



# THE INFO

VOL. XXXVI No. 2

April—May 2012

## BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH COMMUNICATIONS

### Board Report (March & April)

#### *President's Remarks*

President **John Bock**, at the first of the two Board meetings since the last INFO was published, highlighted a number of issues that needed attention. Recently, certain issues have arisen over such things as the appropriate interval prior to a social event that reservations may be accepted. Priorities for kayak slots had become troublesome which raised questions about the use of common elements, etc.

It had been hoped that a policy review could be completed by the end of the season. However, the calendar pages turned more quickly than hoped and the full input of affected groups could not be obtained in time. John hopes to present fully researched proposals in the fall.

#### *Treasurer's Report*

Treasurer **Mike McNeil's** reports for March and April were generally upbeat, apart from a slight decline in liquidity. He was especially pleased with the state of uncollected maintenance fees, which were **“the lowest delinquency total (\$93.00) that I recall in the last eight years.”** His compliments to **Sabrina “for her successful collection efforts”** brought a burst of applause from the large number of attendees.

The owner of I-207 has paid all delinquent accounts and the unit is now current. As for the three units owned by the Association (E-206, L-207 and M-204), all are currently rented. The Bank of America has served notice that they have initiated the process to foreclose on Unit M-204. This should result in a paying owner in due course.

After noting some variances to budget, Mike stated that “Given there were no increases in the monthly

maintenance fees implemented for 2012, this is a welcomed beginning to the 2012 fiscal year.”

#### *Operating Committee*

**Ernie Giardino**, Chairman of the Operating Committee, reviewed some of the recent activities of our staff. An additional 12 kayak racks for the Yacht Club were constructed and, to make space within the fence enclosure, the Maintenance storage shed was moved. In the process, they replaced the damaged floor and roof.

You may have noticed the added flowers on the Gulf of Mexico side of the property from our entrance to the southern boundary. Trimming of some of the large trees started in mid-April.

As owners arrived at the Recreation Hall for the meeting, it was easy to take note of the sparkling new ceiling fans.

On more everyday matters, all the roofs have been inspected and, where needed, repairs were made; flaws were fixed with a flexible membrane known as FiberTite. As well, waste pipes for the 03-stack in K-Building were replaced.

Ernie also advised the owners that the time has come to take the precautionary step of waterproofing the buildings by sealing cracks and repainting. No timetable has been established. At the same time, the Operating Committee is well aware of the costs of mobilization of machinery and equipment, not to mention permit fees, so a review of concrete conditions is underway.

It has now been confirmed that a long standing opinion that replacement of our car ports would not be permitted is false. The Operating Committee will review this matter as well.

## REPORTS TO BOARD

### Property Values Evaluation Committee

As reported in the last INFO, on the recommendation of **Treasurer Mike McNeal**, the Board approved in February the establishment of an ad hoc committee to gather information to identify the major factors, both favorable and unfavorable, influencing the value (i.e. sales prices) of Longboat Harbour units in relation to similar complexes on Longboat Key. **Margie Clarke** was appointed chairman. She was joined by **Bob Clarke, Barbara Falcone, Joe and Kathy Sever and Bob and Donna Winter**.

Their exhaustive report was presented by Margie at the April Board meeting. The committee contacted a large group of individuals with knowledge of the real estate environment on the Key, including banks, real estate brokers and board members and managers of Key condos.

Bankers interviewed outlined their organizations' standards for condominium loan approvals. Longboat Harbour meets the usual requirements except one. The condo is not "warrantable." Loans in warrantable condominiums are regarded as low risk and may be insured, sold to other banks or uploaded, so to speak, to federal agencies.

To gain that status, the condominium must have, if not fully funded reserves, then at least ten percent of the annual budget must be set aside annually. The committee noted that such an amount would equal about \$50.00 per month.) Each of the six banks interviewed made clear that LbH, in the absence of reserve funding, is on what might be called their "Watch" list.

Real Estate brokers, according to the report, had a somewhat varied view of the financing issues but pointed out that LbH units sell for less because of its age and, since there are no reserves, lower carrying cost, is a plus. While older buyers do not find that a problem, younger buyers do hesitate when it comes to communities without reserves, they said. Our community is recognized as financially stable with regard to the proportion of units for sale and the numbers of foreclosures and units under association care. Brokers think of us a good value, with good views, beach access, boat docks and amenities. They feel

however, that the clubhouse is dated.

