

THE INFO

VOL. XXXVII No. 3

May, 2013

BUILDING COMMUNITY THROUGH COMMUNICATIONS

Board Report

It was with an appeal for moment of silence that President John Bock opened the April meeting of the Board of Directors after announcing the deaths of three of our owners and the tragic deaths and injuries sustained in the Boston bombing.

Treasurer's Report

On an operating basis, financial results are substantially in conformance with budget. Liquidity has been reduced by \$48,000 to \$563,000, due principally to insurance premiums payable early in the year along with transfers to the capital reserve fund.

Unit L-207 has closed. The Association has been reimbursed a significant portion of past due amounts. Along with rental income our costs have been covered validating the Board's decision to take possession of the unit.

The well attended meeting proceeded through a series of committee reports, reported elsewhere, until the Agenda item, "Concerns of Owners" was reached.

Most of the comments and questions centered on the decision by the Board in March to install entry gates at GMD. It was clear that a significant number of those present opposed this change, asserting that such an installation would constitute a material change requiring a vote of Owners. At times, speakers were passionate.

The next morning a decision was taken to conduct a "straw vote" among all owners to ascertain the degree of support for or against the installation. By now, owners will have received and hopefully returned the questionnaire.

Other issues expressed by Owners included the beautification of the property and the perceived deterioration of "curb appeal."

Much of the meeting however, dwelt on issues related to the forthcoming special assessment. It was clear that most of those at the meeting were concerned about the work contemplated, not that it was thought to be unnecessary, but that Owners felt ill informed and unsure that the process leading to the work was adequate.

Three major undertakings are contemplated: repairs to concrete, asphalt restoration and the replacement of carports.

Questioners wanted to know:

- What carport design has been selected?
- Why don't owners have a vote?
- Will the design be sufficiently high enough to accommodate opening the rear power door of a van?
- What is the timing?
- How much is the assessment?
- Why is the decision being made in May, after we are gone?

These and other similar questions challenged the Board. When the evening came to an end, most questions remained unanswered.

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Please see article entitled "Backgrounder."

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Bart Wassmansdorf

Backgrounder

Upcoming Projects

Although most Owners say they have confidence in the Board and Operating Committee and appreciate the time and effort spent on their behalf, it is clear Owners would like more information about important issues affecting their community.

This report is intended to explain, to the extent possible at this time, actions of the Operating Committee with relation to imminent projects.

Concrete Restoration

Construction methods used 40 years ago, however much they may have conformed to applicable building code requirements, did not adequately anticipate the corrosive effect of salt air on concrete and embedded steel.

Eight years ago, the Association undertook a concrete repair project to address deficiencies caused by corrosion.

Today, it is evident there are cracks in many areas signifying corrosion once again. Two areas of concern are, some of the lanai perimeter beams and deck and some of the columns along the exterior of the building's carpeted walkways.

There is no easy method to determine the precise extent of the repairs needed except to remove concrete where it is structurally suspect as indicated by a crack apparently caused by a rusting rebar or, an area that is obviously hollow which is discovered by tapping on the concrete.

In recent weeks, members from the board and operating committee, along with our manager, have been meeting with an engineer and developing a preliminary list of likely locations requiring remediation. At the time of the April Board meeting, that list of work and approximate total cost was incomplete.

Carports

Our carports are significantly substandard relative to current code. When constructed, they met the criteria for only a 75 mph wind. They fail by a wide margin to meet today's minimum requirement of facing wind speeds more than two-thirds greater. Those who were here during the "No Name" storm of March 22-23, 2003 saw the effect of a storm that didn't even have a name. Carports were uplifted and smashed down on cars. There is no dispute; these structures are unsafe. Another great concern in high winds is the possibility that our very old and weak carport roofs could be ripped from their posts and be hurled through unit windows.

Members of the Operating Committee conducted site tours, interviewed property managers and held meetings with possible contractors to understand construction options and pricing methods. In the process, the committee reviewed a variety of styles. Gradually, two clear choices emerged.

One design reflected the notion that carports, like garages, should be as unobtrusive as possible. A design with clean lines should govern. The second idea proposed was a mansard design. This is the more expensive option but appealing to some. After a great deal of discussion, there emerged a concern that the mansard option might not be visually attractive particularly in what is referred to as "phase two" of our community.

