



MEMBER NEWS

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY

FEBRUARY 2021

NEXT MEMBERS MEETING: FEBRUARY 17, 2021 6:30PM – ZOOM DETAILS TO FOLLOW



President's Message

As January comes to an end, I have always held the thought that the light is coming. By the end of January, it stays light until after 5:00pm. When I worked a regular job, I always felt uplifted because it would be light when I left work. I think that the light is coming in other ways this year. While Covid is mutating and continuing to spread, many more people are taking this seriously and doing what they need to do to stay safe.

Vaccines are here and while the rollout has been less than efficient, many folks that I know have now had their first shot. Jilly and I have appointments on February 9th for our first dose. I know that it's been confusing for many since these appointments often need to be booked on-line, and knowing where to go to sign up is definitely a challenge. If you haven't already made an appointment, and aren't sure where to turn, start with this web site: Phase Finder / Encuentra Tu Fase (findyourphaseswa.org). It will step you through some questions and get you to a list of locations. Unfortunately, many places are not taking any more reservations until they receive more of the vaccine but it's a start. I've also heard that the Purdy Costless will be getting vaccine so you might give them a call. We all need to be proactive to get vaccinated along with safety protocols, so we can get this virus behind us. I for one, really want to have an in-person meeting so I can see you all! One more thing: I hope to be scheduling two dates for drive through testing in February. I'll let you know as soon as I firm them up.

If you had a chance to review our December financials you saw that we are on firm financial footing despite our loss of rental revenues. We are very fortunate among non-profits and we have a revenue stream from the marina. We hope that by the end of this year we will be starting to rent the building again, but in the meantime, our finances are solid, and we have the wherewithal to continue forward with our various projects. The pump out station continues to move forward, and Brett Allen and crew have submitted our preliminary permit



President's Message (cont'd)

request to the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife. Brett has a very competent team assisting him and good communications with the county, so things are moving forward on that front. The roof project also continues to move forward. We have submitted a grant application to Pierce County in the amount of \$25,000, the maximum amount allowed this year, and we have set aside reserve funds to match the grant. We have selected an architectural firm to begin the design process, pending receipt of the grant funding. I will keep you posted on both of these projects as they progress.

So, as we move to lighter, and hopefully brighter days, keep up your good works, take care of yourselves. Together we will weather this storm and build a Brighter Future. Also, please keep in mind, you can record volunteer hours for community service, so if you see a need out there or in your neighborhood, do not hesitate to step forward and help out as there are many needs in our community.

Marsha Kremen
President

Activities

We are happy that the budget was approved, which means we have the go ahead for the many activities we have planned, including those to help celebrate the LIC Centennial. We anticipate reduced pandemic restrictions and as such, look forward to the ability to gather in person, and partake in many community gatherings.

Unfortunately, the March activity, Suds and Spuds, is not feasible under current guidelines and will not be held this year.

Stand by for regular updates; we will plan to adjust as fast as the COVID limitations allow. If you have any ideas or suggestions, we would love to hear them. Drop us a line or give us a call. Let's make 2021 a year to remember!

Allen & Marcel Ballinger
Events Co-Chairs

Dockmaster Report

Hello from the dock,

We had a fair amount of guest boaters in January which is great!

With below freezing temperatures, we have shut off the water and have only the 4 winter spigots available. These are located by slip B-1 and A-17, in front of the pavilion, and by slip A-3.

Night squid fishing is in full swing and a few of our members have been having fun fishing from the dock. I heard some nice squid was fried up for dinner!

Katie Harrison
Dockmaster





The Longbranch Foundation (TLF) - February 2021 Update

The Longbranch Foundation's Board of Directors is happy to announce that Jan Prichard has agreed to join the Board. Welcome Jan! Jan is our Student Programs Chair, and as you can see, has been doing a wonderful job for us.

