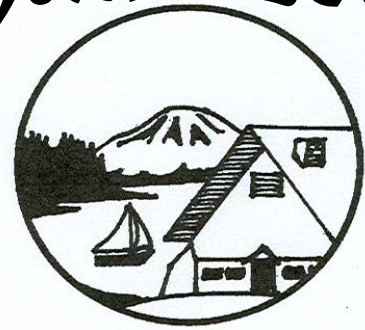


LIC NEWS

October 2007



www.longbranchimprovementclub.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

The hot topic at a recent Mustard Seed meeting - the creation of a computerized data base to link volunteer drivers with elderly, infirm or ill Peninsula residents needing a ride for a doctor's appointment, to a pharmacy, or the like. The first question from a member sought some structure: "How would that work?"

"Darned if I know how it gets done, but here's how it works," I chimed in. "Yesterday a group of our neighbors gathered in the middle of the street (only one was driving a car) and simply hashed out who would be free on the specific days when another neighbor needed a ride to the city for medical treatment. With five minutes of planning and 15 minutes of unrelated gossip a schedule of drivers was arranged." From the other end of the table came: "Well, that's Longbranch. Longbranch is a community and not just a place where people live."

Anna Gonzales blew onto the Peninsula with all the determined force of a woman with a single-minded mission. Her mother was ill, seriously ill, and Anna had every intention of scooping Carmen up and carrying her back to the bosom of her children and their families in the Southwest. Carmen and hubby Don were to have little if anything to say in the matter. **After all, this was family!** Anna accompanied her mother to the last LIC meeting. Carmen was met at the door with hugs, hellos, and sympathy barely disguised within gentle humor. Some were well-wishers.

... Some shared advice and their own experiences. Some offered time, a meal for when schedules were tight, a ride to an appointment, even a shoulder for things weighed down heavily. Anna, and for those that know her, this is an amazing thing to say, silently shadowed her mother. For the rest of her week-long visit Anna helped answer the ringing phones. Some enquired after Carmen. Some offered prayers, some more material aid. Some told jokes. On the last day of her visit Anna packed a suitcase. With her clothes. "Mom has family here," she said. "Just not blood family. But family just the same."

Now, I suppose that either of those two stories could have found their way into our 884- column, that grab-bag of tales about the specialness of our Peninsula. **They are also a call to action.** We're all blessed with some pretty special neighbors down here. They quietly and without fanfare go on about the business of keeping this a very special place.

Let's declare October "Bake A Pie Month", and take one warm from the oven over to a neighbor you know or haven't met yet. If you'd rather, make that a plate of cookies instead of a pie. If baking is not your thing, pop the top from a bottle that goes glug-glug. It's all part of keeping this a community, rather than just a place where people live.



Stu Stuhauq, President

MEMBERSHIP REPORT ...

Kelly McKellips, who hails from Vaughn WA has taken up an Associate Membership and in true LIC spirit has already volunteered 11 hours of service to the LIC. *Thank you Kelly and welcome aboard.*

On Thursday, October 18 at 7pm, Carolyn Wiley and yours truly are hosting a "Let's get started" meeting for next years events. We need people to help plan, implement and work the various programs that have been suggested for 2008. **1st and Key on our list** is a "Publicity" director and a host of people with sign, poster, or bulletin making capabilities. The publicity directors job would be to disseminate information about the club's activities and programs, targeting our local newspapers (Key Pen News-Gateway), magazines (Tacoma Arts, Peninsula Living, Gig Harbors Chamber of Commerce summertime publication) and our local radio station.

Continued Pg. 2 ...

Membership Report Continued . . .

2nd on our list is the need to fill standing committees for each of the upcoming events. They include: March 8th-"Spuds & Suds"; April 6th-"Antiques Road Show"; May 24th "Memorial Day Dance"; July 10,11,12,13-"Key Peninsula Community Fair" (we need a couple of people to serve on the board); an unscheduled as of yet-"Beyond the Borders Music and Arts Fair"; August 30th "Labor Day Dance"; and December 31st-"New Years Dance".

