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Newsletter

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Smooth Sailing

by Bill Keasler – FHA President

Since the Association's Annual Meeting last April, we have had two encounters with representatives of the State Legislature to discuss the state leased land issue. The first was a tour of the lake with a single member of the House Natural Resources Committee and the second was a working session in Olympia before the full Committee. The meetings resulted in a warm feeling among the participants, and the impression of progress.

But, as our lobbyist Mike Ryherd points out, the bad news is that we will still be in Olympia this winter.

You may recall that our most recent altercation with the State Department of Natural Resources was during the last Legislative session. DNR floated a couple bills which seemed designed to kill sales of moorages to their tenants. They would have reclassified any dock with group ownership as "non-water dependent," resulting in fees several times higher than they would be as "water-oriented," our normal designation. It seems they were trying to capture some of the admittedly eye-popping profits which have been realized on the sales of moorages recently.

The bills died in committee, but they left a lingering sense that our sta-

tus was still unsettled. Other state lease "stakeholders" were also lobbying last session, mostly over the alarming increase in fees since 1990. The Committee Chair, Jim Buck (R-Grays Harbor), promised his committee would consider the aquatic lands issue more fully over the summer.

The ranking minority member of the Committee, Debbie Regala (D-Tacoma), met with us on a spectacular Saturday morning last July at Peg and Tom Stockley's place on Fairview. Linda Byers, one of the Committee's staff people came with her. We mustered quite a crowd. In addition to Peg, Sheri Greaves, Marty Alexander, Ann Bassetti and myself, Mike Ryherd and

Continued on page 2...

A CONDO IS BORN

The moorage at 2770 Westlake Ave North, owned by Claude and Elsie Hall since 1940, has become The Old Boathouse, a Condominium. There are 10 houseboats and 11 sites. The odd site is an open-water commons.

Planning and negotiations for the purchase of this property by the houseboat owners began about 18 months ago. All 10 houseboat owners participated in the process, although one houseboat was sold before the new moorage ownership was secured and one was sold afterwards. Jim Schermer, one of The Old Boathouse owners, was the attorney for the purchase negotiations and the organizational structure of the condo. Sam Jacobs, attorney, also contributed to creating the condominium.

This moorage began in 1940 as a place of refuge for houseboats fleeing from Lake Washington due to the installation of the sewer system on the Seattle side. The Hull family managed the moorage, except for the period 1968-80. The Lake Union sewer was installed by 1968 and the Hulls give a 12-year lease to Dick and Colleen Wagner on the condition they install the moorage sewer system. During that time, the Wagners maintained the moorage and operated a traditional small craft livery, The Old Boathouse. That name was unanimously adopted by the condominium owners.

The Old Boathouse evolved into The Center for Wooden Boats, a small craft museum at the south end of Lake Union.



Houseboater Barry Burgess captained our lake tour with Olympia visitors

our lawyer, Peter Eglick, were there. Regala and Byers were looking for background. We may have given them a little more than they bargained for.

We set up a large aerial photo with surveyor-drawn harbor lines (the boundaries of the leases) in the Stockley's living room and proceeded to talk for several hours about the lake and us. We all then trundled into Barry Burgess' boat for a tour of Lake Union and Portage Bay.

Grins all around.

It may be we'll eventually decide that the most significant event for us since the last session actually happened between this first summer meeting and the next one in September. Linda Byers, the Committee staff person, produced an impressive summary of the legislative history of aquatic lands in Washington State. She deserves enormous credit for her effort. It is a model of clarity, comprehensiveness and readability.

She narrates the story of state aquatic lands from pre-statehood to the present. We find that before the 1950's, aquatic lands were sold or given away pretty freely. (A footnote quotes a member of the state Constitutional Convention as offering the following amendment: "If any of the lands of this state have not been given away in this article, the omission to do so is unintentional on our part.")

Public policy shifted in the 1960's toward retaining public lands for public uses. By 1984, when the current aquatic lands law was enacted, the state had decided to hold on to its remaining aquatic lands and administer them according to the "Public Trust Doctrine." By then, only 39 percent of the state's original tidelands and 70 percent of its original shorelands were left.

The 1984 Aquatic Lands Act not only set up a formula for lease fees but also a management philosophy which encourages "direct public use and access."

In the course of relating the 1984 act's background, Byers mentions a bit of legislative intent crucially important to floating homes. Our "water-oriented" designation was crafted to grandfather traditional existing uses such as ourselves, fish processing and wood products manufacturing which might be discouraged under the new policies. These were to pay the water dependent rates until the use of the land changed. There was nothing "ambiguous" at all about this classification, as was claimed by DNR in their attack last year.

