

2329 Fairview East

Seattle, Washington 98102

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Newsletter

Fall 1990

City Council Approves Perpetual Right of First Refusal

by Bill Keasler

A law granting floating home owners "perpetual" rights of first refusal on both their moorage sites and their docks was passed by a unanimous vote of the City Council on October 22. The Floating Homes Association expects Mayor Norm Rice to sign the bill by the time this is published. The law will probably go into effect before December.

The measure was sponsored by

City Council President Paul Kraabel and shepherded through the legislative process by Councilman Jim Street. Street, speaking before the full council in support of the bill, declared that the ordinance, "grants a fundamental right to floating home owners to match any offer made on their underlying moorage."

Last spring, in response to skyrocketing prices for moorage sites, the Association's Legislative Committee began to lobby the Council for some way to ensure that the prices

being set for sites reflected their true market value. They were afraid that the occupants of sites would have to pay whatever moorage owners asked in order to save their homes.

The Committee's concern was reinforced when owners of a dock on Fairview announced they were condominiumizing their moorage and set prices for the sites between \$150,000 and \$250,000. Data available to the Association indicates that 17 moorage sites were sold in 1988 and 1989 for an average of \$73,000. None sold for more than \$95,500. The problem was not so much that the high prices were not plausible — the value of some real estate in the area has in fact doubled in the last nine months — but that floating home owners were captive buyers and had essentially no bargaining position.

The new law allows a floating home owner to match any offer made on the site by a third party. Presumably, an uplander looking for moorage would only consider the value of a site in relation to other view and waterfront property around the city and would not be subject to the pressure of trying to keep their home.

Unfortunately, if the market value of moorage has actually gone up as much as the recent asking prices suggest, many floating home owners will still not be able to afford their sites and may be evicted in spite of the right of first refusal. A "licensing" scheme, which would place a limit on the number of houseboats to match the de facto limit on the number of



photo by Chris Sherman

**Colorful balloons dancing in the breeze of a sunny day
marked houses on tour.**

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First Refusal

moorages, was also proposed by the Legislative Committee to preserve the value of an evicted houseboat. The City Council has not yet taken action on this proposal, but Street has indicated he will take the matter up again after the first of the year.

The new state Condominium Law also applies to floating home sites, but it allows 180 days for a tenant to match the original price set by the owner. This is distinguished from the Right of First Refusal ordinance in a number of ways. The most basic difference is the fact that a floating home owner has 30 days to decide to match the same "price, terms and conditions" of an offer made on their underlying site and 60 days after that to close the deal. Three percent earnest money is required at the end of the 30 day decision period. Another difference is that any site or dock sale is covered by the ordinance whether it is part of a condominium conversion or not.

The new ordinance was drafted as an amendment to the Equity Ordinance. It first adds a definition of "sale" which exempts transactions among current dock co-owners and marriage partners. It also contains provisions to prevent circumvention of the intent of the law by such means as requiring expensive remodels or rearranging the dock's plot plan. Only the owners of floating homes are granted rights under the ordinance, and these rights cannot be assigned to someone else.

If a moorage owner receives more than one offer from eligible floating home owners for the whole dock, the moorage owner may, "choose between or among them by allowing them the opportunity to increase the amounts of their offers or by any other reasonable means."

VOLUNTEER and MAKE A DIFFERENCE

by Peggy Stockley



Focusing on Lake Union, here's a list of current projects and efforts that need volunteer involvement. There's sure to be one for you.

1) The Olmsted-Fairview Park Commission — Neighborhood and public support is needed to buy land, preserve the P-Patch and develop a hillside and lakeshore park along Fairview Avenue East in the vicinity of the Shelby St. right-away. Call Nancy Pritchard at 328-4798. Also: People are needed to get

involved in the plans for South Lake Union Park and other open space projects. For example, Coolidge Propellor donated an old propellor for display in a small park that may someday be acquired near their historic (now demolished) plant.

2) FHA Condo Conversion Committee — Consider the new phenomenon of condo docks and work with city government to find an equitable solution that is fair to moorage owners and houseboat homeowners. Call the FHA office, 325-1132.

3) Upland condo owners are pushing for view corridors and that can mean trouble for the willows and alders and natural lakeside vegetation that provide habitat for wildlife as part of a historic ecological balance. Call Laurie at 322-5537 if you want to know more about the "weeping" willow at the head of 2321 Fairview. It's a spectacular tree admired by most everyone in the neighborhood, even passersby. One houseboater often takes her visiting grandchild down to see what they call the "magical tree."

4) The Eastlake Community Council can use your specialized talents. Whether it's greenbelt protection; legal appeals to defend the shoreline; preservation of historic and affordable housing and the scale and character of the Eastlake neighborhood through the Eastlake Community Land Trust; support for continued use of Seward School; help with the annual fund-raising art show at Julia's spotlighting local artists, the holiday auction or the annual rummage sale, etc. ECC is vitally interested in Eastlake history and would like to tap the rich resource of pioneers still living in the neighborhood. Volunteers are needed to coordinate and/or accomplish taped interviews with our old-timers. And, ECC needs a newsletter editor. Call 322-5463.

