

OUR COAST

North Carolina Coastal Federation | NCCOAST.ORG | SUMMER 2018



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

COASTAL CHAMPIONS
2018 Pelican Awards & Annual Report

Dear Friend of the Coast,

Every day, ordinary people accomplish extraordinary things. Most award programs tend to overlook these good deeds, spotlighting instead better-known celebrities who promote worthy causes. That's simply not the case with the people selected to receive our Pelican Awards. For 15 years now, we've selected recipients who care deeply about the North Carolina coast and never sought the limelight when they decided to share their talents to help advance the Coastal Federation's work.

These 2018 Pelican Award recipients use their skills and creativity to find ways to improve how our coast is protected and restored. They have expertise in science, law, filmmaking and management and know how to do hard, backbreaking work. Whether they have volunteered directly with the Coastal Federation or shown others the importance of coastal stewardship, each has inspired our staff to work even harder. These recipients are part of an amazing array of people who coalesce around the mission of the Coastal Federation.

Ever since the Coastal Federation formed in 1982, there has been a constant stream of amazing people who have come forth to make a huge difference in the work we do. Long ago we realized that it's not possible for one organization or just a handful of people to successfully watch out for our coast. It's a job that requires a community effort that must be built and sustained in perpetuity. With each new generation of elected officials, agency staff, voters, kids, coastal residents and visitors, the job of educating, informing and engaging this diverse group of people in protecting and restoring our coast continues.



Photo by Vance Miller

The 10 people and organizations selected to receive Pelican Awards this year have each made their own unique contributions to keeping the protection of our coast a public priority. In the pages of this publication, you'll read about volunteers and students who unflinchingly go the extra mile; a local business that's doing more than its part to give back; a group that ensures local business leaders are engaged in their community; a town that took the time to educate its leaders and residents on the negative impacts of a

terminal groin; a UNC-TV host and producer who showcases the coastal environment; and a scientist who diligently reported his findings of GenX contamination until others finally listened. We are honored to recognize these hardworking people and their incredible accomplishments.

The Coastal Federation started awarding Pelican Awards 15 years ago as a way to give thanks to some very special people. While everyone who does their part in keeping our coast healthy and beautiful deserves to be recognized, we have to narrow our winners down to just a select few. The list of possible winners is long, and difficult choices are made to arrive at the small handful of individuals we recognize each year. These awards demonstrate our deep appreciation to everyone who helps with our work. We must all continue to find effective ways to work together to keep our coast the envy of the world. Thank you for your help and support.

With best regards

—Todd Miller, Executive Director



North Carolina
Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

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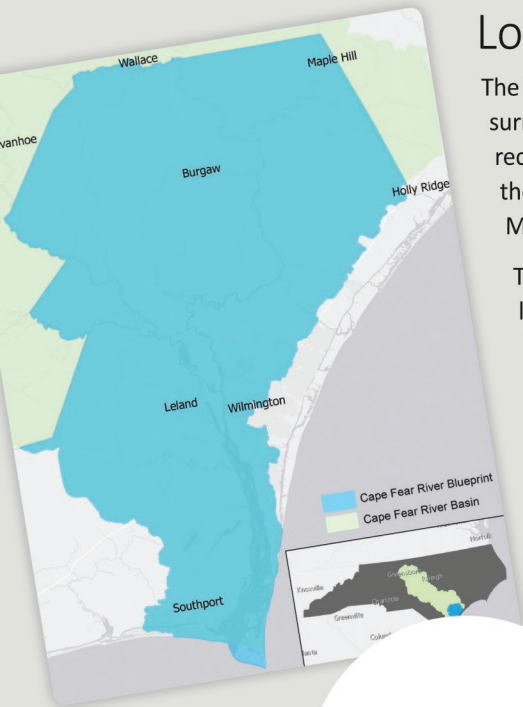
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COVER PHOTO: Sam Bland. *The light cast by sunsets is
often as beautiful as the sunset itself. Bland took this
photo near Bogue Inlet in Emerald Isle.*



Lower Cape Fear River Blueprint unveiled

The health of the Lower Cape Fear River and its coastal and riverine habitat is critical to the surrounding community, as the river protects the area from storms and floods, provides recreational fishery services and is a source of drinking water. To help better protect and manage the river, the Coastal Federation and partners unveiled the Lower Cape Fear River Blueprint in May at an open house event in Wilmington that drew about 120 attendees.

The four goals of the blueprint are to: 1) protect and restore water quality; 2) have resilient living shorelines that protect water quality and natural estuarine function and provide thriving habitat for fish and wildlife; 3) have oyster habitats that thrive and support vibrant fisheries, good water quality and resilient estuarine shorelines; and 4) protect and preserve native coastal wetland populations that are free of invasive species.

