



FROM THE BRIDGE

"a newsletter of the OCMTC"



2019 Preview- The Ocean City Marlin and Tuna Club proudly celebrates our 60th Anniversary! And to celebrate, we are planning an exciting fishing and social season packed with events. Be sure to be involved in all the activities by registering today. Enclosed, please find a copy of the Registration Form and the Fishing Schedule. An e-mail campaign has already begun to also allow you to register via credit card on-line. Register on-line or by mail, but please help our Membership Committee by signing up now. **To be listed in the OCMTC Club Book, please register by April 1st.** Any registrations received after April 1st, will not be guaranteed a listing in the 2019 Membership Directory.

Kick Off/Awards Banquet- the fun begins on Sunday, May 27th with our annual Kick-Off/Awards Banquet. This year the event will be held at the Ocean City Yacht Club. Invitations will be mailed shortly. Last year's event was a sell-out, so please RSVP promptly. You and your family won't want to miss out! See the enclosed copy of the invitation coming your way.

Special Kids Day- once again the OCMTC and OCYC will partner to provide a day on the water for special needs kids and their families. OCMTC member boats are needed for the morning of Sunday June, 23rd. Give back to those that are less fortunate. Please contact George Robinson at polarizergforce@comcast.net to volunteer for this very worthy cause.

3rd Annual War at the Shore Offshore and new War Inshore Tournament- Exciting news for 2019 for the New Jersey Council of Marlin and Tuna Clubs. A new **War Inshore** tournament has been added to the calendar for the weekend of August 9-11. This tournament will be for Fluke, Sea Bass, Tog, Weakfish and Bluefish. Like the original War at the Shore, the tournament will involve the five Marlin and Tuna Clubs of New Jersey competing against each other for bragging rights. The original **War at the Shore** offshore tournament will be held July 17th thru July 21st. Join the fleet representing the OCMTC for both tournaments!

42nd Annual Overnight Billfish Tournament- mark your calendar for the week of August 11th thru August 18th! Our “signature” tournament will kick off with a Captain/Crew dinner at the OCYC on Sunday August 11th. What follows is five days of fishing during the prime of the offshore season. Our tournament has a long history of family focused competitive fun, with a low entry fee. **Captains' have the option of fishing either two single day trips or an overnight trip.** Numerous Calcutta options are available, including a Tuna Super Calcutta, and a Small Boat Calcutta that allows center consoles to compete with the big Sport Fish boats for cash. Thanks to our 2018 Sponsors of the Overnight Billfish Tournament.

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	Point Tackle	Sullivan Motors	Tight Lines/24-7 Bait and Tackle
	Tomatoes	Viking Yachts	Waterfront Marine

For information on becoming a 2019 sponsor of the 42nd Annual OCMTC Overnight Billfish Tournament, or for information on the tournament contact Overnight Billfish Committee Chair, Todd Eachus at todd_eachus@comcast.com or go to www.ocmtc.com for more info.

Looking Astern-

a look back at our successful 2018 season:

Go to www.ocmtc.com for a full review of the year's events with photos and video

News-

-Junior Angler Eddie Kelly broke the OCMTC record for Heaviest Mahi, with a Mahi weighing 66LBs while fishing on the Lisa Marie during the OCMTC Labor Day Jamboree tournament.

Eddie made the cover of Fisherman Magazine, had an interview and film report aired on Channel 6/Action News, and did the OCMTC proud.

-The crew of the 46'Viking Captain Chazz experienced an incredible offshore trip on Labor Day weekend with a tally of 22 releases during an overnight trip to the Hudson Canyon on Labor Day weekend. The Captain Chazz returned to GE Inlet flying 21 white marlin flags and one blue marlin flag.

-That same weekend, OCMTC member Pat Healey's Viking 72 Demo released 44 white marlin on an overnight excursion out of Canyon Club in Cape May.

-The **crew** of the OCMTC boat Polarizer took Second Place during the 2018 MidAtlantic Tournament with a white marlin weighing 73LBS while fishing on the 3's Enough (the former 55' Viking, Polarizer). Polarizer owner George Robinson, Captain Walt Ogden, and the Polarizer crew held first place from day 1 thru day 4 before being overtaken on day 5 of the prestigious tournament. Congratulations, and way to represent the OCMTC!