5) Here's one for you! The Lake Union History Project. Carla Main, manager of the city's Fremont Community Service Center, is building a diverse group of historians, activists, artisans and community-types to pool their collective knowledge and love of district to tell the story of Lake Union. There are City matching funds available but the project has to be completed within 3 months of when you apply for the grant. So, we've got to decide what form this history should take. Call Carla at 684-4054 if you want to help.

Have I whetted your interest?

IN MEMORIAM

On August 4th, Tim Herron, a resident of Flo Villa (2207 FV) died of injuries sustained while rock-climbing in Idaho.

Tim was a photographer and his work reflected his vision of life.

He was fun, enthusiastic and a good friend. We at Flo Villa surely miss him.

South Lake Union Park DEIS Published

The Seattle Parks Department issued their Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) on South Lake Union Park August 31. Three options for the park are explored by the DEIS: No Action, Union Green, and Maritime Heritage. Although the Center for Wooden Boats (CWB) would remain in both the Union Green and Maritime Heritage concepts, the CWB's water coverage would be substantially reduced and Northwest Seaport (NWS) would be forced out of the site entirely by the Union Green proposal.

The No Action plan is a required component of the DEIS. Under this "plan," the site would remain more or less as it is now.

The Union Green proposal stresses "open space and viewpoints, with relatively little area dedicated to programmed activities." The CWB's floating structures now occupying Waterway 4 would be moved on land. NWS's tall ship *Wawona* and its associated restoration facilities would be moved off the site.

The Maritime Heritage proposal would "provide a regional focus for hands-on preservation of Pacific Northwest traditional boat building and watercraft lore, based on a maritime village plan. This village would evoke Seattle's past in the late 19th century ..." The CWB's structures would remain about where they are and permanent moorage would be provided for three historic vessels — probably the *Wawona*, the tug *Arthur Foss* and the lightship *Relief*.

While both the Union Green and the Maritime Heritage proposals contemplate acquisition of the Naval Reserve Armory (torn down and left standing, respectively), this puzzles many closely associated with the project because the Navy has shown no inclination to vacate their site.

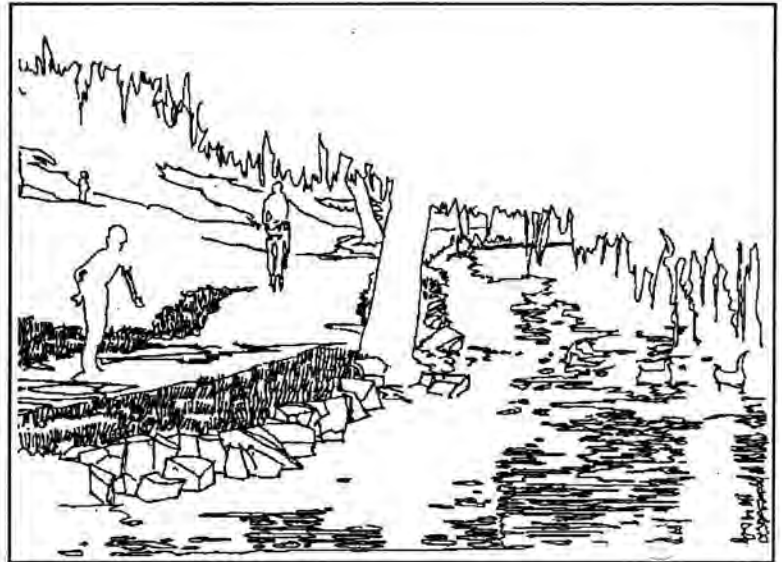
In both their reading of the DEIS and in their discussions with Parks Department officials, CWB and NWS leaders see a tilt toward the Union Green option. They feel little effort has been made by Parks to understand the world renowned and unique

facility which has been created at the south end of the lake at no expense to the public through the time and money of individuals, corporations, foundations and community groups. No additional public funds would be required to maintain the Maritime Heritage Center.

