



ALMOST THERE: Second place blue marlin angler **John Lemmens** (left) and Capt. **Nick Aldacosta** with Lemmens' 543 lb. fish caught off *Nora John*.

Coke pulled his new Black Fin away from Star Island's dock, headed out the inlet, turned east towards the point and then south to the Fishtails. On board were four of his friends all eager to do some fishing. They steamed to the 'Tails in about two-and-a-half hours, dropped their lines in and started trolling. Within thirty minutes all hell broke loose for them as one of the 80 pound rods set on a rigger snapped the rubberband and began to scream. **Mark Baron** grabbed the rod and jumped into the chair as **Gary Coke** manned the controls. They had no idea what was at the other end but one thing they did know was, it was big. The fight lasted an hour and a half until the fish tired and succumbed to his fate, allowing **Fred Hines** to grab the leader and bring him along side. Only then did the crew aboard *Chanteuse* know that they had a real respec-

table blue marlin on the other end of the rod — a first for not only the new boat but the entire crew as well! **Joe Gaviola** struck him skillfully with the first gaff followed shortly after by **Tom Dolan**. Amid all the excitement, they managed to tailrope that fish and get him in the boat. They headed the boat north, back to Star Island's dock and Weighmaster **Kevin Gershowitz**. She tipped the scales at a very respectable 613 lbs. putting the *Chanteuse* crew into first place and a total party mood.

Meanwhile the rest of the fleet were dispersed through the various canyons, tied up and chunking away through the night. Radios crackled throughout as crews talked and boats continued reporting tuna hook-ups back to **Lenny Auerhan** at Star Island. On the renowned *Hatteras Meditation*, **Peter Egly**

was dutifully "chunking" away with four lines out for tuna and one deep for a possible swordfish. Suddenly the swordfish rod went off. **Peter** grabbed it out of the holder and jumped into the chair pumping and cranking away. After a short battle the swordfish was brought along side, gaffed and brought aboard. Everybody onboard agreed that it was a small one but real close if not on the mark for the 75 pound minimum set down in the rules which, if true, would be worth \$18,500 for the place.

Dawn broke with boats trolling again for what everyone hoped would be a good big "bite." Almost immediately the *Amy Lynn* with **Nick Trent** in the chair hooked-up a big one that would tip the scales at 209 lbs., good enough for first place in the tuna category and worth \$13,333. Soon after, **Ron Johansen**, captain of the 58' Striker *Tusen Takk* radioed that **John Thomas** was fighting another white marlin. This one they kept; a good thing because it weighed-in at 58 lbs. just beating out the other five finishers in the white marlin category and again worth \$13,333!

Then it happened. The 42' *Bertram Nora John* with Capt. **Nick Aldacosta** at the helm and owner/angler **John Lemmens** in the chair radioed back that they were hooked-up to a big blue marlin in the Fishtails. Capt. **Gary Coke**, who was still in first place at the time, never let the pressure show. While everyone else staved the canyons throughout the night, he and his crew had decided to get a good night's sleep after weighing their fish and celebrating a little. They left the dock Saturday morning "bright and early" at 10:00 am, and headed back to the 'Tails. Meanwhile **John Lemmens** was still fighting the big blue hooked in the eye which he and his crew successfully landed after nearly an hour and a half. It was big, maybe big enough for the place they sought. Arriving at the scales at 10:00 pm that afternoon, the huge crowd that now had gathered dockside first watched **Peter Egly's** swordfish was weighed-in. It tipped the scales at 60 lbs., not large enough to qualify. But **Peter** really didn't seem to care. He had taken a swordfish on rod and reel something that only a small fraternity of people have done. Then it was **John Lemmens' turn**. As the big fish was hauled out of *Nora John's* cockpit and up onto the scale, **Gary Coke** who had made a quick day of it stood confidently nearby with his crew, **Kevin Gershowitz** shouted "543 lbs." to the crowd. Not good enough for first, but a very respectable second. Capt. **Coke** and his crew had done it, his 613 lb. "slob" not big enough to wrap up the new Mercedes, but good enough for first place and worth a cool \$15,833.

At the awards ceremony that evening, **Sam Gershowitz** presented the winners with engraved crystal trophies and envelopes. Then it was off to the big tent where the huge crowd was treated to one of **Sam's** famous buffet dinners and dancing by the pool to the steel band music of the famous Merry Makers until the sun came up Sunday morning. A fitting end to the greatest tournament in Montauk is sometime. Next year's dates are scheduled for August 9-11, 1990.

SECOND ANNUAL STAR ISLAND OVERNIGHT TUNA-BILLFISH TOURNAMENT					
August 24-26, 1989			Montauk Point, New York		
BLUE MARLIN DIVISION					
Place	Angler	Boat	Make	Captain	Fish-Points
1st	Mark Baron	Chanteuse	36' Black Fin	Gary Coke	1-613
2nd	John Lemmens	Nora John	42' Bertram	Nick Aldacosta	1-543
WHITE MARLIN DIVISION					
Place	Angler	Boat	Make	Captain	Fish-Points
1st	John Thomas	Tusen Takk	58' Striker	Ron Johansen	1-58
2nd	Bill Addeo	Amy Lynn	48' Viking	Nick Trent	1-54
3rd	Joe Chimble	Gemini	38' Topaz	Joe Chimble	1-52
3rd	John Desmond	Sea Wings	unavailable	John Desmond	1-52
3rd	Vinny Assogna	Aquaholic	unavailable	Richard Polidori	1-52
3rd	Chester Browman	Justice	55' Ocean	Chester Broman	1-52
TUNA DIVISION					
Place	Angler	Boat	Make	Captain	Fish-Points
1st	Nick Trent	Amy Lynn	48' Viking	Nick Trent	1-209
2nd	John Wieman	Barbar Jack	44' Henriques	Ronnie Goldberg	1-142
3rd	Ronnie Goldberg	Barbar Jack	44' Henriques	Ronnie Goldberg	1-141
Catch Results		Blue Marlin	White Marlin		
Number:		2	10		
Largest:		613 pounds	58 pounds		
Anglers, Approx. 250; Boats, 43; Total Fishing Days, 2 Bait and Tackle Limits: Live bait permitted, 130 pound maximum, IGFA rules. Minimum Weights: Blue marlin, 200 pounds; white marlin, 50 pounds; swordfish, 75 pounds; tuna, 100 pounds. Weather: 1st Day, NW 15-20; 2nd Day, NW 15-20.					