

December 2013



Member Newsletter

Longbranch Improvement Club

For the Betterment of the Community



Christmas Potluck Meeting, Wed. Dec. 18, 6:30 pm

President's Message

An Eventful Year The past 12 months have been both challenging and rewarding for the LIC. Following the untimely passing of President Geoff Baillie last December, we have added new faces to the leadership team, honored Geoff with memorials at the marina and clubhouse, coped with failed heating and septic systems, made improvements to the marina, awarded scholarships, hosted numerous LIC and community events, cranked out a cookbook, and more. LIC members have logged hundreds (thousands?) of volunteer hours of service, all of which have benefitted the LIC and the Longbranch community. Together, we continue to fill our role as the social, cultural and service hub for the community.

Cookbook Kudos Sales of the LIC Cookbook "Savories & Sweets, South Sound Treats" are going well and that project is now yielding a profit that will be applied, appropriately, to upgrades in our clubhouse kitchen. Thanks to all who have worked on this labor of love, and to all who have contributed recipes.

Planning As we enter the new year, we hope to make 2014 a year of organizational self-reflection and long range planning to meet future challenges. The Board will begin working in January with Tina Janni of Bates Technical College (Tacoma), who has been hired to facilitate our planning process. Tina brings a wealth of experience working with a variety of organizations, including non-profits such as the LIC. As we get the ball rolling, we will brief the Membership on what is happening, and there will be ample opportunities for our members to get involved.

Money Matters The LIC operating budget for 2014 was approved by the Membership at the November meeting. It contains some features that are worth repeating here, in case you missed the discussion. Membership dues will be reduced back to the pre-wharf-crisis level; money will be set aside in both the Building and Marina capital reserves to begin the process of rebuilding those reserves; money will be invested in having a professional historic building assessment done on the Clubhouse and to hire a grant writer. We believe that once a professional objective assessment of needed work on the Clubhouse is in hand, we should qualify for consideration to receive grant money from a variety of sources, which is where the services of a paid grant writer comes into play. While our capital reserves took a big hit this year, we did have a good year in terms of our operating budget. Barring some late catastrophe, we will have a profit at the end of the year of several thousand dollars. If that holds true, the Board will consider how those dollars might best be utilized and bring a recommendation to the Membership for discussion and approval.

Gayle Brewer Contacts: 884-0787 phone gbrewer123@yahoo.com email

**LONGBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
November 20, 2013**

Board members present: Clark Van Bogart, Francie Carr, Tim Heitzman, Denny Prichard, Eloise Colbert, Peg Bingham
Board Members Present: Gayle Brewer, Clark Van Bogart, Francie Carr, Phil Johnson, Eloise Colbert, Peg Bingham

Contractors Present: Lynn Carr

Meeting called to order by President Gayle Brewer at 7:01 pm

Judy Riggs introduced tonight's guest speaker, Edie Morgan from The Mustard Seed Project. Edie and two members of her staff utilized a video in presenting an interesting and informative program on The Mustard Seed Project and the work being done. On each table were handouts outlining the mission and vision of the project along with a card to fill out to receive information on their events and programs. They are looking for volunteers and donations.

Pat Thompson had available for sale tiles made from pictures of some of his paintings. He will donate to the LIC 30% of any of tonight's sales.

Contractor Reports:

Dock Master Lynn Carr reported four boats in for winter moorage, otherwise it is a very slow, cold, windy month.

Building Rental Agent: No report as Kim Chaney was not present.

Board Reports:

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

Treasurer Francie Carr reported that October was a very slow, quiet month. The Brother Sun concert was disappointing in attendance and revenue. The Fiber Arts Show was very successful with approximately 1000 visitors through the doors. The new septic system is paid in full. Francie will no longer be including membership dues in the moorage invoice.

Events Chair Tim Heitzman was not present and Peg Bingham gave a brief report in his absence. Jan Prichard is looking for someone to chair the Take Down Decorations event on the 4th of January. Please contact Jan directly if you are able to help her out and take over this job. Good way to get hours for the new year. She is also looking for help with the building decorating on November 30th. Volunteers are needed for Kids n' Christmas to help with wrapping gifts (call Nancy Carr), working during the event (call Doug Lewis) and in the kitchen (call Peg Bingham if you have a food handler's card and are available).

Building and Grounds Chair Doug Lewis was not present. Gayle reported the flag pole blew down during the last wind storm. It snapped off at the base. Preliminary assessment is the bottom section can be cut off and the pole can be put back up. Doug is working on that project.

Membership Chair Eloise Colbert reported she is looking for volunteers for the Christmas dinner. She will be sending out an email detailing volunteer needs. The membership count stands at 192. Tonight's hostess and host were Ruth and Pat Thompson.

