

Annals of the Fleeting Years

Part Two

By TUCKER R. LITTLETON

To the crew of fishermen at Cedar Point Fishery, the raising of a white flag did not mean surrender, but rather it meant a victory—a big one. Just when and how the custom originated is unknown, but there was practiced by the Cedar Point fishermen an old custom of flag-raising.

Usually, there were twelve to fifteen members of the crew who got shares of the fish; the captain was usually given a share for his nets and a share for his boats. Since the crew could not get water from a well on Cedar Point, someone had to be hired to bring water to the fishery each morning, and he also received a share of the fish for supplying the men with water to drink.

All in all, a good crew of men normally had to divide their fish into about twenty shares. The custom was that if a haul brought in enough fish that every share with whom the catch had to be divided got a barrel of fish apiece then the white flag was hoisted up on the flag pole where it could be seen by anxious wives in Swansboro and on neighboring farms.

A barrel was considered to be 125 pounds, and it was a good haul that gave every share that many fish.

Wives were familiar with this practice, and from the gable windows of houses in Swansboro, those anxious ladies watched to see the white flag raised at Cedar Point. When the white flag was spotted by a wife of one of the crew members as it rose above the treetops across the river, the passerby in the street below was likely to hear the good woman rejoicing over the catch her husband and crew had made.

When mealtime drew near and the wife had to busy herself about the kitchen, the children were often hurried upstairs to watch in the mother's place. If the children shouted that the flag was rising, a happy mother was likely to come running to the gable window and all too often a forgotten pot was left on the stove till the dinner was smelled burning.

While this custom continued to be practiced for many years, it had its distinct disadvantages. It was the quickest way of notifying wife and family of the good fortunes of the day, but some complained. One good man advocated the dropping of such a custom, for, as he told the story, every time his wife saw the white flag rise she ran downstairs and grabbed the Sears and Roebuck catalogue. And before he got home, his share was already spent!

Every day at the fishery brought something different. The day began when the men started arriving about 4 or 5 a.m. Early in the day Mr. Shep Bell would arrive with a keg of water, which he brought a good distance with a mule and cart. As soon as day came and one could see, a man

was put in the lookout and could tell from a great distance when a school of fish was approaching.

Buyers came early in the day to purchase what the men caught. Some days the buyers had to wait until evening before a catch was made, and at other times the first hauls had already been made before the first buyer arrived.

Some buyers purchased fish and transported them across land, but most of the fish were sold to men who came for them in boats. During the best part of the fishing season, it was not uncommon to have better than fifteen boats waiting offshore to buy the crew's catch.

The year so many shrimp were caught was the time that Mr. Warren Styron came up in his boat and bought the shrimp for \$1 per box. Later it was learned that Mr. Will Reynolds had resold them for \$5 per box, and that was big money.

Some days the crew caught fish just as fast as they could clear their nets and haul again, and some days they hardly saw a fish. Among the varied experiences, one crew member told this anecdote. Mr. Charlie Bennett was working for Charlie Wallace, of Morehead City, who had engaged all the fish that the Cedar Point crew caught. Mr. Bennett arrived early that day to get the fish, and he wasn't long getting them, for that turned out to be one of the better days.

He loaded up his boat with the fish and started to leave for Morehead. He had just got out of sight of the crew when they hauled again and hoisted the flag. Mr. Bennett saw the flag when it was raised and had to turn around and come back for more fish.

He loaded those on and got just around the bend when the same thing happened again. He came back for the third catch of fish and quite frustrated begged, "Boys, I wish you'd stop fishing for the day. You're a-working me to death."

Mr. Edward Littleton remembered several bad storms while he fished at Cedar Point, and there were certainly many hurricanes and storms in the earlier years. But none of the storms ever damaged the fishing grounds. If wind and tide washed the camp away, a new one could be built and the fishing went on next year unharmed.

Some years were bound to be better than others, and Mr. Edward Littleton told of one season during the months of September and October when his crew hoisted the white flag at least once a day for twenty-seven consecutive days and sometimes as much as three times a day.

It is altogether likely that earlier crews under George Littleton, Burns Smith, or Beg Lewis could have topped that record, for old timers used to tell about the days when a man didn't have to go fishing with a net. Back then the fish were so thick one could kill all he wanted with a stick, so the story goes.

