

**THE NORFOLK ANGLERS CLUB**

# **WIRELINER**

**DECEMBER 2018**



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**Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) Project Update**

### **Fishing Reports:**

- Little Creek Inlet; Speckled Trout, Striped Bass
- Chesapeake Bay/CBBT; Tautog
- Lynnhaven River; Speckled Trout, Striped Bass
- Inshore/Wreck Fishing; Gray Triggerfish, Black Drum, Tautog, Black Sea Bass
- Offshore/Norfolk Canyon; Barrelfish
- South Carolina; Flounder, Speckled Trout, Redfish

# Leadership Notes...

Fellow Norfolk Anglers,

Our next big Club event is the Holiday Party, which will take the place of our regular December meeting. Same place and time. We've got a gift exchange planned, which was great fun at last year's party. I hope to see you there.

We've got just one more meeting to collect toys for the Sea Tow Hampton Roads "Stuff-A-Boat" Holiday Toy Drive. New and unwrapped toys are needed to complete this year's event that supports the USMCR Toys for Tots campaign and benefits local children.



In lieu of a guest speaker at our December meeting we'll be holding our Holiday Gift Exchange. Some call it a Yankee Gift Swap or White Elephant Gift Exchange, whatever you want to call it, it can be great fun. To participate bring along a wrapped gift in the \$15 range. We'll collect the gift and give you a raffle ticket. We'll then use the ticket to randomly set the order to select a gift.

## Holiday Gift Exchange Rules

- Gifts range \$15
- When you're selected you can pick a wrapped gift or select one that's already been opened.
- Gifts must be opened once selected.
- If the gift you opened is selected by someone else you can then select a wrapped gift or grab someone else's unwrapped gift. but you can't take back the one you just had.
- Gifts can only be swiped twice. Meaning, the gift once opened can be taken by someone else and then taken a second time. After that the gift isn't available to change ownership again.
- There can be only three gift "swipes" during a turn. After the third gift "swipe" the next person draws an unwrapped gift...and we begin again.

*Will*

## Important:

Date of next meeting - Monday, 10 December at 7pm

## Location:

Teppanyaki Buffet & Grill

7525 Tidewater Drive, Norfolk, VA 23505

## Publishers NOTES

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**NORFOLK ANGLERS**





Sea Tow Hampton Roads and The Local Angler Clubs will be collecting toys this year for the “Stuff-a-Boat Toy Drive”. We will be collecting toys that are new and un-giftwrapped. Last year we were able to collect over 1,440 toys due to the Angler Clubs tremendous participation. The only thing we are asking of club members is to bring a toy to your monthly Angler’s Club meeting in the months of October November and December. Sea Tow Hampton Roads will attend your meeting each month and collect the toys. If for some reason you don’t make the monthly meetings, you can visit [www.facebook.com/SeaTowHamptonRoads](http://www.facebook.com/SeaTowHamptonRoads) for locations where drop off boxes are available.

In December, everyone will be invited to our office for hot apple cider, donuts & pizza and we will stuff the Sea Tow Boat with toys that we collected. The Marines from Toys for Tots will come to the Sea Tow office and receive the toys. We would like to get a group shot of all clubs surrounding the Sea Tow boat stuffed with toys. This date will be determined when the time gets closer.

Every little bit helps and will make someone’s holiday a little brighter. Thank-you again for all of your support. REMINDER: For each toy you donate at your monthly meeting your name goes into a drawing for prizes. If you have any questions or know of anyone who would like a box to collect toys you may contact Karen or Ed Schrader at 757-496-1999.



# Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) Project Update

November 12, 2018: The Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind (CVOW) project is an important first phase in development of offshore wind energy in Virginia. The project calls for the development of two 6-megawatt wind turbine generators on a 2,135 acre site leased by the Virginia Department of Mines Minerals and Energy for wind energy research. The planned site is located approximately 24 nautical miles off the Virginia Coast just west of the Triangle Artificial Reef area. It's the first offshore wind energy project planned for U.S. Federal waters and builds on the experience gained from Rhode Island's Block Island Wind Farm constructed in 2016 in State waters. There's a much larger Commercial Lease Area adjacent to the CVOW area which is on a separate development timeline.