As for how to improve? The recommendation of brokers was to get a handle on reserves (at least partial), have along term plan for replacement and improvements and be financially proactive.

Board members and managers of six Key condominiums also were interviewed in the course of preparing the report. All but one has established reserves; and all felt that reserves were not only important but a necessity. Qualifying as a warrantable condominium was a minimal requirement, they felt. As a group, it was believed that the establishment of reserves made their units more marketable. Some residents did object to having reserves, when initiated, but afterward welcomed reduced special assessments or, for those after having full reserves for many years, no special assessments over those years.

The committee reviewed in detail the legal process for establishing reserves and detailed the differences between operating reserves and a capital reserve fund. In her presentation, Margie stressed the limitation to spending funds held in the capital reserve account. A history of past votes and future capital demands was laid out as well.

The Committee's findings are listed elsewhere in this issue, but the concluding message was: "Based upon the data gathered, it is important to upgrade, as well as maintain, our facilities and we strongly urge the Board to offer the members the option on voting only for Partial or Full Funding of Capital Reserves each year."

**Copies of the full report are available in the office and will be sent to all owners in a fall mailing.**

### Other Committees

**Beth Waldman**, Recreation Committee Chairman, thanked all those who made the season's events possible and encouraged everyone to have fun once again at the Kentucky Derby party May 5<sup>th</sup>. "Hats On!"

**President John** thanked **Dennis McIvor** when he made his brief and humorous report on Tennis Activities. John complimented Dennis for "taking over" tennis and making it into something special. The audience joined in universal applause.

## **Property Values Evaluation Committee Findings**

The LbH Operating Committee and Board have done a commendable job in providing maintenance while keeping the cost and assessments down. However, when LbH is compared to other condominiums that are more proactive in updating their facilities, the value of our property suffers. LbH is about the third least valued complex on the key – only in front of Spanish Main and the Trailer Park.

Today's buyers are more sophisticated and savvy and are interested in purchasing in complexes which have reserves.

Reserves would prevent LbH from losing potential buyers who wish to finance their purchase as well as enable our current owners to refinance their mortgages.

With no reserves and given the current projections of necessary required future maintenance, assessments in the future will be higher and could possibly cause undue hardship on many of our residents.

In the past two years LbH has had to foreclose on a few units. Without instituting Capital Reserve Funding any Special Assessments for those units and any future foreclosures would be paid from operating reserves. This means all the owners indirectly pay it.

It is the responsibility of all our residents to pay each year for the wear and tear on the complex they are using instead of passing this expense to future owners. This way everyone pays their fair share for use of premises.

Reserves will provide a better value to our property; make LbH a warranted and credit-worthy community. It is the financially responsible thing to do.

Longboat Harbour should be warranted by having at least 10% of our operating budget in reserves (approximately \$50 per month on average). If we do not do this, our values could decrease in comparison to other complexes. To become Warranted, owners must vote for at least a Partial Reserve every year.

Based upon the data gathered, it is important to upgrade, as well as maintain, our facilities and we strongly urge the Board to offer the members the option on voting only for Partial or Full Funding of Capital Reserves each year.

### **Property Values Evaluation Committee**

**Margie Clarke, Chairman.**

**Bob Clarke, Barbara Falcone,**

**Joe and Kathy Sever and**

**Bob and Donna Winter.**

# Federation News

The Federation of Longboat Key Condominiums held its March meeting at Longboat Harbour and expected a large crowd. Attendance was less than expected, however. Those in attendance were given a stimulating presentation of ideas for the development of the north end of the island by architect, Gary Hoyt, and sociologist, Dr. Tom Freewold.

The Longboat Key Revitalization Task Force is a volunteer group of citizens headed by former Mayor George Spoll. One of the goals of the task force is to rejuvenate the island and bring back services and amenities Longboat Key has lost. Meetings of the task force will focus on developing goals and objectives to encourage the creative revitalization of services, conveniences and opportunities for current and future residents of Longboat Key.

The task force, using the skills of New College professors and their students conducted interviews along with online surveys to get a feel for the community and the desires of residents. The process included a planning charrette. Participants in the planning workshop were challenged to think this way: "Imagine you were away for ten years. What would you like this neighbourhood to look like when you return?"

Federation members saw the results at our Rec Hall – and what they produced was well worth thinking about.