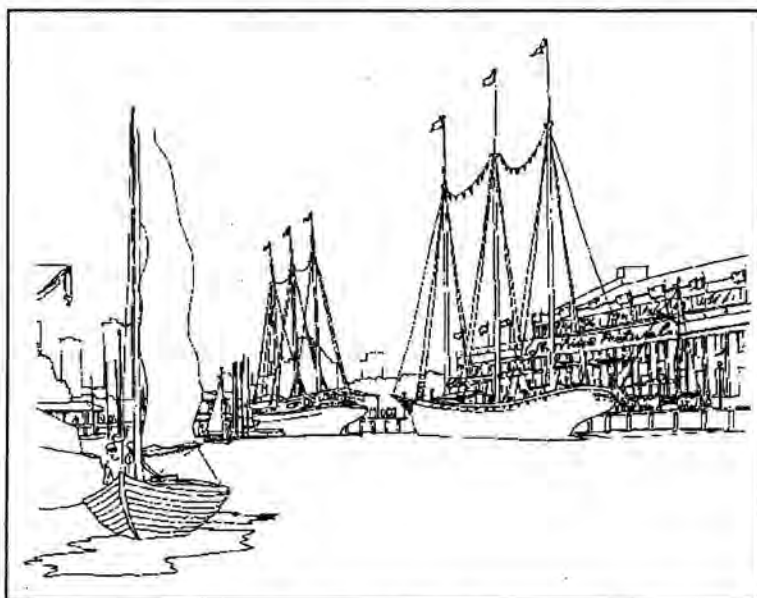
As they put it, "the Center is already established at South Lake Union. Since 1983, 50,000 visitors per year have come to South Lake Union to participate in the maritime heritage programs already provided by CWB and NWS ... None of these have suggested we change our goals or site."

Yet the Parks Department seems to want to remove most of it in favor of viewpoints.

To find out how you can help, call either the CWB at 382-2628 or NWS at 447-9800. A copy of the DEIS can be obtained (for a fee) from the Parks Department at 684-4075.

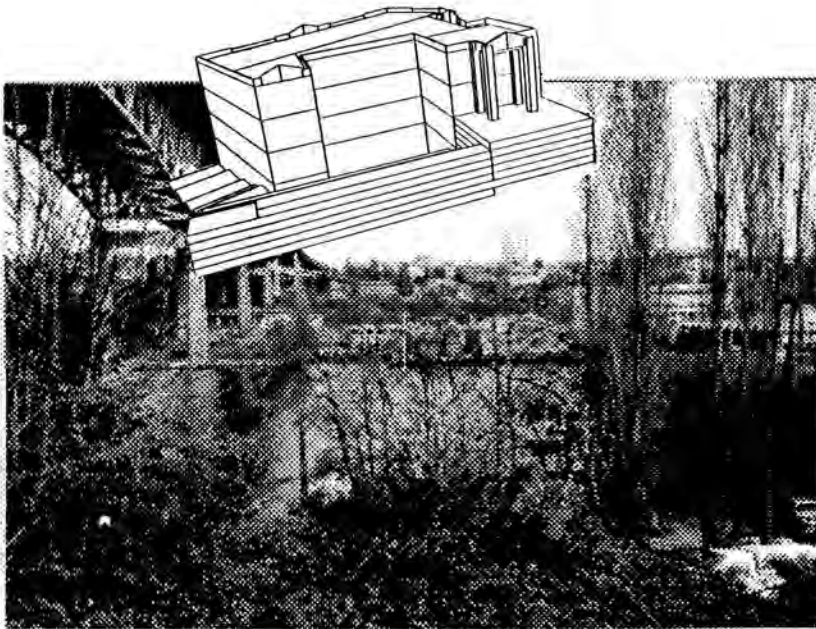


Union Green Concept



Maritime Heritage Concept

There Goes the Neighborhood!



Shorelines Board Denies Office Appeal

The State Shorelines Hearings Board recently ruled against the Floating Homes Association and the Eastlake Community Council on several key issues in their appeal of the Department of Construction and Land Use's decision to allow a shoreline office building on Portage Bay. As a result, the FHA and ECC have decided to take their case to Superior Court.

Dally Development Corporation proposes to build the four story building on the south shoreline of Portage Bay between the freeway bridge and the University Bridge.

Popularly known as the "Pocock Building" because of the claim by the developer that the Pocock Rowing Foundation would occupy the water level

floor, the office structure would join a rash of similar non-water dependant office and residential buildings which have been built on the lake since the most recent Shorelines Master Program was passed in 1985. Loopholes built into the SMP allow such uses if some water dependant connection can be established. In this case it was to be the Pocock Foundation. However, in spite of loud publicity to the contrary, by the time of the hearing no written agreement with Pocock could be produced by Dally.

The main points of the community's appeal to the Board were that such loopholes are contrary to state law, that this development did not even meet the standards of the loopholes, and that the parking requirements were to be satisfied by a lot hundreds of feet away on a lease from the state revocable in thirty days. Unfortunately, these also happened to be the very issues the Board ruled against.

The Board did agree to hear arguments on a number of technical issues raised by the community groups such as lot coverage, views and public access. However, the FHA and the ECC decided that conceding the remaining technical points before the Shorelines Board and arguing the broader policy issues in Superior Court would be a better use of their time and resources. As a result, the organizations will be filing an appeal soon.

Finding Funding

You can help.

At issue is whether we will allow developers to use the shorelines of Lake Union and Portage Bay for office buildings by taking advantage of a loophole which was originally intended to enhance the financial viability of new water dependant projects.

