish, the sight of the big shark was fun for the kids.

Michael Miller and Matt Brough were fishing with "FishBound Charters" and found a good early morning bite for mahi. The crew stated the bite was pretty stellar with everyone going home with big bags of fillets.

Nick Sampson had one adult and 3 kids on his charter. He said the group crushed it on mahi, bonito and flounder. The group also caught spanish mackerel and bluefish out at Fenwick Shoals. Nick stated it's hard to beat a good family fishing beat down. Speaking of family, let's wish Nick's son, Beau Sampson a happy 14th birthday!

Jason Bergey was also out at the bass pots and managed a ton of mahi bites on white Gulp and minnows. Further south Brett Glatfelter was fishing with Kraig Galtefelter and Jake Bradshaw a couple of miles off Assateague Island and landed a huge 50 inch cobia. The group used live eels to entice

the big fish to bite. Brett stated they had several other bites and sightings of cobia while fishing south of Ocean City.

When fishing for cobia live eels is always a great choice however many times bright bucktails or swim jigs will also do a great job.

Virginia is still seeing a ton of cobia on daily trips so fishing near the VA/MD border is your best area to target these ugly but tasty fish.

Back Bays and Inlet

The back bays and inlets have many juvenile fish to weed through in order to find a keeper fish.

Roger Williams of Fenwick Island was fishing the East Channel and landed several small flounder before landing a nice 22 incher.

Robin Goodman of Lancaster, PA was using Gulp on a pink and white Deadly Double when she landed a double hookup of keeper fluke measuring 19 inches and 17.5. She also landed an 18 inch fish later that trip. Great catch Robin!

Richard Hoenes and Wayne McParland fished the north jetty using a custom rig tipped with crab landing a nice sheepshead as well as a keeper tog.

Brian Reynolds did a solo night run at the inlet and managed to bring home several nice bluefish as well as a keeper flounder. Brian reported catching over 30 bluefish that night as well as a couple non slot rockfish.

Shaun Flaherty was busy at the Rt. 50 Bridge catching some rockfish, including a keeper. He also landed some big flounder.

David Moore and Kyle Mooney fished the north side of the Ocean City Inlet and landed 7 sheepshead, with their two biggest fish being 20

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The "Miss Ocean City" stated that due to the wind the water was very dirty and fishing was pretty slow. They caught a few decent fish but are hoping the wind will settle down and the water will clear, allowing them to get back to the good fishing they had in past weeks.

Laura Katherine thought she had caught a baby sheepshead but had in fact caught a juvenile gag grouper. We have seen numerous grouper being caught in our southern areas of Ocean City this summer.

Rich Fiore stated that weakfish lead the pack this week, making their outing well worth it. A few sea bass and spot were also caught but the main target of the boat was weakfish.

Surf Fishing

A few drum have been caught from the beaches of Assateague Island, but the main catches have been both bluefish and kingfish.

Corey Wendling had a good day catching a few nice size bluefish that he caught using mullet rigs.

Renee Johnson had an awesome day on the south end of Assateague Island catching several fish including some rather bite pompano. Renee said the fish were biting all day providing lots of action.

As the water temperatures cool, anglers should begin to change over from pompano rigs to a circle hook and cut bait. Mullet rigs with whole mullet will also work for these bigger fish moving into the area. We saw a large group of big red drum as well as our normal black drum in the spring. The fall season is usually just as good if not better, so we shall see if this fall lives up to expectation.

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Dean Miller has been taking advantage of the strong marlin bite over the past few weeks taking several trips to the canyons. This one on the charter boat "MARLI" out of Sunset Marina with Capt. Mark Hoos and mates Jake Pinkerton & Jax Moore saw the crew in the Baltimore Canyon. They went 5 for 5 on whites including this one Dean caught on a naked ballyhoo.



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LONGNECK, DE






The Indian River Inlet was the right place to be for angler Connie McClure. She drifted the Inlet using Gulp and hooked this 21" and 3.2 lb. flounder. Measured and weighed at Rick's Bait & Tackle in Long Neck, DE.

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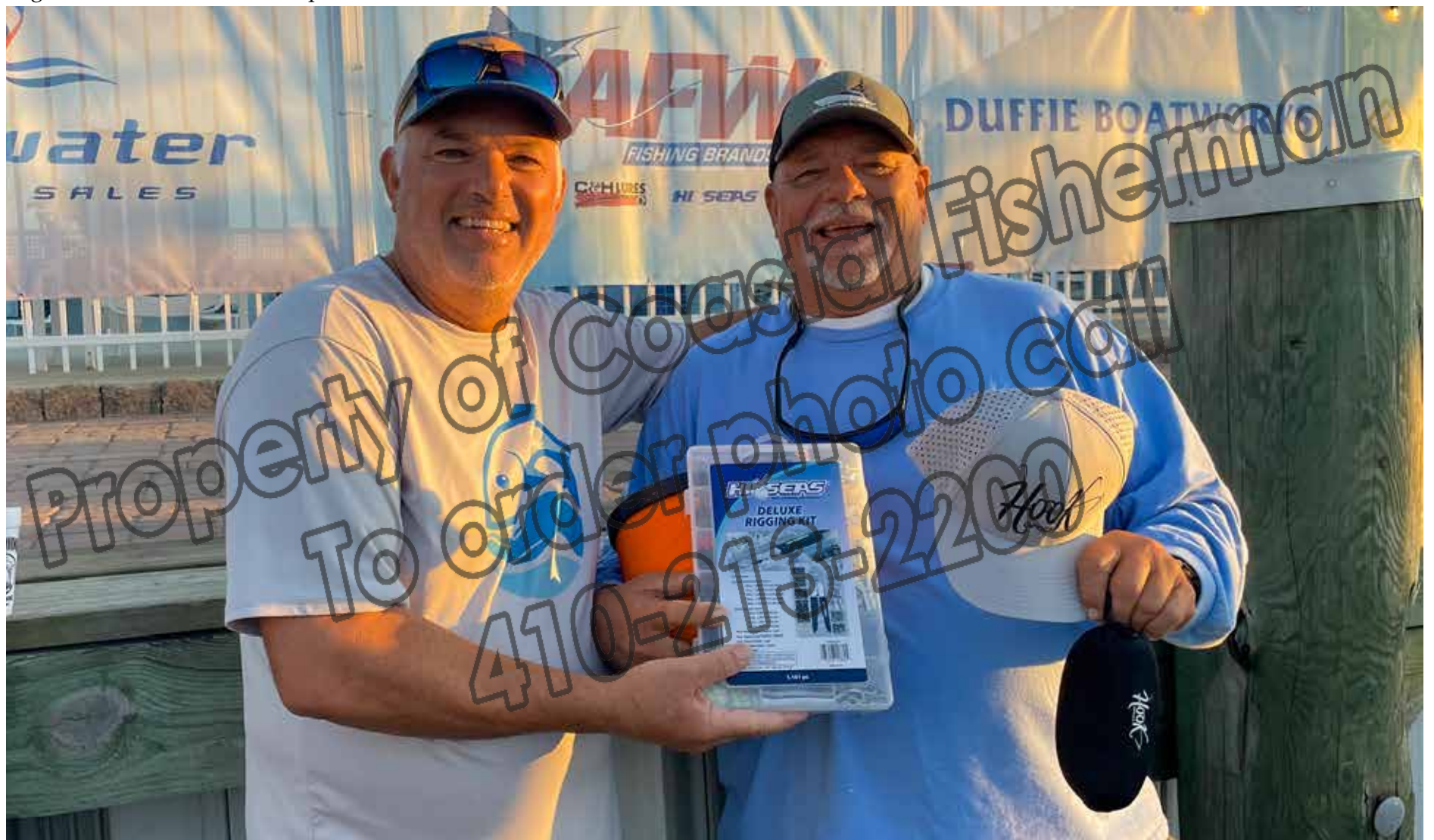
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The group Reeltime USA held two ‘Haywire Twist Challenges’ during the big tournament weeks in August. These challenges raise money for charity and pit captains and crew against each other in tying this wire knot that is considered by many to be the strongest way to join a hook to a line. This year saw Capt. Jojo Joachimowski of the “Whiskey Kilo” enter and win both competitions earning him a slot in the Haywire Twist Hall of Fame.

