

Name of narrator: Gibb Walker

Interviewer: Nompumelelo Hlophe recorded this interview with the permission of Gibb Walker for the research project "Georgia's Fishing Traditions & Fishing Futures." Primary Investigator: Dr. Jennifer Sweeney Tookes, Georgia Southern University.

Others present: Ahmauri Williams-Alford who is a secondary interviewer.

Date of interview: March 23, 2018

Place: Brunswick, Georgia

Duration of the interview: forty-eight minutes and fifty-nine seconds

Repository for the recording: The recording has been uploaded to the website, Voices from the Fisheries (www.voices.nmfs.noaa.gov/)

Context for the interview: The narrator came to share his story of being in a shrimping industry from a young age and how things are different now compared to when he first started. Also share what he hopes to see in the shrimping industry.

General Description of Contents: The interview begins with a verbal permission from Gibb Walker to do the interview. Gibb Walker describes that he was born in Sapelo but moved to Brunswick with his family because there were no jobs in Sapelo. He explains that his uncle made him fall in love with shrimping at the age of 15 or 16 years. He also mentions that his father was also a shrimper. Only at the age of 20 did he start running a boat in 1961. He has not been shrimping since 2000 or 2003. He explains that in Darien most shrimp dealers were Portuguese. For him making plenty of money was the most rewarding part about shrimping. On March 15, they go to the sounds and catch crab, fish, and shrimp. During a bad weather for them it meant there will not be any shrimp. Gibb Walker also mentions that around December 26, they would head South because there would be no more shrimp in Georgia. He also mentions that Florida has bigger shrimp. During the 1930s and 1940 there was a lot of Portuguese. He says that in 1951 or 1952 there was one black fisherman who owned a boat in Darien or Brunswick (inaudible) and his name was Mr. R. Green and he had a boat called "Little Francis." In the 1980s (either 1982 or 1985) Mr. Walker says that he was the only black captain in Brunswick. Towards the end of the interview Gibb Walker encourages young people to go into shrimping because it is easier, and he hopes for the best in the fishing industry in Brunswick. He also says that he hopes to see the sounds open again for a month or more.

NH:	00:01	And um, so my name is Nompumelelo Hlophe and I'm here with my colleague, Ahmauri Alford and we are students from Georgia Southern University. I'm here with Mr. Gibb Walker, um, who's going to be conducting an oral inter, oral history interview as part of a project, future traditions and future fishing uhm fishing futures. I have already informed, um, I have already received an informed consent and permission to record this interview, but I just want to hear from you verbally. Is that okay?
GW:	00:30	Yes
NH:	00:35	Thank you. Um, so we have a couple of questions to ask you, but just to give it the comfortable, which are the, can you please

tell me more about yourself? Where you're from? And were you born?

- GW: [00:46](#) I was born on Sapelo Island, Georgia, that's about I guess 30 or 40 miles from here and I came, I came here in ah Brunswick in 1955 and I started working in Shrimping.
- NH: [01:08](#) And how was life like in Sapelo compared to here?
- GW: [01:12](#) Well, Sapelo didn't have no jobs, you know, so we have to become over here, you know, about 20 minutes or 30 minutes from here and you know, coming here to seek jobs.
- NH: [01:26](#) Did you move here with your family?
- GW: [01:28](#) Yeah, I moved here with my family.
- AW: [01:32](#) Can tell us what your life was like growing up with your family and within the community.
- GW: [01:35](#) Well, you know, a country life is, you know, you know, farming, you know, they had to, to put wood over there, you know, Winnipeg (?) was left you know over there wasn't no jobs, no nothing. So all the families have to come over. He had a thing, but you know, country life. It's all right. You know, farming work, you know. And then I had an uncle, you know, shrimp shrimp was. Yes, it was shrimping. So it'd be a little bit about shrimping stuff walk down over there. You just go there and help him. A young boy, you know, go there help him clean off the deck and it just shrimp and stuff like that.
- NH: [02:23](#) And He, was he the one who introduced you into the whole shrimping? Obviously, but um, is he the reason behind that you became a fisherman? Or is it somebody else who play? Um,
- GW: [02:35](#) yeah, I'd love to come down. And that started heading shrimp on the docks is, it had a lot of docks long time ago. All the whole waterfront was around nine to ten fish aisles. Have to go dock to dock heading shrimp, you know, trying to make a living and stuff like that. You know, was good money, then, you know what, not much money but it was a lot of money then, you know, couldn't make a living with it.
- NH: [03:00](#) That's cool. And um, is there anyone else in your family. This is also part of shrimping? Was it just your uncle?