The following 10 ideas generated the widest interest from participants in a Jan. 28 planning charrette:

1. Redeveloped area from Whitney Beach Plaza to Broadway
2. Enhancement of the anchorage area at Mar Vista Dockside Restaurant & Pub and Moore's Stone Crab Restaurant
3. An Arts district
4. A Boutique hotel
5. Harbor plan with Boardwalk
6. Integrated linear concept for Broadway that encourages walkability
7. Revitalization of the Moore's property

8. Mini seaport at waterfront
9. Well-designed walking pier at beach
10. Launch for non-motorized marine vessels at the Moore's site with extra parking

These ideas, as unencumbered as they were by a reality check since that was the point of the exercise, produced some concept plans of considerable appeal.

The results of the process will be presented to the town as an "Idea Book." We should look forward to what becomes of this.

*Bart Wassmansdorf*



## *Yacht Club Rendezvous*

On February 16<sup>th</sup>, Longboat Harbour Yacht Club members headed out by sea and land to rendezvous at Mar Vista Restaurant on the north end of the island. Twenty people came by boat and forty eight came by car. As they arrived all were seated on the outdoor deck where they could enjoy the dolphins romping in the bay. It was a typical, glorious day on the island.

The luncheon was delicious and everyone enjoyed the camaraderie of the group. Prizes for the winning raffle tickets were awarded by **Commodore Len Trudell**.

The winners were:

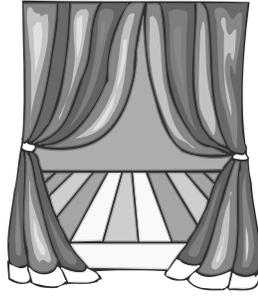
**Jan Davin**  
**Donna Greer**  
**Joyce Mount**  
**Russ Varnum**

The Commodore reminded everyone of the the upcoming Fleet Review on March 22<sup>nd</sup>. The rendezvous was a huge success.

*Pat Marschke*

## The Curtain Fell

The session of the Longboat Harbour Play Readers group Monday, March 19th marked the end of the 2012 meetings. It ended with a special series of events. Play reading was suspended and participants were free to present whatever they wished. Presentations ranged from out and out jokes to poems and monologues: it even included a couple of skits and two nostalgic songs.



In addition to the usual number of presentations through the year, there were discussions by the participants about some plays and of personal thoughts they engendered.

Thanks to **Marilyn Kaplan, Cynthia Chesner, and Florence Harr** who provided the necessary directions to keep the stage occupied. As a footnote, our last informal meeting was a pizza party. How like the theatre!

*Milton Harr*

### **SEE BACK PAGE MARK YOUR CALENDAR!**

Please make note of all the wonderful events planned for you for the 2012-2013 season at LbH. While in residence please be sure to **regularly check the house channel 195 and your bulletin board**



The **INFO** staff wishes to thank all the contributors to this issue and to wish everyone a safe and healthy summer. We look forward to seeing all of you back in "Paradise" next season!

**Mary Bock, Marcia Deitrich,  
Marge Geiger, Pat Geraci and  
Jean and Bart Wassmansdorf.**

## Welcome New Owners!

- J-107- Judith and Gerald Aakeberg -  
Winter Springs, FL
- K-305—Barbara Bellemente -  
Mt Arlington, N.J.
- L-104—Pamela and Kenneth Euerle -  
Cheshire, CT
- L- 308—Joyce and Robert Mazurek  
Largo, FL

We look forward to seeing all of you next season.

## ATTENTION ALL OWNERS

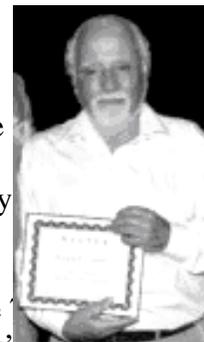


Miller Electric has offered a bulk price for new interior electrical panel boxes for \$525. If you are interested, please call the office prior to May 31, 2012. It is recommended that, if your unit still has the original panel box you give serious consideration

to this opportunity.

## LbHer Wins Theatre Award

**Stephen Cooper**, active member of Play Readers, a Retired professor of Micro biology at Univ. of Michigan, was the winner of the Theatre Odyssey's 2012 10-minute play festival. Theatre Odyssey in its sixth year, was created to promote the work of area playwrights and actors. Of the (initially read without authors' names), 8 were chosen to be performed. Each play had to be set up, performed and props taken away within 10 minutes. Cooper's play, a comedy, "Confessions a Deux," features two Catholic priests who learn through the confessional that they have strayed from their vows. Cooper thanks **Tom Vitro** of LbH for his input on Catholic theology and practice.