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3-200 Miles

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

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

Atlantic Angel, Basking, Bigeye Sand Tiger, Bigeye Sixgill, Bigeye Thresher, Bignose, Caribbean Reef, Caribbean Sharpnose, Dusky, Galapagos, Longfin Mako, Narrowtooth, Night, Oceanic Whitetip, Sandbar, Sand Tiger, Sevengill, Shortfin Mako, Silky, Sixgill, Smalltail, Whale, White

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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	July 27 Steve Strawbridge Baltimore Canyon 305 lbs.	July 4 Crew "Rusty Reel" Baltimore Canyon 212 lbs.
 Cobia	 August 25 Jason Stokes Ocean Wreck 50 lbs.		 Bluefin Tuna	August 7 Mason Wilkinson Hotdog 169 lbs.	June 12 Will Hall Poor Mans Canyon 143 lbs.
 Summer Flounder	June 19 Chris Boaston OC Inlet 7 lb. 3.5 oz.	August 8 Michael Harden Indian River Inlet 13.2 lbs.	 Longfin Tuna		June 18 Mark Steiner Baltimore Canyon 38 lbs.
 Sea Bass	August 5 Monty Neel African Queen 5.24 lbs.		 Yellowfin Tuna	August 8 Austin Craig Washington Canyon 185.5 lbs.	July 19 Wayne Whitney Hotdog 100.7 lbs.
 Sheepshead	June 23 Capt. Wayne Anderson Ocean Wreck 11 lbs. 10 oz.	June 19 Dan Sander Ocean Structure 10.8 lbs.	 Dolphin	August 15 Sherri Saunders Poor Mans Canyon 53.3 lbs.	August 15 Tara Katz Baltimore Canyon 30.3 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	August 7 Lance Blakemore Poor Mans Canyon 897.5 lbs.	
 Wahoo	August 8 Ian Horowitz Poor Mans Canyon 70 lbs.	July 8 Kevin Alexander Poor Mans Canyon 67lbs.	 White Marlin	August 6 Ven Poole Poor Mans Canyon 77.5 lbs.	

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



Angler Jim Osborne is no stranger to fishing the Delaware Bay. This trip to the Wall early last week saw him catch his limit of 4 sheephead using sand fleas he bought at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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FISHING CHARTERS



The charter boat "Boss Hogg" had a couple of good days offshore. Capt. Alex Beane took this crew to the Hot Dog where they released 2 white marlin and caught a big wahoo that hit their marlin spread. Lucky catch! They put 2 mahi in the box and called it a day. Pictured at Sunset Marina.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Capt. Chris Huk on the charter boat "Restless Lady II" put these anglers on some meat. They were wahoo fishing in 40 fathoms inside of the Baltimore Canyon and landed a nice speedster. They also caught their 5 man limit of blueline tilefish. Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.



When the weather lets the headboats get out, there are still mahi to be found. This young angler caught a good sized dolphin while fishing with Capt. Walt Hammond on the "Judith M" out of the Bahia Marina.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Capt. Dave Caffrey from "On The Run" charters got this young angler on a nice fattie before the weather set in last week. The big flounder was caught near the Rt. 50 Bridge using Gulp for bait. Pictured at Bahia Marina.



Cpts. Jamar Campbell and Kevin Flaherty had the Yoder family back to the charter boat "Jay Sea II" for a trip canceled for weather earlier in the season. The day started with a chop, but eventually laid down and then it was drop and reel for the rest of the day. They caught their limit of flounder, a mess of sea bass and a nice gaffer mahi at some inshore wrecks and reefs. Pictured at Lewes Harbour Marina.

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FISHING CHARTERS



The charter boat "Pumpin' Hard" was one of the few that headed out on the rip last Saturday. Capt. Mike Burt, mate David Burt and their anglers were rewarded with a haul of chunky mahi. Pictured at Sunset Marina.



Capt. Rick Shoaff on the headboat "Thelma Dale IV" based at the Fisherman's Wharf in Lewes had some fun on a trip last week posing with a pufferfish. While he was busy with his photo shoot, others on board were catching kingfish, tiderunners and ribbon fish.

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FISHING CHARTERS



Capt. Kane Bounds on the charter boat "Fish Bound" out of the Talbot Street Pier reported some excellent fishing before the weather moved in last week. He worked the inshore reefs and wrecks and put his anglers on lots of flounder as well as tilefish, mahi and sea bass.

