



"Sabby the Lingo?" Maritime Language - XVII

by VINCENT T. PICA, II

Division Captain, Division 18 (ISR) - United States Coast Guard Auxiliary



As noted prior, each discipline has a language and that language conveys competency to the listener. This column is part of a series of maritime vocabulary words. So you can sound like the salty ol' mariner you are... We'll run enough of these to get the major concepts and phraseology from Alpha to Zulu in front of you!

O - Oscar

International Meaning:
Man overboard.

- **Oakum** - A material made of tarred hemp or manila rope fibers, used for caulking seams of decks and sides of a wooden ship in order to make them watertight.

- **Oar** - A pole with a blade at the end used to row a rowboat. Oars are different than paddles because they have a provision to be secured to the rowboat for rowing, such as an oarlock. The three parts to an oar are: the blade, the part which enters the water; the shaft, the main body of the oar; and the loom, the inboard end on which the rower pulls.

- **Oarlock** - A device to attach oars to a rowboat, allowing the operator to row rather than paddle the boat.

- **Observed Position** - A position or fix determined by observing landmarks or other objects to find the position.

- **Occulting Lights** - A navigational light which turns on and off in a regular pattern, but is on more than it is off, so the period of light is longer than the period of darkness.

- **Off and Fair** - Order to take off

a damaged part of a vessel, to restore it to its proper shape and condition, and to replace it in position.

- **Off Soundings** - In blue water beyond the 100-fathom line.

- **Off the Wind** - Sailing with the wind coming from the stern or quarter of the boat.

- **Officer** - Any of the licensed members of the ship's complement.

- **Officer's Mess** - Dining room facilities for officers separate from the crew and passenger dining room.

- **Official Number** - Definition and cross-reference to Tonnage.

- **Offing** - Seaward, a safe distance from shore; To keep an offing is to keep a safe distance away from the coast because of navigational dangers, fog, or other hazards.

- **Offshore** - Away from land, toward the water.

- **Offshore Wind** - Wind blowing from off the shore.

- **Offwind** - Any point of sailing away from the wind.

- **Oil Bag** - Used in emergencies, this is a container which allows oil to drip into the sea in heavy weather. An oil slick is produced which prevents waves from breaking over the deck of a boat.

- **Oiler** - A member of a ship's engineering crew who assisted the chief engineer with lubricating and maintaining the engine.

- **Old Salt** - A very experienced and/or old sailor

- **On the Beach** - Said of a seaman who has retired from sea service.

- **On the Beam** - The direction at

right angles to a ship's heading or the line of her keel

- **On the Bow** - To the bow of the boat, forward of the beam.

- **On the Hard / On the Ways** - Hauled out of the water for repairs or storage

- **On the Quarter** - A direction of forty-five degrees or less from the stern.

- **On the Wind** - Sailing close hauled. Sailing toward the wind as much as possible with the wind coming from the bow.

- **Onshore** - Toward the shore

- **OOD** - Navy term meaning Officer of the deck.

- **Open** - A location that is not sheltered from the wind and seas. An open location would not make a good anchorage.

- **Ordinary Seaman (OS)** - An apprentice Able Seaman, assists AB's, bosun, and officers, keeps facilities clean.

- **Orlop** - Name given to the lowest deck in a ship.

- **Out of Trim** - Sails that are not properly arranged for the point of sail that the boat is on. The sails may be luffing or have improper sail shape, or the boat may be heeling too much. These conditions will slow the boat down.

- **Outboard** - (1) Toward or beyond the boat's sides. (2) A detachable engine mounted on a boat's stern.

- **Outdrive** - A propulsion system for boats with an inboard engine operating an exterior drive, with

drive shaft, gears, and propeller; also called stern-drive and inboard/outboard.

- **Outhaul** - A control line that adjusts tension along the foot of the sail, pulling the clew away from the tack; used to maintain proper sail shape.

- **Outtrigger** - A structure which extends outboard beyond the edge of the hull for some special purpose. Some Polynesian canoes use outriggers to support an "ama" or small secondary hull, while fishing boats may use outriggers to suspend lines or nets over the water.

- **Overboard** - In the water outside of the vessel.

- **Overhang** - The area of the bow or stern projecting above and beyond a perpendicular from the water line at stem or stern.

- **Overhaul** - (1) Repairing or refitting. (2) To overtake another ship at sea. (3) To extend a tackle so that distance between blocks is increased.

- **Overhead** - Nautical equivalent of ceiling

- **Overlap** - The distance the bow of a boat is forward of another's stern

- **Overtaking** - Passing another vessel.

- **Owner's Flag** - A boat owner's private pennant.

BTW, if you are interested in being part of USCG Forces, email me at JoinUSCGAux2008@aol.com or go direct to Lisa Etter, who is in charge of new members matters, at FSO-PS@emcg.us and we will help you "get in this thing..."



