

# SWAN QUARTERLY

November 2009

Hyde County's Country Magazine



Issue # 13

[www.SwanQuarter.net](http://www.SwanQuarter.net)

Cover Photo: Neli Lemme

First Annual Mattamuskeet Decoy & Waterfowl Festival







## Edward Dunn Manning

1919 - 1944

I watched the movie *Saving Private Ryan* with my dad. It was a powerful movie about a Private James Francis Ryan who had won a trip home from behind the lines in France as his brothers had been killed by the Germans. During the movie a General was questioned about the logic behind sending troops out to find one man and send him home. The General looked sternly and with passion quoted a line from Abraham Lincoln in a letter Lincoln had hand written to the mother of a fallen soldier during the war of Northern Aggression. The quote was "I pray that our Heavenly Father may assuage the anguish of your bereavement and leave you only the cherished memory of the loved and lost, and the solemn pride that must be yours to have laid so costly a sacrifice upon the altar of freedom." President Lincoln was a servant of the people and knew that this lofty post, to which he'd been elected, paled in light of the sacrifice that ordinary people make daily.

There was also a scene during the movie that showed an Army Officer driving down the back roads of the Midwest to a small forgotten farm in the middle of America. He was there to deliver the tragic news of the death of Private Ryan's brothers. I looked over at dad and watched the tears well from within.

It is rare for anyone to be transported back in time to share the raw emotion felt during troubled times. When it happens it becomes a surreal experience that needs to be absorbed slowly in order to fully understand its impact. This was one of those moments.

Dad spoke of walking home from Church on a Sunday morning to find his sister in law on the back porch wailing. Grandma Katy was one the porch and Granddaddy Fletcher couldn't be found. While dad was at church word came from the Army that on August 8, 1944 his brother Edward Dunn Manning had fallen from a gunshot to the abdomen. He languished in an Army Hospital for about a week before succumbing to the wound. Dad said that the scene in *Saving Private Ryan* was eerily similar to what he saw that day. We finished the movie later. A couple of years ago dad traveled to southern France outside of Brittany and saw where his brother is buried. He brought home a hand made pencil etching of Uncle Edwards name on the grave marker that the cemetery guard graciously produced, as he does for all visiting relatives. Sadly the number of visitors is diminishing daily as time goes on. Hopefully we will not forget the sacrifice so generously laid on the altar of freedom, as no greater gift can be given than to give your life for another. Freedom should never be taken lightly, freedom is not free.

# Veterans Day

By Steve Manning

[www.ponzermanning.webs.com](http://www.ponzermanning.webs.com)

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED  
NOVEMBER 11





2 0 0 9 N O V E M B E R I S S U E

PUBLISHERS: INGRID AND NELI LEMME



*Molasses Creek*

*Sunday, November 8*

**3:00pm**

**MC ~ Public Radio East  
25th Anniversary Concert**

**From Oringer Hall,  
Craven Community  
College, New Bern, NC  
[www.molassescreek.com](http://www.molassescreek.com)**

## ✕ Quote of the Quarter ✕

***"We don't care what folks do, we just want to HEAR about it!"***

*Our neighbors on Ocracoke Island often like to remind visitors of the island motto*

*"We don't care what folks do, we just want to HEAR about it!"*

## DEAR READER

I don't know about you, but I can't wait for Thanksgiving, we have a lot to be grateful for. Our year had started with some major set backs, some call it budget cuts, and today we are even grateful for that. We had some health scares that turned out as relatively minor and we'll get to welcome my husband's brother



and his wife from Arizona in Swan Quarter soon. Our news grandson David in Germany is a cute, healthy baby and we get to see him a lot on Skype. My co-publisher and daughter in law Neli got a job at Food Lion in Columbia, Yeah & our son Dom is crabbing and fishing in Tyrrell where they live. Life is good. - IL

## Visit Hyde County

*The Official Guide to Ocracoke Island and the Hyde County Mainland. Get yours FREE today.*

[www.hydecountychamber.org](http://www.hydecountychamber.org)

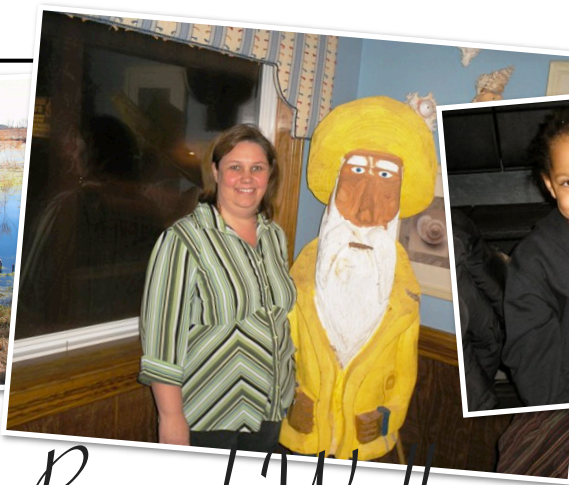
Our rivers and sounds provide an

abundance of fresh seafood that is sold and marketed worldwide, and you can get it fresh everyday! If you crave the wilderness, come and view and hunt our vast population of deer, bear, geese and ducks. Also, come and visit,

the famous, Mattamuskeet Lodge, Mattamuskeet Lake, Mattamuskeet National Wildlife Refuge and Ocracoke Island.







