

THE COASTLAND TIMES

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LOST COLONY ACTOR IS RISING TO FAME ON T-V

Andy Griffith Featured On
Ed Sullivan's Coast To
Coast Show

Andy Griffith of Mt. Airy, the widely known Sir Walter Raleigh of The Lost Colony is rising to fame for his hilarious monologues that are becoming best sellers on records. The past Sunday night he was featured on Ed Sullivan's coast-to-coast "Toast of the Town" television show and a million or so listeners and lookers witnessed him demonstrate his talents.

His country-boy's version of Romeo and Juliet, and his role as the preacher in the "Preacher and the Bear" skits had packed patrons in the Shrine Club as the Scandinavians pack sardines into a can. . . . Likewise his role as Sir Walter Raleigh in The Lost Colony is one of the most colorful parts of the symphonic drama. Griffith has featured on the cover of Lost Colony's souvenir program for the past three seasons, first with his wife Barbara, (formerly Barbara Edwards of Troy) the first North Carolinian to play the important feminine lead of the show. The following year he was featured alone in a photograph of the finale of the first act and last year in full color he appeared again on the souvenir program cover in the Queen's Garden Scene and was shown as he presented the Elizabethan monarch with the tobacco plant his explorers, led by Admirals Barlow and Amadas, had brought back to England from Roanoke Island in the New World.

The man who more or less 'discovered' Griffith was another Lost Colony player, Ainslie Pryor of Raleigh and Hollywood. Pryor had played the role of Father Martin, the Lost Colony priest one year and Governor John White the next.

Others Making Good
In addition to Griffith and Pryor, other cast members of The Lost Colony are making good in the show world. Robert Armstrong, the drama's John Borden playing the heavy role of The General in the current Broadway production "End As A Man."

Two cast members and members of the Ralph Burrier-directed Lost Colony Chorus, Helene McLain and Ann Wynne Armstrong are on the Fred Waring Show this winter.

Frank Groseclose the drama's historian, as a post-graduate student of dramatic arts at the University of North Carolina was winner of all the important prizes last year for his musical compositions and acting with the Play-makers.

Chorus members of The Lost Colony consistently make good and have important jobs during the off-season. Margalene Thomas, native of Manteo and the first Roanoke Islander to become a member of the famous musical group is minister of music in a Burlington church.

Connie Treadwell and Charles Mallard of the Chorus are doing night club work in New York this winter.

Jimmy Hart, long time organist for The Lost Colony is minister of music at the First Presbyterian Church in Winston-Salem. Nena Williams, another singer in the chorus is teaching voice in a Texas college. John Halverson, onetime member of the chorus is now minister of music at a Norfolk, Virginia, church and George Vassar has a similar role in a church in Cleveland, Ohio.

SNOW GEESE DEPART PEA ID. "OLD CHRISTMAS"

As has been their custom during recent years after spending a short feeding period at the Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, the flock of greater snow geese departed on their migratory flights northward on Old Christmas night this week.

"This is their custom each year," said L. B. Turner, refuge manager. "They always leave, or the bulk of them do on the night early morning of January 6." The first flocks of snow geese had arrived during late November at their usual time of arrival which is on or about November 27, it was stated.

This year only about 50 per cent of the normal number of these handsome white fowl with their black wing-tips showed up for winter feeding at the Pea Island refuge. Game officials have not yet determined why the flock, normally about 14,000 geese was only about 7,000 at its peak this season.

SIR WALTER-BEARDED GRIFFITH MAKES GOOD



Here, wearing the beard he had grown for the part of Sir Walter Raleigh in The Lost Colony is Mt-Airy-born Andy Griffith who is currently skyrocketing to fame for his hilarious monologues. On Sunday night he was featured on the coast-to-coast Ed Sullivan "Toast of the Town" show. Previously he had been signed up by Capital Records and his funny football and Romeo and Juliet record is becoming a national best seller. This photo was made during one of his floor shows in Dare County during The Lost Colony season of 1953. (Photo by Aycock Brown)

THREE AVON BOYS COMPLETE COAST GUARD TRAINING

Cape May, N. J. — John D. O'Neal, 19, Loran P. O'Neal, 19, and Charles Haywood, 20, all of Avon have just completed their 12-weeks of recruit training at the receiving center in Cape May. They are seamen recruits.

