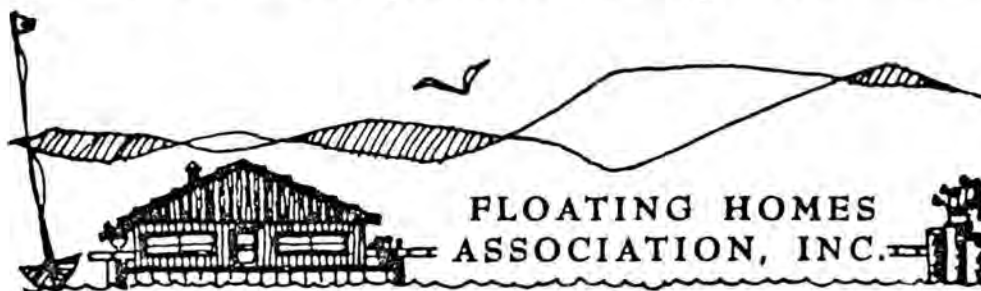


# Holiday Cruise Shipboard Party (See Back Page)



2329 Fairview East

Seattle, Washington 98102

Phones: 325-1132 or 329-1517

NUMBER 73

*Newsletter*

November-December 1977

## Corporation Counsel Office Foot-Dragging:

# DELAYS COUNCIL ORDINANCE VOTE

Council action on a modified draft of the proposed "Equity Ordinance" is stalled until the Corporation Counsel's office returns it in legal form to the Planning and Urban Development Committee headed by Chairman Paul Kraabel. On Oct. 19th the Committee sent the draft to the legal department urging that it be returned by Nov. 15th.

The Association has been informed that its return is now uncertain but will be sometime between now and Jan. 7th when Doug Jewett, newly elected city attorney replaces the incumbent, John Harris. Chairman Kraabel says that when the draft is returned the Committee will review it, act on several unresolved proposals and send it to the entire Council for a vote. It is expected to pass as action in this field is also supported by Mayor Wes Uhlman, the Office of Policy Planning and the Department of Community Development.

If action on it is delayed until the new municipal administration is installed Jan. 7th, this will not alter the present favorable situation. Mayor Elect Charles Royer and his opponent, Paul Schell, former director of the Department of Community Development, pledged unqualified support to the Association's original "Equity Ordinance" during the recent campaign. So did Michael Hildt, who won the council seat vacated by Wayne Larkin.

In recent weeks a small group of moorage owners have conducted a concerted campaign for immediate substantial moorage increases blaming the move on the imminent passage of the protective legislation and the need for money to pay legal fees to contest it in court. Increases have ranged from \$25.00 to \$60.00 a month. Those who have increased \$25.00 or more are: Freeman-Gibson-Jeffery, 2017-17-25 Fairview E. (52 units); Freeman-Gibson, 2764 Westlake, (13 units); Gordon Jeffery, 2031 Fairview (15 units); Jean Lunstead, 2822 Boyer E. (11 units); Fred J. Fischer, 3104 Portage Bay Pl. E. (6 units) and J.H. Henderson, 2910 Fuhrman E. (8 units). In addition to the flat \$25.00 a month some owners are charging \$20.00 a month for parking and pleasure craft on a sliding scale. Utilities, once included in the moorage fee, are now added on as an extra. Those promoting the increase tell other owners that they must raise now as these fees will not be subjected to the "fact finding" process of the Ordinance. This may turn out not to be the case. A conservative estimate puts these arbitrarily imposed fees at more than \$28,000.00 a year.



Photo by Terry Pettus

ENGLISH HOUSEBOATS: PHOTOS & STORY Pgs. 4 - 5

## The Weppner Eviction: A Narrative Account

By Jim Rogers

On Jan. 27, 1977, Bob Weppner received a letter by certified mail from James Jessup which told him that he had until March 1 to move his floating home from Jessup's property. It said that in any event, May 1 would be the absolute latest date Weppner could remain. Prior to this, Weppner had been on a month-to-month basis, paying \$100.00 per month. Weppner was beginning his third year with Jessup. Weppner had always been current in his monthly payments and had gotten along well with Jessup and his wife. Weppner remodeled his home during this period and made other improvements to it.