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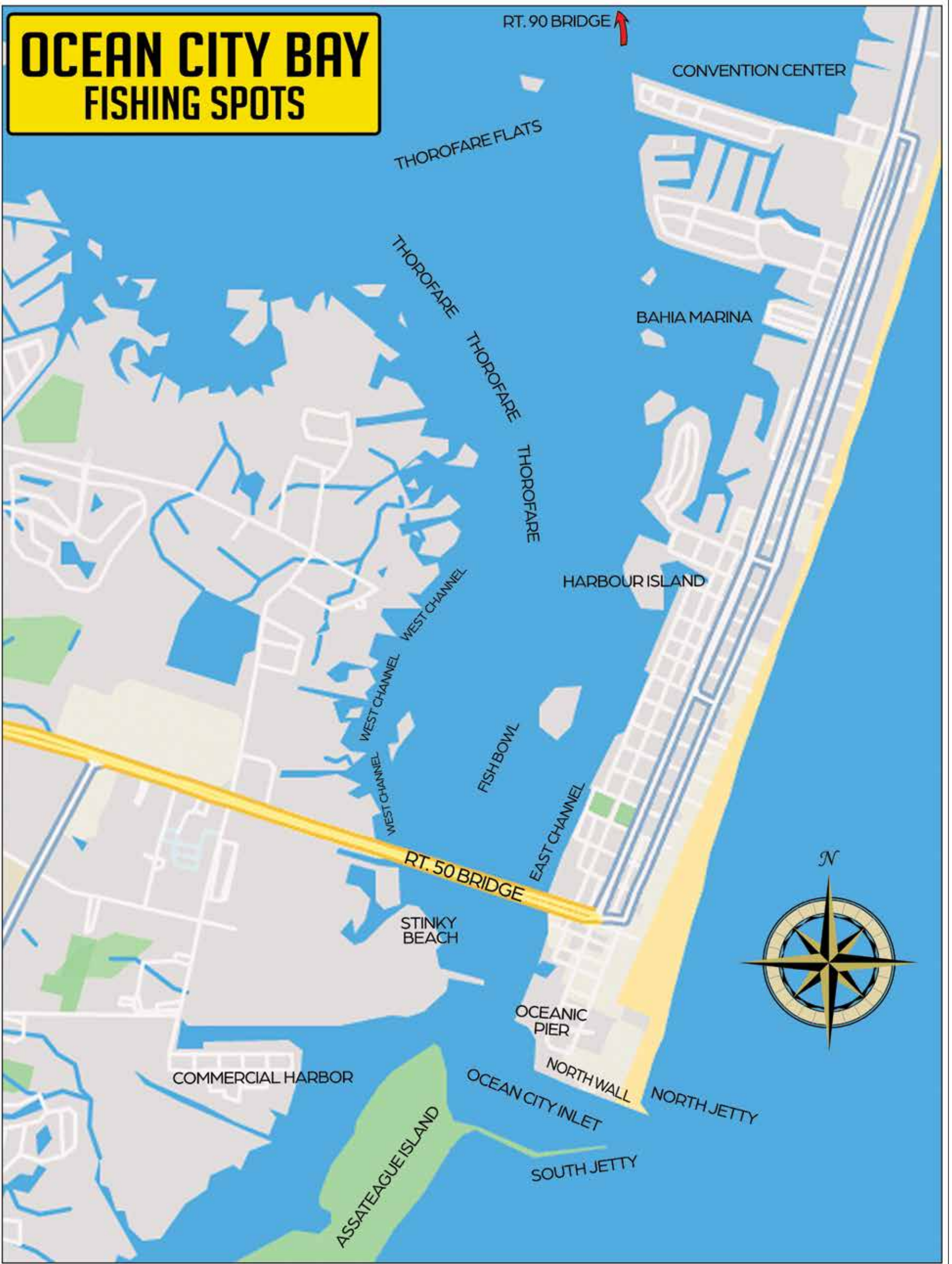
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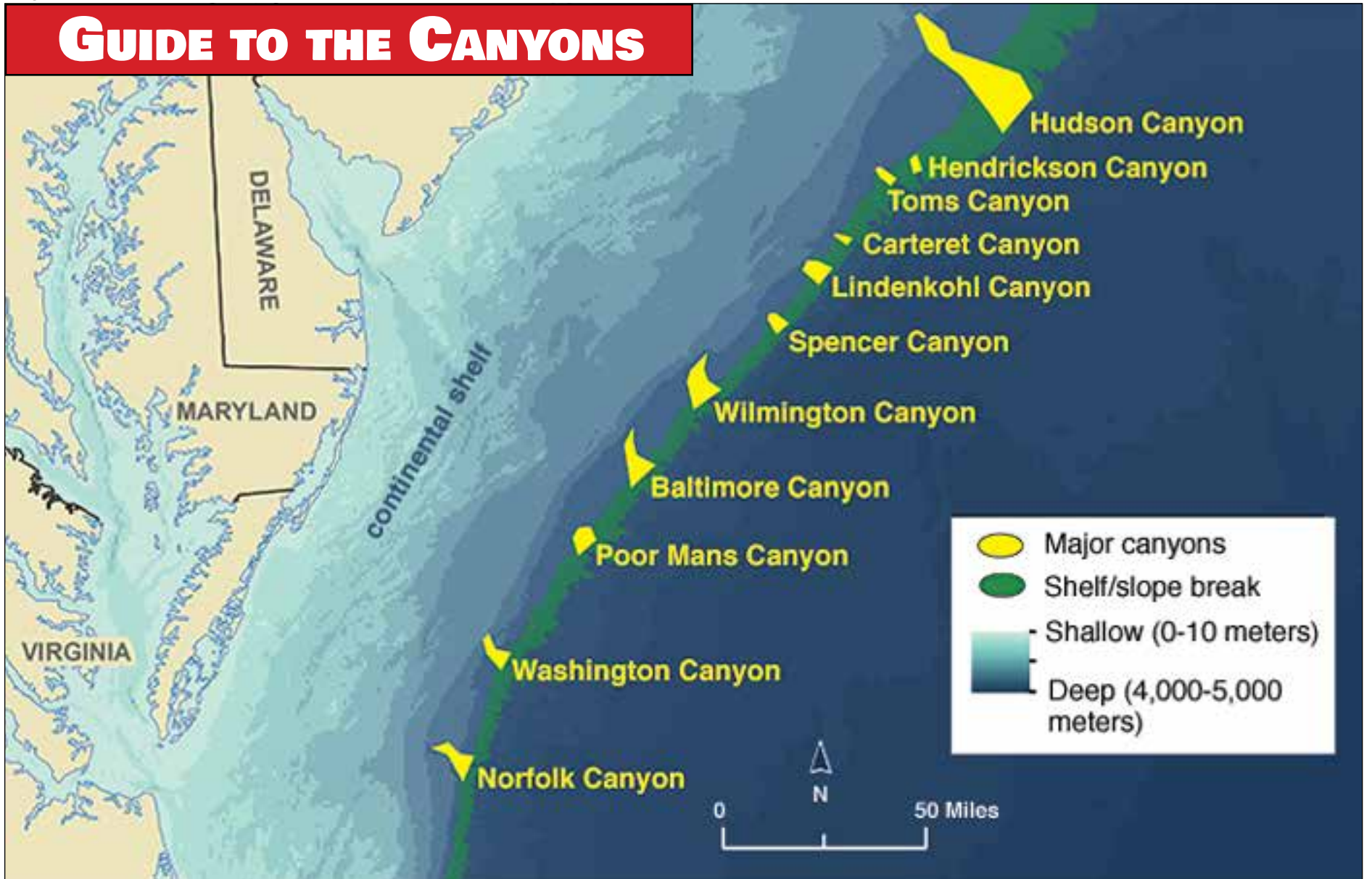
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Brett Glatfelter (left) and Jake Bradshaw (above) did well site casting for cobia. They were fishing at the Winter Quarter Shoals with Kraig Glatfelter using live eels.

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Robin Goodman from Lancaster, PA knows where to fish in the Delaware Bay! She fishes from her pontoon boat and on this trip was using a pink and white Deadly Double rig to land these keeper flounder. The largest was 18" and was caught as part of a double hookup with a 16" fish!



9 year old Chase Clubb was beaming after catching and releasing his first white marlin. He was fishing on the "Chain Reaction" in 50 fathoms between the Baltimore and Poor Mans Canyons when he hooked the memorable marlin! Rounding out the crew were Capt. Brad Clubb with mates Ross & Grant Clubb.

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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by Capt. Mark Sampson



Say Goodbye To Assateague!

I'm not telling anyone something they don't already know when I say that we're losing Assateague Island. Every day as the current floods and ebbs the water it saws away at the north tip of the island transitioning tons of sand that was formerly tread on by wild horses and other wildlife into a place for flounder to rest and boats to strike.

There's no better testimony to this demise than the NW corner jetty that is now a "stone island". The rocks that once projected out from the beach now sit alone more than 50-yards from dry ground and surrounded by water deep enough for boaters to pass by on any side. The big sand dunes that bordered the interior of the island are now cliffs that crumble a little more each day in a never ending avalanche of

sand that's quickly swept away by the water.

And then there's the beach. Remember when there was a real beach that surrounded the north tip that folks could pull their boat up and enjoy some quality time in a pretty cool place? Not-no-more! The beach has been cut back so much that even on a good low tide it's barely wide enough to lay a towel down without one end of it soaking in the bay.

Actually, let me correct my first statement, Assateague is not being lost, it's just being shifted around a little. Much of the sand that washes away from the north tip ends up at the mouth of the commercial harbor and the entrance to Sunset Marina creating a gargantuan sandbar (yeah I expect some day they'll be having parties on it as well) and every year the Army Corps of Engineers comes in with one of their dredges

and spends time and our tax dollars scooping up the sand and delivering it to the ocean beach about three miles south of the inlet. So as the north end is shrinking another part of the island is being spoon-fed a diet of silica, sand fleas, and pony poop. What the heck?

Yeah, I've heard the stories and read the reports about the different government entities that are doing "studies" and kicking around "ideas" about how to correct the problem, but while they're doddling around trying to "figure it out" Mother Nature is working on her master plan to eventually cut a trough between the island's ocean beach and the inlet's south jetty. Let that happen and within a month Frontier Town will be oceanfront properly! Which leads me to my conspiracy theory...

