

Traces Each Step In Bringing 1937 Yachting Regatta Here

(Continued from page 1.) parts, and most important ones. The younger members, naturally, do practically all the present day sailing. The older ones are no less important in the scheme of things. They stand-by with the counsel of experience that is valuable and, along with their younger co-workers, they are ever ready with financial support of any undertaking that will promote sailing before the mast. The older members are a valuable part of the Carolina Yacht Club, of Wrightsville.

In the more distant past the understanding is that the activities of the Carolina Yacht Club have been confined to their own local waters. That is, the sound at Wrightsville and Banks Channel, near the same place. Both these scenes of activities, while admirable for regattas on a small scale, would not permit of staging anything extensive to which a general invitation to sportsmen of other clubs might be given.

For several years members of the Carolina Yacht Club have been participating in regattas in South Carolina and Georgia. But they have never been able to invite the friends they made on those occasions to regattas in their own waters.

is a little community said to number less than 200 souls, yet for many, many years it has been staging regattas that attracted thousands of visitors and sportsmen with their boats from four states. In 1936, H. L. Taylor, William Emerson and other active members of the Carolina Yacht Club attended and participated in a regatta at Rockville. Also present, but not a member of the Carolina Yacht Club, was Irving J. Corbett of Wilmington.

At the close of the Rockville 1936 regatta the Wilmington sportsmen, among whom was Mr. Corbett, were discussing the great success that had attended the meeting there. Some of the sportsmen were bewailing the fact that the club had no suitable body of water for staging a large event of its own. And some one or other suggested, "Why not have a regatta at Southport?"

This proposition appears to have met with much general favor. At any rate there was a general discussion of it on the way home from Rockville and afterwards. The first actual contact with Southport people and a broaching of the matter did not occur until two weeks later, then it was unofficial.

Corbett's Suggestion
Mr. Corbett is a frequent visitor to Southport, usually coming down every two or three weeks aboard his yacht, Loafalong. Down here two weeks or so after

the Rockville regatta, he met up with Captain I. B. Bussells of Cape Fear Pilot's Association, and in the course of a conversation mentioned the fact that the Carolina Yacht Club had been discussing the feasibility of holding annual yacht races on the Southport harbor, if Southport people were willing to grant the use of the harbor for such events.

Captain Bussells was naturally very much interested and promptly told the writer, who at that time was acting as a sort of one-man-Chamber-of-Commerce for Southport. Captain Bussells advised that we get in touch with Mr. Corbett and, feeling much interested. We promptly did so. We wrote Mr. Corbett, telling him that Captain Bussells had advised us of his conversation with him and that we thought the idea of having a regatta at Southport was a splendid one in which Southport people would join most heartily.

Mr. Corbett replied, advising he was not a member of the Carolina Yacht Club but that the matter of holding a regatta at Southport had been discussed. He was glad to see Southport people indicating interest and was turning our letter over to Henry Taylor for further consideration.

Mr. Taylor, himself, wrote almost immediately, saying that members of the club wanted a large body of water on which they could hold regattas and invite their sportsmen friends. He indicated his belief Southport had this water.

From then on things have moved like clock-work. The Yacht Club and Southport have been fully in agreement in everything. They have been working together in a wonderful spirit of cooperation towards the first annual yachting regatta at Southport, Thursday, Friday and Saturday, August 12, 13, 14.

Many Kinds of Game Fish May Be Taken In Waters Near Here

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To be perfectly truthful about it and for the information of those who have never trolled, the hook is not entirely unbaited. Hooks are manufactured especially for blue fish trolling. They have a two-inch— inch piece of lead covering part of the shank of the hook and with the leader attached to the upper end of the lead. Nothing at all is placed on the hook. The fish strike at the bright piece of lead and sometimes the hook snags him on the outside of the mouth as he strikes at the lead just above it.

Mackerel are trolled for in exactly the same way, using the same hooks. Sometimes, and an equally effective method, often used in preference to the manufactured lead squid, is to take a

goose quill or two inch piece of white rubber or other hollow tube that is shiny. Just slip this tube over the line and let one end of it rest against the bend in the hook. The fisherman then is well equipped for either blue fish or mackerel trolling, if he has a boat.

About four persons, never more than six, are amply enough to troll for blue fish or mackerel. Should more than that make the attempt the hundred and fifty feet, or so, of lines that are trailed from the stern of the boat are apt to become all tangled up as the struggling fish is drawn to the boat.

Catches of far over two hundred blue fish and mackerel in a day by a party is nothing unusual. In one instance this year two men and their wives caught in 271 fish, and none in the party had ever had any experience in salt water fishing. Of course, they had a good boatman.