-The 62' Viking Polarizer made an October overnight trip to the Norfolk Canyon and released 14 white marlin.

-Sean Reilly weighed an end of year surprise with a 6 pound 9 ounce White Hake. Sean is in the running for "Most Unusual Fish" award, and remarkably weighed in the Hake at the last possible moment on 12/31/18 at Tight Lines Tackle.

Kick Off Banquet- Social Committee Chair Sonya Logue and her "crew" did a wonderful job planning our annual season opening event at the Ocean City Yacht Club. A sold out crowd enjoyed catching up with fellow members, and meeting new members on a great afternoon. A Yeti cooler and many other cool raffle items raised funds for the OCMTC. And the much anticipated awards presentation saw many anglers, captains', and crews receive recognition for their achievement during the previous season. Special thanks to the OCMTC Social Committee for their planning and hard work to ensure that the event was a success.

Shark Tournament-

First Place: **Woodshed**- 70 points

Second Place: **Breakaway**- 60 Points

Third Place: **Uncle Dougie**- 50 Points

This event began with a great Captain's Meeting held at Tight Lines Tackle. The following day dawned with light fog, calm seas and an exciting Bimini Start in front of Wonderland Pier. The tournament included 12 member boats racing for the horizon at 7AM. Many releases were tallied throughout the day, with numerous species released including Mako, Hammerhead, Dusky and Blue Sharks. No weighable fish were brought to the scales.

Flounder Cup- First Place: **High Trend** 5 pounds 4 ounces (Michael Fox)
Second Place: **Lisa Marie** 2 pounds 12 ounces (Ron Gallagher)
Third Place: **Tappin' Out** 2 pounds 3 ounces (Ryan Eichorn)

Junior Angler First Place: **Paige Driscoll** 2 pounds 9 ounces (Scrappy)
Junior Angler Second Place: **Frankie Reagan** 2 pounds 4 ounces (King James)
Junior Angler Third Place: **Max Cloeter** 2 pounds 3 ounces (Giorgi Girl)
OCMTC retained the Cup for the FIFTH consecutive year!

We had an outstanding turn out for this event, including many Junior Anglers competing for prizes and the prestigious Ocean City Flounder Cup. A nice day on the water was followed by a great barbecue held at the Ocean City Yacht Club. Don't miss the 2019 tournament.

Inshore/Offshore Team Tournament- 1st Place Team:
Woodshed, Breakaway, M & M (134 Points)
2nd Place Team:
Lisa Marie, Barracuda, Red Head (113 Points)

Sixteen OCMTC member boats registered at the Captains Meeting held at Point Tackle. Five teams were formed comprised of both inshore and offshore boats competing in this annual OCMTC event. The Inshore/Offshore Team Tournament is the only tournament on the coast which allows both small boats and large boats and their crews to join forces and compete in this always fun competition for OCMTC prizes.

War at the Shore- We are proud to say the OCMTC had 16 member boat participate in the 2nd Annual War at the Shore. The event also **raised funds of over \$5000 for the Children's Leukemia Foundation**. When lines were cleared, OCMTC had several member boats finish strong. Captain Chazz led the way and won the release category with 4 releases. Red Head took first place with a Mahi weighing 22 pounds 5 ounces. Huntress won the home port Calcutta with 46.5 points. Special thanks to our fishing Committee Chair Alex Sabetta for organizing the entire tournament.

Marlin and Tuna Challenge- First Place: **Captain Chazz**- 295 Points
Second Place: **Tinker Toy**- 106 Points
Third Place: **Nuthin' Fancy**- 16 Points

The Marlin and Tuna Challenge, was highlighted by a great day on the boat Tinker Toy. Bill Collins and crew ventured about 8 miles off the coast and picked up two nice Wahoo for his trouble. The toothy critters weighed in at 56 pounds and 50 pounds.

