

**WEEKLY UPDATE: 8/4/2017**  
**NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION**  
**"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"**  
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**LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:**

"If I don't go, I'll wish I had. If I do go, I'll wonder why I went".

That's what I told my wife yesterday morning as I was getting ready to drive to Raleigh for the special legislative session. Somehow, she observed that I didn't seem happy about it so she asked me why I was going. The quote above is a boilerplate response for just about any day the legislature is in session, be it the regular session or this one. Regardless of the advice one gets from those more experienced in the process, you have to learn it for yourself.

Years ago, there was a fisheries bill under consideration in the North Carolina General Assembly that we opposed. Being rather naïve, I made the mistake of scheduling a camping trip out of state, selecting dates that should have been after the legislature adjourned. The session however, went on and on and on. Now what? After being assured by certain "key" legislators, including the committee Chair, that the bill would not be heard in committee till after I returned, we headed north. Before our scheduled return, the bill was quickly added to the committee's agenda. We quickly packed up and I drove ten hours straight to Raleigh. I walked into the committee meeting unshaven and wearing a t-shirt and cutoff jean shorts. Perhaps it would have helped if I had added a tie with the outfit. Jean Preston from Carteret County was in the House at the time and she was very kind when she saw me and said I looked very rugged and ready for a fight. That day in committee we lost as the committee gave the bill a favorable report in a split vote. In the end we prevailed on the House floor, but I learned a valuable lesson. Questions are good. Just ignore the answers. Perhaps a little exaggerated, but you get my drift.

Yesterday's session was to consider those bills vetoed by Governor Roy Copper and also tend to some other unfished business. There are some fisheries issues that can be considered "unfinished" such as H-867 and the fish provisions in H-56. I was told by House leadership earlier in the week that there would be no fisheries issues considered. The Senate & House conferees for H56 did meet yesterday afternoon and the House apparently was insistent that no fish provision be included. Later the issue was apparently discussed in the House Republican caucus and there was no discussion on the fish issues in H56 but significant discussion on the Dare County plastic bag issue. (I say apparently regarding the conference committee and caucus because those are not public meetings, so have to go on bits and pieces gleaned from various conversations.)

So, yesterday there were no votes on the veto overrides because there were a number of legislators that did not attend the session due to vacations or other reasons. There was nothing done on H867 and although H56 was discussed in conference and apparently in caucus, there was nothing done on the floor of the House, so it remains unresolved. Therefore, they will go back into session again later in August to vote on the redistricting issue and take up the unresolved issues once again, including H56. (Maybe.)

God bless,

Jerry

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## **PURPLE HEART TOURNAMENT**

**Saturday, August 5, 2017**

**Sponsors include NCFA and Carteret County Fisherman's Association**

NCFA, as well as the Carteret County Fisherman's Association are proud to be sponsors of the Beaufort Yacht Basin Purple Heart Tournament. Please come out to Beaufort Yacht Basin on August 5, 2017. For more information:

[www.purplehearttournament.com](http://www.purplehearttournament.com)



**ALL AMERICAN SHRIMP & FISH FRY**  
**for Active Military and military veterans**  
**Saturday, August 5, 2017**  
**Core Sound Waterfowl Museum; 11:00 to 3:00**  
**Tickets are \$12.00; call 252-728-1500 for reservations!**

2B THE NEWS-TIMES Sunday, July 30, 2017

## Military members to eat free during museum event

BY MEGAN SOULT  
NEWS-TIMES



On Saturday, the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum and Heritage Center on Harkers Island will show its appreciation to members of the military, both active duty and veterans, with the annual All-American Shrimp and Fish Fry.

The event is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. The goal is to serve more than 100 active duty families from Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point and all other local military.

"This annual gathering of active military and their families, the many retiree military members and all our veterans is our honor to recognize," said Karen Ampsacher, executive director of the museum. "Down East has always been very committed to the service of our country dating back to the Lifesaving Service and Lighthouse Keepers of the late 1800s."

