

30th Anniversary Celebration
Annual Meeting April 23rd
Tyee Yacht Club 7:30pm - 9:30pm



2329 Fairview Avenue East

Seattle, Washington 98102

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Number 118

Newsletter

Spring 1992

Court of Appeals Allows Lakeside Offices

Next Step: State Supreme Court

Legislation Languishing

by Bill Keasler

The Floating Homes Association and the Eastlake Community Council have lost the latest round in their fight to stop a four story office building from rising on the south shore of Portage Bay. In early February, the Division II State Court of Appeals rejected our argument that the permit issued by Seattle's Department of Construction and Land Use (DCLU) runs counter to state law requiring shoreline office developments to incorporate a legitimate water dependent use or at least some kind of extraordinary public amenity. Meanwhile, our parallel effort to correct the loophole in the local law which justified the permit in the first place has bogged down in the City Council.

The FHA and ECC first appealed the proposed development between the University and Freeway bridges because Dally Development's arrangement with the Pocock Rowing Foundation for a water dependent use on the ground floor of the building seemed tenuous at best and because Dally could produce no binding provision for adequate parking. Allowing a four story office building on the shoreline with no water dependent use and no parking would have set a precedent with the potential to dramatically change the face of the lake, not to mention its devastating effect on the surrounding neighborhood..

Unfortunately, DCLU, the Hearing Examiner, the Thurston County Superior Court and now the

Court of Appeals have all chosen to approve the permit. This latest decision by the appeals board also reinforces the pattern set by the previous rulings. It rejects our argument that the Shorelines Master Program (SMP) is flawed and should be overridden by the language of the State Shorelines Management Act (SSMA), while accepting Dally's claim that they have, in fact, secured adequate parking and a water dependent use for the building. Interestingly, this decision differs from the others in its emphasis on the point that, "In the event that the Pocock Rowing Foundation no longer occupied the bottom floor of the proposed building, Dally Development would be

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in violation of the terms of the existing permit and would thus be subject to fines..."

Because this case seems to reverse the direction of 20 years of state policy, the FHA and ECC have decided to ask the State Supreme Court for review.

While we have lost the broader points in the case so far, the issue of whether the Pocock Rowing Foundation actually intends to occupy the building has a chance of ultimately stopping the project. Last fall, the FHA and ECC received a copy of a letter from Pocock to Dally acknowledging that their "agreement is terminated without further obligation of either party." As the court was careful to point out, without Pocock, Dally may not have a valid permit.

But, the loophole in the SMP remains. In the early 1970's, developments such as the AGC Building on Westlake and the Union Harbor Condominiums on Fairview shocked the state and city into enacting legislation to preserve the shorelines for water dependent uses. It was clear then, as it is now, that marine related businesses can not compete economically with offices and apartments and require special protection. For years, the SSMA and the SMP have provided that protection in Seattle. Lately, however, the courts have been increasingly inclined to discount these laws' public access and marine related requirements. Coupled with a revision of the SMP in the mid-1980's which appears to have eliminated the need for any marine dependent facilities at all, developments such as Dally's, with only the most tenuous connection to the water and with "public" defined as the people who work in the building, have become possible. Permissive courts, lax regulators and a mistake in drafting the law have brought us full circle to a time when high rise offices once again threaten the shorelines of the lake.

Progress on closing the loophole in the law has been sluggish. Last year, City Councilman Jim Street told the FHA and ECC that he would sponsor legislation requiring at least 50% of a shoreline building to be marine related. We submitted language implementing this, which he approved and sent to DCLU for review. DCLU has done nothing with it for six months, citing a busy schedule as an excuse. Under pressure from the recent court decision, Street's office has now asked the Law Department to review our proposal instead. The latest word is that it will be "several months" before anything happens. No one is saying that this legislation is particularly controversial. It is just stalled. In the coming weeks we will attempt to light a fire under the Law Department by involving more council members in the issue.

