

A daughter, Heather, has sort of followed them down. She'll be living in a condo at Carriage Crossing in Morehead, and working here as well. One of their sons lives and works in Connecticut, and another, older one, is a Captain in the regular army, stationed in Korea, and bringing home a Korean bride in June. Ron and Jan are getting excited about meeting her.

Meanwhile, Ron's fishing dreamily, [maybe humming to himself some of the soft rock he and the band used to play?] and Jan's bowling, and life is good for them.

MARY DOLL

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O.W.L.S.

WHAT DO WE MEAN, 'OWLS'? Is that the latest animal of concern in Pine Knoll Shores? Not really. What it is is the new name for Stephanie Goetzintger's wildlife shelter program now that it is incorporated.

Stephanie made an appeal to the Board of Commissioners at their February meeting. It seems that since she spoke to them in October she has been busy and it turns out that the space available to her at the Aquarium is not adequate to the needs of the program. She has assisted some 40 animals since then, 90% of them were found on this island.

The program is a county-wide one but not only have most of the animals been found here but most of the calls -- either for help or offering help -- have come from Pine Knoll Shores residents. She would like to be able to establish the rehabilitation center here. She needs money and land which can be fenced in to protect the animals from predators -- and sight-seers.

The commissioners are going to study the possibility of providing the land. Money is expected to come from a grant of \$5000 applied for from N. C. Wildlife Commission and from private donations. Meanwhile we give you February's "Patient of the Month" and an announcement of the very first training class for volunteers.

O.W.L.S. "PATIENT OF THE MONTH":
Black-Crowned Night Heron - Case #7018

Oil spills are a problem - not only for people, but for birds whose feathers are coated with the oil, destroying their insulation, their waterproofing, and their ability to fly. A call was received from the NOAA Lab regarding an oiled bird. Examination showed that, fortunately, this small, beautiful nocturnal heron was only oiled on its lower parts and the bottom half of its wings. Lucky for him, he had not ingested any of the oil while trying to clean himself. The bird was bathed in Dawn dishwashing detergent, which cuts the oil but is gentle enough so that the skin and feather shafts aren't damaged. Until he was thoroughly dry, the heron was placed on a heating pad in a dark, quiet enclosure. The kiddie pool worked well to test his waterproofing; just as hoped, beads of water ran right off his back. After a day of filling up on fish, he was released, and with never a word of thanks, flew off to join his friends in Beaufort! Look carefully as you cross the Beaufort bridge - a large colony of these birds lives near the smokestack.

FEBRUARY: Wood ducks look for nests
Spring squirrel litters are born
YOU CAN: Hang wood duck nesting boxes
Coat a corn cob with peanut butter - squirrels love it!
O.W.L.S. NEEDS HEATING PADS, CLIP LIGHTS, AND DAWN. CALL 247-5767

Announcing our very first volunteer training class: Saturday, March 5, 1988 --
1:00 to 4:00 p.m. at the North Carolina Aquarium in Pine Knoll Shores.