For military member to eat for free, sponsorships are needed. One hundred dollars provides eight meals.

"Our thanks to the many friends of the museum who have sponsored these military tickets and made this a day of recognition for the men and women who have served, and many who are still serving, our country," said Ike Southerland, sponsorship chairman.

One special veteran attending this event is Ira Lewis, who just turned 99 years old.

Mr. Lewis is the oldest U.S. Coast Guard retiree in Carteret County and will be honored at 1:30 p.m. with birthday cake and ice cream.

Event organizers are also looking for volunteers to make food for the Down East bake sale, which will take place during the shrimp and fish fry.

For more information, call the museum at 252-728-1500.

**Ira Lewis, the oldest U.S. Coast Guard retiree in Carteret County, and other veterans and current military members will be honored during the annual All-American Shrimp and Fish Fry, which is from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum and Heritage Center on Harkers Island. (Cathy Rose photo)**

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### **SOUTH ATLANTIC COUNCIL LOOKING FOR ADVISORS**

**Note: We supplied this info last week, but will included it again to encourage responses. The deadline is August 16<sup>th</sup>, so we will not include this info after this update.**

The South Atlantic Fishery Management Council is currently soliciting applicants for open advisory panel seats. Working at the grassroots level, advisory panel members provide information and guidance in the development and implementation of federal fishery management plans. The Council has eleven advisory panels composed of individuals who are engaged in the harvest of managed species, or are knowledgeable and interested in the conservation and management of the fishery or managed species. Members include recreational and commercial fishermen, seafood dealers and processors, formal representatives from non-governmental organizations (NGOs), scientists, and concerned citizens.

Advisory panel members are appointed by the Council and serve for a three-year period, based on the frequency of meetings. As those appointments expire, members currently serving on the AP may reapply for their positions. These seats also become open to new applicants. Members may serve for three consecutive terms before reaching their term limit. AP members generally meet no more than once or twice each year and are compensated for travel and per diem expenses for all meetings. Members must have access to a working email account and the Internet in order to receive meeting materials and correspondence relative to their service on the advisory panel. Applications are now being solicited for the following positions:

<b>Dolphin Wahoo Advisory Panel</b>	<b>(1) SC Open Seat; (1) FL Open Seat</b>
<b>Habitat Protection &amp; Ecosystem-Based Management Advisory Panel</b>	<b>(1) SC Recreational Representative</b>
<b>Law Enforcement Advisory Panel</b>	<b>(1) Open Seat; (1) Recreational Fishing Representative; and (1) Commercial Fishing Representative</b>
<b>Mackerel Cobia Advisory Panel</b>	<b>(1) Open Seat; (1) NGO Representative; and (1) At-Large Cobia Subpanel Seat</b>
<b>Snapper Grouper Advisory Panel</b>	<b>(1) NC Open Seat; (3) SC Open Seats; and (2) FL Open Seats</b>

#### **Advisory Panel Applicants**

Additional information, including new online application forms are now available from the *Advisory Panel* page of the Council's website at <http://safmc.net/about-safmc/advisory-panels/>. Please contact Kim Iverson, Public Information Officer, at [Kim.Iverson@safmc.net](mailto:Kim.Iverson@safmc.net) or call the Council office at 843/571-4366 with any questions.

***Applicants are strongly encouraged to contact area Council representatives to discuss their interest in serving.*** Contact information for all Council members is available from the *About Us* section of the Council's website at <http://safmc.net/council-members/> or through the Council office. Advisory panel members will be selected during the Council's September 11-15, 2017 meeting in Charleston, SC. **Advisory panel applications must be received by August 16, 2017** for consideration by the Council during the September meeting.

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### **CALENDAR**

August 8-10; Mid Atlantic Fishery Management Council; Philadelphia, PA

August 14; Noon; NCFA Board meeting; Washington, NC

August 16-17; NC Marine Fisheries Commission; Raleigh, NC