

**Sea Trail Fishing Club
Annual Banquet and Member's Meeting – January 15, 2026**

Seaside Methodist Church, Sunset Beach, NC

The first annual STFC Banquet was held on January 15, 2026 at the Fellowship Hall of the Seaside Methodist Church. The banquet proceeded the annual club meeting and awards ceremony. The banquet was catered by Smithfield's and included numerous proteins and side dishes. There were 47 Club members, and 14 guests in attendance for a total count of 61 attendee. The banquet seating was 5:00 PM at which point Grace was offered by Buddy. Dinner was over at 6:30, after which the Annual Awards meeting called was called to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President, Mike Shannon. Mike began with an overview of Club accomplishments to 2025 which included numerous social and fishing events, most of which were extremely well attended.

Gary Hurley, from Fisherman's Post, presented an overview of the various programs and efforts his organization undertakes. Gary donated a full day training at the upcoming Southport Saltwater Fishing School which was included in the raffle drawing the Club sponsored for an in-shore charter with Captain Tripp. Gary's presentation was very well received and his donation was gratefully acknowledged by Mike

Next, Brian gave a humorous presentation which poked fun at the foibles and mis-cues of several of the Club's Directors and members. The presentation was very well received and may indicate Brian wasted his talents on corporate life instead of pursuit of a career in comedy alongside the likes of Johnny Carson and John Bellushi.

Next, Brian presented the results and awards of the fishing tournaments after recognizing the efforts and commitment of the Tournaments Committee which develops the rules and oversees the tournaments, both annual and spot tournaments held throughout the year. The results were as follows:

Category	First Place	Second Place	Third Place
Speckled Trout	Harold Golding	Mark Batchelor	N/A
King Mackerel	Mike Griffen	N/A	N/A
Red Drum	Nick Leb	Brian Brumbaugh	Roman Poremski
Sheepshead	Clint Morschauer	Brian Brumbaugh	N/A
Bluefish	Mike Griffen	N/A	N/A
Black Drum	Harold Golding	Alan Trojan (tied 2 nd)	Brian Brumbaugh (tied 2 nd)
Large Mouth Bass	Rob Levine	N/A	N/A
Spanish Mackerel	Mike Griffen	Brian Brumnbaugh	N/A
Flounder	Clint Morschauer	Brian Brubaugh	Alan Trojan
Wiled Card	Roman Poremski	Mark Batchelor	N/A
Aggregate Length	Mike Griffen (192.25 ft)	N/A	N/A

Brian closed by saying the 2026 tournament is now open for those interested in signing up.

Mike next presented the Member of the Year Award. The award was presented to Alan Trojan, a charter Board Member who ran the treasurer, social events, and Club Apparel functions of the Club for the first 3 years of the Club's existence, only stepping down last year to be backfilled by three separate Directors. Alan gave a thank you speech and reviewed the 2025 social events his team supported including:

Seafood Challenge – February
Fish Fry – March
Pier Opening – March
Captain's Meet-n-Greet - April
Cyclone Charter #1 – May
Cyclone Charter #2 – October
Seafood Challenge #1 – November
Take a Kid Fishing – November

Mike thanked the outgoing Board Members, Bodie Bodenheimer and Brian Brumbaugh for their efforts in support of the Club. It was noted that despite leaving the Board, Brian would continue supporting the Tournaments Team and the Club's overall technology needs as required.

Mike next welcomed the two incoming Directors; Sandy Herman and Mike Sutton and expressed his appreciation for their willingness to serve in support of the Club.

A door prize was donated by Captain Chuck Fisher. It was not clear who won the door prize.

The 50/50 Drawing was won by member Curt Patterson and was \$143. The Club retained \$142.

A raffle was held for a fishing charter with Captain Tripp for three winners and another raffle was held to the all-day salt water fishing school donated by The Fisherman's Post. The raffle took in \$730 (\$10 / ticket) so a decision was made to hold a second fishing charter raffle for three additional winners. The winners were as follows:

Charter #1 – Eric Eversole, FJ Dingman, Sandy Hearn
Charter #2 – Andrew David, Frank Vacula, Steve Gazeko
Fishing School – Mike Sutton

The Meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM

Submitted: Jim Baumgartner