Check out the full blueprint and other resources at nccoast.org/capefearblueprint.

NEWS & NOTES

Reducing stormwater runoff in all three coastal regions

State budget invests in crab pots, water quality lab

The North Carolina state budget funded several important coastal initiatives this year, including the Coastal Federation's annual Lost Fishing Gear Recovery Project. The budget also funds the reopening of a water quality monitoring lab in Dare County, a shellfish pathologist position based at N.C. State University's Center for Marine Sciences and Technology and a mariculture project in Morehead City, among other initiatives.

To learn more about the ongoing activity at the General Assembly, go to nccoast.org/raleighreport.



Fifteen River City YouthBuild students and staff worked with project partners this spring to install a rain barrel and three rain gardens at the Phase I Shoppes at Renaissance Square in Elizabeth City. The rain gardens were designed by Kathy Mitchell, horticulturist with the North

Carolina Aquarium on Roanoke Island. These techniques take rain water from the building's roof and direct it into the ground where it is absorbed. The rain barrel and rain gardens reduce the volume of stormwater runoff flowing from the site to the Pasquotank River.

The River City Community Development Corporation partnered with the Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuary Partnership, the Coastal Federation, WithersRavenel and the Aquarium on Roanoke Island to incorporate Low Impact Development (LID) stormwater techniques into its business site as a demonstration for how to better manage stormwater.

The Coastal Federation not only worked to reduce stormwater runoff in the

northeast coast, but also completed projects in Wrightsville Beach. The Coastal Federation completed the final phase of the N.C. Clean Water Management Trust Fund project to retrofit a large impervious parking lot at Hanover Seaside Club. Now when it rains, the stormwater flows into the pervious pavement and the infiltration system instead of discharging polluted runoff into Banks Channel.

More work is underway in the Crystal Coast. This spring, the construction of a new parking lot in Swansboro kicked off as part of an EPA Section 319 grant implementation. The parking lot is being built with permeable paving cells that will capture the rain and let it soak into the ground.

For more information on ongoing stormwater reduction work, visit nccoast.org/stormwater.

MEET THE 2018 SUMMER INTERNS

All three offices hosted interns this summer. Four interns completed the Coastal Restoration and Policy Internship at the headquarters office in Ocean. The three students from Duke were supported by the Stanback Internship Program. Learn more about this summer's interns at nccoast.org/interns.



Photo by Vance Miller

The Coastal Restoration and Policy Interns, from left to right: B Stevens (Duke University), Max Issokson (Duke University), Devri Adams (Duke University) and Madeline Tripp (East Carolina University).

Northeast Region Interns

Cross McHugh, Apex Friendship High School

Kadie Midgett, N.C. State University

Central Region Intern

Sascha Rosin, Stony Brook University - Hammocks Beach State Park

Southeast Region Interns

James Arnuk, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Destiny Clayton, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Trevor Roche, University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Casey White, N.C. State University through Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation's Nonprofit Internship Program

Noelia Martinez, North Carolina School of Science and Mathematics

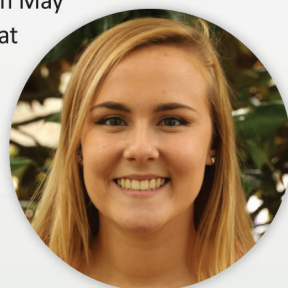
Meet our new coastal advocate and communications specialists

The Coastal Federation welcomed three new employees in the last few months. Kerri Allen is the new coastal advocate at the Wrightsville Beach office, and Logan Prochaska and Samantha Ruark started as communications specialists at the headquarters office. See our full staff at nccoast.org/staff.

Kerri Allen works in the Wrightsville Beach office to promote the goals and benchmarks of the Coastal Federation that protect and restore our coast. Her previous work has focused on water quality, coastal sediments and oyster restoration. Before joining the team, Kerri worked for Loggerhead Marinelife Center, promoting the conservation of coastal ecosystems in South Florida; she looks forward to doing the same in Wrightsville Beach. She holds a master's degree in coastal geology and a bachelor's in geosciences from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.



Logan Prochaska began working at the Coastal Federation in May 2018. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in May 2018 with a degree in communication studies and a minor in Spanish. Previously, Logan worked as the layout editor of several award-winning magazines: *Atlantis: A Creative Magazine*, *Second Story Journal* and *Explorations Undergraduate Research Journal*. She enjoys digital and film photography so she can highlight North Carolina's beauty.



