

August 2010



Member Newsletter

Longbranch Improvement Club

For the Betterment of the Community



August is shaping up to be BUSIER than July . . .

President's Letter . . .

July was a busy month for the LIC on all fronts and August is shaping up to be even busier. This is the first President's Report for me, after serving as Secretary since the start of the year and being elected as President just recently. Those of you who know me well know that I like to brief and to the point, so here goes.

Thanks to all of the volunteers, sponsors, vendors, and participants for the Croquet Tournament event. A good time was had by all and although we do not have the final figures yet, its safe to say that the LIC will recoup its costs and the Mustard Seed will come out way ahead. Planning for next year has already begun. Please continue to share your ideas, etc. with Tim Heitzman or any LIC Board member.

Thanks to all the members that participated in the very constructive general membership meeting on July 21st. Because of your ability to sift through information and share your opinions, all while sharing the floor with the many members in attendance, your Board will proceed to negotiations with the County on the replacement of the wharf with strong guidance. The first meeting with the County will be held on Monday, July 26th. The Board members on the negotiating team are Phil Johnson, Dave Wickland, Pat Muchmore, and myself. We are open to any and all input from the membership as we proceed to find a solution to the decaying wharf. *More information to follow...*

We are still looking for a Secretary and an Events Chair, so I ask again for volunteers for those positions. Thanks to Jan Place for volunteering to take charge of the Labor Day Dance. This will be her first event to manage, so please step up and provide her with lots of help. Thanks to Lynn Carr for the fast and thorough cleanup of the building after the last break in, and also for the fast repair. We are actively working on improving security at the building and the marina and expect to have recommendations at the next membership meeting.

The Cascade Land Conservancy, the County, and the Tribe that participated in the purchase of the Devils Head Property have asked and received approval to use the LIC Building for a presentation of what their plans are for the property. The presentation will be from 10 AM to 1 PM on Friday, August 13th. I hope to see you all there.

Submitted by Geoff Baillie, President LIC, 884.3951, gbaillie@msn.com

General Membership Meeting Minutes

Membership Chair Report: Jan Prichard reported that there are 113 current memberships, 7 of which are Associate memberships. 3 are new members. There are a total of 191 people in the club.

Building Chair Report: Lynn Carr reported that the clubhouse was broken into, and money was spent on clean-up and repairs. Fire extinguishers were discharged and condiments from the refrigerator were sprayed around the building. On 7-20-2010, a company came in and made the storeroom door extremely secure, which should be a deterrent.

Dock Committee: Pat Muchmore reported that there have been many complaints regarding the "Flotilla" in Filucy Bay. The Pierce County Sheriff has been contacted, and since then, a Sheriff's boat has been seen patrolling the bay. The Dock Committee is also recommending that public marina hours be limited in an effort to stop the problems with vandalism and theft on the dock. Pat also mentioned the possibility of opening up some permanent moorage spots for boats over 40 feet. Details are still being worked out regarding this.

Events: Tim Heitzman reported that the Croquet Tournament benefiting The Mustard Seed was extremely successful. There were 35 "and a half" teams, and 5 courts. Edie Morgan offered her thanks on behalf of the Mustard Seed. Francie Carr reported some rough figures: gross revenue of \$5100; \$1680 in sponsorships; and \$1000 still coming in. Expenses have not yet been finalized.

Carolyn Wiley announced the need for volunteers for Beyond the Borders, and passed around sign-up sheets.

Norma Larsen announced that she has tickets for sale for the Salmon Bake, which is on July 24th. She also announced that she and Jim are having a 60th Anniversary celebration at the LIC on August 6th. All LIC members are invited; please let her know if you plan on attending.

Jan Place volunteered to head up the Labor Day Dance.

Carolyn Wiley announced the need for volunteers for the Fiber Arts Show, which is the first weekend in August.

Geoff announced that Cascade Land Conservancy, the group working on Devil's Head, wants the building on August 13th. He asked the membership if we should charge a rental fee. Membership voted and approved to waive the rental fee.

Wharf Repair/Replacement: Geoff Baillie shared the

results of the Sitts & Hill inspection of the wharf. Their estimate for repair would cost at least \$100,000. They recommend that the structure be replaced, not repaired. They also provided several different design options that are available to the LIC. After much discussion, the membership decided to pursue replacement of the wharf and end any consideration of repair. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to begin negotiations with Pierce County regarding replacement of the wharf. It was agreed that we will request an 8-foot wide aluminum gangway-style structure.

