

The Shoreline

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A Shoreline Community, Pine Knoll Shores, N.C.

October 2016



Oktoberfest
Grilling

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A Promising Turtle Season in PKS

By Peggy Deneau



Hatchlings walk to the ocean.—Photo by Cary Spencer

We have had a wonderful 2016 sea turtle season in Pine Knoll Shores, with 13 loggerhead sea turtle nests. It is possible, though unlikely, we could get more. If we do, it would most likely be a green turtle nest, as they tend to nest later in the season as well as higher on the beach.

Six of our nests have hatched, with excellent results. One of these was a "wild nest"—one that was unknown to us until someone noticed hatchlings emerging from the sand and notified us. This wild nest was not found by our morning walkers or the Turtle Patrol vehicle due to the blustery winds on the beach from mid-June through much of July. Strong winds can obliterate any signs of a crawl or a nest with blowing sand. It was most likely laid around the same time as Nest

#1 (June 11), as it hatched three days later. We called this nest #13, because it was the last one we knew about.

Nest #1 hatched on August 7, on the 58th day of incubation, and was excavated on August 10 by Linbe Blackford and Lisa Park. Yolanda Lozano inventoried the contents. In the nest were 152 shells, two unhatched eggs and five live hatchlings that walked down the runway into the ocean—to the delight of everyone. Emergence success for this nest was 95.4%.

Nest #13, our wild nest, was the second one to hatch, and did so on the evening of August 10. It was excavated on August 13 by Julie and Cameron Anderson, and the inventory was performed by Sheryl Woodbury. In Nest #13 we found 106 shells, five live hatchlings that immediately headed for the ocean, six pipped dead hatchlings (hatchlings that died when partially emerged from their shells), 11 unhatched eggs, and five pipped live hatchlings. The pipped live hatchlings were placed on the

Pine Knoll Shores Hosts First Ever Fishing Tournament

By Bill Steenland

Finally, after all these years, our little town by the sea will have its own fishing tournament on Saturday, October 15 (rain date: October 22). The tournament will be open to all Pine Knoll Shores residents, family members, property owners and town employees. While a boat may be used, one is not required to enter the tournament. Participants can fish from the surf, a pier or a kayak, too, and there are no age limits. Grandkids, grandmas, grandpas, moms, dads and all their children are welcome. Of course, if you are 16 or over you will need a North Carolina recreational fishing license.

Because this is an inshore tournament, we have limited the kinds of fish that are eligible for weigh-in: flounder, red drum (must be between 18" and 27"), speckled trout, gray trout, bluefish, sea mullet and sheepshead. Note that flounder will be included in the eligible fish *only* if the tournament is held on October 15. If we are delayed by rain, flounder season will have ended before the rain date of October 22.

We will have a fun weigh-in at McNeill Park beginning at 4 p.m. We will have a leaderboard, and there will be a trophy for the biggest fish in each category. There will be refreshments, fish tales about the one that got away, maybe t-shirt sales and a lot of hoopla.

The entry fee is \$10 per person and will benefit the Crystal Coast Hospice House. By the time you are reading this, you will have likely received information on the rules as well as an entry form and other information from Town Manager Brian Kramer. Entry forms will also be available at the public safety building and at town hall. The entry form, along with the entry fee, must be received no later than the day before the tournament.

Mark your calendars now and plan to join your town in its first ever fishing tournament on October 15.

runway, where they emerged fully from their shells and walked into the ocean. This wild nest had an emergence success of 70%.

Nest #3 was the next to hatch, and did so at 7:30 p.m. on August 12, after an incubation of just 51 days. Volunteers Jan Corsello and Cary Spencer showed up early to sit nearby Nest #2, and instead oversaw the hatch at Nest #3. There were so many spectators that volunteers Freddie Nelon and Sheryl Woodbury were called to help out. Nest #3 was excavated by Judy Hassler and Freddie Nelon on August 16. Arlene Terrell inventoried the contents. Nest #3 contained 106 shells, four unhatched eggs and one live hatchling, which walked into the ocean. Emergence success for Nest #3 was 91%.

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