

# GREAT SOUTH SPRAY

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GSBPS

## TESTIMONIAL OF THE YEAR

There was nothing on the tickets to indicate what was up. They read simply: "Great South Bay Power Squadron. Dinner in honor of Past-Commander G. Rowe Whitcomb. Cooper's Bay Shore. February 27, 1942."

The dinner ate just like an ordinary, if very excellent, Cooper's dinner. Shrimps, steak, paper gob's hats, and all that. But right there all resemblance to any other testimonial ever held anywhere, under any auspices, ended abruptly.

"What I want to hear tonight," announced Commander Joe Carlin, after he had removed the last traces of gravy from his new black uniform buttons, and taken the toastmaster's chair, "is just this--does anyone here know anything good about Past-Commander Whitcomb. I don't. But I'm willing to listen. Everybody gets to speak!"

It was murder. Lt. Commander Howard Coleman not only knew nothing good about the flabbergaster G. Rowe Whitcomb, but said so for five minutes. Ben Bromberg could have been sent to jail for his speech. Our eminent Navigator, Robin Limpert, took a bearing on the nearest beer pitcher and set six world's records for out-and-out libel. For forty-five minutes it went on. Sea after sea of censure, abuse, and plain old fashioned castigation broke over "the best past commander GSBPS ever had." There were thirty-odd speeches in all, one from every member present--the greatest flow of free-for-all eloquence Long Island has seen since the days of Bryan.

"I have a very long memory, my friends " said the Past-Commander when the air had

## GREETINGS FROM THE COMMANDER

Great things cast their shadows before them.

The Great South Bay Power Squadron is a coming "great thing", and this its first publication fore-shadows its future.

It is my sincere hope that this youthful shadow cast by a crew of "jolly good fellows", pulling together with a spirit of work and play, may lengthen to that of a well established and venerable institution.

Joseph J. Carlin, Commander

cleared. "A v-e-r-y long memory. And -- as I look around, I see many faces that may come up in my JN classes next year. Until then -- thanks a helluva lot for this swell navigator's watch!"

v v v

## FIRST CROP

With two months yet to go before attaining its first wholly-owned birthday, GSBPS is producing with a roar.

Membership chairman Howard C. Coleman reports that no less than 121 persons registered for the Squadron's first E.P. course, of whom 21 were women. 51 persons took the examination last Wednesday night. "The group was in fine form and I don't expect any failures," said Howard.

"Our lectures were handled by three veter-

ans, Robin Limpert N, George Whitcomb JN, and Charles Alexander JN. They did a top-notch job. Our three new rookies, Harold Albertson AP, John Menah AP, and Bill Wihstutz, also did a swell job at their first crack at instructing. Our super-perfect secretary, Jim Griffiths AP, assisted by Joe Cafero AP, and Warren Bannister, had charge of the homework papers. All did yeoman's work, and I'm sure the labors of the entire group will be well rewarded when the examination papers are corrected.

v V v

#### DATES TO KEEP OPEN THIS SUMMER

Yes,... GSBPS is planning a cruise program this year. Whether or not they'll all be held is another thing. In the absence of Cruise Chairman, Bill Pearl - who is now off to Washington in the Bureau of Economic Warfare - the Commander has announced these tentative dates:

June 27-28	Great River, with a luncheon or dinner to boot.
July 25-26	Seaview
August 29-30	Piloting Contest at Bay Shore
Sept. 12-13	Gilgo, Summer Rendezvous

At the end of September sometime, we will hold a stag cruise, probably at Cherry Grove. Also, we are planning an inter-squadron rendezvous at a date and place to be set after a confab with other cruise chairmen.

From August 1 to 15 there will be a general getting together for a vacation cruise of those who have vacations at that time.

v V v

#### SIGNALS OFF!

It's probably no more than coincidence, but have you noticed that "AP" in the International Flag Code means "I am aground"? And that "JN" means "You should alter your course"? (Plenty of aspiring, and perspiring, JNs will agree to the latter -- some have thought seriously of switching to Dressmaking, for instance.)