Samantha Ruark joined the Coastal Federation in June 2018. She graduated from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington in May 2018 with a Bachelor of Arts in communication studies and a minor in recreation, sports leadership and tourism management. Previously, Samantha worked for the North Carolina Azalea Festival and Cape Fear Community College in their marketing and community relations departments.



Board member Veronica Carter appointed to state environmental justice committee

Veronica Carter, longtime board member, has been appointed to the North Carolina Environmental Justice and Equity Advisory Board, which will advise the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ). Carter is one of 16 panel members to be appointed on this advisory board. Secretary Michael Regan developed this board to help DEQ involve disadvantaged minority populations in its decision-making process. Carter has been promoting environmental justice for 15 years and has helped the Coastal Federation put more of a focus on environmental justice in its programs and priorities.



North Carolina
Coastal Federation

2017 ANNUAL REPORT

Share Our Vision

North Carolina has one of the most spectacular and productive coastlines in the world. Our vision at the North Carolina Coastal Federation is to keep it that way, so that it always remains a great place to live, visit, work and play.

A lot of people share our vision for the coast. People flock here in droves, drawn to our region by its people, economy and natural resources. North Carolina is now our country's ninth-most populated state, and one of the fastest-growing. With more people comes more enthusiasm for our coast — and also additional pressure on our natural resources. The Coastal Federation's work grows more vital with every passing year.

For the past 36 years, the Coastal Federation has protected and restored our coast. Thank you for sharing our vision and for your support in making our work possible.

Todd Miller, Executive Director

2017 Summary of Major Accomplishments

The North Carolina Coastal Federation is the state's only nonprofit organization focused exclusively on protecting and restoring the coast of North Carolina through education, advocacy and restoration of coastal habitats and water quality. **In 2017 we:**



Restored over 16 acres of oyster reef



Restored nearly 45 acres of wetlands



Installed 67 stormwater reduction measures



Restored a half-mile of living shorelines



Prevented 275,000 gallons of runoff from entering coastal waters



Cleaned up 4,304 crab pots and 299 tons of marine debris



Reached over 250,000 readers and won 12 awards through *Coastal Review Online*



Engaged 1,052 volunteers



Educated 5,912 students — 60% from underserved groups/schools



Provided over 20 workshops, tours and trainings for citizens and community leaders

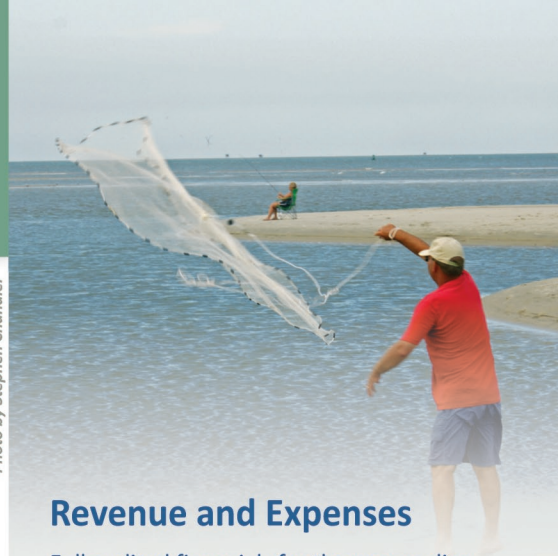


Protected the coast from offshore drilling and other polluting industries



Advocated successfully for improved permits for living shorelines and heavy industry

Photo by Stephen Chandler



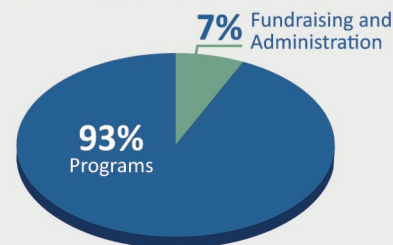
Revenue and Expenses

Full audited financials for the year ending December 31, 2017 are available at www.nccoast.org or upon request.

Public Support

Memberships.....	\$217,662
Contributions.....	\$270,248
Private Foundations	\$1,524,849
Government Grants	\$2,526,466
Specialty License Plate	\$96,800
Events.....	\$76,692
Rental Income.....	\$13,038
Investment Income	\$278,105
Gifts of Property	\$95,500
Miscellaneous.....	\$19,563
Total Grants and Revenues....	\$5,118,923

How we spent your donations



Programs.....	\$4,656,054
Fundraising and Admin	\$334,495
Total Expenses	\$4,990,549

Support to the Community* ...\$2,550,147

*Grant and foundation funding the Coastal Federation paid to local contractors and vendors to complete on-the-ground projects, trainings and other program work.



