1978 Shore Line

By Phyllis Makuck

"So this is the final issue," announced Mayor Ken Haller in the June 1978 edition of what was then called the *Pine Knoll Shoreline*. Throughout 1977, founding editors Mary Doll and Betty Hammon had expressed their lack of time and energy for keeping the paper going. However, by adding George and Moni Eastland to the staff and having the paper appear quarterly rather than monthly, they had hoped to continue. The March issue appeared on schedule, but by June, the plan had fallen apart.

Recalling a song from the *Sound of Music*, Doll and Hammon ended, saying: "...we're in this crazy planet full of crazy people, somersaulting around in the sky, and every time we turn another somersault, another day goes by and 'There's No Way to Stop It.' But in this case, the last somersault has been turned and we would like to quit while we are ahead, as the expression has it...."

They were not quitting without a sense of achievement. "We wanted very much to help PKS'ers pull together and incorporate." Pine Knoll Shores, they concluded, "...certainly has developed into a friendly and cooperative enclave and we did incorporate with the help of the N.C. Legislature."

The town was firmly established. It was going to continue to grow, and infrastructure development to support that growth was underway. George Eastland wrote in March 1978, "Plans for the new town hall-fire-and-rescue complex are continuing apace, with construction expected to begin within the next 90 days and completion later this year." The construction timetable seems overly ambitious, but plans for acquiring fire and rescue equipment and for having trained volunteers to use the equipment were also in progress.

Carolina Water had "erected and placed in service a new 150,000-gallon tank, along with an additional deep well..." Carteret-Craven Electric was soon to begin building a "30,000 KVA electric sub-station" on Roosevelt Drive that would "improve its service to the growing community."

Ordinances and zoning regulations were in place. The Community Appearance Commission had a new staff and, together with strong homeowner associations, would continue "to maintain housing and landscaping standards that will harmonize with and enhance the already attractive qualities of the community."

Also supporting a sense of community were ongoing volunteer efforts and organizations such as the Garden Club, Women's Club, Ancient Mariners and Country Club. All were well established and had activities that would continue to bring members of the community together whether or not events were reported.

But we know, as Ken Haller expressed in his farewell message in June 1978, "...some day a new Shoreline will rise, Phoenix-like, to carry on the traditions established by the old."



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