



# DIFF CLUB NEWS



## AT THE TOP



Red Knot  
*Calidris canutus*

The Red Knot sports a distinctive breast of brilliant rusty red. This russet color extends up the neck and around the eyes, and blends somewhat into the patterned black, brown, gray and white colorations on the wings and back. The Knot has a short, straight black bill and dark brown/black legs. It depends primarily on horseshoe crab eggs and therefore occurs in areas of dense horseshoe crab spawning, usually sandy beaches with gentle slopes such as Delaware Bay. The Knot is a species of "high concern".



## ON THE INSIDE

President's Letter	6
Tournament Pix	4
Spring Tourney	7
Sponsors	insert

## Fall Fishing Tourney... Bigger and Better!

The twenty-first DIFF Fall Surf Fishing Tournament was held September 28 through September 30, 2006. Roger Wise, DIFF President welcomed everyone on a beautiful early fall morning. Guest speakers included Wouter Ketel (NPS CALO Chief Ranger) along with Jeff Ferrence and Lee Paramore from NCDMF. Connie Grant spoke about the success of our first Spring Tournament and asked for feedback and help in planning the 2007 Spring Tournament.

A record 180 contestants entered this year's Fall Tournament. Approximately 50 first time entrants were welcomed. I described the common bond of all DIFF members as being a love affair with this island based on our past experiences. The DIFF Fall Tournament is for bragging rights, with prize money used as a way to keep score. I reminded everyone of our responsibility as leaders to always comply with NPS

Continued p2

## Saltwater Fishing License Facts

The division of Marine Fisheries has released information regarding the newly passed law creating the North Carolina Coastal Recreational Fishing License (CRFL). Most fishermen favor the saltwater fishing license as the revenues will go into two marine resource funds and be distributed through the Marine Fisheries and Wildlife Resources commissions. It *must* be used to manage, protect, restore, develop, cultivate, conserve and/or enhance North Carolina marine resources. According to Lee Paramore and Jeff

Continued p6

---

CALO and NCDMF rules. I reviewed key tournament rules, and announced the Pompano and Black Drum category.

J. W. "Burma-Shave" Smith described the "Painted Puppy" slot-size Drum category sponsored by South Mecklenburg Painting Contractors in Pineville, NC. J.W. also recognized Bob Jenkins as the oldest participant by presenting the James McCoy – Ervin Taylor plaque. Glenn Green reminded everyone to use low tire pressure to avoid problems in the soft sand. Alvin Tans offered a prayer of thanks and requested good fishing. The DIFF members faced the American flag as the *National Anthem* reminded us of how fortunate we are to be in this place. The tournament began with "Ladies and Gentlemen, Start Your Fishing".

The winning Red Drum was caught and released by first time entrant Jimmy R. Brown of East Bend, NC. He received an additional prize, a rod and reel donated by



Rookie **Jimmy R. Brown**  
With biggest Red Drum  
(photo by Lee Paramore)

Mark Childress. Jimmy revealed his secret to catching big Drum...night fishing at the inlet. Nineteen "Painted Puppy" slot-size Puppy Drum were weighed ranging from 3.20 to 7.05 pounds. Forty-two Blues were recorded from 0.40 to 4.75 pounds. Sixty-two Pompano were recorded from 0.25 pounds to a monster 4.25 pounder. Forty-two Black Drum were weighed from 0.30 to 2.60 pounds. Sixty-seven Whiting were recorded from 0.50 to 1.65 pounds. Forty Flounder were recorded from .85 to 5.10 pounds. Larry Parham received an additional prize for the winning flounder, a rod and reel donated

by the Yadkin County fishermen in memory of John Thomas Powell of East Bend.

The DIFF equivalent of the NASCAR Nextel chase is the Top-Ten money winners. Donald G. Barefoot of Benson, NC and Larry M. Parham of Julian, NC have been in the Top-Ten for three consecutive years. Johnny Eldridge Jr. of Booneville, NC made it the last two years.



**Tate Wilkinson**  
At weigh-in...AGAIN!

Last year's first place Whiting winner, Tate Wilkinson of Lucama, NC, returned this year as a proud ten-year old. Tate weighed-in five fish in the Flounder, Whiting, Pompano, "Painted Puppy" and Black Drum categories. Tate took third place with his Black Drum and plans to use his prize money for the 2007 tournament. Everyone enjoyed talking with Tate and seeing his catch.