The consensus of the Committee favored the first concept.

Roadways

Little needs to be said about the condition of the roadways. The last surface treatment gained about eight years of use, but major work now is essential. Here again, resurfacing methods were examined. Specifications for paving work performed elsewhere were reviewed. A performance standard has been prepared with the advice of our engineer.

The complete job requires the removal of the existing carports, and the resurfacing of the asphalt. There will be inconvenience to owners and visitor while the work is being performed. Owners affected will be given as much advance notice as possible. A review as to the order of work is now underway to determine the most reasonable sequence.

Timing

It had been hoped that all these issues could have been resolved with quotes received prior to the April Board Meeting so a proper Special Assessment resolution could be prepared. This has been a slow process. Requests for quotes and requests for resubmission have not been answered as quickly as we had hoped. Nevertheless, the committee is determined to have quotes that are thorough and competitive.

At the time of this INFO, the intent is to present the Special Assessment proposal at the May meeting.

The Operating Committee

Note: The **Operating Committee** meets every Tuesday. All owners are invited to attend to stay well informed about our community.

Resignation

The morning after the April Board Meeting **President John Bock** submitted his resignation

This issue of INFO went to press prior to his letter of resignation being presented before the Board. That will be done at the next Board Meeting on Wednesday May 15, 2013.

Leadership Changes

Don Edger has offered his name as a candidate to fill the Board vacancy created by the resignation of **John Bock**. It is expected that he will be confirmed at the May meeting.

Operating Committee Co-Chairman **Ernie Giardano** announced at the April Board Meeting that a vacancy had been created in the Operating Committee after the withdrawal of **Jean Wassmansdorf** who served for nearly 10 years. Her resignation will be effective after the appointment of a new member.

An appeal for volunteers to replace Jean on the committee was responded to by three very qualified gentlemen. The Operating Committee met and it was decided to ask **Bob Winter**, a year round resident, to fill the vacancy.

Bravo to the "Library Ladies"

On behalf of the Community, our gratitude to the "Library Ladies" for the many hours spent keeping the scores of books in our wonderful library sorted and shelved when they are returned or donated to our library. Thanks to: **Elvina Avalone** and **Beverly Grimes** who perform their "duties" throughout the year and thanks as well to **Sheila Cyr** and **Kay Owen** who assist during the winter season.



In Appreciation

Many thanks to John Bock for his contributions to LbH. His vigilance in making sure that work done here was permitted and met town codes took many hours of research.

I have had the privilege of knowing John for over 50 years. His dedication to his family, friends and community are qualities to be admired. His phone never stopped ringing.

"John my car won't start."

"John, my computer broke."

"John, the lights in the Club House aren't working."

"John, the main water line is broken."

The list is too long to continue. John's concern for this community and the welfare of everyone is well known. Thank you for all your hard works and expertise in so many areas.

Beverly Grimes

* Welcome New Owners *
* L-207- Gwen and Gary Wallin *
* from Grand Rapids, MI *
* K-101- Marilyn and Michael Perez *
* from Tampa, FL *

Thank You

Edith Morse, A-102, wishes to thank all of her LbH neighbors and friends for the much appreciated thoughts and prayers she received following the death of her son Geoffrey.



BINGO at LbH finished the 2013 season with a flourish at the finale held on April 2 with another large crowd of happy players. The season was extended one week to include those who were away celebrating Holy Week and Passover at home with their families.

The special helpers were honored with individualized gifts and a round of applause. The big winner of the night was **Gary Aubrey** who pocketed the rollover pot which had grown to \$50, but everyone went home with a gift of a hundred grand. Actually, the winners were those who came every week enjoying an entertaining social atmosphere with their friends and neighbors. The operative word was “fun”!



Donna Birnbaum, Pastry Chef; Pat Geraci, Verifier; Nancy Damm, Game Board Hostess; Bob Silver, Banker.

We plan on meeting again in January 2014 and until then, “Happy trails to you”.

