

October 2013



Member Newsletter

# Longbranch Improvement Club

*For the Betterment of the Community*



**Fiber Arts, Saturday, Oct. 5, 10:00 AM-4:00 PM**

## President's Message

**Septic System:** The new septic system for the clubhouse has been installed, inspected and approved for use. Thanks to all who assisted in getting this project done in a timely manner. It was a bit inconvenient to rely on Honey Buckets instead of indoor toilets during the replacement project, especially for some of our building renters, but we had no choice. Now we have a modern system that can handle large crowds which we are seeing for more and more of our events.

**The Centennial Plan:** Your Board will be tackling the issue of Long Range Planning once again, beginning with its October meeting. About two years ago, Geoff Baillie put forth the idea that the LIC needs to take a close look at its mission and how it operates, so that it can not only serve its members and fulfill its role in the community, but weather the changing financial and regulatory landscape. In other words, so that the LIC can actually continue to exist. The replacement of our wharf at the marina, our failed heating and septic systems, the costs of maintaining a deteriorating clubhouse, etc. are all examples of challenges that we have faced just within these last few years. These projects all come with big price tags, and looming on the horizon are things such as improvements to the marina in order to meet DNR lease renewal requirements, repairing or replacing our clubhouse roof, and who knows what else.

Unless we are sure of who we are and how we fit into our community, and unless we optimize our operations in fiscally sound ways, we may not be ready for these challenges. This is "Why" of Long Range Planning. The "How" is the next part of the process. There are several ways this can be approached, and the Board will be evaluating them in order to bring a recommendation to the membership as to how we might best proceed. We do already have a running start on the "What": you may recall the member surveys and discussions about how we might improve the LIC. We have this data and it will be important to include in discussions as we move forward.

The "Who" part of the process is YOU. As we get organized and begin to tackle various aspects of a comprehensive plan, it is going to require thoughtful input and participation by our members. Please volunteer if you are asked, or come forward on your own, to be involved in the planning process.

It so happens that the LIC has its 100th birthday coming up in 2021! This is yet another reason for getting serious about defining who we are and securing our future. Let's be sure that when our Centennial Celebration arrives we are still here, healthy and stronger than ever!

Gayle Brewer    Contacts: 884-0787 phone    [gbrewer123@yahoo.com](mailto:gbrewer123@yahoo.com) email

**LONGBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB  
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES  
September 18, 2013**

Board Members present: Gayle Brewer, Clark Van Bogart, FrancieCarr, Doug Lewis, Eloise Colbert and Phil Johnson

Meeting called to order by President Gayle Brewer.

Our guest speaker this month was from Harbor Wildwatch. Lindsey Johnson the executive director, introduced Rachael Easton, the Program Director, who gave a slide show presentation of the "Big, Beautiful and Bizarre in Puget Sound". Rachael shared the extraordinary lifestyle adaptations of the sea life we all thought we knew so well. Her storytelling style had the membership riveted to the presentation. It was a lot of fun. Rachael and Lindsay ended their presentation by inviting the LIC membership to join in their upcoming activities.

Contractors Present: Kim Chaney, Lynn Carr

Rental Agent: Kim Chaney reported the last month was busy at the LIC with rentals. And the clubhouse is booked for two weddings in Oct and Nov.

Dockmaster: Lynn Carr also reported another busy month at the marina with visiting yacht clubs calling ahead for Oct. and Nov.

Substituting for Secretary Peg Bingham, Judy Riggs asked to have the minutes of the last meeting approved. Motion made, seconded and approved.

Treasurer: Francie Carr began with a friendly reminder that it is possible to have a glass of wine or beer at the LIC meeting, however a \$4.00 "donation" is asked to cover the cost. She also wants the membership to know that all the cookbook fundraising will go into the kitchen fund for future needs. Other news includes Pierce County is accepting applications for environmental grants for water quality issues within watersheds education. Grants will be awarded to either groups or individuals.

Quarterly moorage is due Oct 1<sup>st</sup>. Also, the 2014 budget planning is currently accepting requests from the membership. These need to be submitted as soon as possible.

Building rental and Marina moorage remain above the annual budget.

The Drum Festival was a break even event and a great friend builder. The Key Pen Parks matching grant paper work has been submitted.

The Labor Day Dance did well and congratulations to Tim and the Events Committee.

The sale of the placemats has now exceeded the purchase price.

Events: The Labor Day Dance was a success bringing in 30-40 boating guests and 150 guests arriving in cars. Kurt reports that there were 3 successful LIC and friends boating outings this summer. This last boating trip took 5 boats and 21 passengers to lunch and a fascinating tour of the Narrows Brewery.

