



PINE KNOLL SHORES GARDEN CLUB

By Jean McDanal

As we say goodbye to summer, the Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club is gearing up to begin its 45th year. Our first meeting will be held on Wednesday, September 11, at town hall. A social begins at 9:30 a.m., followed by the meeting at 10.

Since Pine Knoll Shores has designated this year to be the "Year of the Tree," our first speaker will be Brent Toler, US Forest Ranger for Carteret County, who will speak on the value of trees. As an agency for the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Forest Service administers the nation's 154 national forests and 20 national grasslands. Learn about the value of trees, types of trees for our coastal climate and how to care for them and encourage growth.

The second part of our first meeting will highlight one of our members, JoAnn Shallcross, who will identify useful and little-known gardening tips and demonstrate the latest "Wicked Weeder" tools in her presentation called "From the Potting Shed." Members will create a list of gardening chores for September and October.

For our October meeting on Wednesday, October 9, we will travel to New Bern to tour Tryon Palace. Following a lunch break at Persimmons Restaurant, we return to Tryon to tour their beautiful gardens. As this is the week of MumFest, the gardens should be resplendent.

Our fall workday is scheduled for Wednesday, November 13, at which time we descend on our 10 town gardens to clean up and spread mulch and pine straw. Following our morning of gardening, we will be treated to a lunch back at town hall.

We love our guests and hope you will consider coming to our first meeting on September 11 and thereafter. Come grow with us. Please contact us at PKSGardenClub@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page at [facebook.com/PineKnollShoresGardenClub](https://www.facebook.com/PineKnollShoresGardenClub).

Mayor's Memo

By Ken Jones

Relationships

As we round the corner of summer and head toward fall, we also head toward some fun events and cooler weather. This has to have been one of the fastest years in my life; how about yours?

Since we are on an island, sometimes it is too easy to isolate ourselves. We must develop relationships with other towns, our county and other counties—and, of course, the state. It is as if our town is an individual, but we need to do things together to take care of ourselves.

We don't have a hospital, a food store, a gas station, or retail outlets because our primary industry in Pine Knoll Shores is residential housing. We have to go elsewhere for everything else. This is why building relationships for our town is so important to our very survival.

Sometimes we have to take a stand at the state level for our way of life. For instance, the legislature tried to force municipalities to do away with tree ordinances. We were

taken out of the state law because we made noise about it. Our direct legislators are easy to reach, but we need more than one vote sometimes to turn the tides in our favor, such as with the issue of the distribution of state-collected sales and use tax.

The sales and use tax distribution, or the "redistribution of wealth" as it is called, seems to come up in the legislature almost every year. I believe that the county that brings in the tax should have the tax returned, and others want it equitably distributed. We as a town have fought this battle more than any other. We want and need it to come back to where the tax is collected. Losing this battle would impact our police and fire protection the most, and that affects your property insurance costs. Again, we have to work with those relationships to prevent this from happening.

I have built relationships with several legislators who at one time held an office at the municipal level. They understand what it is like when the state forces one-size-fits-all laws on municipalities.

At an after-action briefing following the hurricanes last year, I met and established a working relationship with Diane Hampton, a corridor development engineer with NCDOT. I asked for pedestrian-activated crosswalk lights and signs for the whole island. After some discussion, I narrowed it down to Pine Knoll Shores only. We got the one we have as a result of building that relationship, and we will get the rest of them this year because of our work together.

I look at all of this relationship building as one of my primary jobs, but the community relationships within our town are the most important. As elected representatives for our town, we need and want to hear from you. Communication with our citizens is my number one goal, virtually every year. Articles like this, the dinners with the mayor, town parades, Thanksgiving Day turkey trot, Kayak for the Warrior events and all of our Christmas activities are opportunities for us to build relationships and for you to communicate your wants and desires for the town.

As we move from this summer into our fall, let us keep working together for the common good and build relationships for the good of all. One team, one town, one Pine Knoll Shores.

Garden Club Christmas Wreath Sale

The Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club will be offering Christmas wreaths for sale again this year. Wreaths may be ordered from any member of the club or by using the order form below. Orders must be placed by November 4. They will be delivered to town hall to be picked up Wednesday, December 4, between 10 a.m. and 12 noon. These lovely wreaths of mixed greens last well past the Christmas season and are a perfect size for your front door. They are made in the mountains of western North Carolina and delivered to us the next day. You can only get it this fresh from a florist, but not for \$28.



For further information call Sheryl Woodbury at 726-9746 or Kay Howe at 240-0987. Bows will be available at pickup for \$5 each.

Make your check payable to PKS Garden Club and send it with the order form to Sheryl Woodbury, PO Box 3125, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512 or to Kay Howe, PO Box 3130, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512.

Order Form—PKS Garden Club Christmas Wreaths

NAME	PHONE	EMAIL	HOW MANY?	CHECK#