

# ncpf insight

2nd quarter June 2009



## Industry Appreciation Golf Tournament held



## 2nd quarter NCPF board meeting



## Legislative Updates



## Annual Conference set for August 12-14, 2009

## Billy Shepard, Jr., past N.C. Turkey Federation president, passes away

*Shepard also a past recipient of NCPF Service Award and NCPF Hall of Fame induction*



**Billy Shepard, Jr. 1918 – 2009**

*Shepard was a past recipient of NCPF Service Award, Hall of Fame induction.*

where he was active in his church, Salvation Army and Wayne Community College. He was Branch Manager of Statesville Flour Mills from 1939-1946, then with Goldsboro Milling Co. as a salesman and named General Manager in 1966. Billy was president of N.C. Feed Manufacturer's Association, N.C. Turkey Federation and National Turkey Federation. **He received the N.C. Poultry Federation Service Award in 1975 and was inducted in the N.C. Poultry Hall of Fame in 1991** and the Wayne County Agriculture Hall of Fame in 1992. He is survived by his wife of 69 years, Louise Woodard Shepard of the home; two daughters, Louise Gordon and husband, Jim of Raleigh, and Mary Sneed and husband, Stan of Wilmington; two sons, William H. Shepard III and wife, Debbie of Ocala, FL and Jim R. Shepard and wife, Teresa of Candor. He had 12 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Memorial gifts may be given to the building fund of Emma Anderson Memorial Church, P.O. Box 3071, Topsail, N.C. 28445

or the mission of Wesleyan Chapel United Methodist Church, 10255 U.S. Highway 17, Wilmington, N.C. 28411. Private electronic condolences may be left for the family at [www.jonesfh.org](http://www.jonesfh.org)

*Billy's son, Jim Shepard, is a past president of NCPF. Our condolences go out to the Shepard family.*



## also inside...

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William "Billy" Hosea Shepard, Jr. of Plantation Village in Wilmington died May 28, 2009 at his home. Private burial services were held on Saturday, May 30, 2009, at 11:00 a.m. at Onslow Memorial Park. He was born Nov. 3, 1918, in Wilmington, NC and was a son of the late William Hosea and Hazel Winstead Shepard. Billy graduated from Goldsboro High School in 1937 and made his home for 72 years in Goldsboro



## annual meeting set for august 12-14

The North Carolina Poultry Federation announced that plans are underway for its Annual Membership Meeting August 12-14, 2009. The annual meeting is again being held at the Grandover Resort in Greensboro, N.C. Special room rates are available until July 13, 2009 by calling Grandover at 800-472-6301 and asking for the room rate of \$147/night.

This year, NCPF will co-host the three-day event with the N.C. Egg Association, whose annual meeting, board meeting, and workshops will be held in conjunction with NCPF activities. Events will be open to members of either organization.

“For the Industry Workshop this year, we have secured excellent speakers to discuss extremely relevant topics concerning the poultry and egg Industries,” said Jan Kelly of the N.C. Egg Association. Workshop topics include labor issues, the U.S. Administration, and proper public education on the egg and poultry industries.

The joint annual meeting agenda includes:

- Industry workshops with discussion
- Hospitality suites
- NCPF membership drive
- Awards banquet with live band and cocktail receptions
- Board meetings
- Spouses’ Champagne Brunch with Miss N.C.
- Sporting clays tournament
- Golf tournament
- Omelet lunch with Guinness Book™ World Record Holder Howard Helmer.

One new addition to the annual meeting is a live band for the NCPF awards banquet. “Previously, a comedian was brought in to perform family-friendly standup; this year, we want to get people out of their seats,” said Bob Ford, executive director of NCPF.

Registration materials will be mailed to members of both associations. Attendance is expected to number well over 200.

## 2Q NCPF Board Meeting Held

NCPF held their second quarter board meeting June 4, 2009 with the Board of Directors. Issues discussed include legislative efforts on behalf of members and the poultry industry, the upcoming Annual Meeting, NC State’s Poultry Science program, the NCDA’s efforts to help out-of-work growers, and budget reports.

NCPF’s next board meeting will take place at the 2009 Annual Meeting in Greensboro, where board elections will also take place and the passing of the gavel will occur.

## Broiler Supervisor’s Short Course Scheduled

The **2009 North Carolina Broiler Supervisors’ Short Course** will be held on August 20<sup>th</sup> at the **McSwain Extension Center**, in Sanford, NC. A “**Serviceperson’s Award Program**” co-sponsored by North Carolina State University and the North Carolina Poultry Federation will again be part of this **Broiler Supervisors’ Short Course**.

