

SPORT FISHING QUUE

Vol 46, Issue 8

August 2024

OFFICERS

President

Robert Carroll <u>robert.carroll22@yahoo.com</u> 919-524-5550

Vice-President

Walter Weeks wtweeks@charter.net (919)754-7832

Treasurer

John McQuaid johnwmcquaid@gmail.com 919-353-6894

Secretary

Mike Murphy rtpmurphy@yahoo.com (919) 810-1869

At-Large Members

Trey Lowdermilk hllowder@hotmail.com (919) 270-4120

Mike Davis mikedavis17@hotmail.com 919-412-5249

Greg Brissette Gbrissette1@yahoo.com 919 426-8372

Tripp Adams <u>tripp.adams@field2base.com</u> 919-422-6197

Past President
Kevin Clemmer
kcclemme@yahoo.com
919-623-3130

King Tournament Director TBD

AUGUST MEETING:

Tuesday, August 20 at 7:00 PM.

The club meets at the NC University Club at 4200 Hillsboro St.

Meals available for purchase.

Speaker: Al Adam, Immediate Past President of the North Carolina Beach Buggy Association (NCBBA)

Topics to include:

- * What is the NCBBA
- * 15th Annual Red Drum Tournament
- * Challenges of the Buxton beach cleanup
- * Current National Parks Service interaction
- * Our evolving coastline
- * Challenges to recreational fishing in NC
- * Recent and proposed DMF rules
- * 10 knot speed limits

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Bo Nowell 919 280-1867 Bonowell@aol.com

CONTRIBUTING EDITOR

Bernie McCants 919 602-4516

bernie.mccants@gmail.com

Editor Emeritus

Jim Beetham

jbeetham83@gmail.com

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Walter Weeks REALTY

Walter T. Weeks

Broker in Charge

(919) 754-7832 wtweeks@charter.net



CLUB ELECTIONS

Its elections this month and all nominees must be in the newsletter per our bylaws!

2024/25 Nominations are:

Robert Carroll President Walter Weeks Vice President John McQuaid Treasurer Bailey Tucker Secretary

Members at Large:
Trey Lowdermilk
Mike Davis
Greg Brissette
Trip Adams
Chris DiGiovanna
Scott Vahue
Dan Dammerman
Jason Hollingsworth

Nominations will be taken from the floor ar the meeting.

Nautical by Rhoadworks

Unique Gifts with a Nautical Nod

Lynn Rhoads - Owner / Artist 919-649-5339

etsy.com/shop/NauticalbyRhoadworks



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SCHEDULE OF RSWSFC 2024 EVENTS

Outing: Old Drum (Date Tentative), Sat, Sep 07, Cedar Island NC

Meeting: Topic TBD, Tue, Sep 17, Raleigh, 4200 Hillsborough St, Raleigh

RSWSFC Kids Fishing Rodeo will be Oct.3. It will be held in Morehead City at the Newport River Fishing Pier on Radio Island

Meeting: Topic TBD, Tue, Oct 15, Raleigh, 4200 Hillsborough St, Raleigh

Social/Oysters at Brewery (Date Tentative)

Meeting Tue, Nov 12, TBD

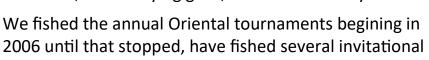
Christmas Party, Mon, Dec 02 Note: Date Tentative) TBD

Chasing Unicorns 13th Annual Pamlico Invitational Championship Tournament

I tarpon fished for the first time in 2000 on a charter with Capt. George Beckwith. After struggling early, we found a school of actively feeding tarpon and hooked 7 and release three. I was hooked.

From 2002-2004 I fished the Oriental Tarpon Tourney with some friends, hooking 4 and releasing 1. After a brutally hot tournament in 2004, the boat owner decided it wasn't worth the effort to pull the boat from Frisco.

I had met Jim Kelley with NC Marine Patrol through some Marine Advisory Committees I was on and would also see Jim and daughter Kandice at the Oriental Tarpon Tournaments. When he asked why I missed 2005 and explained the loss of the team, he invited me to fish with Kandice and him. And, as the saying goes, 'the rest is history'.





Pungo Light tarpon tournament and every Pamlico Championship Tournaments.

This year the 13th Annual Pamilico Tourney was scheduled for August 10th. Unfortunately, Tropical Storm Debbie decided to pay NC a visit. Organizers decided the show would go on. Definitely sketchy headed down on Thursday with plans to hunt tarpon, pre-fish and strategize Thursday and Friday. This didn't work out as heavy rains and thunderstorms kept us at bay at the cottage checking gear, setting drags and making rigs.

As always, a great pretournament meal and meet and greet with participants on Friday and the mood was upbeat as the Saturday forecast appear to continue to improve. Though tarpon and particularly tournament anglers are tight lipped as to their plans, I think there was a consensus as no one had a clue as to how the tarpon would react to the storm and rain.