It has not worked out that way. Developers have realized that all they have to do is say they are thinking about renting some space to a marine dependant business and DCLU will let them build an office building on the shoreline. The "Pocock" building is only one of many examples.

This perverse result is exactly opposite from the intent of the law.

What do you want the lake to be? A few years ago, through inaction, we let the shoreline restaurant loophole go unchallenged and look what happened to Fairview. With this case, we now we have a chance to close the office loophole before the same thing happens again.

The problem is that fighting in court is expensive. The FHA and the ECC have already paid thousands of dollars in attorney's fees and have bills outstanding equal to what we've paid. We are now launching yet another round of briefs and court appearances.

Your dollars will make the difference. Make your (tax deductible) check out to SCCF/Eastlake Legal Fund and send it to the Lakeshore Defense Fund, 117 East Louisa #1, Seattle, 98102. — **Bill Keasler**

GREAT GIFTS FROM THE HOUSEBOAT COMMUNITY!

During December, the Floating Homes Office will be open each Sunday from 12-5pm so you can purchase that special gift and help out the Association! Don't delay - shop early!!

Floating Homes T-Shirts

This year we have a great selection of styles, colors and designs. There's the Big White T sporting the blue and red circle "Seattle's Houseboats Colorful & Historic" design and the Light Blue T with the classic line drawing of houseboats by Bob McPake. These high quality T's are 100% preshrunk cotton in sizes Medium to XX Large. Children's T's available in Navy and Lavendar with line houseboat drawing.

Adult Sizes....\$12 Adult XX Large....\$15 Kid's Sizes....\$9

Floating Homes Sweatshirts

Remember the jogger or winter boater on your list with this super Navy 100% Cotton sweatshirt emblazened with the ever classic line drawing of houseboats! This is an all natural gift that will last the years and hold its color - - just like Us!!!

Adult Sizes....\$20 Adult XXL Large....\$24 Kid's Sizes....\$18

Sun Visors.....\$7

The great white, cotton adjustable visor with the terry back. Sports "Houseboats Bringing a little color to Seattle" in blue letters. This gift is for the Proud to be a Houseboater type or those who love one!

Tote Bags.....\$9

A roomy (11"x17") tote bag of 100% natural colored cotton with the red and blue circle design. Perfect for shopping, day hikes or beachcombing!

Lake Union Poster.....\$5

Scenic vignettes of Lake Union surrounded by a Karen Boyle poem. Photos by Anita Klapper. Frame It!

Seattle's Unsinkable Houseboats Book.....\$6

Written by Howard Droker and illustrated by Victor Steinbrueck. A fascinating history of the houseboat community, its origins and politics.

Notecards.....\$5

Ten personal note size (5 1/2 x 4") cards and envelopes sporting two classic houseboat line drawings

Tri-Fold Photo Brochure.....\$1.50

All Prices Include Tax

JOIN THE FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION TODAY!!

Help preserve and protect Seattle's colorful houseboat colony.

One year Membership: \$36 Regular Household \$24 Retired Household
 New Renewal

NAME: _____

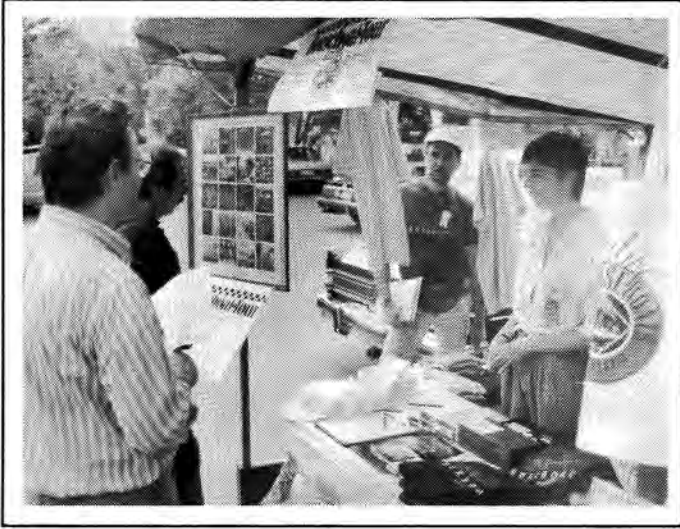
STREET ADDRESS: _____ HOUSEBOAT #: _____

TELEPHONE: _____

Houseboat: Own Rent

Moorage: Own Rent

Make Checks Payable to FHA - THANKS for your support!!



Ann Bassetti markets houseboat memorabilia to eager tour visitors.



Tour guests at Catherine Spedden's place on Hamlin Pier got to see a real old-time houseboat and Catherine provided recollections that made floating home history come alive.

