



2329 Fairview Avenue East

Seattle, Washington 98102

Phone: 325-1132

Number 129

Newsletter

Spring 1997

**The Floating Homes Association's
35th Annual
MEMBERSHIP MEETING**

*Thursday, April 24, 1997
7:30 - 9:00 PM*

*George Pocock Memorial Rowing Center
3320 Fuhrman Ave. E*

(note the new location for this year's meeting)

- Update on State Leases
- Houseboat Tour - April 27th
on Fairview Ave. East
- The Year in Review
- Executive Board Election
- Floating Homes Cookbook
& Sweatshirts on Sale
- Meet houseboaters from
all the docks

See You There!!

Lease Fee Increase Frozen

by Bill Keasler — FHA President

O-Dark-Thirty. Foot-stomping cold. One morning last January, I found myself huddled behind my dock's mail-boxes' scant protection against the chill south wind blowing off the lake. Marty Alexander (2460 WL) and Caroline Kuknyo (2339 FV) were supposed to pick me up real soon now, I hoped. We had to be in Olympia by 7:30 to testify against a bill which would dramatically increase houseboat state lease fees.

You are probably familiar with what happens when moorage property over state land is sold. The selling dock owner does not own the property but can sell the right to the lease (and get a price) as if he does. The result is what the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) calls a windfall profit. Lately, these profits have been real eye-poppers, and DNR thinks most of them should go to the State.

But current law does not allow the State to share in the proceeds of a sale directly. Charging lease fees is the only mechanism DNR has available to extract money from its land.

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NEWSLETTER 2

Leases, continued from page 1

The sale of the Tenas Chuck moorage on Fairview to its tenants last summer was apparently the final straw for DNR. To be sure, Tenas Chuck was an agonizing process for everyone involved. The previous owners, the Floating Homes Association, and at least two factions of tenants all lobbied DNR regarding the lease at one time or another.

On our way down to Olympia, Marty, Caroline and I did not know this was what the bill really was about, however, because there was nothing in it regarding sales. It just said that condominium and cooperative rents, "...shall be at fair market rental value to be determined by negotiation." (See sidebar for the full text.) This was scary because currently we are paying water dependent rates based on 30% of adjacent upland values as determined by the County Assessor.

We were also worried about not being consulted at all before the bill was introduced. The Association has worked very closely (and, we thought, successfully) with DNR on the leased land issue for the past several years. But if we had not hired a lobbyist to look out for us this session, this legislation might have passed without us ever realizing it.

We found Mike Ryherd, our lobbyist, wrapped around a cup of hot tea when we got to the cafeteria under the capitol rotunda. It had actually started to snow outside. Mike is a consummate pro and quickly filled us in on the lay of the land we would find in the committee room. He was uneasy about DNR's reasons for introducing this bill, but he thought there was a good chance the House Natural Resources Committee Chairman, Jim Buck (R-Grays Harbor), would not go along with it.

Our bill was pretty far down on the committee's agenda, and we had to endure a couple hours of numbing boredom while they ground through their busi-

ness. Now and then we whispered nervously amongst ourselves about the increasingly white and bleak prospect out the committee room windows and worried about the drive home.

Nonetheless, we were stunned when DNR's Craig Partridge and his staff launched into their presentation. They proudly set up their props, including a chart of revenue data and large color glossy photo of what we recognized as one of the most pricey houseboats on the lake. We knew its moorage was not even over state land.

The State's testimony was wrapped almost completely around the Tenas Chuck sale and the "windfall profits" realized by the sellers. They said the state deserved these profits and proposed a theory that if the buyers knew that the moorage rates were going to be very high after the sale then that would depress the selling price, presumably making money that would otherwise go to the seller available to pay the lease fees.

Besides, they said pointing to their photo, the "yuppies" now living on the lake do not deserve the "subsidy" we have been getting because of our water oriented classification. Houseboats have become "gentrified," they said, and the "proliferation of houseboats" was one of the reasons for the demise of the working waterfront. Houseboats are, in fact, incompatible with the concept of the working lake, anyway. They were afraid that the land leased to houseboats is "permanently lost to the public" and suggested that they should not be allowed as a matter of policy. Changing their classification from the "ambiguous" water orientated classification to non-water dependent would reflect that policy and would allow the state to achieve fair market returns on the leases.

