

Annual Meeting, April 19, 7:30 PM



NUMBER 108

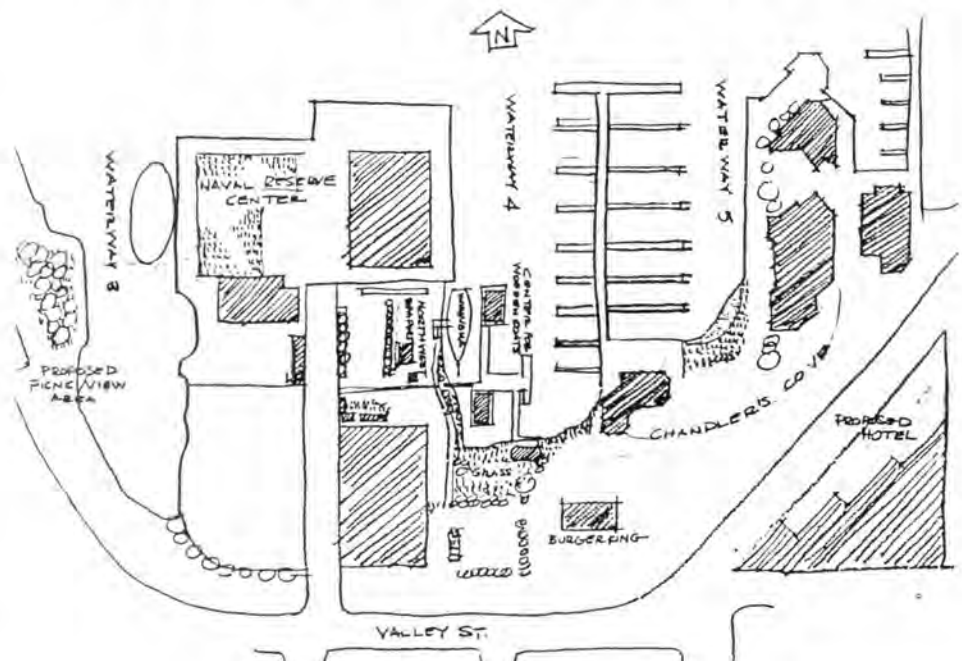
Newsletter

APRIL 1988

facts

- * The City Council has eight conceptual park schemes waiting for their review.
- * The Engineering Department has submitted about six scenarios for remodeling the Mercer Corridor.
- * Recent rezoning allow high tech (spell it "bio-tech") research at South Lake Union.
- * Chandler's Cove (was Pioneer ement) will have two high-style restaurants.
- * The PNB Buildings across from Benjamin's will be torn down for a hotel, without restaurant.
- * Ackerly wants a billboard across from the Naval Reserve Center.
- * The restoration shop for the 1897 schooner WAWONA is about to be built.
- * The Center for Wooden Boats will build a floating meeting and exhibit hall, with a floating gambling casino to follow.
- * The Burger King sign has been declared a seaplane navigational aid.

Report from South Lake Union



by Dick Wagner

While the city officials are cautiously considering all the permutations and combinations of this planner's nightmare, public space, public access and public activities are actually happening on South Lake Union.

One path through this classic urban renewal logjam was cleared by Burlington Northern (BN). Yes, the outdoor recreation maven's current object of scorn was the force that actually started the park. BN saw the need for some permanent status for the Center for Wooden Boats (CWB) and the Northwest Seaport (NWSP) schooner, WAWONA, at our South Lake Union site within the proposed park boundaries. In January, Burlington Northern Foundation gave NWSP and CWB \$150,000 (shared equally) with the condition that the city include a CWB in the future park, allow restoration of WAWONA to proceed at her present site, and provide 1988 landscaping and public access improvements (the Mayor

was quoted as willing to pitch in about \$500,000). All this while the final park plan remains unresolved.

Since January, NWSP, CWB and the parks planners have been meeting to discuss landscaping needs, in an effort to provide a coordinated plan that ties open space viewing, access and the activities of NWSP and CWB. It's a regular private, non-profit / city love-in, just what BN planned.

The Chandler's Cove development has added an elegant public quay on Waterway 5, which compliments the 20-foot wide Henry Pier public access on the east side of Waterway 4. and CWB's pavilion, boatshop and traditional small boats across the waterway.

