



OFFICERS

President

Robert Carroll
robert.carroll22@yahoo.com
919-524-5550

Vice-President

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

Treasurer

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

Secretary

Ron Reijerkerk
reijerke@gmail.com
919-846-0889

At-Large Members

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

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

Greg Brissette
Gbrissette1@yahoo.com
919 426-8372

Tripp Adams
tripp.adams@field2base.com
919-422-6197

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

King Tournament Director
TBD

Members Meeting at the NCSU University Club. February 21, 2023,

Members will be bringing in their excess fishing gear for swap or sale. A sign-up email will be sent to club members to reserve a spot.

Dues have been due for some time. And many members are in arrears. If you are unsure of your status, please reach out to John McQuaid at johnwmcquaid@gmail.com 919-353-6894

NC DMF is posting a series on Commercial fishing soon. There's a small presentation on early recreational fishing.

<https://deq.nc.gov/about/divisions/marine-fisheries/public-information-and-education/200th-anniversary-marine-fisheries-management>

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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2023 RSWSC CALENDAR

2/21: Members Meeting/Swap Meet @ NCSU Faculty Club; Victor Tucker with Anchor 911 will be discussing Anchoring and Setup,

2/28: Officers BOD Meeting

3/7 Club Social at Gizmo Brew Works

3/18: Shad Outing for Members and Guests (Weldon Ramp; Boat and/or Bank Fishing) Contact John McQuaid, Organizer

3/21 Members Meeting @ NCSU Faculty Club Speaker Capt Toby Russ

3/28 Officers Meeting



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Ocracoke Invitational Surf Tournament—Members Wanted to Fish!

For many years, our club has fished this tournament. Seventy two teams from up and down the East coast make Ocracoke their home for, this year, May 3rd through 5th. Each team has 6 fishermen who fish a morning and an afternoon session on Thursday and Friday. Our team has won twice in 37 years. Last year, we finished in 37th place. On Friday, the Ocracoke club hosts a pig pickin' and there is nightly music at Howards Pub. The awards are also presented on Friday evening and if you are counting, they have the best "stuff" of any tournament. There are lots of ORV beach access points and many of our members choose to come earlier and fun fish.

This year, we are looking for several surf fishermen to complete our team. Besides your motel and food expenses, a \$90 tournament entry fee is required. I checked motel room rates and they are around \$135 - \$160 per night for that week. If you are interested, but feel you may not have enough or any experience, please don't hesitate to contact me or the club BOD. I didn't have any experience or even a 4 wheel drive vehicle when I started fishing with the team. There is always room to ride with another fisherman.

If we have six people who will commit for a complete week of fishing, we can rent a house and save a lot of lodging expense. The house fee for the week would be in the neighborhood of \$540 per person. If this is in the stars for you, by all means contact me. This is the first year that the RSWSC surf team has really needed fishermen. Some of us are not puppy drum anymore and would like to see new blood fishing the tournament. Our club has fished this tournament probably since, or soon after it was initiated.

Finally, this is an invitational tournament and if we fail to field a team, we are placed back on the waiting list. I talked to another team who told me they were on the list for ten years before getting invited. So, we need you!

If interested or want more information, call, text or email me: John Bryant 919-624-0676
Flyr6105@gmail.com

FYI, I will be out of country Feb. 24th through March 5th.

Photos from last year's tournament:



TRIANGLE CCA NC CHAPTER BANQUET



APRIL 13TH, 2023



6:00PM

WAKE COUNTY SHRINE CLUB, RALEIGH NC



LIVE AND SILENT AUCTION- RAFFLES-GREAT DINNER- OPEN BAR

TICKET PRICING:

- **SINGLE: \$80**
- **COUPLE: \$125**
- **SPONSOR: \$250**

Join us for a night to support the conservation of our coastal fisheries, to help insure the long-term sustainability of North Carolinas fisheries resources for your children and grandchildren!

CORPORATE TABLE:

- **4 TOP: \$450**
- **8 TOP: \$850**

Contact:

- **Matthew Wallin : 757-508-3980**
- **David Sneed : 252-341-2096**
- **Jason Rupert : 910-381-1849**



CCA Triangle Banquet

The banquet will be on Thursday, April 13, 2023 at the Wake County Shrine Club. The link to register and buy tickets online: Triangle Chapter Banquet Tickets 2022 - CCA North Carolina (ccanc.org)

All table sponsors a Save Our Fisheries swag bucket when they purchase a full corporate table or an individual \$250 sponsorship.

