



RALEIGH SALTWATER SPORT FISHING CLUB

Vol 44, Issue 4

April 2022

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The Raleigh Saltwater Sport Fishing Club — the longest standing saltwater club in Raleigh invites you to our meeting on Tuesday April 19, 2022

We meet at the NC State University Club, 4200 Hillsborough St, Raleigh.
(Located between Meredith and the State Fairgrounds).

This month's raffle

(Value \$800)

FULL Day Near Shore
Bonito – Albacore – Kings
4 Anglers can fish with
Capt. Lee Winkleman of
Top Gun Fishing

(Subject to Morehead City area; all tackle and gear will be provided)



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2022 RSWSC CALENDAR



2/1 – 4/30 Striper Tournament (Longest fish measured w/photo wins Nominal Prize) — MUST be a Member to Qualify!

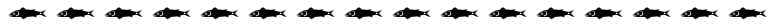
4/19 Members Meeting @ NCSU Faculty Club, Bonito, Albies, Kings (Capt. Lee Winkleman Top Gun Fishing) Raffle for guided full day trip w/Capt. Winkleman, Door Prizes

4/26 Officers Meeting

4/30 Atlantic Bonito Outing (Fish from your Home port) (Longest fish measured w/photo wins Nominal Prize) MUST be a Member to Qualify!

5/17 Members Meeting @ NCSU Faculty Club, Mahi Tactics (Monklures)

5/14-15 or 5/21-22 Mahi Tournament; Capt. Declares weekend and Submit to Organizer Robert Carroll



From the Editor

This is a photo filled newsletter this month because many of you sent pictures of events and your catches. It's great to see kids fishing also and getting their pictures seen as well as the great time they had on the water with you.

There is a new way to submit fishing reports and pictures via the Club web site. Instructions are in this newsletter. Also there are tips for accessing the Club website which should make your experience much more successful and enjoyable. It offers a lot so feel free to look at current and past issues to fill your web surfing time.

There are some club member only tournaments in progress and coming up soon. So look for them and compete. There will also be some club fishing outings and this is a good way to get on a boat with an experienced Captain and learn how to fish a little bit better or to learn about a locale you may not have fished.

Lastly, support our sponsors. Support your local tackle shops. Tight lines everyone!

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Anglers Needed For Ocracoke Surf Tourney

Dates are April 24 to May 1.

Six-Person Team Tournament on Thursday and Friday, April 28 & 29.

Cost is \$500 for the week including tournament fees.

Pretty much inclusive except for bait.

Visitors during the week are \$50.00 a night .

Great way for newer members to form friendships with established members and share and receive surf fishing tackle and tips.

RSWSFC has a good record for this tournament over the years.

Contact Tommy Walls at 919-325-6529

For Sale: 3 Offshore stand up rod and reel combinations. Avet Pro 4/0 wide, 2 speed reels matched to 30 - 50 lb. stand up rods. Reels loaded with 40 lb. mono. \$300 for each combo. Contact Bill Mandulak at 919-345-2280.

New INFO on Submitting Fishing Reports

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.

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 and the Striper catch for the Feb-April competition. The application for submitting information is through Google Forms and has been embedded into the website. Once submitting a responses, members will have the ability to view other submissions.

Per Tripp "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.

RSWSC FISHING REPORT CARD

Angler (Club Member): _____

(Age if Junior/Youth angler) _____

Small Boat

Charter

Pier

Surf (Circle one)

Location: _____ Date: _____

Best Catch: Species: _____

Weight _____ lbs. _____ oz _____ Length _____ (inches)

Released? Yes No (Circle one)

Comments: _____

Drop card off at meeting or

Email your report to: Bernie.mccants@gmail.com or Bonowell@aol.com

Also submit information in a fishing report for the Newsletter

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Renewals — Please only enter changed information

Name: _____ New member
Include spouse's/children name if family membership Renewal

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Home phone: _____ Work Phone: _____ Cell _____

E-mail address: _____ Boat Name: _____

Dues: Single - \$50: Family - \$60: Sponsor (business card) - \$130:

Corresponding (newsletter only) - \$25: (Corresponding not eligible for catch awards or banquet attendance)

(Note: larger sponsor ads or short term ads are available and negotiable. Contact a club officer

Mail to: RSWSC, PO Box 41427, Raleigh, NC 27629

This is a call for Volunteer Captains...MAD MHC Boat Registration is open!

