



2329 Fairview East

Seattle, Washington 98102

Phones: EA 5-1132 or EA 9-1517

Number 47

Newsletter

December 1971

TWO BIG HOLIDAY EVENTS: CRUISE ON VIRGINIA V DEC. 19th &:

XMAS FLEET PARADE STARTS ON LAKE

With Greater Seattle, Inc., originating its spectacular CHRISTMAS FLEET CRUISE in Lake Union on Saturday, Dec. 19th, our inland waters this year will be the focal point of the community's biggest and brightest maritime holiday event. This flotilla, expected to number more than 100 watercraft, has now become an annual event in "The Boating Capitol of the World", joins the CHRISTMAS SHIP and the SANTA CLAUS SHIP which for years have cruised our salt and fresh water shorelines.

Craft participating in the Christmas Fleet Cruise will rendezvous at the south end of Lake Union offshore from the Naval Reserve Training Station. Judging will be from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Prizes will be awarded by Greater Seattle, Inc. for the best decorated craft. Members of the various boating organizations will also compete for the perpetual trophy awarded by the Queen City Yacht Club.

When judging is completed the fleet will circle Lake Union counter clockwise and proceed at a 5-knot speed through Portage Bay, the Montlake Cut into Lake Washington. The lead ship will be Chet Gibson's famed Hilma III, which is marking its 29th consecutive year as the SANTA CLAUS SHIP. It will be followed by the yacht ADVENTURESS, the flotilla's CHRISTMAS TREE SHIP. The long line of decorated craft will cruise the northerly shores of Lake Washington and return to Webster Point and disband. (Next year the south end of Lake Washington will have its turn.)

Scores of the lighted and decorated boats will continue nightly cruises during the week preceeding Christmas. On Sunday, Dec. 19th the historic steamer VIRGINIA V will join the fleet for the Floating Homes Association's seventh annual Holiday Cruise. (See details below)

Floating Home residents are urged to have their lights and decorations in place not later than Wednesday, Dec. 15th. On this night Chet Gibson's SANTA CLAUS SHIP will start seven nights of activity with a slow cruise around Lake Union and Portage Bay at 6:30 p.m. en route to the Queen City Yacht Club for the traditional Christmas party. The SANTA CLAUS SHIP will make its final cruise Wednesday, December 22nd.

The Park Department's lovely CHRISTMAS SHIP will again have its port at the Elks Club moorage on Westlake Ave. It will cruise for six consecutive evenings beginning on Friday, Dec. 17th and ending on Wednesday, Dec. 22nd. On Monday, Dec. 20th the CHRISTMAS SHIP will make a slow cruise around Lake Union and Portage Bay.

ASSESSED VALUATION DETERMINES YOUR TAXES. CHECK IT:

This year for the first time since 1964 all floating homes were individually evaluated to determine the assessed valuation. All have now received a notification (not a bill) giving you the valuation upon which your taxes will be based. You will find the figure under "Total Taxable Assessed Valuation". This figure is 50% of what the assessor believes to be the true market value of your property. The millage levy this year is 45.10. You can figure the amount of your taxes (billing next February) by applying 4.5% against the assessed valuation. If you have any complaints or questions now is the time to act. Phone the Assessor's office, 344-3914, or contact Terry Pettus, afternoons or evenings.

TWO NEW PUBS ENLIVEN THE LAKE UNION SCENE

Those who might be inclined to do some pub crawling during the holiday season (or any time, for that matter) may want to look in on two new and different taverns who have become our neighbors. They are the "Sternwheeler" at 1230 Westlake North and the "Gas Works", at 2501 North Northlake Way. Both add a bit of the "unusual" to our waterfront community. They are an addition to our fine restaurants, the "Hidden Harbor" and "Kim's" on Westlake; Ivar's "Salmon House" on N. Northlake Way and the "Hungry Turtle" on Fairview E.

