

Thirsty?

Think Of George Moss
When You Drink That Water

By GARY STEWART
Mirror Staff Writer

George Moss, chief operator for Kings Mountain's two water plants, never dreamed 32 years ago that Kings Mountain would someday pump four million gallons of water a day.

The Kings Mountain native, who'll complete his 32nd year with the city on May 15, says when he first joined the water department the city was pumping about 3,000 to 4,000 gallons a day.

"A lot of people in Kings Mountain never thought we'd need even a million gallons a day, which was our capacity back then," Moss pointed out.

"If we pumped as much as a half-million in any one day, it was highly unusual."

Moss, of course, began his duties as chief operator at the old Deal Street plant, which is still in operation. That plant is now used for nighttime operation.

"Back then," Moss continued, "it was a 365 day a year job. It was a one-man department and he worked every day. Still, the water plant takes no holidays but we have three employees now." Other water plant operators are Kenneth Broome and DeVoil Butcher.

"One thing about this job," Moss pointed out, "you have to be a chemist, janitor, elec-

trician and about everything else. And this is unusual for most water plants. Most cities have a maintenance crew and a chemist that does the lab work. I'm the only certified chemist in our department."

Kings Mountain's new water treatment facility, located at the John H. Moss Reservoir, has a pumping capacity of four million gallons per day. The old Deal Street facility was increased from a one million to two million gallon a day operation in 1954.

"Our new plant is called a high rate filtration plant," explained Moss, "and the old plant is known as a conventional plant. The only difference is that a con-

ventional plant provides two gallons per minute through each square foot of filter area and the high filtration plant provides four gallons per minute."

Moss said that's the only major change made in water treatment since he's been on the job.

Moss predicted the city water use is about 3.7 million gallons per day.

"A rule of thumb figures water consumption to be 150 gallons per capita per day," noted Moss. "And we have about 10,000 people using our water."

"The thing that's caused the biggest jump," he went on, (See GEORGE p.8B)

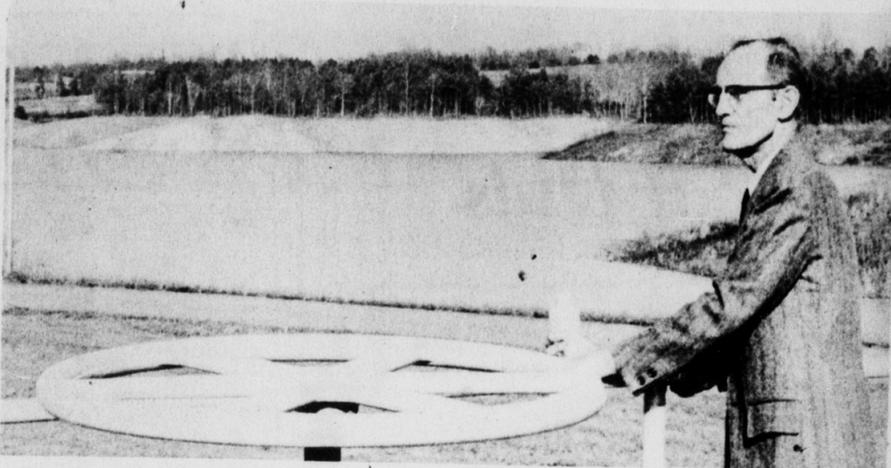


Photo by Gary Stewart

THE BIG CHIEF - George Moss, Kings Mountain's chief operator at the city's water works, has spent 32 years on the

job. He has worked under seven mayors and three city managers and has seen a great many changes in his job.

Kings Mountain

Mirror

VOL. 3 NO. 20

KINGS MOUNTAIN, NORTH CAROLINA 28086 THURSDAY, JANUARY 17, 1974

10°



AWARD WINNER - Mirror staff writer Jay Ashley poses with Lt. Gov. Jim Hunt and NC Press Association President Sam Ragan at the presentation of awards for outstanding

reportage for 1973 in Chapel Hill last week. Ashley won second place in news or feature series.

