



From The Editor

DAVID SCHICKEDANTZ

Celebrating 40 Years

Welcome to the *"Davis Island Angler,"* the new voice of the Davis Island Fishing Foundation (DIFF) newsletter. Throughout the last 40 years, the DIFF newsletter has gone through many changes. This updated design captures a fresh new look for the club's communication.

Although the club started to form prior to this date, 1986 was the first record of

the DIFF Newsletter, simply named "DIFF CLUB." At the time, this stood for, "Davis Island Fishing Fools," organized by a small group of guys from Pineville, NC. By 1988, the name of the club was changed to "Davis Island Fishing Foundation," and the newsletter was named "DIFF Inc." as the club began incorporation proceedings. The Newsletter has gone through many name changes over the years, but the main message remains the same.

In the early years the club included a small group of dedicated surf fishermen, outdoorsmen, and supporters of Cape Lookout National Seashore who came together with a shared vision: preserve the traditions, natural beauty, and unique culture of Davis Island and the South Core Banks while fostering fellowship among those who love the coast. Forty years later, the DIFF Club proudly celebrates that vision and the generations of members who transformed it into a lasting legacy. One of the treasures of the Davis Island Fishing Foundation is its rich history, and we are fortunate that many of our past newsletters were preserved by dedicated Board members over the years. These archived issues have been carefully digitized to help preserve the stories, accomplishments, and traditions that have shaped DIFF since its founding. In the coming months,

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UPCOMING EVENTS

38TH ANNUAL DIFF FISHING TOURNAMENT

October 8-10, 2026

Deadline for entries is July 31st, 2026--

Enter online at: www.diffclub.org or scan the QR Code on the right with your phone.



*"Preserving the past.
Protecting the future."*

The Davis Island Fishing Foundation (DIFF Club) is dedicated to preserving the natural resources of Davis Island, supporting responsible ORV access, promoting conservation, and fostering camaraderie among those who cherish this extraordinary place.

**40 YEARS
OF DIFF**
— 1986 – 2026 —

we will begin adding these newsletters to the DIFF website, where they will be available in the Newsletter Archives section. We encourage members to explore these historical publications and relive the people, events, and memories that have made DIFF such a special organization for the past 40 years.

As we celebrate our 40th Anniversary of the newsletter in 2026, we recognize not only the history of the club, but also the people who made it possible. From charter members such as Don Eury, Jack Dunaway, B.K. Barringer, and J.W. Smith, and long-time volunteers to newer generations



discovering the island for the first time, the DIFF Club has always been built on community, stewardship, and service.

One of the defining values of the DIFF Club has always been volunteerism. Thousands of volunteer hours have been dedicated to projects across Davis Island. Members have worked alongside National Park Service staff on cabin repairs, painting projects, siding replacement, infrastructure improvements, cleanup efforts, and preservation work that directly benefits park visitors and helps protect the historic character of the island.

In recent years alone, volunteers have replaced windows, installed Hardie® Plank siding, repaired deteriorated cabin structures, built new steps and trim work, and completed major painting and maintenance efforts identified as priorities by the National Park Service. These projects represent more than construction work – they represent pride, teamwork, and a shared commitment to preserving the island for future generations.

The club's long-standing partnership with the Cape Lookout National Seashore and the National Park Service personnel has been one of the cornerstones of DIFF's success. Through cooperation, communication, and mutual respect, the organization has helped bridge the gap between recreational users and preservation efforts. The result has been a strong working relationship focused on stewardship, safety, and the long-term protection of the resource.

Beyond volunteer projects, the DIFF Club has also made a meaningful impact throughout the Down East community. Through fundraising efforts, annual tournaments, donations, and charitable outreach, the organization has supported local causes and individuals in need. The DIFF Grant program continues to assist community organizations that provide services to residents from North River to Cedar Island.

Investing in the Future Through Education

Supporting future generations has long been an important part of the Davis Island Fishing Foundation's mission. Each year, DIFF awards seven scholarships established in honor of several of the organization's founding members and dedicated supporters. The DIFF Board of Directors allocates \$2,500 annually from proceeds generated by the Fall Fishing Tournament to fund



"DIFF's support early in my education helped me turn a dream into reality. Today, I'm building a career in marine mammal science and veterinary care."

Brooke Griffin Gregg



five \$500 scholarships, helping deserving students pursue their educational goals. In addition, the Jones family sponsors a scholarship honoring the late Gordon Jones, former Treasurer, while friends and family of Clyde Cheek provide funding for a scholarship established in Clyde's memory. Through these annual awards, DIFF continues its commitment to education, community service, and the values that have guided the organization for four decades. The scholarship program stands as a lasting tribute to the individuals whose vision and dedication helped build the foundation of the club while investing in the leaders of tomorrow.

The annual DIFF Fall Fishing Tournament remains one of the club's most recognizable traditions. For decades, the tournament has brought together surf fishermen, families, and friends who share a love for the Cape Lookout experience. Stories of Red Drum runs, rough surf, campfires, ferry rides, and unforgettable catches have become part of the shared history of the club.

Yet the tournament has always represented more than fishing. It is about fellowship, tradition, and passing knowledge from one generation to the next. Many members remember their first trip to the island with parents, grandparents, or lifelong friends. Today, those same traditions continue as newer generations experience the excitement of surf fishing and the beauty of the seashore for themselves.

The DIFF Club has also embraced growth and modernization while remaining true to its roots. Over the years, the organization expanded communication efforts through newsletters, digital archives, online registration, updated websites, and improved member resources. The launch of enhanced online tools, tournament registration, newsletter archives, and member services has helped preserve club history while making information more accessible to current and future members.

For 40 years, the DIFF Club has stood for responsible recreation, conservation, volunteerism, and community. It has provided countless friendships, memories, and opportunities for members to give back to a place that means so much to so many.

While much has changed since the first newsletters in 1986, the spirit of the club remains the same. The sound of the surf, the sight of the Cape Lookout Lighthouse, the excitement of a rod bending in the wash, and the camaraderie shared around island camps continue to connect generations of members.

As we celebrate this milestone anniversary, we also look toward the future. The continued success of the DIFF Club depends on maintaining the values that shaped the organization over the past four decades: respect for the resource, support for the community, dedication to volunteer service, and preservation of the traditions that make Davis Island and Cape Lookout so unique.

The DIFF Club's story is ultimately the story of its members – the volunteers who showed up year after year, the families who created lifelong memories on the island, the tournament participants who supported charitable causes, and the individuals who worked quietly behind the scenes to ensure the organization continued to grow and thrive.

Forty years is a remarkable achievement for any organization, but especially for one built almost entirely on volunteer spirit and a shared love for a special place along the North Carolina coast.

To every member, volunteer, supporter, sponsor, National Park Service employee, ferry operator, and friend of the DIFF Club – thank you for being part of this journey.