Four consecutive years at the highest rating level



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Photo by Sam Bland



**North Carolina
Coastal Federation**
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

2017 Board of Directors

LEADERSHIP

President	Dick Bierly, Morehead City
Vice President	Joseph Ramus, Beaufort
Treasurer	Doug Wakeman, Pittsboro
Secretary	Sarah Williams, Swansboro

AT LARGE

Allison Besch	Carmen Hooker
Peggy Birkemeier	Odom
Veronica Carter	David Paynter
Sandie Cecelski	Richard Peruggi
David Cignotti	Lewis Piner
April Clark	JoAnne Powell
Donald Ensley	John Runkle
Ernie Foster	Allie Sheffield
Morty Gaskill	Bland Simpson
Mac Gibbs	Bill Smyth
Bill Hunneke	Donna Snead
Tom Looney	Angie Wills
Katherine McGlade	

Executive Director and Founder, Todd Miller

2017 President's Council

Dick Bierly, Chair	David Paynter
Philip Blumenthal	John Preyer
David Bryan	Joseph Ramus
Hugh Cullman	Simon Rich III
Dick Daugherty	William G. Ross Jr.
Joan Gillings	Billy Sewell
Jim Goodmon	Bland Simpson
Olivia Britton	Fred and Alice
Holding	Stanback
Tom Looney	Smedes York
Carmen Hooker	
Odom	

OUR MISSION

The North Carolina Coastal Federation empowers coastal residents and visitors from all walks of life to protect and restore the water quality and critically important natural habitats of the North Carolina coast.

In our 36-year history, the Coastal Federation has excelled at taking a creative approach to challenges, building relationships across traditional lines and finding interdisciplinary solutions. In 2017, we carried on that tradition by focusing on the economic importance of a healthy coast, demonstrating the economic benefits of habitat restoration

and sharing that information with our state leaders. We also forged a new partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture to restore 8,000 acres of wetlands over the next five years. We worked collaboratively to protect our coast from offshore oil and gas drilling and welcomed the support of Gov. Roy Cooper on that issue. We also strengthened our partnerships in underserved communities through youth education and environmental justice initiatives. Together, these partnerships make us strong – and our coast healthy.

“The federation’s success in building partnerships has become a model in the nation’s conservation and public-policy communities.”

— BLAND SIMPSON

2017 Major Supporters

Membership and contributions help protect and restore our beautiful coast. We greatly appreciate each and every supporter. Special thanks to the following donors who gave at recognition levels in 2017.

