



2329 Fairview Avenue East

Seattle, Washington 98102

Phone: 325-1132

Number 128

*Newsletter*

Fall 1996

## Tenas Chuck Goes Co-Op



The smiling faces belong to (left to right) Mike Handron, Caroline Kuknyo and Tom Stockley, three of TCM's first co-op board.

After almost two years of negotiation, the 32-site Tenas Chuck Moorage at 2331-2339 Fairview Avenue East has changed hands to become Lake Union's newest cooperative, TCM.

Tenas Chuck is one of the old-style moorages going back to early days when it was owned by Dahl-Hendrickson. In 1980, the moorage was purchased by five couples (some of whom lived on the docks) who formed a corporation ultimately known as Lake Union Moorings Associates. LUMA announced their decision to sell in 1994 and current tenants on the two docks decided to purchase and form a co-op.

This is yet another example in the steady trend towards houseboaters owning or leasing their water as well as owning their houses — something the Floating Homes Association as always sought for their membership. Not only does it provide a sense of financial security, it acknowledges that special sense of commu-

nity that makes the houseboat lifestyle so special. When Howard Droker published his historical jewel - "Seattle's Unsinkable Houseboats" in 1977 - there were four cooperative moorages and in the final sentence of his book he points to the expansion of this system as the "ultimate security for Seattle's houseboats." The FHA has always agreed with that point-of-view. (Another photo, pg 2.)

## Lease Logjam Loosens

by Bill Keasler

We are finally making some tangible progress against the five-year backlog of unrenewed state leases. Early in the year, the Floating Homes Association (rather naively) thought that our agreement with the Department of Natural Resources on the lease language itself would allow moorage owners to proceed with their renewals. The devil, of course, popped up in the details and stalled everything until the end of summer.

Now, however, a number of docks (most notably Tenas Chuck and Dox on Fairview) have signed new leases with the state and more are in progress.

By the time of our annual meeting last April, the Association team which had negotiated the new lease language with DNR had lost most of its initial euphoria over the agreement. The spirit of cooperation which had marked most of 1995 seemed to have evaporated. Moorage owners were pondering a new seven-page renewal application requesting information far beyond anything the state had required before. We found out the new leases were going to be back-dated (as much as five

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Friends and neighbors from land and sea gathered October 5th in the parking lot of the Tenas Chuck Moorage on Fairview Avenue East to celebrate the birth of Lake Union's newest cooperative.

### Peg's Log

(Peg Stockley is Office Manager of the Floating Homes Association and also is editor of this newsletter; thus—by editorial prerogative—a new feature.)

As Tenas Chuck Moorage becomes the lake's newest cooperative, it brings to mind the history of houseboat co-ops on Lake Union and Portage Bay. First on Lake Union was Flo-Villa and first on Portage Bay the same year was Houseboat Harbor Inc. (3110 PBPL). Following is a list of known co-ops identified by the FHA office: Log Foundation, Flo-Villa, DOX, Tenas Chuck Moorage, 2460 Inc., Nesika Chuck, Mallard Cove, Houseboat Harbor Inc., and Salix Dock. According to our records, there are the following condo moorages: Lee's Moorage, Roanoke Reef, Fairview Moorings, Phoenix Moorage, Pettus Cove and Portage Bay Condo Association. If there are others in either category, please notify the FHA office at 325-1132.

The highest number of calls to the FHA office continues to be concerning potential rentals. If you need help in finding a tenant, call the office. We do no screening and take no responsibility but will share our "informal" list of people looking for both short-term and long-term rentals.

Houseboaters are always looking for insurance advice. Recently, someone pointed out a homeowners insurance policy for houseboats that is open to veterans and their dependents. I checked it out. The organization is U.S.A.A. (United Services Automobile Assn). They do write such a policy for commissioned officers and their dependents, but each houseboat case is looked at individually. Call 1-800-531-8111 for more information.

