



COMMANDER EASTERN AREA
AND
COMMANDER THIRD COAST GUARD DISTRICT
GOVERNORS ISLAND
NEW YORK, N. Y. 10004

August 3, 1966

Mrs Robert Johnson
2137 Cedar Circle Dr.
Baltimore, 28, Md.

Dear Mrs. Johnson:

Following our telephone conversation, I am enclosing two, rather underexposed photos of LAURA ELLEN. I regret I do not have anything better to send.

We enjoyed her for five seasons, first on Long Island

sound, then on the Bay.

I am glad to hear that she is in the good hands of people who appreciate her.

As you know, her first name was BLAD TIDINGS, built at Pierce and Kelburn yard in Fairhaven, Mass. in 1937. She is a custom-built boat and should have many good years of sailing ahead. Her class was Bluenose, Jr., by Mr. William Roué, of which four yachts



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were built as schooners. One,
I believe was rigged as a
ketch.

I raced her in the fall
Off Soundings Club races in
1959. Using only working
coveas (no genoa, spinnaker or
fisherman staysail or maintopsail,
she came in fourth in a
series of two races, out of
class B-2, comprising 26 boats.

As most of the work was
to windward in light to
moderate air, you can imagine
I was most pleased with her
performance.

Unfortunately, the Cruising
Club rule is not kind to
schooners, so I never had her
rated nor did I race her on
the Bay.

Best wishes for good sailing

Sincerely yours,
J. P. Alford.