In any event, we next met with the legislators in September for a "working session" in which a number of "stakeholders" sat before the full House Natural Resources Committee and discussed what needed to be done with the law as it stands. The stakeholders included marina operators, port representatives, DNR and us (Mike Ryherd and Bill Keasler).

There was no mention of changing our classification at the meeting. Most of the discussion was about rates and their dramatic climb since 1990. Everyone agreed the current law was working pretty well except for the rates and a few other details. There will probably be a few tweaks during the session but nothing dramatic. Jennifer Belcher, the Commissioner of Public Lands, assured us they wouldn't come after condo conversions again this year. It was all very low key and pleasant, in contrast with the tone in 1984, which Byers characterizes in her summary as "ugly" and "bloody."

Smooth sailing ahead, eh? We'll see. As the old adage goes, "no one's life or property is safe while the legislature is in session." Mike will be there for us again in January, just in case.

Dreams

by Bill Keasler – FHA President

Sometimes I feel like a prop in a theme park. My moorage happens to be adjacent to a waterway, so there's a lot of small boat traffic. Often, while I'm "houseboating" on my deck, gawkers in kayaks go by. If I remain very still, they don't notice I'm real.

"Odd paint job," they'll say, gliding up for a closer look.

"Why did they make that window crooked?" Pushing off my deck with their paddles, they haven't quite mastered turning their rental kayak yet. "I like that other one much better."

If I twitch, the spell is broken, and most have the grace to act a little embarrassed. I act amused and indulgent. After all, what can I do? I'm living on a navigable waterway. Boats can go pretty much where they want on the water. Lawyers tell me I probably have no case for trespass until they actually touch my property, although I might get away with a floating fence of some sort ...

Privacy is hard to come by on a houseboat. Even murmured conversations carry for amazing distances over water. Your view window may look directly into your neighbor's bedroom. Somebody on the dock always sees you come and go. Strollers wander by on Sunday afternoon. We live in a public setting.

The reason I'm going on about this is that I'm constantly reminded of how much we depend on the public's good will for our existence.

The latest example has been the state lease issue. Most of us on state land got there in the first place because a sympathetic public wanted to help houseboaters who were losing their moorage to one development or another in the 1960's or 1970's. In 1984 we were given a special category and water-dependant rates because it

seemed clear to everyone that Seattle wanted us to stay. Now, here we are again, at the table in Olympia with the big guys, pounding out policy for the next generation.

Other examples abound. In the 1981 battle over the Equity Ordinance in Olympia, a Queen Anne legislator complained she "didn't understand" what we wanted. Her quote made top of the front page headlines the next day in the Times. We won our battle. She lost her next election.

The Equity Ordinance itself was passed in a series of remarkable votes by the City Council over the course of seven years, in spite of two devastating State Supreme Court decisions along the way.

The public loves us. And we are here because every time our fate is in the balance, the decision makers take the measure of that affection and decide to give us a break.

Why? It's more than the regard usually given to neighborhoods and homeowners. It was there before it was generally understood that we are homeowners.

I think it's because we're the stuff of dreams. You don't stay long in Seattle before the thought crosses your mind that it would be great to live on a houseboat. You come down to the lake one day to take a look. The people are friendly. The setting is spectacular. Someday, you say to yourself, I might do that, too. It seems an achievable goal.

But our demographics are changing. After spending a couple hundred thousand on a place, you're not sure you want the riff-raff peering in your windows or taking an inventory of your deck. Your impulse is to chase them off, gate the dock, keep them away.

Resist the impulse. Take it from me, those dreamy strollers are why we're here. We have no "right" to be on the water. Quite the contrary. Public policy in general forbids over-water residential uses. We have survived only because the people of Seattle want

us here. We shut them out of our lives at our peril.

What if nobody cared the next time some mid-level bureaucrat decides to not renew our state leases? What if the city decides it is not good public policy after all to let us occupy street rights-of-way? Just those two have the potential to take out about half our population, "owned" moorages or not.

So, the next time you chase off a tourist or decide to gate your dock, consider the long term consequences. Even if you don't enjoy sharing a little of your good fortune, there are hard practical reasons for doing it. Affection is easy to spoil. Political capital is easily lost. A friendly smile is a cheap price to pay for survival.

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35th Annual Meeting

Approximately 75 or so houseboaters gathered last April 24 at the George Pocock Memorial Rowing Center for the 35th annual meeting of the Floating Homes Association. This was a new location for us and we would like to thank the Pocock for being such fine hosts. Guest speaker was Rich Haag, designer of Gasworks Park. His topic was "Gasworks: Past & Present."



(left to right) FHA President Bill Keasler, State Senator Pat Thibaudeau and Mike Ryhard, who lobbies on our behalf in Olympia, observe the scene.

photos by Phil H. Webber



Speaker Rich Haag makes one of his many entertaining and informative comments to the crowd which hung on his every word.