My goal, as membership chairman is to get as many people as possible involved. I hope that each and everyone of you will take a look at the upcoming events and sign on. If you can't make the October 18th meeting, give me a shout and let me know when, where and how you can help out. Remember, Thursday October 18 at 7pm. 884-3685 -e-mail suestu@centurytel.net.

Sue Stuhaug, Membership Chair

General Meeting Minutes

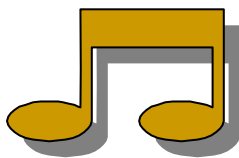
MINUTES 09-19-07 . . .

Board members present were:

Dennis Stu Stuhaug, President
John Biggs, Vice-president
Tim Heitzman, Treasurer
Patricia Latshaw, Secretary
Dean Latshaw, Dock Chair
Carolyn Wiley, Events Chair
Sue Stuhaug, Membership Chair

The dessert meeting was called to order by President Stu Stuhaug.

In a special note, Marguerite Bussard was recognized in the audience. She has been a member of the Longbranch Improvement Club for 57-plus years!



Motion to approve the minutes as written was seconded and passed. Old Business: None.

Chair Reports:

Events - Carolyn: October has no events except for Trunk or Treat... Debbie will share more later. The **Labor Day Dance** was successful - thanks to Mark Runions, the band was great and they will be back in 2008. Ray Tossavainen was the ONLY member here for cleanup after the dance. Harold Schlenker has cleaned up the store room and it looks great. Wiley expressed strong hope that the clean condition will be maintained. Mark and Carolyn are working on **Beyond the Borders** for next year. Bat houses need to be installed . . . they were found in the back room during clean up. Several pictures were also found and they are now being displayed at the club. The **exercise class** has space for more participants. It was noted that only a few LIC members were at the Labor Day Dance. Secretaries note...more members might show up if they could just have a social night and not be expected to work? Debbie Earhart, co-chair of the Trunk or Treat Program: **Trunk or Treat** is on 10-31-07. Cars can start parking at 5:30pm and the Evergreen PTA will be hosting the inside for "hay find for prizes"... cupcake walk, hot cider and cocoa. Lynn Carr has made recycling bins for the club and dock. "SOMEONE" has come to the club and emptied our aluminum barrel...for their profit and not the LIC's. Suggestion as to label with a sign that says: **Recyclables for LIC Scholarship Program**.

Treasurer - Tim: Investment notes renewed at 5.15%. **Club finances in good position**, but insurance renewal is due next month-approx. \$14,000. He suggested a policy review again next year, but we do get a good deal. Tim has spoken with other groups and we have a really good insurance rate. The club has 66k in bank, 18k liabilities. Net worth is approx. \$78K. Chairs have been frugal and income is above expectations. Rentals are up \$800 over the projections, dock income is up \$1600. Total events are \$1500 above estimate.

Membership - Sue: New member Kelly McKellips ... not at the meeting, but does a lot of work as bouncer at the dances. Thanks to our hostesses tonight. Thank you to Carmen for greeting tonight. She is having a second surgery tomorrow for her breast cancer. Thank you from Carmen for the gift and card. Alice Schlenker is home tonight because of a second round of chemotherapy. Our thoughts and prayers are with her during this difficult time.

