

The Atlantis Anglers Association official newsletter

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Fanatasy 3 Charter!

I was approached by a friend back in June to do a fishing trip with some guys at work for seabass. Realizing that at the time we had no news on the opening of seabass season, I went to work calling different captains for info. The best we could come up with was that there would definitely be an increase in size limit to 15 inches and probably a 3 fish bag limit but no mention at the time of season opener. As the middle of June approached the best date I could get for us was Friday July 15th. The speculated opener was July 8th at the time, but then the managers opened it up June 27th. That left the charter in the back half of the first two weeks of Seabass season, not what we were hoping for as the pieces were being hit heavy in the opening weeks. The Fantasy 3 left dock at 7 am with a group of 17 anglers made up of MTA bus co workers, members of the bayside anglers and few friends, as well as some of us from our club with a few friends. We first made a drop at the McAllister grounds and had guite a bit of action and we pulled a few keepers there as well on the drift. There were a few porgies taken there also. Most of us were going with just clams on hi hook rigs. The captain saw the keeper ratio was down and headed to our next spot, the Iberia wreck. The wreck had held some nice fluke a week previous and there was no one anchored there so we gave the area a shot. Of course myself and a couple of others (You know who you are!) Tried bucktailing Spros and teasers in the area for fluke, only to take a couple of small fluke and lose 15 dollar set up s! The seabass weren't too cooperative at the Iberia. After a half hr there, off to cholera we

Fantasy3 cont......

went. Cholera had some fish, not a ton, but the bigger fish of the day were caught there as well as some ling. We fished one last area before heading back in which was the steel wreck, that didn't impress so it was a short period later that we blew the three whistles and headed

to dock arriving at 255 pm. The mate Dave working solo did a good job, although at times we had

to find him as he was so busy, he cleaned the fish well and generally was a good deck hand. The captain has a lot of years experience in the area and tried to get us fish, choosing to drift the structure looking for the bigger fish, and trying different spots out there after communicating with the head boats that were working local reefs. (Lou 7 stayed at Hempstead reef while the Starstream worked west towards a/b ...) None of the other boats were doing anything much better than us so we searched a bit for the fish, even though he hated to leave fish to find fish, the size limit of the seabass made this decision for him at times. For the rate we got 1050 for a weekday charter for 15 people, including all bait tackle and ice, we had a really good trip with tons of action. I would not hesitate to use Joe again and the Fantasy 3... congratulations to our own Sheila Patton who took the hi- hook honors on seabass and the pool!



With my boat out of service waiting for my new motor to be delivered to Grover's, my wife gave me a great birthday surprise by sending Matt and I down to Islamorada for some fishing, and to get away for a bit. We arrived down there on Friday the 8th after using Bud n Mary's to book our fishing adventures.

<u>Saturday July 9th</u> found Matt and I in the back country fishing with Guide Captain Jim Willcox We fished deep into the everglades and caught just about everything possible down there with the exception of Tarpon, which we saw breaching, but couldn't get them to strike

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our jerk shad gulps. We used the artificial with success on Snook, Jack Crevalle, ladyfish, Redfish, and yellow snappers, but not the finicky Tarpon. (I did have a chaser but he didn't strike) For Variety the captain beached the boat and we surf casted from a sand island where we also battled sharks, losing 2 large bull sharks more Snook and a couple of sea trout which one free swimming bull shark chased up to the beach right in front of us and ate him as we watched in awe!

"Traveling anglers" Cont...

For the live bait fans, our afternoon was spent in the mangroves using live pin fish for many Snook, and a Jack Cravalle bait was put out to tame a 125 lb shark that Matt caught! (The video of the catch is on our clubs websites videos on the water page) The captain found us a hidden canal in the everglades which we docked the boat at and tried to cast around, as well as spot saltwater crocodiles which earlier in the year spawned there! With the boat traffic and the heat up, our last try was on the flats for some snapper and we were in the company of Sea turtles which was cool and a Manatee. Our 615 departure had really helped us to make a great day of it and we definitely will be fishing with Capt Jim Willcox again!

Sunday July 10th

This day was the day we set aside for offshore fishing on the flagship of the Bud n Mary's Marina, the B n M captained by Charlie Scoble. The last few days had seen some improvement with Mahi- Mahi, but somehow Saturday was awful ... with that said though, the reefs were slow and we decided to go offshore looking for Mahi and Blackfin tuna with the understanding we could also Tile fish . WE traveled far and wide in the 34 ft sport fisherman, stopping at the humps in 650ft of water to troll some blackfin tuna which fell to black jelly worms. Then we saw the Mahi were out between 850 and 1150ft of water. We did find them in pods and most of the pods were consisting of "Shakers" (too small to keep) The captain worked his butt off to find the birds working that indicated larger dolphin fish, we did find and box some in a real search mission as at times even holding a fish near the transom didn't lead to more strikes as often this brings the school to the boat, and livies that we caught on the reef didn't help to entice either meaning we had a tough day. We docked at three pm after cruising and fishing out to 24 miles off, satisfied that we left no stone unturned. Our fresh Blackfin and Mahi were expertly prepared at Lazy Days Restaurant for 15 dollars and I still can taste the coconut crusted Mahi now!

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Monday July 11th

WE tried to make a day of it on the miss Islamorada party boat out of Bud N Mary's, but struggled putting together a catch that consisted of yellow tail snapper, mangrove snapper and a File fish that was gorgeous that we returned to the reef. You could see bottom in 25 ft of water, yet they said it was dirtier than usual? Regulars on board with very light rods fishing the

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back of the boat did well using chum balls with sand surrounding their hooked shrimp as it floated down in the chum to the snappers. Matt and I decided not to split up and rotate like suggested and we fished midship on the bottom for around 10 fish, (using the worst tackle every by the way!)

Photos below

Local FISHING REPORTS:

7/22/16

Finally used the new motor and took my boat out to the area reefs to try for some of those reported fluke schools out there. The weather and winds the night before evidently didn't help us as we spent 3 hrs fishing a/b reef with bucktails, gulp and local spearing for a few short fluke and seabass. At 2 pm headed to Rockaway Reef to grab a keeper fluke for Matt and a quite a few more Short fluke ., seabass and porgies for me. Fished until 4 and headed to dock, Rockaway seems like the better reef particularly that day due to the ground swell out in the deeper waters. Only lost 6 bucktails so it could have been worse LOL!

7/20/16

Reed spent the day fluking at the Golf course due to the s/w blow and did ok considering the conditions keeping a fluke and releasing some shorts.

Please email photos and reports to me at wannafish@optonline.net

To have them included here in the club newsletter and on the pages of the clubs website!



Photos:

Haul from our Islamorada offshore trip











Reminders:

NEXT MEETING: <u>July 26th 815pm</u>! Invite a friend, the club is still seeking members!

Derbies:

FLUKE #1

1 DENNIS CATALDO 6 LBS. 0 OZS NO Capt Points

2. JOHN LIPPI 5 LBS. 4 OZS CHARTER

STRIPED BASS

1 KEN BELL 19 LBS 10 OZS 1 CAPTAIN POINT

2 OPEN

Fluke II opens 7/26 815pm

Bluefish closes 7/26 815 pm

Fluke Shootout 8/12 - 8/16



Don't forget to visit <u>www.atlantisanglers.com</u>

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2016

ATLANTIS ANGLERS ASSOCIATION



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**Meetings are held in Baldwin Park

At the Southern end of Grand Avenue in Baldwin.