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FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION, INC.

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Newsletter

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"KEEP WASHINGTON WATERS CLEAN":

LAKE CLEANUP DAY SAT. JULY 8

Operating under the banner of "Let's Keep Washington Waters Clean," a Debris Fleet of craft large and small, will participate in the second annual Clean-Up Day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, July 8th. Target of the campaign is the unsightly and dangerous floating and shoreside debris which will be picked up by two large bag-booms by water and by land by the regular disposal firms servicing the Lake Union and Portage Bay waterfront.

Last year a relatively small number of Clean-Up Day participants braved wind, rain and generally miserable weather to collect more than 12,000 feet of floating debris. This year the sponsorship, and hopefully the participation, has been enlarged. The Lake Union Association will again have the cooperation of the Northwest Marine Industries, the Floating Homes Association and the City of Seattle, plus the area's yacht clubs and the Seattle Chamber of Commerce. John Locke, Jr. and Mark Freeman, are co-chairmen.

Tow boat firms will again provide tow boats, crews and booms while a fleet of small craft (able to work in channels and tight places) will be needed to bring the debris out into the stream where it can be picked up by the large bag-booms. Once again the City Engineering Department's refuse-gathering and disposal craft, "Pelican Pete," will operate in the center of Lake Union and Portage Bay gathering floating material inaccessible to waterfront businesses, houseboat moorages and other residents. At 9 a.m. the two bag-booms will start out from the University Bridge along the following routes:

ROUTE OF PORTAGE BAY COLLECTION BOOM: Will start outward from the Miller Marine Service Station at 909 N.E. Boat St. It will proceed along the northeast shore of Portage Bay past the University, across the Montlake "cut," past the Seattle Yacht Club and the Queen City Yacht Club, then proceed northwest paralleling Boyer, Fuhrman and Portage Bay Place E., then under the University Bridge and south along Fairview Ave. E., meeting up with the Lake Union boom.

ROUTE OF THE LAKE UNION COLLECTION BOOM: The boom will start outboard from the Washington Boat Center, 705 N.E. Northlake Way and proceed along Northlake Way past the Gas Plant property, down the "cut" to the Fremont Bridge and across the lake to Westlake N., then south along the Westlake shore to the end of Lake Union. From there the boom will proceed east along Valley St., past the Naval Reserve Armory, then North along Eastlake and Fairview E. where it will join the Portage Bay Boom.

Each waterfront property owner, floating home moorage and other resident is urged to start planning now to "corral" the large floating objects, both floating and on the banks, such as logs, boards, drums, etc., for towing to the bay-booms. (Illustrated instructions as to how best to secure floating debris has been prepared and a copy is being mailed by our Association to all moorage property owners and/or managers and to our Moorage Representatives. We have extra copies and will mail on request to others.)

Smaller debris and refuse such as bottles, tin cans, floating paper and cardboard and smaller pieces of wood should be assembled in cartons or garbage cans and placed on shore at your normal disposal location. Be sure this material is in receptacles and not thrown on the ground. Remember that boards and other material more than four feet in length cannot be handled in the "dumpsters" or the refuse collection trucks. **DO NOT THROW SUCH MATERIAL INTO THE WATER.** Moorages are urged to use this occasion to clean up floating home decks and shorelands of unsightly clutter. Moorage Representatives can help by calling moorage meeting to organize the day's activities.

LET'S MAKE THE MOST OF CLEAN-UP DAY. REMEMBER ITS SATURDAY, JULY 8th.

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MORE "JOINT" OWNERSHIP" HOUSEBOAT MOORAGES ARE PLANNED: With the Flo-Villa Corp. demonstrating a practical method of joint ownership of floating home moorages, the Executive Committee announces that development groups are now negotiating for the purchase of additional shoreland property suitable for such installations. The Flo-Villa Corp. was limited to 14 participants (the number of houseboat moorages) and it quickly had more applicants than it could accept. Construction of this all-new moorage at 2207-2209 Fairview Ave. E., is scheduled to start July 1.

The Association's "Joint Ownership Committee" was established several years ago and has investigated the various forms of such ownership including the conventional "co-operative" and the state's "condominium" law enacted at the 1965 session of the State Legislature. It was felt that a co-op had certain disadvantages and that the "condominium" law would require an amendment to cover houseboat moorage property. Competent legal advice was sought and obtained and the corporate form was suggested as the best method for a group of floating home owners to jointly own and operate their own moorage.

The proposed projects, now in the development stage, are following the trail blazed by Flo-Villa. The information Flo-Villa has compiled and its experience as a pioneer is now available to others. Participation in such projects will require a cash investment of about \$3,500.00 (depending on property and improvement costs). Monthly payments (in lieu of moorage) will cover payments on these costs and the usual maintenance. The Executive Committee feels that every interested member should have an opportunity to get all the facts as these projects mature. Those interested should contact the Association. Needless to say a request for information does not involve a commitment of any kind.

While we can expect joint ownerships will continue to expand, the Association also feels gratified that private investors (at long last) are finding floating home moorages an attractive and profitable use for shoreland property. Two such new moorages are in the development stage, now that the sanitation problem is being resolved. One such moorage will be located on Fairview Ave. E. and one on Portage Bay. Both will have 14 units. Detailed information will be forthcoming in the next issue of the NEWS LETTER.

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COMMERCIAL DIVING & CONTRACTING CO. REMOVED FROM REFERRAL LIST: On the recommendation of our "Good Business Practices Committee," the Executive Committee has voted to remove the Commercial Diving & Contracting Co., owned and operated by Bob Murphy, from our "Referral List," which was published in a past issue of our NEWS LETTER. This is a list of firms and persons we refer our members to when they make such an inquiry.

Mr. Murphy has been informed by letter of this action. It was taken, the communication states because "(1) you did not carry out the promises you made at a meeting of the Executive Committee to hear a serious complaint from a member and (2) similar complaints continue to come in."

It is obvious that the Association cannot "guarantee" the work or fees of those to whom we refer our members. We do have a responsibility of seeing to it that once a firm or individual enjoys the benefits of our referrals, we do all we can to protect our members from unfair practices or unreasonable charges. In the final analysis, however, the only insurance against such matters is the prudence of the members themselves. The "Good Business Practices Committee" had some valuable suggestions and these were printed in detail in the Oct. 1966 issue of the NEWS LETTER. These suggestions should be followed. If you have not saved this issue (it will help you to keep a file of our NEWS LETTERS) we have some extra copies which will be sent on request at no charge as long as they last.

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