In our shock, we had no idea how to respond to this. The most charitable interpretation was that it was one-sided

**We are
safe, for
the time
being.**

FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION BOARD

President: Bill Keasler (2037 FV)

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Peggy Stockley, editor 329-7973

Philip Brautigam, 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 (or Pete's). Phone 325-1132

and uninformed. All we could do was squeak a protest that most of us are real people who are as committed to our neighborhood as anybody on land and that buying our moorage, regardless of price, was our best hope of securing our homes. Caroline may have managed to make the most telling point when she said, "If I have to pay the state as much per month as I'm paying for my moorage loan (she lives on Tenas Chuck), then I'll lose everything."

Two lobbyists from the Northwest Marine Trades Association were also there. DNR seemed blithely unconcerned about the effect of their bill on any marina owners who may be organized as a condo or coop. The NMTA's testimony seemed to amount to, "What did we do to deserve this?"

Indeed. After the hearing, Mike Ryherd was visibly upset. He button-

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Lease, continued from page 2

holed DNR's lobbyist in the hallway outside the hearing room and told him that, quite apart from the problems we had with their presentation, the bill itself, by focusing on the buyer instead of the seller, "is like going around the battlefield shooting the wounded." The lobbyist promised Mike a meeting with his boss, Jennifer Belcher, the Commissioner of Public Lands.

Mike did get his meeting with Commissioner Belcher. By that time, Rep. Buck had decided he did not know enough about what was going on and had killed the bill. DNR later floated another version which was not much better than the first and Buck killed that one, too. Finally, because of this bill and a number of others regarding state aquatic lands, Buck introduced a measure to form a "study group" on the issue with a mandate to report back to the legislature next year. Mike assures us that we "will have a place at the table" if the study group bill is finally passed.

(By the way, DNR attempted to amend the study bill at the last moment to include a provision expressly allowing the Department to reject condo or coop applications for leases until the legislature provides otherwise. Mike was able to get the amendment dropped.)

The cutoff date for introduction of new bills has now passed and we are safe for the time being. We are under no illusions that DNR has given up, however, and we know we will have to defend ourselves in the study group and, probably, again next year in the legislature.

This topic, of course, will figure prominently at the Annual Meeting. Be sure to come.

Need I also say that all this professional help is very expensive? Mike was out in front, but he was supported by our attorney, Peter Eglick, every step of the way. Any study group is also guaranteed to chew up a lot of their time. Please consider a substantial donation to the Association. We may have just saved you a great deal of money.

HOUSE BILL 1428

By Representatives Van Luven and Regala; by request of Commissioner of Public Lands and Department of Natural Resources

AN ACT Relating to condominium and cooperative leasehold interests in state-owned aquatic land; and adding a new section to chapter 79.90 RCW.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

NEW SECTION. Sec 1. A new section is added to chapter 79.90 RCW to read as follows:

- (1) The transaction costs of administering condominium and cooperative leasehold interests in state-owned aquatic lands are disproportionately high compared to the costs of administering other use authorizations, and such interests return diminished public benefits compared to other uses of state-owned aquatic land.
- (2) Rents for all uses of state-owned aquatic lands that are authorized by the department of natural resources as condominium or cooperative leasehold interests shall be at fair market rental value to be determined by negotiation. Rents for condominium and cooperative leaseholds are established upon creation or renewal of such interests.

· SUBSTITUTE · HOUSE BILL 1428

By Representatives Van Luven and Regala; by request of Commissioner of Public Lands and Department of Natural Resources.

AN ACT Relating to condominium and cooperative leasehold interests in state-owned aquatic land; and creating new sections.

