March 2010



### Longbranch Improvement Club For the Betterment of the Community

#### LIC Marina Access Threatened (Marina Access Update Page 4)

Pierce County has notified the LIC that our easement to use their pier/bridge to access our floating marina will be cancelled.

Their survey shows the structure has deteriorated to an unsafe condition. The loss of use creates immediate practical and financial problems.

The Board of Trustees proposed immediate action with a realistic goal: let's find out who and where everyone is on this issue and what the options are.

LIC Board representatives have met with the County officials and are determining a plan of action.

Because the Marina is the Club's most-used asset, it is important to keep the community informed, especially our members. For the latest news, check the web site first.

It's at www.longbranchimprovementclub.org and the secret member password is LIC111. If you would like to participate, support or advise in this important effort, please contact Dock Chair Wickland, 884-3163, dave@sailclassics.com or Board Secretary Geoff Baillie, 858-1499, gbaillie@msn.com.



#### Spuds 'N Suds Saturday, March 13, 2010, 7-10 p.m.



#### Come one and all to the annual "Spuds 'N Suds' celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

\$10 admission gets a baked potato with all the fixins' you can possibly imagine.

There is an "open" bar specializing in drinks the Irish (and perhaps only the Irish) are fond of:

Draft beer, 'Green' beer, wine, and Irish Coffee made with Jamison Irish Whiskey.

There will also be a variety of non-alcoholic drinks. This is a great event for kids so bring your kids or grandkids.

The \$10 admission does not apply to children under the age of 9 or Irish Fairies, including Leprechauns

(he is male and wears a green outfit and hat. He stands about 3 feet high and sports a beard with no mustache,

he is a somewhat mischievous creature"). Note: Leprechauns taller than 5' have to pay the \$10 admission;

the Merrow, an Irish Sea Fairy ("most of the Merrow ever seen have been maidens. So, let's get this out of the way first.

There are male sea fairies. They are deformed and ugly. They keep the spirits of drowned sailors and fishermen

in cages at the bottom of the ocean.") That's about all I have to say about the males!

On the other hand, female sea fairies are beautiful with human features on their upper bodies and fish features on the lower. They can have either long yellow hair or long sea green hair. **Note:** Merrow may be taller than Leprechauns so... if you are a lady and if you come dressed as a Merrow, you're going to get in free. Of course, there is also the Pooka (he is a changeling that can appear as a man, horse, dog, goat, cow or any form he chooses. He can be extremely helpful to you if he so desires. He is usually quite harmless. Although sometimes he does like to take people for wild rides on his back at night just to scare the devil out of them for his own amusement. He does have kind of a twisted sense of humor that way.")

If you come as a Pooka, you may or may not get in free - depending on how I feel about you - and the horse you ride in on.

There will be Limerick contests for both kids and adults. Kids are guaranteed a prize for participating in the Limerick contest; adults have to earn a prize the hard way. There will be dart boards and dart contests for kids and adults. Again, kids are certain to win a prize and adults, well...we'll see. There will also be good listening Irish music by Rick May and Gil Yslas so ... a person just might want to sit back and enjoy the goins' on while having a little taste of old Ireland.

John Biggs, Coordinator

## President's Letter

#### March 2010 . . .

I am sure that like most of you, I am totally enthralled with this beautiful weather and, especially the week end we have all enjoyed. I realize by the time you read this, we will probably be back in the rain, but at least we have some beautiful memories of what it was and will be again.

I was down at the Marina both on Saturday and Sunday; as many times as I see it, I cannot get over the beauty of our gorgeous Filucy Bay and the perfect and equally gorgeous view of Mt. Rainier. I find myself just standing there mesmerized by such a scene! I am so grateful I live here and could never think of living anywhere else. Do you ever wonder how we were so blessed to have this to look at anytime we want?

### Feast or Famine

As I mentioned in my last Letter, and again at our recent Membership meeting, we had a wonderful Feast or Famine Event on the 16th of February and many thanks to Vicki Biggs and her "army of volunteers". It was very well attended and the success of it and sharing with so many of you even made the "Cruel Gruel" palatable!! Best of all was the benefit to our local Food Bank and the wonderful job they are doing. There are so many more in need now; they need our help and support every month.

Now we have Suds and Spuds to look forward to on March 13th at the LIC Clubhouse. John Biggs has stepped forward and is chairing that event and I'm sure he would appreciate our support in preparing it as well as our attending. So now, all you Irish Men and Coleens, put on your "green" and meet us for a fun evening!



If you don't have any green to wear, just think it!

Now that we have enjoyed and look forward to the wonderful times we have, I look forward to seeing all of you at our next Membership meeting.

And, by the way, don't forget the second round of Planning Meetings: Tuesday, February 23rd Community, Wednesday, February 24th Events, Thursday, February 25th Building/Grounds and Friday, February 26th Marina.. See you there!!

