



NUMBER 91

Newsletter

FEBRUARY 1982

Lake Investment Fund Helps Buy Dock

by Stephen Dunphy

The Lake Investment Fund, after waiting in the wings for several years, finally has done what it was established for — helped a group of floating home owners buy their own moorage.

The deal was closed in early December when the fund loaned \$32,000 to the Salix Associates partnership formed by houseboat owners David Kruglinski, Lois Loontjens, Janiese Loeken, and Greg and Kathy Maxwell. Their moorage includes the first four houseboat sites east of the University Bridge at 3254-3260 Portage Bay Place East. The money helped the group buy the land, dock — and a house on land that is part of the property — insuring that floating homes will always be there.

That is what the fund was set up to do several years ago. But, until now, the right deal and the right project never appeared. There were several preliminary discussions with various groups, but those never worked out.

The fund, with about \$38,000, has been held in a money-market fund over the past few years, earning the high interest rates available there. It proved to be a good deal for investors, allowing them to get the high interest rates for a low investment. Fund shares are sold in \$500 lots. Most money market funds limit the smallest investment to about \$2,000.

But through it all, the fund was always interested in loaning the money to a houseboat group so that they could buy their own dock. Time was spent developing guidelines and rules so that when the time came the fund would be able to move, and move quickly to help a potential dock organization. "We're just plain delighted that we could do it," said Sue Drum, a board member.

The only trouble with the fund is that most of its assets are tied up helping the Portage Bay dock. New investors are needed to help build additional funds so that the next dock can be helped when it comes along.

With the inflated prices of land, even \$38,000 does not go far in enabling the Lake Investment Fund to help floating home owners. Trustees of the fund would like to see it continue to grow over the years so that the fund would be in a position to help a larger dock when the time comes. A fund with assets of \$100,000 would give potential buyers of docks real clout.

Unused money in the Lake Investment Fund will continue to be invested in a money market fund because it offers high interest rates and the ability to give the fund quick access to its cash. Shares in the fund are sold in \$500 lots but there is no limit on the number of shares a person may buy. Dividends are paid each year from the interest earned on the investment — until the money was loaned to the Salix Associates, the fund had been earning interest in excess of 13 per cent.

New shareholders or present shareholders who want to increase their participation in the fund should contact Rose Marie Parker at 342-1714.



Photos by Joathan Ezekiel

TOP: Jim Donnette, President of the Lake Investment Fund, and new moorage owners Greg Maxwell, Lois Loontjens, Kathy Maxwell, Dave Kruglinski, and Janiese Loeken get together to celebrate their cooperative moorage purchase.

ABOVE: The property includes a picturesque yard, four houseboat sites, and a house on land. The total purchase price was \$280,000.

Houseboat owner wins jury verdict against being evicted

by Susan Gilmore
Times staff reporter

A Portage Bay houseboat owner has won her four-year fight to keep her home from being sent adrift in an eviction dispute.

A King County Superior Court jury found in favor yesterday of Juliette Sauvage, who had been charged with unlawful detainer for refusing to move her houseboat from its moorage at 3002 Fuhrman Ave. E.

The five-day trial was the second for Ms. Sauvage, who has lived on her old wooden houseboat in Portage Bay for 10 years. In August, a jury was unable to reach a verdict. Yesterday, it took the jury less than three hours to reach a decision to allow Ms. Sauvage to stay.

The issue involves Seattle's houseboat equity ordinance and the right of a moorage owner to evict a tenant from his dock.

Ms. Sauvage's moorage is owned by Dr. Albert Lee, a retired Mercer Island physician, and his son, James Lee, who works for a Mercer Island real-estate firm. Since April, James Lee, manager of the pier, has been trying to evict Ms. Sauvage, saying he wants to move onto the dock in his own houseboat.

Ms. Sauvage argued that Lee had other reasons for evicting her, and testified to a series of disputes over the past few years that she has lived on the dock.

James Lee sent Ms. Sauvage an eviction notice early this year, ordering her to leave the dock by April 1. Because there was no other place to moor

her houseboat, she refused to budge. Lee asked the courts to force her out and filed an unlawful-detainer complaint.

Under the Seattle equity ordinance adopted in 1977 and later amended by the Seattle City Council, a moorage owner can switch his tenants from one spot to another only if the owner intends to move into the vacant site. In addition, moorage owners are required to find another site for the evicted tenant.

