



# **LongBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB**

**APRIL 2017**

**FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY**



**APRIL 19 – POTLUCK DINNER MEETING @CLUB HOUSE**

## **President's Message:**

March was a beautiful month despite the more than average rainfall. Spring officially began on the 21<sup>st</sup> which means we can get outside to pull weeds and pick up what the winter wind blew down.

At the March General Membership meeting we had a full house anxious to hear a presentation from Dan Mazur. In addition to explaining the rigors of a Mt. Everest climb, he showed us some of the necessary gear and how sherpas carried huge loads and prepared food each day. He explained and showed slides of the human waste which is left on the mountain. He and his friend Garry Porter are working on a Mt. Everest Biogas Project, which will turn human waste into methane gas for heating and cooking. The remainder of the waste will be treated and used as garden fertilizer. The Nepalese government has become a partner in this project. Earlier in the day, Dan enlightened Evergreen Elementary School students about climbing mountains. That day the LIC also received many thank you letters (typed on and printed from their iPads!) written by 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students thanking the LIC for helping to support their experience at their overnight environmental camp. One student said that camp was “probably the ‘funnest’ part of her life.”

The LIC Events Committee presented the Suds and Spuds evening. It was a wonderful time with spuds for dinner, fiddle music filling the clubhouse, little ones dancing to the music by the stage and funny limericks to brighten the evening. It was a very fun evening for the Key Peninsula community. Many thanks to the Events Committee!

As spring progresses, both the Clubhouse and Marina will have work parties scheduled to spruce up their respective areas. I hope that you will consider helping, as it is a fun way to volunteer and a great opportunity to connect with other club members. In addition, the LIC was awarded another Pierce County Historic Preservation grant for the Clubhouse renovation, so there may be opportunities to help with the scheduled restoration. This 2017 Phase II work will focus on:

- repairing and painting the trim on the west wall exterior windows,
- replacing the office and storeroom doors with age appropriate doors with darker stain,
- removing the window in the interior office wall and framing the area in with drywall
- changing the color of the kitchen counter woodwork and meeting room doors to a more age appropriate stain color.

So as spring turns into summer, consider joining other club members in sprucing, preserving and renovating the LIC properties. I will see you there!

Francie



LIC General Membership Meeting  
March 15,2017

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Francie Carr, president.

A guest, John Jolibois, was welcomed.

Carolyn Wiley introduced the night's speaker, Dan Mazur, a climber/mountaineer. Dan's parents, local residents, were committed to making Longbranch a better community. In keeping with that spirit, Dan, in turn, agreed to be a speaker only on the condition that it be a fund raiser for T he Longbranch Foundation. He was joined by Garry Porter.

The slide show that Dan presented to the LIC membership tonight was also shown to the fourth and fifth grade students at Evergreen Elementary School.

Excerpts from Dan's talk include the following:

Sherpa is the family name, the tribal classification and the job description of the local Nepalese population. Sherpas do all of the work on a Mt. Everest climb and some are trained in medical care. The number of climbers on the mountain is not restricted - resulting in a tremendous amount of trash each year. Some of this is burned, some is packed out. Approximately 12,000 kilograms of solid waste is created annually. This is carried out in toilet drums but is then dumped into open pits which feed into rivers leading to the Ganges - an environmental disaster.

About six years ago, Dan and Garry started the Mt. Everest Biogas Project, a 501 (c) 3. An all-volunteer engineering team from Seattle, in affiliation with other organizations, for technical support, collaborated on a solution to the solid waste problem. The challenge was to design a system that would meet these criteria: All local materials and labor; Low technology; Off the shelf components available in Nepal. Katmandu University and Seattle University, in collaboration, tested the solid waste to determine if the anaerobic biogas digester worked to produce methane gas - for use as fuel for cooking and heating - and to break down the pathogens so that it was safe for fertilizer. Now that the technical heating solution, the shelter design and the sustainability concept have been completed, construction could begin as early as 2018. They are actively fund raising and can be reached at [mteverestbiogasproject.org](http://mteverestbiogasproject.org). The slide show included video of the 8.1 earthquake that occurred in April, 2015, in which at least 8,000 people died. Since then, architects and engineers have been working to improve construction materials but the most effective components are also very expensive.

Francie thanked Dan and Garry for their presentation, which was appreciated by an enthusiastic audience. She announced the receipt of individually typed thank you letters from the Evergreen Elementary School fifth graders for the LIC donation to their environmental camp program.

