



Longbranch Improvement Club *For the Betterment of the Community*

LIC Marina Access Threatened (*Marina Access Update Page 4*)

Pierce County has notified the LIC that our easement to use their pier/bridge to access our floating marina will be cancelled.

Their survey shows the structure has deteriorated to an unsafe condition.

The loss of use creates immediate practical and financial problems.

The Board of Trustees proposed immediate action with a realistic goal: let's find out who and where everyone is on this issue and what the options are.

LIC Board representatives have met with the County officials and are determining a plan of action.

Because the Marina is the Club's most-used asset, it is important to keep the community informed, especially our members. For the latest news, check the web site first.

It's at www.longbranchimprovementclub.org and the secret member password is LIC111.

If you would like to participate, support or advise in this important effort, please contact Dock Chair Wickland, 884-3163, dave@sailclassics.com or Board Secretary Geoff Baillie, 858-1499, gbaille@msn.com.



Spuds 'N Suds

Saturday, March 13, 2010, 7-10 p.m.



Come one and all to the annual "Spuds 'N Suds' celebration of St. Patrick's Day.

\$10 admission gets a baked potato with all the fixins' you can possibly imagine.

There is an "open" bar specializing in drinks the Irish (*and perhaps only the Irish*) are fond of:

Draft beer, 'Green' beer, wine, and Irish Coffee made with Jamison Irish Whiskey.

There will also be a variety of non-alcoholic drinks. This is a great event for kids so bring your kids or grandkids.

The \$10 admission does not apply to children under the age of 9 or Irish Fairies, including Leprechauns

(he is male and wears a green outfit and hat. He stands about 3 feet high and sports a beard with no mustache,

*he is a somewhat mischievous creature"). **Note:** Leprechauns taller than 5' have to pay the \$10 admission;*

the Merrow, an Irish Sea Fairy (*"most of the Merrow ever seen have been maidens. So, let's get this out of the way first.*

There are male sea fairies. They are deformed and ugly. They keep the spirits of drowned sailors and fishermen in cages at the bottom of the ocean.") That's about all I have to say about the males!

On the other hand, female sea fairies are beautiful with human features on their upper bodies and fish features on the lower.

They can have either long yellow hair or long sea green hair. **Note:** Merrow may be taller than Leprechauns so...

if you are a lady and if you come dressed as a Merrow, you're going to get in free. Of course, there is also the Pooka

(he is a changeling that can appear as a man, horse, dog, goat, cow or any form he chooses. He can be extremely helpful to you

if he so desires. He is usually quite harmless. Although sometimes he does like to take people for wild rides on his back at night just to scare the devil out of them for his own amusement. He does have kind of a twisted sense of humor that way.")

If you come as a Pooka, you may or may not get in free - depending on how I feel about you - and the horse you ride in on.

There will be Limerick contests for both kids and adults. Kids are guaranteed a prize for participating in the Limerick contest; adults have to earn a prize the hard way. There will be dart boards and dart contests for kids and adults.

Again, kids are certain to win a prize and adults, well...we'll see. There will also be good listening Irish music by Rick May and Gil Yslas so ... a person just might want to sit back and enjoy the goins' on while having a little taste of old Ireland.

John Biggs, Coordinator

President's Letter

March 2010 . . .

I am sure that like most of you, I am totally enthralled with this beautiful weather and, especially the week end we have all enjoyed. I realize by the time you read this, we will probably be back in the rain, but at least we have some beautiful memories of what it was and will be again.

I was down at the Marina both on Saturday and Sunday; as many times as I see it, I cannot get over the beauty of our gorgeous Filucy Bay and the perfect and equally gorgeous view of Mt. Rainier. I find myself just standing there mesmerized by such a scene! I am so grateful I live here and could never think of living anywhere else. Do you ever wonder how we were so blessed to have this to look at anytime we want ?

Feast or Famine

As I mentioned in my last Letter, and again at our recent Membership meeting, we had a wonderful Feast or Famine Event on the 16th of February and many thanks to Vicki Biggs and her "army of volunteers". It was very well attended and the success of it and sharing with so many of you even made the "Cruel Gruel" palatable!! Best of all was the benefit to our local Food Bank and the wonderful job they are doing. There are so many more in need now; they need our help and support every month.