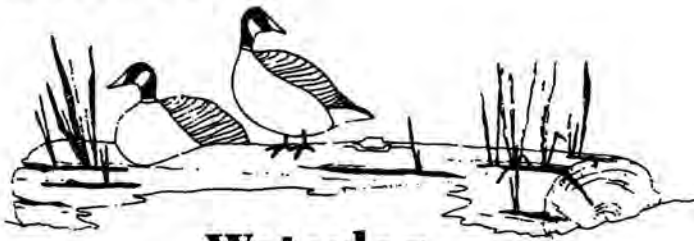
NEW SECTION. Sec. 1. The legislature finds that a number of different parties have expressed concerns this legislative session regarding the leasing and management policies for state-owned aquatic lands. Concerns have been raised by the Department of Natural Resources over lease-related activities taking place on state-owned aquatic lands that may be detrimental to the public interest. Concerns have been raised

by port districts regarding the management agreements port districts may enter into with DNR. Concerns have also been raised by lessees of state-owned aquatic lands. The legislature finds that it would be worthwhile to revisit the aquatic lands policies adopted by the legislature in 1984 regarding the management and leasing policies of state-owned aquatic lands. Because of the complexity of these issues alone, the legislature does not find it necessary at this time to review policies on the sale of valuable materials from state-owned aquatic lands.

NEW SECTION. Sec. 2. (1) There is created a joint select committee on aquatic lands to study leasing and management issues related to state-owned aquatic lands. The committee shall consist of four members. Two members shall be from the House of Representatives, one from each caucus, appointed by the Speaker.

Two members shall be from the Senate, one from each caucus, appointed by the President of the Senate. The committee shall select a chair and vice-chair from its membership. (2) The committee shall conduct a broad review of the statutes and policies currently in place regarding the management and leasing of state-owned aquatic lands, particularly those policies reflected in RCW 79.90.450 through 79.90.545.

The committee's review shall include but not be limited to: (a) The overall management guidelines for aquatic lands expressed in RCW 79.90.455. (b) The definitions of water-dependent, water-oriented and non-water-dependent uses and the approaches taken to calculate lease rates for those uses; (c) Issues associated with the management of state-owned aquatic lands by port districts; and (d) The leasing of state-owned aquatic lands by condominium, cooperative leasehold, and other similar interests and the effects of these types of leases on the public interest. (3) Staff support for the committee shall be provided by the House of Representatives' Office of Program Research and Senate committee services. (4) The committee shall report back to the legislature on the finds from its review and on any recommended statutory changes by December 1, 1997. The committee expires April 1, 1998.



Waterlog

by Sheri Lockwood

I have finally admitted to myself that there is no time of the year I can find houseboaters at home. In the winter they escape to sunnier climes, in the summer they are outside and don't take their cell phones with them (who would). In the spring and fall they are out enjoying the change in season (getting rained on). I am resigned to the fact I'll never catch any of you at home except by sheer luck. . . .but this time, a wonderful thing happened. . . .three of you sent in houseboat reports via E-mail. It was wonderful, no longer a slave to my own horrible indecipherable notes. Thank you! Thank you! We usually have seasonal issues of the newsletter so I will usually be looking for news around January, March, June and October. I have e-mail at work dillo@u.washington.edu and home dillo@raincity.com and you can check out my web page at <http://raincity.com/sheri/>

I always answer my mail-sometimes a little late, but slip me onto your address book and it will be real easy to squeal on your friends and neighbors—no I mean—keep the community up on houseboat happenings.

Welcome aboard. . .

Delphine Haley (Shelby St) moved from one dock to another, Mike Patterson moved back to 2017 FV last month, and John and Shelly Herron are coming back to Flo Villa (FV) after a year in the Bay area. They will have sailors' tales to tell about life on a houseboat in Alameda. Joan and Bob Bailly get their first welcome aboard on 2420 WL and Mallard Cove welcomes new neighbors John and Sandy Goddard and daughter Moe (Maureen), Philip and Amanda Dubois, Gus and Janet Schairer, and Arthur Hansen. The folks at Flo-Villa (FV) used to think that Owen Hasleton was a great addition to the dock. Now retired, he's only rarely spotted whilst bouncing between England (New and old), Santa Anita racetrack, golf courses and any other good offer that comes down the pike. . . .actually they are just jealous. . . . Dean & Pat Sampson purchased the DeRosa houseboat on Tenas Chuck (2339 FV).

