FREE

September 2020





IN THIS ISSUE...

- NEW STATE FISHING RECORD SET FOR SHEEPSHEAD
- SEPTEMBER MULTIPLE CHOICE
- MARYLAND DEER ARCHERY SEASON OPENS SEPT. 11
- BASS NEW TECHNIQUES





First White Marlin for Chuck Trueman from Perry Hall, MD and the first Yellowfin Tuna for Greg Mattee from Bel Air Md., on the 28ft "D'Angler" with Capt. Derek Dengler and mate Steve Merther. 150 fathoms in the Poormans Canyon.

Maryland Deer Archery Season Opens Sept. 11

New Primitive Deer Hunt Days in February

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources announced that archery hunting for white-tailed and sika deer opens statewide Sept. 11, and continues through Jan. 30, 2021.

New for the upcoming deer season, archery and muzzleloader hunters may Primitive Deer Hunt Days from Feb. 1-3, 2021. During this special season, hunters may use vertical longbows, vertical recurve bows, flintlock, or sidelock percussion muzzleloaders only. Telescopic and electronic aiming devices are prohibited during this hunt. More information on these special hunt days is available in the 2020-2021 Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping.

Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping. For the 2020-21 season, the statewide bag limit for white-tailed bucks is two deer (no more than one per weapon season). Hunters have the option to take one additional bonus buck in Region B (the state's central, southern, and eastern regions) after purchasing a Bonus Antlered Deer Stamp.

The antierless archery deer bag limits differ between deer management regions. In Region A, no more than one antierless deer may be harvested during the regular archery season. An additional antierless deer may be harvested in Region A during the Primitive Deer Hunt Days.

In Region B, the antlerless archery limit is 15, except for in the Suburban Deer Management Zone, where the archery antlerless limit is now unlimited. This newly re-established zone comprises Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery, and Prince George's counties.

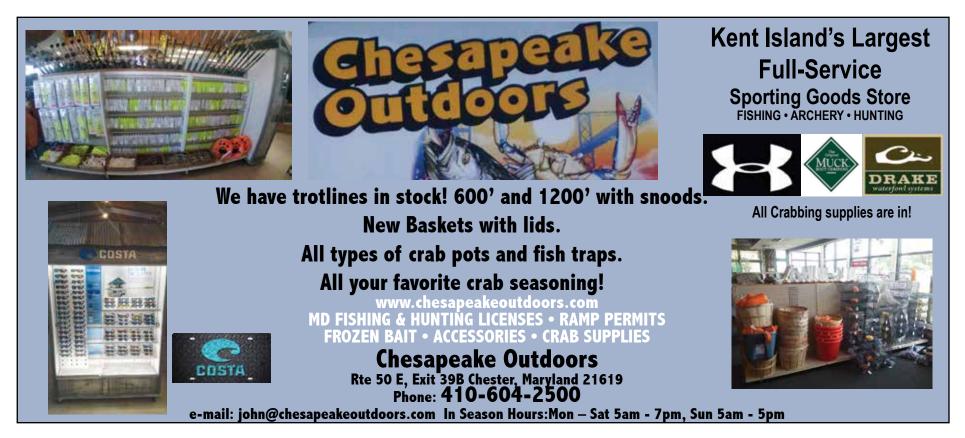
An antler-point restriction remains in effect. Deer hunters may harvest one antlered white-tailed deer within the yearly bag limit that does not meet the requirement of having at least three points on one antler. Any additional antlered deer taken within the established bag limit must meet the minimum point restriction. Licensed junior hunters and apprentice license holders, 16 years of age or younger, are exempt from this restriction.

The sika deer archery season bag limit is three with no more than one being antlered. An antlered sika is defined as a deer with at least one antler visible above the hairline. The sika deer archery season is open in every county.

Multiple Sundays are open to archery hunting in most counties, including on some public lands. "We are excited to expand our archery hunting opportunities this year

"We are excited to expand our archery hunting opportunities this year with the new Primitive Deer Hunt Days and re-established Suburban Deer Management Zone," Wildlife and Heritage Service Director Paul Peditto said. "Archery hunting has become increasingly important for effective deer management in Maryland, and is especially needed in urban and suburban areas."

When checking in their deer, hunters should report deer taken with a long, compound, or recurve bow as harvested with a vertical bow. Crossbow hunters should register their deer as taken with a crossbow.





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BY INSPIRATION MINISTRIES The Voice of the Lord

The Bible describes moments when God spoke to His people. But many wonder if He speaks to people today. For some, the idea of hearing from God seems like a fantasy, like fiction or even a delusion.

David had no doubts that God spoke to His people. In fact, he had experienced God's voice in several ways. He described His voice as "powerful" and "majestic" (v. 4). His voice "shakes the wilderness" and "strips the forests bare" (v. 9). When God speaks, the impact can change physical objects. But His voice also can foster intimate moments.

The experience of hearing God's voice can be life changing. As David described, those in His temple say "Glory" (v. 9). They are overwhelmed and filled with praise.

The Bible reminds us that God speaks in many ways. He speaks through His written Word. He can speak through pastors, counselors, and others who are sensitive to His leading.

God speaks through His Spirit (John 16:13). He can speak in loud, earth-shattering ways, but, as Elijah discovered, also in "a still small voice" (1 Kings 19:12)

God desires to have a personal relationship with you. He is not a cold, distant deity; He is alive and real. Talk with Him. Share your deepest needs and concerns with Him. But don't just talk. Take time to listen. Be sensitive to His leading. He might speak in a still, small voice.



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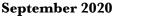
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"Tackle Box Tim"

Bass: New Techniques

September brings the promise of cooling temperatures. Cooling temperatures bring the promise for more fish species being active in shallow waters. Largemouth bass, stripers, white perch, yellow perch, and yes - even catfish, like the shallows in cooling water conditions. Shallow waters are where I thrive in fishing. Give me a grass line, riprap, sunken wood and rock piles, or dock boats and I am in my comfort zone. These forms of cover hold these many species. Oftentimes I catch several of these species at the same location. I find that these are some of my favorite outings

I've caught large yellow perch on naked chatter baits mean for stripers, stripers on spinnerbaits meant for bass, and veracious white perch on poppers. And it is no longer a surprise when a catfish pummels a rattle trap or chatter bait. They are as much a predator as they are a bottom feeder.

