

Welcome to Floating Home living from the FHA - 2010

Included in this Welcome package are some important announcements and helpful tips including:

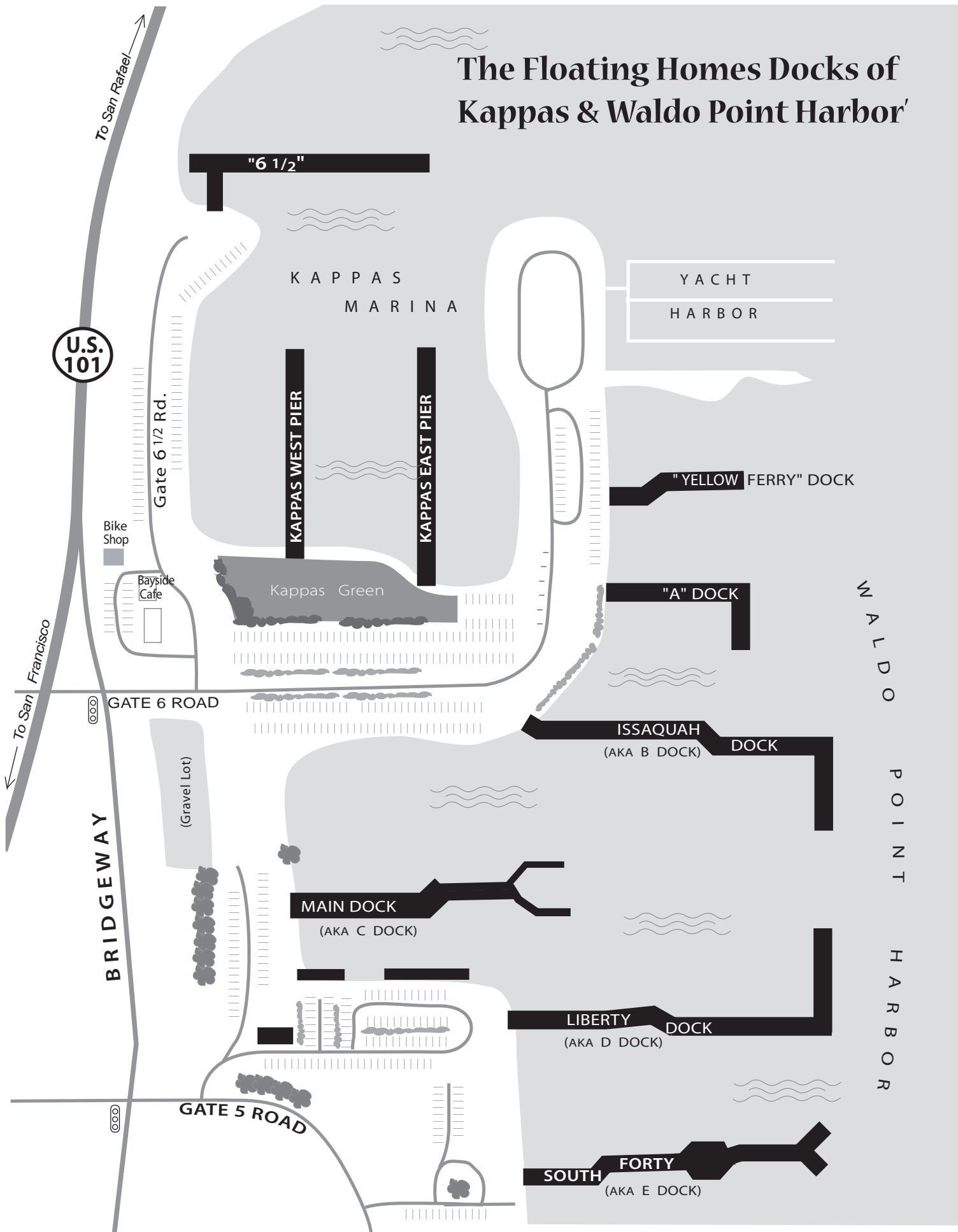
Kappas and Waldo Point Harbor Map
Mail Addresses
What is the FHA?
FHA Membership Application
What is a CERT?
Floating Home Living Safety Do's and Don'ts
Floating Times Sample

The Floating Homes Association (FHA) represents the owners and renters of Sausalito's floating homes in local, regional and state affairs. So if you're not currently a member, please join the FHA using the enclosed Membership Application