Now we have Suds and Spuds to look forward to on March 13th at the LIC Clubhouse. John Biggs has stepped forward and is chairing that

event and I'm sure he would appreciate our support in preparing it as well as our attending. So now, all you Irish Men and Coleens, put on your "green" and meet us for a fun evening!



If you don't have any green to wear, just think it!

Now that we have enjoyed and look forward to the wonderful times we have, I look forward to seeing all of you at our next Membership meeting.

And, by the way, don't forget the second round of Planning Meetings: Tuesday, February 23rd Community, Wednesday, February 24th Events, Thursday, February 25th Building/Grounds and Friday, February 26th Marina.. See you there!!

Submitted by Pat Muchmore, President LIC,
884.3890, patroon9047@aol.com

TALENT CALL . . .

Contact Pat Muchmore or any of the Board Members should you or someone you know like to consider the position of "Events Chair".

Our new "Trail Manager" is Michael Runyan.
Welcome Michael!

Our new Webmaster is Peter Ballasiotes.
Welcome Peter!

Other LIC Happenings . . .

Building a better club...

2/3 of the way there!

Our planning moves ahead, c'mon, climb aboard. We already have covered the basics: what's great and what needs some improvement, and about how the Club can be more valuable, friendly and attractive to everyone. In the final round of 2-hour planning groups, you can help input everything into clear, action items and goals to be presented to the general membership in May.

Your last chance to be part of the plans. Community Planners meet March 23, Events on Wednesday the 24. Building and Grounds on Thursday Mar 25 and Marina on Friday the 26. Everyone is welcome, we start at 7 p.m. sharp at the Clubhouse.

Submitted by Tim Heitzman, LIC Treasurer

Peter Ballasiotes (*the new web master for the LIC website*) here to remind you about posting events on the site's Calendar. The calendar you will be using is through Google so to log in go to <http://www.google.com/calendar> and login as **liclongbranch@gmail.com** with the password: **calendar**

From there you will be looking at the calendar's weekly tab and today's column in yellow. To add an event or post either click 'create event' in the top left corner, or click and drag on the calendar until the desired event area is in red. From there add the event's title and edit details if needed.

When you are finished click either 'save' (*if you edited details*) or 'create event' (*if you only set the time and title*).

If you have any questions please let me know, Thanks!

Peter Ballasiotes, pballasiotes@yahoo.com

LIC Marina Access UPDATE . . .

Members of the Longbranch Improvement Club (LIC) met Friday, February 19th with staff from the Pierce County Engineer's office to discuss options available for repairing and/or replacing the County's wharf structure, which provides landside access to the LIC Marina. The LIC was responding to the County Engineer's letter of February 8th, which gave the LIC 90 days notice of the County's intent to rescind the grant of easement that allows LIC members and the public to use the wharf to access the marina. During the meeting, both the County and the LIC expressed optimism that the LIC and the public would be able to obtain permission from the County for interim use of the aging facility until a permanent solution could be implemented. Next steps include the County's further look into options and rough costs and the LIC's pursuit of funding and community and political support for replacement of the structure. The LIC will meet with Pierce County Commissioner and Vice Chair Terry Lee on March 2nd. In the meantime, the LIC will work with the County's Prosecuting Attorney on mutual understandings that would pave the way for an agreement between the parties for interim use and, ultimately, replacement of the existing structure. The LIC Marina has been in existence for over 50 years, during which time the public has also used the marina and the wharf.

Submitted by Geoffrey L. Baillie, LIC Secretary

Membership News

Mark your calendars for the March General "Dessert" Meeting Wednesday, March 17th at 7:00 pm

Thanks to all members who have renewed. Renewal reminder letters will be mailed soon, so it would be great if you could save us the postage! Also, expect a phone call some time in March. Soon we hope to be conducting a phone survey to help get your thoughts on club activities and goals.

A hearty WELCOME to our new members!

*Jeff and Barbara Boettcher
Spring Higgins and Robert Johnson
Richard Miller
Ray and Marie Steiner*

We'd love to have all of you come to Suds and Spuds on March 13th from 7-10 p.m. If you like to play darts, spout limericks, enjoy a great baked potato with "the works", or just have a beer with your neighbors, this is the night for you.