## Tyson Foods’ Schaffer promoted

Springdale, AR, June 1, 2009 – Leland Tollett, interim president and chief executive officer of Tyson Foods, Inc., today named Archie Schaffer executive vice president, corporate affairs, a new position that is intended to enhance and expand the company’s role in the business community. Schaffer, who has been with the company 18 years, was previously senior vice president for external relations where he oversaw the company’s government, public and community relations efforts.

Schaffer joined Tyson in 1991 as director of media, public and governmental affairs. His roles and responsibilities grew and he became senior vice president for external relations in 1999. Prior to joining Tyson, Schaffer was administrative assistant to Governor and Senator Dale Bumpers and was Executive Director of the Arkansas Business Council.

## NTF adds Thesmar to staff

The National Turkey Federation is pleased to announce Dr. Hilary Thesmar as new Sr. Director of Scientific & Regulatory Affairs. Hilary is the former director of Egg Safety Center in Washington. Prior to that she was director of the Center’s food safety program. Hilary holds a PhD in food technology from Clemson University, a Masters in Nutrition from Winthrop University and a Bachelors in food science from Clemson. In addition, Hilary is a registered dietician, a HACCP Lead Instructor with the International HACCP Alliance, an officer with the Institute of Food Technologists and a member of numerous other professional associations.

## Industry Appreciation Golf Tournament Held

Winners, sun and fun at River Landing



Wallace, N.C.—Over 100 golfers involved in the poultry industry participated in the annual Industry Appreciation Golf Tournament at River Landing Country Club in Wallace, N.C. April 28, 2009. Prizes were awarded, along with lunch and goody bags, for the shotgun start tournament. This year’s Industry Appreciation Tournament was organized and run by Charlie Atkinson of Valley Proteins/Carolina By-Products (one of the NCPF President’s Circle sponsors). Charlie chose the beautiful River Landing Golf Course at the River Landing Country Club in Wallace, N.C. for the day and provided lunch, goody bags, and carefully selected awards. 1. Charlie Atkinson (Valley Proteins/Carolina By-Products) and his tournament assistants, Connie Ozment (Valley Proteins/Carolina By-Products) and Lisa Johnson (House of Raeford). 2. David Byrd of Butterball, LLC wins a Callaway golf bag, one of the door prizes. 3. Jim Stevens (Harris-Crane) chats with Will Waters after the tournament. 4. Donna Hunt of Mountaire Farms won Ladies’ Awards for Closest to the Pin & Longest Drive.

## “Food, Inc.” and the Nat’l Chicken Council’s Response

*The movie trailer starts off by asking, “How much do we really know about the food we buy at our local supermarkets and serve to our families?” Food, Inc. attempts to portray our nation’s food supply as being big business, and in turn not caring about consumer health, family farmers, worker safety or the environment. The movie features Eric Schlosser (Fast Food Nation) and Michael Pollan (The Omnivore’s Dilemma).*

“In addition to our response distributed earlier and posted to [www.nationalchickencouncil.com](http://www.nationalchickencouncil.com), a coalition of industry groups has launched a web site called [www.safefoodinc.com](http://www.safefoodinc.com) that could be useful if you have to respond to the film in some way. An article by Brownfield Ag Network on the Washington, D.C. screening and our reaction to the film is shown below.” —Richard Lobb, communications director, NCC

### Chicken Council official calls documentary ‘one-sided and misleading’

by Ken Anderson <http://tinyurl.com/ml8of8>

Attending this week’s premiere of the documentary film “Food Inc.” was Richard Lobb, communications director of the National Chicken Council. Lobb has a special interest in the film. He is the only representative of the ag or food industries who agreed to be interviewed for it, and his short clip on what’s good about America’s food system

appears near the start of the movie. But Lobb says, after that, the film becomes very negative and misleading.

“I don’t recognize the food system they’re talking about there,” Lobb says. “They take a lot of liberties with this. It’s very one-sided.” Lobb says the crowd at the movie’s premiere showing was dominated by what he calls “activists”. He says some interesting theories emerged during the post-movie discussion.

“Their attitude is that food is too cheap in this country—that people ought to pay more for their food—and if they paid more for their food, they’d make different choices and we wouldn’t have such an obesity problem,” Lobb explains. “I don’t know, maybe that’s true—but I think most people in this country prefer the supply of economical and wholesome food that we have.”

So does Lobb think the movie does damage to the agriculture and food industries? “For some reason we’ve become kind of the punching bag for the intellectuals in this country, and the people who want to fix everything and tell us how to run our lives better,” he says, “and I think this is the latest step.”