The state Supreme Court struck down that key part of the law last year and declared unconstitutional the requirement that a new moorage site be found for the ousted tenant.

The City Council then repaired what the high court considered the flaw in the law, adding the provision that if another moorage site isn't available, the owner can instead pay the houseboat owner the value of his boat.

Ms. Sauvage tried to use that amendment as her defense. But Superior Court Judge David Soukup struck down the amendment last spring and said that forcing a moorage owner to pay the value of the evicted houseboat would be prohibitively expensive.

Thus, her only legal defense was trying to convince jurors that Lee did not intend to move onto the dock and that Lee was trying to oust her as retaliation for protesting past rent increases.

In neither trial could jurors hear that Ms. Sauvage's houseboat, valued at \$70,000, would be worthless without a moorage space.

An appeal is expected.

James Lee said that he has been planning to move into Ms. Sauvage's moorage site for months.

(An appeal has been filed by James Lee.)



Association Mailbag

A Victory for "Little Folks"

To the Association:

As you must know, after a five day trial, the jury returned with a verdict in my favor. It was a wonderful victory for all of us "little folks" who have ever had to bow down in the face of inhumane behavior and megabucks.

Thank you, with all my heart, for your moral and financial support. This trial could not have come out well without the help of you all. Larry Ransom was absolutely brilliant in exposing the best and worst in the witnesses he questioned. His thorough preparation and expertise really did let the truth shine through.

We also have some new allies in the jurors who asked me to join them in a celebration drink after the trial. They said that their friends from Vashon to Mercer Island are going to learn more than they probably ever wanted to know about the plight of some of us floating home owners.

So champagne and roses to all of us! **Juliette Sauvage.**

Thanks for Legal Support

To the Association:

On behalf of my client, Juliette Sauvage, let me personally thank you and your organization for the consistent support shown us throughout the most recent unlawful detainer action filed by James Lee. Larry Ransom's assistance in this case was invaluable. Particularly in light of the outcome, I feel that the investment by the Floating Homes Association in this case was prudently made. Our thanks to your membership for their moral and financial showing of support. **Paul F. Seligmann**

Good Words from California

To the Association:

Keep up the good work! Seattle's houseboat community has much more charm and warmth than the much publicized Sausalito area! **Clark Gerhardt**

(Clark, who owns a houseboat at 1222 E. Shelby, is presently working in San Francisco.)

Association President, Neighbor Fight Eviction

Following a year of strange twists and turns through both the courts and the city building department, Floating Homes Association president Bill Keasler and Caryl Keasler and their neighbor Michael Douglas are facing possible evictions. The Keaslers and Douglas own houseboats at 2201 Fairview where they have lived ever since that dock was built over ten years ago. Dock owner Frank Granat, Jr. has been trying to move the two houseboats out because, he says, he wants to move in two of his rental houseboats that are on another dock.

The Seattle Equity Ordinance clearly states that the only reason a moorage owner can require a houseboat owner to move his home is if the moorage owner is going to use that site for his personal residence or other personal, non-commercial use. These restrictions were included in the ordinance primarily to prevent dock owners from using the power to move people about for purposes of retaliation or other power plays. As the only two remaining homeowners who originally moved onto the Granat moorage in 1971, Douglas and the Keaslers have a long history of disputes with Granat.

Granat served Douglas and the Keaslers with notices of unlawful detainer last spring, offering them much inferior alternate moorage sites. In a direct challenge to the "non-commercial use" provision in the ordinance, Granat ordered Douglas and the Keaslers to give up their street-end waterway sites on the Boston Rose moorage for two sites which look at the cement bottom side of the Union Bay condominium. These sites at 2321 Fairview are managed by Granat on a long term lease.

City Denies Permit to Move

Not only did Granat's demand violate the Equity Ordinance, but it was not even in compliance with the Seattle Shorelines Master Program which sets strict rules for moving houseboats onto non-conforming docks. One of those rules is that you cannot increase the total float area on a grandfathered, non-conforming moorage. A simple measurement of the four houseboats showed that the float sizes of the Keasler and Douglas houseboats exceeded the combined size of the two Granat rentals by about 300 square feet. Both the city building department and the Seattle Hearing Examiner, on appeal, denied Granat the permit to move Douglas and the Keaslers because it would substantially increase the total float area at an already crowded moorage. Unfortunately, this process was just recently completed and these facts were not established before the courts became involved.

