

THE COASTLAND TIMES

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SEEK \$3000 TO REPAIR STORM DAMAGE TO DIKE

Federal and County Aid Sought to Rebuild Wall at Avon

County aid in the sum of \$500 and Federal Aid in the sum of \$2,500 is being asked of the Civil Defense Commission, to rebuild the sand dike which was built in the thirties by contract with H. C. Lawrence. The citizens built this dike "to keep the sea tide out of Avon."

The Dare County Board Tuesday appropriated \$500 for this work, provided the Federal Government approves a grant of \$2,500. It is set forth in the application for Federal aid that the dike was blown down and washed down by Hurricane Hazel.

Federal grants have been approved in several communities of North Carolina to restore essential services. The dike is considered essential for the protection of Avon homes from sea tides.

COAST REGION STUDENT TOURS PLANNED FOR '55

Dare coast operators in the history-famous Kitty Hawk-Kill Devil Hills and Nags Head region, as well as Roanoke Island and far-famed Cape Hatteras have united to go after student tours during 1955. Cooperating with the operators will be three civic organizations, the Dare Beaches and Nags Head Chambers of Commerce here on the Outer Banks and Dare County Tourist Bureau which acts in a promotional way for all of the Dare Coastal communities from Duck and Kitty Hawk southward to Hatteras and westward to include Roanoke Island and the Dare mainland.

Allyn Hanks, superintendent of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore and Fort Raleigh National Historic Site along with Horace Dough, superintendent of the Wright Brothers National Memorial Monument at Kill Devil Hills will cooperate with the organization units of the Department of Conservation spearheading the tourist tours. The three National Park interiors located within the Dare coastal region have long proven a big attraction for tourists and a limited number of students.

Interesting Places

Attractions for students on tour would include the birthplace of aviation, the birthplace of English-speaking America, Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge, Fort Raleigh Museum and the restored fort of 1585, along with Waterside Theatre where Paul Green's "Lost Colony" will be presented for its 15th season during 1955. A maritime museum at Cape Hatteras and the famous lighthouse there, America's tallest and a new Museum of Natural History would be included on the student tour itinerary, along with 100 miles of wreck-strewn ocean beaches.

ENGLHARD NATIVE DIES IN WASHINGTON

Samuel O'Neal, 82, native of Hyde County died Friday afternoon at his home in Washington after illness of two years. He was a retired farmer and fisherman and had moved from Engelhard to Washington several years ago.

He was born in Hyde County January 29, 1872, son of the late Matthew and Mary Clark O'Neal. He was a member of the Engelhard Christian Church. He was married to the former Ealen Sadler of Hyde county who survives.

Other survivors are one son, Will O'Neal of Washington; ten grandchildren, 12 great-grandchildren; one sister, Mrs. Alice Sadler of Washington.

Funeral services were held from the Washington Church of God, Saturday afternoon at 3:00 o'clock, conducted by the pastor, the Rev. S. W. Avery. Burial was in Oakdale cemetery.

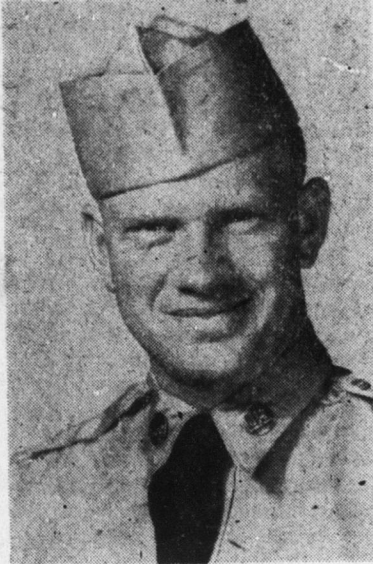
HON. R. BRUCE ETHERIDGE RETURNS FROM HOSPITAL

Hon. R. Bruce Etheridge, Dare County representative to the state legislature, returned Wednesday to his home near Manteo from Rex Hospital in Raleigh, where he had been a patient following a heart attack last week while in Raleigh on business. Mr. Etheridge's daughter, Mrs. Matilda Inge, went to Raleigh to bring her father home. Reports from the family are that he stood the trip well and is now able to be up several hours a day.

THIRD PAIR OF OCRACOKE BROTHERS IN SERVICE



JOHN N. MIDGETT JR.