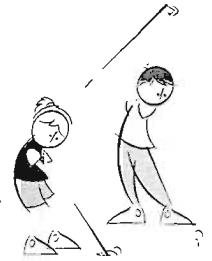
Ken Simpson

A special thank you to MaryAnn and Ken Simpson for being the perfect hostess and host and making Bingo such a success this year!

Thank you to **Jean Wassmansdorf, Bob and Joyce Mazurek** and any others who contributed pictures for this issue. We appreciate your help.



Golf at LBH is Alive and Well



The LbH Spring Golf Outing drew seven foursomes to Manatee County Golf Course to hit a small white ball over and over again until it happily dropped into the hole. Each foursome was asked to predict their score (the number of times they would hit the ball) for eighteen holes. The foursome that came in right on the money was



Jim Fox, Don Atkinson, Bart Wassmansdorf and Ken Simpson They predicted a score of 73 and that is what they got. Wow, good job, only one over par! Next stop Augusta.

Brian Doherty hit the longest drive for the men and **Don Atkinson's** ball was closest to the pin. The longest drive for the women was hit by **Karen MacIntosh** and the women's ball closest to the pin was hit by **Mary Bock**. A new award that was added this



year, low gross score, was won by **Ian and Karen-MacIntosh** and **Joe and Kathy Sever**. Each winner received a “valuable” gold trophy courtesy of **Joe Longtin, and Marcia Deitrich**. Another group who shall be nameless got a low score but unfortunately missed a hole. Oops!

Afterwards, golfers and their guests gathered at the main barbeque to celebrate the game, the day and

good friends. Although not a golfer, **Dennis McIvor** cooked hamburgers, sausages and hot dogs served with his special, yummy sauerkraut.

The outing was organized by **Joe Callahan, Joe Longtin** and **John Bock**. Our next outing is planned for the Wednesday, November 13th so gather your foursomes and hit the driving range in preparation for the LBH Fall Golf Outing.

Mary Bock



Happy 75th Herman!
Dessert by Beth



Mary Bock with her "Gold" trophy!



Chef Dennis McIvor



Message from the Dockmaster

FISHERMEN!!! Please do not attach bait buckets to light posts by tying them over the tether line of our life rings. Tying over the life ring tether disables the life ring and is **STRICTLY PROHIBITED!!**



Bob Geraci, Dockmaster

Book 'n' Buddies

The last two books discussed, Wish you Well by Baldacci and The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein struck a chord of the benevolence of our humanity. Another great season of good reading discussions has come to an end.

Next year's chosen selections are historical fiction, fiction and non fiction. They are:

1000 White Women by Jim Fergus
Caleb's Crossing by Geraldine Brooks
Kitchen House by Kathleen Grissom
Room by Emma Donoghue
Someone Knows My Name by Laurence Hill
The Light Between Oceans
by M. L. Stedman
The Story of Beautiful Girl by Racel Simon
Unbroken by Hildebrand

The last selection listed, Unbroken is the story of an Olympic runner, who joined the armed forces during WWII, and was captured. His experiences in a Japanese prison camp are somewhat graphic, so if you choose not to read it, it's fine. I will schedule two books on the last date in April. We can discuss both books at that time.

All selections can be found in the library or purchased in used book stores with, perhaps one exception, The Light Between Oceans by M. L. Stedman. It was new 2012-2013.

We missed those who went home before our annual Lazy Lobster farewell dinner. We wish them a happy and healthy year ahead.

Good luck and enjoy. Have a wonderful summer. All Longboat Harbour residents are invited to attend our meetings on the 2nd and 4th Wed. of each month at 7pm during the winter season.



Marge Geiger

CAESAR COMES TO LbH FOR CANADA NIGHT



Barb and Sandy Watson

On March 28, red and white attired guests arrived to find our Rec Hall beautifully decorated for Canada Night. The committee of **Karen and Ian MacIntosh, Barb and Sandy Watson, Glen and Rae Hamilton, Maryann Thornhill and Gretchen Burns** had been busy blowing up balloons (red and white of course) and adorning the tables with place mats decorated with American and Canadian flags. Crystal vases in which Canadian flags were positioned in Tim Horton’s cups graced the center of each table which bore the name of a Canadian Province. The windows around the room sported posters of various Canadian sights- the next best thing to actually taking a trip way up North, eh ! What a colorful sight! One almost needed to wear sun glasses to cut down on the glare.



