



LONGBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY



Newsletter
November 2008

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TRUNK - OR - TREAT

Hot Drinks
Treats
Food
Games

Evergreen Elementary PTA/LIC Invite Peninsula Children and LIC Members
FRIDAY, October 31st 6:00 to 8:00 (cars need to be parked by 5:45)

Trunk or Treat still needs you

Parking help - need at least 2 people, 30 min to an hour. Craft table help (more like supervision) - 2 to 3 people. Kitchen supervision - 1 person. The positions that are left to be filled are more of "help keep the flow moving" types of jobs. You don't have to be crafty, a valet or chef, just smile and help keep some sort of order to a wonderfully fun and exciting evening for all! **Please call Debbie @ 884-6382 debbie@harvest-timber.com**

If you still need LIC Volunteer hours, this is a fun way to get a few!

Anyone who would like to bring a car and pass out treats from your trunk is always welcome, you don't have to dress up or decorate your car, just come and enjoy the fun! If you can't attend, but would like to help, donations will be gladly accepted. Donations of cash and/or candy help offset the costs of heating the building and for snacks in the kitchen.



Children's Programs
Debbie Ehrhardt

Presidents Letter . . .

The end of the year ladles stress over us like gravy pouring onto a mound of mashed potatoes. It coats us, it seeps into every niche and cranny, it flavors our every action. I feel like putting up my hands, saying "Nope, no, naw!" From every quadrant of the compass comes demands upon our time, our energies, and upon the relationships we treasure. If any of us were hauled out of time and questioned, we would say that our families are paramount. And yet we whittle away at the time we would spend with our immediate loved ones.



THANKSGIVING is for families.
Whatever our theologies, the holy days marking the end of the year are for families.
As we've evolved it,
HALLOWEEN is for families.
AND THAT'S WHY I AM CONFLICTED.

We're called upon to help at the community-wide TRUNK OR TREAT, which has expanded into a fabulous and rewarding outreach to the community. It would be proper to name each and every person building this enriching community event, but the list of names would fill our entire newsletter. Let's express our gratitude to Debbie Erhardt and let her share that with her hard-working crew.



KIDS N CHRISTMAS is a present we give ourselves. Every child on the Peninsula is welcomed into our doors. They are guided to crafts tables where a helping hand reaches out enabling them to build Holiday presidents to their family members. Every child receives a wrapped Holiday gift from St. Nick, and every family receives a photo of their child sharing their hearts desire with this symbol of the season. Dozens of people in the LIC deserve our thanks: Andy Gano historically hoists the tree into position, Mike Hays and John Biggs brought the tree in last year, you can tug Santa John Glennon's beard and it doesn't come off, Jo Hamilton's daughter and grandkids came in from Indiana last year to wrap presents. None of this would have been accomplished without the fuel from doyennes of the kitchen Norma Iverson and Peg Bingham. And there are dozens more who sacrificed their time and energy to make it happen.

LIC NEWS . . . PAGE 2

Our December meeting, our CHRISTMAS DINNER, is pulled into shape by Sue Stuhaug, with help from literally dozens of folks. Carolyn Wiley brings together the folks who paint our living ornaments, Marcia Horan creates table displays . . . I could go one and on.



Our NEW YEAR'S DANCE lets the community move gracefully and with appreciation from the close of one year to the opening of the next. It couldn't happen without uncounted hours from Marlies Van Cise and the elves who unveil the bar, the music, the foodstuffs, the décor.

And there are those things so obvious we don't even see them. Jerrod and Angelina Landsberger, the family with their children who keep our building clean, Bob McFarlane who gathers in the folks who clean much of our roadsides, a host of folks who do make and mend spiffing up our marina . . . These are the kind of folks that have learned to balance the needs of our insular families with the needs of our community family. There are dozens, hundreds more, and I have done them a disservice by not naming each and every one. Although every one would be cross with me for singling them out. **THEY ARE THE KIND OF PEOPLE I'D LIKE TO BE WHEN I GROW UP!**



Stu Stuhaug, LIC PRESIDENT

LIC Volunteer Positions Awaiting YOUR Talents . . .

LIC "Story Teller" . . . Publicizing our LIC Events & Activities
Part of it is helping spread the word about an upcoming event, and part of it is recording the events we do - from our Beyond The Borders music and art festival to our sailboat regattas.

