

The Marlin Bill

May 2009

Editor, Stefanie Gordy

Ocean City Marlin Club Board of Directors: Franky Pettolina, President **Mark Radcliffe**, Vice President **Annette Cropper**, Secretary **Brian Tinkler**, Treasurer **BOARD OF DIRECTORS:** Ron Callis James Jefferson Val Lynch Robby Paquette James Giles Bill Regan John Sippel



President's Update *Franky Pettolina*

Welcome to the May edition of the Marlin Bill. There is a whole lot to talk about this month, so I am going to get right to it.

The Eastern Shore Dinner was, yet again, a huge success. Shirley, Mike and the rest of the staff did an incredible job as always, and of course Dee and the Auxiliary outdid themselves yet again. The live sushi sampler on each table was definitely a hit- even if Capt. Ron Callis took the lion's share of them home to his pond!! It was a huge honor for me to say a few words about Capt. Darryl Nottingham and Capt. Mac Simpson. These men paved the way for all of us that are fishing in OC, and I thank them for all they have done for our sport and our club over the years. (see pages 5 & 6).

The Board of Directors is hard at work trying to get the elevator to become a reality. There were several face to face and phone meetings held with contractors and architects over the past weeks, and hopefully plans will be drawn up in the coming weeks. John Sipple, Bill Regan and Boz Jefferson have put a lot of time and effort into this project, and I am looking forward to see the efforts come to life in the coming months.

The 2008 financial summary is available at the club house for perusal. If you are interested in looking at the summary, please call Stefanie and make an appointment. The BOD feels that this information should not leave the clubhouse. This is for the protection of the club and its members. While I am sure that no one would intentionally "air our business" out on the streets, accidents can and do happen. It is with the best interest of the club, that

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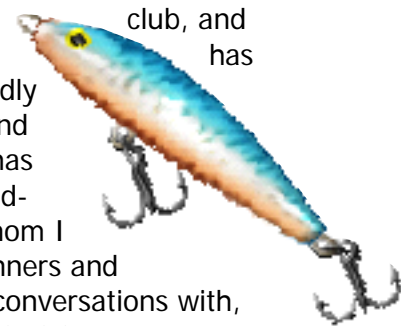
Photo compliments of Bill Pino.

we are not letting the info leave the building. If there are any specific questions about the financial info, please put it in writing, so we can direct it to either our treasurer or our accountant.

If any member has a question about club policy, or club business, or club anything, please put in writing and bring it to the club, or send me an email (surveyfp@yahoo.com) and I will address the concerns.

Speaking of the financial statement, the General Membership meeting was held following the May BOD meeting. While there was not a huge turnout, the meeting ran smoothly, and it was good to see members showing interest in the workings of the club. With that said, however, there was one statement made by a member following the meeting that several of the Directors and Officers (myself included) took offense to. This member made a comment to the effect that he, along with several other members, felt that there was something underhanded and deceitful being done by the BOD. His basis for this was that he felt the club was in financial straits (even though he had no ex-

act reason for this when asked- and after he looked through the financial statement there was nothing to further his feelings) and that the BOD was trying to keep the membership "in the dark" about it. I asked him where these other members were that felt this way, since he was the only one at the meeting. He told me that "they" didn't feel that their presence at the meeting would have made any difference. I am publicly responding to this in the Marlin Bill for several reasons. First, I can say, without any reservation or misgiving, that the Officers and the Directors have always acted with the best intentions on behalf of the club, and everything we have done has been "above board." Secondly there are detailed records and minutes of everything that has been done. Lastly, I was saddened that this member, whom I have sat with at monthly dinners and have had numerous phone conversations with, never once mentioned his misgivings to



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Photo compliments of Bill Pino.