Splice the Mainbrace

A Gala Valentine's Day party was held on Mallard Cove (FV). The romantic red-hearted invitation was designed by Carol Goble and Theresa Jones. The theme was "Love, Peace, Hearts and Flowers—a 1960's Style Progressive dinner. It began with wine and tasty at the Goble abode; moved on to dock cuisine at Gif and Mary Jones bateau and on to dessert and dancing (Johnny Mathis, the stomp, Limbo?) at K. and

Theresa Jones Ballroom. Their invitation said "all they needed was love and a little help from their friends" but that love beads would not be accepted in lieu of cash.. For the finest threads of the 60's, folks headed for thrift stores (and their own closets) but Don Graves took the "most original costume" award by default. He wore his own quarter century old wedding leisure suit. They rocked and rolled 'til the wee hours and didn't slow down til they fell down . . .or quit. It was voted their best party ever. In attendance were: Jim and Carol Goble, Gif and Mary Jones, Dan and Becky Graves, Susan Dearborn and Al Berry, Phillip and Amanda DuBois, Kay and Theresa Jones, Gus and Janet Schairer and Robert and Surain af Sandeberg. . . .Northlakers held a Christmas party December 15 at the James Burnell's hosting the caroling kayakers. . . .Linda Knutson hosted the kayakers at the Dox Co-op (FV) as did the folks on Tenas Chuck Penny Lewis of Shelby St has begun her remodel in the tried and true "Down to the Logs" mode. When all that was left of her old house was the floor joists and floor, her neighbors envisioned a "Party Barge"! So they brought March in like a lion with a dock party. Jim Grey played solo bass and was also accompanied by a boom box. The 12 to 15 docksters sang and danced and ate hors d'oeuvres 'til the sun went down. . . .they discussed other uses for the Lewis dance floor - off street parking. . . .a helipad. . . but Penny may need convincing. . . . Art Hemenway of the Log Foundation, recently entertained the cast from "Forever Tango" at a midnight supper at his houseboat after a performance. He had about 80 people at his place. . . . eating, drinking and dancing 'til 7:00 am. Art teaches tango to couples and singles. You can reach him at 323-2143. He is also an organizer of the Club Tango here in Seattle. They have dance parties and get-togethers and correspond with tango lovers all over the world. Art recently found that they are on the internet. He has hardly any furniture in his living room to allow for dance parties and exchanges tapes with people in England and Argentina. He recently received a promo pack of Julio Inglese doing Tango with huge posters and banners that take up the entire wall of his house.

The Weather Helm

We all will have snow stories for our descendants about the Big Snow Storm of '96. It really helped you appreciate what living in a caring community means. Teams of neighbors shoveled and checked on people and houses to prevent serious damage and injury. A house on Hamlin Pier (FV) capsized on to the dock and wires. It was one third under water. . . A boatshed collapsed next door to Beth (3125 FV) Mean's dock. She was impressed how fast it went; no creaking or warning. . . A porch roof collapsed on Shelby St. . . Dogs loved it; cats didn't appreciated it. . . A refrigerator slid from one side of the house to the other on DOX CO-OP (FV). . . A fireman fell through a skylight. . . we are all very thankful to the Seattle Fire Department for their overall help in relieving the critical weight of snow on many houseboats..

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Waterlog continued...

