

July 2013



Member Newsletter

Longbranch Improvement Club

For the Betterment of the Community



Drum Festival is Saturday, August 10, 10:00 am—6:00 pm

President's Message

It's Always Something!: The month was going nicely right through our general membership meeting on July 17th. Then, the very next day, we learned that our ancient and faltering septic system had failed for good. We have had inklings of trouble for several months, and it all culminated with a sewage overflow problem during a wedding rental. Fortunately, the overflow was outside the building, not in the toilets themselves. We were able to get a septic inspection the next day. Diagnosis: failed drainfield, down to about 30 feet of functioning line (should be several hundred) plus inadequate tank size and other problems, including the fact that part of our existing drainfield runs under the bathroom addition. Solution: abandon old tank and field, replace with modern tanks and appropriate size drainfield. We have met with a septic designer who is already working on plans for the replacement. By the time you read this, we may have the install job out to bid with the intent of proceeding ASAP with the work as this isn't something we can or should delay.

Related issues: The ballpark estimate for the entire septic project (design, permits, install, inspections, etc.) is 60 days. This is right during our busy summer rental season. We are having Honey Buckets brought in to cover most upcoming events. The exception is wedding rentals, for which we will pre-pump our septic tank so that they can use the indoor facilities. (Wedding Gowns and Honey Buckets do not go together very well....) We do not have firm cost numbers yet but it is bound to be expensive, probably in the 25K range by the time we are done. By the time of our August meeting we should have firm numbers to present to the membership. Needless to say, this unfortunate and unavoidable septic project represents a major financial challenge for the LIC.

The First Power Boat Outing of the season was on July 18th. More than 20 LIC members boated to Steilacoom for an outdoor lunch. Weather was perfect! Thanks to Kurt Anderson for organizing this and upcoming outings.

The History of Penrose Point was presented at the July meeting by Cathy Williams. This illustrated program included her personal and family memories of the Penroses, who settled there on the land we now know as Penrose State Park.

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

**LONGBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
July 17, 2013**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Gayle Brewer, Clark Van Bogart, Phil Johnson, Francie Carr, Tim Heitzman, Denny Prichard, Eloise Colbert, Doug Lewis, Peg Bingham

CONTRACTORS PRESENT: Kim Chaney

GUESTS: Cathy Williams, Kristi Clark, Joy and Rich Hanson

The meeting was preceded by an interesting and informative program presented by Cathy Williams on the history of Penrose Park.

Meeting called to order at 7:30 p.m.

REPORTS

Rental Agent Kim Chaney reported the building is rented or has LIC events almost back-to-back weekends through July and August.

Dock Chair Denny Prichard gave a brief report for Dock Master Lynn Carr who is currently down with pneumonia. Randy Babich is filling in for Lynn at the dock.

Secretary Peg Bingham requested approval of the minutes of the last meeting. Motion made, seconded and approved.

Treasurer Francie Carr had copies of the Balance Sheet and Profit and Loss Statement on the tables. She reported building rental is going well with income at 95% of the annual budget. Marina guest moorage is at 41.9% of the annual budget and member moorage is at 84.8% of the budget. Overall generated income is 70% of the annual income.

Building expenses remain below expectation and marina expenses are right on target at 52% of the budgeted amount. Overall, total actual expenses are 50% of the annual budget.

The LIC received a \$774 refund for personal property taxes paid 2009-2012. The Club is exempt from the tax. Also received was another \$220 toward the vandalism restitution.

Francie reminded members to turn in their Market at Key Center sales receipts. The Club receives 1% of the total (minus alcohol purchases) which helps to fund our scholarship fund. There is a jar for receipts on the mantel above the fireplace.

Events Chair Tim Heitzman reported that due to lack of participation this year's Croquet Tournament was cancelled. Only two teams had signed up to play. The committee plans to replace it with a similar type of event next summer to fulfill our goal of providing community outreach with a family friendly, fun filled day.

The Drum Festival is coming along and will be held August 10th. The admission is free and it is an all day event. The Park Department gave us seed money and the Angel Guild gave us an additional grant. Bands will be playing all through the day but the highlight will be the first performance. The Park Department is sponsoring a Drum Camp the week before for children ages 4 to 7 which is taught by middle school students. At 10 a.m. the camp students will perform on the outside stage to show what they have learned at the camp. This will be followed by a succession of six different drum bands. There will be a beer garden, a grill serving brats, grilled onions and hot dogs. It will be a great day so bring yourself, your neighbors or anyone else and enjoy a great FREE day.

Tim has Labor Day Dance tickets for sale. Placemats are also still available.