ELMER GRAY MIDGETT

This is the third pair of Ocracoke Brothers in service whom we have introduced recently through these columns. They are sons of Mr. and Mrs. John N. Midgett of Ocracoke. Johnny has been in the army about two years, and is hoping to be home again before very long. Elmer has been in an army camp in Texas, and is now on his way "somewhere." Of the five boys in the family, only one who is a student in school has not served in the armed forces.

TWO POPULAR PUBLIC SERVANTS TO RETIRE



THESE TWO POPULAR LADIES will retire on January 1 after more than 25 years of serving the public of the Dare Coastal Area as managers of the Manteo telephone exchange. Misses Belle Midgett and Ozella Payne have done a good job during the years the company has grown locally from four phones established in the town of Manteo back in 1929, and when one of these ladies was night operator and had her cot beside the switchboard, then about two feet wide, but now grown to thirty feet with hundreds of phones. The office began business in the home of these two ladies, but now has its own building on Road Street.

Miss Payne and Miss Midgett were experienced business women before they took the job of building up the phone exchange in Manteo. This week, they have joined with all the operators of the system in a series of two dinners and receptions held by the company in Elizabeth City. These parties are an annual feature for the operators of the company, 20 of whom work in the Manteo exchange and were held on Wednesday and Thursday nights this week.

EPISCOPAL SUNDAY SCHOOL BEGINS AT NAGS HEAD

Saint Andrews - By - The - Sea (Episcopal) will hold their regular service at 11 a.m. Sunday December 12th. A new Sunday School will be organized this Sunday and all children not attending any church are invited to attend. Sunday School will be held at 10 a.m. The Rev. A. C. D. Noc from Bath has accepted a call to this church and Mr. Noe and wife will live at Nags Head

BALMY AUTUMN IN DARE FROSTED OVER HEAVILY

Sharp Weather Monday Dims Memory of Shirt Sleeve Weather

When old King Winter takes a notion to blow his breath our way, he does it in a businesslike manner, as witness Monday's sharp spell which brought a howling northeaster along the Dare Coast, and made folks forget the long balmy fall filled continuously with shirt-sleeve days, and when duck hunters complained that the weather was so good the ducks wouldn't move in on us.

But along with Monday's blast came a downpour of rain, maybe an inch of it, and then it froze and for awhile sleet fell, and then some snow. But the earth was wet and the snow didn't stick.

By Tuesday morning the ground had gotten crusty, the force of the blast diminishing as one went southward toward Hatteras. When the mercury dropped to 31 in Manteo, Hatteras reprinted 41 degrees, that area being warmed by vapors from the Gulf Stream, only 50 miles away.

In Currituck County there was an appreciable amount of snow, and in Norfolk the snow was heavy and caused a lot of inconvenience. Duck and goose hunting improved everywhere, and many hunters braved the weather all day Monday, so long had they been waiting for some good shooting.

In his report on the sharp change in weather, Aycock Brown had this to say in his column:

"Before the day passed the lower Hatteras region was experiencing snow flurries and many young people were seeing snow fall for the first time there. The snow did not stick.

"As matter of fact the snow did not stick on Roanoke Island or anywhere along the Outer Banks and there was no ice on the highways. In contrast, however, northbound traffic encountered icy conditions and snow, just north of Kitty Hawk on the Currituck mainland.

"In the Manteo region ice formed over pools on Tuesday morning, but the "freeze" did not damage the citrus crop at Cape Hatteras where residents have been gathering oranges, grapefruit, tangerines and lemons from trees in their yards for the past several weeks.

"The blizzard-like weather in upper Dare County on Monday resulted in the best wildfowl season reported so far this season. Hundreds of hunters in Dare County had a field day and many returned with bag limits of duck. Many geese were also killed during the week. See WEATHER, Page Four

WAS IT YOU?

Some one started the whole day wrong—was it you?

Some one robbed the day of its song—was it you?

Early this morning some one frowned; Some one sulked until others scowled, And soon harsh words were passed around—was it you?

Some one started the day aright—was it you? Some one made it happy and bright—was it you? Early this morning, we are told, Some one smiled, and all through the day This smile encouraged young and old—was it you?

FALL DANCE SAT. FOR BENEFIT OF NAGS HEAD C OF C

Door Prizes, and Floor Show at Shrine Club This Week End

Saturday evening, December 11th, the Nags Head Chamber of Commerce is having its fall dance at the Nags Head Shrine Club. The dance will begin at 9:00 p.m., according to Chairman Orville Baum, and will hold a special floor show, to be presented by R. E. Jordan of Nags Head, in charge of that portion of the program.