Upcoming Events: A favorite musical group, Brother Sun, is back for another Concert set for Oct. 19. And Trunk or Treat is again being hosted by LIC and organized by the Evergreen Elementary PTA. LIC members are invited to set up trick or treat stations from the trunk of their cars in the LIC parking lot and enjoy the costume party. Doug is looking for volunteers to help set up and decorate the haunted house in the LIC lobby.

Oct 5 Fiber Arts and Farm tour has Carolyn Wiley looking for volunteers. She has booked 28 artists and vendors. Still needed are demonstrators for knot tying. Also, crochet and knitting (perhaps an LIC table to share the task?). There will be a scarecrow competition from Key Center to Longbranch if anyone feels they would like to represent LIC and build one. Other volunteers are still needed for organizing, setting up and running the event. Please contact Carolyn to help. 884-9157

Bldg and Grounds: Doug reports that the new Septic System is up and running. It took 3 days to put in (3) 1,500 gallon pump out tanks and (3) 1,500 gallon septic tanks as well as a very long and narrow drain field.

There was some discussion about the upkeep and use of the historic baseball diamond where the new septic drain field now extends along the first base line. Large rocks were placed as a blockade for cars. Doug suggests a spring work party to refurbish the field may be planned. Also, membership should be aware that the LIC does not have a recycling program, so please don't bring your household recycling to the dumpster. It just creates more work for Doug. The LIC Nature Trail project is almost finished with 20' left to build. Larry Bingham is asking for lumber donations. He and Clark need at least 4' long in 2x8 or 2x10 or 2x12. Call if you can help.

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**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**  
**September 18, 2013**  
(continued)

Membership: Eloise reports that there is currently 109 memberships with one new member. Also, members should routinely check their totals for meetings and hours when signing in at the General Meeting. If there are any discrepancies to please let her know as soon as possible.

Marina: Clark and Denny will attend a hearing with WA State Oct. 24 to plea for a reduction in the required insurance rate for the LIC Marina.

There is a proposed change in the wording of the Marina By-Laws to better clarify the requirements of membership meeting attendances and volunteer hours for marina moorage and special clubhouse rental rates. The wording change will reflect the procedure we have used in the past of 3 meetings and 15 volunteer hours accumulated in the previous year rather than as an on-going previous 12 months accounting at any given time. The proposed change was presented to the membership and is considered the first reading. It will be presented again at the at the next general meeting and be voted upon. The marina committee has developed a standard procedure for handling overdue moorage bills. There have been 3 resolved occurrences, with one still outstanding for this year. An abandoned 28' Newport sailboat is being prepared for auction. Anyone interested can see this boat at the end of B Dock.

Sunshine Lady: Marlise Van Cise is happy to report that Norma Larson had a successful hip replacement surgery. And Buck (William Buckner) has gotten married.

Congratulations! Wally Johnson brought Dave Dahl to the meeting. He looks good and it is good to see him too!

The Cookbook Committee: Reports that presales are going well and books should be available at the Spaghetti Social. Barb Floyd spoke for the committee and wanted the membership to know how much fun they had doing it. With hundreds of hours producing a fabulous product, this group is hinting that there may be another project coming soon to the LIC.

Gayle asked again for the membership to invite speakers to come to our general meeting. Let him know if you have any suggestions. The meeting ended

Respectfully submitted,

Judy Riggs, for Peg Bingham  
Secretary

## **Road Pickup.....**

We had another very successful Road Pick Up on Saturday, September 14th. Gayle and Shirley Brewer won the prize.....they arrived at the beginning of the activity with four sliding glass doors!! The entire crew did a great job and I want to thank Dorothy Gegan, the Brewer's, Sharon Gearhart, Kim Cheney, Kevin and Janet Darling and yours truly. I'll be checking the KPS Highway next month or so to see if we need to do one more this year; weather permitting. Thank you, again to all who helped.

Pat Muchmore

# Upcoming Events

Tue. Oct 1—Fourth quarter moorage payments due

Tue, Oct. 1-International Day for the Elderly

Wed. Oct. 2—Marina Committee Meeting, 9:00 am, LIC Clubhouse

Thu. Oct. 3—Events Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm , LIC Clubhouse

Sat. Oct. 5—Fiber Arts, LIC Clubhouse 10:00—4:00, exhibits, demonstrations, vendors,  
peting zoo, antique tractors and more

Sat. Oct. 12-Harvest Party, Volunteer Park, 6:00—8:00 PM

Wed. Oct. 16—General Meeting, Potluck, 6:30 pm , LIC Clubhouse

Sat. Oct. 21-Brother Sun Concert, LIC Clubhouse, Social Hour 7:00 PM, Concert 8:00 PM

Thu. Oct. 31-Trunk-or-Treat, LIC Clubhouse

Thurs. Nov 14—Tears of Joy Theater's production of Jules Verne's '20,000 Leagues  
Under the Sea', Key Peninsula Civic Center, 7:30 PM. This event is free.

