

Hi this is Steve Braun for Community Comment. I would like to talk a bit about a little piece of Paradise called Brookings Harbor. Brookings is named after the same Brookings family who lent their name to Brookings South Dakota and the Think Tank Brookings Institute. In the early 1900's the Brookings Family was seeking to expand their logging interests and sent representatives to Southwestern Oregon to determine a appropriate place from which to conduct business. Eventually the Area that is currently Brookings received favor over the Pistol River area some 20 miles to the north. A Mr Ward representing the Brookings family worked with a noted San Francisco Bay Area Architect Bernard Maybeck to lay out the city plot which he did utilizing a hub as the center of the city operations with spokes of the wheel extending outward representing the streets of the city. Many of these streets and initial architecture are in place today although the current city government has not formally acknowledged Brookings Historic Value as a Maybeck Community. Maybecks Brookings City Plot can be found on line by googling Maybeck along with Brookings, OR. Eventually the Area that is currently Brookings received favor over the Pistol River area some 20 miles to the north. A mill was constructed in the early teens and commerce ensued. Much of the lumber produced found its way to south to be utilized in the reconstruction of San Francisco following the 1906 earthquake. Just as in Humboldt, Railroads eventually were utilized but for a much shorter time frame....within ten years of the build up the Brookings Family had pulled out of the lumber business and sold to another concern. In the late nineteen twenties the whistle at the lumber mill blew once announcing the unexpected closure of the mill....The depression era was being felt not just in the USA but also in Brookings! ..... Brookings experienced a mass exodus of sorts....A small remnant of folks stuck around and eked out livings through out the depression, living on the generous credit extended by the Hanscams who ran a general store and Dimmicks Bros Market located in Brookings where a Mexican Restaurant currently resided. In the early forties The extreme Southern Curry County on the Harbor Bench just south of Brookings and extreme Northern California became a new destination for folks seeking their fortune growing a brand new crop. Easter Lilies....Business began to prosper and in the process a post war boom in timber and lumber manufacturing also rediscovered Brookings. In the late forties and into the sixties there were mills just about everywhere....TP burners defined the sky line between Brookings and Smith River to the south...by the late sixties there were just two timber concerns Brook Ply and South Coast Lumber which was incorporated in the early 50's. In the Seventies South Coast Lumber purchased Brook Ply Shares and continued operation of the plywood manufacturing plant which also supplies product for a LDL operation manufacturing Doors and Window Frames for notable manufacturers throughout the USA. To this date South Coast Lumber continues to provide family wage jobs and contribute to a stable economy in the Brookings Harbor area. Brookings was incorporated in 1952 pretty much coinciding with the opening of the all new Brook Ply Facility. This month Brookings is proud to be hosting the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Azalea Festival with a Parade on Saturday, May 24 and a juried car show on

Sunday expecting over 200 classic automobiles at the Port of Brookings Harbor, Quilt Show; Plant sales; Flower Shows and more. Brookings is a great place to visit we hope to see you soon! For Community Comment this has been Steve Braun