Question about the big plans for the park, Mercermess, and bio-tech will be grist for discussion, poses, alliances, and maybe some luscious mud slinging in the future. But meanwhile, with the private donations of NWSP, CWB, some carnily stashed loose change of the city, and the public spaces provided by the developer, Bantz and Trace, an exciting and unique park has actually begun to take shape.

ASSOCIATION UPDATE

Juliette finds Safe Harbor

Photo by Phil Webber



This photo shows Juliette Sauvage's home being eased into moorage at the 2460 Westlake Co-op. She can't live there yet, though, because 2460 still hasn't completed negotiations with the city for permission to develop her space.

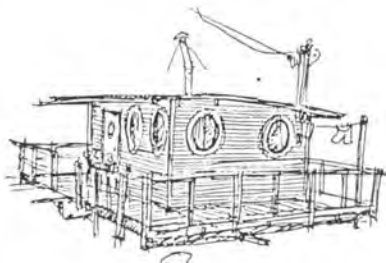
Juliette was forced to look for moorage by an eviction suit brought by her old docklord, Ed Lee, back in the late 1970's. After years in the courts, Juliette settled for a three year lease with a provision that she vacate her moorage by January 1, 1988 or forfeit her houseboat.

2460 came to the rescue with space for dead storage late last December, just in time to save her house. They are now attempting to persuade the city to approve a total of five new moorage sites, including Juliette's. As of this writing, chances are good they'll get them.

HOME TOUR

Marty and Dave Gardner have once again organized what promises to be an Association outstanding event. This time they've found four houses on Westlake and four on Fairview for another home tour like the one we held a few years ago. Two more homes will serve refreshments to the tourgoers. Once again, we'll run a bus from one area to the other.

This year's tour will be on Sunday afternoon September 18, 1988, from noon to 5:00 PM. You'll be hearing a lot more about this one.



NEIGHBORHOODS

The city has been busily forming a new Office of Neighborhoods. The general political impetus for this is probably what some have called the "neighborhood movement" in Seattle of the last few years, spurred on by the Vision Seattle campaign for City Council last fall. In any case, it promises more neighborhood involvement in city issues including budget, service delivery and planning.

The city has been carved into 12 districts, each with their own Community Service Center (CSC). The Association has allied with several other organizations to define a "Lake Union District" which covers the shores of Lake Union and Portage Bay and the upland communities of Eastlake, Fremont, Wallingford and perhaps Cascade.

The first official District Council meeting has been held already. Many of the participants felt that since the Harbor Patrol has lately cut its night shift boat, its reinstatement might be a good "test

issue" to find out whether the whole neighborhood thing is really going to be effective.

SEAPLANES

The summer seaplane season is nearly upon us, and the number of flights per day is already climbing fast. The Seaplane Environmental Coalition has been busy in Olympia and City Hall anticipating the increased activity.

Rep. Janice Neimi (D-43) has arranged for a June public hearing on Lake Union seaplanes, and City Councilmen Paul Kraabel and Jim Street have expressed an interest in the issue. Volunteers are now counting takeoffs and landings on random days. The Mayor has formed a task force to get the owners, regulators and community people to talk to each other.

All in all, the Coalition is confident that a permanent solution to the excesses of the last few years can be found.

Neptune & Nemo

Photo by Phil Webber



In this issue's "Waterlog," which begins on page 6, Sheri Lockwood bids a fond farewell to the pair of white barnyard geese who've lived on the east side of Lake Union for the last ten years.

ASSOCIATION UPDATE

COMPUTER PLEASE

The Floating Homes Association is trying to acquire a computer to keep track of its membership and other lists. Currently, member information is spread out over at least 3 separate manual filing systems dating back to when Terry Pettus ran the office. The idea is that if we are going to make the effort to consolidate all of this, it would also make sense to put it on a computer.

So, please donate that old PC (or clone) to the Association now that you have your new Mac or AT! We need the box with floppy drive, keyboard and display, minimum. Of course, we wouldn't turn down a printer or a hard drive, either.

CALL US ANYTIME

The Association has an answering machine to help us respond more quickly to member concerns. Leave a message anytime, and we'll get back to you as soon as we can.