Most contestants make an all-out effort to catch that elusive prize-winning fish. However, this year a well-known iron-head took on the field with one arm tied behind his back. His casts were impressive, but his big catch was that infamous "flat fish" with the long skinny tail. Another prominent DIFF officer prowled the island with what appeared to be a snowplow on the front of his truck. He spent more time pushing sand than catching fish.

White Swan of Atlantic Beach, NC provided a delicious Saturday lunch consisting of Bar-B-Que pork and baked or Bar-B-Que chicken with all the trimmings including banana pudding sponsored by Mark Childress. Robert "Gaterman" Wilson, Ed Caskey and Vickie King presented an outstanding number of valuable door prizes provided by this year's sponsors. Robert, Ed and Vickie did a fantastic job in their first year as sponsor coordinators.

B.K. Barringer recognized Don Eury as

one of the founders of DIFF and for his many years of service to the DIFF club. In recognizing Don's many contributions, he pointed out to all that the tournament rules and format were established with Don's leadership; that



**Don Eury**  
Receives plaque of Recognition  
From **BK Barringer**

Don emphasized the preserving of the park and it's natural environment for all to enjoy and the establishment of a long term relation with park

management. BK asked all participants that did not know Don to take a moment to introduce yourself and to meet and thank Don for his leadership in making the Diff Club a leading representative of island users in their relation with the public and park management.

A combined raffle resulted in Herman Vick winning the custom rod sponsored by Hatteras Jacks with the Ambassador reel



**Glenn Green**  
Claims 1KW Honda Generator  
From **Roger Wise**

Roxboro, NC won the Honda 1000i generator raffle, donated by H&S Roofing of Charlotte.

The 2006 tournament was a big success thanks to the following people: B. K. Barringer, Laura Barringer, Ed Caskey, Mark

sponsored by Comporium, Stan Best winning the rod and reel sponsored by Mark Childress and Ed Caskey winning the custom Cape Lookout lighthouse lamp made and sponsored by Carlene Wilson. Glenn Green of

Childress, H.M. Daniel, Jack Davis, Tim Doss, Jack Dunaway, Tom Dunaway, Rich Frank, Connie Grant, the entire GIC&FS staff, Wouter Ketel (NPS, CALO), Jason King, Vickie King, Mike Laughlin, Scott Mosley, Bill Stiles, Alvin Tans, Bob Vogel (NPS, CALO), Robert Wilson, Roger Wise, Lynn Winstead (NPS, CALO), Mickey and Helen Wynnberry. What a great team!

Plans are underway for the 2007 Fall Tournament. Final rules and entry forms will be available at the annual membership meeting in Pineville. Contact Ed Caskey or Vickie King if you know of interested sponsors. Support our current and past sponsors listed at [www.diffclub.com](http://www.diffclub.com). If you have never attended a DIFF Tournament, you are missing a fun event for both the novice and veteran. It is a great opportunity to exchange fishing tales and make new friends!



**Mark Weir**

## Official 2006 DIFF Tournament Top-10 Bragging Rights

1st	<b>Mark Matthews</b>	\$687.50
2nd	Donald G Barefoot	\$525.00
3rd tie	Jimmy R Brown	\$500.00
3rd tie	Johnny Eldridge, Jr	\$500.00
5th tie	Scotty Gordon	\$400.00
5th tie	Norman Leifried	\$400.00
5th tie	Mark Martin	\$400.00
5th tie	Larry M Parham	\$400.00
9th	Robyn H Hege	\$350.00
10th	Jeff Lefler	\$325.00



**Whiting**

(L to R) Tied for 4th: Bobby Barefoot, Kelly Fields, Robin Hege; Tied for 2nd: Scott Williams, Dennis Lee;  
**1st Place: Donald G Barefoot 1.65 lbs**



**Blue Fish**

(L to R) Tied for 6th: Bill Hurst, Herman Vick, Jr; 5th; Lee Marsh; 4th: Donald G Barefoot; 3rd: Vickie King; 2nd: Dane Curtsinger; **1st Place: Scotty Gordon 4.75 lbs**



