

## DIFF Board of Directors 2011 Summer Meeting

The DIFF Board of Directors held their summer board meeting on a very hot day in Durham on July 23. All Directors were present except for Dr. Rich Lambert due to his travel to a university in Germany while representing the University of North Carolina at Charlotte as part of an educational exchange. Guests included DIFF members Tom Monaco and Roy Byrd who are also officers of our sister club Core Banks Surf Fishing Club. Special guest was the new Cape Lookout National Seashore Superintendent Pat Kenney.

DIFF President Mark Weir presided over the five-hour meeting that included normal internal reporting, a working lunch and some significant actions.

Ann Beeson was elected to the post of Assistant Treasurer with the full authority of the Treasurer. Vickie King and Ann will work out the details of transitioning the day to day treasurer activities to Ann as quickly as possible. Ann and Vickie assured the Directors the transition will be smooth, especially regarding this critical time for tournament entry. Vickie had previously requested that someone take over the treasurer role due to other demands on her time. A new post office box has been established for Ann's convenience and will become the new mailing address for DIFF:

PO BOX 1467  
Walkertown NC 27051.

Vickie will arrange for mail forwarding from the current post office box:

PO BOX 72395  
Durham NC 27722.

Tournament Director Ed Caskey and Merchandise Director Ann Beeson presented numerous attractive alternatives for the 2011 tournament shirt and cap. After careful consideration the Directors unanimously agreed on a selection. Sponsor Director Lance Brown reviewed the details of the tournament sponsor donations. We have a record amount of good quality merchandise, but we need more cash donations to offset expenses.

Scot King discussed the Cape Hatteras National Seashore proposed Off Road Vehicle Use rule that is currently out for public comment until September 6. Scot and Mark agreed to develop a letter to educate the DIFF members about this topic and to encourage their participation. It will be e-mailed to DIFF members by Ed Caskey.

Scott Mosley presented the recommendations from the Scholarship Committee for DIFF scholarships to be awarded to three worthy recipients. The board approved the expenditure of \$1500.00 for the 2011 scholarships.

Mark Weir reviewed highlights of a draft update of the club's bylaws. The Directors provided guidance to the Bylaws Committee for additional editing and continued work on the document.

Scot King is investigating the details of DIFF providing a second defibrillator to be located at the lighthouse complex.

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All enjoyed the lunch provided by Vickie King, which also served as a good opportunity for the Directors to introduce themselves to Pat Kenney. Pat gave us some information about his background. He is originally from the Midwest, grew up in Iowa and Wisconsin. His wife is still in the Denver area as they are trying to sell their house there. His educational major is biology. Pat loves the outdoors and prefers to spend as much time as possible in the park rather than in the office. He applied for the Superintendent position at Cape Lookout Natural Seashore because of its outstanding natural resources. Pat has no experience doing surf fishing, but is eager to try it with the help of DIFF members.

Pat told the group that the Cape Lookout ORV plan needs more work before the draft alternatives go out for public comment. He did not give us a time schedule, but assured us that there will be a schedule that can be met. Pat told us that the wooden portion of the Coast Guard dock is now open for our use. It provides access to the creek and we can wade across the creek to the sandbar. He emphasized the concrete portion is posted off-limits due to the hazardous condition.

Pat said they plan to build an additional ramp to the south beach this year. Mark Weir reviewed the proposed route with Dr. Michael Rickard and Harvey Nelson in May. It will provide access to the south beach without having to travel through the village. The maintainability of the new road is an unknown that will be evaluated after some use. The Directors expressed their concerns and suggestions about back roads and beach closures. Pat showed us a chart of law enforcement verbal warnings, written warnings and citations.

Pat said the cabin reservation process will be changed for 2012. He is evaluating an on-line reservation system being used by another park, but will also have a telephone method.

Pat will address the DIFF membership on Saturday October 15 during the tournament lunch. Dr. Michael Rickard will participate in the tournament kick-off on Thursday October 13. Pat said the lighthouse will be open for DIFF members to climb at specified times during the tournament week like last year. The 8 year-old minimum age requirement has been replaced by a 44 inch minimum height requirement. Mark Weir will again be the DIFF point of contact for the lighthouse climb.