The bucket will include a SOF t-shirt, beer koozies and stickers. (to be clear, it is ONE swag bucket and t-shirt for the table sponsor, not a bucket for each person at the table).

JANUARY MEETING AND SALTWATER SHOW BOOTH



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 Submit online at:

<https://www.rswsc.org/fish-cards>

Then submit information/pics in a fishing report for the Newsletter about your fishing and catches by your family/kids.

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 _____

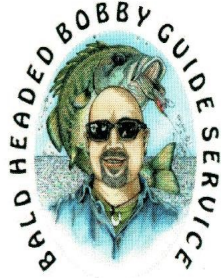
E-mail address: _____ Boat Name: _____

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

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Capt. Bobby Brewer



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Potential Women’s World Record Speckled Trout Caught in NC (Excerpted from Salt Water Sportsman)



“The juvenile menhaden are clearing out of the North Carolina estuaries with winter’s approach. Cathy Jones, of Belhaven, catches them with a castnet for bait. On November 20, she was down to one of the last of the season — and she made it count.

“I saw a swirl, because the [bait] had come to the surface, and I heard the popping sound you hear when the fish grabs the bait,” she recalled. The fight was on, and Cathy battled the behemoth trout on an Ugly Stik fitted with a Daiwa spinner spooled with 20-pound test monofilament. Fifteen minutes later Cathy reached down and hoisted a 33.5-inch, 11-pound, 3-ounce speckled trout onto the dock.

“The big speck was close to the North Carolina state record of 12 pounds, 8 ounces, set just this year by [Todd Spangler](#) (there’s no women’s division in the state records). It was certified at [Eastside Bait and Tackle](#) in nearby Washington, and Cathy has submitted it to the [International Game Fish Association](#) for record consideration.

“At the end of January, biologists with the [North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries](#) analyzed the otolith, or ear bone, from Cathy Jones’ potential world record trout. The scientists counted the annuli, or growth rings, contained in the otolith and determined the fish to be 5 years old. It seems that seatrout grow fast in the Tar Heel State! “



ARTICLE ON TROUT BY DR. BOGUS

(AKA Dr.Richard Ehrenkauffer)

Spotted sea trout is a staple for many of us starting in the late fall and continuing throughout the winter. Where? That leads us to fish the local creeks where many of the fish overwinter, whether off of the New, White Oak, or Neuse Rivers and also the productive waters of the Highway-24 Creeks off of Bogue Sound. From east to west that includes Peletier and Spooner's in the Morehead City area, to Gayle's and Broad creeks in the middle and Deer Creek in Cape Carteret. These creeks have some deep holes for shelter and plenty of food for the not-so-hungry winter trout and except for Deer Creek have easy access from the Intracoastal Waterway (ICW). Entry to Deer Creek can be gotten via the Old Ferry Channel and eventually winding into the creek. That area and the creek itself have been recently dredged due to heavy silt buildup in the area.

I usually start to look for these migratory specks around October and start to fish the creeks heavily in November and into April as the April fish are now leaving and being replaced by north going fish in the spring. In April I not only find the returning specks but also grays in the mix.

As always, live baits work great, but as for me, my mantra has always been; "metal, plastic, sometimes wood" so I stick mainly to soft plastics or Gulp! baits often on a cork and MirrOlures either the old standard mullet sized baits (TT and 52M style) or over the last years the very popular and very effective so called suspending baits, the 17 MR MirrOlures. And in the winter, since the fish are cold and sluggish, low and slow is the successful way to fish these baits. Anyone that effectively works these baits, notices that almost all the hits are between twitches, when the bait seemingly is doing nothing other than sinking slowly. Soooo if you are fishless, go lower and slower, and embrace the pause!