FHA Board member Marty Alexander (left) from 2460 Inc. and Jean Butler (right) from Tenas Chuck, monitor the sign-in table.



Holidays

Gift Ideas from the FHA

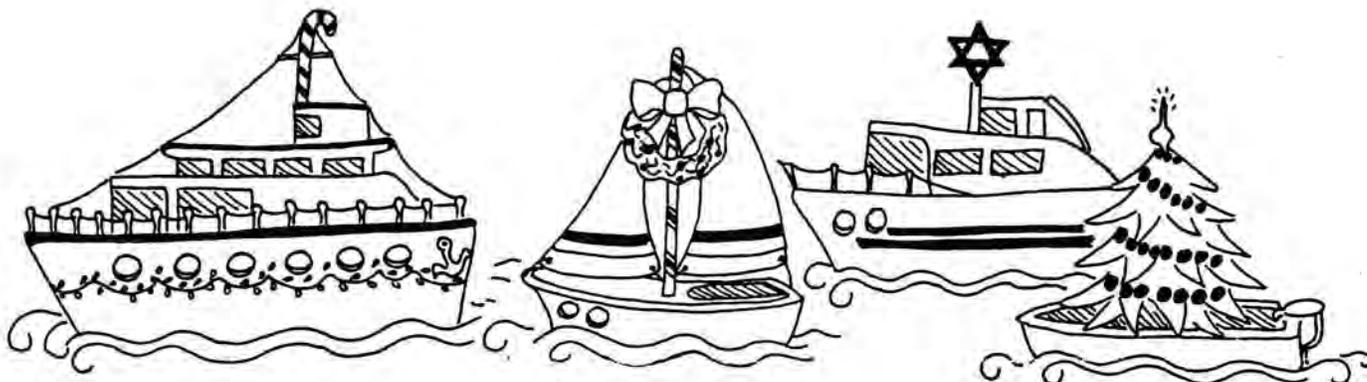
We have a good supply of large and x-large, navy blue sweatshirts for \$20 and our ever-popular cookbook "Floating Kitchens" for \$16.25, available in the FHA office. To assist you with your shopping, we will have the office open from noon-3 on Sunday, December 7, and Sunday, December 14. Cash or checks only please. (For those who don't know, the office is at 2329 Fairview Avenue East, in the parking lot of Tenas Chuck Moorage, about 2 blks. north of Pete's Super). To arrange other shopping hours, call Peg Stockley at 329-7973.

No Kayaking Carolers This Year

Something that won't be happening this year is the kayaking carolers. Organized by the Northwest Outdoor Center, this popular event involves kayakers who pay money to sing for appreciative audiences on many docks and moorages with the proceeds going to the Seattle Children's Home. Because of remodeling work underway at the NOC moorage, the caroling project will be skipped this year but hopefully will return in the future. Northwest Outdoor Center's normal everyday kayaking activities continue uninterrupted.

Christmas Ship Schedule

One of the holiday season's traditional treats around here is the Seattle Parks & Recreation's lighted and decorated ship leading a parade of similarly festive vessels along shorelines of the Seattle area. It seems like every year more and more private boats tag along making almost every night in December a special viewing night. The Christmas Ship and its entourage stops each night at a different park location. Of special interest for those of us on Lake Union will be Tuesday, December 23, from 7:25-7:55 p.m. when the fleet puts in at Gas Works Park. For information, call The Christmas Ship Hotline at 233-2626.



... *Around*

A Neighborhood Emerges

by Marty Alexander – FHA Vice President

The City of Seattle has been trying to put a “trail” of some sort along the west side of Lake Union since the 70s. When Burlington Northern abandoned their right-of-way along the shore, wheels began to turn. Between 1993-1996, funds began to become available for a “multi-use transportation corridor with recreational improvements” through SPIF (Shoreline Park Improvement Funds), ISTEA (Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act), plus over \$4 million for the Westlake Drainage Rehabilitation Project. To coordinate the improvements with the drainage project, Seattle Public Utilities began over a year ago to talk with area residents, business owners and others interested in the corridor improvements.

A November 1996 workshop, facilitated by the Seattle Design Commission, gave participants the opportunity not only to listen to the concerns of their neighbors and professional planners but to put pen to paper with design ideas generated in small working groups. The Seattle Design Commission then took the ideas and concerns expressed in this workshop and developed the initial design for what began to be described as a “pedestrian pathway”. A key conclusion of the workshop was that one plan would not work for the entire length of the corridor and that the path must vary according to the use at a particular site, whether retail, residential, industrial, etc..

