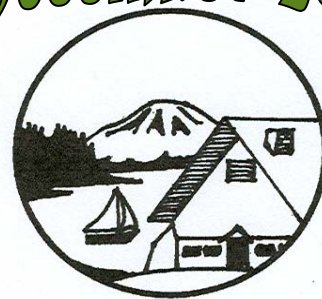


LIC NEWS



WEBSITE: www.longbranchimprovementclub.org

EMAIL: lic@longbranchimprovementclub.org

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

This is my favorite time of the year. In spring we plant seeds - seeds for a flower garden, seeds of a vacation trip, seeds of projects and for personal betterment. Some of them even grow. We're filled with potentials.

Summer? Summer, well, sort of just happens. The gardens explode with flowers and birds I had forgotten all about, the infant raccoons learn to dig for clams and ghost shrimp, and friends and relatives I hadn't thought about for a year show up at the door for a taste of peninsular paradise. We walk the beaches, sit on logs and just enjoy the massive dome of Rainier rising on the eastern horizon. Dinners get later, barbecues glow in the far corners of decks. I start dreaming about apples picked from the trees, the scent of ripening blackberries, the promise of huckleberries after the first freeze. Things take shape.

And then Fall just explodes on us. The flowers are brighter than nature allows, limbs dip under the weight of fruit, and while we didn't lose the weight we vowed our tans are better than we had expected. Fall, with its perfect weather, is simply better than we expected - or, I suspect, deserve. We're splitting wood, a rick or more just beyond the back door.

We've grown used to the immense energy of summer days, and we charge about w/impassioned vigor completing all those dreams planted in Spring.

Wham! Everything changes. We were thinking about days growing shorter,

and all of a sudden it becomes nights growing longer. We were contemplating the projects we were going to accomplish and all of a sudden we're looking back at what we did. Our early morning walks become mid-morning strolls; we spend more time over a second cup of coffee. Others with a grasp of buzz words might say we're cocooning. Truth of it is that we're settling down in our nests. Not self-satisfied, although many of the folks I know on the Peninsula certainly deserve to look back over the seasons with a great deal of satisfaction. Not self-satisfied, but satisfied in that our efforts have borne fruit. The Romans gave Janis two faces; one looking back at where we've been, one looking ahead towards where we might go. That's what January is all about.

It's a time to rest up. To recharge our batteries. In the month past to give thanks. In this month to welcome a rebirth. Hey, in just three weeks the days will start to grow longer. There's a new calendar, vast empty spaces to fill with all the things we might do. For now, let's gather our families and our friends about us. For sure, we're starting to think about things we might like to do. A gathering of dusky red flowers in one corner of the yard. One or two fewer swings at the ball on a stroll around the course. Laying down a smooth brush-stroke of varnish on the brightwork. Finishing a project ahead of time and under budget. Each of us unique, each of us part of a whole.

Perhaps that's why each season is special here on the Peninsula, here in Longbranch. I wish you the best of this one.

Stu Stuhauq, PRESIDENT

MEMBERSHIP REPORT ...

The LIC welcomes three new members to its family. Shane Swenning, Raymond Dillon and Michael and Ann Runyon. Good to have you aboard and hope to see you at our meetings and activities.

New Year's Eve Dance



Key Peninsula
Civic Center
8PM -12:30AM

I still have tickets available. \$35 per person; semi-formal attire; 18 piece band "Swing Fever"; hors d'oeuvres buffet; No host bar. So far we have 4 tables (32 LIC members) ready to bring in the new Year. If you would like to join in, give me a call 884-3685 or email suestu@centurytel.net before December 24.

That is the cut off date.

Sue Stuhauq,
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR

Continued on Pg. 4

General Meeting Minutes

MINUTES 11-14-07 . . .

The dessert meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Stu Stuhaug.

Officers 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

Minutes from the previous general meeting were approved as written.

Guest Mike Salatino From the Key Peninsula Civic Center spoke to the group about the New Years Eve dance being held at the Civic Center. Tickets are \$35 per person and Sue Stuhaug has them available. The same band and caterer are being used. Also, Mr. Salatino is doing his annual Christmas dinner for seniors and if you know of anyone that would be in need of this other than be alone, please contact Mike Salatino or Marlies VanCise, 884-5608.