The Coastal Virginia Offshore Wind project began more than five years ago under the Virginia Offshore Wind Technology Assessment Project (VOWTAP). The work of the VOWTAP in assessing the ocean's sea floor composition and suitability, conducting hurricane and breaking wave studies, and assessing the wind energy potential laid the ground work for the CVOW project.

Dominion Energy has partnered with Ørsted from Denmark, a global leader in developing and building offshore wind energy projects. The estimated \$300 million project is funded by Dominion Energy's existing base rates. The CVOW project provides critical operational data, assessment of weather and other environmental conditions in the mid-Atlantic region for further development of offshore wind projects in the United States. The two wind turbines scheduled to be commissioned in the summer or fall of 2020 will produce up to 12 megawatts of renewable energy and serve nearly 3,000 customers.

## Fishing new structure - unplanned benefit to anglers

The sea bed off the Virginia coast is a gentle sloping sand bed all the way to the continental shelf some 75-80 nautical miles off the coast. With an occasional bed of broken shell or gravel far off shore, shipwrecks, and artificial reefs, there's few fish attracting structures. As experienced in the northeast wind farm, the addition of the wind turbine structures had an improvement on fishing conditions according to most angler focused articles reviewed. Face it, while not a planned benefit of the wind energy project, placing a 26' diameter structure with 40' of large rock around its base, it's going to become a fish aggregating device and a good thing for anglers. Though restrictions on fishing in and around the turbines have NOT been established for the CVOW project, currently the existing wind farm off Block Island has NO restrictions to fishing around the structure. Mooring or tying up to the structure, as expected, is not permitted.

## Close enough to see?

Even though the top of the turbine blades may reach as high as 620 feet from the ocean surface at the planned 24 nautical mile distance offshore, it's not likely you'll see the turbines from the shore.



## Project Schedule

- Jan-Jun 2019 - Unexploded Ordnance Identification and mitigation (if required)
- Spring 2020 - On-Shore Construction
- Summer 2010 - Off-Shore Construction
- Summer/Fall 2010 - Commissioning and start commercial operations

### Construction

Unlike construction of the Block Island Wind Farm, which used a four-pile jacket foundation to support the mid-section transition piece, CVOW construction involves driving a single 26.2 foot diameter monopile into the sea bed to support the transition piece (yellow mid-section) for each wind turbine. Monopile installation is projected to reduce installation times common with other methods taking a week to less than a single day for the monopile, thereby minimizing potential impacts to the marine environment. In addition to dramatically reducing installation times, the use of a bubble curtain will reduce the transmission of sound during monopile installation. Once the monopile is driven into the sea bed large stone is added to a 40' radius for scour protection. The power export cable measures approximately 5" in diameter and is planned to be buried to a target depth of 6' beneath the sea bed. Energy generated by the project will come ashore just south of Rudee Inlet at Camp Pendleton and connect to the Dominion Energy power grid.



