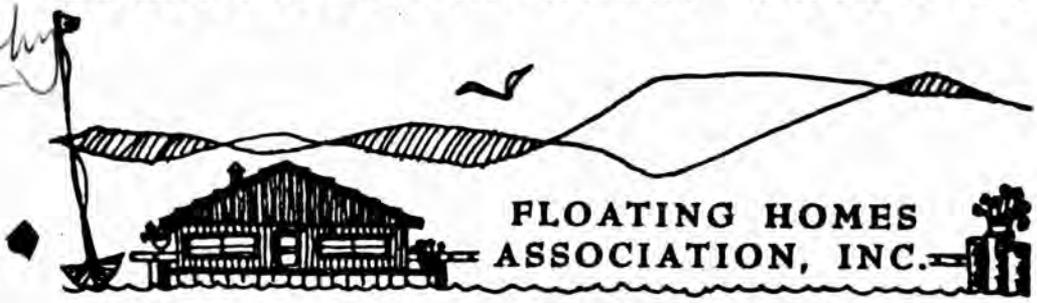


GALA PARK DEDICATION JUNE 27

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2329 Fairview East

Seattle, Washington 98102

Phones: 325-1132 or 329-1517

NUMBER 67

Newsletter

JUNE 1976

Newton St.: Sweeping View & Fishing Pier



Several years ago this area was dedicated as a "People's Park" after community volunteers, under the leadership of Marty Klapper, spent a lot of time stabilizing the steep bank and making other improvements. The original site plans, drafted by Richard Wagner, were too ambitious for volunteers without heavy equipment and now the City has completed the job. (Photo by Greg Smith)

A decade of community effort to make public use of public shoreland around the perimeter of Lake Union and Portage Bay will flower Sunday, June 27, when the first three municipal mini-parks will be dedicated. The festivities are being jointly sponsored by the Eastlake Community Council and the Floating Homes Association, and will feature a varied program of music, mime, dancing and other entertainment features. The schedule for the dedication ceremonies is:

- 2 p.m. ROANOKE STREET—City Councilman John Miller, chairman, Parks and Public Grounds Committee.
- 3 p.m. LYNN STREET—Richard E. Wagner, president, Floating Homes Association.
- 4 p.m. PEOPLE'S PARK (Newton Street)—Dr. Martin Klapper, who headed a community effort which started work on the facility four years ago.

While a main objective is to acquaint the neighborhood with these attractive waterside facilities, everyone is invited to participate.

RICHARD E. WAGNER RE-ELECTED ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

With more than 200 persons in attendance, the 14th annual membership meeting saw Richard E. Wagner re-elected president of the Association. The meeting unanimously approved the Policy Statement: "Do Floating Home Owners Have Any Rights?" (see February Newsletter), and approved the law suit challenging the use of an eviction threat to compel payment of excessive moorage fees. The members contributed and/or pledged some \$635 to the "Emergency and Legal Fund".

Others elected were: Vice President Patrick Scott, 2019 Fairview E., Recording Secretary Lucy Dodd, 3236½ Portage Bay Place E.; Trustees: Susan Drum, 2219 Fairview E. and Eileen MacIntyre, 1213 E. Shelby, Executive Committee Members-at-Large: Larry Clifton, 2218 Boyer E.; N. Huntley Holland, 2764 Westlake N.; Robert Nielsen, 933 N. Northlake Way; Dr. August Piper, 3104 Portage Bay Place E., and Greg Smith, 2017 Fairview E. Other members of the Executive Committee are: Treasurer Julie North, 2339 Fairview E.; Administrative Secretary Terry Pettus, 2035 Fairview E.; Organizational Director Jack MacIntyre, 1213 E. Shelby; Trustees: Mack Hopkins, 1213 E. Shelby; John Southern, 2207 Fairview E. and Todd Warmington, 2339 Fairview E.. A highlight of the meeting was an illustrated program on the history of houseboats by Howard Droker.

HISTORY OF SEATTLE'S HOUSEBOATS NEARS COMPLETION

The first definitive history of Seattle's houseboats, being written and researched by Howard Droker, a professional historian, is nearing completion. Negotiations are under way for publication and when these are completed the Association plans a "pre-publication" sale among members. Howard says a title has not yet been decided upon but tentative chapter headings are:

- I. The Origins of a Working Lake: Lake Union Before the Twentieth Century
- II. Working Stiffs and the Smart Set: The Beginnings of Life Afloat, 1895-1918
- III. Wobblies, Bootleggers and Floating Hoovervilles: Surviving the Interwar Years, 1919-1939
- IV. Years of Decline: Economic Pressures and Municipal Regulation, 1940-1960
- V. The Battle for Lake Union: The Floating Homes Association, 1961-1975

EPILOGUE: The Future

MEMBERS ENTHUSIASTIC OVER "LAKE INVESTMENT FUND"

There was an enthusiastic response from members at the 14th Annual Meeting to an Executive Committee proposal to form a "Lake Investment Fund" to organize our economic power in our own interests. More than 60 persons signed stating their interest in participation and authorizing the formation of a Ways and Means Committee to work out plans. Such a Committee is now being organized and will meet soon to draft a proposal to be presented to a meeting of all who are interested. If you have not signed for an invitation to such a meeting and want to participate, notify the Association.