FISHING WITH TONY

IT'S BLACK AND BLUE TIME FROM BOTH SHORES

by TONY SALERNO

It's no surprise that it feels more like an Indian summer than the fall season. What is surprising; however, is the caliber of the black fishing for the early going. Since opening day, the Center Moriches open boat "the Rosie" and the Hampton Bays based open boat the "Shinnecock Star" have both seen exceptional shots at the togs in spite of the abundance of jumbo porgies and small sea bass that are wreaking havoc on hard baits intended for the toggies. While hermit crabs have been the main ingredient to scoring with the real white chins, green and white crabs are accounting for plenty of fish in the 4 to 7 pound range.

On Sunday, Captain James Russo of the Rosie sailed with a handful of fares where all aboard obtained their limit of togs to 11 1/2 pounds in only 2 drops for the day. To the east, it has been typical results for Captain John aboard the Shinnecock Star with a bonus of platter size porgies, sea bass and triggerfish in the mix.

Closer towards the beach, the blues and bass are hinting that it is migration time and for anglers in pursuit it's been a game of feat or famine.

It's been quite a different story up along the north shore as the choppers can be found just about anywhere inside the harbors, at the points, and the Middle Grounds. Find the birds or work along the edges of any rip line, and you can be certain to find the blues along with a smattering of stripers.

Speaking of bass, the smaller of the two species better known as the sea bass has been much of a surprise this year showing in abundance along the rocky lairs of the north shore. According to Candy Carafitis of Carafitis Fishing Station in Port Jeff, most anglers targeting blackfish in areas of Old Field and Cranes Neck Points are seeing a sprinkle of the indigo beauties among the good catches of decent size togs.

Candy adds that fiddler and green crabs are the ticket to good action with the fish ranging from shorts to 4 pounds. Not many big fish as of yet; however, as water temps begin to plummet, that will all change. The Middle ground has begun to surrender some big togs with the best action just at the change of tide.

Tides for Moriches Inlet starting with October 14, 2009

Day	High/Low	Tide Time	Height Feet	Sunrise/Sunset	Moon Time	% Moon Visible
Wed. 14	High	4:02 AM	3.1	7:02 AM	Rise 2:50 AM	22
14	Low	10:09 AM	0.1	6:12 PM	Set 4:07 PM	
14	High	4:20 PM	3.3			
14	Low	10:44 PM	-0.1			
Thur. 15	High	4:59 AM	3.3	7:03 AM	Rise 4:02 AM	13
15	Low	11:04 AM	0.0	6:11 PM	Set 4:33 PM	
15	High	5:16 PM	3.3			
15	Low	11:31 PM	-0.2			
Fri. 16	High	5:51 AM	3.6	7:04 AM	Rise 5:14 AM	6
16	Low	11:56 AM	-0.1	6:09 PM	Set 4:59 PM	
16	High	6:07 PM	3.4			
Sat. 17	Low	12:16 AM	-0.3	7:05 AM	Rise 6:25 AM	2
17	High	6:38 AM	3.8	6:08 PM	Set 5:27 PM	
17	Low	12:46 PM	-0.2			
17	High	6:54 PM	3.3			
Sun. 18	Low	1:00 AM	-0.2	7:06 AM	Rise 7:36 AM	0
18	High	7:22 AM	3.8	6:06 PM	Set 5:57 PM	
18	Low	1:35 PM	-0.2			
18	High	7:39 PM	3.3			
Mon. 19	Low	1:43 AM	-0.2	7:07 AM	Rise 8:46 AM	0
19	High	8:04 AM	3.8	6:05 PM	Set 6:32 PM	
19	Low	2:21 PM	-0.2			
19	High	8:24 PM	3.1			
Tus. 20	Low	2:25 AM	0.0	7:08 AM	Rise 9:54 AM	3
20	High	8:46 AM	3.7	6:03 PM	Set 7:13 PM	
20	Low	3:05 PM	-0.1			
20	High	9:10 PM	2.9			
Wed. 21	Low	3:05 AM	0.2	7:09 AM	Rise 10:57 AM	7
21	High	9:30 AM	3.4	6:02 PM	Set 8:00 PM	
21	Low	3:47 PM	0.1			
21	High	9:58 PM	2.7			
Thur. 22	Low	3:45 AM	0.4	7:10 AM	Rise 11:53 AM	14
22	High	10:17 AM	3.2	6:00 PM	Set 8:53 PM	
22	Low	4:31 PM	0.3			
22	High	10:50 PM	2.6			
Fri. 23	Low	4:26 AM	0.5	7:11 AM	Rise 12:40 PM	21
23	High	11:07 AM	3.0	5:59 PM	Set 9:51 PM	
23	Low	5:17 PM	0.5			
23	High	11:44 PM	2.5			
Sat. 24	Low	5:11 AM	0.7	7:13 AM	Rise 1:20 PM	30
24	High	11:59 AM	2.9	5:58 PM	Set 10:51 PM	
24	Low	6:09 PM	0.6			