Faced with eviction notices, Douglas and the Keaslers had a summary judgment hearing before Judge Stephen M. Reilly last July. Arguing that his plan would in no way damage the houseboat owners, Granat won this round when Judge Reilly declared the eviction Section 3 of the Ordinance to be unconstitutional as it applied to the facts of this case.

The Facts Change, but Cannot Be Heard

Judge Reilly's ruling was made on the understanding that alternate legal moorage sites were being provided. Expecting Reilly's ruling to be applied to the facts of this case and to the question of forced site changes, lawyer Larry Ransom sought to argue in an August Superior Court trial that Mr. Granat was not really offering legal alternate moorage, since it did not conform to requirements of the Shorelines Master Program.

Superior Court Judge Robert E. Dixon would not allow Ransom to present these facts because Judge Reilly's order was worded so as to throw out **all** of Section 3, leaving Douglas and the Keaslers with no Ordinance, no eviction protections, and no case. Although Judge Dixon did agree with Ransom's argument that, under the Ordinance, Granat had not given proper notice to vacate, with Section 3 gone this no longer mattered. Refusing to hear further testimony, the court awarded Granat a writ of restitution which allows him to evict Douglas and the Keaslers on three-days' notice without providing alternate sites.

Bonds Set at \$20,000 Each

Following the Superior Court trial, a bond hearing was held to determine how much money Douglas and the Keaslers would have



Photo by Caryl Keasler

These two houseboats, owned by Bill and Caryl Keasler and Michael Douglas are in danger of being evicted from their moorage sites at 2201 Fairview East.

to post in order to stop the evictions, pending an appeal. Granat argued that he would be grievously damaged if he were delayed in his moving-remodeling project, because it would postpone the time when he could charge huge rental fees for his new remodeled houseboats. Cutting Granat's request in half, Judge Dixon set the two restitution bonds at \$20,000 each.

This bond is a guarantee that if the homeowners appeal the case and lose, they will be able to pay damages which might be awarded by the court. The only way either Douglas or the Keaslers can now stop an out-and-out eviction is to post \$20,000 cash each.

According to legal counsel for the Association, the importance of this case is that if a moorage owner wants your space for a commercial purpose, he can have it. In this case he doesn't even have to provide another spot. It is essential that this decision be appealed.

Although the Floating Homes Association could help Douglas and the Keaslers with legal assistance for their appeal, the Association cannot post the cash bond. Anyone with ideas as to how the community can help is encouraged to call the Floating Homes office, 325-1132.



JOIN 13th MONTH CLUB

In the first three weeks of 1982, the Association legal fund received \$1736 in donations from members. More and more of our neighbors who are able are accepting the challenge and the responsibility to pay their share by donating a 13th month's rent to the Association.

The concept of the "13th Month" was inspired by the historical fact that early members used to pay \$30, the equivalent of an average moorage fee then, to join the Association. Today, the average moorage fee is about \$150.

Many members joined the 13th Month Club last year and were responsible for doubling legal fund donations compared to 1980. But as moorage owners continue to attack all aspects of the Equity Ordinance, our bills climb too. We must **all** share the burden for our legal protection.

This month, every member will have the opportunity to pledge their support to the Association. When your pledge card arrives, consider carefully the benefits of having an Association such as ours, and the dangers of weakening its ability to act. Then join the 13th Month Club.

Following are the names of 1982 "early-bird" contributors to the legal fund.

13th MONTH CLUB: Charles Ying, Bill and Caryl Keasler, Ann LeVasseur, Amelia Schultz, Paul and Shirley Thomas.

OTHER CONTRIBUTIONS: Elton and Sarah Hall, Burt and Helen Nelson.

Moorage Fee Hearings Begin

NEWSLETTER 4

The Tenas Chuck moorage fee dispute was the first petition for fact finding heard by the Hearing Examiner under the revised Equity Ordinance. Lakeshore Moorings, new owners of the 2331-2339 Fairview property, sought to increase moorage fees, which had been \$112-\$132, up to \$231-\$251, in order to cover mortgage costs. After weighing many factors, Hearing Examiner Leroy McCullough set the Tenas Chuck moorage fees at \$197-\$217, or about 85% of the increase initially sought.

The significance of this ruling is that not all costs, such as mortgage interest, which are incurred in the purchase of a moorage property can necessarily be passed on to homeowners. Factors such as average moorage fees and the CPI increase were weighed against the increased costs and the moorage owners' right to a fair and reasonable return.

