

# Fishermen Still Waiting For Sunset Harbor Ramp

**BY SUSAN USHER**  
A year after Brunswick County Fishing Club members expected a new Sunset Harbor boat ramp to be in use, they're still waiting, members said Saturday at a meeting attended by several state officials.

Repairs had begun this month on the existing ramp, said President Carlis Sweat, but that work has stopped temporarily.

"Everything is at a standstill until we can get what we were promised," he said. "This is not what we were supposed to get. This is not what we have worked so hard for the last two or three years."

What the club was promised—in exchange for buying a lot and donating it to the state as public ramp parking, he said, was a new ramp to be connected to the existing ramp and the parking lot with a small walkway.

"When you get to messing with the state," he said, "it takes time. No one wants to take responsibility."

According to Charles Fullwood, director of operations for the N.C. Wildlife Commission, that is what the club will be getting—as soon as possible.

"We had a permit to do the original ramp. We thought we could modify

the existing permit but were told we had to reapply," he said Tuesday. "We intend to build another ramp there."

Buddy Phillips, an engineer with the commission, said he has received the necessary U.S. Army Corps of Engineers general permit, but that it will take a little longer to obtain a Coastal Area Management Act permit.

"I have a letter. They are processing it and they foresee no problems with it," he said. "We're just waiting for the review agencies to comment on it."

If no negative comments on the plan are received, the permit will be issued in two to three weeks, he predicted.

Meanwhile one concrete slab has been poured for the existing ramp and a crew should arrive this week to pour the slab for the second ramp, he said. "So when we do get the permit all we'll have to do is dredge, slope the banks and pour on up the hill."

Another problem for fishermen using the Sunset Harbor ramp may soon be resolved also—maintenance dredging of the Lockwood Folly Inlet. A crew was to inspect the channel area this week in advance of dredging.

Meanwhile, "if you're going to take a chance and go through it," warned Sweat, "be careful."

Club members also heard brief status reports on efforts to obtain funds and material for a countywide artificial reef program from Dale McDowell, club reef chairman; Rep. David Redwine, who has introduced legislation seeking funds for the project; Jim Brown, of the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries; and Dr. David Lindquist, technical advisor on the project from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

Redwine also reported his filing of bill to limit menhaden fishing to one-half mile off the Brunswick County coast. He also plans to file a bill establishing a committee to study the feasibility of a saltwater fishing license.

The big problem, he said, would be making sure the proceeds of any such license, would be used to benefit the fishing resource itself.

In other business the club:

- Approved sending a letter supporting legislation to regulate the menhaden industry, following a report by Hall Watters of Winnabow, a member of the state Marine Fisheries Commission.

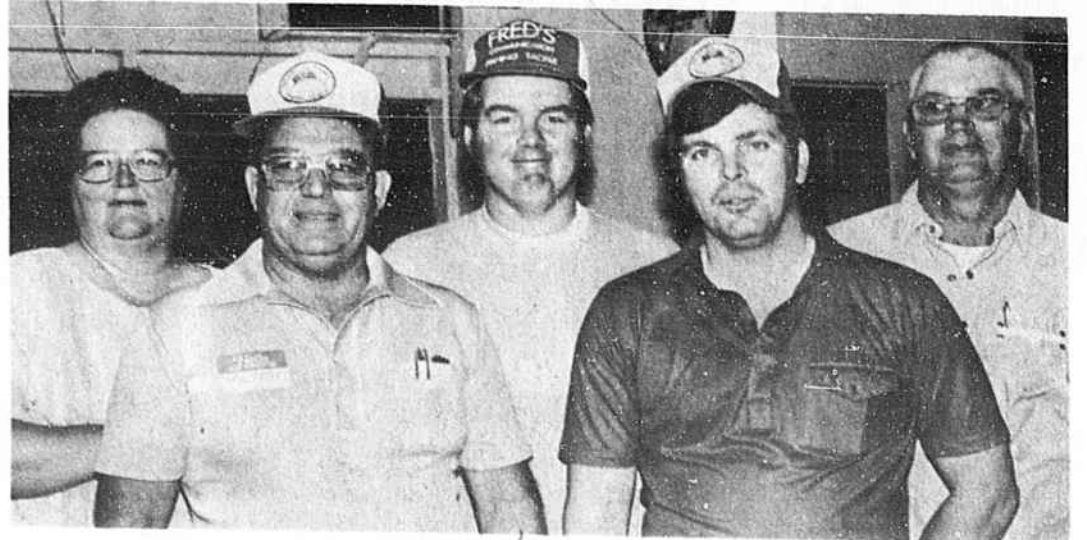
- Elected as officers Miles Edge, president; Herbert Swain, vice president; Dale McDowell, secretary; and Nancy Reiner, treasurer.

