

**BOAT INDUSTRY URGED TO AID ITS CUSTOMERS**

**Rep. Bonner, Speaking in New York Points Up Obligation of Manufacturers**

Representative Herbert C. Bonner (D.—N. C.), Chairman, Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries, House of Representatives, last week addressed the Annual Banquet Luncheon of the National Association of Engine and Boat Manufacturers at the Hotel Astor in New York City.

The Association, representing most of the manufacturers of boats and engines for pleasure craft in the United States, sponsors the Annual Motorboat Show which is currently in progress in New York.

Chairman Bonner, author of the Federal Boating Act of 1958, took as his theme the responsibility of the boating industry to voluntarily initiate an educational program for new boat buyers. Bonner referred to the nationwide study of recreational boating safety made by the Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries during 1956 and 1957. He said, "It is almost two years now since that report was written, and I am unaware of any program having been undertaken by the industry which would have the dealers, on a voluntary basis, give new boat buyers some safety instruction before allowing the new boat buyer to drive that boat away. I repeat again what I said in 1956—that I doubt very seriously if anyone would contend that this situation is proper and conducive to safe boating."

Bonner warned the manufacturers that "unwillingness or inability on the part of the industry to give these new buyers safety instruction before turning them loose can have only one logical result—some system of mandatory testing and licensing." Bonner emphasized that when he used the term "industry" he was including marine dealers, as well as manufacturers.

Stating that the goal of the Merchant Marine Committee was to strengthen existing law in the interest of safety and at the same time avoid burdensome or unreasonable restrictions on recreational boating, Bonner said, "It is now the responsibility of the members of the industry to urge the Legislatures of their respective States to adopt the suggested State Boat Act, as proposed by the Council of State Governments and designed to complement the Federal Act. But don't go too far! The findings of our Committee indicate that the time has not yet come for rigid and restrictive requirements such as, for example, operators' licenses. So you in the industry have a double-barreled responsibility: first, to initiate a voluntary safety education program, and second, to give active guidance to the States so that their legislative efforts will be simple, non-restrictive and as uniform as possible."

**WANCHESE PERSONALS**

The third break-in occurred at the Lloyd Midgett store Thursday night of last week. The store, located at Wanchese, formerly the John Cudworth store, is owned by Lloyd Midgett who is seriously ill at his home in Manteo. As in the other instances, no arrests have been made, the culprits having been too elusive for officers, and apparently being youths who like cigarettes.

Mr. and Mrs. Dallas Parker and children of Camden visited Mrs. Ophelia Daniels.  
Mr. and Mrs. Irving Williams and son Irving, Jr. of Norfolk

**HISTORY OF 100 YEARS RECOUNTED AT KITTY HAWK METHODIST CHURCH**

Written By Mattie Sanderlin Wescott and Reprinted By Courtesy of the Church Centennial Committee.

Copies of this History, together with other information about the church and its members may be obtained by writing to the church pastor, Rev. S. S. Snead.

The first Methodist Church in the village of Kitty Hawk, N. C. had its birth in the year of 1858 and was located in the center of a 4 acre field owned by Elijah Sibborn, presently the B. F. Perry homestead. This church was of small dimension, roughly about the size of the average neighborhood living room. Its frame was hand hewn, enclosed by vertically fastened foot-wide rough boards. The inside was unfinished and it was floored. The pews were long, wide boards resting on three upright blocks cut from a large log.

For many years devotional services, other than prayer meetings, were conducted by transient ministers. The hymnals were noteless. The hymn leader was either the minister or a member of the congregation who would raise the hymn after first announcing its metre, such as: long metre, short metre, or whatever metre.

In the year 1887 Elijah Sibborn gave a parcel of land on the main road of the village, the present site of Kitty Hawk Methodist Church, to the church trustees and a new church was erected there. In the year of 1904 he submitted a deed for the piece of land.

This church was somewhat larger than the original one, approximately 24 x 36 feet and a very nicely constructed frame building. It was finished outside with horizontal siding painted white and inside with horizontal sheathing painted white with a medium blue ceiling and window trim. There were 9 windows. Three were in each side; two in the pulpit end, (one at each side of the pulpit) and one between the two front doors in the front end. An aisle led from each front door down to the pulpit. Long pews were in the center between the two aisles, and half-length pews on the opposite sides of the aisles and attached to the side walls. The pews were mill-made. Four matching oil lamps were suspended from the ceiling. One hung over the pulpit, and the three others hung in line down the center of the room over the long pews. Four bracket oil lamps were on the side walls, one between each two windows.