In his analysis of what constitute "reasonable and necessary expenses," McCullough states that, "While each floating home moorage will present unique . . . circumstances, the code . . . is read to mean reasonable and necessary expenses for a floating home moorage as opposed to the moorage. Consequently, anomalies of organization, acquisition and the like are afforded limited consideration." On the other hand, the decision did award Lakeshore Moorings a 12% return on their \$120,000 down payment for the property.

Besides the Tenas Chuck dispute, four other petitions for fact finding were filed in 1980. These cases, involving docks owned by Gordon Jeffery, Frank Granat and the Freeman-Gibson-Jeffery partnership, have been delayed by repeated challenges to the constitutionality of various aspects of the fact-finding section of the ordinance.

Six petitions were filed in 1981 and one so far in 1982. Most of these cases have not been heard. But the primary reason for this backlog of cases is that they are awaiting a hearing with the Disputes Resolution Board.

The Board is to function as an informal avenue for resolution of disputes prior to a formal hearing. Margaret Klockars of the Hearing Examiner's office points out that the board is composed of volunteers and has no staff to do its work: write letters, make phone calls, or set meetings.

Tenas Chuck residents and Lakeshore Moorings took their lawyers to the Disputes Resolution Board to try to negotiate a settlement. Their experience was put bluntly by one homeowner: "It cost us \$3,000 in legal fees and achieved nothing. I'm sure the other side feels the same."

Ms. Klockars states that the Hearing Examiner must wait for a decision of the Disputes Resolution Board, or for written request for termination of the Board, as provided for in Section 8 of the Equity Ordinance. Two petitioners have waived the Disputes Resolution Board and have been given dates for fact-finding hearings.

The first, set for February 9, involves the Freeman-Gibson-Jeffery moorage at 2017, 2019 and 2025 Fairview. Freeman's final appeal to the State Supreme Court to stay the hearing, pending an appeal on the constitutionality of the ordinance was denied.

The second case, set for February 22, is to settle a recent moorage fee dispute between moorage owner Robert Skarperud and residents at 2420 Westlake.

SPECIAL CONCERT TICKET SERVICE FOR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

The Floating Homes Association has tickets for two hundred of the best seats in the house for the Pete Seeger concert. **These tickets are \$12 each.** Folk music enthusiasts throughout the area are predicting a sell-out, so order your tickets now.

Mail your order to the Floating Homes office this week. After February 17, call to be sure we still have tickets. **WE WILL NOT HAVE TICKETS AFTER FEBRUARY 24.**

- Make checks payable to Floating Homes Association Concert.
- Give a complete return address and phone number.
- Send to: Floating Homes Association, 2329 Fairview E., Seattle, WA 98102 325-1132.

Words for Terry

Some of the members of the floating homes community and friends have begun sending in special messages for Terry upon his retirement. If you would like Terry to have yours, please write to Terry Pettus c/o Floating Homes Association, 2329 Fairview Ave. East, Seattle, Wa. 98102 and we will see that he gets it.

I recently met a film maker who wanted to make a documentary focusing on the development of just about every progressive movement in the Northwest around the life of Terry Pettus. That struck me as a great idea, a great subject, and a very fitting tribute to a great person.

Mayor Charles Royer

I thank Terry for retaining the floating homes community in Seattle through an inspirational leadership that involved generous doses of shrewd strategy, diplomatic expertise and charm.

Dick Wagner

Probably one of the most knowledgeable men and a true raconteur. He represented us par excellence before the City Council and State . . . an individual, hard to put a stamp on him!

Sue Drum

Wish you the best of all worlds in your retirement from active duty with the Floating Homes Association. We know your heart will always be with the Association and everything the Lake means to you. Our love and respect will be with you always.

Barbara and Elmer Nelson

Best wishes, Terry, for a happy retirement and thanks for all you have done to help floating home owners. When our Association was first organized, things were so bad on the Lake that many people had to sell their homes for \$1. Those homes were then towed away and destroyed. The mayor at that time was very much against houseboats and ordered Lew Shaw to draw up an ordinance that would have the effect of eliminating houseboats. You inspired our fledgling organization to campaign against it by contacting each member of the City Council. We made some very good friends and soundly defeated the houseboat ordinance proposed by the Mayor. This was your first step in the long march you have since made in behalf of the Floating Homes Association. Thanks again Terry, and happy retirement to you.

George Neale

Besides being a caring and loving neighbor, dear Terry, you've helped our community to keep aware of the importance of persevering for justice under the law, for friend and foe alike. You are a mover and shaper. Your courage and dedication are an inspiration to us all for which we are forever grateful.