Marina Chair Denny Prichard was not present and Clark Van Bogart gave his report. The request for reduction in marina property tax was heard at the Pierce County Board of Equalization meeting held on October 24th and attended by Denny, Gayle, Phil and Clark. They were successful in getting the property tax evaluation reduced from \$580,000 to \$425,000. Denny called the person who had done the assessment and had appeared in front of the board and the assessor admitted he had made a mathematical error and the evaluation figure should be \$330,000. The problem is that the Board of Equalization had made their decision and entered it. Now the LIC must apply to

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November 20, 2013

(continued)

the State Department of Revenue. The assessor will assist us with the application and appeal and will not object to our objection to his evaluation. It is felt that the LIC has a good chance to get this changed to \$330,000 which will result in about a \$3,000 to \$3,500 annual savings in property tax. A big, big thanks to Denny for all his work on this project.

The abandoned boat auction was not successful in that no bids were received by the auction house. The LIC is the proud owner of a 28' Newport sailboat that needs a little work and a fuel tank. The Marina Committee will decide in the next few weeks how to handle this project.

Ownership of the Outhout boathouse has been signed over to the LIC and Dave Dahl has agreed to give his boathouse to the LIC and the paperwork is in process. This leaves four boathouses privately owned at the marina.

Denny wants to pass on his thanks to Dennis Carroll for his work on replacing the stolen security cameras at the marina. Lynn Carr reported the work was completed today and they are all up and working. Lighting in the camera areas will be improved.

Don Gill has agreed to become the moorage manager. If members want to change slips, obtain a slip, permanent or temporary, get the paperwork from the Dock Master and turn it into Don Gill.

Trustee at Large Phil Johnson had no report.

LIC Newsletter: Nancy Carr asked to have all articles for the next newsletter in to her by November 25th. Sharon Gearhart said she would submit an article asking for someone to take over the job of mailing the newsletters that go to members that do not receive it electronically. She had done the job for approximately six years and she would like to be relieved. She said it is not difficult and takes only a couple hours a month. Please contact Sharon if you would like to take on this project. An easy way to accumulate 24 hours a year.

Vice President Clark Van Bogart had no report.

President Gayle Brewer had no report.

Old Business:

Cookbook: Barbara Van Bogart reported on cookbook sales. At this time approximately 350 books have been sold. The amount received for this number of books covers the cost of printing and leaves a substantial balance for the Kitchen account. Approximately 250 books needed to be sold to cover the costs. In addition, approximately \$1250 has been earned from the sale of prints of the original artwork contained in the book. The artist, Melissa Haumerson, is donating the proceeds from the artwork to the LIC. The artwork is available through any member of the Cookbook Committee. In addition to the LIC, Sunnycrest Nursery, The Blend Wine Shop, Ray's Meats, Goin' Postal and Cost Less Drugs, are selling the cookbook. Also available through the committee are two sizes of note cards featuring copies of the paintings in the book.

Long Range Planning: Gayle gave an update on Long Range Planning. Gayle, Clark, Denny and Phil met and interviewed Long Range Planning consultant Tina Janni. They all came away impressed with her qualifications, the diversity of her prior clients and her approach to our needs. The Board has voted to hire her to guide us through the process. As she is underwritten by Bates College her rate is \$150 per month, which includes up to twelve hours per month of face to face time meetings. There would be no additional charges as travel and printing expenses are included. The Board plans to have their first meeting with her in January and you will be briefed on how that meeting goes.

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November 20, 2013
(continued)

New Business:

Francie presented the proposed 2014 budget. Copies had been distributed around the tables prior to the meeting. It is a very conservative budget but it has a positive cash flow and contains many of the items the Board felt were important, including Long Range Planning, a Historical Assessment of the building and contributions to the reserve funds for the marina and the building. We were unable to make those contributions to the reserve funds this year.

Two fund raisers are listed, one a garage sale in April and one undetermined and it will probably be held in the summer. Building rental income has been increased, permanent moorage rates will remain the same, but electricity rates have been increased \$1.00/month. Membership dues have been reduced to \$40 for families and \$25 for individuals which is the 2009 level before the wharf replacement. Marina property tax cost has been reduced but it will be less than is shown as the appeal has not gone through yet on part of the reduction. Professional fees covers the planning consultant, historical assessment, tax preparation, grant writer, attorney fees and miscellaneous. If we continue with the current payment schedule the bank loan will be paid in 2014. Then we will start on the membership notes. Francie thanked the committee of Gayle, Tim, Doug, Clark and Denny for their help.

A motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed 2014 budget. As there was no discussion the vote was called and the motion passed. The membership present applauded Francie for a job well done.