Something needs to be done about Assateague now, not later when the powers to

be get done typing reports and having committee meetings - NOW before the big mess that's being "allowed" to occur at the inlet becomes unfixable.

The answer seems so obvious that there's got to be some back room dealing going on that's preventing it from happening. More about that in a second, first the fix.

How about ringing the entire north end of the island with one long stone jetty, then backfill it with the sand that washed away and is causing so much trouble at the mouth of the harbor. Simple! Sure, the downside would be that there would be no place for folks to beach their boats, but if that's what it takes to save the island then so be it.

So why hasn't anything been done to fix this yet? I don't want to start a rumor of a conspiracy theory (actually I do) but I'm thinking that there are a number of individuals and entities that actually "want" the north end of Assateague to erode away and while I have absolutely no proof of any of this,

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I'm perfectly happy make things up to get my point across.

Tow boats - In the past few years local towing companies have been kept quite busy pulling hapless boaters off the shoal waters in the inlet outside of the harbor. They stand to lose a lot of money if Assateague is stabilized.

West-O homeowners - I'm guessing that most of the folks that live in the beautiful homes that look out on the inlet and north tip of the island are not exactly hurting for money. In fact, I'll bet they've probably had a few extra bucks to slip into the pockets of anyone who might be able to slow the progress of a project to stop the erosion. Why? Quite simply, if Assateague goes away they suddenly have ocean front property and

their multi-million dollar homes quadruple in value!

Town of Ocean City - People who go to Assateague only spend money on firewood and bug spray. Ocean City needs them to stay in town so they can buy french fries, funnel cakes, and go cart rides. I'm pretty sure the town would prefer that the island would just erode all the way down to Chincoteague.

The Park Service - Of course being a government agency the National Park Service has its own problems and patrolling so much property is one of them. A smaller island means less to worry about and less work - simple math.

Anyway, that's just my thoughts on the matter. So get out there and enjoy our National Seashore Park - before it's all gone! §



Bob Haltmeier got a real prize fishing off of the Oceanic Fishing Pier on the Inlet in Ocean City. He landed this big triggerfish last Saturday using shrimp for bait.

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It was a new personal best for Capt. Dave Caffrey of "On the Run" charters based at the Bahia Marina. His customer Antonio caught a 25" and 7 lb. flounder in the Ocean City Bay, the largest Dave has caught there.



This Ocean City crew of Christian Phillips, Michael Hauh and Jason Stokes had a fun day on the rip on the "Debra K". They found a flat calm day to do some spearfishing at an inshore wreck and nailed a 52" and 50 lb. cobia.

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	<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"				

* Only released fish are eligible in Maryland program
 ** DE - Lengths only apply to Live Release
 *** Use curved-fork-length measurements



Stacey Schindler caught her limit of 4 flounder fishing near the Rt. 50 Bridge using live bunker for bait. The largest was 19" She was on the "Delicious" with Rich Daiker.



Wayne McParland of Ocean City needed a hand to display his catches from the rocks at the Ocean City Jetty. Richard Hoenes, Sr stepped in to hold a sheepshead while Wayne held a triggerfish. Both caught on a custom rig using crab for bait.

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DELAWARE FISHING REPORT

by Capt. BJ Pietryak



Fishing was slowed due to the strong winds coming out of the northwest that accompanied the storm off our coast. For those that did get to venture out in the Atlantic, fishing was hampered by the rough seas and strong currents. Anglers found the fish willing to bite when they could get anchored up or find a suitable drift that was not too quick.

Flounder fishing is still very productive with larger fish being found on the coral grounds.

Mahi are still on the pots with some big bulls thrown in amongst the smaller juvenile peanuts. With the colder nights in the 50s I doubt these fish will be with us very much longer before migrating south with the warmer weather.

Nearshore Wrecks and Coral

The nearshore wrecks and coral grounds had few boats on them due to the strong northeast wind that created rough seas.

Brandon Miller had a bumpy day fishing the nearshore coral grounds but did manage a limit of keeper flounder using a red and white Gulp on a bucktail. His fellow angler also managed to squeak out a limit. Great job guys in seas that I'm sure were not very accommodating.

"Bad Wind Charters" had Wayne, Ethan, Sarah, and Matteo on the boat this past week. With seas predicted around 5 feet, the trip was not very pleasant but the crew managed to chug along

reaching the bass pots. The substandard conditions were tough but the ride was well worth it. The group limited out on mahi with Sarah catching so fast she ended up just using a plain jig hook forgoing the bait. Good to see that these strong north east winds and current hasn't driven the mahi south yet. I venture to say that within a week or two the bite will die off as the water cools.

Dan Harley was out at the Old Grounds and his crew managed to catch 8 nice keepers between 20 and 24 inches. Despite the east wind the crew worked hard and landed the two limits.

Corey Joseph was beginning to think the flounder bite would never get good this year until his trip this past week. The group caught a ton of fish, landing their limit and then just fishing and releasing the rest for fun.

Amy Colatriano Truax went out last week with some new friends and despite the rough seas did find some peanut mahi willing to bite their hooks. The group returned safely to the docks with ten mahi for dinner. The fish were checked in at Rick's Bait and Tackle.

"Wreck Dog Fishing Charters" checked into Fisherman's Wharf with a limit of mahi he found at the bass pots.

Jim Clark managed to box up this limit before the strong winds drove them home.

Ted Proseus said the flounder were non-existent until the last two hours of their trip when after fending off the undersized fish he and Brad managed to catch their limit. The duo used pink shine Gulp on Ocean Arsenal jigs. Ted further said the Fenwick

www.coastalfisherman.net Shoals are loaded with small bluefish as well as some decent spanish mackerel. He further reported just offshore from there you can find big bonito tuna ready to hit anything dragged through the water.

Randy Hawkins trolled out at site 10 and landed a cooler full of small mahi. He stated despite the smaller size of the fish the hookups and fight on small rods was very entertaining.

Lees Harbour would like to congratulate the winners of the Dorado to Ducks Mahi Tournament. The winners were:

First Place was Jimmy Shaw with an 8.17 lb. fish, Second Place went to Anthony Pepper with 7.83 lb fish and in Third Place was Jeff Reed with a 7.59 lb, mahi. Congratulations to the winners!

Back Bays and Inlets

The Delaware Bay and Indian River bays were a little slow last week for flounder. A few nice doormats were found by anglers, however, the main catch was undersized fish.

Paul Garner was out at the wall in Delaware Bay and managed to find a nice 23" keeper fluke.

Jim Osborne of the Lewes Tog Club ventured out on the rough bay with Jerry Brunson. They ended up with 4 sheepshead. Their biggest fish was around 7 pounds. Jim also went out to the wall later in the week and found 4 more nice sized sheepshead willing to eat his sand flea presentations.

Billy Mister was out at the Ice Breakers in the bay using sand fleas and managed to catch a big black drum. With the cooler water starting to enter our area the black as well as red drum should begin to make their fall appearance.

Back in Indian River Bay, Dwayne Fletcher fished the inlet rocks and caught several small fish including a big porgy. Small hooks tipped

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with squid and fish bites were used to catch his fish.

May Brough poked around the inlet on his kayak and managed to catch 2 keeper tog as well as a nice keeper flounder.

Bluefish are still hitting lures at the inlet and De Leon Fito was there to capitalize on the run and landed 4 limits of bluefish. DNREC reports the DE Bay is loaded with croakers and spot as well as a few slot rockfish. Bowers Beach was the hot spot on the bay.

Cape Henlopen Pier was a good place to catch spot and croaker along with a few weakfish.