## UEP holds Annual Board Meeting & Executive Conference

UEP’s 2009 Annual Board Meeting & Executive Conference will be held at the Sheraton Resort on Maui, Hawaii during the dates of October 14th – 16th. Reservation forms will soon be available and requesting reservations be made by no later than September 10th. A welcome reception is planned for 6PM on Tuesday, October 13th. Committee meetings will be held the morning of October 14th and Board meetings held the mornings of October 15th & 16th. <http://www.unitedegg.com>

## Tyson, Pilgrim’s Pride get part of stimulus package

The USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service signed four contracts worth \$1.8 million with Tyson and Pilgrim’s Pride to purchase chickens and eggs for local school lunch programs and food banks, according to CNN. The contracts are part of a \$150 million stimulus program to restock food banks and feed the nation’s hungry, according to Hakim Fobia, a spokesman for the AMS.

## 2009 Poultry Science Association Annual Meeting

PSA 2009 will be held at the Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh, North Carolina, and hosted by the North Carolina State University. The PSA 2009 meeting will begin on Monday, July 20 and end Thursday evening, July 23 at the awards banquet. Hundreds of scientists, researchers, and students will gather in Raleigh, North Carolina, to exchange new information and developments in poultry science. PSA promises a cutting-edge scientific program to serve as an international forum to gather vital information for the future of the poultry science industry.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

The House and Senate have completed 78 legislative days of work on a State budget and nearly 3,000 substantive bills. The Senate has passed its version of a budget and sent it to the House, who is attempting to draft its own budget before the end of the State fiscal year on June 30. It's likely the House must deal with a reduction of over \$4 billion of spending since projected State revenues are expected to decline over the next year from nearly 21.5 billion dollars to less than 18 billion. Whether additional taxes will be included in the new budget remains to be seen. The following are some of the bills to which we have devoted significant attention:

**H.B. 390 An Act To Protect The Health Of Employees Of Poultry Processing Plants By Authorizing the State Health Director To Inspect The Plants.** Introduced by Rep. Beverly Earle of Mecklenburg County; directs the State Health Director to inspect poultry processing plants which employ 500+ employees in North Carolina. The State Health Director is directed to review records, interview individuals and inspect physical facilities in connection with worker health and safety. Furthermore, the bill directs poultry processing plants to maintain a "written log of all injuries and health concerns, including complaints of pain, whether or not the complaints reach any other threshold." The log must include the name of the employee, a description of the employee's injury or illness, the date the symptoms were first noticed, any action taken by a medical professional or other, and the outcome of any treatment or referral. The bill was referred to the House Health Committee, then the House Commerce Committee. We spent many hours discussing the ramifications of this legislation with the bill's sponsor. At this time, it appears the legislation is dead since failing to pass its house of origin by the May 21<sup>st</sup> "crossover" deadline.

**S.B. 1067 An Act To Establish The North Carolina Sustainable Local Food Policy Council To Address Policy Considerations Regarding The Development Of A Sustainable Local Food Economy In North Carolina.** Introduced by Sen. Charles Albertson; attempts to promote sustainable agriculture in North Carolina. Accordingly, the legislation creates a 24 member Council to review and recommend policies for giving greater marketing opportunities and public availability for local sustainable agriculture. The Council is funded by \$200,000 from the Dept. of Agriculture budget. The bill has been rewritten substantially and passed the Senate. The bill was brought up for discussion in the House Agriculture Committee on June 10<sup>th</sup>, when significant criticism of the budget provisions and other language in the bill surfaced among the members of the Committee. The Committee appointed a Subcommittee Chaired by Rep. Bill Brisson, who has requested all parties get together and agree upon less inflammatory language with a smaller, more representative Council and no budget impact upon the Dept. of Agriculture.

**H.B. 1175 An Act To Update the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permitting Requirements For Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs).** Introduced by Rep. Dewey Hill of Columbus County; purports to authorize various State environmental actions resulting from the new Federal CAFO Regulations dated November 20, 2008. The bill was requested by the N.C. Department of Environment and Natural Resources. The bill attempts to set forth separately the permitting requirements for existing and new animal facilities, including dry litter poultry operations. **This bill has been passed by House and Senate and has been sent to the Governor.**

**S.B. 534/H.B. Healthy Families and Healthy Workplaces Act.** Both House and Senate bills require employers to provide guaranteed paid sick days for employees and their families. This bill is opposed by all business groups. The bill has been discussed in the House Commerce Committee and the Senate Commerce Committee on separate days. Opposition to the bill in concept and in practice has been demonstrated among both House and Senate Committees. At this point, it seems unlikely that either House or Senate Committee will give a fa-

vorable report to the legislation this year.

**S.B. 781 An Act To Honor The Patient's Choice Of A Physician When The Patient Is An Employee Entitled To Compensation Under the Workers' Compensation Act.** This bill, introduced by Sen. Doug Berger of Franklin County, has been introduced in several previous Sessions without success. The bill authorizes an injured employee to select his own physician to attend, prescribe and assume the case and charge of his or her case. Most companies and business groups contend that this legislation, if enacted, would result in more workers' compensation litigation and higher costs of compensation and insurance. The bill failed to pass its house of origin by the May 21<sup>st</sup> "crossover" deadline and is thus dead for the Session.

