

Bringing History To Life

Just visiting the six historic buildings on the Beaufort Historic site is a trip back through history. To enliven and enhance this experience living history will be in some of the buildings and on the grounds during this special weekend. Mark your calendar for the 2009 Old Homes & Gardens Tour on Friday, June 26 and Saturday, June 27 beginning at 10 a.m. and lasting until 5 p.m.

The Leffer's Cottage of 1778 will host spinners, including Sue Mckeand from Pine Knoll Shores and the BHA Warped Weavers. In the Josiah Bell House Mary Frankle will demonstrate making bobbin lace while Verne Reintjes will play period

music on the harp and The Simple Gifts will play flute music. A Victorian Mourning display of antique jewelry, clothing and accessories will be arranged throughout the house lending another dimension to the Victorian French Rococo period furnishings in the two parlors. On the BHA site grounds there will be a rope making demonstration, a demonstration of decoy carving by members of the Core Sound Decoy Carver's Guild, strolling musicians and period music provided by the Carteret Open Band.

For specific information call BHA (Beaufort Historic Association) Welcome Center at 728-5225.

Upward Basketball and Cheerleading

The Pine Knoll Shores Women's Club met on April 24 in town hall. Vice President, Linda Strader, introduced her daughter, guest speaker Stacey Leach, who presented "Upward Basketball and Cheerleading." Its theme is to reach children by teaching about

God in a way that every child is a winner through sports. President Caz McCaslin developed the program. Stacey showed a video demonstrating how sports and cheerleading are introduced to children. Self-esteem is developed as every child gets a chance to participate. Teams are developed as equally as possible, and every child has the opportunity to participate in the game. Players are cheered on through entrance in tunnels with music and fog and strobe lights, just as the pros are seen on TV. It is a 10-week season with one practice and one game per week. This allows for family time and parents are encouraged to attend the events. Scholarships are provided for those in need. Club members were able to relate to the need for such a program based on their experiences with teaching and volunteering with children as they raised their own families.

The hostesses for this April meeting were MaryJo Jennings, Elaine Tempel and Urlene Williamston, who provided festive and nourishing refreshments for all to enjoy. The nominating committee announced



Guest speaker Stacey Leach, who presented "Upward Basketball and Cheerleading."

its slate of officers for the next year. The membership will vote on this slate at the May meeting. Those running for office are: president, Linda Strader; vice president, Barbara Bagby; recording secretary, Ann Erickson; treasurer, Loretta Poremba; corresponding secretary, Floranne Passino. The membership approved charitable donations which will be awarded to local organizations in the amount of \$1,400. These donations will be distributed in the month of May.

The June meeting will be a luncheon on June 5, 11:30 a.m., at the Coral Bay Club. Newly elected officers will be installed as members enjoy a delicious lunch overlooking the ocean in the Coral Bay Club's beautiful setting.

Tickets are \$16. A check made out to the Pine Knoll Shores Women's Club may be sent to hospitality chairs, Donna Belanger or Kay Howe. All women living in Pine Knoll Shores are welcome to attend meetings and join the Club.

Book Clubs Between the Bookends will meet at the home of Floranne Passino on June 8, with Mary Greene leading the discussion about *Hide Tide in Tucson* by Barbara Kingsolver. The Beach Book Club will meet June 11 at the home of Edy René Magel to discuss *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society* by Mary Ann Shaffer and Annie Barrows.

"Alice the Queen"- Part Two

By Barbara Milhaven

Editor's Note: This is the second in a series about Alice Hoffman, one of the early settlers of Pine Knoll Shores.

As depicted by her French companion of 22 years, Gabrielle Brard, Alice was a tall (6' 1") woman with perfect carriage. She fell from a horse as a child, breaking her hip and re-injuring it again later in life. This injury caused her pain throughout her life. It eventually led to some deformity, the use of a cane and then a wheelchair, and forced her to be bedridden for long periods of the day toward the end of her life. Despite her injury, she was a physically active woman who maintained her vitality and positive outlook for most of her life. From all accounts, Alice was strong-willed, outgoing, generous, and intelligent.

It is important to remember that, when Alice Hoffman grew up, her family's wealth enabled her to obtain exceptional educational, social, and travel experiences. However, even an inquisitive, intelligent, highly educated young lady could not vote nor easily enter the gentleman's world of finance. It does appear that Alice attempted to do just that with her properties in New York City, France, and here on Bogue Banks. Perhaps it was just her way, as a single woman, of holding on to the privileged lifestyle she was used to during the unsettling times of two world wars and economic upheaval in the United States.

There is a good deal of evidence that Alice was quite an entrepreneur. On Bogue Banks, her enterprises included dairy farming, timber sales, commercial fishing, land development, and the possibility of oil drilling. There is much evidence that she was forced to rely heavily on male financial advice and business management. She appeared to be involved in one costly litigation after another and didn't seem to be on the winning end of any of them.

Her ability to manage her inherited investment holdings and entrepreneurial ventures seems to be in question. This

was not at all surprising, since she was an absentee landlord managing her holdings including New York City rental apartments and other real estate as well as her Bogue Banks property from abroad. For income, she benefited financially from trust funds set up for her by the parental Butler-Greene estates, but evidently sustained losses due to economic times before, during, and after the Great Depression.

Not surprising either was her continuing attempt to boost the financial situation with innovative business ventures. One very important venture was the purchase of cattle for her farm on Bogue Banks. She also exported 10 head of the Holstein-Friesian cattle to France. She later established a dairy farm on land across from Bogue Banks in Morehead City. The land for the dairy farm was purchased in 1923 from her first farm superintendent, Sam Duplanty. The dairy farm prospered at first; however, due to poor management, it was a failure by 1930.



Alice Hoffman pictured in her riding clothes with her riding crop.

There is an account of a conversation with Sam Duplanty's 80 year old daughter Carabelle (Claire), in an undated article in the Carteret County News-Times written by Ruth Barbour. In this article, Claire shares her memories of her father; his taking the job as farm superintendant with Alice Hoffman; and his coming from New Jersey in 1914 with his family to live on Bogue Banks. Claire (Mrs. Ralph Manfredi) said, "Mrs. Hoffman owned Bogue Banks from Glover's Place through Salter Path. She didn't know what to do with it, so she was looking for someone who could help her. I know she had a few purebred Holstein cows and a \$2,000 bull . . . Our house was very nice, three bedrooms, dining room, bath and kitchen, two screened porches and windows built on a high foundation because of the many snakes." Claire also tells of there being many different kinds of animals on the farm, her family acquiring banker ponies, and the joy she and her father had riding these on the beach.