Image courtesy of Ørsted

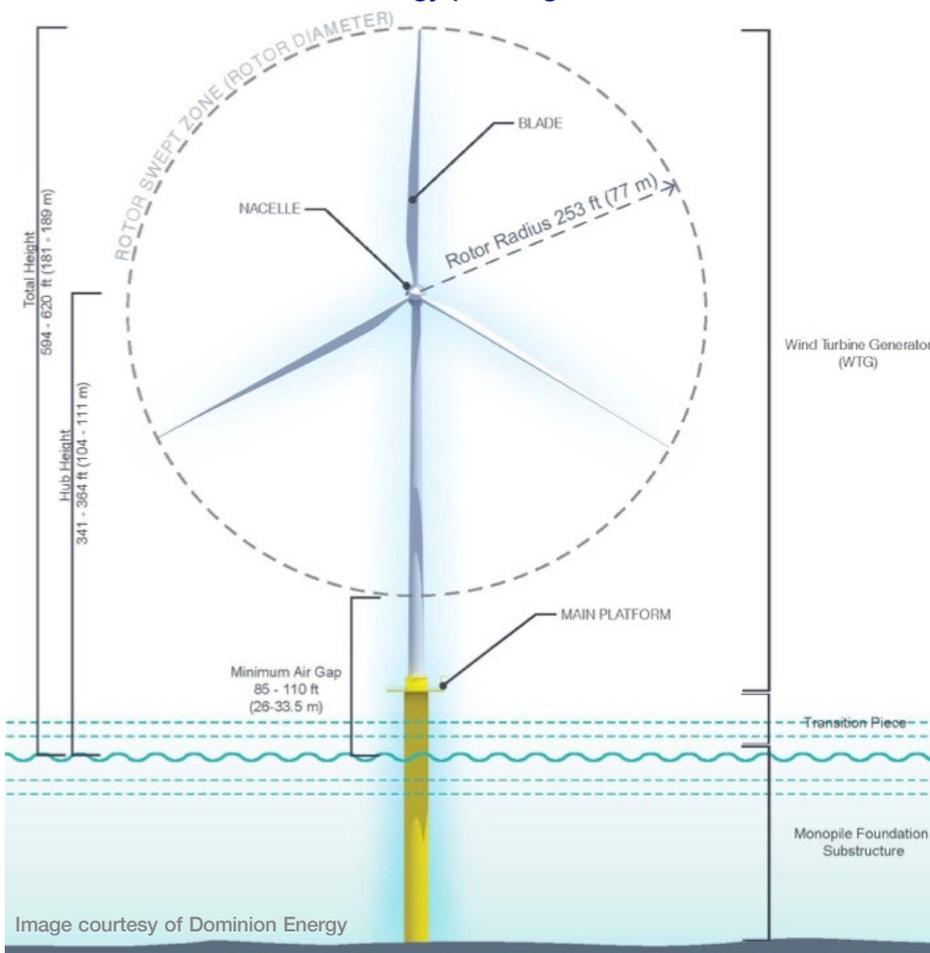
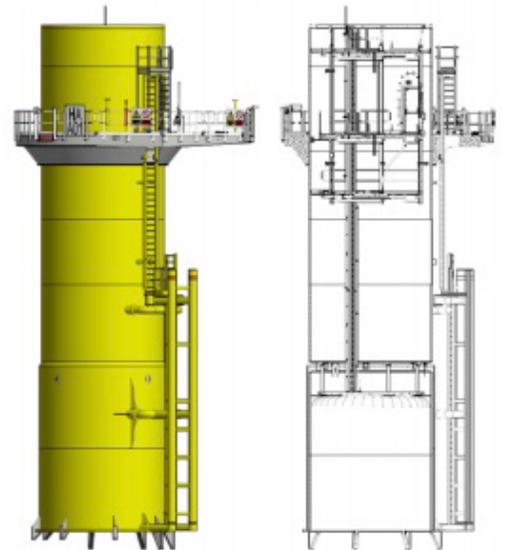


Image courtesy of Dominion Energy



Photo courtesy of Ørsted

# Fishing Reports...

*Roll Out The Barrel & We'll Have a Barrel of Fun!*

19 NOV: I absolutely loved catching this Barrellfish, and I must admit that I'm definitely a barrellfish fan for life now! This fish intensely riveted and continued pulling throughout the battle like no man's business and the only thing I could even compare it to would be a blend of two fish. It was the perfect blend of spunk like that from a biggie sized golden tilefish but with a small splash of cobia tenacity in that mix. Because it provided such an incredible fight, I nicknamed it "Jackhammer."



Although I was tickled about catching the fish, after just a few brief drops, Kevin and I did not stay long out there because we noticed a small amount of oil coming from the engine and we did not want to take any chances of getting stuck out there at the Canyon. We did the right thing because we found some white braid line in the engine prop upon our returning home. Note: Is anyone missing any white braid, I use green? Please visit

[www.BethSynowiec.com](http://www.BethSynowiec.com) or [www.ClassicRockfish.com](http://www.ClassicRockfish.com) salty blog section for all of our latest fishing reports. Tight Lines Everyone! - Beth Synowiec



4 NOV: Bert Sainz and I went for Speckled Trout fishing in Little Creek. The weather was comfortable with low winds and we had incoming tide. We caught a ton of small specks and 3 keepers (one being this nice 21 inch). We used 4' white rubber baits on 1/4 oz jigheads and MR 27s. - Ned Smith



