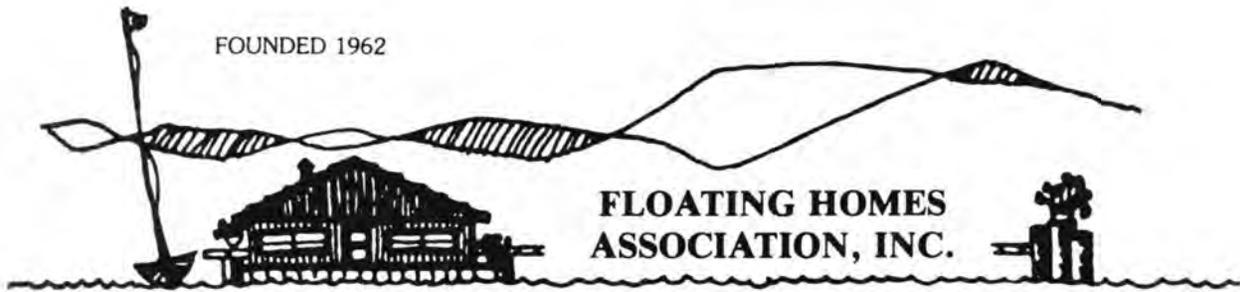


FOUNDED 1962



FLOATING HOMES
ASSOCIATION, INC.