Tournament Short Version: 15 boats and 53 anglers released no tarpon. One tarpon was jumped and lost after the second jump and only a few were seen rolling even though there was a period of 3-4 hours midday when conditions were close to ideal.

As an optimist, I guess our team tied for first.

Tournament Long Version: Condition were reasonably good for the 6:30 shotgun start, overcast, 10 knot winds and mild chop on the river No lines in until 7:00 due to the red drum Lupton Rig requirements and most anglers use a 6' leader and J hooks.

Always fun to see which boats, captains and crews headed in which direction at the start. A few headed out toward the sound, a few up river and a few, included us, headed cross river to fish some oyster rocks. We chose to start at an oyster rock down river from South River where we have jumped and caught tarpon in the past. We felt pretty good about our decision as a guide who had released 17

We set up and fished for about hour before the first bit. I grabbed the rod and ... it was silver and It went airborne .. but wrong species. A nice ~ 8 lb bluefish. This became a recurrent theme and we released several other nice bluefish and only one of the dreaded cow nosed rays in our first spot. We fished for several hours and, as the weather improved and condition became almost ideal to hunt for fish rolling, we decided pull anchor and steam up river to an area off Southern River that has a number of scattered

Seeing nothing, we set up on a rock that was holding quite a bit of bait. Met with similar outcome with a few more nice bluefish and two more cownosed rays.

oyster rocks with 4-5 ft elevation.

tarpon so far this year was on a rock about 1/2 mile away.

We had a rod go down hard, then a few seconds later a second rod went down. Kandice grabbed the first and I grabbed to second. Within 30 seconds, a third rod went down and Jim got that one so everyone was hooked up. Kandice's fish

came up an wallowed as did mine. Ruled out tarpon and ray and figgered red drum. Kandice and I dealt with a tangle for about 5 minutes and, after sorting out that deal, I brought a 40" red drum to the boat. Popped the hook out, took a quick pic and measurement and released the drumming male.

Jim's fish was the next to the boat, a similar sized, beautiful pumpkin orange fish. Quick pic and release and on to Kandice's fish. Hers was another similar sized, multi-spotted drumming male and I got a pic with Kandice, her Dad and the fish. Lacking a tarpon, this clearly made the trip. About 10 minutes later, judging by the hoots and hollers from the boat a couple of hundreds yard down river, the school paid them a visit.







One more ray and we started noticing a darkening sky up river. A check of our phones' weather apps indicated it was headed our way and full of sparklies (lightening) with our phones' lighting alerts firing off. While the crew is gear up for rain, we don't do sparlies and decided to cut the tourney short and head to the dock an hour and a half early.

Good call! We headed in to Broad Creek between two thunderstorm. Jim and Kandice even saw a brief water spout. Got to the dock, tied up and, as the last load of gear was going back to the truck, it absolutely dumped with visibility about 100 yards.







Only other issue was a injury to Jim when his drum slipped off the top of a cooler and its head hit

Jim's foot. We joked about the drum biting his foot as revenge. I always have a bottle of hydrogen peroxide on hand when fishing the Neuse because of the risk of infection by some nasty bugs and we dosed the would and Kandice tuned up his injury back at the cottage. As always, a fun, eventful tournament. Maybe next year, the 'eventful' will include a visit from a tarpon.



Friends Don't Take Friends Tarpon Fishing—Jim Kelley

MAHI CHALLENGE RESULTS

Thank You to all that participated. The consistent South wind limited time offshore. You will also see that the larger fish pushed thru in May.

Congratulations to JESSICA CARROLL, Get Away (Robert Carroll), on her 40" fish which takes the prize of bragging rights for 2024.

1st Fish - Scott Vahue 34"

MAY - Jessica Carroll 40" (Champion)

JUNE - Greg Brissette 23.5"

JULY - Trey Lowdermilk 10"

JULY MAHI CHALLENGE REPORT

One fish reported. Trey Lowdermilk, Horseplay, fishing the Carteret Community College Spanish Macke-Tournament. 10" Mahi took live menhaden off the Cape Lookout Rock Jetty (Truth). Released to fight another day.



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FISHING REPORTS

Joe Parson's is a member who recently went fishing with friends in Cap Cod. He caught 25 Stripers and a blue fish on the trip.







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Here are the fish cards submitted in July.

Angler Date of Catch Boat Type Species Size Released? Description

Trey Lowdermilk 6/29/2024 Small Boat Spanish Mackerel 4.55# / 25" No

Live baiting in 50' of water off the Shackleford banks side of the Beaufort Inlet Shipping Challenge during the Cape Lookout Shootout Classic King Mackerel tournament series. Unfortunately wrong species.