7 NOV: I made a two hour solo run on a nice morning and got this fat girl. There are lots of little Speckled Trout out there to still keep you busy!  
- Jimmy Robinson

23 & 25 OCT: I went fishing with Bob Stuhlman in his boat on the 23rd in the Little Creek despite SW winds 15-20 mph. The water in the Creek at the jetties was clear and we started catching immediately with 52-MR's. We began catching one after another 12-13 inch with an occasional 14-15 inch fish. We fished the beach too and after about three hours we had a total of 7 keepers. Despite their length, all of the fish were fat and gave a good fight and between us we released 50 plus between us. While we were fishing in Little Creek, a Landing Cushion Assault Craft (LCAC) came down the Little Creek into the main part of the creek and then came out of the creek.



This was weird because in all the dozens of time we have fished the creek, we have never had a LCAC come into the creek. It soaked us of course getting way closer than we wanted but we were anchored.



On the 25th Bob and I fished with Louis Glaser in Little Creek and Pretty Lake. This time the winds were worse NW 15-20. The jetties were full of dirty water and no hits so we went into the Pretty Lake where the winds were significantly less interfering in our casting. Using MirrOlures- 52 MRs and 27 MRs, we began catching fish all around the lake. After about 2 hours we had only 3 fish 15-16 inches. One for each of our efforts so we called it a day. The wind temperature was 60 degrees, water temp was 62 so it was a chilly effort but fun catching so many fish. I'm sure the big ones are coming in soon. - Dr. James W. "Ike" Eisenhower



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6 NOV: My buddy Al and I had some nice Speckled Trout in Lynnhaven on a great day. We ended with 6 keeper Speckled Trout. - Jimmy Robinson

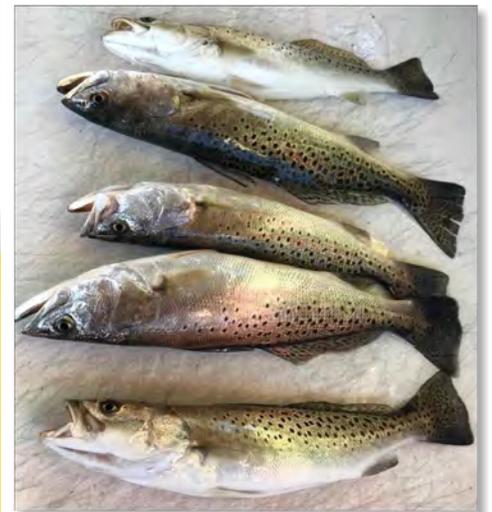
12 NOV: I worked hard for this guy on a cold day. It was the biggest of five keepers. - Jimmy Robinson



Photo: Sea Tow International, Inc. ©2012. All rights reserved.



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16 NOV: I got a limit on a cool morning. I had nothing big, but a good bight without the crowd around. - Jimmy Robinson

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Gray Triggerfish



27 inch Black Drum

18 NOV: I fished the Cape Henry Wreck using live Blue Crabs on the out going tide. My first bait down hooks a 44 inch Black Drum which I tagged and released healthy. A large school of Black Drum must have set up camp on the wreck because the rest of the morning had me catching three more smaller Drum in

addition to a 25 inch Red Drum. I pulled off just as many as I caught. There were a couple of small Tautog and Black Sea Bass thrown in there as well. A Triggerfish surprised me as well. It was nice to spend some time with these fish on their way out of the bay.