## LOOKING FOR MANY GOOD WORKERS

Anyone interested in being part of the kitchen crew for the Fiber Arts Show on October 5<sup>th</sup>, please let Peg Bingham know – 884-1124 or [bing6178@gmail.com](mailto:bing6178@gmail.com) . Shift hours can be set to your schedule, as many hours as you want to work. We will be serving soups made by Paula Bowen, apple crisp and small plates with crackers, cheese, salami and grapes, from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. A Food Handler card is required for serving but not for clean-up.

I also am in need of help to prepare the apple crisp from 9:00 a.m. to approximately noon on Friday, October 4<sup>th</sup>.

The month of October will also bring the Brother Sun concert on the 19<sup>th</sup>. I will need bakers to prepare three different cookies on the 18<sup>th</sup> and help to serve them on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Looking forward to hearing from you. Thanks.

Peg



LIC Scarecrow (in work)

## The LIC 21 To Boathouse 19

On Thursday, September 12, 21 participants came out for the LIC Boaters Group outing to the Boathouse 19 restaurant, which is located at the Narrows Marina, just south of the Tacoma Narrows Bridge. Although there was an overcast down to the treetops in all directions, and a marginal fog-restricted visibility east of Balch Passage, our destination was to the north, where things were looking a little better. A pre-departure observation near Mahncke Point revealed that we had good visibility well north of Fox Island, and a last minute check of the DOT camera on the Tacoma Narrows Bridge revealed that we were good to go. So, away we went, out of Filucy Bay, north through Pitt Passage, west of Wycoff Shoal, north across Carr Inlet, with a turn to the east at the west end of Hale Passage. From there, after passing under the Fox Island Bridge, it was pretty much a straight easterly shot through Hale Passage to our destination. This time, when the captain of the lead boat encountered some reduced visibility, he held to a straight line course between points A and B, and although this novel approach was a little disconcerting for those who followed, it did prove to be the shortest distance.

Once there, all five boats moored at the Marina's new guest moorage dock, which due to a strong current, proved to be a bit of a challenge for some of the captains (video available for a small fee). We then headed for the restaurant, which was being guarded by members of our advanced scouting team (Lynn & Nancy Carr, and Harry & MR Faas) who had driven their cars around. Once again, we had some truly outstanding meals, accompanied by the usual laughter and frivolity. - This really is a fun group. Check out the accompanying photos!

This time for our post-meal activity, Joe Walts, brewmaster of the two month-old Narrows Brewery (which is located right next door) took us on a tour of their brewing facilities. Joe, who recently moved to this area from the mid-west specifically to take the job of brewmaster, really knew his stuff, and gave us a very interesting and informative lesson on the brewing of beer. And yes, some of us did partake of the product. Good stuff!

By the time we finished at the brewery, the sun had come out and it had turned into another beautiful Northwest day. So we did our typical random every-boat-on-its-own return to Filucy Bay, bringing to an end the sixth in our series of enjoyable boat trips, good meals, and fun times. And yes, we will be doing it again next summer, and we invite you to join us. You don't have to be a boat owner, as we can always make room for a few more.

Kurt



Departure from Longbranch Marina

Arrival at Narrows Marina





## Socializing in the 884

The Spaghetti Social last Saturday the 21st was a success if you counted friendly conversations, new friendships and tiramisu dessert plates almost licked clean. About 90 of us enjoyed each others company for three cordial hours -- at candlelit tables with heaping plates of whole wheat penne smothered in alfredo or meaty red sauce (or both) with a mound of Caesar salad and garlic breadsticks. There was plenty of wine flowing and too-good special coffees. The evening was made possible by volunteers, lead by captain Barbara Van Bogart, master chef Paula Bowen and kitchen crew spearheaded by Peg Bingham and Sharon Gearhart. Thanks to all who worked to set up, decorate, serve and clean up. And special thanks to the Rusty Roots band for entertaining with 100% non-Italian acoustic music.