Donations are still being sought for the renovation of the historic steamboat Virginia V. The 74-year-old steamboat is the sole survivor of the "Mosquito Fleet" which plied the waters around Puget Sound long before there were highways or superferries. It is one of only two historic steamships left in the United States. As houseboaters, we enjoy the sight and sound of this 125-foot National Historic Landmark in our own backyard. Send contributions to the Virginia V Foundation, Box 24805, Seattle, WA 98124-0805.

According to Lt. Joanne Hunt, Commander of the Harbor Patrol, a new patrol boat is on the drawing board and when it is built it will be assigned to our local waters. The boat will have a dramatically improved firefighting capability — 3000 gallons a minute or the equivalent of two fire pump trucks. Hopefully, the new boat will be ready by the 4th of July 1997. Maybe we should have a name-it contest?.

Kudos to WRQ, Makers of Reflection Software, headquartered on Dexter Avenue North, for matching the cash contribution of houseboater Robert afSandeberg. Many fine companies are doing this kind of thing these days for not-for-profit organizations. Money that comes into our Legal Fund is used to monitor (lobby when necessary) issues that affect our houseboat community. Call the office (325-1132) for information.

### Floating Homes Association Board

*President:* Bill Keasler (2037 FV)

*Vice President:* Marty Alexander (2466 WL)

*Treas:* Ed Waddington/Julia Forbes (2339 FV)

*Secretary:* June Fauchald (2466 WL)

**MEMBERS-AT-LARGE:**

Ann Bassetti (2420 WL)

Jan Eisenhardt (2420 WL)

Sheri Gotay (3110 PBPL)

Jann McFarland (2025 FV)

Susan Susor (1409 N.E. Boat St.)

Phil Webber (2466 WL)

**OFFICE MANAGER:** Peg Stockley

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Peg Stockley, editor 329-7973

John Nelson, production

**Office Hours**

**9-1 Tuesdays and Thursdays**

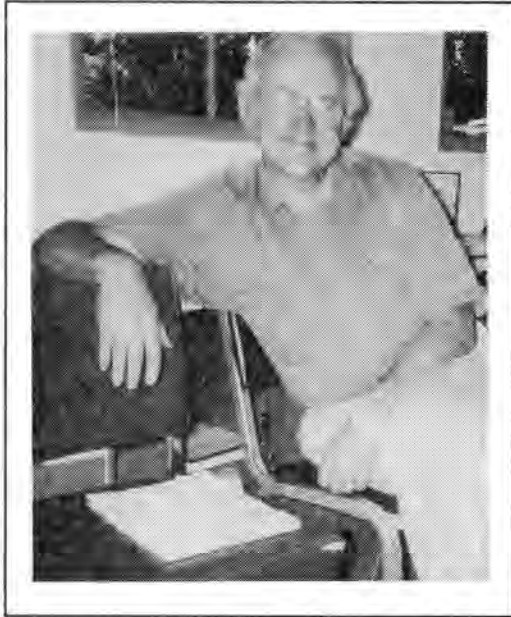
(The Floating Homes Association office is located at 2329 FV, roughly two blocks north of Lynn Street. Phone 325-1132)

## Mike Ryherd

by Peg Stockley

What's your idea of the perfect lobbyist? How about one who comes into the interview with fresh produce from his organic farm garden in hand? That's Mike Ryherd, who has been our FHA lobbyist in Olympia for about 4 years.

Mike and his wife, Dottie Parcheski, live on Bainbridge Island where they own Willow Brook Farm. Eighteen acres of the 25-acre farm are planted in hay plus an orchard that produces 65 varieties of apples and perennials, herb and berry gardens. A team of white miniature horses provide what Mike describes as "our source of free organic fertilizer."



Farmers Dottie & Mike are professional partners as well in Soren NW Inc., a lobbying firm that represents (in addition to our houseboat community) such diverse clients as the Puget Sound Air Pollution Authority, Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center, the Washington Wildlife & Recreation Coalition and the Teamster's Union. Dottie handles public disclosure, taxes and the business side while Mike works directly with clients. "Our professional life is mental," he says, "so it's great to work with your hands in the soil in the off-hours." Before moving into the world of lobbying, Mike was chair of the King County Democratic Party from 1968-72. In 1973, he turned to consulting, focusing on environmental statements and public policy issues. It was the era of public disclosure and he edited a compliance handbook for lobbyists. Purchase and preservation of open space and water was his specialty. He explains the role of lobbyist as getting people to focus and prioritize. "You have to know the system and issues as well as the personalities involved. You seldom change people's mind," he says. "The idea is to remove obstacles so that you can force a decision within a reasonable period of time. What makes it worth doing is the knowledge that you can make a difference."