LAKE CLEANUP

On May 1st, the day after the Opening Day of Boating, REI is sponsoring a Lake Union Cleanup. Small boats, canoes, kayaks, rafts, and whatever will gather at the Northwest Outdoor Center -- 2100 Westlake -- at 9:00 AM on May 1 to organize for hunting down a year (and a day's) worth of flotsam and dibris.

Living so close to the water, we know first hand how bad the accumulations styrofoam and other garbage are already this spring. The lake's always even more of a mess after Opening Day.

Connie Jump is organizing Association people for the cleanup. Call her at the office, 325-1132, for details.

ANNUAL MEETING

Don't forget the Association's 26th Annual Meeting: 7:30 PM on the 19th of April at St. Pat's. Hear about state leases and new wrinkles

Barbara Nelson Retires

Photo by Phil Webber



We are sad to report that Barbara Nelson has moved off the lake. Barb, who has been a pillar of the Association for many years and has served as a trustee and the Association's office secretary for the last eight years, regretfully submitted her resignation in January due to health reasons. She has also been forced to sell her houseboat on Westlake. We'll miss her her deeply, not only because of her energy and enthusiasm, but because of the way she cared for us all.

Connie Jump has taken over Barb's duties in the office.

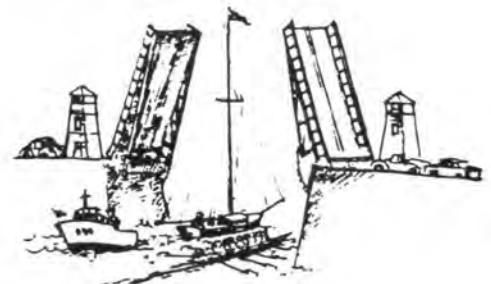
in houseboat insurance. Bill will do his talking head number for only a short while this time because Tom Susor's slide show promises to be much more interesting. Rumor also has it that those "complimentary refreshments" might include beer in addition to wine and soft drinks this time. Be There!

The Engineering Department is still taking comments on this project. If you have something to say, call Germaine Covington, 684-5349.

U BRIDGE CLOSURE

There is a good chance that the University Bridge will be closed for repairs at intervals this summer. At the moment, the Engineering Department is considering a regular schedule of evening (8:00 PM to 6:00 AM) and weekend closures to last through the summer and most of the fall.

The bridge was built in 1919 and was last refurbished in 1933. Apparently, everything that moves in the bridge is worn out and everything that carries electricity needs replacement. 55 years does seem like a long time to wait for an overhaul.



Portage Bay Problem

Nearly
tracts.
to reta



If the plan cooked up by the city and state in the early 1970's had been allowed to run its course, we would have witnessed mass evictions on a scale not seen since the building of the 520 freeway and the NOAA base. Back then, houseboats were expected to be eventually replaced by "higher and better uses" (apartments and offices), anyway, so what did it matter?

These days, both the city and the state are a lot more sensitive about displacing homes for any reason. The city, state and federal governments have recently given the Association strong signals that a reasonable solution can be found which includes renewable leases at "water dependant" (low) rates.

To make the plan work, we will need the cooperation of the moorage owners affected, of course, and notice has

floating homes on Portage Bay moor over land leased from the state under non-renewable con-
se leases begin to expire in the next few years. It now appears that these houseboats will be able
teir moorages.