2329 Fairview East

Seattle, Washington 98102

Phone: 325-1132

NUMBER 100

Newsletter

FEBRUARY 1985

Land Use Decisions Are Crucial to Houseboats

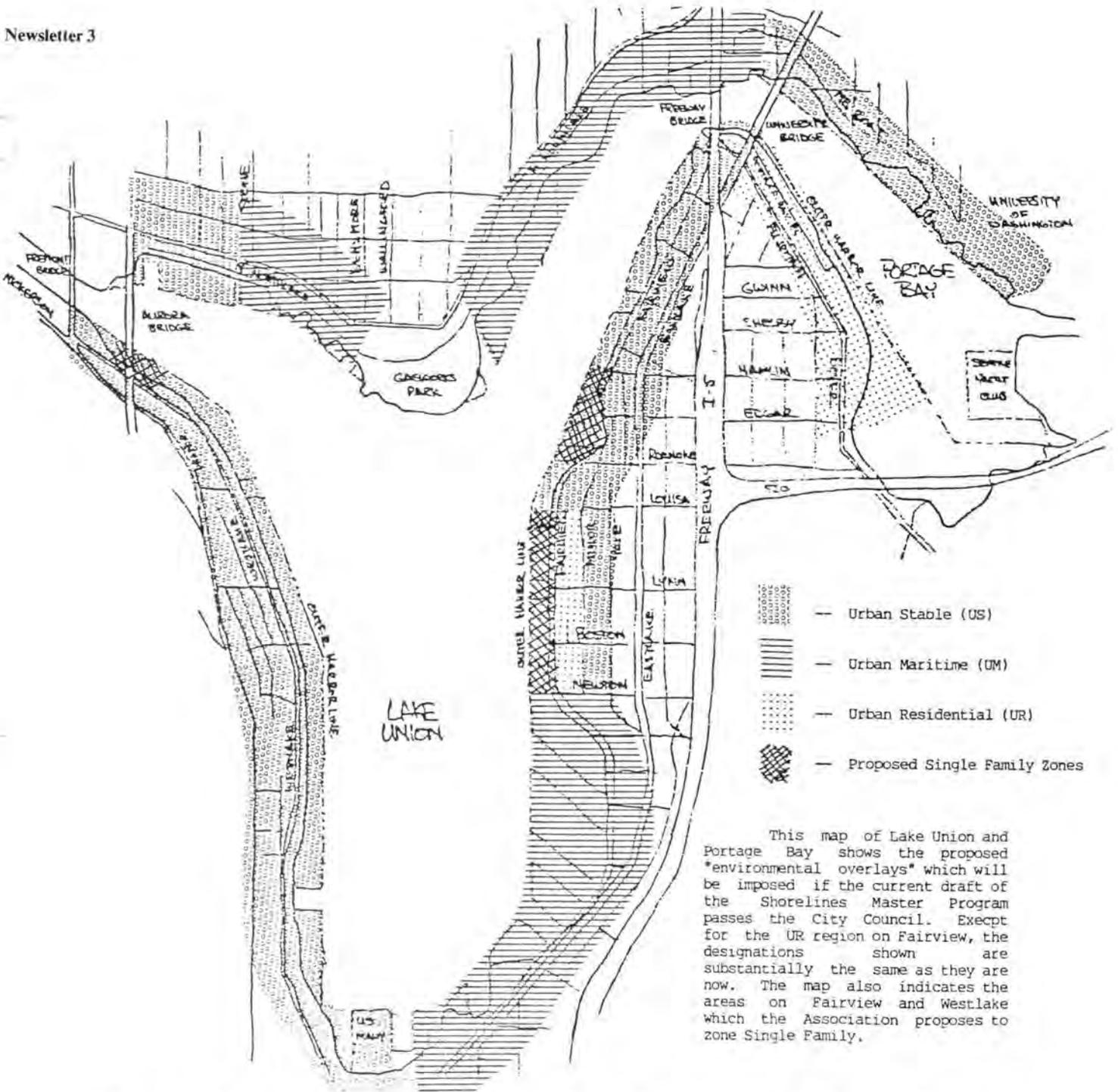


Photo courtesy of Seattle Engineering Department

This photo, taken in 1932, shows a pocket of houseboats nestled underneath a still uncompleted Aurora Bridge. This historical community is among those designated as a Single Family residential zone in a proposal recently submitted by the Floating Homes Association to the City Council.

The Association's legislative agenda this year is dominated by land use initiatives. The reason for this is the remarkable burst of energy being focused on land use by City Hall. 1985 will see substantial revisions of two major bodies of law which define the limits on development of property within the city: the Zoning Ordinance and the Shorelines Master Program. Both of these laws are crucial to the stability of our community.

The Association is also involved in exploring the selective extension of the Outer Harbor Line in several areas around the lake -- mostly in Portage Bay.



This map of Lake Union and Portage Bay shows the proposed "environmental overlays" which will be imposed if the current draft of the Shorelines Master Program passes the City Council. Except for the UR region on Fairview, the designations shown are substantially the same as they are now. The map also indicates the areas on Fairview and Westlake which the Association proposes to zone Single Family.

Houseboats Threatened by Outer Harbor Line

by Laren Ambrose

About 14 years ago the City of Seattle, the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Army Corps of Engineers made a gentleman's agreement which set the Outer Harbor Line. This is the line where construction stops and navigable waters begin.

They were very careful about going around yacht clubs, commercial businesses and industries. But back then uplanders were calling houseboats "warts marring the face of Portage Bay." They must have thought it was a good time for wart removal.

Five years ago we found out that about 40 floating homes around the lake which have been there since long before the line was placed were suddenly "illegal" because they were outside the line. Their

owners were given 30 days to vacate. The Floating Homes Association and the City Council helped us get temporary leases.

But when those ten year leases expire in the late eighties, DNR now claims it can't renew them because it's not authorized to lease land outside the line.

The solution, of course, is to change the line so it goes around the houseboats like it does everything else. Some businesses on the lake have gone for similar changes lately, so the timing may be right.

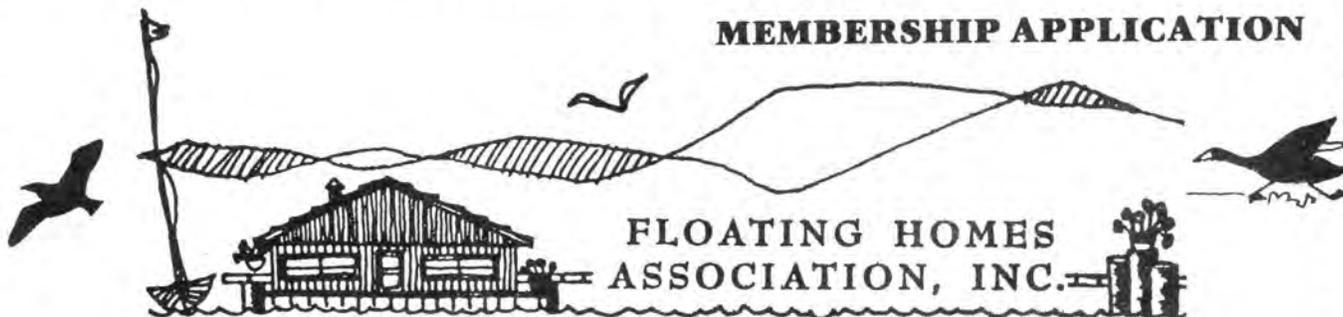
The Association is cutting a proposal to submit to the city and DNR this spring which should: 1) save 40 or so floating homes, 2) provide more space for evicted floating homes, 3) help keep one more government agency off our backs.



Photo by Phil Webber

Association members and friends danced to the sounds of Parvo at the Fall party. Sandy Fenn and the party committee mixed dancing, great hors d'oeuvres, a silent auction, and the raffle of a cabbage patch doll to make a great evening which also added a much needed \$2338.02 to the Association's Legal Fund.

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.

- \$36.00 Regular Household Dues
- \$24.00 Retired Household Dues
- \$12.00 Associate Member Dues

(New members will receive a complimentary copy of Howard Drovers 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."