- Alex Perez



44 inch Black Drum

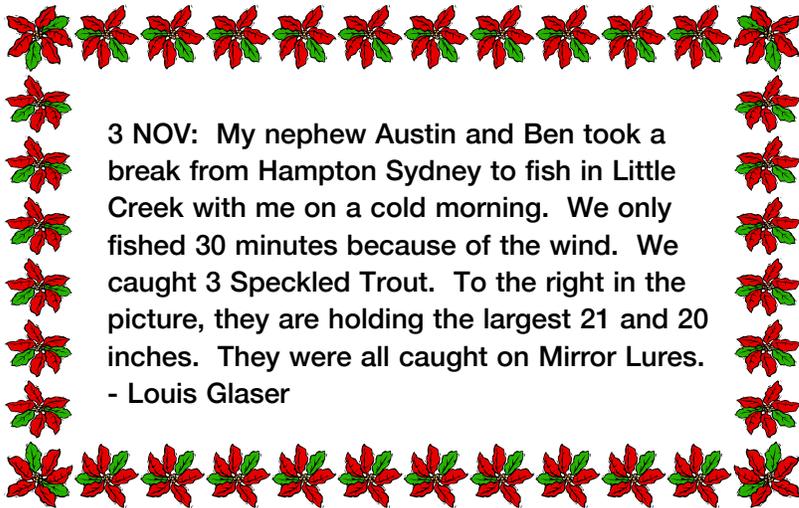


28 inch Black Drum



3 NOV: My nephew Austin and Ben took a break from Hampton Sydney to fish in Little Creek with me on a cold morning. We only fished 30 minutes because of the wind. We caught 3 Speckled Trout. To the right in the picture, they are holding the largest 21 and 20 inches. They were all caught on Mirror Lures.

- Louis Glaser





12 NOV: We finally got a 1 day break in the foul weather. Mary, Kate and I made a short trip to the tunnel to try for some Tautog. After about 30 toadfish, a flurry of action resulted in 3 nice Tautog. All caught in 30 feet of water on blue crab. Why are there no pictures of me with Tautog???? Oh, I didn't catch any. - Henry Troutner



6 NOV: I fished with Taylor Lyne and Jesse in Little Creek on a cool morning. The wind blowing 30 mph but we managed to get 8 keepers. The largest was 18 & 20 inches. The Speckled Trout were caught on Mirror Lures. - Louis Glaser





19 NOV: Nick Wright and I fished the Lynnhaven River for Speckled Trout. As usual we had more wind and rain than the "professional" weather people were forecasting. The bite was slow but we found a few fish on mirrolures and rubber baits. At the end of the day we caught around 15 specks; 4 were small keepers and a 21 1/2 inch Striper. We didn't see a lot of bait in the river and the water temperature was 54 degrees.

20 NOV: Bert Sainz and I fished the Little Creek Inlet and Pretty Lake from 11:00 am to 2:30 pm on the end of the outgoing and the beginning of the incoming tides. The wind was NW 10 -12 mph at the beginning and NE 12 mph at the end of our trip. The bite was non-stop, catching over 50 Speckled Trout (12 were small keepers). Bait of chose was anything you put on the line. We saw a lot of bait in the water. The next day we went out again at about the same time with

similar weather and water conditions and didn't catch a fish. What a difference a day makes!

25 NOV: Nick and I fished the Lynnhaven with good results. We had a catch and release day of 50 plus Speckled Trout of which 15 were small keepers. The bait of chose was a jig with white curly tail and chartreuse MR 52. The tide was incoming, winds were low and water temp. was 50 degrees. - Ned Smith



7 NOV: I fished with Ike & Tom Dean in Pretty lake. We had 4 keepers. All of the Speckled Trout were caught on Mirror lures.



11 NOV: I fished with Jamal , Ralf, & Kevin in Little Creek and Pretty Lake for Speckled Trout. The largest was 22 inches. They were all keepers caught on Mr 52 Mirror lures. The fish are getting bigger in Pretty Lake.



14 NOV: I fished in pretty lake with Ike for Speckled Trout in cold and windy conditions. We ended up with 7 keepers and lots of throwbacks. All of the fish were caught on jigs and rubber in deeper water. The water temperature was 57 degrees. - Louis Glaser



Nov 16: I was invited to fish with Mike Hubert and fellow Norfolk Anglers, Ray Sexton, and Greg Rogers aboard Mike's 25' Sea Cat. We departed out of Bay Point Marina in Little Creek Inlet on an overcast day heading to the Chesapeake Bay Bridge Tunnel for Tautog. We brought along a few dozen fresh female blue crabs and green crabs for bait and set up fishing the splines of the CBBT on the flood tide. We fished the tubes during the end of the incoming tide using as light a weight necessary to hold bottom. Most were fishing a single J-hook or Circle hook, while I decided to use a #4 treble hook rigged through the crab knuckle with barbs buried in the crab meat. We all fished with halved or quartered crabs.

