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DISTRICT ROTARY GATHERING HELD AT NAGS HEAD

Enjoyable and Successful Two Day Affair for 278th District, Including 38 Clubs

President Bob Smith and President-Elect Zeb Vance Brinkley of the Manteo Rotary Club, and their various committees had their hands full, Sunday and Monday when the club was host to the 38 clubs of the 278th Rotary District. The meetings were held at Nags Head, and a highlight of the occasion was the dinner Sunday night for Rotarians and their wives at the new Shrine club.

Registration began Sunday afternoon at the Carolinian Hotel, convention headquarters. The convention is primarily a training school for incoming Rotary officers, and George Colclough of Burlington, District Governor-elect was present, with several past District Governors.

At the dinner Sunday night, the principal speaker was Dr. I. G. Greer, president of the N. C. Business Men's Foundation. He was introduced by Governor-elect Colclough.

Mr. Colclough was presented by District Governor Olin H. Broadway of Henderson. Other speakers were Past District Governors Sherwood Roberson of Robersonville, H. B. Spruill of Windsor.

A much applauded feature of this meeting was the singing by Dick Jordan's Blockheads, otherwise known as the Rotary Quartet. They are Ralph and Lawrence Swain, Julian Oneto, and Johnny Long with Dick Jordan at the piano. Singing was led by Charles Overman, of Edenton, former Dare farm agent. More than 200 men and women were present at this dinner.

P. D. Midgett of Engelhard was featured as the speaker on Vocational Service at the meeting Monday.

Breakfast meetings for Presidents-elect and for Secretaries-Hotel, and the Arlington respectively on Monday.

Total registrations for the assembly were 181.

H. B. Spruill spoke on the Students Exchange fund and Jack Jenkins of Henderson of the Rotary Magazine.

Dr. R. S. Rankin of Duke University spoke on International Service. Dr. W. H. Plemmons of Chapel Hill spoke on Community Service; and Norman Gold of Rocky Mount, Club Service.

The assembly closed at 3 p.m. following Monday's luncheon meeting.

SEA GOING SANDY RETURNS TO MASTER

By AYCOCK BROWN

Sandy, a two year old Chesapeake Retriever returned to her master Jack Hoffer at Nags Head this week after one of the most unusual junkets ever made by a dog. It happened this way.

Hoffer, quartermaster aboard one of the Cape Charles ferries, was home for a short vacation. He decided to go Gulf Stream fishing last Saturday and Sandy followed him to the Inlet. After the fishing cruiser got underway, leaving Sandy, she followed the shoreline from the Oregon Inlet boat wharfs to the inlet.

When last seen by her young master Sandy had waded into the waters of the inlet and was going back on shore. Upon his return during the late afternoon Sandy was missing from the vicinity of the boat wharves. Because she is such an intelligent and friendly dog, Hoffer assumed that someone had stolen his Chesapeake Retriever.

Three days later Hoffer learned that a strange dog had taken up at Oregon Inlet Coast Guard Station. A member of the crew had found her wandering along the beach several miles south of the station on Saturday. On Wednesday, at Hoffer's request Sandy was placed aboard the Oregon Inlet ferry for the journey across Oregon Inlet. Before the ferry had entered it's slip the intelligent Chesapeake had spotted her master on shore. She did not wait for the boat to dock, but jumped overboard and started swimming shoreward.

Now that she is re-united with her master, the assumption is that after the Gulf Stream fishing boat passed the Inlet on Saturday, Sandy decided to swim seaward in search of her master. How she managed to keep from being washed to sea by the outgoing tide is a local mystery, but she had done what no other dog had ever done, wam across Oregon Inlet and then in confusion wandered down the beach—or else she was washed to sea. See SANDY, Page Four

KITTY HAWK LOSES A MAN WHO'LL BE MISSED

"Uncle Will" Midgett, Local Preacher Passes on; Funeral Conducted Tuesday Afternoon

A great vacant place is in the hearts of Kitty Hawk folks, who will miss one of their most valued citizens in the loss of Rev. William Weatherington Midgett, affectionately known as "Uncle Will." He died Sunday at the age of 83 in the Elizabeth City hospital. He had been a life resident of Kitty Hawk, and was the son of the late Ezekiel and Ann Payne Midgett.

During his active life, Mr. Midgett captained the boat that ran between Kitty Hawk and Elizabeth City. For many years an active church worker, he became a local Methodist preacher. He served the people of Kitty Hawk faithfully in the church, officiated at funerals, and generously gave his time to the sick.