Building and Grounds Chair Doug Lewis reported that Larry Bingham and Clark Van Bogart picked up surplus ramps to be used for bridges on the trails in the wooded area behind the clubhouse and the ball field. He thanked them for doing this job and he also thanked Larry for organizing a work party to install the bridges. There still is work to be done but it is a nice area to do a nature walk with your grandchildren and/or dog. Hopefully we can continue to improve it and possible have signs to mark the trails.

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GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
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In last year's budget there was a \$1200 item for a building sound system. Doug has purchased the sound system. The grounds have once again been vandalized by cars doing doughnuts in the field. Doug thanked Bill Lloyd for weed whacking along the ditch on the highway side of the property. If anyone needs hours contact Doug and he is sure he can find something for them to do around the building or the grounds.

Gayle asked Larry Bingham if he had anything to add to Doug's report. Larry reminded the members that the LIC owns the property behind the clubhouse and ball field from the Key Pen Highway back to Erickson Road. It is full of walking trails and there for the benefit of the members. Wendell Stroud of Marine Floats donated the two ramps that were used for the bridges. Larry thanked the committee that worked so long and hard on an extremely hot day to install the bridges and Doug and Clark for all the equipment they provided and drove, to help get the work done.

Membership Chair Eloise Colbert thanked the hostesses for tonight, Marlies Van Cise and Jan Prichard. She could use hostess help for the August meeting. At this time there are 108 memberships.

Marina Chair Denny Prichard reported that once again the State is interested in giving us a grant to install a restroom and pump-out station. This time they will actually give us time to get this done, two years. The Marina Committee is working on putting the details together to see what we can do and figuring out costs and how we can put the whole package together. It sounds very good as the State is talking 100% funding for the construction and 75% funding for operation and maintenance when completed.

Pierce County has tripled our taxes on the marina so Denny and the committee have put together an appeal of our County tax assessment that was presented to the Pierce County Board of Equalization last week. Denny's figures were markedly different than the figures used by the County. He hopes this will cut our taxes at least in half. We should know sometime in late fall.

Trustee-at-Large Phil Johnson gave a quick update on the Otto Water System that supplies water to the marina. The three thousand gallon tank that stores the water for the system is scheduled for cleaning on Wednesday next week. It may be the first time it has ever been cleaned. The water to the marina will be off for a few hours. Following the cleaning the water will probably smell like chlorine for a few days. Mike and Denise Hays, longtime members of the LIC, are moving out of the area to Battle Ground, WA. Mike has been the manager of the system for a number of years. Gayle, Denny and Phil are meeting with him next Thursday to talk about transition. One of the other users on the water system, Bill Bingham, has agreed to act as the manager. He is only here part-time so it is even more important that we find a few members who are available to help manage the system, by reading meters, taking water tests, etc. Either Phil or Denny will have a further report next month.

Sunshine Lady Marlies Van Cise reported that she sent thirteen card and two bouquets this last month.

Scholarship Chair Christine Anderson reported the three 2013 scholarship recipients all wanted us to know how much they enjoyed meeting members when they visited the LIC and attended the meeting last month. TJ Lilyblade is off to a special, by invitation only, rocket symposium before he leaves for Emory Riddle. Christine reiterated the plea for Market at Key Center receipts for the scholarship fund. She also reminded members to bring their used aluminum cans to the clubhouse for recycling as this also generates money for the scholarship fund.

Vice President Clark Van Bogart had no report.

President Gayle Brewer asked Barb Van Bogart to give a report on the cookbook project. Barb said the cookbook is "on target and on track". Five hundred copies of the cookbook will be ordered on August 1st. At this time there are 135 reservations for the cookbook. If you are interested in ordering a copy, you can go into the LIC website and there is a link you can click on to order one or more copies of the cookbook. These orders will be tracked to make sure you receive your order when the books arrive. The committee is planning to put the books on sale October 5th at the Fiber Arts Show and two other locations. Information on the other locations will be forthcoming.

Kurt Anderson reported that tomorrow is the first of the 2013 boating and lunch outings. The destination is the Top Side Restaurant in Steilacoom. Non-boaters are always welcome to join the group. Contact Kurt if you are interested in attending the August 15th trip and would like a ride.

Marlies Van Cise said she has tickets for sale for the Wine Among the Vines event being held at Sunnycrest Nursery, July 28, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Tickets are \$25 per person. This is a benefit for the Mary Bridge Children's Hospital. Contact Marlies if you are interested in attending this event and need tickets.

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GENERAL MEETING MINUTES
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Connie Hildahl announced the Historical Society has books for sale on the Penrose Story, one written by the Penrose's granddaughter, a brochure on Penrose Point and a book on the life of Mrs. Penrose. They will also be at Penrose Park this Saturday evening doing a presentation of the history of Penrose Park for the campers. This will be held in the amphitheater.