We're looking for one more hostess for the March meeting. If you can help out please call . . .

Jan Prichard, Membership Chair LIC, 884.2030, jan@pacinfo.com

LIC Contacts

PRESIDENT: Pat Muchmore/884.3890/patron9047@aol.com
TRUSTEE-AT LARGE: Phil Johnson/884.3784/kpjohn0425@yahoo.com
VICE PRESIDENT: Gretchen Lippert/884.2290/gmlippert@yahoo.com
SECRETARY: Geoffrey Baillie/884.3951/gbaillie@msn.com
TREASURER: Tim Heitzman/884.0577/timheitzman@earthlink.net
BLDG./GROUNDS CHAIR: Lynn Carr/884.1384/carr44@centurytel.net
DOCK CHAIR: Dave Wickland/884.3163/dwick@pacifictrade.com
EVENTS CHAIR: **OPEN POSITION** (*contact one of the board members*)
MEMBERSHIP CHAIR: Jan Prichard/884.2030/jan@pacinfo.com
DOCK MASTER: Mark Jones/884.5653/Lmjones@centurytel.net
LIC BLDG. RENTALS: LYNN DALRING/884.6022/penstretcher@dalsing.com
LIC BLDG. CLEANING: Landsbergers/255.2768/LZ_services@msn.com

HOSPITALITY/GREETER: Trish Goodvin/884.4270/tgoodvin@yahoo.com
KITCHEN SERVICES: Peg Bingham/884.1124/larrypegbingham@centurytel.net
LIC ADOPT-A-ROAD: Bob McFarlane/884.1314/robertmcfarlane1@mac.com
SCHOLARSHIP: Lynn Larson/884.3951/llarson@laasltd.com
NATURE TRAIL: Michael Runyan/884.4100/ annrunyon@yahoo.com
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS: Debbie Ehrhardt/884.6382/debbie@harvest-timber.com
OFFICE VOLUNTEER: Gretchen Lippert/884/2290/gmlippert@yahoo.com
LIC HISTORIAN: Lynn Larson/884.3951/llarson@llaaltd.com
LIC NEWSLETTER: Norma-Jean Gibson/884.6556/normajeangibson@remax.net
NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION: Sharon Gearhart/884.3890/wolf9047@aol.com
LIC WEBMASTER: Peter Ballasiotes/253-230-7021/pballasiotes@yahoo.com
LIC WEBSITE: WWW.LONGBRANCHIMPROVEMENTCLUB.ORG

EMAIL: lic@longbranchimprovementclub.org



Lakebay WA 98349
PO Box 111
Longbranch Improvement Club

Place your ad here . . .

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.

LIC Display and Classified Ads

 <p style="text-align: center;"> Lake Bay Nautical <i>Nautical · Tropical · Beach Décor · Home Beach · Gifts · Nautical Instruments</i> www.lakebayproducts.com Olympic Village Shopping Center 5500 Olympic Drive NW, Gig Harbor WA 98335. 253.851.3366 </p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"> Honey-Do-Handyman Projects inside and Out Call Jeff . . . 253.884.1685 </p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"> FOR SALE: NordicTrac Treadmill Hardly Used - Like New \$450.00 Contact Norma-Jean </p>
 <p style="text-align: center;"> Right Brain Creations Pat Thompson Landscape Design (253) 884-5286 sailinghorse@comcast.net </p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> BEST of Edmonds Meats & Seafood Co. <i>Wally Johnson 360-649-8877</i> 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! </p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> Home Excavating and Dozing LLC Site Clearing & Prep. Drainage Systems Gravel Deliveries Road Grading Rock Walls Demolition Logging Stump Hauling . . . And MORE! Dan Lutz 253.884.5798 HOMEED952PU </p>
 <p style="text-align: center;"> Norma-Jean Gibson Real Estate BROKER Associate RE/MAX Town and Country 253.857.1857 Full Time, <i>Licensed 22 Years</i> </p>	 <p style="text-align: center;"> robin designs custom sewing & canvas works robindesigns@hotmail.com 253.884.3030 </p>	<p style="text-align: center;"> <i>Marlies VanCise</i> TRAVEL HOUSE 253.884.5608 Licensed for 24 Years Specializing in International Travel, Cruises and Groups  </p>