Here's to the next 40 years of stewardship, fellowship, and tradition.

Johnny William (J.W.) Smith June 28, 1938 – January 7, 2026 (age 87)

Johnny William Smith of Charlotte, North Carolina formerly of Pineville, North Carolina, died on Wednesday, January 7, 2026 surrounded by his wife of 64 years Betty W Smith, sister in law Judy W. Ricketts, three nieces, his nephew and great niece whom he all adored. Johnny was born on June 28, 1938 and was the son of the late Lee Roy Smith, Sr and Maybelle Vick Smith

Johnny served in the US Army during the Vietnam War and was stationed in South Korea where he served for 2 years as a Military Police officer (MP). Following his active duty, Mr. Smith



finished his time with the US Army Reserves, and was honorably discharged in 1967.

He retired from Kimbrell's Furniture Store and later from Mecklenburg County ABC Board. Johnny was an exceptional artist and enjoyed painting birds, animals and an assortment of Disney characters. He always enjoyed giving his paintings to the delight of small children. Quite the accomplishment.

Alvin and Susan Austin, Johnny's brother in law and niece would take him out to eat a couple times a week to the Dive In Restaurant. He thoroughly enjoyed their gravy biscuits.

Beside his parents, Mr. Smith was preceded in death by his sisters Carrie Lee Smith Dudley, Blanche Sims, Doris S. Bridgers, and Vera S. Moore, his two brothers Lee Roy Smith Jr., and Harold David Smith

No formal funeral services are planned. Memorials may be made to the Memorial United Church Preschool, 4012 Central Ave, Charlotte, NC,, 28205 or Tunnels to Towers Foundation, 2361 Hylan Blvd, Staten Island, NY10306 or donationsupport@t2t.org

Mark Weir, Former President



Mark Weir

Each of us is privileged to know only a small part of our fellow man's lives during our brief stay on this planet. I will share with you some of my experiences with JW Smith. It is amazing how an organization like DIFF and a narrow strip of sand can establish a bond with some of the finest people on earth.

I was DIFF Tournament Director from 2002 through 2008. This was a time of rapid growth for the tournament. The number of participants increased, prize money increased, and sponsorships increased. The number of fish categories and the number of places in each category increased. I added the Wild Card category. David Holcomb added the Youth category. JW added the Slot Drum category, followed by the Most Spots category.

Let's go behind the scenes to see how JW worked. The DIFF Board of Directors had four meetings each year. The July meeting included the final planning for the fall tournament. I created a spreadsheet with a line item for every tournament activity and task. Each item had a name and due date. I was using the DIFF Tournament to practice my project management skills needed in my job. The Directors got used to my attention to details. Everything was neat and tidy. After all discussion was completed, we would look at each other with a smile and say "Well what will JW come up with this year?" We knew he would do something, but we never

knew what. JW was one of those people with high energy and a bias for action. Whenever there was a choice to do nothing or to do something, JW would choose to do something – Love it.

JW created his first Wanted Poster in 2003 to honor the Hefner family. JW raised the \$600 prize money. JW managed the whole thing without any help from the DIFF Board of Directors. Well, it turned out that the 2003 tournament was cancelled due to Hurricane Isabell. But JW brought back the same Wanted Poster in 2004. JW raised the Wanted Poster money to a total of \$900 in 2005 with sponsorship from RM Restorations and the Thunderbird Lounge. We worked with JW in 2006 to begin to recognize his "Painted Puppy" category into the DIFF categories. That year JW contributed \$125, and his friend Curt Jones contributed \$1000 to match the prize money of the other fish categories. I don't have copies of JW's posters for 2005 or 2006, but I recall they looked like an old west outlaw wanted poster.

After several years of JW's leadership, the DIFF Directors voted to incorporate the Slot Drum as a regular category in the 2007 tournament - managed and funded by DIFF. Thirty-four slot drum were weighed that year. So, what did JW do in 2007? He setup a separate table to count the number of spots on the slot drum after they were weighed. He raised \$300 in prize money that year. JW continued to sponsor and manage the



Most Spots for many years, eventually raising the prize money to over \$1400. JW was an enthusiastic supporter of the DIFF Tournament. We know that Les Gladden stands alone as the only person to participate in every tournament. But JW once proudly told me that he was in second place, having missed only one tournament.

In recent years JW raised money and installed solar powered lights to illuminate the cabin steps.

Those were great contributions to DIFF, but JW had been a force in DIFF for many years before my time as Tournament Director. JW published the first club newsletters in 1986 through 1988. He was one of the three Directors, along with Don Eury and Floyd Elkins, that signed the Articles of Incorporation to establish DIFF as a non-profit corporation.



I understand that JW's day job was a commercial artist. He also had wood-working skills. He loved to make scale models of the older cabins that he had stayed in before the Park Service began to build cabins. Each one was



complete with all the different roof angles, porches and steps. The CALO lighthouse was one of his favorites. I saw one at the annual DIFF Membership meeting in Pineville that was four feet tall! Long before corn hole was on TV, JW made corn hole boards painted with scenes from the island. If you have a set of them, you have a collectors item.

JW Smith is a Mount Rushmore kind of DIFF guy. If the DIFF Board of Directors want to expand their list of Scholarships, maybe they should consider naming one for JW Smith. It could be a scholarship for any higher education in the field of visual arts. Art and the island - that's JW.

Regards,
Mark Weir

BK Barringer, Former President

Dear Mark and Fellow Members of the DIFF Club,

Thank you, Mark, for your thoughtful comments about JW. They are all so true and very meaningful to those of us who knew him well.

Jack Dunaway and I joined the DIFF Club at the second annual tournament. Serving as an officer for many years, I had the privilege of witnessing the club's tremendous growth. Much of the club's success can be credited to JW for his dedication, involvement, and unwavering support. Through our collective efforts, we were successful in supporting the growth of the Core Banks Park Service and assisting the Alger Willis family. We should all be proud of the accomplishments of the club and the scholarships that have been awarded to young people over the years. The inclusion of an additional scholarship in memory of JW is both fitting and deeply appropriate.

Time spent on the island remains, without question, among the most memorable experiences of my life. My last visit was in 2009, when my beloved 1979 Winnebago Nirvana made her final trip. I carry with me so many fond memories and cherished friendships formed there, including several dear friends who are no longer with us: Bob Miller, TC Raby, Harding Rogers, Ruddy Chambers, the Winberrys, and Jack Dunaway, to name a few.

South Core Banks has always been my true nirvana. After 2009, I moved full-time to the beautiful fishing village of Chacala, Nayarit, Mexico, to a casa overlooking the Pacific Ocean. This has become my new nirvana, but it will never replace South Core Banks or the special place it holds in my heart.