## ...On the Board Walk...

### *Artist of the Quarter*

Douglas Hoover for his series of original oil paintings about our Ocracoke Island, see page 19

### *Man of the Quarter*

The late Farrell Berry, one of the founders of the Waterfowl Assoc. honored Nov 21-22

[www.HydeWaterFowl.com](http://www.HydeWaterFowl.com)

### *Lady of the Quarter*

Hyde NCAE Member and ESP Award Recipient, Ms. Viola Williams

### *Kids of the Quarter*

Are they the cutest or what? Here at the RAA play 'The Cat in the Hat'. We would love to know their names.

### WEBSITE OF THE QUARTER



Click to the the NEW design  
[www.hyde.k12.nc.us](http://www.hyde.k12.nc.us)

Union, close to Chris's

### *Teacher of the Quarter*

Mr. Julio Morales, Hyde NCAE President and so much more, please read all about him on page 5



### *Business of the Quarter*

Hyde County's Swan Quarter gets a State Employees Credit



Groceries on Hwy 264



### *Boat of the Quarter*

"Charcoal" as seen here anchoring in Swan Quarter



### *Organization of the Quarter*

The Swan Quarter Service Group, the story that explains what they



## TEACHER OF THE QUARTER

### MR JULIO MORALES

Julio Morales is a 31-year-old foreign ESL teacher from Venezuela. Mr. Morales came to North Carolina 5 years ago and was sponsored by the Visiting International Faculty (VIF) Program. After his sponsorship term ended, he decided to venture on his own because he loved working in our public school system and our Hyde County way of life. He had worked for Duplin County Schools for three years through VIF until he got a job in our Hyde County School system, which sponsors him. He serves all four schools on our Mattamuskeet Campus. Mr. Morales says: "I have the pleasure of working with students who have limited

English proficiency. My roster goes up to about 40 from Pre-K to 12th grade. I also advocate for all the student's families when in need of school and/or community services, if their English proficiency is limited as well. I am a firm believer that one should be involved in many ventures to enhance our



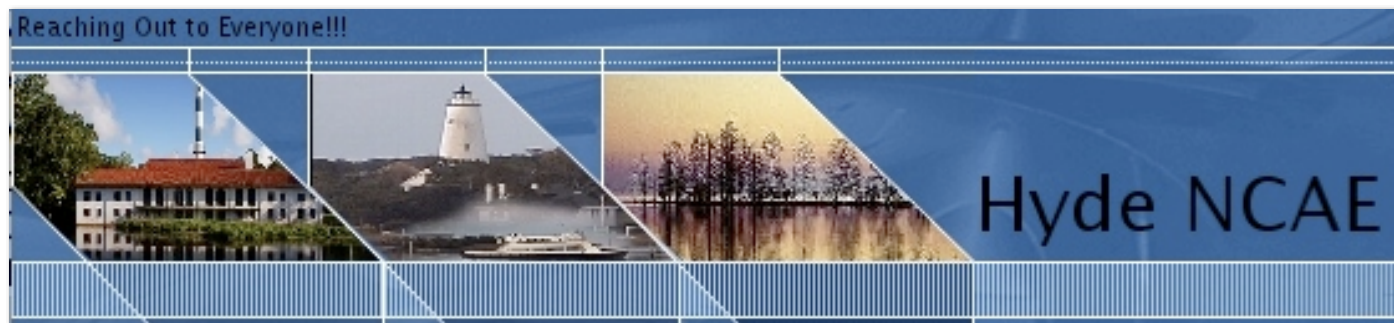
personal and professional lives." Presently he is also serving as the president of the Hyde County chapter for the North Carolina Association of Educators (Hyde-NCAE, [www.hydencae.com](http://www.hydencae.com)). He was elected a year ago, and is proud to serve all the employees of our

public school district who are members of the strongest association in the state. Simultaneously he is working on a Master's degree at Greensboro College in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages). Last but not least, he just signed up to pursue National Board Certification

and should become a NBC Teacher by the end of next year. "It is very hectic to balance all these different endeavors, but it is surely rewarding. As much as I pledge dedication to my profession, I also do it for my community," he says. Mr. Morales serves as a board member for the Hyde County Children's

Center, and is also part of the planning committee for the *Engelhard Seafood Festival*. He certainly has a full plate, but clearly seems to enjoy his involvement in all.

[www.hydencae.com](http://www.hydencae.com)





**Swan Quarterly Publisher gets to interview FOX' Bill O'Reilly!**

# NEW YORK POST

Home Cindy Adams Celeb Photos PopWrap Fashion Delonas Cartoon Page Six Magazine

## Story

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### Related Stories

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Obama to NYPD: Great job!