Association Update

Auction

Floating Homes Association's 3rd Annual and biggest fund raiser will be on Saturday, May 18th at the Mountaineer's Club.

"Plans are rapidly coming together and some impressive donations such as a dance party for 200 and lunch with Dan Evans have already been made," according to chairman Marty Gardner, 284-6024.

It's not too soon for bringing in acquisitions. "Our goal is to have the catalog ready 2 weeks ahead of time, allowing potential buyers to look it over before coming. This is going to be a great auction," says Marty.

Cookbook

We still have copies of the Seattle Houseboater's Gourmet Scrapbook, but not for long. The books were so popular, we almost sold out in two weeks. If you want a first edition copy, get your order in fast. Call or write the Floating Homes Association office, 2329 Fairview E, Seattle 98102, 325-1132 or check with Beth Means 325-5139 or Jann MacFarland 323-3489. Copies are \$8.95. We are thinking about marketing the book in the greater Seattle area. If you can help with volunteer time, ideas, marketing expertise or contacts with bookstores, give Jann or Beth a call.

Please Contribute

The Association received \$17,703.00 in donations and dues in 1984, including over \$7,000.00 earmarked for the Terry Pettus Memorial Fund. These are remarkable numbers for a neighborhood with only 480 or so households. Your friends and neighbors thank you for your contributions.

If we're lucky enough to have a quiet year, the Executive Committee believes that this is our opportunity to clear away our outstanding debt, which still stands at about \$25,000.00. Remember, your donations are tax deductible if your checks are made out to "CSCCF / Floating Homes Association"

Please give generously.

Annual Meeting

The Association will hold its annual meeting this year at St Patrick's Church Parish Hall again this year on April 23rd at 7:30 PM. Business will include the election of officers for the coming year, further discussion of the issues addressed in this Newsletter, and a forum on what might be done about the disruption created by the growing numbers of seaplanes on the lake.

Pettus Park

A movement is afoot to dedicate the street end park at E Newton and Fairview E "Terry Pettus Park" sometime this spring.

An early proposal to name part of the emerging complex at the southwest corner of Lake Union which includes the Center for Wooden Boats and Northwest Seaport after Terry is still in the works. However, the lead time for that project seems to be on the order of three to five years, and many wish to do something before then.

Unfortunately, the Parks Department is just now revising its procedures for naming parks, and they're resisting the suggestion that we do anything now. City Councilman Paul Kraabel has written Parks Director Paul Hundley expressing dissatisfaction with the Department's response and requesting immediate action on the proposal under the old rules "which are adequate, I am sure, for the naming of one more park ..."

A letter from you to Mr. Hundley along the same lines wouldn't hurt at all.



Waterlog

by Sheri Lockwood

It's that time of year again. Was that a neighbor we just saw whisk past the window? Do you remember what they looked like last summer and fall when it was warm enough to stop and chat? Has your death defying leap from deck to dock resulted in a Keystone Kop pratfall yet? Cheer up. . . we've got lots of excuses to drowse by the fireplace.

It's been a while since the last "Waterlog" so many reports have missed us or just plain come in kind of fuzzy, but here goes:

TAKING THE PLUNGE: August 5 -- Elise Ernst and Michael Smith, 2219 Fairview. August 25 -- Gwendolyn Phillips and Damien Gregory, 2235 Fairview. September 2 -- Debra Boyer and George Yeannakis, 2235 Fairview. Fall -- Leo Mehler and Sharon on 2818 Boyer. January 1 -- Ruth Coffin and Bob Schroeder, 2219 Fairview. February 2 -- Tom Gorman and Dannie on 2017 Fairview.

WET BUT FLOATING: In April, a girl Ashbe Anglin to Rob and Peggy Anglin, 2251 Fairview. . . and to Don Brownlee and Paula Szkody a 7 lb. 6 oz. boy, Carson, in June. . . Barbara Cox-Walkover and Andy Walkover, 2235 Fairview, just welcomed daughter Lily on February 12.



WELCOME ABOARD: We have a few new neighbors to welcome: Bill Pierson on 2025 Fairview. . . Sandy Oellien's new roommate is not really new to the community, Anita Coolidge's photos grace that wonderful Lake Union poster on most of our walls, 2035-37 Fairview. . . Mary Schroeder and her daughters Rasilla and Serena on 2731 Fairview. . . On 2818 Boyer Bob and Ellie Street moved away, but Ted and Susan Bell moved in. Susan is the daughter of dock owner Dan Brackett. She and Ted share a house that her mom and dad shared in earlier days. . . and on 2460 Westlake, Sue and Bill Babcock and their son Bo, who is five.