With respect and warm remembrance, BK Barringer

Geneive Jones, Current Treasurer

Mark thank you and thank you for sharing! I remember reading the first DIFF Newsletter when they were handed over! JW was a character to be around and I always enjoyed his stories and I myself have a cabin (Cabin 10 with the tournament dates on it) and lighthouse that he made for me!

Doug & I spent many times with JW on the island and at times enjoyed conversations around dinner. He will be missed.

Warm Regards,
Geneive Jones



CELEBRATING OUR 2026 DIFF SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Once again, the Davis Island Fishing Foundation (DIFF) was fortunate to receive applications from an exceptionally talented group of students. The scholarship committee was impressed by the academic achievements, leadership qualities, and dedication demonstrated by each applicant. Every student was highly qualified, making the selection process both rewarding and challenging.

This year, DIFF proudly awarded seven \$500 scholarships to deserving students through three of our named scholarship programs.

B.K. Barringer Student Scholarship

The B.K. Barringer Student Scholarship is designed to support graduating high school seniors who plan to attend a four-year college or university. This year's recipients are:

- Bailey Poindexter, who will attend Appalachian State University to study Industrial Design
- Arden Johnston, who will attend Clemson University to study Engineering

Jack Dunaway Continuing Scholarship

The Jack Dunaway Continuing Scholarship is awarded to students who are currently enrolled in a college or university, have completed at least 12 credit hours, and maintain a minimum 3.0 GPA. This year's recipients are:

- Shania Adams, studying Criminal Justice at Ferrum College
- Abby Fallin, studying Nursing at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- Isabella Bryant, studying Exercise Science at Lander University

Don Eury Student Scholarship

The Don Eury Student Scholarship supports students pursuing degrees in marine biology, wildlife biology, environmental conservation, or related fields. This year's recipients are:

- Abbie Conley, studying Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at North Carolina State University
- Uliana Gutierrez, studying Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at North Carolina State University

Please join us in congratulating all of our 2026 DIFF Scholarship recipients. We are proud of their accomplishments and excited to follow their continued success as they pursue their educational and career goals.

We also encourage eligible students among your family and friends to apply for the 2027 DIFF Scholarships. Applications will be accepted next spring, with a submission deadline of April 30, 2027.

Supporting Future Scholarships

The DIFF Scholarship Program is made possible through the generosity of our members, tournament participants, and supporters. If you would like to contribute to next year's scholarships, donations may be mailed to the address below or scan the QR Code to donate on the DIFF Club website:

The DIFF Club
1121 Powell Lane
Alton, VA 24520



Please include a note indicating whether your donation is intended for a specific named scholarship or for the general scholarship fund.

Every contribution helps support deserving students as they work toward their academic and professional goals.

Pictured below are our outstanding 2026 scholarship recipients. Thank you for your continued support of this important program and for helping DIFF invest in the next generation.

BK BARRINGER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT



Bailey Poindexter

Bailey Poindexter will be studying Industrial Design at Appalachian State University



Arden Johnston

Arden Johnston who will be studying Engineering at Clemson University



JACK DUNAWAY CONTINUING SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Shania Adams

Shania Adams is continuing her studies in Criminal Justice at Ferrum College



Abby Fallin

Abby Fallin, is continuing her studies in Nursing at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte



Isabella Bryant

Isabella Bryant, is continuing her studies in Exercise Science at Lander University



DON EURY STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS



Abbie Conley

Abbie Conley, studying Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at North Carolina State University

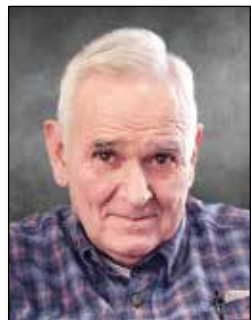


Uliana Gutierrez

Uliana Gutierrez, studying Fisheries, Wildlife, and Conservation Biology at North Carolina State University



2026 DIFF Annual Meeting Recap



Roy Byrd, Secretary

The Davis Island Fishing Foundation (DIFF) held its Annual Meeting on February 28, 2026, at Tobacco Road Sports Café in Durham, North Carolina. More than 61 members and guests attended the event, which featured fellowship, club business, updates on upcoming activities, and a presentation from North Carolina Marine Fisheries.

Members enjoyed a Southern barbecue lunch catered by Tobacco Road Sports Café, featuring barbecue pork, chicken, cornbread, potato salad,

baked beans, and coleslaw. Lance Brown offered the blessing before the meal. Prior to the business meeting, attendees participated in a raffle featuring rods, reels, beach carts, and other items remaining from the Fall Fishing Tournament raffle that could not be completed due to weather conditions.

President Lance Brown called the meeting to order at 12:10 p.m. and welcomed members and guests. Kevin Aman of North Carolina Marine Fisheries attended as the guest speaker. Representatives from Cape Lookout National Seashore were unable to attend because of travel restrictions.

Treasurer Geneive Jones presented the financial report and shared that DIFF enjoyed a strong financial year in 2025. Members were reminded that a printed copy of the budget is available upon request. Lance thanked Geneive for her dedication in maintaining the organization's financial records and financial stability.

Lance also provided an update on the 2026 Fall Fishing Tournament, scheduled for October 8–10. Registration is now open on the DIFF website, with an entry deadline of July 31. He noted the significant turnaround of the tournament from operating at a loss to becoming profitable in recent years. Beginning in 2026, the Youth Tournament will officially become part of the DIFF Fall Fishing Tournament. Lance also paid tribute to the late J.W. Smith, who created the popular "Most Spots on a Drum" category, which will continue as part of the tournament tradition. Members were reminded that ORV permits must be printed from Recreation.gov and that ORV stickers will be distributed on the island.

Darrell McCormick updated members on the annual work trip scheduled for April 29 through May 3. Planned projects include replacing windows and installing Hardie® Plank siding on two cabins, along with additional maintenance projects requested by the National Park Service. Approximately 20 volunteers had already committed to participating. Darrell and Lance encouraged all members to attend, emphasizing that volunteers of all skill levels are needed.

David Holcomb presented a recommendation that DIFF's 2026 community grant be awarded to Hand-2-Hand, an organization that provides meals, transportation services, and support for shut-ins and veterans in the Down East communities.

Scholarship Committee Chairman Rich Lambert reminded members

that applications are currently being accepted for the 2026 DIFF Scholarships. Applications are available on the DIFF website, and the submission deadline is April 15.

Kevin Aman concluded the meeting with an informative presentation on North Carolina's recreational catch reporting requirements. He explained that anglers are required to report catches of flounder, red drum, spotted sea trout, striped bass, and weakfish. Reporting may be completed online or through paper forms available from North Carolina Marine Fisheries. Enforcement will be phased in over the next several years, beginning with verbal warnings in 2026 and progressing to fines beginning December 1, 2027.