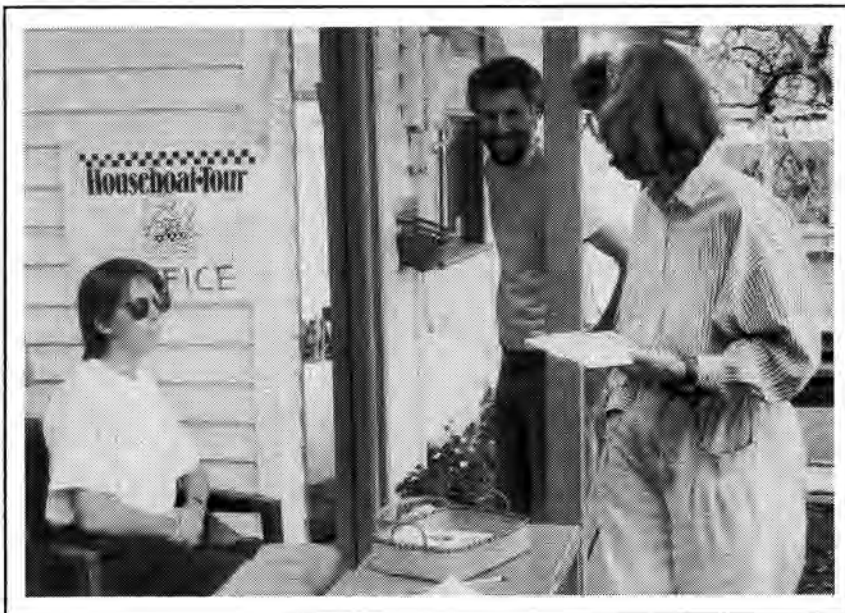
TOUR 1990 — ANOTHER WINNER!



Neat pairs of shoes side by side on the dock indicate the respect for property traditionally shown by those who take the Houseboat Tour.

This year's houseboat tour was a great success. We can all be proud of the way we showed off our community to those less fortunate (i.e., landlubbers). We certainly can't complain about the weather — about 700 people got to see our beautiful houseboats floating on a sparkling sun-splashed lake! There are literally 100 people who I want to thank — an event like this simply cannot happen without the volunteers. Everyone of you who tied up balloons, welcomed guests, served food, sold tickets, or whatever deserves a medal. Special thanks go to the generous folks who opened their homes to the public: Dave, Yvonne & Dylan Jones and Catherine Spedden on Hamlin Pier (and Dave Rosenquist who owns the dock); Neil & Nancy Macdonald, K. & Theresa Jones (and the Mallard Cove Coop); Caroline Cropp, Merle Adams & Dan Conway (and members of Dox Coop); Bill & Cecelia Wickett, Laurie Balistrieri & Rick Blank (and members of Flo Villa Coop), and Keith, Laurie & Ryan Lorence (and the Log Foundation Coop). Thanks also to the members of the Floating Homes Association Board who worked so hard all summer organizing the tour; and to Sharon Evered for stocking and staffing the hospitality houses; Fred McCulloch for organizing all the volunteers; Peggy Stockley for handling the publicity (as well as countless details); Jann McFarland for lending her years of experience in putting on these tours; Leslie Rubicam for her financial wizardry; Ann Bassetti & Eugene Nutt, Diane & Bob Fellman for handling the sale of cottage industry items ... and to our FHA office manager, Ynema Reeves, for service above and way beyond her job description! Your efforts will help us continue the work of the Floating Homes Association and keep our unique community afloat.

- Marty Alexander, '90 Tour Chair
 (Editor's note: Thank YOU, Marty!)



Ticket sales boomed at the FHA office on Fairview

It was a day to relax and enjoy the sunshine



NEWS FROM THE CENTER FOR WOODEN BOATS

by Dick Wagner

Kidsboats



CLANCEY - 9 1/2' SKIFF

D.W. 11-10-89

Experiential (hands-on) education is the main route the Center for Wooden Boats has chosen to interpret our small craft heritage. Alternative School #1 uses the same concept in their K-8 programs. It's not surprising that we've been cooperating on programs. Through grants from PIPE (Partners In Public Education) and The Seattle Neighborhood Program and, with the cooperation of the Floating Homes Association and Flounder Bay Lumber Co., a most exciting program is beginning. Rich Kolin (commissioned by Flounder Bay) designed The Boat - a 9'6", flat bottom, cat rigged skiff for plywood "stitch and glue" construction. It was designed as a Kid's Boat that would be safe, fast and easy to build as a project for a single parent and child. Rich calls it the Clancy class, named for his boat-loving dog. The first boat will be built as a CWB workshop. Bob Pickett of Flounder Bay Lumber will be the instructor, assisted by Jonathan Stevens, shop teacher at AS 1. This project was partially funded from a Seattle Neighborhood Grant sponsored by our neighbor, the Floating Homes Association, whose members qualify for a reduced tuition rate.

Building A Skiff with "Stitch And Glue"

November 10, 11, 17 & 18,
8:30 a.m. - 5 p.m. each day
Fee: \$200/\$250 (Special class fee of \$100 for members of FHA) The class will build a 9'6" sailing skiff which will be donated to Alternative School #1, and kept for public use at CWB. Maximum 6 students.