White perch and yellow perch are known to school up along grass edges in upper bay tributar-ies. Sunken rock piles and riprap banks also hold them. This can be a great time to introduce children to fishing. Drifting a worm, minnow, or grass shrimp under a bobber for either perch species is a great way to get them started. I like a more advanced approach, casting inline spinners, twisters on a spinner frame (beetle spin-like), and Lit'l Fishies. In early September, find-ing the edge of the grass line is important. Your bait will be hidden if you plop your bobber in the midst of the vegetation. You will readily snag a lure in the thick stuff with within a crank or two of the reel.

Grass beds will also hold largemouth bass. You can target them most anywhere in the green stuff. I am a topwater nut. If the tide is high, I'll fancast a grass flat with a popper, spook or buzzbait. Low tides call for floating frogs. If the topwater bite does not materialize, try other lures. If you can work over the grass, try a chatter bait or swim bait. These two lures will also work well if you find some thin patches of grass. There are times when you'll need to slow down even further. This is when you'll need to turn to soft plactics. Pitch a crawfish imitator or stick worm to the pockets and holes within the vegetation.

Bass can also be found on wood and rock cover as well. Square bill crankbaits are a first good choice for both forms of cover. Bump it along the falling limbs or rocks to get the reaction strikes from the deflection. The chatter bait and swimbait also have their place on hard cover. When it comes to soft baits, you can make pinpoint casts to the seams in rock cover and intersections of the limbs. The same can be said for dock and pier pilings. My favorite bait is a wacky rigged stick worm. On breezy days, a spinnerbait is my number one choice no matter what type of cover – grass, wood, or rock.

As air water and water temperatures fall, stripers will make their way into the shallows. This is my favorite time to target them. In low light hours and on overcast days, I will be casting surface baits. If there are signs of surface activity, I'll work a plopper or popper for the aggressive bite. Without the signs on top, I'll slow down the popper or work a walking bait over rock piles, current breaks, and riprap.

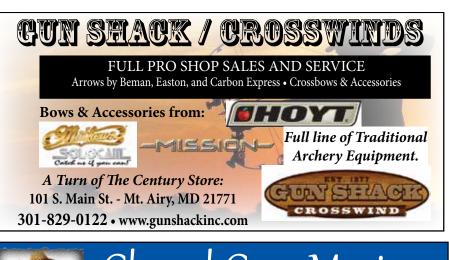
The best bait for covering the water below the surface is a rattle trap. I prefer the ¹/₂-ounce size; yet if the forage base is small, the ¹/₄-ounce size is hard to beat. A naked chatter bait is a good second choice for fan casting. With the skirt removed and swim bait threaded on, you'll need to slow down your retrieve. It will not track properly at a fast pace. If stripers aren't committing to these lures, slow down with a jig. A jig head adorned with a swim bait or fluke will get the bites when the faster moving baits falter.

Given the right conditions, my favorite lure for stripers is the jerkbait. Except for topwater strikes, I get some of my most aggressive strikes on a jerkbait. I've rarely met a shallow bridge piling that didn't hold a willing striper in fall. I'll cover all angles of pole-type pilings with twitches and pauses. On platform-supported pilings, I'll work the current-facing corners first. From there, I'll make casts parallel and as close to the platforms as possible. In late summer and early fall, the better bite come on floating models as they have a more erratic action.

The only issue I have fishing in fall is not having enough deck space to all the lures and rods I need for the active species. On the Bush, Gunpowder, Susquehanna and their tributaries, you fish for all of these species on the same trip. No matter what species I'm casting for, I'll be happy in their pursuit.



Tackle Box Tim shows a yellow perch that struck a naked chatter bait.



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Kenny McClain and company got in on the Yellowfin action down off OC. Photo courtesy of Thompsons Safes.





David Sites captured this nice shot of Captain Drew Payne on the Big Worm at Thomas Point Light.



One of our customers after a great afternoon in the dove field. 2019-2020 Dove Season at Schrader's Outdoors, Henderson, MD



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Geoff Cerrelli who fished off the Thelma Dale for flounders last week. Caught his limit and won the pool!

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Cara Hughes traveled from Maryland to Alaska this summer where she caught this Halibut.



"Tuna The Tide"

2020 OC White Marlin Open

By Captain Mark Galasso

Fisherman and fisherwomen are without a doubt some of the most adventuress and superstitious people on the planet. And the ones that pursue the large pelagic species like the Billfish and Tunas in the open ocean take it to the extremes.

So when you add almost 6.8 million dollars in prize money like they did in last months Ocean City White Marlin Open you can only imagine the 433 boats entered in the week long tournament trying to gain any advantage they can. This leads to one of the more fascinating stories in the tournaments 46 year history.

About three weeks prior to tournament week my diesel mechanic Rudy Schlesner of East Coast Diesel stopped into our shop at Shore Tackle and Custom Rods. He asked if we could make him a gaff he was to present to one of

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his good clients, Captain David Grossman who owns the Canyon Blues, a 43 foot Ocean Yacht out of Sunset Marina in Ocean City, Maryland. He also mentioned that Captain Grossman had a couple of older fishing rods that he needed rebuilt that had some sentimental value. Not a problem.

When the rods were brought into the shop a few days later Bill Obrien, the shop owner gave them a good going over and determined the blanks were sound and the rods well built. We went right to work since everything had to be ready for the tournament a couple weeks later.