# YACHT CLUB



## LBHYC REVIEW AND BLESSING OF THE FLEET

It all began with the blast of a horn and they were off! The annual kayak races had begun. Three women and four men paddled furiously from the mouth of the harbor to the harbor finish line. At the end **Kathy Sever** was the winner for the women and **Russ Varnum** for the men.



The Longboat Harbour Yacht Club Fleet is alive, well and safe for another year. On a dazzling day, perfect for boating, LbH Yacht Club boat owners and their guests boarded their vessels and headed to Channel Marker 10 in Sarasota Bay to line up for the Review and Blessing of the Fleet.

Sailboats and power boats motored to the reviewing stand where **Commodore Len Trudell** and **Monsignor Gerry Finnegan** waited to review and bless the fleet. The boats then returned to their respective docks, made fast their lines and disembarked, all to the rousing music of John Philip Sousa.

Yacht Club members proceeded to the al fresco party following the review and what a party it was! Food, drink and music by Patsy and Majella were enjoyed by all. The Yacht Club awarded a plaque to longtime **Dockmaster Mark Longo** for exemplary service and a gift to **Lou Longo** for sharing her husband with the Yacht Club for so many years. **Madeline Raftery** cashed in on the 50-50 for a grand total of \$162.00 and several lucky ticket holders won door prizes. Commodore Trudell commanded, "Dance until your legs fall off" and we did. To top it all off, the customary Margaritas appeared after dinner.

Kudos to all who helped make the day such a success: **Commodore Len Trudell**, **Vice Commodore Joe Sever** and **Dockmaster Bob Geraci** for planning; **Cathy Sever, Jr.** **Past Commodore Maggie Edger**, **Scribe Pat Marschke**, **Purser Mary Kimura** and **Yo Kimura** for party preparation. Another grand day in paradise thanks to the Longboat Harbour Yacht Club.

*Mary Bock*



**Margie and Bob Clarke** enjoying the afternoon

**Purser Mary Kimura and Mark Longo**



**Commodore Len Trudell** thanking part of his hard working crew. **Bob Geraci**, **Mary Kimura**, **The Commodore**, **Maggie Edger**, **Pat Marschke** and **Joe Sever**.



# LBH Men's Club News

## Feb/Mar 2012



The Men's Club meets every other Tuesday at 11:30 for snacks and social time followed by a luncheon buffet at noon. See Comcast channel #195 or building bulletin boards for details.

A good turnout of 35 men attended on Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>. After the social time, president **Bill Holland** announced the buffet menu and invited all to help themselves. Once we had eaten, **Bill Coughlin** was brought to the lectern to emcee. After sharing a "men's" joke, he got down to business. He gave a tribute to all the years that **Warren Conrad** had acted as emcee for the club. Warren received an enthusiastic round of applause. Next, Bill gave the results of his trivia contest regarding U.S. presidents. Getting all the questions correct was **Ron McReavy**. Others who did well were recognized as well. After a number of items of interest were shared, our speaker, **Joe Molina**, was introduced and stepped to the microphone, which he didn't need to use. His talk was about the Koreas, North and South, well titled, "*Broken Promises.*" Joe emphasized that North Korea's goals *above all are*: 1. North Korea's survival, and 2. reunification of Korea. Joe provided a three-page extension of his points made during his talk. Thanks to him for helping us to look back to those difficult times in the mid-nineteen hundreds. After the door prize drawings the meeting was declared over.

Twenty-nine members attended the Mar. 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. After the social time President **Bill Holland** kicked off the bountiful luncheon citing the menu. There was no trivia contest and the business meeting and announcements were brief. Plans for our next meeting included having a speaker. The meeting was adjourned after the usual door prizes were awarded.

The last meeting of this season was held Mar. 20<sup>th</sup> with 26 present. Before sending us to the buffet table, President Bill announced that next year's plans for meetings will be the same as this season, i.e., six meetings spaced every two weeks starting in Janu-

ary 2013.