Connie McClure fished IR Inlet and landed a nice 21 inch 3.2 lb. fluke using Gulp bait on a flounder rig

Surf Fishing

Surf fishing was tough due to the high tides and strong currents of the northeast wind. For those that did brave the shortened beaches and rough surf, fish were plentiful in numbers but not so much in size.

Phil Raifsnider fished the beach early in the morning and found the flounder ready to bite his presentations. He landed 4 short flounder and reportedly lost a monster right at the surf's edge.

Kyle Tosh fished 3Rs late one afternoon and landed a few decent size kingfish, including one of the brightest colored ones I have ever seen. The marks looked as if they had been drawn on with markers.

Michael Borkowski caught a nice 20 inch flounder off the Fenwick beach on Monday. A green bucktail did the job on this nice flatty.

Chad Bayless and his wife fished the beach Tuesday and managed to bring home 2 nice flounder as well as a big weakfish that his wife caught.

Until next week...
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THE GALLEY

by Chef Christine



Clam Bruschetta

Ingredients:

3 ounces cream cheese, room temperature

1 (6.5 ounce) can chopped clams, drained, or fresh chopped clams

1/3 cup swiss cheese, shredded

1 Tablespoon green onion, chopped (including some green parts)

1 Tablespoon lemon juice

Dash of Worcestershire sauce

Dash of paprika for each bread round

18 sliced rounds of French baguette

Directions:

Combine cream cheese, clams, swiss cheese, green onions,



lemon juice, and Worcestershire in bowl and mix well.

Spread mixture on top of each slice of bread.

Give each round a dash of paprika.

Broil until cheese melts, approximately 3-5 minutes.

Grilled Mahi Skewers

Ingredients:

1 pound mahi fillets, cut into bite size pieces

1/4 cup lemon Juice

2 cloves garlic, minced

2 tablespoon olive oil

1/2 teaspoon salt

1/4 teaspoon black pepper

As per your need: wooden skewers, soaked in water

Directions:

In a bowl, combine lemon juice, garlic, olive oil, salt, and pepper to make the marinade.



Cut the fish into bite-sized pieces and add them to the marinade. Let it marinate for at least 30 minutes.

Thread the marinated fish onto skewers and grill over medium-high heat for 3-4 minutes per side, or until cooked through.

Serve the grilled mahi skewers with your favorite dipping sauce and enjoy!

Cooking Tips:

Soak wooden skewers in water for 30 minutes before grilling to prevent them from burning.

You can also add vegetables like bell peppers and onions to the skewers for added flavor and color.

Serve the skewers with a side of rice or a fresh salad for a

Storage and Serving:

Leftover grilled mahi skewers can be stored in an airtight container in the refrigerator for up to 2 days.

To reheat, place the skewers in a preheated oven at 350°F for about 10 minutes, or until heated through.

Serve the reheated skewers with fresh lemon wedges and a sprinkle of chopped herbs for added freshness.

Orange Rosemary Wahoo

Ingredients:

1 pound wahoo

1/4 cup fresh rosemary, chopped

1 cup mayonnaise

1 naval orange, zested

1/2 cup fine bread crumbs

1/4 cup shredded Romano or parmesan cheese

Juice of 1 squeezed orange

Fish seasoning to taste

Directions:

Preheat oven to 350 degrees

Dry fish with paper towels

Slice fish into fillets by butter slicing

Sprinkle with fish seasoning and rub in.

Place mayonnaise on fish and thoroughly coat on both sides of fish.



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Place in baking (9x9) baking dish.

Zest orange over the top of fish.

Sprinkle with fine bread crumbs.

Sprinkle parmesan or romano cheese over fish.

Cover dish with foil and place in 350 degree oven for 15 minutes .

Remove foil and broil for 5 minutes or until breadcrumbs are brown.

Pan Seared Golden Tilefish

Ingredients:

Golden tilefish portions, skin off

Salt & pepper, to taste

2½ Tablespoons unsalted butter

3 green garlic shoots or scallions, thinly sliced

1½ Tablespoons chives, mint, lovage and/or sorrel, finely chopped

1 Tablespoon thyme

2 teaspoons tarragon, basil or marjoram, finely chopped

1/2 lemon, juiced

Directions:

Pat the tilefish portions dry and season with salt and pepper.

Melt butter in a large sauté pan over medium heat. Lay the fish in the pan once the butter has begun to foam. Add green garlic or scallions and a pinch of salt.

Without disturbing the fish, tilt the pan toward forward and using a spoon, ladle green garlic butter over fish and continue basting fish for 2 to 3 minutes.

Gently flip the fish with a spatula. Reduce heat to low, cover pan and cook for 2 minutes.

Uncover the pan, and add the herbs. Continue basting the fish for another 2-3 minutes until it is fully cooked through.



Transfer fish to a plate, pour pan sauce over the fillet. Pour lemon juice over the dish and season with more salt and black pepper if needed. Serve immediately for ultimate freshness!

Grilled Triggerfish with Red Wine Butter Sauce

Ingredients:

1 quart red wine

1 tablespoon sugar

8 thyme sprigs divided

1 teaspoon whole cloves

1 bay leaf

1 star anise pod

1 pound butter

Olive oil

3 tablespoons chopped garlic

Salt and pepper to taste

8 (4-ounce) triggerfish fillets

Directions:

Make the sauce:

In a saucepot over medium heat, combine red wine, sugar, 4 thyme sprigs, cloves, bay leaf, and star anise and reduce to a syrupy consistency. Remove

bath and whisk butter until it solidifies and browned bits are incorporated. Return wine reduction to stove over low heat and whisk in cooled brown butter until combined.

Grill the fish:

In a small bowl, combine olive oil with garlic, leaves from remaining thyme sprigs, salt, and pepper. Heat a grill to 500



from heat and aside to cool.

Prepare an ice bath in a large bowl. In another sauce pot, heat butter and cook until browned. Remove pot to ice

degrees and brush fillets with herb oil mixture. Place fillets on grill, skin side down, and cook for 10 to 15 minutes (cook time will depend on thickness of fish). Continue to brush with

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additional herb oil mixture as they cook. To serve, plate fillets and spoon about 4 tablespoons of red wine butter sauce over each.

tomatoes, feta cheese, onion, and mint in a large bowl.

Whisk olive oil, vinegar, salt, and pepper together in a small bowl; drizzle over salad and gently toss to coat. §

