

## **SOUTHPORT FISHING SCHOOL CAPTAINS/GUIDES**

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**Capt. Rick Croson Living Waters Guide Service (910) 620-7709 [www.livingwatersoutdoors.com](http://www.livingwatersoutdoors.com)**  
Rick started working on a 53' Davis out of Oregon Inlet, and he has fished WB locally for the last 15 years. In addition to chartering, Rick also takes clients on their own boats teaching them how to use their own systems and has recently started "Charter Grade Tackle," which makes custom tackle and safety gear products.

**Capt. Jim Sabella PLAN 9 Charters (910) 367-2224 [www.topsailfishingcharters.com](http://www.topsailfishingcharters.com)**  
Jim works out of Masonboro, Topsail, and New River inlets specializing in nearshore light tackle fishing adventures, including fly fishing, spinning, jigging, light tackle trolling, and bottom fishing.

**Capt. Rod Bierstedt OnMyWay Guide Service (910) 352-2719 [facebook.com/onmywaycharters](https://facebook.com/onmywaycharters)**  
With over 35 years of experience commercial and charter fishing the NC coast, Rod's expertise spans everything from just off the beachfront to the Gulf Stream, and he now takes people out on their own boats and teaches them how to fish their own boat.

**Capt. Ray Brittain Spring Tide Guide Service (910) 330-7344 [www.springtideguideservice.com](http://www.springtideguideservice.com)**  
Ray has been fishing the Topsail and New River waters for over 30 years and has recently transitioned into being a full-time guide. He specializes inshore for flounder, red drum, and trout, and nearshore for spanish and kings.

**Capt. Mike Oppegaard Native Son Guide Service (910) 233-8295 [www.nativesonguideservice.com](http://www.nativesonguideservice.com)**  
Mike grew up on Topsail Island, running the Sound Pier with his family until 2004. He fishes from the sound to outside the inlets, and he likes trolling, bottom fishing, and casting for a variety of species. His targets include mackerel, false albacore, and cobia, and inshore species such as drum, flounder, and trout.

**Capt. Tim Disano Tideline Charters (910) 279-2020 [www.tidelinecharterfishing.com](http://www.tidelinecharterfishing.com)**  
Growing up in the shallow marshes of southern Brunswick County, Tim has a passion for helping his clients and other anglers learn to catch more fish. He specializes in light tackle fishing for inshore species including red drum, trout, and flounder from Ocean Isle Beach to Little River.

**Capt. Chris Ossmann Fine Catch Fishing Charters (843) 655-6440 [www.finecatchfishingcharters.com](http://www.finecatchfishingcharters.com)**  
Chris has been a fishing guide for 7+ years in the Little River area, specializing in light tackle inshore and nearshore fishing. He enjoys everything from targeting the mud flats for tailing redfish to hunting cobia on the nearshore wrecks.

**Wayne Ayers Reel Good Surf Fishing (919) 356-0761 [www.facebook.com/ReelGoodSurfFishing](https://www.facebook.com/ReelGoodSurfFishing)**  
Wayne specializes in surf fishing around the Oak Island area. His main focus is to help others learn and enjoy the art of surf fishing through teaching and coaching "hands-on" at the beach so that clients can ultimately fish on their own, and he uses light tackle to maximize the experience.

**Capt. Barry Bierstedt Family Ties Charters (910) 471-6073 [www.facebook.com/familytiescharters](https://www.facebook.com/familytiescharters)**  
Barry grew up fishing off the coast of Wrightsville Beach with his family and has always had a passion for fishing and sharing that passion with others. He concentrates on family and kid-friendly fishing—mostly nearshore to offshore trolling and bottom fishing.

**Capt. Robert Capps    Reelin' Pelican    (910) 431-5341    [www.reelinpelican.com](http://www.reelinpelican.com)**

Robert, based out of Southport, NC, has been a charter captain for nine years and he specializes in inshore and nearshore fishing in the Cape Fear River area, as well as nearshore and offshore king mackerel fishing.

**Capt. Pierre Agena    Rising Sun Fishing    (704) 706-4827    [www.rising-sun-fishing.com](http://www.rising-sun-fishing.com)**

Pierre is a full-time fishing guide with over 15 years of experience fishing the Wilmington and Wrightsville Beach area. He targets inshore and nearshore species such as redfish, flounder, speckled trout, and spanish mackerel.

**Capt. Bob Strange    Strange Magic Fishing Charters    (843) 274-1082    [www.strangemagiccharters.com](http://www.strangemagiccharters.com)**

Bob has been fishing the waters of the Carolinas for the past twenty years and currently operates his charter service full time out of the North Myrtle Beach/Little River area targeting inshore and nearshore species.

**Capt. Randy Burton    FORGIVEN Fishing Team    (910) 470-5337    [www.facebook.com/randy.burton](http://www.facebook.com/randy.burton)**

Randy has fished since early childhood but has focused on the king mackerel tournament circuit (along with his wife) for the past 9 years. He fishes about 18 tournaments a year on his 34 Fountain Center Console and is the current Southern Kingfish Association National Champions for 2023.

**Capt. Tripp Hooks    Captain Hook Outdoors    (910) 540-7332    [www.caphookoutdoors.com](http://www.caphookoutdoors.com)**

Tripp, the son of David Hooks who has over 40 years of experience in the area, started mating for his dad at the age of 10 and has been working on a charter boat ever since. Now, Tripp is on the water over 300 days a year targeting both inshore and offshore species.

**Capt. Russell Weaver    Blue Water Candy Lures    (910) 803-2262    [www.bluewatercandylures.com](http://www.bluewatercandylures.com)**

Russell has been fishing the Cape Fear Region's inshore, nearshore, and offshore waters since he was six years old. A former professional guide and SKA champion, he's been with Blue Water Candy since 2007.

**Capt. Jeremy Hicks    Calypso Sportfishing Charters    (252) 996-0977    [www.fishcalypso.com](http://www.fishcalypso.com)**

Jeremy's a veteran blue water captain with plenty of hours both at the helm and in the cockpit. He's fished professionally from Cape May, NJ, to the Bahamas with proven tournament, as well as everyday charter, success. He has been charter fishing eighteen years full-time out of Hatteras and finishing two of them as Top Billfish Boat out of the inlet's fleet.

**Capt. Mark Henderson    Liquid Fire Fishing Team    (910) 376-4144    [www.fishlf.com](http://www.fishlf.com)**

Since 2005, Mark's family fishing team has racked up numerous wins and top 5 finishes, including an AOY title, chasing king mackerel throughout the Southeastern U.S. You can watch their adventures, including TROLL THE EDGE TV, at [www.youtube.com/@LiquidFireFishing](http://www.youtube.com/@LiquidFireFishing). Mark's current day job is SiriusXM Marine & Aviation Sales Manager.

**Capt. Hunter Williams    Dockside Fishing Charters    (704) 207-6384    [facebook.com/DocksideFishingCharters](http://facebook.com/DocksideFishingCharters)**

Based in Southport/Oak Island, Hunter specializes in inshore and nearshore fishing, and he primarily targets speckled trout, red drum, sheepshead, spanish, king mackerel, and cobia.

**Tom Roper    Slam Custom Rods    (910) 471-3494    [www.slamcustomrods.com](http://www.slamcustomrods.com)**

Over five years ago, Tom began building custom fishing rods, merging his knowledge of fishing with a dedication to craftsmanship. Specializing in freshwater and inshore/nearshore rods, Tom also has experience crafting standup and boat rods. He enjoys creating durable, high-performance rods for every fishing scenario.