Trout On The Wrecks
In deep water near the Cape Fear shoals a number of old wrecks lie submerged at various points. Around these wrecks in the spring and early summer and again in the fall, trout congregate by the thousands. Two pounds to the fish is about a fair average weight but specimens that weigh around four pounds are often taken.

The fishing at the wrecks is not very good in the middle of the summer owing to the swarms of sharks. These pests take the fisherman's hook, line and sinker before it can reach the bottom. The trout have no chance to bite. Often when it does bite the sharks will rob your hook before it reaches the surface.

As much as seven hundred pounds of trout have been taken from over one of these old wrecks by a fishing party in a single day.

The boats anchor while this sort of fishing is being carried on. Along with the trout many other fine fish are sometimes taken. The fishermen are generally kept extremely busy pulling in fish at almost any period of the year except July and August.

Big Bass Catches
There are a lot of people who would rather fish for sea bass than any other sort of fish. This is partly accountable for by the fact that if they have a good boatman who knows how to locate the rocks, they never fail to make a big catch. This catch often going to several hundred pounds.

does he get his hook back to the bottom before he has another strike and this time the chances are that he may bring up two large ones, often weighing close to two pounds each.

In the summer time the sharks are also a pest around the sea bass grounds. When they get to bothering hooks too much the skipper of the boat simply catches one, cuts him up and throws him over board. His brother and sister sharks smell his blood and make off for the tall timbers, or other hunting grounds.

The sea bass fishing can be done at all times of the year with the best of assurance of a good catch being made. Three men have been known to go out and bring in a catch of 1800 pounds in a day, this catch being made late in December.

River Fishing
The Cape Fear river at Southport offers some extremely good trout fishing during the months of September, October and November, especially along about the time of the full moons during those months. Some of the fish are also caught in July and a great many more in August.

Along with the trout, many pig fish, whittings and spots are often taken. Catches of 100 trout have been taken by one man during a period of two hours. As Caswell as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Sheppard.

getting his line overboard again. A good many channel drum are taken at about the same time. They often approach a weight of nearly 50 pounds. Three years ago a citizen moved to Southport from Whiteville and the first time he went out salt water fishing in the river he hooked and landed a 47-pound drum.

Rockfish also bite well in the river during the early fall months. Those caught may weigh anywhere from three to twenty pounds. They are beautiful fish.

Sheepshead may be taken from docks anywhere about town during the spring, summer and fall. It takes some knowledge of these fish and the right sort of bait to land them. The inexperienced person could fish for days without getting a bite and right alongside of him some experienced party will be hauling out large and small ones.

A lot of flounders are also caught in the river. They prefer shrimp and are rather easy to fall victims to this bait.

PROMINENT GUESTS
Drs. D. A. Davidson and W. G. Wilson, both of Smithfield, and the former a surgeon at the Johnston County Hospital, spent Friday and Saturday at Fort Caswell as the guests of Mr. and Mrs. Norman Sheppard.

We Congratulate

Our fine friends at Southport and the Carolina Yacht Club on the inauguration of an auspicious and happy event among the sportsmen of the South Atlantic Yachting Association and their friends.

We believe that tomorrow's beginning will grow into one of the greatest events on the South Atlantic Coast. It is our sincere hope that the good sportsmen in Southport this week will come again and again. We wish to assure them that they will always find a friendly welcome in Southport and Wilmington.

C. B. Wessell

305 North Front Street

Wilmington, North Carolina

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« A Happy Occasion »

Citizens of this entire section are all pepped up over the

1937 Yachting Regatta

Sponsored by The Carolina Yacht Club, of Wrightsville, and staged at Southport, this promises to become an annual affair that will grow bigger and better each year

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WILMINGTON, N. C.

We Congratulate Our Friends

—in—

SOUTHPORT

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Congratulates

THE CITIZENS OF

SOUTHPORT

On The 1937 Regatta

On this, the eve of the first Annual Regatta to be held in our neighboring community . . . SOUTHPORT . . . we send . . . sincere good wishes. We hope, and trust that the Regatta will be an outstanding success from every standing.

The high type of cooperation shown by the citizens of Southport and the Carolina Yacht Club is the kind of cooperation that will develop this great Lower Cape Fear section to the great things that are possible.

It is our wish that each entrant be a winner, this being impossible, we say . . . "HAPPY LANDING" TO ALL!



WILMINGTON, N. C.

CONGRATULATIONS

And Best Wishes To Our Friends In

SOUTHPORT

and

Members Of The Carolina Yacht Club

IN STAGING THE FIRST

Annual Southport Regatta

This will be a fine step toward cementing the interests of citizens of The Lower Cape Fear!

GEO. W. HUGGINS CO.

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