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SEABEES ENJOYING HATTERAS ISLAND AND ITS PEOPLE

Navy Workers Now in Circulation, Adding New Interest to the General Activity

By BEN DIXON MACNEILL
With their first off-duty week end on Hatteras Island members of the newly arrived detachment of 151 Seabees have had their first opportunity to look around and get their bearings, see how they like the Island—and for the Islander to see how they are going to like the Seabees. Altogether it looks like it is going to be a right satisfactory arrangement all around.

Take Tandy, and take Deputy Sheriff Raymond Basnett. Mr. Tandy wondered how many Saturday nights his recreation would last—and after the first Saturday night and the second he has come to the delighted conclusion that it would be a nice world if everybody in it was like these Seabees. "The most friendly and the most orderly crowd he has ever had inside his doors," he says. And even "the old man," who is Lieut. W. N. Wenke, commander, aged 25, comes in and dances a little—and see that his 'boys' some of them near twice his age are faring alright.

And take the Sheriff. "If everybody was like these boys have been since I've been here I'd be just plain out of a job," says Raymond Basnett. "Or just serving summonses for the jury to go off to the county seat and figure out whether people up there are guilty of anything. They're sure a nice bunch of boys."

That sums up most of it but, just to take another sample, take a blonde young giant named Quentin Wilson from Concord, New Hampshire. He used to work in a printing plant that prints the Readers Digest and he sort of likes a little history. And he was sort of homesick for his young wife. But then, when he ventured out to explore a little, he discovered that 157 years ago, Maj. Gen. Henry Dearborn, another New Hampshireman, gathered up a few hundred tons of logs, right where Wilson now barged them down the river and led them to Cape Hatteras and the Alexander Hamilton Lighthouse. They were very durable rocks and there are a lot of them still around.

See SEABEES, Page Ten

LARGER FERRY FOR HATTERAS INLET IS LEASED TO PEELE

After reconditioning at the State Highway Department's marine base at Manns Harbor the veteran ferryboat "Barcelona," built by Capt. Toby Tillett and for years the mainstay of passage across Oregon Inlet until Captain Tillett's franchise and equipment was brought outright, goes this week to Hatteras under lease to Capt. Frazer Peele and will be put into service across the Inlet, giving Ocracoke Island an enlarged and faster ferry service.

Captain Peele has been operating a small, four-car ferry across the Inlet between Hatteras and Ocracoke for three seasons past and so greatly has the traffic grown that he is under the necessity of enlarging his service. The boat goes to him under lease from the Highway Department and will maintain regular, seven-day schedules.

The arrangement is temporary. By July the Highway Department expects to let to contract the extension of the Outer Banks Highway from Hatteras village to Ocracoke and eventually the State will take over the Hatteras Inlet ferry on the same basis as it took over the service across Oregon Inlet under Governor J. M. Broughton in 1941, and freed the ferry of tolls.

Survey of the projected highway with necessary ferry channels and docks will be completed by the See FERRY, Page Twelve

MANTEO H. S. CLASS OF '29 TO HAVE REUNION SAT.

Members of the graduating class of Manteo High School for the year 1929 are planning a reunion Saturday evening. A dinner will be held at Fearing's Cafe in Manteo, and class members and their husbands and wives will attend. Class president is Hugh B. Hines, city manager of Jacksonville, N. C., who plans to be present. Also expected to attend are four members of the faculty at the time the class graduated. They are: F. T. Johnson of Hertford, Mrs. Sally Peele Smith of Charlotte, Mrs. Percy W. Meekins of Washington, D. C., and Mrs. Theo. S. Meekins, Jr., of Manteo.

Of the 23 members of the class, 21 are now living.