GW: [03:06](#) No, my uncle and my daddy was a shrimper. Oh yeah. My uncle his for years. And then my daddy used to work on shrimp boats and, in Darien, you know, come home on the weekend to his family and you know what, but a was 30 minutes from Darien to Sapelo on a boat. And you're like, now, you know, 15 minutes now because we have faster boats, you know.

NH: [03:36](#) And how old were you when you,

GW: [03:38](#) When I came over here?

NH: [03:39](#) Oh no, when you started shrimping? Keep heading shrimp.

GW: [03:42](#) Uh, but 15 or 16 by 16. That was in ah 55.

NH: [03:50](#) Do you own your own boat now or?

GW: [03:54](#) No, I used to, I had two boats, I had two shrimp boats and I lost them. You know, I think the last one, I think we have bought me, my cousin had one together. Um, you know, the last two storms been here tore one of them up, you know, it had no shrimps, you know, so

GW: [04:17](#) lost it. But

AW: [04:21](#) what was like the average day to day routine you would have like out on the boat with you and your brother.

GW: [04:28](#) Well, you know, I was just in the my day. I used to, I started running boats and um, I'm thinking 1960, 61 I think, 61, 62, something like that I was 20, you know, 20 something years old. By where I was well branded channel, you know, it wasn't ships to go down and I made the good whether you tip a lot of nets(?), but I learned how to work on them and you know, I did pretty good, you know, shrimping.

NH: [05:08](#) And um, so while you were shrimping, I'm guessing you were saying that you would, you use to get money but it wasn't that good, but you could make a living.

GW: [05:17](#) Oh no I made real good shrimping

GW: [05:20](#) Yeah, I made money. Yeah, I did real good shrimping, you know. But I rigged the channel when nobody else know how to work, you know, but I take a lot of nets but I work, you know, the fix and that's what I do now, you know, fixing them or repair them, you know, they're both to tear them up, you know, sharks, eat

them up, something like that. I takes them and repair them now.

- NH: [05:42](#) So you don't do a lot of shrimping?
- GW: [05:45](#) No I don't, there's not much shrimp since 2000, 2002, 2003 something like that, I was stop shrimping.
- AW: [05:52](#) Did your uncle teach you how to fix the nets?
- GW: [05:56](#) I learned, I learned, I, I learned how
- GW: [05:58](#) I work in a tailor nets and, you know, got a family. I had a family to take care of, you know, and had to learn because I had no money to pay nobody to fix them for me. So, I learned myself, I learned myself.
- NH: [06:19](#) Okay. So, would you say shrimping life, the back then was much more fun and hip compared to days now?
- GW: [06:28](#) Well the most, uh, most of they a new style, you know, but old style look different. You know, we had to pull our rigging stuff by rope a long time ago. Now they've got cables, you know, you got all kinds of winches and stuff with power, everything, electric and stuff. New advanced stuff now. Ain't like was like long time ago, but more easier now. They got everything to work by now. Long time ago, but we had ah trees. The line up for the slooze (?), but now they got the. Got a, got computer now with the GPS and stuff or you see him in the boat now it's more easier now and like it was a long time ago. Your little baby goes from now and for from now, but long time you had to know what you're doing. If you don't know what you doing you catch no shrimp because you could be just a little further off from somebody else.
- GW: [07:29](#) They gonna be on this side of you and you the moss sloop (?) and that where the shrimp at. You don't know what the lineup. It had to line things up. You know the fish long time ago and when it's foggy, foggy, you know if you had a spine in lead (could not understand) long time ago, not they got put meters (could not understand) in plotters and stuff now. So it more easier. Now you know, you go do real good, better, better now because everything is new. So long time ago it was. It was rough, but you had to know what you're doing. They'll make a living. We didn't know what you're doing. You want to make a living in a lot of fellows, you know, long time ago, new guys, you

know, they, they know it wasn't too good. You fail, but you know he didn't know what you're doing, you know, be all right.

