

You don't have to be an artist to want to join the CARTERET ARTS COUNCIL; artists are indeed welcome - artists who paint or sing or dance or play an instrument or love a spot behind the footlights, but artists need friends, listeners, audiences who can cheer them on with enthusiasm and support. That is what the Arts Council is about, and its members are looking for more members who really believe that man cannot live by bread (even if it's fortified with niacin) alone. And for the first two weeks in February the council is having a big push for these new members; five dollars a year and you are a supporter of all the arts in Carteret County. A one man show of photography and marquetry (inlaid work of wood and other materials) by GEORGE MECHAM of Snug Harbor can be seen at the Marine Resources Center, for a month, beginning Feb. 4th, and a reception will be at 7:00 p.m. the night of the 4th, open to the public. Mr. Mecham spent a good deal of time in China in the early part of the century and has some most interesting pictures.

To join, contact MARSHA BOOKER, 52 Pine Knoll Townes, 726-2833, or just send her your \$5.00, payable to the Carteret Arts Council. Your membership card will be forthcoming.

DON'T LET THE WEATHER GET YOU DOWN!!! Plan now to beat the holidays! We wouldn't dare to talk about Christmas right now - we aren't quite over the harassment of last minute shopping and finishing gifts. BUT --- How about making a "dainty" for a Valentine gift - real sharp - it's a Valentine Heart pin-cushion! What to make for St. Patty's day in March? How about doing some decorations for a party? You know - favors or something to honor the old Saint? April is Easter month this year and think of all the fuzzy chicks and ducks and stuff you could make. May is, of course, May basket month, and June, they say, is for brides but let's greet summer learning how to make simple arrangements of either fresh or artificial flowers. The Glorious Fourth in July offers all sorts of possibilities. August is vacation month (or it was for us in our working days), but how about doing some tallies and scorepads to get ready for the card playing days that are soon upon us? Now, we better get started on Christmas '77. We are sure that you all have special tree ornaments, whose makings you would be willing to share with the rest of us, like knit or crocheted Christmas stockings, or Twelve Days of Christmas motifs to make into any number of things such as clothespin decorations or wreaths made from all sorts of materials, even burlap, and on and on. How about crocheting or knitting a catnip mouse for that favorite kitten of yours? And then there are always babies to create for - you note we said "create for" and not create! Take time out for Hallowe'en and Thanksgiving - all those fun things and turkey, scarecrows and ghosts, from all sorts of materials. Isn't it endless?

There is a group started that would love to have you come along if you like. We'll be doing all sorts of exciting things. There is so much talent in Pine Knoll Shores that we are sure we could all learn a lot if this sort of thing is your "bag". Get in touch with Verna Armstrong, 726-0091, or Elizabeth Ames at 726-8397.

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WE HAVE BEEN HEARING more and more about the AARP group in the Morehead City area. This is a very active chapter of the national Association for Retired Persons to which many of us belong. We called Wilma Reusch, new president of the local group and asked about their program. They meet the third Monday of each month at 11:30 for luncheon and a program. Since the place varies, she suggested that anyone interested might call her at 728-3885 or Julia Holt at 726-2923. Programs for the meetings are built around member interests. They may have a speaker or slides or a travel talk. They also sponsor a tax aid program with trained counselors who take a course at CTI to prepare themselves. They work with the Meals-on-Wheels program, with Sailors' Snug Harbor at Sea Level, offer counseling on aging, and they have group trips just for fun such as last year's trip to Ocracoke and one to Manteo. This is not a small organization -- already they have a hundred members. And it is a group which many of us in Pine Knoll Shores might both enjoy and find very worth while.

ANOTHER group, well worth while but for women only, is the Carteret Newcomer Club which invites all women who have lived in PKS for not more than two years to attend its meetings held at 1 p.m. on the first and third Thursdays of each month at the Webb Civic Center in Morehead. A strictly informal and social group, they plan occasional outings including husbands and friends, as well as programs with speakers, all aimed at acquainting them with the area and one another. What a wonderful way to meet new friends who will make you feel most welcome!