A.J. Fletcher Foundation	Kyle and Kelly Elliott	John and Stephanie Mitchell	S.C. Dept. of Health and Environmental Control
Amy P. Goldman Foundation	Enterprise Holdings Foundation	Jim and Marilyn Mohler	Bob Schall and Susan Lupton
Atlantic ReefMaker, LLC	Peter and Ola Eweje	Stephen Moore	Wayne Schriever
Bob and Margy Ayres	Farrington Yardworks, Inc.	National Fish and Wildlife Foundation	Michael and Janie Serbousek
Backwater Environmental	Forrest Firm, P.C.	N.C. Dept. Environmental Quality- Water Resources	Dennis and Ann Sessom
The Benevity Community Impact Fund	Mike Giles and Karen Pappas	N.C. Dept. of Justice- Environmental Division	Todd Miller and Julie Shambaugh
Richard Bierly	Charlie and Jenny Godwin	N.C. Dept. of Transportation	Melvin and Tillie Shepard
Bill and Peggy Birkemeier	Grace Jones Richardson Trust	N.C. State University	Keith Smith and Lisa Jones
Amy and Philip Blumenthal	Grady-White Boats, Inc.	North Carolina Community Foundation	Lloyd Smith and Jen Goldberg Smith
Kim and Sam Boyce	David Groves	North State Foundation	Bill and Nancy Stanback
Scott Bradley and Kelley Shinn	William C. Hall	Ed and Susan Norvell	Brad and Shelli Stanback
Maurice and Mary Hughes Brookhart	Gary and April Hardee	Carmen and Fountain Odom	Fred and Alice Stanback
Kathryn Peyton Brown	Ken Hoffman	The Ohio State University	Thomas M. Stanback Jr.
David Bryan	Olivia Britton Holding	Outer Banks Community Foundation, Inc.	Sally Steele and George Gusler
Dean and Gail Bunce	Holiday Inn Resort	Outer Banks Visitors Bureau	Stephenson Pope Babcock Foundation
Lee and Diane Butzin	Kathryn B. Howd	Park Foundation, Inc.	Stevens Towing Co. of NC, LLC
Camp Younts Foundation	Joseph Huberman and Ruth Bromer	Adele F. Paynter	Sunset Beach Taxpayers Association
Campbell Foundation	Minnie K. Hunt	David and Cary Paynter	Syd's Hair Shop, Inc.
Cape Fear Realtors	IBM Corporation	Stuart and Linda Paynter	Town of Manteo
Carlson Family Foundation	Susan and Paul Jones	Donald Peele	Jim Vernon
Carolina Paddleboard Co.	Ken Karn and Sally Buchanan	John and Joanie Preyer	Stephen A. Wainwright
The Cedars Inn	Mike and Willo Kelly	Proud Pour	Doug Wakeman
Chef & the Farmer	Charles and Patricia Klapheke	Joe and Jackie Ramus	Walex Products Company, Inc.
Boys & Girls Clubs of Coastal Carolina	Art Klose and Mary Katherine Lawrence	Bubba and Barbara Rawl	Wells Fargo
Robert Coles	Zee Buchanan Lamb	Adele Richardson Ray	Murray Whitehill
Georgette Constant	The Landfall Foundation, Inc.	The Raymond E. and Ellen F. Crane Foundation	Berry and Charlotte Williams
Burton and Heather Craige	Robby and Gina Lemons	RBC Foundation	WithersRavenel, Inc.
Dare County Restaurant Association	Tom and Lucy Looney	Restoration Systems, LLC	Without Limits Coaching, Inc.
In memory of Locke deBruyne	Judy Lotas	Rob Lamme and Associates	Wrightsville Beach Brewery, LLC
David Dupont	Marcia Maria Lyons	Robert W. Baird & Co. Inc.	Wrightsville Beach Paddle Club, LLC
EarthShare North Carolina	Mary Norris Preyer Fund	Boyd and Linda Rogers	Smedes and Rosemary York
Eastern Carolina Council	Beau and Sue McCaffray	John Runkle and Nancy Dole	Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation
Ward and Mary-Martha Elis	Dot McGee	Rodney Sawyer	Anonymous
Ella Ann L. & Frank B. Holding Foundation	Charles Meeker and Anne McLaurin	Saxer Family Foundation	
	Donald J. Miller		



2018 COASTAL CHAMPIONS

For 15 years, the Pelican Awards have annually recognized the **exceptional people, businesses, organizations and local and state governments** that work to protect and restore our coast.

These award recipients have demonstrated exemplary commitment and undertaken meaningful actions to help the Coastal Federation reach our goal of a healthy and productive coast. Congratulations to the many dedicated individuals and organizations listed on the next few pages that demonstrate all we can accomplish when we work together for a healthy coast.

Northeast Region Winners



Tom and Vickie Byers

FOR OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COAST

Tom and Vickie live on a quiet cul-de-sac surrounded by the native marsh of the Kitty Hawk Woods Coastal Reserve. Appreciating that they live in such a beautiful and natural area, the Byers do their part to protect it. Tom and Vickie have volunteered many hours with the Coastal Federation, including representing us at community events. The Byers have transformed their yard into a Smart Yard by setting up their own rainwater harvesting system to reduce stormwater runoff. Vickie is a master gardener and enjoys spending time outside planting and tending to their landscape. However, Tom noticed that a few rain barrels weren't doing enough to reduce runoff, so they now use multiple cisterns in addition to rain barrels to harvest rainwater and collect drips from condensation lines. The cistern collection system is tied into their irrigation system; when irrigating their landscape, rainwater is used before well or city water. The Byers also own vacant land next door that they have turned into a natural butterfly habitat. They have done exemplary work in their community and in their own yard to help protect the coast. We are so grateful for their contributions.



Lynne Foster

FOR ENTHUSIASTIC AND INSPIRING LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO THE NORTH CAROLINA COAST

To know Lynne is to know a thoughtful, supportive, generous and caring woman. Lynne is community minded and serves as an anchor to Hatteras' heritage while bridging it into its future. After Hurricane Irene devastated Hatteras Village in 2003, Lynne spearheaded and organized a "Day at the Docks" to celebrate the spirit of Hatteras. This annual event recognizes the community's traditional commercial and recreational fishing heritage and celebrates the strength and resiliency of the island. In addition to her coastal heritage efforts, Lynne worked diligently to secure community support for a living shoreline project that helps to protect Hatteras Harbor. This project restored marsh along 300 feet of shoreline near Durant's Point and buffers the shoreline from erosion at the narrow spit of land protecting Hatteras Harbor. Lynne's work didn't stop at Durant's Point — she has also been instrumental in rallying community support for the Coastal Federation's annual Hatteras Island Oyster Roast by securing volunteers and marketing the event. Lynne is a natural leader who has helped to create meaningful events and projects that remind everyone why they should care about our coastal heritage and environment.