Dock - Dean: Pierce County inspectors were out to check over the wharf to our dock/marina (from parking lot to ramp), and informally warned of the possibility of condemnation! County cannot give shoreline property away and the structure is not part of a viable roadway - so no support. Inspectors suggested that the LIC contact state-local elected representatives in an effort to line up grants and public money for repairs/replacement. They warned that the bridge structure may collapse during a future earthquake. Marine Floats offered a potential plan for marina expansion, with a base estimated price of about \$314k, not including wiring/electric, fire stands, water, etc. Current utilities may have to be upgraded during any expansion. Any plans for marina wharf renovation must await a written report from the bridge inspectors and Pierce County action. On the positive side, the LIC has the opportunity to really change this and spruce it up. IN related dock matters, a reduction in the number of dumpsters and location is contemplated. Copies of the Washington Best Management Practices plans will be included in future moorage renewal documents. The dock gate will remain unlocked during daylight hours, as part of the marina's agreements with the state Dept. of Natural Resources and Pierce County. With the onset of winter (winter moorage begins Nov. 1, 2007, signup is now), boat owners were cautioned about inadequate moorage lines as well as electrical usage which now will be monitored. LIC members have first priority for winter moorage slots.

Edie Morgan spoke about the **Mustard Seed Program** (Article in Sept. Newsletter), the Peninsula-wide effort to develop a more elderly-friendly region. She invited LIC members to the Mustard Seed open house from 4 - 7 p.m. Sept. 28 at the Key Center Senior Center (next to the library). They have 18 volunteers and are looking for more. The info center will be staffed from 9am to 1pm Monday through Friday. Services and programs that currently exist are disabled services, 65+ services, transportation, tax relief, health and wellness and more to follow. Please come and volunteer if you can. Community Fair - Mike Hays, who also serves on the Community Fair board, was to have reported on Fair activities but had been unavoidably detained. It was noted that the LIC needed four representatives on the Fair board (as one of sponsoring organizations) but had three vacancies to fill. CC Williams and Sue Stuhaug volunteered for two of the open spots. Average attendance for the fair was about 4000. They actually need 5000 to 7000 to really improve. Key Pen population is 15,900. So far, not a really good turn out from the locals. We will have a different structure at the October meeting. At 6pm, there will be a presentation regarding the 302 interchange possibilities. 1/2 hour presentation and then we will have our potluck and meeting. Potluck will begin at 6:30pm.

Vice President John Biggs talked about the marina issue, stressing the need to think outside of the box with thinking of the marina's future. Public money, such as through the State of Washington, has to be funneled through a public agency ... i.e. Pierce County, Port of Tacoma ... and not LIC due to tax status. No agency will give that kind of money without enhancement to the public - \$ won't go to the LIC alone. Audience members raised the question of creating a LONGBRANCH PORT AUTHORITY, not dissimilar from that in Allyn. If one was formed, it could also then handle policing of derelict vessels. Opportunities exist - we just need to pursue them.

Meeting Minutes Continued . . .

Need someone NOW to spearhead and run with this - we need a leader who will take charge and own it. We can't sit around and talk about it for a couple of years and only then decide. Motion was made, seconded and passed for the board to form/appoint a committee within 30 days with an outline for planning/process to address the marina issue. Great opportunity but we need to grab the bull by the horns and get on with it. Again, this is not a dock committee issue. This is legal and needs to be handled just by those with experience. Raffle - Marilyn: Not happy with raffle situation. In the past, she has raised at least \$60 per raffle and tonight there were only \$20 in donations for the 50/50 raffle. Stu Stuhaug asked that she come to the next board meeting to discuss. Sue Stuhaug won the raffle and donated the money back to the scholarship fund. We need hostesses for next months dinner meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Latschaw, Secretary



October 17th At
6:00 p.m.
WSDOT
Presentation
At the LIC

We might live in a relaxed rural environment, but even hear in paradise the demon of gridlock lurks. Don't believe it? More often than we'd like to admit the theme song for the Purdy Bridge is "The Car-Strangled Spanner". The Washington Dept. of Transportation is looking at the Highway 302 corridor, and is developing a spectrum of alternative improvements and/or relocations. The regular LIC potluck dinner meeting kicks off at 6:30 p.m. For those bringing a hot dish to the dinner but wanting to here the highway proposals, we'll have the kitchen ovens on "warm" - with a microwave oven on standby.

