

### **One week to Tournament Time! Please sign up now.**

Want to fish with Charlie Moore? How about a free charter with one of our local captains? Want a cruise on Billy Costa's yacht? Or just a cash prize? These daily prizes are available to those signing up for the Yankee Homecoming Fishing Tournament. The tournament days are Wednesday June 21 through Friday June 23. There are prizes for adults and for children. There are prizes for striped bass as well as cod/haddock. Please stop by at Hilton's Dock, Captain's Parties Dock, Surfland, Bridge Bait and Tackle or Crossroads Bait and Tackle to get your tickets.

### **Despite the storms, we have some very good fishing reports...**

"Lots of fish", reported Kay Moulton of Surfland on Plum Island. Last Saturday she weighed in stripers of 25 lbs and 28 lbs, the latter having been caught by Jim McCarthy fishing the surf at night with seaworms as bait. Last Sunday, they weighed in striped bass of 11 lbs and 22 lbs (among others). Kay suggested clams and / or seaworms in the surf. As far as fishing on Joppa Flats was concerned, Kay said that it was "hit or miss" with the "hits" being very productive. Kay said to try trolling lures or tubes and worms on Joppa Flats.

Richard Hogg of Crossroads Bait and Tackle in Salisbury said that striped bass fishing was also good upriver at Alliance Park, using herring as bait or off of Deer Island, using bloodworms as bait. Richard was seeing lots of fish "in the 20s" or "mid to upper 30s" (the units being inches, not pounds). The largest fish weighed in at Crossroads was a 43", 30.8 lb whopper, caught on the 6<sup>th</sup> or 7<sup>th</sup> using chunk herring.

Jim Croteau of Bridge Bait and Tackle in Salisbury had just weighed in a 30 lb. striper last Sunday when I called. Jim talked about "lots of mackerel" near the Isle of Shoals or out at Speckled Apron. Jim suggested using live mackerel for the really big stripers or, worst case, fresh mackerel, fresh mackerel chunks, or clams. Jim said that the stripers were "in close" and all the way out to Speckled Apron.

I received an e-mail from Paul Piraino of Newburyport Charters. On the 6<sup>th</sup>, Paul had his first charter and sent back pictures to make me jealous. Paul's charter had hauled in 5 keeper striped bass, one of which was a very large (he did not specify the size) "giant cow" bass. Atta boy, Paul!

George Charos of Captain's Parties looks forward to a break in the weather. He missed 3 days last week due to the storm but got out last Saturday and Sunday. Sunday's fishing was "very good" with 2 pollock along with many cod and haddock. One of his anglers hauled in a 51 lb. "whale cod" last Sunday. According to George, using clams (versus jigs) is still the best bet. Please call 1-800-427-1333 for reservations.

Finally, two Yellow Bird stories from last week. On June 10: "Another good day of fishing. We started catching them pretty good right from the start, but the first couple of stops produced alot of throw-backs. We got off shore a bit more and started doing very well on a good mix of fish including many big pollock." And on the June 11: "**It was an all species slam.**" You may call 1-888-234-3531 for Yellow Bird reservations.

As always, I thank Kay and Martha Moulton, Rene Vigneault, Paul Hogg, and the local sport-fishing captains for their forecasts and news. If you have your own stories, please call me, John Altson, at 978-499-9972 with your news, recipes, and stories. Better yet; send them by e-mail to [jaltson@comcast.net](mailto:jaltson@comcast.net). I'd love to hear from you. This column is available, along with other good fishing reports, on [www.surfcaster.com](http://www.surfcaster.com). Get your fishing tournament details here: <http://www.yankeehomecoming.com/fundraising.html>.

Have a great weekend!