Two of the creeks, Gayle's and Broad have bridges that cross the creek along Highway-24 and you can readily fish them from the marl rocks piled along the bridge's base. Parking has been a bit problematic and the rock are unforgiving so be careful. At Broad Creek I have always preferred fishing the outgoing tide on the south side of the bridge, letting the current sweep my MirrOlures or softies on a cork out and away from the bridge. I have even had trout hit my cork, leaving the iconic double fang marks on my cork. Guess what? I switched to a topwater plug and proceeded to catch nice trout. In 2021, Spooner's Creek area was treated with the installation of a small artificial reef (AR-380) consisting of 200 bay-balls, placed along the ICW just outside of the creek. If you are passing by, give it a try, it should be marked.

For many years these creeks have been my go-to for winter fishing, often limiting out trout in short order even during mornings where the creeks are covered with skim ice, my guides have frozen, over and my fingers are numb. These creeks also are home of black and red drum and in the summer flounder, blues, lizardfish, croakers and even ribbonfish.

That being said, this year, by all reports is far from normal. We have had a significant drought for

nearly a year and a half, and the water temperatures have remained well above normal for over a year. If you fish the surf like I often do, it was obvious that we had no fall/winter southern migration of the speckled trout. By all reports they went with plan "B" following the salt-line way up our rivers where the water temperatures were favorable and the food plentiful. In the Neuse, Trent and Pamlico Rivers, the fish are reportedly inland to Highway-17 and that includes trout and reds too. Recently Capt. Gary Dubiel, surprisingly reported even catching gray trout up-river in the Neuse. This time of year, according to recent tagging studies, they should be offshore overwintering along the Continental Shelf. In these Highway-24 Creeks this season, the last legal fish I caught was a 17-inches in October, since then I don't know how many limits of juvenile spike specks I have released so far this winter, none over 12-inches. Others have had the same experience. By the way, this past weekend I had no takers, not even a spike speck even though there was plenty of bait in the creeks all I saw was the start of the green slimy algae season. Hopefully the spotted sea trout using Plan "B" will not get stuck up the rivers without a paddle by a cold snap. We don't need any troutsicles this year. I will be interesting to see what the spring run of specks looks like.

That being said, how is the fishing? The specks and winter reds are in the backwaters and up river. The other hot spots remain, particularly notable the Cape Lookout and Rock Jetty area where slot reds, black drum to 30-inches, plenty of keeper sheepshead, bluefish and even some false albacore have made an appearance. Closer to home the pier and surf fishing is nonexistent, end of story! Off-shore the black sea bass bite is excellent with fish 14 to 18-inches inside of five to 10-miles, on the east side of the Lookout Shoals at AR-285 and terrific farther out in 80-feet of water along with triggers, vermillion snapper, big porgies and throwback grouper, which are now out of season and some surprising top water action there with albies as well.

Now for the ocean fishing piers. Oceanana Pier and Bogue Pier are closed until sometime in March. As I go to Bogue Pier daily for my surf water temperatures, I can tell you that there is currently little to no action. Mainly what I've seen recently are three-to-four-foot dogfish coming over the railings. Check out their Pier Cam: <https://www.bogueinletpier.com/pier-cam/>. As usual, Seaview Pier will remain open through the winter on a daylight-hour schedule (910.328.3172). Surf City Pier is closed until spring, but Jolly Roger Pier intends to stay open throughout the winter only closing on bad weather days (800.633.3196). Probably best to give a call before you go to the open Topsail Piers.

FYI: It looks like we're going to have another bay scallop season second in a row, only in the Core Creek area. Check out: SF-3-2023 BAY SCALLOP HAND HARVEST RESTRICTIONS FROM PUBLIC BOTTOM. This proclamation opens the season to the commercial and recreational harvest of bay scallops by hand methods from public bottom in Core Sound only from 7:30 A.M. Monday, January 30, 2023 through 4:00 P.M. Friday, March 31, 2023. Scallop harvest will be allowed Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of each week with restrictions noted in the proclamation below: (<https://deq.nc.gov/marine-fisheries/fisheries-management-proclamations/2023/sf-3-2023/open>). I love bay scallops and have harvested many bushels in my Long Island days from Shinnecock Bay. ###

