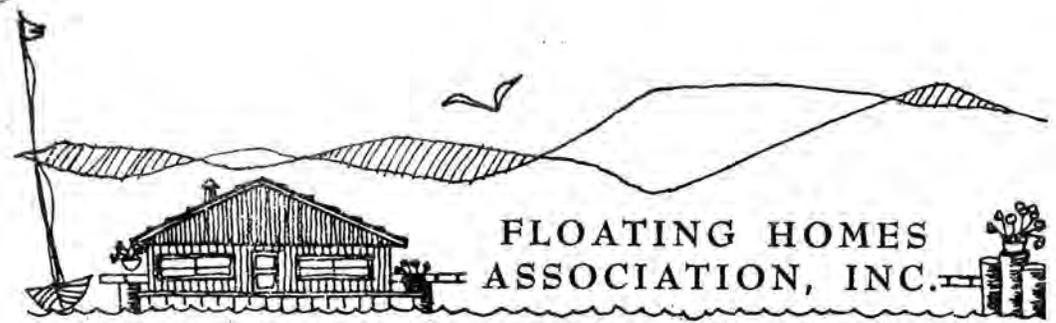


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3329 Fairview East Seattle, Washington 98102 Phones: EA 5-1132 or EA 9-1517

Number 27 *Newsletter* October 1967

ASSOCIATION SUCCESSFUL IN OBTAINING FIRE INSURANCE RATE CUT: Three years of work on the part of the Association, plus a great big assist from Mr. Tom Wood, insurance agency representative, has resulted in fire insurance rate reductions of up to 26% on our floating homes. The reductions will go into effect immediately on new policies and automatically upon renewal of existing policies. A mail survey of our members in 1964 revealed rates as high as \$49.40 per \$1,000 (plus a 3% fee) and a low of \$12.50 per \$1,000.

The new rates are: \$9.00 per \$1,000 per year for floating homes within 600 feet of a city fire hydrant; \$10.00 per \$1,000 for floating homes from 600 to 1,000 feet of a fire hydrant and \$12.20 per \$1,000 for all others. These long-sought reductions are due in large measure to the high efficiency rating of the Seattle Fire Department and the Association has written to Chief Vickery expressing our appreciation. The Association is continuing to work with Mr. Wood on broad home-owner type of coverage similar to that now being written on mobile homes. Members wanting more information should contact Terry Pettus at our phone numbers above, afternoons or evenings.

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COMMITTEE SEEKS SUGGESTIONS FOR FOURTH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRUISE: Mrs. Gladys Mattson (EA 2-2643), chairman of the 1967 Christmas Cruise, reports that her committee is seeking suggestions from members, particularly as to possible decorations and/or lighting of the MV SIGHTSEER, refreshments to be served and entertainment. The cruise date is Wednesday, December 20th, and tickets will be \$2.50. Besides visiting our decorated moorages, a highlight of the cruise is greeting the Park Department's CHRISTMAS SHIP. It will make its nightly cruises Monday through Friday, December 18-22. Other members of the committee are Richard Stauff and Mrs. Merla Jones.

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ASSOCIATION CAN NOW FURNISH NAME AND ADDRESS LABELS FOR MAIL BOXES: Because the delivery of mail continues to be a problem at some moorages, the Association will now furnish at cost, uniform, plastic name and address labels for mail boxes. Carriers ask that boxes have the moorage letter or number and the last name (or names) clearly marked on both the inside and outside of the box door. Names along the side are fine for rural routes, but are not particularly helpful at moorages where a number of boxes are often quite close together in a row. Carriers also say it helps if obsolete names were removed. Here's how the carrier would like to see the mail box doors:

2965-B (or No. 2)
JONES

The Association has purchased a lettering machine to imprint this information on large, half-inch plastic tape. This service is available at a cost of 10 cents per line. Those interested should contact the office.

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NEW FLOATING HOME CONSTRUCTION ATTRACTING LOTS OF ATTENTION: The on-site construction of a new floating home at the new FLO-VILLA Moorage, 2207 Fairview Avenue E., is attracting the attention of a record number (in this instance) of "shoreside superintendents". The attractive structure was designed by and purchased from Haida Hide, Inc. of Edmonds, and is being erected for Mr. and Mrs. Edward A. LeCocq. The float is of cedar logs and styrofoam.