Following lunch, this year's leaders were acknowledged and the treasurer's report showed that we **managed to finish the year without going into the red.** Bill introduced **Ken Euerle** and **Ron McReavy**, both retired high school coaches, as speakers for the day. Ken spoke briefly about how both of them took great joy in seeing how their former students went on to some pretty impressive lives. Ken introduced Ron who had received many high honors in his field, track & cross-country. Ron shared some quotes easy to understand and remember: "Winning is *not* everything---Athletics are the *second* half of education---" (Advice to his students) "When you look in your mirror and can say you did your best, you *have* done great---Most of all, *enjoy* what you are doing." Ron coached at Cheshire H.S. in Cheshire, CT. With thanks to our speakers and the door prize drawings, the members were given farewells and safe wishes. We hope to see everybody back next January.

<b>Men's Club Officers:</b>	
President .....	<b>Bill Holland</b>
Vice President .....	<b>Joe Callahan</b>
Treasurer .....	<b>Bill Shelton</b>
Sunshine Chair .....	<b>TBD</b>
Emcees .....	<b>Warren Conrad</b>
.....	<b>Joe Callahan</b>

*Dick Dilgard,  
Reporter*

**CORRECTION**

A report in the last INFO made reference to a unit which was expected to fall into foreclosure. The unit named was incorrect. We apologize to the unit's owner for any embarrassment the error may have caused.

*The unit which should have been cited was K305 which did sell and funds owed to the Association were fully paid.*

## Spring Golf Day

A beautiful warm morning welcomed LbH Golfers as they arrived at the Manatee County Golf Course on Tuesday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>. Nine foursomes at seven minute intervals sought to equal the scores which they had predicted to tournament leader **Joe Callahan**.

As the day went on, heat began to build. It was not just the atmosphere. **Jim Owen** bashed out a tremendous drive, confident it would take the Longest Drive title, only to be outdone three groups later by **Jim Fox** (right below). **Ian MacIntosh** (left below), in the second to last group, captured the Closest-to-the-Pin-for-Men prize.



**Barbara Watson** who signed her name to the Closest-to-the-Pin-for-Women sign would find that her name would remain as the only one on the card. Here **Mary Bock** is sharing a chuckle with **Joe Longtin** as she accepts her award for the “Longest Drive” along with **Barbara Watson’s** award.



The test of “Predictability” is the toughest. Score better? Score worse? Variances to the forecast ranged as high as eight. But one team got it just right – the foursome of **Art Stefanski, Karen and Ian MacIntosh and Carol Kasden** (above) who predicted and scored 76. It took Karen’s birdie putt on the last hole to secure the win.

Organizers **Joe Callahan, John Bock** and **Joe Longtin** once again deserve our thanks for making it possible. And, once again the day ended with **Dennis McIvor** barbequing hamburgers and sausages accompanied by his famous sauerkraut that satisfied a very hungry bunch.

### CONGRATULATIONS...

...to **Dick Cyr** on his “Hole In One” on the 2nd hole at the Bobby Jones Golf Club, January 6, 2012





## Tennis Anyone?



About 50 people gathered at the barbeque near the big pool on a bright and breezy Sunday afternoon in March to mark another successful tennis season at LbH. **Dennis McIvor**, Chairman of the Tennis Committee, announced that in addition to himself, who was the tournament winner for the men, **Ken Comeforo** was second. **Judy Kolbert** was first for the women and **Jeri Howard** took second place.

### THE WINNERS! Jeri, Dennis, Ken and Judy



**Dennis McIvor** is Longboat Harbour's tennis guru. In addition to winning the three week long LbH Tennis Tournament for the men, he planned and executed the tournament with the help of **Ken Comeforo**, sat through most of the matches to keep score and filled in for our walking wounded, who were many. To top it all off, he cooked for the tennis picnic!

As **Dennis** mentioned in his wrap up of the season, he had lots of help from other tennis regulars. **Judy Kolbert, Russ Varnum, Hal Henrikson, Ken Comeforo** and **Gladys Henry** helped plan the party and gather the food. **Joe Longtin** provided the music and **Herman Waldman** joined in to assist Dennis with the set up and cooking. Thanks to all who helped bring the tennis season to a successful close.

*Mary Bock*

## Book 'n' Buddies

Our travels have come to an end for this season. Since the inception of **Book 'n' Buddies** our last meeting has been held at *The Lazy Lobster* and this year was no exception. Our last book discussion on "No Time To Say Goodbye" by Linwood Barclay, is a modern day mystery about a family's disappearance, leaving behind their 14 year old daughter asleep which has never been solved until... Twists and turns throughout the story, with a very surprise ending. We then enjoyed a delicious dinner and lots of laughs.