**Gretchen Burns,
Rae Hamilton &
Maryann Thornhill**



**Karen & Ian
MacIntosh**

The drink of the evening was a Caesar. No connection to the famous Julius of Roman history but a spicy mixture of vodka, Worcestershire Sauce, hot sauce and Motts Clamato Juice garnished with a celery stick and a lime wedge. Wikipedia tells me that this cocktail was invented in Calgary, Alberta in 1969 by a restaurateur named Walter Chell to celebrate the opening of his new Italian restaurant. Even though it is said that this drink is virtually unknown outside Canada, we now know that at least the

ninety-three guests at our party have experienced this tasty libation. All one hundred Caesars made for the evening were gone before dinner was served.

The first course, a choice of delicious traditional Habitant Pea Soup or French Onion Soup made by **Barbara Watson**, was followed by Chicken Francais and Smoked Salmon Penne created and served by **Chef Daniel LaPorta** of “Cuisine on Call”, aided by **Tani and Jack Bray**. The tasty meal was finished off with maple syrup ice cream and Tim Horton’s coffee.

Now, of course, on to dancing to the selections of Canadian and American music by **Patsy and Magella!** In my previous articles, it has been quite clear that LbH residents love and know how to dance- anything and everything. Did you see one local nonagenarian, **Murray Brooks**, doing “The Twist” with his wife **Lorraine** and **Ken Simpson** and harem dancing to the “Boot Scootin Boogie?” Is it true that the **Simpsons** of LbH Bingo fame were once dancing instructors? It was great to see **Beth Waldman**, our Rec Committee chair, enjoying herself as a guest for change!



As the evening progressed the winners of the raffle items were announced. **Nancy Mazzaresse, Sheila Weiser, Glen Hamilton, Carol Pacheco, Beth Waldman, Gretchen Burns, Debra O’Connor, Barbara Stamp, Eleanor Carnese, Barbara Casel, Carole Zicherman and Rose McNeilly** were recipients of a variety of gift baskets, various types of wines including ice wine and gift cards from local restaurants.



**Diane Vanderpoel
& Dick Dilgard**



**Anne Bateman &
Mary Kimura**



**Eleanor & Paul
Carnese**



**Joyce Mount &
Barbara Cassel**

cious dips and various types of chips and crackers washed down with tropical punch and other drinks.

Since **Beth Waldman** had been called out of town due to the death of her aunt, **Maggie** started off the evening by dedicating the party to **Morris and Marle Kaplan**. **Morrie** had recently passed away and **Marle** has broken her hip after a fall. They had always been avid dancers at all the LbH parties for many years. Guests were saddened also to hear of **Gordon Shaw's** passing just that morning.

After thanking the committee and others such as **Gerry Sullivan** and **Tom Vitro** for their help. **Maggie** explained that, in **Beth's** absence, they would unfortunately not be able to proceed as planned with their Esther Williams style water show in the pool. Do you really believe that? Guess we will have to wait until next year for that performance !!

When the evening ended with the singing of the American and Canadian National anthems, all agreed that our neighbors to the North know how to host a great party.

Pat Geraci

HEY MON, IT'S CALYPSO NIGHT!

As several women were bobbing around in the pool to the music of a water aerobics tape, they observed much activity around the shuffleboard court. Various types of tropical birds were strung up in the trees, tables were being assembled and many balloons were being blown up by **Clarise Pellegrino, Don Edger, Mary and John Bock, Sharyn Ford, Bob Mazurek, John Troup and Joe Callahan**. But this was just the decorating committee. In addition, others such as **Maggie Edger and Beth and Herman Waldman** had been busy for weeks planning for **Calypso Night !!**



**Gladys Henry &
Bob Mazurek**



**Jane Stevenson &
Eileen Devine**



**Don Edger &
Herman Waldman**

Now on to a delicious buffet of fried chicken, **Maggie's** famous pulled pork, accompanied by many sides. Of course, we had dessert !!! Don't we always? A tasty cake was served as **Mary Bock** circulated among the crowd passing out Klondike bars. **Bob Geraci** had set up his photography studio on the fishing dock and was available to take pictures of guests as island ladies and surfboard guys.