According to an Association check, this is one of ten new floating homes either completed or under way. New houseboats are under construction at 2025 or 2321 Fairview E. Mr. and Mrs. John Mattson have just completed a new houseboat for their Portage Bay Place moorage. It was constructed on a float of 12 x 12 timbers and styrofoam. The Mattsons (Mr. Mattson is an architect) has another one off the drawing boards. They plan to use a concrete float for this one. Four new floating homes for the unusual new PORTAGE AT BAY Moorage (foot of Hamlin Street) will be built on concrete floats, according to Grant Copeland, planner and developer. Moorages are available for lease, but occupancy will be restricted to new floating homes. When completed, the moorage will consist of 14 units, all with views.

MOORAGE GARBAGE CONTAINERS ARE FOR HOUSEHOLD REFUSE ONLY: Installation of plumbing in particular and other home improvements in general are no doubt the reasons for a mild rash of complaints over the abuse of garbage collection containers which should be restricted to household refuse. Disposal of debris is a problem, but there are service

available at moderate costs. Both the NATIONAL DISPOSAL SERVICE (AT 4-8963) and the SEATTLE DISPOSAL COMPANY (ME 2-2200) have a wide variety of equipment to meet every disposal need, large and small. These services include the popular "drop off containers" which can be brought to the moorage, left there for a small daily rental fee and picked up and hauled away. Call either of the two firms for details. For a general idea of costs, a six cubic yard drop off can be had for about \$20 and a large 15 cubic yard drop off for about \$25.00. Even larger equipment is available.

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BETTER FIRE PROTECTION PLAN FOR LAKE PRESENTED TO CITY COUNCIL: A comprehensive program for better fire protection for waterfront property on Lake Union, the Ship Canal and Portage Bay has been presented to the Public Safety Committee of the City Council by a committee representing the Lake Union Association, Northwest Marine Industries and the Floating Homes Association. The illustrated plan was outlined by the committee chairman, Robert Brown, vice president of our Association. Other committee members are Jack Chambers, Puget Sound Marina, and Norm Blanchard, Blanchard Boat Company. The program would include a fast (about 20 knots) shallow-draft fire-fighting vessel to be based on Lake Union. It has the support of Fire Chief Gordon Vickery. All aspects of the problem are now being studied. The cost is expected to be included in the next city budget.

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REDUCTION OF BOAT SPEED LIMIT IS NOW UNDER CONSIDERATION: Reduction of the boat speed limit from seven to five knots on the Ship Canal, Portage Bay, Montlake Cut and Lake Union (with the exception of a marked speed lane) will be discussed at a conference to be called in November by Police Chief Frank S. Ramon. A preliminary session was held several weeks ago under the auspices of the police department. Participants included the Coast Guard, Army Engineers, City Engineering Department, Lake Union Association, Northwest Marine Industries and the Floating Homes Association. It was agreed that the present 7-knot area between the Government Locks and Webster Point should be better posted as to allowable speed. Also that a speed lane in the middle of Lake Union should be marked by bouys. The speed limit would then apply to all waters outside this special lane. There are differences of opinion as to the need to lower the 7-knot limit. Our Executive Committee has voted in favor of a reduction to 5-knots. Members who have a position on this should contact the Association or write to Chief Ramon, Public Safety Building, Seattle 98104.

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MEMBERS REPORT ON FLOATING HOMES IN THE NETHERLANDS: That floating homes are a popular form of housing both in the city and countryside in the Netherlands is reported by members, James and Norma Wandesforde, 2035 Fairview E., recently returned from an extensive European visit with a collection of colored slides of Amsterdam houseboats. They report that certain canals are zoned "residential" and that all moorage space is rented from the city. The floating homes must be owner-occupied. Floating homes, they say, fall into the economic category of "moderate" priced housing. Esther Carhart, Association past president, is spending a year in Europe and writes that "farm houses" also float in the Netherlands. She sent a color picture showing four farm houses along a canal in an isolated rural area. The barns and other outbuildings are on shore. Both the Wandesfordes and Miss Carhart say that the older floating homes in Holland are on barges, while newer ones are using concrete floats.

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WOULD YOU BELIEVE A WATER EVAPORATION RATE OF 9 INCHES A MONTH? Studies made for the Corps of Army Engineers (who operate the Government Locks) state that with sustained sunshine the evaporation rate for Lake Washington, Lake Union and the Ship Canal (25,000 acre feet) can run as high as 9 inches a month. This is a lot of water going straight up and accounts for why the water level dropped rapidly starting about July 1. The Army Engineers try to maintain the water level between a controlled high of 22.0 and a controlled low of 20.0. This summer the low got out of hand and the water level hit 19.4 early this month. With the rains it is climbing again and should level off at 20.0 in December.

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PLEASE! IF YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS, LET THE OFFICE KNOW.

FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION
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