The following titles are our selections for next year:

My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult

Skinny Dip by Carl Hiaasen

Stay With Me by Sandra R. Barron

The Outlander by Paula Gabaldon

The Thirteenth Tale by Diane Setterfield

Wish You Well by David Baldacci

The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein

On a personal note, I would like to thank all who came out and joined friends and neighbors for stimulating and informative discussions. A lot of fun and laughter sprinkled about makes a good time had by all.

*SEE YOU ALL NEXT YEAR!*

*HAVE A HAPPY, HEALTHY AND SAFE 2012!*

*Marge Geiger*

### In Memoriam

We regret that we missed reporting the passing of **Thomas McInerney**, I-304 in the last edition of INFO. Tom passed away in November as he and his wife Mary were preparing for their season at LbH. Our deepest sympathy to Mary and his family

*"Death leaves a heartache no one can heal,  
love leaves a memory no one can steal."*

# HARBOURETTE NEWS

**Helen Ackerman** and her husband, **Alphonse Reimann**, will be leaving Longboat Harbour at the end of April. Helen has been a long standing member and she will be missed by all of us. Helen and Alphonse will be staying in Switzerland permanently. We wish them good health and happiness.

We were presented with a beautiful wreath of roses from **Alice Jorgensen's daughter, Ann**. Ann has been a wonderful contributor to the Harbourettes and we extend our heartfelt thanks to her and, of course, her mom, Alice.

Harbourettes will continue to meet on Wednesdays at 12:30pm until the week of May 1<sup>st</sup> and will resume the first Wednesday of November.

*Nancy Damm*



## St. Patrick's Day Luncheon

The Longboat Harbourettes hosted this festive luncheon on March 14<sup>th</sup>. Friends, old and new, were greeted by our door hostesses, **Lou Longo** and **Helen Ackerman** as they entered the rec. hall. Our menu, a "somewhat traditional Irish fare," included "green grog" punch, petite and round ring sandwiches, coleslaw and a delicious jello salad. We were treated to shamrock cookies with mint chocolate chip ice cream for dessert. Our thanks for a wonderful time, goes to **Helen Ackerman, Lou Longo, Ann Sweet** and **Barbara Watson**.



*Nancy Damm*



## HARBOURETTES ANNUAL INSTALLATION LUNCHEON

On April 11<sup>th</sup>, the last meeting of the season took place in the clubhouse. Hostesses **Elvina Avalone** and **Margaret Demey** warmly welcomed the members, totaling approximately 45 Harbourettes. The tables were beautifully set with centerpieces, compliments of **President Alice Jorgensen**. **Elvina, Margaret** and **Maggie Edger** treated us to a scrumptious luncheon, lots of food and compliments "oohs, ahhs, delicious..." followed by good conversation and lots of laughter. After coffee and a fabulous chocolate cake, President Alice went to the podium to begin the business side of our luncheon, the installation of new officers for next year. *Alice thanked those who served as officers this year; Nancy Damm as Secretary, Lorraine Brooks as Treasurer and Carol Beddie as Vice President.*

*New officers were introduced:*

*President – Sharyn Ford*

*Vice President – Carol Beddie*

*Secretary – Marge Geiger*

*Treasurer – Clarise Pellegrino*

After her name was announced, Sharyn was asked to come up to the podium. Sharyn complimented all those who worked so hard this year to make the Harbourettes so successful, especially outgoing President Alice Jorgensen, for her untiring efforts on our behalf. Sharyn is looking forward to working with us next year.

The meeting officially came to an end and the games began!

*Marge Geiger*





**LONGBOAT  
HARBOUR  
GOES  
WESTERN**



Wild West was the theme of the February 23rd party (as advertised in **Marcia Deitrich's** colorful flyer) organized by the creative Recreation Committee, chaired by **Beth and Herman Waldman**. One hundred guests - cowgirls and cowboys, one horse (hobby horse, that is) and several sheriffs - arrived to partake in the festivities. Guests were greeted at the door by cowgirl, **Mary Bock**, as they entered the Rec Hall, which had been colorfully decorated by **Sharyn Ford, Clarise Pellegrino, Mary Bock** and **Maggie Edger**.

**John Bock**, as sheriff, began the evening by warning all that he would insure order at all times. Beth welcomed all and read the letter that she had written to her husband, who was in California. She assured Herman (with just a touch of sarcasm) that, in his absence, she was not at a loss for help from her friends **John Troup, Ken Comeforo, Joe Callahan, John Bock** and **Dennis McIvor**, all of whom assumed various roles for the event. (Eat your heart out Herman!)

