#### October 2012



Member Newsletter

# Longbranch Improvement Club

For the Betterment of the Community



## Fiber Arts Oct 6, General Potluck Meeting Oct 17

# **President's Report**

Fall has started, after what seemed to be a very short, but enjoyable short summer. Thanks to Tim Heitzman, Peg Bingham, and the many volunteers that helped out to make the Labor Day dance a success. Despite fewer boats in the marina than usual, attendance was pretty good and the band was excellent. The final wine tasting event was held at the marina. Many thanks to Pat Muchmore and her crew for the imagination to try something new and the enthusiasm to make it happen. Thanks to Gayle Brewer for handling the Board and membership meetings in my absence.

Thanks to Sharon Gearhart for the great job she has done as the rental agent. Sharon is not going to be the rental agent in 2013 (her choice), so we need a person to fill that slot. Remember, it is a paying (contractor) position. Let me or any Board member know of your interest. Also, the Board will soon consider the 2013 budget, so if you have some ideas for fund raising or need funds for an event, let us know.

Finally, plan on buying a ticket and attending the Halloween Dance on October 27th at the LIC Clubhouse. Blues Passage is the band and fun is on the agenda. There will be prizes for best costumes.

Geoff Baillie, President gbaillie@msn.com





## LONGBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SEPTEMBER 19, 2012

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Gayle Brewer, Francie Carr, Doug Lewis, Tim Heitzman, CC Williams, Pat Muchmore for Randy Babich, Peg Bingham

Meeting called to order at 7:04 by Vice President Gayle Brewer.

Agenda presented for approval. Motion made, seconded and approved.

#### **CONTRATOR REPORTS:**

DOCK MASTER: Lynn Carr reported that Jack and Jill Yacht Club were in last weekend. They tried to race but there was no wind. When they went to leave the fog set in and they sat at Eagle Island until the fog lifted. Today he has Port Townsend Yacht Club in the marina with nine sailboats and nine powerboats. There is also a Bristol Bay barge pusher tied up which is bringing in more revenue.

#### **BOARD AND COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

SECRETARY: Peg Bingham asked to have the minutes of the last meeting approved. Motion made, seconded and approved. She read a thank you note from the Blend Wine Shop/Minch Family.

TREASURER: Francie Carr passed around the Profit and Loss statement for August. She will be working on the budget for next year and asked to have budget requests turned into her before the middle of October. There have been questions about the revenue from the ice sold at the dock. Income from the ice was \$956.49 and the ice expense was \$348.17. The LIC is making a profit on the ice. We received the quote for the premium cost of the Property and Liability Insurance for the coming year of \$17,128.00 which is just \$88 over last year. The Umbrella Liability Policy premium will be the same as last year at \$3,675.00. The last two years the LIC has made monthly payments which has cost the club \$319.30 in finance charges and the Board voted to pay the entire amount this month, thus saving the finance expense. At the end of August the checking account balance was \$51,639.87.

EVENTS: Tim Heitzman reported that the Labor Day dance had 25 members donating 100 hours. There was a puny turnout, but there were a number of members and local people attending. The band has a good local following which helped the LIC make \$1,000. Tim has \$10 advance tickets for sale for the Halloween Dance. Geoff Baillie's band is playing, good music, not exceedingly loud and very danceable. Geoff is chairing this dance. There will be food served, brats, hot dogs, potato salad and popcorn.

Tim asked for ideas for events. Come to the Events Committee meeting. It is held at the LIC on the first Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. and there are usually snacks and everyone is welcome.

Hardworking volunteers, Paula and Dave Wickland, have sold their home and will be leaving the area. They are having a gigantic sale Saturday, September 22 from 9:00 to 4:00.