At first, Jessup told Weppner that he was evicting his home because he wanted a boat moorage on the dock, but was vague

(Continued page 2)

## More On Eviction

and noncommittal as to any details. Weppner set out to try to find some moorage. He covered almost every available existing or potential moorage site in Seattle. But, as Jessup himself testified, there have been no available floating home moorages for over two years. The choice for Weppner was a most unhappy one — either removing his home from Jessup's dock when he had no place to move it to, which would be tantamount to destruction, or trying to save his home. The tragic dilemma he faced is one which most of Seattle's floating home owners could be confronted with at any time unless legislation is passed. Weppner was the first.

Weppner continued to look for some place to move. On June 1, Jessup informed Weppner that he was going to move his home to a spot further west on the dock, adjacent to Jessup's houseboat. This was being done, Jessup said, to "facilitate construction," but it really was an opportunity for Jessup to disconnect Weppner's sewer and water hook-ups. Once the home was moved, Jessup refused to reconnect these utilities. In fact, Jessup informed Weppner by letter that he would not reconnect the utilities because Weppner's home was still "on his property." This action placed the houseboat in violation of a city ordinance regarding sewer connections to floating homes and thus made the home uninhabitable. Weppner had to move out of his home and move in with friends where he stayed through the end of July. At the beginning of August, Weppner left for law school in Portland.

On June 15, **subsequent** to his refusing to reconnect Weppner's utilities, Jessup brought an action in unlawful detainer in the King County Superior Court. An unlawful detainer proceeding is a statutory action which provides a rapid means for a landlord to evict a tenant. An unlawful detainer action must closely follow the statutory requirements.

### COURT ACTION HELD UP EVICTION...

A hearing on show cause was held on June 19, in which Jessup asked the court to issue a writ of restitution whereby the sheriff would physically remove Weppner's home and restore possession of the space to Jessup. The hearing was before Court Commissioner Donald Niles who refused to issue the writ on the grounds that he could not decide whether the action was in fact properly brought in unlawful detainer. The next court hearing was on August 4th before Court Commissioner Robert Dixon wherein Jessup attempted to obtain a trial date during August. I argued for a date in early October which was granted. Jessup then changed attorneys. He wanted that space and was quite frustrated that Weppner's boat was still there.

The action intensified during the next two months preceding trial. Depositions of Weppner and Jessup were taken in early September. On October 3rd, Judge Frank D. Howard, in ruling on a motion for partial summary judgment, ordered that the provisions of the 1973 Residential Landlord Tenant Act, RCW 59.18, had no application to Jessup's rental to Weppner of moorage space. In effect, Judge Howard said that the 1973 Residential Landlord Tenant Act does not apply to rental of floating home moorages.

Finally, on October 7, trial was held before Judge Solie M. Ringold. We based our defense on essentially three separate grounds: (1) That the statutory remedy of unlawful detainer does not apply to the use or rental of houseboat moorages. Hence, the court had no jurisdiction over the subject matter; (2) That there was no basis for an unlawful detainer action because Jessup had already regained possession of the particular moorage space occupied by Weppner's floating home at the time of the eviction notice in January by moving his floating home on the dock in early June; (3) That this case demands that the court apply equitable principles because of the extreme unfairness inherent under the circumstances and because of the high

## Eastlake, Floating Homes Will Sell Christmas Trees

A broad selection of Christmas Trees will be on sale between Dec. 15th and 23rd at the lot adjacent to the Quick Stop Grocery, 2352 Eastlake E. by the Eastlake Community Council and the Floating Homes Association. Proceeds will go towards the legal funds of the two community groups. Volunteers are needed who will contribute an hour or more working the lot. Buying your tree is another way to support the project. Those who can give some time are asked to call Beth Means, 325-5139 or Kathy Shea 322-3189.



potential for destruction of personal property involved therein.

### NO LEGAL PROTECTION FOR HOUSEBOATS...

We were aware that these arguments were substantially theoretical, technical and lacked judicial precedent, but in light of the existing landlord-tenant legislation which makes no exceptions for floating homes, it was the best strategy and tactics we could proceed under. The cold fact is that floating homes have no protection from arbitrary eviction with notice under the laws now existing in this state.

The trial was one full day and all of our theories and arguments were heard and considered by Judge Ringold. In the end, however, he found that Weppner was guilty of unlawful detainer and should be evicted under a writ of restitution. The unlawful detainer statute required him to award damages for double the amount of rent due to Jessup since May 1st, together with Jessup's statutory costs. Jessup's main objective, besides removal of Weppner's home, was to have Weppner pay his attorney's fees which were substantial. After extensive briefing and argument by both sides, Jessup's request for attorney's fees was denied.

