

The GREEN

LIGHT

BULLETIN of the POINT ASSOCIATION

OCTOBER 1958



→ IMPORTANT ! ANNUAL MEETING



DATE:: October 30, 1958. Thursday.
TIME:: 8:00 P.M.
PLACE:: St. John's Guild Hall, Poplar Street

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Color Slides taken at the Arts and Crafts of the Point Exhibition by Mr. Elbert Holbrook and others will be shown

REFRESHMENTS

We have over 200 members. There is plenty of room in the hall. Come one and all -- and bring a friend who might like to join !

SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING:

A meeting of the Executive Board was held on Sept. 11 at the home of Mrs. Henry E. Eccles.

There was a good deal of discussion about TREES, some comments on untidy vacant lots, the report on the Garden Contest, and tentative plans for the Annual Meeting.

INVITE TO "IKE": It was voted to send an invitation to the President and Mrs. Eisenhower, hoping they would find time to visit the historic Point, and briefly outlining the aims of the Point Association. A polite reply was received, but the President and First Lady did not manage to visit us, though we feel sure they would have enjoyed seeing our Point.

POINT WITH PRIDE:

The Point Association was honored by being the subject of an editorial in the Aug. 30 issue of the Daily News. Captioned "A Community Organization Grows", the item pointed out that other areas in Newport could well follow the example of the Point Association, spoke of some of our achievements and our aims, and praised our efforts. We hope that mention of the fact that only a small fraction of the residents of the Point are members of the Ass'n may spur others on to join our ranks and help us to attain our objectives -- improvement, beautification, protection and maintenance of the Point. The GREEN LIGHT thanks the DAILY NEWS !

OCTOBER BOARD MEETING:

The Executive Board met at the home of the President, William H. Fullerton, on October 6, 1958

Again there was discussion of trees. The Beautification Committee reported that though Miss Price Mrs. Eccles and Mr. George Weaver had inspected suitable trees at the Vanicek Nursery, and Mr. Fullerton and Mr. Weaver had met with Public Works Supt. Garcia and Tree Warden Bowman, with definite plans and proposals, confusion and delay continues. There is still time before cold weather to carry out at least a part of the tree program, and steps to push the work as far as possible are being taken. Perhaps Point volunteers with picks and shovels will be the only solution in the long run !

Several trees, on Poplar and on Bridge Sts. have died as a result of wanton injury and damage.

GARDEN CONTEST:

Thirty-six Pointers entered the Garden Contest, which was judged on Aug. 20 by Mrs. John Sheehan, Mrs. Roderick O'Hanley and Mrs. John Deery, all of the Seaside Garden Club. The kind judges, who were accompanied by Mrs. Wm. MacLeod, chairman of the committee, had a long walk - but were surprised and delighted by the colorful gardens hidden away behind the rather formal exteriors which so many Point houses present to the street. They found decision difficult, and all wished there were many more prizes to be awarded.

First went to John J. Sullivan of 41 Second St. for his all-around flower and vegetable garden. The beautiful flowers, all raised from seed, of Mrs. Francis Goldie, 11 LaSalle Place, won Second. Pictures taken of this garden were used by Mrs. Ralph Wills of Springfield in a TV garden program. Third prize went to Charles DiMatteo of 24 Elm St. for excellence in plan and care.

In addition, hand-lettered certificates were given to Mrs. Nathaniel Addison, Mrs. Wm. J. Cook and Mrs. John J. McMillan, and three

classes of ribbons were given to Mrs. James Keefe, Mrs. Mae Scott, Mrs. Fred Johnsson, Mrs. Francis Cesario and Mr. John Murphy.

How about a Flower Show in the Guild Hall next summer?

SORE POINT: The Sea Wall:

Six rectangular patches of concrete have been affixed to the north Washington St. seawall in various spots. Perhaps the intention is to make a continuous wall eventually. Meanwhile, the water can get behind and between the patches, and the rats run in and out of the honeycomb. The Scriptures have some wise words regarding new patches on old cloth; likewise some remarks on whitened sepulchres. And, as the late Admiral Sims was so aptly fond of saying -- "Good enough is no good."

POINT OF INTEREST:

A bit of local interest not generally known, is the fact that a house on the Point served as hub of communications for the great activity of the yachting world during this unusual season. By means of an extension to the Ida Lewis Yacht Club, and also a re-routing of all calls for Sceptre which had an unlisted Jamestown number, more than 1200 messages, telegrams, cables, and long distance calls were delivered to the proper people. This involved the functions of detective, press liaison, secretary, official information center, etc. The difficulty of tracing people aboard the 1500 boats scattered over the harbor was a challenge almost impossible to face. However, 90% of the messages were delivered, the press was kept informed, and the British were protected from unwanted calls.

Perhaps the most news-worthy feature of the endeavor is that the person at the hub of all this accomplished her task despite the handicap of blindness, and the necessity of answering ten other telephones!

GRAND STAND:

We are sure that all Pointers -- and most other Newporters, judging by the traffic this summer -- are aware of the fact that Washington Street is an unexcelled grandstand for much that goes on.

What a panorama of spectacles could be seen from Battery Park and from every brow and driftway, this season!

There was the tragic and awesome sight of the burning tanker S.E. Graham, which lighted up the nights of early August.

During the President's vacation, the Barbara Anne was often to be seen plying to and fro with her attendant crash-boat, just off shore - or overhead the Presidential "whirlybird" churned across the sky.

Frantic preparations for Hurricane Daisy - a visitor who, fortunately, never arrived - filled every brow with skiffs, powerboats and Newport cats. The Susan and the Kingfisher, hastily hauled in the Poplar St. brow with their sail set, made an unforgettable picture.

The Coggeshall Continentals - to whom be all honor - staged their graduation exercises and a concert in Battery Park, and lent a very nice 18th century touch to the old Revolutionary fort. A minor miracle of the occasion was the fact that not a single three-cornered hat blew off a Continental head in the extremely stiff breeze of that afternoon!

And then - yachts of every sort and size; glimpses of the twelve-meters going out; the excitement of a harbor filled to overflowing with 1500 craft here for the biggest of all international sporting events - the America's Cup! Attendant on this, as an extra, the very beautiful illumination each night of H.M.S. Troubridge, British frigate, and the banded lights of the Arosa Star, across the bay.

And, of course, the sunset - different every evening. And the green light. All free! What lucky Pointers we are! Do we all appreciate our grandstand?

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Treasurer: Alfred Feiner
Rec. Sec'y: Mrs. Richard Weiss
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