

TAKING THEIR OATHS OF OFFICE are, from left, Julie Adams, Luther Gravatt and Rev. John Richardson. New officers were installed by District Lt. Commander Ernest Marshburn (in back-

New Officers Are Installed At Power Squadron Dinner

Dewey Adams of Ocean Isle Beach took over as commander of the Shallotte River Power Squadron Friday night at the fourth annual change of watch dinner. He succeeds Franklin Forrest of Holden Beach.

Other new officers include Luther Gravatt of Ocean Isle Beach, executive officer; Richard Danz of Calabash, education officer; Julie Adams of Shallotte, administrative officer; Rev. John Richardson, secretary; and James VerMeersch of Shallotte, treasurer.

The James M. Hesser Award was presented to Charles (Buzz) Lambert of Shallotte for his work in publishing the Bosun's Pipe, the squadron's monthly newsletter, and for teaching public boating safety courses offered by the the squadron.

The annual award was presented by Ann Hesser in memory of her husband. It is a rotating cup with each recipient receiving a plaque.

The Bosun's Pipe was cited for



ADDING SOME LAUGHS at the annual event was Lt. Robert Bach, who dressed up as "Pretty Woman" to "roast" outgoing Commander Franklin Forrest.



NEW COMMANDER Dewey Adams (left) is congratulated by outgoing Commander Franklin Forrest.

the second year as one of the "outstanding" publications of its kind in the nation. Recognized for this year's achievement were Lambert, a past squadron commander, and Marilyn Grose of Holden Beach.

Another past commander, Clete Waldmiller of Sunset Beach was cited for having completed a disleadership development course.

The past year, when membership and participation in squadron activities increased, was decribed as a very good year by outgoing Commander Forrest and other speakers.

The squadron placed 40th in the nation and 8th in the state in cooperative charting excercises.

> **EDUCATION OFFICER** Richard Dantz is installed.



Holden Beach, Federal Government Still At Odds Over Dune Repairs

BY DOUG RUTTER

More than 10 months after a severe winter storm sliced and flattened oceanfront dunes at Holden Beach, an ongoing disagreement between town and federal officials stands in the way of renourishment.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) will require the town to rebuild dunes at 31 oceanfront lots using some or all of the \$57,000 it received from the agency following the storm last March 13.

With few exceptions, town officials say dumping truckloads of sand in the areas recommended by FEMA will be a waste of money. The town has come up with its own suggested list, but FEMA won't

As a result, Town Manager Gus Ulrich said last week he plans to seek bids for two separate dune renourishment projects-one mandated by FEMA and the another initiated by commissioners.

"We need to get on with this," Mayor Wally Ausley said at last Wednesday's commission meeting.

The town board developed its own "wish list" of places needing dune renourishment after studying FEMA's list. Town officials say any sand placed at the 31 lots recommended by FEMA will wash away quickly.

Commissioner Sid Swarts contends that only two of the lots included on FEMA's list meet the agency's own guidelines for assis-

"I can't see pouring \$70,000 into the ocean. It's wrong," Swarts said. "I can't see wasting the govern-ment's money. That's what FEMA told us, to flat waste \$70,000."

Ulrich said the town can use the federal funds to pay for work authorized by FEMA, and tap into the town's \$44,000 dune reserve fund to pay for repairs favored by the town. The board plans to spend some

town money to build a dune along the south side of Hillside Drive, where erosion has forced several homeowners to move or demolish their homes over the last few years.

Ulrich said the town board also has identified 19 other beachfront lots, mainly vacant properties, where the ocean is threatening to break through and wash over the street.

There was talk at last Wednesday's meeting of ignoring FEMA's mandate and doing what town officials think is right.

"We've got the money. We know where it needs to go," Mayor Pro-Tem Gay Atkins said. "This happened March 13. It's going to be March 13, 1994, soon and we haven't done anything."

Commissioner Jim Fournier said, "It doesn't bother me to have to give · the money back (to FEMA) if we accomplish something.'

However, Commissioner David Sandifer said he doesn't want to spend the federal money in unauthorized areas and then be required to pay it back. "Let's do it straight up on this one," he said.

On another front, Ulrich said approximately 100 oceanfront property owners have responded to a recent town mailing and indicated they are interested in paying for dune renourishment at their own lots.

To help non-resident property owners, the town is trying to line up local contractors who can do the work at reasonable rates.

Other Business In other business last week, com-

missioners.

■Voted to donate \$500 to Friends of the Library, which is raising funds to keep the West Brunswick Branch Library operational during a six-month renovation period. The organization plans to rent another

building in Shallotte to house the library after it closes in April. Commissioners indicated they might donate more if Friends of the Library has trouble raising the \$10,000 it

■Approved an agreement holding Brunswick County harmless as long as it does building inspections for the town. The action followed an executive session called to discuss legal matters. The county is performing inspections while Holden Beach is without an inspector. The town's new inspector, Claude Spellman, is expected to start work this Friday.

Took no action on a request from Yaupon Beach Mayor May Moore to write a letter to State Sen. R.C. Soles opposing Martin Marietta's plan to open a mining opera-

tion near Southport. ■Turned down a request to join the Interstate 73 Association of North Carolina, which is based in Rockingham. The association is lobbying for an interstate route that will include a swing through southwestern Brunswick County. Holden officials earlier passed a resolution supporting that proposal. The highway will run from Detroit, Mich., to Charleston, S.C.

IN SOUTHPORT BRING HOME THE BEACON

On Sale At E-Z WAY GROCERY **FOOD LION GENERAL STORE** POST OFFICE REVCO WILSON'S SUPERMARKET Station Helps In Search For Fishing Boat

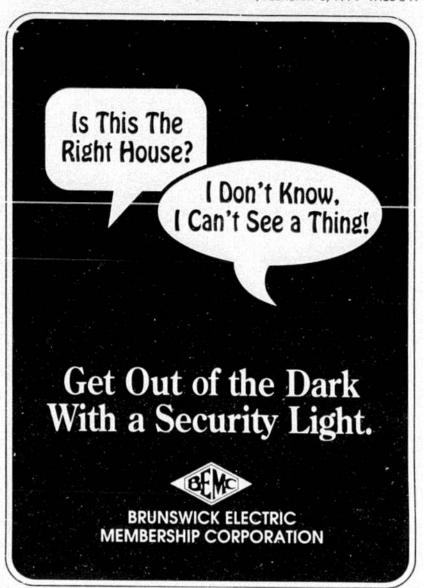
sel was successfully located by the U.S. Coast Guard last week after being reported overdue on a trip to Long Beach, according to BMCS J.D. Arndt, chief of the Oak Island Coast Guard Station.

At about 11:30 a.m. Jan 24, the station was contacted by Coast Guard Group Fort Macon, which requested that a communications check be made for the overdue 44foot fishing boat "Rascal."

The station conducted the radio check, with negative results, Arndt said. Another unit located the vessel later in the day, with all personnel safe and accounted for.

Wednesday evening at about 5:35, the station was called from the Wrightsville Beach station alerting them to be on the lookout for the 24foot recreational vessel "Piddler," which was reported broken down south of Carolina Beach Inlet.

The Coast Guard Cutter "Point Warde" was in the area and was asked to investigate the situation. Arndt said. The cutter located the Piddler and took it in tow to Carolina Beach Inlet, where a 41patrol boat from the Wrightsville Beach station took it in tow to the nearest safe mooring.





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