EVENTS REPORT . . . *Carolyn Wiley*



Planning Meeting - Sue Stuhaug & Carolyn Wiley are holding a Joint Membership & Events Meeting on Thursday, October 18 at 7:00 p.m. All members are welcome!! Let us know if you will be there, so there will be a cookie for you. Sue 884-3685. suestu@centurytel.net
Carolyn 884-9157 c.wiley@mac.com

The GOAL for 2008:

Better coordinate overlapping and shared responsibilities of Membership & Events.

The GOAL Long Range:

Create a record (handbook) so future operations have a reference resource and job descriptions. Instead of re-inventing the wheel, the wheel can be checked for balance.

Both Sue and Carolyn would like to have standing committees. Sue's standing committee would help organize member services, such as: New member contact, an emergency phone tree, hospitality, educational programs, member socials, and coordination of publicity.

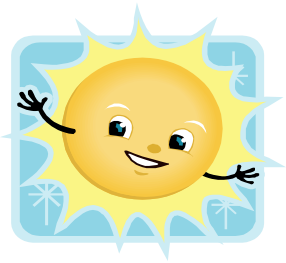
In September, 14 members attended an Events Evaluation and Planning Meeting. At that



meeting events were identified for inclusion in the 2008 Calendar and other events were identified for consideration. Since then the following people (page 5) have

stepped up to do specific and specialized tasks:

Events Report Continued . . .



The following **SUPER STARS** have stepped up to **plan** specific activities:

- Mark Runions has agreed to select and secure performers for our big holiday dances and for “Beyond the Borders”. THANKS MARK!
- Judy Riggs has agreed to compile an LIC Events Handbook so wheels are not constantly re-invented. AND Judy has also agreed to help manage **on-site event money handling**. YEAH! JUDY!
- Barb Copley/Maudie Lucas are Investigating possibilities for some excursion activities.
- Jeff and Christine Tritt have agreed to chair an “Antiques Road Show” for the mutual benefit of LIC preservation activities and the Key Peninsula Historical Society.
- Vicki Biggs is on-board for planning & organizing a “Hunger Banquet” for the benefit of the Food Bank.
- New member, Cathy Berryhill and Theresa Gano have agreed to work on scheduling some educational programs such as-AARP driving, First Aid/CPR, Boating Safety, etc. It is to be determined whether these are Events or Member Services.
- Debbie Ehrhardt & Traci Michel will be organizing events for children.

DECEMBER . . .

- **Decoration Day, Sunday, 12/2/2007 (12:30 to 6:30)**
 - * Locate tree-Any help on this?
 - * Bring Decorations down from attic-brave agile bodies required.
 - * Set-up tree-Andy Gano & Jeff Tritt (confirmation pending)
 - * Promote participation
 - * Food / Beverage-If you can't come and play, would you drop a potluck dish by the kitchen? (Call to confirm dish & time, incase a store run is needed to supplement.)

Events Report Continued . . .

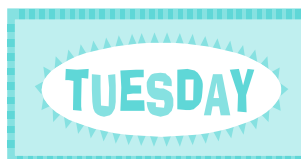
- * Table Decorations-Marcia Horan & A.J. Million (confirmation pending)
- * Please collect and dry hydrangea blooms, spray painting them gold is scheduled at LIC on Tuesday 11/27/2007 @ 11:30.
- * Greenery collection-Please deliver to LIC the morning of December 2nd.

- **Board Meet, Wednesday, 12/5/2007 (7:00)**
- **General Meet, Wednesday, 12/12/2007 (6:30)**
- **Winslow Family Rental, Saturday 12/15/2007**
- **Kids & Christmas, Sunday, 12/16/2007 (1-4)**

- * Santa-Mysterious how the bewhiskered one works this into his schedule.
- * Toys for Tots-John Glennon will make this contact.
- * Scouts-Susan Richmond is recruiting Scout troops
- * Book Distribution - Thanks to Connie Hildahl there is a selection on hand.
- * Photographer / film / digital printer. Any volunteers?
- * Food & Beverage- (public event requires purchased cookies)
- * Name Tags-Wiley
- * Volunteer Elves-Crowd Control and Gift Wrappers

Change in Aerobics / Yoga Schedule . . .