Treasurers Report – Tim Heitzman: We are good financially. We have a financially healthy club - as planned last January/February. Some \$28,000 was budgeted for moorage and YTD we have \$32,000. Seems the big yachts can afford the fuel! We've done well on events/entertainment and made new friends. Good chairpersons for the events have really watched costs. Income projected was approximately \$111,000 and to date we are at \$108,000. Expenses, however, were budgeted at \$113,000 and to date they are \$80,000. Year will end on high note.

Dock Report – Dean Latshaw: The LIC Marina is filling up for winter moorage. Members pulling your boat out for the winter are requested to let Dock Master Mark Jones or Dean Latshaw know so they can fill the spot. Question of heaters in boats for winter...

Mr. Latshaw and Mr. Jones are working on chart, costs and billing. Random power checks continue. Electrical rates provide for 200 watts at dock at any given time, summer or winter. 30 boats are signed up with power. Approximately 44 without. The question of electrical meters was again raised. The large capital costs of metering, plus the likelihood of significant rebuilding of the marina electrical grid with contemporary standards. Project is currently on hold while other issues are being handled. The system is legal as it is today, but new work would require inspections and all would have to be brought up to current code. Current cost of power at marina is \$6100 and we have brought in \$9000.

Events Report - Carolyn Wiley: Not a lot but.....Carolyn shared that SOMEONE randomly cut up one of the yoga mats! It was suggested that the lock on the storage door be changed. Co chairs Debbie Ehrhardt and Traci Michel talked about Trunk or Treat and what a huge success it was. 130 cars here, 28 parked for giving out candy, over 100 kids. The Christmas decorating party will be Dec. 2, 2007. John Biggs is providing the tree this year and Andy Gano will hang from the rafters to secure it. Dec. 16 is the kids Christmas party. The Angel Guild is collecting craft materials for the Boy Scouts, who in turn will help construct presents. Key Pen Key Club is helping wrap gifts. The event needs a digital camera and printer to do the Santa photos this year. There is a jar on the counter for donations to help with the Christmas for kids party. The club usually budgets \$600 for this event and this year we have ZERO. John Glennon is working with Toys for Tots. The event needs a shopper for supplemental supply of toys. Exercise classes continue through November, then break for December and will regroup in January. More plans to follow after the first of the year. The Bob and Betty Knutson washed all the windows today - thank you - they look great!

Minutes Continued on Page 3 . . .

Meeting Minutes Continued . . .

Membership Report – Sue Stuhaug: Two new members; Shane Swenning and Raymond Dillon. Ms. Stuhaug also has the New Year's Eve tickets available for purchase. Sign up sheet for Christmas dinner meeting is available. Need to set up, decorate and clean afterwards. Carmen Davies, Greeter, mentioned again that when you sign in, if you see a red \$5 next to your name, it means that you still owe the \$5 increase in dues. Please pay. We have turkeys and hams, we just need cooks for our December general meeting. Also, bring a food donation for the food bank as we have done in the past. Cash is good too. Thank you to our hostesses tonight.

Building Report – Mike Hays (absent): Stuhaug reported that Mr. Hays has developed a specific series of projects to be posted at the LIC and on the web. Now through February things should be less hectic so that work can be done on the building. He has also gone to Pierce County and obtained the documents to apply for community block grant funds for such things as the roof, emergency generator, etc.

Old Business:

Nominations: The Gano's were not here tonight, but had sent Stuhaug an email with information. The offices coming open, to be filled January 1, 2008 and their candidates are:

Vice President - Dick Dixon
Building Chair - Mike Hays
Secretary - OPEN
Events Chair - Carolyn Wiley

Having no nominations from the floor, the secretary motioned to cast a unanimous ballot for the slate of candidates as offered by the nominating committee, 2nd, passed.

New Business:

Bob McFarlane, 884-1314, is the new chairman of Adopt-a-Road. He plans a road cleanup for 11-17-07, meet at 10am at the club. Dottie Loomis was in the hospital - now at home recuperating.

Meeting Minutes Continued . . .