Carolyn Wiley gave a Fiber Arts Show update. She just had a call from the Harbor History Museum of Gig Harbor asking if they could bring in their tapestry demonstration. She of course, said yes. There will be many activities of interest to the entire family from Kris Sherman's petting zoo to Gayle Brewer's fly tying demonstration and Fred Leenstra's antique tractor show. Nancy Carr brings in her embroidery machine and the kids can choose a design and she will stitch it out on a piece of fabric for them. Bring money as there are many wonderful items for sale throughout the hall. Good Christmas ideas. The date is October 6<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are needed for a two hour shift to help participants carry in and set up their displays. This is done from 8:00 to 10:00 and the show starts at 10.00 and runs until 4:00. If you haven't signed up to help with the show and would like to do so, please contact Carolyn. Volunteers are needed all during the day. There will be hot apple crisp for sale and Tim will run a bar selling hot mulled wine and hot cider. Peg Bingham asked for volunteers with food cards to help the day before, Friday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup>, preparing the crisp to be baked on Sat. If you like to chop apples and mix those with sugar and cinnamon please contact her. She can also use help with the serving on Sat. from 10:00 until 4:00. Shifts can be as long or as short as you wish. Just let her know.

Tim is testing VolunteerSpot to sign up volunteers. You may receive an e-mail listing events and positions to be filled. Follow the easy instructions and select the jobs and times that are best for you. It will even send you a reminder.

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#### GENERAL MEETING MINUTES September 19, 2012

#### (continued from page 2)

BUILDING AND GROUNDS: Doug Lewis reported that there has been a problem with the new stove and parts are being shipped for installation. This is covered under the warranty. He cautioned members that there are new rocks in place to protect the grass up by the south front of the clubhouse. He said if you needed hours there are a few jobs that need to be done both inside and outside the building. If you would like to work give him a call. He lives close by and will be happy to come down and let you in or work with you.

Doug and Betty are chairing the Kids and Christmas this year and have some new ideas and great plans for the event. To enable the club to entertain all the children and give everyone a gift the Toys for Tots organization requires that we supplement their toy donation with a percentage of gifts that we purchase. Doug asked for donations from the membership to help with this part of the project. The money will also go toward more activities for the kids that day and possibly for free hot dogs to go with the free cookies that are served. If you would like to help with this it would be greatly appreciated.

Doug also reported that some electrical work has been done at the building and there is now an outside electrical outlet that can be used for various purposes.

MEMBERSHIP: CC Williams announced that we had 178 members. CC thanked the evening's hostesses Dee and Dick Scharf, Cindy and Sandy Black. She also asked if members who are receiving the newsletter by mail would consider receiving them by e-mail. Postage for the newsletter is quite expensive and we would like to lower it if possible.

Francie Carr reminded those present that we are still collecting Peninsula Market sales receipts and each quarter we receive a 1% rebate on the dollar amount. The slips can be placed into the jar on the mantle above the fireplace in the LIC meeting room. We are also still collecting aluminum cans for the scholarship fund.

MARINA: Pat Muchmore reporting for Randy Babich said the work party at the marina in conjunction with the Tacoma Power Squadron will be held on October 6<sup>th</sup>. The final wine tasting of the season will be held Saturday, September 22<sup>nd</sup>. The Board has decided that winter moorage must be paid up front before the boat is brought into the marina. In the past there have been instances where a boat was in the marina and no money was paid or just a portion of the full amount was received. The information concerning the dates of the winter moorage and the length of the boat will be given to the Treasurer and the applicant will receive a letter from the Treasurer with an invoice for the full amount of the moorage. Nancy Carr has created Longbranch Marina burgees and they are for sale for \$25.

AT-LARGE REPORT: Phil Johnson not present. No report.

KITCHEN SERVICES: Peg Bingham had no report, just her usual plea for help in the kitchen. This time to prepare the apple crisp for the Fiber Arts Show. The work will be done on Friday, October 5<sup>th</sup> about noon. It will take no more than three to four hours. If you have a food handlers permit and are interested please contact her. She is also looking for help for the day of the Fiber Arts Show. Schedules can be as long or as short as you would like.