Elizabeth Jackson and Theodora Ninesteel

Things aren't like they used to be. Terry will know what I mean.

Ruth Foss

If it hadn't been for Terry, there wouldn't have been a floating home left in Seattle . . . For many years he had the help of Berta . . . We were sending 300 letters a day to Washington, D.C. Twenty-five letters from each dock were typed by people who took time from their jobs to type, copy and send important messages to Washington, D.C.

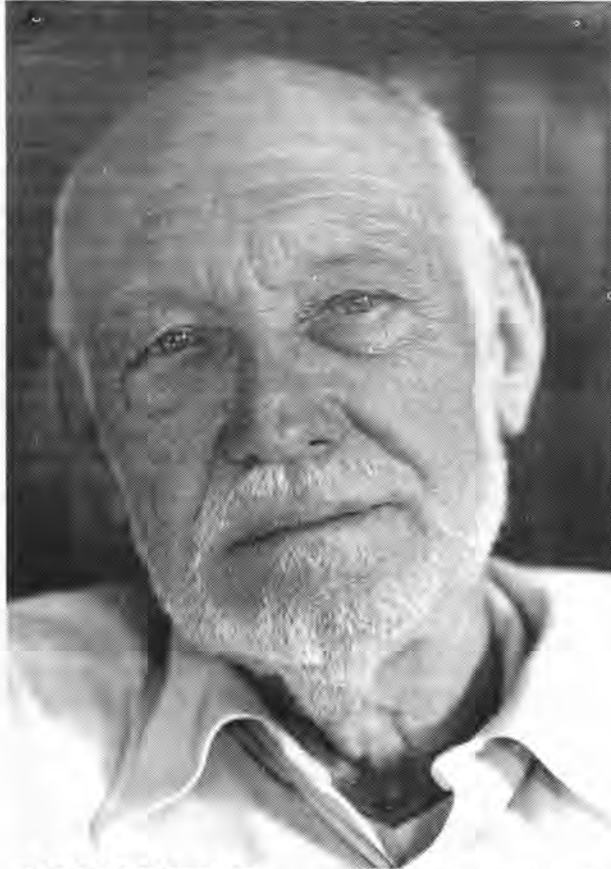
Muriel Ecklund

Terry and Berty once went to Minneapolis for a vacation and were brought back in handcuffs (because of political beliefs) by special deputies . . . and his newspaper career was hurt . . . I've always respected his way of doing things.

Jim Wandesford

TERRY PETTUS TO BE HONORED BY PETE SEEGER CONCERT

by Jean Elmer



TERRY PETTUS

Photo by Anita Klapper

I am both awed and inspired by the number of times and in the great variety of contacts in which I am asked, "Do you know Terry Pettus?" or "Wasn't Terry Pettus involved in that?" Even as Terry retires from active involvement in the life of Seattle and its floating homes community, the knowledge that many are pursuing what he started makes his role an ongoing one.

Larry Ransom

One of the few people I've met that created excitement. He stimulated the people in the houseboats more than anyone I know. One meeting Terry was speaking; we (the houseboats) were in trouble, passed the hat, and got \$3,000! He's a giant.

Bob West

If it hadn't been for Terry there wouldn't be any houseboats . . . Terry has a unique way of organizing and pulling things together. It's a shame he didn't include the property owners. The property owners have been antagonized rather than working together as a family. Terry handles bureaucracy very well and feels most comfortable with it, but the property owners were left out of the family.

Ken Kennedy

For almost forty years Terry Pettus has warmed the hearts of houseboat residents in the floating homes community of Seattle. He is a multifaceted man who has walked with giants of activism, willing to deeply involve himself in the causes he has believed in. His willingness and ability to analyze a situation, put it in historical perspective, commit himself to serious and effective action, and mobilize the involvement of others, has won him the respect and admiration of the houseboat community.

Members of the floating homes community and singer Pete Seeger are honoring Terry Pettus as he retires from active involvement in the Floating Homes Association. A benefit concert featuring Pete Seeger will be held at the Moore Theater (2nd and Virginia) on March 7, 1982 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets will be available through the Bon Marche. There are only 1400 seats. The tickets are \$12 for the main floor and circle balcony, and \$10 for upper and lower balcony seats. They will go on sale in early February. Tickets can be ordered by mail, and even by phone (344-7271), if you wish to charge them. Proceeds from the concert will go to the Floating Homes Association legal and sustaining fund.

