

The GREEN LIGHT

BULLETIN OF THE POINT ASSOCIATION OF NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND

The Green Light - October 1972

Vol. XVII *No 4*
The annual meeting and election of officers of the Point Association of Newport will be held in the Guild Hall on Poplar Street on Thursday, October 26th at 8:00 PM. Mayor Donnelly will provide a speaker to support the Pollution Control Bond Issue. There will also be a discussion on raising the annual dues to \$2.00 a year.

Report of the Nominating Committee for 1972 to 1973

President: Clyde B. Sargent, 1972 to 1974
Second Vice President: Leonor Elster, 1972 to 1974
Secretary: Beverly Kingsley, 1972 to 1974

Nominating Committee for 1973

Esther Bates
Alberta Kazanjian
Mrs. Arthur Newell

Quarterly Meeting--July 27th

The annual picnic on Mrs. Benson's lawn was larger than ever before, and we enjoyed a beautiful sunset and a warm evening for a change. We all entertained each other and caught up on all the news of the Point. All ages came - from babies in arms to grandfathers, which seemed to make a very happy mixture.

Report of the Green Light

There are now 445 local members of the Point Association, and 93 off island, mostly old Newporters scattered all over the country. These are all paid. We also send about twenty complimentary copies, making a total of 457 Green Lights for each issue.

We regret to report that Mrs. Whitman, who has done our mimeographing for ten years has been obliged to give us up, and we shall miss her greatly.

The cost of doing the Green Light mimeographing, paper, stamps, etc., has doubled in the last year and a half; therefore we feel that the annual dues for the Point Association should be raised to two dollars (\$2.00) a year. This requires a change in our by-laws, and will be brought up at the annual meeting in October to be voted on. It requires a two thirds vote of all present members. So, no notice of dues will be included in the October Green Light, but if the members present at the meeting agree, the new membership dues will be in the January issue.

STORER PARK

Now that Storer Park is nearing completion of its initial development, it is well to emphasize certain things.

The work now being finished represents a very simple utilitarian design, which will call for a minimum of upkeep. As years go by, The Point Association will work with City officials to improve the park in accordance with the needs of the people who use it.

We did not expect to raise the whole sum for acquisition and construction in the first year, and therefore by the end of November shall have to borrow about \$9,000 from the bank to insure rapid completion. By then we hope to have more gifts from devoted friends, who have been most generous - around \$13,000 so far. This means, of course, that we must continue our fund drive to pay off this note as rapidly as possible.

So far, the response to our appeal for money has been heart warming, particularly as it has shown the interest and generosity of many former Pointers now unfortunately forced to live away from Newport.

And so we repeat what we said in our last issue:

Storer Park is both a symbol and a challenge.

Storer Park is a symbol of what can be accomplished by constructive neighborhood and community cooperation.

It is a challenge to the neighborhood and the community to overcome neglect, vandalism and civic indifference.

It is a symbol of people of all sorts who can work with other people, with every person having an opportunity to contribute in accordance with his capacity, in order that all may benefit.

No contribution - a penny, a nickel, or dime - is too small; no individual effort or work is too small to be useful or too small to be appreciated.

It is an opportunity to offer a living memorial to a loved one.

Above all, it shows that in a world of conflict and violence, suspicion and hatred, human decency and love for fellow human beings is enduring.

H. E. Eccles

FAVORITE RECIPES FROM HERE AND THERE ON THE POINT

A new printing of the Point Cook Book has been made. There are four new pages added, but the price (\$1.75) is the same. Profits from the first printing of 1,000 paid for the second printing of 2,000. Every penny received from sales of this one will go to the Storer Park Fund. They make very nice Christmas (or any time) presents. To obtain copies call 847-5863 or 847-0584.

THE STREET FAIR

The Street Fair took place on a hot and muggy August 26th and 2282 people came. The Guild Hall of St. John's was used for the Food Fair. Seven tables laden with unusual foods representing favorite dishes from Greek, Italian, Portugese, Filipino and American kitchens were soon made bare.

Out on Willow Street forty seven booths stretched on either side from Washington to Second Street displaying arts and crafts and wares of many kinds. On the lawn in back of St. John's, Mrs. Mark Walsh and Mrs. Bruce Watts supervised attractions for children which included puppet shows put on by children from the Point.