Can't forget to mention the dancing to calypso tunes, slow tunes, Cha Cha, the Twist, line dances etc. Harry Belafonte, aka **Señor Fugazotto**, came prepared with classic calypso favorites such as "Marianne" and "Yellow Bird" in addition to a congo line to "Shake Sonora". As the evening progressed, several guests joined **Daniel**, the dance instructor, as he taught the Cha Cha slide.

(Continued page 8)

On the beautiful balmy evening of April 13, eighty-five guests arrived attired in all sorts of very colorful island-style fashions. Did you readily recognize the Rastafarian who was in our midst? All were pleased to see that our entertainer/musician, **Daniel Paul Fugazotto**, had brought a set of steel drums to add to the saxophone, keyboard and flute which we had enjoyed in the past. To the background of calypso music, guests munched on a variety of hors d'oeuvres such as shrimp cocktail, sausage, 2 deli-

As someone with absolutely no rhythm, I am always in awe of wonderful dancers. Therefore, I have decided to go out on a limb to proclaim the following as outstanding dancers of the evening: **Karen and Ian MacIntosh, Sandy Jackson and Bill Hatch, Sharyn Ford and Ken Comeforo and Maryann and Ken Simpson.** Wouldn't it be fun to have a dance contest at a future party?



Guess Who ???

Thanks to all for the hard work, planning and food preparation that brought us such a fun-filled evening.

Pat Geraci



THE SEASON'S OVER

A stream of cars and pedestrians with chairs proceeded from LbH on Thursday, April 18 to the beach club across the street. Was the season coming to an end already? Was it really time for pizza and saying good-bye to friends until next Fall or Winter?

One hundred twenty residents were greeted and given a much appreciated ticket for ice cream by **Marcia Deitrich and Maggie Edger.** The first course was a tasty salad made by **Carol Kasden.** With every forkful one discovered wonderful ingredients from sun-dried tomatoes to Greek olives to marinated artichoke hearts- all mixed with a savory dressing. So glad that seconds were available!!

Pizzas were served by **Ken Comeforo, Russ Var-num, Rich Pellegrino and Steve Kasden.** There were toppings to suit everyone's taste – sausage, pepperoni, plain cheese, veggie, mushroom. Even

gluten-free was available. All thirty-four pies were consumed by the end of the evening by residents and by one uninvited guest who swooped down from on high to grab **Gladys Henry's** "very large slice of mushroom pizza" right off of her plate. Didn't know that seagulls liked pizza!! **Gladys'** account of the incident is much more graphic in the telling. I am sure that she would be happy to tell you about it! Throughout the evening, wines, soft drinks, and water were served by **Bob Mazurek.**

All, especially those sitting in the sun, rejoiced to see the Purple Belle Ice Cream Truck arrive on the scene. Soon a long line formed to partake of cones or dishes of various flavors including soft serve ice cream and sorbet. What a hard decision to make !!



Steve & Carol Kasden

Thanks are in order to **Carol Kasden, Barbara Bellamente and Mary Kimura** for chairing this event as a conclusion to a wonderful season from our Recreation Committee. We missed **Annie Bateman** who was also in on the planning stages of the event.



The Illingsworth Family

**Jean McLoughlin,
Dennis McIvor
and
Artie McLoughlin**



As the sun began to set, leaving a rosy glow on the horizon, all assembled to sing "God Bless America" led by Mary Harb. Did anyone see the green flash?

Can't wait to see what the Recreation Committee has in store for next season !!

Pat Geraci

HARBOURETTES

The Harbourettes topped off a season of fun and camaraderie with a delicious light luncheon hosted by the officers. The tables were set bright and cheery and the menu included baked potatoes with yummy toppings, broccoli slaw and fruit salad. A cake from Publix for dessert was a tasty treat. Everyone ate with gusto. Happy conversation was heard from the crowd including "Thank you" and many compliments to the chefs! Could the punch have had anything to do with that?

