

File Copy



2329 Fairview East

Seattle, Washington 98102

Phones: EA 5-1132 or EA 9-1517

Number 20

Newsletter

August, 1966

IMPROVEMENT & BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE OUTLINES CONTINUING PROGRAM: A continuing program for exterior improvements and consistent maintenance of moorages as well as individual houseboats, has been drafted by the Improvement & Beautification Committee. Mrs. Gladys Reid, 2822 Boyer E., is the newly elected chairman and Devon Blean, 2025 Fairview E., is the secretary. Other members are Mrs. Muriel Eklund, 2203 Fairview E.; Robert Brown, 3206 Portage Bay Place E., and Rondy Dike, 2037 Fairview E.

In a report to President Kenneth Kennedy and the Executive Committee, Mrs. Reid said that her committee will work with all interested individuals and groups on a program: (1) upgrade the appearances of moorages by staining or painting uprights and railings, (2) more attention to the exteriors of floating homes, (3) exterior lighting with particular attention to ornamental lights at pier-ends and other over-the-water locations, and (4) tree planting and landscaping where feasible. Mrs. Reid said she has personally contacted a number of moorage owners and found them most receptive to suggestions. At some moorages co-operative programs involving management and houseboat owners are underway.

The Committee also says that two paint companies are now offering 15% discounts to Floating Home Association members. (Show your membership card.) They are: DANIEL BOONE PAINT CO., 1401 Dexter N., and COWEN & CAMPBELL, 5221 Ballard N.W. (this branch only). The Daniel Boone Co. will also give a 25% discount on single purchases of 25 gallons or more and they may be assorted colors. THE AMERICAN TAR CO. on Lake Union at the foot of Wallingford Ave., is continuing its special discount to Association members on its Colored Aluminum Roof Coatings.

At its August 2nd meeting the Committee met with Mrs. Pendleton Miller of the Seattle Garden Clubs. The Garden Club is working with groups throughout the city on outdoor improvements on public as well as private property. With Mrs. Miller the Committee made a "field trip" to inspect the Lynn and Boston street ends on Fairview Ave. in which Association members in the area have taken a particular interest. As a result the Committee will draft specific suggestions to be taken up with city officials. Those interested in serving on this Committee or who have suggestions should contact Mrs. Reid at EA 3-6263.

* * *

TWO PLUMBING CONTRACTORS AVAILABLE FOR HOUSEBOAT WORK: Some of the problems arising from the shortage of skilled workers as the result of the area's "Boeing Boom," have been solved with the announcement of Association President Kenneth Kennedy, that two licensed plumbing contractors are now available for houseboat work. Representatives of the firms have met with the Executive Committee and are thoroughly familiar with the requirements of the Seattle-King Co. Health Department. The participation of these firms resulted from a letter, sent to all Plumbing Contractors in the Seattle area with the cooperation of the Health Dept. The names of the two companies can be obtained from Moorage Representatives or by calling the Association, EA 9-1517 or EA 5-1132 afternoons or evenings.

"While a few houseboats have completed their plumbing and other jobs are underway there should be a sharp increase in this tempo immediately," Mr. Kennedy says in a special message to members. He points out that plumbing (actually sewage drainage as houseboats have water systems) can be legally done only by (1) the owner who must take out a Health Dept. permit, and (2) a licensed plumbing contractor who must also take out a permit. He emphasizes that under NO CONDITIONS may an owner employ a "handy-man" or any other unauthorized person to do the work. The Health Dept. has assigned Mr. Ed Dressel as the inspector for all houseboat work. He can be reached for information between 8 and 9 a.m. Monday through Friday at JU 3-2054.