June 20 & 22
Open to Boats 34' and Under

Registration

June 19, 6:30 PM
Captains Meeting
8:00 PM
OCMC Clubhouse

Entry Fee

\$150.00 per boat
up to four anglers
\$25.00 for each additional angler

Awards

\$500 to largest flounder
\$500 to largest tuna

Calcutta's

Offshore: Meatfish Only, no Bluefin A: \$100, B: \$200, C: \$300

Inshore: A: \$100.00, B: \$200, C: \$300

A & B: 50/30/20 C: Winner Take All

Bluefin: \$150.00 Winner Take All

Fishing Days

Fish 1 of 2 June 20 & 21

Fishing Times

Lines In: 6:30 AM Lines Out: 3:00 PM

Weigh Ins

Sunset Marina

3:00 PM – 7:00 PM June 20 & 21

Awards & Banquet

June 21, 7:00 PM OCMC Clubhouse

Eastern Shore Style Crab Feast Four tickets included with entry fee

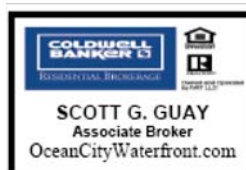




Photo compliments of Bill Pino.

me or any other Board member until the general meeting. While I appreciate the fact that he did not choose to mix "business" with "pleasure," I would much rather have had him bring up his concerns before they had a chance to fester. I have said this before, and I will say it again. If any member has a question about club policy, or club business, or club anything, please put in writing and bring it to the club, or send me an email (surveyfp@yahoo.com) and I will address the concerns.

The officers and the board members donate countless hours to keep the club running smoothly, and receive no compensation.

We are all volunteers, and we choose to volunteer because of how strongly we care for the club and what it stands for.

Capt. Scotty Waltermeyer, a long time captain and mate in OC, and all over the place for that matter, passed away suddenly on May 11. Scotty worked on several Club boats over the years (the Robin's Nest, Waterdog, and Pumpin Hard to name a few). He had a unique sense of humor, and a truly unique "way" about him. Scotty was my friend, and he will be missed greatly by the fishing community. I hope that the seas are calm and the fish are biting for you in Heaven Scotty. Rest easy my friend.

After that sad note, I would like to end this month on happy one. Congratulations go out to Iona and Rolfe Gudelsky of Ocean City Fishing Center and Mickey Fins on their recent marriage. I know they will have a wonderful life together and I wish them nothing but the best. It is awesome when two really cool people find each other and "click." And Iona and Rolfe fit that description to a T. Congrats and Good luck my friends.

Till next month-

Franky



Ladies' Night
Every Wednesday is
Ladies' Night at the Club

50% off drinks all night long

Food Special Each Week for only \$4.95.



Hild's Marine Service





Mac Simpson, Seasonal Awards Banquet, 1969.

OCMC Honored Mac Simpson during the May Club Dinner.

For Mac Simpson we need to take a trip back to the late 50's when he was captain of the private boat Mizar owned by Gilbert Keech. Mac worked with Gil for 13 years – from Ocean City in summer to Hatteras and the Bahamas in fall and winter.

With other Club members, Mac worked to initiate the fall tournament beginning the day after Labor Day. This tournament became successful to the Club and the city.

The Marlin Club worked with Frank Mather of Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute for a rewarding tagging program. The Mizar had tags returned from Paramabo (Sirinam or South America) to 320 miles east by south of Jacksonville, Florida. Kippie DuPont tagged a fish off Ocean City. Captain Jerry Simifion re-

covered the tag three years later one mile from where it was originally tagged.

The Marlin Club worked hard to increase the International Date Line from 3 miles. Mac testified before the Senate Committee in Washington, DC. Our adversaries were the Sate Department Navy,

Tuna Industry, and Shrimp Industry. We finally got the line to 12 miles, then 50 and finally to 200 miles.

Mac's seven year term brought the Marlin Club's bank roll from a few dollars to \$48,000. With the accomplished Mac urged Scoop Collins to run for president. He did so and later got Ann and John Dale Showell to sell the land and clubhouse on St. Lois Avenue.