1991-92 FHA Board

President: Bill Keasler (2037 FV)
Vice Pres: Chris Sherman (2321 FV)
Sect: June Fauchald (2466 WL)
Treas: Ed Waddington (2339 FV)
Newsletter Ed: Peggy Stockley 329-7973
assisted by John Nelson (2764 WL)

TRUSTEES:

Marty Alexander (2466 WL)
Beth Means (3125 FV)
Peggy Stockley (2331 FV)
Phil Webber (2466 WL)

MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:

Ann Bassetti (2420 WL)
Caroline Cropp (2235 FV)
Nancy Macdonald (2600 FV)
Fred McCulloch (2017 FV)
Kirvil Skinnerland (1213 E. Shelby)
Susan Susor (1409 N.E. Boat St.)

Help Wanted: Houseboater to occasionally help with newsletter layout using Mac Page-Maker. Call Peggy Stockley at 329-7973.

NEW OFFICE HOURS

Because of a change in her spring class schedule within the Graduate School of Public Affairs at the UW, our FHA Office Manager Sheri Gotay will be switching her work schedule in the Floating Homes office from afternoons to mornings. Starting April 1st, office hours will be:

9:00-1:00 Tuesday and Thursday



EASTLAKE TOMORROW

“Community Sounding”

by Peggy Stockley

Two-person interview teams are at work throughout Eastlake to discuss the future of the neighborhood. The goal is 1000 interviews by April 1 — with residents, business owners, property owners and with people who work in the area. This “Community Sounding” is phase two of the Eastlake Tomorrow Neighborhood Planning Project made possible through 1991 and 1992 Seattle Neighborhood Matching Fund grants.

There will be a town meeting on April 26 to further refine the data.

A list of ten questions was developed in a public training session on February 26 at Seward School that drew about 40 interested neighbors. Not a bad turnout when you recall it was Super Bowl Sunday. The questions deal with such issues as shoreline access, traffic congestion, alternative transportation designs, preservation of Eastlake’s neighborhood character, etc.

Sparkplugs of this worthwhile project are David & Joy Huber who live in the wonderfully restored Victorian at the corner of Lynn and Minor (just down from the Eastlake Zoo). Along with others on the Eastlake Community Council board, the Hubers are energetically putting in hours of work to make sure that the people of Eastlake have a say on what this neighborhood will be like in the future.

If you are asked to be interviewed, please say yes. If you haven’t been asked, call the Eastlake Tomorrow Committee at 322-2499 or me at 329-7973. It’s important that the opinions of our floating home community are represented in this process. We are part of the diversity of Eastlake.

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8/91



MEMBERSHIP FORM

Help preserve and protect Seattle’s colorful houseboat colony.
Join the Floating Homes Association today!

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____ HB#: _____

PHONE: _____ Condo/CoOp Name: _____

Houseboat: Own Rent

Moorage: Own Rent

Regular Household \$36 New

Retired Household \$24 Renewal

The Association’s Legal Fund needs your support also. Donations of \$50 or more are tax deductible! Make your SEPARATE check payable to SCCCF/FHA and mail today!

I have enclosed \$ _____ for the FHA Legal Fund.

Floating Homes Association
2329 Fairview Avenue East
Seattle, WA 98102
Telephone 325-1132

Westlake Dock Does Its Share :

by Marty Alexander

We should get a "Thousand Points of Light" award! Residents of the houseboat community at 2466 Westlake are taking President Bush's advice to heart and pouring money into the local economy. In the past year alone there have been three remodels, two "from the logs up." We have one "logs up" remodel going on right now, two in planning stages, and two second story remodels scheduled to begin when the weather breaks. All together that's eight either full or partial remodels on a dock of 14 houseboats. We're keeping the likes of George Johnston (flotation man) and Art Holder (raft and stringer man) very busy these days.

