



The Guenther Garvey

By J. R. Nowling

OLD-TIMERS along New Jersey's south shore are likely to tell you the little outboard garveys that prowled their shallow waters in all seasons of the year were named for a Frenchman called Gervais—but the younger generation insists that Bob Guenther, a young masonry contractor at Beach Haven, rates most of the credit for the garvey's current popularity.

Actually, the garvey is styled somewhat along the lines of the Barnegat sneakbox, favored by clambers for generations. Probably the most significant difference is underwater: the sneakbox has a rounded bottom, the garvey is flat side to side while curving very gently front to back.

Garveys have been built in many sizes, ranging from Guenther's olive-drab 11-footers to cumbersome 30-footers. Lately, though, you rarely see one bigger than 13-ft.

Guenther built his first garvey nine years ago after trying and rejecting various stock hulls. Bob wanted a craft that would meet the extremely exacting

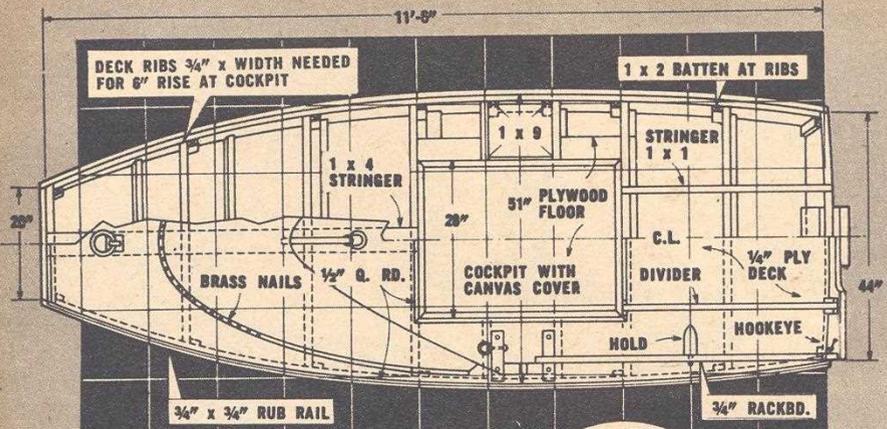
demands of a dedicated hunter and fisherman who spends most of his time scouting Jersey's wetlands and hand-deep channels. His boat had to be swift, sturdy, maneuverable, shallow-running and easily trailered.

As it turned out, the design that Guenther finally developed by patient trial and error in his garage workshop caught the fancy of his buddies in a small hunting-fishing club that owns or leases 500 acres of Jersey marsh. So, as soon as Bob finished his own boat, he started to work filling the orders of his friends.

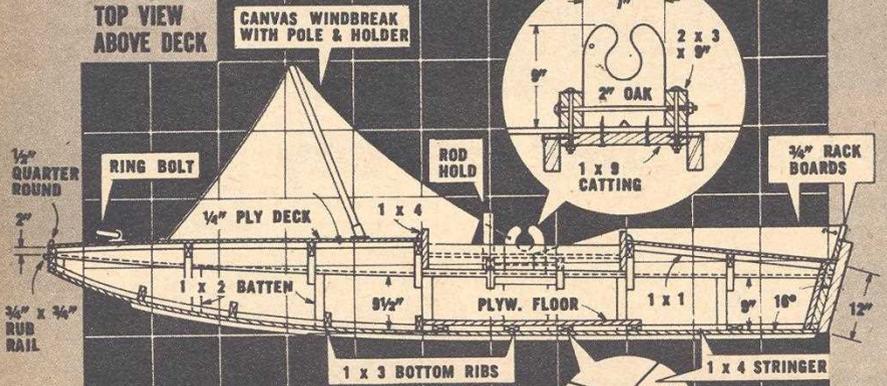
To date, well over a dozen blunt-bowed garveys have rolled off the makeshift Guenther production line. All but two measure 11-ft. long and cost about \$100 to build; Bob also made two 13-footers by special request.