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

Events Committee: Kathy Lyons reminded the membership of the Suds N Spuds event to take place March 18th.

Membership Committee: There is a table set up with information on LIC membership for anyone interested in joining.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Submitted by Jane Eiseman



## The View from the Dock Chair – April 2017

We are hoping to have a volunteer Work Party at the Marina on Saturday, April 22, starting at 9 AM. I have a list of small projects that need to be done, and will post it for volunteers to choose from (a technique that has worked well for Sharon at the Hall). This should be a good opportunity to get some hours in and get the Marina in fine shape for the boating season. We will be working on flowers for the planters as well, so green thumbs are welcome. And of course there will be plenty of chances to hammer, saw, scrub, organize, and even have fun. That's why it's called a "Party."

More fun on the horizon in early May for our annual Dock Breakfast on Saturday, May 6. This is an event for members and guests that is our version of Opening Day for Boating, as done by the Seattle Yacht Club. But who wants to go to Seattle when Longbranch puts on such a great party (there's that word again)? We have even improved our slogan, from last year's Opening Day the Longbranch Way to this year's Opening Day The Only Way. Kelly Hettinger is already scheming and planning for this year's breakfast, and she has your number. But why wait for her to call? This is by many accounts the most fun volunteer event of the year, so sign up at the April general meeting, or call her at 884-1618 right now! Word is that there will be a Planning Meeting of volunteers prior to the event that just might turn out to be another party. What is it with all these parties?

And finally, a tip for all boat owners. Registration for the coming year must be done before June 30, but you might want to get a head start on the process, based on the recent experience of Clark Van Bogart. He ultimately spent almost a full day dealing with the DOL trying to straighten out a matter concerning the HIN (Hull Identification Number, which is distinct from the Washington State WN number) of his boat. Be prepared to verify your boat's number when you apply for your tabs! This will not be a party.

(See the rest of the story on page 8- **"So, the lesson here is..."** )

*Mark Runtons*

We had two yacht clubs come in over Saint Patrick's Day and they had a lot of fun. Shelton Yacht Club and Viking Yacht Club had 17 boats in and had the pavilion all decorated in green. Shelton is already planning a return trip in 2018. Totem Yacht Club is coming at the end of this month.

The weather has not been good enough to install the new piling end caps – but it is on the to-do list.

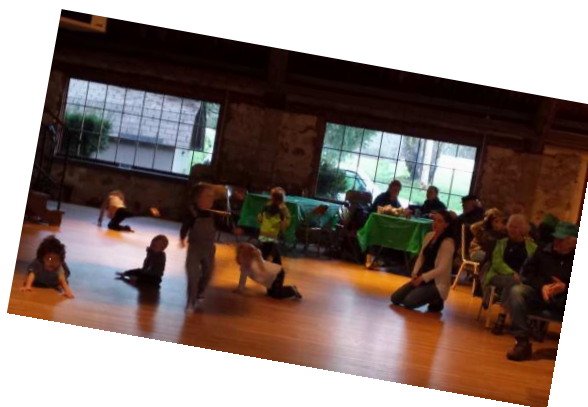
We did have a water problem, and fixed the leak – but now the meter needs to be replaced.

Good weather should be coming..... *Cynn*

## DOCKMASTER REPORT:



# SUDS N' SPUDS-2017





## What a Fun night at Suds and Spuds!!

Thank you all for coming and helping make it successful! We thought 120 potatoes would be enough but boy, were we wrong! However we had a great crew who ran to buy more and hustled to get them cooked. Our guests were "very" patient and in the end everyone got fed.

Raffle baskets were very popular as was our Fiddler's Duo. So fun to see people involved with the trivia contest, Limericks, Bean Bag Toss and Jig contest. The laughter and smiles were abundant...YEA!!

*Kathy*

Suds n' Spuds Family Style March 18, 2017

What a Grand turnout! Over one-hundred people attended this fun, family style event. We had live Celtic music provided by The Fiddler's Duo that encouraged all to sing-along and even attempt an Irish gig. There were bean bag games for the kids; courtesy of Jeff & Christine Tritt and Carolyn Wiley. There was an Irish Trivia contest where Carolyn Wiley encouraged everyone to try their hand at writing limericks. This contest was won by Virgil Iverson. Thanks to All who attended and participated!

