



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.

NORTHEAST BOAT & KAYAK CHARTERS Capt. Jerry Sparks

report by Peter O'Biso and Orlando Savastano

On a very foggy morning of June 20th, Orlando Savastano and I (Peter O'Biso) met Capt. Jerry Sparks at the Barn Island State Park boat ramp in Pawcatuck, CT. The fog was so thick that we could barely see across the parking lot.

After quick introductions, we decided to give it a go and launched Captain Jerry's 17.5 foot Pro Line center console Stalker equipped with a Yamaha Outboard, and most importantly, a bow mounted electric motor.

We motored a short distance from the ramp, following the shoreline we could barely see.

Captain Jerry fitted us out with lightweight 7' spinning rods spooled with Hercules 15-pound braid. Each rod had a 3" long surface popper. After giving us a lesson on how to work the plugs with a very fast twitching retrieve, and we started to fish.

At one point we switched to a 3" swimming lure that had to be twitched quickly on the retrieve to the boat. I was amazed on how far I could cast with that equipment.

We fished many areas by shutting off and raising the outboard and sneaking along with the electric trolling motor, sometimes in water as shallow as 3 feet. We could sneak up on surface feeding fish, swirling as they chased some unknown type of bait.

Orlando had the hot rod, landing several nice school strippers before I figured out the system.

We would like to be able to tell you where we fished, but the fog was so thick, we could have been anywhere. I do know that we fished from the boat ramp and along and up into the mouth of the Pawcatuck River, on both the RI and on the CT shorelines.



Capt. Sparks & Orlando



Pete O'Biso (above) with 25" striper caught using a 3-inch swimming lure on the surface. (below) Orlando Savastano displays his 26" striper that was the largest fish caught that day.



We caught a number of fish, the largest 26", caught by Orlando. Captain Jerry said that they have often taken keeper-sized stripers on these trips, and I remember reading that in previous newsletter stories about charter trips with Northeast Boat and Kayak Charters.

Captain Jerry really knows his fishing areas, often pointing out a rock or an underwater structure to cast towards, resulting in a follow or a hook-up.

Both Orlando and I had a fun time, and enjoyed the captain's good humor and fish stories. Captain Jerry regularly fishes out of Barn Island and also from the state ramp in Point Judith, RI. But he will also trailer his boat to anyplace else where fish are biting, including the Thames and Connecticut Rivers.

He can be reached at 413-219-8455, or by email at jsparks132@yahoo.com. Give him a call.

Thanks to RISAA Charter Trip Committee for providing another great trip for our membership.

Northeast Boat & Kayak Charters Capt. Jerry Sparks

IGFA Captain



All Equipment Provided
Light Tackle & Fly Fishing
CT & RI Inshore Waters

10% Discount to RISAA Members

413-219-8455

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Daiwa