A final round of applause was given Cathy Williams for her presentation.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Bingham
Secretary

Upcoming Events

Thu. August 1—Events Committee Meeting, 7:00 pm , LIC Marina

Wed. Aug 7—Marina Committee Meeting, 9:00 am, LIC Clubhouse

Sat. Aug 10—Drum Festival, LIC Clubhouse, 10:00 am—6:00 pm

Thu. Aug 15—Second Boaters Outing to Steilacoom, leave Marina 8:30 or 9:00 am

Wed. Aug 21—Pot Luck General Meeting, LIC Clubhouse, 6:30 pm

Sat. Aug 31—Labor Day Dance, LIC Clubhouse, 8:00—11:00 pm

Sad and happy summer events news.

There were more than a few frowns when we cancelled the Croquet Tournament. There just weren't enough teams to make it worthwhile. We'll be back next summer with an event that will be fun for everyone, involve other community groups and raise a few funds.

We're looking forward, with excitement, to **Drum Fest on August 10** and the **Labor Day dance on August 31**. Drum Fest is a full day of free music by seven different drum-related musical acts, starting at 10am with Drum Camp Kids. These 4-7 year olds will show off their chops from camp the week before. Then at 11, the Gordon Clan Pipers hit the stage. Noon, it's Gary Gibson, steel pan drummer; Kyla Jones and William Hines, rhythm and hand drumming at 1pm; Leif Totusek and Candela play guitar and percussion inspired by African, Latin and jazz beats at 2 p.m.; Ollie Klomp and Rippin Chicken play their jazz style at 3 p.m.; County Bookwalter, hard rock percussion entertainer is at 4 p.m.; at 5 we wrap up with "swampy bluesy schmoozers, the Malcom Clark Trio.

Did I mention the whole day's music is FREE! Of course, we'll have the BBQ fired up for \$5 Brat Baskets, some delicious IPA on tap along with wine and soft drinks. There's a style of music for everyone, and the bands change every hour all day.

We're featuring a new band for Labor Day, CFO (Chris Friel Orchestra) a wedding-style band of Seattle rockers. They're really good, really love to rock, and they promise to get everyone up and dancing in 20 minutes --- so spread the word. Advance tickets at the LIC and Lakebay Marinas, Sunnycrest and Blend Wine Shop.

Yes, we need volunteers to help: Call Tim at 884 0577 to choose a fun job for the Drum Fest or Dance. There are 2-hour, 4-hour and all-day opportunities for both events, you're guaranteed to have a good time, helping your club and meeting members and guests. We need setup, cleanup, greeters and pourers. (You'll get to wear a blue Improver shirt!) So put on your smile and volunteer now. 884 0477 or email events@licweb.org.

Tim Heitzman

COOKBOOK UPDATE

Great news!!! This week the cookbook committee will be submitting the recipes, artwork and historical descriptions for the artwork to the cookbook publisher. We anticipate receiving the cookbooks in late September, just in time for the Fiber Arts and Farm Tour on October 5. We are now taking reservations for cookbooks, so be sure to get YOUR name on the list! You can do so by emailing the total number of cookbooks you want to recipes4lic@yahoo.com. We anticipate the cost of each cookbook to be \$20. There will be an additional charge should we need to mail them, but there will be plenty of opportunities to pick your order up in person. Please help support the LIC - order yours TODAY!

Barb Floyd and Barb VanBogart

Drumming up Support for Drum Camp

You can help. Drum Camp participants will be the kick-off performance at Drum Fest on August 10 and they're in need of a little scholarship support. Drum Camp was created to support the community engagement goals of the LIC Drum Fest, and this year twelve kids have already registered for Camp.

Drum Camp is for children aged 4-7. Middle and high school students participate as helpers through the Park PALS volunteer program. The camp is filling fast, but some children may miss out because of the cost.

The Key Pen Parks Foundation has a Scholarship Fund that will pay up to 75% of \$49 class/camp fees. This greatly expands opportunities for families on the Key who meet income guidelines. We're dedicated to improving our community, and here's a way you can directly help a kid learn about music and about the joys of working with others.

Your generous donation, even if it's only \$25, will help local kids this summer. Please mark your check with Drum Camp and mail to: Key Pen Parks and Recreation Foundation, P.O. Box 188, Lakebay, WA 98349

For more information about the foundation visit <http://www.keypenparksfoundation.org>



SATURDAY AUGUST 10 2013
LONGBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB

DRUM FEST



10am
to 6pm
Aug 10
FREE

MUSIC • FOOD • FUN • WORLD DRUMS
TAIKO • STEEL • CONGA • SNARE • BONGO • MORE

LIC 2013 DRUM FEST CO-SPONSORS
KEY PEN PARKS | TWO WATERS | ANGEL GUILD

LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD WORKERS

Anyone interested in being part of the kitchen crew for the Drum Festival please let Peg Bingham know – 884-1124 or bing6178@gmail.com. Shift hours can be set to your schedule, as many hours as you want to work. We will be serving from noon to 6:00 p.m. A Food Handler card is required for serving but not for clean-up. This will be a free, fun, family oriented, outdoor event and we are serving brats, grilled onions, hot dogs, ice cream bars and popsicles. Looking forward to hearing from you. Thanks.