No event like this can be pulled off without the assistance of numerous volunteers who prepared the potatoes and condiments, decorated the LIC, tended the bar, served the masses, worked tirelessly during the event, and cleaned up afterwards. A heartfelt Thank You goes out to... The Kitchen crew: Lead by Mary Lemon: Peg Bingham, Sharon Gearhart, Bernie Dunlap, Pat Muchmore, Jane Eiseman, Meg Davis, & Linda Merriam

The Events staff: Lead by Kathy Lyons, Chair and Jan Brown, Co-chair: Marsha Kremen, William Buckner, Kathy Barrett, Elizabeth Jeffery, Delia McGinnis, Susan Quigley, Linda Merriam, Patrick Duffy, Jim Sobieck, Meg Davis, Barb Van Bogart, Char Berger, Don Berger, Nancy Carr, Clark Van Bogart, Carolyn Wiley, Maggie Barry, Lizzy Barry, Jim Hettinger, Kelly Hettinger, Francie Carr, Denny Prichard, Jan Prichard, & Jeff Tritt.

Special Thank You's go to Susan Quigley who made a mad dash for more beers. (Little did we imagine so many people would become Irish and demand Guinness on St. Patrick's Day.); to Don Swenson of the Blend Wine Shop who came to the rescue with more red wines when we discovered that white wines had been placed in a box with a labeled red wine; and to Bud Goodwin of Rising Sun Produce in Seattle who donated two cases over our large spuds.

Notes were taken and we plan an even '**GRAND-ER!**' event next year!

*Kathy Lyons & Janet Brown*

Food Drive



Remember the food bank donations and please  
collect **Food Market receipts**  
to earn 1% toward the scholarship fund.





## Membership Report –

Very informative meeting in March with Dan Mazur, and thank everyone for bringing cookies and finger snacks. Thanks to Sharon Gearhart, Mary Lemon, Char Berger, Ann Dearing and Kelly Hettinger for helping in the kitchen.

If you can volunteer for a monthly meeting, please do so. Send me a note or call and pick your month! This will save me from calling you and asking for help!!

Thanks

*Nancy Carr*

253-884-1384



## April 2017 Building and Grounds Chat Room:

I would like to start out by thanking Judy Riggs and her merry band of ivy bandits for braving all sorts of weather to wage war on the ever invasive and tenacious ivy trying to choke out the trees in the LIC forest. If you are interested in helping with this project contact Judy. Larry Bingham is putting together a work party with the Scouts to clean trails and spread bark and gravel where needed. Contact him if interested in helping. Along those lines I am looking for three individuals who would like to earn some LIC hours and help Shirley Brewer with the flower beds on the north side of the building. She suggested that perhaps three individuals would be willing to 'adopt' a portion of the bed-only a small section between two buttress-and maintain it by keeping it weeded and clean as well as pruning as needed. She would be willing to guide you and answer questions as needed and she will also be doing a section. This side is visible to the road and when it is kept weeded and tended really makes the building pop. This would be a way to earn LIC hours on your own schedule. Let me know and I will relay to Shirley. Many hands taking on small projects makes the work much easier. By the way I hope you have all noticed how wonderful the daffodils look under the LIC sign. Also I will be having the annual Spring Clean Up on April 29 and will get out a list of projects soon but plan on doing some of the usual chores i.e. helping to clean flower beds, wash windows, get rid of trash, and hopefully removing some of the stuff from the shed to the dump to make more room. I will have Nancy do a blast e-mail reminder in mid-April. Just a reminder that we will be Grant work again this year and I am looking for volunteers who might be interested in taking on a project as the project manager. Some of the individual projects are removing the window in the office and repairing the wall and hopefully painting the entire meeting room, working out a way to change the stain on the kitchen cabinets and doors between the two rooms to a darker color and other projects. If you are interested please contact me or Gayle Brewer. Until next month pray for sunshine. Thanks to you all. *Sharon*

### Project Room:

- Change filter in the attic furnace-I have the filter-this can be done at the spring clean up
- Change filter under the kitchen sink-I have filters
- Ideas on what to do with the grounds on the south side of the building.

*"To know that one person has breathed easier because you lived...that is a successful life."*

*-Melinda Gates-*



### WHO AM I?



Our mystery member this month grew up in a very small town, on a small farm.

All the animals were our MM's pets. And, our mystery member has been to 21 different countries, and still likes to travel. Oh, our MM also plays the piano!

