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Every time we make a half hearted stab at cleaning out our jumbled files we come across forgotten keepsakes. The latest discovery is a photograph of Marie Dressler, personally autographed and sent us years ago after a complimentary reference to her in print.

She didn't need praise from a small-town writer, but great lady that she was, she took time out to express her gratitude. Only days before she had been presented an Oscar for her title role in "Emma" by the Motion Picture Academy. No other actress even came close that year.

However, most New Bernians 50 or over probably remember her best as Tugboat Annie in the film of the same name. Co-starring with Wallace Beery, she alternately made audiences laugh and weep in a way no one had done since Charlie Chaplin displayed his genius with Jackie Coogan in "The Kid."

Marie Dressler was a remarkable woman, and her philosophy was summed up in something she said in her last years. "It isn't how old you are," she reasoned, "but how you are old." The remark has been quoted countless times since, and Solomon couldn't have said it better.

Even in her younger days, as a buxom comedienne who took Broadway by storm, she was hardly the Cinderella type. However, her comeback as a top ranked screen star, long after her stage career ended, has to be one of the most inspiring stories in the annals of show business.

Here in New Bern, any movie starring Marie Dressler meant a full house at the Masonic Theatre. Like a number of other great performers, among them Lionel Barrymore, she had personality so dominant and unique that it dwarfed any role she played.

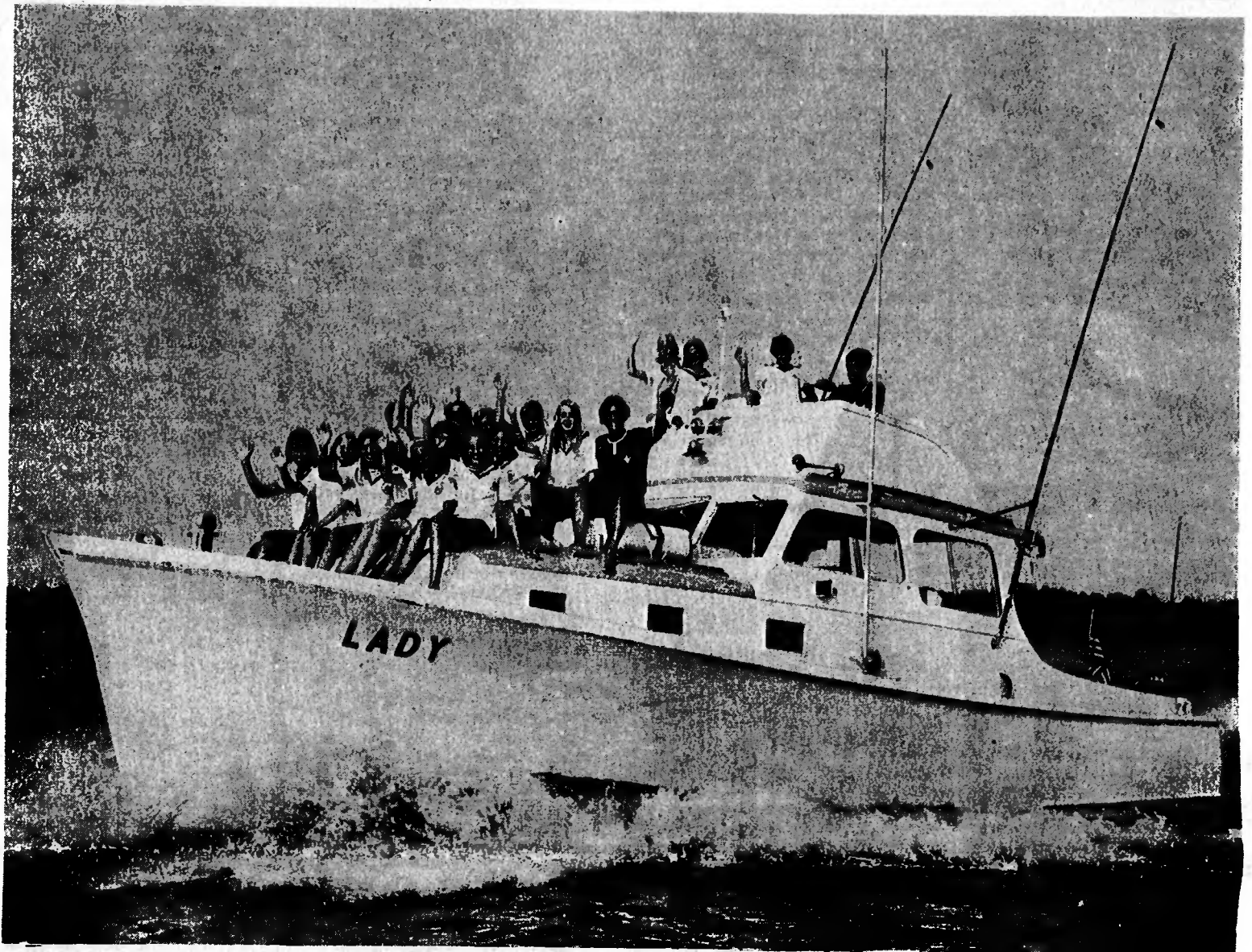
Deep down she never lost the urge to clown. Once, in Hollywood, when a handsome young man danced with her at a special function, she inquired as to his profession. "I'm a Naval surgeon," he informed her somewhat pompously. "My goodness," commented Marie with feigned astonishment, "how you doctors do specialize!"

John Kieran, who hunted at Camp Bryan east of New Bern some years ago, is possibly the most intellectual individual to visit our section. He made his livelihood as sports editor of the New York Times, before retirement, but is a recognized authority on more than a 100 subjects.

He tells the story of a traveler who saw an old man at the door of a cabin in the Blue Ridge Mountains, and asked, "Have you lived here all your life?" The old man squinted at the stranger, and replied patiently, "Not yet."

Kieran's love of the great outdoors knows no bounds, and for him it holds charm on days less appreciative mortals consider disagreeable. "Bad weather always looks much worse through a window," he says.

One morning this week, while checking to see if the cucumber
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ALMOST UNANIMOUS — These happy girls, cruising on the Neuse at Camp Seafarer east of New Bern, wouldn't have trouble staging a full fledged mutiny. The skipper of their trim vessel is the only male on board. So many members of the opposite sex around

doesn't disturb him at all. He is concentrating, as every skipper should, on his duties at the helm. Seafarer and Camp Sea Guil are nationally famous for their excellence.



MADE IT OFFICIAL — Here you see Governor Bob Scott presenting the certificate to Commander Howard E. Greene of Charlotte, United States Power Squadrons District 27, that proclaimed June 28 through July 4 SAFE BOATING WEEK. New Bern

members of Cape Lookout Squadron, headed by Cliff Forrest, have worked tirelessly since 1960 to teach small-boat handling to more than 3,000. Don Delchmann has been a moving force in the crusade.