The **GREAT** thing about our instructor, Kristina Butorec, is that she is great! The bad thing about having Kristina is that **she is in great demand**. Unfortunately, the demands of her job as program supervisor at the GH “Y” forces discontinuation of Thursday Exercise Classes at LIC. **Note the NEW Tuesday-Only Schedule . . .** Drop-ins are welcome @ \$10:00 per class. Call Carolyn Wiley 884.9157 for multi-class rates.



Aerobics: 9:00 to 9:45 a.m.
Yoga: 9:45 to 10:30 a.m.
Yoga: 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

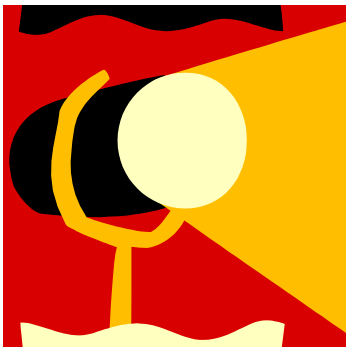
2nd Annual Trunk or Treat / Harvest Carnival



Tulip & Daffodil bulbs have been picked up and are ready to plant. Planting will be after the first frost . . . I would hate to see the impatiens go away while in full flower.

Enjoy, Carolyn Wiley . . . Events Chair

JUDY RIGGS, The spotlight is on YOU!



Word on the street is that you were found posting maps (*fire escape route plans*) throughout the LIC building...

You are so appreciated!

Hi Neighbors, Over the past few years a few people have asked about buying the big Union 76 sign in front of the Mercantile. It has to come down pretty soon anyway, so we donated it to the Flavor of Fall (see below for details about the auction).

10/6/2007 - Flavor of Fall
 Sponsored by Key Peninsula Civic Center and Two Waters Arts Alliance.
It's a wonderful way to get to know Your community.

Call Keiko Wada to donate: 884-0810
 Call Kristen Bottiger for tickets: 884-8118
 Questions: kristen@keyfitnessisthekey.com
 \$50 per person incl. a complete gourmet dinner
 \$75 per person for a patron table

If you want to buy it or know someone who does, this is your chance! Thanks, Mike & Denise Hays

Big Happenings

Submitted by Danna Webster (KP News)

10/6/2007 from 10 to 4 - **1st KP Harvest Fest Farm Tour** . . . Claude Gahard initiated and organized the idea which is sponsored by Pierce County and WSU extension services. Many counties are involved with this event around the state. KP tour includes Key Center restaurants: O'Callahan's serving grilled Minterbrook oysters and On Your Way Deli serving pumpkin soup and desserts from Shiloh Farm's pumpkin patch. The Wong Family is hosting a large gathering of farmers at their Creviston Farm (formerly the Bingham Farm) near Evergreen Elementary. There will be booths with dahlias, honey, jellies, salmon, chickens etc.-there will also be horse and dog training demonstrations; and live music. Other farms on the tour map: Trillium Creek Winery w/vineyard tours, Shiloh Farm pumpkins & gourds and photo ops with the giant pumpkin, Fairview Acres lavender farm with spinning demonstration, and Fred's Dairy Barn and Toy Box w/antique tractors and cars. We hope Key Pen folks will enjoy the farm tour and top it off with dinner at the Flavor of Fall . . .

10/18/2007 from 6 to 8 - **Beatnik Night** at O'Callahan's Pub from 6-8 pm. Local writers will read to the beat of Dale Loy's drums. There will be an open mike for impromptu readings from the audience.



LIC Historian Sought . . .

History is more than a dry recitation of numbers, of budget items and parliamentary motions.