Serving with Mr. Baum on the dance committee are Mrs. Orville Baum; Mr. and Mrs. George Fearing; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Young; Mr. and Mrs. Tom Briggs; Mr. and Mrs. P. B. Zevely; Sue V. McCown and Pres. W. H. Smith Jr. and Mrs. Smith.

A large supply of door prizes will be offered during the course of the evening, which are being presented by the business firms of Manteo, Nags Head, Kill Devil Hills and Kitty Hawk.

In addition to providing an enjoyable evening for the members and guests, the proceeds from the dance will be used in the furtherance of the Chamber's program for advertising and publicity for 1954-55.

RALEIGH PARTY ENJOY HUNT NEAR RODANTHE

Despite the roughness of the weather, four hunters from Raleigh on Monday found good sport and went home in the afternoon comfortably laden with geese and ducks, after a morning's hunt from blinds at Mirlo Beach Lodge near Rodanthe. These men were Haywood C. Smith, Joseph H. Carter, A. C. Joliff and Phil H. Walker. Mr. Smith is a son of Col. Gordon Smith who is a summer resident of Kill Devil Hills, formerly Aide to the Adjutant General of North Carolina. Mr. Joliff formerly lived in Manteo when his father preached for the Methodists.

DUVALL GETS THIRD TERM AS CHAIRMAN



C. C. DUVALL of Manns Harbor and East Lake Tuesday was unanimously elected Chairman of the Dare County Board of Commissioners for a third term. This will be Mr. Duvall's fourth term on the county Board, and he expressed himself as deeply appreciative of the confidence bestowed in him in this position. When the Board met this week, one new member, Estac P. White of Buxton took a seat on the Board. Mr. White served for years as member and Chairman of the County Board of Education. The other three members of the Board are W. H. Lewark of Kill Devil Hills, James W. Scarborough of Avon and L. L. Swain of Manteo.

Among items of business transacted this week by the Board was voting a donation of \$500 to Caswell Training School in Kinston. For the Kill Devil Hills celebration December 17, \$250 was provided. Member Swain reported on a recent visit to Raleigh with the Chairman of the Highway Commission, in company with several others from Manteo.

The Board passed a resolution asking the Highway Commission to name the new Croatan Sound Bridge in tribute to the late Governor William B. Umstead.

COVERING THE WATERFRONT

By AYCOCK BROWN

HUNTING LODGES ARE FEW NOW ON OUR COAST

Rodanthe.—Mirlo Lodge near the Pamlico Sound shore and the southern limits of Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge just north of this Outer Banks village will be catering to wildfowl hunters during the current season. The lodge is the nearest I have seen to a revival of many such lodges and/or hunting clubs that once were numerous along the North Carolina coast.

The lodge I knew best was the one on North Shell Rock near Ocracoke which was a highly successful operation for Captain Bill Gaskill who also owned Pamlico Inn. In the Ocracoke area at the same time were two private lodges, one owned by David Keppel of the National Gallery of Art and the Green Island Club. Keppel's was later sold to Stanley Wahab who operates it today as the Beach Combers Club and Green Island became the property of Sam Jones of Norfolk who is now in the process of building a couple of fabulous homesteads in Ocracoke village.

Across Hatteras Inlet and just south of Hatteras village Gooseville Club, a private operation for many years, is now part of the National Seashore Recreational Area, and the clubhouse has become a coast guard station. The Phipps family once owned an elaborate clubhouse north of Cape Hatteras but its final destruction came during the 1944 gale in September which had Hazel-effects in that area and at nearby Avon. Sand Ridge Clubhouse acreage once located in the Pea Island region was sold to the government to become part of the wildlife refuge. North of Oregon Inlet the Worths owned excellent shooting club properties which became part of the National Seashore and nearer Nags Head was Goosewing Clubhouse properties. Northward from Kitty Hawk are a half dozen or so hunting clubs today, the most fabulous being the elaborate Whaleshead Club at Corolla owned by Ray T. Adams of Washington, D. C.

Of all the lodges and clubs remaining along the outer coast today the only one I know of which is open to anyone wishing to hunt wildfowl and not operated on a membership basis is Mirlo Lodge. An exception farther south on Ocracoke would be Wahab's Beach-Comber's Club, where, I believe, arrangements can be made for go-

ing hunting without being a member.