The last three weekends in October are pumpkin time at Willow Brook. There is hand-pressed cider, cornstalks and gourds. Available in their "country store" are Halloween items as well as herbal & berry vinegars and certified organic seeds. And, it's open to the public. For info: 842-8034



## KAYAKING CAROLERS SEEK HOSTS

This year's dates: Dec. 13, 14, 15 & 16 from 6-8 p.m.

The kayaking carolers need a few good parties! For the past 10 years, the NW Outdoor Center has organized these outings as a fundraiser for the Seattle Children's Home. Forty kayakers per night pay \$25 each to participate of which \$20 is donated to the children's home. NWOC furnishes kayaks, gear, four instructors and song sheets. The carolers are led by opera singer Norman Smith and accompanied by concertina player Thomas Slye. All that is asked of floating homes residents is to provide an enthusiastic audience (refreshments are also gladly accepted). The kayakers visit four homes per night serenading for about 20 minutes from their kayaks. If you live on Lake Union (sorry, Portage Bay is a little too far) and you would be interested in hosting the carolers this year, please call Bill Stewart at 281-9694.



## Lease

*continued from page 1*

years in some cases) to the expiration date of the old leases. No one could explain precisely what the basis for calculating back rent was going to be. And, most puzzling of all, DNR was signaling that it might not approve a simple transfer of a lease from an old moorage owner to a new one (at Tenas Chuck).

The Association state lease team, Sheri Gotay (3110 PBPI), Bill Keasler (2037 FV), attorney Peter Eglick and lobbyist Mike Ryherd, who had grappled with this issue for years, gathered themselves together once again. They decided that the roots of the problem were partly fostered by having to measure every decision against its "statewide significance." They asked Jennifer Belcher, Commissioner of Public Lands, for help. As she has done every time we have been able to get her attention in this process, Belcher responded sympathetically to our concerns. She assured us that the new manager, Warren Warfield, was a "problem

solver" and would be up to speed shortly.

Warfield, over the course of two meetings (including a Saturday morning tour of the lake), managed to smooth our feathers a bit. He promised answers "soon." But after two months of clenched-teeth patience, no answers were forthcoming. Then in late August we got wind of a rumor that Warfield was retiring. Attention-getting strategies were hatched and underway when Warfield, his timing impeccable to the last, sent a letter (see page 5) to the FHA outlining DNR's specific responses to our concerns. At the same time, people at Tenas Chuck Moorage learned that DNR had decided to approve the transfer of their lease to the new co-op owners.

The current situation is not ideal. While it clarifies the situation substantially, Warfield's letter still hedges on some crucial points — the elaborate application and the footprint issues, in particular.

For now, at long last, actual leases have been signed. Most docks should anticipate no trouble with the lease renewal process. After five years of struggle and a false start or two, maybe things are finally starting to roll.

*Our wonderfully eclectic cookbook is, without a doubt, a must on the shelves of every houseboat kitchen and a great gift item for houseboaters as they share the joys of living afloat. Now in its second printing, the cookbook is a lot more than recipes. It's a glimpse into our way-of-life and the anecdotes go beyond food. Our book is in a variety of stores, even the airport, but our maximum profit happens when we sell a book ourselves (\$14.95+tax=\$16.18.) Since this is a major fund-raiser for the Floating Homes Association, we encourage sales one-on-one. Remember: Most of the FHA budget goes to monitoring and protecting our houseboat community and the environment around us on the lakes.*

## "Floating Kitchens" Order Form

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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ copies of "Floating Kitchens"  
at \$14.95 per copy: \_\_\_\_\_

8.2% sales tax at \$1.23 per copy: \_\_\_\_\_

Shipping and handling at \$2.00 per copy: \_\_\_\_\_

(Omit shipping charge if you prefer to pick up books at the FHA office)

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to Floating Homes Association and mail to above address.

