

## Kite Building/Flying Art Is Revived

Only in a country school like White Oak, the ancient skill and thrill of kite building and flying be so revived and appreciated.

When Mrs. Williams' Fourth Grade began collecting reeds for ribs, newspaper, wrapping paper, garbage bags, and plastic material - anything at least 42 inches long, we all know something special was about to erupt.

They measured, pasted, punched, wrapped, wove, taped, and measured some more. Then one day the walls of their classroom were decorated with the results of their study in math, art, research, and most of all, their lovely young ingenuity.

They bridled their own - in differing fashion, according to family procedure. Kite day came, sunny and warm, with prevailing easterly. What a day!

The winners of the kiting contest were: Penny Peale - highest; Susan Bunch - smoothest; Anita Wiggins - most artistic; and Dean

Lamb - first to fly.

The other grades joined in the excitement of the occasion and by now few children at White Oak School have not had held a tugging, or suddeb skacj kube abd exoierenced the wonder of kiting.

Some of the older students have carried the academic endeavor further. Following are some of our interesting findings.

First, we want every young kiter to observe these rules from the Kite-flying Code:

Use NO metal in making your kite.

Never fly near light or telephone wires.

Never fly in a thunderstorm.

Never fly on a public highway.

Never try to remove a kite entangled in electric wires, tree-tops, or high poles.

Kite flying is at least 4,000 years old - we do not know how much older. That was long before the birth of Christ.

An ancient custom says

that the kite is supposed to float away evils. (Then our school should be safe for a long time.)

March 5 is kite day in Japan. Each boy flies a carp kite - a kite shaped like the revered fish - a symbol of bravery.

The Chinese kite day is the seventh day of the seventh month. Grown-ups and children take part in the celebration.

Tallest Kites fly higher. Some kites have reed whistles that blow as the kite flies.

There have been many interesting scientific uses made of the kite.

Before 1750, a very interesting experiment was carried out in Scotland that measured the temperature of the clouds. They used a train of kites, one fastened to the other.

Benjamin Franklin's square silk kite captured electricity from the sky in 1752.

By 1900, the box Kite (or Hargrave Kite) was used by the weather bureau to record barometric pressure, temperature, wind velocity and humidity.

One kite flew four and half miles above the earth. Balloons and airplanes took the place of kites at weather stations. Do you know what replaced the airplanes and balloons?

Kites were used for signals in wartime.

A kite was used for the first span of the Niagara River Bridge near Niagara Falls.

### Luncheon Menus

Centralized menus in cafeterias of Edenton-Chowan Schools for the next week include:

Friday -- Barbecued chicken, buttered potatoes, green peas, gelatin with fruit, rolls and milk.

Monday--Pizza, buttered corn, peanuts, orange juice, cheese cubes, cookies and milk.

Tuesday--Spaghetti with meat sauce, tossed salad, green beans, pears, rolls and milk.

Wednesday -- Seafood place, tartar sauce, green beans, cole slaw, pineapple, cornbread and milk.

Thursday--Baked ham, potato salad, pickled beets, mixed greens, rolls, apple-sauce and milk.

## Lowly Eel Now Termed Delicacy In Many Areas

By Mary Day Mordcael

North Carolina's coastal waters are teeming with those long skinny sea creatures known as eels. (American eels to be exact.)

Until recently they were considered little more than a nuisance to fishermen. That story may be changing. Because eels are considered a delicacy in some parts of the world, fishing for them is becoming a lucrative business in North Carolina. In many parts of the United States eels are also considered prime live bait for sports anglers.

University of North Carolina Marine Advisory Service is sponsoring American eel harvesting and live bait workshops on the coast during March and April. The workshops are designed to introduce fishermen and bait dealers to the commercial uses of the eel.

A bait dealers workshop is scheduled for 1:30 P. M. at the Agricultural Extension Office in Elizabeth City on April 8. The session will highlight rigging and fishing with live eels, sources, costs and prices of live eels and techniques of holding and displaying live eels.

An eel harvesting workshop, scheduled for 7:30 P. M. the same date at the same location, is designed to offer basic information to those who might be interested in fishing for eels.

Speakers will cover the basics of fishing for eels from construction of eels pots to techniques for holding and selling the catch.

