

WEEKLY UPDATE: 4/20/2018
NORTH CAROLINA FISHERIES ASSOCIATION
"Serving the Commercial Fishing Families of North Carolina since 1952"
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MEETINGS WITH FISHERMEN!

NCFA met with fishermen on Wednesday evening in Brunswick County and in Wanchese on Thursday evening. The following have been scheduled for next week on Hatteras Island and Pamlico County. Other meetings will be scheduled soon elsewhere along the coast for fishermen and supporters to discuss very important issues for the commercial fishing community and the upcoming Seafood Lobby Day in Raleigh. Scheduled for May 23rd, Seafood Lobby Day is less than 5 weeks!

THESE ARE VERY IMPORTANT MEETINGS FOR THOSE WHO ARE INTERESTED IN A FUTURE FOR COMMERCIAL FISHING FAMILIES and ASSURING ACCESS TO FRESH NORTH CAROLINA SEAFOOD!!!

Here are the meetings that have been scheduled so far:

DARE COUNTY:

Monday, April 23rd at 4:00pm
Hatteras Community Building (behind library next to the Post Office)
56658 NC Hwy 12
Hatteras, NC 27943

PAMLICO COUNTY:

Wednesday, April 25th at 6:30pm
Heritage Building
10642 Hwy 55
Grantsboro, NC 28529

Other meetings will be scheduled so stay tuned!

NCFA SENDS LETTER TO GOVERNOR COOPER

NCFA sent a letter this week to Governor Roy Cooper formally requesting that he remove all nice commissioners from the MFC and immediately begin the process of appointing a fair and equitable commission.

The letter states that such an action would fit very well in the Governor's "Hometown Strong" initiative for rural communities. In the press release announcing the Governor's initiative, he states "Helping rural North Carolina thrive is one of my top priorities."

NCFA YOUNG FISHERMAN'S PROGRAM

The NCFA is excited to announce the start of its Young Fisherman's Program. The purpose of the program is to educate young fishermen about the fishery management process in NC and encourage them to become more

involved in that process. The first year of the three-year program will focus on public speaking, community outreach and education with a set of goals that will help our young fishermen progress in each of these areas.

There is no age requirement for this program and it is open to both young and the young at heart. If you are interested or someone you know maybe interested in participating, please contact Aundrea O'Neal. aundrea@ncfish.org, 252-726-6232 or 252-503-8302.

CCFA SETS DATE FOR ANNUAL FISH FRY!

The Carteret County Fisherman's Association has set May 5th as the date for its Annual Fish Fry at Wheatly Boys Tire in Otway! Hours are 11:00am to 4:00pm.

Sponsorships are \$250 & up; Memorial/Honorarium \$100; Raffle tickets \$5 each or 5 for \$20
Plates are only \$10 each!

Tickets for the raffle and for fish plates can be picked up now at the NCFA office in Morehead City!

For sponsorships or honorariums or for more info, call Aundrea O'Neal: 252-503-8302.

ROOM BLOCK FOR SEAFOOD LOBBY DAY ENDS SOON! Event will be on May 23rd, but special room rates end in a few days!

The day begins with a rally on the south side of the Capitol from 9:00am till 1:00pm!

If you want to take advantage of special room rates, you **MUST** make your reservation by April 22nd!

Here are the details for the special rates at the Raleigh hotel for May 22nd and/or May 23rd:

Red Roof PLUS on South Saunders Street

Rates start at \$63.74 and you can reserve for only one night or both.

To reserve, call 1-800-733-7663 and mention the North Carolina Fisheries Association and Code B256NFISH

NCFA is making final preparations for a Seafood Reception and Lobby Day for May 23rd! This will be an especially important time for you to make plans for going to Raleigh to talk to legislators during the day and attend a legislative seafood reception in the evening.

Last year was the first year for Seafood Lobby Day, which we hope to make an annual event in conjunction with the Legislative Seafood Reception. The Reception was started several years ago by NC Watermen United (NCWU) and NCFA was invited a few years ago to participate. NCFA had the first Seafood Lobby Day last year, primarily to address H-867 which was basically a rewrite of the Fisheries Reform Act without any commercial fishing input.

CAMPAIGN EVENTS

THIS EVENT IS TOMORROW (SATURDAY) EVENING!

MICHAEL SPECIALE, incumbent for NC House District 3, is having a fund raiser. The event is a Reverse Drawing with tickets at \$100 each. You or a person representing your interest must be present to win at "Make it Personally Yours" on East Main Street in Havelock, on April 21st, 2018 at 6:00pm. There will be 100 tickets sold, which included a catered meal for two and a chance of winning \$3,000. For tickets or more info, call Hazel Speciale: (252) 635-5326.

CALENDAR

April 23; 4:00pm; Dare County meeting with fishermen & supporters; Hatteras Community Bldg.
April 25; 6:30pm; Pamlico County meeting with fishermen & supporters; Heritage Bldg; Grantsboro
May 1 – 3; Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission; Arlington, VA
May 2; 6:00pm; MFC Blue Crab FMP Committee; DEQ Regional Office; Washington, NC
May 5; Carteret County Fisherman’s Association Fish Fry
May 7; Noon; NCFA Board meeting; Civic Center; Washington, NC
May 16 – 17; MFC meeting; New Bern, NC
May 23; ALL DAY; Seafood Lobby Day in Raleigh