

Pine Knoll Shores...A Brief History We Get Organized!

By Diane Donovan

Continuing to quote from "Town of Pine Knoll Shores 1973-1985" by the late Ken Haller:

"Volunteer Fire Department

In October, 1977, the Board of Commissioners adopted the following:

a. There is hereby established a Fire Department for the Town.

b. The Department shall operate under the supervision of a chief appointed by the Board of Commissioners, and the remainder of the Department's personnel shall consist of such Assistant Chiefs, Captains, and other officers and firemen as may be appointed by the Board of Commissioners.

c. Members of the Department may serve as volunteers or be compensated as the Board of Commissioners may determine.

d. Except as hereinbefore provided, the Department shall be governed by such regulations as the Board of Commissioners may promulgate.

Before the Department was in this manner formally established, fire protection had been supplied under a contract with Atlantic Beach. That contract was discontinued when the new volunteer fire department was organized and

equipped.

As a stop-gap until other equipment could be acquired, the Town obtained from the State a small 4-wheel-drive vehicle which it converted to serve for fire-fighting purposes. Later the Town bought a new American LaFrance pumper which was delivered on September 15, 1973.

The acquisition of these pieces of equipment, including communication facilities, and the training sessions of the Department members, all paid off in May, 1979, when the N.C. Department of Insurance advised that the Town's insurance rating had changed very much for the better and that it moved to a Class 7 rating.

Thus some 75 volunteers in a relatively small community gave unstintingly of their time and effort to serve their fellow townpeople in this field of fire protection.

All was not serious work, however, for there was a Ladies Auxiliary which provided some relief. Occasionally the Auxiliary put on a Department dinner and the ladies gave a sparkling show."

Ed. Note: Some of the original members still living in PKS are Vivian Macdonald, Bill

Birkel and Ray Szypulski.

"Volunteer Rescue Squad

The Board of Commissioners' authorization of a Rescue Squad parallels their authorization of a Fire Department. It reads as follows and was adopted on November 6, 1977.

a. There is hereby established a Rescue Squad for the Town of Pine Knoll Shores.

b. The Squad shall operate under the supervision of a Captain approved by the Board of Commissioners.

c. The remainder of the Squad's personnel shall consist of such other officers and Squad members as approved by the Board of Commissioners.

d. Members of the Squad may serve as volunteers or be compensated as the Board of Commissioners may determine.

e. Except as hereinbefore provided, the Squad shall be governed by such regulations as the Board of Commissioners may promulgate.

During the years since it began, the Rescue Squad has not only completely justified its existence, it has proven again and again that it is absolutely essential to life in Pine Knoll

Shores. It is difficult to imagine how the people living here could cope with illness or accidents without this team of quick response, trained to care not only for the immediate problem but also for transportation to where professional medical attention can be obtained. The Rescue Squad renders its superb service day and night, seven days a week, and all on a volunteer basis.

Becoming an Emergency Medical Technician or an Ambulance Attendant is no easy task. It required dedication and application. To become an EMT involved 120 hours of study and classroom work and passing a State test which was both theoretical and practical. It also meant an additional 40 hours of work and another test every two years to be re-certified. The AA's training was almost as severe. However, the input necessary to become and remain qualified as an EMT and AA served both the person and the Town. There was no more honorable or honored badge of community service than "EMT" or "AA." Ed. Note: Some of the original members still living in the area are: Art Browne, Irene Doremus, Alice Garrison, Betty Hammon, Bob Herbst, Fred and Joan Libby, Dick Perkins, Nancy Peterson, Terri Sweeny, and Betty and Jim Wagner.

Thirty Years Ago in The Shoreline

December, 1974

Perhaps the best voter turnout in the State happened in PKS. Out of an eligible 199 voters here, 160 voted.

And our tax collection rate is one of the highest in the county: for 1973, 99.96%. Proves once again that this is a community of people who care about what's to become of them, and who are responsible citizens. The Town Clerk says we're already up to the halfway mark for the 1974 collection.

The Ancient Mariners Bowling League

of PKS brightens up the alleys on Mondays at 2 p.m. It is a couples group, has four teams so far, welcomes more bowlers of all sorts. Currently in first place is Vivian MacDonald's team.

After running an errand at the Town Hall one day recently, we eased over to the site of the Marine Resources Center, (today's aquarium) about 4/10 of a mile off Bridge Road, (now Pine Knoll Blvd.) and talked a little with Mr. Seola T. Hill, the foreman on the job there, who proudly showed us around. According to Mr. Hill,

the building will be ready some time in March of 1975. The place is really taking shape. It will include a large main hall with marine life displays and a complete aquarium, along with research labs and teaching areas. Classes will come to the center from all kinds of schools, from elementary through college level. It's a state project. Eventually a nature trail will surround the place. The Marine Resources Center is one more reason for us all to be hugging ourselves with pleasure over living in PKS.

Davis Landing, the newest of the Pine Knoll Association parks, is getting landscaping attention from the Garden Club. At least eleven inspired members brought Christmas decorative arrangements to the November 25th meeting and described how they were made. The hostess' house was decked with creations out of everything from pineapples to burlap, as well as holly and yaupon.

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