Many or most houseboats were low or listing due to two snow dumpings and rain saturation that added to the heavy load. . . . On Flo-Villa (FV) Surain af Sandeberg says "The Christmas storm was a great community builder. . . With everyone out helping each other, clearing decks and roofs, sharing the one shovel - - we are already better prepared for the next snows! - - and then warming themselves afterwards with Swedish glogg (see the recipe in the Floating Kitchen Cookbook) and a big kettle of spicy soup. . . From Log Foundation's Jann McFarland (FV). . . "shoveling after the first storm, because we knew the next one was coming through the next day. The majority of folks were away for the holiday the rest of us were trying to keep everyone afloat. Some of those houses that are kind of medium-sized sure seemed like the size of a football field from the handle end of a snow shovel. When we woke up the second morning with even more snow, many of the smaller houses 'decks' were under water. Then when the rain hit, things only got worse. We were using kayak paddles, oars, regular shovels (left from digging those luau pig pits), a couple of real snow shovels, and a sod rake - - metal and wider than a regular one - - used to pull snow off sloped roofs. Because of the second storm back - to - back with the first, this was definitely the worse snow mess I've seen since I moved down here in 1972".

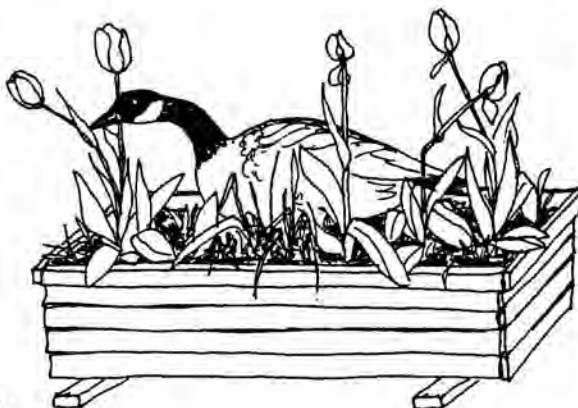
Anchors Aweigh

Ruth & Dale Patterson (Tenas Chuck) spent the holidays in Thailand nicely missing the snowstorm of the century as did neighbor Jeri Callahan who was wintering in sunny Puerto Vallarta Jann and Sid Mc Farland (FV) visited Mazatlan for 3 weeks in mid- November—the night before they were to come home, some friends had to leave suddenly and gave them their suite for an additional week. They couldn't think of a reason why they had to go home, even tho' that brought them home only two days before Christmas. . . "we just started Christmas shopping from the peddlars on the beach while lying in the sun-everything eventually comes by, so no point getting off the lounge to go into town, besides a few Margaritas make that stuff you're buying look a lot more appealing" . . . Steve and Ellen Hansen (FV) just returned from their trip to Mexico—they went to Akumel on the Yucatan Peninsula for 10 days of sun and relaxation. They both have great tans, "but it's not as rewarding when you have to wear turtle-necks-no one knows how wonderful you look." . . . Rick Blank and Laurie Balistrieri (FV) had a wonderful time traveling through the small villages of N. Italy in September, immersing themselves in the marvelous wines and delectable foods, exploring back roads and sharing tales and laughter with the locals. . . Surain and Robert af Sandeberg dodged alligators and, not quite as successfully, mosquitoes, paddling their kayak 147 miles

from Key Largo to the Everglades City, Florida, over the Thanksgiving holiday. They awoke one night to find their kayak fully submerged in the strong river currents! Visions of chomping alligators danced through their heads as the bailed and pumped, while the mosquitoes had a heyday with the available skin rudely jerked from it's protective tent. . . Jim Weyand and Marilyn Robertson (Fuhrman) went skiing at Steamboat Springs for a week. . . Sally and John MacDonald and dockmates Barb and Dave LeFebvre (FV) joined another couple and spent 10 days in a Villa in Puerto Vallarta that they saw advertised in the Seattle Times. It was as magnificent as the ad proclaimed. . . . Darlene Madenwald (FV) spent the Christmas snow-panic in Maui while her husband Mac competed in the Sidney to Hobart sailboat race. . . Barb Walkover and daughter Lily vacationed at 29 Palms. . . Lesley Hazleton of Flo-Villa (FV) spent much of the fall and winter driving the long way across the country, doing research for her new book tentatively called "Driving to Detroit". She finished with elan, spinning out on an icy bridge in Yakima. Fortunately only the car was damaged, and it wasn't even hers anyway.