LIC OFFICE - POSITION HAS BEEN FILLED
The LIC wishes to welcome Gretchen Lippert with open arms! Thanks Gretchen!

302 Corridor Study Meeting Group Participant
The LIC has been invited to participate in the State Highway 302 corridor study. You can make our voice heard, keep us abreast of what may come from the process and report findings to membership.

CONTACT Stu or Sue Stuhaug if interested: 884.3685

General Meeting Minutes

Longbranch Improvement Club October General "Potluck" Meeting 10/15/08 *Potluck Dinner was held at 6:30 p.m.*

The meeting was called to order by our President, Stu Stuhaug.

The minutes of the September meeting were MSP as printed.

OLD BUSINESS:
None.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP:

Sue Stuhaug, our Membership Chairman, reported that 2,567 hours of service have been recorded to date this year. Louise Bean, a new member, has done an outstanding job of helping with decorations for our Halloween Activities for children.

DOCK:

Harry Faas, Dock Chairman, offered congratulations to the Dock Committee for a job well done in cleaning up the dock! A list will be posted at the marina of additional work to be done. Our Dockmaster, Mark Jones, gave a humorous review of boat preparation for Fall. Sandy Black, chairman of the outstanding Crabfest, thanked Mike Maroney, Lynn Carr, and John Biggs for getting crabs, and Biggs and Dave Wiley for building the race course...as well as the Crab Girls for running the course.

TREASURER:

Tim Heitzman, our Treasurer, shared with us that so far this year we have taken in \$5,000 in winter moorage. He also noted that to date the club has gained \$70,000 from dock moorage. The Club Building in 2008 has taken in \$10,000 and Events in 2008 have netted \$18,000. Andy Gano requested that the Board look into and report to the membership the status and future of roof repair on the building.

BUILDING:

Stu Stuhaug reported for Mike Hays that Peninsula Power and ASPLN have donated "chips" for the trails.

SCHOLARSHIP:

Dick Dixon discussed the importance of our scholarship contributions. Now the Scholarship Fund is tax deductible for those who contribute directly to the Peninsula Hawks. Because the Hawks are a 501 © (3) they are able to provide documentation to provide this deduction.

NEW BUSINESS:

Marcy Parsons shared with us the opening of the Carol Milgard Breast Center in Gig Harbor.

NOMINATIONS:

Our nominating committee is: Lisa Bryan, Larry Bingham, and Judy Riggs.

Lisa Bryan announced the following Board nominees to be voted on at our November Meeting:

Vice President - Patricia Muchmore
Secretary - Connie Hildahl
Building Chairman -
Events Chairman - Carolyn Wiley

Nominations are open to the 3rd Wednesday in November.

Debbie Ehrhardt encouraged members to come and participate in the Trunk or Treat Event at the LIC on Halloween!

Events Chairman, Carolyn Wiley announced the following events:

Helen Thayer will speak at our next meeting.
December 6th - Club Decoration Day
December 14th - Kids and Christmas
December 31st - New Years Eve Party

The meeting was adjourned.



Respectfully submitted
Connie Hildahl, Secretary

EARLY START FOR NOV. 19 MEETING

With a great speaker as well as the election for half of the LIC Board on tap for Nov. 19, the business side of the meeting will come to order at 6:30 PM.

Heading the club business agenda will be the election, for one-year terms:

- * Vice President
- * Secretary
- * Events Chair
- * Building Chair

The nomination committee, headed by Lisa Bryan, will offer up a slate of candidates, Additional nominations will be received from the floor. The guest speaker will take the floor at 7 PM.



Stu Stuhaug, LIC PRESIDENT

Events Report . . .

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOU COUPLE THE PIERCE COUNTY-KP HARVESTFEST WITH A FIBER ARTS SHOW IN LONGBRANCH?

An absolutely fabulous good time! Brainchild of Carolyn Wiley, 'Every Fiber of Our Being,' was a tremendously successful community-building event! Showcasing 35 exhibitors, the Fiber Arts Show was a perfect pairing with the Farm Tour, highlighting the tremendous diversity and talent of our friends and neighbors on the Key Peninsula. **Over 450 guests enjoyed the one-day event.**

HERE'S A SAMPLING OF WHAT FOLKS ARE SAYING ABOUT THE FIBER ARTS SHOW:

"I had no idea the number and range of talented local artists and craftsmen on the Peninsula"

"There was truly something for everyone."

