

March, 2012

Our 21st Year

# Obsession Sportfishing Charters 2012 Newsletter

Obsession Sportfishing  
Charters

This Year's  
Newsletter:

- > The 2012 Season
- > SW Florida Fishing with Obsession Charters
- > 2012 Rates
- > 115 4-Stroke For Sale
- > Shark Fishing
- > Saltwater License / Registry Update
- > Tarpon Fishing



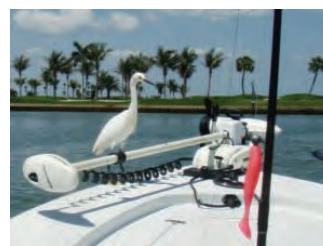
## Southwest Florida Guiding Service is Up and Running

I never pictured myself establishing a new business at fifty four... I kind of thought I'd be semi retired by now. But being a fishing guide is kind of like being semi retired - isn't it? Sure the hours are long and the business stuff constantly needs to be managed, but I get to spend my days making new acquaintances and catching up



with old friends while sharing outdoor experiences that I truly love. Mine and Barb's dream of spending our winters away from the snow and cold started to become a reality three years ago with the purchase of a modest home in Port Charlotte. Since then; the home renovations are (almost) done and I've logged hundreds of hours learning the waters of Charlotte Harbor. It is a wonderful blessing: being able to live and "work" in two great places; Midcoast Maine

and Southwest Florida! I'll be in Charlotte Harbor from late April through early June guiding for tarpon, snook, redfish and trout. Then back on the Kennebec and the Gulf of Maine for my twenty first year of striped bass, bluefish, tuna and shark fishing. I look forward to seeing you!



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## Looking Forward to the 2012 Maine Fishing Season



The overall numbers of striped bass north of Cape Cod has dropped since 2006 but we are making up for it with bigger fish. The average size being caught here in the Kennebec and along the beaches is 24" to 38". It takes a bit more time on the water to locate the fish than in past years but once we are on them the action is very good. July and early August will be the best time to go striper fishing so give me a call and get your date(s) reserved!

Bluefish are making a slight come back and if we have a good migration

*Many of you have been asking about fishing license requirements: Maine now has a saltwater angler registry...*

of pogies (menhaden) the bluefish action will be very good from mid July through early August. Check out our weekly fishing reports for bluefish updates as the season starts.

Football bluefin tuna fishing should be similar to last year; based on predictions for healthy schools of offshore bait (herring and mackerel) and the latest tuna stock assessment.

All indications are that shark fishing will be excellent again this



year as well. The best time to go is August and early September. Sharking has become much more popular over the past few years.

### Maine Saltwater Fishing License Update

Many of you have been asking about fishing license requirements: Maine now has a saltwater angler registry. If you are fishing with me you do not need a license because I carry a "boat license" that covers you. If you are going to saltwater fish on shore or from your own boat you need to register unless you are already registered or licensed to saltwater fish in another state. For more information you can go to the Maine DMR website:

<http://www.maine.gov/dmr/recreational/rechomepage.html>



## Shark Fishing in the Gulf of Maine



Shark fishing in the mid coast area of Maine starts in early August. We fish ten to fifteen miles offshore in the thermoclines of the Gulf of Maine. Blue Shark ranging from 40 - 250

*Shark is best from early August through late September. Fly fishing for shark has become very popular amongst our clients.*

pounds cruise these temperature breaks. We use (relatively) light tackle on these big fish: thirty pound class stand up gear and 12-14 wt. fly rods. After arriving at a good location we set out a chum slick of ground herring that draws the big ones in from as much as a mile away. Fly fishing for shark has become very popular amongst our clients. As a mater of fact, one of Obsession Charter's clients Fred Danforth holds the State of Maine Blue Shark Fly Rod Record at 101 pounds.