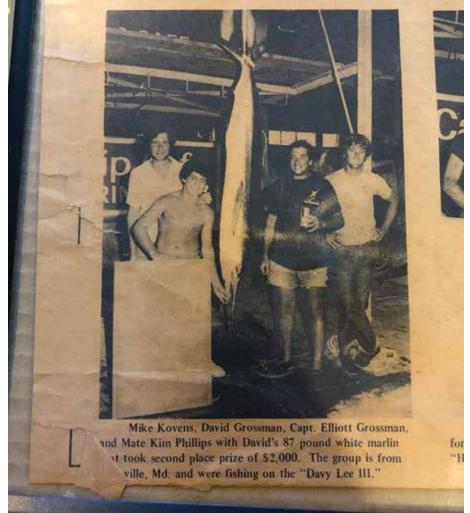
The sentimental value we later learned was that the rods were actually Captain Grossman's father's, Captain Elliott Grossman who ran a 40 foot Jersey called the Davy Lee III. Captain Elliott had the rods built by a custom

builder out of Pasadena, Maryland with his share of the winnings when they took second place in the fifth annual White Marlin Open back in 1978 with a big 87 pound White Marlin. David, a young 14 year old deck hand at the time remembers his father and everyone else's jubilation checking in a big money fish.

So fast forward 41 years later. The tournament got off to a shaky start. Hurricane Isaias was churning off the mid Atlantic Coast pretty much wiping the slate clean of all the temperature breaks offshore fisherman tend to look for when searching for Tunas and Marlins. The pandemic was in full bloom creating an extra air of cautiousness around every aspect of the tournament and associated pageantry.

The Tournament Committee decided to allow boats to fish through Sunday so things could settle down and be safe. Many of the boats which couldn't get Coastal Fisherman Page 8

"BIGGEST ON THE EAST COAS"



out early in the week decided to fish on the bonus days, Saturday and Sunday. One of these boats was the Canyon Blues.

Saturday morning Captain Grossman left the inlet and headed the boat southeast towards the Washington Canyon. His two mates Daniel, his son, and mate Joey Coyle got to work doing all the behind the scenes stuff mates do to keep busy. The group of anglers relaxed though when there is that much money on the line it's hard to relax. When they reached their destination they set out "The Spread", a mixture of lures and teasers, flat lines and rigger lines as well as dredges off of short stout dredge rods we make just for that purpose.

The day was relatively uneventful with a fish here and a fish there until about 1pm when a Large White Marlin slammed a naked Ballyhoo chugging along on a long rigger behind a teaser in nearly 800 fathoms of water. Daniel grabbed the rod and handed it off to one of the anglers, Brandon Golueke of Chester, Maryland. After a short 15 minute battle the White was next to the boat. It was determined then that it made the minimum size for the tournament and was gaffed and brought into the boat. Once in the boat the crew realized this fish was huge. But it wasn't until the

fish was officially weighed and measured back at the dock that the crew realized how special this White Marlin really was.

The Canyon Blue's White Marlin officially weighed in at 97 pounds, the third largest White in tournament history. Only Brian Robert's 2010 winning White at 97.5 pounds and Steve Bass's monster 99 pounder in 1980 were larger. The Canyon Blues crew received a check for 1.85 million dollars for their catch. The fish was gaffed with the gaff Rudy presented to the boat and ironically the fish was caught on one of Captain Elliott's old rods making a connection between three generations of Grossmans and the Ocean City White Marlin Open!

It was suggested by numerous people that Captain Grossman's old rods be put on a mantle to protect them and create a conversation piece for friends and family for generations. But they were built for a purpose. And they still fulfill that purpose. Not only do they catch fish but they seem to have a lucky aura about them. And as fisherman you just can't beat luck. Congratulations to the Canyon Blues and their crew. I'm sure they're already getting ready for next year.



Taylor landed this Snakehead over the summer.



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Nick of Sonar Kings has been buried in top notch boat electronic installs lately trying to help others find those big Bull Reds a little easier. It's good to see him take a quick break (or tuning someone's sonar in) and jig up some solid goldfish recently on the extra strong BigRig jig.



Capt Dwayne Wroten and first mate Brennen Wroten with their keeper Rockfish.





Wittman Wharf is in the heart of the Bay Hundred area.

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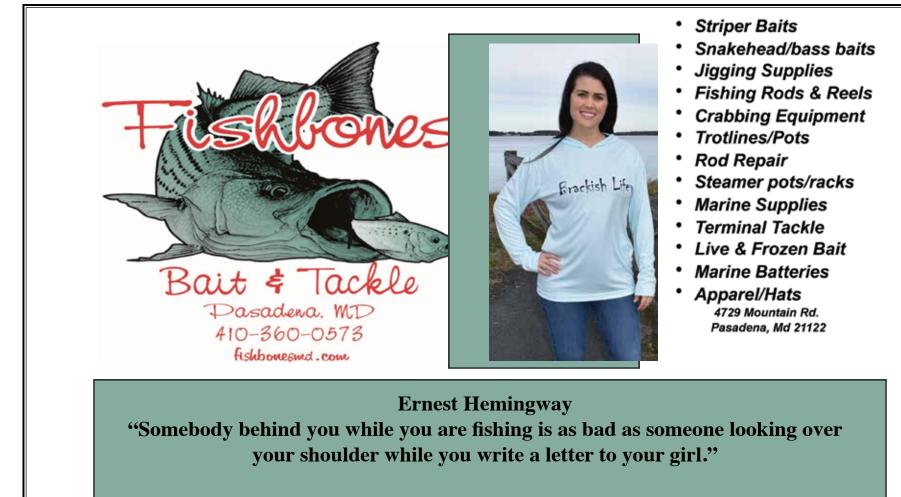


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Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons 2020-2021 Set to Begin

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources has announced the state's 2020-2021 migratory game bird hunting seasons. Bag limits, season dates, and shooting hours can be found in the 2020-2021 Maryland Guide to Hunting and Trapping.

"The early migratory game bird seasons give Maryland's hunters an exciting way to kick off the season," Wildlife and Heritage Director Paul Peditto said. "With all the excellent hunting opportunities Maryland has to offer, we'd like to encourage our sportsmen and women to introduce a young person to the experience of a day afield."