Ray was the first to score keeper sized Taugs while each of use were catching fish on our rigs. We caught plenty of Taugs, the majority being just undersized and were tagged for the Virginia Game Fish Tagging Program. We also caught plenty of black sea bass, all were undersized so, they too, were tagged and released. What would fishing the CBBT be without a oyster toad fish report? We caught plenty of them as well and a few impressively large specimens.

Thanks to Mike for inviting us along for another great day of fishing. Though overcast skies, the weather was perfect, seas just right for a day on the water, and a very nice riding boat. - Will Bransom



### STRIPERS IN PRETTY LAKE

19 NOV: I fished with Jerry and Dominin in Pretty lake on a cloudy morning and ended up with 10 keepers and about 25 throwbacks. All fish were caught on 4 inch paddle takes with 1/4 oz jig head. The water temperature was 53 degrees. - Louis Glaser





Danny and a Black Sea Bass

11 NOV: On a very cold Sunday, Danny Moore and I went to the Westmoreland Wreck in search of Tautog. We didn't find any Tog but we caught a few Black Sea Bass up to 12.5 inches. Each Sea Bass caught was spitting up small shrimp that were recently eaten. All Bass were tagged and released healthy. We decided to move over to the Cape Henry Wreck where we caught one small Tautog at 12 inches. With an out bound tide moving at a decent speed, we were still able to hold our Green Crabs on the bottom with only 4 ounces of lead. We were catching more Oyster Toads than I want to admit when suddenly the Drum moved in. Danny and I both hook up and start fighting a duo of decent fish. My fish comes off and Danny boats a 24 inch Black Drum. I boat a 25 inch Red Drum after and Danny catches another Black Drum followed by two more Red Drum up to 29 inches. Just as quickly as it started, the amazing Drum bite shuts off and the Toads took back their jobs of pestering us. - Alex Perez



Shrimp the Sea Bass were feeding on



Black Drum



Slot sized Red Drum, released



29 inch Red Drum



24 inch Red Drum





26 NOV: I got carried away fishing today because the bite was on, once the tide was low enough. It was right after sunset when I realized I better get going. I spent the first 2 hours picking off debris from my Mirrolure and battling the 25 mph winds. Once the water levels went down, I was able to find the areas I wanted to work. Spot A produced 2 trout over 20 inches and 3 redfish, including an overslot. Spot B was my original honey hole and it produced 2 redfish, 22 and 21 inch trout, and a few more dink trout. Spot C was a zero. Once the tide went out, I found redfish feeding in the shallows and got one sight casting. The second overslot redfish took me on a short salt marsh sleigh ride. I lost track of time and had to paddle back in total darkness. The 3/16oz G Eye Jigs by Lonnie Johnson were key that day since they have small stout hooks that are z man friendly and still hold up to the redfish. They also come in color schemes and a huge reflective eye.

- Brian Tsai



31 OCT: Trick-o-treat! I definitely tricked this one with the Mirrodine in black and silver pattern! It missed being a citation fish, but still it is the biggest Speckled Trout I have landed in Virginia! - Brian Tsai