U.N. Security Council votes to scrap nuclear arms

Prez to world: US can't fix it all

### Comment

## O'Reilly warns: Don't beg!

Last Updated: 4:06 AM, October 4, 2009

Posted: 1:29 AM, October 4, 2009

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Bill O'Reilly, who was a young foreign correspondent for CBS News, has invaluable advice for any journalist caught by unfriendlies in war zones. "Never get down on your knees and beg," the Fox News star recently told a talk-show audience on Hamptons cable channel WVVH. "The moment you show any weakness, you will be killed. Always look your enemies in the eyes and ask them politely, but firmly, to release you." This tactic, taught to him by a Jesuit priest in Central America, saved his life twice — once in Argentina and once in El Salvador — O'Reilly told Ingrid Lemme on her "American Dream" show taped at Gurney's Inn in Montauk. O'Reilly also had the audience enthralled with stories of his childhood in Levittown and praised President Obama as one of the toughest and best-prepared subjects he had ever interviewed.

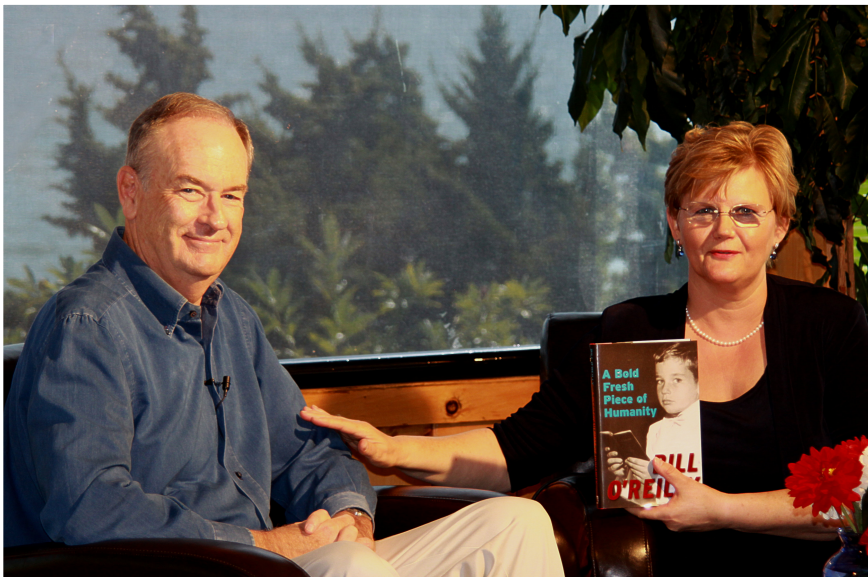
## Page Six

Richard Johnson

with Emily Smith, Corynne Steindler and Neel Shah

- Vincent Gallo's phone faker vexes director
- Who's the man?
- **O'Reilly warns: Don't beg!**
- Fund hubby hedges his bets
- Split attention
- Showstopper

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EFMpfy898xM> < Watch o You-Tube



If you like him or not, this is an interesting interview to watch!

Bill O'Reilly, probably the most controversial and most talked about TV journalist world wide, fulfilled a promise on Sat. Sep 26th 2009 that he gave Swan Quarter's Ingrid Lemme six years ago. He appeared on Ms Lemme's American Dream talk show, filmed at Gurneys Inn in Montauk "...and to everyone's surprise behaved like a real nice guy... ;) " says Ingrid.

Is O 'Reilly running for President?



## WITH NO SPIN, NO AIRS, NO BLING BY EUGENIA BARTELL

With no spin, no airs, no bling, no limo and no driver, the Number One TV Journalist world wide drove from his home in Manhasset on Saturday morning, September 26th, to Gurney's Inn for his interview with Ingrid Lemme, hostess of the American Dream Show.

Approximately thirty pairs of eyes focused on the lean, very tall, good looking icon wearing khakis, a corn flower blue shirt and sneakers as he walked the length of the Café Monte to the Admiral's Room where thirty invited guests were there to greet him. Pouring himself a cup of coffee, and sitting down to sign copies of his Number One NY Times Best Seller, *A Bold Fresh Piece of Humanity*, he graciously posed for photos with all who asked him. The welcoming party of coffee and pastries put everyone at ease the way it always does at Gurney's!

Fulfilling his promise he made six years ago to Ingrid during a Mother's Day Dinner when she joined Bill and his wife Maureen, and he asked her if

she would like to interview him, took a long time in coming. Both their schedules, family obligations, travel etc. took many phone calls and emails to work around but true to his word Bill persisted and finally they were able to meet!

Filmed at noon, against the backdrop of a September sparkling blue Atlantic, with sunlight flickering across Ingrid's beautifully coiffed blond hair, the charismatic hostess, always delightfully feminine, checked her lipstick and pulled in her tummy just before the cameras rolled.

With almost 500 interviews in thirteen years, the American Dream Show is interesting, fun and filled with genuine repartee. Today, Ingrid Lemme's American Dream Show indeed moved to the next level and will air this week to over 5,000,000 households in the Tri-State area.

Unlike his usual setting, Bill chatted easily and informally about his book and began with his simple, happy and normal childhood in Levittown. Asking the appropriate questions, Ingrid gave Bill the opportunity to talk about some of the funny, serious, dangerous and ordinary

parts of his life. Re-telling the hilarious, fabled "Alarm Clock" caper with gestures and kid language was a treat for us! Bill was bold and brazen alright and the rule in Levittown was "Deny Everything!" Explaining his father's views on several topics reminded many of similar paternal situations. Montauk guest, Henry Uhlein who came with his sixth grade son, felt it was an honor to be in the presence of such a man of incite. "I sure related to his upbringing," Henry laughed, "especially the fact that Bill was mischievous but it was always a good mischief!"