Central Region Winners



Tom Turner

FOR EXCEPTIONAL VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COAST

Tom Turner is an extraordinarily dedicated volunteer who has spent over 280 hours assisting the Coastal Federation with habitat restoration projects. Throughout his 10 years of volunteering, Tom has helped in all areas of coastal restoration. His contributions include planting thousands of native plants and salt marsh grasses, building many oyster reefs and assisting with numerous shoreline cleanups. Tom gladly travels to the coast to volunteer from his home in Ayden, which is nearly an hour-and-thirty-minute drive each way. His long-term commitment certainly stands out, and his imprint can be seen in restoration projects all along the Crystal Coast, including at Jones Island, Trinity Center and the North River Wetlands Preserve. Tom is easygoing and has a great sense of humor and work ethic. The Coastal Federation is truly grateful and appreciative for the time Tom has contributed to protect and restore our coast, and we could not do our work without great volunteers like him.

East Carolina University Center for Leadership and Civic Engagement Alternative Break Experiences Program

FOR FOSTERING SUCCESSFUL PARTNERSHIPS THAT PROTECT AND RESTORE THE COAST



Each year, college students from East Carolina University choose to spend their spring break week serving others through the school's Alternative Break Experiences program. Instead of lounging by the pool or touring the Caribbean, groups of seven to 10 students per season have traveled to work with the Coastal Federation's Ocean office on coastal habitat restoration and education projects. Throughout this nine-year partnership, 91 students have performed service projects with the Coastal Federation, contributing a total of 1,525.5 hours in volunteer time. They have helped with shoreline cleanups, office and trail upkeep, salt marsh grass and tree plantings, recycled oyster shell bagging workdays and oyster reef construction. They have also helped us educate youth about the value of our coastal environment and helped maintain our school rain gardens. True to its mission of making lasting social change in our local, regional and global community, the Alternative Break Experiences program has done incredible work in this coastal region. We are honored to recognize the Alternative Break Experiences program for its dedicated and hardworking students who are eager to learn more about the coast and ways they can be good coastal stewards.

Carteret County Chamber of Commerce Leadership Carteret Program

FOR OUTSTANDING BUSINESS AND COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP AND COLLABORATION



Leadership Carteret is an annual program that brings together some of Carteret County's top decision-makers and business leaders and immerses them in the places, people and issues that characterize the county. During the 10-week program, members visit local businesses and organizations to learn about them and their impact on the county. Since the early 2000s, they have made an annual visit to the Coastal Federation's Ocean office to learn more about our work and coastal environmental issues, as well as to shuck and enjoy a few local oysters. In 2017 and 2018, members began volunteering with oyster restoration projects. Volunteers assembled and deployed bags of recycled oyster shells to build living shorelines. In the process, they learned about the importance of oysters and how living shorelines are an environmentally friendly alternative to bulkheads and seawalls. Leadership Carteret promotes networking opportunities among county leaders and demonstrates how members of a community can work together for a healthy coast. Because of our long-term relationship, more people in the county understand the economic and environmental importance of our coast.

Southeast Region Winners



Wrightsville Beach Brewery

FOR EXCEPTIONAL BUSINESS ENGAGEMENT, PROMOTION AND SUPPORT FOR NORTH CAROLINA'S COAST

Jud Watkins and his dad, Bruce, spent a lot of time together “knocking” bushels of oysters from their favorite hidden spots on the coast. This and other fond memories of his father and grandfather led Jud, his mother, Pam, and wife, Amber, to begin pairing their love of oysters and North Carolina seafood with a locally brewed beer. In 2017, they established their own local brewery and seafood establishment, the Wrightsville Beach Brewery.

A connection to the coast is apparent in the brewery. Jud and his family worked with designers to save the beautiful live oak trees on the property and turn the trees that had to be taken down into lumber for the brewery. They incorporated native plants and stormwater reduction measures into the landscape and the building. The Wrightsville Beach Brewery also partners with 11 local nonprofits to donate proceeds from its rotating “Beer of the Month” program. In December they give 11 percent of all beer proceeds to support all 11 of their partners. The Oysterman’s Stout has benefited the Coastal Federation every March, and Wrightsville Beach Brewery has been a great partner in helping us promote our mission and programs.