He is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Wilson J. Haskett of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Thelma Roley of Palm City, Fla.; one brother, Ezekiel D. Midgett of Kitty Hawk; two grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Funeral services were conducted at the Kitty Hawk Methodist Church Tuesday afternoon at 3 o'clock by the Rev. W. H. Freeman, pastor, officiating. Burial was in the Austin Cemetery at Kitty Hawk. The body lay in state at the church two hours prior to the funeral.

DeFEBIOS INVOLVED IN KIDNAPPING CHARGE

The widely advertised piece of stupidity known as the DeFebio Case, involving the custody of three children brought to Dare County by a pair of erratic escapees who belong on duty with the State Department and which has cost Dare County more dollars in money and prestige than can be ascertained, gains more space in the newspapers with the latest development.

Sheriff M. G. Owens of Perquimans County stated Friday morning that warrants were shown out Thursday afternoon by Mrs. Goldie Meekins, Dare County welfare superintendent, charging kidnapping against Leone Bratman and John Doe, alias Bratman, in connection with the kidnapping of Dennis (Denny) DeFebio Wednesday.

Dennis DeFebio, 10, an adopted child of Mr. and Mrs. Frank DeFebio, one of the three DeFebio children under the supervision of the Dare County Welfare Department, who are living in a Perquimans County boarding house.

Mrs. John Foster, keeper of the boarding home, told Sheriff Owens that the child was taken from her home by the woman who claimed to be the mother, after permission had been denied by Mrs. Foster to take him out to dinner.

The taxicab in which the child was taken away was reported later to be the Flag Me company cab driven by the DeFebio woman on her various trips to Manteo.

Immediately upon learning from the Dare welfare officer of the disappearance of the child, Sheriff Owens contacted FBI headquarters in Washington, D. C., and a representative immediately went to work with the sheriff on the case.

Mrs. Foster said she denied the woman permission to take the child away from the home because she was unable to produce a written order from the Dare welfare official. She said that Mrs. Bratman visited the home for about one hour with her and the child while the man remained in the automobile.

As the woman left she walked to the car in company with the boy and upon reaching the automobile, she allegedly shoved the child into the vehicle.

Sheriff Owens said the man and woman were riding in a "Flag Me" taxicab bearing Washington, D. C., license plates and said that he did not believe the woman was the boy's mother but that she and the man were acting as agents for Mrs. DeFebio.

The other DeFebio children, one eight years old and the other four, said they were confident that the taxicab belonged to their mother. They said they had never seen either the woman or man who drove off with the other child.

Sheriff Owens said the warrants were drawn under the Lindbergh kidnap act which is a capital offense.

The taxicab used in the kidnapping was reported to have been parked near the bus station in Elizabeth City Wednesday night

CMR. FLEET UNIT IN KOREAN WATERS



COMMANDER ELLERY CLARK MIDGETT, who has been spending several days at his home on Roanoke Island, has been notified that he will be transferred soon from his assignment in Brooklyn to a post as acting commander of fleet activities in Inchon, Korea.

23 VARIETIES OF GAME FISH CAUGHT IN DARE WATERS SINCE MAY 30

Twenty three varieties of game fish have been caught in the ocean, sound and Gulf Stream waters of Dare county since May 30, when sound and Gulf Stream waters of a Richmond angler, James E. Beasley landed the season's first sail-fish while trolling from aboard the Albatross II with Capt Foster of Hatteras. Two varieties of fresh water fish have been caught daily during the same period.

The catches have included from Gulf Stream, in addition to Beasley's 6-foot sail, one 97-pound cobia, in addition to several smaller fish of the species, amberjack, King mackerel, school tuna, false albacore, bonito and dolphin. Gulf Stream fishing is good out of Hatteras and Oregon Inlets.

From inshore waters bluefish, channel bass, weakfish, (or trout-whiting (sea mullet) flounder, Spanish mackerel, hogfish, and Sand perch. These varieties have been taken from the ocean piers, the inlets and sound waters.

Anglers fishing over coral reefs and submerged wrecks inside the 100 Fathom Curve boated red snapper, Tautog, sea bass, and trigger fish.

From the sounds catches of child striped bass have been reeled in by anglers.

Fresh water catches have included large mouth bass from the Nags Head fresh ponds, Colington Island bays, Kitty Hawk and lower Currituck sound.

The red snapper, landed this week were the first of this species to be landed with rod and reel along the Dare coast, it is believed. "Reason no one has been catching snapper is because no one has fished for them. There are too many other exciting game varieties to catch," said Capt Nelson Stowe, skipper of the Ursula of Hatteras, whose party landed two taken earlier this week.