In his oral decision, Judge Ringold stated that he sympathized with our position. At least three different times Judge Ringold stated that the remedy for our problem should lie with the legislature, not with the courts. His final statement summarized this well:

"Well, I appreciate the extensive work that went in, and the briefs in this matter. It's an interesting problem, and it's a difficult problem. And I certainly understand all the ramifications involved in this. But, like the mobile homes, I think the problem must be addressed by the legislature, not by the courts."

On November 7, 283 days after Bob Weppner received the eviction notice from Jim Jessup, the King County Sheriff's Department executed the writ of restitution and his floating home was removed from Jessup's dock.

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(NOTE: Mr. Rogers is a member of the Association's Executive Committee. Bob Weppner's floating home is secured off shore in a city-controlled waterway. Its ultimate fate is uncertain.)

# Floating Home Mural Depicts Indian Legends

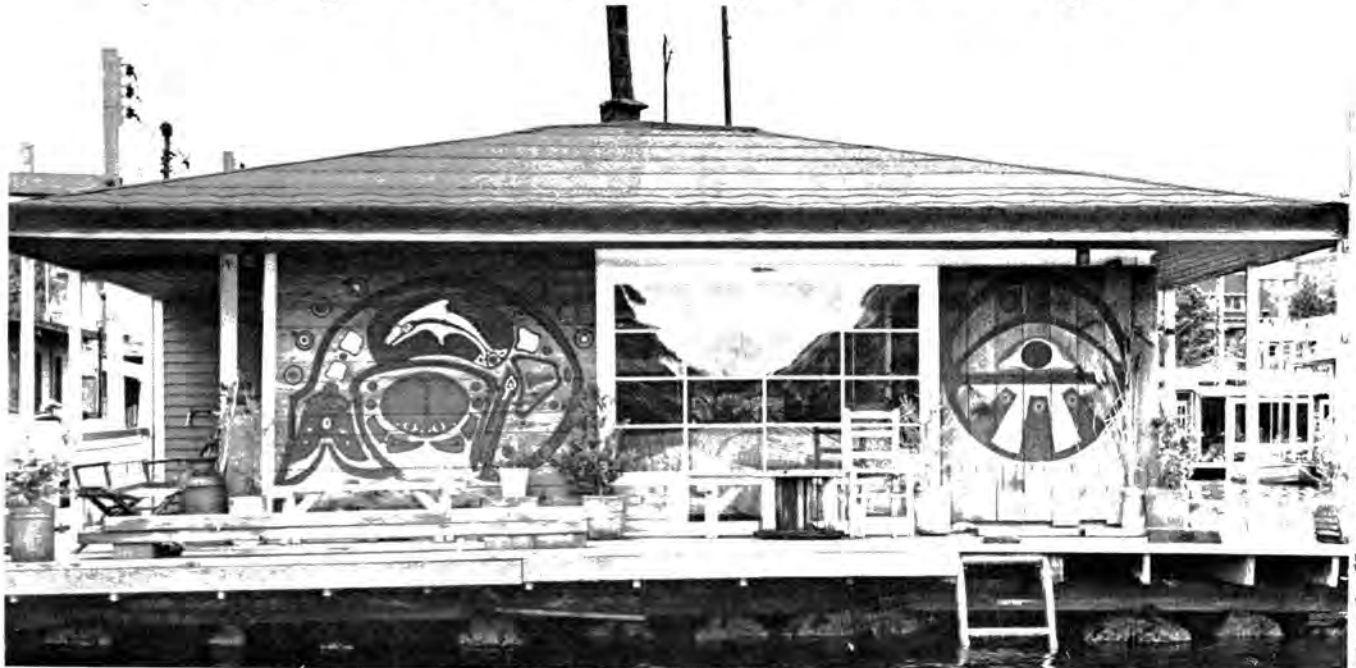


Photo by Howard Droker

The next time you sail, paddle or cruise by Jonathan Ezekiel's houseboat at 2331 Fairview, slow down and enjoy the fascinating Indian Murals depicting legends of the people who once called Lake Union their home. They are the creation of Joyce

Rezendes, local artist, who has long been fascinated by the culture of the native peoples of this land. Mural on the right relates the rather complex story of creation involving the Raven, Sun, Giant Claim and the First People.

