

30 years of CLMS

The following is a quick look at the first 30 years of CLMS. The club was formally incorporated in the State of North Carolina in 1981 by a group of surf fishermen that frequented Portsmouth Island and were interested in maintaining ORV access to Cape Lookout National Seashore for themselves and their families and friends.

From the beginning our members worked with the NPS to help maintain the beauty of the island by having beach cleanups and dune restoration projects. One of the first and biggest projects was helping other clubs, private contractors, Morris Maina and the USMC remove approximately 600 abandoned vehicles from the Portsmouth Island. This took place in September 1984 and March 1985.

In 1986 CLMS affiliated with the United Mobile Sportfishermen to add our voices to our U.S. Congress and State officials about keeping the Park open to the public. At times we have sent delegates to Washington DC to meet with the Secretary of the Interior and our US Senators and Representatives. We have lobbied with local, State and Federal officials to have the ferry channel dredged. We also have a club membership to the Friends of Portsmouth.

Some of the work projects on the island have been to construct trash can holders, picnic tables, sign placement, dune vegetation plantings, placing sand fencing in the cabin areas, storm damage repairs, install grills at the cabins and a roof on the shade shelter. Our members worked on two beach cleanup projects with other clubs, the United States Marine Corps, private contractors and Park concessionaires to remove approximately 600 abandoned vehicles from the Park.

The club has made donations to hurricane victims several times over the years and has made meals for hurricane workers.

We donate annually to the Atlantic School PTO and there have been donations to the local Little League and to the Outer Banks Wildlife Shelter.

The club sponsors two Take-A-Kid weekends at the beach each year when our volunteers bring a group from the R. H. Howell Home and a group from the Masonic Home for Children at Oxford to the island for a weekend of fun, sun and fishing. We also have started a Take-A-Vet fishing weekend with guests from the wounded warrior unit at Camp Lejuene.

This is a quick look at some of the many things that CLMS has done over the past 30 years and with your help and donations of time and funds we hope to continue. To keep these events happening we depend on you, our members, to volunteer some time and some of your expertise at these projects. We are always looking for new ideas and new members to become officers, board members or committee chairman or committee members. Being able to fish and relax in this beautiful place is special to all of us that go there and we should make time to give back so that our future generations will be as lucky as we are.

We look forward to seeing our members, new and old, on the beach and at some of our events and projects.