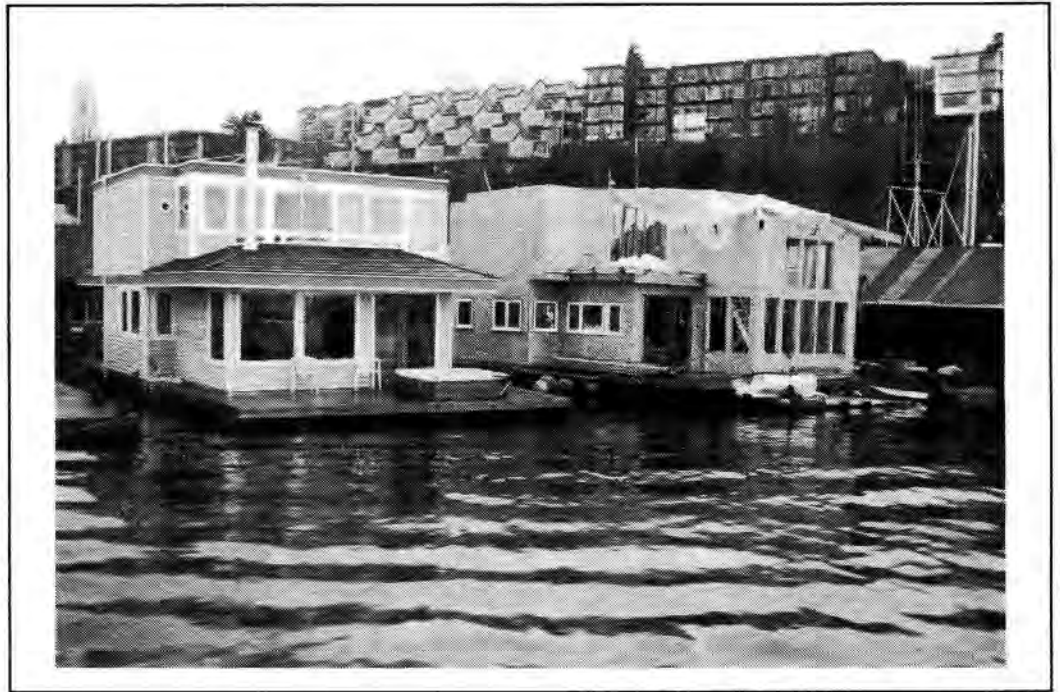


photo by Phil Webber

Houseboat on left owned by Bruce Dietz. Houseboat on right owned by Phil Webber and Sharon Evered



photo by Dickie Cunningham

Phil Webber and Sharon Evered

Community architect Jim Jessup has done an outstanding job of designing homes which fit well on our dock and are considerate of neighbor's views and privacy. Another local architect, George Suyama, is represented on our dock in the home of Phil Hall and Marty Taylor. We had not previously seen Mr. Suyama's designs in our neighborhood but are impressed with the style and innovation of the Hall/Taylor home.

The Jessup-designed Bruce Dietz home and the Hall/Taylor home were constructed last summer. It was a race to the finish between the two construction crews as they eyeballed each

Contributes To Local Economy!

other's progress across the dock each day. Teresa Ward and Tom Monahan, on the other hand, waited until fall to begin the interior remodel of their adorable one story houseboat. Autumn found them camped in a tent on their front deck while they tore out the insides. When the serious remodeling began they moved around between friends and vacationing dockmates. They've moved back into a much roomier home with beautiful new shingles.

Superbowl Sunday saw our dock congregated for an "open house", in the truest sense of the phrase, at the Phil Webber/Sharon Evered remodel project. Although plastic covered the exposed second story, puddles formed



photo by Steve Neville

Construction workers from Cambridge & Kessel Construction Co. stand on 750-pound beam which was hand lifted to second floor in the Webber - Evered Houseboat #12 .



photo by Phil Webber

Open houseboat 50%-done party catered by Stoneway Cafe

and raingear was the fashion of the day as we feasted on chili and sandwiches from the Stoneway Cafe. Phil presented one of his contractor's with a special "diving" award due to his unplanned tumble into the lake one day. Champagne was cracked over the house frame and we toasted the success of our latest construction project. Phil and Sharon have moved with their millions of cats (new house has special facilities for the felines) to the apartment of what must be a very good friend for the duration.

When the rain stops the sounds of power tools will start again as this generous group of houseboaters continues its campaign to invest in the local economy!