Talking about college when he spent his third year at the University of London reminded Bill of his 40th college reunion which he will attend next week. It was here in England that Bill began what would be a lifetime interest in travel. Motorcycling across Europe during any free time, he visited almost every country that year. Little did Bill imagine that when his mother and father told him how they met in Cambridge, Massachusetts after World War II that he would continue his education there at Harvard studying for his Masters degree.



"After terrorizing teachers for years, the Almighty dropped a teaching job right in my lap."

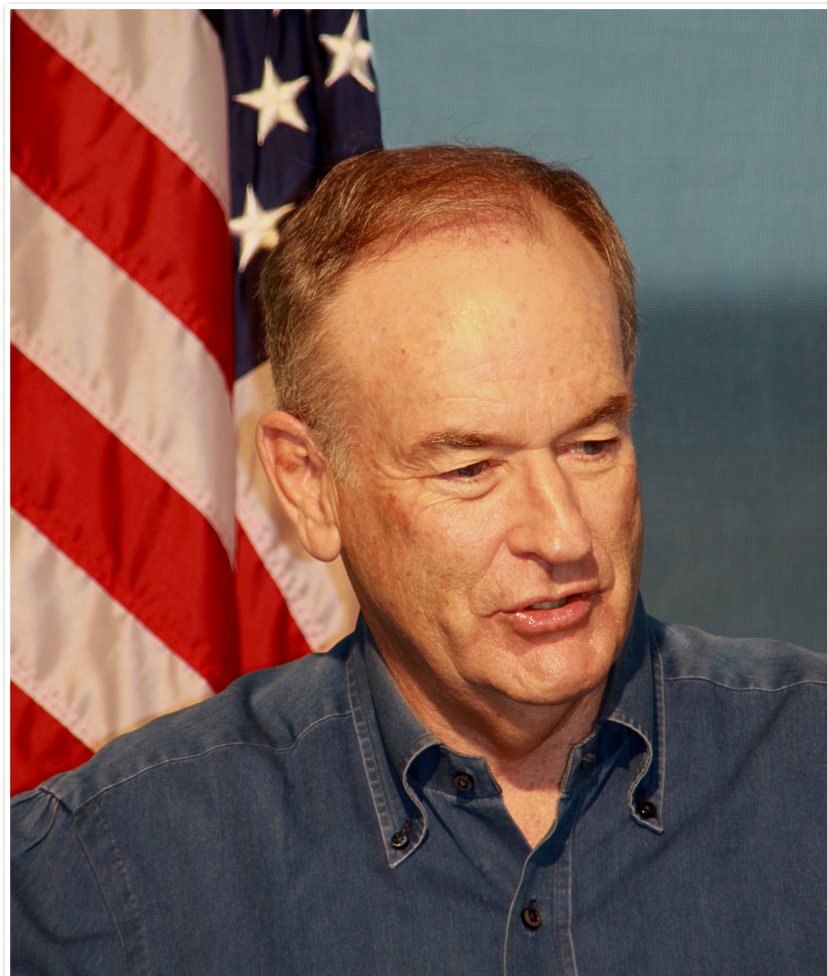
What a year for Bill, teaching English in a shabby, crime-ridden Florida town at the Pace High School.

Praising the profession, Bill nevertheless knew that Broadcast Journalism was what he wanted to do as he moved along educationally and globally.

As a journalist there were many dangerous paths and incidents; some

too close for comfort. With seventy-five countries under his belt, Bill knows what he is talking about. "I bloviate about what I've seen," he told us, bringing credibility to his opinions. Sitting on the edge of our seats as he described the South American's disgust and intolerance of fear was an eye opener. If a gun is pointed at

you, as it was at him, any type of begging or a show of fear would result in instant death. Bill calmly stated his position as



a journalist and asked to be set free; no more, no less.

"Are you really opinionated, Bill?" asked Ingrid, to which Bill smiled and acknowledged, "Yes!" Yet, he doesn't attack people as evidenced during his coveted interview with Obama this summer. Cleverly, Bill states his opinions.

Indeed, it takes a very intuitive interviewer as well as an exceptional setting; together with an amiable, enthusiastic audience to produce the kind of memorable interview which Bill O'Reilly gave that was mutually captivating, entertaining and rewarding. Bill's obvious delight and promise to return thrilled everyone!

