The Community Council congratulates
The Floating Homes Association
on its 25th anniversary, and looks forward
to a successful street fair, September 19-20.

EASTLAKE NEWS

The Eastlake Community Council will hold its September General Meeting at A Small Cafe, near the southwest corner of Eastlake and Lynn. The featured topic will be "Surplusing the Lake Union Steam Plant." For details and the results of our Steam Plant Next Use Survey, see page 2.

September 1987
Surplusing the Steam Plant

This will be the topic of the September 22 General Meeting of the Eastlake Community Council, to be held at A Small Cafe at 7 p.m.

The meeting will include a learned description of City Light's property-surplusing procedures, and a general discussion on and specific proposals for the next use of the Steam Plant.

A week before, on September 15, City Council will vote on City Light's proposal to de-commission the Plant. Shortly thereafter, City Council is expected to vote a new zoning designation for the site as part of the Industrial Zoning that will apply to the neighborhood.

So far we have received 48 responses to our Steam Plant Next Use Survey. Of the 10 uses we listed, "swimming pool" and "mixed residential/office" received 25 and 23 votes respectively. Following in order of popularity were "retail" (16 votes), "museum" (11), community center (10 write-in votes), "manufacturing" (7), "luxury condominiums" (5), "garbage incineration" (5), "multi-tenant office" (4), "government offices" (4), and "single-tenant office" (2).

Other write-in suggestions included a recycling center, a post office, a UPS station, an atrium, a church, low-cost housing, a daycare center, artist lofts and tennis courts.

To the question "Would you attend Community Council meetings at the Steam Plant?", 38 answered "yes" and 5 "no." Twenty-nine favored retaining the smoke stacks, 12 preferred their removal.

Looking forward to seeing you on the 22nd.

The Floating Homes Association

by Bill Keasler, President

The Floating Homes Association will commemorate its 25th anniversary with a street fair on Fairview Ave. E. on September 19-20. The Association was formed in 1962 to "preserve and protect Seattle's old and colorful houseboat community."

At the time, houseboaters were facing mass evictions from hundreds of homes due to the construction of the NOAA base, the highrise buildings going in around Lake Union, and the freeway over in Portage Bay. The members of the new Association were able to save many of their neighbors by extending docks along Fairview, though many houseboats were destroyed.

Moorage continued to be reduced for one reason or another until the mid-1970s, when the number of houseboats stabilized at about 480, where it is today.

State, federal and local policies now ban houseboats everywhere in the state of Washington except Lake Union and Portage Bay.

Since its founding, the Association has been active in land use, shorelines and environmental issues, and has led the effort to provide a secure and stable environment for floating homes through legislation such as the "Equity Ordinance," which regulates houseboat evictions and moorage fees.

The Association elects about a dozen Executive Board members each year in April. The Board meets the first Wednesday of the month, and anyone with an interest is welcome to call 325-1132 for an invitation.
Seaplanes Update

A Sept. 1 hearing on Kenmore Air’s proposal for South Lake Union was attended by nearly 200 residents from the floating homes and nearby communities. The proposal was to relocate the 1984 Otter Air permit, purchased earlier this year by Kenmore, to a site at Chandler’s Cove.

After hearing the concerns and at times bitter complaints of those attending, Chandler’s Cove developer Wally Trace announced he would withdraw the application.

Residential concern with the Kenmore proposal was focused on specific land-use issues (including appropriate use of a public waterway, potential leakage from two 4,000-gallon underground fuel tanks, and the question of adherence to the flight restrictions imposed on the Otter permit), and overall seaplane operations on Lake Union (flight and taxiing patterns, noise complaint procedures, the frequency and number of flights, and the changing character of these flights).

A group has formed called the Seaplane Agreement Coalition (SAC), composed of a group of residents from various neighborhoods including the floating homes, Eastlake, Queen Anne, Fremont, Wallingford and Portage Bay. The group intends to research the issue with the City and seaplane operators over the next few months, and then create an enforceable working agreement for Lake Union. Those interested can contact Linda Caine at 325-2920, or the ECC.

Land-Use Project Updates

2048 Fairview (Master Use Permit #8505493). Court action on the 29-unit proposal at Fairview/Boston is pending. The ECC, the Floating Homes Association and the proposed project’s developers are currently discussing settlement. Project characteristics and/or modifications sought by the ECC and FHA include: maintenance of existing public parking on Fairview; relocation of project access off of Fairview; unit count in the low twenties; more than one building; minimum parking ratio of 1.34 spaces per unit. Dennis McLaren of the City’s Law Department is mediating the negotiations.

This effort continues to require funds for attorney fees and to explore alternative design concepts. Please send contributions to the ECC, 58 E. Boston, 98102.

2343 Eastlake (#8600448). The ECC has appealed to City Council to reduce the size and impacts of the proposed office building. A hearing date for the appeal has not yet been set.

The ECC has worked hard to provide a legitimate basis for reducing the building’s size and eliminating access from Eastlake. The proposed project is the same type as others on the block widely recognized as being too big for Eastlake (the NMS and NW Management buildings), and which once prompted an apologetic City Councilmember walking in the neighborhood to ponder "How did we ever let that happen?" The ECC appeals are an attempt to not let it happen again.

1926 Fairview (#8702317). A 35-unit apartment building. DCLU issued its decision August 6; the appeal deadline is September 8. This project is located in C1/40-ft. zoning. Unless a party interested in architectural relocation of one or more of the buildings steps forward soon, the existing structures will be demolished. Although the ECC Land Use Committee expressed some environmental concerns with the project and some residential view blockage will result, the ECC will not file an appeal to the decision.