The construction of the building was directed by Life Saving Service Keeper, James R. Hobbs, known as Captain Hobbs, and Thomas N. Sanderlin, aided by all carpenters in the community working for free. The church's name was chosen as "Boaz" by Captain Hobbs, inspired by a verse of the Scripture referring to King Solomon's Temple, which reads: "and he set up the left pillar, and called the name thereof Boaz." First Kings, 7th Chapter, 21st verse.

The charter members of the church were Mrs. James R. Hobbs, Mrs. Sidney Toler, Mr. and Mrs. Edward O'Neal and Thomas N. Sanderlin.

The first pastor in charge was Reverend Sanderson Payne, who came to the Kitty Hawk Methodist Church in 1888. During his pastorate at Kitty Hawk, the Reverend Payne served as pastor to Nags Head Church whose membership was 4, alternating his Sundays between the two churches.

A Methodist church in the beach community of Currituck Inlet, 30 miles north of Kitty Hawk with a membership of 32, entered Kitty Hawk circuit of churches in the year of 1900. Around the same time a Methodist Church on Colington Island with a membership of 24 also joined the circuit. The Kitty Hawk pastor then conducted services one Sunday of each month in each church of his charge.

The pastor's overland trips to his churches in Nags Head and Currituck Inlet were made by horse and beach-cart transportation. The members of Kitty Hawk church took turns at furnishing a horse and vehicle. Across-water passages to Colington Island were made in small sailboats supplied and operated by owners of such craft as an accommodation. Later small motorized boats were used.

In the year of 1902 the Ladies Aid Society of the church purchased by installment plan for the amount of \$75.00 a used organ. This organ had the appearance of a small pipe organ, though the pipes were only ornamental. The first organist was Miss Nora L. Baum, assisted by her brother Elijah W. Baum. Following the purchase of the organ for two or more summers, the young people of the community took short courses in music reading, referred to as "singing school". Those music courses of about 12 lessons each were taught by Mr. Ed Solwers, assisted by his daughter Bernie. Thus the choir was born. The first choir director was Elijah W. Baum.

The organ for the church was selected and the business entailed in the full transaction was engineered by Franklin Harris Midgett, a trustee of the church. Captain Harris Midgett as he was known to his neighbors entered the church as a member in 1888. At the outset of his membership he was chosen as trustee and served in this capacity until his death in 1929. Throughout all those years of service, a major part of the financial responsibilities of the church rested upon his shoulders, and he bore them with joy. During the first lean years of the church's life, he was known to pull from his own pocket to make up a deficit after having previously given substantially.

The church was enlarged in 1905 with the addition of a 45 x 25 foot room at the pulpit end, making the church a "T" shaped structure. The inside and outside of the addition was finished to match the old one, and at the right of the pulpit a raised platform was built for the seating of the choir.

In 1922 the Currituck Inlet Church was withdrawn from the Kitty Hawk charge and the Duck Methodist Church, with a membership of 6, replaced it.

By 1938 plans were perfected for replacing the frame church building at Kitty Hawk with a brick structure, and in that year the old building was razed and in June, 1938 the cornerstone of the present church building was laid. The "T" shaped

brick church was completed at a total cost of approximately \$9,000. Reverend Matt Ransom Gardner was the pastor.

Mount Zion Methodist Church with a membership of 95, and Hebron Methodist Church with a membership of 75, both of which are located on the Currituck mainland, were added to the Kitty Hawk charge in 1943 and in that same year Nags Head Methodist church was withdrawn. In 1953 both Currituck County churches requested and were granted withdrawal by the Methodist Conference, and at the present time the Kitty Hawk charge consists of the three churches, at Kitty Hawk, Colington, and Duck.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

Kitty Hawk Sunday School had its beginning in the year of 1880 in a small room in the home of charter member, Mrs. James R. Hobbs, later known as Aunt Eliza. Mrs. Hobbs was born Eliza Murphy in Liverpool, England and was fairly well educated for her time. She met her husband, Captain James R. Hobbs, then a master of an ocean-going vessel, in New York City before the war between the states. He brought her as a bride to Kitty Hawk, N. C. and they made their home in a cottage atop a hill surrounded by grass and huge oaks on the site presently occupied by VEP power plant. For many years on Sunday afternoons she taught the village children to read and to write and she read to them children's Bible stories and from the Bible. Two students in her very first class of pupils were Eliza Twiford (Perry) and her sister Nancy Twiford (Tillett).

After the second church was completed and the Sunday School classes began meeting there, Ezekiel Midgett, Sr. was elected superintendent of the Sunday School. He served until his death in 1898. However, the person who has merited the most credit for the perpetuation of Aunt Eliza's Sunday School is the son of Ezekiel Midgett, Sr., William, known as Captain Will Midgett. He was elected superintendent of Kitty Hawk Sunday School following the death of his father and served almost continuously until his death in 1952. He gave to the youth of the church a lifetime of tireless devotion to service and strict attendance.