We were treated to an appropriate menu of brisket of beef, pulled pork and chicken, which were accompanied by **Barb Shelton's** famous slaw and Maggie's tasty baked beans, served with a smile by Beth, Maggie and **Eileen McTiernan**. (Can you believe that Beth actually put her visiting sister to work all evening!!). For those with a sweet tooth, there was an array of tempting desserts.

Guests danced for many hours to music from the Tennessee Waltz to the Electric Slide provided by the Irish duo – "Patsy and Majella." Whether dancing or just watching, it was great fun for all. So much for the stereotype of elderly condo dwellers in Florida eating early birds and ambulating with wheel chairs and canes! LbH residents are tireless dancers!! All departed with a warm spirit of camaraderie after gathering in a circle to sing "America the Beautiful."

*Pat Geraci*



**Beth Waldman, Sharyn Ford, John Troup and Maggie Edger**



**John and Mary Bock**



**Ken Comeforo, Gordon Shaw and John Troup**

## Forty to Sixty-Seven Years of Marriage



Even though it was April 1st, the party for couples married forty years or more was not a joke. Thirty couples appeared on the TV set at “Paradise Center” as contestants and audience for the “OLDIEWED GAME” produced by **Joe Longtin** and the Whiner Sisters, **Beth Waldman** and **Sheila Weiser**.

After the emcee, **Joe Longtin**, introduced the contestants - **Florence and Milt Harr**, **Donna and Bob Winter** and **Mary and John Bock** - he asked the women to leave the room. We then learned more than we ever wanted to know about the wedded bliss of the men as they responded to the following questions:

*When you were first married, what was your favorite indoor activity with your wife and what is your favorite indoor activity now?*

*After you were hit by lightning and were in a coma for a year, you realized that you were a gay man. Whom would you choose for a partner – Rock Hudson, Barney Frank or J. Edgar Hoover?*

*If you were to fantasize with a woman other than your wife, would you choose Rosie O’Donnell, Betty White, Sarah Palin or Queen Elizabeth?*

In the interest of space and discretion, I chose not to divulge the often hilarious answers. Since there was a two-way tie when the “brides” tried to duplicate their “grooms” responses, the LbH Recreation Committee did not have to deplete its budget by awarding the proposed prize of an all-expense paid trip to Anna Maria Island on the Scat Bus (a \$10.00 value).

The evening continued when all couples were summoned to the dance floor for the **Anniversary Waltz**, as the countdown for years of marriage began. As the number increased to 53 years of marriage, 10 couples still remained on the dance floor. At 63, two couples remained and were proclaimed to be the winners. Congrats and a bottle of wine went to **Hazel and Warren Conrad** for 66 years of marriage and to **Florence and Milt Harr** for 67 years.



Since an Anniversary Party would not be complete without a sweet ending, all were treated to a delicious and beautifully decorated chocolate cake.

How could so many couples look so young after so many years of marriage? They must have been child brides and grooms!!!

*Pat Geraci*



**Florence and Milt  
Harr**



**Hazel and Warren  
Conrad**



Coming together is the beginning,

Keeping together is progress,

Working together is success.

*Henry Ford*

## “PIZZA, ANYONE?”

At about 5:30 p.m. a parade of cars and walkers carrying chairs proceeded across GMD for the annual LbH pizza party. A record crowd of 170 guests were greeted by **Barbara Stamp** and **Eileen Gildea** as they arrived at the Beach House.



The first course of **Maggie Edger’s** mouth-watering salad filled with pecans, bleu cheese and other goodies received rave reviews. (Maggie, everyone is asking for your recipe!) The salad was served by the gloved hands of **Barb Shelton, Jan Davin, Ann Winter and Marg Aubry**. Second course was all types of pizza – you name it: anchovy, sausage, mushroom, white, pepperoni- delivered hot from Ciao Italia and served by **David Noyes, Bob Winter, Russ Varnum, Dennis McIvor and Ken Comeforo**. Can you imagine ordering 60 pizzas to go? To wash down the pizza, beer was served by **Larry Bateman** while red and white wine was dispensed by **Brian Doherty, Artie McLoughlin**. Ken Comeforo provided some background music while roving photographer, **Christina Filkins**, took pictures for posterity. It was great to see some visiting family members and always a treat to see some children. A frequent topic of conversation revolved around residents’ departure plans – many of whom were leaving very soon – and had planned their departure after this annual party.