ANOTHER NATIVE BACK HOME IN BUSINESS



MRS. VIOLET MANN KELLAM ANOTHER OF the many Dare County folks who look forward to coming back home in business for themselves. Mrs. H. Willard Kellam after 20 years in Norfolk, has bought the popular Oasis Restaurant on Treasure Island, between Roanoke Island and Nags Head Beach. This restaurant, founded a few years ago by Paul Gray, has become famous for seafood. Mrs. Kellam, who left her native home in East Lake at the age of nine, to enter school in Norfolk, is a daughter of Mrs. Ida Hassell, and the late Norris Mann of East Lake. She is a niece of Mrs. Sarah Cahoon of East Lake, and also of C. W. Mann of Manns Harbor. Her husband, a native of the Eastern Shore of Virginia, is a master plumber, for 18 years in business in Norfolk.

Mrs. Kellam was educated in the See KELLAM, Page Twelve

MANTEO GIRL GRADUATE OF GREENSBORO COLLEGE



MISS MAXINE SCARBOROUGH of Manteo, who graduated Monday morning from Greensboro College, Greensboro, receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in history and sociology. She will teach social studies in Princess Anne High School, Princess Anne, Va., next year.

While at Greensboro College, Miss Scarborough served as May Queen attendant during her sophomore and senior years; as a sophomore she served as freshman counsellor; she was vice-president See SCARBOROUGH, Page Twelve

KILL DEVIL HILLS TOWN BOARD MEETS
In his last regular meeting during tenure in office, Mayor J. L. Murphy of Kill Devil Hills cited many advantages to the commissioners, and attended to other routine matters at the Thursday morning meeting.

A tentative budget was presented, calling for \$15,660 for the fiscal year beginning June 1. The tax rate would be reduced to 20¢ per hundred valuation, and business licenses taxes would be reduced half. Commissioner Morrison had suggested a tax rate of 25¢.

Mayor Murphy pointed to the improvements gained by the town during its 26-month life—zoning, police protection, streets paved, a monthly check at all unoccupied cottages during winter months, and just recently the addition of a fire truck. He stated that rent on the new town hall, built by C. A. York, had been paid through March, 1956. The town has a surplus of some \$2800 this year, partly Powell Bill funds and the remainder local taxes.

New Officers June 1
Next meeting for the town will be June 1, at which time the officers elected May 3 will take office. They are: mayor, Mrs. Emily Mustian; commissioners, Herbert Morrison, Elton Twiford and Robert A. Young. Miss Jimmy Gray will serve as town clerk.

THURSTON GASKILL, OCRACOKE GUIDE, RECITES CHANGES

One of the Most Famed Citizens of the Island Gives Oyster Stew Recipe

By ICE K. RONDTHALER
Oct 2, 1954, May 23.—Several large cobia, caught this past week, indicate this species to be running off Ocracoke early this year. W. E. Woodruff, Robert Lowe, and J. N. Still, all of Mount Airy, fishing with Capt. Thurston Gaskill, brought in four beautiful cobia, weighing 20 to 35 pounds, several channel bass, weighing thirty to fifty pounds, and a dozen or more tuna, weighing from three to five pounds.

Capt. Gaskill is young in years, but old in experience when it comes to guiding sports fishermen. He began his trade when he was thirteen years old, helping his father, Capt. Bill Gaskill, famous guide and pilot, and owner and operator of Pamlico Inn from 1915 to the time of his death in 1935. Big Foot Slough, Beacon Island Channel, Wallace Channel, Shell Castle Rock, Ocracoke Inlet and Off-Shore in the Atlantic were the early haunts of young Thurston and he knows them every inch of the way and has a knack for finding the fish if he fish are there. This knack is inherited not only from his father, but goes back through several generations of Gaskills to an ancestor, Jacob. Colonial records indicate that Jacob Gaskill was among the first pilots who settled at Ocracoke, earning his living in part by piloting sailing vessels from the Atlantic Ocean across Ocracoke Bar, into the safety of Pamlico Sound. Ocracoke Inlet in the early days of the republic was a busy thoroughfare for trade between Eastern Carolina and the West Indies.