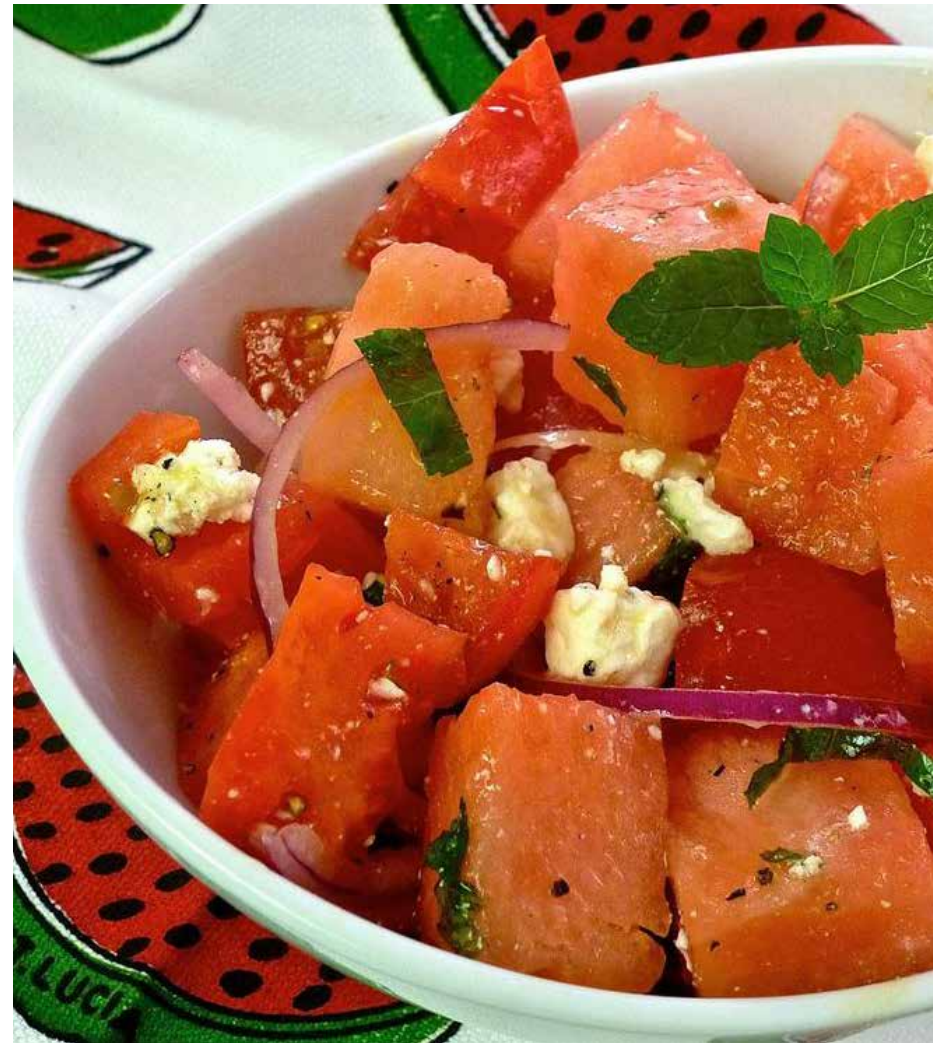
Tomato Watermelon Salad

Ingredients:

- 1 large seedless watermelon, cut into 1-inch cubes
- 4 tomatoes, cut into 1-inch dice
- 1 cup crumbled feta cheese
- 1 large sweet onion, thinly sliced
- 12 mint leaves, sliced thinly
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 2 tablespoons white balsamic vinegar
- 1 pinch coarse salt, or to taste
- 1 pinch ground black pepper, or to taste

Directions:

Gently mix watermelon,



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The Lewes Harbour Marina concluded their month long Dorado for Duck Mahi Tournament at the end of August. This tournament raised funds for wetlands conservation through the Ducks Unlimited organization. 50% of the entrance fees went to Duck Unlimited with the other 50% going to prize payouts. Lots of nice fish made their way to the docks at Lewes Harbour like the ones above and to the right, but only 3 could place. 1st Place went to Jimmy Shaw for his 8.17 lb. mahi. Anthony Pepper secured 2nd Place with a 7.83 lb. peanut and Jeff Reed rounded out the top 3 with a 7.59 lb. dolphin.

This advertisement features a background image of the Lewes Harbour Marina storefront, which has a sign that reads "LEWES HARBOUR MARINA Fishing & Boating OUTFITTERS". Two red starburst graphics are overlaid on the image: one on the left says "TAX FREE SHOPPING YEAR ROUND!" and one on the right says "Authorized FISHING & HUNTING LICENSE Agent". In the foreground, there is a wooden display case filled with various fishing lures and tackle. Below the storefront image is a blue banner with the text "LEWES HARBOUR MARINA Fishing & Boating OUTFITTERS" and a fish logo. Underneath the banner, it lists "LARGE SELECTION OF TACKLE • LIVE & FROZEN BAITS" and provides a list of services: "Boat Supplies • Gas & Diesel Fuel • Fish Cleaning • Sportswear • Foul Weather Gear • Crab Pots • Fishing Reports • Free Parking • Gift Certificates". At the bottom, there are logos for Shimano, Penn, St. Croix, Baitmasters, Jigging, Nomad Design, and Daiwa. A call to action says "Follow Us on Social Media!" with Facebook and Instagram icons. The address and phone number are listed at the very bottom: "Visit us at LewesHarbourMarinaDE.com ••• 217 Anglers Road, Lewes, DE • 302.645.6227".



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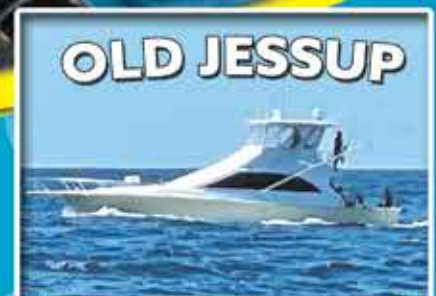
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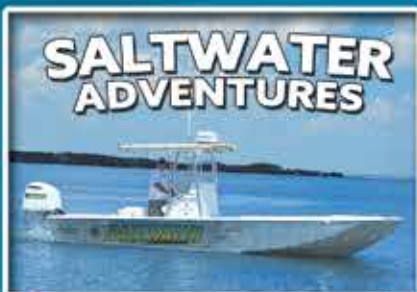
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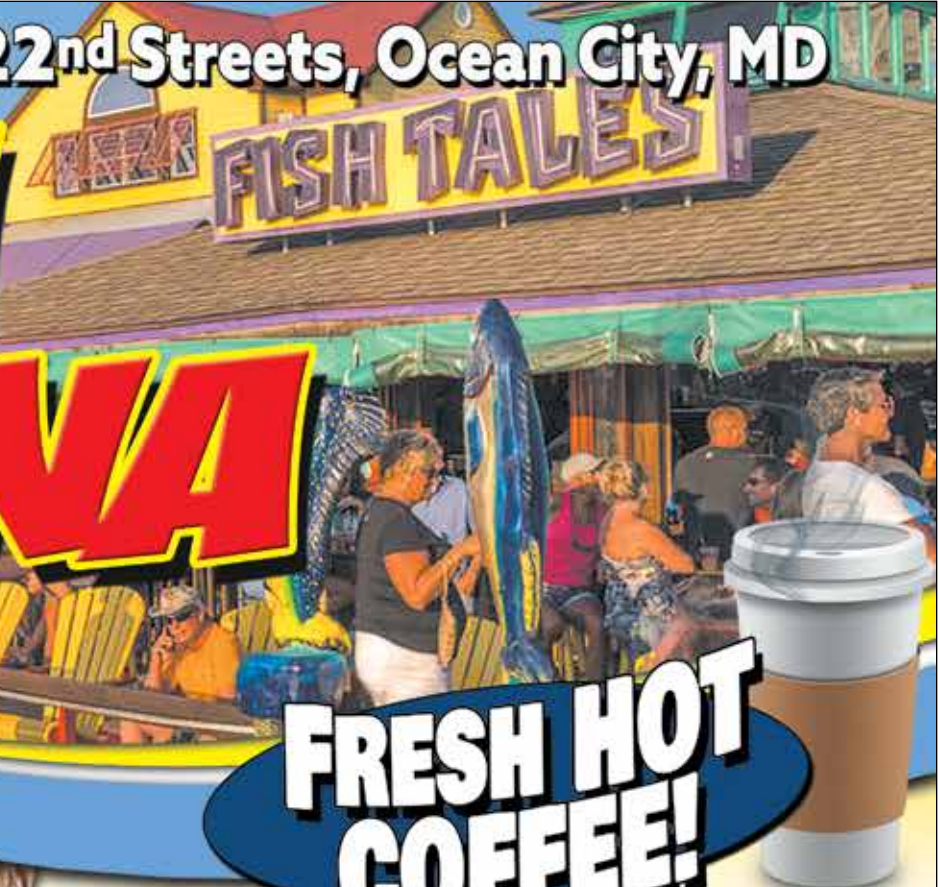
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Ship to Shore

STEVE'S MARINE SERVICE
by Steve Katz



Heading out on a boat for a day of fishing or just cruising to the sandbar is usually a predictable experience. You plan your trip, check the weather and the vessel, bring your supplies, and make a memorable day on the water.