Fauna and Flora

A muskrat (he's called Ratty by those on Log Foundation (FV) after the wily hero of "Wind and the Willows") lives under the houseboat of Jann and Sid McFarland. Several years ago he ate all of their tulip bulbs including the tops. Last year he started in on the Dutch irises-lopped them off at the base before they were going to bloom—then he took off with the 2 1/2 foot spears (Sid says he was courting a lady muskrat with lovely bouquets). After the spears he came back for the bulbs. This year they decided to thwart him with daffodils as they'd heard they were poisonous to rodents and that they (the rodents) avoided them. He didn't eat them, instead dug them all up and threw them all over the deck. When they surrounded the planters with chicken wire he moved onto the neighbors houseboat. . . But now the raccoon has gotten into the act. He climbs up on the deck chairs and catapults himself over the wire and into



the planters where he digs holes looking for edible goodies. They swear Caruso the cat is innocent this time. . . . Maybe we'd better let everyone know the difference between Lars the typical (huge) Norwegian rat, and Ratty the muskrat. Ratty is darkish brown, with a black tail that is considerably wider than Lars'. It's wider and flatter and you get the sense of how they are related to the beaver. They are bigger and wider than the Snoosbox Junction set. Their heads are very wide as they swim through the water. Ratty is not shy, but appears uninterested in

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NEWSLETTER 6

Waterlog continued...

coming inside the house—after all he has the garden delicacies to linger on. He swims from houseboat to houseboat and probably visits friends as there are a number of them around the lake. Please don't put poison outside, as it would be a shame to harm these interesting animals...or your neighbor's children or pets for that matter... There have been witnesses to the raccoon bulb and posey rustling on the Dox Co-op (FV) too. So if you'd like to invest in chicken wire futures, now might be the time... Beware also if you have tiny styrofoam shavings floating all around your house. You may have a raccoon family taking up residence and tearing up your floatation... Since the dredging near Little Lynn Street park, the muskrat and bullfrogs in our neighborhood seemed to have moved on. Any bullfrog reports lately? ... if they are serenading their lady friends, believe me you will know it. ... Mike Schick regularly rows from his home on Portage Bay to work at the UW. Frequently he has been followed by a seal. About a month ago as he left the dock he saw her head come up and began talking with her as he rowed. As she would dive he would coax her to come back up. This she did, coming closer and closer each time to the boat. Finally, she came to the back of the boat and began bobbing up and down to jump aboard. Mike said "You want to get in don't you? But, please don't you'll turn the boat over..." She dived again and Mike continued home. He told his wife, Katherine Hansen of the encounter and she knew immediately what had happened. "You've met a silky," she explained. A silky is a Scandinavian "myth". She is a woman who has changed herself into a seal and interacts with humans once in a magical while.

Flotsam and Jetsam

Florence Yerxa (Tenas Chuck) is celebrating her escape from a major cast after falling on the dock this winter and breaking her leg. The mishap curtailed her usual activities but with typical Flo optimism she says it was one way to get out of Christmas shopping, etc.... James Weyand and Marilyn Robertson's Portage Bay houseboat earned an AIA award recently. Originally a modest, one-story workers' cottage, architect Gene Morris was asked to remodel it in "modern Craftsman style." Builder was Bob Haines of Bee Jay Construction. Judges praised the remodel for its sensitivity to its neighborhood. A speeding car came around the corner on Fairview and hit the 2019 (FV) dumpster so hard it became airborne and slammed into a couple of cars and jolted them into about 5 other cars. Most of the cars were totaled. At first it didn't appear that there would be any insurance to cover the whole mess as the driver was from out of state and driving the car without the owner's permission. This is still up in the air. (HA!) But another hit and run took the bumper off one of the parked cars on Fairview and kept going. Other cars have been vandalized and one person lost a cellular phone. ... On Portage Bay, they are still dealing with landslides from the hill above and the city will be closing the road that leads to the