**PUBLISHED  
HERE WITH  
PERMISSION  
OF WRITER  
EUGENIA  
BARTELL**

Photos by Christine McDonald

*Note from the editor: The opinions expressed in the article are those of the writer and not necessarily those of the host of the show, editor or publisher of the Swan Quarterly.*



# JOHN BURNEY MCGOWAN

## 1941-2009

Hyde County Co-Coordinator John Burney McGowan, 68, of Laurinburg died Friday, Sept. 18, 2009. A graveside service was held at Soule Cemetery in Swan Quarter. He is survived by two sisters, Linda McQueen and husband Jim of Laurinburg and Kathy Mason and husband Greg of Salisbury; and a brother, James A. McGowan and wife Daisy of Garden City, S.C. He was preceded in death by a brother, Dorman J. McGowan. Born Feb. 12, 1941 in Swan Quarter, he was a son of the late James Alton and Mary Hooper McGowan. John graduated from UNC-Chapel Hill with a degree in History and served with the U.S. Navy in the Pacific during the Vietnam conflict. Afterwards, he worked for many years as a painter. Memorials may be made to a charity of one's choice. McDougald Funeral Home and Crematorium is serving the family.

*[I was honored to become John's co-host on the Hyde County website in 1997. I was scared out of my wits because I knew nothing about html editing or making a webpage but John was very patient with me through trial and error runs on my part. It was a privilege to have worked with him on that site (and later on others). My husband and I met John on two of our trips to North Carolina and I was delighted to finally put a face to the person that I had been speaking with for years on the phone. From a young man, his passion had always been genealogy and he worked hard at it. He spent a lot of his days just answering e-mail queries (or writing long handwritten letters before the advent of e-mail) from folks who needed help with their own Hyde County roots. John had several health issues and was in a wheelchair from having a leg amputation due to diabetes but that never seemed to phase him. He never complained about his disabilities to me. On any given day you could find him hunkered over his keyboard working on one database or another and I shall miss the camaraderie we had from working together. I have lost a friend today. He will be sorely missed by a host of other people who had the pleasure of knowing him. --- Kay Midgett Sheppard*

<http://www.ncgenweb.us/in-memoriam>



**Welcome to  
HYDE COUNTY**

**Part of the  
U.S. & NC  
GenWeb Project**

***A Road Less Traveled***





Yard  
Sale

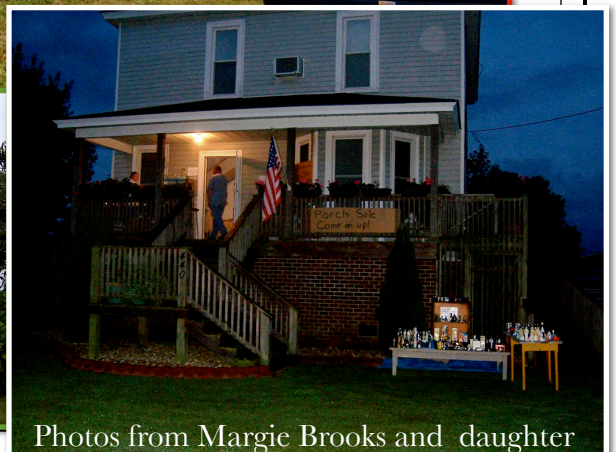
# SWAN QUARTER

Yard Sale

Antique window glass, watering cans, flower pails, wagon wheels or saddles may not be what one would expect to find for sale along Swan Quarter's roads, except once a year in October. The Swan Quarter Yard Sale has earned already a fine reputation as a truly unique experience for bargain and treasure hunters. Be assured the types and quality of goods are as good as on any of the famous highway sales and maybe even better. While some people use the SQ Sale as an excuse to clear out their bureau or closet, others offer true finds. Press, cut and milk glass abound. Fishing poles, crab pots, tools, hunter's tools were mingled with vintage and shabby chic furniture, benches, chairs, handmade quilts and then some.

Margie Brooks and her team thought of everything, even Porta Potties were placed at high traffic areas. Swan Quarter was packed and people were happy with their bargains and many shoppers were already in the area when people were still setting up. "It had rained the night before, but the weather was good for the sale," she said.

*(We are looking for more photos of this event, please email to [ilemme@mac.com](mailto:ilemme@mac.com))*



Photos from Margie Brooks and daughter





## Swan Quarter Way of Life

Pat Spencer's service station in Swan Quarter, NC is part visitor's bureau, part community center, and... well, a place to buy gas and get your car fixed. Some days it is even a very fine place to eat. In the absence of a local diner Pat has started cooking something for lunch almost every day, under a tree or in one of the service bays, and everyone is welcome. On a recent day Pat flagged me down to ask if I had had lunch yet. I had not, and lucked into the very last of a mess of barbecued grouper filets. As I took a seat at the picnic table and dove into my fish with a side of white bread, about five other men were finishing up and excusing themselves.



his customers hail, in part as proof of what Hyde County has to offer and the appeal on which it should capitalize. They have come from Spain, Germany, Japan, and all over North America. Pat fills their tanks, tells them a little about the area, suggests where they might visit, and gives directions. ....continues next page .....

On this day, like most, Pat took a few minutes to chat. The cooler of fish had been purchased from a customer from Ocracoke who had come over on the early morning ferry and stopped for gas. A couple from Spain, driving down the coast in a rental car, had also stopped in. Talking with Pat offers insight into the mostly anonymous stream of people who visit here. He likes to point out from where





**PAT** points out to them the new village park and gazebo across the street. He can also tell customers about much more to come. The only other visible project is the dike, which actually crosses NC 45 in two places, west and south of the village. But also in the planning stages are renovation of the historic courthouse, street scape improvements, a dike walking trail, and a campground.



