

OUR NEW NEIGHBORS

Once upon a time Bill Mann said to Peggy Mann, "You know, we've never lived at the beach!" That was the beginning of their search for the ideal place, and after much looking around, even living for awhile in Atlantic Beach, they found Pine Knoll Shores. "It was the people," Bill said, "that decided us." They are ensconced now at 115 Arborvitae.

Peggy grew up in Boone and Bill in Asheville, but they've been in Eastern North Carolina since 1965. Peggy is the librarian at the Cherry Point Library. Is there anyone out there besides me who didn't know there was a library at Cherry Point? It's part of the Training and Education Directorate, has some 60,000 volumes, not to mention more than 50,000 in micro form. Marines can continue their educations right there at the base while they're serving the Country. Bill works for Grumman Corporation and at Cherry Point they can sort of work together as that's where his office is. They leave home at 6 in the morning and don't return till 6 at night, but they both seem to enjoy what they're doing.

Along the way from Asheville, the Manns have raised three girls and two boys, now scattered around - one son is currently stationed in England with the Air Force and Bill and Peggy had a great visit with him last winter. There are eight grandchildren. Peggy said that for 15 years they had a least one teen-ager in the house and during that time Bill got deep into Boy Scout work, first as a scout master and later he was the advisor of the first co-ed explorer post in 1971, right out of Havelock.

"But," says Bill, "We're just plain folks." Nothing plain about 'em.

MARY DOLL

This is quite a "Grummanite" community, one is finding out. Frank Link of Mary and Frank Link, 119 White Ash Drive, also worked for Grumman for many years in Long Island - 31 to be exact. The Links, just moved in recently, meant to come down in 1976; Frank was to work at the Cherry Point facility. Then he had big knee problems and surgery, and realized he couldn't hop in and out of airplanes as nimbly as would have been necessary, so they stayed up north until this year when he could retire and they've built their house.

Meanwhile, Mary, after getting three boys launched into the world, worked for eleven years as the secretary to the principal at Island Trees High School in Long Island. She outlasted four principals, actually. She said, "People would ask me, 'How long will it take you to get rid of this one?'" It is obvious that each of those principals was lucky to have Mary just outside his office, and it is just as apparent that she loved her job.

The three boys are still up in New York and Mary told about a friend to whom another friend said, "Well, now that you're away from the kids, what do you do for aggravation?"... "They phone it in," was the reply. These boys don't do that; they're all grown up, but it's a good story.

The Links have always had a boat of some sort, and hope to get one now, as they are on the canal. meanwhile, they are doing a lot of bird watching right from their window. They also look ahead to some fishing and gardening, as well as bridge playing, after they finish the decorating of their house, and then Mary wants to take organ lessons; she is hoping to find a teacher nearby. Anybody know one?

MARY DOLL

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OWLS' PATIENT OF THE MONTH:

As well as immobilizing and endangering people, the "great blizzard of '89" wrought terrible damage to wildlife. So, this month, we have not one patient, but the 50 who were admitted to the shelter during Christmas week.

Pelicans were especially hard hit - there were no fish to eat, and pelicans get frost-bite easily on their feet and pouches. When no one could drive, people were great about keeping the pelicans they had found in their bathtubs.... and then they started pouring