Gary Renggli was also recently in the hospital. *Of special note...all of our thoughts and prayers are with Laurie and Mark Jones during this difficult time. They both exemplify community leadership and we are all here to offer our help whenever or whatever they may need.* Dick VanCise spoke to Mike Hays about the storage racks for the tables and chairs that go under the stage. Dick will be organizing a project to redo the doors and fix everything. Please be careful with the carts and do not stack overly high as this causes problems pulling the carts out. Also, to help the cleaners, please keep all the cloth chairs to one side of the big room, 5 high and holding chairs to the other side, only 3 deep so they can clean under them. Keep the tables neat and out of the way. Apparently there is a discrepancy in the information that goes to renters and what the cleaners are supposed to do. Mike is working on getting this corrected. Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm. Respectfully submitted, Pat Latshaw



**MEETING DATES ARE
CHANGED FOR DECEMBER...**

- * BOARD MEETING 12-05-07**
- * GENERAL MEETING WITH
CHRISTMAS DINNER
12-12-07, 6:30PM**

Reach Out to a Friend . . .

There is a great deal of joy and happiness in the air as we celebrate through the holiday season, and for the vast majority of us these are holidays no matter what our individual beliefs. That's why it is equally important to reflect on the well-being of our friends and neighbors. We all know someone ill, someone challenged by our narrow and dark roads and thus housebound, someone alone and perhaps lonely. Reach out to them. Knock on a door with a plate of cookies or the even more precious gift of a shared cup of coffee and a portion of your time. Dial up their # just for a chat. If their medical regimen leaves them fragile and exposed, precluding visitors, dash off an e-mail with chatty news of shared acquaintances. Offer to pick up something at the store or library. While it is easy to slip into isolation here remember that smiles, too, are contagious - *Stu Stuhaug*



The LIC Christmas Potluck

is coming quickly and *earlier than normal*, as a matter of fact. We pushed the date up to 12/12/07, so put that on your calendar. Time: 6:30 PM. The "Key Singers" will be our guest and in return, regale us in song and the spirit of the season.

The LIC will provide turkeys, hams, stuffing, cranberry sauce, rolls, coffee, tea, assorted soft drinks, and for a \$1 contribution per glass to the scholarship fund, wine. The rest of us provide the tasty side dishes. A favorite vegetable dish, or a salad, or one of those sumptuous desserts. Because of the added family members and guests, larger portions than normal might be in order. Also, a table will be set up for donations to our local food bank as we have our fair share of needy people in this area. A helping hand is always appreciated.

I have four volunteers who have so graciously volunteered to cook the turkeys and hams. BUT I am still short two people. Is there anyone else who would care to help out. PLEASE! Give me a call 884-3685 and I will love you for always. Now I ask, "WHO" could pass on this opportunity?

December 11 at 4PM will be set up day. Turkeys and hams will be defrosted and ready for pick-up by our venturesome cooks. Tables and chairs need to be put up and tables set and decorated. I have a few people who have volunteered to help out with this, but more will make it go so much faster. Yes, we use real china and silverware for this event. Marcia Horan has been busy making center pieces for each table. A big thank you. Marcia does magical things with what she grows in her garden. And while I am thanking Marcia, I need to thank Mark Runions as well. It seems that the LIC's old piano has seen better days. It just doesn't stay in tune any longer (could it be, it doesn't like sitting in a cold, unheated room?). Mark is loaning, for the evening of the 12th his key board. So worry not "Key Singers" you won't have to do battle with an out of tune piano. Thank You Mark.