Each year's crew was likely to have gained new members and to

have lost some of the previous year's fishermen. The crews were as a rule made up of men from both counties who often walked long distances in the early morning hours to get to work on time.

Because such a crew kept no records and memories of older men are prone to fail them, it is practically impossible to compile a complete list of the men who at one time or other fished at Cedar Point Fishery. But a partial list follows to give what idea it can of the number of men who found fishing at Cedar Point a good way to make a living.

From Carteret county came these: Beg Lewis, Burns B. Smith, Absalom Rhue, Monroe Rhue, Layfield Rhue, Anthony Davis, Sam Davis, Walter Guthrie, Tom Ed Gillikin.

Stacy Rhue, Martin Rhue, Guy Weeks, Hub Smith, Benny Cannon, Tom Piner, Dan Piner, Shep Piner, Andrew Rhue, Walt Taylor.

Walter Piner, Lee Cannon, Roebuck Buck, Lee Buck, Burse Cole, Manly Howard, Steve Dudley, Joshua Bell, Tom Guthrie, Elijah Guthrie.

Victor Holland, Jim Holland, "Nick" Holland, Ransom Bat, Bill Dudley, Allen Mitchell, George Allen Davis, Charlie Dudley, and countless others.

These were from Onslow county: George W. Littleton, Tom Merritt, Ben Davis, George Hill, K. Bloodgood, Edward F. Littleton, John W. Littleton, John A. Littleton.

Roy Odum, Pete Hattell, George Bell, Charlie Maness, Tucker H. Heady, Rob Heady, Gus Pittman Jr. and Sr., Alphaeus Dennis, Carl Ward.

Herbert Piner, Harrison Piner, John Sanders, Fred Bell, John Piner, "Chub" Kirkman, Clarence Bloodgood Jr. and Sr., Ed Hill, Bert Tolson.

Everett Littleton, Thomas Sparks Littleton, Loftin Barfield, Bob Littleton, Dick Littleton, Jim Littleton, Earl Tolson, William Keel, Fred Pittman.

Marvin Hattell, Charlie "Nick" Sewell, Paul Sewell, Lon Holland, Joe Buckmaster, Dan Morton, Cecil Morton, Jim Midget, Zeb Wetherington.

Hub Midget, Joe Kirkman, John L. Bell, Dan Taylor Jr. and Sr., Joe Wheeler Piner, Jim Frazelle, Ernest Dennis, Cecil Dennis, Nash Dennis.

Tobe Jones, Ed Jones, John Kinsey, George Hattell, Rufus Lowhorn, Allen Howell, Tink Odum, Eugene Pridgen, Clyde Piner, Thomas Hill, Harry Moore.

Andrew Hill, A. K. Riggs, Clarence Vinson, Fred Green, Clayton Hattell, Cecil Keel, Will Wiggins, Percy Riggs, Vincent Carney, Hub Carney.

Herman Odum, Kenneth Pittman, Tom Mattocks, M. T. Maness, Pat Irvin, Bob Midget, Capus Midget, Ed Smith, Larry Stanley, Ralph Rouse, Will Pridgen, Errington Littleton, Harry Littleton, and many more.

Life at the fishery must have been wonderful, for according to some stories, early hands there

like to come back after their de- cease. Three crew members arrived early one day before dawn and were greeted by the spirits of three men who had fished there earlier but were supposed to be dead at that time.

The spirits were so plain the three fishermen claimed to have recognized them, could call them by name, and beat a hasty retreat.

For well over a hundred years, work at the Cedar Point Fishery was just that exciting!

13 Couples Get Licenses to Wed

The following couples applied for marriage licenses through the office of Odell Merrill, register of deeds, from Dec. 19 through Jan. 15:

Dec. 19: Robert M. White, 26, of Beaufort and Annie Mae Lewis, 30, of Morehead City; James Baird Walker, 26, of Raleigh and Helen Hendrix Carlton, 21, of Morehead City.

Dec. 22: Tony Wade, 21, of Wil- liston and Allie M. Lewis, 17, of Harkers Island; Johnnie Kirk Dennis, 19, of Beaufort and Harriet Elizabeth Hill, 17, of Beaufort.