**Pompano**

(L to R) 6th: Dennis Lee; 5th: Herman Vick, Jr; 4th: Lanier Smith; 3rd: Don Eury; 2nd: Dyke Cline;  
**1st Place: Mark Martin 4.25 lbs**

# Win

## 21st Annual DI



### Red I

(L to R) 6th: Mark Matthews (not pictured); Ernie Holcomb; Tied for 2nd: J...  
**First Place: Jimmy R Bro**



**Mark Martin** with 1st Place Pompano

# ners

## FF Tournament



### Drum

(red); 5th: Bobby (Ro-Ho) Barefoot; 4th: Jeff Lefler, Johnny Eldridge, Jr; wn 51 inches, length +girth



**Norman Leifried** with 1st Place Painted Puppy Drum



### Black Drum

(L to R) 6th: A Lee Hege; 5th: Lanier Mitchum; 4th: Kevin Davis; 3rd: Tate Wilkinson; 2nd: Robyn Hege; **First Place: Mark Matthews** 2.60 lbs (not pictured)



### Flounder

(L to R) 6th: Mike Matthews; 5th: Lee Marsh; 4th: Bill Parham; 3rd: Earl Brogden; 2nd: Johnny Eldridge, Jr; **First Place: Larry M Parham** 5.10 lbs



### Painted Puppy Drum

(L to R) 9th: Ernie Holcomb; 8th: Derrick Crater; 7th: A. Lee Hege; 6th: Jeff Lefler; 5th: Kevin Davis; 4th: Will Henry; Tied for 2nd: Randy McFalls, Mark Matthews (not pictured); **First Place: Norman Leifried** 7.05 lbs (pic bot p 5)

---

Ferrence of the North Carolina Division of Marine Fisheries, the CRFL will be required beginning January 1, 2007. This license will not allow you to fish inland waters but will allow you to fish coastal and joint fishing waters. You will need this license to fish from shore and from piers unless the pier has purchased a blanket license. Each person fishing from a private boat must purchase a CRFL which is non-transferable to family members and friends. You do not need to have a saltwater license to harvest shellfish and crabs.

The CRFL may be purchased or renewed at WRC license agents, which includes all DMF offices. Most Wal-Marts, along with most sports and bait and tackle shops, sell WRC licenses. The WRC also sells licenses through a toll-free number and on-line.

#### **Annual License**

NC State Residents age 16 or older - \$15  
Non-residents age 16 or older - \$30

#### **10-Day License**

NC State Residents age 16 or older -\$5  
Non-Residents age 16 or older -\$10

For Lifetime Licenses and other license type information, please call the DMF at 252.726.7021 or 800.682.2632.

Remember...You must have a CRFL to fish legally at Cape Lookout and other coastal waters in North Carolina beginning January 1, 2007.



**Lee Paramore and Jeff Ferrence  
of DMF**

## **President's Letter**

**W**e had another GREAT drum tournament this Fall thanks to the tremendous effort of our tournament committee! I thank all of you for your efforts and also thank all participants who helped make this the most highly attended event of our history! Plans are underway now for next year's Spring and Fall tournaments and hope that you will make every effort to attend. Congratulations go to Jimmy Brown for the biggest drum. I was there and witnessed this fish being dragged onto the shore even though I was about to fall asleep!

I was surprised at the beach changes at the "new" north point of the island. It really provided an opportunity for plenty of drum fishermen to elbow in for a chance to catch the winning fish. I thought I was at least going to catch a few until an inconsiderate boater decided to ease on through a small channel we were fishing cutting lines and dragging rods and reels to the water edge. Not only did it happen once....it happened three times, twice by the same boater. Surely this wasn't one of our members.

We are still awaiting word regarding the Bluewater suit against the Park Service. Our last word is the Interim Protected Species Plan and Environmental Assessment is still being reviewed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife. As we know more, we will inform our membership as soon as possible via email, website and newsletter.

I hope that you attend our Annual Meeting this Winter in Pineville, NC at a new location... "The Hut", on February 24, 2007. Reminder notices will be sent in January.

I thank each of you for your membership. Strength is in numbers and in our case we are growing every year!