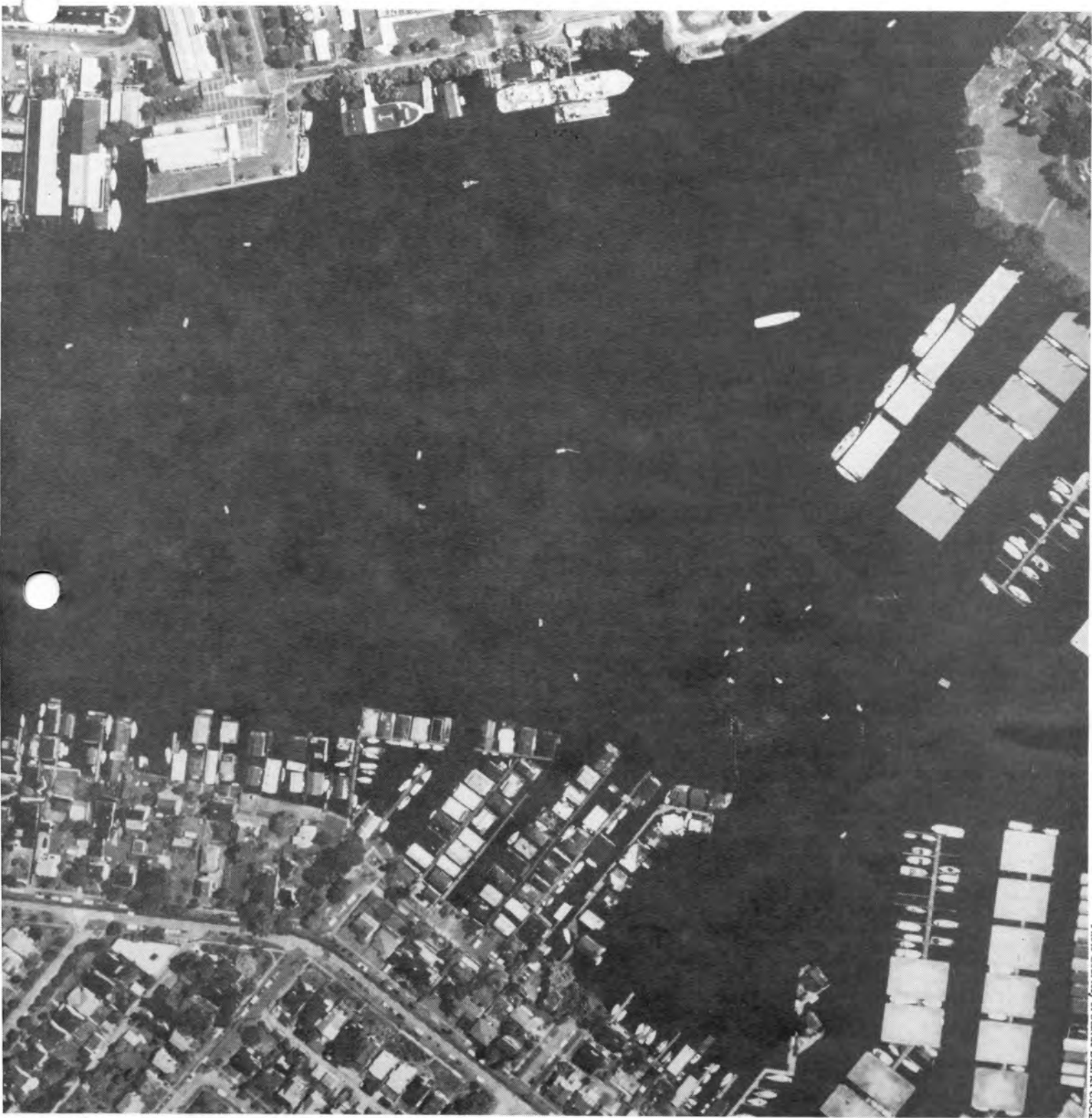


Photo Courtesy of Seattle District USCE

gone out to them this month. The state has also said it is willing to adjust leases for other houseboat docks which may have structures outside the Construction Limit Line not currently covered by a lease. Most of these docks are in Lake Union.

Unfortunately, state leases are not the only problem looming over Portage Bay residents. As if the leases and the recent brouhaha over sewer overflows weren't enough, we've now just got wind of plans to add a few extra "transit" lanes to the 520 bridge. Stay tuned.

State leases will be a major topic of discussion at the Annual Meeting on April 19th. (Besides, the Newsletter staff couldn't resist the excuse to print this photo, which was taken by the Corps of Engineers on July 23, 1982.)



Waterlog

by Sheri Lockwood

Can you believe the "Waterlog" has been around for seven years? I can't. Current technology has added a new ripple to the gossip front ... telephone answering machines. They're great because I can leave my pleas for dirt on tape, but my first night of calls has me chatting with a multitude of androids and I thing I'm starting to sound like one as I chat back. Now I'm even listening to the news pour in on my own machine. But I know some of you out there are real people and I thank you for your kind comments on the "Waterlog" and your unselfish help in making it happen.