NOW IS THE TIME FOR ALL GOOD HOUSEBOATERS TO COME TO THE AID OF OUR COOKBOOK!

by Marty Alexander

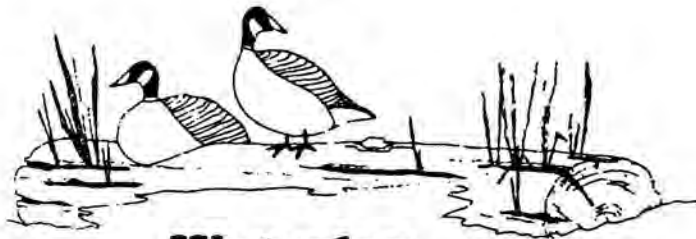
We've asked, and now we beg and plead! Call, write, walk but get us your favorite recipes on the double. In the last newsletter and in our Christmas flyer we told you about our plans for a new edition of the Seattle Houseboaters Gourmet Scrapbook and asked you to participate. We asked for **RECIPES** which you have found particularly appropriate on your houseboat for dock gatherings, potlucks, lake cruises, deck parties, etc. We're also looking for **TALL TALES** — great houseboat parties, the time the raccoon ate the dessert which was cooling on the back porch, the pet goose who built a nest with the salad greens, the Christmas dinner from hell when the power went off and the pipes froze. We know each and every one of you has a story so take five minutes to write them down. We also need lots of **SKETCHES AND PHOTOGRAPHS** to spread throughout the book, so send us your favorite photos or draw us a picture.

To make this as easy for you as possible, you can (1) send your recipes to Cookbook, Floating Homes Association, 2329 Fairview E., Seattle, WA 98102; (2) take a walk over to the office and drop them in the basket on the door; (3) call Marty Alexander (281-0927), Peg Stockley (329-7973) or Nancy Macdonald (323-2059) and we'll run right over and pick them up.

We want to publish our cookbook using **PageMaker** software for a PC. If anyone has a spare copy floating around or any other ideas, please get in touch with one of us.

Are you a **GRAPHICS AND DESIGN** person? None of us are, so your skills will be crucial to a successful cookbook. We will begin laying out the book once we have collected the contents, hopefully in March. Please get in touch with one of us if you can help out.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM ALL OF YOU IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE!



Waterlog

by Sheri Lockwood

For a February/March, this is actually quite nice. The sun is shining. I don't know about you, but in February I'm at the edge of my grey winter tolerance (I can't stand it any more!) and have been known to do impulsive things — like cut my hair off, quit my job, get a pet — things that often cause ramifications long past the February blahs. Unfortunately, I cut my hair short before the sun got here, but I hope the sunny skies made February bearable for the rest of you. If nothing else, it was a great excuse for a vacation. Speaking of vacations ...

ANCHORS AWEIGH

Mary Gey McCulloch, husband Fred and daughter Jenny (2017 FV) are embarking on the trip of Mary's dreams. In March, they will visit Morocco. Their drive through N. Africa will take them through Fez, Marrakesh and Casablanca ... Ski and Deri Sherensky (2019 FV) are in France for six months. Their housesitter Susan Jenkins was cheered by dock neighbors when she rescued a cherished tennis bracelet that had slipped through the planks on the deck. Friends in dry suits with flashlights located it on the lower float and salvaged it for her ... John and Carol Hilton (2019 FV) toured Africa for a month in January ... RoseMary Parker and Shirley Lashua (2019 FV) will visit Yosemite in March and Hawaii in April ... Jane Evenson (2025 FV) came back from Fiji to visit her houseboat and neighbors over the holidays ... Solweig Hammond (3110 PBPL) visited her daughter Paula and son-in-law Thomas in London for three weeks. They live in Kensington near Princess Di and Prince Charles ... Anne Helmholtz (2770 WL) spent 10 days in Thailand. She visited a friend so she got the Royal Tour from beach to hill country ... McNair Smith & Bill Babcock (2460-66 WL) left at Christmastime to ski three countries — Austria, Switzerland and France. Apres-ski they met up with their yacht "Begonia" in Spain to sail the Costa Del Sol ... Bob Joppa (2818 Boyer) is in Singapore for six months teaching the Singaporeans how to fly model airplanes ... Sharon Evered (2460 WL) won a

trip to Kauai through her employers and decided to take "friend" Phil Webber along. They'll spend five days at the Hawaiian Regency Hotel ... Ellen & Steve Hanson (2025 FV) met up with daughter Jenny in Mexico over the holidays ... Jann & Sid McFarland (2025 FV) also made Mexico their holiday getaway ... Tim Easton & Andrea Weiland (2025 FV) visited Portugal in December and Christopher Knight got five weeks off from Vassar to visit his mom Linda (2025 FV), friends and neighbors ... Jeri Callahan (2331 FV) and Betsy Williams (2339 FV) spend two weeks in Spain. Other travel items from the Tenas Chuck Moorage include Tom & Peggy Stockley's anticipated trip to Argentina in March and Jean Butler's adventure to Singapore and Japan...