Tom Zemonek 6/25/2024 Buddy Cannady sportfish Sailfish Unk (Released) Yes

Dare County Boat Builders Tournament. Caught ~65 miles on flatline naked ballyhoo

Tom Zemonek 6/25/2024 Sportfish Mahi Unk No Flatline naked ballyhoo while trolling. ~65 miles off oregon inlet

Tom Zemonek 7/26/2024 Sport fish Mahi Unk No Second mahi caught of the day. Flatline naked ballyhoo. ~65 miles off Oregon inlet.

Tom Zemonek 7/26/2024 Sport fish Sailfish Unk (released) Yes Day 2 of tournament,. Flatline rigged naked ballyhoo trolling. ~65 miles out off Oregon inlet. Larger sailfish but released quickly so we didn't get length or weight.

ARTICIIAL REEF ADDED IN NC

The Artificial Reef Program sank a tugboat, the 106' Thomas Dann, at AR-305 on August 1. This vessel was donated to the reef program by Marinex Construction Co. of Charleston, SC and Steven's Towing completed the prep and scuttling of the vessel.

The Thomas Dann joins two other vessels at AR-305, the 183-foot Spar and the 439-foot Aeolus, sunk in 2004 and 1988, respectively. The site also contains 1,700 tons of donated recycled concrete deployed in July 2023. The site is located approximately 28 nautical miles south of Beaufort Inlet in 105 feet of water and is a popular site for fishermen and divers. The approximate position of the Thomas Dann is 34° 16.637' N, -76° 38.395' W.

We will have exact numbers once we get out and side scan the site. Fish should already be on the vessel and will increase as the ship begins to be covered in algae, coral, sponges etc. over the next year. For now, jigging and trolling should produce some meat. There is a video available of the sinking. It is on the NCDMF facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/NCMarineFisheries

Additionally, I am deploying granite at AR-296. The approximate location for these new piles of granite is 35° 17.458' N 75° 37.539' W.

Tight lines, Nick Hendrix, Artificial Reef Program - Biologist I, Habitat & Enhancement Section, Division of Marine Fisheries, NC Department of Environmental Quality 252.515.5483 nick.hendrix@deq.nc.gov

IMPORTANT MEETING—ATTEND IF YOU CAN!

Marine Fisheries Commission to meet Aug. 21-23 in Raleigh

The N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission will meet in person Aug. 21-23 at the Hilton Raleigh North Hills, in Raleigh. The meeting will also be livestreamed on YouTube. The meeting will begin at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 21; at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 22; and at 9 a.m. on Friday, Aug. 23. The commission will hold public comment sessions at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, Aug. 21, and at 9 a.m. on Thursday, Aug. 22.

The following information pertains to in-person public comment:

Those who wish to speak may sign up at the hotel prior to the public comment period in which they wish to speak.

To accommodate as many speakers as possible, the chair will limit each speaker to 3 minutes.

Those making comments will be asked to speak only once, either Wednesday night or Thursday morning, but not during both public comment periods.

Those who wish to submit handouts to the commission during a public comment period should bring at least 12 copies to the meeting.

The public may also submit written comments via the

following methods:

An online form accessible through the Marine Fisheries Commission Meetings webpage.

Mail to August 2024 Marine Fisheries Commission Meeting Comments, P.O. Box 769, Morehead City, N.C. 28557.

Dropped off at the Division of Marine Fisheries' Morehead City Headquarters Office at 3441 Arendell St., Morehead City.

The deadline to submit written comments for this meeting is 4 p.m. on Monday, Aug. 19.

The YouTube link will be posted on the Marine Fisheries Commission Meetings webpage. After the meeting, a recording will be posted online.

Agenda items for this meeting include:

A presentation on the Draft Spotted Seatrout Fishery Management Plan Amendment 1, including information about the Division's preliminary recommendations, and a vote to approve the draft amendment for public and advisory committee review.

A report on the Southern Flounder Stock Assessment Update and 2023 Southern Flounder landings.

A presentation on the division's Annual Fishery Management Plan Review.

An overview of Submerged Aquatic Vegetation and its

management in North Carolina.

Votes on notice of text to begin the rulemaking process to amend or adopt the below three issues. The proposed rules will go to public hearing at a later date.

15A NCAC 03J .0301 to Simplify Pot Marking Requirements

15A NCAC 03M .0523 for False Albacore Management 15A NCAC 03O .0601-.0606 for the Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact

A vote to set the annual cap for the number of Standard Commercial Fishing Licenses available through the Eligibility Pool.

Presentations on the division's:

Carcass Collection Program

C. Saltwater Fishing Tournament

C. Saltwater State Record Fish

Multi-Species Tagging Program

Election of a vice chair.

The full agenda and briefing book are posted on the Marine Fisheries Commission Meetings webpage.