Season dates are as follows. Except where otherwise noted, shooting hours begin 30 minutes before sunrise and end at sunset for all early migratory game bird hunting seasons:

Dove, split season

First Season: Sept. 1 – Oct. 17

Second Season: Oct. 24 – Nov. 27

Third Season: Dec. 19 – Jan. 9, 2021

During the first season segment only, shooting hours are from noon to sunset

Woodcock, split season

First Season: Oct. 21 – Nov. 27 Second Season: Jan. 11–23, 2021

Early resident Canada goose season

Eastern zone: Sept. 1–15

Western zone: Sept. 1–25

Hunters are allowed to use shotguns capable of holding more than three shot shells. Shooting hours are extended to a half-hour before sunrise to a half-hour after sunset.

Teal, September season Sept. 16–30

Shooting hours will be a halfhour before sunrise to sunset. The daily bag limit is six.

All migratory bird hunters, including landowners who are license-exempt, must purchase a Maryland Migratory Game Bird Stamp/Harvest Information Program Permit and possess the printed receipt while hunting. All waterfowl hunters, ages 16 and older, must possess a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Federal Duck Stamp). Licenses, permits, and stamps can be purchased online, by phone at 855-855-3906, by appointment at a department service center, or at any of Maryland's 250 sport license agents.

Hunters are encouraged to report banded migratory game birds online. After reporting the banded bird, hunters will receive a certificate of appreciation that includes all known biological information on the bird they harvested.

Anyone with questions may contact the department at 410-260-8540.

New State Fishing Record Set for Sheepshead

A Dorchester County resident has officially been recognized by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources for a new state fishing record, Chesapeake Bay Division, for sheepshead.

Daniel Mastronardi, Jr. caught the 14.1-pound recordbreaking fish around noon

on August 9, 2020 in the lower bay, with peeler crab for bait in about 15 feet of water near the target ship USAS American Mariner. Mastronardi's catch breaks the 13.73-pound record that was set only three years prior by Deale resident, Dave Alveberg.

Targeting speckled trout and striped bass, 33-year-old Mastronardi said his catch came unexpectedly. "I really had no idea what I had on the line," he said.

Mastronardi reeled in the record-breaking sheepshead and immediately called his father to check the state's current state records. He said, "It really was one of the biggest I've ever seen." He plans to have his catch mounted for display

He plans to have his catch mounted for display. The sheepshead's weight was confirmed by Mark Cropper of Kool Ice and Seafood Company in Cambridge.

The department maintains state records for sport fish in four divisions – Atlantic, Chesapeake, Nontidal, and Invasive – and awards plaques to anglers who achieve record catches. Fish caught from privately-owned, fee-fishing waters are ineligible for consideration.

Anglers who think they have a potential record catch should download and fill out the state record application and call 443-569-1381 or 410-260-8325. The department recommends the fish be immersed in ice water to preserve its weight until it can be checked, confirmed, and certified.

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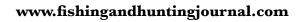
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Remember folks, fish are like relatives. After two days, they stink. **Bobby Heenan**



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SPANNING THE GLOBE



Jonathan Pierce, of Roxborough, cradles the 56.3-pound flathead catfish that likely will be the largest fish on record with the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission.



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Florida men facing multiple felonies for using illegal net to fish

PINELLAS C O U N T Y, Fla. – The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) arrested two Tampa men for using an illegal gill net to fish.



The out-

lawed net captured and killed multiple fish species including a baby bottlenose dolphin, according to a release from FWC.

The suspects Yunior C. Rosales Morales, 30, and Yandie Concepcion, 34, are facing three felony charges for possession, use, and tran-

sit of the net. The pair also racked up 28 misdemeanor charges for illegal method of take, out of season catches, undersize snook, and oversized redfish catches. The bottle-

nose dolphin also found in

the net is a



federally protected species. FWC is investigating with the Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration on how to proceed with this finding.

"Our officers work hard to protect Florida's precious natural resources and egregious violations such as these are reminders of why our work is so important," says SW Regional Commander, Maj. Roger Young. "The

use of this type of fishing gear is not only illegal but it is harmful to fish and wildlife by indiscriminately killing much of the fish and wildlife that become entangled in it."





Stephanie Cohen (one of the strongest female powerlifters in history), Sarah Backman (8x world champion arm wrestler), and Kristen Nun (fitness and social media celebrity)', battle giant goliath Grouper in Florida.



By Grant Soukup

IF... shotgun

IF you could have just one shotgun, what would it be? Semiauto, pump, single shot, Bolt action, side by side, over under? There are a lot of choices for a variety of purposes.

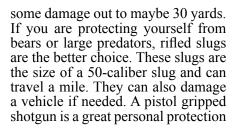
Winchester and Remington built the first pump shotguns, before World War 2. When these pump shotguns went to War, the Germans tried to have these "Trench Sweepers" banned as weapons of mass destruction. One soldier in an enemy trench could wipe out the whole area. The Americans had them, but the Germans did not. They just had the Maxim Machine guns.

The first question that needs to asked is Why do you need a shotgun? Do you need protection? Are you a bird hunter? Do you hunt waterfowl? Will you use this shotgun to hunt deer? Do you plan to shoot trap, skeet, or Sporting Clays? Do you just want to purchase shotguns as a collector, or as an investment? Different shotguns will meet different needs.

The Brand of the shotgun you pick will determine the quality and cost. Guns like Mossberg and Ithaca will costless but are still well made. Instead of walnut wood stocks, they may be fitted with fiberglass or plastic composite stocks. More expensive Brands like Berettas and Browning's use excellent steel, woods, to create custom-made guns can that cost thousands of dollars, due the precise machining, custom features, and finishes.

Features such as vent ribs, changeable chokes, slings and swivels, sighting beads, or camo finishes will all add to the cost. Fancy grained woods are an option. Red dot or other scopes may be an add on if you plan to deer hunt. Some shotguns will cast empty shells at your feet or several feet away. Shotguns with magazines, normally hold 4 shells, and one in the chamber. A magazine, or clip extension will hold more.