Pete Seeger, a powerful activist in his own right, and Terry Pettus have been personal friends for many years. Their friendship reaches back to the days when Pete Seeger began singing songs for the working folks and Terry, as a newspaper reporter, arranged his concerts in union halls and provided publicity for the events. Terry popularized the word hootennany as he used it to publicize Mr. Seeger's concerts. Terry remembered the word hootennany from his boyhood days in Indiana (the Hoosier State).

Terry Pettus' versatility has won him many friends. He has been a newspaper man by profession, a historian by avocation, an actor in the Seattle Repertory Theater, and a deeply involved member and officer of the Floating Homes Association. His tireless efforts to develop the Equity Ordinance that protects floating homes from unjust moorage increases and eviction were as a result of years of assessment of the needs and vulnerabilities of the floating home community.

We all rejoice in people like Terry Pettus and Pete Seeger who care so very much about the problems of others and are willing to take great risks to bring about change for the betterment of others.



Terry has an infectious optimism that the law, if pursued with imagination and enthusiasm, will arrive at equitable and fair solutions to difficult questions.

Bruce Corker

Terry has always been an inspiration to me, first in the Eastlake fight against Roanoke Reef and through the years in memorable conversations with him. I think of him as our orator, humanist, teacher deeply committed to community and to helping people work together, and feel very lucky as a member of his community to know him and to feel the light he sheds on those around him. Thank you, Terry for the love and friendship and leadership you give to all of us, all with warmth and a sense of humor!

Anita Klapper

Terry is one of these rare people whose effect on you is similar to that of a great work of art. Once you've met him, you're never quite the same again. Your horizons are a little broader. Your life is a little richer. He stretches you somehow, and more things become possible. I'm especially intrigued by how he combines a genuine sense of outraged justice with a keen analytical mind. It's a privilege to know him.

Bill Keasler



Matters of Concern

by Bill Keasler

"No man's life or property is safe while the legislature is in session." Anon.

The Association has learned by hard experience to keep a sharp eye on the lawmakers who control the fate of our community. The rhythms of politics in this state demand a special diligence in the spring, and this year is no exception. In fact, we have some reason to believe that both the state legislature and the City Council will require our attention in the next few months.

Although as of this writing nothing with a specific impact on floating homes in Seattle has yet surfaced in Olympia, two factors virtually guarantee that something will be before the current session is over.

The first is the recent uproar over the Department of Natural Resources' decision to dramatically increase their fees for state leased land. The Association is not alone in its concern about this. The moorage owners' Lake Union Association managed to get a bill introduced during the special session last fall which would limit yearly increases to 10%. Other forces are also working hard to save the businesses and jobs in jeopardy due to this crippling and unexpected increase in operating costs. Legislators in both the House and Senate have indicated a willingness to look carefully at DNR's assumptions and procedures. The Association will make sure our interests are well represented in whatever develops but this is really a regional issue over which broader based organizations can and should take the lead.

The second factor is history. For several years running the Lake Union Association's lobbyist, Bill Fritz, has engineered some kind of attack on the Equity Ordinance in Olympia. Fritz is a master at the fine art of applying just the right spin to otherwise acceptable

legislation to gain maximum benefit for his special interest clients. The English he put on the anti-rent control bill last year and the senior mobile homes bill the year before typify his technique. His defeats on our issue have become more emphatic with each attempt, but there is no reason to expect that his employers won't try again. Even this early, the lobbying firm we've retained to help us negotiate the legislative jungle, Northwest Regional Consultants, reports that Fritz' "tracks are everywhere."

On the home front, the City Council is beginning to follow through on the promise made in Section 12 of the Equity Ordinance which states, "On or before the 31st of December, 1981, the City council shall review the operation of this ordinance."