There were no volunteers and no nominations to change the current slate of officers for the upcoming, 2013-2014 season. The duties will continue for:

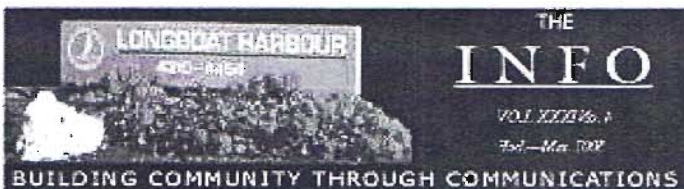
President – **Sharyn Ford**
Vice President – **Carol Beddie**
Secretary - **Marge Geiger**
Treasurer - **Clarise Pellegrino**

We look forward to another good year for Harbourettes. Remember, we gather together every Wednesday at noon for fun and games.

In my opinion
"Harbourettes are.....

people who touch the lives and hearts of others. They are a positive light to others as they put a smile on their faces. For in the end...it's not what we say that matters, it's how you make them feel that lovingly stays in each memory."

Marge Geiger



The **INFO** staff wishes to thank all the contributors to this issue. We wish you all a healthy summer and look forward to seeing everyone back for the 2013- 2014 season.

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

IN MEMORIUM



Morris Kaplan, I-308, died peacefully Saturday evening April 6, 2013. The youngest of seven children, he was born April 13, 1926 in Detroit Michigan where he grew up and became a skilled carpenter. **Morrie** is survived by his loving wife and best friend, **Marle Abramson**, three children, two step-children, six grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren. **Morrie** and **Marle** moved to Longboat Key in 1991. **Morrie** especially enjoyed dancing, fishing, trolling through the mangroves, playing pool, cooking, and having a good meal with friends and family. **Morrie** will be greatly missed by his numerous friends at Longboat Harbor as well as his family.

Gordon Shaw, D-304. We know for whom the bell tolls. It tolls for us at Longboat Harbour who knew **Gordon Shaw**. He is now past his struggle with emphysema and in a better place with his beloved May. A great husband, father and grandfather. A man with a wonderful "British sense of humor". A true gentleman and friend. We will miss him and feel the loss might be more ours than his.

This lovely tribute was written by Gordon's neighbor and friend, Larry Bateman.

Theresa Sinick, I-208, passed away on April 14. She was born in Bridgeport CT and was preceded in death by her husband Sidney. Our sympathies to her daughter Gail, who resides with her, her son Marshall, three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She will be missed by her family and her LbH friends.

Helen Schweyer, E- 107, passed away on April 26. She and her husband **George**, who predeceased her, were very active LbH residents. **George** was President of LHOA for many years and **Helen** was Recreation Chairman. She was also a very active Harbourette until very recently. Her presence will be greatly missed.

LONGBOAT HARBOUR RECREATION COMMITTEE CALENDAR

<u>2013</u>			
Oct 26	Sat	5:30 p.m.	Welcome Back Party
Nov 7	Thurs	Noon	LHYC Rendezvous
Nov 13	Wed.	TBA	Fall Golf Outing
Dec 4	Wed.	10 a.m.	Decorate Office & Hall
Dec 7	Sat.	TBA	Lighting of the Docks
Dec 15	Sun	11:30 a.m.	Holiday Brunch
Dec. 18	Wed.	Noon	Harbourettes Holiday Lunch

Board Meetings are the 3rd Wednesday of the month.
Operating Committee Meetings are Tuesday mornings at 9:30. All residents are invited to attend to stay well informed about our community.

<u>2014</u>			
Jan 18	Sat	6 p.m.	LHYC Change of Watch Bird Key YC
Jan 24	Fri	TBA	Night at the Races
Feb 20	Thur	Noon	LHYC Rendezvous
Feb 22	Sat	5:30 p.m.	Mardi Gras
Mar 20	Thur	TBA	LHYC Fleet Review and Picnic
Mar 28	Fri	6 p.m.	Cabaret Night - Tribute to Patsy Cline
Apr 10	Thur	TBA	Closing Party
Apr 2	Wed	TBA	Spring Golf Outing

Tennis, Playreaders and Bingo Finals TBA.



LONGBOAT HARBOUR OWNERS ASSOCIATION
 4454 Gulf of Mexico Drive
 Longboat Key, FL 34228

FIRST CLASS