Another unforeseen outcome of this whole process was the discovery by the people who live and work on the west side of the lake that we really do consider ourselves a “neighborhood” as opposed to a “corridor.” While there was almost total agreement at the beginning that we would rather the whole project just go away, when it was clear it would not we gelled immediately into a resourceful group for the sake of protecting our unique and somewhat eclectic environment.

After the workshop, a Design Oversight Committee was formed, composed of Public Utilities and planning professionals as well as community liaisons. This committee meets monthly. The timeline calls for the preliminary design to be completed by January and a public meeting to be held. After finalizing the design next spring, contracts should begin to be awarded in the summer and construction begun. If you have questions or would like some input into this process, please contact Marty Alexander, Floating Homes Association rep on the Design Oversight Committee, at 281-0927 or martyalex@msn.com.

Illegal Housebarges

According to a Seattle Times article on October 17, 1997, the city is starting to crack down on illegal housebarges on Lake Union and Lake Washington.

Seattle’s Department of Construction and Land Use has jurisdiction over this matter. Molly Rice, DCLU’s shoreline enforcement inspector, issued the first citation against an unregistered housebarge this fall to the owner of a moorage in the 2400 block of Westlake Avenue North.

Some housebarges were legalized by the city in a 1992 ordinance that recognized only those barges that were moored in Seattle waters prior to June 1990. DCLU spokesman Alan Justad cautioned prospective housebarge buyers to know that the 31 currently registered housebarges are the only ones that will ever be permitted in Seattle waters. A legal permit is transferable from an owner to a buyer for an existing registered housebarge but it is not transferable to a new housebarge.

As part of the decision, DCLU defined the differences between a floating home and a housebarge in this way: Housebarges float freely and can be moved from moorage to moorage. Floating homes are basically stationary and rest atop log or concrete floats, and are linked to city sewer, water and power lines. They must be moored at established floating home moorages and must meet building code standards for residential occupancy.

the Lake

The Brightwater Project

by Dick Wagner

Those who live, work, learn and/or play on Lake Union enjoy one of Seattle's most unique havens - an oasis in a busy city. But the pressures of human use leave their mark on that haven. Lake Union abuts some of the city's busiest areas and, thus, comes in for more than its fair share of carelessly tossed litter. Add to that the one-two weather punches that Mother Nature tossed at Seattle this past winter and, all of a sudden, there's a lake full of floating debris. Sure, some of it will sink before it washes up on shore, but then it becomes part of another, more persistent problem — water pollution.

Fortunately, for more than a year, there's been a project going on aimed at eradicating this very problem. The project is called "Brightwater" and it's the brainchild of the Center for Wooden Boats and the Floating Homes Association, with funding from Seattle's Department of Neighborhoods. It's a simple concept: Don't wait until waterborne debris washes up on the shoreline or lodges under piers, houseboats and moorages: Go out and pick it up now!

The volunteers at CWB have been fishing all sorts of things - many of which you'd rather not hear about or see - out of the lake for years, as have houseboaters and liveaboards. All of these good folk have been doing this without much in the way of decent equipment - just a few rakes, shovels and nets - and they've been disposing of the debris at their own expense. Under a grant from the Department of Neighborhoods, CWB has refurbished a classic Poulsbo boat to serve as a floating platform for lake clean-up work and acquired a towable oil and debris boom to corral messes before they hit the shore or sink into the ooze. The boat is as ecologically sound as they come since the CWB volunteers converted it to electric propulsion.

The city grant has ended but the Brightwater project continues. FHA members have always done their part day-to-day from their own docks or on the water. At the Center for Wooden Boats, the emphasis now is on scheduled clean-ups. One was done October 11th when more than a dozen enthusiastic volunteers set forth from CWB in rowboats, an Umiak and the Poulsbo boat to bring in floating debris. It was but the first of what will be semi-annual Lake cleanups using the equipment and knowledge that has come about through Brightwater.

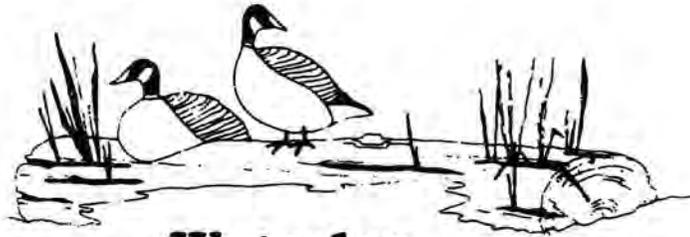
Be A Rep for the FHA

The Floating Homes Association is looking for a couple of houseboaters who would be willing to get involved in two very important community endeavors now underway in our area and represent our floating homeowners point-of-view.