Kevin also reviewed the upcoming Spring Gulf Flounder season, changes to citation sizes for several species, and recent Red Drum stock assessment findings. He noted that Red Drum populations in southern states are currently considered over-fished, which could result in future management changes, including adjustments to slot limits.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m. Following another successful year for the organization, members left with enthusiasm for the upcoming tournament, work trip, scholarship program, and DIFF's continued mission of supporting the traditions and stewardship of Davis Island and Cape Lookout.

Officer and Board Elections: The 2026 slate of Officers and Board Members was presented, discussed, and unanimously approved by voice vote. A motion to accept the slate was made by Vicki King and seconded by the membership. **Darrell McCormick** was named Vice President, and **Geneive Jones** named Treasurer as **Ann Beeson** has retired from the board. Please thank Ann for her many years of service to the DIFF Club, her dedication and commitment as Treasurer were second to none. The Board of Directors approved by the membership are listed below.

Lance Brown	President
Darrell McCormick	Vice President
Roy Byrd	Secretary
Geneive Jones	Treasurer
Will Brooks	Board Member/Procurement
Tyler Buchanan	Board Member
Steven Evans	Board Member
Travis Johnston	Board Member
Ted Moseley	Board Member
David Schickedantz	Board Member/Newsletter Editor
Brian Trotter	Board Member/Tournament Director

DIFF Attends Heaver Demo Day 2026

Heaver Demo Day 2026 was held on March 14. It once again proved to be a highlight for surf fishing enthusiasts, rod builders, and anglers from across the Southeast. Held at the Rocky Mount Sports Complex in Rocky Mount, North Carolina, the event brought together some of the region's finest custom rod builders, tackle manufacturers, and fishing organizations for a day dedicated to the sport we all enjoy.

Attendees had the opportunity to examine the latest custom-built rods, browse fishing-related merchandise, and test-cast a variety of demonstration rods. The event provided a unique opportunity for anglers of all skill levels to compare equipment, learn from experienced builders, and share knowledge with fellow surf fishing enthusiasts.

Representing the Davis Island Fishing Foundation (DIFF), **Geneive Jones** and **Travis Johnston** enjoyed meeting anglers from across North Carolina and neighboring states. Throughout the day, they shared information about DIFF's mission, conservation efforts, scholarship programs, volunteer projects, and upcoming events while showcasing DIFF merchandise.

As always, the event was filled with great conversations, hands-on demonstrations, and the fellowship that makes the surf fishing community so special. We appreciate the organizers, vendors, and attendees who continue to make Heaver Demo Day a success year after year.

DIFF looks forward to returning in 2027 and continuing to promote the traditions of surf fishing, conservation, and community involvement that have been at the heart of our organization for the past 40 years.



Travis Johnston, DIFF Board member, takes his turn at the 7th Annual Heaver Demo Day in Rocky Mount, NC.



Geneive Jones and Travis Johnston greeted participants, promoted the club, and sold DIFF merchandise.



SPRING 2026 VOLUNTEER WORK TRIP TO GREAT ISLAND CABIN CAMP

Twenty volunteers from the Davis Island Fishing Foundation (DIFF) and the Core Banks Surf Fishing Club (CBSFC) traveled to Great Island Camp this spring to complete several important maintenance and improvement projects in support of Cape Lookout National Seashore.

The primary focus of this year's work trip was Cabins 7 and 8, where volunteers replaced all windows and installed new Hardie® Plank siding and trim.



Front row, left to right: Wes Hart, Mike Ponticelli, Johnny Ray, Scott McCormick, Roy Byrd, John Barbour, Darrell McCormick, Sonny Renegar, and Brian Trotter; Second row left to right: Lance Brown, Travis Johnston, Jason Hassel, Barry Harris, Paul Booker, Mike Matthews, William Steward, Kevin Davis, and Ernie Holcomb. Not pictured Roger Massey and David Marshburn.



Before siding installation could begin, crews removed deteriorated siding, repaired damaged wall sections, and replaced rotted wood surrounding several windows. The pre-painted Hardie® Plank siding and white Hardie trim boards provided a durable, low-maintenance finish that will help protect the cabins for many years.

Work began on Tuesday as advance crews prepared Cabin 8 by replacing windows and making structural repairs. The project required extensive ladder and scaffolding work, with volunteers coordinating closely to install flashing, siding, and trim safely and efficiently. Cabin 8 was nearly completed by Thursday, allowing crews to shift equipment and materials to Cabin 7. Despite a rain delay Thursday afternoon, volunteers completed the siding installation on Cabin 7 by Friday.

In addition to the cabin renovations, several other projects were completed around camp. Mike Matthews, Ernie Holcomb, and Lance Brown rebuilt the steps leading to the hot water room at Cabin 8. Travis Johnston, John Barbour, and other volunteers dug a trench for a new electrical line as part of the office electrical upgrade project. Another crew, consisting of Scott McCormick, Johnny Ray, Kevin Davis, Roger Massey, and Travis Johnston, repaired and reinforced support beams beneath the porch of Cabin 16, including repairs to a corner post that had been damaged by a vehicle.

A tremendous amount of planning and preparation went into the success of the work trip. Special thanks go to Scott and Darrell McCormick for coordinating materials, tools, and logistics to ensure crews could begin work immediately upon arrival.

As always, the fellowship and meals were a highlight of the week. Lance Brown and Brian Trotter coordinated meals for the volunteers and ensured that everyone was well fed throughout the trip. Lance, with assistance from Mike Matthews, Darrell McCormick, and others, prepared



hearty breakfasts each morning. The Core Banks Surf Fishing Club provided a delicious fried chicken dinner

from Fat Fellas BBQ, complete with side dishes and ice cream for dessert. Thanks to Brian Trotter for transporting the meal to the island and to everyone who helped prepare and serve food during the week.

The success of this work trip is a testament to the dedication and volunteer spirit of our members. The National Park Service continues to rely on the partnership and support of DIFF and CBSFC to help preserve and maintain Great Island Camp for future generations.

2026 Work Trip Volunteers

Barry Harris, Brian Trotter, Darrell McCormick, David Marshburn, Ernie Holcomb, Jason Hassell, John Barbour, Johnny Ray, Kevin Davis, Lance Brown, Michael Ponticelli, Mike Matthews, Paul Booker, Roger Massey, Roy Byrd, Scott McCormick, Sonny Renegar, Travis Johnston, Wes Hart, and William Stewart.

Thank you to each volunteer for donating your time, talents, and hard work to make another successful work trip possible.



This was my first year being part of this volunteer effort. I was impressed by the professional skill and workmanship these men exhibited. Even though these are primitive cabins, these men performed their work as though putting their signature on the end product.

I would recommend joining this organization as this organization makes a significant impact!

David Marshburn.