**PARSONAGE**

The site for the first parsonage of the Kitty Hawk Methodist church was deeded to the three trustees, Thomas N. Sanderlin, Harris Midgett, and Edward O'Neal on July 1, 1896 by James R. Hobbs. Shortly afterwards the first parsonage was built there. It was "L" shaped. A front porch extended down the west side its full length. A center hall opened from the front porch and led through to a back porch which extended eastward along the north side of the back wing of the house. The dining room and kitchen opened on this porch. On the left of the center hall was a living room, on the right was a bedroom, and leading from it was a second floor consisting of two bedrooms. The furnishings of the parsonage was a gift from Mrs. Hannah Lyons. The same team of builders who built the second church also built the parsonage under the same working arrangement.

This parsonage was abandoned and razed and the site sold in the year of 1919. A similarly styled house owned by Captain W. J. Tate and on the site of the present parsonage was purchased by the church for their pastors in the same year. In 1928 this second parsonage was burned. Shortly thereafter the present parsonage was erected. The site of the original parsonage is now occupied by a large white frame house owned by George R. Fearing.

**OTHER CHURCH ACTIVITIES**

Though members of the Kitty Hawk Methodist church frequently attended camp meetings in other nearby communities (and three of these were held on Colington Island between 1888 and 1905) there appears to have been only one camp meeting for which the Kitty Hawk church was host. This was held in the summer of 1887 at the east end of Kitty Hawk Bay, south of the village, and for many years that particular area has been known as the Camp Meeting Grounds.

Frequently services were conducted by men stationed in the nearby Lifesaving Stations, and Nelson Holmes and Dan W. Hayman were among those early lifesavers who conducted services prior to 1900.

Ever mindful of its responsibility toward the unfortunate souls who do not know the joy of a Christian faith, the church regularly has made contributions to Foreign Missions and dispatched them to the Methodist Conference, even when the financial problem of making ends meet was acute.

From her, also, arose at least one man of the gospel. Reverend Louis Hayman, an ordained minister, has given and is continuing to give to the Methodist church a dedicated and distinguished service.

**THE PROPOSED EDUCATION BUILDING**

In 1953 the Intermediate Sunday School Class, with Mrs. Fannie B. Perry as teacher, started a building fund for a new educational building, and at Christmas that year Mrs. Perry and the members of her class donated a total of \$18.00 for the purpose. Mrs. Perry was then appointed by the Board of Stewards as Secretary-Treasurer of the building fund, and this project has since become one of major concern to the members of the church.

At the time of our centennial celebration the fund has grown to more than \$22,000, cash on hand, plus more than \$5,000 in work pledges, and another \$5,000 from the Duke Endowment Fund. Many members of the congregation have pledged monthly donations during the coming year in order to raise the total figure closer to the goal of \$50,000, which is the estimated cost of the new building.

The new structure, to be added to the rear of the existing brick church, will be a two story building, 60 feet long and 40 feet wide, finished on the exterior in brick. It will include a large fellowship hall, kitchen, rest rooms, kindergarten classroom and chair storage room downstairs, and primary, intermediate, youth and adult classrooms upstairs.

**PRINCIPALS LIST AND HONOR ROLL ANNOUNCED MANTEO HIGH SCHOOL**

Principal W. H. Bunch of Manteo High School this week announced the high-ranking students for the past six weeks marking period and past semester.

On the principal's list for the six-week period are the following:

Randy O'Neal, Wanchese; Bill Dough, Manteo; Joyce Fields, Manteo; Verna Mann, Kill Devil Hills; Kathy Washburn, Manteo; Bruce Leavard, Kitty Hawk; Ellen Perry, Kitty Hawk; Isabel Riddick, Manteo; Nancy Coles Basnight, Manteo; Carol Harris, Nags Head; Nancy Midgett, Manteo; Judy Perry, Kitty Hawk and Teddy De Febio, Duck.

Honor roll: Billy Brown, Manteo; Johnny Beasley, Colington; Clyde Hassell, Manteo; Suzanne Allen, Manteo; Terry Beacham, Kitty Hawk; Miles Davis, Kitty Hawk; Lionel Shannon, Kitty Hawk; Brenda Daniels, Wanchese; Betty Finn, Kitty Hawk and Carol Ernst, Manteo and Darlene Hines, Duck.

Past Semester

Principal's list: Randy O'Neal, Wanchese; Verna Mann, Kill Devil Hills; Kathy Washburn, Manteo; Ellen Perry, Kitty Hawk; Isabel Riddick, Manteo; Nancy Coles Basnight, Manteo and Teddy De Febio, Duck.