Can you guess? Mystery revealed in May's LIC NL!



### Event Banner in Key Center!

From the Sunshine Lady

Mark your calendar.....

Our longtime Longbranch Improvement Club member and friend of many passed away peacefully on February 25.

Now family and friends are planning a Celebration of Life for Dolores at the Longbranch Improvement Club. It will be on **Saturday, April 22** starting at 5.30pm. After some harp music and wine for toasting, a lovely meal will be served, slides will be shown, and this would be the time to share something special you have experienced with Dolores. There will even be live music for those that dare to dance. It will be a great send-off for Dolores, because she deserves it.

Respectfully submitted by

*Marlies Van Cise*, Sunshine Lady

([beachwoods@centurytel.net](mailto:beachwoods@centurytel.net))



## "So, the lesson here is..."

It took three hours this morning to break through the maze put up by Wash Dept of Licensing (WDOL) to figure out what happened yesterday to my boat renewals. With the help of Leila (my new best buddy) at Peninsula Licensing Agency, the following was uncovered:

The US Coast Guard and perhaps other governmental agencies like Customs have noticed over the past few years that there are a large number of discrepancies between the paperwork (registrations and titles) for boats, and that which is evident from a visual inspections. As a result, according to what I've been told, USCG issued a rule last year that state licensing agencies like WDOL clamp down on errors and get them corrected. At the same time, WDOL decided to roll out a software upgrade to its licensing system. Those two combined to bring me one of the most unusual scenarios imaginable when I tried to renew my registrations.

First up was our 2016 Arima - when I tried to renew online, it bounced because it had a 14 character HIN. It turns out that the dealer put in the entire string of characters that appeared on the manufacturer's certificate of origin - AND appears on the engraved stern plate - as the Hull Identification Number (HIN), which in our case contained a "US-", inasmuch as it was manufactured in the United States. This resulted in a 14 character HIN, rather than the required 12 character HIN. So, enter the somewhat inexperienced licensing clerk who didn't realize she could merely correct the HIN, and did NOT need to change it. Thankfully, I had the presence of mind this morning to take a digital photo with my phone of the HIN on the transom of the boat and I was able to convince Leila to correct it.

Second up was the renewal for our Achilles inflatable boat that we purchased new in 1988. What Leila found today was that for the past 29 years, both the title and the registration contained only 11 characters, rather than the required 12 characters, which caused it to bounce when I attempted to renew online. Once again, the photo I took this morning convinced Leila a correction was in order because the HIM on the boat contained the appropriate numbers and sequence..

Finally, last up was the 12' Lund aluminum we purchased used in 2008. The HIN for that boat contained the requisite 12 characters; HOWEVER, the first four characters are alpha, rather than three alpha characters followed by a numeric character. This took the most time for Leila to get fixed, and as it turns out, there was a valid reason for this particular boat to have the character stream it had. I won't go into all the details, but suffice it to say that Lund-Larson, which at the time was owned by Genmar, was in bankruptcy proceeding and this boat was built in Canada. Anyway, Leila fixed this one as well but it took an inordinate effort on her part.

So, the lesson here is for all of you to take a photo of the HIN engraved, stenciled or otherwise affixed to your vessel, AND make absolutely certain it contains 12 characters, AND it matches exactly the HIN reflected on your title and/or registration. If all matches, then chances are pretty good you'll not experience any difficulty renewing on-line. If there is any discrepancy, you'll almost surely need to go in person to a licensing agency. If this happens, print a hard copy of your photo of the HIN on the boat, and the model name/number as well because you'll need to provide and document any corrections needed to the title or registration documents. It is also important that your HIN have the requisite order of alpha and numeric character sequence because each one means something, and two characters transposed will maybe bounce your renewal as well. You can Google info about what each of the number means - I believe the USCG site may be the most help.

I hope this helps in some small way - my real strong recommendation is for you to renew as soon as you can because it's likely to be one heck of a mess at these agencies the closer we get to the June 30th expiration date and folks find out they renew easily on-line.

If any of you have questions about this, feel free to give me a call. [253-549-9129](tel:253-549-9129).

