

Major General V.A. Armstrong, U.S. Marine Corps, Commandant at Cherry Point, paid an official visit to Pine Knoll Shores on August 20. He, Mayor Pro Tem James Ramsey, Commissioner for Public Safety Rudy McBride, and Mayor Jim Redfield met at the Mayor's home. This was one of a series of visits to municipalities in our area with the purpose of getting acquainted with the heads of town governments and with the idea of determining if any problems related to Cherry Point exist in the towns. No particular problems surfaced. Both sides expressed their willingness to cooperate, and all concerned were pleased with the mutual understanding growing up.

From NETTIE MURRILL, our PKS artist, we were able to purchase a copy of the book, Cartaret Love Song, by Gretchen Guthrie. Guthrie of Morehead City, will illustrate by Nettie herself. The book is a personal, nostalgic little thing full of Mrs. Guthrie's poetic memories about the area she loves. Some are whimsical, like "Denard and the Big Mosquito"; others are sad, like the story in letters and prose of the death of a child. Most are simply full of admiration for the beauty of her surroundings. One section called "The Gentle Days" seemed to me the most insightful and articulate. Here, sometimes just in one line, she recaptures little flashes of things from her youth, like double rope jumping or quarantine signs on front doors. Nettie's drawings are appropriately wistful, tranquil, and comfortably familiar.

Not only are GRETCHEN GUTHRIE and NETTIE MURRILL lifelong friends, they are also distant relatives. Gretchen very graciously invited us in when we appeared at her door, bearing her book in our hand. She is a warm person, comfortable to talk to. One of her hobbies is genealogy and she says her friends are always calling her to ask who married cousin somebody or other's brother-in-law. Gretchen and her husband, Donald, retired but still going strong what comes to fishing, have the same great-grandfather (that is why she is Gretchen Guthrie Guthrie) and they are parents of four: Barbara, Donald, Jr., Deborah, and Julie.

Gretchen's purpose with her book was to share some feelings she has that she sensed were being felt by others as well, and, for example, in the story of the death of the child, she said, "I didn't intend for it to be gushy or sentimental, but only to perhaps help other people with similar problems. If you can't use your experiences to grow from, they're for naught." The child in the story was her own grandchild.

The Guthries live on Shackleford Street near the water in Morehead City; their home is full of interesting things, including an old Singer Sewing machine that Gretchen says she means to write some tales about one day, involving children through the years who have played beneath it. There is a hand-made mantel from the home of a great uncle who built it from wood found in the land behind his house many years ago. There is a picture, one of a kind, of the old Iron Steamer ship. Mostly there is a mood of friendliness prevailing, and Gretchen says the best thing about her book's being published is the new people whom she's met because of it. Certainly one of the good things about the book for us was our meeting her. Cartaret Love Song is available through Nettie or in local shops.

ANCIENT MARINERS BOWLING LEAGUE will roll into its fall season with a meeting on Monday September 22nd at 5:00 P.M. at the Pine Knoll Shores Country Club to organize and elect officers. Bowling hopefuls are encouraged to join this league which is a couples thing, but we are told that it's not essential they be man and wife (should straying mates bring along a signed permission slip from their left behind half?) although they must be residents of Pine Knoll Shores. New members will be asked to bowl three games in order to establish an average and to present these scores at the meeting, which will be a BYOB and bring-your-own-favorite-hors-d'oeuvres. Cost per person will be \$1.50 for setups and use of the club. Nominating committee KEN KNIGHT, Chairman, SI BEZUYEN, and MARJORIE RAMSEY will present a slate of officers. For more information on this whole thing, one may call either the WAYNE CLEVELANDS, 726-7000, or the JIM RAMSEYS, 726-5080.

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING MARATHON BRIDGE?? -- Marathon Bridge is a fun way to get acquainted and enjoy bridge at the same time. A schedule is set up for the period from November through May with one round to be played approximately every two weeks. The first round is the entire group and thereafter, following a prescribed schedule, play is two couples at home. Some of the rules and regulations are -- Play 4 consecutive hands, play all one bids, scoring is for rubber bridge. An entry fee of \$5.00 will be charged which will be returned to the prize winners at the end of the playing schedule. We will need twelve (12) couples -- so if you are interested call ED or NELL CRUMLEY 726-8852 and sign up!!

REASON FOR LIDS NOT BEING PUT ON CANS AFTER GARBAGE COLLECTION is that many people are only here part time and if cans are up-turned when the truck collects they know that house does not have garbage and they do not have to stop.
