

WEEKLY UPDATE: 6/23/2017
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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PASSING OF JAMES BERRIE GASKILL

We were saddened to hear of the passing of James Berrie Gaskill of Ocracoke. He died on Wednesday while tending his nets. NCFA Board, Members and Staff offer our most sincere condolences and prayers to his family.



James Barrie Gaskill, 74, of Ocracoke, NC died on Wednesday, June 21, 2017. Born in Carteret County on April 20, 1943, he was the son of the late Daisy Styron Gaskill and James Lumley Gaskill, Jr.

After graduating from the College of the Albemarle, James Barrie received his Bachelor's degree from East Carolina University. He was a teacher at Ocracoke School and later became its principal. A commercial fisherman on the Pamlico Sound, he also served as a board member for the North Carolina Coastal Federation and the Ocracoke Working Watermen's Association. In 2013, James Barrie and Gene Ballance shared the NCCF Pelican Award for leadership in restoring coastal habitat.

James Barrie is survived by his wife, Ellen Gaskill; two children, Candy and Morton Gaskill; sister-in-law, Linda Gaskill all of Ocracoke; and a nephew, Joseph Gaskill and wife Stephanie of St. Mary's, GA. Along with his parents, he was preceded in death by a brother, Joseph W. Gaskill.

In keeping with James Barrie's wishes, there will be no service at this time.

Memorial contributions in his honor may be made to the North Carolina Coastal Federation, 3609 NC Hwy 24, Newport, NC 28570, or the Ocracoke Working Watermen's Association, PO Box 1165, Ocracoke, NC 27960.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

We've been told by multiple sources in the NC House, including leadership, that H-867 is dead. Even with those assurances, no bill is dead if it remains in a committee. However, both sides have been asked to look at an alternative and report back about what's good, what's bad and our rationale. NCFA has its position on the issues and it has nothing to do with 867. When the folks in charge ask you to look at something and comment on it, you do it, whether you like it or whether you don't. If you don't do it, you put your friends in the legislature in a very awkward position. Worse, you take the rug out from under those who are trying to help.

This coming week will be telling as to what the House may agree to. Regardless, if the House agrees to anything over the next few days, it will not pass the Senate as they have shut down their committees and are about ready to go home. How long the General Assembly remains in session depends on what Governor Cooper decides on the budget. If he vetoes the budget rather soon, the Senate and House can vote whether to override or not. If he allows it to become law without his signature, that takes 10 days after he receives it. But if he signs it soon, they could be out of town rather quickly.

The fish provisions that were in the approved Senate version of the budget were taken out by the conference committee before voted on by the Senate and House. However, there are some fisheries provisions that remain alive in standalone bills or in omnibus legislation.

God bless,

Jerry

CARTERET COUNTY FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION NEWS:

CCFA will be holding a fundraiser at the Core Sound Waterfowl Museum on June 24, 11:30am till 6:00pm, selling shrimp burgers and hotdogs!

THAT'S TOMORROW!

CALENDAR

June 24; CCFA fundraiser; 11:30am till 6:00pm; Core Sound Waterfowl Museum

July 11; NCFA joint meeting; 11:00am; Riverfront Convention Center; New Bern, NC