Capt. Gaskill has guided fishing parties coming to the Island all the way from Pennsylvania to Georgia and from the mountains to the sea in North Carolina, waiting on some of them for more than thirty-five years. There have been fishing trips when he has had three generations of the same family together in his boat. Asked about particularly good catches, he says that he remembers a year in the late thirties, probably about 1938, when his party brought in 505 blues from trolling in the Inlet. Another good fall season was two years ago when his parties brought See GASKILL, Page Twelve

STRATTON HONORED FOR ABLE WORK ON NATIONAL SEASHORE

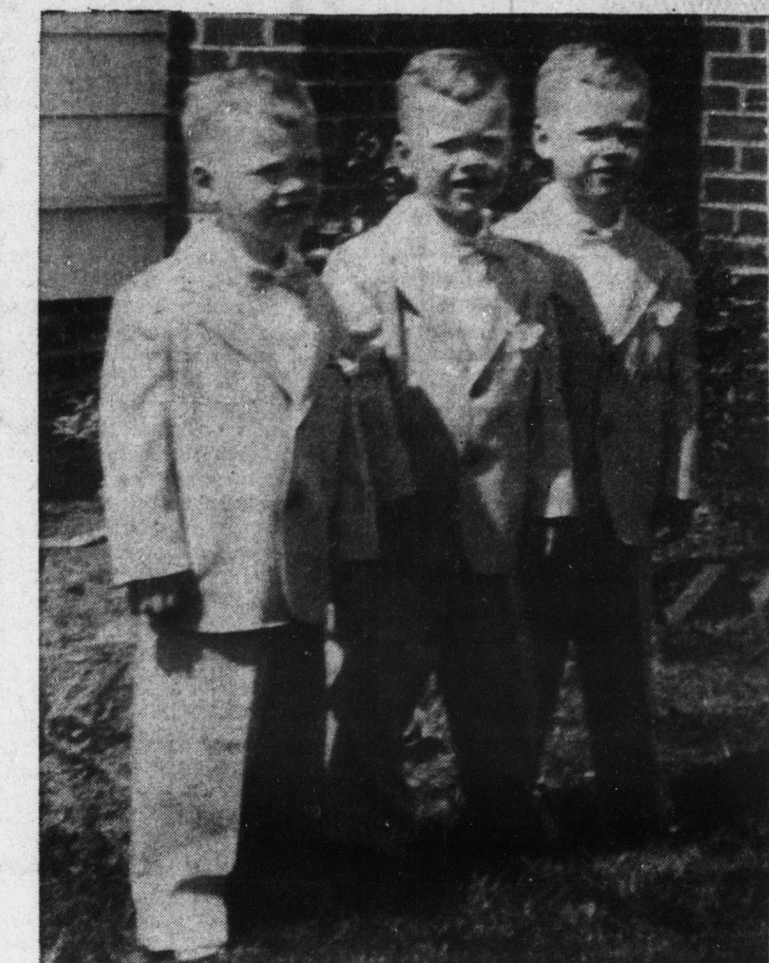
Meritorious Service Honor Award Presented Man Who Carried On Project Under Difficulties

The Secretary of the Department, Douglas McKay has approved a Meritorious Service Honor Award for A. C. Stratton in recognition of his outstanding service in connection with the establishment of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area. Elbert Cox, Regional Director, Region One, National Park Service, presented to Mr. Stratton the silver medal and silver lapel pin and read the following citation from Secretary McKay:

"Mr. Stratton became Project Manager of the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Recreational Area in November 1952. Previous to that time he was superintendent of a coastal erosion-control project in the area and later served Region One Office of the National as soil conservationist in the Park Service. He spent most of the time since 1934, except for the period from 1943 to 1951, developing plans and supervising projects for eventual establishment of the area. Of special mention is the internationally recognized sand-fixation project which was a pioneering accomplishment in this unique land-reform field. His work in dune stabilization made possible later development programs which would have been exceedingly costly without benefit of his effort. As project manager, he initiated an extensive program of land acquisition to establish our first national seashore. Under adverse conditions he carried the program to the point where it's success was assured and laid the groundwork for the superintendent who later assumed administration of the new area. He performed his duties competently and fairly with sustained enthusiasm despite local opposition. In recognition of these noteworthy achievements, Mr. Stratton is granted the Meritorious Service Award of the Department of the Interior."