Thimbles, needles and oodles of craft. Join the Fiber Arts party Saturday October 5 from 10am to 4pm. It's a day of quilts and knits, crafts and arts, and it's free. The famous apple crisp is worth the visit, and this year we'll have hearty soups too, along with wine and rum-spiced cider at the LIC bar. Volunteers are always welcome, call Carolyn at 884-9157.

If you were lucky enough to see the Brother Sun concert last year, you already know you're in for an evening of flawless harmonies, poetic lyrics and spirited song this October 19. Doors open at 7 for wine and dessert bars, festival-seating concert at 8. Advance tickets are on sale at Blend and Sunnycrest -- save \$3 a ticket if you buy early. We expect a sell-out crowd.

Every event at the LIC fulfills three important goals: community improvement, member entertainment, club financing. Some events make more friends, other events make more money. Every event helps the LIC fulfill its mission of making Longbranch a better place. And every event depends on member support -- we hope to see you enjoying our Fall events.

Tim Heitzman

*Exhibits Demonstrations Vendors*

*Sixth Annual*  
**Fiber Arts**  
**Threads through Time**  
*Artistic to Utilitarian*  
*Traditional to Modern*

**Free Admission**  
**Saturday October 5**  
**10am to 4pm**

**Longbranch Improvement Club**  
*4312 Key Peninsula Hwy S.*  
*30 minutes from Gig Harbor*  
**call 253 884 9157**  
*Presented by LIC and friends*

WATERMARK WRITERS AND LIC PRESENT

*Beautiful harmonies in folk fusion*  
*Joe Jenks, Greg Greenway and Pat Wictor*

**BROTHER  
SUN**

**Saturday, Oct 19** Concert 8pm  
No-Host Social Hour 7pm  
**Longbranch Improvement Club**

4312 Key Peninsula Highway South, Longbranch

**\$15 advance/\$18 door**

All ages, family-friendly concert. Advance tickets at Sunnycrest Nursery, Blend Wine Shop and [www.licweb.org](http://www.licweb.org) (253) 884-6022



The cookbooks were just delivered!

## LIC Cookbooks are Here!!!

The cookbooks are here, and we begin selling at the Spaghetti Social September 21, followed by Fiber Arts, Creviston Farm, Gentle Giant Farm and Gateway Park on October 5, as part of the Farm Tour.

There will be plenty of opportunities to purchase or pick up your reserved cookbooks after September 21 and October 5. Please contact [recipes4lic@yahoo.com](mailto:recipes4lic@yahoo.com) for additional information!!

The Cookbook Committee



Two tables of LIC'ers for lunch at Boathouse 19



Brewery Tour for the LIC21 after the Boathouse 19 Luncheon



# LIC Septic System

Starting....



Finished!

Pictures taken by Clark VanBogart and Lynn Carr





# LIC Membership Report

A big welcome to new members~ Jim & Kelly Hettinger.

Thanks to Linda LeBlanc and Theresa Gano for hosting the September meeting.

If you need hours, I need three volunteers to Host/Hostess the October dinner meeting, please let me know if you are interested by e-mail to: [eacolbert@msn.com](mailto:eacolbert@msn.com).

**REMINDER:** Please remember to sign in when you attend meetings and to check your information (meetings/hours) for accuracy. If you have any questions, please ask. You can also e-mail any questions or hours not logged in at our scheduled events to the above mentioned address.

Eloise Colbert

SEE YOU AT THE Pot Luck Membership Meeting

October 16, 2013 @ 6:30 PM

Current membership 189

## LIC Contacts

PRESIDENT: Gayle Brewer/884.0787/gbrewer123@yahoo.com

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Longbranch Improvement Club  
 PO Box 111  
 Lakebay WA 98349

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 Submit your ad copy to ncarr44@centurytel.net , no later than  
 the 25<sup>th</sup> day of each month.

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<p>Affordable, professional housecleaning by  <b>Jeri Chaney 884-2113</b></p> 	<p><i>Stitchin' Fun</i></p>  <p>Nancy Carr        P.O. Box 94        Lakebay, WA 98349        253-884-1384        253-312-1006 (cell)  <a href="mailto:ncarr44@centurytel.net">ncarr44@centurytel.net</a></p>	<p><i>'Key Peninsula Specialist'</i></p>  <p><b>AJ Million</b> Real Estate Broker  <b>253.318.8585</b></p> <p>Alt: 253.884.9537    Fax: 253.884.3032  <a href="mailto:aj@betterproperties.com">aj@betterproperties.com</a></p> <p>Better Properties    North Proctor    2609 No. Proctor    Tacoma, WA 98407</p> <p><small>Each office is independently owned &amp; operated</small></p>
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