Sure, the unadorned facts are the supporting skeleton but the vibrant story of the Longbranch Improvement Club is the flesh and blood draped over that skeleton. It's the story of two little kids joining the throng on the dance floor, it's an 86-year-old fitting dock beams together, it's a chat with a coterie of ex-students, reminiscing about the days they spent as students in the building that now houses your club. It's the music at a summer concert, the face of a child at a Halloween haunting, the flowers and cards with which the club seeks to cheer and ailing member. Yes, we need the legal trail of our minutes and budgets. We have a Secretary to do that. But we also need someone to write down the stories and tall tales, the human impact of where we have been and where we hope to go. **We need a historian!**

If the story of the club, past and present, interests and excites you, then **volunteer your pen and camera for a stint** as the recorder of Longbranch. Contact LIC president Dennis Stu Stuhaug (884-3685, suestu@centurytel.net) or drop a line directly to the club - PO Box 111, Lakebay, WA, 98349, longbranchimprovementclub.org

L I C C O N T A C T S

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

Vice President . . . John Biggs
884.6539 jbiggs@keypeninsula.com

Secretary . . . Pat Latshaw
884.0808 baylakebum@centurytel.net

Treasurer . . . Tim Heitzman
884.0577 timheitzman@earthlink.net

Past President . . . Linda LeBlanc
884.1499 L8161@hotmail.com

Bldg./Grounds Chair . . . Mike Hays
884.9498 mhays2@msn.com

Dock Chair . . . Dean Latshaw
884.0808 baylakebum@centurytel.net

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

Hospitality/Greeter Meetings . . . Carmen Davies
884.9128 cloudrider@cablseed.com

Kitchen/Food Services . . . Norma Iverson
884.4564 vgiverson@centurytel.net

Scholarship . . . Barb Copley
884.4639 bac_1@earthlink.net

Nature Trail Development . . . Rich Hildahl
884.1400 rhildahl@centurytel.net

Office Volunteer . . . Harry Faas
884.6299 delilahhairymary@aol.com

Website Manager . . . Bob Mazur
884.1061 rhmazur@harboret.net


LIC Newsletter . . . Norma-Jean Gibson
884.6556 normajeangibson@remax.net

WEBSITE: www.longbranchimprovementclub.org
EMAIL: lic@longbranchimprovementclub.org


Longbranch Classifieds

To place your ad here . . .


Longbranch classifieds are free for members, low-cost for the community. Call Norma-Jean 253.884.6556 or send your ad copy to normajeangibson@remax.net



www.SoundNeighborhoods.com



Norma-Jean Gibson
20 Years of FT Experience
RE/MAX Town & Country
253.238.1538



Trillium Creek Winery
17812 18th St. KPN
Home, WA
253-884-5746
Hand-crafted Wines - Gourmet Cheeses

YOUR Ad Here . . .

BEST of Edmonds Meats & Seafood Co.
Wally Johnson 360-649-8877

Snake River Farms American Kurobuta Port & Kobe Beef
Free Range Draper Valley Chicken Fresh & Frozen
Seafood Midwestern Corn Fed Beef

CUSTOM PACKS AVAILABLE
Delivered to YOUR DOOR FRESH . . . Twice a Week



BEACH HUT
Life's a Beach
At Home, 98349



Marlies VanCise
TRAVEL HOUSE
253.884.5608
Licensed for 24 Years Specializing in



Honey-Do Handyman
Projects Inside and Out...
Call Jeff
253.884.1685

FISH FLASH® No Drag Flasher®
Fight the Fish, NOT the Tackle!



Big Al's Tackle Company, Inc.
Al Hazelquist, OWNER (800)535-3350
www.fishflash.com



Lake Bay Nautical
Nautical · Tropical · Beach Decor
Home · Beach · Gifts · Nautical Instruments

Olympic Village Shopping Center
5500 Olympic Drive NW, Gig Harbor WA 98335
253.851.3366 www.lakebayproducts.com

LONGBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB NEWS . . . PAGE 8

Longbranch Improvement Club
PO Box III
Lakebay WA 98349