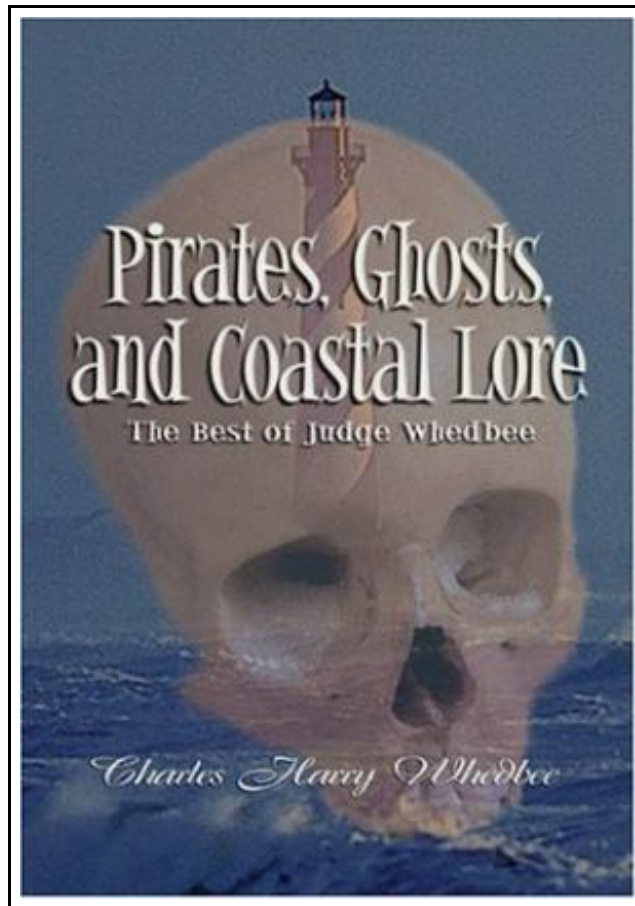


## Pirates, Ghosts, and Coastal Lore: The Best of Judge Whedbee



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## PIRATES, GHOSTS, AND COASTAL LORE: THE BEST OF JUDGE WHEDBEE



John F. Blair Publisher. Hardcover. Book Condition: New. Hardcover. 157 pages. Dimensions: 7.7in. x 5.3in. x 0.8in. In 1963, Judge Charles Whedbee was asked to substitute on a morning show called Carolina Today on Greenville, North Carolina's television station while one of the program's regulars was in the hospital. Whedbee took the opportunity to tell some of the Outer Banks stories he had heard during his many summers at Nags Head. The station received such a volume of mail in praise of his tale-telling that he was invited to remain even after the man he was substituting for returned to the air. He had a way of telling a story that really captured me, said one of the program's co-hosts. Whether he was talking about a sunset, a ghost, or a shipwreck, I was there, living every minute of it. Word traveled as far as Winston-Salem, where John F. Blair proposed to Whedbee that he compile his stories in book form. Whedbee welcomed the challenge, though his expectations for the manuscript that became *Legends of the Outer Banks and Tar Heel Tidewater* were modest. I wrote it out of a love for this region and the people whom I had known all my life, he said. I didn't think it would sell a hundred copies. The Lost Colony, Indians, Blackbeard, an albino porpoise that guided ships into harbor—the tales in that volume form the core of Outer Banks folklore. Whedbee liked to tell people that his stories were of three kinds: those he knew to be true, those he believed to be true, and those he fabricated. But despite much prodding, he never revealed which were which. *Legends of the Outer Banks* went through three printings in 1966, its first year. Demand for Whedbee's tales and the author's supply of good material were...



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