"What an incredible community."

"I can hardly wait until next year!"

The LIC hall was filled with fiber arts of every type imaginable. From latch-hook rug making to ballet costume design and tutu building, the show covered nearly all things fibrous. There were knot tiers, wool spinners, basket makers, weavers, tapestry artists, quilters, embroiderers, rug makers, knitters, canvas workers, felters, cross stitchers, needlepointers, tatters, sheep and llama ranchers and fully-costumed players from the Peninsula High School Drama department who spontaneously broke into song. As if that weren't enough, Fred Leenstra's tractors were artfully displayed outside. Cheers to everyone who supported and participated in this great community endeavor! . . . **Lisa Bryan**

October 4, Fiber Arts Show was a Surprising Success . . .

THANKS to ALL OF YOU who contributed to the success of the Fiber Arts Show and KP HarvestFEST. Whether it was tractors or fibers they came to see, most of the 450 people who dropped in gave quite positive reviews. The response from exhibitors and vendors was even more enthusiastic and most indicated that they would like to be invited to participate in 2009. Thanks to TWAA and to June and John Mercer for their generous financial support of this event.

NOTE: The ART ϕ HART's - Joe Barrow, Ann Craven, Marcia Horan, Judy Riggs, Sue Stuhaug, and Pat Thompson were invited to be the featured artists at the HarvestFEST events center - Creston Valley Farm. Both Marcia and Ann also had work in the Western Washington State Fair in Puyallup . . . **Carolyn Wiley**

PHOTOS BELOW FROM LEFT TO RIGHT . . .

Cast of Cinderella (*Peninsula High School*) in their custom made finery

The LIC hall *bustling with activities*

4 members of the Northwest Regional Spinners Association

Dale Loy making baskets with Lisa Bryan

Lisa Bryan modeling the "Demented Crochet" made by her grandmother
Spinning wheels anyone?





FIBER ARTS - FROM TOP - LEFT TO RIGHT

- * Norma Larsen, getting a few tips about latch-hook from Emily Ehrhardt and brother Nicholas
- * Margo Macdonald demonstrating tapestry weaving
- * Elsa Leyden, LB Fiber Farm explaining process of felting alpaca
- * Earl Sorrels and his hand made spinning wheels

FIBER ARTS - FROM BOTTOM - LEFT TO RIGHT

- * Exhibit from the Scandinavian Cultural Center
- * Hugh Stout, retired chemistry professor from UW and avid traveler, took up needlepoint during wait-times between flights
- * Jan Buday demonstrating Kumihimo Braiding
- * One of Fred Leenstra's tractors

Upcoming Dates to Remember

Wednesday, November 19th (Yes, it is a General Meeting night - a dessert night.) will feature explorer, author, photographer, Helen Thayer. The presentation, **The Amazon: Bedazzled in Nature's Laboratory**, tells of her adventures as she kayaked 1,200 miles up the Amazon. Many of you may be familiar with Helen Thayer's books *Walking the Gobi* (2007), *Three Among Wolves* (2006), *Polar Dream* (2002), or through the articles she and her husband Bill contributed to National Geographic. Curious? Go to Google, you will be intrigued!

Saturday, December 6th from 10:00 to ??? is Decoration Day, when the Building is transformed into a **Christmas wonderland**. Please cut back your Hydrangeas before they get soggy, let them air dry, bag 'em and bring 'em to the November General Meeting. Call if you want to join Theresa Gano and me for a day of gilding.

Sunday, December 14th from 1:00 to 4:00 is **Kids and Christmas**. The Girl Scouts expect at least 8 troops to be on hand to help make children gifts, and I suspect that Santa will be on hand to distribute gifts, and pose for photos.

Wednesday, DECEMBER 31st Plan now to celebrate New Year's Eve to the big band sounds of "*Spring Fever*". This is a dress up (semi formal) affair, with a catered hors d'oeuvre open buffet, and a midnight bottle of Champagne for every table. 8 p.m. -12:30 a.m. \$35 per person. No host bar. Marlies VanCise is chairing this event.