- AW: [08:26](#) Can you tell us a little more about the challenges back then?
- GW: [08:33](#) Well, long time ago, you know, if you catch no shrimp you had no job. You had to do good. You know what color you are? Nothing. You had to do good because most of the dealers around here, they were Portuguese report together (could not understand)_with one white fellow who owned a lose crab factory (?) when I first started it was two of them there was Jim Sloan. Everybody else was Portuguese and they were rough fishermen's they don't care. You had to make money with them, or ain't got no job.
- AW: [09:18](#) So like what uhm you said, they were rough. Like how can you explain that a little bit further? Can you explain a little bit further how they were rough?
- GW: [09:28](#) Well rough it means that, you know, if you ain't do good,
- GW: [09:35](#) you fired it and you know in a long time ago shrimp fisherman (?) was, you know, like hey, like if you go to a lately, you know, everybody will make, you could make \$100. But fisherman was the old long time ago, fisherman was the only one because it could get a good catch. You make money making the 100s and everybody that's making \$40 to \$50 a week, paycheck, you know, and you make \$100 a week fishing you rich that we call rich, you know, because you know, that was a lot of money, right? Because everything long time ago, you know, and in the sixties and fifties and sixties everything was cheap, you will take \$200 and feed four, five people but now you know, take up 200 300 now, you know, so a little harder then and, and maybe didn't make, make no money with them Portuguese, you, you, you, you're in bad shape. But I did good, you know, because I, I did good on on it. I had a world where I'm in no job. I kept good, good jobs and catch a lot of shrimp in my days.
- NH: [10:57](#) How many hours would like you spend on a boat?
- GW: [11:01](#) Well, me, myself, I spent a lot of hours. I worked. I might leave on 2:00 o'clock and fish the dock and get back up 2:00 o'clock when everybody else come up and fish on daylight I already had the drag of the day when I work. Ain't nobody give it to me (?). I had to work for it. When you got to catch up three or four more basket and in the highest boat you're doing good. So you already had a job because I worked, but I, you know, I catch

hell. I caught hell no, he wasn't good. It wasn't good. I'd be sleeping.

- NH: [11:46](#) So can you just tell us about what was like the best part? I think I might have already asked you this question? Like what is
- NH: [11:54](#) The most rewarding part about being a shrimper.
- GW: [12:00](#) Making plenty of money. We could fish round here. The savory as well (?). A long time, but we still work the sounds and it kept the sounds open in March. March 15
- GW: [12:18](#) and then from March 15 we kept it going to sound and we catch crab and fish and shrimp and on them three things you could make money on. You could make a living. If there was no shrimp, you might make it all fish or a crab then it crab. Was, you know, was pretty good. You know, crabbing. I used to make two or \$300 a day on crab, but that's a lot of crab. But that was in the sound. Then they closed the sound off. Then at the end of this that we all show that I thought, oh show they have stopped but (?) May and June would it be all show? Then you know, you make a pretty good living. And it was rewarding because I made a good living, but everybody didn't do it. Now it wasn't everybody. You had to been lucky and hard work it. If they recognize hard work, not one who those good (?). Now you know, working one who works hard. If you go out there and make one or two drag. You know, that is one of the two drag and you got somebody who rig all day long for 10, 15 hours a day, you know, say come back home. Nine o'clock I leave home at 2:00 and come back home, uh,
- GW: [13:43](#) and be back at 2 o'clock but by 9 o'clock be home, get back up 2:00. That's a lot of hours. But you know, you got to do it. Especially around them Portuguese. They didn't care about you guys. You had to work.
- NH: [14:00](#) So, would you say most of your, some of your perseverance of actually wanting to work really hard with because of the influence of the Portuguese or.
- GW: [14:09](#) Yeah, them Portuguese was hard, but they was fishing too, but nobody played with they hard, if you catch a lot with them, you keep a job. If you don't catch a lot with them, you ain't got no job. And it was good fishermans. They were calling in and know the ground (?). I have got for Portuguese, uh, uh, to work with a sounding layer, do you know what a sounding layer is? A piece of lead but that, but that big around and about that tall. A got,

you put soap on the bottom of the, throw it out in a, on a, on weight, dragging at and see the mud down there. But no mud get on there. As founder led. You got to go find out where that mud at, that's where the shrimp at, it's loose (?).

