



Turkeys are not only here, but hungry, as attested to by this visitor to the bird feeder at the Belanger home on White Ash Drive.

Turkey Talk

By Barbara Milhaven

Turkeys, turkeys, turkeys!! It doesn't take much to get Pine Knoll Shore's residents excited! Calls about turkey sightings have been coming into *The Shoreline* office prompting an addendum to the last turkey article.

Evin Stanford, North Carolina Resource Commission biologist, says, "If you watched the turkey fly up to a telephone pole and it stayed there it is not a wild turkey". A wild turkey would get "lost" as quickly as possible. He indicates that they don't like to fly over any body of water, so flying over Boque Sound is out. But hold on! In an online enature.com article, hand delivered to my door and showing the high interest in turkeys here, there is a

contradiction of sorts. This article indicates that turkeys like to roost over water for self protection. Water issue aside, Evin believes that the most likely explanation is that someone released a caged, domesticated bird here; maybe more than one.

So are there one, two or four turkeys in Pine Knoll Shores? Are they all females? We have photos of one taken in different localities. A Beacon's Reach resident has seen two at the same time. Rumor has it that four have been spotted. All appear to be females.

If there is a reader out there willing to take this turkey talk to another level, please contact *The Shoreline*.

PKS Volunteers Man AARP Tax Preparation Sites

A group of stalwart volunteers from Pine Knoll Shores is once again manning three sites in Carteret County where free tax preparation services for seniors are being provided as part of the AARP Tax Aide program. Two of the sites are in Morehead City, the other in Beaufort. The service started February 2 and will be available through April 14. Tax returns can be filed electronically.

AARP volunteers are on hand to assist taxpayers from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the following locations on the days indicated: on Thursdays and Fridays at the Carteret County Senior Center, 3820 Galantis Drive, Morehead City; Mondays at the Boys & Girls Club of Coastal Carolina, 3321 Bridges Street, Morehead City, and on Tuesdays and Saturdays at the Carteret County Public Library, 210 Turner Street, Beaufort.

McNeill

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called him Colonel McNeill, in recognition of his WWII and reserve service. But the title he was most proud of was a title he earned after living in Carteret County for many years, and that was "Captain." So he was "Cap'n McNeill" to many locals.

Don Brock, on-site developer of the original Roosevelt plan for Pine Knoll Shores, says: "Before I arrived in the 60's, George McNeill was the Roosevelt family's legal representative here." McNeill had power of attorney and guided all legal matters concerning the family's Bogue Banks property, particularly for what Don Brock calls "Old Pine Knoll Shores," from McNeill Inlet east to Atlantic Beach. McNeill retired around 1979 and died the following year.

His legal work for eastern Pine Knoll Shores established building site and architectural controls. He drew up the area's original covenants, ensuring that all development would be as environmentally friendly as possible, and did the legal work establishing homeowner's associations (PKA and PIKSCO). He also was involved in setting aside 290 acres as a natural preserve and worked on incorporating Pine Knoll Shores as a municipality.

According to Don Brock McNeill was an unassuming man whose sense of

stewardship equaled that of the Roosevelt family. "The Roosevelts trusted George McNeill completely. He was honored to represent them, and they were pleased with his work," Brock says.

McNeill never lived on Bogue Banks. He and his family had a home on the other side of the sound across from Pine Knoll Shores, but the McNeills left a permanent mark on the island. In addition to landmarks in Pine Knoll Shores, the McNeill Home in Indian Beach, operated by the Baptist Children's Homes of North Carolina, is also named in honor of George McNeill and his wife, Alberta. Their son, Lt. Col. Robert McNeill, says his father engineered a land swap to secure property for the children's home. Since 1964, every spring through fall, the McNeill Home has provided a week at the beach and a time of spiritual renewal for abused, neglected, and at-risk children who are living in Baptist Children's Homes across the state. About 200 children and staff members each year benefit from the McNeill Home.

Today McNeill Inlet is a popular boating site. The canal, dredged originally around 1965-66 to drain land for development, was later enlarged for boating. McNeill Park, whose existence preceded the canal, is one of four common areas maintained by PIKSCO and enjoyed by PKA and PIKSCO homeowners, their families, and friends.



George McNeill