Home Protection Nothing fancy needed. You want simple, durable, safe, and easy to use. This weapon may be called upon for action in the middle of the night. Know your weapon and practice. Mossberg makes a pistol grip stock which is shorter lighter, and easier to handle. You may be in a hallway or confined space, where swinging a long gun is harder. The sound of a pump shotgun is a great deterrent. The "CaChunk" sound means that the gun is loaded and unmistakable. For home protection, use Double 00 buckshot, and an improved cylinder, open, choke. In a 12-gauge gun, it means several BB's, the size of 45 caliber slugs will do



"Montana Grant"



weapon at home, in a vehicle, fishing, or camping. Bull pup, shorter stock styles, are also available.

Bear Protection If you are fishing in Bear country, a BIG BORE is a good choice for a BIG BOAR! Bear spray is a nice idea but if you do not hit the bears face, it will not work. Bear spray usually will impact the person using the spray as well. A heavy duty, heavily loaded pistol is a good idea. Most guides I know pack a 357-caliber revolver, loaded with Norma bear loads. It is more compact and can be quickly used, with practice. A short barreled, pistol grip 12-gauge shotgun can be carried with a sling. It takes up little space and will weigh less than 6 pounds. Double 00 buckshot is like shooting 8, 45 caliber rounds with one shot. You only need to point, not aim this lethal protection weapon. The choke will be open to ensure a wide pattern of lead. If you have a couple shotgun slugs in the mix, the range will increase as well as the impact. Some fishermen, and camp hosts that I have talked with, load "cracker shells" first, then a rubber bullet, next is buckshot, followed by slugs. Ethically, they plan to first scare the bear, then humanely hit the bear with a non-lethal round, and hopefully discourage the attack, before they need to get more lethal. Semi-automatic guns and pistols can jam. Pump guns and revolvers are often the best Bear choice. A shorter Bull Pup style stock is also an option.

Gauge Shotguns come in 10, 12, 15, 20, 28, and 410 gauge. The smaller the number the bigger the bore. This means more power, shot, and shells. Bigger gauges mean a heavier weapon, and larger shells. Big guns kick, or recoil, more. Shells for these guns come in different sizes as well. 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch shells, 3 inch, and 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ inch shells will fit different shotguns with properly sized chambers. Each has their uses.

Choke The diameter of the barrel determines the density of the shot pattern. You can also adjust the pattern with posted shotshell BB cups, inside the shells when reloading. This will create a dense, full choke, modified, or improved pattern. There are also Skeet or Trap chokes and other variations. A full choke may allow the shooter to kill a turkey, or goose, at 60 yards or more. An open choke will take down a door, or a flushing pheasant, at close range.

Rate of fire A single shot gun needs to be opened and reloaded after each shot. Double barreled guns allow for 2 shots. Automatic ejectors clear the barrel for a reload. Older or cheaper guns must be unloaded manually. A pump gun normally allows for 5 shots that need to be pump

ejected after every shot. Inexperienced pump gun shooters tend to "short chuck" the ejection which can cause a jam. A semi-automatic gun will shoot, eject, and reload 5 rounds after each trigger pull. Lighter loads tend to lack enough energy to fully eject a spent shell and can jam. Rate of fire is not as important as accuracy. Slowing down the rate of fire

allows the shooter to better adjust and aim fire. Magazine extensions allow for more shells between reloads, but also add weight and make the weapon front heavy and longer.

Trap, Skeet, or Sporting Clays These competitive shooting sports offer different targets and demands. In Skeet, you will need a shorter, lighter, and well fitted gun. You will need to swing on fast moving targets travelling away, toward you, and cross. Competitive shooting happens in 4 gauges. Each Gauge means 4 flights of 25 targets. Trap means 25 targets perflight, in various gauges, that travel away from you. Sporting Clays will require the same but at one flight being 100 targets at different stations. This is kinda like Golf with a Shotgun. Every target offers different angles, speeds, limitations, and challenges. If you also consider the weather, things will get even sportier.

Waterfowl and hunting shotguns offer many choices. Most waterfowl hunters are required to use Steel shot. This means different chokes and loads. These guns will also be used in harsh, wet conditions and need to be durable. Goose hunting may require long range shooting so a full choke, longer barreled gun is a good idea. Upland bird hunting offers shooting closer than 50 yards, so a first barrel at improved cylinder, then a modified barrel is a good choice, if you have a double-barreled gun. You can also get a triple barreled gun, but the weight may outweigh the advantage of a third shot. You also need to so remember that you plan to eat the game that you harvest, so use enough gun and shell to do the job and no more. Side by side or over under shotguns offer a different sight plane and encourage the shooter to swing with the target.

Deer Hunting has evolved over the years. Since deer hunting can be done in more populated and suburban areas, close range, accurate weapons are required. High powered rifles can be dangerous. The high velocity rounds carry great distances and ca do intense damage to property and people. Shotguns are slower, and less of a danger. Hunters are required to use slugs that can be a solid lead bullet, or a sabot rifle round that offers better accuracy, but at a slower velocity. Back in the day, we used what were called "Punkin Balls" These 50 caliber lead slugs were accurate out to 50 yards on a good day. After that, it became luck. Since then, we have now offer rifled shotgun slug barrels, scoped shotguns, iron sighted or Red Dot scoped shotgun sights, and other advantages such as Adjustable triggers and recoil reduction stock pads. Ethical slug gun shots, out to 250 yards, are commonly made with these modern deer hunting shotguns.

Turkey hunting is another choice of shotgun. You will be shooting a target the size of a boot out to 50 yards or so. This means accuracy, range, tight choke, and lightweight. A 12-gauge loaded shotgun is heavy, especially when trekking over mountains. Size 4-6 shot will be needed in a Buffered load, to with a tight, full choke, to put at least 10 BB's in a turkey's head at 50 yards.