## House Boat Books For All Seasons

### Houseboat

*Reflections of North America's Floating Homes...  
History, Architecture, and Lifestyles.*

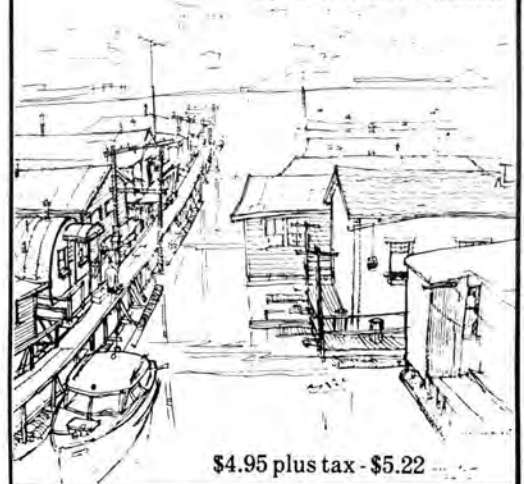
Ben Dennis/Betsy Case



Hard Cover: \$14.95 plus tax - \$15.76    Soft Cover: \$9.95 plus tax - \$10.49

### Seattle's Unsinkable Houseboats

An Illustrated History  
by Howard Droker



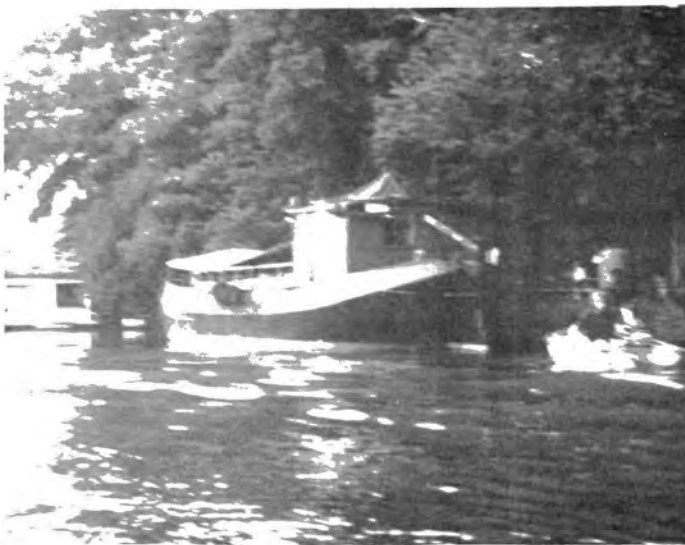
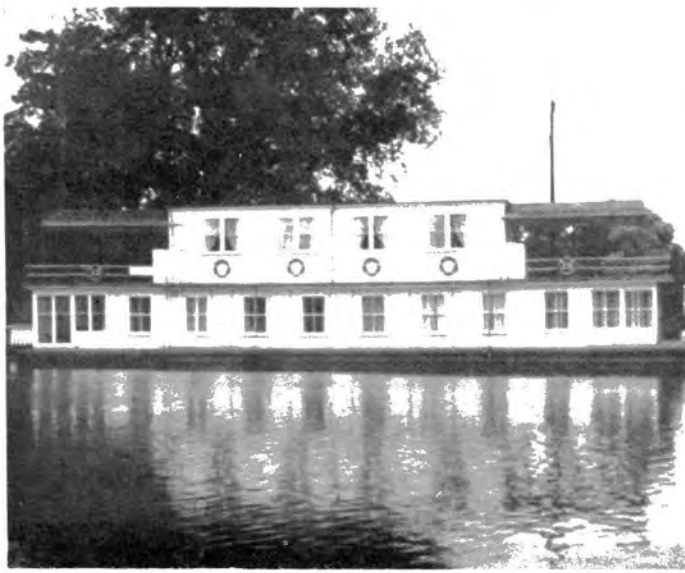
\$4.95 plus tax - \$5.22

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YOU CAN ALSO ORDER BY MAIL...

Make checks payable to the FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION, 2329 Fairview Ave. E., Seattle, 98102. Price includes postage and handling.

