

OFF THE DOCK

WITH D. A. MANN

~ Lucky Charm ~

8/15/25

I have to admit it and it pains me to give it any credibility; but, the neighbor I taught how to fish has now surpassed me. When out yesterday, he caught 2 nice Pompano – Moi got skunked. I did have 2 really nice Trout and a big Whiting; but, no drag pullers. To my credit, I did put him on the fish. So much so that I told him *exactly* where to cast and how to play the current which led to his success. Last week, I did catch some Pompano along with Permit; but, he caught more and bigger ones taking my advice. So old buddy, you are my new lucky charm – don't let it go to your head.

The Trout were on the west end of the sandbar at marker 49 in Little Sarasota Bay; the Whiting were in the slow zone by marker 14 north of the Albee Bridge; and the Pompano were on the east side of Snake on the incoming tide between Markers 15 & 16. Yellow Willies are working the best especially when combined with rainbow teasers.

Be prepared to fight the brackish waters on an outgoing tide and to dodge all the brown snot-turds floating in patches throughout the bays. The amount of inshore fishermen has dwindled down to just a few with no charter captains in sight. Fishing has been challenging to say the least. So, when a lucky charm makes itself known, pay attention. If you stay clear of the Jet Skis and run from the Freedom Boat Clubbers, your chances of spending some time at the fish-cleaning table greatly improve.

Luck Charms – more than just a breakfast snack.