***Clark Van Bogart***





THE LONGBRANCH FOUNDATION

## **The Longbranch Foundation**

### **INVESTING IN THE SOUTH KEY COMMUNITY**

#### **April Update**

A recent email blast sought your help by contacting our Washington State Legislative District 26 representatives to urge their strong support of the Foundation's grant application (under the Washington State Community Project Program) covering Longbranch Marina upgrades. We are seeking financial assistance for the upgrades that have been agreed to by the LIC and the WA Department of Natural Resources. However, it would take the LIC many years to raise enough money to make these upgrades. Making these environmentally focused improvements sooner, especially in the case of the 'A' Dock repairs, will aid our efforts to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and keep Filucy Bay free of as many contaminants as possible. Equally important are the public safety upgrades, slated for the dinghy dock to help us maintain required public access, as well as building three finger piers, that are compliant with current light pass-through standards. The Legislature is entering the final weeks of the 2017 session and beginning to deal with State budget issues, so if you haven't yet sent a note or called, please do so now. If you have discarded to contact information, please send me a note and I'll get it to you right away.

Plans for our 2017 major fundraising effort for scholarships **"Summer Fest on the South Key"**, and the committee, headed by Kathy Lyons and Kathy Barrett, are revving up. It promises to be an event you don't want to miss. I'll leave it to them to bring you more details in the coming weeks and months, but please put Saturday, August 12<sup>th</sup> on your calendar now and sign up as soon as you receive the invitation – we expect space will be limited.

As always, please contact me with any questions, concerns or ideas you might have, and thank you for your continued support.

Clark Van Bogart, President  
[cvb@vanbogart.com](mailto:cvb@vanbogart.com)  
(253) 549-9129

The Longbranch Foundation  
[longbranchfoundation.org](http://longbranchfoundation.org)  
P. O. Box 111, Lakebay, WA 98349

## Longbranch Foundation Reminder

### TLF – LIC Legislative Alert

On behalf of the LIC, The Longbranch Foundation prepared a grant application under the Washington State Community Grant Program, seeking capital budget funds from the State for environmental and public safety upgrades at the Longbranch Marina. In a nutshell, we are asking for \$247,850 to cover the costs for replacement of the west end of 'A' dock (which has exposed Styrofoam flotation, an out-of-code electrical panel, creosote pilings and a non-complying deck surface), replacement of the entire dinghy dock structure (as a matter of public safety), and construction of three finger piers to replace the five non-conforming boat-houses that have been removed. The LIC has acknowledged these much needed upgrades and the WA Department of Natural Resources has mandated in the LIC's new 15 year aquatics land lease these upgrades be made by year 2022.

Please contact our elected representatives and urge them to support and push for the inclusion of our grant application in the State's capital budget that we hope will be approved during this legislative session. Please call, email and/or write the following elected representatives from the 26<sup>th</sup> Legislative District soon and reference the "Longbranch Foundation's Community Grant application for the Longbranch Marina":

Sen. Jan Angel  
203 Irv Newhouse Bldg  
P O Box 40606  
Olympia, WA 98504

[jan.angel@leg.wa.gov](mailto:jan.angel@leg.wa.gov)

[360-786-7650](tel:360-786-7650)

[800-562-6000](tel:800-562-6000)

Rep. Michelle Caldier  
409 John L. O'Brien Bldg  
P O Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504

[michelle.caldier@leg.wa.gov](mailto:michelle.caldier@leg.wa.gov)

[360-786-7802](tel:360-786-7802)

[800-562-6000](tel:800-562-6000)

Rep. Jesse Young  
422 John L. O'Brien Bldg  
P O Box 40600  
Olympia, WA 98504

[jesse.young@leg.wa.gov](mailto:jesse.young@leg.wa.gov)

[360-786-7964](tel:360-786-7964)

[800-562-6000](tel:800-562-6000)

If you live outside of the 26<sup>th</sup> Legislative District, please contact your home district legislators and urge them to support this vital project. Google "Washington Legislature" and the main website will appear. There is a section on the right side of the home page for contacting your legislator.

It would also be helpful to contact Pierce County Executive, Bruce Dammeier, and ask for his support as well. His office phone number is [253-798-6602](tel:253-798-6602) or -7477. To contact him via email, go to the Pierce County, Washington official website, click on "Departments", then click on "County Executive", and you can sent him a message via "Contact Me".

Thank you for helping with this.

Clark Van Bogart, President  
The Longbranch Foundation  
Phone: [253-549-9129](tel:253-549-9129)

Email: [cvb@vanbogart.com](mailto:cvb@vanbogart.com)

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MOORAGE MANAGER: ROBERT THEISEN

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