

JAWS -- This whole Jaws thing sent us to our bookshelf for a long dust gathering book our son bought when he was about twelve and typically shark curious: called simply, Shark! -- it is a well researched book, copyrighted in 1961, by a man who has had close contact with several of the voracious creatures so much on our minds these days.

One particular chapter we found consoling: it was on porpoises, those smiling guys we feel inclined to wave at when we see them bouncing along out in our surf. First of all, let us get it straight that a dolphin is not a porpoise. A dolphin is a true fish, while the porpoise is a mammal, closely related to the whale, warm-blooded, who bears young alive, nurses them, breathes air, has a limited amount of hair on his head and is able to converse with other porpoises.

The best part now -- peaceful coexistence is often demonstrated when both porpoises and sharks are residents of the same tank in an aquarium, and in the natural state, as well as in captivity, the porpoise seems to know that he is master of the shark, and if the shark behaves himself, the porpoise is willing to follow a live-and-let-live policy. Should the shark start trouble, however, the porpoise will unhesitatingly attack. He is one of the few creatures of the sea possessing the speed, power and skill necessary to run a full-grown shark down and kill him. (Do we hear the cheer going up?)

All this doesn't mean bathers should "go complacent". Porpoises have other things to attend to besides protecting man, although they have certainly proved over the years that they are man's friends, while, of course, sharks have done absolutely nothing to endear themselves to us.

A final note: learn to distinguish between the shark and the porpoise, as there is sometimes a doubt. The porpoise has only one dorsal fin, while the shark has two. Also missing on the porpoise are the pelvic and anal fins common to the shark. The most positive identification is the shape of the tail. Like that of a true fish, the caudal fin of the shark is vertical; the tail of a porpoise, however, is horizontal like that of the whale.

So, if you do identify a shark in your immediate swimming area, keep calm; he is most likely to go after something thrashing about. The trick is to swim slowly and steadily out of his way. If you panic, he will think you are a fish in distress, his favorite thing. Remember, in spite of all the gruesome tales we hear, shark attacks are exceedingly rare, which is what makes them such big news. Feel better?

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CALICO HOUSE fashions in Harker's Island will turn you on the minute you try them on. JOLEEN McKANN, whose tiny round-house-shop is almost hidden, far off the main drag of Harker's Island, has an uncanny instinct for style and color and just plain "what-goes-together" that make her one of the shrewdest merchants in business, yet one of the cutest darn Southern belles we've ever met!

FIRST THINGS FIRST: How to find the shop -- Go out past Beaufort, down east on Highway 70, take the Harker's Island turn off and go all the way to the town. Watch for Calico Jack's on your right. Just after that, turn left, taking a driveway through a gate, on a small road that leads you to the round house with the cone shaped roof, Calico House.

WHEN TO GO: Joleen opens her doors Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays from 10:00 to 4:30, and on Saturdays from 10:00 to 2:00. She carries lots of your favorite brands, including Carlye, Denise, McMullen, Villager, John Meyer, and Gordon of Philadelphia, and she always has a terrific bargain room. Joleen knows her accessories, too, and she will help you pick out the really right scarf or she'll hand the perfect chain around your neck.

At Calico Jack's you will find sophistication in fashion and southern hospitality and informality in shopping fun.

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C. J. SPEARS, JR., a biology teacher at the White Oak School, is doing yard and lawn care this summer and has asked us to tell you about it. He says he will be happy to cut grass, prune things, edge, etc. most any time until August 19th when he goes back to work, but figures he will continue to take jobs on an after school basis. If you are in need of this kind of service, call him at 726-6110. His address is Route 4, Box 248, Newport, N. C. 28570.

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GARBAGE NOTE: Mr. Lee Leija of the Atlantic Sanitation Co. tells us that notices should have gone out to residents of PKS informing them of the contract recently signed with the Town for regular Tuesday and Friday pickup. Mrs. Leija says that refunds will be made some time in August to those who are eligible - but if you have questions write to Atlantic Sanitation Co, Box 55, Atlantic, N.C. 28511. He also reminds us too that special request pickup for large items is available - call Aileen Adams at the Town Hall and arrange for this service.