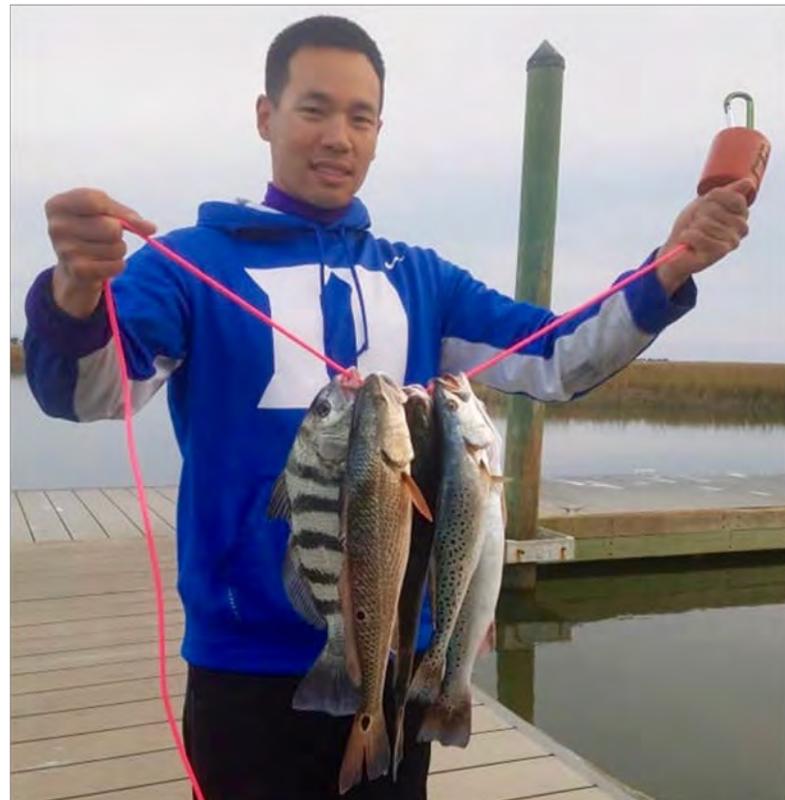
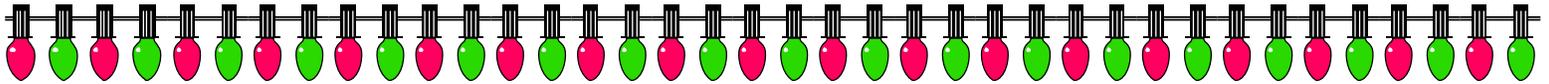
25 NOV: It was a pretty slow day of fishing in Pawley's Island, South Carolina, 2 dink flounder. There were a few quality fish around. Nevertheless, it is nice to return to waters I grew up around. On the scenery side, the Pelican Inn survived the hurricanes. After all, some of it's residents still keep guard on the property. It's one of the better known historically haunted sites of the South Carolina coastal region.  
- Brain Tsai

*From the Editor:* The Pelican Inn was built in the 1840s as the summer home for Plowden Charles Jenrette Weston from Hagley Plantation. In 1864, the property was sold to William St. Julien Mazyck, who then sold the home to the Atlantic Coast Lumber Company in 1901. The lumber company allowed their employees to use the house as a vacation home for many years. Eventually, after some change of ownership, the home became known as the Pelican Inn.



Of course, if you've heard of the Pelican Inn, then you may have heard about the haunted history of this charming bed & breakfast. The story of the Gray Man is quite popular along the Grand Strand, as most locals know this lore from word of mouth. The story of the Gray Man has also been featured on television, giving the ghost lore nationwide – if not worldwide- attention.

The story is this: The original owner and builder of the Pelican Inn, Plowden Charles Jenrette Weston died of tuberculosis, and shortly after his death, visitors to the Pelican Inn started to see the ghost of a man in a Civil War uniform, as well as a “Gray Man” on the beach. The first ghost is believed to be Weston, as he fought in the Civil War and was the commander of the Georgetown Rifle Guard. Get more information about this at: <https://www.myrtlebeach.com/blog/history-pelican-inn/>



22 NOV: I was underway last Thanksgiving. This year I took some leave to return to South Carolina for some salt marsh kayak fishing. I was on the water about 7:30 am and had my first Thanksgiving dinner guest, a 18 inch Speckled Trout, onboard by 7:45 am. Unfortunately, I couldn't figure out the pattern for next two hours and resulted to trolling up and down the marsh creeks. This yielded another keeper trout and a few more dinks. I paddled about a mile against the current to reach my secret hole that's exclusive to kayakers at lower tides. Sure enough, it paid off. I landed a 19 inch slot redfish in inches of water along with a few more dink trout off an oyster bar reef. After that structure appeared fish out, I worked another sandbar island that was blocking the current. Ten casts later, I landed 8 more slot redfish and released 7 of them. I also got a slot black drum off cut shrimp. On my way back to the ramp, I caught and released another dozen or so dink trout.  
- Brian Tsai