houseboats to work on the bridge during an extended period of the summer... Watch out for the dumpster divers... they are going through the dumpsters to get information on banking accounts and then accessing the numbers and accounts for money. They accessed Jann McFarland's saving account with some old ripped up deposit slips for an obsolete checking account 10 years old. Several transactions occurred before the problems were noticed. The banking information was in the regular dumpster, not the recycling... so the only safe solution seems to be burning personal papers that you don't want the crooks to find. These people are also going through mailboxes, even the big US Post mailboxes on the corners. They take the checks from bills and alter them to the amount they'd prefer. The Canadian houseboaters have been having a problem with their government similar to our DNR leases. If you can offer help or advice here is an e-mail address: d_cutler@van.hookup.net Her name is Dixie Cutler—ask her about insurance, it's almost as funny as our situation. ... One final alert. If you have or are thinking of having flotation barrels put under your house, be sure that BOTH caps are put on tightly with gaskets. The divers should double cap the barrels or they will get soft and you will need to pay again to have them re-inflated. If they have been inserted end-to-end you may have to have them re-arranged by the diver and please, whatever, don't pay until these criteria have been met. ... Ralph Goeke and Pat Farman have installed a wonderful "L" shaped aquarium in a wall of their houseboat on Flo-Villa (FV). The fish are visible from inside the bathroom, or from the living room. Ralph has also purchased a huge truckload of old computer parts, in case anyone needs a part to keep an old system limping along... .PS: Here's a plug for my computer server... raincity. You can always get on, it's inexpensive, and Kelly the rainmaster can help you do a page. You can call him at 365-4031 or go to our domain and check it out: <http://www.raincity.com>

That's a lot of Waterlog I know, but we had a pretty wild winter. Now that bright UFO they talk about in southern climes is beginning to peep out and the bulbs and flowers that can escape the four-footed wild life are beginning to brighten our grey days... maybe we'll soon be able to light up the barbie. If you can't abide these new-fangled contraptions (I understand) you can call me with news or any houseboat trivia — and I'd like to hear from some of our houseboat kids. Call me at 322-4536. It looks as if the muskrat has seen his shadow... so we only have 9 more months of rain. Enjoy!

... IN MEMORIAM ...

Barbara Nelson

"Houseboat Pioneer"

by Peggy Stockley

Barbara Nelson died December 30th at the age of 79. She left instructions that any memorials should go to the Floating Homes Association. Barbara was a pillar of the FHA for many years and her passing triggers fond memories of a true houseboater from those who knew her best.

An early FHA newsletter led off with this description: "Barbara Nelson may appear small in stature but she has the energy and enthusiasm to match five people twice her size." She basically put energy into everything she felt strongly about and one big thing she felt strongly about was houseboat life. Even while working for JC Penneys, she took on the responsibility of secretary for the Floating Homes Association.

This zest for life afloat is what those who knew her best remember the most. Dixie Pintler, for example, recalls that "Barbara never said no and she was always in a good mood." Yolanda Gradi, who was a dock neighbor of Barbara and her husband, Elmer, at 2420 WL, remembers fondly the Sunday morning breakfasts the Nelsons put on for their dockmates. Another former dock neighbor, Susan Walls, says: "We were a tight group and the doors were always open. It was the days of the fight for the Equity Ordinance. It was the best time in history."

In 1988, Barbara moved off the lake. She left — reluctantly — for a variety of reasons. Elmer had died. She had health problems and the economic pressures of the time forced her to sell the houseboat they had lived in since 1960. The couple were charter members of the Association. They chose houseboat living because it seemed "a nice way to live" and stayed because they liked the feeling of community spirit and the closeness of neighbors who become friends.

If there is any memorial to Barbara, it would be the hope that the same sense of community they lived would continue into the next century.

LAKE NEWS

• Delivery date for the new Harbor Patrol boat is now December '97 according to Gif Jones from Mallard Cove who is FHA's rep on the Seattle Police Department Harbor Advisory Council. The delay was related to revisions designed to increase construction efficiency and reduce the final cost estimate by approximately \$50,000. Part of the change was to widen the beam which will have a minor but positive impact on wake reduction efforts. Second item of interest to houseboaters is that the proposal to restrict test course usage is part of a revised Harbor Code package now on its way to Seattle City Council. As proposed, the test course would be restricted to one-time special use permit and to commercial users who must fly a special permit pennant. Step turns at either end would be prohibited.