NOTE OF NOSTALGIA FOR THE LAKE IN LETTER FROM THE EAST

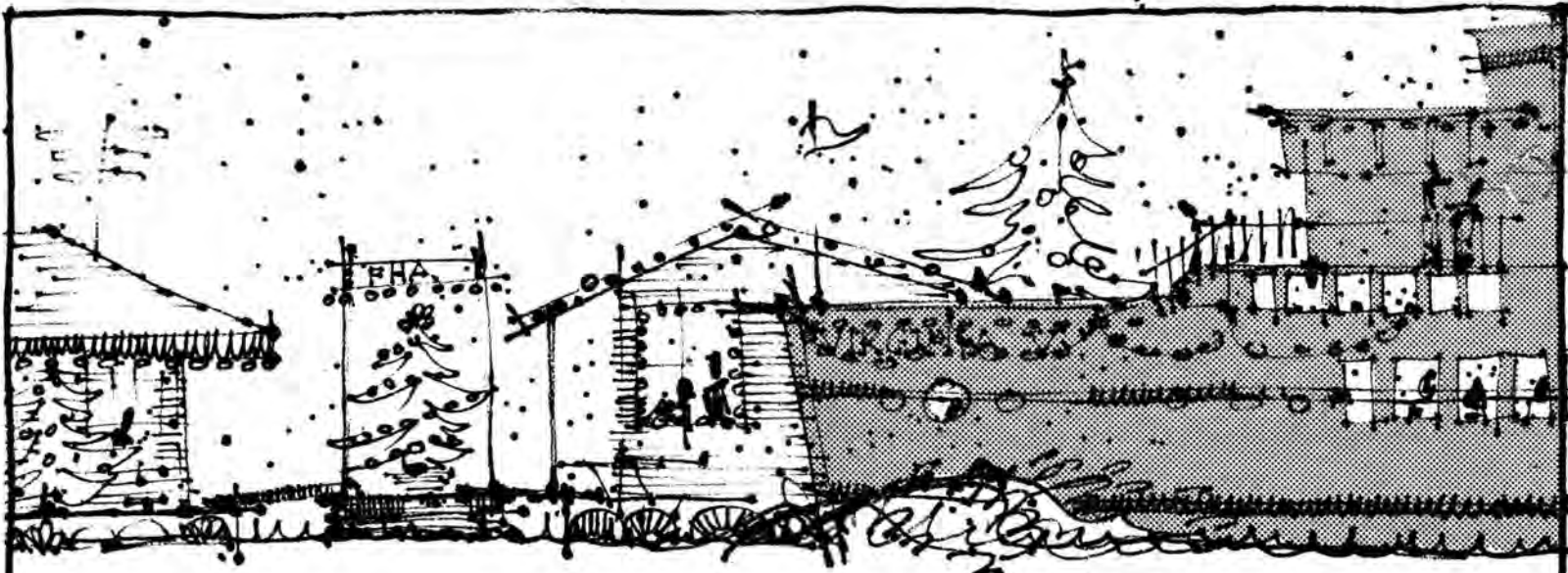
Joyce Stecher, a floating home owner, now in Avalon, New Jersey, sent a \$10.00 contribution, writing in part: "I know that the Christmas Cruise - lighting on the dock, etc., are soon to be an item so perhaps it will help a little. Our thoughts of the houseboat life are with us often - a part of your state is deep within us. Recently saw a newscast showing the Pike Place Market. Our little Chris remembered Mr. Jerry and Mr. Jack from the Fish Market and the little guy kept saying, "I want to go home to Seattle." All of us feel a deep nostalgia and sincerely hope that "The Market" remains. Surely they could learn from the East where so little is left and keep that which enhances the city so much. That goes for houseboats. Our warm thoughts go out to our houseboat friends."

YES, WE CAN HELP ON FIRE INSURANCE PROBLEMS

The Association has made some more progress on fire, extended coverage and personal liability insurance. This information is for members only. Contact the office.

MOORAGE MEETINGS ON LAKE PLAN SHOULD BE SET AFTER JAN. 1

The Executive Committee is asking moorages to set up meetings, after the holidays, for an illustrated report on the "Lake Union Preliminary Comprehensive Plan & Action Program" which is now before the city government for implementation. Meeting notice forms will be provided by contacting the office for a date. Following a presentation the Eastlake Community Council endorsed the zoning proposals (See NEWS LETTER, Oct. 1971). The first moorage meeting was at Houseboat Harbor, the joint ownership moorage on Portage Bay. The Department of Community Development is preparing an analysis of the plan for Mayor Wes Uhlman and discussions on various aspects may get underway early in 1972.



FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION'S
7TH ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRUISE
ABOARD THE HISTORIC STEAMSHIP
VIRGINIA V

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19TH

BOARD... 5:30 PM

SAIL... 6:00 PM

RETURN... 10:00 PM

A rare opportunity to rendezvous with the famed CHRISTMAS SHIP and the SANTA CLAUS SHIP and to cruise with Seattle's unique holiday flotilla of decorated and lighted watercraft. See the waters and shorelands of Lake Union, Portage Bay and Lake Washington in their spectacular holiday garb.

MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

Featuring the GREAT EXCELSIOR JAZZ BAND and JOHN & SALLY ASHFORD, folk artists, with Christmas songs from many periods and many cultures.

BEER, FOOD & REFRESHMENTS

The VIRGINIA V is licensed to dispense beer to those of legal age. Hot dogs, sandwiches, coffee, hot spiced cider, soft drinks, mixers and ice available in the Galley.

TICKETS

CHILDREN 12 & UNDER - \$2

SINGLE ADULT - \$4

TWO ADULTS - \$7

The VIRGINIA V is moored at Fishermen's Terminal in Salmon Bay (west of the Ballard Bridge).

If Northbound from City Center, take Elliott Ave. & 15th to the Emerson St. exit (right overpass) to Fishermen's Terminal.

If Southbound from Ballard or the North End, turn right at South End of 15th N.W. Bridge onto Emerson St. Turn right at the Seattle-First National Bank and look for the sign VIRGINIA V.

(Phone number at the dock is AT 2-3636)

BENEFIT LAKE IMPROVEMENT FUND

Make checks payable to the Floating Homes Association. For mail orders and information phone EA 5-1132 or EA 9-1517, afternoons and evenings.

FLOATING HOMES ASSOCIATION
2329 Fairview Ave. East
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98102