The Guenther garvey will run in 6 in. of water. It is built of plywood coated with fiberglass. The deck, slightly crowned, is enclosed around an amidships cockpit big enough to let a hunter recline. A canvas spray shield keeps the

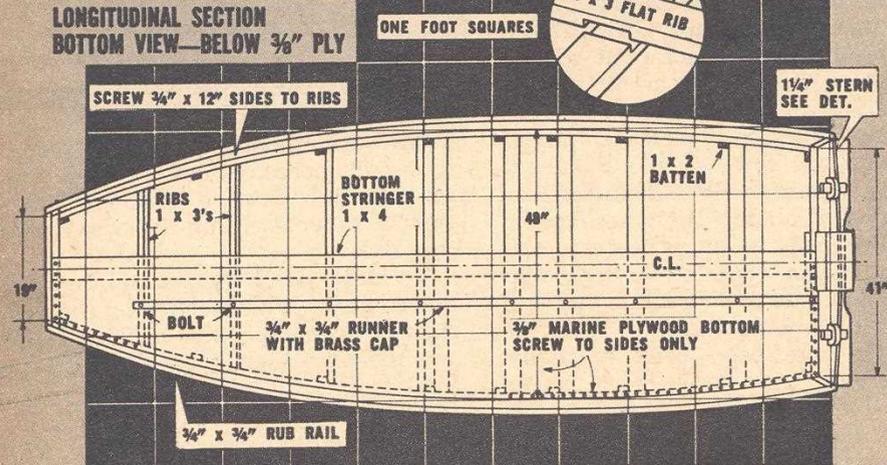
TOP VIEW BELOW 1/4" DECK



TOP VIEW ABOVE DECK

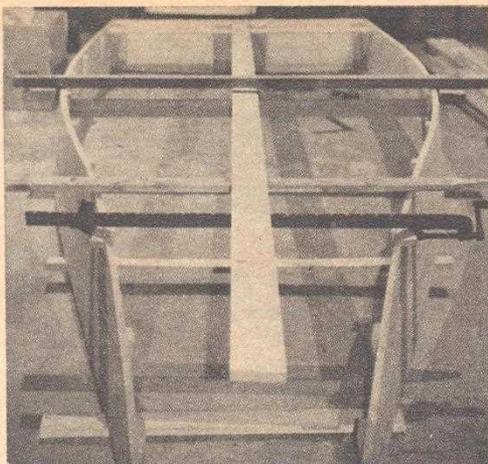


LONGITUDINAL SECTION BOTTOM VIEW—BELOW 3/8" PLY

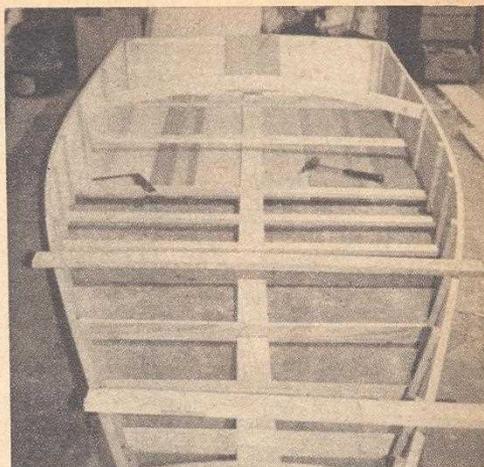


BOTTOM VIEW—ABOVE 3/8" MARINE PLYWOOD BOTTOM

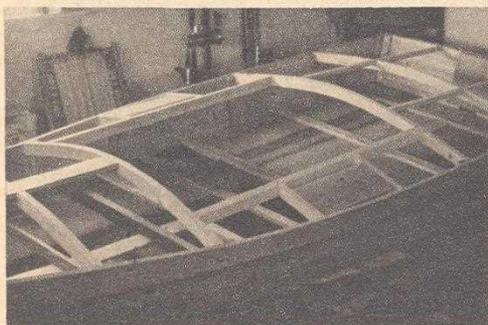
The Guenther Garvey



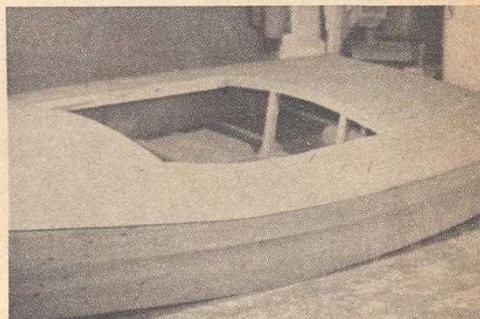
BEND SIDES into shape, fasten temporarily. Then turn over hull, install bottom frames.



DECK RIBS should be put in with hull in upright position. Marine glue all joints.



