



LONGBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB

MAY 2018

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY

MAY 16– DESSERT SOCIAL– 6:30 PM

President's Message:

May 2018

We are in the middle of a very busy three months for the LIC. We had a great “Suds & Spuds” event in March, a productive spring cleanup at the clubhouse and grounds on April 14th, and on the 28th the “Longbranch Super Sale” will be held. We are poised to have another successful Sale, and so a big “Thank You!” goes to Marsha Kremen, Jilly Eddy, and Barbara & Bob Green for co-chairing this event. Thanks also to Jan and Denny Prichard who previously organized it three times and helped smooth the transition to the current committee. In addition, we are less than a month away from three more events, namely, “Opening Day the Longbranch Way” at the Marina on Saturday, May 5th, the Livable Community Fair (40+ non-profits, children’s crafts, music and more) at the Key Peninsula Civic Center also on May 5th, and the Memorial Day Weekend Dance on Saturday, May 26th.

All of these events take an army of volunteers to organize and make successful. I salute and thank all of our volunteers who work so hard throughout the year to make our events fun for so many and uplifting for our community.

Speaking of fun events, the board at its April meeting gave the go-ahead to enter a float in the 4th of July parade in Home. More news about this will be forthcoming but, meanwhile, think about a theme and pass your ideas along to me or any other board member. At this point, the “float” will be my 18’ car trailer and the decoration “meeting” will be on the 2nd or 3rd of July – exact time and location to be announced mid-June.

At the April 18th membership meeting, I mentioned the Building and Grounds Committee is searching for ways to improve security at the clubhouse and grounds and discourage illegal activity. One idea is to create a rock and gate barrier mid-way in the parking lot that would partially close off easy, but not total, access to the far north trail entrance. Frankly, no one is very fond of the idea; however, our overriding concern is that we are risking our members’ safety when we challenge some of the squatters and participants in illegal activity, as we get little help from authorities because it is private property. Please see Sharon Gearhart’s piece elsewhere in this Newsletter and give us your ideas about how to improve safety and security without creating barriers for law abiding folks using our trails. If we cannot come up with a better plan, we may need to go ahead with the barrier idea.

The Marina project covered by a State of Washington grant is moving forward. We signed the construction contract with Marine Floats Corp. of Tacoma and all of our permit applications have been filed. A huge “Thank You!” to Brett Allen for assisting with the Pierce County permits and Joint Aquatic Permit Application (JARPA) form, which is 13 pages of technical information required by the US Army Corp of Engineers and other permitting agencies. We are presently processing a mound of paperwork required by the WA Department of Commerce, which administers these grants for the State. Included is a requirement to notify several Indian Tribes and the State Department of Archeology and Historic Preservation regarding the project so they can determine if a possibility exists that Indian artifacts might be disturbed or destroyed during construction. Another big “Thank You!” goes to Lynn Larson for assisting me with these notifications. We are making forward progress and have enlisted support from Pierce County Councilman Derek Young and U. S. Congressman Derek Kilmer, both of whom are committed to help move permitting for this project along. We are excited to work with all necessary parties to bring these upgrades to the Marina.

Clark

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LIC General Membership Meeting

April 18, 2018

Clark Van Bogart called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Nancy Carr introduced a new potential member, John Sanders.

OFFICER REPORTS

Secretary: Jane Eiseman asked that the minutes of the March general meeting be accepted as written and submitted. MSP.

Treasurer: Jim Hettinger reported a net gain in March, with Marina revenue increasing and a successful event, Suds N Spuds. The tax return is in the process of being completed.

President: Clark announced that a Town Hall Meeting, featuring Derek Young, Pierce County Council member from District #7, will be open to all residents of the Key Peninsula. It will be held at the clubhouse on June 14th, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Clark proposed that the LIC participate in the Home 4th of July parade. He will provide the flatbed trailer and volunteers will gather to decorate it.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership: Nancy Carr included LIC Bucks with the membership tags, for volunteer hours from the first of the year. She asked that members turn in their volunteer hour sheets to her before the next quarter ends.

Events: Kathy Lyons announced that the same band that performed last year at the Memorial Day Dance will be returning for the event, Saturday, May 26th.

Marsha Kremen stated that all of the indoor booths for the Super Sale have been sold. She is expecting that there will be a lot of donations to the sale, to be held on April 28th. If a truck is needed to haul items, please contact Bob or Barb Green. For the bake sale, pieces must be individually wrapped (cakes and pies will be sold whole) and all items must be delivered to the LIC by 8 a.m. Saturday, Marsha will send out a volunteer schedule. Clark suggested that if someone wanted to buy a piece of furniture but could not transport it, a few members with trucks could help out.

Barb Floyd and Barb Doat will represent the LIC and TLF at the Livable Community Fair, Saturday, May 5th, from ten until three, at the Civic Center in Vaughn. They would appreciate some additional volunteers.