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S.Q.S.G.

C

reating Today a Future for Our Children





Discussion of a dike around Swan Quarter and the surrounding farms started in the 1960s but construction did not begin until 1988. At twelve miles long and almost seven feet high the dike was completed in twelve phases. The last two phases will protect the village and they should be finished later this year. The final \$5.3 million to finish the twenty-year project was part of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

The renovation of the historic courthouse is directly related to flooding from storms that preceded completion of the dike. In 1999 Hurricane Floyd inundated the village, damaging the building and adjoining county offices. But Hurricane Isabel in 2003 was the final straw. Water in the first floor of the courthouse was six feet deep, damaging or destroying reams of documents. For over three years local government operated from rented offices and trailers scattered all over the county.

The old county office building was demolished and a new one, elevated above the flood zone, was built on the same site. The historic courthouse, built in the mid 1800s was left standing but unused. Some want to see it demolished so that its upkeep

first Tuesday of each month in the original Providence Methodist church building, which floated to its present site during a storm and is known as the church “moved by the hand of God”. Gathering around potluck dinners they have



Photo: Neli Lemme

does not burden the county. Others, led by the Swan Quarter Service Group, want to see it saved as the village’s cultural, physical, and perhaps economic heart.

The Swan Quarter Service Group is a longstanding informally organized group of village residents. Perhaps symbolically they meet on the

planned and raised funds for a variety of small community improvements. They donated part of the land for the new park, but the current slate of projects is their greatest undertaking yet. Their goal is nothing less than the economic revitalization of the village.

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**A feasibility study completed in 2008, initiated by the Service Group and commissioned by the county, showed how the courthouse might be renovated using a variety of grants and occupied by an assortment of small businesses with rents offsetting operating costs. The Service Group sees the courthouse as the centerpiece of their redevelopment efforts, reassuming its status as a landmark and center of community activity.**



.....continues next page .....



In front of the courthouse (and Pat Spencer's Service Station) lies the intersection of NC Highway 45 and Main Street. Main Street runs north to US 264 while NC 45 carries traffic to and from the Swan Quarter/Ocracoke ferry landing about two miles south. Both roads are irregularly lined with canals, driveways, bridges and narrow shoulders.

Overhead is the typical tangle of power lines.

But outside these narrow corridors lie stately trees, historic houses and picturesque fields. With carefully planned and located fencing, sidewalks, trees, lights and signage the streetscape will highlight the quaint

beauty of Swan Quarter and visually unite the village core. It will make it a nicer place to visit, live and do business. But more importantly it will announce to the world the "pride of place" the locals carry within them but to which they too often have difficulty giving voice.

Connected to the new park and to the streetscape project a trail will provide pedestrians and cyclists access to the dike.

Where the dike crosses NC 45 it appears as nothing more than big humps in the road which a casual observer might miss altogether. However between the village and the bay the dike is dramatic. High, wide and grassy it appears strangely both natural and manmade. And the views from its top, across the marshes to the fishing boats and



glittering sound are spectacular.

The trail project will improve the walking surface with a thin layer of gravel and provide interpretive signage describing the dike, the surrounding environment and the wildlife.

The Service Group's final project is a campground which will provide accommodation in a place where there are few places to stay and where a motel would not be economically

viable. Set on a beautiful site surrounded by deep wide canals and adjacent to a NC Wildlife boat ramp it will have gravel drives, hookups and a pump-out station. The campground will also be connected via a sidewalk to the dike trail and streetscape improvements.

Some of the leadership on these projects belongs to two

relative newcomers.

Steve Bryan opened his Swan Quarter funeral home in 1986 and immediately became active in community affairs. He has served as Hyde County Chamber of Commerce President and now chairs the Service Group.

County Planner and

Economic Developer Alice Keeney came to Hyde County almost fifteen years ago. She has been very successful in bringing numerous grants to Hyde County, has been active in the Chamber, and is active in the Service Group.

.....continues next page .....



The creative force behind the projects is architect and Hyde County native Ben Cahoon, AIA. Ben grew up on an Engelhard farm and married into a Swan Quarter family. To some degree theirs are labors of love for a place they adopted as home or the home they have come back to.

However it's also not hard to believe that some question this level of investment in Swan Quarter. Inside the dike, other than Pat's station the only viable businesses are a recently opened consignment shop, a longstanding second-generation law office, and Steve Bryan's Funeral Home. The Post Office was flooded, moved, and almost eliminated. There are no subdivisions. The most recent construction projects were the County Administration building and the Volunteer Fire Station.

A hoped for condominium project (actually outside the dike) is on hold, awaiting a

better economy. What exactly is being protected or enhanced they wonder? Is there really any hope for making Swan Quarter a viable place to live, work and shop?

To answer them I return to Pat's Station and the fellowship around the picnic table and on the painted wooden bench



under the canopy. And to Pat's hand-painted (often misspelled) plywood sign, which announces local birthdays and community events. To the bright ambitious new consignment shop, the proceeds of which support the volunteer Fire Department. To the condominium developer who fell in love with Swan Quarter and thinks other people will too. To the Fire Department, which serves and unites the community. To the

church "moved by the hand of God"....all in buildings flooded more than once.