Cape Lookout Lighthouse Stabilization Project



Constructed in 1859, the Cape Lookout Lighthouse was built to warn mariners about the Cape Lookout Shoals, which extend approximately 10 miles southeast of Cape Point. As the first lighthouse of its kind in North Carolina, the tower was significantly taller than the previous 1812 lighthouse and could be seen up to 15 miles out to sea. In the 1870s, with other tall red brick lighthouses being constructed along North Carolina's coast, the United States

Lighthouse Board assigned each lighthouse a distinctive daymark, or color pattern. In 1873, the distinctive black and white diagonal checker pattern became Cape Lookout's official daymark. The Cape Lookout Light Station, which includes the lighthouse, was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1972 to commemorate its role in maritime navigation.

Located on a remote barrier island along the Atlantic Coast, the lighthouse is continuously exposed to salty air, strong winds, intense sunlight, and a harsh, ever-changing environment. These conditions contribute to the gradual deterioration of the lighthouse structure. In 2021, the National Park Service conducted a pre-season safety inspection that identified several structural issues with the stairs and handrails. Following a more comprehensive evaluation by structural engineers, it was decided to close the lighthouse out of concern for safety and a



Drone view of Cape Lookout Lighthouse Stabilization Project. Cement foundation laid around the apron of the Lighthouse. Scaffolding is going to be added soon.

NPS Photo

stabilization project began to take shape. Since that time, Cape Lookout National Seashore secured financial support by a combination of funding sources, including National Park Service Line-Item Construction Funds, Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLERA) Revenues, and Cyclic Maintenance funds. These fund resources enable Cape Lookout National Seashore to enhance and maintain facilities for the benefit of the public.



Recent Lighthouse Restoration Projects from Stone and Lime Historic Restoration Services



*Boca Chita Lighthouse
Miami, FL*



*Fort Jefferson Lighthouse
Dry Tortugas National Park, FL*



*Cape Hatteras Lighthouse
Buxton, NC*



*Loggerhead Lighthouse
Dry Tortugas National Park, FL*

Stone and Lime Historic Restoration Services of North Brookfield, MA, won the \$15.2 million contract for the stabilization project. The work includes repairing or replacing the stairs, handrails, landings, glass panes, windows, and doors. The exterior paint will be removed down to red brick and reapplied to allow the original bricks to "breathe," so air can flow throughout the tower as originally designed. The watch level, lantern

room, and dome will be removed to refurbish the ironwork. A temporary cap will be placed atop the lighthouse tower until the refurbishment is complete. The U.S. Coast Guard is the owner and operator of the light. Throughout this procedure, they will manage the light. The entire stabilization is expected to take two to three years.

Update: February 2026

The Cape Lookout Lighthouse is a significant landmark in the Carteret County community, serving as a symbol for mariners, locals, and visitors to the Crystal Coast. Cape Lookout National Seashore is



dedicated to preserving and protecting the natural and cultural resources of the barrier islands. On-site work began in September 2025 for the \$15.2 million lighthouse stabilization project. National Park Service (NPS) and Stone and Lime Historic Restoration Services, Inc. (North Brookfield, Massachusetts) are working in partnership to repair and refurbish the interior and exterior of the lighthouse, repair and replace deteriorated materials and finishes that improve safety and enhance the visitor experience.

Cape Lookout Lighthouse is approximately 163-ft in height. It is constructed with multi-wythe masonry, a wall construction technique consisting of two or more parallel layers (wythes) of masonry units—such as brick, stone, or concrete block—bonded together to form a single, thick, structural wall. These walls are built for enhanced



photo by Scot King

structural strength, superior thermal insulation, and better moisture control compared to single-layer walls. There is a central cast-iron stairway leading from the ground level to the watch level (8th floor), where a ladder leads to the cast-iron and glass lantern enclosure on top of the structure.

Key highlights of the first phase of the project include:

- Construction fencing installation around the work area, limiting access for visitation and viewpoints.
- Definition of a construction route leading from the sound side beach to the work site and staging areas. This is on the southeast side of the Keeper's Quarters and Summer Kitchen. During delivery of project equipment and materials, this area is closed to the public.
- Scaffolding has been delivered and is being erected around the

exterior and interior of the lighthouse over this phase of the project.

Visitors to the site should expect the entire area to be under construction for a minimum of twenty-four months. Access to the Keeper's Quarters Museum will vary through the course of the project. Temporary closures may occur. Also, the exterior of the lighthouse will be scaffolded for the duration of the project. The lighthouse beacon will be installed on the top of the scaffolding during the project. In collaboration with the United States Coast Guard, there will be periods of time that the light is turned off due to the construction.

The park will provide limited access to view the construction activities. Visitors can watch the project from the Keeper's Quarters Museum and learn about the stabilization project as construction schedules permit.

Update: April 2026

The exterior light installed on the scaffolding around the lighthouse.

NPS Photo/S. Godin



From February through mid-April, much of the preparation work for the project was completed. Most significantly, the exterior scaffolding was completed. The existing lighthouse beacon was removed from the lantern room of the lighthouse by the United States Coast Guard, and replaced with a new temporary, solar-powered LED beacon atop of the scaffolding to provide active aid-to-navigation for much of the rest of the stabilization project.

Over the next two weeks, the top of the lighthouse (the lantern level and the watch tower) will be disassembled (piece-by-piece) and packed with care as it will ultimately be transported to the subcontractor's workshop (Robinson Iron of Alexander City, Alabama) where it will go to be refurbished over the next several months.

A dome will be placed atop the brick, tubular structure that remains to protect the interior masonry and iron spiral stairwell within. Also, the exterior paint will begin to be stripped down to the brick over the next few months.

The Keeper's Quarters grounds are safely open for visitation, but visitors should be aware of the ongoing construction. Orange construction fencing

separates the Keeper's Quarters area from the work site, allowing for a safe view of the on-going work from the back porch of the Keeper's Quarters.

Key Highlights since the last update:

- Exterior scaffolding 100% complete, consisting of 24-deck levels.
- The current light beacon was removed by the United States Coast Guard.
- A temporary beacon was installed at the top of the scaffolding to continue to provide aid to navigation. The temporary light is 180 feet above ground level.

Anticipated Highlights in the short term:

- Removal of the top, metal exterior of the Lighthouse (the lantern room, the watch level, and iron roof). These aspects of the lighthouse will be shipped offsite to Alabama for restoration.
- Installation of a dome to protect the interior masonry and iron spiral stairwell.
- Exterior paint will begin to be removed.



Vice President's Letter

DARRELL MCCORMICK

A Message from the Vice President



Darrell McCormick
Vice President

As we look across the surf and sand of the South Core Banks—known affectionately to all of us as Davis Island—it is hard not to feel grateful for the special community we have built over the past forty-plus years. Davis Island is much more than a fishing destination. It is a place where friendships are formed, traditions are passed down, and memories are made that last a lifetime.

Part of what makes Davis Island so special is its remoteness. Reaching the island requires leaving the mainland behind and embracing a simpler way of life. That isolation is part of its charm, but it also comes with responsibility. The natural resources we enjoy today remain available because generations of club members have invested their time, effort, and resources into preserving them.