# English Houseboats: A Photo Gallery



# England's Houseboats

## A Diverse Community

By Terry Pettus

A three-day, three-night slow barge trip through the lovely and historic Thames valley is an excellent introduction to a small portion of Britain's houseboat community which, believe it or not, faces the same problems we are currently wrestling with.

How many "houseboats" we cruised past, as we meandered along at a top speed of four knots, is impossible to determine. In Britain, what we call live-aboards are "residential vessels" and as "houseboats" are members of the nation-wide Residential Boat Owner's Association (RBOA), founded as was our Association, in 1962 and for identical reasons. But many others are identical with our homes except they are on steel barges instead of logs or concrete floats.

A phone call to RBOA Chairman John Ison brought me to the historic village of Hampton Court (an hour by train from London) and a delightfully diverse community of some 250 floating homes almost in the shadow of the Royal Tudor Castle which, as history buffs know, was extorted from Cardinal Woolsey by Henry VIII.

Forty of these fortunate dwellings rim the shore of wooded and peaceful Taggs Island, one of many such which makes the Thames such a fascinating river. John is a refugee from Fleet Street's journalistic tread-mills. He is now part-owner of a Boat Yard a few miles upriver and lives with his wife Carol and daughter Catriona on the recently built "Lathorien." All houseboats in Britain have names and are registered and licensed the same as all other watercraft.

The Ison's built their dream boat on a 35 by 20 steel barge to accommodate a 40-foot river-side lot along which they moor. As do others on Taggs Island, the Ison's have a shoreside plot and the invariable flower garden. Half the Taggs Island residents have long-term leases (the Ison's has 76 years to run) but this is the exception. The main problems confronting RBOA members, John points out, is security of moorages and protection from extortionate moorage fees.

For several years, the Association has been working with a bloc of friendly members of Parliament (of all parties) on protective legislation. A problem has been to determine the houseboat population. The Department of the Environment says this is necessary in order to see if national legislation is required. This nose count is a current project of the Association and it is not an easy task as water dwellers are to be found on estuaries rivers, bays, harbors, rivers and canals of England, Wales and Scotland. The London Daily Mail and other newspapers have often used the figure of 15,000 but John says this is a guess and the real figure could be up or down.

Parliament has been nibbling at waterway legislation for some time and just four years after creating Regional Authorities a recent Westminster "White Paper" proposes a National Water Authority which will be responsible for planning for all aspects of water. This will include policies on uses, pollution control, recreation and prices. This control will extend to the some 2,500 miles of inland canals now open to navigation, mainly recreational with houseboats mooring on the wider ones.

The Regional Authorities will be responsible for carrying out these policies. The new national body will absorb the British Waterways Board, the Inland Waterways Amenity Advisory Council and the Water Space Amenity Commission with which the RBOA has been working to improve the lot of those living afloat.

"What effects, if any, these changes are likely to have are as yet unknown," an official RBOA statement says. "The existence of one body, with overall responsibility for the waterways, may



Continued on Page 6

Photos Pgs. 4 & 5 by Terry Pettus

## AROUND ? ABOUT THE LAKE

**EVICITION VICTIM SENDS THANKS:** Bob Weppner, whose floating home was the first ever to be evicted under a court order, has sent his thanks to the Association in a letter from Portland where he is now attending law school. Bob's houseboat is now tied up at a city pier on the south end of Lake Union. It was removed from Jim Jessup's property at 3123 Fairview E. on Oct. 14th by the sheriff's department. The fight to save it from destruction for lack of legal moorage goes on.

"Please convey to the membership," Bob wrote, my thanks for all the Floating Homes Association has done for me. The support, financial and moral, enabled me to keep in sight the fact that I was the wronged party in this action, a fact that sometimes tended to face in my perception in the face of the overwhelming "official" evidence to the contrary. I'll never be able to thank you enough."

Bob's attorney, Jim Rogers, and the Association are still exploring several possibilities to prevent the permanent loss of this floating home because of legal restrictions and the power of moorage owners to destroy the property of others.

**COMMUNITY VOTES DOWN BARRICADE:** "At least, we want to thank you for a safe summer." These words from Deri Sherensky to the Board of Public Works, sounded the requiem for the Newton St. barricade which did not survive the 90-day trial period. With the exception of the residents of Fairview E., the rest of the community voted it down in a mail poll conducted by the Engineering Department.