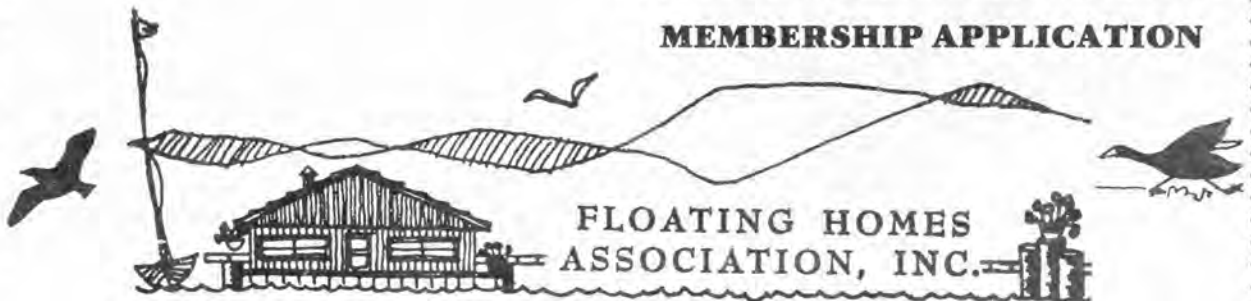
Note, however, that "review" doesn't necessarily imply change. Certainly, those whose power is circumscribed by the ordinance will be pressing hard to dilute its effect. But, the Executive Committee has taken the position that any action at this time would be premature. The binding arbitration process for rental disputes is just now beginning to operate after extended start-up pains. The first hearing — for the Tenas Chuck moorage on Fairview — has just been completed. That both sides are grumbling a little strikes us as being the sign of a good compromise. Several more hearings are tentatively scheduled for the next few months.

Both the fact-finding section and the crucial eviction section of the ordinance are of course being challenged in court. However, far from being cause for alarm or hasty action, this is a natural and expected response of our system to controversial legislation. The proper time for changes will be after the courts give us some feedback on what we have. Meanwhile let's give the ordinance time to work.

As you can see, our legislative posture this spring is primarily defensive and really amounts to "hold the line." It could be worse. Recent experience supports the dictum that it's a lot easier to kill legislation than get it passed. More true, perhaps, is the rule that nothing is constant in politics except surprise.

Be ready.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION



2329 Fairview East

Seattle, Washington 98102

325-1132

- Make checks payable to the Floating Homes Association.
 - Dues payment covers all adults in the household.
- If more than one membership card needed list names below
- Dues payments cover the 12 months from date of joining.

- \$24.00 Regular Household Dues
- \$16.00 Retired Household Dues

(New members will receive a complimentary copy of Howard Drokens illustrated history (\$4.95) "Seattle's Unsinkable Houseboats.")

Name _____ Address _____ Zip _____

Name(s) _____ Moorage No. _____ Phone _____

"To protect Seattle's old and colorful Houseboat Colony."



Waterlog

by Sheri Lockwood

It may seem that most houseboat activities take place in the summer and after that the hatches get battened down and we only nod to each other as we hustle down the dock to our relatively warm (though dripping) abodes. Much to this reporter's surprise there actually is some socializing going on on the docks . . . Aside from emergency socializing such as reattaching houses (and in 2201 Fairview's case reattaching the dock) when chains were broken during the **November storm** and helping our new neighbors cope with frozen pipes during the **January freeze** we actually don't hibernate (or mildew) away as some of us might have suspected . . . Au contraire . . . **933 Northlake** had a dock Christmas party, as did **1213 Shelby**. The Shelby folks light up a dock end Christmas Tree and sing along with the Christmas Boat. **Ann LeVasseur**, held an open house on New Year's Eve at 2031 Fairview and **Paul and Shirley Thomas** of 2420 Westlake did the same with the addition of bringing in the New Year with fireworks . . . **Bonnie Ferus**, of 1409 Boat Street was the N.W. Regional Co-ordinator for the "Holiday Project". The project raises money in 121 cities to bring holiday cheer to those confined to institutions during the holidays. They provide gifts and more important companionship and are hoping to carry this holiday spirit on through the year with a Valentine's Day Blood Drive. If you'd like to help, call Bonnie at **632-1397** . . . The 2219-2235 Fairview houseboaters collected \$25.00 and 6 bags of groceries for N.W. 2nd Harvest over Thanksgiving . . . This reporter has made a valiant attempt to provide photos of any of the caroling kayakers, canoers, or women's crew-ers, but to no avail . . . But, we did receive a report of houseboaters caroling by sailboat, they were: **Paul Rerucha, Lucy Reid, Tony and Ginny Johnson, Racine Morton, Emmett and Teresa Day and their son Seth, and Griggs Irving** from 3146-3138 and 3226 Portage Bay Place aboard "The Ruck" . . . **Bill and Caryl Keasler** took a New Year's cruise in their sailboat but got snowed on and "sooted" on by a hyperactive heater so they stayed closer to home than planned . . . Skiers **Bob Bartleson, Kathleen Nichols, and Greg and Carol Anderson** spent Christmas and New Year's in Sun Valley. **Carol** waited until she got home to break her arm skiing . . . sorry Carol! . . . There is really no way to offer enough thanks to the people who donated their energies, talents, and time to making our Christmas Cruise such a happy experience. The very least we can do is acknowledge them in the newsletter so we will all know who they are and give them an ex-



Photo by David Gardner

The 18th annual Christmas Cruise proved to be a great party with a real down-home barbecue feast. Ron and Dixie VanSlyke, Phil Webber, and Brenda Dannenberg enjoy the meal.