While not everyone has an official USCG Captains license, the boat operator, i.e.: person at the helm, is the person in-charge and often referred to as a master, operator, skipper, or captain depending on the circumstances and regulations.

Many might jokingly think that the captain is the person paying for fuel or lunch, though it turns out the person in charge has a much bigger responsibility, often more encompassing than they realize. A Boat Captain is responsible for overseeing all aspects of the vessel's operations, including navigation, safety, maintenance, and guest/crew management. If you think that seems to cover all possibilities, you are correct!

When it comes to charter boats, where guests pay for the trip, the captain or a crew member should review the safety procedures for that vessel, just like flight attendants on an airplane before departure. Cruise ships have more elaborate drills, called a muster drill or safety briefing. Royal Caribbean defines this drill is a mandatory safety exercise with the objective to familiarize all guests and crew with the location (muster station) where they are to assemble in the unlikely event of an emergency, as well as additional safety information. The assembly muster drill is an international (SOLAS) requirement that is enforced by the Coast Guard, as well as all other port state authorities, depending on the Port.

There are many vessel classifications and regulations that govern safety at sea and surprisingly, it often depends on the ownership and intention of the owner to charter or keep the boat private and not necessarily

the size. Many private yachts do not require a specific safety drill or orientation for owners and or guests. As one yacht crew member recently wrote online, "we do not want to scare the guests with a safety drill, we want them to have a fun time."

The August 2024 tragic event off the coast of Sicily brought these safety procedures to front-page headlines around the world. The "Bayesian", a 184-foot sailing yacht, was anchored a few hundred meters off the coastal town of Porticello when a waterspout struck, the force of the storm and winds ended up sinking the vessel in the middle of the night, seven passengers died and 15 survived this tragic event.

The legal ramifications have already started, with the crew under investigation by authorities, the boat stability and seaworthiness in question along with many other factors that will sure last years in the legal system.

Here in Ocean City and surrounding areas, we do not

often encounter large charter yachts like the "Bayesian," though there is an abundance of large sport fish boats and a lot of private family boats operating in both the back bays and coastal areas. There are best practices a captain should follow when operating a boat and caring for guests.

BoatUS recommends the captain/operator master skipper conduct a predeparture safety brief regardless of whether you are leaving the dock for an afternoon on the water or a multiday trip. You have a responsibility as captain to ensure passengers are familiar with the basics of your vessel, from the location of safety equipment to what they should do in an emergency.

Here are a few items to review with all passengers before departure to help ensure your guests are safe, comfortable, and able to assist should the need arise:

- Life Jackets
- Flares / Emergency signaling device
- First Aid kit
- Man Overboard
- VHF radio
- EPIRB

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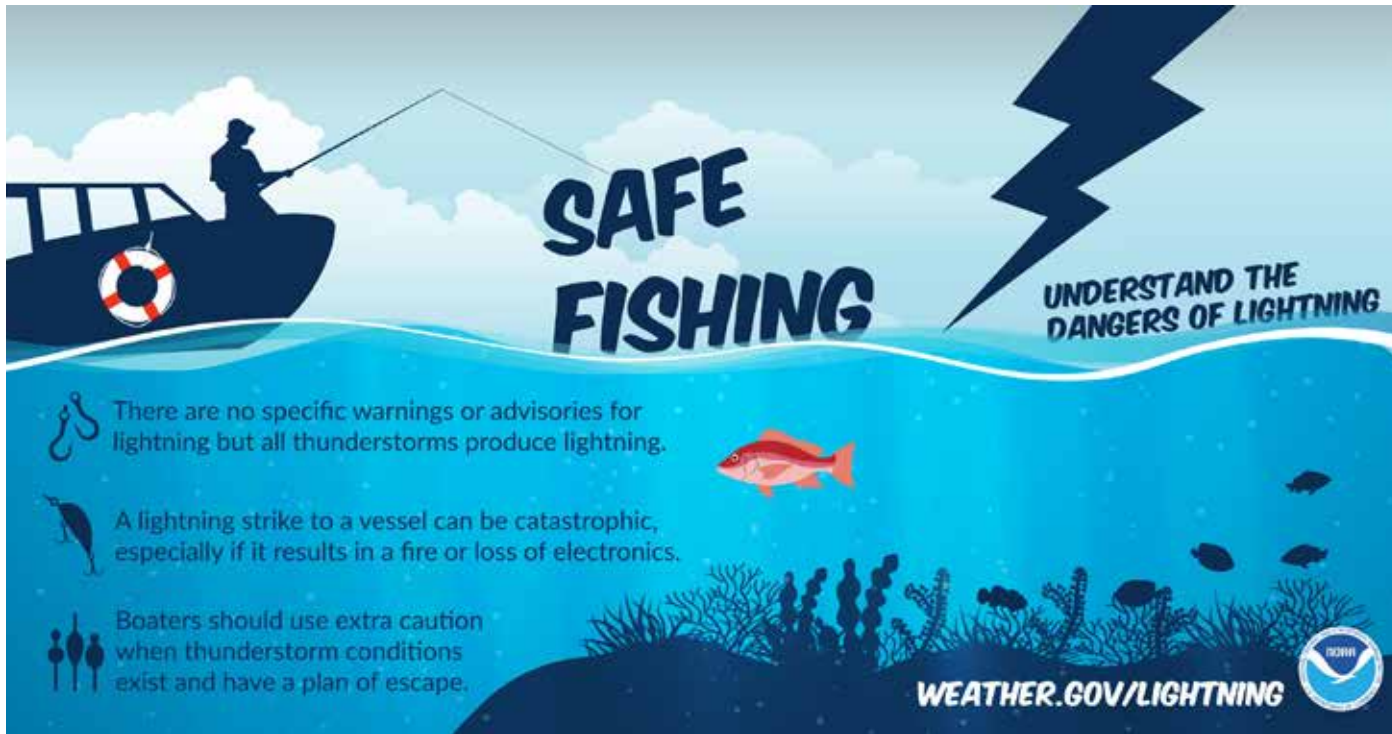




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her in Ocean City, one modern example of a boat manual is that new Viking Yachts have a QR code onboard the boat that will link you to an electronic version of manuals associated with your specific boat. If your boat does not come with a manual, you can contact the manufacturer and if there is not a manual available, you can create one and expand it as needed.

Tragedies like the Bayesian yacht sinking remind us that there are always risks when on the water and the more we can do on our own boats to maintain and operate a safe vessel is always job one. §

- Life Raft
- Safety Hazards

This safety briefing is also an opportune time to point out safe places for guests to sit while the vessel is underway and during maneuvers such as docking and anchoring.