SPLICE THE MAINBRACE

2017 FV had a holiday dock party at Ed & Sue Simpkins ... 1409 Boat Street had a pre-Christmas party at Tom & Susan Susor's. Present and past residents attended the fun which featured Indian food ... Tenas Chuck dock folk had a December event at Jean Sitton's (2339 FV). The kayaking carolers came by on their way to Portage Bay. One small mishap was a plate of homebaked cookies that got dropped into the lake as it was being passed among the kayakers ... Marty Alexander (2460-66 WL) took a perfectly fine gossip item, which would normally be "Waterlog" fare and made it into a whole feature story — as if it isn't hard enough for me to dig all this stuff up ... the "Ladies" Poker Night group (participated in by docksters Sheri Lockwood & Leslie Rubicam) is taking its big stakes game south. They'll be cavalierly tossing their nickel antes in Cannon Beach this month.

FLOATING ... BUT WET

Joan Rosenstock & Neil Callahan (3146 PBPL) are proud parents of Abigail Rose born July 24, 1991, 6 lbs. 11 oz. She is probably the youngest resident now on Portage Bay Place ... James & Aimee Schermer (2770 WL) welcome their new baby daughter Natalie Elizabeth, born October 1, 1991.

KNOTS TIED

Peg Boley, our newsletter artist, & Buzz Mersereau (2818 Boyer) were married aboard the ferry "Skansonia" on November 30, 1991. They honeymooned in Mazama cross country skiing. Tom Stockley, houseboater and wine expert, helped them pick the wine for the wedding and they used neighbor Bob Joppa's place (who was out of town) to store it.

SNAKE IN THE KNICK KNACKS

Peter & Brigitte Erickson and children Ava and Alexander visited family in Europe over the holidays. Three shifts of friends were entrusted with the care of their menagerie and plants. One of the duties neighbor Leslie Rubicam wasn't relishing was feeding live crickets to Ava's pet snake. She was relieved of this duty when the snake turned up missing after friend #1's caretaking duties concluded. After an intensive search, the snake was nowhere to be found. On the night the Ericksons were to be picked up at the airport, friend #3 discovered the snake curled up in Ava's knick knacks in the shelf under the aquarium. All ended well and Leslie never had to feed the snake (she admits she was more nervous about the live crickets than the snake.)

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Waterlog continued...



They also used Bob's oven to cook the 40 lb. salmon which was a gift from the bridegroom's in-laws. Buzz and Peg's kitchen counters weren't big enough for the huge fish so they improvised with part of it flapping into the sinks while preparing it ... Kerry Brock & John Seigenthaler of Phoenix Moorage, both KOMO TV newscasters, were married in January.

WELCOME ABOARD

Becca Bryant is a new neighbor at 2818 Shelby. She too works at REI so she can car pool with Peg Boley ... Will wonders never cease? George Johnston (our all-around fix-it person) and wife Racquel will actually stay at the houseboat they own on 2025 FV while it is between renters.

GET WELL WISHES

Alfa McClung (2331 FV) who turned 93 on January 18 suffered a stroke in December and is for now at Ballard Convalescent Center. This remarkable lady has been on the Lake since 1960. A great knitter, Alfa kept many of her friends and neighbors on Tenas Chuck in wool sox (known locally as Alfa socks) and cared for her beloved cats, Misty & Teela.

FLORA AND FAUNA

A muskrat is still making the rounds on FV near Pete's. It was spotted in a planter at 2235 ... the BIG beaver is still chewing things up on FV too. It got 1/3 of the way through the trunk on a tree at 2207 FV before the chicken wire brigade stepped in ... it was so frustrated with the chicken wire that protects Barb Walkover's tree (2235 FV) that it started chewing the corner off her house ... Paul Pinnel (2812 WL) has built a little floating duck hotel which the ducks haven't discovered yet. It will hold 2 large or 3 small ducks and features large open windows and a large luxurious deck ... in January, sea lions were sighted at the 2812 WL dock and

raccoon fights were awakening ... the Portage Bay great white heron was spotted atop her neighbor's house by Solweigh Hammond at Houseboat Harbor.