The Membership Committee announces the transfer of six additional men from the South Shore Squadron to GSBPS. They are:

George L. Blake, Sayville  
 Arthur P. Bamman, Bay Shore  
 Chris Gottsch, Babylon  
 Donald Gottsch, Babylon  
 Brewster Gottsch, Babylon  
 Gilbert Haight, Amityville

v V v

Commander Joe Carlin and Arthur Pederson took their N exams at Freeport on March 8 (and how many more days?). The boys are being mighty reticent as to whether or not they think they passed. They won't say nothing!

v V v

For ... Fore ... 4 ... FOUR!

This bit of monkey business is to remind you that you need four separate and distinct papers on board before you go clam-snatching this summer.

1. Your regular Registration
2. Identification Card (s)
3. Tax Stamp
4. License, proscribing the areas you have permission to boat in.

Another thing you're going to need is Gas - but that's something else again.

The important thing is that these are four different papers. Some people have been confusing "identification cards" with "licenses" and vice-versa. 'Tain't so.

Identification cards: See January ENSIGN. They covered it completely. Get pictures, birth certificate. Take to Coast Guard station in person. Tax Stamp: Send money to Collector of Internal Revenue, Brooklyn. Wait 3 weeks. License (to Operate Vessel in Territorial Waters etc. etc.): Everything pushed by a motor needs one - row boats, dinghies, canoes included. All Sailboats need one. Get application at Post Office. Fill in all waters you intend to be on this summer. Mail (in duplicate and in ink) to Coast Guard, Barge Office, New York City. No money. Wait one month.

## BACKWASH

"Just call me BILL" WIESTUTZ is going to burn out a bearing one of these days. He's not only our Secretary extraordinary, plus a proficient E.P. lecturer, plus an AP graduate, Class of '42 -- but he can spell the name of the street he lives on - Annuskemunnica Road. Besides that, he can sing Sweet Adeline in a way to make Al Smith back down all the way to Fulton Market.

v V v

While HAROLD ALBERTSON Sr. has been busy with his First Aid and Air Warden Schooling, Harold Jr. has been making hay in the E.P. course. After he passes, Jr. says he will not need pop's help - or pop's AP - on the good ship Albemar II.

v V v

Robert Jacobsen, son of our Treasurer, AARON B. JACOBSEN, is on active duty with the Coast Guard. He's keeping subs out of Long Island Sound.

v V v

GEORGE VAN WYCK is another of our members in active service with the Coast Guard. George has given up his tulips and dahlias for the duration, and gone in for fingerprinting on a grand scale. You'll find him dolled up like a Russian duke when you stop in at the Coast Guard house boat, moored at Maple Street dock in Bay Shore.

v V v

Maybe running an AP class is less of a job than engineering the Tomboo II. Anyway RUSS BOOTH has tried both. And while the AP class ticked them off...one, two, three.. come examination time, there were days last summer when the air was a bit blue around the Tomboo's hatches.

v V v

Our ELMORE O. BURR N has been appointed Aide to the Chief Commander of U.S.P.S. Elmore will be general overseer of the Long Island District

v V v

Memo to JOHN MENAH; What does the Waterways Committee do these days of no blinker lights, pulled-up buoys, and navigation aid-less charts? Have we a Swiss Navy in our midst?

v V v

JIM GRIFFITHES says railroading is such a snap he has to count on Squadron work for exercise. His setting up program: Member of the Board of Governors, Member Signaling Committee. Chief homework corrector for the E.P. class (121 enrollment). All of which he polishes off with a JN course. Then retires.

v V v

ELLIS PURDY is hard after an JN rating these days. His able assistance in the AP class this year is being given as one of reasons all members of that class passed. Ellis was on deck to help chief-instructor RUSS BOOTE every session.

v V v

Seeing-is-Believing-Department: Ever see JOE (4 ft. 7 in.) CAFERO place his hands on the tail-board of a truck, which is shoulder high on Joe, then give a spring, and land feet first, standing erect, in the truck? It's worth two bits of anybody's money.

v V v

"It shouldn't happen to a dog!" After spending months working on his celestial sights, our First Lieutenant RAY SCHO-FIELD had to hop off to Panama before getting a crack at his N exams.