**H.B. 805 An Act To Provide That An Employer's Contributions To An Employee's Retirement Accounts Are Included In The Calculation of "Average Weekly Wage" Under The Workers' Compensation Act.** Introduced by Rep. Rick Glazier of Cumberland County; seeks to include a calculation consisting of the employer's contributions to an employee's retirement accounts if such contributions are vested, quantifiable and available to the employee in the determination of the employee's "average weekly wage", for purposes of determining compensation under the Workers' Compensation Act. This bill is also opposed by many companies and most business groups since it will increase rates of compensation and will likely result in an increase in workers' compensation insurance premiums. The bill failed to pass its house of origin by the May 21<sup>st</sup> "crossover" deadline and is thus dead for the Session.

**S.B. 907 An Act To Enact The Water Resource Policy Act of 2009.** Introduced by Sen. Dan Clodfelter of Mecklenburg County; attempts to shift responsibility for the determination of the "reasonable use" of State waters and requires permits from the State with regard to water users who seek to withdraw 100,000+ gallons of water per day. Ultimately, the bill will provide for a State system of allocation of State waters throughout North Carolina. At this time, it appears that agricultural and forestry groups, utilities, manufacturers and municipalities have serious concerns involving this legislation. Accordingly, the bill's sponsor has set up meetings with individual groups to discuss concerns. Because of the number of concerns expressed and potentially huge impact, it is doubtful whether the sponsor intends to pursue the legislation this year.

**S.B. 32 An Act To Require That Employers In This State Use The Federal E-Verify Program Or A Similar Verification Of Work Authorization Program; And To Appropriate Funds To Establish And Support A Position To Assist In The Implementation And Execution Of This Act.** Introduced by Sen. John Snow of Cherokee County; requires employers who hire employees after January 1, 2010 use a Federal verification of work authorization method for determining if such employees are authorized for work in the U.S. There are significant violation penalties in the bill. The bill failed to pass its house of origin by the May 21<sup>st</sup> "crossover" deadline and is thus dead for the Session.

**H.B. 1226 An Act To Clarify and Reform The Statutes Of Limitation and Repose In Product Liability Actions and **S.B. 882 An Act To Clarify and Reform The Statutes of Limitation and Repose In Product Liability Actions.** These bills seeks to "clarify" when product liability cases can be brought to Court in North Carolina, although it appears that they will increase the time during which a product liability claimant will have to bring his lawsuit against the manufacturer or seller of the product. Most business groups oppose this legislation; they anticipate that it will result in a larger number of product liability cases and increase the cost of insurance and litigation. The Senate version of S.B. 882 passed the Senate before the May 21<sup>st</sup> "crossover" deadline and is currently pending in the House Commerce Committee.**

## New Immigration Reform Coalition puts pressure on White House

Leaders of a dozen immigration reform groups recently kicked off a new national campaign to try to lay the groundwork so the Obama administration can tackle the contentious issue of comprehensive immigration reform this year. The new coalition--Reform Immigration for America Campaign--includes leaders from civil rights, labor, agriculture, and religious groups, including the AFL-CIO, the National Council of La Raza, and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, among others. The coalition said that an overhaul of the nation's immigration system must include legalizing illegal immigrants, extending due-process rights to immigrants, and increasing enforcement at the borders and against employers who hire illegal immigrants.

With a packed legislative calendar in 2009, congressional leaders have yet to signal whether they will move on the immigration issue anytime soon.

## NCPF Conducts first Farm Tour of 2009

*Hosted by Tommy Porter, Jr., NCPF Board Member and grower for Tyson Foods*

May 29, 2009—CONCORD, N.C. Tommy Porter, Jr. hosted the NC Poultry Federation and legislation for the first Farm Tour of 2009 at his farm in Concord, N.C.

The 2009 Farm Tour is a collaborative effort among members of N.C.'s agriculture community to showcase agribusiness—North Carolina's biggest business. Additional tours are being planned for the rest of 2009. **NCPF thanks Tommy Porter, Jr. and his family for participating and helping us to show legislators what this industry is all about.**

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**Top NC Commodities by cash Receipts (IN MILLIONS)** Broilers: 2.48 Turkeys: 513 Eggs: 329

**Percentage of total NC Ag Commodity Sales** Poultry & eggs generate 38% and rank at the top of all commodity sales.

**Until next time, we continue to go to bat for our valued members and partners. We look forward to serving you through 2009.**

NC Poultry Federation [www.ncpoultry.org](http://www.ncpoultry.org) | 4020 Barrett Dr., Ste. 102 Raleigh, NC 27603 | 919-783-8218 office 919-783-8220 fax  
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