/s/ Douglas McKay
Secretary
Mr. Stratton proved in qualities as an efficient and conscientious administrator while he served as Manager of the Beach Erosion Control Project from 1934 to 1943. The knowledge that he acquired of See STRATTON, Page Twelve

BLESSED WITH THREE FINE BOYS AT ONE TIME



THESE husky youngsters are Roy, Gill and Lee who will be four years old in October. They are the triplet sons of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Evans of Elizabeth City. Mrs. Evans, who was born at Manns Harbor is the former Blonnie Gard, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Thomas (Pink) Gard, formerly of Manns Harbor, now residing in Elizabeth City. Mrs. Evans is also a niece of Samuel W. Twiford, owner of the Quinn Furniture Store in Manteo.

The Evans have an older child, a daughter. The boys are healthy, and enjoy life, and usually give the old man a workout when he gets home from work. Mr. Evans is a native of Currituck County.

PAID \$25 FOR BEATING UP HIS GIRL FRIEND

The course of true love doesn't always run smooth, but it is also costly, for Goerge Albert McClees of Manteo, was required to pay a fine of \$25 and costs Tuesday for beating Sibley Mackey. Judge Baum in Recorder's court gave him a 60 day jail sentence, suspended on condition that he not return to court in a year.

William Ambrose Midgett, Rodanthe Coast Guardsman was fined \$15 and costs for reckless driving. Capias was issued for William David Gaskins on a non-support count of failing to keep his \$15 per week payments.

A MANN'S HARBOR BOY CLIMBING RIGHT ON UP



DALTON LEE MANN of Manns Harbor is another popular Dare County boy whose neighbors watch his career with interest. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Guy Mann and graduated Monday from East Carolina College. Much recognition and many awards have come his way through his hard work and application to studies. He was one of 12 who received student awards from the Student Government Association of East Carolina. He also was one of 32 leaders in student activities at his college who is listed in "Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities." Dalton Lee is Secretary of Phi Sigma Pi; president of the Mathematics Club, and holds membership in various extra curricular activities and college fraternities, including: Chi Beta Phi, Circle K, Science Club, Student Government Association and ROTC Officers Club.

Mr. Mann is one of 20 students at ECC who were commissioned second Lieutenants in the U. S. Air Force Reserve, Monday.

The following quotation from the class president and college officials sums up the citation for his work in college:

"Dalton Mann, you have been named the recipient of the Maria D. Graham Mathematics Award and the Mathematics Department Award for the year 1954-55. The Maria D. Graham Mathematics Award is presented by the Math Club annually to its outstanding senior member. The Department Award goes to the senior mathematics major or minor with the highest scholastic average in mathematics.

"In your three years as a member of the Math Club, you have been very active, both as a leader and as a follower. You have never said "no" when asked to do a job. And now during your last year you have served as our president.

"Your participation in other campus activities has helped you to become a more well-rounded person. With all these activities, See MANN, Page Twelve

RAPID PROGRESS BEING MADE ON CROATAN SOUND BRIDGE



QUITE a formidable showing is being made on the construction of the three-mile long concrete bridge across Croatan Sound connecting the North end of Roanoke Island with Manns Harbor. T. A. Loving Company of Goldsboro are the builders, and the huge concrete piles have been driven four abreast, a third of the distance across the sound, working from the Roanoke Island shore. Here are two views made from the shore end of the bridge, and from the progress being made, it looks like it will be complete by this time next year, in time for a whopping big summertime celebration of what looks like the biggest forward step for the Coastland in many a day. This bridge was provided by the action of the late Governor William B. Umstead, a devoted friend of the Coastland.