Dec. 24: Floyd Hill Jr., 25, of Beaufort and Barbara Horton, 22, of Morehead City.

Dec. 26: Vernon McKinney, 29, of Kanohi Bay, Hawaii and Thelma Atwood, 29, of Newport.

Dec. 30: George W. Bell, 24, of Havelock and Gwendolyn Whittington, 23, of Wildwood.

Dec. 31: Darrell B. Hardison, 18, of Beaufort and Sheila Jean Swann, 19, of Beaufort.

Jan. 9: Jack C. Garner, 29, of Newport and Gracie M. Small, 19, of Newport.

Jan. 11: Jack O'Donnell, 28, of Morehead City and Betty Gilbert, 23, of Morehead City; Charles Graham Morris, 31, of Atlantic and Dallas Grace Gillikin, 33, of Ot- way.

Jan. 13: Harley Franklin Garner, 19, of Newport and Nancy Atkin- son, 18, of Beaufort.

Jan. 15: Don E. Wegley, 38, of Farmersville, Ohio, and Ella Mar- garet Davis, 32, of Morehead City.

Insurance Agent Speaks To Newport Rotarians

Insurance agent Roy T. Garner was the speaker at the Monday night meeting of the Newport Rotary club. He spoke on traffic safety and the new point system. Mr. Garner told Rotarians that the recently adopted point system in North Carolina can cost a driver his license through traffic violation convictions.

Guests at the meeting included R. P. Joyce Jr. of Newport who attended as the guest of Derryl Garner and E. C. Jernigan, who came as the guest of Ed Comer. David Murray of Morehead City was a visiting Rotarian.

How Do You Rate Your Town?

Bud Dixon, Morehead City commissioner, provides the following check list for rating one's town. The list originally appeared in the magazine, Town Journal, and has been widely used by towns throughout the country.

The statements are to be answered yes or no. If as many as 30 have yes answers, the town is considered average.

1. Most high school graduates stay in town.
2. Getting a loan on a sound business venture is easy.
3. The local paper constantly pushes civic improvements.
4. There's a Chamber of Commerce with a live-wire manager.
5. Local speeders pay the same fine as out-of-towners.
6. There's a place to swim with- in easy reach.
7. Young couples have little trouble finding a place to live.
8. The head of your government is a "get-things-done" man.
9. Town entrances are free from junk, shacks, and billboards.

10. Teachers' salaries are better than the state average.
11. There's at least one doctor per 800 people in your community.
12. There's a library with a good collection of recent books.
13. Newcomers quickly feel they are a part of the town.
14. Schools have plenty of room for students.
15. Fire insurance rates are low for your type of town.
16. Service, veterans' and women's clubs team up on projects.
17. There is an active well-organized Boy Scout troop.
18. A modern hospital is within your trading area.
19. All streets are paved and sidewalks are in good condition.
20. Well-stocked stores keep shoppers in town.
21. There's a hotel or motel you'd enjoy if you were a visitor.
22. It's easy to find parking space in the business section.
23. At least one restaurant serves outstanding meals.
24. The sewer extension program keeps pace with new housing.

25. It's easy to get volunteers for any worthwhile project.
26. Public toilets are provided for farm folk shopping in town.
27. Prompt, reasonably priced ambulance service is available.
28. Good zoning keeps factories away from residential areas.
29. There's an annual clean-up, paint-up, fix-up week.
30. Streets throughout the com- munity are well-lighted.
31. More than half the church congregations are under 40 years old.
32. Shade trees line nearly all the streets.
33. There's an ample supply of good drinking water.
34. There's a recreation center where young people dance.
35. The business section has a modern, prosperous look.
36. There's as much interest in local as national elections.
37. The tax rate is attractive to new industry.
38. There's a town council to guide the community's progress.

Brownie Troop Visits Newspaper

Brownie Troop 77, Beaufort, with troop leader Mrs. John Mease, visited THE NEWS-TIMES Tuesday afternoon. The girls toured the editorial office and plant. Each received a "slug" with her name as well as a copy of the paper.