On to the news ... is there a drought or not? Not if you were out in the weather waiting for a bus this week. Will we be afloat this coming summer or not? I know I'm not whining about the rain as is my usual custom. We can all help a little by calling the Seattle Water Department and getting a water conservation kit. It includes a displacement bag for the toilet that saves a half gallon per flush. Their number is: 625-5588.. Then there's always showering with a friend ...

Residents of Mallard Cove were kept awake by a howling cat one late night in March. This wasn't the usual romantic serenade, it was more like a howl for help. It seems the cat had fallen in the lake and pulled itself out into a tunnel. The problem being, the only way out of the tunnel was to jump back into the lake. We all know cats who do this, don't we? Right, and it's never cloudy in Seattle, either. Neighbors gathered trying to figure out a cat rescue strategy. The manager of the apartments next door, Bonnie MacAskill, spent nearly two hours waist deep in the lake trying to help. Finally, the Animal Control rescue woman was called. The frightened cat kept retreating into the tunnel until finally MacAskill was able to grab it. Our local "boatographer," Phil Webber, was on the spot to record the rescue on film. Unfortunately the flash of his camera further terrified the poor animal and it took off. It will probably be a while before it appreciates a walk along the water again. By the way, Phil says the snap was too confusing to figure out -- that's probably what the cat thought all along.

Residents of the Log Foundation on Fairview, Jim Burkes, Chris Knight, Leslie Rubicam and Jann McFarland spent several days skiing at Whistler at the end of February ... rumour has it that Chris Knight just got his driver's license, watch out! Jean Elmer of 2351 FV won a trip to Hawaii on a KING 1090 radio promotion ... Helen Mitchell just returned from Mexico, as did Jann and Sid McFarland .. travels on 2331 FV include: Ora and Monte Hewitt, back from a month in the sun of Yuma and El Paso. They traveled by Amtrak -- "My first trip by train since the 40's," says Monte. "It was kind of fun," says Orrie ... Florence Yerxa is off again to Greece. This is her eleventh year teaching Modern Greek, etc., as part of "Western in Greece," a 10-week spring quarter cultural course, sponsored by Western Washington University. Students of all ages can take advantage of this unusual learning and traveling experience ... Delmar Langston has returned from a visit to Guatemala ... Jim and Barbara Donnette spent a long weekend in Florida ... Dorothy Morrell of 2466 WL recently returned from visiting her daughter and

grandchildren in Texas ... And the Pintlers from WL have just returned from an extended stay in Australia.

Long time resident Dutch Schultz on FV just had a plastic part implanted in his thumb. He says he's beginning to feel like the "bionic man." If you ever want to go birding, he's a great companion. Hmmm, maybe he is bionic and that's how he handles those chilly birding hikes. Dutch's dock hosts quite a few residents who are getting "better, not older." So Sandy Simmons and Thad Fountain organized a way for everyone to keep in touch by installing a dock intercom system. They can now all talk with each other without leaving the house, but they can't "whisper sweet nothings" -- everyone else hears the conversation.

Dox Co-op on FV welcomes Judy Stoloff to 2235 and Richard Patterson to 2219. Bob and Linda Phillips of 2235 hosted a Sunday brunch on February 21st. A highlight of the affair was when one of the residents arrived with one of those circular brushes with the bristles hopelessly entangled in her hair. Careful tugging with chopsticks finally got it free ... and she still has hair left on her head.

The goose is building a nest atop the piling at the end of 2239-49 FV again (across from Pete's Grocery). At 2822 Boyer Carol McGinnis and neighbors are hosing down the geese trying to discourage them from building a nest on one of the rooftops. The raccoons moved in when the goslings couldn't get off the roof last year. Elsewhere all those tender sprouts of spring greenery are becoming goose hors d'oeuvres. If you're having trouble with goose droppings on your docks or decks, here's a foolproof trick passed along by Don Brownlee and George Johnston. Run a string about six inches high along the edge of the dock. It stops the geese from jumping up onto the deck. They could easily get over it, but they don't know that. You'll notice geese have great, big bodies and tiny little heads. There must not be a lot of room for brains in there (but yes, they are pretty).