Building and Grounds: Sharon Gearhart asked that Clark report a very successful Clean Up Day, with more than twenty people working on the inside and outside of the clubhouse, the flower beds and the trails. Clark recommended that the membership give some thought to increasing the security of the LIC grounds, by adding additional lighting and/or cameras, or even possibly installing a barrier in the parking lot, to discourage people from camping etc. Sharon would like for members to express their opinion on a proposal to extend the rocks another twenty or more feet and install a gate. She would also like to hear other suggestions.

(continued on page 3)

Marina: Opening Day the Longbranch Way will be held Saturday, May 5th. Raffle tickets are on sale for the boat-inspired quilt (locally stitched) and the Adirondack chair made from an oak wine cask by Jim Hettinger. Robert Theisen presented Clark with a birthday cake.

Newsletter: Nancy reminded us that Helen Jamieson is retiring as editor of the newsletter after two more editions. The software for formatting the articles submitted for the newsletter is available to whomever will take over the position. Clark thanked Helen for the remarkable job she has done.

OLD BUSINESS

With regard to the Marina grant, the contract has been signed with Marine Floats, all the applications for permits have been filed (to numerous agencies. Several Native American tribes must yet be informed of the proposed construction). Clark indicated he is inundated with paperwork from the State Department of Commerce. He suggested that the LIC budget include compensation for anyone who can professionally administer any future grants.

NEW BUSINESS

Delia McGinnis has accepted the position of **Nominating Committee Chair**. Secretary and Vice-President and the chairs of Events and Building and Grounds committees are up for election. The candidates are to be voted on at the June membership meeting, our annual barbecue.

The Longbranch Foundation:

Don Berger took the opportunity to recognize and thank the other members of the Scholarship Committee, *Robyn Enders and Shirley Brewer*. Two new and two recurring scholarships will be awarded, at \$1,000 each. The names will be announced May 16th and the recipients will be asked to join us at our June meeting. Clark reminded us that the scholarships are made possible by the generosity of LIC members and guests at last summer's successful Summer Fest event.

Upcoming Meetings

May 16th, membership meeting (dessert potluck). Debbie Cassidy, certified horticulturalist and owner of Sunnycrest Nursery and Floral will be the speaker.

June 20, annual membership meeting (barbecue), with board elections.

Adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

Submitted by *Jane Elseman*





FROM THE MARINA



Well, it has been a busy month. I would like to thank Tom Tallman, Jeff Robinson and Jim Sobieck for the GREAT pressure washing job they performed at the marina. Well done, gentlemen.

Five new swim ladders have arrived and will soon be installed.

The marina is filling up fast. We are getting more and more permanent boaters in the marina. This is a good thing.

I want to thank Bruce Jeglum for stripping and painting the base of the flag pole. Looks great, Bruce.

Don't forget the dock breakfast on May 5th.

Oh, almost forgot – Clark Van Bogart had his 70th birthday in April. HAPPY BIRTHDAY, Clark!!

Thanks,

Robert Thelsen

DOCKMASTER REPORT:

There is a new freezer in the pavilion and it looks great.

There were a couple of clubs that came in during March and April which is pretty good considering the weather. This month will be busy with the dock breakfast and Memorial Day dance.

We had an accident with one of the dock carts and the wheel has been replaced. Thanks also to the folks that cleaned the dock.

Lynn Carr



Remember the food bank donations and please collect Food Market receipts

to earn 1% toward the scholarship fund.



Membership Report

Thanks everyone, for the great turnout at the April meeting. It was good to see everyone having fun and lots of conversation. Thanks to Ann Dearing, Robyn Enders and Ann-Marie Ugles for helping in the kitchen.

Please try to submit your volunteer hours monthly, but if that is not possible – definitely prior to the end of each quarter.

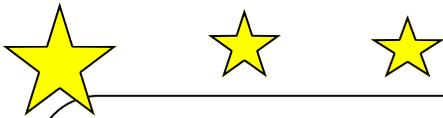
As usual, I'm asking for setup and kitchen help at the next meeting. Volunteer early and avoid the e-mail requests later!

There are a lot of activities happening in the next 3-4 months, so happy volunteering!!

Nancy Carr

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May Guest Speaker

Debbie Cassidy, new owner of Sunnycrest Nursery, will be our guest speaker at the May 16th LIC general meeting. She will give a slide presentation about her master gardening experience as well as share her plans for the nursery. I think you will find this interesting and well timed for spring and summer gardening. Please join us!



**330' Schooner, Adventurress
leaving Filucy Bay.
photo by: Rich Hildahl**

From the Sunshine Corner.....



Hello All,

Well, for the first time since I became the Sunshine representative, I have no report. Here's to a happy and healthy Spring! *Cheril*



"Kindness is the sunshine in which virtue grows." ~Robert Green Ingersoll

May 2018 Building and Grounds Chat Room:

Twenty One hardy folks turned out on April 14 for the annual LIC Spring Clean-up. With tools in hand and flexed muscles they managed to accomplish most of the items on the list in spite of the somewhat temperamental weather. The flower beds were cleaned, the windows washed (thank you Peg Bingham for your wonderful washing kit), chairs spot cleaned, stuff of unknown use was disposed of and Larry's trails received a good scrubbing with signage installed just to mention some of the work done-a huge thank you to one and all. In addition Bob Perry and his handy side kick, brother-in-law Israel Anderson, installed lighting in the attic with a switch right at the top of the ladder so folks can safely move around in the hinter land. It lights the attic up like Christmas in New York. He has also programed the thermostats in the main room to be activated remotely so that they can be checked or controlled from someplace other than the building if needed-a few of the board members will have the access. This will definitely make turning on the heat several hours before an event much easier. He will be changing out the thermostat in the meeting room soon so that will too be available for remote access. Huge kudo's go to Bob for this work and all he is doing for the LIC.