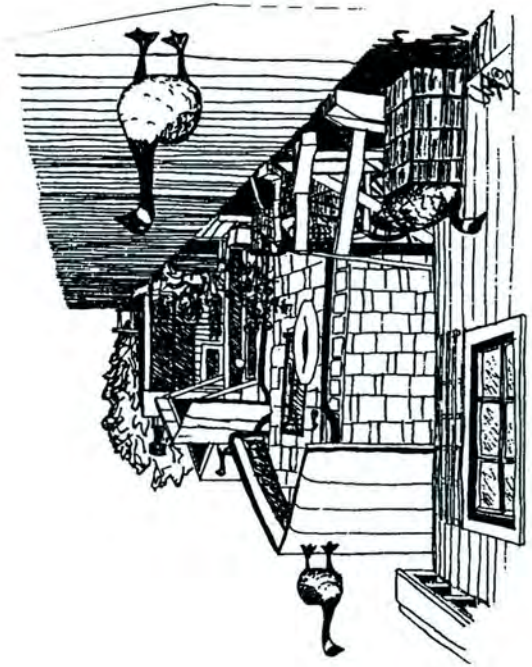
• The grand old lady Virginia V celebrating her 75th birthday on March 9 by steaming into the Lake Union Drydock Company where she will undergo critical repairs to her hull enabling her to retain U.S. Coast Guard passenger certification. Congratulations to the Steamer Virginia V Foundation for successfully raising \$871,000 to begin work on the restoration of this last surviving steam-powered vessel of the famed Mosquito Fleet which provided passenger and freight service on Puget Sound before our state highway system was established. Phase II of the restoration is estimated to cost \$1,370,000. If you can contribute, send donations to Steamer Virginia V Foundation, PO Box 24805, Seattle, WA 98124-0805.

• Another way to get involved in our maritime heritage is to become a member of the Puget Sound Maritime Historical Society which is working towards creating a major maritime museum at the U.S. Naval Reserve Building at South Lake Union. For information, call the Puget Sound Maritime Museum Exhibit at Chandler's Cove, 624-3028, or call the FHA office at 325-1132.

Neighborhood Planning in Eastlake Needs You

Eastlake Tomorrow is a volunteer-led neighborhood planning process being conducted under contract with the City. It is governed by a 16-person steering committee. To get involved, contact one of the planning teams: Community Design (Dave Dykstra, 325-9101), Diversity (Sandra Henricks, 322-9759), Main Street/Business District revitalization (Susan Kaufman, 328-3560), North Gateway (Anne Turner, 323-1432), Open Space (Barbara Deutsch, 323-1770), and Transportation (Chris Leman, 322-5463).

Background is available on the Eastlake web site, <http://oo.net/oo/et> or in public review files at Lake Union Mail and the Floating Homes Association office.



20186 W. SEATTLE, WA 98102
 2329 FAIRVIEW AVE. E.
 FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION

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.

Floating Homes Association 2329 Fairview Avenue East Seattle, WA 98102 Telephone 325-1132



HOUSEBOAT TOUR 1997

*A Tour of Floating Homes on Lake Union
sponsored by the Floating Homes Association*

Sunday, April 27, 1997
noon-5

Tickets: \$16

Reservations recommended as tickets are limited.

Phone: 325-1132

Our fundraising tour this year will be on Fairview Avenue East. Co-chairmen are Mary Gey and Fred McCulloch from the Log Foundation. Coffee & refreshments will be served at Terry Pettus Park at the south end of the tour at the foot of Newton Street. A small Argosy charter boat will run continuously from the park to Roanoke Street at the north edge of the tour route. The boat service is optional and there will be an additional \$1 fee each way as you board on the day of the tour. Volunteers are needed for a variety of tasks -- all enjoyable -- as "docents" in each house, helping with refreshments or the sale of sweatshirts and cookbooks, parking attendants, etc.. If you can assist, please call Marty Alexander at 281-0927 or the FHA office at 325-1132.