The salad lady became the candy lady as Maggie Edger passed out Peppermint Patties to those with a sweet tooth. Thanks to **Vin Falcone** for having a birthday and sharing his ice cream cake with us.

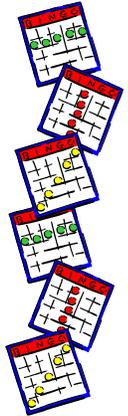
At about 8 p.m. as the sun was sinking over the horizon and all were concentrating on seeing the elusive green flash, **Jeanne McIvor** and **Ken Comeforo** made their way through the crowd hawking the remaining pizzas at bargain sunset prices. As the sun was making its final descent, guests joined in singing “God Bless America” – a wonderful ending to a perfect evening of camaraderie on a balmy night in Paradise.

Thanks to **Jeanne and Dennis McIvor** and **Carolyn and Russ Varnum** for all the planning that went into such a successful event.

*Pat Geraci*

## BINGO FINALE

“Bingo!” He hissed through clenched teeth, exuding appropriate and apologetic modesty. He was one of only three males among the twenty-five final Bingo players in the Rec Hall Tuesday, March 27. After verification, he was deemed winner of the thirty-dollar roll-over game prize. What’s the big deal? Someone has to win. But there were two identical thirty-dollar prizes during the January-to-April Tuesday evening Bingo games and **Bob Geraci** (H-Building resident) won both. That is beyond fortuitous! Ladies, pick his brain for a secret modus operandi before next season’s Bingo start-up in January 2013. Bob was in violation of the law of averages even though it is said that “all’s fair in love, war and Bingo.”



In retrospect, Bingers benefited from a bevy of loyal helpers during the 2012 winter season at Longboat Harbour trumped by excellent callers **Bill Coughlin** and **Ken Simpson**. Both were superior enunciators and possessed a pleasing baritone resonance abetted by a high level of microphone presence. Seldom was heard a request for a repeat number call.

The Recreation Committee appreciates the above twosome and exceptional, volunteer service of the following persons: card sellers **Madeline Raftery, Bonnie Coughlin, Nancy Damm** and **Margie Clarke**; agile verifiers **Helen Ackerman** and **Maryann Simpson**; and gregarious **Bob Clarke** who stepped-up to help with a multiplicity of minutia essential for the efficient operation of weekly games. Rounding out the above handy helpers was talented artist and pastry chef extraordinaire **Donna Birnbaum**. Her weekly tray of delectable goodies, washed down with aromatic decaf, helped in appeasing the wounded psyches of players who were not lucky enough to call, “Bingo!”

We hope to see more of you next season.

*Warren Conrad*

## **LbH Schedule of Events—2012-2013**

- Thursday, October 18, 2012 - LbHYC Rendezvous
  - Wednesday, October 24, 2012 - Board of Directors Meeting
  - Saturday, October 27, 2012 - Welcome Back Pot Luck
  - Thursday, November 08, 2012 - LbHYC Rendezvous
  - Wednesday, November 14, 2012 - Board of Directors Meeting
  - Thursday, December 06, 2012 - Lighting of the Docks
  - Wednesday, December 12, 2012 - Harbourettes Christmas Luncheon
  - Saturday, December 15, 2012 - Wine and Cheese (3-5 p.m.)
  - Saturday, January 12, 2013 - LbHYC Change of Watch
  - Saturday, January 19, 2013 - Gamblers Night
  - Wednesday, January 23, 2013 - Annual Meeting
  - Thursday, January 24, 2013 - Tampa Downs Outing
  - Saturday, February 09, 2013 - Dinner Dance - Music by Dan
  - Wednesday, February 20, 2013 - Board of Directors Meeting
  - Thursday, February 21, 2013 - LbHYC Rendezvous
  - Wednesday, March 20, 2013 - Board of Directors Meeting
  - Thursday, March 21, 2013 - LbHYC Review of the Fleet
  - Thursday, March 28, 2013 - Canada Night Dinner Dance
  - Saturday, April 13, 2013 - Owners Picnic Blast
  - Wednesday, April 17, 2013 - Board of Directors Meeting
  - Thursday, April 18, 2013 - LbHYC Rendezvous
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LONGBOAT HARBOUR OWNERS ASSOCIATION  
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Longboat Key, FL 34228

FIRST CLASS