Fit, feel, and force. The gun needs to fit your body. The feel of the gun is about its length, weight, and fit. If the gun does not fit into your shoulder, the recoil will let you know. The length and fit will also determine if you are comfortably looking down a flat barrel or through it. Have an experienced Mentor help you with the fitting. Force is about being comfortable enough with the gun to safely use it. This means practice, practice, practice. It is also important to know when to not pull the trigger. Practice the scenarios that you may face. The bear is charging, unsling, take off the safety, identify the target, fire, reload... This process is learned and requires muscle memory.

Maintenance No matter what shotgun you pick, clean and service it routinely. Always consider safe storage. You do not want the weapon to fail when an intruder is coming through the window, a bear is charging, a buck or gobbler is broadside at 50 yards, or you are in the final shots of a competition.

Find an experienced Mentor to help you select your shotgun. As you can see, one gun is not enough. Gun ranges and shooting sports clubs are happy to help. They will ask these same questions and help you select the gun you truly need. Next, get them to take you to the range and let you shoot. The gun is only as good as the shooters experience and practice. The more practice you have, the more accurate, safe, and comfortable you will be with your weapon.

Aim Small, Miss Small!

Montana Grant

For more Montana Grant, find him on target at www.montanagrantfishing.com.



Coastal Report

By Capt. Mark Sampson

Anyone who has fished with me much is likely aware that when it comes to fishing - I'm really not into following along with what everyone else is doing. If most of the fleet is fishing for one thing - I'll likely be fishing for something else, if everyone is fishing in one area - I'll be somewhere else. It's not that I don't wish everyone else all the luck in the world - I just don't feel a need to be around them while they're having it. Give me a stretch of water with a couple fish in it and not another boat in sight and I'm a happy-camper. Fishing out on my own, away from the rest of the gang, gives me the personal satisfaction of knowing that the fish brought to the boat that day were by my own doing, not because I simply got in the same check-out line as everyone else.

That crossed my mind the other day as I was perusing the pages of one of the big national fishing magazines and was struck with the realization that when it comes to outdoor writing I'm right there fishing in the same pond with every other writer. Except maybe for the facts that most of them probably get paid a heck of a lot more then I do and are much better writers, we all share the commonality that we're always writing about "how to catch fish." Rig the baits this way or that way, fish deep, fish shallow, look for drop-offs, temperature breaks and structure, pay attention to details, have the latest electronics, the fastest boat, the sharpest hooks, the thinnest line, and the freshest baits. Yea-yea-yea, we've all got it because we've read it over and over again; it's the same story just fluffed-up this way or that way to accommodate different fish and different locations.

But as every fisherman knows, catching fish doesn't happen every trip. In fact, I think that for a lot of folks "not" catching fish is a much more common occurrence. So I got to thinking that maybe I'm missing a great opportunity to tap into an overlooked segment of the outdoor writing market by not directing my efforts on those fishermen who are tired of always reading about how to "catch fish" and instead write about how "not to catch fish" because that's a topic that "all" fishermen can relate to!

I'm not referring to the days when anglers do everything right but Mother Nature just doesn't send any hungry fish their way. Oh no, that's too easy! On days like that, anglers don't have to try not to catch fish, it just happens. Or should I say it just "doesn't happen," so anglers shouldn't try to take credit for it. "How to not catch fish" is about when the actions of anglers specifically prevents them from catching fish. It's not that the fish aren't biting, it's that the fishermen can't connect when they have a chance to.

For example; one of the best ways not to catch fish is to have no bait on the boat, which of course is a no-brainer and a situation no fisherman who actually want to catch fish would allow themselves to be in. But it does happen. In fact I recall it happening during the White Marlin Open a number of years ago when a team spent the afternoon before the first fishing day at one of the member's home rigging a cooler full of ballyhoo, mullet, squid and mackerel. The problem was, the next morning when they when to put their lines out in the Washington Canyon, they realized their cooler of baits was still sitting on the guy's back deck! In another tournament a team pre-rigged all their baits but forgot to put ice in the bait cooler. The next day the weather was hot and sunny but too rough to fish so the cooler sat in the sun and baked. Evidently the team never opened the cooler lid until they were out on the fishing grounds two days later. I might be wrong but I don't think billfish care too much for "hot" pink squid or baked ballyhoo!

Another way to not catch fish is to have no bait on your hook, a technique which is actually a pretty easy to learn and one that most of us have practiced more than once throughout our fishing careers. I could ramble on about how to put a hook in a bait in such a way that it will easily tear off at the slightest nibble or by water pressure from a strong current or fast retrieve, but the easiest way to fish with no bait is simply to not check it regularly. The heck with bringing the bait up just to see that it's still intact, just let it go, fish every bait a long-long time, let it soak long enough that the crabs, small bluefish, sharks, or squid can eat it right off the hook! The next best thing to fishing with no bait is fishing with bait that's all

clumped up with seaweed. Unfortunately, seaweed is just not predictable enough that anglers can always count on it being there to deter bites.

I know anglers who have avoided catching fish by leaving the dock without their rods, tackle box, flies, net, gaff, and just about any other essential piece of fish catching equipment imaginable. On a similar note I once had a group of six anglers come out fishing with me who left their food and drink cooler on the dock. It was a long hot day for those fellows who where seriously considering having a meal of sushi before it was all over.

A lot of fishermen have become pretty good at not

catching fish by fishing where there are no fish. How many times I've watched anglers on the shore or in a boat casting right up onto a sandbar where it's only inches deep. If I didn't know that they were actually trying "not" to catch fish I'd be duped into believing that they just didn't know how shallow it was.

Anyone can get a tangled line but it takes a pro at not catching fish to get a whopper of a tangle just as a school of fish pops up within casting range. If really done right an angler can make it look to their fishing partners like the tangle resulted from fumbling around with the rod and reel in efforts to fire off a quick cast in order to actually "catch" a fish. A good tangle should take so long to straighten out that there is no chance of getting a line in the water before all evidence of the passing school has vanished.

I could go on and on about ways not to catch fish but I'm thinking that most anglers already have their own list of methods to ensure that they don't have to clean fish or the fish box at the end of the day. Besides, I'm thinking now that this could be good book material, something like "101 Ways Not To Catch Fish" or "How To Fish and NOT Come Home Smelling Like One." Anyway, I wish everyone a good week of fishing – and I hope I don't see any of you out there!