If you are looking for **Volunteer Opportunities** before year's end, or if you just want to play, call Marlies VanCise 884-5608 beachwoods@centurytel.net OR Carolyn Wiley 884-9157 c.wiley@mac.com. Oops! That sounds a lot like "for a good time call...."

NEW YEAR'S PARTY COMMITTEE . . . ENTHUSIASTIC, CREATIVE, WILLING AND CAPABLE PEOPLE NEEDED!

With less than 10 weeks away, we must seriously think about the New Year's Party at the LIC. The band SPRING FEVER (18 players strong) has been reserved, the caterer is working up a menu, tickets will soon be for sale - seems like everything is under control? Not so . . .

lots of little details have to be discussed and worked on, and I am looking for some people that would enjoy being on a committee to make things extra special. I am planning to have our first meeting on Monday Nov. 17 at 7:00pm at our home (7103 Cliff Ave. KPS / 884-5608).

We'll have a fire going, a glass of wine and do some brainstorming!

Hope you will join us. It will be fun. Please let me know if you are coming.

In the meantime, mark your calendar: Dec. 31, 2008 for LIC members and their guests.

Call Marlies VanCise, New Year's Eve Dance Chair, 884-5608 beachwoods@centurytel.net

No Fall Work Party was held in October - Anyone available in November?

There may still time before the heavy winter rains set in to get some site work done. Is there anyone who would take the lead on this? Some prep work still needs to be done. Please give me a call if you want to help on this project. Carolyn Wiley, 884-9157

dock Report . . .

From the Dockmaster's Office

Well, winter is swooshing in with vigor and we all seem to start our *hibernation mode* about this time.

Some of us will be heading off to somewhere warm, others will be breaking out the long underwear.

Whatever position you happen to find yourself in please don't forget our little marina, which has been very generous this year in strength and income. The dock received a favorable report from Tim Hietzman [Treasurer] last meeting which should make everyone in the club relieved, I know I was. This is truly a group effort and I want to thank all the board, dock committee and individual members who worked very hard on varied projects concerning and on behalf of the L.I.C. marina. We know who they are and THANK-YOU.



I am excited about 2009 being the year that marks the 50th anniversary for which the Longbranch Improvement club has been maintaining and operating the marina. I was also glad that it will not go by without fanfare and celebration headed by Dave Wickland. Not sure what is in the LIC files but I do know we have members who may have stories, pictures and objects that may tell a story of events over the last 50 years. If you would like to share anything with the celebration committee please let me know and I will make copies or take pictures and get it back to you and make sure David receives them.

Now is the time to pull your boat out of the water and trailer it for the winter or make sure it is safe for the winter in her slip or boathouse. Though winter can be some of our best cruising. The biggest fear is fire or sinking. If you have any questions please call me and I will help you out. Remember electrical on board use is the equivalent to a 75 watt bulb on 24 hours while tied to the marina. A proper 3 prong 30 amp MARINE plug is also required. We will be checking twice a week for electrical draws on each vessel. If you have a system that shuts down when unplugged you will have to reset it yourself. Remember if you need more electric we have a rate for extra use. If you have any questions or need help please

ATTENTION . . . NEWS FLASH JUST IN!

There have been rumors of another Lighted parade for Christmas. Details and volunteers being considered as you read this. Pass on any of your ideas or thoughts to me or the dock committee.

call me.

This year has been full of uncertainty for me and many others. But it has been comforting to know that our marina keeps on keepin' on, the tide is up twice a day and down twice a day. We haven't figured how to mess with that yet [not a suggestion]. Let's pray that things will even out in our country and we start to live like Americans, Free, Brave and Proud, [only if you like to be American] otherwise please move.



Mark Jones, Dockmaster

LIC NEWS . . . PAGE 6

VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR MOORAGE PRIVILEGES . . .

To maintain moorage privileges at the Longbranch Marina, during each calendar year, an LIC member must attend at least three LIC general membership meetings and perform a minimum of fifteen hours of volunteer service for LIC sponsored events. At this late date of the year, there are still some LIC members presently needing attendance at a general meeting as well as hours of volunteer service. For the remainder of this year 2008, there are only two more scheduled general membership meetings. For information about volunteer hours of LIC service, contact Carolyn Wiley (884-9157) or Dave Wick land 884-3163).