- NH: [14:57](#) Hmm. That's interesting. Yeah.
- NH: [15:02](#) And how many people did you have in your team when you would like
- NH: [15:06](#) the captain? or.
- GW: [15:14](#) Well I'm always had one but, but ah on a bigger boats. When I got bigger boats I had three uh, two beside my me and two more men's. That's what I'm sending it to photos and six to eight photos(?).
- GW: [15:28](#) But I had to work because a one man can't take it by itself, one man can't handle it. With a boatload of shrimp. One man, he can handle it. You have to go back there, run back and forth to a wheel, got automatic parts (?), you know, I, can use one man in it and do good. But they kept them shrimp they catch now. Now we don't pull rigs. Now you got to have two or three men's, some of them four men's on deck now. But before I had, I didn't need but one man, two mans, but most of our work where a guy, hey, one good man, I'm back. That I didn't need what a, just two of us on the back then. But now you know, on the bigger boats or more power and more shrimp be catching, the bigger boats catch more shrimp now, the bigger your boat the more shrimp you catch now. Because more power you have that we ain't had no, no power by the holding or something like that (?). Now they got eight, nine, six, seven, eight, nine on that horse power. So that meant you could put bigger rigs.
- NH: [16:36](#) And um, what do you think the younger generation should know who don't live on the coast? Like a person like me. What? Or Ahmauri? What would you teach us about the history or do you want us to understand about the history of coastal Georgia?
- GW: [16:51](#) Well, you have to know how to,
- GW: [17:01](#) how to work the rig. Yeah. But how to work the rig and how to read your instrument now, but long time ago you had to read sings. But now days with new advanced, if you got the plotter and, and, and, and the map and stuff, it's easier now, but long time ago it wasn't that easy. But now it's easier to go now because you got plotters and the plotters, show you the whole

everything on that bottom is more for a green man to work now, but long time ago you had to get it. You had to, you know, but not a, you got a equipment and stuff. I tell you everything you want to know now and it's more easier for a green man and the operator in getting a business now.

- NH: [17:53](#) and what signs are you're talking about? Like what signs would you be looking for when you go out?
- GW: [17:57](#) Okay. You might not understand, but that place that they call a pope mail. If a place that is a mill, that where they make paper and stuff. Oh yes. It's got smoke stacks. Okay. We get them in the morning time? The first day we do is look at where that smoke is going at, is the smoke coming out the west. Is coming, this way if it coming out the west. That means the shrimp is coming out the beach. Okay no shrimp coming the northeast is all show. Okay. Most of the time be coming down Brunswick channel and the shrimp northeast. We're going to turn into northern and either go to a slew (?) that's called a Portuguese slew (?) and go to the northern than move with a northeast wind and the wind southeast. You look at smoke stack it would come out southeast we'd go to the southern that, that the other thing in the game. You've got to go by that wind the wind would tell you where those shrimp at. So most of the time when I'm coming out the west, I'm going to drag from this channel coming out the west, I know is in the channel because then that is in that muddy water, you know, muddy waters and the channel and will be where the shrimp be at. You got to go by the, by the wind though that smoke stack. Of the wind.
- GW: [19:33](#) south. North, west, southeast. Yeah that's where the shrimp at. That's like how I will go and that's how people do now go by the wind. We call it ah, you look at that smokes stack and that smoke stack would let you know where it's at.
- NH: [19:55](#) Did he use the sun in any sense? For anything? Did you use the sun for anything or did you base everything on the wind?
- GW: [20:04](#) No, no I do go by the weather. Then most of the time, you know, when it's getting bad weather or something coming, you know, bad weather or something coming. We are, you know, ain't going to be no shrimp. But when the weather is good (?) the shrimp show up, I don't know the shrimp is funny. They watch the weather too, I guess when the wind is blowing stock (?) stop. It stop, what time is stopped? I slowed down slack off then it does good. I have it done it good (?) right there.
- NH: [20:44](#) And um, what are your thoughts on the future of the fishing