Mark Sampson

Fish Finder Adventures LLC Ocean City, MD

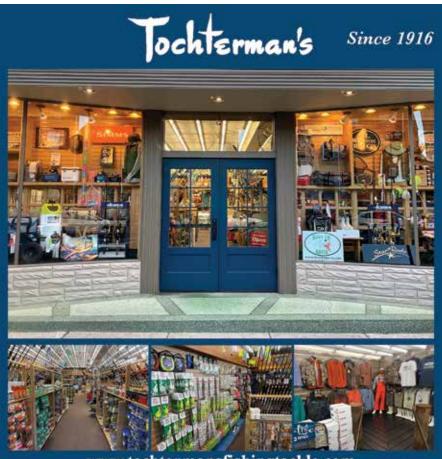
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By Steve Huettner

The 2020-2021 hunting season is shaping up to be one of new regulations, changes and opportunities for hunters in the Maryland. We are fortunate in Maryland to have lengthy seasons, liberal bag limits, and multiple species to hunt. Maryland's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) not one to be comfortable with the status quo has looked to add exactment for the upcoming season.

One of the biggest changes for this year involves hunting in shotgun only counties. This year, the slug gun may not make it out of the safe. Straight walled rifle cartridge rifles will be legal in counties that are shotgun only. Straight walled cartridges will have

Straight walled cartridges will have a case diameter that is the same across its length. Straight walled rifle cartridges tend to use larger diameter bullets to compensate for the relatively slower speeds. Calibers that will allowed to use include both handgun and rifle. For fans of large caliber handguns, you will now be allowed to hunt deer with the hand cannon. Legal this year will the .357, .41, .44, .454 casull, .460 S&W, and .500 S&W. For those that like to hunt with rifles the 38-55 Winchester, .444 Marlin, .45-70, .450 Bushmaster, .50 Beowulf, and the Winchester .350 Legend.

This a huge change for Maryland's hunters, firearms dealers, and the deer that we hunt. When I first reported about the changes several months ago I began my research to purchase a straight walled rifle for myself. I decided on a .350 legend bolt action rifle. The price was right, ammo in expensive and after a trip to the range it proved to be accurate, low recoil and just fun to shoot. I looking forward to hitting the woods and putting it to the test.

If the addition of straight walled cartridges was bad news for deer, DNR

"The Last Word"

New Changes for 2020-2021 Maryland Hunting Season

has now added a primitive Deer Season from February 1-3. During this threeday season hunters may hunt deer with long bows, recurve bows, flintlocks, and sidelock percussion muzzleloaders (leave the compound bow and inline muzzleloader at home). While all of these weapons could be used during the general deer seasons, it is a great addition for a few days set aside to try to hunt with old school weapons. Looks like it's time to take the old .58 caliber sidelock out and spend some time on the range.

I do wonder though how much it will be utilized in February? Deer after being hunted for 5 months might be skittish, while some hunters may worry about shooting next years buck that has dropped his antlers. I look forward to seeing utilization and harvest statistics.

There is a new Suburban Deer Management Zone which will be comprised of Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Howard, Montgomery and Prince George's counties. The Archery Season antlerless deer bag limit is unlimited in the Suburban Deer Management Zone. This zone existed a few years ago and then was removed and is now back. With the prior limit being ten antlerless deer, and a small percentage of hunters ever coming close to their limit it will be interesting to see if there is an increased harvest in these areas.

For apprentice license holders, junior license holders, new hunters and hunters who have previously held a Maryland hunting license buthave letit lapse DNR is offeringa "do it yourself" hunts for stocked pheasants on public lands across the state. This seems like anice opportunity to recruit and reengage "new hunters" to hunt some upland birds. With hunter numbers in decline, trying new ideas are worth it. In the future it would be nice to see if DNR could add a drawing for current hunters.

Along the current lines of a special season Maryland will now offer active duty military and honorably discharged veterans two special waterfowl hunt days to coincide with the youth waterfowl hunt days. For those that are currently serving or have served, thank you.

Switching to great news from the federal level the Senate and House both passed the Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA). The GAOA, will provide \$9.5 billion over 5 years to address the crumbling infrastructure on America's public lands and waters. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity for funding of the outdoors.

The Great American Outdoors Act

also provides full and permanent funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) at \$900 million annually. LWCF is one of the most successful and influential conservation programs in our nation's history. As a testament to the impact of LWCF, the program has completed a conservation, recreation, or access project in every single county in the country. GAOA also ensures \$15 million annually is dedicated to increase public access for hunting, fishing, recreational shooting, and other forms of outdoor recreation. Congrats to the Congressional Sportsman's Foundation and all the other organizations that fought for passage of this bill.





BAKED CAJUN GARLIC BUTTER COD

What is Cod?

Cod is known to be a sweeter white fish. Because of the sweetness cod usually doesn't have the fishy taste to it. A cod filet is full of flavor and tastes delicious with any seasonings. Cod can also be cooked several different ways. Cod is very nutritious and is known to have lean protein, minerals and vitamins. The good thing about cod it does contain less mercury compared to other white fish.

This is the best baked cod fish recipe that is melt in your mouth delicious! Cod is a mild, sweeter fish. It doesn't have the fishy taste that most people try to avoid. I am a lover all things fish and knew that I needed to make a baked cod recipe soon. This baked cod came out so tender and juicy with all the flavoring. I love cajun seasoning and knew this was going to be a simple meal with the perfect combination.



Ingredients 3 cod filets cut in half salt and pepper

Cajun Garlic Butter Sauce: 1/4 cup butter melted 1 Tablespoon olive oil 3 garlic cloves minced 1 Tablespoon Cajun Seasoning

Instructions

Preheat oven to 400 degrees. In a 9x13 inch baking dish add the cod and sprinkle with salt and pepper

To make the Cajun Garlic Butter Sauce: In a small bowl whisk together the melted butter, olive oil, garlic and cajun. Spread evenly over the fish. Bake for about 15 minutes or until the fish is opaque and flakes easily.