This past year was another outstanding example of that commitment. Through work trips, DIFF volunteers contributed well over a thousand hours toward restoring and maintaining the Great Island cabins. Members worked through challenging coastal conditions to replace windows, install Hardie® Plank siding, repair structural components, and improve facilities that will serve visitors for years to come.

These projects represent far more than construction work. They reflect our dedication to stewardship and our commitment to preserving a place that means so much to all of us. We are not simply visitors to this island—we are caretakers.

I would like to thank every volunteer who participated in these efforts.



Your willingness to give your time and talents continues to make a meaningful difference. Special thanks go to our President, Lance Brown, whose countless hours of leadership help keep our organization moving forward. I would also like to recognize Scott McCormick for coordinating the work trips and overseeing these successful restoration projects.

As we look ahead, I encourage every member to consider participating in a future work trip. Beyond the value of the work itself, these events provide an opportunity to build friendships and share experiences with fellow members who care deeply about Davis Island.

Our veteran fishermen remain the backbone of this organization, preserving the knowledge, stories, and traditions that have defined DIFF since its founding. Equally important are the families who continue to pass those traditions on to future generations. Seeing grandparents, parents, and children sharing time on the island reminds us that the future of Davis Island rests in the memories and values we create today.

Thank you for your continued support of the DIFF Club and your dedication to preserving the island we all cherish. I look forward to seeing you on the ferry, around camp, and on the beach this fall.

Tight Lines,
Darrell McCormick



New Member Spotlight

GENEIVE JONES

The DIFF Club would like to recognize our new members for 2026. Please welcome the following new members and those that have upgraded to lifetime members to the club.

NEW MEMBERS:

Shane Pope
Richard Slusher
Scott Barbour
Ted Staples
Joshua Wallace
Evan Shick

NEW LIFETIME MEMBERS:

John Barbour
Joseph Herring
Alex Newton
Steven Hanse
Richard Slusher



Donations

GENEIVE JONES

The DIFF Club would like to sincerely thank our membership for their continued support through your donations to the club. These donations carry an added benefit for the club to go towards Scholarships, Work Trips, and Community relief. The following is a list of donors who have made those contributions this quarter.

DONATIONS-GENERAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Given By

Steven Hanse
Robert Snyder

Guy Griffin

Looking Ahead to the 38th Annual DIFF Fall Tournament



Brian Trotter
Tournament Director

The spring fishing season has been exceptional on Davis Island. Pompano have arrived in good numbers, and from the reports I've seen, anglers have already earned an impressive number of citations. It's always exciting to see such strong fishing activity as we head into the summer months.

Preparations are now underway for the 38th Annual Davis Island Fishing Foundation Fall Fishing Tournament, which begins on **October 8, 2026**. As many of you will remember, last year's tournament presented its share of chal-

lenges as we worked through severe weather and a government shutdown. Thanks to the flexibility and cooperation of our members, we successfully navigated those obstacles and enjoyed another memorable tournament.

As we begin planning for this year's event, I encourage everyone to stay connected through our primary communication channels. The DIFF website, DIFFClub.org, and the [DIFF Club Facebook Group](#) are our primary sources for tournament news, updates, schedule changes, and important announcements. Please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with both resources if you haven't already.

Be sure to review the latest North Carolina fishing regulations, including new size limits and reporting requirements, as several significant changes have been implemented this year. Also, don't forget to purchase and carry a valid North Carolina saltwater fishing license. Every year we hear stories from anglers who arrive at the beach only to realize they've left this important item behind.

Most importantly, please register for the tournament as early as possible. Early registration greatly assists the volunteers who work behind the scenes to organize and prepare for the event, allowing us to focus on providing a great experience for everyone involved.



Register Here

I hope you and your families are enjoying a wonderful summer. I look forward to seeing everyone on the island this October for another outstanding tournament.

And don't forget to bring the kids and grandkids. The future of the DIFF Club depends on passing along our traditions, values, and love of surf fishing to the next generation. There is no better way to preserve our heritage than by sharing the Davis Island experience with family and creating memories that will last a lifetime.

See you on the beach!





2026 DIFF Membership & Tournament Registration Form

Mail to: DIFF Club, 1121 Powell Lane, Alton, VA 24520

DIFF website: <https://diffclub.org/membership-dues/fall-fishing-tournament/>



Scan QR Code
to register
online.

*** Annual Fall Tournament Entries must be postmarked by July 31, 2026. ***

Name (Please Print): _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Email address: _____

Phone Number: _____

New Member: ☐ Yes ☐ No

Annual Fall Fishing Tournament Fee: (Includes Hat & T-Shirt) ☐ Adult Member\$100.00

DIFF Membership Fees: ☐ Adult Renew/New Member\$35.00

☐ Youth Renew/New Member.....\$35.00

☐ Lifetime Member.....\$250.00

Donation to DIFF (Scholarships, Grants, etc.) ☐\$ _____

Total Due ☐\$ _____

Adult T-Shirt Size: _____ (SM, MD, LG, XL, 2XL, 3XL, 4XL)

Youth T-Shirt Size: _____ (YSM, YMD, YLG, YXL)

YOUTH Entrants for Annual Fall Tournament  (*Membership Required*). Must be under age 16 by 10-7-2026 when the annual fall tournament begins; in which case the \$100 entry fee is **waived** when accompanied by a paid adult entrant. However, \$35 membership must be paid for the Youth to enter the tournament.

Youth's Date of Birth: _____ (MM/DD/YYYY)

☐ **I have read the 2026 DIFF Annual Fall Tournament Rules and will comply with the rules governing the tournament:**

(Signature Required) _____

Tournament Confirmation Cards and Future Newsletters will be sent to the above email and physical address. Please bring confirmation for entry in Tournament.

DIFF Treasurer use only:

☐ **Cash \$** _____

☐ **Check #** _____

Check Amount \$ _____

Tournament Entry Fees and Donations to DIFF provide at least:
\$2,500.00 in DIFF Scholarships + \$1,000.00 in DIFF Grants



The DIFF Club Surf Fishing Tournament is open to DIFF Club members only. The tournament will begin at 12:00 noon on Thursday, October 8th, 2026 and will end at 12:00 noon on Saturday, October 10th, 2026. All contestants must register at Cabin 16, DIFF headquarters, between 9:00 AM and 11:00 AM on October 8th, 2026. The deadline for entering the tournament is July 31st, 2026. Tournament Fee for DIFF members under 16 before October 8th, 2026 will be waived when accompanied by an adult entrant. When you register, please provide your current email address. Entry confirmation will be provided at the time of entry by the diffclub.org website. Please print the confirmation email and bring it to the Tournament or confirm with the Director or Treasurer before the Tournament.

