



FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION, INC.

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NEWS LETTER

NUMBER 3

October 18, 1963

PROGRESS BEING MADE ON GARBAGE CAN PROBLEM: There has been a favorable development in our campaign to permit moorages to go off the City Garbage Tax Rolls (\$1.25 per month) and contract with the National Disposal Co. for the container service. On August 5th, the Association filed a formal request with the City Council along with petitions bearing 855 signatures as well as photographs showing the situation which exists because of being compelled to use the unsanitary, unsightly and inadequate garbage cans. The Association believes that failure, in the 1961 Ordinance, to list moorages among the multiple-unit installations eligible for the container service, was an unintentional oversight on the part of the City Council. (Also our own fault because we were not organized to look out for our own interests.) From a garbage collection standpoint, moorages are no more single-family dwelling units than are court apartments or trailer parks. Our request is now before the Public Safety Committee of which Councilman Clarence F. Massart is chairman. On October 9th, Mr. Massart arranged a conference between members of his committee, a representative of the Association and the head of the Garbage Utility. The only objection of the Garbage Utility is that granting our request would diminish its income. It has asked that our request be deferred until next spring when the entire matter of garbage collection, disposal and rates will come up for review. We strongly object to this delay because we believe a real emergency exists. We have pointed out that a bad situation has become worse because of the enactment last March of the Air Pollution Ordinance prohibiting outdoor incinerators. These will soon have to go. Mr. Massart has indicated he believes we should have immediate relief, and is taking further steps in an effort to find a solution. Other members of the Public Safety Committee are: Mrs. Harlan Edwards, Wing Luke, Charles Carroll and Lud Kramer. Letters to any or all in support of our request would be most helpful.

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HELP IS NEEDED TO COMPLETE OUR NEW OFFICE: If help is forthcoming from more members, our new office at 2329 Fairview E. can soon be ready for occupancy. All labor has been donated and the work done under the direction of Howard Larson, who has contributed weeks of his time. Others who have made unusual contributions of their skills are Warren Batterson, carpenter and Kenneth Kennedy, plumber. The only financial outlay has been for materials and even some of those have been contributed. To date the Building Fund has received \$128.00. Total cost of materials will be \$285.00. More funds are needed. Besides the above, those who have contributed time and/or money are: George Neale, Ben Harrison, Harold Harp, C. M. Carr, Terry & Berta Pettus, Grant Redford, George Johnston, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Wightman, James Bain, John & Edna Demmon, Muriel & Delbert Eklund, Merla Jones, Doug Hagar, Mildred Nobel, John Skupen, Mr. & Mrs. James Butler, Esther Carhart, Mr. & Mrs. George Moore, Edward Courtney, Mr. & Mrs. Carlisle King, Mr. & Mrs. Laurence English, Jonathan & Barbara Gallant, L. W. Milam, Gordon Dahl, Richard & Marie Reed, Antonio D. Gomez and Martin Vollaugh.

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PROPOSED ZONING CHANGES MAY FAVOR HOUSEBOATS: More than a year ago the City Council instructed the Planning Commission to re-study the zoning of Lake Union. As we know, the 1957 Zoning Code dealt houseboats a harsh blow. This report has been completed and is now being printed. It will soon come before the City Council for hearings. As it now stands, the report recommends "softening" of zoning to permit more property to be used for residential (including houseboat) purposes. This will be discussed in detail at the next meeting of the Board of Directors Tuesday, Nov. 12th, in the Montlake Field House, 16th E. & E. John Sts. The meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. and all interested members are invited to attend.

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CENTRAL LISTING SERVICE FOR SALES & RENTALS: To fill a long felt need, the Executive Committee has authorized a Central Listing Service available only to members and at moderate fees. Now available are names of a number of persons seeking to rent or purchase
(over)

floating homes. Listed with the service are several vacant moorages, also available only to Association members. For further information, contact Terry Pettus, administrative secretary, EA 9-1517.

HERE'S A LISTING FOR HOUSEBOAT REPAIRS & SERVICES: In response to many requests for this information, we are listing firms and individuals who specialize in houseboat work. All are either Active or Associate Members of our Association. In alphabetical order they are: HENRY DUDLEY, logs, general repairs and construction (EA 4-6139); DOUG HAGAR, diver (drums), general repairs (EA 4-0650); BOB MURPHY, diver (drums) carpentry, general repairs and construction (EM 2-2645); JIM YOUNG, general repairs, odd jobs (EA 4-6139). For expert towing: FREMONT BOAT CO., Mark Freeman, ME 2-0151; MARINE TRADING MART, Irv and Lloyd Frank, EA 3-9339 and VALLENTYNE'S MARINE REPAIR, Jim Vallentyne, MA 2-4906.

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SPECIAL HOLIDAY DECORATION EFFORTS PROPOSED: In order that our moorages may better reflect the holiday season and in order that the "Christmas Ship", and its auxiliary fleet, may have a more beautiful maritime setting, the Executive Committee is urging participation in a holiday decoration campaign. The Association has written the Christmas Ship Committee of the Seattle Park Board, asking that the schedule this year include concerts in Portage Bay and Lake Union. Letters have also been sent to the Northwest Marine Industries, governmental installations and private business "residents" asking their participation. Suggestions will be welcome.

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NAMES OF NON-MEMBERS ARE URGENTLY NEEDED: A request for help in compiling an up-to-date list of all houseboat occupants who are not members of the Association, has been made by James Bain, vice president and chairman of the Organization Committee. "We know that some are reluctant to solicit memberships but they can give us names and addresses and we will do the rest," Jim says. He points out that all occupants of floating homes (renters or owners) are eligible. All prospects will be mailed a copy of this NEWS LETTER and a letter with a personal invitation to join along with a copy of the brochure "What You Should Know About the Floating Homes Association." Non-member names can be turned over to Moorage Representatives or phoned to Jim Bain, EA 3-6869 or Terry Pettus, EA 9-1517.

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MEMBERS CAN "FLY OUR COLORS" BY USE OF DECALS: Because of the importance of making a tangible showing of organizational strength, the Executive Committee is asking every member boat to "fly our colors" by displaying a Decal. In the past the Membership Decals have been sold. Now they are available for the asking. They can be applied to any smooth surface and on either side of a window or door pane. To apply, simply moisten thoroughly and strip from the paper backing.

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THIS & THAT DEPARTMENT: Lou Livingston, electrical inspector, warns that some are careless about ground wires (from water pipes aboard to water pipes on pier). Warns that lack of ground can build up power flash-back powerful enough to knock out every electrical appliance including TV tubes...Also a good idea to check mooring lines as winter storms in offing...Sewer Planning Committee has top priority--is being organized and volunteers welcome...It costs about \$70.00 (printing and postage) to put out an issue of the NEWS LETTER...Kind words about our Beautification Campaign have come from officials in City Council, Building and Health Departments...County Assessor has worked out a permanent numbering system (starting next year) for houseboats and other floating structures. Proposal was endorsed at last meeting of Board of Directors.

FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION INC.
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