Submitted by Pat Muchmore, President LIC, 884.3890, patroon9047@aol.com



#### TALENT CALL . . .

Contact Pat Muchmore or any of the Board Members should you or someone you know like to consider the position of "Events Chair".

Our new "Trail Manager" is Michael Runyan.
Welcome Michael!

Our new Webmaster is Peter Ballasiotes.
Welcome Peter!

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# General Membership Meeting Minutes

#### Longbranch Improvement Club... Meeting Minutes from the General Membership Meeting February 17, 2010, 6:30 PM Potluck

Attendance: Board Members in attendance were Heitzman, Muchmore, Wickland, Lippert, Baillie, Carr, Prichard and Johnson. Hosts/Hostesses were Eloise Colbert, Marlies Van Cise, and Anne Dearing. Approximately 30 members were in attendance, more than enough for a quorum.

**Call to Order**. Pat Muchmore called the meeting to order at 7 PM.

**Agenda.** The agenda was adopted as presented.

**President's Report**. Feast or Famine was a success. John Biggs made a statement about Suds and Spuds and encouraged all to attend on March 13th. The second round of planning meetings will be held starting February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Two new members were introduced by Jan Pritchard. Thanks to the hostesses. Bylaws. Phil Johnson gave a brief chronology and made the second and final reading of the proposed bylaw revisions. Discussion was held on the proposed changes prior to any motions. No motion was made on the proposed change Article Three, Section VI regarding associate members and their privileges. Discussion was held on what constitutes a household/ family and how many votes a family or a household gets. A motion to clarify the wording was approved. Discussion was then held on the last sentence of Article Three, Section VI. A motion was made and seconded not to revise the wording of the last sentence. Further discussion was held. The motion passed, which means the last sentence wording remains unchanged.

Discussion was held on Article 4, Section I. The words in the proposal were accepted, but not adopted, as proposed. The word "itemized" was approved for removal from the proposed wording. Article 6, Section 1, Section II, Section III, and Section IV proposed changes were discussed. A motion to keep the last proposed sentence in Section III was made, seconded, and passed, not for adoption, but for proposal. Discussion was held on extending the LIC boundaries (Article Three). A motion to revise the proposal to give only one vote per household/family failed on voice vote. A motion not to approve the proposed bylaw changes with the aforementioned changes was made and further discussion was held. A voice vote was divided. A division (show of hands) was called. The motion failed 12 to 11.

The discussion that followed revolved around the reasons for the changes, the results of the telephone interviews that are going to be conducted, and the

process for going forward. A motion was made and passed that no bylaw changes be made until after the interviews and planning meetings are done.

**Dock Chairman's Report**. Dave Wickland presented the Dock Chairman's Report. The major issue of note is the County's rescinding of the LIC easement across the fixed wharf (90 day notice). A meeting with the County will be held on Friday, 2/19 to discuss the issue. A copy of the letter from the County, dated February 8, 2010, will be placed on the new LIC website.

**Vice President's Report.** Gretchen Lippert deferred her report on the history of the LIC, to the next meeting, in the interest of time.

**Secretary's Report.** Geoff Baillie presented the meeting minutes from the last membership meeting. The minutes were approved as submitted.

**Treasurer's Report**. Tim Heitzman presented the balance sheet and profit and loss statement as of February 17<sup>th</sup>. So far so good on dues and fees payments. Members are encouraged to view the new website. Contact Tim for the member password. The website is a work in progress. There is also a Facebook link.

**Building and Grounds Chairman Report**. Lynn Carr gave an oral report. An unsuccessful attempt was made to break into the LIC building recently.

**Membership Chairman's Report**. Jan Pritchard gave an oral report.

**Announcements**. There is no Events Chairperson yet. Feast or Famine was a success. Pat Thompson was the featured artist. Thanks to all who participated. Remember Spuds and Suds on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 PM.



Respectfully submitted by Geoff Baillie, Secretary LIC, 884.3951 gbaillie@msn.com

## Other LIC Happenings ...

#### Building a better club...

2/3 of the way there!

Our planning moves ahead, c'mon, climb aboard. We already have covered the basics: what's great and what needs some improvement, and about how the Club can be more valuable, friendly and attractive to everyone. In the final round of 2-hour planning groups, you can help input everything into clear, action items and goals to be presented to the general membership in May.

Your last chance to be part of the plans. Community Planners meet March 23, Events on Wednesday the 24. Building and Grounds on Thursday Mar 25 and Marina on Friday the 26. Everyone is welcome, we start at 7 p.m. sharp at the Clubhouse.

Submitted by Tim Heitzman, LIC Treasurer

Peter Ballasiotes (the new web master for the LIC website) here to remind you about posting events on the site's Calendar. The calendar you will be using is through Google so to log in go to http://www.google.com/calendar and login as liclongbranch@gmail.com with the password: calendar

From there you will be looking at the calendar's weekly tab and today's column in yellow. To add an event or post either click 'create event' in the top left corner, or click and drag on the calendar until the desired event area is in red. From there add the event's title and edit details if needed.