John D. O'Neal was graduated with the class of 1952 from Cape Hatteras High School where he was vice-president of his class. Employed as a sheet metal worker he was sworn in as a recruit in the U. S. Coast Guard on October 12, 1953. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank O'Neal.

Haywood attended the Cape Hatteras High School from 1948 to 1950. He served with the US Army for three years including two years of overseas duty. Employed as sales clerk for the International Harvester Company

Haywood was sworn in as a recruit in the U. S. Coast Guard on October 12, 1953. His parents are Mr. and Mrs. C. F. Haywood.

Loran O'Neal was graduated with the class of 1953 from Cape Hatteras High School. Employed as a deck hand by the Virginia Ferry Company he was sworn in as a recruit in the U. S. Coast Guard on October 12, 1953. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Loran O'Neal.

CHAS. EDMOND WAHAB OF HYDE COUNTY PASSES

Funeral services for Charles Edmond Wahab, a well-known and highly respected resident of Hyde County, who died January 6 in a Concord nursing home, were held at Calvary Episcopal Church in Swan Quarter Saturday at 11 o'clock.

He was born September 28, 1877, son of the late James Howard Wahab and Emma Smith Wahab, and was a life-long resident of Hyde County.

Rev. J. N. Bynum of Battleboro officiated, assisted by Rev. C. Edward Sharpe of Lake Landing and Rev. Arthur J. Mackie of Belhaven. Interment was in the family cemetery in Currituck.

Surviving are four daughters, Mrs. D. D. Topping of Pantego, Mrs. Thomas W. Cahoon of Swan Quarter, Mrs. James W. Barkley of Rocky Mount, and Mrs. Robert E. Tunnell of Greenville; three sons, Job H. Wahab and Charles E. Wahab, Jr., of Warsaw, N. C., and Captain Thomas W. Wahab of the U. S. Air Force, presently stationed at Columbus, Ohio; two sisters, Mrs. Carl Wilson of Belhaven and Mrs. Herbert Rittenhouse of New Haven, Conn.; two brothers, H. W. Wahab of Belhaven and W. W. Wahab of Scranton and several grand children.

CREEF INSTALLS NEW PANORAMIC SCREEN

Addition Enables Showing of Var-
ied Types of Pictures

A new panoramic screen was installed early this week in the Pioneer Theatre, and a new sound system is to be installed soon, announces owner Herbert Creef.

The new type screen is built with a 10-inch curve in the center, giving more depth to a picture. Special lenses have been purchased and put to use in the projectors, giving the full effect of the picture. Under this system, 3-D, Panoramic and the regular films may be shown, on the same screen.

COAST GUARD AIDS MORE CASES IN YEAR

Norfolk, Va. — Coast Guardsmen in the Fifth Coast Guard District, which stretches from the Delaware border to South Carolina, handled 168 more distress and assistance cases during the past year than they did in 1952, according to a headquarters report.

And last July turned up in the Coast Guard's books as the all-time record month in the number of cases with 171.

Total assistance cases ran to 1,240 for the past year, while 1952's top was 1,072.

At the top of the Coast Guard's breakdown of cases stood vessel disabilities. The service assisted 450 craft ranging from fishing boats to freighters and tankers that were adrift, out of fuel, or on the Coast Guard's list, disabled because of heavy seas, engine trouble, dead batteries or broken rudders.

Vessels that ran aground numbered 159 and took second place

RALPH L. NIXON FORMER STUMPY PT. MAN DIES

Ralph L. Nixon, 63, husband of Mrs. Laura Spencer Nixon, of 109 Wayne Circle, Norview, died Friday, Jan. 8, at the United States Public Health Center Service Hospital, Baltimore, Md., after an illness of one year.

Prior to moving to Norfolk he had lived many years at Stumpy Point where he engaged in fishing.

A native of Engelhard, N. C., he had resided in Norfolk 12 years. He was a son of the late William and Mrs. Mervina McKinney Nixon.

Besides his wife, surviving are three sons, R. M. Nixon, USN; W. M. Nixon, USCG, and B. B. Nixon, of South Norfolk; three daughters, Mrs. Beatrice Cheek, of Norview, Mrs. Edna Bernick, and Mrs. Exie Russell, both of Norfolk; one sister, Mrs. Mae Zabawa, of Petersburg, Mich.; 12 grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

BOLD BEAR LOSES DARING RAID ON MIGHTY HUNTER

Bob Midgett of Stumpy Point, king of Bear Hunters was victorious again at 2 a.m. yesterday morning, when the king of bears invaded his home and tried to break in his back door.