SUNSHINE LADY: Vickie Biggs reported she had not had much activity but did deliver flowers this week to Marlies Van Cise who has had an unfortunate series of events and has been out of commission for a while. She asked membership to please be sure to let her know of anyone needing flowers, cards or even just phone calls.

Nancy Carr asked that articles for the newsletter be sent to her before by the 25<sup>th</sup>. She is always looking for information for the newsletter. She also said there will be an ad in the newsletter for the Olympia Schooner Co. They will be at the Longbranch Marina on Sunday the 23<sup>rd</sup> and anyone interested in buying some fresh produce brought from the Olympia Farmers Market give them a call and let them know what you are interested in buying. Nancy can give you the number. This will help to insure they have what you want when they get here. Longbranch is the end of their run. They should be here between 2:00 and 3:00. This will be their last trip to the marina this year. They are hoping to make the run again next year.

LIC HISTORIAN: Lynn Larson not present. No report.

PRESIDENT: Geoff Baillie not present. No report.

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#### GENERAL MEETING MINUTES September 19, 2012

(continued from page 3)

VICE PRESIDENT: Gayle Brewer reported that we may be having programs at the November and January meetings. He is not sure of the schedule just yet, but one of them will be a representative of the LeMay Auto Museum and the other will be a short film on Thea Foss, the basis for Tugboat Annie. Later in the spring he is hoping to have a presentation of the history of McNeil Island.

Gayle gave a short synopsis of the actions at the last Board meeting. A good deal of time was spent on discussing some marina issues. The majority of them were referred back to the Dock Committee for discussion and action. The damage to the field from the Old Timer's Day event came up for discussion. This is an annual event and the annual damage done to the field seems to increase each year. This damage is in the area that the LIC uses for the croquet tournament. It was decided to talk with Community Services and see if there was someway they could bring the field back to the pre-event condition to our satisfaction. We are considering raising the damage deposit to them and may ask them to consider finding another venue for their event. Gayle suggested that if members did not understand what he was talking about that they drive by and look at the area. There is over 1000 sg. ft. that is torn up.

As far as the Long Range Planning is concerned it was decided that we might need the advice of someone with professional strategic planning expertise. We have one person in mind that might be able to help us, but it might come down to hiring someone to advise us on this issue. This is still a work in progress.

Carolyn Wiley spoke about the Trunk or Treat event. It is put on by the PTA with help from the LIC. Members and parents decorate their cars and car trunks with Halloween decorations and pass out candy and treats to the kids who come by. This is much safer than having the children traversing our dark roads. There are games and crafts inside for the kids. It starts at dark (about 5:00) and lasts until 8:00. Parents take lots of pictures and the kids have a lot of good, safe fun. If you have not attended in the past, bring you car, decorate it, hand out goodies or come in and help on the inside. Free hot cider, hot cocoa, coffee and tea are always served and usually very much appreciated by the trunk people and parents.

OLD BUSINESS: Nothing to report.

<u>NEW BUSINESS</u>: Doug Lewis reported that this past summer we had several gatherings where a group took their boats and member hitchhikers and went to Steilacoom for lunch. It was very enjoyable and built community within our membership. The runs are officially over but since there is a large enclosed room at the Topsider Restaurant, it may be a possibility for a nice winter adventure. Doug recommends it highly and hopes it continues, if not this winter, certainly next spring.

Gayle had one item. Yesterday he received an e-mail from Geoff Baillie and he was looking for someone to attend a meeting as a representative of the LIC. The meeting is this Saturday. It is an endowed and funded effort on behalf of the Greater Peninsulas based out of Gig Harbor. It is described as envisioning workshops and this is the first of them. Carolyn Wiley has volunteered to attend the last two but is unable to attend this Saturday. The first meeting is at Homestead Park 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. They are aiming for a coordinated approach to the things that many of the organizations are dealing with. Included in this are the arts and cultural activities, education, parks and environmental issues, recreations and what they call social capital. Gayle asked that anyone interested in being the LIC representative this Saturday to please see him after the meeting.