We've reached an exciting milestone in our event planning. With about 90 days to go before our 2022 event, we've opened boat registration on our website. The direct link is: <http://militaryappreciationday.net/morehead-city-chapter-bo...>

This is where the rubber meets the road. After a successful event last year, we hope to grow the event this year in numbers of boats and troops hosted.

Because many decisions need to be based on anticipated numbers of captains, crew and troops capacity, we ask that you register as early as possible.

Finally, for now, please pass the word to fellow skippers. Word of mouth in our tight fishing community is very effective in bringing new skippers onboard.

We look forward to seeing you at this year's event, which promises to be a great one.

If you have specific questions or trouble registering, please email me at moreheadcitymad@gmail.com.== Thanks, Chris



FOR SALE

Two (2) Shimano TLD 15 Lever Drag Reels (MSRP \$159.99).

These reels were won in a raffle several years ago and have never been used. No salt water exposure, only dust.

Spooled with what appear to be 15 lb. test line, which I would suggest you replace.

**Yours for the unbelievable low price of \$200.00!
BUT WAIT!! THERE'S MORE!!!**



Purchase these two reels and I will include at NO COST, two unused Penn Power Stick rods, an addition \$120.00+ value .

A PC 3811 M 7', Medium Action, ¾ to 3 oz lure, 15-40 lb. line and a PC 3721 M 7', Medium Action, ½ to 1 ½ oz lure, 15-40 lb. line.

Contact Bernie McCants @ bernie.mccants@gmail.com or call/text 919-602-4516.

Black Sea Bass Season Open

The 2022-2023 recreational fishing season for black sea bass in federal waters of the South Atlantic, **south of Cape Hatteras, North Carolina (35°15.19' N. latitude)**, will open April 1, 2022, at 12:01 a.m., local time, and will close April 1, 2023, at 12:01 a.m., local time.

The recreational fishing season for black sea bass in the South Atlantic region begins on April 1st and ends when the recreational catch limit is predicted to be met.

Estimates indicate recreational landings for the 2022-2023 fishing year will be below the 2022-2023 recreational catch limit. Therefore, NOAA Fisheries estimates that black sea bass will be open for the entire 2022-2023 recreational fishing year.

Limit: 7/day, length 13" Total Length. Must use non-offset, non-stainless circle hooks when using natural bait. <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/bulletin/noaa-fisheries-announces-2022-2023-recreational-fishing-season-black-sea-bass-south>

Kingfish start us off in spring, finish us up in fall with earlier runs than usual

RICHARD EHRENKAUFER "Dr. Bogus Report"

Article appeared in Carolina Online Facebook Forum April 5, 2022

https://www.carolinacoastonline.com/news_times/sports/article_a298406c-b538-11ec-a3c3-bf0a8c85365f.html?fbclid=IwAR31tN_bMedWl0F9dmSPZVhYllyhMbnfKFOe8TX8-f7nTsftEmnB5AgvkrM

Kingfish? How about Virginia mullet? Maybe whiting? Or how about sea mullet as they are more commonly called here along the Crystal Coast.

Yes, technically kingfish, which start us off each spring and finish us up in the fall, are one of the diminutive members of the sciaenids which includes sand perch, spots, red and black drum, speckled and gray trout and croakers. All the above, except for the sea mullet croak.

Kingfish are the only silent member of the croaker drum family of fishes. Croakers and the other can be heard croaking as you are removing the hook and is mainly used by the males during spawning season. This croaking noise is made by rapping the air bladder with a muscle. Apparently, a mature sea mullet only has remnants of a vestigial and now dysfunctional air bladder, thus remaining silent throughout adulthood.

Kingfish come in three flavors – northern, southern and Gulf varieties – all of which we see here in local waters throughout the season. The northern is silvery gray to golden brown with dark bands on the upper body and an elongated thread fin on the front dorsal fin. The southern are gray to golden brown, sometimes with brownish bands on the upper side, but NO elongated dorsal fin. The Gulf are the most silvery of the kingfish without any darkened bands and are the biggest of the three.

The last several years, that is since 2019, the spring run of the kingfish has started earlier than past memories suggest, and that includes 2022. They have a wide tolerance of water temperatures, from 48 to 86 degrees, and with recent sea water warming trends, have shown up as early as mid-January and surely by February.

