NUMBER 99

Newsletter

Seattle, Washington 98102

NOVEMBER 1984

Association Update

2329 Fairview East

This issue launches a new, shorter format for the Newsletter. Our purpose is to publish much more often -- every two months instead of perhaps-quarterly -- and to devote the bulk of each issue to a single theme. It is with great sadness that we dedicate this Newsletter to the memory of one of the founders of the Association, Terry Pettus.

Calendar of Events

Jim Knight and his Finance Committee, who have been responsible for organizing the Association's fundraisers for the last few years, have announced the schedule of major events for the upcoming year:

The Fall Party featuring "Parvo" on Saturday, November 10th at 8:00 PM (see page 4).

Our Auction will be in the spring this year, on May 4th, 1985.

The Annual Tour of Homes will be in the fall, probably in September of 1985.

Dock Reports

Jan Allen, whose "reparian rights" defense against an attempt by Ken Kennedy to evict her was disallowed by the Court of Appeals, is filing a motion for reconsideration with the Court.

The Court of Appeals also issued an ambiguous decision on Juliette Sauvage's retaliation defense against eviction by her docklord, James Lee. The Court apparently upheld a jury verdict finding Lee guilty of retaliation against her. But then they couldn't resist taking a potshot at the (old) Equity Ordinance and suggested that a retrial was necessary. Sauvage is asking the Court for clarification.

The homeowners on two of the three docks affected by mass eviction last fail, Granat's and Jeffery's, have signed long term, mutually satisfactory leases, thereby settling their anti-trust suit against the moorage owners. The third dock, Skarperud's, is still negotiating, but the word is that some progress is being made.

Cookbook

It looks like the Floating Homes Cookbook will be ready for Christmas after all. From Guacamole dip, industrial strength eggs and clam hunting kits, to fall harvest pie and woodstove game hen, it's wonderful! The first print run will be short, so send your name, phone and \$7.50 per copy into the office right away.

Taxes Meeting November 14th

Those of you who bought your homes sometime in the five years prior to last April and who have not paid a tax on your purchase have unfinished business with the State Department of Revenue. They are still insisting that you owe tax on your purchase at the sales tax rate.

Don't pay yet.

There will be a meeting of all those affected at 8:00 PM Wednesday, November 14th, in the Association office. Call Frank Chesley, 325-3840, with questions.

Terry Pettus 1904-1984

Phone 325-1132

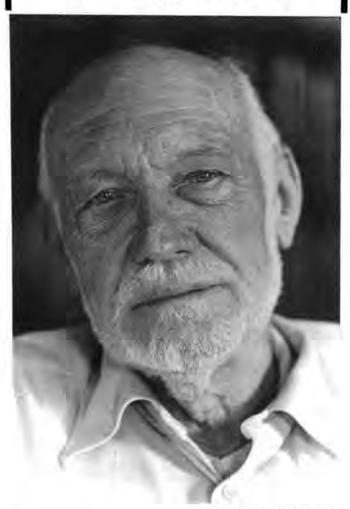


Photo by Anita Coolidge

Terry Pettus, newspaperman, a founder and leader of the Floating Homes Association and champion of many other causes throughout his 80 years, is dead.

Those of us who live on the lake almost universally believe there would be no houseboats in Seattle without him. Time and again over the last twenty years, Terry united us around his vision, and we would do what we had to do to save our homes. That ordinary people pulling together could make a difference was one of the dominant themes of his life. When something needed to get done, Terry organized.

But even as he led his march against injustice, he retained a powerful sense of the worth and dignity of individual people -- friend and foe alike. No matter who you were, he always met you soul to soul.

So long, Terry.

Remembering Terry . . .

"Don't live on your knees!"

Photo by Phil Webber





"When you are on a houseboat dock, yo

From Community is Possible by Harry Boyle:

The city had long looked with disfavor on the floating homes. And developers, long desirous of the land along the shoreline, began making specific plans to acquire property and evict the residents. In 1961, the houseboaters formed an associaton to try to do something about the impending threat. Terry at first declined to become very active. In April of the following year, however, the Pettuses got an eviction notice themselves. They decided to do something.

Terry smiles. "In those years, even our so-called friends were saying, 'It's too bad, but houseboats are not a good use of property.' We hired one lawyer to represent us before the city council. He went and told them, 'Well, let them stay for ten more years.' The director of the planning department told me that a few boats could be left on Portage Bay, but that's it. Everything else has to go. There are going to be apartments around the lake. I said,' John, you might think that's what you're going to do. We'll see.'"