Midgett is the mortal enemy of the bear kingdom because of the many sportsmen he has guided to glory and he was alert when the noise of this invader in his back yard roused him from sleep at an unearthly hour.

He fired a shot at the bear, but the bear didn't stop. It took six shots to stop him. One neighbor reported the bear weighed 450 pounds. Division by two might be better.

The old bear had been causing trouble a long time around Midgett's home. Some folks think he was the king of the tribe.

In fact many bears have caused trouble for a year or more at Stumpy Point. They raided Alton Best's fish house, one of these big fellows was slain at that time.

They raided other people's hog pens, and chicken houses. In April one, weighing 300 pounds attacked Victor Meekins Pontiac at 9 o'clock at night, near Manns Harbor, but lost his life. The car owner was the loser.

In fact bear hunting at Stumpy Point has ceased to be a sport, but a defensive warfare, and hunters no longer have to spend long hours in chilly anticipation. They now have bear chills in fear a bear will attack 'em.

It's all because the law is strict, and because the storm blew all the gumberries off the trees. The bears just have to come out for something to eat.

OFFICERS EXAMINATION FOR MERCHANT MARINE

Norfolk, Va., Jan. 7. — The next examination for licensed officers of the Merchant Marine for commissions in the Coast Guard will be held March 1, 2 and 3 in Norfolk and Baltimore, according to Rear Admiral Wood, 5th District Commandant.

Applications should be post-marked prior to February 19 to insure processing for this examination.

Commissions will be offered in the ranks of lieutenant (junior grade), lieutenant and lieutenant commander, depending upon age, experience and professional ability. All applicants must be between the ages of 21 and 40.

The examination is open to both licensed deck and licensed engineer officers of the U.S. Merchant Marine. Appropriate examinations will be given each group. Application forms may be secured by writing to the Commandant of the U. S. Coast Guard (PTP), Washington 25, D. C., or from any Coast Guard district office or Marine Inspection office.

The Fifth District office is located in the Norfolk Post Office building, and Marine Inspection offices are located in Norfolk, Baltimore and Wilmington, N. C.

NEW COTTAGE COURT TO BE BUILT NEAR AVON

A new cottage court to be operated in conjunction with the Cape Hatteras Hotel at Avon will be built and ready for operation by the beginning of the 1954 vacation season Charles Williams advises.

Williams, with his son Charles, Jr., has operated the Cape Hatteras Hotel for the past two seasons. The new units will be built on the east side of the Highway.

The first unit of the cottage court will be a structure 80 feet in length with four apartments. It will be located convenient to a proposed luncheon and tackle shop, to be also owned by Mr. Williams and his son.

FLOUNDER FISHING GOOD IN OREGON INLET AREA

Flounder fishing has been good off Oregon Inlet recently as more than 25 vessels have been making excellent catches.

One dealer estimated \$18,000 worth were taken in trawl nets by the boats basing at Oregon Inlet during the past week.

MANTEO P. T. A.

The Manteo P. T. A. is to meet Wednesday, January 20th, 8 p.m. at the School Building. The guest speaker is to be Dr. Ellen Winston and the topic of her discourse will be Mental Hygiene. Invitation to attend is extended to all P.T.A. groups.

A GOOD NEIGHBOR SEEKS N. C. SENATE POST



N. ELTON AYDELETT, Mayor of Elizabeth City, is a candidate for State Senator from the 1st District, comprising the counties of Currituck, Camden, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Chowan, Gates and Hertford.

NORTHWEST FORK TO BE BRIDGED DURING THE YEAR

A new bridge on Route 94 between Gum Neck and Kilkenny crossing the Northwest Fork of the Alligator River is to be built this year, the State Highway Commission announces. The contract will be let Jan. 28 for a concrete floor on cross-tied timber piles. It will be 26 feet wide and 361 feet long. It will replace the old floating barge, now in service, and will greatly aid travel and commerce between Fairfield and Columbia.

The commission plans the building of 1.30 miles of road on U. S. 64 at Roper. In Beaufort County, 5.68 miles of grading and structures is planned on No. 33 near Mineola.