Jay Ashley Mirror Writer Takes 1973 NC Press Award

We have a winner!
Jay Ashley, staff writer-photographer for The Mirror, was named second place winner in the News or Feature Series category when the NC Press Association met at Chapel Hill last week.

Ashley, a native of Burlington and a member of the Mirror news team since 1972, won his award on a series entitled "Dogs In Kings Mountain." The series was an all-around and informative probe into a very real and disturbing situation concerning "man's best friend-turned-adversary."

In judging the category, Neal Britton Sims, managing editor of the Virginia Beach (Va.) Sun, commented, "The many questions and various viewpoints to the problem of vicious and dangerous dogs in Kings Mountain were best treated in a series."

"The Mirror's approach to the situation pointing out the disorder and damage done by the dogs, then explaining the legal issues involved, gave readers a better perspective on a complicated matter."

"Sections of the city's dog-control ordinance were used as outlines for pictures showing the results of violations of the law. In addition, The Mirror also gathered a summary of dog laws in other NC cities. After reading the series, one was better able to make an individual decision as to what actions should be taken."

Through Ashley's series the board of commissioners were moved to action and strict enforcement of the dog ordinance was maintained until the problem became less severe. The 49th annual awards presentation were sponsored jointly by the NCPA, UNC-Chapel Hill and Duke University, Durham.

Fri., Feb. 1 At 5 p.m.

Tax Listing Deadline

Area citizens have slightly more than a week to list their 1974 personal and real estate taxes before having to pay a penalty.

J. Edwin Moore, tax lister for number four township, said taxes will be listed at city hall in Kings Mountain from 8:30 a.m. until 5 p.m. each weekday through Friday, Feb. 1. Taxes will also be listed in Grover this Saturday from 8:30 until 1 p.m. and at city

hall on Saturday, Feb. 2, from 8:30 until 1 p.m. "Listing is going as good or better than we expected," noted Moore. "You never know if there are any late listers until it's over since many people are now listing through the mail. But there seems to be a better percentage of people listing in person than through the mail."

Moore said the 10 percent late listing penalty applies to personal items only. The minimum penalty is one

dollar. He pointed out that churches must apply for exemption before the deadline or will have to pay taxes.

"Churches were supposed to receive a form in the mail," Moore pointed out, "but in case some didn't, we have the forms available through us. We urge the churches to apply before the deadline."

Moore noted that most counties are enforcing the new state law concerning listing of church property.

To Consider Proposals Lake Authority Tour Saturday

The Kings Mountain Lake Authority plans a special meeting at 9 a.m. Saturday for a tour of John Henry Moss Reservoir.

The tour will be to consider proposals for lake use made by Meeco Marinas, Inc. of McAlester, Okla. and recently presented to the authority members.

The study results suggested no less than 3,800 boats would use JHM Reservoir and that 750 of them would be "active boating customers" at marine, docking and dry docking facilities there.

Commenting on the study, Mayor John Henry Moss, the man for whom the lake is named, said the study reflects the belief of a commercial supplier and it does not necessarily follow that the lake's governing authority will accept these projections.

The study projections were based on total population in five counties (Cleveland, Lincoln, Gaston, York and Cherokee) and a national average on one boat per 52 persons in densely populated areas, one boat per 93 persons in rural areas. The study indicates there are 355,000

persons residing in the five counties.

In the 1968 master plan for recreational use of the lake, one marina was designated as being sufficient. The Meeco study suggests at least three marinas are justified.

The study further recommends the marinas be built near the dam on the northwest branch, and on the east side of the lake center. The marinas should offer, according to the new study, slip storage, fuel facilities, dockside electricity, fresh water, public phones, restrooms, ice, food, drinks, garbage disposal, marine equipment and spare boat parts.

The study gives a projected breakdown of costs and

revenue for lake facilities. 72 boat slips of varying size and quality would cost \$96,000 and produce an annual gross income of \$28,331; a 30 by 40 foot dry dock, cost, \$16,400, annual gross income, \$9,216; a 60 by 42 foot fishing barge, cost, \$18,539, annual gross income, \$8,100; a 48-foot service dock, cost, \$7,377, annual gross income from gasoline sales, \$10,140.