1) Eastlake Tomorrow — a neighborhood planning effort that will be making recommendations to the Seattle City Council in mid-1998 on subjects such as the Eastlake business district, community design, diversity, north gateway, open space and transportation. Documents are available for public review at the FHA office, Lake Union Mail, and <http://oo.net/oo/> et. Upcoming meetings are a Diversity Workshop & Potluck on Saturday, Nov. 8, 9:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at St. Patrick's Parish Hall; Transportation Planning Team, 7 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 6 & Dec. 4, at 2239-G Fairview Ave. E; Steering Committee, 5:15 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13 & Dec. 13, at Hart Crowser, 1910 Fairview Ave E; and the Open Space Planning Team, 7 p.m. Monday, Nov. 17, at Seattle Police Officers Guild.

2) The Lake Union District Council meets on the first Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Fremont Neighborhood Service Center. Created by the city's Department of Neighborhoods, this council and others like it in other parts of the city, consider issues affecting our own environs. Most recently the group reviewed project proposals for Neighborhood Matching Funds.

If you are interested in either one of these volunteer opportunities (on behalf of the houseboat community), please call Peggy at the FHA office, 325-1132.



Waterlog

by Sheri Lockwood

It's October and it's sunny. This is such a new and unusual experience maybe the millennium has already come and gone and I somehow made it to heaven. NAH!

For the rest of the docksters who are having trouble juxtaposing sun and unstored deck furniture with the idea of Halloween costumes and who to invite for Thanksgiving and groaning at the thought of Christmas shopping, we will provide respite with a look into the past—the summer of '97.

WELCOME ABOARD

Rick Miner, the "Creative Lifestyle Specialist" who helps people buy houseboats, decided to practice what he preached. He and his wife Joyce have bought a houseboat and moved aboard at 2727 FV. They left their condo and storage areas to live on an 800 sq foot houseboat. Every board has been replaced (circa 1923)" he says. They also have another small houseboat on 2039 FV to handle visits by their kids, family and friends... Lynn and Doug Lee are new neighbors on 2460 WL and were quickly introduced to houseboat politics when major dock construction and a "housebarga" invasion threatened just a few feet south of their dock... new on the Log Foundation (FV) are Victoria Slover (who bought the "Tin Shack") and Heinz Strobl who moved into the house at the head of the dock. Laurel Doody is welcomed to 2341 FV, and Alison Dotter and Tom Edwards have come aboard on Dox Coop (FV)... Moving onto Phoenix Moorage (2351 FV) in November will be Tom Stichman, a pilot for Alaska Airlines.

RETURNING TO PORT:

This is a new heading — gossip-mongering has never turned up so many former docksters who just couldn't stay away. AHOY and welcome back to: Peter Vogt and Allie Morris who are moving back to 2420 WL with their 3 year old son Sage... John and Shelley Herron are back on Flo Villa (FV) after a year in a houseboat community in Alameda, California (across the bay from San Francisco). Their California dock offered new twists on our lifestyle—such as salt water, tidal action and massive freighters passing right past the living room window... August Piper has moved from Portage Bay to 2766 (WL), and Dick and Kelly Patterson (who used to live on Dox Coop) have found their way back to the lake and are now at the end of 2031 FV... Not new, but you might say the return of Joe Junker to Hamlin Pier fits nicely into this category. He moved back into his newly remodeled house as a result of it tipping over in last winter's snow-

storm... Drs. Peter Brandon and Ellen Wilber and their baby daughter, Nicola, are back at home on Phoenix Moorage in their charmingly remodeled houseboat next to shore.

FLORA AND FAUNA

The beavers have dined on yet another houseboat tree on 2727 FV. Reel out that chicken wire to wrap around the bases of your ornamental trees, before they become garnish. On 2321 FV, pet cats were being threatened by a mother raccoon and her new babies, so they got a safe trap and relocated them to Snohomish. The game department will rent safe traps, and some of our urban wildlife

can be destructive, but

as they are part of what makes our

community special we try to give

the critters as much

leeway as possible. But,

PLEASE, don't

feed the raccoons

or any other wild

creatures! It's been fun

having the kingfishers back, and their rattling "Banzai" cry as

they launch themselves from the condo across from Pete's

Supermarket (FV) into the lake.



KNOTS TIED:

On the Log Foundation (FV) Judy Shaw (2025) and Jack Tolliver tied the knot this summer, and Jamie Thurner (2019) and Mark Sanderson were married in June. They flew with another couple to San Francisco after the wedding to sightsee. Liz Allen of 2019 FV opened her home for a dessert party for them and 2019 residents turned out to wish them well. Anne Nickless and Mike Kerlin (Flo-Villians) got married in Colorado, where most of Anne's family lives.