Jan Prichard asked for help in getting the building decorations down from the attic on Monday, November 25th at 10:00 am.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Peg Bingham, Secretary

Attention all Sailors!!!

Jo Hamilton has about 100 or so sailing magazines which she has saved for many years, and is now trying to downsize her "oldies". They are full of great articles, etc., and the mags include Cruising World, Blue Water Sailing, Latitudes and Attitudes, etc. She would be happy to donate them to the club (if there is room for them at the dock or clubhouse) and she would be glad to give them to any interested sailors. Just let her know. 884-2445 or Standout@Raincity.com



Upcoming Events

- Sat. Nov 30-Decoration Day, LIC Clubhouse, 10:00 AM until done, lunch provided
- Wed. Dec 4 —Marina Committee Meeting, 9:00 am, LIC Clubhouse
- Thu. Dec 5 —Events Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm , LIC Clubhouse
- Wed. Dec 18—Christmas Potluck Meeting, 6:30 pm , LIC Clubhouse, entertainment by KPMS Choir
- Thu. Dec 19—Wrapping Party, LIC Clubhouse, starts 1:00 PM
- Sat. Dec. 21—Winter Solstice—shortest day of the year
- Sat. Dec 21—Set up for Kids and Christmas, LIC Clubhouse, 7:00 PM
- Sun. Dec 22—Kids and Christmas, LIC 1:00—4:00 pm
- Wed. Dec. 25—Christmas Day, if you need reminding!

Decorating Day

Remember Decorating Day is Saturday, November 30th from 10 to ? Come enjoy the food, friendship and festive fun of turning the LIC into a winter wonderland .

Hope to see you there!

Jan Prichard

De-Decorating Day

Saturday, January 4th is "De-Decorating Day!" Time to put away all that splendor for another year and get a head start on hours logged in for 2014! Come join in the fun. We'll start at 10 a.m. and pack away until the last string of lights has found its box.

Hope to see you there!

Jan Prichard

CALLING ALL ELVES AND ELF-LIKE CREATURES COME PLAY WITH THE KIDS & CHRISTMAS CREW

The Kids & Christmas schedule December, 2013

Tues. 17th-- Toys for Tots pick up . Yeah! Nancy & Lynn Carr

Wed. Dec 18 -- Annual LIC Christmas Dinner --Yeah! Eloise & crew.

(No elf --work for Kids & Christmas today)

Thurs. Dec. 19 --9:30 -noon--sort toys by age group. (4-5 elves)

1:30-until??? Gift wrapping (6-8 elves) Please bring scissors—tape will be provided

Fri. Dec. 20 10:00 (if needed) finish wrapping and stowing gifts

Everything must be in “apple-pie-order” because the building is rented on Sat. Dec 21

Sat. Dec. 21 7:30—until??? Put toys under tree & set up tables. (6-elves)

SUN. DEC 22, The fun begins at 1:00 and goes to 4:00

10:00 Final check list & and volunteer sign-in*

**It would be nice if one elf took this on...sometimes we forget:*

- Sign-in tables.
 - 2-elves to make name tags (seated)
 - 3 elves to greet and direct traffic as people enter
- Greet the ten Scout Troops and help with set-up
 - 2 elves--distribute stickers to troops
- Gift distribution
 - 2-3 elves to help Santa
 - 2 to help with pacing and prevent Santa creep
- Santa Photos
 - 2 elves to put photos in folders
 - 1 to distribute Santa photos to departing families
- Roamers
 - 1 elf for big room (wipe-up spills, check potty paper (PPPIC), etc.)
 - 1 elf for meeting. room (bus tables & discourage food in the big room)

Sun. Dec 22, 4:05 Clean-up elves—the most treasured elves of all!!!!!!!

3 elves who know the kitchen for clean-up

5 elves for: Table take down

Trash-out

Floor sweep

Contact: Doug Lewis (206-849-2410), Nancy Carr (884-1384) or Carolyn Wiley (884-9157)

LIC BOATERS FIRST WINTER OUTING!

Neither rain, no wind, no waves, no snow will prevent the LIC Boaters from getting through to their breakfast gathering at Bair Drug on Thursday morning February 6, 2014. Comfort, warmth, and seaworthiness en route will be provided for all passengers aboard either Doug and Betty Lewis' 31-foot Ranger Tug, or Denny and Jan Prichard's 31-foot Targa sailboat. And once we arrive at Bair, the pot-bellied stove will already be well stoked.

Please join us for another one of our great gastronomical nautical adventures, and our first in any winter month. Call, email, or talk direct with Kurt to reserve your seat on one of the boats. Our reservations have already been made, and now we just need you to help us fill the seats. We will depart the marina at 9 am, and plan to be devouring some of those famous Bair meals by shortly after ten.