PROF. B. G. CHILDS TO BE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER IN MANTEO

Rev. A. C. D. Noe To Deliver Baccalaureate Sermon Sunday Evening at Eight O'Clock

Commencement exercises at the Manteo High School will begin Sunday, May 29, at eight o'clock p. m., with the baccalaureate service. Rev. A. C. D. Noe, rector of St. Andrews-by-the-Sea Episcopal Church of Nags Head will deliver the sermon, and will be assisted by Rev. H. V. Napier, pastor of Manteo Baptist Church and Rev. H. R. Ashmore, pastor of Mount Olivet Methodist Church, Manteo.

Class Night will be held at eight o'clock Thursday evening, June 2. The program will be entitled "Senior Merry-Go-Round". The valedictory will be delivered by Shirley Midgett and the salutatory by Carol Ann Allen.

On Friday morning, June 3, the graduation exercises of the Junior High school will take place at 10 o'clock. This will feature a student participation type of program.

Graduation exercises for the high school seniors will culminate the week's activities with a program at eight o'clock Friday evening, June 3, with Professor B. J. Childs of Duke University as speaker. Mr. Childs is a professor of Education at Duke, and is much in demand as a speaker.

All commencement programs will be held in the school auditorium.

CHARLIE SCARBOROUGH, FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF DARE COUNTY, DIES

Charles Henderson Scarborough, 73, who represented Dare County in the General Assembly some 45 years ago, died Sunday in Hampton, Va., where he had resided since 1917. For many years he was engaged in the furniture business in Newport News.

Although he had moved away, he never lost his interest and love for Dare County, and was a frequent visitor, often stopping with his uncle, Lee Mann, and other relatives at Manns Harbor. He is survived by a son, Maxton D. Scarborough of Newport News, two grandchildren and several nieces and nephews.

He was the husband of the late Sudie Peele Scarborough of Hatteras, who died in 1915. He never remarried. He was the son of the late Henderson and Lois Mann Scarborough of Avon. His mother died young, and he went from Avon to Manns Harbor to live with his grandmother, Betsey Mann.

The funeral services were conducted Wednesday at the Rouse-Carper Funeral home in Hampton, Va.

Interment was in Twiford Cemetery at Manns Harbor Wednesday afternoon.

MRS. SALLIE MEEKINS COLINGTON'S OLDEST RESIDENT DIES TUES.

A great old lady, the oldest resident of Colington went to her final resting place Thursday afternoon. Mrs. Sally Shannon Meekins 89, died Tuesday night at her home in Colington. She was the wife of John Hawkins Meekins and daughter of the late Nathaniel and Sallie Williams Shannon, of Roanoke Island. She was a life-long resident of Dare County. She was a woman of brilliant mind for her opportunities, and kept well posted until failing eyesight slowed her activities a few years ago. She had been ill for several months.

Besides her husband, she is survived by two daughters, Mrs. Evelyn Haywood and Mrs. Robanna Toler, and a son, John Oscar Meekins, all of Colington; a half brother, Jim Shannon of Powell's Point; 12 grandchildren, 12 great grandchildren, and many great great grandchildren, and many nephews and nieces.

Burial was in the family cemetery Thursday at 2 p. m. following services conducted at the Methodist Church by the pastor, Rev. W. B. Gregory. She was a member of this church and a faithful worker in her active life.

PROPOSED WATERWAY BILL LISTS \$45,000 FOR MANTEO

The proposed bill for waterway improvements, if Congress should provide the money, includes \$45,000 for the betterment of Shallowbag Bay, Manteo harbor. This appropriation is sought for the fiscal year beginning July 1. This bill covers Middle Atlantic Waterway projects totalling more than 22 and a half million dollars.