OCRAOKE CIVIC CLUB ENJOYS OYSTER STEW

The Ocracoke Civic Club met on Monday night with cooks Elmo Fulcher, Stacy Howard, William Garrish, and Harry O'Neal serving up some good oyster stew. Chief discussion was the formation of an Ocracoke Cemetery Association and transfer of the deed to the land recently acquired by the Civic Club to such an Association. It was voted to hold a community meeting to discuss the formation of such an association on Monday night, January 25th, at the schoolhouse. Two new members were added to the Civic Club roll: Bill Spencer and Rev. Robert Vickery.

On Monday night, January 18th, the P.T.A. meets at the school library. Hostesses are Mrs. Wahab Howard, Mrs. Bertha O'Neal, Mrs. Naomi O'Neal, Mrs. Edna O'Neal, Mrs. A. K. O'Neal, Mrs. Ansley O'Neal, and Mrs. Marcia Peele.

HARBOR SEALS SHOW UP IN OREGON INLET

Harbor seals, a pair of them, probably driven south by extreme cold weather have been making themselves at home in Oregon Inlet during the past few days, and were first sighted by personnel of the Oregon Inlet ferry. It is not unusual to see seals in North Carolina waters during extreme cold weather but the pair sighted here on several occasions this week are the first to show up this winter.

Harbor seals are common in ports and along the New England coast during the winter months. In years gone by they have been sighted as far south as Cape Lookout and a few have been captured in that section of the coast.

Unlike some species of seal the fur of harbor seals, a mottled brown has little if any commercial value.

KITTY HAWK SEAMAN WITH NAVY FORCES IN NORFOLK

Norfolk, Va., (PHTNC) — Serving aboard the attack transport USS Olmsted which took part in amphibious force training operations near Norfolk last month is Edward L. O'Neal, damage controlman first class, USN, son of Mr. and Mrs. William T. O'Neal, and husband of Mrs. Martha P. O'Neal, all of Kitty Hawk.

Drills were conducted during the exercise to advance training of personnel in gunnery, communications and various other amphibious techniques. The highlight of the operation for the Olmsted was assault boat landings made on beaches at Little Creek, Va.

SEASHORE PARK ADDS GOOSEVILLE CLUB TO ITS AREA

By AYCOCK BROWN

Property recently added to the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreation Area, south of Hatteras village will open to public use another of the finest surf fishing areas along the Atlantic coast, it was stated today by Clark Stratton, lands acquisition officer of the National Park Service.

The property, owned since 1930 by the Gooseville Gun Club includes 755 acres beginning near the southern boundaries of Hatteras and extending to the inlet. The club owned by Albert Lyon of Detroit has maintained the area as a fishing and hunting preserve for the past 23 years.

"It will be late Spring before possession of the property will be transferred as one of the conditions of the sale allows members reasonable time to remove personal property from the club buildings," said Mr. Stratton.

The deed for property stated a consideration of \$47,000, as the purchase price.

Lyon and Wilson, a Delaware corporation of which Albert Lyon of Detroit is president owned the property. Three of the most active members included Lyon, who only recently was knighted by Queen Elizabeth for his cooperation in developing the British owned island of Bimini as one of the great sportfishing centers of the world. Harry Stelwagon of Philadelphia, president of the Surf Anglers Association, an international organization has been associated with Lyon as one of the club's most active members in recent years. Previously an active member of the club was Van Campen Heilner, the noted author of hunting and fishing stories, who with his associates Lyon and Stelwagon produced a number of hunting and fishing movies in the area, movies which have been shown throughout the world and resulted in much favorable publicity for the Hatteras region.

Opening of the area to sports-fishing will be good news to many anglers who consider the surf and inlet there as one of the best casting spots along the Atlantic coast. The surf line of the property is approximately three and a half miles in length. For years it was closed by the owners to public fishing.

This was not from a selfish motive, owners declared. Instead it was a conservation move. They closed the area after fishing parties consistently made big catches of fish which were never utilized for food but left on the beach to decay.

Acquisition of this property provides the National Seashore Recreation Area with a third choice location for surf fishing, the others being at Oregon Inlet and the Point of Cape Hatteras, just south of Hatteras Light, it was pointed out.

"For hunting, all of Ocracoke Island and some 2,000 additional acres on Hatteras and Bodie Islands adjacent to Pamlico and Roanoke Sounds, are already open for hunting migratory waterfowl in compliance with state and federal regulations," said Stratton.

"In view of the existing facilities for hunting, no plans have been announced for opening the Gooseville Gun Club area for shooting," he added. "The former owners have done little or no hunting on the property in recent years but have held it mainly as a migratory waterfowl sanctuary."