As with all of our trips, all gear,

bait and tackle are included but feel free to bring your own along if you wish. Lunch, Soft drinks and snacks are provided. Shark is best from early August through late September. We depart Bath at 7:00 AM on the OBSESSION for eight hours. Maximum capacity for our shark trips is three clients. More information on shark fishing can be found in our website's [Midcoast Maine section](#)



## Charlotte Harbor Tarpon Fishing

Charlotte Harbor provides the best spring and early summer tarpon fishing in all of Florida. Huge concentrations of tarpon gather here prior to their offshore spawning migration. Once they have spawned they return to Charlotte Harbor to feed before moving on to their home waters for the summer months. Boca Grande Pass is the best known tarpon fishing spot in Southwest Florida and is the home for many tarpon tournaments. However, there are miles of uncrowded fishing spots between Sanibel Island and Manasota Key. It's here away from the hoards of boat fishing in Boca Grande Pass where Capt. Dave loves to stalk pods of giant tarpon weighing well over 100 pounds. We fish for giant tarpon with 10-12 weight fly rods and 30 pound class spinning gear in three to twelve feet of water along the beaches from Cayo Costa to Stump Pass. We cast flies, artificial lures, live crabs and baitfish to daisy chaining, laid up and rolling tarpon as they make their way to and from Boca Grande Pass. Every spring during new and full moons there is a phenomenon in Charlotte Harbor known as the "Hill Tides" where the currents carry thousands of spawning crabs into the Gulf of Mexico through the passes. These "Pass Crabs" suspend in the upper part of



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the water column while being flushed out of the Harbor. Tarpon gorge themselves on the crabs while rolling and splashing on the surface. This year's Hill Tides are: May 4-10 and 18-24, June 2-6 and 16-22. These are the absolute best times to fish for tarpon in Charlotte Harbor. However, anytime from mid April through mid June is tarpon prime time. More info on Southwest Florida tarpon fishing can be found in our Website's [Florida Fishing section](#).

*No fishing licenses are required while fishing with Obsession Charters. Our boat license covers you.*

### Does your Club or Association Need a Guest Speaker?

Capt. Dave will be glad to come talk to your group about light tackle and fly fishing in Maine or Southwest Florida.

There's no charge for these seminars though help with travel expenses would be welcomed.

Call 207-841-1444  
or [e-mail](#) us today!

### Check Out Obsession Charters Newly Redesigned Website

The Obsession Sportfishing Charter's website has been on-line since 1994. It has over gone several rebuilds since then. The latest version of [www.obsessioncharters.com](http://www.obsessioncharters.com) has many new pages and is much easier to navigate. From the home page you can connect to our Facebook page, or go to sections for charter info on Midcoast Maine or Southwest Florida. Each of those sections have pages of information on different fish, area attractions, tides, weather and much more. We also

have posted new fast loading videos and tons of great pictures.

Also new this year is our [Facebook Fishing Reports](#). We will be doing weekly (and sometimes daily) fishing reports directly on Facebook.

We'll be posting pictures and fishing tips for you to access quickly and easily. So check it out and "Like Us"!

While there, click on our many featured links for great fishing and product info.



## Southwest Florida Charter Rates

Mid September – November & February – Early June

- 4 hour morning redfish, snook, sea trout, \$375 includes snacks and drinks.
- 6 hour redfish, snook, sea trout, \$475 includes on-board lunch.
- 8 hour redfish, snook, sea trout, \$575 includes on-board lunch
- 4 hour morning tarpon (late April, May & June ) \$400 includes snacks & drinks.
- 6 hour tarpon (late April, May & June ) \$575 includes on-board lunch.
- 8 hour tarpon (late April, May & June ) \$775 includes on-board lunch.

### 2008 115HP Yamaha 4-Stroke Outboard For Sale

Yamaha 115 Four-Stroke Outboard For Sale:  
 2008 Yamaha 21" leg 115 hp four stroke-outboard. Less than 800 hours. Includes a factory-transferable warranty. You'll need to provide controls, cables, wiring harness and a prop. This is a great outboard, over 40 mph, and burns very little gas. I can

help with delivery and installation. Retail new was over \$9,000. It's available for \$6,000.00 plus Me. Sales tax.

Call 207-841-1444 or e-mail me at:  
[dave@obsessioncharters.com](mailto:dave@obsessioncharters.com)



### Maine Charter Rates June–September

- Morning 6-7 hr striped bass charter \$425
- Morning 7 hr Football Bluefin Tuna charter \$575
- All day 13 hour Marathon striped bass or football bluefin tuna / striped bass combo (including lunch at an area restaurant) \$775
- All day 8 hr shark charter \$575
- Afternoon 4 hr striped bass charter \$325
- Afternoon 3 hr lighthouse and lobster trap hauling tour \$300
- Afternoon 3 hr inland waterway cruise to Boothbay Harbor \$300

For more info about Obsession Charters go to: [www.obsessioncharters.com](http://www.obsessioncharters.com)

No fishing licenses are required when fishing with Obsession Charters.



Quality Fishing Experiences  
Since 1991

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