Tenas Chuck on FV welcomes new owner Liz Crowell. Life on the lake is right down her "channel". She is the domestic manager of the US Women's Olympic Rowing Team and recent collegiate Nat'l Champion with the UW's Team '87 ... Mike and Sherre Roberts (2031 FV) daughter Karee and her sailing team from Western Washington University won the right to represent our region in the Nelson Rolsche Regatta held during Mardi Gras in New Orleans. These youngsters usually sail 14 to 15 footers but are putting together a team of eight and raising money to sail at the NCAA Big Boat (44 foot) Championship and Annapolis. WWU doesn't have a varsity team, they have a sailing club, so all funds are raised through the club. If you would like info or would like to help them get back east, call Eric Hauge at 1-773-7619.

WET BUT FLOATING: Tom and Oy Laz (2322 FV) welcome Pudchaa, their baby girl who arrived December 14 ... The Log Foundation (2017-2025 FV) is a baby boomer dock: Jack Spurlock and Jeanne Woods Spurlock have a baby girl, Kali Ann; Penny and Rob Reid have a baby boy Clarke Killian Reid; the Korbonis welcome their son, Alexander, to the family. Long time "Waterlog" source Jeff Acorn and wife Wendy welcomed their new baby boy March 14. He's Nicholas Michael and the first baby on the dock (933 NL) since 1972. Jeff says he can hardly wait to put him on the deck in the summer to watch the parade of boats, people, ducks, geese, cats, and all go by -- but he also has a question: how do these other houseboat parents baby-proof a floating homes ??? If you have helpful hints, send them to me at 2235 Fairview, 98102 and we'll spread the word in a column or story in the Newsletter. There must be tons of tricks and those eager to hear them by now.

Marty and Dave Gardner are the proud grandparents of TMBGITYWW (The Most Beautiful Granddaughter in the Whole Wide World) Meghan Mae -- her mom, Pam Hendrick Sanford, lived on 2019 FV and 2460 WL.

Brenda Webber, houseboat resident for six years, is now affiliated with Windemere Real Estate -- Wall Street. She will specialize in sales of houseboats.

more Waterlog . . .



Finally a real estate agent who knows about houseboats, docks co-ops, financing and such. If you need to talk to her, her number is 292-2423.

(Is it really true that Marty Gardner flew back from Hawaii early to catch Frank Sinatra and the "Rat Pack's" Seattle performance?)

George Yeannakis celebrated his 40th birthday March 26th with a basketball party. They rented a court and men and women's half court games were exciting and exhausting. The apres basketball party on their Fairview houseboat featured lots of cute babies and terribly tacky presents.

Your faithful columnist has launched a tiny postcard line. Be watching for the Precipitation Press cards depicting all our favorite NW recreational activities: tennis, golf, barbecues, camping jogging, biking, etc. -- enjoyed while keeping dry (this means scuba suit, snorkel, face mask and fins). Hopefully some card shop will buy them soon or I'll have a lot of note paper for many years to come!


Goodbye and farewell to Nemo and Neptune, the vocal and visible white geese who have resided for more than ten years in the midst of our floating home community. It seems this dynamic duo of thoroughbreds lost track of time and started waking up their floating neighbors at 4:00 AM on a regular basis. So Nemo and Neptune have been relocated to a fine new pond on Vashon Island. We wish them a good adjustment, ample grazing and a happy old age away from the perils of urban traffic.

Don't forget the Annual Meeting April 19th. The Home Tour's coming up in September ... Have we got some GREAT places to see ??? YES!



Photo by Keith Lockwood

2329 FAIRVIEW AVE. EAST



FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION-INC

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98102

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Help preserve and protect Seattle's colorful houseboat colony.

Support the Floating Homes Association.

One year membership: New Renewal

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

\$36.00 Regular Household

\$24.00 Retired Household

\$ _____ for Legal Fund

Houseboat: Own Rent

Moorage: Own Rent

Make Checks Payable to:

"FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION" (dues)

"FHA/CSCCF" (Legal Fund, tax-deductible)



BE THERE!

Floating Homes Association

**26th ANNUAL
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

**7:30 PM Tuesday, April 19, 1988
St. Patrick's Parish Hall**

(between Harvard and Broadway on Edgar)

Agenda

Seattle's Houseboats

Tom Susor Shows Some Slides

Business Meeting

State Lease Crisis

Insurance Report

Executive Board Elections

Social Hour

Complimentary Refreshments