As was mentioned in the President's letter and at the membership meeting the Building and Ground's committee has been tasked with looking into ways to better secure the grounds for safety reasons. I personally have had several instances in the past four years where I needed to confront trespassers on the property. Most were friendly and cooperative but at least four times I was met with hostility and a threatening stance. In addition there has been drug use in the area behind the ballfield and our shed was broken into three times. Several months ago a derelict motorhome was parked at the end of the property and it took Robert and the sheriff to remove the owners and the rig. Most recently at the end of the spring clean-up a car was seen parked at the end of the property with a chainsaw sitting on its roof. When confronted the man inside became hostile and verbally abusive but finally left after he was told we were calling the sheriff. Our committee has looked at several ways to improve security to include: more lighting (\$400.00-\$1000.00-we were hoping to enlist the help of Penn Light with this but they could not help), cameras (\$400.00-\$1500.00), the controversial gate and rock system (\$500.00 +/-) or a combination of these things; i.e. some cameras and a gate or some sort of lighting and a camera. Signage has been recommended but I think we all realize that most people do not read signs especially if they have nefarious reasons for trespassing but it can be used in combination with other safety measures. We understand that nothing will keep undesirable people out if they want to get in and we do not want to make our club seem inhospitable and unwelcoming to the rest of the community or the membership but at the same time we do need to think about installing some sort of security measure to discourage improper use of the grounds and provide more safety for the membership, renters and community. I am enlisting your help in coming up with a solution that is workable and affordable. If you have ideas please contact me wolf9047@aol.com. If not the Building and Grounds committee will proceed with what we feel is the best option. Thank you. *sharon*



OPENING DAY THE LONGBRANCH WAY!



Come to the Longbranch Marina for Opening Day the Longbranch Way!

The dock breakfast menu this year is biscuits and gravy along with eggs, sausage, fruit and muffins.

New 2018 sweatshirts and T-shirts for sale.

Raffle drawing

Libation station

Kayak Krunch and Dinghy Dash

Informal sailboat regatta.

All this starts at 8AM May 5th. Breakfast served until the food is gone or the people are gone.

Regatta starts at 11-ish. Bring your sailboat or just come prepared to sail and we will locate a boat for you to sail on.



Kick off the summer with our Fun Memorial Day Dance presenting **"Four on the Floor"**. This band was so popular with the crowd last year, we asked them to come back . "Four on the Floor" plays songs from the 60's ,so super fun to dance/listen to them.

Bring your friends and family for a very enjoyable evening and if you purchase your tickets early from the Longbranch Marina, Blend or Sunnycrest Nursery you get a discount !

Gnosh food truck will be onsite to provide us with their delicious sandwiches/snacks.

Don't miss it!!



Kathy



CELEBRATE MEMORIAL WEEKEND AT THE LIC

ROCK & ROLL DANCE

SATURDAY, MAY 26 8-11PM

with 60's live music back by popular demand

FOUR ON THE FLOOR

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BLEND, SUNNYCREST AND LONGBRANCH MARINA**

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NO HOST BAR 21 AND OVER**

**SANDWICHES & SNACKS
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The Longbranch Foundation
INVESTING IN THE SOUTH KEY COMMUNITY
MAY UPDATE

At the most recent LIC membership meeting, Don Berger, chair of our Higher Education Scholarship Program, recognized and thanked committee members Robyn Enders and Shirley Brewer for their time and their contribution to the scholarship project. The Committee has awarded two \$1,000 recurring scholarships to two deserving former scholarship award recipients. In addition, the committee has reviewed the applications of graduating seniors who had attended Evergreen Elementary and selected two winners for \$1500 scholarships to be awarded on May 16 at the Peninsula Hawks ceremony. Don noted that all four recipients will be invited to join the LIC membership at our June Meeting.

The Scholarship program is growing because of your generous donations – **thank you!**

The Foundation has granted a request for \$1,500 from Community for Schools to expand their Camp Seymour summer camp Scholarship program. You can read more about this by going to:
<http://longbranchfoundation.org/news/>

Please remember when you purchase merchandise from Amazon to use smile.amazon.com and designate The Longbranch Foundation as your charity of choice. Another little bit that helps.

You can always contact me with questions, concerns or ideas that you might have. I would love to have you visit our web site or Facebook page and tell me what you would like to see there.

I feel like I have been an absentee member lately and hope to be back in circulation very soon. Thank you to everyone who has stepped up and carried on!

Barb

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Longbranch Improvement Club

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