Assistance will also be available for those who would like a financial analysis of eel fishing.

For further information, contact the Sea Grant Marine Advisory Services in Raleigh at 737-2578, or in Morehead City at 726-0124.

The Veterans Administration's National Cemetery System has announced plans for new cemeteries in Massachusetts, California, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

"Estuaries have tremendous potential as a food source - and they've fed many people on the North Carolina coast for years," commented Surf City Mayor Lucille Gore in a recent interview.

In support of Mayor Gore's contentions Jim Brown, assistant director of the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries, provided specific figures about the value of estuaries. "Ninety-five per cent of the commercial harvest of finfish and shellfish from North Carolina waters is composed of species which are dependent on the estuaries during part or all of their life," according to Brown.

This testimony points to a few of the reasons why the N.C. Coastal Resources Commission has proposed the estuarine system for consideration as an Area of Environmental Concern. Under commission proposals, the system would be composed of four interlocking categories: estuarine waters, wetlands, public trust areas, and estuarine shorelines.

The reason behind the proposal is to protect the sensitive areas and to streamline the complex permit - letting process which governs development activity in the wetlands. A permit coordination study has been launched by the Commission and their recommendations will be presented to the N.C. General Assembly for action.

A portion of the system

which relates primarily to dry-land activities is the estuarine shoreline. This would include land within 75 feet of the mean high water level along the estuaries. Most development in this area would be under the control of local governments.

Commission staff member Rob Moul lists three reasons for including shoreline areas in the estuarine system: (1) to notify the landowner of hazards or erosion rates on his property; (2) to provide the landowner a cost-benefit analysis of erosion control methods; and (3) to eliminate those practices which accelerate erosion and introduce sediment or other pollutants into the estuaries.

Researcher Mike O'Connor of East Carolina University has determined that the entire North Carolina estuarine shoreline erodes at a rate of two feet per year, and some areas experience as much as five to eight feet per year. O'Connor summarizes,

"The general picture is one of erosion; accretion or build-up is generally of a temporary nature."

The Coastal Resources Commission will hold

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hearings in each of the coastal counties later this spring to gather public input into the need to designate the estuarine system or other fragile areas as Areas of Environmental Concern.

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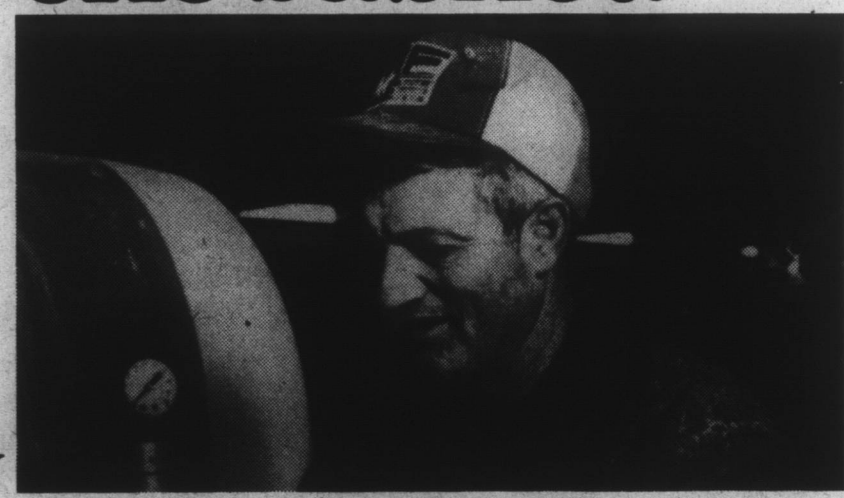
I raise peanuts. And it's a decent living. **Most** years.

I say **most** because you never know if the weather's apt to cooperate.

And even if the weather comes through, some years the market doesn't.

It's during those lean years that it's nice to have a second income to fall back on. That's one reason I got into raising Perdue broilers.

But the main reason was the Peanut Program. For some years now



Murray Parker - Gates, N.C.

they've been talking about killing it. And they're talking a little louder every year.

Well, for someone like me living in a peanut county like Gates, that program's support is the only good reason to raise peanuts.

At least now I don't have to depend on one crop. Or one pay check once a year.

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harvest?

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