Honor roll: Suzanne Allen, Manteo; Joyce Fields, Manteo; Bruce Leavard, Kitty Hawk; Betty Finn, Kitty Hawk; Carol Harris, Nags Head; Darlene Hines, Duck; Nancy Midgett, Manteo and Mary Rogers, Manteo.

To qualify for the principal's list students must make all "A"; for the honor roll one "B" and remaining grades "A".

**MISS CAROL ANN ALLEN IS FETED AT PARTIES**

Miss Carol Ann Allen of Manteo and Norfolk, Va., who is a bride-elect of February 1, was guest of honor at a tea Saturday afternoon, given by Mrs. G. G. Bonner and Mrs. Ray Jones at the home of the former in Manteo.

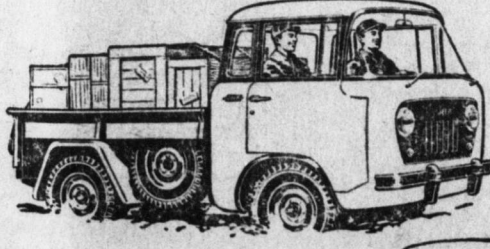
A green and white color scheme was carried out, flower arrangements of white gladioli and fern being used. Mrs. John Allen, mother of the honoree, and Mrs. Ray Jones poured tea, which was served with party cakes, nuts and mints. A large number of friends called during the afternoon.

Miscellaneous Shower  
Saturday night Miss Allen was again honored, this time with a miscellaneous shower at the Roanoke Inn Cafe, given by Mrs. Jack Cahoon and Mrs. Jerry Cahoon.

Games and contests were enjoyed, and refreshments of party sandwiches, potato chips, pickles and coffee were served. The refreshment table was centered with a green and silver arrangement featuring wedding bells. A green and white streamers suspended over the gift table carried out the shower motif. Approximately 30 guests were present.



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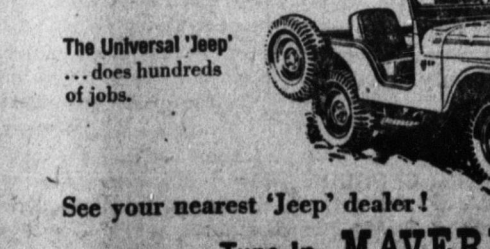
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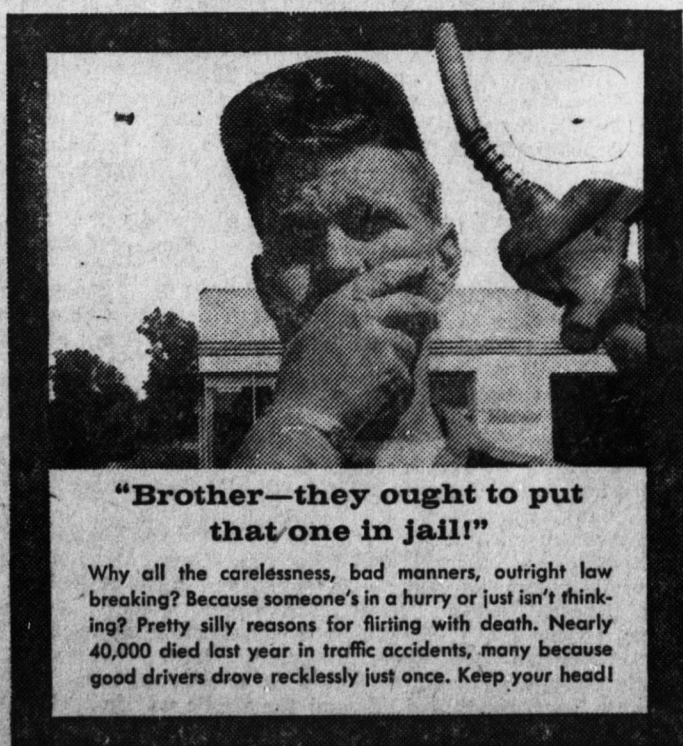
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**SCARBOROUGH'S GARAGE, NAGS HEAD, N. C.**



**"Brother—they ought to put that one in jail!"**

Why all the carelessness, bad manners, outright law breaking? Because someone's in a hurry or just isn't thinking? Pretty silly reasons for flirting with death. Nearly 40,000 died last year in traffic accidents, many because good drivers drove recklessly just once. Keep your head!

Help stop senseless killing. Drive safely. Insist on strict law enforcement. Support your local Safety Council. Where traffic laws are strictly enforced, deaths go down.

Published in an effort to save lives, in cooperation with The National Safety Council and The Advertising Council.