- Elected Duffy Turlington and Steve Lovick to three-year terms on the board of directors.

- Awarded Miriam Speicher, the outgoing secretary, a lifetime membership and a certificate of appreciation. Mrs. Speicher has served as secretary three years and secretary-treasurer three years. She said she had no plans to quit working for the club, just not as an officer.

- Announced a membership contest, with a goal of increasing membership to 1,000 this year for added "clout."

- Noted the addition of six picnic tables (three from the Community Watch Association) made by Dick Young, and urged members to make their own improvements to the club grounds.



BRUNSWICK COUNTY FISHING CLUB members elected officers for the 1985 club year Saturday night, as well as naming two members to three-year terms on the board of directors. From the left, they are Nancy Reiner of Route 1, Bolivia, treasurer; Miles Edge of

Fayetteville, president; Dale McDowell of Route 1, Winnabow, secretary; Steve Lovick of Route 1, Fayetteville, board member; and Herbert Swain of Bolton, vice-president. Board member Duffie Turlington of Route 3, Fayetteville, was absent.

## This Week's Tide Table

Date/Day	APRIL		LOW	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Thursday 25	10:55	11:25	5:11	5:06
Friday 26	11:48	—	5:58	6:03
Saturday 27	12:20	12:49	6:57	7:06
Sunday 28	2:21	2:57	8:58	9:14
Monday 29	3:26	4:07	9:58	10:11
Tuesday 30	4:29	5:09	10:58	11:27
MAY				
Wednesday 1	5:28	6:09	11:53	—
ADJUSTMENTS				
SHALLOTTE INLET (Bowen Point)—add 10 min. high tide, add 28 min. low tide.				
TUBBS INLET—subtract 19 min. high tide, subtract 12 min. low tide.				
LOCKWOOD FOLLY—subtract 29 min. high tide, subtract 12 min. low tide.				
LITTLE RIVER—add 3 min. low tide.				
BALD HEAD ISLAND—subtract 17 min. high tide, subtract 11 min. low tide.				

## Area Opens To Shellfishing

Approximately 500 acres of waters between Caswell Beach and Southport opened temporarily to shellfishing Friday by order of the N.C. Department of Natural Resources and Community Development.

All tributaries of the area, which include Piner Point, Molasses and Coward Creeks and the lower portion of Dutchman's Creek and the Elizabeth River, are open with the exception of the U.S. Coast Guard Canal. It will remain closed.



OUTGOING SECRETARY Miriam Speicher gets a buss on the cheek from President Carlis Sweat as he presents her with a lifetime membership card and certificate of recognition from the Brunswick County Fishing Club Saturday night.

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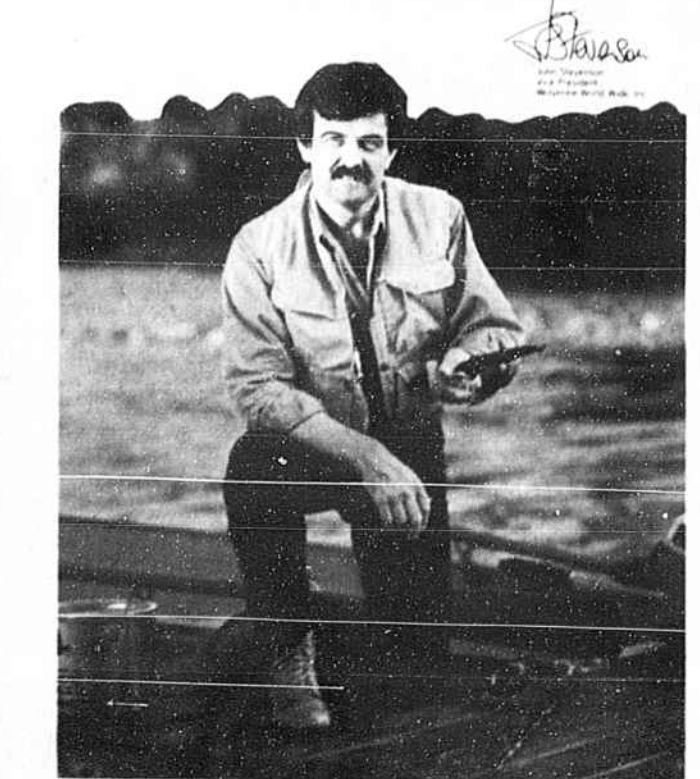
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