WHO:

N.C. Marine Fisheries Commission

WHAT:

Quarterly Business Meeting

WHEN:

Aug. 21 at 6 p.m.

Aug. 22 at 9 a.m.

Aug. 23 at 9 a.m.

WHERE:

Hilton Raleigh North Hills 3415 Wake Forest Road Raleigh, N.C. 27609

LIVESTREAM:

Click here for link

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For More Information Contact: Patricia Smith

Phone: 252-515-5500

Website: https://www.deq.nc.gov/dmf

RS Angler (Club Mer		FISHIN			·
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HOW TO SUBMIT AUTOMATED FISHING REPORTS

Dates, locations (general), tackle, bait and tips are greatly appreciated. You can easily utilize the new reporting tool on the Club's website. Fish Card: https://www.rswsc.org/fish-cards

Tripp made updates to the website for members to submit Fish Cards. The application for submitting information is through Google Forms and has been embedded into the website. When submitting a responses, members will have the ability to view other submissions.

"Google does require a Gmail account be used, if a picture was uploaded in the questionnaire. To make things easier, pictures will be emailed separately. We believe the ease of submitting responses and the ability to view all member results will outweigh having to submit a pictures separately."

You can also use the form on the following page if desired and not computer savvy.

Please send in your fishing reports, Fish Cards and photos to share with members in 2022. The newsletters are much better with fishing reports and photos.

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Website & Social Media Report—Tripp Adams

Stay Connected and Up to Date:

The Raleigh Saltwater Sportfishing Club (RSWSC) offers several ways for members to stay informed about our latest meetings, outings, and to connect with other members. Here's how you can stay connected:

- Website: Visit www.RSWSC.org for:
- Event Calendars
- Current and Past Newsletters
- Members-Only Forum (requires creating a login)
- Digital Fish Card
- Outings and Meetings

For the most up-to-date calendar, refer to the Upcoming Events page on our website. Many outings and social events require signing up via SignUpGenius. Links are sent directly from SignUpGenius and are also included in general update emails and newsletters.

Newsletters: Club newsletters are a staple for members. Newsletters from the past five years are available on the website, with a more extensive library available upon request.

Forum: Our forum is a message board for members to communicate, share ideas and advice, post items for sale, and more. It's an excellent way to stay connected and engaged with the club community.

Social Media: Stay updated with our social media platforms:

Facebook: The Raleigh Saltwater Sportfishing Club (Public): Open to members and non-members. This page features the latest updates and public announcements.

The Raleigh Saltwater Sportfishing Club (Private): Requires approval to join and is geared towards active members sharing their catches and communicating with each other.

Instagram and Twitter: Follow us for updates and club-related content. Facebook sees the most activity among club members, so be sure to stay active there.

Past Speakers List and contact information

Presenter	Website/Email	Topic	Phone
Rob Koraly	www.sandbarsafari.com	Bonita Fishing	252-725-4614
Capt Bryan Goodwin	www.nativeguide.net	Light tackle fishing	252 725-3961
Dave Anderson	www.collinsboating.com	Engine & Boat Maintenance	919 934-3143
Jerry Dilsaver	captjery@captjerry.com	Throwing Casting Nets	
Fuzzy Lambert	www.dunkilewisinc.com	Humming Bird Electronics	336 416-3733
Capt George Beckwith	www.downeastguideservice.com		252 671-3434
James Garner	www.otseg@aol.com	Boat Building w/Hi Tech Composites	
Robbie Hall	hallemincharters@yahoo.com	Fishing in Emerald Isle / Swansboro	252-354-6692
Capt Daniel Jarvas	www.flatfootcharters.com	Bonita Fishing in New River Inlet	828-308-6726
Capt. Gary Dubiel	www.specfever.com/blog	Large Drum on artificial bait	252-249-1520
Capt Dave Tilley	www.portal.ncdenr.org/web/ mf/home		910-456-0611
Seth Vernon	www.captainsethvernon.com	Double Haul Guide Service	910-233-4520
Gary Ballard	www.deepcreeklures.com www.captaingarysproducts.com	Deep Creek Lures & Cap- tain Gary's Marine Care Products	(910) 892-1791
Capt. Richard Andrews	http://tarpamguide.com/	Tar-Pam Guide Service	(252) 945-9715
Seaview Pier	www.seaviewfishingpier.com		910-328-3172
Captain Greg Griffin	greg@greggofish.com	Greggofish Guide Service	919-434-4183
Captain Stewart Merritt	www.saltairventures.com/	Salt Air Ventures	252-725-1725
Jody Gay	Bluewatercandylures.com	Blue Water Candy	910-270-3718
Capt Bobby Brewer	www.baldheadbobby.com	Baldheaded Bobby Guide Service	919-349-6112
Capt. Scooter Lilley	www.cwwcharters.com	CWW Inshore Charters	252-799-9536