We first notice them in the deeper waters, 50 to 60 feet, in the boating channel just outside Beaufort Inlet, usually around Buoy No. 18 and work their way along Shackleford Banks, the Dead Tree Hole (N 34 38.748, W 76 35.559), into the port turning basin and along the surf and ocean fishing piers.

With current water temperatures favorably in the low-60s, we are currently experiencing an excellent sea mullet season on Bogue Banks and Topsail Island as well. Other standard locations include Radio Island, the end of the Cape Lookout Jetty, the Shaq Jetty, the so-called Mud Hole off of Bear Island and some of the deeper waters inside Bogue Inlet over to Swansboro and the Intracoastal Waterway south of the White Oak River.

For catching, of course a standard two-hook bottom rig will do, but these days, many boat anglers are using Sam's Gitters rigs which are just modified speck rigs with an extra loop for a sinker. Preferred hooks include No. 2 or No. 4 sizes with a long shank, and lately many are sporting No. 2 circle hooks with good success. Sea mullet are sticklers for fresh bait, fresh shrimp and in the summer when available, sand fleas are favored. Last summer, one pier jockey was hauling in some of the biggest sea mullet I've ever seen with live shrimp. These were 2-pound fish (yes 2), and his cooler was packed with them.

Of course, Fishbite baits are a great alternative. Some anglers tandem a bit of shrimp Fishbite with a chunk of fresh shrimp with great success, and yes, bloodworms or Fishbite bloodworm substitutes are a great bait too. And if you were clever enough to blanch and freeze some of last year's sand fleas, they will work great too.

In the inlets and turning basin, it's best to fish around slack tide to hold bottom in the deeper water. On the ocean piers, a rising tide works best, and believe me, many fish are caught in the dead of night if you aren't afraid of the dark. This year, at least at Bogue Inlet Pier, the outer bar has moved out somewhere near the cleaning table, and hot spots on the pier are from the fourth to the sixth shelter. Remember, it's spring, so the west side of the pier is where most of the fish are being caught.

So far this year, the bite both day and night has been excellent with puffers in the mix, along with the heartbreak of rays and dogfish. If you are fishing the inlet areas, other by-catch include gray trout, which have been abundant this spring and the average size also bigger than years past. These can be jigged up with any shiny jig, and you can also tip the jig with a bit of shrimp or Fishbites. Kingfish are one local targeted species that are so far unregulated, and the numbers continue to appear strong.

BOGUS NOTES

- 1) Check me out at www.Facebook.com/Dr.Bogus.
- 2) Log onto my website at www.ncoif.com. It's now better than ever.
- 3) I'm located at 118 Conch Ct. in "Sea Dunes," just off Coast Guard Road., Emerald Isle, NC 28594. Mailing address is P.O. Box 5225, Emerald Isle, NC 28594. Don't forget a gift certificate for your favorite angler for fishing lessons or my totally Bogus Fishing Report subscription. Please stop by at any time and say "Hi" (252-354-4905).

COONEY'S CORNER

Beautiful Places and Special Gifts

Some wise angler once observed that “Trout only live in beautiful places.” I can attest to that. The first bald eagle that I ever saw was soaring over the Pit River in Northern California at a remote fishing spot that locals called “Upper Blue Bar.” That was in the early 1950s, a decade before Rachel Carson’s classic, *Silent Spring*, was published. In the 50s bald eagles were on a clear path to extinction.

At the time, I was twelve or thirteen and fishing with Dad. I had been tagging along with him since age four. During the countless hours we spent in many beautiful places, he shared his love of nature with me. He taught me to recognize the beauty of a self-regulating system. Dad planted the seeds of my lifelong fascination with nature.

Fishing, though it may become a bit of an addiction at times, takes us to the beautiful places. I wanted my kids to have the opportunity to observe and appreciate the natural wonders all around us. Joan was five and Mark was three when they started going fishing with me. My late wife, Pat, always packed a cooler with lunch and drinks. She was happy to see us heading out the door to go fishing somewhere. Years later, after our kids were grown, she bought this plaque and gave it to me.



As I was reading this for the first time, I was reminded of an old Irish expression that goes something like this—“*Half kidding, full earnest.*” I had always felt guilty leaving Pat behind. I now realize that whether it was for a few hours or for several days, for her, it was freedom. The possibility of fresh fish for dinner was a bonus. I think that my Mom probably felt the same way, but she never let on.