NOTICE - WINTER MOORAGE



Because November 01 is a Saturday, and the dockmaster expects good attendance by visiting boaters, winter moorage at the Longbranch Marina will officially begin on Monday, November 03, 2008. For information regarding winter moorage placement at the marina, an effort will be exerted to contact vessel owners that are presently signed-up for winter moorage. Otherwise, it is suggested that those vessel owners can obtain instructions for winter moorage placement by contacting the dockmaster (884-5137) or Harry Faas (884-6299).



Harry Faas, Dock Chair

LOST THEN FOUND . . .

Last month the LIC asked if anyone knew the owner of a stainless steel, double sink - The owner has been found - it was built for the LIC - and is in its proper home in the storage shed.

MAY WE BORROW YOUR OLD PHOTOS . . .

Have you been thumbing through your old photo albums and come across pictures of the LIC Marina, dating back to when the marina was first constructed in 1959 or when it was reconstructed and improved 30 years later. If so, the LIC sure would like to borrow them and make copies for our archives and for possible display (*the copies, not your precious originals*) as we mark a half-century of our popular marina. We'd like to include any photos of the now-closed tidal grid in action. For those who have never seen one, good-sized boats could tie up to the raised wharf structure of the marina at high tide. As the water receded, the boat would rest on large concrete blocks and would remain upright with the support of the wharf. Bottom painting or repairs could be done in those hours until the tide came in again and re-floated the boat.

Submitted by *Stu Stuhaug* 884.3685 - suestu@centurytel.net

Membership Report . . .

October General "Potluck" Meeting 10/15/08
Potluck Dinner WAS HELD at 6:30 p.m.

I wish to thank the October 15 "potluck" hostesses, Babette Cook, Ann Craven, Gretchen Lippert, Pam Lofgren and of course, Carmen Davies whose bright smile greets everyone at the sign-in desk. We had a good turn-out despite local and national political debates.

The LIC has a new member, Chuck and Louise Beam. If any of you have had an opportunity to look into either the LIC office or the storeroom you will have noticed spooks, gremlins, witches, monsters and graveyards straining the confines. They are just a part of a collection that Louise has gathered over the years. She has graciously consented to help Debbie Ehrhardt decorate the hall for the upcoming "Trunk or Treat" Halloween spectacular. The really scary part is that Louise still has another load to bring. I'm already sharing the computer chair with a skeleton.

Year to date the membership has committed to 2620.85 hours of volunteer time to LIC sponsored events. That is a corrected update as my computer failed (it's always the computers fault) to add up several columns in last months report.

18 individuals contributed 75.25 hours to the success of the Harvest Fest Farm Tour Fiber Arts Show. For those who missed out on this, it really was a fine event. We had a constant stream of visitors throughout the day.

Thank you ALL for the continued dedication you provide the LIC.

Mark Your Calendars

NOVEMBER - General "Dessert" Meeting
Wednesday, November 19th *early* at 6:30 p.m.

I need a few volunteers to act as host and hostesses.
Give me a call at 884-3685 or you can
email me at suestu@centurytel.net.



Submitted by Sue Stuhaug, MEMBERSHIP Chair

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President . . . Stu Stuhaug
884.3685 suestu@centurytel.net

Trustee-At Large . . . Dave Wickland
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Vice President . . . Richard Dixon
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Treasurer . . . Tim Heitzman
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Bldg./Grounds Chair . . . Mike Hays
884.9498 mhays2@msn.com

Dock Chair . . . Harry Faas
884.6299 delilahhairymary@aol.com

Events Chair . . . Carolyn Wiley
884.9157 c.wiley@mac.com

Membership Chair . . . Sue Stuhaug
884.3685 suestu@centurytel.net

Dock Master . . . Mark Jones
884.5653 / 884.5137 ^{Dock} Lmjones@centurytel.net

LIC Building Rentals . . . Marlies VanCise
884.5608 / 884.6022 ^{Clubhouse} beachwoods@centurytel.net

LIC Bldg. Cleaning . . . Jerrod /Angelina Landsberger
253.255.2380 LZ_services@msn.com

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884.9128 cloudrider@cableseed.com

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Longbranch Classifieds

To place your ad here . . .

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