- NH: [20:48](#) community and fishing industry as a whole?
- GW: [20:51](#) Oh, I love it. I mean, I think it's a lot of money in shrimping business. There's a lot of money in it, but you know, you got to know what you're doing you got to. Everybody ain't going to do it because if there ain't no shrimping, in a Georgia there is shrimp in Florida, if there ain't shrimp in Florida and North Carolina, there is shrimp in South Carolina. If you follow the season, you does good, but you can stay around here and, and say you going to try and make a living. Cause there is no shrimp here. I will go to Florida. I did a lot of fishing in Florida. St Augustine, Ferdino (?), Daytona, the Cape, Cape Kennedy and most of the most my day that after. But after, um, December 26 we take it ice and fuel (?). We headed the south, there is no more shrimp in Georgia (?). So we go, we head south and go down and down and when you call Cape Kennedy, that's where the massive stuff at (?). It was a lot of fish that was down there. I was down there and most people (?) in North Carolina, Texas, everybody be down there then.
- GW: [22:09](#) But you know, not a, you know, they, them tech boats and thin boats (?), they go down to Keywest now, but it's not like this. Like right now there's a lot of ocean down in Florida. Make it around here it is nothing, but you got if you follow the season you'll make a living, but you can stay round here. When the season go you got to follow the shrimp and moved the time. It moved to Carolina now, so it's no threat to move on. But Joe (could not understand), they're doing good and after season round here goes moving further to (could not understand) South Carolina, North Carolina and in Florida, but we looked. We looked. We does good right here when you know when there is shrimp around you. We does good. We does good. From say a next couple of months. This is march. April from May. You going do good, around here, Georgia in Florida and someone goes to South Carolina, you know, but more. I'm a Florida man. Yeah, I love Florida.
- NH: [23:25](#) How long, how often do you go down to Florida?
- GW: [23:28](#) Well, when I was fishing I go down there every after Christmas, but middle of November. That would mean does good down in Florida does a real good in Florida in November that you make good trips, but you know, if you know it was called, thing is sometime it'd be better. Right here, but most of the time is because there is biggest shrimp, biggest shrimp and everything. And you make good money down in Florida. Yeah. I love fishing Florida. Then I can know Florida, you know cause Ferdino (?)

- GW: [24:10](#) and Maypole (?) and St. Augustine. They had didn't have too many Portuguese. They had a lot of Italians around there but it had one or two ah Portuguese first time everybody was Portuguese, you know Portuguese they stick together. Yeah. They had talked to one another be talk one other on the phone being got the phone. Like we got now a cell phone. We had a big old phone. We had phones long time ago called reach from here to Texas, you know on the, on the phone, you know on the boat. But now you've got cell phone now to where you want to talk about. They had boat phones and you to be talking to calling fellows from Florida. Telling them what they're doing. They tell what they would be running in Florida with that. How we go right now. Long time ago on the radio phones. But now you can't use them phones no more because they interfere , with the airplanes and bases and stuff. You can't. They can't talk because it's too powerful. They're not good. They have be based (?) out like the air base on St. Simons. We talked we whack (?) them off because they powerful phones, but it can't have them no more they don't have cell phone. Like that no more.
- AW: [25:29](#) I might be a little behind on my history, but why was. Do you know why there is such like a heavy Portuguese influence along the coast in the fishing industry?
- GW: [25:41](#) Well, They don't want to take it into a minute now (?). What it was long time ago it was a gang only they use to own everything. I thought it wouldn't be one to two. A white people had business in the fifties and sixties. And the forties and the thirties all Portuguese and they was good fisherman. They was the top fisherman, because I worked with them. I work with them and I got to be tough. I'd taken a. If you late, you ain't got no job. You had to be on the ball. That's why I kept a good job. That's why I started running boat young man because I've always been on time and it takes in the loop, uh, do what they tell me to do. That's how I learned it. And when I started running boat in 61, 1961, that probably make a good week. They're going to be laid out. Don't want to go. I go find me some else to go to work because I couldn't stay outside the dock. If I go outside the dock. I ain't got no job. So I had to go to work and I, if I had to learn how to make a living, it wasn't good. Now them Portuguese don't play.
- NH: [27:16](#) So did the Italians run the same time as the Portuguese are here? So with that at the same time or did the Italians come after?
- Speaker 2: [27:25](#) those they was from Carolina, Carolina. And the only, it was some Italians in our front (could not understand). There was

some Italians in Ferdino (?) and there were some Italians in St. Augustine. So you know, that they rule the rules of the game, Italian and Portuguese they was the. It wasn't, it was one, it was one black Fisherman, uh, that in Brunswick, Darien had his own boat that was named Rubeal (?) Green. He had his own shrimp boat. Well, he bought a, uh, he bought a brand new that was in 50. Let's see what you get. I was, he bought that boat.