Come along, and you will always be able to say, "Oh yes, I was there !!"

Kurt Anderson (253 350-0309 or hound356@gmail.com)

Dockmaster Report:

November has been a slow month with only 8 visiting boats, and Fircrest Yacht club coming in this weekend.

Thanks to Tom Kelley for repairing the electrical outlets and covers.

Note to water users: Please undo the hose from the faucet when you are through with the water. This way we can keep the water on a little longer.

I am watching the forecasted temperatures, and when necessary the water will be shut off for the winter. I will put up signs so you will know when this happens.

Have a great Thanksgiving.

Lynn Carr

2014 LIC Membership

Mail this form with payment:
LIC PO Box 111, Lakebay Wa 98349

DATE OF RENEWAL/APPLICATION

NAME

SPOUSE

PLEASE MARK IF NEW OR CHANGED

KPS ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

MAILING ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

LOCAL TELEPHONE

MOBILE/OTHER TELEPHONE

EMAIL

Please deliver my newsletter by: E-mail Postal mail

Your LIC depends on volunteer labor. Check **all** the boxes for activities that you'd like to do.

EVENTS

- Set up/decorate/host
- Food prep/kitchen

ACTIVITIES

- Telephone tree
- Road crew pickup

FACILITIES

- Building
- Grounds/garden
- Dock

SPECIAL SKILLS

- Committee
- Office
- Musical
- Publicity

- Extra donation enclosed \$ _____
- CHECK ENCLOSED CHARGE TO VISA MasterCard

CARD NUMBER

EXPIRY DATE

CID NUMBER (back of card)

- Renewal New
- Individual Dues\$25
- Couple Dues\$40
- Associate Dues\$25

EFFECTIVE 11/22/2013



LIC Membership Report

Thanks to the Thompsons for hosting the November meeting.

We have the KPMS choir performing at the Christmas meeting & have also asked them to join us for dinner.

I need one more Ham Roaster, two more to help clean up & two more to host/hostess at the Christmas meeting. If you are interested please let me know by e-mail to eacolbert@msn.com or phone 253-225-5115.

Eloise Colbert

HAPPY THANKSGIVING TO ALL!!!



SEE YOU AT THE Christmas
Membership Meeting
December 18th @ 6:30 PM
Current membership 192

LIC Contacts

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

TRUSTEE-AT LARGE: Phil Johnson/884.3784/kpjohn0425@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT: Clark VanBogart/884.1186/cvb@vanbogart.com

SECRETARY: Peg Bingham/884.1124/bing6178@gmail.com

TREASURER: Francie Carr/253.279.0532/francie68@gmail.com

BLDG./GROUNDS CHAIR: Doug Lewis/206.849.2410/
dougclewis@earthlink.net

DOCK CHAIR: Denny Prichard/884.2030/dp@pacinfo.com

EVENTS CHAIR: Tim Heitzman/884.0577/tim@heitzmancreative.com

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR Eloise Colbert/253.225.5115/eacolbert@msn.com

DOCKMASTER: Lynn Carr/884.1384/carr44@centurytel.net

LIC BLDG. RENTALS: Kim Chaney/253.514.5938/
klchaney1@gmail.com

LIC BLDG. CLEANING:: JERI CHANEY/884-2113

LIC GROCERY RECEIPTS: OPEN

HOSPITALITY/GREETER: Trish Goodvin/884.4270/
tgoodvin@yahoo.com

KITCHEN SERVICES: Peg Bingham/884.1124/bing6178@gmail.com

LIC ADOPT-A-ROAD: Pat Muchmore/884.3890/patron9047@aol.com

SCHOLARSHIP: Christine Anderson/253.350.0309/
slug195@comcast.net

NATURE TRAIL: Michael Runyon/884.1499/annrunyon@yahoo.com

OFFICE VOLUNTEER: Eloise Colbert/253.225.5115/
eacolbert@msn.com

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

LIC "SUNSHINE LADY": Marlies VanCise/884.5608/
beachwoods@centurytel.net

LIC NEWSLETTER: Nancy Carr/884.1384/ncarr44@centurytel.net

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION: Sharon Gearhart/884.3890/
wolf9047@aol.com

LIC WEBMASTER: Sean Bonsell/253.225.7986/
sb@twelveoaksconsulting.com








LIC WEBSITE: WWW.LICWEB.ORG EMAIL: lic@longbranchimprovementclub.org

Longbranch Improvement Club
 PO Box 111
 Lakebay WA 98349

Place your ad here . . .

LIC Ads are FREE for members, low cost to the community.
 Submit your ad copy to ncarr44@centurytel.net , no later than
 the 25th day of each month.

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