A statement of purposes has been drafted for consideration by the Ways and Means Committee. It says: "We, the participants in the "Lake Investment Fund", are pooling our economic resources to achieve the following objectives: (1) To insure the participants maximum security and a fair return on invested capital and (2) To insure that our resources are invested in such a manner as to give priority to the formation of "joint ownership" floating home moorages and to participate in the building of the economic base needed to strengthen the diversified marine environment of Lake Union and Portage Bay which is so essential to the future well being of the community."

Assorted News Notes From Here & There

ADMINISTRATIVE SECRETARY Terry Pettus will be on a leave of absence from mid-June until September 1. Terry has enrolled at Oxford University for a course on the Archaeology of Roman Britain, which is something of a change of pace from floating home problems. While in England he says he hopes to find time to peek at the operation of municipal government in London, Norwich and Oxford and pay a call on the embattled houseboaters on the Thames . . . The law suit brought by the Association with William and Caryl Keasler, challenging the use of an eviction threat to collect excessive moorage fees, is wending its way in Superior Court. Attorney Bruce N. Corker says it may get before a judge any time now . . . The June 27 park dedication promises to be a most lively and interesting community bash. The Joint Arrangements Committee is headed by Anita Klapper from the Eastlake Community Council and Patrick Scott of the Floating Homes Assn. . . . Governor Dan Evans is giving leadership to a program to insure that the historic SS Virginia V will have a secure future. Might take the form of a non-profit corporation to make funds available to restore the one-of-a-kind vessel to prime condition, estimated at \$250,000. What the Virginia V needs is more patronage. The Association has put up a \$200 deposit on the charter fee for our annual holiday cruise next December . . . So far this year 38 members have contributed a total of \$538 to the Emergency and Legal Fund.

LES L. RUTHFORD, president of the Lake Union Air Service Inc. has sent an informative and neighborly letter to our Association which states the firm is not only concerned about aircraft noise but is doing something about it "at considerable expense". The letter says "we have recently installed a three-bladed propellor for one of our planes and have ordered others for all of our 206 Models. Unfortunately there is a one-year back-order list on this type of propellor." Mr. Ruthford says this propellor has been successful in reducing noise in New York tests. The letter goes on to say that "we are trying to do everything possible to alleviate this problem, so that all can function harmoniously. However, there is no way we can regulate other planes, (continued on page 4)

Lynn St.: Community Action Pointed Way



Community work gangs, with Pete Omalaz as the ramrod, built the first park to demonstrate what can be done with the many State Waterways and Street Ends around the perimeter of Lake Union and Portage Bay. This lovely site could use a fishing pier. (Photo by Greg Smith)

"IN UNITY THERE IS"

FELLOW HOUSEBOATERS:

Before its May 22 meeting the Executive Committee resumed calls on non-members inviting them to do you-know-what. The results, after an hour's calling, resulted in seven new members—we would have done better if only more folks had been at home. But we are well on our way to achieving the goal of 100 new members we have set for 1976. In organization we have to keep moving in order to stand still. Last year we obtained 101 new members but we had 38 move-aways which means a net gain of 63. Last year through May we had only 11 new members. For the same period this year we have 27—so we are on our way. We can and will see that every houseboat resident has an opportunity to join. So you can wait for a personal call or use the blank below. Why not do the former?

—Jack MacIntyre, Organizational Director

JUST IN CASE YOU AREN'T ...



2329 Fairview East - Seattle 98102
Phones: EA 5-1132 or EA 9-1517
(after 11:00 a.m.)

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

DUES \$12.00 PER YEAR

- Covers all the adults (18 years or over) in the household. If more than one membership card is needed list names below.
- Dues payments cover the 12 months following the time of joining.

Make checks payable to Floating Homes Association, Inc.

NAME _____ Address _____ Zip _____

Enclosed is \$12.00

Bill me

Roanoke St.: Look Lively, You'll See Twins



The 30-foot causeway to the stalled "Roanoke Reef" project sadly reduced the park area and it was divided into two parts. At top is the larger, adjacent to the Hungry Turtle restaurant with a fine view of the Gas Works Park. You have to look sharp for the northern portion which is below street grade. (Photos by Greg Smith)

(continued from page 2)

either local or foreign, that land or take off on the Lake. For our part, we are planning to send out a newsletter to all pilots we know who fly into Lake Union asking them to use reduced power settings and to power back as soon as possible when taking off. Please know that we wish to cooperate as much as possible in order to reduce noise factors on the Lake."

THE QUESTION HAS been asked how many charter members (1962-63) are still afloat. A records check shows just 31 and here they are: Robert & Joyce Brown, Edward P. Courtney, Esther Carhart, Del & Muriel Eklund, Gertrude Eva, James D. Gray, Richard & Peggy Hoyt, Leonard & Marie Johnston, George Johnston, Kenneth & Clara Kennedy, Carlisle & Clara King, Betty Ann Morse, Alpha McClung, Esther C. Olson, John M. Pursell, Terry Pettus, Billy Joe Roberts, Imogene & Dorothy Rousseau, Rosemary M. Ruff, Mrs. Arthur Sadow, Esther A. Simons, George E. Simmons, and Mr. & Mrs. James M. Smith. We hope we haven't missed anyone but if we have, holler!