North Carolina’s Barrier Islands: Wonders of Sand, Sea and Sky

Melinda F. Matthews
University of Louisiana at Monroe Library

Follow this and additional works at: https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln

Part of the Library and Information Science Commons

Recommended Citation
Matthews, Melinda F. (2017) "North Carolina's Barrier Islands: Wonders of Sand, Sea and Sky," The Southeastern Librarian: Vol. 65 : Iss. 1 , Article 9.
Available at: https://digitalcommons.kennesaw.edu/seln/vol65/iss1/9
psychology, and cognitive science, and neuroscience—affective science”. (p. 1)

The book is organized into two parts, Part I Foundations of Affective Science and Part II Affective Science in Action. In addition to presenting and explaining her theory of Affective Science and its potential to aid teachers in understanding the use of emotion to spark learning, Cavanagh presents ideas, plans, tactics and activities to energize classrooms.

See a strong set of References, pages 217 to 233, and a useful Index, pages 233 to 241.

Recommended for public, school and college libraries for students, teachers, counselors and faculty.

Carol Walker Jordan.
University of North Carolina at Greensboro

The value of Lewis' research and writing lies in the 1) historical analysis of the lives of Eastham and Thompson, 2) the context in which the feud erupted, and 3) the legal and personal shifts in cultural and civic institutions that impacted the aftermath of the feud.

Lewis is a gifted research scholar and his text will be of great interest to students, faculty and other researchers within the fields of American history, Civil War history, family and genealogical studies. Recommended for archives and history centers and for college and university libraries.

There are many black and white photographs included, a Notes section (p. 255-285), a Bibliography (p. 285-295) and an Index (p. 297-301).

Carol Walker Jordan.
University of North Carolina at Greensboro


The unrivalled work is a flawless study of Barrier Islands of North Carolina. The writing style is captivating and flows exceptionally. The author, David Blevins, a forest ecologist and a professional photographer, has a forest ecology doctorate degree from University of British Columbia. Exclusive photography workshops are offered by Mr. Blevins. Another book produced by Mr. Blevins and Michael Schafale is Wild North Carolina Discovering the Wonders of Our State’s Natural Communities. David Blevins created the magnificent photographs from Boundary Bay, British Columbia in A Nature Guide to Boundary Bay and Tracing Our Past: A Heritage Guide to Boundary Bay.

Approximately one hundred sixty one majestic color photographs of the islands, the various bodies of water, and the firmament gloriously magnify the explanation of the
creation and power of the islands. Each snapshot has an easy-to-read written description. Shots such as the book cover, of the sun and clouds on the horizon over the islands and the water engage the reader. Scenes of beaches, shells, dunes, lighthouses, birds, a deer, flora, and horses transfix the reader. A map of the North Carolina coast reveals North Currituck Banks, Pine Island, Kitty Hawk Woods, Nags Head Woods, Jockey’s Ridge, Bodie Island, Pea Island, Hatteras Island, Cape Hatteras, Ocracoke Island, North Core Banks, and South Core Banks. Others disclosed on the map are Cape Lookout, Shackleford Banks, Bogue Banks, Bear Island, Lea-Hutaff Island, Masonboro Island, Cape Fear River Islands, Cape Fear, and Bird Island. More mentioned on the map comprise Currituck Sound, Albemarle Sound, Roanoke Island, Pamlico Sound, Hatteras Flats, Diamond Shoals, Cedar Island, and Core Sound. Further noted on the map are Cape Lookout Shoals, Cape Fear River, Frying Pan Shoals, Suffolk shoreline one hundred twenty thousand years ago, and glacial maximum shoreline twenty thousand years ago. The author notes Kitty Hawk Woods Reserve and Nags Head Woods have superb strolling trails.

The content includes Contents, Preface, Currituck Banks including sections: North Currituck Banks, Pine Island, Kitty Hawk Woods, Nags Head Woods, Jockey’s Ridge, and Cape Hatteras National Seashore including sections: Bodie Island, Pea Island, Hatteras Island, Cape Hatteras, Ocracoke Island. Others include Cape Lookout National Seashore including sections: North Core Banks, South Core Banks, Cape Lookout, Shackleford Banks, and The Southern Islands including sections: Bogue Banks, Bear Island, Lea-Hutaff Island, Masonboro Island, Cape Fear River Island, Cape Fear, and Bird Island. There is an Epilogue, Acknowledgments, and Index.

Birds on the islands remarked about are wild geese, blue heron, tundra swans, gannets, cormorants, brown pelicans, redhead ducks, seabirds, sanderling birds, tern, gulls, and ibis. More birds recognized are egrets, American oystercatchers, osprey, black skimmers, Nelson’s sharp-tailed sparrow, dunlin, plover, Ruddy turnstone, willets, yellow-rumped warbler, pintails, and boat-tailed grackle. In addition the islands have ponies, box turtles, fish, lizards, salamanders, southern leopard frogs, white-lip globe snails, grasshoppers, frogs, and dragonflies. Additionally, banker ponies, ghost crabs, loggerhead sea turtles, southern leopard frogs, clams, oysters, and scallops are pointed out. Foliage on the islands consist of oak trees, pines, mallows, southern red oak, sweet gum, and bald cypress. Other greenery present are hickory, red maple, dogwood, American holly tree, and American beech tree. Black willow trees, Bladderwort, swamp tupelo, cinnamon fern, dune pea, orchids, croton, and firewheel occur on the islands as well. Seaside golden rod, eelgrass, morning glory flowers, cordgrass, willet, and seabeach amaranth endure on the islands, too. Intriguingly, shells on the land that are colorful are new to the islands while the white shells have been on the islands for such an extensive period the sun has bleached them. Seeds of seabeach amaranth, a plant on Bird Island, exist in the ocean a very long time until the seeds reach a land where the seabeach amaranths can grow. Academic and public libraries should add this picture-perfect beauty to their collections because of its outstanding magnetism to visitors to North Carolina and the historical narrative and untouchable research of the Barrier Islands.

Melinda F. Matthews
University of Louisiana at Monroe Library


If you are a “Ron Rash Raving Fan” of this author’s attractive and alluringly descriptive prose, this book is for you. “Conversations with Ron Rash”, edited by Mae Miller Claxton and Rain Newcomb, is truly a comfortable, friendly and insightful group of conversations.

Hope Quinn, a Western Carolina graduate student, began this book, Conversations with Ron Rash, with her honors project—to investigate interviews that Ron Rash provided from his travels in the United States and abroad. From this initial beginning of compiling and reading these interviews, Mae Claxton and Rain Newcomb, faculty colleagues, decided to create a manuscript including the entirety of Ron’s interviews over 15 years. These interviews provide a 15 year landscape that show the writer and teacher, the “contemporary and the new Ron Rash”.

From reading each interview, I, as a raving fan, gained amazing insights into Ron’s interpretation and advice to aspiring writers. Known as an Appalachian writer, Ron is one who always remembers his forefathers/foremothers, landscapes, and life lessons. There is a beauty to the diverse interview questions and to the answers and musings Ron provided in the interviews.

Any faculty member/ teacher and student of writing and research will benefit from the interviews. A "Ron Rash Raving Fan" will become an even greater fan of this man