GW: [28:33](#) It was in 51 or 52. He had a small boat, but bought a brand new from diesel sale. And he does, he did real good he was a good fisherman when Rubeal (?) Green with a boat called little francis. That was the only black owner and in the forties and the fifties and the sixties, sixties, Right Brunswick now. It was in Darien, MacIntosh County (?) don't have a lot of black fisherman that thing. Go ahead. Uh, it was, it was, but on a brand new one, a brand new \$60. That was what was about 65 foot. It was a two or three more. Black fellows had little smaller boats, ah then, but most everybody else. You know what? Everybody Will Portuguese. In 19 ah no, no, 70 something in seventy. So I believe. Well.

GW: [29:52](#) Oh all. Oh well all, all uh,

GW: [29:58](#) black fisherman. It was about 60-70 captain and I mean our longest quit and got hill job. Oh well I didn't quit and ah I just leave (?). I just drag by the channel and I made a living from the channel with the crabs there was crab fish and stuff I made to living so I didn't had to quit and then anything so. And I was the only one. Then when he got there going on black captain around here

GW: [30:32](#) for a

GW: [30:39](#) eight is what? 80, 80 to 85 or something like that day I was in Brunswick now I wasn't in Darien and Ferdino (?), It was one or two more get black captain, but I was the only one black captain. Then over the rest of them being white, white fellows

GW: [31:00](#) all over

GW: [31:01](#) all the Portuguese they uh, they quit and died out in.

GW: [31:09](#) Uh, shoot,

GW: [31:14](#) in 60, 70 in 70. I think most of them.

GW: [31:21](#) are,

GW: [31:25](#) white. I forget (?). That was 66, 67 or so because I was the only one for about 10 years who was the black captain for about 10 years in Brunswick. And then a fellow another black fellow board the shrimp boat (?). What's the problem here? He was black captain and just me and him.

GW: [31:53](#) you know,

GW: [31:56](#) but you know Darien, Darien now they're different. Darien have a lot of, a lot of black owners and all of black, black captain.

GW: [32:03](#) Hmm.

GW: [32:04](#) But I think I was ah last last owners. I was the only black owners in any Brunswick.

AW: [32:14](#) So just to clarify, when you say hill job, you mean like job? Like on the land. Okay.

GW: [32:19](#) Yeah, yeah, yeah. Jobs up here. Like they used to be a place down there called King and Prince. Let me see.

GW: [32:38](#) Oh,

GW: [32:42](#) Right down, right down there, is right down little further down by where, the ship dock at. That's where, that's where king and prince was.

GW: [32:54](#) Okay.

GW: [32:54](#) It was sea packing place. You know what sea packing place is? You know sea packing place.

NH: [32:59](#) Can you just clarify for me what a sea packing place is, I don't think I'm. I really know what it is.

GW: [33:05](#) Oh, sea pack place. Where they, where they, where they, pack the shrimp at and send them to them stores and so that way a lot of, almost all the fisherman went down there and work. Yeah. Most all of them went down there to work because uh, you know, didn't know but shrimping and they got shrimp from all over and they would pack them and shipped them all over and selling and on stores and a lot of women's in a lot of things that way. Almost all the fishermen because it was hill job, you know, it wasn't no money making in shrimping but, but me

GW: [33:38](#) because I was crazy.

NH: [33:40](#) So did the most of the black captain, were they mostly into shrimping or other or crabbing?

GW: [33:51](#) Yeah. Well, well most often you need to be a lot of black fellows, ah shrimping

GW: [33:59](#) you know. But you know, when you can't make a living, I tell you, that's where I made my money. I made it. I drove in Brunswick channel all the time. That's the only one year, but it dragging anywhere else the way up so everybody's going to take on that slope and work all night and try to fix them in. Try to go to go to work. So they had to get another job. You know, I, I make my money, I would somehow make more money off. Oh crabbing and shrimping. I mean current (?) crabbing and fishing and not make on shrimp. If they ain't no shrimp my, I make mine off crab or fish because it's my channel where the money at. See Brunswick channel is muddy. There ain't no more no more. They didn't drag it out of them (?). Big old ships are they go. If it's not starve to death (?).

NH: [34:46](#) Is there anyone else in your? Uhm Would you encourage younger people? Yeah.