GRADY BRICKHOUSE DIES IN NORFOLK

Funeral services for Grady Brickhouse, 45, who died Friday in a Norfolk hospital, were conducted at the Providence Baptist Church, Norfolk, Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock. Burial was in Riverside Memorial Park. Mr. Brickhouse was a native of Columbia, the son of Claude and Mollie Hawlis Brickhouse; the husband of Mrs. Sybil Pinkham Brickhouse, and an employee of the Regent Construction Company, of Oceana, Va. He had lived in Virginia for 13 years.

Surviving besides his wife are two daughters, Frances Carroll and Nancy Jane Brickhouse, and three sons, Albert, Rogers, and Grady Brickhouse, all of South Norfolk; three sisters, Mrs. Dale Daughtrey, Mrs. Willard Jenkins, and Mrs. Benny Jones, all of Elizabeth City; a half-sister, Mrs. Elwood Smith; three brothers, Albert, of Berkeley, Va., Raymond and Louis Brickhouse, both of Elizabeth City, and his step-mother, Mrs. Mattie Davis.

SIX NEGROES IN ENGELHARD DIE IN NIGHT FIRE

Tragic Mishap Early Sunday
Morning At Home of
Willie Spencer

Reported as the worst tragedy in the history of Hyde County was the death of Willie Spencer, his wife, and their four young children in a fire early Sunday morning which destroyed their home near Engelhard.

The fire apparently started after midnight, and when discovered by a neighbor on his way home it was beyond human aid. Neighbors believe the heavily papered house caught from a lamp or overheated stove, and that the fumes overcame the family before they became aware of their plight.

Willie Spencer is described as a good citizen and was highly regarded as an employee by R. L. Gibbs & Co. where he had been a truck driver for several years. He had gone home Saturday night after buying groceries for the week end at the store of Thos. Spencer.

Burned beyond recognition were Spencer and wife Mary, their four children, all of school age but one; Willie Jr., Bobbie Yula and Shirley.

The remains were gathered up next day and buried in a single box.

Some of the group had apparently gotten to a window in an effort to get out, but succumbed and burned up.

Dave Spencer, a negro store-keeper was the first to appear on the scene, and he ran for help, about 3:30 a.m.

The house in which they lived was the property of Braxton Marshall.

ENTIRE COURT TAKEN WITH TRAFFIC CASES

All three cases in Dare Record-ers Court Tuesday involved the operation of automobiles. Robert Hilton Parker of Spot, again before the court charged both with drunken driving and reckless driving was found not guilty on the first offense, but paid a fine of \$75 and costs for the second.

Noah Price, Jr., of Avon, pleaded guilty of driving drunk, and was fined \$100 and costs. The case developed following a collision with a car in which Ralph Twiddy and his mother-in-law, Mrs. Lou Farrow of Frisco were occupants, and this couple announced intention of bringing a civil suit for damages.

Steward Leon Ballance and Ray Enoch Banks of Mamie, Currituck County were bound over to Superior Court on the charge of stealing an automobile from Milton U. Gard of Kitty Hawk.

MILTON MEEKINS, BOAT CAPTAIN DIES; NORFOLK

Milton Wood Meekins, 44, a native of Hatteras, and for many years captain of the passenger and freight boat between Engelhard and Hatteras died Monday in a Norfolk hospital. He was the husband of the late Mrs. Irma Meekins and the son of Mrs. Nancy J. Meekins and the late John W. Meekins of Hatteras. He is also survived by a daughter, Mrs. (Dixie) Chas. Darlington of Sault Ste Marie, Mich. and one granddaughter.

He was highly regarded as a citizen and had a wide circle of friends. He was the only son of his parents, and had been a life-long resident of Hatteras.

He was a member of the Methodist Church.

Funeral services will be conducted at Hatteras, Friday.

MORE FERRIES; BETTER RAMPS ARE PROMISED

State Highway officials in Manteo this week announced that plans have been made to rebuild the ramps of the Oregon Inlet landings. Since the ramps were first built last year numerous automobiles have been damaged as result of the short, steep ramps which have proven inadequate when the tides are low.

The officials said plans have been drawn and that work on improving the ferry slips will begin in the near future and be completed well in advance of the peak travel season of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore region. Two ferries, converted landing craft will be placed in operation at Oregon Inlet this year, it was stated.

And they won't be there before they are needed.