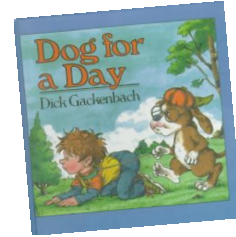
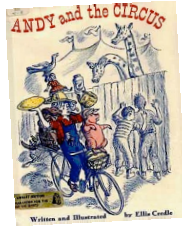
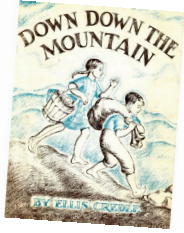
In fact what the dike protects and what the streetscape improvements enhance are not the buildings, businesses, houses and roads. The dike protects a people and way of life that are too rapidly disappearing.

Most members of the Swan Quarter Service Group along with Pat Spencer and his customers and friends are Swan Quarter stalwarts with deep local roots. But like Alice and Steve, who chose to live and work here, they love this place even if it might be more difficult to say why. Most of

them would eventually work their way around to the people, their trust in and compassion for one another.

The streetscape will restore their community pride and give them hope for their futures and those of their children. Is there really a limit on what that's worth?





## *“The Flop-Eared Hound”*

A successful artist and writer of children's books was Mrs. Ellis Credle Townsend, a native of Hyde County, and the daughter of the late Zack Credle and Mrs. Bessie Cooper Credle of Sladesville, Hyde County. The Hyde County woman wrote and illustrated several books for children since she completed her education at Louisburg College and studied interior decorating, portraiture and advertising art in New York City. They include “Down, Down the Mountain”, “The Goat That Went To School”, “Little Jeems Henry,” and “The Flop-Eared Hound”. Her husband, Charles de Kay Townsend was a photographer with the National Gallery of Arts and illustrated a number of her books.



Mrs. Credle has led an interesting life, including teaching school in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina and entertaining children to supplement her income as a beginning artist. Both of these positions proved invaluable to the career she was to follow and make a name for herself.

Her first book entitled Down, Down the Mountain, published in 1934, has a setting in the Blue Ridge Mountains. It is the simple story of a boy and a girl raising turnips on their hilly farm to buy a pair of squeaky, creaky new shoes. Her knowledge and love of the Blue Ridge country where she taught history and French at the Forest City High School, inspired and helped her to write and draw this story with its mountain setting. The Goat That Went To School and Little Jeems Henry are other books that she has written and illustrated with their setting in the Blue Ridge Mountain country.

The Flop-Eared Hound has its setting on the farm of Mrs. Credle-Townsend's late father in Hyde County. Photographs were made by her husband. Mrs. Credle-Townsend had a number of relatives in Hyde County ( in 1945, when the original story was published in the Dare County Times) including an aunt, Mrs. Bettie Mann of Fairfield. Jeff Credle of Sladesville, Bland Fulford of Engelhard and Lee Mann of Fairfield are first cousins....

*( Text adapted from the Dare County Times - Friday, August 10, 1945; pg. 1)*

*Ellis was born August. 18, 1902 in Scranton, Hyde Co., NC and died in Chicago, Cook Co., Illinois on Feb. 21, 1998. The Flop-Eared Hound, published in 1938, is a story about a colored family, illustrated by remarkable photographs by Charles Townsend, her husband. - Kay Lynn Kay Midgett Sheppard <http://www.ncgenweb.us/hyde/HYDE.HTM>*

*Mrs. Credle's books are today collectors items and are worth a lot of money. We would love to publish a few pages of the “The Flop-Eared Hound” - if you own the book and have a scanner, please email to [ilemme@mac.com](mailto:ilemme@mac.com) - IL*



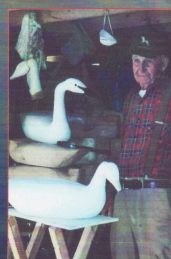


# *First Annual* **Mattamuskeet Decoy & Waterfowl Festival**

November 21 & 22, 2009  
Mattamuskeet High School  
Swan Quarter, NC

*Visit one of North Carolina's most historic and  
untouched havens for wildlife and waterfowl,  
Lake Mattamuskeet.*

The Mattamuskeet Duck, Goose & Swan  
Calling Competition ▪ Carvers ▪ Antique  
Decoys ▪ Books ▪ Local Waterfowl Art ▪  
Retriever Demonstration ▪ Antique Tractors  
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# SWAN QUARTERLY