**Roger Wise**

---

# Tourney Sponsorship Grows

**T**he 2006 Fall DIFF tournament was GREAT! The weather was great, the fellowship was great, the food was great and all the prizes were GREAT, GREAT, GREAT! The sponsorship committee headed by Robert "Gaterman" Wilson, Ed Caskey and Vickie King worked very hard to secure cash and prizes worth over \$4500. Some of the cash was used to purchase the reel that went with the custom rod donated by Hatteras Jacks. The remainder of the cash donated was used to purchase the 9 Great Island Banks Booty certificates at \$100 each. A special thanks to Stiles and Co. for the fishing towels (or crying whichever you needed it for), Standard Register for the stickers, Division of Marine Fisheries for the bags and regulations, NC Department of Transportation for the NC road maps and Aycock Auto Auctions for all the goodies that went out in the bags. A complete list of sponsors is in the insert. Please take time to patronize and/or thank them all.

**Vickie King**

---

## Spring Tournament

**W**e just finished a very successful and enjoyable 2006 Fall Tournament. Let me thank all that helped and all that participated. Let me also offer kudos to tournament director, Mark Weir, for his leadership and guidance in this major undertaking. That said, it is time to bring up another major project, the Second Annual Spring Tournament. Although it is still six to seven months away, we need to start the "reel spooling" in preparation.

With the positive feedback from our evalua-

tion tool and the on going response from [www.drumwagon.com](http://www.drumwagon.com) concerning the success of the 2006 spring tournament, the DIFF Board made the decision in July to move forward with the 2007 spring tournament. I again volunteered to serve as tournament director. This action was supported by the Board of Directors.

The goals for the 2007 Spring tournament are similar to the directives from the 2006 Spring Tournament. We do not want to take away from the annual fall tournament (and from the evaluation of this year's fall tournament, we did not). We want the spring tournament to be a different format from our fall classic. We also want this to be an opportunity for families and friends to get together on the island. Finally, we are very much interested in keeping this tournament available for the school-aged youth and to allow them to take advantage of our island in an adult supervised activity. It is of the utmost importance that we properly educate our young people in the correct usage, stewardship, and conservation of this wonderful resource we all enjoy.

What we are looking for, at this point in the process, is some feedback from club members and some help with some preparations and logistics for the coming event. We would like to have this part completed and ready to present to the board and all the club members at our annual meeting in Pineville in February.

We appreciate the continuous feedback we are having on [www.drumwagon.com](http://www.drumwagon.com) and the remarks we heard from many of you at the fall tournament. Please keep in touch with us if you have any suggestions and/or questions concerning our upcoming event. You can contact me, Con Grant, at 803-329-1265 or [the-grants@comporium.net](mailto:the-grants@comporium.net).

**Con Grant**



# DIFF Club News

Davis Island Fishing Foundation  
P.O. Box 268  
 Mooresville, NC 28115

## **Notice**

**DIFF Annual Membership Meeting**  
**Saturday, Feb 24, 2007**  
**11:00 AM**  
**“The Hut”**  
**413 Johnston Drive**  
**Pineville, NC**



**Davis Island Fishing  
Foundation**

P.O. Box 268  
 Mooresville, NC 28115

### **Officers**

Roger Wise, President 336 766 9473  
Mark Weir, Vice President 336 751 5135  
BK Barringer, Treasurer 704 663 4044  
Mike Laughlin, Secretary 803 328 8915

### **Board of Directors**

Ed Caskey 803 285 9025  
Tim Doss 919 563 2330  
Richard Frank 704 588 4549  
Connie Grant 803 329 1265  
Vickie King 919 632 3099  
Mark Weir 336 751 5135  
Robert Wilson 252 235 5141

Email us at: [diff@diffclub.com](mailto:diff@diffclub.com)

**DIFF...Beyond fishing!**

*The Davis Island Fishing Foundation is a non-profit group dedicated to preserving the cultural, historic and natural heritage of Davis Island in Carteret County, NC.*

*The DIFF CLUB helps maintain the cabins at the Great Island camp and is involved in projects designed to protect the fish and wildlife population in the portion of Cape Lookout Seashore known as Core Banks South.*

*Club members can fish in annual spring and fall fishing tournaments sponsored by the Club.*

*If you are interested in joining DIFF, visit our website, [diff@diffclub.com](mailto:diff@diffclub.com) for membership form.*

*This newsletter is published quarterly and edited by Mike Laughlin. 803 328 8915.*