Motion was made to adjourn the meeting. Seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Bingham, Secretary

#### SUGAR & SPICE AND EVERYTHING NICE

Anyone interested in being part of the kitchen crew for the Fiber Arts Show and the day before when we prepare the apple crisp please let Peg Bingham know – 884-1124 or <a href="mailto:larrypegbingham@centurytel.net">larrypegbingham@centurytel.net</a>. On Friday, Oct. 5<sup>th</sup> we will be mixing the topping, chopping apples and mixing them with sugar and spice and putting the mixture in pans to be topped and baked the next day. Saturday, Oct. 6<sup>th</sup> is baking and serving day. Shift hours for Sat. can be set to your schedule, as many hours as you want to work. A Food Handler card is required for serving and preparing but not for clean-up or for cashier. Looking forward to hearing from you. Thanks.

Peg Bingham

#### DO YOU JUST BELONG

Are you an active member

The kind that would be missed
Or are you just contented

That your name be on the list?

Do you attend the meetings

And mingle with the crowd,

Or do you stay at home

And grumble long and loud?

Do you take an active part,

To help your fellow group along?

Or are you satisfied to be

The kind that just belongs?

Do you leave the work for but a few

Then murmur about the clique who do?

There is quite a program scheduled

That means success, if done,

And it can be accomplished

With the help of everyone.

So, attend the meetings regularly

And keep with hand and heart.

Don't be just a member.....

Take an active part

Think this over, dear member

Are we right, or are we wrong?

Are you an 'Improver'

Or do you just belong?

**Author Unknown** 

#### Dear LIC friends ~

Thank you so much for the lovely flowers that I received two times over the period of 12 weeks of illness. I think I am on my way to healing but still need rest and avoid stress. You can't fool with shingles!

Sincerely, Marlies Van Cise

#### **For Sale**

LIC Marina Boathouse #6, Contact Dave Dahl, 884-4511



#### Our Heroes.....

I have spoken before about some of our "Unsung Heroes" in the Longbranch Improvement Club, and the longer I'm involved with the Club the more "Heroes" I meet. The latest one to give praise and applause to is Kurt Anderson for forming our boating outings for either breakfast or lunch at Steilacoom. He organized three different outings, and each one seemed more enjoyable than the last, if that is possible. We had boaters and some non boaters, members and some non members but we all had the most delightful and enjoyable time chatting and enjoying really delicious food. One of his most amazing talents is that he always "called ahead" and made sure we had absolutely perfect weather. Beautiful sunny days, calm water and very little wind. If you didn't have an opportunity to join the "flotilla" I would ask you to join me in encouraging him to plan more for next summer season as well. Thank you so much Kurt, they were terrific outings and we all had a great time.

Your humble follower, Pat Muchmore

#### **Building Rental update:**

2012 has been somewhat of a slow year for the Rental of the Longbranch Improvement Club mostly due to the poor economy and folks tightening their budgets. September, however, has been a stellar month with the Labor Day dance and the building rented for three out of the four remaining weekends with three day packages. That should help our income budget. I have enclosed a list of upcoming activities for the club house for the next 3 months. I would like to remind everyone that when the building is rented by a private party the building and grounds are off limits to entrance and parking. If you absolutely have to get in the building I would ask that you call me and I will make arrangements with the renters to help you out. Also, please do not open the building for any non-member who does not have a key unless you have been asked to do so or have made arrangements to meet them there for some reason. If you have questions about whether or not they should be allowed in the building please call Doug Lewis 206-849-2410 or me 884-3890 for clarification.

November 28-30-Jankord wedding and reception (Private Rental)

October 6-Fiber Arts/Farm Tour

October 27-Halloween Dance-Blues Passage band-7PM-12MN

November 9- Spaghetti Social?