When you are finished click either 'save' (if you edited details) or 'create event' (if you only set the time and title).

If you have any questions please let me know, Thanks!

Peter Ballasiotes, pballasiotes@yahoo.com



#### LIC Marina Access UPDATE . . .

Members of the Longbranch Improvement Club (LIC) met Friday, February 19th with staff from the Pierce County Engineer's office to discuss options available for repairing and/or replacing the County's wharf structure, which provides landside access to the LIC Marina. The LIC was responding to the County Engineer's letter of February 8th, which gave the LIC 90 days notice of the County's intent to rescind the grant of easement that allows LIC members and the public to use the wharf to access the marina. During the meeting, both the County and the LIC expressed optimism that the LIC and the public would be able to obtain permission from the County for interim use of the aging facility until a permanent solution could be implemented. Next steps include the County's further look into options and rough costs and the LIC's pursuit of funding and community and political support for replacement of the structure. The LIC will meet with Pierce County Commissioner and Vice Chair Terry Lee on March 2nd. In the meantime, the LIC will work with the County's Prosecuting Attorney on mutual understandings that would pave the way for an agreement between the parties for interim use and, ultimately, replacement of the existing structure. The LIC Marina has been in existence for over 50 years, during which time the public has also used the marina and the wharf.

Submitted by Geoffrey L. Baillie, LIC Secretary

# Membership News Mark your calendars for the March General "Dessert" Meeting Wednesday, March 17th at 7.00 pm

Thanks to all members who have renewed. Renewal reminder letters will be mailed soon, so it would be great if you could save us the postage! Also, expect a phone call some time in March. Soon we hope to be conducting a phone survey to help get your thoughts on club activities and goals.

#### A hearty WELCOME to our new members!

Jeff and Barbara Boettcher
Spring Higgins and Robert Johnson
Richard Miller
Ray and Marie Steiner

We'd love to have all of you come to Suds and Spuds on March 13th from 7-10 p.m. If you like to play darts, spout limericks, enjoy a great baked potato with "the works", or just have a beer with your neighbors, this is the night for you.

We're looking for one more hostess for the March meeting. If you can help out please call . . .

Jan Prichard, Membership Chair LIC, 884.2030, jan@pacinfo.com

### LIC Contacts

PRESIDENT: Pat Muchmore/884.3890/patroon9047@aol.com
TRUSTEE-AT LARGE: Phil Johnson/884.3784/kpjohn0425@yahoo.com
VICE PRESIDENT: Gretchen Lippert/884.2290/gmlippert@yahoo.com

SECRETARY: Geoffrey Baillie/884.3951/gbaillie@msn.com
TREASURER: Tim Heitzman/884.0577/timheitzman@earthlink.net
BLDG./GROUNDS CHAIR: Lynn Carr/884.1384/carr44@centurytel.net
DOCK CHAIR: Dave Wickland/884.3163/dwick@pacifictrade.com
EVENTS CHAIR: OPEN POSITION (contact one of the board members)

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Jan Prichard/884.2030/jan@pacinfo.com

DOCK MASTER: Mark Jones/884.5653/Lmjones@centurytel.net

LIC BLDG. RENTALS: LYNN DALSING/884.6022/penstretcher@dalsing.com LIC BLDG. CLEANING: Landsbergers/255.2768/LZ services@msn.com

HOSPITALITY/GREETER: Trish Goodvin/884.4270/tgoodvin@yahoo.com KITCHEN SERVICES: Peg Bingham/884.1124/larrypegbingham@centurytel.net

LIC ADOPT-A-ROAD: Bob McFarlane/884.1314/robertmcfarlane1@mac.com

SCHOLARSHIP: Lynn Larson/884.3951/llarson@laasltd.com

NATURE TRAIL: Michael Runyan/884.4100/ annrunyon@yahoo.com

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS: Debbie Ehrhardt/884.6382/debbie@harvest-timber.com

**OFFICE VOLUNTEER:** Gretchen Lippert/884/2290/gmlippert@yahoo.com

LIC HISTORIAN: Lynn Larson/884.3951/llarson@llaaltd.com

LIC NEWSLETTER: Norma-Jean Gibson/884.6556/normajeangibson@remax.net NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION: Sharon Gearhart/884.3890/wolf9047@aol.com

 $\textbf{LIC Webmaster:} \ \ Peter \ Ballasiotes/253-230-7021/pballasiotes@yahoo.com$ 

LIC WEBSITE: WWW.LONGBRANCHIMPROVEMENTCLUB.ORG



EMAIL: lic@longbranchimprovementclub.org

#### Гчкерчд МА 98349 PO Box III Longbranch Improvement Club

#### Place your ad here . . .

LIC Ads run on a "rotation basis" and are FREE for members, LOW-COST to the community. Classified ads will run for 1 month unless you re-submit your ad copy to normajeangibson@remax.net no later than the 25<sup>th</sup> day of each month.





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