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

Nancy & Roger Johnson's twin sons Erik and Mark graduated from the University of Washington and Stanford but I don't know which from which (that must be the story of their lives — sorry guys) ... Mike Myers & Carol Huff who share houseboat 10 on 2235 FV almost never park next to each other but one dark and stormy January night they did. Carol's car was between the huge dumpster and Mike's car. That night a hit and run driver smashed the dumpster into Carol's car and Carol's car into Mike's car. Sort of a crumpled metal sandwich. Quick and efficient police work caught the culprit and everything's ok. But here's another important bit of houseboat lore to record. Never park next to your significant other if you both need to use your cars the next day. Luckily Mike drives a big Metro car pool van. Carol wasn't so lucky ... Marilyn Perry (2812 WL) worked on leveling off the building on pilings on their dock. She's now an "expert" and will offer advice gained from personal experience on "falling down buildings on half rotted pilings" and "jacking and shimming." She says she actually had fun — to each her own.

THANKS SUSAN

Susan Susor (1409 Boat St.) is going to make all of us girls look bad if we've ever been a bit peeved with our partner's crafts or hobbies. Her husband Tom (and she) have decided to build an airplane in their houseboat. HONEST. So far a wall has come out and the windows had to be removed to fit the fuselage. This is a full-sized 2-passenger airplane you build from a kit called a FOX. The project will take about 3 years to complete. I guess whining about wood working projects and oily car parts is



photo by Peg Stockley

Duck Hotel — First come, first served!

out now, eh girls? (But Tom, once it's done, how do you get it OUT of the house?)

Make sure your dock or moorage is represented in the next Waterlog. Call Sheri Lockwood with the news and views. Her number is 322-4536. Or better yet, put it in writing and send it to her, care of the FHA office, 2329 Fairview Ave. E., Seattle, WA 98102.

IN MEMORIAM

Ray Wood

A spunky, colorful houseboat pioneer, Ray Wood died February 21 shortly after he celebrated his 87th birthday. Ray bought his house on 2025 FV in 1950 and moved into it in 1953. To put it in historic perspective, this was before I-5 and before his dock (and others) were extended. He was full of early Seattle stories, some acquired as a cab dispatcher. He spent time in Alaska. Dock neighbors recollect being regaled with a "tale or two" of houseboat history he lived. More than 25 people (with one-day's notice) gathered at Jann & Sid McFarlands' in a wake for Ray.

Laurie McCutcheon

Laurie McCutcheon (Phoenix Moorage) died Christmas Day from injuries received in a skiing accident. She was a nationally known demographer and founder of McCutcheon Demographic Research. Our hearts go out to her husband, Paul Kraabel.

Joni Bates

Joni Bates, who ran the Wild Bird Clinic where many of us took injured and abandoned ducks, died in January. She is survived by her husband, Fred, and sons, Michael and Dan. Michael is going to try and continue her work with injured animals. The family suggests remembrances be made to a favorite charity.

Flo Saxby

As a historian, Jewel Bergan-Brumbaugh (2239 FV) was intrigued to discover she had a cousin who was almost a centenarian. They met and that's how Flo Saxby (Aunt Flo) came to live on Fairview Moorings. Aunt Flo got to know a lot of houseboat people and she loved watching the grebes on the Lynn Street Waterway. When she turned 100 in 1989, she left to live by herself because she wanted her own kitchen. On Jan 12, 1992, 125 people came to her birthday, party in Everett. NBC Weatherman Willard Scott sent a letter and a limousine picked her up to take her to the festivities. Then, on Valentine's Day, Aunt Flo died. Two days before that she drove an electric shopping cart in her neighborhood supermarket. Jewel arranged a celebration of life party and 25 people came with only 24-hour notice. Guests dined on the peaches, pears, pickles and jams she had canned last summer. A memorial poem was read and videos played about the life of this interesting woman who knit afghans and read the Seattle P.I. every morning since 1919.