Floating Homes Association Inc.
P. O. Box 3054 • Sausalito, CA 94965
415-332-1916
Web Site: www.floatinghomes.org

2/15/09

The Floating Homes Docks of Kappas & Waldo Point Harbor



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***You need the FHA More Than Ever
...And We Need You***

This is a pivotal time for many critical issues affecting our community:

- ® Homeowners Insurance ® Marina Permit Renewals
- ® Berth Lease Negotiations ® Fire Prevention and Protection
- ® Floating Home Financing ® Marina/Tenant Relations

The FHA is working on all of these issues and more. But we can't do it without your help. Please join by filling out the form below and returning it to the address above. Your email is very important. If more than one person lives on a floating home, please list the second person's name.

Name: ---- _____

Floating Home Address: - _____

Mailing Address (if different from above): _____

City/State/Zip: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Phone: _____ Cell _____ FAX: _____

o Own o Rent Names of other people on floating home: _____

I have enclosed 2010 membership dues of:

\$25 _____

Other \$ _____

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Address Information

Attention Marina Residents

Effective January 5, 2009, the Marin County Assessors Office changed all Kappas Marina and Waldo Point Harbor mailing addresses to read **[Berth #] [Pier Name]**. For example; “31 West Pier”, “10 East Pier” or “20 Gate 6 1/2”. The marina name is no longer used in our official mailing addresses. Note: This does not apply to those using PO Boxes.

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What is the FHA?

The FHA was formed in the early 1980's to represent floating homeowners and renters. It is the only community wide organization that represents the interests of homeowners and residents. During its existence, the FHA has effectively worked to resolve problems with insurance, dock maintenance, berth leases, rent increases, financing and floating home registration. The FHA also sponsored legislation (the "Floating Home Residency Law") that provides owners and residents with legal rights similar to what mobile home residents have.

Be a part of your community. Keep in touch with what's happening on your dock, in your harbor and in the floating homes community. Your membership is essential for the FHA to continue to do its work. Membership includes:

- ⊗ *Access to the best available floating home financing via membership in the FHA's affiliated Credit Union*
- ⊗ *Floating Times newsletter*
- ⊗ *Membership Party*
- ⊗ *Tide lines Calendar and Marin Express at cost*
- ⊗ *Dock Parties*
- ⊗ *Web site for members*
- ⊗ *CERT training (class cost reimbursed by FHA)*
- ⊗ *Having Fun!*

Mission Statement:

The Floating Homes Association is a volunteer civic group which represents the interests of the residents of the 400+ homes in five floating home marinas on Richardson Bay. The Association provides information to its members through general membership meetings, individual dock meetings, its Floating Times newsletter, and special notices as necessary. Information is also provided to the media, government and regulatory officials, and to the general public.

Taking into consideration the sometimes diverse interests of residents of all five marinas, the FHA does not take stands on issues that are specific to individual marinas or docks, but may be utilized as an information source by residents involved in such issues. The FHA does strive to present a unified voice for floating homes residents to regulators, legislators, landlords and other entities, on matters which affect all residents universally, such as health and safety issues.

As a non-profit corporation, the FHA is politically non-partisan, but does provide forums for political candidates to learn about our community's unique needs, and to express their views to residents through the Floating Times and community meetings.

The FHA strives to foster a sense of community among residents through activities such as the annual Waterfront Showcase tour and a yearly membership party. Additionally, the FHA supports social events and group improvement projects on individual docks by sharing costs and helping publicize such events. FHA volunteers take active roles in Legal, Environmental, Member Services, Public Relations and other committees in pursuit of this mission.

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What is CERT?

Community Emergency Response Teams are groups of citizen emergency workers. CERT personnel receive basic training from emergency response professionals and work in the initial aftermath of a disaster to augment official emergency services. CERT members are not intended to replace a community's professional response capability, but rather to serve as an important supplement to it. The CERT Teams in the Floating Homes community respond to sinking homes, medical emergencies, high wind damage, piling failures and lines breaking. Frequently they are much more effective than professional responders due to their knowledge of the unique characteristics of living on the water. There are approximately 80 CERT trained volunteers in the floating home community.

What do CERT members do?

