

2010 Annual Banquet

Brian Horsley and Sarah Gardner

Brian Horsley and Sarah Gardner know:

- Albacore, bluefish, stripers, redfish, cobia, speckled trout, sharks, Spanish mackerel, tuna, sailfish and amberjacks like most of us know our immediate family. Maybe better.
- Hidden channels to places in the Pamlico backcountry that others can't get to or find.
- Sunken German U-boats and lost schooners loaded with knuckle-busting amberjacks.
- How to interpret a fish-finder screen with clairvoyant powers.
- What it's like to be the first saltwater fly fishing guide in North Carolina.
- How to cast a throw net.
- How to land a 200-pound blue marlin on a fly rod.
- How to run the Oregon Inlet bar in big water.
- Southern hospitality.
- How to spin a yarn or two. Or three. And when to listen.
- How to evaluate a fly rod and provide valuable design input.
- How to swing a hammer, grow a garden and fry a mean Spanish mackerel.
- How to spend 300 days a year on the water and be excited about every single one.
- How to find the best sushi joint in the South.
- Secret surf breaks where you can ride a longboard in solitude and find big winter stripers from the beach.
- How to read the Outer Banks beaches, birds, tides and wind.

More than anything, Brian and Sarah know their water and how to enjoy it. Fortunately for us, nothing makes them happier than sharing the fun.

Adapted from Sageflyfish.com, Catalog Stories "Outer Banks Waterman"

Sarah Gardner:

- She can cast farther than most people with her left hand.
- She's right-handed.
- She guides well over 200 trips a year and still has a normal life.
- She's an IGFA world record holder several times over.
- She frequently finds fish when others can't.
- She has redfish, stripers, trout, blues and albacore at her doorstep on North Carolina's famed Outer Banks.

- Her wedding was on the water, and she arrived by boat.
- She has a family that's encouraged her obsession from day one.
- Mother Nature is her boss.
- She drives a gorgeous yellow Jones Brothers boat to work each day.
- On vacation, she travels the world to fish, of course.

She's such a humble person and patient guide, you'd never know any of this until you've spent some time with her. And by then, you'll probably wish you could be Captain Sarah, too.