# Excerpts from DNR Lease Letter

August 30, 1996

Subject: Aquatic Lands Leases on Lake Union

Dear Mr. Keasler:

I would like to thank you for the opportunity for us to meet and discuss issues surrounding the Floating Homes Association. I feel we are making progress toward a solution. There are some issues that warrant immediate attention in order to get the lease process started with individual leases. I will address some of these individually and some will be addressed in our resolution strategy.

## 1. Application

The FHA stated that they did not feel they wanted to submit our application for release. DNR requires all lessees to submit an application in order to release state owned aquatic lands. Lori Price, the land manager for Lake Union, will work individually with each lessee to determine whether an application was previously submitted, or a new application is needed. If an application is in the file, and it contains all the information needed, a new application will not be required.

## 2. Dating of Leases

The leases will be dated as close to the date of execution as possible. New language has been added to the document that states the terms and conditions of the old lease are still in effect until execution of the new lease. This was done to alleviate the need of having to back date the new lease to expiration of the expired lease.

## 3. Footprint

Each footprint will be addressed on an individual basis. There will be greater emphasis on dealing with each parcel individually at the land manager level.

## 4. Holdover Status and Back Rent

DNR's statewide position on this issue is that all expired leases would be treated as if they were in holdover status. That means the terms and conditions of the old lease still apply until the new lease is executed including the four year revaluations and Producer Price Index (PPI) adjustment ... It is not DNR's intention to have

all tenants pay the newly revalued rent during the holdover. The holdover process addresses the back rent issue. Since the holdover period extends the lease and if a four-year revaluation period occurs during the holdover, then the rent is revalued on each revaluation cycle date during the holdover. DNR will also charge for the PPI adjustments during the holdover period. DNR's described approach to holdover and back rent calculation have been established on a statewide basis.

... DNR in recent years realized that houseboats are residential uses and different from most commercial operations. DNR has recognized the uniqueness of the Seattle's floating home community, beginning with the 1984 Aquatic Lands Act ...

... The agency is adopting the following strategy because of the uniqueness of the situation, and in the interest of getting these leases processed and the added benefit of getting the revenue stream restarted:

- \* Each lessee will work with the Land Manager to determine the application status and all other requirements of the lease

- \* The new lease will be dated as close to the date of execution as possible

- \* The back rent will be collected under the holdover as if the expired lease had been extended.

... DNR will look to the FHA to encourage any lessee who has a site specific question on their lease to please call the Land Manager, Lori Price. She is the person who will be handling the leases. On general programmatic issues that are common to the floating homes community we will look to the FHA as a sounding board and conduit for information to DNR ...

Sincerely,

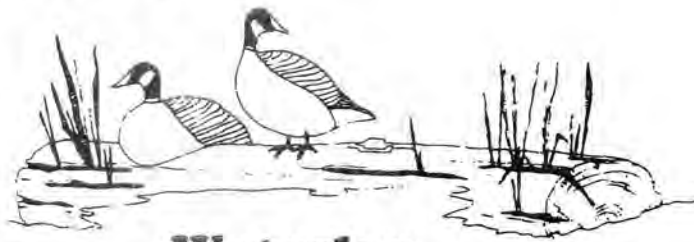
Bonnie B. Bunning

Region Manager

(signed)

Warren Warfield, Assistant Region Manager

South Puget Sound Regional Office



## Waterlog

by Sheri Lockwood

As usual it was difficult finding most of you, so you could tell on your neighbors. It was difficult to tell if everyone was on vacation or remodeling. If I lived near all of you I could tell. Vacationers have polite, quiet housesitters who are excited to be enjoying everything houseboaty. Remodelers have saws, hammers, drills, loads of wood and can be found sitting in the sawdust trying to figure out how the job came to cost twice as much and take three times as long (or vice versa).



No, the houseboats across from Pete's Supermarket on Fairview were not being towed away, were not being evicted, were not being torn up or sunk. The big (huge) crane, situated off Little Lynn Street park in early August, was dredging so a new two story houseboat can go in where it was formerly only deep enough for a one story. Four houses were moved back 22 feet to allow for the dredging, and things should be back to normal soon.