GW: [34:54](#) Nower days is easy now because it got all the equipment and the new equipment and stuff and you know, you had to go to the right place. But like I say, got watch them wind that wind will tell you a lot. The wind that smokestack, uh, that will get up and tell you where the wind is blowing at. Then you either go this way, go that place and in certain time of the year you got to know when to go to Florida. Certain time you've got to know when to go to Carolina. Most of the time there will be no shrimp in Brunswick than you go to Carolina, Carolina have, might have good season,

GW: [35:33](#) that's northern.

GW: [35:36](#) And sometimes you have to go south see most time in June. In June. You go to Carolina either south? because the beach is open in Florida in June. Carolina open in June.

GW: [35:54](#) Yeah,

GW: [35:57](#) right. Right here they open them around June it will open around June here too, but sometimes it might not be no shrimp. Most time we go to Florida and it does good on the day (office telephone rings).

AW: [36:16](#) so, um,

UNKOWN: [36:20](#) (Message from the phone)

AW: [36:22](#) what do you hope to see in the next generation of commercial fishing?

GW: [36:28](#) Well

GW: [36:31](#) I like to see them don't do good around Brunswick around here, you know what I do, but it's a good living. I made a good living in this its way better now, but you know, I believe it'll be all right. And you know, somebody get a boat, you know? Yeah. We could make a living around here.

NH: [37:00](#) And what um, like what types of thing could happen. What do you think is gonna happen in the shrimping industry or fishing industry in the next coming five years? Here in Georgia.

GW: [37:12](#) What do they got? They got a lot of rules and regulations now. But you know, if you can keep up with the rules, and regulations, it'd be all right. But you know like they got the, the turtle, shoots and stuff. cause I have worked on. I had worked on boats and we test them turtle shoots and stuff and now it kept so much shrimp is if they ain't no turtle shoots but they would not have killed ah save the turtles, you know. And now they then started with the fish thing. So you had to put fish high in there just so much fish in, in your, in your bag issue somehow. No. So you know, if it helped though, rules and stuff, it's kind of hard. But you know, you can live with it. The can, you know, shut off this I've asked, I've caught, I've caught a dolphin in my net and that's an indigenous species. But what happened, come my turtle shoot. I shoot them out

GW: [38:22](#) but the dolphin must have got hung up in it. And when a, when a game caught me with a side of me, we put the net up because we was all showed when he, when he caught me and then he was ah, I put my net up then was the Dolphin in the net and they took me, they took me a down to the St. Simons and say they gonna, take all my shrimp and everything. Then they call the head man and the head man had told him what I said the, the thing had been in my net. But at the end, hell ain't going be your net. You know, you can't help that because uh, it come from what's coming on it. We got a big old turtle shooter and it shoots them out, shoot everything big out. There got fish and shrimp they don't want us to go to it.

GW: [39:13](#) But it got hung up somewhere and the net. So, you know, things like that, you know, because they try to save everything, sharks and everything. And then sharks they will kill you they bad. I've seen him shot. We had last year was so bad that he had eat everybody up. I mean it ate them up. Them sharks last year ate the nest up. I mean I'm telling you it ate them up bad, they got a bad they had, all kinds of stuff, pulling it trying to save them, you know, but you know, its all in the, in the business. But you know, they uh, they. And that way I think you'll do good at shrimping. But I would like to see, you know, them sounds open again. I'll be, I might have it them sounds open for about a month or so, but they, they, they closed them down now I have made a good living at that sound when they were open and then uh, they want to say long time ago when we used to drag on the sound, it was a lot of things they catching. Now I'll show, you know, you could go inside there and we catch them and bring them bottom up and have nice pretty stuff offset (?). Not it got so on. Clothing is not so good now, but I believe they open them sound for a month or so. But you know, they're good boys. They know, but anyway they go to you going make a living. I know. I could.

GW: [41:09](#) I can. We're going to do it no more. I retired now but. I could make a living. It's a good living and green horns. You know what, a green horn is? That's somebody who knows nothing. They can make a good living. Now, because they got everything. They got everything. They got put computers in, in a, in them plotters and stuff and everything on the cloud or not.