2352 Yale. A proposal to add eight units to an existing duplex. DCLU has issued a declaration of "environmental non-significance," with conditions including the retention of two ground-related units.

Grace Jansons and Margaret Pageler
Vision Seattle Candidates for City Council

As individuals, we helped recruit Grace and Margaret to run for City Council this year. We believe these well-qualified candidates share our vision of what Seattle’s neighborhoods and downtown should be. Their energy and commitment will revitalize the spirit of the Council. We are contributing issues expertise, political effort and money to their campaigns, and we urge our friends and neighbors to do the same.

(signed) Carol Eychaner, Bill Keasler, Jules James, Martin Cobb

(Grace and Margaret are working hard to qualify for matching funds before the primary on Sept. 15. Contributions to their separate campaign funds can be sent to Vision Seattle, 3429 Fremont Pl. N., Seattle 98103. If you’d like to volunteer, ask questions or receive campaign literature or yard signs, call the Vision Seattle office at 547-6084, or Carol at 324-1716.)

(The above is a paid political announcement.)
Traffic and Parking

The ECC called a special neighborhood meeting on August 6 to solicit comments, information and suggestions for the Seattle Engineering Department's Eastlake Neighborhood Traffic and Parking Study. It was a standing-room-only crowd at A Small Cafe.

This was a working meeting. Opinions differed on all topics, but a general consensus was that:

- Fairview Ave. should be promoted as a pedestrian strolling lane. A curb/gutter/sidewalk solution is not desired, and through traffic should be discouraged.

- Planter strips enhance our neighborhood's residential character and quality of life, and should not be removed or reduced to provide additional parking. Such action would be costly, would only provide temporary relief and would be addressing a symptom rather than the problem itself — the multi-family code. Residents on Minor Ave. were divided on this issue, but cost factors diminished enthusiasm for the idea of removing strips.

- A movable barrier at Newton/Fairview, attempted temporarily about a decade ago to divert traffic away from residential streets, deserved reconsideration.

- One-way travel on Franklin, Yale and Minor should be explored as a means of discouraging through traffic.

- Solutions should be sought that do not detract from the residential character of our neighborhood, that help maintain our minor streets for local residents, and that will first offer some improvement to the existing situation. All alternatives should be implemented on a trial basis wherever possible.

Our thanks to Joan Rosenstock of the Engineering Department for encouraging discussion between the City's hired consultants and local residents before recommendations were finalized. The study will be available for review and comment in late September; comments will be due some time in October. Call 324-1716 if you'd be interested in reviewing a copy.
Neighborhood Notes

New Seward School Principal. On July 16, the Seattle School District replaced Acting Principal Ken Cook with Ken Dorsett. Mr. Dorsett has been a middle-school principal with the District for 12 years and recently completed a term of office as the president of Seattle’s Principal Association.

Welcome International Books. After 10 years on Capitol Hill, International Books has relocated on 3237 Eastlake, across from the Flower Lady’s current location. This shop is for anyone who can use The Concise English-Tagalog Dictionary; or should need conjugation in Rumanian, Persian, Nepali, Latvian, Malay or Serbo-Croatian; or who needs 2001 Spanish Idioms, Norwegian recipes or an interlinear Hebrew/Greek/English bible. Forty-seven languages, novels, children’s books, cassette language courses, special orders and a lending library. Open 10-5:30 Wed., Fri., Sat., and till 9 on Thursday.

New phone booth. On Boylston Ave. For the residents of Boylston exhausted by the distressed motorists exiting at the Boylston ramp desperate to phone home, PNB has installed a phone booth at the northeastern corner of Seward School. Thanks are due to PNB and the Seward School.

Further reading. The North Seattle Press can be found at Pete’s, the Quick Stop, Pegasus and A Small Cafe. Look for September’s editions on the 9th and 23rd.

Fundraiser still needed. We still need a fundraising volunteer. If you’re interested, please call 324-1716.

Board Meetings. Board meetings of the Community Council are often open to any members of the Council. If you’d like to attend a meeting, or have a particular issue you’d like to address, call 324-1716.

Water Restrictions Now in Force

by Judi Gladstone,
Seattle Water Department

Mandatory water restrictions for outdoor lawn watering are now in force. Homeowners can water every 3 days for max. 2 hours a week, or a 30-percent reduction on average watering time. These restrictions do not apply to flower and vegetable gardens or shrubbery.

A calendar has been sent to all residences indicating the watering schedule, based on the last two numbers of the street address. The calendar is published each day by the Times and P-I on the weather page. The Seattle Water Department appreciates your cooperation. For more information, call 625-5674.

Classifieds

PARENTS interested in forming a neighborhood babysitting coop — call Abby, 329-6279.

Rate for classified ads is 25 cents per word, with a $2.50 minimum. Boldface, italics and centered headlines are $1 per word. Call 324-1716 to place your ad.

Membership Application

YES!!! I want to help take care of Eastlake. My dues are enclosed for membership in the Eastlake Community Council (1 year membership).

This is a ☐ NEW ☐ RENEWAL Membership.

NAME __________________________ PHONE __________________________

ADDRESS __________________________

DUES: ☐ Household ($15)
☐ Sr. Citizen ($10)
☐ Business ($40)

Make check or money order payable to: Eastlake Community Council

Mail to: ECC Membership
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