That's it. See you all on 12/12. Sue Stuhaug

EVENTS CALENDAR

- ◆ **Tuesday, Dec. 11:** 4 p.m. at the LIC. Set up the tables and décor for the LIC's annual December membership party. It's also time for the cooks to pick up turkeys and hams.
- ◆ **Wednesday, Dec. 12:** 6:30 p.m. at the LIC. The Grandest LIC meeting of the year, a potluck dinner with all the festive trimmings – along with holiday music from the Key Singers
- ◆ **Thursday, Dec. 13:** 7 p.m. at the KP Lutheran Church on Lackey Road. Join the Friends of Key Center Library for a Free Festive Classical Holiday Concert in McColley Hall. Concert by **The Helios Trio**; Paul Leary - Clarinet, Mary Boyum - Cello and Kathy Strickland - Piano.
- ◆ **Sunday, Dec. 16:** 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. Kids 'n Christmas - the Christmas present we give ourselves. Crafts materials and help so that Peninsula kids can make holiday presents for their loved ones. Not to mention Santa himself, gifts, treats and even wrapping paper.
- ◆ **Monday/Tuesday, Dec. 24/25:** Beware of low-flying sleigh.
- ◆ **Monday, Dec. 31:** 8 p.m. 'til late at the Key Peninsula Civic Center, Vaughn, "New Year's Eve at the Center" with the big band music of Swing Fever. Tickets: Sue Stuhaug, 884-3685.
- ◆ **Wednesday, Jan. 2:** 7 p.m. at the Longbranch Improvement Club. Dock Committee regular meeting.
- ◆ **Wednesday, Jan. 9:** 7 p.m. at the Longbranch Improvement Club. Regular Board meeting.
- ◆ **Wednesday, Jan. 16:** 7 p.m. at the LIC. Regular general membership meeting. Dessert meeting (with smaller portions or low cal for those of us who celebrated if not wisely at least well). Learn about shellfish, biotoxins and red tides from our guest speaker.
- ◆ **Tuesday, Jan. 22:** At the LIC. Exercise and yoga classes resume. A super fun and inexpensive way to pay penance for the goodies you couldn't resist over the holidays, and a great follow-up on the New Year's resolution. 9 a.m. Aerobics Class, 9:50 a.m. Yoga Class, 7 p.m. Yoga Class. Drop-in rate is \$10 per class session. Call 884-9157 regarding multi-class rate.



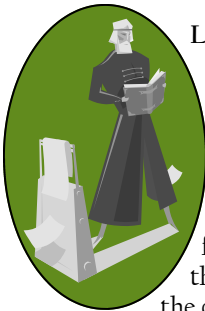
Be watching for outstanding Opportunities now that the LIC is a NEW member of the Heritage League of Pierce County . . . More to Follow!

THOUGHTS & PRAYERS FROM "884"

Respectfully submitted -
Marlies Van Cise

Our dear friend (*and many of yours as well*)
Barbara Merrill joined her beloved husband
Vernon on Monday, 11/26/2007. She had just
been moved from Longbranch to West Palm
Beach to be where she really wanted to be. Our
L.I.C. family sends kind thoughts and prayers to
Kenyon and Tony Kramer, Barbara's sons. *Notes
and condolences can be sent to:*

Tony Kramer
11405 Twelve Oaks Way
North Palm Beach, FL 33408



LIC Historian Sought - Know anyone?

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, longbranchimprovement.com

The "Mustard Seed Project" has received a few names for LIC driver volunteers from the LIC. Training is underway! For further information or volunteerism:
Key Senior Info. Center
8903 Key Peninsula Highway N
(same bldg. as the library-Key Center)
884-9814 tmstp@centurytel.net.



FOR SALE /WINTER OFFER . . . \$100,000.00
Price Reduced by \$9,500.00: 2002 BOSTON
WHALER, 28' Cabin-Cruiser with Hardtop, Cruising &
Fishing Pkg. + Electronics! Currently moored at the LIC
Marina. Maintained Condition - Low Hours - Dual
Mercury Outboard PLUS 2004 Mercury BIGFOOT. Call
Chuck 253.884.6556 Eves./Weekends. or 253.208.3579 Days

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@cabseed.com
- Kitchen/Food Services . . . Norma Iverson
884.4564 vgiverson@centurytel.net
- LIC Adopt-A-Road . . . Bob McFarlane
884.1314 robertmcfarlane1@mac.com
- 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@harbornet.com
- LIC Newsletter . . . Norma-Jean Gibson
884.6556 normajeangibson@remax.net

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
Real Estate BROKER
RE/MAX Town & Country
253.238.1538



At Home, 98349



Trillium Creek Winery

17812 18th St. KPN
Home, WA
253-884-5746

Hand-crafted Wines - Gourmet Cheeses

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



robin designs
custom sewing & canvas works
robindesigns@hotmail.com

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®

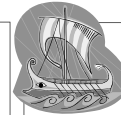
Fight the Fish, NOT the Tackle!



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 6

Longbranch Improvement Club
PO Box III
Lakebay WA 98349