ANCHORS AWEIGH

Houseboaters enjoy such a lovely lifestyle, why are they always going away? Well, yes, when it rains it DOES seem rainier here, with the wetness ALL AROUND—and of course, there is water and dryness (what a novel idea) in other parts of the world. On the Log Foundation (FV) Jann McFarland visited family in El Paso, Texas. She says there are three reasons to visit El Paso in October: turquoise jewelry, great Mexican food and sunshine. Linda Knight (2025) and her friend Carolyn visited Carolyn's daughter, Connie, in Madison, Wisconsin. They also visited Las Vegas and the Grand Canyon. Liz and Allen Shaw (2019) recently vacationed in Paris, Bob Burks and Blair Robbins (2019) are in Italy. Kris and Clay Eaton (2025) went on a long kayak adventure after completing heavy-duty "survival classes" (hearty souls), and

Sandy McQuirk (2025) traveled to Philadelphia for a week. She has been one of the main spokespersons for the Dental Hygienist's initiative. She's been interviewed on TV and radio and has been all over the state appearing at community meetings. From the DOX CO-OP: Zella Jeannette and Peter Howard were in Norway for two weeks, are now touring the US by train and then will be off to their home away from home (all over Mexico). Ruth and Bob Schroeder spent September in Ireland touring bed-and-breakfasts in the south and at an Elder-Hostel just north of Dublin. Chuck and Elaine Magnusson also visited Norway, and this reporter finally realized a long held dream and spent a week in and around New Orleans. My tickets were a birthday present from a friend who won them. All my senses came alive: great music, great food, wonderful smells, bayous, plantations, ghosts, music, GREAT FOOD, air boats, paddle-wheelers, fortune-tellers, voodoo, Wonderful FOOD... Dan and Sharon Ranney (Flo-Villains) spent many happy days at their property north of the Campbell River... Joyce and Bob Brown, (2606 PBPI), spent April through September cruising SE Alaska in their boat the "Joyce B." This is their 10th trip up there. They went as far north as Icy Springs and visited almost all of the SE—Sitka to Ketchikan. Bob was the 1st president of the Floating Home Association and had the 1st houseboat connected to sewers. Annette Brigham and Cynthia Bradshaw (2321 FV) kayaked the Queen Charlotte Island accompanied by friends. They spent 3 weeks, saw almost no people, but did spy eagles and bear, the rain forest, moss, and enjoyed the stillness. They visited a native village, with totems and frolicked in hot springs with 3 different pools... Paulette Brunner (2420 WL) visited Germany on business. She says the work wasn't much fun but the week after was GREAT! Neighbors report that Owen Hazelton spent five weeks in England visiting friends. His neighbors are glad he's back... Bruce and Pam Dietz (2460 INC) toured Tuscany by bicycle this fall and lived to tell about the earthquake. At the time the earthquake struck they were in Arezzo, which is not far from the epicenter in Perugia. They say it's quite something to be in the middle of a natural disaster when you speak a foreign language. As an added attraction they explored skiing possibilities in the Dolomites, where you can ski between scenic villages for days... Marty Alexander (2466 WL) comme toujours, spent the fall in France and Italy guiding groups of watercolor painters to scenic landscapes. This year was particularly notable for the weather—6 weeks with only ONE DAY of rain!... Frank and Carol Flannigan (2466 WL) vacationed on the loveliest "hotel barge" in France this September. When they mentioned to the cook that they were from Seattle, she said that she had a friend in Seattle. Small world—it was Marty Alexander, who charts the same barge every year for her painting groups... Robert and Surain af Sandeberg

celebrated Robert's big 5-0 by kayaking in the most remote island group they could find—the Banggai Islands off the east side of Sulawesi in Indonesia. They paddled there for two weeks, found marvelous snorkeling, slept on the beaches and stilt huts, drank lots of coconut milk and were greeted by curious, friendly, helpful people throughout. Hot, Hot, Hot! In September they took their kayaks to Glacier Bay in Alaska and paddled amongst the icebergs, sea lions, humpbacks, grizzlies and surf scoters (and rain) for a week in September... Bill & Jane Sutherland (2727 FV) are selling their houseboat and going cruising for 3 years in their Grand Banks 49 starting in the East Coast's Intra-Coastal Highway... Bill and Karen Evenden (2460 WL) launched a new 52 foot Beneteau sailboat in September - in France! Bill met his new boat in the small town of Gruisan in southern France on the Mediterranean Sea. He spent the next month commissioning the boat, which he will keep in the "Med" for the coming season. After that, who knows where the wind will take them... Rick Blank and Laurie Balistrerie (Flo-Villains) cruised Desolation Sound for two weeks in their new sailboat, White Raven.