Maritime Museum Pros to Come In '91

The Center for Wooden Boats will host the Museum Small Craft Association Conference October 4th through 6th, 1991. This will be a 3-day gathering of about 60 maritime museum professionals from North America and Europe. For most, it will be their first Seattle visit and they are eager to soak in as much classic boat information and Seattle classic ambience as possible. We are requesting free houseboat accommodations (no meals) in the Fairview, Westlake area for as many attendees as possible. Houseboat guests will have the use of a classic rowboat to commute to the Center. If you wish to participate, please contact Dick Wagner at 382-2628.

Floating Homes Association

Office Hours:

Monday 10am - 2pm
Thursday 9am - 1pm

Or leave a message at 325-1132

FHA office manager Ynema Reeves thanks FHA board member June Fauchald for the loan of an electric typewriter. On behalf of the office, Ynema could use a 4-function electric calculator (not solar, thank you, because we don't get enough light coming through the windows) and a small postal scale. If you're upgrading and don't need these items or if you happen to have them hanging around and would like to share them with the FHA, let her know. We're grateful just to borrow them for awhile. Anytime you want them back, you've got 'em.

We are grateful to houseboater Peg Boley for once again sharing her artistic talent and providing ^{the backpack} this illustration for the newsletter. If you would like to commission her to sketch your house or dock, call Peg at 329-9631.

And, we thank John Nelson (2764 WL) for his generous computer work in putting this newsletter together and for his great good humor.



Waterlog

by Sheri Lockwood

The Huskies are smelling the roses, the Seahawks finally are winning, the leaves are turning and blowing. TV's new season is as bad as the old one, the kids are back in school, the ghoulies are coming, the lake is dropping, the spiders are back en masse... Will we be able to use our fireplaces?... It's fall and time for a seasonal Waterlog update on what some of our neighbors did on their summer break:

WELCOME ABOARD

Dennis Dahl and Suzette Harris are new neighbors on Flo Villa - FV... City Council President Paul Kraabel is building a houseboat on Phoenix Moorage (2349-51 FV)... Bob and Angela Anderson are new owners at Tenas Chuck Moorage (2331 FV). They bought houseboat "E" from Monty & Ora Hewitt who have moved south to houseboat land outside Vancouver, WA. Bob is a surveyor working for Bush, Roed & Hitchins in the neighborhood and Angela is a pre-med student... Also new to 2331 FV are Overlake School science teacher Liz Toelle and computer marketing rep Tim Bohlin who are renting Chuck Koines' place... New on the other Tenas Chuck dock (2339 FV) is Frank Kloss... It was an easy move for Seattle P.I. reporter Scott Maier when he rafted across the waterway from the Granat dock to Wandesforde (2037 FV). Interestingly, he moved from the exact spot where Carol and Bill Keasler formerly lived to become their next door neighbor.

MAROONED

Some of our favorite houseboat neighbors who have been active in the community for years are moving ashore. Rob Anglin and Peggy Hackney from Phoenix Moorage (FV) and Tom Haslett (2466 WL) will be greatly missed.

KNOTS TIED

Richard Ying and Jill Gardner of Flo Villa (FV) were married May 21st... Andrew Taber and Hanna Williams (3126 PBPL) on June 30th... Kathy Berg and Chris Sherman (2321 FV) exchanged vows August 18th at Holy Names Academy then jumped into their new Corsair F-27 trimeran and sailed off into the San Juans... Bill McNeill and Linda Mikulicich (2017 FV) celebrated their

marriage September 30th with a reception on their dock.

KNOTS REALLY TIED

Al and Dorothy Hendrickson of Roanoke Reef (10 E. Roanoke) celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary with a reception for family, friends and dock neighbors at the Swedish Club.

ANCHORS AWEIGH

A going-away party for Tom Haslett was held October 14th on Nesika Chuck Moorage (2466 WL). He's moving to land and the Floating Homes community will miss a tireless volunteer and worker. Maybe we shouldn't let him off easy—we accept offers of help from landlubbers too. . . Jeri Callahan (2331 FV) is off to Nopala de Villagran (Spanish for cactus) in the state of Hidalgo, two hours northwest of Mexico City, where she will teach conversational English to 16 schoolboys for the winter. Renting Jeri's pad is legal assistant Susan Murkland... Susan Susor (Boat St.) and 3 women friends went on a three-day camping trip to Mt. Rainier. The trek was called "Broads in the Boonies" and they had a great time. This is reminiscent of the all OR/WA women's camp-out which now attracts about two dozen serious recreation seekers (this reporter included) that is called WAACO-Women's Attitude Adjustment Camp-Out"... Joan and Neil Rosenstock (3146 PBPL) vacationed in Italy and Turkey in October... George and Pat Simmons (3126 PBPL) avid Hidden Harbor Yacht Club members spent many summer weekends fishing on the Sound and in the San Juans... Sheri Lockwood (2235 FV) spent the end of May in northern England, Scotland and Norway... Caroline Cropp (2235 FV) visited southern England... Karen & Bill Evensen (2466 WL) spent a month sailboat cruising in Turkey. The cruise, sponsored by "48 North" was cancelled once because of saber-rattling but by October it seemed the flotilla of



photo by Phil H. Webber

Marty Gardner, Marty Alexander and Leslie Rubicam were among his admirers when Tom Haslett was bid farewell.