NEW DOCK OWNERS: There are some new and good changes: 933 Northlake is being run by Blauert and Viele. Chuck Viele is the manager and the residents are happy. Mr. Viele seems interested in them and their environment. Their future seems more secure and dock improvements may be forthcoming. . . 2351 Fairview was bought by Jeff Wright, a houseboat resident, in

We have an answering machine to help us handle telephone calls and provide a quick response to members' concerns. If you have information or a question, call or leave a message. We'll be happy to call you back.

325-1132 CALL US ANYTIME

December. It may be condominiumizing soon, (hope that word doesn't weigh your mailboxes down).



Docksters on 2035-37 Fairview are joining in efforts to help Dutch Schultz through his recovery from eye surgery. Dutch will be happy to get his new eyes so he can get back to work. Ruth Coffin and Bob Schroeder invited their Dox neighbors to a pre-nuptial party on December 29 on 2219 Fairview, their invitation featured one of the Christmas boats. . . and the Dox brunch the first Sunday of every month is back in effect. It's one way of avoiding chatting in the rain.

A small sail in an orange bag drifted in a 2239-41 Fairview. It looks like it's for a sunfish or a sailing dinghy. It's marked with a Heart-8, call Julie Zylstra, 329-6499. . . . Sad to say the 2339-41 party barge has finally seen it's last days (boo-hoo). It was condemned by the police, but got a final reprieve to blossom Christmas decorations and make a final cruise. . . . past the Police Station caroling.

Plant expert Bob Lilly, from Tenas Chuck dock (2331-39 Fairview) was featured in a large Journal-American spread. . . . Jack Huizingh of 2822 Boyer has moved to Hawaii to become director of the new Natural Ocean Energy Lab for the University of Hawaii. . . . Helen Mitchell (2035-37 Fairview) isn't using her classic Paulsbo boat "Lillian" enough and regretfully has to sell her. If you are interested in an 18 foot, 50 year old classic in prime condition call Helen's son Bruce Mitchell at home, 235-3066 or at work, 624-3649.

2420 Westlake: OLD HOME WEEK: Betty Campestrini, who has been working on a boat in the French and Greek Isles returned for a three week visit and Nancy Cox who's been working as a cook on Alaska bound tugs has been in local waters on a Crowley tug.

It's also been noted that exercise and rowing machines came aboard this Christmas with Santa. It does seem a little humorous to have a rowing machine on a houseboat. . . . wouldn't a motor be more practical? They are much warmer and drier than the genuine article though. . . . Heave Ho, me hearties.



1984 marked the passing of much beloved long time houseboaters. Our last Newsletter noted how much we will all miss our friend Terry Pettus (this chatty, gossipy column was his idea). But also conspicuously missing in our ranks will be Dorothy Nelson and Carrie Stafford.

Dorothy Nelson and her husband Frank, a merchant seaman, moved onto the docks in the 1930's and shortly after bought their dock. In the fifty years Dorothy lived on the lake (at 2239-41 Fairview), they bought, sold and lived in every house on the dock. Frank Nelson passed away nearly 10 years ago and Dorothy last July 21st. Grandsons Jim and Larry now own and manage the dock. Dorothy is survived by her grandsons and sons Jim and Bob, her nephew Harry Smith and niece Junie McFeydan.

Carrie Stafford was one of the first dock owners to propose a co-op ownership plan with Houseboat Harbor on Portage Bay. She was a charter member and honorary lifetime member of the Floating Homes Association.

The passing of seasons is easily noted by the wildlife present outside the window. Though it was feared that the distemper outbreak last year may have killed many of the raccoons footprints in the snow have confirmed that many are still in residence. . . . Brush dying back also shows that the beaver are still very much at home in our community. The bank on 2035-37 looks very lived in from a beaver standpoint. . . . Many noted siting the goose-pimpled, warbling kayak carollers, thought to be extinct, over the holidays. . . . word has it that they weren't out there very long. . . . 2737 has a resident pair of bufflehead ducks, the first lesser scaups are here along with goldeneyes and horned grebes. 1213 Shelby was cruised by a cormorant and their great blue heron (thought to be plastic for quite some time) has returned. . . .

FINAL CAUTIONARY NOTE: From Portage Bay to Fairview there have been reports of thefts from cars parked up on the street. Often the cars that are broken into have had something tempting left on the seat. The lesson learned seems to be to leave only junk in your cars and make sure your radio looks like a thrift shop reject. . . . There've been reports of a few houseboat burglaries along Fairview, too. . . . Let's be careful out there. . . . Until next Newsletter, when we won't need sure-grip tread to get down the dock. . . . Happy '85. . . . SL

George & Debbie take the leap



Debra Boyer and George Yeannakis, 2235 Fairview, decided to "take the leap" last fall when they announced their marriage. Several other houseboat couples who have also recently taken the plunge are reported in this month's Waterlog.