You Can Still Hunt

Because most of the old time clubhouses and lodges along the Dare coast are no longer in business does not mean that it is not possible to hunt in the area. There are numerous facilities for wildfowl hunters in the Kitty Hawk, Nags Head, Roanoke Island and Hatteras Island area. As always, there are guides available and they have the blinds and know the areas which are not closed by private owners or the government.

In comparison to the bag limits of today as compared to the old days, there are just as many geese and ducks. Two geese and four ducks with game wardens a plenty is probably a better average than the days when it was 15 ducks and eight geese and few game protectors. Those who go wildfowl hunting, and this is what I am trying to get across, find enough game on an average when the weather is right to kill their two geese and four ducks about as easy as it was 25 years ago to kill 15 ducks and eight geese.

When Hunting Was Work

Few living today recall the time when hunting professionally for wildfowl was an important industry along the coast. That was back in the days when market hunting was allowed. In those days there were sportsmen who came great distances to shoot wildfowl on a sort of no-limit basis. It was no difficulty to shoot several barrels full to be shipped back home to friends, but some of the wealthier sportsmen would give their kills to guides who in turn would ship the fowl to market.

There were regular buyers in the various communities who paid about \$1.0 per pair for canvasbacks, 50 cents a pair for red heads, and about 30 cents a pair for pintails, mallards and "common ducks." Smaller ducks such as teal, Ruddy and Buffleheads could be cashed in at 25 cents a pair, with four ducks making a pair. Geese brought about 50 cents. Market hunters did not consider it unusual luck to kill 100 ducks or geese in a single day. Some crews killed many more. The late Big Ike O'Neal used to tell the story of how he unloaded six shells from a repeating shotgun into one flock of ducks (redheads) and picked up \$100. See WATERFRONT, Page Four

51ST ANNIVERSARY OF FLIGHT WILL BE EXCITING PROGRAM AGAIN, FRIDAY NEXT WEEK

Jet Flyover Among Features, Along With Elizabeth City Band, and Greenville ROTC Unit; Wreathes to Be Laid at Monument, and Dinner for Invited Guests at Carolinian Hotel December 17th.

A memorial flight by Air Force Jets, music by Elizabeth City High School Band and the ECC-ROTC Drum and Bugle Corps, wreath laying and a luncheon at the Carolinian Hotel will be features of the 51st anniversary of the Wright Brothers first flight here next Friday, December 17, it is announced by Miles L. Clark, chairman of Kill Devil Hills Memorial Society. The Society this year will cooperate with the Air Force Association and the National Park Service in staging the event.

Rear Admiral Ryland, commandant of the Fifth Naval District with headquarters in Norfolk will be the principal luncheon speaker and Wade Marr of Elizabeth City will be the toastmaster.

Arrangements for a memorial flyover by 15 jet AF-planes has been arranged by Ralph V. Whitener, program director of the Air Force Association. It was Whitener, who in 1953 on December 14-17 staged the Golden Anniversary aviation celebrations at Kill Devil Hills. The celebration this year will be comparable to observances held in years prior to 1953.

A popular feature as always, will be the appearance of Elizabeth City's High School Band, and its majorettes. The drum and bugle corps is an ROTC unit of East Carolina College in Greenville. Another group of uniformed band members are expected this year although they will not present musical numbers due to the tight schedule of events atop Kill Devil Hills at 10 o'clock. This will be the P. W. Moore High School Band of Elizabeth City, a colored unit.

Wreaths will be placed at the base of the Memorial by Dare County, on behalf of the members of the U. S. Life Saving Service who assisted the Wrights in their first flight in 1903. Elizabeth City's wreath will be placed by members of the high school band.

The program at the monument will be brief. Then the scene of activity will move to the Carolinian. A. W. Drinkwater, Melvin R. Daniels, C. S. Meekins and R. E. Jordan will serve as hosts at the Carolinian on behalf of the Society, and for Dare County.

Most exciting event at the monument will be the double fly-over by the 15 jet planes, it was stated.

DARE RECORDER TRIES TWO CASES THIS WEEK

Two cases were tried by Dare County Recorder Baum this week. Marvin Allen, a highway worker, charged with taking a pair of pants and two shirts from his room mate Onley Davis at the Red Top Cabins Kitty Hawk, and after pleading guilty was fined \$5 and costs.