The barricade was an experiment in an effort to decrease through traffic along the narrow Fairview E. vehicles used Fairview to avoid the heavy traffic on the Eastlake arterial. The barricade did reduce Fairview traffic by 57% but increased the flow on Boston by 31% and Blaine by 22%.

In voting not to make the barricade permanent, the Board recognizes "there are still traffic problems that must be addressed on Fairview Ave. E." and suggests that "the community continue to work with the Engineering Department on alternatives." These alternatives, the Board said, might be the two signals planned for Eastlake, one at the Roanoke intersection in 1978 and at Garfield in 1979.

**MARINA SEEKS END TO LAKE "TEST LANE":** J. Edward Cove, operator of marinas at 2448 Westlake and 10 Allison St., has written the Harbor Police asking the end of the "test lane" at the North end of the lake. The "lane," marked by buoys, permits watercraft to exceed the 7-knot limit on the rest of the lake. Craft using the lane are permitted to make high speed turns at each end, which is the major source of heavy wakes which have created hazards and property damage. Cove says that a sailboat at the Westlake marina was recently damaged by wake from a commercial purse seiner. Cove asked the Association to join in the rewust. The Executive Committee voted to do so. Many floating homes, particularly in the 2200 and 2300 block on Fairview, have complain 1 of wakes from the lane. The Committee suggests that the requests be directed to Randy Reville, chairman of the Council Public Safety Committee.

**NEWTON ST. 'MINI-PARK' BRINGS BACK MEMORIES:** Mrs. Florence Dofsen Cragerud of Bainbridge Island has written the Association a nostalgic letter as a result of a visit to "People's Park" at the foot of Newton St. Mrs. Cragerud says that her father, John Dofsen, a landscape gardener, operated a nursery on the corner of Newton and Minor streets. She was born in 1909 in the family home at 1919 Minor North. The family's cows were pastured along the shore. "My mother," she writes, "dearly loved the beauty of Lake Union — the weeping willows along the shore with canoes winding their way through the drooping branches — a romantic background for young lovers."

## Question And Answer On Lake Investment Fund

Margaret Hageleen of 2219 Fairview Ave. E. has written inquiring about the present status of the Lake Investment Fund. The following response from Jack McIntyre, Secretary-Treasurer, will be of interest to all shareholders and Association members.

"Thanks for your letter asking for a report on the Fund. Where we stand right now is that we have met our minimum investment goal of \$25,000.00. The money is in a savings account at the Pacific First Federal Savings & Loan. Our objective at this time is to keep the principal secure and wait for investment opportunities.

"An investment opportunity is a dock for sale where the tenants want to form a cooperative. We will be able to handle the down payment on a timely basis and secure the property. The purpose is to buy time for the tenants to organize into a working cooperative. We might even own shares temporarily to make the cooperative work.

"We are investigating placing our funds into a bank investment that earns higher interest and is absolutely safe. We will be paying interest to shareholders in February. Thank you for helping your houseboat community by investing in the Lake Investment Fund. You and the other investors make our community strong."

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### MORE ON ENGLISH HOUSEBOATS

prove advantageous in securing greater coherence in attitudes throughout the country towards residential boats.... Alternatively, the creation of an extra, all-embracing super authority may render our way of life even more insignificant in the mind of the bureaucrats."

In a recent report to the membership, John Ison warned against insularity asking: "Do we tend to place too much emphasis on what we regard as our own special problems?" He pointed out the gains made in working with all like-minded groups, saying "We do not have a monopoly of the difficulties. Nor do we have all the answers; although we may often have more acute experience in trying to find them. The threat of losing one's chosen way of life concentrates the mind wonderfully on the important issues. No doubt it is equally true of the potential loss of good fishing or the right to free an uninterrupted navigation. So it makes good sense to work together to combat bureaucracy inaction."

Residential boats and all other watercraft pay no direct taxes (rates) but are assessed an annual license fee depending on type of craft and size. The Ison's floating home now pays 30 pounds a year (\$52.50 U.S. at the current rate of exchange). All these fees are used by the Thames Conservancy body to maintain the river (locks, clean-up, safety, etc.).

Everyone I talked to thinks it is money well spent. In three days of cruising I have never seen a cleaner body of water. People must pay attention to the modest signs reminding all hands to "Keep The River Tidy." It is certainly tidy but I hasten to add I am talking about the Thames upriver from Teddington (where the locks bein). The tidal Thames downriver is something else again.

