

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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N.C. Coastal Federation Approaches \$600K Goal for New Office

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH – The exciting move by water of a historic house was a highlight of the summer for many Wrightsville Beach residents. The Palmgren-O'Quinn house was donated by its owners, and then barged and rolled on wheels to the Wrightsville Beach Historic Square where it is the N.C. Coastal Federation's new education center and regional office. Volunteers worked over the past year to pay for the project through a \$600,000 fund raising campaign. Today the group has raised \$576,000 to move, renovate, landscape and furnish the house and to support expanded education and restoration programs.

Olivia Holding, federation vice-president and the campaign chairman, applauded the effort todate. "More than 200 people have donated to the campaign," she said. "Support has come from individuals, businesses and foundations. But we still have about \$25,000 to raise before we celebrate and open the doors this spring."

Holding encourages everyone who cares about our coast to make a donation by visiting the federation's web site at www.nccoast.org.

Everyone on the federation board and staff kicked off the fundraising in January with a donation. Among the major donors are: First Citizens Bank, the Cannon Foundation, Konrady & Son Construction, the Carlson Family Foundation, Holiday Inn Resort, CJB Foundation, PPD Development, the Bridge Tender Restaurant and the Marion Stedman Covington Foundation. Todd Miller, federation executive director, explains that, "This facility enables the federation to have a permanent high profile presence along the entire coast with its three strategically placed

offices. It expands our capacity to engage coastal residents and visitors in protecting and restoring our coast."

Tax-deductible donations can be made by visiting www.nccoast.org, calling the federation at 252-393-8185 or mailing a to: N.C. Coastal Federation, 3609 N.C. 24, Newport, N.C. 28570.