LIC Boater's Outing

Another truly delightful LIC group boating trip is in the books. It was another fantastic day, with calm winds, calm seas, and, eventually, bright sunny skies. We had 21 people, who were transported in five different boats, join in the lunch at Topside Bar & Grill in Steilacoom. The food was great, as usual, and considering the small size of their kitchen, they did a good job of taking care of us and one other large group at the same time.

Just like last year, everyone seemed to have a really good time, with smiles, laughing, and frivolity abounding. It was also the first time that we had two different departure times from the LIC Marina, as the sailboat and the Ranger Tug needed a head start. But we all arrived at almost the same time, and walked to the restaurant as one large group, receiving the now customary "who are those people" looks from the locals.

OUR NEXT OUTING - will be on the morning of August 15. We once again will head for Steilacoom; this time for breakfast at Bair Drug & Hardware, a historical delight, and the provider of some of the best breakfasts in South Puget Sound. We plan to arrive at the Steilacoom dock at 9:00, with the primary LIC Marina departure time being 8:30, with the slower boats leaving about 8:00.

NOT A BOAT OWNER? That's not a problem. We still have room for passengers. Come see your fellow LIC members in a whole new light. Reserve a seat early by calling Kurt at 253 350-0309, or send me an email at hound356@gmail.com.

Kurt



Beautiful view of Steilacoom from the Topside.

Photo by Clark VanBogart

6th Annual Fiber Arts on October 5th, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

The goal of the event is to show the many ways fiber has been used--from traditional to modern applications, and from utilitarian to artistic.

LIC is a favorite site on the Key Peninsula Farm Tour. This free community event attracts between 400-500 visitors.

The August task is to help distribute info to quilt, yarn, basketry and needle work shops and groups---ROAD TRIP!!!
(A great excuse to make the rounds of favorite haunts.)

It would be great to have a hand-operated rope-maker, people who could demonstrate fly-tying, hardanger, or tatting.

If you are interested in participating as a vendor, demonstrator, or volunteer.
Please contact Carolyn if you want to play: (253) 884-9157 or <c.wiley@mac.com>

Carolyn Wiley

From the Dockmaster

Thanks to Randy Babich and Denny Prichard for helping out when my 'move the kids to Spokane' trip turned into 'recuperate from the move' with more time away from the Marina than I had planned. Thanks, too, to Herb Marra for keeping the Marina ice freezer stocked.

Some of the Marina guests this month were the Corinthian Yacht Club, the Classic Boats and the yacht s 'My Girl' and 'Verite'. The 'My Girl' took many folks around Devils Head and Case Inlet for the Key Peninsula Historical Society Fundraiser. This was a great tour and the weather was perfect. The 'Verite' was part of the 'high tea' that takes place each summer.

Lynn Carr



LIC Membership Report

Please remember to send in volunteer hours in order to receive credit. Either bring them to me at the next meeting or alternatively email to eacolbert@msn.com.

Thank you,

Eloise Colbert
Membership Chair

Mark your calendars
for the August General
'Pot Luck' Meeting on
Wednesday, August 21
at 6:30 pm

LIC Contacts

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

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BLDG./GROUNDS CHAIR: Doug Lewis/206.849.2410/
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EVENTS CHAIR: Tim Heitzman/884.0577/tim@heitzmancreative.com

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

LIC GROCERY RECEIPTS: OPEN

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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.

LIC Classified Ads

	<p>Affordable, professional housecleaning by Jeri Chaney 884-2113</p> 	<p><i>Stitchin' Fun</i></p>  <p>Nancy Carr P.O. Box 94 Lakebay, WA 98349 253-884-1384 253-312-1006 (cell) ncarr44@centurytel.net</p>
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 <p>Marlies Van Cise Travel House, Inc. Licensed for 29 Years Longbranch, WA 98351 (253) 884-5608</p>	 <p>Right Brain Creations</p> <p>Pat Thompson Landscape Design (253)884-5286 bloominfools@gmail.com</p>	<p><i>Portable Saw Mill</i> <i>Will Travel</i></p> <hr/> <p>Let me turn your logs into Lumber</p> <p>Steve Stemhagen</p> <p>206 300 9871</p> <p>Lic # STEVEHR064J2</p>