December 1-Society for Creative Anachronism Yule Celebration (Private Rental)

December 8-Decorate for Holidays

December-15-Set-up for Kids and Christmas
December-15- Northern Lights Concert-2-4 PM

December-16-Kids and Christmas

December-16-Membership Christmas Potluck

Thanks. Sharon

#### THANK YOU.....

A huge thank you to all of you, your friends, neighbors, family and anyone else who attended any of our five Wine Tastings at the Marina. Our final one was on Saturday, September 22nd was, by far, the most successful as far as numbers attending......especially Members. We had approximately 40 people come join us; even had a couple who kayaked from around Filucy Bay to join in the festivities. They had been to one earlier and wanted to make sure this one didn't get away from them!! The weather was a little cool, but it just made the wine taste better (as well as the cheeses) and people quickly learned to follow the sun. Fortunately, the sun didn't leave the Marina until closing time for the Tasting at 6 PM.

I especially want to thank Sharon Gearhart for setting up the hand washing area and assisting with the food handling. As usual, she did a great job. I also want to thank Lynn Lloyd for preparing and serving the different cheeses and crackers and adding her sweet smile to the pleasant festivities. One thing I became aware of as we did more and more of the Tastings; Jeff Minch (who owns and manages the Blend Wine Shop) has a great relationship with many of our members. As a matter of fact, he actually draws his own crowd to the Tastings because people know he has great information on the wines and always serves an excellent variety from which to choose.

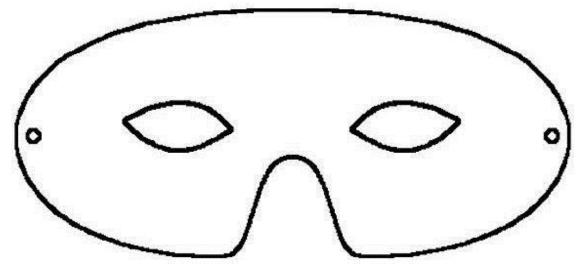
We will definitely schedule at least five Wine Tastings for next Summer; probably starting in May and going through September. The weather is just a little too "iffy" in April and October to consider them as candidates. I want to thank everyone again and look forward to seeing all of you and more of our community at the Tasting in 2013!

Pat Muchmore

## LIC Events up and coming...

Coming right around the corner, Saturday October 6 is the fifth annual Fiber Arts Show from 10am to 4pm, free admission. We're part of the Key Peninsula Farm Tour (www.kpfarmtour.com) with a petting zoo, antique tractors, and more weaving, sewing, dyeing, appliquing, quilting, embroidering, crocheting (to name a few) than you could dream up. From utilitarian to modern, homespun to artistic, it's the **Fiber Arts Threads through Time** extravaganza. Produced by tireless Carolyn Wiley, this event has something for everyone, from needlepointers to pillow plumpers. Hot apple crisp, mulled wine and spiced cider.

Costume? Mask? Makeup and wig? It's all up to you. Some come dressed as traditional Longbranch residents, some get a little crazy. Whatever you decide, make up your mind right now to be at the Clubhouse Saturday night, October 27 for a frighteningly fun **Halloween Party**. There'll be games for all, a costume contest, a little dancing, a lot of socializing. Guaranteed fun for all ages. Just \$10, Kids get in for half price, there'll be cheap hot dogs and free popcorn and a no-host bar with member-friendly prices.



**Trunk or Treat** returns on October 31, sponsored by our PTA friends at Evergreen Elementary. Decorate your trunk, truck or trailer and get in the Halloween spirit with local kids and bags of candy. Details at the October meeting.

Friday night delight! Mark November 9 for our first **Spaghetti Social**. Ten dollars for all you can eat (\$5 for kids under 12) with plenty of garlic bread, pasta, green salad and, drum roll, cheap Italian wine and dessert. A great event for non-member friends and neighbors.

More/less/different events? If you have ideas for events in 2013, now's the time to speak up. Call me at 884-0577 or email tim@heitzmancreative.com with your ideas, concerns, gripes or praise. Or come to an Events Steering meeting, 7pm first Thursday at the clubhouse.