Total projected costs of these facilities is \$138,723. Total projected gross revenue, \$59,870 or 43.15 percent of the cost.

The Meero study further projects additional income of \$32,600 from boat accessories.

(See LAKE p.7A)

FUNBank Opening KM Plaza Branch

First Union National Bank opens its branch operation in Kings Mountain Plaza Shopping Center Mon., Jan. 28.

Management of the branch will be handled at the main bank downtown, but two employees, Mary Perkins and Juanita Van Dyke, will be on duty in the Plaza unit.

"This facility is mainly a drive-in branch," said L. E. (Josh) Hinnant, city executive for FUNBank. "However, there is walk-in service also. Our branch in the Plaza will also feature night depository service."

"Our customers will be able to transact any type of

banking business they wish, except loans, at the branch office," he said. "Loan business will still be transacted at the main bank only."

Hinnant said FUNBank constructed the branch in KM Plaza "for better, more convenient customer service and to help alleviate the traffic congestion in the downtown area at the main bank."

The branch will be open from 9-5 Mondays through Thursdays and from 9-6 on Fridays. The facility will be closed Saturdays.

With next Monday's opening, FUNBank will be the only local banking concern with a branch office in the Kings Mountain area.



Photo by Jay Ashley

OPENING MONDAY - The branch office of First Union National Bank will open Monday in the Kings Mountain Plaza. Mary Perkins (left)

and Juanita Van Dyke will work in the branch office located just off US 74.

(See RC p.7A)

Tonight At 7:30 Centennial Group To Hear Planner

An important meeting of Kings Mountain Centennial Commission members has been set for tonight at city hall at 7:30, according to Marvin Teer, secretary.

A representative of a celebration management firm will be on hand to present his company's proposal for the centennial, which begins Sun., Feb. 10.

The historical committee is now asking that citizens "search their attics for old pictures, maps or other items of general interest that would show the establishment and growth of Kings Mountain during its first years," said Mrs. Milton Fryer.

Some of the items will be used in a brochure and some of them in a downtown display.

"The committee is especially searching for Bell Military Academy catalog or pictures," Mrs. Fryer said.

The items may be deposited at either Mauney Memorial Library or at city hall (Mayor's office). Each item submitted should be clearly marked with the owner's name so that it may be properly returned.

For further information call Mrs. Fryer at 739-2371.

Lease Rate Set By RC Tuesday

By JAY ASHLEY
Mirror Staff Writer

In a meeting Tuesday morning, the Kings Mountain Redevelopment Commission established a Uniform Lease Rate schedule for tenants in the central business district and the Cansler Street project.

Executive director of the KMRC, Gene White, told the members according to Housing and Urban Development regulations, the local redevelopment commission is required to set up a "fair and equitable lease rate" for tenants.

After the redevelopment commission acquires property under the two renewal projects, it is necessary to set up some rent for the tenant until such time the tenant moves.

White explained that so far in the Cansler Street project, the rent rate is \$5 per week, across the board, for home dwellers and \$30 per month for the tenants of Sam and Tims

Grocery Store on Parker St. He noted the rent sums were comparable to those being paid before the acquisition.

In the central business district project, White said, "each tenants' circumstances will be different so the rent schedule will be varied."

White added that HUD has a regulation which permits the occupant of an acquired structure to remain in that structure for a period of sixty days before starting rent payments. The director said in many cases, the tenants of such acquired buildings will be moved before the sixty days and no rent money would be collected by the redevelopment commission.

Commission members studied various rent-lease schedules as provided by White and voted to institute the Uniform Lease schedule. Paul McGinnis noted the rent on the buildings were "pretty low" but added the commission should work with those tenants who are co-operating "so well with the commission."

The matter of moving the redevelopment commission offices from city hall into the Western Auto building basement was also discussed by the members.

White brought a proposal to move before the commission in its December meeting and was instructed by board vote to make a counter-offer to Odus Smith, owner of the newly constructed business who made space available. White stated he had talked with Smith but Smith said considering building costs and other factors, he could not lease the building for the commission's \$150 per month offer.

Gene White then told the members of the board he had been in contact with local attorney Jack White discussing the possibility of renting office space in the