PIKSCO Happenings

By Ric Cox

Have you ever wondered how McNeill Park got its name? George McNeill was a resident of Morehead City and also served as a town attorney and municipal judge. He was the Roosevelts' legal counsel and had power of attorney over the family's legal matters concerning all their Bogue Banks property.

Because of his WWII service, some called him Colonel McNeill, but he later became known as Captain McNeill because of his long-time residency in Carteret County. George McNeill was involved in incorporating Pine Knoll Shores as a municipality, as well as establishing PIKSCO as a homeowner's association, including most of PIKSCO's site development and its original covenants.

McNeill Park preceded Phase 1 (east half) of the canal that was dredged and completed in 1967. This was done primarily to drain land for future development and became known as McNeill Inlet.

McNeill Park has now become one of the most popular sound parks, used by both Pine Knoll Association and PIKSCO members for kayaking, boating, fishing and family/neighbor gatherings. Who would have ever thought the grandchildren of President Theodore Roosevelt would have passed on such a dream and vision we can all enjoy.

PIKSCO contact. For questions, concerns or to volunteer, contact PIKSCO by phone at 252-247-4818, email at piksco@gmail.com, through our website at piksco.com or by mail at P.O. Box 366, Atlantic Beach, NC 28512.

BHA Events

The Beaufort Historical Association (BHA) will host an online fall art sale through October 9 at 9 p.m. This art sale is in honor of the BHA's fall party, which has been hosted each year since 1992. While the current pandemic makes it impossible to have the traditional fall party this year, the BHA will welcome back 10 artists who have been featured as the fall party artist in the past. The auction is live at one.bidpal.net/2020fallartsale/welcome, and art is added regularly as it comes in.

The BHA will host other events this fall, including tours. Tours meet at the Beaufort Historic Site Welcome Center. View a tour video at beauforthistoricsite. org, and call 728-5225 for more information or to make a reservation. *Visitors are asked to bring face masks*.

Two Barn Quilt Workshops. October 8 or 24, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. A barn quilt is a large piece of painted wood that looks like a single quilt block and is used to decorate the side of a barn or building. Participants in this workshop will create 24-inch-square barn quilts to take home. To choose either of the workshops, visit the website or call the number above. The fee is \$60, and reservations are required.

Old Burying Ground Tours. Resting in the shade of majestic live oak trees, the Old Burying Ground holds fascinating stories about Beaufort's 300-year history and is listed on the National Register of Historic Places. An experienced

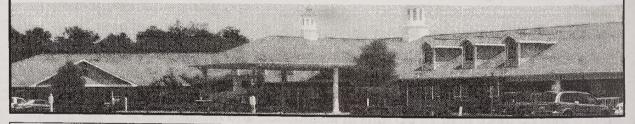
guide in period dress leads tours, telling tales of the Old Burying Ground and its colorful characters. Tours are held throughout the year, weather permitting. Call to make a reservation 24 hours in advance. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children ages 6-12, and children 1-5 tour free.

Double-Decker Bus Tours. See Beaufort's historic district from atop the 1967 English double-decker bus. Local narrators tell tales of Beaufort's rich past of pirates, star-crossed lovers and Confederate spies. From April through October, tours are Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children ages 6-12, and children ages 1-5 ride free.

Historic Buildings Tour. All prized for their period collections and furnishings, the historic homes run the gamut from the rustic Leffers Cottage, c.1778, and the elaborately furnished Victorian Josiah Bell House, c.1825, to the award-winning restoration of the Federal-style John C. Manson House, c.1825. The historic buildings include the Carteret County Jail, c.1829; the Apothecary Shop and Doctor's Office, c.1857, containing priceless pharmaceutical and medicinal artifacts used in early Beaufort; and the Carteret County Courthouse of 1796, which is the only remaining wood-framed English Circuit courthouse left intact in North Carolina. Each building depicts a different period or aspect of life in historic Beaufort. The Historic Buildings Tour is led by experienced docents in period dress and includes three of the buildings. Guided tours are April through November, Monday through Saturday, at 2:30 p.m. Tickets are \$12 for adults, \$6 for children ages 6-12, and children from 1-5 tour free. Tours are also available upon request with an hour's notice.



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This Month's Puzzle Solutions

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