Eph Daniels, Jr., colored, pleaded guilty of assaulting Mrs. Lloyd Meekins and her grand-daughter Ella Mae, and trespassing in the tavern of Lloyd Meekins was sentenced to 60 days in jail, conditioned on his remaining off the said premises for three years and paying a fine of \$60 and costs.

NEW LOCATIONS FOR DREDGING OYSTERS SEEN

Effective December 13, a number of new areas will be opened in coastal areas for dredging oysters, Director Ben E. Douglas of the Department of Conservation and Development announced.

Areas to be opened are Deep Cove in Shell Bay in Pamlico County and Deep Bay in Rose Bay in the Hyde County locality. These bays have been closed for three years to allow planted oysters to reach the minimum of three inches as required by law before they can be taken and marketed.

Douglas said Gehrman Holland, assistant commissioner of the C & D Department's commercial fisheries division, and the Institute of Fisheries Research at Morehead City had made an investigation of the oyster beds in the two bays and found the oysters are now of legal size for marketing purposes.

HOME BUILDING IN MANTEO AREA ON UPWARD TREND

Modern Type Homes Giving Community Improved Look Both in Town and Out

Homebuilding in the Manteo vicinity is on the upward trend, and many modern type homes now being erected or recently finished tend to give an improved look to the community, both in and out of town. Today's home-building program is considered the largest at any one time in Manteo.

One of the finest homes, when complete, is being erected by Mr. and Mrs. Leo Midgett opposite the Baptist Church. They recently sold their home on the beach and have moved to Manteo to settle down.

John Farrow has recently completed an attractive home on the highway opposite Manteo, and adjoining his former home. Mrs. Lotta Midgett has recently built an attractive new home on the old Main Road.

Postmaster Charles R. Evans is completing two modern bungalows on First Avenue to aid in the town's housing shortage. Nearby, Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Daniels have erected a most attractive home.

Fearing Bros. are erecting what is to be the first of a number of modern rental homes on their subdivision, formerly the D. W. Etheridge tract north of Broad St. Mr. and Mrs. John D. Earle, almost newcomers to Roanoke Island have erected an attractive modern brick home on Roanoke Sound, three miles north of Manteo.

Omie Tillett is erecting a new home south of Whalebone junction at Nags Head. Mr. and Mrs. Paul Dystra are building a modern bungalow near their service station in this area.

J. J. PARTRIDGE DIES; RETIRED TUG CAPTAIN

Capt. Jessie James Partridge, 68, retired tugboat captain formerly employed by the Gray Towing Corporation, died Saturday at 11:20 a.m. at his residence, 1218 Hazel Avenue, Norfolk Highlands. He quit the water about six years ago when his health began to fail.

A native of Nags Head, he had lived in the Norfolk section 30 years. His parents were Jesse J. and Mrs. Florence Tillett Partridge. He was a member of the Oaklette Methodist Church.

Surviving are his wife, Mrs. Nancy Elizabeth Hudson Partridge; two daughters, Mrs. Herbert Tatem, and Mrs. R. W. Nash, both of Norfolk Highlands; two sons, W. E. Mason, of Broad Creek Village, and Charles C. Mason, of Norfolk Highlands; two brothers, John R. Partridge, of Mashoes, and Willis G. Partridge, of Norfolk; and one sister, Mrs. Hattie Mann, of Mashoes.

The body was moved to the Francis A. Gay Funeral Home, South Norfolk. Funeral services were conducted Monday at 3 p.m. at the Kitty Hawk Methodist Church, Burial was in Austin Cemetery, Kitty Hawk.

METHODIST TO ENLARGE KITTY HAWK CHURCH

Plans are being made for building an annex to the Kitty Hawk Methodist Church. Sixteen of the Intermediate Class members have been making and selling cookies, cakes and pies for the past 6 weeks and have turned in \$50 to Fannie B. Perry chairman of the finance committee.

Members who have been working are: Jackie Twiford, Sandra Keller, Carol Perry, Gayle Parker, Gloria Rogers, Betty Finn, Wanda Hines, Shirley York, Jewel Slater, Vivian Midgett, Karolyn Whitfield, Rosemary Sanderlin, Donna Midgett, Freddy Murchugh, Gary Parker and Gene Smith. They are now trying for another fifty dollars.