



By Linda Langheld

PKS Blue Star Memorial Lights Up the Night

On Sunday, November 11, commemorating Veterans Day, members of the town and Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club assembled to celebrate the lighting of the Blue Star Memorial located on the corner of Highway 58 and Pine Knoll Boulevard. The lighting was the culmination of two years of effort by the Garden Club and town to honor our service men and women, past, present and future. The inspiration for this memorial came after the Emerald Isle Garden Club honored their town with the same memorial and identified their stretch of Highway 58 as a Blue Star Memorial Highway.

The evening began just as the sun was setting and a beautiful clear night welcomed the lighting. Colonel Tom King (USAF, retired) introduced all guests at the dedication ceremony. Mayor Ken Jones (USAF, retired), along with Garden Club President Susan King, welcomed all to the event. President King noted that in 2017 the Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club received the first place Blue Star Memorial award from the National Garden Club. She presented the award to Mayor Jones.

Following the welcoming remarks, Major General Tom Temple (US Army,



Garden Club member Linda Pearson places a wreath at the Blue Star Memorial.

—Photo by Linda Langheld

retired) led the invocation. Colonel Ron Pearson (US Army, retired) led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a military tribute including Don Hathaway (Sergeant, US Army), Carol Schmid (RN, 1st Lieutenant, USAF), Lt. Colonel Chuck McDanal (USMC, retired), and Paul Pylko (HM2, US Navy). Honoring the US Coast Guard was Martha Edwards. Past Garden Club President Kay Howe gave a history of the Blue Star Memorial. The origin of the Blue Star Memorial Highway recognition dates back to 1946 when the National Garden Club adopted the practice. Blue Star Memorial Highways can be found in all 50 states.

The dedication lighting followed, with Garden Club members Jo Ferguson and Linda Pearson placing a wreath at the site. Closing remarks were delivered by Arleen Graczewski, chairman of the Garden Club Blue Star Memorial Committee. Mayor Jones concluded the ceremony with the playing of Taps.

A special thank you for making the lighting possible is extended to Bob Harrington and Craig Letchner.

A reception followed at town hall, with refreshments provided by members of the Garden Club.

Now Pine Knoll Shores and Emerald Isle have a connected Blue Star Memorial Highway in honor of our service men and women.

FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITOR

Have You Heard . . . ?

North Carolina Coastal Federation promotes living shorelines. The North Carolina Coastal Federation, based off of NC Highway 24 across Bogue Sound from Emerald Isle, is a strong advocate for living shorelines. Living shorelines are an economic and environmentally friendly alternative to bulkheads that absorb wave energy through the use of more natural approaches such as restored salt marsh grasses and oyster reefs. While many property owners are rebuilding after the storm, the North Carolina Coastal Federation encourages homeowners to consider installing a living shoreline on their property. For more information on living shorelines, please visit nccoast.org/protect-the-coast/estuarine-shorelines/.

CCEC to award scholarships. Carteret-Craven Electric Cooperative is offering scholarships to five local students heading to a two-year community/technical college or four-year college or university in the fall 2019. A \$4,000 scholarship for four years of study will be awarded to one student each from East Carteret, West Carteret, Croatan and Havelock high schools. A fifth scholarship will be awarded to the next highest scoring student and may include applicants from other schools in the electric cooperative service area. Applicants will be judged in the areas of need (50%), academic achievement (25%), and extracurricular activities (25%). Applications are available at each school, at CCEC offices, online at carteretcravenelectric.coop, by calling 727-2238 and via email at lisat@ccemc.com. The scholarship program is open to high school seniors whose primary residence is on CCEC's lines. The deadline for applications is March 4. Funds for the scholarships are provided by member donations to Operation RoundUp.



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