41st Annual Overnight Billfish Tournament- First Place: **Trust Me Too** (1292 points)
14 Whites, 1 Blue, 2 Tuna, 1 Mahi
Second Place: **Captain Chazz** (966 points)
12 Whites, 1 Tuna
Third Place: **Huntress** (869.5 points)
7 Whites, 1 Blue Marlin, 4 Tuna

The 41st Anniversary of our club's historic tournament had over 25 boats competing for over \$40,000 in cash and prizes. Todd Eachus and our Overnight Committee ran a great tournament that began with a wonderful Captain/Crew dinner at the OCYC. The beginning days of the 5 day tournament were forecast to be a bit sporty. Despite that, the Huntress battled the seas and set the bar high by returning on Tuesday to the weigh in docks with 8 releases and 4 nice tuna to 72LBS. Their great trip held up for third place overall in the tournament. Captain Chazz captured second place with 12 releases and a tuna of 66LBS. And the Trust Me Too took first place with a total of 1292 points (15 releases, 2 tuna, and a Mahi). Tiburon had a notable catch, weighing a nice Swordfish of 132.5LBS. In addition, Reel Addiction won the Wahoo category with a 43LB toothy critter. One notable epic battle of the tournament was a 7 hour fight of an estimated several hundred pound Swordfish on OCMTC member Tim McBride's Royal Flush, which involved splicing a spooled 50 wide reel to another set-up during the battle and throwing it overboard to continue to fight! Unfortunately, the Swordfish eventually broke off to fight another battle. The Royal Flush eventually redeemed the loss with a 171 pound 6 ounce Swordfish weigh in later in the year. Thank you to Sonya Logue for her assistance with the Captain's dinner and our Weigh-In Committee for spending many long hours at the scales.

Striped Bass Tournament- This years' several month long Striped Bass Tournament saw rough conditions and a lack of any large migration of Stripers off our beach for most of November and December. Notable catches include Mark Jones 42 pounder, Mike George's 39 pound fish, Mike Eni's 38 pounder and Tony Hughes 36 pound Stripper. Junior Anglers Ryan McBride's 27 pound and Danica Zgalich's 24 pound fish made us proud of the OCMTC younger generation.

Social Events- The OCMTC social calendar was active again in 2018 thanks to our Social Committee. In addition to the Kick-Off Banquet, Flounder Cup Barbecue, and the Overnight Billfish Tournament banquet and barbecue, the OCMTC held Captain's meetings/parties at Tight Lines Tackle Shop and Point Tackle. Also, a great mid-summer luncheon was held at Doc's Place overlooking the boats in the Harbor Cove Marina. Look for a full calendar of social events in 2019, and come out and join the fun with fellow members of OCMTC!

Weigh In Committee- Thank you to Committe Chair Joan Walker and her "crew" of Marlene and Mike Thornton, Kelly McMurray, and Sonya and Brian Logue. Once again, we will need assistance staffing the weigh dock for the War at the Shore and Overnight Billfish Tournament along with other regularly scheduled OCMTC tournaments this year. Once again, we will need assistance staffing the weigh dock for various tournaments this season. This is the best job in the club! What could be better than sitting on the OCYC dock sipping a cocktail while watching all the activity and waiting for our members to return from a day of fishing!

Website: the OCMTC website continues to expand with information, photos, and news of the club. Also, visit our Facebook page. If you have not visited, you will want to catch up by going to www.ocmtc.com

Sponsors: Thank you to all our Sponsors! The OCMTC Club Book sponsors and Overnight Tournament Billfish Tournament sponsors allow us to provide first class events throughout the season. Please make sure you make an effort to give our valued sponsors your business and support.

2018 OCMTC CLUB BOOK SPONSORS:

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We welcome new sponsors, and will work with your business to get the attention of almost 200 membership families. This year we are striving to expand our sponsor base. We ask that any members that might have an interest in becoming an OCMTC Sponsor, or know of a potential sponsor, please contact Baron Schlachter at spandb@comcast.net, or Mike George at mvgprint@verizon.net for information.

Thank you- I would like to thank the members of the OCMTC for allowing me to serve as your Commodore the last two years. And I sincerely would like to acknowledge the hard work of my Committee Chair's and Committee Members who have worked tirelessly to plan, promote, and implement the numerous events and activities we have all enjoyed. Without their assistance and guidance the OCMTC could not have achieved the growth and momentum our club has experienced the last several years. With the 60th anniversary of the OCMTC upon us, please make it a point to continue to participate in the events and activities that have made our family oriented organization, with such a wonderful history, great for so many years. With your continued support, the OCMTC will continue for future generations. Please join me in welcoming and supporting Commodore Mike George and his Committees throughout a successful 2019 season. Get involved in **your club**, and continue to **Make OCMTC Great For Another 60 Years!**Ron Gallagher, Past Commodore