Now that some houseboat plumbing has been completed it is possible, Mr. Kennedy says, to "generalize" as to cost. As there are no two floating homes exactly alike there will be a considerable variation in the amount of time and material for each job. "For those who will employ a contractor we suggest that they think in terms of \$500.00 as a frame of reference. Some will cost more. Others will cost less," Mr. Kennedy says. In an owner does his own plumbing the cost will be the cost of material. Copper is recommended. The so-called "plastics" are ~~not~~ permitted under the Plumbing Code. Copper is in short supply and there has been sharp price increases during the past year. The Association has taken this up with U.S. Senator Warren G. Magnuson, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee. Senator Magnuson consulted

the Department of Commerce which responded with a detailed reply on steps being taken to make more copper available and thus control prices. These include: (1) release of 520,000 tons from the government stock-pile, (2) instructing governmental agencies to use substitutes, (3) more rigid controls on the export of domestic copper, (4) financial incentives to domestic producers to increase production, and (5) introduction of a bill in Congress to suspend the import duty on unwrought copper and scrap.

In sending a copy of this report to the Association, Senator Magnuson wrote in part: "It will take some time before it is known whether these actions will have the desired effect. If they do not then additional steps will have to be taken. I do not see any additional action which can be taken now except to support the mentioned legislation; but I would appreciate your advising me from time to time on the effectiveness of these steps to reduce prices." (The Association suggests letters to Congressman Tom Pelly - R-1st Dist. - asking support for the bill suspending the import duties. Address him: House Office Bldg., Washington, D.C.)

Starting in January and continuing through July the Association sponsored a series of moorage meetings at which Mr. Kennedy explained in detail the plumbing requirements. Mr. Dressel attended a number of these meetings and answered questions. Meetings have been held at more than 90% of the moorages and will be continued, on request of members, in September. At these meetings samples of material and fittings as well as drawings were used to illustrate how best houseboat plumbing can be economically installed.

"At any moorage where there are two or more members who plan on doing their own work we will have a follow-up meeting to look into the specific plans for individual houseboats and to assist in preparing the license application," Mr. Kennedy says. Wherever possible these meetings should be arranged through the Moorage Representative. Moorages without a representative should call a meeting and elect one. The Association office will assist but the initiative must come from the members.

Moorage Representatives now serving are: Rosella Bailey, 2219 Fairview E.; Mrs. Helen Brown, 2317 Fairview E.; Robert Buchholtz, 2017 Fairview E.; Thomas Campbell, 2031 Fairview E.; Rondy Dike, 2037 Fairview E.; John Dupuy, 3110-A Portage Bay Place E. (Stafford Moorage); Antonio D. Gomez, 1213 E. Shelby; R. R. Hazelton, 1213 E. Shelby; Mrs. Leonard Johnston, 2466 Westlake N.; Carlisle King, 2025 Fairview E.; Boyd Knauss, 2019 Fairview E.; Edward Lee, 933 N. Northlake Way; Peter Meier, 2319 Fairview E.; Mrs. Gladys Reid, 2822 Boyer E.; Esther Simons, 2818 Boyer E.; Betty Smith, 2331 Fairview E.; Mrs. Edson Stallcop, 2764 Westlake N.; Mr. & Mrs. L. P. Staman, 2727 Fairview E.; Gloria Welch, 3128 Portage Bay Place E. (Mattson Moorage); Herbert Williams, 2768 Westlake N.

* * * *

OF COURSE SUMMER IS HERE BUT CHRISTMAS IS RIGHT ON SCHEDULE: Under the category of "planning ahead" the Executive Committee announces that Richard Stauff, 3226 Portage Bay Place E., EA 3-3240, has accepted the chairmanship of the 1966 Holiday Decorating & Christmas Cruise Committee. Other members will be selected soon and volunteers are requested to contact Mr. Stauff. Among other things the Committee will be in charge of the Third Annual Christmas Cruise aboard the MS SIGHTSEER. Christmas this year falls on Sunday so a likely date for the cruise may be Friday, December 23rd.

DO YOU HAVE A NON-MEMBER NEIGHBOR? WHY NOT PASS THIS NEWSLETTER ALONG?

* * * *

FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION
2329 Fairview Avenue East
Seattle, Washington 98102