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# SWAN QUARTER



# Harborside Art Gallery

featuring

Artworks by  
Douglas Hoover

Photography by  
Teressa Williams

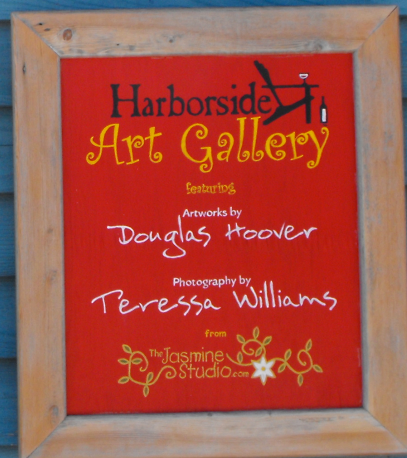


**ARTIST of the QUARTER is Douglas Hoover** featured at the Harborside Gift Shop and Art Gallery on Ocracoke Island. Harborside is open until November 15th and our artist of the month is spending ample time there, says managers Cindy Gaskins. This painting "Silver Lake Sunset". 10 x 10 in. Oil on Gallery Wrapped Canvas is **SOLD!** Mr. Hoover says: "Sunsets at the coast are just amazing. When I'm on Ocracoke Island, I feel I've missed something or my day isn't complete if I don't take the time to watch the sunset. With this painting, I wanted to capture the feeling of an Ocracoke sunset just minutes before the sunlight fades." - This original painting is one of a [new series](#) still showing and is available at Harborside Gallery.

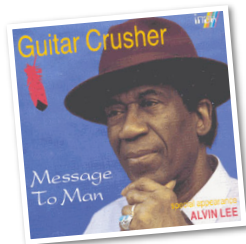
Please contact Cindy at Harborside for more details: 252-928-3111 or email her at [cindy@harborside.com](mailto:cindy@harborside.com) or visit the [website](#)



# HARBORSIDE SHOP







## Sidney "Guitar Crusher" Selby

Sidney Selby is a true blues man. He also goes by 'Bone Crusher' and 'Guitar Crusher', a nickname he earned one night at a club in New York City when someone got nasty with a lady and Sidney crushed a guitar over his head.

Born in rural Hyde County N.C. July 23rd 1931 during the height of the Depression, he toiled in the cotton fields during his youth but set aside Sundays for exercising his rich baritone in the choir of Mt. Pilgrim Baptist Church, continuing a tradition which gave rise to a whole generation of blues singers of his era. In 1947, young Selby left for New York to stay with his mother Katie, found a job and started singing in Church again.

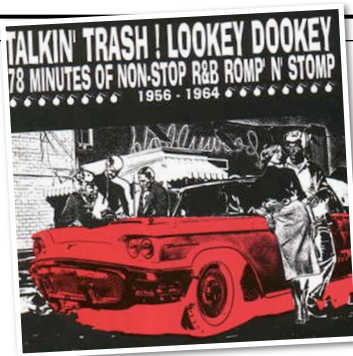


Little Richard, Fats Domino, and Louis Jordan were early influences, but Crusher also had the good fortune to witness the birth of bebop Charlie Parker, Dizzy Gillespie, Max Roach. His aunt was in charge of a club on a military base where Count Basie and Duke Ellington regularly performed at dances. However, encouraged by his friends, he soon formed his own band, the Midnight Rockers and began attracting a large following.

The year 1960 marked the beginning of a decade of performances with The Drifters, The Isley Brothers, Ben E. King and other major R&B talents which flourished during the 1960's musical renaissance. Selby was signed by Columbia Records and remained under contract until 1970, when the musical tastes in America began to shift away from blues and soul sounds. So, in the early 80s GUITAR CRUSHER headed for Europe and a more hospitable blues climate. Here his performance on major festivals marked the start of his comeback. The now internationally celebrated singer and writer has since accorded 4 albums singing his own compositions with force and assurance in his gospel-inflected voice. His transfixing vocal power won him a reputation as 'The Big Voice From New York'. A headliner on the European blues-circuit. [www.guitarcruiser.com](http://www.guitarcruiser.com)







## Old Gentleman of the Blues

Crusher, as his wife Mara calls her husband lovingly, lives today in Berlin, Germany. When I called them on a Sunday afternoon a couple of weeks ago I recognized that Mara, a German lady, converses with her husband in English. German is just too tuff he said, but he knows the important stuff, like “Ich liebe Dich - I love you” and thats what counts. They met in 1982 at a gig with blues singer Katie Webster (of Houston, Texas) and he invited her to come to his next concert. Mara, who didn’t want to go alone, went with her brother-in-law, a black man of African decent.



Crusher who thought that Mara had come to listen to his music with her boy-friend didn’t pay much attention to her until Mara’s brother-in-law went on the stage and introduced himself. Make-a-long-story-short, they got married in 1991 in Manhattan, NY - and both visit his family in Brooklyn frequently.

Interestingly, Katie Webster, the great boogie blues singer ( left) and piano player, had a stroke one night when they (McMiniman) were playing in Crushers hometown ( then it was Freiburg, Germany), and he got up there and saved the gig.

### *Hyde Remembers:*

Sidney Guitar Crusher Selby visited Hyde County with his wife Mara in 1995 to attend the Charles Gibbs family reunion. His mom Katie, who passed away in Brooklyn, was born in 1906 to Philip & Josephine Selby and married Leonard Gibbs in 1925. Sidney has 2 books in his library collection in Berlin, which he holds especially dear: Hyde Remembers: Historic Bible and Family Records of Hyde County, NC, by R. S. Spencer, Jr. and one of the Hyde County Historical Society of 1976. Sidney is intending to return soon to his roots in Hyde County and visit his family and friends again. I am looking forward meeting Mara and the “Soul Man from Hyde County” who had a dream. [www.guitarcruiser.com](http://www.guitarcruiser.com)





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