With the girls were their junior leader, Bonnie Ward, and Mrs. Sidney Lewis, mother of a Brownie.

Making the tour were the follow- ing:

Olivia Joyce Mason
Bonnie Joy Willis
Sharon Kay Mease
Jan Nicholson
Janet Ann Smith
Susan Young
Norma Jean Thompson
Ellen Smith
Bonnie Ward
Mrs. John Mease
Mrs. Sidney Lewis
Jo Frances Lewis
Elaine Darden

39. There's an active PTA.
40. Firemen must take regular training courses.

DOLLAR DAYS
at piggly wiggly!

PIGGLY WIGGLY PEPSI-COLA 24 Bottles \$1.00	PLYMOUTH COOKING OIL Pt. - 25c Qt. - 45c
PIGGLY WIGGLY SUGAR 10-Lb. Bag \$1.00	PLYMOUTH Peanut Butter 39c
PIGGLY WIGGLY Russell's Vanilla Wafers 4 29c Bags \$1.00	MAXWELL HOUSE INSTANT COFFEE 95c
	HEINZ TOMATO Ketchup 2 14-Oz. Bottles 49¢

"YOUR CHOICE"

SUNSET GOLD EVAPORATED MILK	8 Tall Cans
MAYFIELD CREAM STYLE CORN	8 No. 303 Cans
RED GLOW TOMATOES	8 No. 303 Cans
PLYMOUTH INSTANT COFFEE	Giant 8 Oz. Jar
CHEF BOY-AR-DEE SPAGHETTI & MEAT BALLS	4 15 1/2-Oz. Cans
GWALTNEY PURE LARD	8 Lbs.

1-Lb. Package Free with each 8-Lb. Pkg. of Lard

Maxwell House
COFFEE lb. Bag **59¢**
LIMIT ONE WITH \$5.00 FOOD ORDER

PIGGLY WIGGLY 12 Rolls Waldorf Tissue 3 4-Roll Pkgs. \$1.00	PIGGLY WIGGLY SPOT DOG FOOD 12 Cans \$1.00
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Bake 'em
Stew 'em
Make Chicken Salad
Small 3 to 4 lb.
Fresh
HENS
19¢ Lb.

Fresh Pork Loin
ROAST
End Cut
43¢ Lb.

Hygrade Reliable
Sliced
BACON
39¢ Lb.

PIGGLY WIGGLY
HOME-MADE
Sausage
3 Lb. Bulk Pkg.
\$1.00

ALL FOR \$1.00
10-Lb. Bag
US No. 1 Potatoes
4-Lb. Bag Apples
3-Lb. Bag Onions
ALL FOR
\$1.00

42-CAR PARKING LOT



There's nothing like a new car—and no new car like a Chevrolet. This is the Impala Sport Coupe!

**GO '60
GO CHEVY!**

**NOW—THE CAR THAT STARTS THE SIXTIES
WITH SO MUCH THAT'S NEW,
SO MUCH THAT'S DIFFERENT
...AND SETS THE PACE WITH LOWER PRICES!**

Chevrolet speaks of the Sixties like no other car—with a broad accent on spaciousness, stirring new concepts in styling and strong emphasis on spirit and thrift.

Step inside this superlative '60 and look at the worlds of room around you: head room, hip room, shoulder-squaring room. Note how Chevrolet's engineers have further flattened and narrowed the transmission tunnel to give the middle man more foot room. Chevrolet's greater roominess is inside where you want it—not outside in useless body overhang.

You'll find economy teamed with performance in a new standard V8, engineered to deliver up to 10% more miles for every gallon, or the strapping Hi-Thrift 6.

And riding comfort in the new one is a never-ending treat, thanks to Full Coil spring suspension. There are also thicker, newly designed body mounts that filter noise and vibration to the vanishing point, more rigid frame and many other engineering advances.

But you'll have to drive the Sixty sizzler yourself—that's the clincher.

Why not see your Chevrolet dealer now—for a drive and the happy details on Chevy's new lower prices.



See The Dash Show Chevy Show in color Sundays, NBC-TV—the Pat Boone Chevy Showroom weekly, ABC-TV.

Now—fast delivery, favorable deals! See your local authorized Chevrolet dealer.

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