



2329 Fairview East

Seattle, Washington 98102

Phones: EA 5-1132 or EA 9-1517

NUMBER 10

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 16, 1964

ASSOCIATION'S FIRST ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRUISE
SET FOR SATURDAY DECEMBER 19TH

A four-hour fun cruise Saturday, December 19th, through Lake Washington, Lake Union, Portage Bay and the Ship Canal aboard the SIGHTSEER, is the highlight of a 3-point Yuletide program proposed by the Committee on Holiday Decorations and approved by the Executive Committee. Mrs. Maida Jean Young, Committee Chairman, points out that the cruise is the first social event sponsored by the Association. "We feel that the cruise will not only appeal to our houseboat families," she says, "but will make a nice Christmas present for our landlubber friends." The Committee's "Holiday Package" consists of:

- FIRST: A proposal that every moorage work out a collective decorating plan with emphasis on pier ends and houseboats visible from the water. All decorating and illumination to be completed by December 19th so that those taking the cruise can view and enjoy the results.
- SECOND: The Christmas Cruise on Saturday, December 19th, will be from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. The embarkation point, with plenty of parking, will be announced later. Tickets will be sold by paid-in-advance reservations on a first-come, first-served basis. The price is \$2 for adults and \$1 for children under 16. The ticket sale will be limited to 200 (adults and children), so those wishing to participate should act promptly to avoid disappointment. No telephone reservations can be accepted. Mail payment to the Association. Your tickets will be sent later.
- THIRD: The Association's first "WATER CAROLING PARTY" has been set for Tuesday, December 22nd. The participating "fleet" will rendezvous at the Coast & Geodetic Basin (foot of Newton Street on Fairview Avenue East) at 8 p.m. Rowboats, canoes and kayaks will be offered tows by the power craft. All boats are urged to pay particular attention to water safety regulations, including proper lighting. The Caroling Party will visit as many moorages as time and weather will allow.

The Committee Report goes on to say: "We hope that our members at the various moorages will get together and work out a decorating program to fit their particular situation. Moorage representatives can be a big help on this. Last year members at some moorages took up a collection for the joint purchase of lights and decorations (\$2.00 per houseboat is suggested). Also some have lights to donate for use during the season. One interesting suggestion is to light railings from end to end. We feel that as houseboaters we should concentrate on the water side. The use of lights to outline the roof-lines of end houseboats (as well as others visible from the water) and the pier ends, can be an impressive yet economical method of community decoration. Some moorages will have Christmas trees at the pier end. We urge that all decorations be in place by December 19th, the night of the Christmas Cruise. Those who are not going to be home during the evening hours should remember to turn on their lights or have a neighbor do so. We also want to remind everyone that it is a nice gesture to blink lights at the Christmas Ship to show our appreciation. The Christmas Ship will begin its nightly cruises on Saturday, December 19th."

In the decorating program last year the Association had the cooperation of many Lake Union installations, particularly the U.S. Naval Reserve Training Center and the Coast & Geodetic Survey Base. This year the cooperation of the newly formed Lake Union Association will be sought. Mrs. Young says the Committee solicits and will welcome any suggestions and comments from members. Besides Mrs. Young (EA 5-8134), committee members are: Patricia Gibbs, Mrs. Anne Skjelbred, Mrs. Mildred Gales, R. J. Dike, and Kenneth Kennedy.

OFFICIAL CITY FLOATING HOMES COMMITTEE BEGINS WORK. The Committee created by Council Resolution No. 19958, to consider all matters pertaining to houseboats, had its organizational meeting in the Municipal Building, Thursday, October 22nd. The role of this Committee is to "review and recommend to the City Council possible amendments to ordinances and/or codes regulating houseboats in the City of Seattle." Members are: Councilman A. Ludlow Kramer, chairman of the Planning & Codes Committee; Councilman Wing Luke, chairman of the Public Safety Committee; representatives of the Building, Engineering, Health, and Fire Departments, and Mark Freeman and Terry Pettus from our Association. At the November 3rd election, Mr. Kramer was elected Secretary of State to succeed Victor A. Meyers and will take office in January. It is not known who will take his place on the City Council or as Committee Chairman. Mrs. Harlen A. Edwards is vice chairman of Planning & Zoning. At its initial meeting the Committee decided on a thorough review of the Houseboat Ordinance proposed by former Mayor Gordon Clinton in 1961. As the result of protests at a well attended public hearing, the Council unanimously voted to table it. The Committee plans monthly meetings until its work is completed and a report made to the City Council. Mr. Kaun Onodera, City Code Research Director, is secretary. Terry Pettus was chosen as chairman.

* * * * *

DEBRIS BARGE NOW AVAILABLE FOR MOORAGE CLEAN-UP. The Association now has at its disposal a large, 30-foot steel barge for use in hauling away debris from moorages. Barge is available on week ends and can handle all manner of things which are too big for garbage disposal containers and floating debris too small for "Pelican Pete." It is suggested that moorages organize a cooperative cleanup drive, get the debris collected and make use of the barge to haul it away. There will be a nominal charge to cover actual expenses. For information call George Johnston (EA 4-9148 evenings) or the Association.

* * * * *

NEW POLICY FOR HANDLING LISTINGS ON RENTALS. The Executive Committee has voted to make a \$10.00 charge for houseboats that are rented as the result of being listed with the Association. This fee, however, to be rescinded if the rentor joins the Association. In the past this service has been rendered without cost to either party but with the understanding that the rentor would join and the owner would encourage him to do so. Intentions have no doubt been good but the results have been pretty sad. As this service takes a lot of time which could be devoted to other important matters, it is felt that it must justify itself by contributing to our organizational health. We still have many more applications than we have rental boat listings.

* * * * *

60 NEW MEMBERS BY FEBRUARY IS ORGANIZATIONAL GOAL: The importance of keeping organization on the agenda at all times is seen in figures which show that, on the average, 10 per cent of our members leave the lake each year. Although we are a fairly stable community we still have to keep moving ahead in order to stand still. Since the quota was set in October we have had 13 new members leaving 47 to go and we need your help. You can do two things about non-members and/or newcomers to your moorage: (1) Ask them to join. (2) Send their names in and we will mail information material and an application blank.

* * * * *

NOTE OF CAUTION:: If you are solicited for work (flotation, repairs, etc.) by anyone claiming membership in the Association ask to see his Membership Card or contact the Association. Also now is a good time to check mooring lines and electrical ground.

* * * * *

FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION
2329 Fairview Avenue East
Seattle, Washington 98102