There have been many presidents since that time. Mac says the Auxiliary should be honored for their hard work and all the ladies who have kept the Club going in spite of all the presidents!



OCMC Honored Darrell Nottingham during the May Club Dinner.

When Darrell Nottingham started his fishing career in 1951, the cost of a marlin trip was \$75. Trolling for bluefish cost \$55, and all-day bottom-fishing cost \$45. Although these prices might sound "high"!!, most people got value for their money. Fish were plentiful, earning for Ocean City the title of White Marlin Capital of the World. Darrell says that in those days a charter boat could be bought for about \$10,000. And it could average a speed of 10 knots! The electronic equipment consisted of a 2-way surplus AM radio. That's all folks!

Most of Darrell's career was spent at the docks on Talbot Street. He did spend 9 winters at Pompano Beach in Florida. His mate one winter was Dale Cathell (a future judge). They caught a big king mackerel, gaffed it and put in the fish box, and went overboard. They had to fight and catch it again.

In 1974, the Mariner was launched and Darrell started head boat fishing. The cost was \$8 per person. On one occasion, Darrell's in-laws went fishing. His mother-in-law, Ruth, caught a shark. Darrell got his pistol to shoot the shark. When Ruth looked up and saw her son-in-law pointing a gun in her direction, she was taken aback. For a few moments, family relationships were somewhat strained!

One April day, early in the morning, a patron dove overboard, Darrell surmises that the man must have wanted to catch mackerel by hand. I guess we'll never

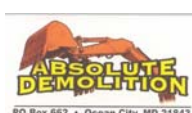
know what made him jump, although there was some indication that he may have been drinking prior to the incident. Darrell grabbed the guy's head, and his mate, Bill Stewart, grabbed him by the belt. They pulled him in and dropped him on the deck, where he bounced "like a basketball", says Darrell. Ah, the joys of head boat fishing!

When the Mariner was sold in 1996, it had a VHF radio, single side band, radar, sonar, 2 depth recorders, Ioran A and Ioran C. Quite a change from the single AM radio that boats had back in the '50's.

Darrell Nottingham still works on the water, operating some of the nightly cruises on the Angler head boat. His son Jeff has followed in his footsteps, getting his captain's license at the age of 19 and presently operating a tugboat out of New York harbor. Once salt water gets in your veins, it seems that it stays there!



Captain and future Captain Nottingham in 1978.



Ocean City Today





OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

At the Ocean City

*Time:
Noon - 4:00 PM*

Marlin Club

**Annual
Jewelry
Show**

Come and enjoy a
spectacular array of fine
jewelry, sterling silver,
sea glass, &
fashion accessories.

\$5 Admission Includes:

Complimentary glass of wine, beer or cola

Proceeds to benefit the Bertha Holloway
Scholarship Fund for Stephen Decatur
High School Students

**Thursday,
August 6th**

Looking for More Details??

Call 410-213-0477 or
410.213.7663 or email
donovanstitch@yahoo.com.



**SEND IN YOUR FISHING
PICS AND GET THEM IN THE MARLIN BILL
THE OC MARLIN CLUB SENDS THIS NEWSLETTER
TO OVER 900 HOUSEHOLDS.
IT IS A GREAT WAY TO SHOW A LOT OF
PEOPLE WHAT YOU'VE CAUGHT!**

**EMAIL SUBMISSIONS TO:
info@ocmarlinclub.com**



**Bay Marine
Group**

**Weaver
Electric Service**



OLD PRO GOLF



Photo by Jim Whaley.

CLUBHOUSE HOURS
Wednesday – Sunday
Bar Opens at 3:00
Food Service begins at 4:00

OFFICE HOURS
Monday – Friday
8:00 AM – 2:00 PM

Volunteers needed to distribute
the 2009 OCMC Guidebook. Call
Stefanie at 410-213-1613 or
email: info@ocmarlinclub.com



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