OUT OF DRYDOCK

Catastrophic! No better way to describe it when Bob Anderson (2331 FV) had a climbing accident last summer which left him with 11 broken bones in one hand, clobbered ribs, shoulder, etc. Not surprising, this all happened on a peak in the North Cascades named Mt. Formidable. Much to his Tenas Chuck neighbors delight and amazement, Bob has recovered almost to the cast-less category. While recuperating, he hiked the Inca Trail in Peru (you can't keep a good man down) and he's got plans to climb big-time again... Late in September Robert and Surain af Sandeberg joined houseboat friends at Kay Jones' property north of Spokane. While there Robert was stricken with a cerebral hemorrhage. Via ambulance and helicopter, he was transported to the trauma center in Spokane where a large blood mass was removed during surgery. He is home now, with outpatient therapy at the U of W. All is going miraculously well. Surain says "At a time like this, the nearness and camaraderie of the houseboat community is reinforced. We're so grateful for the outpourings of concern and for all the welcome support. Thank you all so very much..." We are also grateful to hear that Leonard Johnston (2466 WL) has rebounded from a devastating fall and broken hip. After almost 50 years of houseboat living he became temporarily stranded in a nursing home this summer. But he was determined to get back on the water, and with the help of friends and neighbors, he's made it. So toot your horn or yell hello to a truly veteran houseboater when you float by the turquoise and lavender houseboat at the end of the 2466 WL dock.

Continued on page 10...

Waterlog continued...

MEDIA MADNESS

Cathy Major (2460 WL) was seen escorting a couple of "suits" around in her Whaler recently. Turns out they were from the Seattle City Council, being shown the reality of the housebarge and "Flukemobile" situation from the "water's eye" view... This summer the Discover Channel sent a crew from the TV show "Traveller" to check out Seattle and they included the houseboat community. Jann McFarland took them around the neighborhood first by sailboat, courtesy of Kurt and Theresa Jones who commented about the community. Then they visited Rob Rudine and Janet Yoder in the sovereign country of Tui Tui (3235 1/2 FV). Then on to Hazel Nigh's for a bit of houseboat history. Jann would like to thank Mack Hopkins and Bob Burke and Blair Robbins for being ready to host the crew, but they ran out of time. Elissa Kamiuys (2017 FV) was also on the show as the flower shop where she works at the Pike Place Market was featured. Other electronic media madness includes Sheri Lockwood and Marty Alexander ON THE PHONE—talking about how to send and receive their E-MAIL messages... Jann McFarland faxing Waterlog gossip that she wrote on the airplane on the way to Texas. Your gossip will get to you one way or another—these women are NOT to be DETERRED... If you haven't seen it yet, you should. Channel 13, our new Lake Union neighbor, produced a great program entitled "Lake Union Reflections: Past and Present". A copy is available for viewing at the FHA office, on loan.

SPLICE THE MAINBRACE

This is another term that should be explained. It is a double tot for a job well done, or an invitation aboard for free drinks—and to say to a friend "Let's splice the mainbrace!" is synonymous with "Let's have a drink!" This is why it is used as the heading for the party section of the "Waterlog"... Seven 2420 Westlakers celebrated 5 September birthdays by going to the "Chef's Table" at Fuller's Restaurant, in which you get to eat IN the kitchen! They have a table set up on the side

of the hubbub, with china and crystal. The chef personally serves each dish, explaining what's in it and so on. In between courses you get to walk about and kibbutz with the cooks. Participating were: Bob and Joan Baily, Jan Eisenhardt, Lesley Hazleton, Eugene Nutt, Roger Willsie and Ann Bassetti... October birthdays are also worth mentioning, especially since statistics say more people are born in October than any other month. One case in point is houseboater Bob Lilly (better known as Uncle Bob), who has lived and gardened on Tenas Chuck for more than 27 years. Happy 50th, Bob! Professionally, he sells perennials to growers, and he's one of the principal designers of the NW Perennial Alliance Border at the Bellevue Botanical Garden... Log Foundation (2019) celebrated Hazel Nigh's 89th birthday with a potluck on the dock complete with champagne and birthday cake... Flo-Villa (2207 FV) is celebrating 30 years since its founding! This was the first co-op dock in Seattle and provided a safe haven to the 14 houses that gathered there. They celebrated with a party on a beautiful sunny Sunday in September. All past residents and owners who could be found were invited, and many came. T-shirts were designed for the occasion and tales of yore were told. Water games were played and the potluck was devoured. Everyone had a great time, and more of Flo-Villa's history has been gathered and will be kept alive for posterity... Just to the north of Flo-Villa, the Dox Co-op held it's annual garage sale and party. This time they combined them. Topping off the festivities was a pie-baking contest featuring 15 of the 31 households. The winners received a beautiful ribbon, and the Grande Prize winners received a medallion in the shape of a slice of pie with the number "1" carved from it. This is to be displayed on their