Old Business: Building security – Lynn Carr suggested that motion lights and an alarm be installed inside the building to deter theft. Dock Security – Pat Muchmore proposed meeting with a security regarding both dock and building security.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM.

LIC Meeting Minutes from the General Membership Meeting 7/21/2010

7:00 PM Dessert Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:20pm. Guests and 3 new members were attending and introduced.

Announcements:

Carolyn Wiley: the sprinkler system is installed, operational, and under budget.

Jan Place: reminder for everyone to vote on August 17th.

Harry Faas: reminder to all to begin thinking about winter moorage.

Tim Heitzman: because of Denny Prichard's help, the LIC will no longer pay property taxes on the Club House.

Jan Prichard: thanks to hosts Bob & Becky Knudson & Trish Goodwin as "Sign-In Hostess".

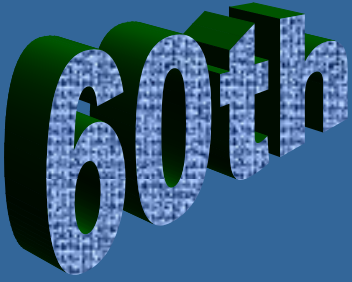
Raffle winner is Mike Runyon.

Respectfully submitted by Gretchen Lippert, Vice President

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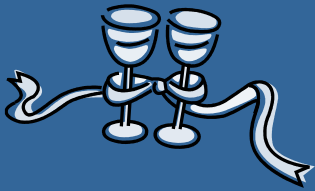
Jim and Norma have known one another since high school

though they didn't start dating until Jim was in college and Norma in nurses' training.



In celebration of
their 60th wedding
anniversary . . .

Jim & Norma Larsen are
having a gathering at LIC
on Aug. 14th, 4-7:00 pm
and all members are
invited to join in."



*Jim said "we made the trip
because we didn't know any
better" (see story)*

In the first years of their acquaintance they were in the same "gang" – in those days something to be proud of as it indicated a close-knit group of friends, almost like a clique, a respectable group to associate with. They went on many outings and to many activities with these friends until graduation when distance split up the group. Their first official date was to a work party at the CPS ski lodge (now UPS) near Mt. Rainier. They soon became regulars together and spent much of their free time as a couple. The hospital where Norma was in training would not permit marriage of students until the last six months of schooling so that was out of the question. It was at the time of the Korean war and Jim, as well as other student nurse's beaus, were expecting draft notices momentarily, so Norma and others pressured the school to change the ruling to allow marriage the senior year. There were three weddings that weekend and as many the weekend following. Much to their delight, married men weren't being drafted at that time. Soon after the family came along so Jim was never in the military.

They were a typical, down-home family living the American dream of house, car, a daughter and son, with Jim working for the City of Tacoma's traffic signal crew and Norma working at Tacoma General Hospital. Norma's dream was to be an office nurse and that dream came true when she was hired by Dr. Hazelrigg in Brown's Point, a position she held for 26 years.

Boating soon became the center of their lives around which they built many lasting friendships and memories. There were very few land vacations, most were boating trips to the San Juan's, Gulf Islands and beyond. After retirement they purchased their home in Taylor Bay to be near the Sound and the Longbranch Marina, and to be able to offer shoreline adventures to their four grandchildren.

At the age of 18 Jim had acquired his first boat, a do-it-yourself 8 ft. dinghy made of canvas stretched over a frame. The love of being on the water was soon deeply embedded and he was never without some type of boat from that time on.

In 1973 with the encouragement of friends Jim decided to build a small yacht in his back yard. He purchased a 28ft. Modutech hull and did the construction and designing himself. It took four long years from delivery of the hull until the launching, but just four weeks later they took off for Alaska on a six week adventure. **Jim said "we made the trip because we didn't know any better"!** The friends they traveled with had a larger boat which offered some protection as well as moral support and nautical knowledge. There were lots of adventures and tall tales to relate when they returned.

In 1984 using saved vacation weeks they again went to Alaska with the same friends in their respective boats and this time they were gone 3 ½ months. The memories from that trip will always remain as one of the best adventures of their lives.

Last year when they realized their age was making it difficult to do the maintenance they sold their boat and for the first time in their married lives they no longer have a means of being on the water.

Dock Report . . .