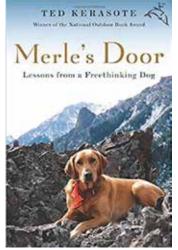
While on a camping trip, Ted Kerasote met a dog—a Labrador mix—who was living on his own in the wild. They became attached to each other, and Kerasote decided to name the dog Merle and bring him home. There, he realized that Merle's native intelligence would be diminished by living exclusively in the human world. He put a dog door in his house so Merle could live both outside and in.

A deeply touching portrait of a remarkable dog and his relationship with the author, Merle's Door explores the issues that all animals and their human companions face as their lives intertwine,

bringing to bear the latest research into animal consciousness and behavior as well as insights into the origins and evolution of the human-dog partnership. Merle showed Kerasote how dogs might live if they were allowed to make more of their own decisions, and Kerasote suggests how these lessons can be applied universally.

From the Back Cover

"Anyone who ever loved a dog will find something to enjoy in Merle's Door."--The Christian Science Monitor Merle and Ted found each other in the



Utah desert Merle living wild and Ted looking for a pup to shape into a companion. But the training went both ways. Ted taught Merle how to live around wildlife and Merle taught Ted that a dog grows more intelligent whenallowed to makehis own decisions. Their journey is part buddy adventure, part love story, and part insightful explanation of how sharing leadership with your dog will make him a better best friend.

"Merle s Door is a window into the mind of a dog. You will experience his loyalty, fears, and joys and his true inner self. Everybody who loves dogs must read this book." Temple Grandin, author of Animals In Translation

"Merle's Dooris a compelling, insightful and tender story that opens new doors into the understanding of the nature of dogs."--Bark Magazine



Paul and JP Reynolds on the Mack's. Photo courtesy of Chesapeake Outdoors.

September 2020

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Chesapeake Bay Workboat Models. Handcrafted, wood construction, fully assembled models of fishing, crabbing and oystering boats. Models include skiffs, deadrise boats, hard tops, soft tops, draketails, crab scrapes, open cockpit boats, half hulls and Skipjacks. We also offer related miniatures (outboard motors, crab nets, crab pots, bushel baskets, etc.). Beautiful display pieces. Great nautical gifts. See www.BlackwayBoatModels.com for photos, specs and pricing.

Henry lever action model Hoo1TV 17 caliber Octagon barrel. new in box, never fired \$450 located in Westminster Md. 863 697 9586

1983 Bertram Sportsfish Twin 350 Crusaders with V-Drive Only 350 hours.Very clean and Ready to go \$24,900 OBO 301-370-4760

MISC.

Horse quality alfalfa , orchard grass, and mix. Eastern shore 410-708 4005

Prime Sika hunting, 100 acres on Andrew's Rd 21626 For Sale, Ig waterfowl pond with 30 acre pasture, pine forest, marsh with 4000 ft of shoreline on Racoon Creek.

22 acres on 2461 Andrews Rd. Prime Sika hunting for sale w/ hunters house, well and septic in place.

Join our small group to hunt geese and ducks In Kent county e-mail gschumann@msn.com or call George 410-703-3018 for details".

Managed Trophy deer hunts in Cecil, Queen Anne, and Caroline County. Call 410-758-1824

Enjoy a day full of shoot sporting clays in the morning and upland birds in the afternoon. Call 410-758-1824

Deer farms in Queen Anne's and Caroline county for rent for this season. Call 410-708-1276

GOOSE PIT FOR RENT \$5000, long term lease available, Hambleton Creek Farms, Queen Anne Co. Chestertown, 443-282-4141

Established Club looking for 1-2 members in Rock Hall. Same lease 30+ years. 3 pits, water blinds, Call Brad 717-758-7645

Wanted: Three father/son hunters seeking prime Sika deer hunting property, Dorchester County, sale or lease 856 981 6415

Wanted Prime Sika Deer hunting lease in Dorchester County. Father/son 856 981 6415

Local man looking for farms and acreage to lease for upcoming hunting season for waterfowl deer turkey 410- 714- 2200

Wanted: membership in deer hunting club or private woods for 2 experienced guys over 60. Queen Anne, Caroline, Talbot 410-310-0574.

Group of 5 experienced, respectful hunters looking for goose hunting privileges on a suitable property in Baltimore, Harford, Carroll, Cecil, Talbot, Queens Ann, Kent or Dorchester counties. Please email Steventek41@gmail.com

This farm in Tyaskin has just been reduced to \$149,000. 72 acres with 4 separate parcels on muddy hole road. All deer were shot on site and it is great for turkeys and ducks as well. The sellers are motivated and want to work a deal out. Give me a call if interested 443-944-2553

Waterfowl Openings 2020/2021 Season. 13 Water Blinds, 8 ponds, 9 pits and at least 12 fields blinds. Kent, QueenAnnes and Cecil Counties. 443-309-9269 Looking to lease a deer hunting property for 2019/20 season -410-708-0695

Hello out there....anyone have a farm to lease for several "good older guys" for 2020-21 water-fowl..Richard 410 375 8023

Hunt Newfoundland Canada Affordable Hunt for Moose and Trophy Black Bear 5 day hunt September 2021 Call 443-614-5695

107 Short Rd, Stevensville, MD Phone: (410) 984-3614





JP Grimes and crew with a limit of Ribbonfish caught off North Carolina. Photo courtesy of Fishbones.



Sarah traveled down to Florida last month where she landed this Snook.

EVERYTHING MUST GO!!!



Arundel Firearms and Pawn

It's time after 35 years. - Retiring soon. And the **WIFE** says everything must go!! No reasonable offers refused.

Including the business!

Guns, ammo of all kinds, and plenty of stuff you haven't seen.

7427 Baltimore Annapolis Blvd Glen Burnie, Maryland- 410-761-6381

EVERYTHING MUST GO!!!

September 2020

