

From Germany, Betty Hammon, co-editor of Shore Line, sent what she called a fashion note; "skirts are two inches below the knee and I feel very out of date. I am going to buy a skirt tomorrow, one of a fashionable length -- My other clothes note is that I came unprepared for a large, friendly pup which does not understand English. I don't know how to say 'Down, boy!' in German so I have footprints on my white knit top." She goes on in another vein: "We are finding that Americans are not so popular in Germany as we thought. We hear that soldiers drink too much, take dope, drive too recklessly, and treat Germans like second class citizens. I try to explain that German young people coming to America are students and a selected group. Soldiers are assigned here and are not a selected group. I'm not getting far. Carl is having a harder time than I because he speaks German and gets deeper into discussions." Carl, many of you know, is a native of Germany, and they have been visiting some of his relatives there during their three month peregrination in Europe.

AND, in a later letter, Betty writes: "In Germany we were with relatives, staying in Carl's father's garden, eating fruit from the trees his father planted. The garden is on a hill above Ritzmannshof, a very small, very old village. You look down to red tiled, steep roofs. Furth is about a fifteen minute drive, but the garden seems way out in the country. "....."Like many Americans we took a picture of Kissinger's birthplace. When we mentioned it later to Carl's cousin, Hans Schiller, his wife said she had Kissinger's father as one of her teachers. Remote connection with the famous. Cousin Schiller gave us two of his books on landscape architecture. His books are well known here, and so is his work in planning city parks. He has just come back from a trip to Peru - said the altitude made it strenuous for a man of his age. He is, after all, only seventy-two.@

Carl and Betty climbed all the way up to one castle outside Salzburg, missing the cable car somehow, then found the tour of the castle itself was up and down many stairways, too. She said she could understand why the castle had never been conquered: no army could scramble up that cliff to storm its walls. Carl added a note at the end of the letter which reads: "Hi - we did a lot of walking today. What Betty liked best -- Number 1, the park bench at Hellbrun; Number 2, the bench half way up at the castle, and at last, a seat on the bus. We are having fun."

----- oOo -----

Congratulations to MILDRED KERR for winning the Ladies Club Championship at PKS.

----- oOo -----

Remember last month we were talking about Belhaven and Bath and ran out of space? We now finish the tidbits on this area:

On the main street of Belhaven is a rambling general store-ish place called the J.D. Dawson Company. and it's "all in the family", as Mrs. Melba G. Smith, its president and treasurer, is the wife of Axson Smith who owns the River Forest Manor. We talked with Elizabeth S. Keech, secretary and catalog manager of Dawson's and she told us something of how the business has grown from a wholesale grocery and tobacco distributor in 1917 to its present form which includes a paint and hardware shop, ladies' and mens' clothes, and a large catalog showroom. They began by printing their own catalogs in 1963; many of their current catalog items are discounted. It looks as if Dawson's is doing fine -- sort of a mini-mall on main street!

But Belhaven has more: there is a museum on the second floor of the City Hall which has in it a bell from the ship "Constitution", as well as an i-legged pic. There is a beautifully tasteful shop called, we do believe, "EEII's", as in eei-eeii-o of old MacDonald fame, which carries really good art and pottery, with one man shows monthly. The day we were there the one man was a one girl, Peggy Howe, A Water colorist and print maker from our Beaufort. The potter-in-residence, so to speak, has a Master's degree from ECU, is extremely versatile, doing everything from traditional hanging pots to thick stemmed goblets to funky sculptural pieces. EEII's has its own gas fired kiln....Nearby is an old cabin recently restored by a man who told us the place had housed a family of ten until he bought it and pulled it into shape. He calls it the Shanty and carries antiques and various oddities; he also seems to be a florist.

So there you are: Bath and Belhaven. A fine twosome of towns to cover on your next adventure in North Carolina. Check free ferries at Minnesott Beach and Bayview. It will be fun doing at least part of the journey by boat.

----- oOo -----

That Orrin Pilkey, Jr. book about Bogue Banks called HOW TO LIVE WITH AN ISLAND which some of us have in its sort of pre-publication state is now released in limited edition in a more finished form. It can be had by sending a check, payable to Duke University Marine Lab and mailed to their business office, Beaufort, N.C.28516. \$3.00 covers tax and mailing per copy. This book by Dr. Pilkey, oceanographic geologist at Duke, is instructive, easy to read, and an excellent reference for anyone with property on our island. It's publication was funded by the N.C.Dept. of Natural and Economic Resources.