



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 23, 2014

Contact: Tracy Skrabal

Phone: 910-509-2838

Email: tracys@nccoast.org

Grand Opening Set for Federation's New Office, Education Center

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH -- The doors to the N.C. Coastal Federation's new Coastal Education Center and Southeast Office will officially open on Saturday, May 3.

Following the official ribbon cutting at 2 p.m., visitors can take informal tours of the newly- renovated center.

The open house follows a whirlwind 18 months after the owners donated the Palmgren-O'Quinn beach house on Wrightsville Beach to the federation. The house was moved from its former home on Harbor Island to its permanent location in the Historic Square of Wrightsville Beach. The move involved a barge trip around Harbor Island and a short truck trip up West Salisbury Street to the square.

"This past year has been all about moving the house and renovating it" says Tracy Skrabal, a coastal scientist and regional manager for the federation, "and we are definitely ready to open up the doors to fill the house with old and new friends of the federation."

During the grand opening, a continuous slide show will showcase the transformation of the Palmgren-O'Quinn house from a family beach cottage into the federation's Coastal Education Center and Southeast Office. From its barge ride around Harbor Island to the present, the presentation demonstrates the power of community action and support, partnerships, volunteerism and a little TLC. Guests can also record their

memories from the 1948 house, which will become a permanent "story-corps" video of the human history of the house. Federation staff will be on-hand to discuss ongoing work within the southeast region. They will also unveil new programs, such as a speakers' series, a coastal adventure series and a coastal culinary program.

While at the open house, visitors can check out the Plastic Ocean Project's "What Goes Around Comes Around" mobile art exhibit. This amazing work by Bonnie Monteleone is the winner of the 2013 Project Aware grant, and has also recently received funding from surfer-rocker Jack Johnson's All At Once network.

The grand opening is open to the public, and media is welcome. At the event, visitors can join the federation for a special rate of \$25. For more information, contact Skrabal at tracys@nccoast.org, or call (910) 509-2838.

--30--

About the North Carolina Coastal Federation:

"Working Together for a Healthy Coast"

The N.C. Coastal Federation is the state's only non-profit organization focused exclusively on protecting and restoring the coast of North Carolina through education, advocacy and habitat restoration and preservation. The federation's headquarters are at 3609 N.C 24 in Ocean between Morehead City and Swansboro and the office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The federation also operates field offices in Wilmington and Manteo. For more information call 252.393.8185 or check our website at www.nccoast.org.

[Web](#) | [News](#) | [Event Calendar](#) |  [Find us on Facebook](#) | [Forward to a Friend](#)

[Forward this email](#)

 **SafeUnsubscribe™**

This email was sent to sallys@nccoast.org by tracys@nccoast.org | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Rapid removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).