TOURIST BUREAU MEET HATTERAS TUESDAY, JUNE 17

The board of directors of the Dare County Tourist Bureau will meet in Hatteras at the Atlantic View Hotel Tuesday morning, June 17, at 10 o'clock, it was announced today by David Stick, secretary-treasurer of the organization. One of the most important matters to come under discussion will be the budget proposal for the coming year beginning October 1.

While it will be a directors' meeting, any person on Hatteras Island or in the county is extended an invitation to attend, it was stated. This will be the first time the group has met outside of Manteo where the Tourist Bureau has its headquarters. Activities of the organization cover the entire county, and one of the duties of Aycock Brown, manager and news director, is to visit the various communities regularly for news and public relations purposes.

Members of the board of directors include: L. L. Swain, chairman, M. L. Burrus, vice chairman, David Stick, secretary-treasurer, George Frank, Edgar Perry, W. S. White, Dan Harris, Martin Kellogg, Claude Duvall, Asa Gray, Wallace McCown, Dan Q. Oden, Gordon Kellogg and B. M. Hedrick. Following the morning meeting the group will have lunch at The Atlantic View.

JOURNEY'S END OPENS KITTY HAWK SATURDAY

Northernmost Tourist Court on Beach Opened by Baltimore Real Estate Man

"Journey's End," newest housekeeping facilities on the Dare Beaches, will open for business tomorrow, offering the vacationer 2-bedroom units, furnished well, with all modern conveniences. Eight units, plus one for the manager, are complete.

The new motel features all tile baths, with tub and shower. Beautyrest mattresses, complete kitchens, and furnishes all linens. It is located on Wilbur Wright Circle, just across the highway from Southern Shores. Construction took seven weeks, from the pouring of concrete, to the complete furnishing of all rooms.

Basil B. Wells, prominent Baltimore real estate man, and a native of Morehead City, has built the motel as the start of a development program he plans for property he owns in that area. Plans for the future include a restaurant, tourist cabins, and a swimming pool. He hopes to have the project completed in four years.

Mr. Wells is owner of the Burwood Homes in Baltimore, a development project containing 74 homes, and 20 more under construction. He plans to retire in about three years, and spend a good deal of his time in Dare county, allowing some time for jaunts to Florida aboard his boat, which he keeps in Morehead City.

The motel will be under management of George Geshler.

"Graveyard of Atlantic" Title of New Book by David Stick of Kitty Hawk



DAVID STICK, shown above standing on a piece of shipwreck on the Dare County coast, has published a most interesting and valuable book dealing with the history of shipwrecks in North Carolina. It is called the "Graveyard of the Atlantic," and goes on sale tomorrow. It is published by the press of the University of North Carolina where Mr. Stick went to school.

The book covers shipwrecks from the early days of sailing to U-boat warfare during World War II. It is illustrated by 30 original line drawings by Frank Stick, the gifted artist father of David Stick, and it contains 276 pages.

Concerning this new book, Walter Spearman of the University School of Journalism published Sunday in the Virginian-Pilot the following interesting article:

By WALTER SPEARMAN

Making an ocean graveyard the birthplace of a book is the unusual accomplishment of David Stick, young fisherman, Marine Corps combat correspondent, real estate dealer, house builder, crafts shop promoter—and now author.

Having roamed the Carolina and Virginia beaches since he was 10 years old, Stick has always been familiar with the term "graveyard of the Atlantic," but it took imagination to make the old wrecked ships, around whose hulls he used to fish, the heroes of his book "Graveyard of the Atlantic," which will be published this week by the University of North Carolina Press.

Six hundred vessels are wrecked

in Stick's "graveyard," dating as far back as a Spanish brigantine lost in 1526 and as recently as a Panamanian freighter in 1952. There is the story of the Tiger, flagship of Sir Richard Grenville, stranded in Ocracoke Inlet while trying to reach Roanoke Island with Sir Walter Raleigh colonists. And there is the story of the Patriot, with the disappearance of Theodosia Burr Alston and the discovery of a mysterious portrait years later at Nags Head.

Stick's own favorite wreck is the Pulaski, a steam packet from Charleston which had its starboard boiler explode in 1833 with the subsequent loss of 100 lives. Stick recreates the whole story, tracing the activities of all the passengers and crew members until they finally reached shore or were drowned. He even discovers a romance between a young Mr. Ridge from New Orleans and a Miss Onslow, who met on a raft improvised from a couple of settees and a large cask, became engaged while they drifted, and were married after the rescue. "Only then," says Stick, "did Ridge learn that his bride was heiress to an estate valued at \$200,000."

