

Cape Fear
RIVER-BOATING

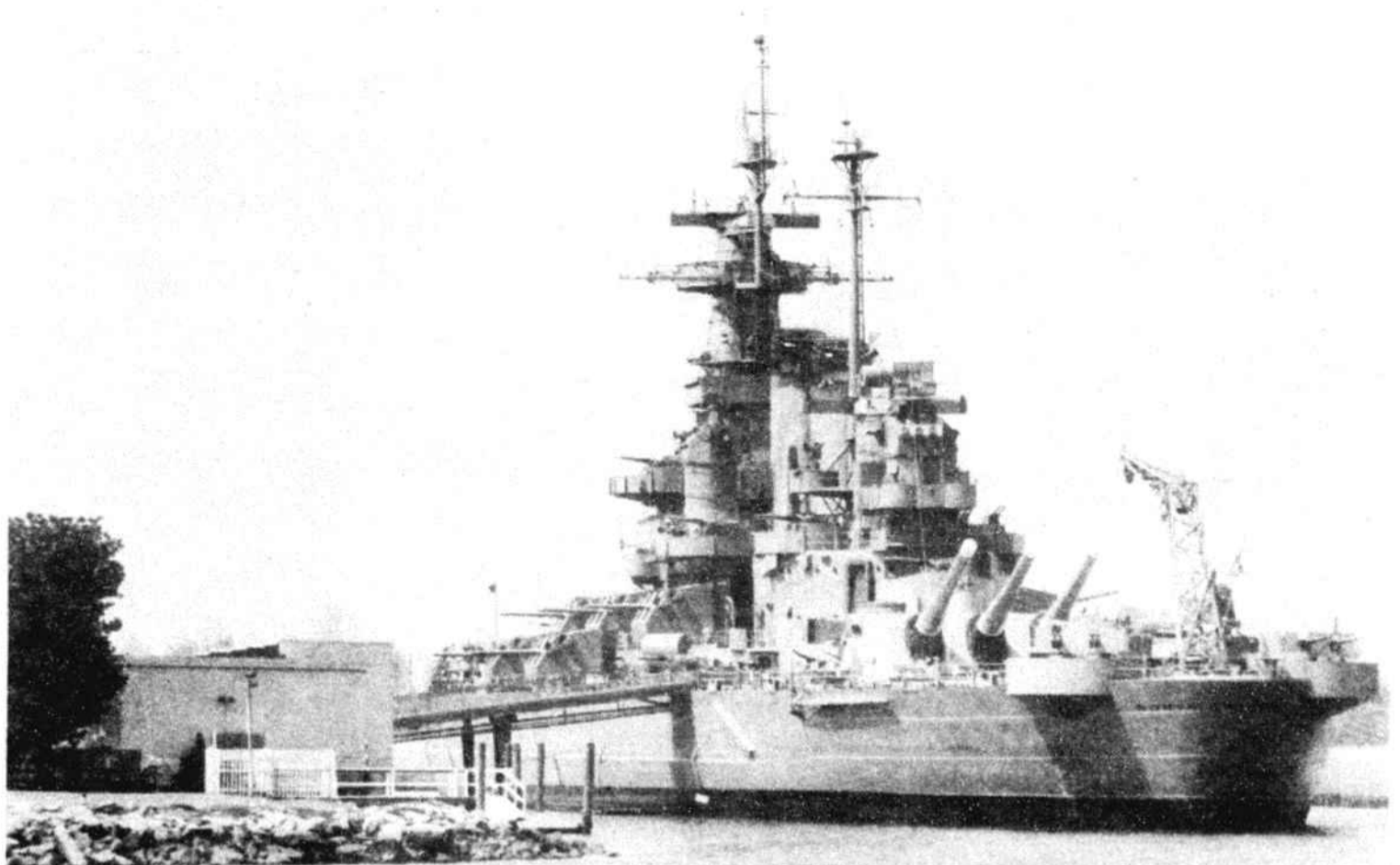


HENRIETTA II

- Narrated Sightseeing Cruises
- Entertainment Dinner Cruises
- Special Events Cruises
- Moonlight Cruises
- Private Parties & Charters

Cape Fear Riverboats, Inc.
P.O. Box 1881, Wilmington, NC 28402
(919)343-1611 • Toll Free 1-800-676-0162

©1992 THE BRUNSWICK BEACON



STAFF PHOTO BY TERRY POPE

'Showboat' At Rest

When Pearl Harbor was attacked Dec. 7, 1941, the newly-commissioned USS North Carolina had just completed a shakedown cruise in the Caribbean. After intensive war exercises, she entered the Pacific June 10, 1942, and participated in every naval offensive from Guadalcanal to Okinawa receiving 15 battle stars. A memorial since 1961 to the North Carolinians of all services killed in World War II, she is open for touring every day of the year except Christmas at her permanent berth on the Cape Fear River near Wilmington.