Recently the Cooney Clan got together to celebrate my 82nd birthday. Everyone was way too generous with gifts, but one stood out. It was a greeting card from Mark. Inside he had written these words...

**Check out YouTube Video “Mighty Waters”
With Ansil Saunders
Thinking of You & Me Fishing!**

For me, it was a priceless gift from my son.

I’d like to share this gift with you. It’s about two men who worked their entire lives to make the world a better place for all. One made the ultimate sacrifice. It’s about a Bimini fishing guide and boat builder, Ansil Saunders, and Martin Luther King, Jr. It’s about how these two men came together. It’s about beautiful places. It’s about the wonders of nature. For both of them, it’s about God.

Watch the 17 minute video on YouTube.com — Search: Mighty Waters

Wishing you all beautiful places and special gifts — Dan Cooney

FISH CARDS REPORTED IN MARCH 2022

Timestamp (Species) fight, etc.)	Angler (Club Member) Weight/ Length Upload Pictures	Age (if youth angler) Released: Upload Pictures	Date of Catch	Caught on:	Catch Tell us about your catch (location, bait, the
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1/18/2022 22:12	Test 12	1/17/2022	Surf	Cobia	49 inches Yes
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1/20/2022 9:15	Test 2 12	12/1/2022	Small Boat	Trigger fish	15 Yes
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<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1jcFym4ts3ily5nnTIP3ATJOqBk0s2Oh4>

1/20/2022 16:59	John McQuaid	18+, times 3 or 4	1/19/2022	Small Boat	Striper 20"
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Yes "New Bern Trent River railroad trestle"

On a swim bait. Released in good shape. Also fished Duck Creek and Upper Broad Creek for Speckled Trout with no luck." https://drive.google.com/open?id=1K9uNyjXmvmvbqdaYa80wP_EjAEsoH

3/9/2022 19:20	Jeff Becker	2/28/2022	Charter	Snook	24 in 3lb Yes
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Fished Tampa Bay with Capt. Kyle Nifong. Great young fishing guide.. Fishing a little slow but we did catch 12 snook. We used live white bait however no keeper fish.. Decided to give sight casting to large Black Drum a try without success. I fish with Capt. Nifong almost every time i visit my family in St Pete.. Outstanding fisherman and guide..

3/9/2022 19:30	Jeff Becker	3/7/2022	Small Boat	Mangrove Snapper, Porgies,	Yes
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Yellow Tail, Lane Snapper. Yellow Tail Jack Lane Snapper 17 in No Fished with the LEGEND Capt. Norman Miller in BIG PINE KEY.. Norman and I go way back having been fishing buddies for over 45 years.. Was visiting Jim Strickland in Marathon Fl and made the 30 min drive to visit Norman. We had a blast catching Mangrove, Yellow Tail, Mutton, Lane snappers. along with some small groupers, Yellow Tail jacks . Fished 3 hrs. and called it a day.. Back country fishing in the lower keys can be hit or miss in Feb/March We definitely did the HIT..

3/11/2022 13:51	Fred Adams Jr.	3/8/2022	Charter	Striper 22"	No
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Z man 4" Paddle Tail on a 3/8 OZ Jig Head

These are results from our new automated page on the Club website. We will work on an export format to hopefully more reader friendly when exported.

Some Pictures (L to R) Fred Adams, Greg Brissette (Stripers). Steve Kuekes , Grey Trout near Shackleford Island. And one of Jeff Becker's catch. See above for details from Fish Card entries online



Member Catch Pictures

From Past President Jim Strickland: "My buddy Ronnie Burnette and a 10 year old Connor and I with hogfish, Boxfish and bonefish.



Greg Brissette caught several Stripers fishing with Fred Adams on March 8. Fish were caught on the Roanoke River and Albemarle Sound with my largest at 21 1/4". Also, caught a nice Blue Catfish that measured 31" and gave up a decent fight. Dropped him but he did not get away. Filleted and released ☐



Club Outing for Shad

Two boats and a handful of bank fishermen braved 25 mph winds to fish the Roanoke for Shad on Saturday, March 26. The Shad cooperated and each fisherman landed around 10 fish. Mike Davis landed the largest Shad on one boat at 17" and 2# 5oz.

Good fun was had by all. Our only regret is that more club members didn't join us.



From Robert Carroll "We had a blast! Fish were there and hitting darts and spoons. It was a colder morning than planned with a lot of wind. Jessica managed to out fish me. Even managed to pull them in two at a time. Best place we found to catch them was just upstream of old clasped bridge/spillway, where the currents combine behind island, toss toward south bank just upstream and letting current take the darts/spoon down the bank. All safely released!