### Welcome Aboard

Norman Turgeon is welcomed aboard 2822 Boyer. 1213 Shelby welcomes Penny Lewis and Vicki Johnson. Sandy McAusland is a welcome new addition to the Dox Co-op. Maura Brady is a new dockster on the 2025 Log Foundation Co-op (FV)... There are quite a few changes on the newly co-opd Tenas Chuck Moorage. On the southern dock (2331 FV) are Nancy Patterson who recently purchased Houseboat G from long-time houseboater Chuck Koines and Nadine Morin who is the new owner of Houseboat X... New owners on the north dock (2339 FV) are Barry & Valerie Burgess, who have been renting elsewhere

on the dock... Sylvia Scott is a new houseboat owner on Lee's Moorage (933 Northlake). She purchased #6 from Dorothy Reinert... Houseboat Harbor Inc. on Portage Bay Place East has three new residents: Tim & Barbara Seaton (3110), James Lord (3118) and Rose Chisholm (3110 G)... An enthusiastic welcome to John Ryan, the new owner of Houseboat "B" (2460 WL). After spending the summer remodeling, he now has a chance to enjoy living on the water. His neighbors haven't had the heart to tell him that the remodeling is never really over...

### Wet but Floating

Another new arrival Max Smith arrived in late June. The new baby joins sisters Rachel and Gemma, and happy mom and dad, Greg and Laurie Smith. They welcomed the new baby and remodeled at the same time — brave folks... Scott Maier and Judy Shaw (2037 FV) welcomed Madeleine Shaw Maier on March 15th. The newest resident on Wandesforde Moorage was born 13 minutes before her dad's birthday...

### Splice the Mainbrace

Dox Co-op had a going away party for Caroline Kuknyo on May 5. Fortunately she hasn't gone far. She's a new addition on the Tenas Chuck Moorage. The invitation for the party at Janet Hardman's and Bev and Glenn Mattson's read "Bring anything that goes with cooked goose (crossed out) turkey"... FloVilla on Fairview had a dock party in June. Louise Hassan's Bon Vivant School of Cooking had two classes at this reporter's house in July. The weather didn't cooperate, or cooperated too well. Temperatures were in the 90s, the oven was on, and there were three cooks in a kitchen that barely holds one. The classes were sold out before they were announced as "Seafood in Seattle". Dishes featured smoked salmon, pumpernickel fingers, garlic roasted crab, garden shrimp salad, spicy clams and baked peach melba. Cooking students got to take a break for some cool air on the roof. The Duck Dodge sailboats and sunset were exquisite... The going away bash for Jim and Judy Moss from the Log Foundation co-op was lively. Jim and Judy gave up houseboat living after 20-25 years to move to Virginia and care for family. The party was a combo Fond Farewell and celebration of Jim's 70th birthday. Robert Fulgham, dressed as the Easter Bunny, and Jim McDermott, dressed as Santa, presided over gift exchanges... Other long-time houseboaters, Larry and Tru Ambrose and family, have moved ashore from Houseboat Harbor Co-op... As we were speaking of parties — in early August the Seattle Police Department community crime prevention program sponsored "Night Out". Three hundred fifty neighborhoods got street closures to have block parties and get to know each other to help prevent crime. This sounds like a great idea to me — how about you?