GW: [41:42](#) You know, dumb people in, in, in a moment. If you dummy you fall asleep because everything. You got to the bottom though. Everything on a boat on how to make a living. Oh, you gotta do have it, but it went on break on you. It's best to, you know, you don't know the ground. Cause of the equipment going break on you if you know the ground. Now the sound the land and stuff. Most of the time you have the mark your spot on on the land. They got san on the land. They got dips in the woods. It's like Jackal (?) and St. Simons they got dibs and them woods if you go by them, you could make a good living when your equipment go, but now you've got equipment. You see everything on the bottom. We're dragging that now, they got a whole that was on that screen. It just like that. That fit the screen. They got the whole, they got the whole sea bottom, right at the bottom you could see and you could see on your computer and you go, go anywhere to drag. Any way you want to drag, go and get close to a bank. You can see it. You can see everything now. It more easier now or not easier to make a living on a shrimp boat. If you got the equipment now,

- GW: [43:06](#) but it changes now. What I would like to see that changes is it's opened up sounds up for a month or so, but you know they ain't gonna do it.
- AW: [43:20](#) Can I ask how the term Green Horn was created?
- GW: [43:29](#) Ah green horn is like you. Ya'll two green horns. Because you don't know nothing. Right? So that why I say green horn. A green horn. Say Right now you want to buy a shrimp boat right now. You is a green horn. You don't know nothing but somebody like me would know, you ain't gonna know I tell you what I tell you. They ain't gonna take what you tell them. They will do it their way we call them green horns.
- AW: [44:04](#) How did you come up with that name? It's just always being called green horn.
- GW: [44:13](#) Well, when somebody, uh, working with you, I think they know more than, you know, they can't know more than I know in that. And I've been knowing it for years. So I say, you're a green horn you're a green horn, I want you to tell me nothing. That what I say you know why I call them green horns. Good jeeter bugs (?) these days. They think they know everything and they don't know much as ah, just like ah, when I was first started, I'll work for them Portuguese and them Portuguese you can't tell them nothing. I had ah, I worked for,
- GW: [45:03](#) where the place is right next door to only place right there, see that place right there. Them Portuguese use to own that. I worked for about 20 years. And they have them new green horns come from Portugal. They come over here and they won't give him a job and they give them a boat. They give a green horn a boat. They're going give you nothing get and get that green horn that boat. I had the show how to catch. How to do and how to do that. And we work two or three weeks. Then you can't tell him nothing. So one day we, we, uh, we twist the dough ah dough (?),
- GW: [45:49](#) you know, what the dough (?) is, is, is, is something that spreads your net. And sometimes when you turn around it is a dough (?). If he put it like that right there. And if they get turned around and target it, a flip it over and it turned over, this will, we got to get the bag, get the bag. And I told them, you got to turn the boat all the way around. So you could catch the tail of the rope, so they'll pull it in. He told me that I need you to tell me nothing. So I let him do what he tells me to do and he pulled it and it took them three hours is spread it back out. Didn't take me, take me and wouldn't want to take me, 15 or 20 minutes if

he did what I said he do. So green horns can't tell them nothing.

- NH: [46:37](#) So does the term Green Horn only apply in the shrimping and fishing industry or.
- GW: [46:44](#) It's out the street to. He didn't benefit. And Vincent (could not understand) and stuff, they want to tell you what to do. You can't tell him nothing, mechanic work. You do mechanic work a somewhat addicted (?) no more, you know. They green horn.
- NH: [47:06](#) Okay.
- NH: [47:07](#) Um, so just one last question. What do you think. You may have probably touched this. Um, but I just want to hear from me. Like what do you think uhm fishing future in Georgia? Looks like
- GW: [47:23](#) It looks good to me it does, it's a lot of money making Georgia a lot of money. They can catch some shrimp in Georgia now.
- NH: [47:40](#) Do you have anything else that you would like to share with us? Some other fascinating story?
- GW: [47:48](#) No, not exactly. You know, but I think it is going to be good and it got to be good. You gotta be good. Is the money making house, You know what the what the Bible verse (?) saying a fisherman will never starve? Ever heard that?.
- AW: [48:13](#) Today
- GW: [48:15](#) Yeah. That the oldest business though,
- GW: [48:21](#) isn't it?
- GW: [48:23](#) **A fisherman is the oldest business. It don't care where you go at fishing is the oldest business.**
- GW: [48:32](#) is in the Bible. That's right. You going do good fishing any kind of fishing, fishing, shrimp all that makes money.
- AW: [48:51](#) Thank you so much for your time and coming to talk to us again.
- GW: [48:56](#) Yeah.