* * *

Memorial

Several hundred people attended a "somber hootenanny" memorial service in honor of Terry Pettus on the evening of October 19th at the Labor Temple downtown. Tapes of the service are available for a modest fee. By the date of the service, over seven thousand dollars had been collected for the Floating Homes Association's Terry Pettus Memorial Fund. Donations to the fund can be made through the office, 325-1132.



Photo by Jonathan Ezekiel

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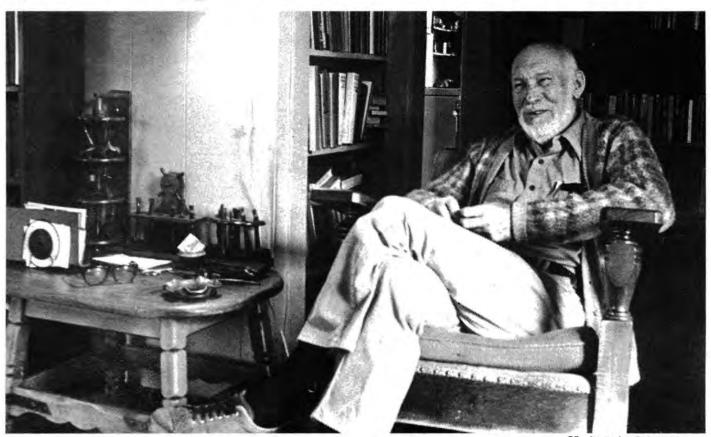
Photo by Jonathan Ezekiel

"Those who like sausage and respect laws should not watch either of them being made."

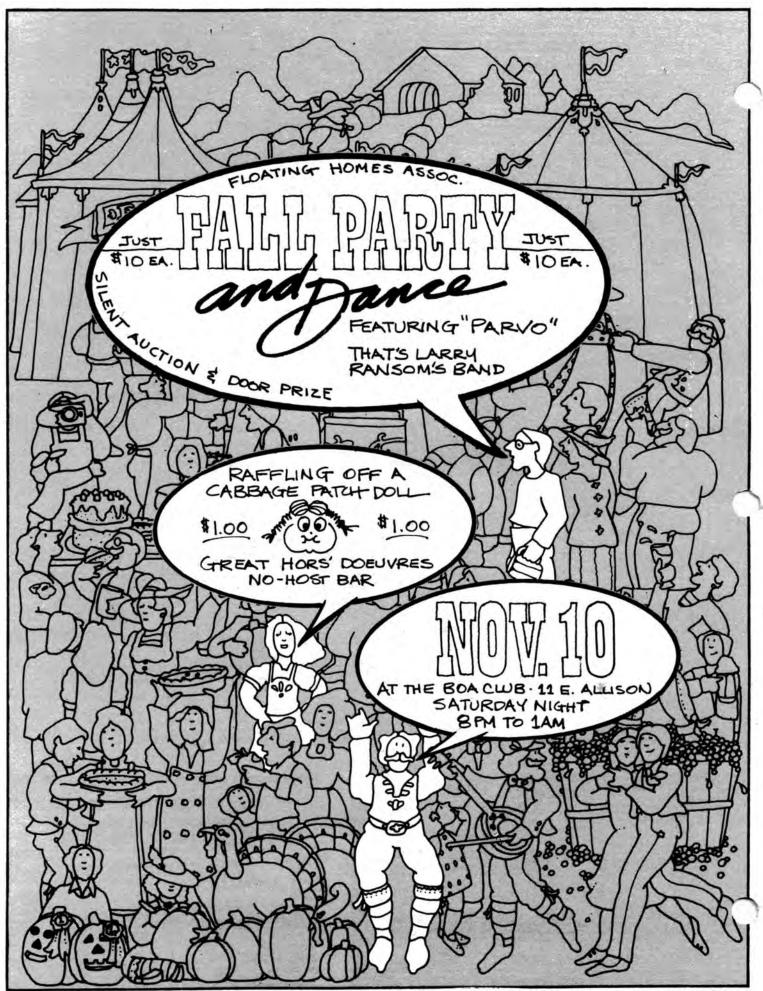
"Don't mourn, organize!"

u are in God's pocket"

— Terry Pettus



PI photo by Bob Miller



FOR INFORMATION OR RESERVATIONS CALL (24 HOUR #) 325-1132, DAYS 282-9827