v V v

LEN WEINSTEIN is in the Intelligence Division of the USN these days, stationed at Riverhead. It is hoped he won't be taken in, or over, too much by those awful Peconic Bay boys.

v V v

## ORCHIDS

-- and a tip of this Squadron's Stetsons to Henry F. Horman JN of Detroit and his Bulletin and Roster Committee for a real sooper-doooper U.S.P.S. 1941-1942 Handbook. It is a pip! Signed: GSBPS.

v V v

(Sometimes a reporter's spontaneous notes are just too good to re-write. It would be stifling pure art. Herewith the verbatim contribution of one of the SPRAY's most valued correspondents, whose name is withheld for obvious reasons. Ed.)

JOSEPH CARLIN - Thinks he's an engineer. Pulled his engine apart, will get it together again if RAY SCHOFIELD gets back. Rebuilding his windshield for sleeping purposes--public to have full view of sleeping beauty (the Commander) Says he wants to see things while he's sleeping.

AARON JACOBSEN - don't like the looks of his rudder - will varnish it this year. Fast worker. Gets sleepy, then stops, runs like hell for bunk and immediately falls asleep. Cruise to Conn. or Maine.

ROBIN LIMPET--(In answer to "What's his boat like?") Just an old tub with a canvas. Fusses all winter & gets nowhere. Partial bottom afixed this winter - maybe she will float. Could be used for submarine.

EDMUND ST. GEORGE - Bldg, new boat. Expects to show the boys up. Great sleeper when cruising--on Membership Committee.

PIERCE WILLIAMS-- attends all cruises. Always has a good time--but oh the next day.

BENJAMIN BROMBERG--Always making changes & rebuilding. Hopes to build a new hull under boat soon. Member of Board of Governors. JN Class. Last rendezvous was chairman of Cruise Committee. Everybody did his work for him. Some executive.

ARTHUR THORSTENSEN - No Boat. Mooches on his brother-in-law. Throws big parties for the boys. Last one pretty good.

DR. ED. ANTOS - Says someday he will attend a meeting.

v V v

#### LOST AND FOUND

LOST: Definition and purpose of a "checked buoy". Finder please communicate - but quick - to all E.P. instructors. Too many wisenhiemers are finding out this is one question that stumps the local experts. Write. Wire. Box 1492. GREAT SOUTH SPRAY.

Our Vice-pres-in-charge-of-Babylon-statistics notes, with eye agleam, that of the even dozen GSBPS members in his town, eleven are active in one Squadron job or another. There's something for other hometown boosters to shoot at!

v V v

JOHN TOOMEY has just opened bids on the taking of identification pictures of his family of six. After squinting at the prices, John figures he will go in for amateur photography. The Toomeys will be afloat soon, flounder-chasing, as usual.

v V v

Our man in anybody's record-holding rodeo is FRED WALTMAN. Fred has probably traveled more miles to attend Squadron meetings (Patchogue to Freeport) than any other member. He seldom misses a one. Among his other records...he never wears underwear: says his tattooing keeps him warm...and on top of everything else, Fred is the greatest beer can emptier this side of the Mississippi. You can locate him on the bay by following empty beer cans.

v V v

LARRY GLOVER is sailing the unfathomed seas of matrimony these days. He was going to have the big affair on Friday, February the 13th - but momma voted for a more sentimental day, February 14th, Valentine's Day. The wedding was held on the 14th.

v V v

It's the old business about the shoemaker's children - HENRY REITH is an officer in the Patchogue Citizens Bank & Trust Company, but of all things Henry hates to do is to make out income tax reports.

v V v

GREAT SOUTH SPRAY is published by Great South Bay Power Squadron, Bay Shore, N.Y. David Wallace, Editor. William Wihstutz, Asst. Editor. Correspondents: Jim Alvarez, Sayville; Ben Bromberg, Bay Shore; Larry Glover, Patchogue; Orrin Hallock, Islip; Sam Hauser, Babylon; Adolph Ljungqvist, Great River; Al Parks, Amityville; George Whitcomb, Brightwaters.