Anne Terry

FOR REMARKABLE VOLUNTEER CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COAST

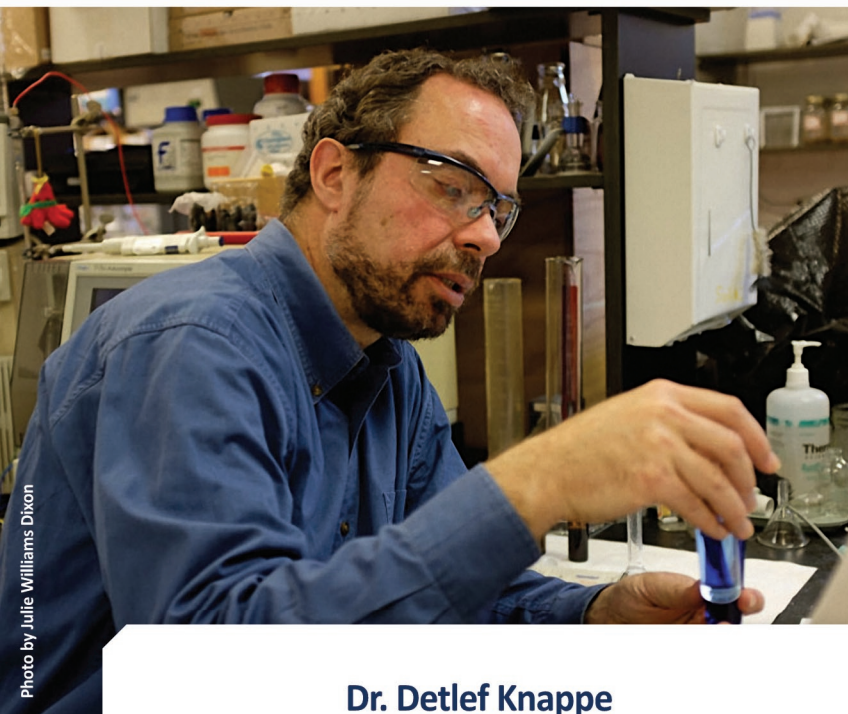
Anne Terry is a dedicated environmental steward who is committed to giving back to her community. Anne became a very active Coastal Federation volunteer a few years ago after learning about our work and programs. Anne is a volunteer extraordinaire and not only volunteers with us but also with Airlie Gardens, Friends of Pleasure Island State Parks, Cape Fear River Watch and Ocean Friendly Establishments. One of the original members of the Coastal Federation’s Coastal Ambassador program, Anne is enthusiastic and energetic, strengthening the camaraderie of volunteers and encouraging new participants to return and get more involved. When she is not volunteering, Anne enjoys spending time with her husband of 49 years, her two grandchildren and two cats. Her enthusiasm for any project — whether it’s a shoreline cleanup or helping out at outreach events — is an inspiration to our staff.



Town of Holden Beach, Dunescape Property Owners’ Association and the Holden Beach Property Owners Association

FOR OUTSTANDING LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATION TO KEEP OUR COAST ACCESSIBLE AND PUBLIC

Flanked by the beautiful Lockwoods Folly Inlet, the eastern end of Holden Beach was threatened to be forever changed by an unnecessary and expensive engineered structure. But on April 17, 2018, the Holden Beach Board of Commissioners unanimously voted to permanently revoke the town’s permit application for a terminal groin with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. This historic move would not have been possible without the diligent evaluation of potential impacts by dedicated residents of the Dunescape Property Owners’ Association and the Holden Beach Property Owners Association — Rhonda and Tom Dixon, Tom and Vicki Myers, Jay and Denise Holden, John and Margaret Witten, Rich Weigand, Lou Coutajar and Skip Klapheke. These and other Holden Beach residents tirelessly fought to bring to light the detrimental effects the terminal groin — a rock, concrete, stone or metal structure built at an inlet, perpendicular to the coast — would have had on the island’s natural habitat and shoreline. Their forethought and action also positioned the town to save a lot of money for a project that likely would not work. The residents of Holden Beach persevered in their opposition and are true pioneers in showing how to exercise sound coastal management decision-making and recognizing that expensive hardened structures along our beaches are not the answer to erosion.



Dr. Detlef Knappe

FOR EXPERT RESEARCH AND ENDURING COMMITMENT TO CLEAN AND SAFE DRINKING WATER

Nearly five years ago, while conducting research on bromide sources in the Cape Fear River watershed, N.C. State University's Dr. Detlef Knappe and his team of researchers detected high concentrations of a number of unexpected industrial chemicals in drinking water, including 1,4-dioxane and GenX, compounds generated from the textiles, wood, non-stick coating, plastics and other manufacturing industries. Knappe's research group, together with experts from the Environmental Protection Agency, published these findings in *Environmental Science and Technology Letters* in November 2016. They found average concentrations of 631 parts-per-trillion in Wilmington's drinking water — the EPA's health advisory standard is 70 ppt for similar compounds.

