



# Charter Trip Report



Nearly 100 RISAA members are awarded spots on fishing charter trips each year simply by winning random drawings at the monthly meetings. One member on each trip agrees to write a short story to share the experience with all members. \*It should be noted that not every trip can be guaranteed to catch fish. The trip brings RISAA members together and provides an enjoyable day or night on the water. Catching fish is a bonus.

## **PURAVIDA CHARTERS • Capt. Jonathan Lewie**

story by ORLANDO L. SAVASTANO

The charter was listed as a 10-hour shark and cod trip, and that is what it was - plus!

Members Paul Laflamme, Ron Porter and I (Orlando Savastano) met Captain Jonathan Lewie at the Galilee boat ramp at 5:00 AM on Sunday morning. After we introduced ourselves, we boarded the *Puravida*, a 25.2 Parker, and Captain Jonathan reviewed all the safety equipment on the boat including life jackets, lights, all-weather gear, portable life raft, personal EPIRBs, and more.

The air was warm and there was some inland fog as we headed out to Cox Ledge. However, along the way there was a slight breeze which created 3 to 4 foot swells giving us a slow roller coaster ride to our destination.

Once at the Ledge we drifted using various colored, 7 inch jigs. Orlando got the first "hit" which turned out to be a cluster of muscles. Then Paul caught a small mackerel which we later used for bait. Finally, Ron caught the first of his two twenty-pound cod.



**Ron Porter displays a 20 lb. cod**

At 12:30 PM the captain suggest we start fishing for shark. He set up two boat rods with Shimano 30A reels with 50 pound braided line and mackerel for bait.



**Members (l-r) Paul Laflamme, Orlando Savastano and Ron Porter display their catch of cod**

We fished for cod from 6:45 AM to 12:30 PM. During that time there was continuous action. We ended the morning with six keepers and numerous shorts. Captain Jonathan constantly change the colored lures from location to location to ensure a hit.

He also put out two chum containers and two bluefish carcasses were placed in the water on the port side of the boat. One line was set out at 150 feet on a balloon and the other at about 75 feet.

After a short period of time the port rod started to dance up and down. Orlando grabbed the rod and tried to reel in the fish, but it kept diving. A fighting belt was placed around his waist for support, and after a ten minute struggle a blue shark was brought close to the boat. It was estimated to be 150 pounds.

Then both rods bent at the same time and both Ron and Paul took hold. It was exciting as the fish were diving and crossing. Ron and Paul had to cross over each other a number of times, and Captain Jonathan maneuvered to the boat to avoid entanglement. Both were blue sharks at about 150 pounds

each.

With all of this action our arms were fatigued. On our last hit, the fish slammed the bait and ran. Orlando grabbed the rod as line peeled off the reel. He desperately tried to reel in the fish as a fighting belt was placed on him, but the fish would not stop.

(to page 37)

**CATCH MONSTER BLOCK ISLAND BASS**

**PURAVIDA CHARTERS**

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