CERT members respond to an event that overwhelms existing resources to deal with the event. Disasters may be natural events such as earthquakes, fires, floods, or may be caused by human actions such as a terrorist act, civil disturbances, or hazardous materials incidents.

Community Emergency Response Teams are trained in basic emergency response procedures such as:

- Conducting an initial size-up of the situation in their immediate area
- Reducing immediate dangers by turning off utilities, suppressing small fires, and evacuating hazardous areas
- Performing immediate medical triage and basic treatment of injuries
- Assessing structural integrity and performing light search and rescue
- Collecting and recording vital information to be relayed to professional responders on damage, victims, and actions taken or resources needed
- Providing leadership to untrained volunteers

In a large scale disaster, self-reliance and the use of volunteers will be necessary. With this in mind, the Fire Departments and Districts in Marin County have undertaken a program of Community Emergency Response Training (CERT) for civilians.

The Fire Departments and Districts in Southern Marin have joined together to teach the CERT program. A choice of two class formats is now available for this **10 hour** series.

Option 1: two five hour classes offered over 1 weekend. Saturday and Sunday. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Option 2: a five hour class on two consecutive Saturdays. 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Interested persons must call ahead to sign up for a particular class. **Call 415-388-8182 for information.** Special scheduling for groups of 15-25 can be arranged.

Cost: \$35.00 for individuals; \$65.00 for two members of the same family.

Make checks payable to SM CERT, and mail to: Southern Marin CERT, C/O Southern Marin Fire District, 308 Reed Blvd., Mill Valley, CA 94941

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SAFETY TIPS FOR FLOATING HOME LIVING

Our wonderful lives aboard our floating homes come with some issues that landlubbers do not experience so, for those of you new to our community, we have compiled what we hope is a useful list of
Do's and Don'ts

FIRE SAFETY – please...

- Do not dump ashes in the garbage/recycling dumpsters as they tend to catch FIRE
- No open flames on the dock
- Do not use planter boxes as ashtrays or drop cigarettes butts on the dock
- Make sure your fire extinguishers are full and up to date (Fire Master regularly visits dock parking lot where he sells and upgrades extinguishers)
- Install/maintain smoke detectors
- Plan escape route from boat in case of fire
- Attend dock fire emergency training (CERT Captains will post dates on dock notice boards). This is in addition to CERT training and one day it may save your boat!

SEPTIC TANKS – please...

- Do not flush ANYTHING down the toilet EXCEPT toilet paper (holding tank pumps are easily jammed and can cause tanks to overflow!)
- Kleenex and dental floss are especially troublesome for holding tanks.

POWER FAILURES – please...

- If electricity is out do not run water (no showers, no dishwashing, and no flushing toilets). It is important to let renters, visitors and cleaning crews know about this as holding tanks can fill to overflowing without the electric pump working!
- Do not use generators or BBQs inside boat as toxic fumes will build up to dangerous levels
- When using candles or oil lamps make sure than are contained and extinguished before you retire to bed or leave the boat
- Switch off all circuit breakers, except one (preferably the lighting breaker), to prevent a power surge when electricity service is resumed
- Check all pilot lights are lit when power is resumed

UTILITIES – please...

- Know where your water, gas and electricity shut-offs are located
- Know where your circuit breaker box is located

FLOATING HOME SAFETY – please...

- Install and/or inspect interior hull water sensors
- Install and/or inspect holding tank level alarm
- Inspect boat lines for wear and tear
- Inspect pilings to determine if replacement or repair needed

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- Tie down loose items such as tables and chairs that will blow away in storms
- Inspect exterior hoses for leaks
- Inspect interior washing machine and hoses for leaks

DOCK SAFETY – please...

- Do not encroach more than 3 planks deep each side of the dock from railing into the walkway (emergency crews need clear access to the dock)
- Do not obstruct dock lighting (report any outages to Harbor Master)
- No motorized vehicles on walkway
- Do not leave bicycles on walkway side of dock railing

BAY POLLUTION – please...

- Report to the Harbor Master any Sewage leaks or Oil and Fuel spills the water

GARBAGE and RECYCLING – please recycle

- Garbage & recycling dumpsters are located in the shed at the entrance of the dock
- Break down cardboard boxes and leave in appropriate dumpster

PARKING LOT and HIGH TIDES - please

- Check dock bulletin board for high tide and storm notices and move cars to higher ground when necessary.