Mrs. Vernon Harvey, dressed in Colonial costume, was kept busy all day cutting silhouettes and then contributed all her profits to the Fair! Other participants who contributed were the Weisses, the Nesbits and the Ladies from St. Spyridon's Church.

So many people worked hard before and during the day that it is not possible to mention them all but we especially want to thank Mr. Harold Arnold for his competence in getting the street set up and all the fencing installed and taken down and Mr. Robert Elster for the direction of arrivals and departures of the participants and for cleaning up of the street and grounds and all who helped him after it was all over. We are also most grateful to our treasurers for the day, Mr. John Howieson and Miss Louise Benson, who worked all day in the room the Newell's very kindly lent for a counting house, and Mr. Albert Henry who came to their aid when they became swamped in money. And as on many other "Afternoons on the Point", we owe much of our success to Mrs. Harold Watson for the wonderful publicity she arranged with the assistance of Mrs. Stephen Kingsley and Mrs. William MacLeod. Our combined efforts netted \$3,000.00 for the Storer Park Fund. Nor must we forget the city that kept the traffic moving through the area happily.

Isabel Eccles)
Alberta Kazanjian) Co-Chairmen

THE POINT

(From Marie Gales' History of Newport)

Mention should be made of Lewis Barlow, who lived on Bridge Street. The cove came up to his garden where he had his boat shop, and where he built many boats which were launched there. Two men, Covell and Smith learned the trade of Boat Builders from him, and afterwards went into business for themselves on Long Wharf.

John Young was a sort of undertaker who kept a cabinet shop opposite Mr. George Tanner on Washington Street. When notified (of a death) he would go and measure the body, then make the coffin, and wheel it to the place in a wheel barrow. His bill was usually about \$8.00. He made his own coffin and kept it under his bed.

UP THE BAY IN THE SEA LION

On the Sunday before Labor Day, we always went up to Rocky Point, and what a time we had. Some enjoyed shore dinners, while others enjoyed the chowder, fritters, corn or watermelon. We took in all the stands, rolled balls for prizes, had our fortunes told, even bought the sure-cure medicine from the end of a wagon. The young ones enjoyed the merry-go-round, the whip, roller coaster, crazy house where your skirt blew up or laughed ourselves sick at those crazy crooked mirrors. Again, we would head for the boat loaded with foolish prizes, canes, dolls you had won, or boxes of popcorn or salt water taffy to bring those at home.

There was one more Sunday left before we finished the summer - the Sunday after Labor Day, when we headed for Prudence Island. We generally made a fire for a cook out on the shore and enjoyed hamburgers, hot dogs or corn. This was the place we gathered grapes to make the jelly or jam, and pick the apples. I don't believe there is another place that has such long thorn vines as Prudence. In spite of this, we picked our quota and then returned to the shore for the clam digging, then the return trip home, after another pleasant Sunday and the end of the season.

While we had many pleasant Sundays, we also ran into some rough weather. One time while returning from Conanicut Park, a thick fog rolled in, almost like rain, and we found ourselves headed up the bay east of Gould Island instead of going south to the pier. Another time it turned so rough we had to hug the Jamestown shore, cut across to the Training Station and head for the pier, everybody soaking wet. Still another Sunday, while on our way up to Rocky Point, we ran into a quick down pour. As it was an opened boat with a cabin, we all huddled together with the Sunday and funny papers over our heads. Presently, the sun came out. Our wet clothes were steaming, and the color from the funny papers on our faces, and we looked like a bunch of Indians when we landed at Rocky Point. However, a

a good time was had by all, and today we have pleasant memories of happy days "going up the bay" in Ned Cooper's boat, the Sea Lion.

All these things still exist, and I can't understand why more people don't enjoy them. Perhaps they will in time, as the highways are getting crowded, and I'm glad to see boating is coming back.

Since the Newport Bridge was built, I have driven over to Jamestown, and could hardly find Conanicut Park. All the places mentioned have disappeared. New homes have been built where the grove of trees and our parking area was. Riding down the road, the old dock was gone; a few old spiles and a pile of rocks remain. The only familiar sight was the shore line. Time passes on, but it's nice to have pleasant memories of:

Up the Bay in the Sea Lion

Carrie Ericson

Down to Earth Approach to Storer Park

Throw, throw, throw your change
Gaily in a jar - - - -
Pennies, nickels, quarters, dimes
All help Storer Par - - - - k.