'Coke Machine' Mentality Keeps Ethical Anglers In The Minority

Are you an ethical angler? Do you practice catch and release, observe regulations, catch only what you plan to eat and avoid littering at all costs?

If so, chances are you're an ethical angler. Unfortunately, you're also a minority in the vast sea of recreational fishermen.

When it comes to ethics, Ron Schmied of the National Marine Fisheries Service says too many anglers have what he calls a "Coke machine" mentality.

One Coke machine doesn't raise much money, but millions of Coke machines across the country create a great profit.

Unethical fishermen have a similar effect. One angler who catches more than he needs or throws his trash overboard won't have much of an impact on fishing. But thousands of fishermen like him will hurt the sport.

With 1.7 million anglers in the South Atlantic region, Schmied says fishermen can't afford to be unethical. And the numbers of fishermen are growing every day as more and more people move closer to the coast.

Schmied says sport fishing participation tripled between 1955 and 1985 and is expected to grow another 36 percent by the year 2025.

The options are clear: More regulations on how many fish anglers can catch or fishermen who voluntarily follow ethical guidelines.

The National Marine Fisheries Service offers the following 10 suggestions for ethical anglers:

■ Help fish stocks increase through

catch and release. A released fish has an excellent chance of survival when handled carefully and correctly. Catch and release is an excellent way to help conserve fish stocks without giving up the excitement of the catch.

■ Limit your take; don't always take your limit. Bag limits are just that—limits. They're not goals or entitlements that must be achieved each trip. It doesn't make sense to take the limit when your freezer is already full or you're far from home and can't preserve your catch. Even if the catch is legal, wasting fish is not acceptable.

■ Observe regulations and report violations. Ethical anglers lead by example, so they must make a special effort to keep up with regulations affecting their sport. Fishing rules work best when anglers are informed and voluntarily supportive. Notify a law enforcement officer if you see a law being blatantly violated.

■ Only keep fish for trophy or dish. Because of the cumulative impact of the large number of sport fishermen, they must abide by the rules and stop wasting fish. Remember, you don't always have to kill the fish for a trophy. Take a picture and the measurements, and let the fish go.

■ Escape tradition, try a new catch in the kitchen. Recreational fishermen catch about 80 different kinds of fish but only use about 20 of them for food. Most of the time, fish don't deserve the bad rap we give them. Greater appreciation and use of "throwback" fish would en-

hance the fishing experience and help take pressure off the traditional target species.

■ Get hooked on fishing's thrill, not alcohol or drugs that kill. Fishing is an excellent way to relax and relieve stress, but boating and alcohol don't mix. More than 1,000 people die in boating accidents each year, and nearly half of the deaths involve alcohol.

■ Bring all garbage in, don't teach it to swim. Littering hurts tourism, the environment and can even be dangerous to boaters. Ethical anglers who care about the future of their sport should avoid littering, participate in shoreline cleanups and support recycling programs.

■ Captain your boat, practicing safety afloat. With 2.85 million registered boats in the South Atlantic region as of 1989, it's easy to see why boating safety is a necessity. When it comes to fishing and boating, ethical anglers should always be safe, not sorry.

■ Show courtesy and respect, others' rights don't neglect. Ethical anglers won't crowd fellow anglers at piers or other fishing sites or violate the property rights of others. Take litter and leftover bait with you when you're finished fishing. Showing courtesy gives fishermen a good image.

■ Share what you know to help your sport grow. Sharing your knowledge about fishing and catch and release skills helps the sport grow. Always be willing to assist other boaters or anglers and courteously remind others of fishing rules.



Nino's
ITALIAN RESTAURANT

Have You Heard
What They're
Saying About
Nino's?

It's Perfecto!

- Serving Hours: 5 PM-10 PM Mon.-Sat.
- Lounge Opens at 5 PM

Reservations Suggested • Major Credit Cards Accepted

HWY. 17, LITTLE RIVER, SC (803)249-7666