



the **SUN** by-the-Sea

“What a beautiful, sunny morning. It makes you happy to be alive, doesn't it?” ~Takayuki Ikkaku



CAPTAIN GARY'S *Fall Fishing Report*



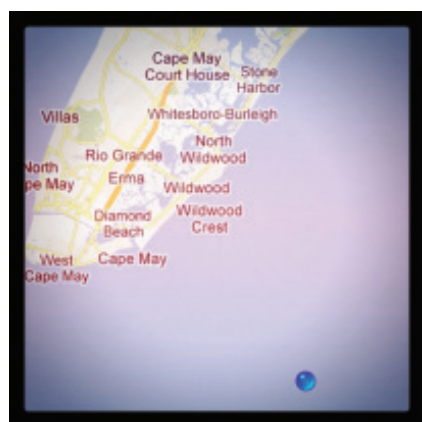
Hello and Welcome!

Don't look now but the 2011 summer season will soon become recent history. As a local resident I always looked upon Labor Day weekend as the official end of summer. I know that officially the calendar has it occurring later in September. Here are a couple of signs for the locals to note the end of summer. The lonely Tuesday morning drive after the Labor Day weekend to the boat. An empty Wawa screams out (it's over). Suddenly swallows are lined up on the electric power lines on Kennedy Drive. The few people on the beach in the morning are the beach cleaners. Dried brown leaves have come out of hiding in the Maple tree and started the assault on your beautiful green lawn. An initial sighting of the first tumbleweed. OK I am getting carried away.

Fall fishing has a unique feel to itself. The slower pace of life on the island allows everyone to squeeze a little joy out of a day. The cooler nights seem to rekindle the energy and boost the spirit. It also brings Bluefish to the surf looking for the bait balls of Mullet. I always get a little melancholy and reflective in the fall with the reality that the promise of spring has passed and the summer colors begin to fade. The first contact with a Striper brings back the memories of great fall Striper fishing and suddenly the melancholy ebbs away like the tide. The summer blue ocean loses its deep blue color to the fall greenish brown mix and the many migratory species begin to school up for warmer waters.

A tip of the hat to the off shore crowd. If there was ever a summer to be an off shore sport fisherman this was the summer. The Tuna bite has been incredible. The consistency of action offshore happens maybe every 20 years. The spread of Dolphin inshore have made it a frequent catch at the reefs, while Flounder fishing. We are banking on a Cobia before the end of the year.

The Sea Bass and Flounder have cooperative most of the summer and should continue into the fall. Keeper ratio's have been up and down but the action has been consistent. Tautog fishing should also improve into the fall. Croakers and Weakfish have disappointed again this year. They should school up outside Hereford Inlet in October and give us plenty of action. The Flounder season continues thru September hopefully keeping the fluke anglers interested. Mother nature for her



GPS image shows the Adventurer positioned 10 miles out at sea

part has blessed us with pretty nice weather this summer. We can hope it will continue into the fall.

This is the year you should DVD the Eagles football games and enjoy those beautiful Sunday's in the outdoors, fishing in the surf, bays or oceans. Share with family or friends a wonderful relaxing day in nature and give yourself a warm memory for a cold day this winter.

God Bless,

Captain Gary Sloan,
THE ADVENTURER, WILDWOOD, NJ



A Fisherman's Prayer: "KEEPER"
I pray that I may live to fish
Until my dying day; And when it comes to my last cast.
I then most humbly pray
When in the Lord's great landing net
And peacefully asleep
That in His mercy I be judged good enough to keep.



A DAYTRIP *Fishing Onboard the Adventurer*

BY JOSH KINNEY

When you're standing on the shore and looking out at the ocean a part of you always wonders what it looks like to see the beach from the sea. Cruising the bay is one thing, but being miles out on the ocean is quite another. The vastness envelops and engulfs everything. The sheer size is incomprehensible and there's nothing like heading east knowing that the only thing in front of you is (eventually) Europe and Africa. Seems surreal, having left port in New Jersey.

At 10 AM every day Captain Gary's Adventurer fishing boat heads out from the harbor beside the Rio Grande Bridge. The boat snakes its way through Wildwood's back bays, through the Cape May Inlet and out into the immensity of the open ocean, traveling approximately ten miles from the coast. Out in the distance you can see Wildwood on the horizon: the white rounded convention center, the Ocean Towers and The Grand in Diamond Beach. The Cape May Lighthouse looks like a spec, but you can make that out as well.

Captain Gary cuts the engines to the boat and all rods drop their lines simultaneously. Everyone's hoping for a big catch to be the possible winner of the 'pot' for the biggest fish caught, or just for the thrill of the tug and bringing a fish up out of the water. Captain Gary's helping hands Jay and Todd come around to make sure everyone is situated, baiting rods and unhooking fish. "Make sure the weight on your rod hits the bottom," said Todd, an experienced fisherman. Letting the line out a little more it can sometimes be easy to over think a slight jerk of the rod or nibble from a flounder. However, fishing out on The Adventurer is especially relaxing. With very little prior experience, my first deep sea fishing trip was guided by the patient and helpful crew of The Adventurer who willingly showed my friend Jason and I the ropes, despite his incessant references to the movie "Jaws." With our rods cast deep we didn't have to wait long before bites and tugs led to flounder, sea robins and even a 14 inch sea bass that we kept and immediately grilled up and ate when we got back to shore. Delectable!

So now I know what it's like to see from all the way out there and if you haven't, I encourage you to do so. It's a strange feeling knowing that at night while I sleep on the five mile island that giant seemingly endless ocean is right down the street, something Captain Gary knows all too well. All these years spent on land admiring the sea, for a day I got to become a part of it thanks to Captain Gary and the crew of The Adventurer.