### **Anchors Aweigh**

Bette and Jeff Brown (2822 Boyer) spent a week in Ireland. They visited Belfast, Galway and Donegal. They loved the friendly people and the pubs... Kit and Colleen Hogan-Taylor (2822 Boyer) visited Banff... Lee Redden and Susan Jenkins (2235 FV) spent their anniversary in Harrison Hot Springs, Canada, and got to view the constructions at the popular Sandcastle contest. "They were incredible, it's hard to believe what they could do." says Susan... This reporter got to spend a week in a villa, off the coast of Sicily, no one spoke English, the people were wonderful... Dan, Sharon and Gretchen Ranney (2207 FV) spent most of the summer aboard their sailboat "MOSH" in their hideaway in Johnston... Rick Blank and Laurie Balistriero (2207 FV) in their new sailboat "White Raven", along with Surain and Richard afSandeberg, went to Vancouver Island and met up with Kay and Teresa Jones (Mallard Cove) as they returned from a three month sailing trip to Alaska. They cracked a bottle of champagne as they left the Ballard Locks. Kay and Teresa were amazed at how much room they had in their houseboat after living on a sailboat for three months... Richard and Surain also took their foldable kayaks to Sweden and paddled the Archipelago and in Stockholm. They also went sailing with Richard's family... Barbara Wilson and John Phillips of Dox Co-op visited Viet Nam for 3 weeks and drove from Saigon to Hanoi. They found the north friendlier and less commercial than the south. There is only one road on which people walk, ride, and take huge French tour buses, so it can get crowded. There are beautiful coastlines and mountains and rice paddies. But what struck them most was the devastation wrought by the war. There are still thousands of unexploded mines in the farm country. "The country itself was beautiful, but the tragedy and sadness bothered us more the longer we were there"... Butch Smith and Elise Ernst (2219 FV) went to Hawaii... Dillon and Misha Jackson (2219 FV) went sailing in Desolation Sound. Sally and John MacDonald and Dave and Barb LeFebvre (2219 FV) went sailing in the Gulf Islands as they have every summer for over 20 years. Peter Howard and Jeanette Zella (2219 FV) will be trading houses with ex-Dox Co-oper Sue Drum. She has a house on the big island of Hawaii. It will be great to have Sue back for a while. Two weeks after they return, Peter and Jeanette will take off on another 6 month trek to Mexico. They will visit Copper Canyon, greet the day of the dead at Patzcuaro, camp out north of Puerto Vallarta, visit Zihuatanejo, Zipolite Beach and Oaxaca, and catch the flower festival in Cuernavaca... Jim and Carol Gobel (Mallard Cove) spent 3 weeks in narrow boats on the canals of England. They went 109 miles and through 153 locks that you operate yourself. They loved the small

villages and friendly people. They also got to spend time in London... The Sherenskys (2019 FV) are in France as they are in nearly every Waterlog column. Lucky stiff... Carolyn Kuknyo (2339 FV) gets in all the categories this time around. She flew to Phoenix in September to attend her son's wedding... Tom & Peggy Stockley (2331 FV) took a week's trip to Portugal in May. Most of their visit was in Oporto and the port-producing region called the Douro. Peggy actually spent her birthday on the Douro River... Susan & Tom Susor (Boat St.) took a "wonderful" 9-day road trip across the United States en route to a nephew's wedding in South Dakota. They stopped at every national park and monument along the way.

### **Flotsam and Jetsam**

Michael Schick and Katherine Hanson hosted family from Bucharest, Hungary, and Philadelphia. They loved everything about houseboating. They also attended conferences in Bergen and Oslo, Norway. And drove to Wyoming to pick up cousin Paul. Katherine represented "Women in Translation" a small press at Bumbershoot... John and Sally Herron of Flo Villa got transferred and had to leave their houseboat and move to California. They found a houseboat community in Alameda and are now dealing with tides, barges, and a regulation that requires houseboats with basements (?????)... The Floating Home Association was again represented by a booth at the Fremont Fair. Thanks to all the stalwarts who manned the booth, while the Mariners were making their World Series try... Bob Forman's Shelby Street Dock has discovered a goose deterrent for the grass on the little landscaped park and the boat ramp nearby. Apparently you can string twisted flash tape that is silver on one side and red on the other between stakes at goose-chest height. They see it sparkling and it fends them off. They constructed a barrier of white PVC pipe and flash tape for the boat ramp. It can be easily moved when someone wants to use the dock, but the geese won't go past it. Bob stresses that this is not 100% effective but it's nearly the end of the summer and the lawn still looks good... Apparently the little 1st National Bank of Fremont is doing houseboat loans... HE'S BAAAACK — George Johnston is willing to do stringer jobs again, in addition to seeing to flotation problems and looking out for houseboaters who find they have to rent their homes temporarily. If your stringers have seen better days, you can call him at 453-1139... Tenas Chuck had visitors from England for a brief time this summer. Bill Fitzgerald, Professor of Mathematics and English at the University of Cambridge was invited to give lectures in the UW Math Department during Summer Quarter. His young son, Daniel, joined him for a time and spent most of it in the warm summer Lake Union waters... Tenas Chuck Moorage celebrated its new co-op status with