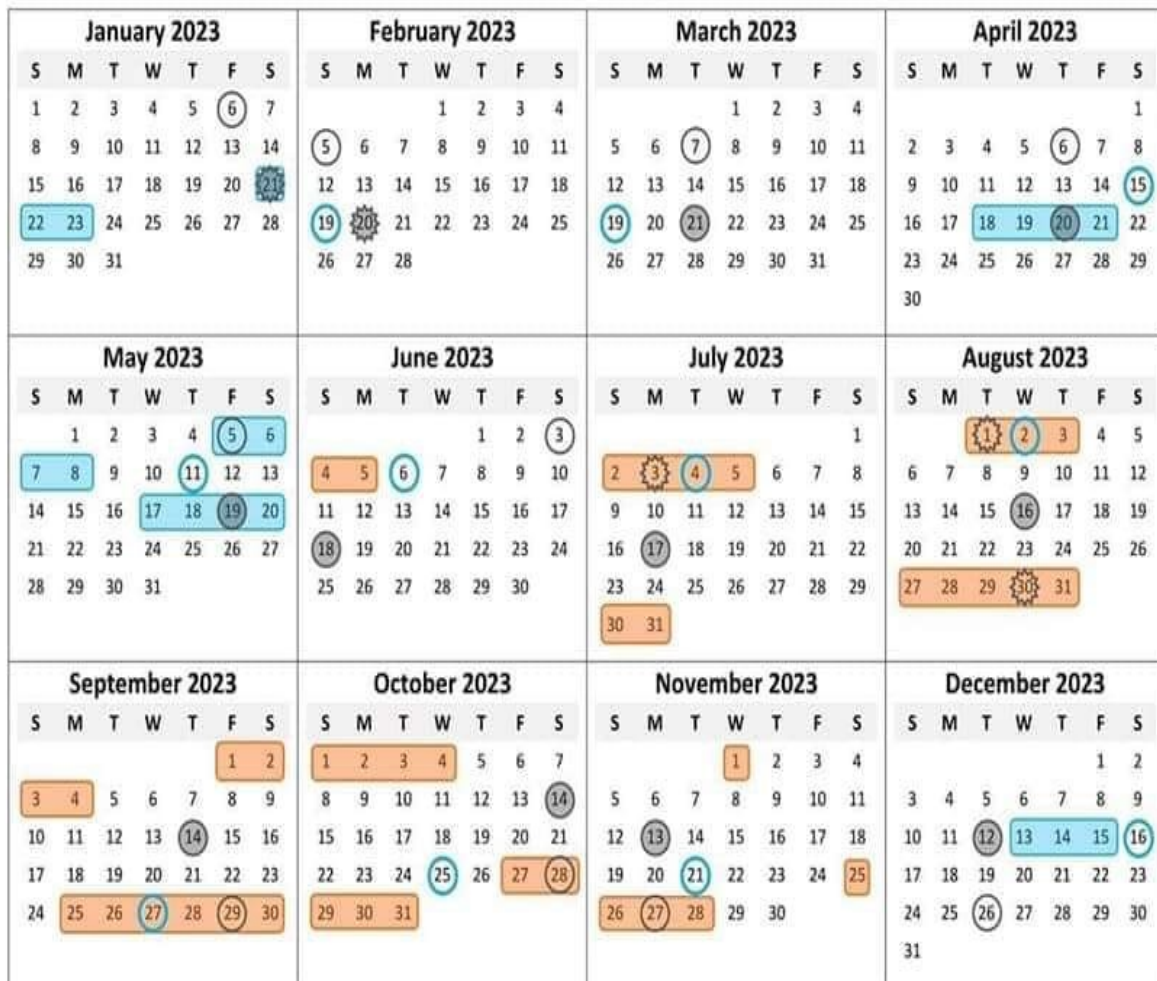
KING TIDES

King tides occur when the earth, the sun, and the moon are aligned. When the sun and the moon are aligned and moon closest to the earth, we get “king tides”. The result is extreme high tides, and extreme low tides. This is because the gravitational pull is essentially “stretching” water on the earth. Seawater is then pulled in an upward manner causing higher tides in some areas and lower tides in others.

Knowledge can allow you to plan a trip to look for tailing red drum in spartina or avoid getting trapped fishing skinny water on a falling tide.

Nice article on tides from Carolina Sportsman:

2023 North Carolina King Tides Calendar



- King Tide
- Expected Higher & Lower Water Events
- Lunar Perigee (moon closest to Earth)
- Full Moon
- New Moon
- Super Full Moon (Perigee & Full Moon)
- Super New Moon (Perigee & New Moon)

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.

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