NEWSLETTER 10

...more Waterlog

sailboats could safely revel along the Turkish coastline. Hope they are right... Pat Willard (Mallard Cove FV) spent a month on a jungle cruise in S. America... Robert and Surain af Sandeberg (Mallard Cove FV) spent a month in Kenya... Jean Elmer (Phoenix FV) enjoyed the trip she won to Honolulu, then her rowing team took a first in the National Rowing championship in Miami and a second at Via Reggio in Italy. Unfortunately she got home, her son got sick and the depression of no new adventures for awhile set in—she's recovering—begrudgingly... Kendall (who needs no other name) (2770 WL) rode a motor scooter from Seattle to Texas, then went on to Florida to deliver a boat (says she did great—no puking) spent 4 months in Costa Rica then rode the scooter from Texas back to Seattle. "It feels great to have done it," she says, "and great to be back home." Liberation strikes! She says she's quitting her job because "she's not getting any younger" there's lots to see and she's going to go 'til the money runs out—YES!

FLORA AND FAUNA

I know Don Brownlee will be happy to know that I've amended my "sketchy report" of a coyote in the Portage Bay area to "probable." Actually it's been sighted on the Burke-Gilman Trail too... four raccoons were seen ambling down the Northlake dock but you could see anything in Fremont—trolls even—... Flo Villa docksters have noted two turtles in their little lagoon. One is a slider which may have been a pet that was released, the other looks like a native chart with white swirls on its neck. They also spied a muskrat and an immature blue heron. It would be great if the heron would return to the area like the Portage Bay herons... Flo Villa (FV) has its own experts on exotic animals. Bill and Cecilia Wickett have parrots, box turtles, lizards, frogs, snakes and a standard poodle (poodles are French..French is exotic) on their houseboat... Steve Mason of WL went swimming this summer and found he was accompanied by a "Very Large" sea lion. Steve's first thought was "Will it bite?" Then he decided it looked like the thing knew where it was going. It did, it sped off in the direction of the Locks. Was it looking for lunch or wondering if Steve would bite?... Sharon and Dan Ranney (2207 FV) rescued a 2-week-old Canadian gosling from a cat. They raised it for 6 weeks when it got independent, climbed over the fence and took off. The little goose, "Peep", was very affectionate and loved to be held. It would nuzzle under shirt collars and sleep on your shoulder. By the way, goslings eat good ole' chicken mash from the feed store and love chickweed.

AUGHHH! RATS.

Dead rats have appeared on Northlake and Eastlake. the city is expecting this year to be a record year for rats. They are receiving early reports of sightings downtown already. Fall is when the young rats leave home and start looking for their own territory and food. And we hope they don't discover



Dan Ranney and "Peep"

ours. Norway rats are found in the ground and roof rats are found in blackberry thickets. Don't leave dog or cat food out, especially overnight. Watch for "leavings" around bird feeders, compost or weed trimmings, wood piles (keep wood piles up off the ground), in litter from construction, and around gardens or fruit trees. Also, make sure your doors are tight. A quarter inch opening at the bottom is enough for a mouse to get through, a half inch is enough for a rat. Most well-fed cats won't tangle with a large Norway rat. I'll go along with that—neither would I. The Health Department baits the sewers once a year and unless there is an especially bad infestation they feel that's enough. If you have questions or think you have evidence of rats in your area, Charles Easterberg, UW Sanitarian, will offer advice. 543-7262.

WILDLIFE

I think Deborah and Dave Lycette (Hamlin) have the best "wildlife" story this issue. The story starts innocently with a deck door left open and docksters chatting in the sun. Suddenly a din arose from inside. Two mallards had decided that the kitchen floor had more romantic appeal than the pacific but public waters of Lake Union. "The ducks were "making it in the kitchen" says Debbie. Laughing neighbors gathered but the ducks pressed on. Fortunately, duck love is only a brief encounter, torrid as it may be, and they soon were escorted out... Would this be rated NC-17 or X?