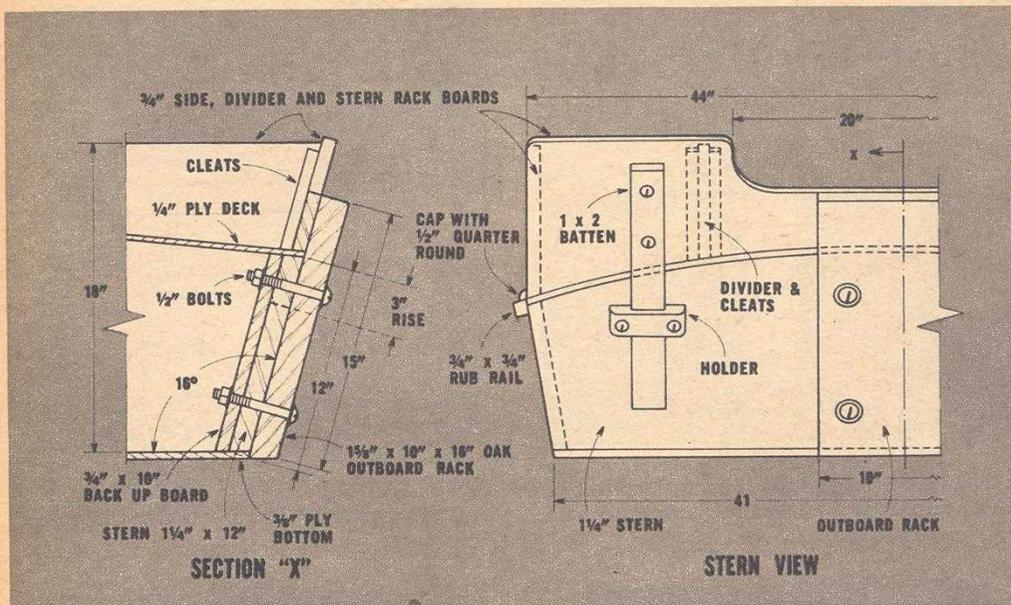
LONGITUDINAL STRINGERS in place. Note the 1 by 9-in. support blocks for the oarlocks.



DECK PLANKING should be fastened in place with glue and #14 anchorfast nails.

BILL OF MATERIALS

| | Qty. | Size | | Qty. | Size |
|---------------------|------|---------------------------|-----------------------|---------|-----------------------------|
| Marine ply (bottom) | 1 | 4 X 12-ft. X 3/8-in. | Stern board | 1 | 3/4-in. X 12-in. X 4-ft. |
| Exterior ply (deck) | 1 | 4 X 12-ft. X 1/4-in. | Stern backup board | 1 | 3/4-in. X 10-in. X 1-ft. |
| Stringers | 1 | 1-in. X 4-in. X 14-ft. | Outboard rack | 1 | 1 5/8-in. X 10-in. X 16-in. |
| Deck framing | 1 | 3/4-in. X 8-in. X 20-ft. | Trim for rails | 1 | 3/4-in. X 3/4-in. X 24-ft. |
| Sides | 2 | 3/4-in. X 12-in. X 12-ft. | Bottom runners | 1 | 3/4-in. X 3/4-in. X 24-ft. |
| Bottom framing | 1 | 1-in. X 3-in. X 26-ft. | Fiberglass cloth | 15 yds. | 10-oz. cloth |
| Side battens | 2 | 1-in. X 2-in. X 10-ft. | Super polyester resin | 3 gal. | |
| Cockpit trim | 1 | 1-in. X 6-in. X 12-ft. | Brass hooks and eyes | 10 | 3-in. |
| Quarter-round trim | 3 | 1/2-in. X 12-ft. | | | |
| Catting | 1 | 1-in. X 9-in. X 3-ft. | | | |



AFTER HULL is fibreglassed, install bottom runners, cockpit coamings and rack boards.

operator dry. Sides of the garvey flare for lift, and the bottom is lined with three brass-capped runners for grounding and stability. Removable panels (called rack boards) lining the stern deck allow plenty of room for a large supply of decoys.

Proving the garvey can take plenty of punishment, Guenther "invented" a sport of his own—jumping his craft across narrow mudflats. This calls for ramming a sloped mud bank at full throttle and hurtling through the air into the water on the other side. Bob's best jump has been 42 feet—but he is confident that mark will fall when he gets a bigger motor than 18 hp. •

LARGE SCALE PLANS

for this speedy duck boat are available from: MI Plans Service, Fawcett Bldg., Greenwich, Conn. 06830. Price is \$3. Please specify Guenther Garvey, Plan GG-10-67.