All contestants must attend a pre-tournament meeting at DIFF headquarters beginning at 11:00 AM on October 8th, 2026. Late arrivals that have prepaid must advise a DIFF official of their estimated arrival time and check in with an official prior to fishing. Contestants may not leave DIFF headquarters to begin fishing until the pre-tournament meeting is adjourned and the starting signal is given. There will be a random roll call. The tournament director reserves the right to call a complete roll call of tournament entrants as needed. All registered contestants not present at starting signal will be **DISQUALIFIED!!** All fish in your possession at the beginning

of the tournament must be dressed. Your vehicle and premises may be inspected by tournament officials at the beginning of the tournament and at any time during the tournament.

All fish (including appropriate paperwork for fish) entered in the tournament must be brought to and registered at the fishing tournament headquarters. Entrants are strongly encouraged to take photos of the fish they catch and enter into the weigh-in, specifically those fish which must be released. Tournament headquarters will be open on a limited schedule. Entrants will be given the schedule at the pre-tournament meeting. To be eligible, a fish must be entered and registered in the tournament by 12:00 noon, October 10th, 2026. No exceptions! Contestants in the check-in line at noon on Saturday will be processed and eligible for the tournament. Fish check-in will be closed when that final group of entrants is processed. For a fish to be eligible for a cash prize, it must be registered and weighed-in by the individual catching the fish, unless specifically approved by the tournament director. Fish will not be weighed-in for anyone arriving after 12:00 noon Saturday, October 10th, 2026. In addition to being eligible to fish in the tournament entrants are eligible to participate in all other tournament activities.

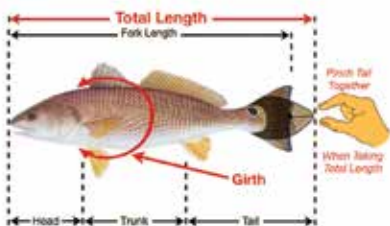
Prizes will be awarded as follows: (* Species to be determined.)

	RED DRUM	PUPPY DRUM	BLUEFISH	WHITING	MOST RED DRUM RELEASED OVER 27"	WILDCARD	OPEN*	YOUTH
1 st	\$ 500	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	\$ 400	28%
2 nd	\$ 330	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	21%
3 rd	\$ 220	\$ 220	\$ 220	\$ 220	\$ 220	\$ 220	\$ 220	16%
4 th	\$ 160	\$ 160	\$ 160	\$ 160	\$ 160	\$ 160	\$ 160	11%
5 th	\$ 120	\$ 120	\$ 120	\$ 120	\$ 120	\$ 120	\$ 120	9%
6 th	\$ 90	\$ 90	\$ 90	\$ 90	\$ 90	\$ 90	\$ 90	6%
7 th	\$ 70	\$ 70	\$ 70	\$ 70	\$ 70	\$ 70	\$ 70	5%
8 th	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 50	4%
Total	\$1540	\$1410	\$1410	\$1410	\$1410	\$1410	\$1410	TBD

A contestant may win one cash prize per category. Contestants can win a cash prize in more than one category. Any prize money not awarded in a category will be awarded as Scholarships or Grants. Any ties for a merchandise prize (Example: First-Place Combo) will be settled by a coin toss. Any ties for cash will be divided equally, after summing the total of the cash awards for that position and the next lower cash award levels as is appropriate. If there are less than 200 paid entrants

or funds are not otherwise raised to cover tournament expenses and prizes, the prize money in each category will be reduced proportionally. Contestants are eligible to win only one door prize, and must be present at the drawing to win. Contestants must be present to win Raffle prizes with the exception being the Generator Raffle.

RULES FOR DETERMINING WINNING FISH



RED DRUM: A single fish per entrant to be determined by measurement from the tip of upper jaw to the tip of the pinched tail, plus measurement of girth (per diagram), both measurements to nearest 1/8". Fish must be measured and recorded in

presence of two tournament members and witnessed with their signatures. Forms must be fully completed and turned in during the weigh-in period. State size limit will apply. All fish outside of the State slot size must be released alive.

PUPPY DRUM: A single fish per entrant to be determined by weight. State size limit will apply. All fish outside of the State slot size must be released alive. The same fish cannot be entered for Red Drum category.

BLUE FISH: A single fish per entrant to be determined by weight. State creel and size limit will apply.

WHITING: A single fish per entrant to be determined by weight. State size limit will apply.

MOST RED DRUM RELEASED OVER 27 INCHES: Total number of red drum released over 27 inches during the tournament determined by measurement. Each fish must be measured from the tip of the upper jaw to the tip of the pinched tail measured to the nearest 1/8th inch. Each red drum measurement must be recorded on the official tournament red drum form. In the event more red drum are landed than spots on the front page, please turn the page over and record according to the front. All writing MUST BE LEGIBLE. If we receive a weigh-in ticket with smudge marks or non-legible signatures, we will discard the weigh-in form. Measurement must be witnessed with the signatures of two tournament participants. The tournament participant with the most live releases charted and presented to the weigh-master at the tournament weigh-in will be the category winner. Weigh-master will confirm measurements and may adjust total measurements to correct any discrepancies. State size limits will apply. All fish must be released alive. Should a tie exist, the date and time of landing of



\$10,000 in Prize Money – October 8-10, 2026

ENTRY FEE OF \$100.00 IS DUE WITH ENTRY FORM POSTMARKED by JULY 31, 2026. NO EXCEPTIONS

Tournament proceeds fund at least \$2,500.00 in DIFF Scholarships + \$1,000.00 in DIFF Grants.

RULES FOR DETERMINING WINNING FISH (continued)

the first fish released over 27 inches will be used to break the tie for the category winner, and all other ties will be split equally.

OPEN CATEGORIES: A Single fish per entrant is to be determined by weight. State size limit will apply. The open category will be announced during the pre-tournament meeting based on the species available at the time.

SPECIAL CATEGORIES: Additional fish categories may be announced during the pre-tournament meeting. State size limit will apply. Entrant must declare the category during weigh-in and only one fish can be weighed in per entrant per category.

YOUTH CATEGORY: A single fish for each youth category participant can be submitted for this category. All fish for this category must be submitted for weight to the tournament weigh-master during the assigned tournament weigh-in. The heaviest fish by weight will be deemed the category winner followed, based on weight, by other fish to fill the category winners. All fish must meet state size and creel limit regulations. The tournament committee will make every effort to make prizes available for all participants beyond the guaranteed payouts. Fish caught by youth participants can also be entered into all tournament categories.

FISHING AND CONDUCT RULES

All fish must be caught on hook and line with rod and reel from the shoreline or permanent structures attached to South Core Banks (Davis Island). The fish will belong to the person originally hooking the fish, but can have another entrant assist in landing, or as a relief handling the rod or reel. A non-contestant person may not assist in any way.