MORE WILDLIFE

The 21st Annual Bastille Day Luau that the Log Foundation (FV) termed the "Middle Aged Mutant Ninja Pigs" Luau was celebrated July 14. Entertainment was provided by the Mark Bristol Band and the cast and characters of the Log Foundation. The music, roast pig, roast salmon, commemora-

tive T-shirts and libations contributed to another great bash... 2019 FV held its annual corn roast in mid-September... Leslie Rubicam (2025 FV) and Sheri Lockwood (2235 FV) participated in the Keg Sandblast Sand Sculpture Contest at Alki Beach in August. Team Armadillo's "Aerodillo" (an armadillo in a jet plane), won no prizes this year but the team is featured in a beautiful 200-page photography book on International Sand Castlers recently released. It is entitled "The Art of Sandcasting" by local author Ted Sieberts of the "Totally in Sand" team. It is published by Seattle's Romar Books.

FLOTSAM AND JETSAM

My dictionary says flotsam is a thing or person that is adrift and that jetsam is a thing that is tossed aside as useless... well I guess that pretty much describes this whole column and its writer. But we're in good company as evidenced by reports that the new owners of the Northlake dock have thoughtfully added a cement slab and covering to the bulkhead area. Tongues firmly in cheeks, the residents say this "cuts down on the awful dust, pollen and unsightliness of the greenery it has replaced."

Myrna Cordova (3126 PBPL) has regularly accompanied the rehearsals of the Gilbert and Sullivan Company but has recently pulled out her trombone and joined a band. Do we have fun neighbors, or what?... Rumour has it (this is a gossip column after all) that some of our neighbors while swimming late at night, dove under one of the Indian fishing nets and "liberated" a salmon. The resulting feast was dubbed "twice poached salmon", maybe even thrice... Robert Rudine (3235 FV) was featured in a June Seattle Times feature article about "mail art." Artistic participants communicate through art works such as collage, drawings, wood cuts, color Xerox, original stamps, or small paintings with themes that are serious to playful. Often the mail art is the envelope or postcard mailed. Shows are held in many countries and the communication cuts across borders, fosters international friendships and forms a network for like spirits. If you'd like to participate, you can join the International Union of Mail Artists. Their address is P.O. Box 10388, 5000 JJ tilburg, Holland... When the sewer pump blew up on 2466 Westlake, it had to be cleaned out. No one knows how long the problem had been growing but it seems the blockage was caused by a tankful of condoms. Truly an inspirational example of conscientious "safe sex" for us all. Now, if they could just get through to the mallards in Eastlake.

GRAPE NEWS

Tom Stockley (2331 FV) has been named "Wine Writer of the Year" by Wines & Vines, a national wine industry publication. It's the first time a Northwest writer has received the award. His "treat" was presented October 31st at a banquet at the Mark Hopkins in San Francisco.

KUDOS

To Dick Wagner who lives and works on Lake Union as

a houseboater (2770 WL) and as director of the Center for Wooden Boats for receiving a 1990 Maritime Honor Award for maritime preservation. The awards were presented in August at the Maritime Heritage Festival, sponsored by Northwest Seaport ... To the Log Foundation Coop which has contributed \$500 to the Eastlake Community Council coffers the last several years. That's putting your money where your mouth is — the issues involved affect us all!

BURGLARS BEWARE/BEWARE BURGLARS

Beth Means (3125 FV) reports that after their neighborhood had been warned of burglaries in the area, a neighbor saw thieves walk into Don Matthews' houseboat when he wasn't home. She reported it and the thieves were nabbed with a carful of stolen goods. Not before there was a car chase down Fairview where the thieves abandoned the car and were tracked down by the police K9 corp. . . Sharon & Dan Ranney (2207 FV) have lived down here 16 years and not worried much about locking doors. Alas, that changed for them October 19th when burglars entered their end-of-dock house, stole the TV, VCR, etc., carried it up the dock in broad daylight — all between 12:45 and 2:25 p.m.

TO BURN OR NOT TO BURN

A mini-media event occurred in the parking lot of Dox Co-op (2217-19 FV) when dockster Darlene Madenwald, president of the Washington Environmental Council, teamed with the Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Agency to stress the effects of wood burning on air quality and the new tougher monitoring for the control of wood smoke. New fines for burning during a day with burning bans will be \$100 and \$250 for repeat offenders. Wood stove dealers staged their own demonstration exhibiting clean burning certified stoves AND the media was there. Darlene demonstrated how she used her own stove: There was a plant atop the stove and a smaller plant inside the stove. Wood smoke accounts for 20-25% of the state's air pollution. Please be aware of the burning ban days. The new certified stove's emissions are significantly lower than most of the stoves we've inherited with our homes. Upgrades will help but, ultimately, as in more and more areas of our everyday life, decisions as to whether we add more pollutants to our already strained environment are getting closer to home.

This wraps up your autumn sampling of the Waterlog. Please call me if you know of weddings, new babies, new neighbors, parties, celebrations, off-beat adventures or off-beat neighbors, career changes, wildlife sightings, houseboat history or nostalgia, political or environmental causes, or any other worthless gossip. My number is 322-4536. Batten down the hatches, fall is here. — I'm outa here.