Like the “Bayesian,” your boats manufacturer may have a book or manual detailing the

boats’ systems, and operation of the vessel along with safety recommendations. The “Bayesian” manual even had a note that read “A stamped, approved copy of this booklet must be kept on board the vessel at all times. It must also be complete, legible, and readily available for use. If this booklet is lost or becomes unusable a replacement copy

of the approved booklet must be obtained immediately.” When it comes to boats we see

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OCEAN CITY INLET TIDES & MOON PHASES

WED. SEPT 11 1st Qtr. Moon	High 01:37 am High 02:39 pm	Low 07:35 am Low 08:58 pm
THUR. SEPT 12	High 02:38 am High 03:46 pm	Low 08:33 am Low 10:00 pm
FRI. SEPT 13	High 03:45 am High 04:49 pm	Low 09:36 am Low 11:00 pm
SAT. SEPT 14	High 04:48 am High 05:44 pm	Low 10:41 am Low 11:54 pm
SUN. SEPT 15	High 05:46 am High 06:35 pm	Low 11:46 am Low _____
MON. SEPT 16	High 06:41 am High 07:24 pm	Low 12:42 am Low 12:45 pm
TUE. SEPT 17 Full Moon	High 07:36 am High 08:12 pm	Low 01:27 am Low 01:40 pm
WED. SEPT 18	High 08:29 am High 08:59 pm	Low 02:11 am Low 02:33 pm

source: usharbors.com

Add 1.5 hours for bay tides at the Rt. 50 Bridge.
Indian River Inlet - add 25 minutes to high tide
Delaware Bay Entrance - subtract 1 hour 25 minutes to high tide
- subtract 45 minutes to low tide
Wachapreague, VA - add 4 minutes for high tide - 21 minutes for low tide
Quinby Inlet, VA - subtract 6 minutes for high tide

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



Anglers Chris Higgins, Austin Korycki, Jeremy Novak and Tony Negron on the "Halfers" were one of the first crews to the scales for the 18th Annual Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder last Sunday. They brought a bucketful of flatfish, but it was the 22 5/8" and 5 lb. 5 oz. one caught by Tony that took 2nd Place overall and \$1,210 in prize money. He caught the winning fish in the West Channel on a live peanut bunker.

19th Annual Bahia Marina

FLOUNDER POUNDER

Tournament Results

1ST PLACE
Jerry Kennedy "MILLER TIME"
7 lb. 5 oz. \$7,300
2ND PLACE
Tony Negron "HALFERS"
5 lb. 5oz. \$1,210
3RD PLACE
Richard Miller "CAT TAILS"
4 lb. 12 oz. \$560

53 Boats Entered • 121 Anglers



Richard Miller on the "Cat Tails" almost didn't weight the 21 3/4" fish he caught at the Commercial Harbor during the 18th Annual Bahia Marina Flounder Pounder. Good thing he did as it weighed in at 4 lbs. 12 ozs. Enough to take 3rd Place and a prize of \$560. Fishing with Richard were Terry Ryan and Jim Daniel.

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We were shocked when we saw this picture from Scott Love from his trip aboard the charter boat "Restless Lady II"! We have not seen that many yellowfin tuna on the dock from a single trip in well over a month. The dolphin are nice size too. He was fishing with Capt. Chris Huk and fellow anglers Matt Hamm, Tyler Freeman, Lucas Hamm, Bill Phillip, Sadie Kinnarney, Sarah Pankewicz and Rob Rodak at what we are sure is a secret spot! Pictured at the Talbot Street Pier.

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VIRGINIA FISHING REPORT

by Capt. Matt Abell



Well after a long weekend and the spectacular sunset of summer, a cool easterly breeze has helped keep the bugs at bay and the fish in the bay, free from the dip net. However, when the wind blows and the water is a little white there is always a leeward bank available to enjoy the Eastern Shore experience.

The weather window to access the Atlantic was as short as your buddies fish he bragged about on the day you had to stay home. Earlier in the week, when we could pursue pelagic prey, anglers enjoyed mahi action that included scrappy struggles with awesome aerial antics that landed them right on a dinner plate. Tuna, for the most part, have been hard to find, but a few billfish or wahoo will certainly fill

that void. Bottom fishing for deep delicious delicacies like tile continue to sustain famished fishermen in need of sustenance.

The seaside activity inshore of the barrier islands has consisted of a foundation of flounder (mainly undersized), but also added a few puppy drum to the backwater buffet. These salty spot-tails have been engaged both in the suds of the ES surf, and also around the magnificent marsh estuaries inside the inlets. The bronze beach trophies have taken cut spot on modified fishfinder rigs while the fish from the flats have been tempted by popping corks followed by gulp shrimp.

The "Red" hot action is also available on the shorelines of the Chesapeake. The shallows

of the Tangier and Pocomoke sounds have yielded reds of all sizes. On the grass flats, slot and undersized fish have given some sweetwater sport as anglers offer popping corks with gulp or chunks of crab in exchange for a bent rod. While you search the shallows you will probably come across small specs (with a big fish mixed in) and a rock or two to keep things interesting. On deeper edges of the southern Chesapeake, trophy sized channel bass key in on cut spot and 8/0 circle hooks with fish finders on the bottom. Some of the same hard bottom areas have also produced a handful of yellowfin, trout, spot and a few larger hardheads. It sure would be nice to have some of the traditional bottom fishing back that was so prevalent

growing up on the Eastern Shore.













The southern bay reefs have supplied fishermen with bottom fishing battles from both reds and a few sheepshead. Folks patrolling the CBBT have also gotten to hear the drag scream as cobia get ready for "school" this fall.

Don't forget we have a series of tournaments throughout the shore. Starting with the Onanacock Bay Challenge followed by the Westside Outcasters, and then on to the Tangier Classic. All are a lot of fun and a great way to support the community. If you have any questions feel free to call or stop by the shop and we'll get you headed on the right course.

So as we enter the awesome autumn time of year, grab your buddies or the family and enter a tournament or just go for fun... but get out there and enjoy 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>

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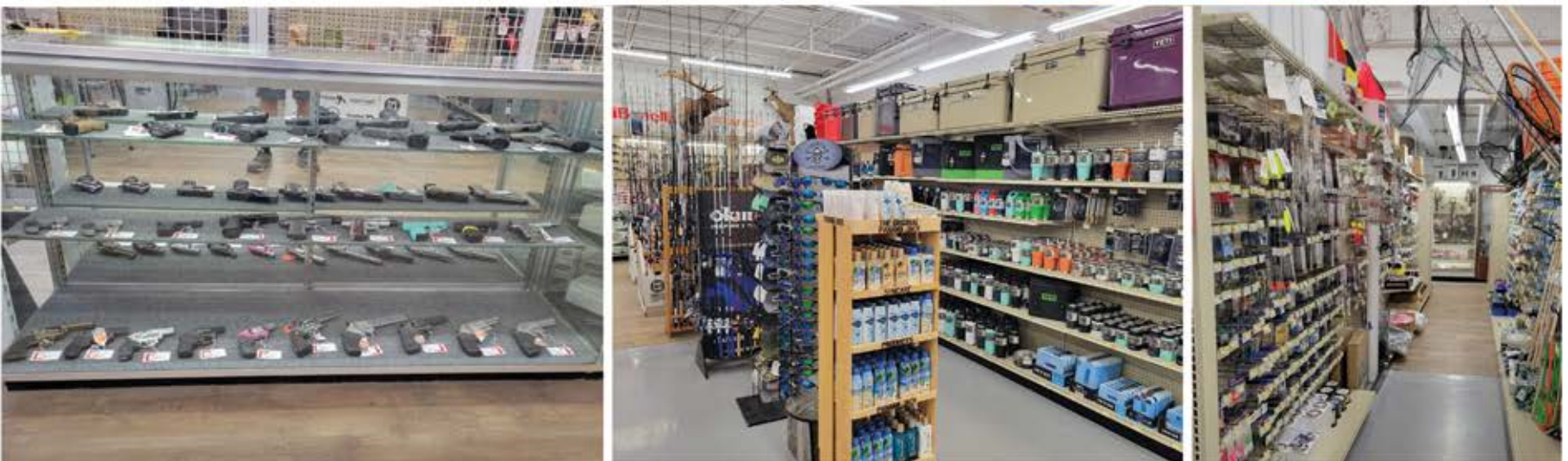


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