Each contestant is permitted to fish with a maximum of two (2) rods at any given time and the rods must be manned AT ALL TIMES. Bait launching devices other than a fishing rod and fishing reel are strictly prohibited. Examples of such prohibited devices are, but not limited to, kayaks, boats, drones, and devices using compressed gas or explosives. Any fish whose physical makeup has been altered in any way will be disqualified. Any violation of the rules will warrant disqualification of the contestant in all fish categories.

Fishing spots **MAY NOT** be reserved prior to or during the tournament in any way such as, placing rod holders, the aid of entrants or non-contestants or parking vehicles at a place on the beach where you intend to fish. Parked vehicles left other than in the camp area should be well above the high tide mark. Please apply common courtesy while visiting or traveling through congested fishing areas. Many of us share favorite fishing spots on the South Core Banks.

We will utilize a tagging system to identify one (1) slot drum from each fishing day. There will be 3 different color zip ties in your bag, Yellow, Black, and Red. The zip tie will be placed through the gill plate and out of the mouth and connected to make a loop or a circle. From the start of the tournament, 12:00 PM on October 8th until midnight, you will use the Yellow zip tie. October 9th from 12:00 AM Midnight to 11:59 PM, you will use the Black zip tie and on October 10th from 12:00 AM Midnight until the end of the tournament, you will use the Red zip tie. This procedure is to assist the Park Service, Park Rangers, and Marine Patrol, and identify what days the fish were caught and to minimize possession and creel limit issues. Please understand the Laws of fish possession.

The tournament director and/or his assignees (protest committee) reserve the right to disqualify any fish of suspicious nature that is entered. Names of the Rules and Protest Committee members will be given at the beginning of the tournament. Written protests must be filed with the Rules and Protest Committee by 12:30 PM on October 10th, 2026. Any protest after that time will not be considered. All decisions by the committee will be final. All Federal, State and Park Service laws and/or rules shall be observed. NOTE: North Carolina Saltwater Fishing License regulations are in effect. It is the responsibility of entrants to know current creel and bag limits. See <http://www.ncwildlife.org/>.

NO-SHOWS

In the event the entrant cannot for any reason, other than provided below, attend the tournament, the entrant shall not be eligible for any

refund. Entrants' rights to tournament are not transferable.

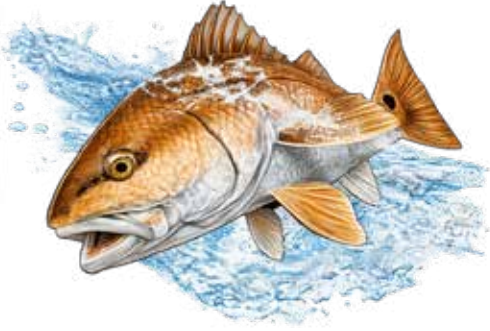
TOURNAMENT CANCELLATION AND/OR MODIFICATIONS

In the event the Park Service closes the island/cabins during the tournament dates, the tournament will be canceled. In the event the island is closed for a period during the week of the tournament and is reopened prior to the beginning of the tournament, the tournament committee shall, with the input of the Park Service and the concessionaires, make a determination as to whether all entrants can be transported to the island so that the tournament can begin no later than 9:00 PM on Thursday evening of the tournament. If that cannot be reasonably accomplished in the opinion of the tournament committee, the tournament will be canceled.

Each entrant is responsible for contacting Ferry Service and NPS to determine the status of island closures due to extreme weather. Please see www.diffclub.org or DIFF Club Facebook page, or contact a DIFF Board Member for Tournament Status. In the event that the Park Service gives notice to the tournament committee before 8:00 AM Friday that the Island is being closed, the tournament shall be deemed canceled. This rule will be in effect even if the tourna-

ment has already started. **In the event of cancellation of the tournament because the island has been closed by the Park Service as contemplated herein, \$65.00 of the entry fee for each entrant will be applied toward next year's tournament entry fee.** Entrants may request a refund of \$65 by emailing the DIFF club treasurer by Dec. 31st, 2026. In the event that the Park Service gives notice to the tournament committee after 8:00 AM Friday that it is closing the island, the tournament shall be deemed official and the tournament committee shall determine the official deadline for the tournament. The tournament committee will conclude that the Park Service has made a reasonable effort to notify on a timely manner, each person on the island of its decision to close the island. Should this event occur, it is the entrant's responsibility to contact the tournament committee regarding early termination of the tournament, weigh-in times, etc.

Davis Island Fishing Foundation
1121 Powell Lane
Alton, VA 24520



<<First + Last>>
<<Address>>
<<City>>, <<State>> <<Zip>>

PARK WATCH

You can be an extra set of eyes and ears in the park to help the park rangers keep everyone safe.

- **To report a problem, violation, or flagrant misuse or activity that you have seen, call 911 and they will contact the Park Service directly.**

You have the ability to keep this fantastic natural resource from abuse.



Officers:

Lance Brown – President.....336.558.7942
Darrell McCormick – Vice President.....336.655.4311
Roy Byrd – Secretary.....919.270.4170
Geneive Jones – Treasurer.....434.222.6658

Board of Directors:

Will Brooks.....252.202.2510
Tyler Buchanan.....704.718.5531
Steven Evans.....252.423.0313
Travis Johnston.....919.901.3680
Ted Moseley.....252.202.4673
David Schickedantz – Newsletter.....336.312.7963
Brian Trotter – Tournament Director.....336.302.4820

Email Board of Directors: diffclub@outlook.com

Email "Davis Island Angler" Editor: diffeditor@gmail.com

Core Banks Surf Fishing Club (CBSFC) website:

<https://sites.google.com/view/core-banks-surf-fishing-club/>

DIFF... Beyond Fishing!

The Davis Island Fishing Foundation (DIFF) is a non-profit club for people that enjoy recreational Surf Fishing and associated fellowship and social activities on the South Core Banks of Cape Lookout National Seashore, affectionately known as Davis Island.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The purpose, objectives and efforts of DIFF are to benefit the DIFF membership and other visitors of Davis Island.

- DIFF actively supports and demonstrates responsible use of Off-Road Vehicles (ORV) for beach access to engage in surf fishing and other suitable activities.
- DIFF promotes a code of ethics for responsible behavior on the island.
- DIFF educates visitors on the rich heritage of surf fishing and current fishing conservation practices.
- DIFF provides physical and fiscal resources to assist the Park Service in maintaining cabins and other facilities.
- DIFF hosts fishing tournaments for its members enjoyment, while raising money for scholarships and grants.
- DIFF supports the conservation of Davis Island's culture, history, heritage and appropriate protection of its fish and wildlife.
- DIFF collaborates with the park management, concessionaires and other supportive organizations to benefit the DIFF membership.
- DIFF maintains awareness of activities that could affect Davis Island in a positive or negative way and responds appropriately to support the DIFF purpose.
- DIFF provides effective communications to its members by website, email, Facebook, newsletter, and periodic meetings.