As most of you know, the "flotilla" off of the Marina has been a long standing problem and many letters have been written to the DNR, the County, Sheriff's Dept., etc. Dave Wickland and I visited the Sheriff's office in Purdy recently and furthered our complaints and questioned why nothing was being done to correct the problem. Our concern that the loud noise, etc. that was going on into the early hours of the morning, use of our Marina facilities, etc. put the Longbranch Marina in a position of enabling the entire situation. Unfortunately, we were not able to speak to one of the officers directly; there was a lone office worker who took our information and promised she would "speak to her Sergeant and get back to us". She did call me the next day and stated that their boat would do a "visit" to the flotilla, ask for registrations, etc. We informed that some of the boats had been sold in order for them to check registration to ownership, etc. Since then, the Dock Committee has informed one of the new owners of at least one boat in the flotilla that as of the end of July, will not be able to use our dinghy dock nor will they be allowed to use our Marina after hours. We are in the process of having new signs posted at the Marina that state, "The Longbranch Marina is a private facility that provides moorage for members and transient moorage guests only. Our new Summer hours for the public are from 8 am to 7 pm daily, May through September, and the Winter hours are 10 am to 5 pm daily, October through April. Public access on the Marina outside of these hours is prohibited and will be considered TRESPASSING and violators will be prosecuted.

"The Longbranch Marina is a private facility that provides moorage for members and transient moorage guests only!"

Our new summer hours for the public are from 8AM to 7PM daily, May through September, Winter hours are from 10AM to 5PM daily, October through April.

We continue to work with the group that is dealing with the Wharf, the County, and all whom are working to accomplish the demolishing and reconstruction of a Wharf to our Marina. As plans are confirmed, approved of by the Membership we will continue to keep you aware of any new developments. **Happy Summer and enjoy all that we have!**

Respectfully submitted by Pat Muchmore, Dock Chair
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Dates to REMEMBER . . .

August 7th NOON-6 PM . . .

Beyond the Borders Music Festival LIC

August 21st . . .

Old Timers Day at the LIC

August 27th-28th . . .

Keyfest 2010 at Volunteer Park

September 4th . . .

Labor Day Dance at the LIC

Rides and Drives . . .

Our Member Survey pointed up a need for "rides for members" who might like to attend a meeting or an event, but are no longer wanting to drive, or would rather not attend alone. **These great folks are our neighbors!**

Could you offer a lift? Would you like to have a ride? We'd like to offer a match-up service of riders and drivers for our membership.

Please give Lisa Bryan a call at 884-5297 if you are interested.



LIC Membership Report

**Mark your calendars
for the August
General "Potluck"
Meeting ...**

**Wednesday, August
18th at 6:30 p.m.**

The Longbranch Improvement Club would like to welcome new members William and Monika Verstrate, Janet and Peter Stanley and Liz Heath. We're also happy to welcome back renewing members Wayne and Diane Gustin, Skip and Babette Cook, and Roger Robertson.

I hope to see you at the "Beyond the Borders" music festival on August 7th. The music is always outstanding and it's FREE! We've only lived on the Peninsula 2 years, have gone to the festival both years, and have been so impressed by the talent. This is world class music, folks, right in our own backyard!

Many thanks to Becky and Bob Knudson for hosting at our July meeting and thanks, as always, to Trish Goodvin our cheerful greeter. This was an especially well-attended meeting and these folks were BUSY! Thanks, also, to Dale Goodvin for helping with the raffle and to all you members for pitching in where needed. As always the desserts were delicious and plentiful.

I'd love to hear from anyone who would be interested in hosting at a future meeting. There are spaces available in August and beyond!

LIC Contacts

PRESIDENT: Geoffrey Baillie/884.3951/gbaillie@msn.com

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VICE PRESIDENT: Gretchen Lippert/884.2290/gmlippert@yahoo.com

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

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

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BLDG./GROUNDS CHAIR: Lynn Carr/884.1384/carr44@centurytel.net

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

DOCK CHAIR: Pat Muchmore/884.3890/patroom9047@aol.com

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

EVENTS CHAIR: OPEN POSITION (*contact one of the board members*)

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

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

LIC "SUNSHINE LADY": Linda LeBlanc/L8161@hotmail.com/884.1499

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

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LIC BLDG. RENTALS: LYNN DALRING/884.6022/penstretcher@dalsing.com

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LIC BLDG. CLEANING: Landsbergers/255.2768/LZ_services@msn.com

LIC WEBMASTER: Peter Ballasiotes/253-230-7021/pballasiotes@yahoo.com

LIC RECYCLED CANS: SPRING & ROBERT JOHNSON/

LIC GROCERY RECEIPTS: TO BE INFORMED . . .

LIC WEBSITE: WWW.LONGBRANCHIMPROVEMENTCLUB.ORG **EMAIL:** lic@longbranchimprovementclub.org

Longbranch Improvement Club
 PO Box 111
 Lakebay WA 98349

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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 25th day of each month.

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