houseboat, until is passed on to next year's winner. Sandy McAusland was the metal-crafter responsible for the medalion and Linda Knutson provided prizes, organization and policing of those inclined to bribing judges. The judges: Caroline Kuknyo, former Dox-ite, Joseph (the mailman) and Thea Yeannakis (impervious to her mom's pleas for prize standing—her mom Debbie went so far as to decorate her delicious pumpkin pie with crusty letters spelling out "MOM"). These are the winners of Dox's first "Pie-Off"—sorry Debbie. Third prize: Bev Mattson, Second prize: Susie Jenkins, First Prize: Diane Madenwald, and the Grand Prize winners were Sheri Lockwood (much to her neighbors surprize, as she can't cook a lick!) and her roommate Dariusz Rawa (who CAN cook). The Medallion duly exhibited has already caused one pizza delivery person to turn around and leave—It says ONE, the houseboat number is TWO. But, it's a small price to pay... Tenas Chuck is becoming literally a floating mecca for music. For the 3rd year in a row, the moorage hosted "Bach On The Dock" featuring cellist Paige Stockley, whose parents happen to live on 2331 FV, joined this year by cellist Dave Beck, who also is known as the voice of KUOW's Weekday. Not to ignore other music forms, a month later jazz came to Tenas Chuck in the form of the Sy Turner Trio. Both events were blessed by beautiful weather. There's nothing like dangling your feet in the water, lifting your face to the sun, sippin' and listening to fine music!

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

Our editor has suggested that once every twenty years or so we should explain some of the headings for the sections of the Waterlog (whether its needed or not). Flotsam is the wreckage of a ship or it's cargo found at sea-or a person or thing that is adrift. Jetsam is goods that have been thrown overboard to lighten a ship in distress and that often washes ashore, or things tossed aside as useless. Together they can mean "this and that".

So here is some category-less gossip: Rachel Emery (2466 WL) has spent the last year and a half on various vessels sailing around the world. Her most recent card from Madagascar commented on the overwhelming poverty, tempered by the incredible beauty and friendly people... Chris and Steve Neilson have been living on the lake for sometime now. They

are now at Log Foundation after living at Mallard Cove and another Fairview moorage. He has had his car stolen twice since he has lived down here... Erin Roche and Mark Koenig (2420 WL) made the gross error of starting a small project on a weekend last summer. They now have completely torn out and re-built their bathroom, and are down to the stringers in the living room! Their neighbors are hoping they get it closed up by the time the snow flies. Bev Mattson has entered the "tugboat business," but only on warm windless days. She noticed from her deck on Dox Co-op that one of her former neighbors (now on Tenas Chuck Moorage) Caroline Kuknyo was becalmed on her new sailboat. Caroline got Bev's attention, and Bev went to the rescue. She swam out, put the bow line around her waist and towed Caroline to her houseboat (a small jaunt to the north). Houseboaters and boaters cheered them along. Upon arrival Bev threw the line to Caroline and pushed her into her slip. After being promised dinner at Caroline's place for that "good deed" Bev headed for home, —via the water. A south wind kicked up, and Bev had to buck it for a while (Gasp!) but she made it (the little tug that COULD). She says "I think Caroline has forgotten her obligation by now" — Tch!)... Chris Houck & his wife, Lynne, (2727 FV) celebrated their 1st anniversary and her parents 40th in the Galapagos in June.

So that's the fall Waterlog. I wish you all health and happiness in the holidays to follow. Please contact me if you have news from your docks. My phone number is 322-4536. My e-mail is dillo@raincity.com, and my page (which includes houseboats and links to other houseboats around the world) is <http://www.raincity.com/sheri/>...Please visit and leave me your e-mail addresses and news.

I checked on news from other houseboat communities via the WEB this time and found that the Gangplank dock in Washington D.C. had a Boaters Appreciation Day Party on October 4th. They had steel drum music, food, beer and wine. Sounds like fun—they also noted typical dock problems—pick up after your dogs, wind warnings and recycling reminders. Next time I'll try to get news from more docks as well as our own.

Remembering

Computer guru, outdoorsman and long-time houseboater - David Kruglinski - died last April paragliding in the Methow Valley, Okanogan County. According to his neighbor, Lois Loontjens, Dave purchased his houseboat in the mid-70s from the east end of Portage Bay and brought it to 3256 Portage Bay Place East replacing a houseboat that was moved to the Fairview side of Lake Union. He was one of the founding members of the Lake Investment Fund which loaned money 15 years ago to purchase what is now known as the Salix Moorage. A self-taught programmer, writer and teacher, David enjoyed hiking and climbing. He began paragliding in the late 1980s and gained an international reputation as an excellent and unconventional pilot, setting records along the way. His fifth book, *Inside Visual C++*, is a best-selling title, now in its fourth edition, for Microsoft Press.

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