Records and Files

Getting all the material he needed for his book was no easy task. Stick started out by going through the annual reports of the United States Life Saving Service from 1876 to 1915. Then he checked reports of the Coast Guard after it was established in 1915. Data on wrecks during the two World Wars he collected from the Navy, the Coast Guard, the Hydrographic Office and the National Archives. Civil War information came from the official records of the Union and Confederate navies.

Old newspaper files were carefully checked in Norfolk and Raleigh. Stick and his pretty wife estimate that they examined well over 10,000 daily and weekly newspaper issues, column by column and page by page. The Mariner's Museum at Newport News was another source of records; and Colonial and State Records and Hakluyt's Voyage produced some of the earlier facts. Ship logs and personal interviews with survivors added much local color.

Among the fascinating stories See STICK, Page Eight

REHEARSALS FOR 1952 PAGEANT NOW UNDERWAY

New Scene Added to Lost Colony's Second Act Shows Indian Attack On Fort

By AYCOCK BROWN

Rehearsals for the 1952 season of Paul Green's symphonic drama The Lost Colony got underway in Waterside Theatre at Fort Raleigh Tuesday night with all actors present to practice the roles they will play during the show's 12th season.

More than half of the actors this year are natives of Roanoke Island. There have been few changes made in the assignment of roles to native actors, but there will be several new faces in the cast of off-island principals.

Notable changes in the cast of principals will be the appearance of Frederick Young of Carolina Playmakers who will play the comi-tragic role of Tom Harris, the beggar man. Young is the first non-equity actor to play this important role.

Mrs. Lillian Prince who has played Queen Elizabeth for the past several seasons will have that role again this year. Sir Walter Raleigh will be played again by Andrew Griffith.

Barbara Edwards Griffith is again cast as Eleanor Dare, the female lead of the show and Alabama born Bob Armstrong plays the male lead of John Borden.

Victor Michalek of Duke University will be the drama's historian this year succeeding Frank Groseclose who had that part for the past three years.

Roanoke Island principals include Louise Wescott as Manteo's wife; Buddy Flowers, as Wano, Manteo's son; Robert Midgett and Edgar Midgett as first and second soldiers, Natalie Etheridge as the spinner in the fish net scene, Ruth Flowers as the meal grinder, Marjane Thomas as Margaret Lawrence, Wade Nixon as a Couitier, Roy Gray, Jr., as the messenger and Edwin Midgett as George Howe; Johnny Booth, formerly Manteo's son, will be George Howe, Jr., this year, and Billy Brown will be Thomas Archard. Grace Davis is again cast as Agona, consort of Old Tom, and Wally McCown, a local attorney, will be the Landlord and Mark Bennett.

Already preparations are being made for the exciting Indian attack scene for Act II. This will add See REHEARSAL, Page Eight

GOVERNOR SCOTT WILL FISH GULF STREAM AGAIN

Governors of Georgia, Virginia and Tennessee May Be Guests

Governor W. Kerr Scott of North Carolina who ran into foul weather and poor fishing during the Spring Channel Bass run at Oregon Inlet is coming back to try his hand at Gulf Stream fishing off the coast of Dare County.

Captains Sam and Omie Tillett, Nags Head fishing guides, have extended the invitation to the chief executive for this second angling trip of the season to the coast of Dare.

Governor Sid McMath of Arkansas was the fishing companion of Governor Scott on his channel bass junket earlier this year. They trolled the fish-famous waters of Oregon Inlet most of one day without getting a strike. One consolation for the gubernatorial party on that day, however, was the fact that no one else caught any fish.

When the Tilletts extended their invitation to Governor Scott to come back and try his luck again, they suggested that he bring any other states with whom he may want to challenge in the sport that Izaak Walton originally made famous. They also suggested that plans be made to come back when Gulf Stream fishing was good.

"I feel that we might be able to invite Governor Battle of Virginia, Browning of Tennessee or Talmadge of Georgia to 'wet a hook' with us," said Governor Scott.

"Why not invite them all to come along," replied Sam Tillett, father of young Capt. Omie Tillett who guided Scott and McMath and who is one of the better Gulf Stream guides along the North Carolina coast.

So now, Governor Scott is awaiting word from Tillett as to the best time to come down for the "hook wetting," and judging from recent catches made in Blue Water off Dare, that time is now approaching.

WANCHESE ARTIST'S FAME SPREADS FAR AND WIDE



RALPH TILLETT of Wanchese is noted for his skill with a brush. For more than a quarter of a century he has been doing pictures of his neighbors, and painting local scenery for his friends. In a large part of the homes on Roanoke Island will be found his handiwork. His store and barbershop at Wanchese is visited by many tourists who come to admire his work. The accompanying photo by Aycock Brown shows him with a picture he did of a neighbor, Miss Teeny Gaskill.