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**PROFILE OF SEATTLE'S FAMILIES**—The traditional family—married couples with children—will continue to be the life-style of a declining minority of Seattle households. Families with children made up 33% of Seattle's households in 1960; 27% in 1975; and could likely fall below 25% in 1980."

Seattle Office of Policy Planning, 1977

## Vancouver Houseboats Part of Harbor Plan

Vancouver's up-and-down floating population is about to rise again, stimulated by a sensational new modular design that offers innumerable devices for energy conservation in a small package. The brain child of Canadian idea man Frank Ogden, the "curved cocoon" is about to emerge at a 26-unit floating community in North Vancouver.

Ogden's cocoon has a shell of polyurethane sandwiched between molded fiberglass sheeting. The split-level 580-square-foot luxury home is equipped with composting toilet, dishwasher purifier, a solar heater to provide at least some of the hot water, hydroponically grown plants, and a holding tank leading from the bathtub that allows all the heat in the bath water to dissipate into the house before being released. The unit is so well insulated that it is mostly heated by the waste heat from the refrigerator. The price of \$40,000 (with \$125/month moorage) is about the same as an empty Vancouver lot.

The City of Vancouver has also been exploring the possibilities of reviving aquatic communities at selected areas on its shores. Historically, according to a recently completed study by the Vancouver Planning Department, houseboats have been associated with "negative experiences" — before World War II, there were "floating slums" and "floating dens of inequity." But the current redevelopment of the waterfront, with the concentration of shipping facilities into more compact areas, has opened the way for other uses. The city study identified Coal Harbor, False Creek, and Deering Slough as appropriate places for floating home development.

Today the Greater Vancouver area has 146 floating homes scattered in about ten different places, with the major concentrations at Richmond on the middle arm of the Fraser River and at Coal Harbor in the city near the Bayshore Hotel. Coal Harbor contains 25 floating homes and six floating offices. There are more live-aboards in the city than houseboats, 61 in all. The combined floating population of Vancouver is 163, of which 145 are adults. The water-dwellers tend to be young, fairly affluent, highly educated, and childless couples, according to the city's study.

Any Floating Homes Association members visiting Vancouver, B.C., are welcome to view the "curved cocoon." Contact Frank Ogden in advance of your trip at (604) 688-7103, or write him at P.O. Box 3056, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada V6B 3X6. HOWARD DROKER

§ § §



"Cocoon" Houseboat in Vancouver Harbor

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Fire-Moisture-Vermin Proof  
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### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DUES \$12 PER YEAR

Covers all the adults (18 years or over) in the household. If more than one membership card is needed, list names below.

Dues payments cover the 12 months following the time of joining.

*Made possible by the Floating Homes Association, Inc.*

NAME ADDRESS ZIP

NAME ADDRESS ZIP

# FOR A DELIGHTFUL HOLIDAY SHIPBOARD PARTY

*(Benefit the Associations's Legal Fund)*

**Saturday  
December 17th  
4 p.m. to 8 p.m.**

**\$12.50 per person**

## ***The Christmas Fleet***

*Four interesting hours afloat with Seafair's Christmas Fleet. Leave Salmon Bay promptly at 4 p.m., cruise through Ship Canal to join the flotilla in Lake Union. Thence through Portage Bay to Lake Washington. Return to Salmon Bay at 8 p.m.*

## ***A bounteous buffet***

*A bounteous Ham & Turkey buffet supper will be served. Tables cabaret style on main deck and the topside lounge. Covered seating on observation deck.*

## ***Sounds of Music***

*Music by the popular Salmon City Seven Jazz Band. Ron Pierce, clarinet; Jeff Hughes, cornet; Skip McDaniels, bass; Brad Smith, banjo and Chuck Mosgroves, drums. Natural sound, no amplification.*

## ***No-host bar***

*Variety of drinks available at licensed no-host bar on main deck.*

***Note: only 190  
tickets available***



*Aboard the MV Islander, a warm and roomy party boat.*

### THIS ONE FOR ADULTS ONLY...

This year the Association's annual holiday cruise is a benefit and for adults only. The Virginia V is undergoing restoration. We hope it will be available next year when our family cruises will be resumed.

## ***How to get there***

Fishermen's Terminal at Salmon Bay is located on the South side of the Ship Canal adjacent to the Ballard Bridge. At the entrance is the Wharf Restaurant. Proceed to the left down the quay. The MV Islander is berthed opposite the historic Virginia V. Parking available.