Bill Mandulak's Fishing Report

Well Frank (the god of fishing) finally allowed me a couple good trips. The first trip was with my transplanted friend from Michigan, Steve Firavich. Steve and I hired Mitchell Blake for a shad trip on the Neuse. We started at 7:30 at the Cypress Oaks Landing. A short ride to us to a creek that flows into the Neuse. After a short time, we started to catch shad. Throughout our trip we caught between 35 – 40 shad – both Hickories and Americans. In addition, Steve caught a large gar and the smallest gar I have ever seen. Throw in some bass and crappie on a beautiful warm spring day and you can't do it any better.

The second trip I had was with Mike McLean and his friend Charles Glover. We hired Shane Britt, a guide in Holden Beach and a mate in the Wicked Tuna Outer Banks show, to show us the trout fishing he had been bragging about. I have to say we almost cancelled the trip a couple of times due to the cold weather but we eventually settled to leave later in the morning to warm up a bit. Shane met us at 10:30 and took us for a short but cold run to the Lock Folly River. I foolishly sat in the seat at the console thereby blocking the wind for Mike and Charles. It was definitely cold with the temp around 40F. While I warmed up Charles landed our first keeper trout. We put a few in the cooler but moved to a couple other spots when the action slowed. We eventually came back to our first spot now getting steady action with 5 citation fish and Mike's tipping the certified BOGA at 8.5+ lb.. The biggest spotted sea trout I have ever seen. We all agreed this was the best spotted sea trout trip we ever had. Needless to say we were not very cold when we returned to the dock at about 2:30 with our limits along with several big ones. Shane fileted the fish with his trusty electric filet knife and we were on our way by 3:00 for some bourbon and celebration of the day.

I have attached a few pictures and may send a couple more as the technology allows. — Bill



MARCH MEETING RAFFLE WINNERS!



Attendees



Website & Social Media Report—Tripp Adams

Newsletters and Communication:

All other communication is managed through our listserv. Keep an eye out for meeting, newsletter, outing, etc. related emails.

You will also be received the monthly Newsletter.

Be sure to check your spam! Your first few emails could get caught up there..

Lastly – The club website has past newsletters, our events calendar, and club forum. Some features require you to register as a site member. Follow the instructions below to sign up.

- 1) Visit <https://www.rswsc.org/>
- 2) In the top right corner, select 'Log in'
- 3) Select 'Sign Up'
- 4) Select a method for registering. Your options are Facebook, Google, or your personal Email
- 4B) Be sure to select, 'Join site community' for event updates and forum access.
- 5) If using your personal email, you will need to create a password

Club Website Improvements — from Tripp Adams:

With the help from Tom Zemonek and Janson Fant, the club has a new website. We launched the new RSWSC website in November of 2020.

Built on a different platform from the old site, the club site now has a more updated and professional look/feel. You will notice many of the tabs from the original site are the similar, with only a few key differences. Users will experience much faster load times and, a webpage made to fit mobile devices.

One key addition to the new website is the 'Meetings and Outings' tab. <https://www.rswsc.org/meetings-and-outings>

As the outings calendar is planned and updated, events will be added to the page. We also plan to have virtual club meetings in 2021, which will have meeting information listed. As the club grows into the new site, there is functionality to manage event registration, and event specific communication. These are transitions from our current procedures and will be adopted over time.

The other new feature is the 'Forum' tab. <https://rswsc.org/forum> visitors to the website will have to make an account to access the information. The idea behind the forum is that, this will be a great way for members to interact with each other, especially during these quarantine times. Several message board topics have already been created in the forum; members can post pictures, experiences with guide services, baits/tactics, etc. This will also be a great way for members to meet other club member who have experience in their area of the coast.

As we continue to grow into the new website, you may notice changes along the way. While much of the site was built before it was published, there are always new features that can be added or adjusted. in the long term the site should be able to handle club communication for both emails and social media postings. Some of this will be a "learn as we go" process so, bear with us.

We are open to feedback on the new website. Please do not hesitate to reach out to me with questions, suggestions, and/or recommendations. Email me at tripp.adams@field2base.com

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	captjerry@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 & <i>Captain</i> 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/contact	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 <i>Charters</i>	252-799-9536