

## EARLY SHOREHAM JOURNALISM

Linda Kallenback's contribution last week of a front page from the "Shoreham Sounder" of 1937, has sent me to the dim, dark and dusty reaches of my own attic to find a musty file of the history of Shoreham's "fourth estate", a story that needs to be told.

After its first issue (reproduced herein), which was printed in 1930, "The ??" was named "The Island Stroller". It was the first publication created for local consumption and the great grand-daddy of a continuing series of Shoreham publications which has created the tradition carried on today by the "Shorehamitem". The "Stroller" was the product of five eager teenagers, headed by one Jack Haslett (Tonetti house), then a Columbia School of Journalism freshman and staffed by Mac Finn (Dave and Mike Madigan's uncle), Vincent Sherman (Bowman House), Don McKinnon (L. Adams house), Jack Hagenah (J. Laurencot house) and one Bob Oliver (Oliver house).

The paper was a private enterprise, supporting itself through advertising which we hustled to sign up throughout the area. We actually made money that first summer even after paying the "County Review" (Riverhead newspaper) for line-o-type and printing services. This endeavor kept us out of trouble and in pocket money for several summers. Its circulation successfully expanded to include the area from Belle Terre to Wading River.

In 1934, the quill was passed to Jack Hughes (Bob Reid Sr. house) who published under the masthead of the "Shoreham Scribe", the first of our mimeographed journals. His staff consisted mainly of his two younger brothers, Tom and Bob. Billy Van Arnam (Richter house) carried on in 1937 with the "Shoreham Sounder", a four and sometimes six page publication in proper newspaper format, the second issue of which we saw last week.

My memory gets a little fuzzy after that but Shoreham news continued to flow, if sporadically, throughout World War II as I do remember my homesick delight at reading an occasional missive that reached me abroad. Ivy Frei and Maxine Barnhart kept things going for a time and lively newsmakers they were. Bud and Margo Siegel ably fed the presses after the "Shorehamitem" was taken over as the official medium of the Shoreham Country Club in about 1947 or '48.

Many others have contributed their journalistic skills to carry on the unbroken record of Shoreham happenings, but more of them at a later date if I can find that dusty carton of copies.