In 2016, Dr. Knappe began alerting state and federal agencies, but his concerns remained relatively unanswered until the *Wilmington StarNews* published his findings in June 2017. This led to the ongoing investigations into the presence of industrial contaminants found in the drinking water of more than 1 million people in southeastern North Carolina. Dr. Knappe and his research team remain at the epicenter of an expanding and critical human health issue that continues to attract significant media and political attention. His professional diligence and hard work to protect the health of the millions who drink water from various surface and groundwater sources throughout North Carolina have been critical to ongoing efforts to ensure all people have clean and safe drinking water.



Tom Earnhardt

FOR DEDICATED LEADERSHIP AND COMMITMENT TO PUBLIC AWARENESS AND EDUCATION ABOUT THE NORTH CAROLINA COAST

Tom Earnhardt has had a lifelong connection to the North Carolina coast and its people. Over the last 15 years, he has highlighted his dedication to North Carolina's environment by writing and producing more than 80 episodes of the statewide UNC-TV natural resource series, "Exploring North Carolina."

Several episodes have featured the work of the Coastal Federation and its partners, including the construction of the Swan Island Oyster Sanctuary and the organization's work to improve water quality on the coast. Tom's dedication to the environment extends throughout the state, as he serves on numerous conservation boards, including Trout Unlimited, The Nature Conservancy in North Carolina and Audubon North Carolina. Tom has also served as president of the North Carolina Botanical Garden Foundation and the Friends of the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences. His love of North Carolina's amazing natural resources has shined through in his work and helped others see how they can make a difference in protecting the state's environment. His incredible footage of the North Carolina coast has certainly helped the Coastal Federation convey to others just how spectacular our coast is.



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Coastal Federation
Working Together for a Healthy Coast

3609 N.C. 24 (Ocean)
Newport, NC 28570

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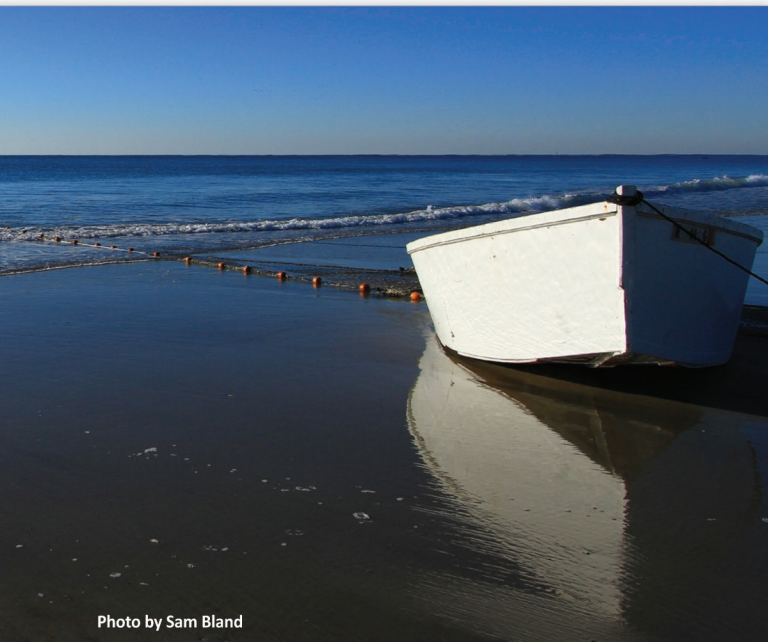


Photo by Sam Bland

Hop on board — it's all hands on deck to protect the coast.

To join or renew your annual membership, visit nccoast.org/membership.

You can also renew by mailing a check to 3609 N.C. 24 (Ocean),
Newport, NC 28570.

Your membership helps keep our coastal waters clean and safe for boating, fishing and swimming.

Questions? Call us at 252-393-8185 or send us an email at nccf@nccoast.org.

Show your love for the coast when you order a new specialty NC COAST license plate. Your purchase helps keep our coast healthy and beautiful. Learn how to order yours at nccoast.org/licenseplate.



Coastal Review Online

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LOW COUNTRY BOIL

Celebrate clean coastal waters and local seafood at our annual Low Country Boil at the Blockade Runner Beach Resort on Sept. 30. Learn more at nccoast.org/lowcountryboil.