Tim Heitzman

### **LIC Powerboat Outings**

If you read the August newsletter you probably know about the July LIC Powerboat breakfast outing to Bair Bistro and Museum in Steilacoom. Well, since that time we have twice again plied the waters of Puget Sound in search of good food, good adventure and good companionship. On Wednesday, August 29, a small group of LIC powerboats, and one sailboat, carried 23 off our members and friends back to Steilacoom for a full and varied slate of activities. First of all we partook of some very outstanding lunch meals (and service) on the second story outside eating patio of the Topside Bar & Grill. What a fantastic view! If you have not been there, you owe it to yourself to check this place out. After lunch we walked about half a block to the Steilacoom Historical Society Museum, where we not only toured the museum and the blacksmiths shop, but were also given a private group tour of the restored historical Nathaniel Orr House, which is located immediately next door. Then, on the way back to our boats, we stopped by the outstanding and always productive Steilacoom Farmers Market. After stocking up on a selection of vegetables and some rather large bouquets of locally grown flowers, we made our way back to the boats, and ultimately back to the LIC Marina. In the end it turned out to be about a five and a half hour event, with lots of fun and lots of laughs.

Although we initially had other plans for our final powerboat outing of the season, we ultimately decided to return to the Topside for another round of their truly outstanding food and service. So on Tuesday, September 18, a group of 13 LIC members and friends once again headed for Steilacoom. As with our first two outings, the weather was beautiful, the seas were calm, the food was fantastic, and many new friendships were created.

In the end, this series of outings have proved to a source of great enjoyment, relaxation, and adventure. They have also very clearly served as the vehicle for creating relationships between individuals (both boaters and non-boaters, as well as LIC members and non-members) who previously knew nothing more than the other person's first name; if that. - So, start making your plans now to join us next summer for the continuing series of LIC Powerboat outings.

Kurt

Second and Third LIC Power Boat Outing

(all pictures by L. Carr and B. Halligan)







Rockfish Burrito - and Kurt showing what to do with a rockfish burrito

A slower power boat??? The second main table







The main table

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More LIC Power Boat Outing Pictures.....



Fish & Chips Salmon salad





Look at those sweet potato fries!!

Docked in Steilacoom at low tide!





# Mark your calendars for the 'Pot Luck' Membership Meeting, Wednesday, October 17, 6:30 pm

# LIC Contacts

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

 $Hospitality/Greeter: Trish\ Goodvin/884.4270/tgoodvin@yahoo.com$ 

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

KITCHEN SERVICES: Peg Bingham/884.1124/larrypegbingham@centurytel.net

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

LIC ADOPT-A-ROAD: Open

SECRETARY: Peg Bingham/884.1124/larrypegbingham@centurytel.net

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

TREASURER: Francie Carr/ 884.6141/253.564.4065/francie68@gmail.com

NATURE TRAIL: Michael Runyan/884.4100/ annrunyon@yahoo.com

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

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

timber.con

DOCK CHAIR: Randy Babich/884.4855/traderbay@centurytel.net

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

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

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

MEMBERSHIP CHAIR CC Williams/884.3332/ccwilliams@centurytel.net

LIC "SUNSHINE LADY": Vicki Biggs/884.4468/vickibiggs@centurytel.net

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

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

LIC BLDG. RENTALS: Sharon Gearhart/884.3890/wolf9047@aol.com

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

LIC BLDG. CLEANING: Mrs. Clean—Vivian Blanchard/253.740.3946

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

LIC GROCERY RECEIPTS: OPEN

LIC RECYCLED CANS: Eloise & Larry Colbert/253.225.5115/

eacolbert@msn.com

LIC Website: www.longbranchimprovementclub.org EMAIL: lic@longbranchimprovementclub.org

Dock Phone #: 884.5137 LIC Building Phone #: 884.6022

# Longbranch Improvement Club PO Box 111 Lakebay WA 98349

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