

Exciting European Experience

Recently, Bill and Moni Bottlinger returned from an exciting trip to Europe. One of the highlights of their travels was a celebration of Moni's mother's 88th birthday with their family in Odenthal, near Cologne. Following the celebration, Bill and Moni continued their travels by hiking in the Black Forest and exploring the beauty of Zürich, Switzerland. In Zürich they visited the American Native Arts Museum to view the very fascinating exhibition of the Swiss artist Karl Bodmer. In 1832, Karl Bodmer was asked to be the artist

enjoyed the peace and beauty of the national parks of each country and traced the history of the Teutonic (German) Order of Knights that was founded by the Hanseatic Knights during the third crusade in 1190. One should not forget to mention the taste of the delicious traditional cuisine in each location, sometimes in very rustic settings like an old fisherman's cabin. Also, Brigitte and Moni inhaled the fresh ocean air of the Baltic Sea, in search of amber, unfortunately with no luck. Instead they visited an amber museum



At the Opera: Moni Bottlinger with her German college friend, Brigitte Gorka, attending the production of "Carmen" at the opera house of Riga, Latvia.

for the German Prince Maximilian's expedition across the American west. The artist was commissioned to make detailed illustration of the life, habits and customs of the Native Americans.

After their visit to the Baltic Sea, Bill had to return to the United States, whereas Moni met her German college friend Brigitte Gorka. They flew from Frankfurt to Tallinn, Estonia. Brigitte and Moni thoroughly explored this medieval city, the art nouveau city of Riga, Latvia, the former capital city Kaunas of Lithuania and the baroque city of Vilnius, Lithuania – the UNESCO city of 2009.

In addition to walking through cities and viewing the historic sights, they

and bought a precious piece of true Baltic Sea amber. Other highlights of the trip included a tour of the restored Opera House of Riga, enjoying two wonderfully produced operas as well as concerts in renovated churches and cloisters.

The Baltic States' history was the biggest part of its attractiveness for tourists. There are so many castles, country estates, restored churches, all different styles of architecture, museums and traditional restaurants.

During these travels there was a spirit of independence evident throughout all three Baltic States. The sovereignty was established in 1994, only after the Soviet Union withdrew.

Pine Knoll Association Update

By Barbara Lemons

Summer is in high gear here in Pine Knoll Shores, and so is Pine Knoll Association (PKA) activity. Removing trash, managing recyclables, trimming trees, replacing broken gates and repairing leaking pipes are a few examples of how members and volunteers keep our parks clean, safe and beautiful.

Another activity which occurs daily is raising the flags at Ocean Park. The flagpole has three halyards, one higher than the other two. The American flag is always flown in the highest position, with the flag of North Carolina on one of the two lower halyards. The third flag may be different from time to time because it is selected by the volunteer who is tending the park for the week. Each volunteer has a choice of flying a flag representing Army, Air Force, Marine, Navy, Coast Guard, POW's (Prisoner of Wars), veterans or other organizations. We are currently in need of a flag for the Navy and Coast Guard, so if you have a 2'x3' heavy-

duty flag for either of these services, we would appreciate having it to add to our inventory.

Weather on the coast has been quite agreeable for boating this summer and there has been significant use of boat ramps. When using boat ramps, here are a couple of reminders: When launching or pulling out move your vehicle away from the ramp quickly to accommodate others who are waiting to launch. Remember not to "power on" when reloading your boat onto your trailer. When parking your trailer after launch, use the adjacent lot if space is available. Parking trailers on the street, particularly at Brock Basin, has potential for creating a safety hazard. If no other choice is available, park as far off of the pavement as possible while avoiding parking on curves and other areas where visibility is limited.

If you have questions about PKA or its activities, please contact Kathy Kimel at 240-1717, pka@ec.rr.com or any board member.

Linda Anderson's Artwork

Artwork by Linda Anderson will be on display in September at St. Francis by the Sea's downstairs gallery. Linda, an award-winning artist, paints in acrylic, watercolor and pastels, with pastels being her medium of choice.

Relocating from a coastal community on Long Island, Linda and her husband moved to Emerald Isle in 1987. Their love of the coastal environment provides inspiration for her paintings. Commercial fishing and boat building were a major part of their lives and led Linda into doing boat portraits, which have become her specialty.

She is an active member of the Coastal

Pastel Society of North Carolina and Carteret-Onslow Neighborhood Artists. She is also the volunteer art coordinator for the town of Emerald Isle's Recreation Center's lounge.

The St. Francis gallery is open 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. on Sunday. You can also see Linda's work at her home studio in Emerald Isle, Arts and Things in Morehead City, The Tidewater Gallery in Swansboro, J. Chalk Design in Morehead City, Holly's Art Escapes in Morehead City and Coastal Art Works in Havelock.

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