Floating Homes Association  
2329 Fairview Ave. E.  
Seattle, WA 98102

Send me \_\_\_\_\_ Holiday Cruise tickets at \$12.50 each. It is understood that no refunds can be made. (Make checks payable to the Floating Homes Assn.)

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1968-1969

**CLARA KENNEDY**  
1969-1971

**JOHN P. SOUTHERN**  
1971-1974



2329 Fairview East · Seattle, Washington 98102 · Phones: 325-1132 or 329-1517

## Security For Our Floating Homes — An Historic Break Through (A report to the membership)

November 5, 1977

Our floating homes will soon be protected by law from eviction without just cause. What was once a dream will soon be a welcome reality. The break in our long campaign for equity came on October 26 when the City Council's Planning and Urban Development Committee formally agreed that city government has the responsibility to protect floating home owners from arbitrary evictions and unreasonable moorage fees. In doing so the Committee [Chairman Paul Kraabel, Tim Hill, George Benson with Phyllis Lamphere absent] finished work on its draft of an Ordinance and sent it to the Corporation Counsel to be put into legal form.

The Committee acted on a draft prepared by Chairman Kraabel after two conferences with the Association and opposition moorage operators [Freeman-Gibson-Jeffery, Frank Granat and Mrs. Jean Lunstead] who oppose any Council action in this field and threaten a law suit if an Ordinance is adopted. The Committee's draft [a modification of our "Equity" proposal] is expected to be returned by mid-November or shortly thereafter. The Committee will consider it at one more meeting and then send it to the entire Council for action. Here is a summary of the Committee's draft:

**ON EVICTIONS:** "If removal is demanded by the owner but no just cause for a demand for removal of a floating home from its moorage is found to exist, it shall be unlawful for the floating home owner or operator to institute eviction proceedings or otherwise interfere with the floating home owner's quiet enjoyment of his moorage site for a period of twelve [12] months." The determination of just cause would be made by the municipal court. Penalty for violation would be a fine of up to \$500.00 with each week the violation continues considered as a separate offense.

**ON MOORAGE FEES:** The Committee draft says — "It is the policy of the City of Seattle to discourage floating home owners or operators from receiving fees which yield an amount in excess of a fair operating income." In such cases an individual or a group could file a complaint with the Mayor's office who would appoint an impartial "Fact-Finder" who has the power to compel the owner or operator to attend a hearing and bring documentary evidence to justify the moorage fee. Any increase is held up pending these proceedings. The Fact-Finder must issue "findings and conclusions" but has no authority to enforce them. The Committee feels that public exposure will be

*"To protect the interests of Seattle's old and colorful Houseboat Colony"*

an effective deterrent, or as Chairman Kraabel put it: "If you are going to be a bum, you'll be a public bum". The Executive Committee does not agree and will continue to seek to strengthen this section. The Committee says it should be given a fair trial and if it does not work then other action will be taken. But no matter how this important issue is resolved our community will be assured legal protections which are unprecedented.

It has been a busy and expensive year for the Association. The Weppner/Jessup eviction case is still unresolved. We have not yet saved Bob Weppner's houseboat and may not be able to. Neither has it been evicted. This is the first time a floating home eviction case was tried in court and it is presenting the sheriff's office with a whole new set of legal problems. It has been a distressing and costly fight but it has demonstrated that even without a City Ordinance floating homes just don't disappear by the issuance of a notice to move.

And Roanoke Reef is still with us. Our Association and the Eastlake Community Council have resisted efforts to legalize the illegal platform by piece-meal development. We have now been joined by the State Department of Ecology and the State Attorney General's office who will seek abatement and pick up a lot of the legal costs. That is some more good news.

Now for the bad news. Security carries a price tag. In this instance it means that this year we have exhausted our Emergenty & Legal Fund and are three thousand dollars in debt.

We are launching a drive to quickly raise this sum with our Holiday Shipboard Party as an event deserving to be called a "Victory Celebration." Enclosed is information on how you can help. We believe we can quickly wipe out this deficit. Let us hear from you. More on these matters in the forthcoming News Letter.

Cordially,

Terry Pettus Richard Wagner ~~ABO~~

~~Julie North~~ Lucy Slodd Julie North

FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION