

# THE COASTLAND TIMES

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## ROANOKE ISLAND AREA PRAISED IN MARYLAND PAPER

Summer Visitor Finds Just About Everything All Right on Vacation

Roanoke Island, the Manteo Airport, and the Lost Colony came in for high praise in the Prince George (Md.) Post in an article written by Jo Cortes who spent several pleasant days here visiting the Hendersons at the Manteo Airport, this season, and on returning wrote an article telling others. The result—several other people were immediately attracted to the Manteo area.

The article referred to is as follows:

"Our column for the next two weeks will feature high lights of our vacation in North Carolina. As you know, Bill and Dolly Henderson of Powhatan have moved down here where Bill operates the Manteo Airport. Quite a few of our local folks are taking advantage of the wonderful inexpensive vacations possible here at the airport, where the fishing is unbelievably good, the swimming just about perfect, and the cool breezes plentiful.

"We left home at four in the morning Saturday, and arrived in time for lunch of croakers, which son Billy had caught that morning. Evidence of the damage done by the recent hurricane was plentiful, with many seaside cottages left roofless, and tons of sand swept onto the highways. Here at the airport the only effect of the storm was a lack of power, but that enhanced the enjoyment of the vacation, since the youngsters were delighted to have dinner by candlelight.

"Charles Barnes of Powhatan St. left here as we arrived, but his son, Chuckie, remains with us. Pat Stone is here, too. Comptroller General Lindsey C. Warren had to stop fishing because he is reported to have developed tired muscles from hauling in the dolphin.

"Crabbing is simple; one merely walks along the beach of Roanoke Sound with a net, scoops them up, and there you are! On the ocean side, the surf constantly pounds in high waves, making for the most exciting type of swimming. In the protected waters of the sound you enjoy the warmest water which is very refreshing.

**History Enacted**  
A half mile from our cottage is the Roanoke Island theatre where the drama, "The Lost Colony", is being enacted for the 13th consecutive year. We plan to see this great outdoor spectacle tonight, joining the half million people who have seen and thrilled to the story of Virginia Dare, first English child to be born in this country, and the history of the ill-fated first colony amidst the Indians.

"The youngsters of our town who went to school with little Georgie Henderson a few years ago would hardly recognize this grown young man. He is rapidly becoming one of the best plane mechanics in the area, even though he is just 16.

"Garden club members would be delighted to see the gardens here which contain vineyards of fantastic growth. These are grape vines planted 400 years ago by the first expedition sent here by Sir Walter Raleigh, and they still bear fruit.

"At nearby Kitty Hawk we will visit the Wright Museum, commemorating the first airplane flight in this country. The area features the biggest sand dunes we have ever seen, which we hope to explore. The shores yield a daily crop of fantastically beautiful driftwood, each one a challenge to the imagination with its twisted limbs bleached white by years of sun and surf. We hope all of you are getting along fine, because we are truly having the most wonderful time of our lives."

## EMPLOYMENT MANAGER IN MANTEO OCTOBER 7

A representative of the Employment Security Commission of North Carolina will be at the Community Building at Manteo on Wednesday, October 7th from 9:00 A. M. to 11:30 A. M. instead of the second Wednesday in October. All persons seeking employment or wishing to file for unemployment insurance should note this change in itinerant service. Effective November 11th service to the Manteo and Buxton area will be resumed on the second Wednesday and Thursday of each month.

## Geese Hit Lake Mattamuskeet Earliest In 19 Years; Cold Winter Is Forecast

Shooting Hours Changed to Allow Hunting Until Sunset; Year-Round Geese For Visitors But Not Natives.

Geese started arriving on Lake Mattamuskeet Wednesday of last week, September 17th, the earliest in the 19 years that records of arrivals have been kept, according to Willie G. Cahoon, Refuge Manager for the Mattamuskeet and Swan Quarter Wildlife Refuges.

Earliest date previously was September 26, in 1949. The first flocks of Canada geese usually get here between the 25th and 30th of September.

From then until mid-October, a few flocks arrive each day or night.

The peak of the migration comes during the period from October 15 to November 20, when the birds travel in larger groups, usually in families of 6 to 10. Occasional flocks run to 50 or 100.

The weather is the main factor controlling the migration of geese, Mr. Cahoon points out. As they start south they take their time, if the weather is good, stopping en route when they feel like it. But if the weather is bad, they fly express, halting only when necessary.

Geese, like other birds, like to travel by moonlight in comfort, but they travel fastest when the north wind nudges them along.

If at any time during the October 15-November 20 period a cold wave moves down from the north, the geese try to stay ahead of it, afraid to look back for fear it might be gaining on them. At such times, they land on the lake in large numbers, both day and night.

The blue-winged teal is the first duck to arrive at the lake—about September 1st to 15th. These birds do not winter here, but pass on

through to Pea Island and points east.

The green-winged teal and pintail are the next ducks to arrive, and records show that they start to congregate on the lake about November 1, when they become plentiful. The mallard and baldpate arrive about the first of October and are numerous by November 1.

There are a few resident black ducks in the area, and their annual migration is about the same as the mallards.

Sometimes people, especially visitors, are fooled by a flock of about 40 or 50 geese which spend the summers on Mattamuskeet. Mr. Cahoon points out that these are geese which at the time of the spring northward migration were wounded or too sick to make the trip.

The year-round geese stay mostly in one area and are easily distinguishable by Refuge personnel, who are on the lookout for new arrivals from Canada. The number of these geese remains about the same year after year.

When the Canada geese come in, the local residents join them, and get killed off in about the same proportion as the hale and hearty geese get wounded.

Shooting hours have had one major change this year. Shooters will be permitted to bang away from 1-2 hour before sunrise to sunset, instead of ceasing fire one hour before sunset, as last year.

The season on geese, ducks and coots runs from November 11 to January 8, brant from December 26 to January 9.

## OVERBEY'S BIG BLUE MARLIN TOPS RECORDS

Hatteras. — Dr. Jesse C. Overbey's big blue marlin landed from aboard his private cruiser the "Snapper II" off Hatteras on Saturday tops all other fishing news of the year in North Carolina waters. The Norfolk dentist's 570½-pound marlin is likely to be the American coast record for 1953 and from the standpoint of length, the giant specimen is probably a world record. His fish measured 13 feet and 11 inches from tip to tip.

Unlike the world record fish of the species, however, the girth measurements were only 65 inches around. World record blue marlin have measured more than 70 inches around the girth.

Dr. Overbey's marlin was the second blue marlin landed off Hatteras this season. First of the season, one that weighed almost 400 pounds was landed by Walter Wilkins of Norfolk. Both fish were taken in the general area of Diamond Lightship.

The record fish was caught with 39 thread Ashaway linen line, loaded on an Ocean City 14/0 reel. A Hornell glass rod was used and the bait, skipped from outrigger, was a two pound mackerel. It took two hours and 15 minutes to land the big fish.

## OCRA COKE CIVIC CLUB DISCUSSES ROADS

Local Road Situation and North-South Coastal Highway Receive Attention

Ocracoke. — The Civic Club held its September meeting in the school library with good attendance. Wahab Howard presided.

Chief topic discussed was the road situation here in the village. Irvin Garrish, chairman of the roads committee, reported the visit of Commissioner Winslow and a district engineer. The Club authorized the roads committee to contact the Hyde County Commissioners and plan a time for Ocracoke Club representatives to meet with them to discuss road plans.

The Club discussed also the question of the road between Ocracoke Village and Hatteras Inlet as part of the north-south Coastal Highway. The group is cooperating in the promotion of this with Chambers of Commerce and other Civic groups from Elizabeth City, Manteo, Hatteras, Beaufort, Morehead City, and Wilmington.

Eph Esham reported that the Deed for the Community Cemetery land has been received and will shortly be recorded.

Beginning in October, members will enjoy supper meetings. Volunteer cooks for October are Marvin Howard, Jesse Garrish, Wahab Howard, and Theodore Rondthaler.

## BUILDING PERMIT FORMS AVAILABLE AT POSTOFFICE

Before entering upon building or improving any structure in Dare County, the cost of which will be \$300 or over, the law requires that a building permit must be obtained from the Board of County Commissioners. Melvin R. Daniels, Clerk to the Board announces. For the convenience of the general public, proper application forms will be left with the postmaster in each community, whereby persons planning to build or repair, may make application and send the fee direct to Mr. Daniel's office in Manteo.

## TO CONDUCT REVIVAL IN MANTEO



Anthony Thibodeaux, left, pastor of the Elizabeth City Church of Christ, who will conduct revival services for the Manteo Church of Christ; and Burl Brinn, right, pastor of the Manteo church.



## CHURCH OF CHRIST TO HOLD MANTEO REVIVAL

Pastor Burl Brinn, of the Manteo Church of Christ, has announced that evangelistic services will be held in Manteo at eight o'clock each evening in Manteo beginning Monday, September 27. The visiting evangelist will be Anthony Thibodeaux, minister of the Elizabeth City

Church of Christ. Services will be held in the Chapel of the Twiford Funeral Home. In case of a death, when a body is lying in state in the funeral home, other arrangements will be made. It is expected that many of the services will have special music from the Roanoke Bible School, Elizabeth City. Cecil Berry is secretary-treasurer of the local church.

## ATKINSON APPOINTED TO POST AT BALTIMORE



The promotion and transfer of Robert H. Atkinson, Superintendent of Fort Raleigh National Historic Site to superintendent of Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine has been announced by Conrad L. Wirth, Director of the National Park Service.

Mr. Atkinson entered the National Park Service in 1940 as guard at Kill Devil Hill Monument National Memorial, and when Fort Raleigh was established as a National Historic Site in 1941, he was transferred there as superintendent and has held that position since that date. He was away on military leave for three years during World War II while he served as a petty officer in the telephone communication division of the United States Coast Guard. During the twelve years that Mr. Atkinson has served as superintendent of Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, the Ralph Lane fort of 1585 has been excavated and restored and the museum displays were renovated and has received recognition as one of the best temporary museums in the National Park Service.

He has worked out and provided area tours for group visitors that has met with the expressed approval of many groups that visit Fort Raleigh annually. Recently, Mr. Atkinson has been working on a project for shore protection along Roanoke Sound abreast of Fort Raleigh. National Park Service Regional Director, Elbert Cox, pointed out that the transfer was not mandatory and that Mr. Atkinson had the privilege of accepting or rejecting it without effecting his status at Fort Raleigh. However, Mr. Cox said he was glad that the offer had been accepted because he thought that Superintendent Atkinson's fine work at Fort Raleigh was worthy of recognition and that he considered him qualified for the new job at Fort McHenry. It is one of the National Park areas that is rich in history and Mr. Atkinson's study and work in history has qualified him for the position, Mr. Cox said.

Fort McHenry National Monument and Historic Shrine is located in Baltimore, Maryland and consists of 47 acres. It commemorates the gallant defense of Baltimore on September 13-14, 1812, the event which inspired Francis Scott Key to write our National Anthem, "The Star Spangled Banner" as he watched the bombardment of the fort in early morning, September 14, 1812. Fort McHenry became a unit of the National Park System in 1925. It has always been a popular site for visitors, especially for school groups who make tours there in the spring from all parts of the east. The total visitation there last travel year was 687,096.

In addition to Fort McHenry, Mr. Atkinson will administer Hampton National Historic Site as a coordinated area. Hampton is an example of eighteenth century resident architecture, located near the city limits of Baltimore. The Hampton National Historic Site was the recipient of funds from the Mellon Foundation that permit restoration and period furnishing.

Mr. Atkinson is a native of Fremont, North Carolina. He attended Nahunta High School from which he was graduated in 1925. He received an A. B. degree in history from Guilford College in 1929 and later did graduate work at the University of North Carolina in the field of secondary school administration. He taught history in the Manteo High School in 1929-31 and served the same school as principal from 1931 to 1933. From 1933 to 1940 he was superintendent of Dare County schools.

When advised of the promotion and transfer, Mr. Atkinson's remarks were to the effect that See ATKINSON, Page Five

## JOHN WESCOTT NOTED RETIRED COAST GUARD

"Capt." John Wescott, 68, for many years officer in charge of Oregon Inlet Coast Guard Station and one of the most widely known men of the service, died at his home in Manteo at 12:20 a. m. Wednesday morning. He had retired Jan. 1, 1936 after 20 years service in the Coast Guard. He was an alumnus of State College, and prior to his entry in the Coast Guard, had been in mercantile business in Manteo.

He was born at Manteo Nov. 2, 1884, the son of the late Josiah and Louisa Daniels Wescott, and he was the husband of Mrs. Eugenia Midgett Wescott. Two sons and a daughter also survive him: Nevin W. and Raymond of Manteo, and Mrs. David Hill of Elizabeth City; two brothers, Lloyd and Colon, and a sister, Mrs. G. B. Midgett, all of Manteo; and six grandchildren.

He was a member of Mt. Olivet Methodist Church where the funeral was conducted at 2 p. m. Thursday, and of Manteo Masonic Lodge, whose members concluded the services in his honor.

Rev. H. R. Ashmore of the Manteo church, assisted by Rev. C. W. Guthrie of the Wanchese Methodist church conducted the services. The choir sang "Holy Spirit" and Mrs. E. R. Wescott sang "Some Time We'll Understand".

Pallbearers were Allen Mann, Charlie O'Neal, Wilford Wise, Elmer Vance Midgett, W.W. Tarkington and Hugh G. Basnight.

## FALL TOURIST SEASON BEGINS AT OCRA COKE

Drum Fishing and Mild Weather Bring Many Vacationers

Ocracoke. — Tourist homes and hotels are beginning a good fall business as the October drum fishing season opens up. Among guests at Wahab Village Hotel were Miss Dare Wright and her brother, V. B. Wright, with two friends who flew down from New York City for a few days surf-casting. At Sound Front Inn were E. M. Copeland, Nors Stuart, H. H. Schell, all of New York, Miss Barbara Bain and Miss Ethel Harrison of Chapel Hill; I. D. Thorp and Hyman Battle of Rocky Mount, Mr. and Mrs. Palmer Smith of Bethesda, Maryland. Rev. Herbert Johnson, down for a fishing trip with his son, Thor Johnson, director of the Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, preached at the Methodist Church on Sunday morning by invitation of Rev. W. Y. Stewart.

At Silver Lake Inn Mr. and Mrs. D. Edgar Thompson and friends from Tarboro, spent several days, and at the apartments there were Mr. and Mrs. R. Glenney of Washington, D. C.

Mrs. T. W. Howard had a group from Chapel Hill at her tourist home; Mrs. Philip Russell, sister of Paul Green, and her daughter, Prof. and Mrs. R. B. Vance and son, Joyce Adams, and Mrs. Carol Mendenhall and son, Michael. Also there, for their third summer's vacation at Ocracoke, were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Smith of Atlanta, Georgia.

Good luck in surf-casting and still fishing for drum has been reported by a number of residents and guests here during the past week.

## CHANNEL BASS HIT WATERS NEAR OREGON INLET

Oregon Inlet. — Channel bass were hitting the surf waters near the north and south shore points of Oregon Inlet during the past weekend and some excellent catches were reported. Best fishing reports came from the Point near the northern tip of Hatteras Island.

One party of four anglers including H. V. Pierce, William Britt, Dan Perry and Alton Pierce of Colerain caught 17 while surfcasting Friday night. The two largest weighed 21 and 45 pounds. The 45 pounder is believed to be the largest taken from the surf by an angler since the Autumn run of the copper fighters began.

Chesley Tillet, officer in charge of Oregon Inlet Coast Guard station stated that Paul Dunlow and his 12 year old son from Norfolk fishing the surf on Friday night landed 14 channel bass, most of them in the puppy drum class but several going over 20 pounds each.

Anglers fishing the surf have been using mullet for bait, although some have been taken on shrimp, it was stated.

## CLOSE DEAL FOR CEDAR WORKS' ENTIRE ACREAGE

W. Va. Pulp and Papers Buys 136,000 Acres in Four Counties

West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company acquired title to more than 136,000 acres of timberland in North Carolina when a transaction with Richmond Cedar Works, a Virginia corporation with offices in Norfolk, was closed in New York Monday of this week.

Purchase price of the land averaged \$5.50 per acre, officials of the paper company said. The total appears to be about \$748,000.

The timberlands acquired by West Virginia include acreage in Dare, Hyde, Tyrrell and Washington counties. The transaction did not include such physical properties as plants, factories, mills, buildings, logging equipment and other such facilities owned by Richmond Cedar Works.

The land was acquired by West Virginia Pulp and Paper Company as a future pulpwood reserve and will be operated under a sound, long-term management program, backed by forest and soil research, the company announced.

The land will be consolidated with approximately 153,000 acres acquired by the paper company in Dare County, N. C., last year. The entire acreage will be included in the company's North Carolina Woodlands, which are directed by William Ernst, Jr., from the headquarters maintained at Manteo.

Mr. Ernst was in New York Monday when the transaction was completed.

## GOOD FISH CATCHES MADE AT WANCHESE

Reports of good fishing comes from Mack's Fishing Center at Wanchese this week. Capt. Jesse Etheridge reported 600 gray trout and other fish caught by various parties last week. It is considered the best run of gray trout in years. And 300 of the fish ranged in weight from one-half to one and a half pounds; the rest were mixed, including hog fish, roundheads and croakers. And to many, these fish caught with light tackle were as good sport as blue-water fishing.

H. D. Bedford of Kelford, and J. M. Jones of Edenton, using shrimp for bait, on Sept. 20 caught 53 gray trout weighing up to two pounds; also they caught 25 blue and roundheads mixed. They were caught at No. 8 Channel Marker about a half mile from Mack's place. Best time for fishing was found to be between 5:30 and 9 a. m. and 4 to 7 p. m.

Saturday the 19th, Walter Haas and party of five from Washington, D. C., fishing with Willie Etheridge, Jr., caught 29 amberjack, tuna and false Albacore in the Gulf Stream, weighing up to 28 pounds.

## FORMER WANCHESE MAN SAYS HE SAW FIRST FLIGHT

Calvin V. Davis of Norfolk, and formerly of Wanchese, who was a visitor in Manteo this week, believes his father-in-law is the "forgotten man" of the first flight. Jesse M. Rogers, who for many years lived at Wanchese, and who is the father-in-law of Mr. Davis, says according to C. V. Davis, that the day of the first flight he was a member of the crew of Caffey Inlet Life Saving Station, and rode his horse down to Kill Devil Hill and was present on the occasion of the flight. Mr. Rogers is now 82 years old.

According to official records, the last witness of the first flight, to die was John Moore of Colington. At the time of the flight, Orville Wright said he made a list of the names of all who were present on the grounds, as it was an important subject with him and his brother. There were some flights made in 1908 at Kill Devil Hills, and in 1912. A number of people have come forward in recent years to state they saw the first flight. Some of them, it developed, were depending on memory and had seen some of the later flights.

Mr. Rogers' claim is worth looking into, for with proper substantiation, he can become an important man in aviation circles, and it is well worth looking into.

## DATE INCORRECT

In the advertisement on page 3 of this week's paper, for the Surfside Gift Shop of Nags Head, the date of the sale is incorrect. The proper date for the sale is starting Friday, September 25, at 7 p. m. and lasting through the following Sunday.