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*Waterlog continued...*

an open house on October 5th... Bob & Susan Martin (Phoenix Moorage) enjoyed the September wedding of their son Michael to Becky Wilcox. The couple will honeymoon in Milan, Italy... That must have been an absorbing book Susan Susor was reading on her Boat Street houseboat one night in September when the nearby Timmerman's Marina had a major fire. According to news reports, flames were shooting 50 feet in the air but Susan didn't notice a thing... Boat Street houseboaters are enjoying great water pressure these days thanks to their UW landlords who installed a new water system.

#### **Flora and Fauna**

Betty Swift and Barbara Sterling kayak on Portage Bay and report that the big beaver dam is still there and that the grebes and their babies came back... Maybe someday we'll have less geese and the large variety of ducks, coots, and grebes we used to have. Please don't feed the geese... The river otter is still hanging around Portage Bay, and it looks like the dreaded Lake Union monster, a fresh-water loving (and duck gobbling) harbor seal, has decided to try brinier climes.

#### **Media Madness**

Robert afSandeberg made the front page of the PI with his computer and his kayak. He can kayak across the lake to work. Misha and Dillon Jackson's houseboat was featured in the Sunday Times/PI magazine. Jeri Callahan (2331 FV) made Jean Godden's column when QFC gave her a free avacado to replace the one that went in the lake. The checker shrugged "Lost in the lake. We'll replace it."

#### **Other News**

Barbara Sterling retired from the University of Washington. (Wish it were me)... Please don't forget to fill in your Eastlake Neighborhood survey... Maybe let them know how you feel the parking stickers required for our cars and guests are working out. I hate them and don't care who parks here in the daytime. We were supposed to have a hearing after one year to see if it was still something we wanted to do—now the city doesn't want to hold one I'd like to tell them how I think it works and maybe you do like the idea and want to tell them too. Anyway the hearing they promised really should occur... Sally MacDonald (Dox Co-op) has been made the new religion writer for the Seattle Times. She says "It's a beat that has it all - stories of victories and setbacks, of people who are making our community a better place to live, of prickly issues that fester in our collective consciousness and questions that have been with us humans since we began asking questions. And I'm even sure in there somewhere there's some humor." Steve Pierce says he chose Sally for the position because "she has a genuine interest in the subject matter

and sees great potential for the beat, the subject, and ways of exploring religion, spirituality, and its impact. She correctly sees threads from religion to politics, history, sciences and 'the everyday events that make up the lives of believers and non-believers'"... Long time resident of Flo Villa, Merlin Proctor had another unexpected trip to the hospital in early September. All her neighbors and fellow houseboaters wish her well.

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So ends another Summer/Fall Waterlog. Remember to call me when there is news from your dock (babies, weddings, parties, vacations, promotions, new businesses, wildlife, goose deterrents, new neighbors, etc & etal). My phone number is 322-4536, e-mail is dillo@u.washington.edu. Thank you, thank you, thank you all of you who called and expressed appreciation for my first "Log" after a year in Poland. Actually it's the first time anyone called me and mentioned they enjoyed it in 13 years. (Maybe the earlier ones weren't that hot.) I was flabbergasted, I really appreciate all of you who keep me informed. Happy Houseboat Holidays, catch you in 1997.

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## **Houseboat Tour Coming Up**

The next houseboat tour sponsored by the Floating Homes Association will be Sunday April 27, 1997. Tour '97 will feature houseboats on Fairview Avenue East. Co-chairing the event will be Mary Gey and Fred McCulloch, who live on the Log Foundation. If you would like to suggest an interesting house for the tour or would like to help with the planning process, please call Mary or Fred at 329-7729.