Boatography by Phil Webber

Moving day Lake Union style: George Johnston's raft provided the perfect cure for Sandy Oellien's moving day blues when she moved from Westlake to her new Fairview address.

tra hug or pat on the back. Thank you to: **Bo Anderson, Darla Allred, Betty Campestrini, Nancy Cox, Tommie and Jamie Carter, Doug Delgado, Chuck Englehart, David Gardner, Jane Hyde, Bill Koski, Caryl and Bill Keasler, Mike and Claudio Kirk, Patty Long, Tim Nolan, Barbara and Elmer Nelson, John and Donna Nelson, Paul Rerucha, Paula Richmond, Tom Taschner, Paul and Shirley Thomas, Bill Vonasch, Susan Wall and Karen Winqvist. Shawn Fenn, 7, and Aerika Winqvist, 6,** were also a big help . . . A nice thing happened on 2420 Westlake recently. The dock owner, houseboat owners and a private business (Gove's Cove) joined forces, pooled resources and filled in the pot holes in their driveway and parking strip. Here's hoping that starts a trend . . . We're looking forward to **Terry Pettus'** return from California. Many people have expressed concern about the operations he needed for a serious eye infection that threatened the sight in his left eye. He's had two operations at the Klein Eye Institute, they were successful, the eye was saved and Terry will retain most if not all his sight. The healing will be slow but Terry says he's "lonesome for the lake and all the fine folks who make up our community" . . . Hurry home Terry—we're lonesome for you too! . . . The next annual Houseboat event seems to be the Polar Bear Club's yearly dip. So far there are only three charter members of the club founded by **Debi Boyer**, 2235 Fairview. The only requirement for membership is a dive in Lake Union on Ground Hog's Day, Tuesday, February 2. BRRRRR . . . WELCOME NEW HOUSEBOATERS: On 2822 Boyer, **Greg Moore** and **Nancy Peterson**, he's a grad student in oceanography at the U. On 2219 Fairview, **Debby Wright**, she's an attorney. And **Linda Daniels**, the Seattle Times columnist, who does "The Home Front" is now a home floater, learning about freezing pipes. Don't worry Linda, it happens to us old-timers too.

WELCOME TO AN ESPECIALLY NEW HOUSEBOATER: Alexander Erickson, born 10/25 at 10:25 weighing 7 lbs. Congratulations Pete and Brigitte, on 2025 Fairview . . . **Lon Marie Walton** and **Alan Kirkley** (2207 Fairview) were married in the fall. After the wedding they came home to broken pipes, fallen-in ceiling, and three inches of water on the floor. It has to have gotten better since then. Best wishes everyone! . . . Our wildlife informant **Marty Klapper** (2019 Fairview) has alerted us to the fact that the little female-mallard-colored birds that dive for fish and have turned up lately on the lake are chicken grebes (or pied-billed). They're down here because the Canadian lakes are frozen. We'll check in with Marty for seasonal updates on flora and fauna . . . To end this chilly column on a warm note, the Floating Homes Association has received an offer that is difficult to refuse. Nancy Downey, 15 Captain's Landing, Tiburon, California 94920 (415-388-1130) is willing to trade houseboat living for Hawaiian condo living for 2 to 4 weeks August 15-Sept. 13 this year, in Kailua Kona on the big island of Hawaii. She's a watercolorist and has even sent a reference: **Lucy Hoyt**, 18 216th St. S.E., Bothell, WA 98011. For more information contact her directly . . . **Sandy Oellien** is a new houseboater on 2035-2037 Fairview, but she's not new to houseboats. She just switched from the Westside to the Eastside. Moving from houseboat to houseboat offers a novel way to transport furniture—by barge. (See photo) . . . If you have any snapshots or items that you feel would enliven this column . . . please call me . . . 322-4536 or leave them at the Floating Homes Association office.

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