## Lilly Pad

by Bob Lilly

*(Ed. Note: Bob Lilly (2331 FV) has lived on his houseboat on the Tenas Chuck Moorage for over 24 years and knows what grows and what doesn't in a garden afloat. Professionally, he's with Charles Wilson Company, brokers and sales reps of perennials for growers. He's also one of the principal designers of the NW Perennial Alliance Border at the Bellevue Botanical Garden. In 1994 and 1995, he designed the Arboretum Foundation Display Garden at the NW Flower & Garden Show.)*

It's another change of season for us houseboat gardeners. This appears to have been the summer of good weather and problems, and I will be glad to send to my compost all those tired spider mite-infested plants! We have also had a lot of powdery mildew and this also can be traced to the good weather.

Spider mites cause an overall stippling of the leaves of

many plants (vines, impatiens, cosmos and some houseplants outdoors for the summer). I treat them with pyrethrin, a natural insecticide, or one of the insecticidal soaps; or just live with it. Usually it is cool enough down here on the water or there is enough air circulation to keep them away.

Powdery mildew really has no control we should use around water so we just have to endure. Oddest of all, it is triggered by drying out in some cases - this weakens the plants and the mildew appears like magic. This year's problem was cosmos - so don't let those pots wilt on hot days or you will pay for it later.

After you yank out all the dead petunias, sorry cosmos and dreadful lobelia, replace them with pansies or chrysanthemums. Be sure to buy the mums in bud so they last longer. Cabbage and kale are good but only until about Feb. 1st. I sometimes buy a few conifers to fill a pot or two for winter. Pines or hemlocks seem to be best.

You should have stopped feeding by Sept. 1st so your permanent plants can harden off for winter although it is ok to feed annuals longer in case we have an Indian Summer.

So enjoy the long fall and if you planted geraniums you will have good color well into October. It's been a good year for cigar plant (cuphea,) flowering tobacco (nicotiana,) and of course those Zonal Geraniums. Our dock has a new grey foliated annual everywhere called Plectranthus argentea (related to swedish ivy) all from seed collected on my houseboat. The kids in the neighborhood are touching the touch-me-nots for the thrill of it. Start them early and they will be gardeners forever.

- Uncle Bob

## LESSONS FROM THE GEESE

from Milton Olsen, as told by Angeles Arien

*This is about the greater collective and how we learn from each other:*

As each bird flaps its wings, it creates an uplift for the bird following. Flying in a "V" formation, the whole flock adds 71% greater flying range than if the bird flew alone.

**Lesson:** People who share a common direction and sense of community, can get where they're going quicker and easier, because they are traveling on the thrust of one another.

Whenever a goose falls out of formation, it suddenly feels the drag and resistance of trying to fly alone, and quickly gets back into formation to take advantage of the lifting power of the bird immediately in front.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as a goose, we will stay in formation with those who are headed where we want to go, and will be willing to accept their help as well as give ours to others.

When the lead goose gets tired, it rotates back into formation, and another goose flies at the point position.

**Lesson:** It pays to take turns doing the hard tasks and sharing the leadership. With people, as with geese, we are interdependent on each other.

The geese in formation honk from behind to encourage those up front to keep up their speed.

**Lesson:** We need to make sure our honking from behind is encouraging.

When a goose gets sick or wounded, or is shot down, two geese drop out of formation and follow it down to help and protect it. They stay with it until it is able to fly again or dies. Then they launch out on their own with another formation, or they catch up with the flock.

**Lesson:** If we have as much sense as geese, we too will stand by each other in difficult times, as well as when we are strong.

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

8/91



# MEMBERSHIP FORM

Help preserve and protect Seattle's colorful houseboat colony.  
Join the Floating Homes Association today!

NAME(S): \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ HB#: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ Condo/CoOp Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Houseboat: Own  Rent  Regular Household \$36  New   
Moorage: Own  Rent  Retired Household \$24  Renewal

*The Association's Legal Fund needs your support also. Donations of \$50 or more are tax deductible! Make your **SEPARATE** check payable to SCCCF/FHA and mail today!*

I have enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for the FHA Legal Fund.

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