Here is Jan's latest communication from Bette McCord at Evergreen: "With the return of students to school in this time of social distancing, we are challenged with keeping our children safe. One way we are doing this is to provide each student with their own storage bin to keep all of their school supplies in. Our 3rd, 4th and 5th

graders are coming on a split schedule, some morning and some afternoon. They will share the same learning space but have a bin to keep their supplies in that is put away when the students go home. The learning space will be sanitized between classes."

The Longbranch Foundation supported this request for 90 storage bins for Evergreen students.



Building Brighter Futures for Our Students

Mark your calendars now to reserve April 10, 2021 for our next gala auction to benefit our students.

Registration will begin March 18 to purchase food for your party.





STAY SAFE, STAY HEALTHY

The virus continues to haunt us, and Pierce County continues to see too many infections.

Please follow the recommended guidelines:

Wear a mask - indoors and out, wash your hands frequently and maintain at least a six-foot distance.

This is a simple way to show respect and kindness to others.

If you have any questions about or input for The Longbranch Foundation please do not hesitate to talk with one of our Board members: Randy Carr, Jim Hettinger, Marcia Harris, Marsha Kremen, David Zeigler, Sheryl Low, Michele Gorman, Jan Prichard or call me.

Contact information can be found on our web site. longbranchfoundation.org

Thank you for your volunteer time and donations of money to meet the needs of the community!

Barb Floyd

President

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longbranchfoundation.org

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cell: (206) 920-3273

The Longbranch Foundation

P. O. Box 111

Lakebay, WA 98349

Food Market

A reminder, please continue to save your Food Market receipts for when we meet again.

Support Longbranch Foundation.

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates.

[Go to smile.amazon.com](http://smile.amazon.com)





Because the 1920's were where we began, we get an extra month to explore. We cannot examine the history of the LIC without also exploring the history and impact of baseball on our Club which was, as many of us know, incorporated on December 21, 1921. What I learned while researching was that we grew out of a social group that met in various community members' homes. The club sponsored many dances, dinners, and events, including the Longbranch baseball team.

Per Addie McMenamin, who along with her husband John, served as the Club's unofficial historians for many years, it was the popularity of the Longbranch team's games that provided the final impetus for our Club's formation. The group recognized that the team needed a larger baseball field. In January of 1922 they purchased 10 acres of property adjacent to the (then) proposed county road and it was cleared and leveled by volunteers who then built a grandstand and concession stand for fans to enjoy the games. In 1924 the Club donated three acres for a two-room schoolhouse to be built.

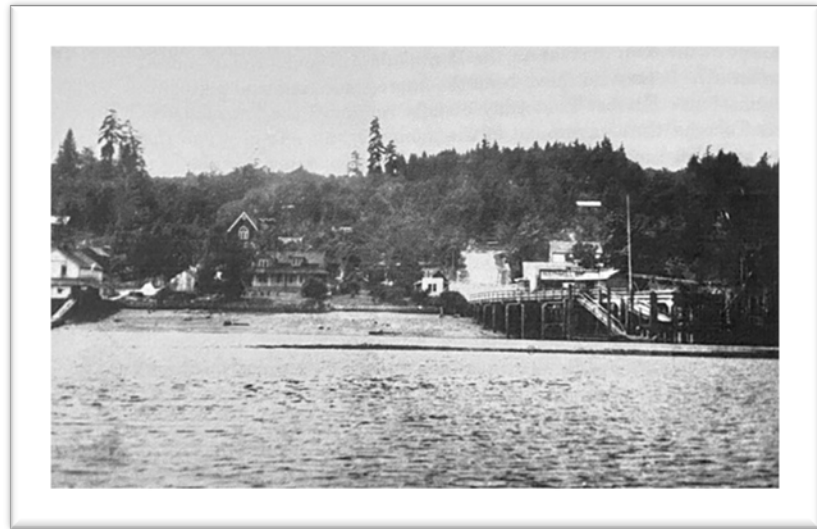
The LIC's impact on the community in the early 20's were further marked by the Shellgren family's post office in Longbranch. Built adjacent to the dock, the post office became the destination and overnight tie-up for the Eagle, one of the Mosquito Fleet boats that ran between Steilacoom and Longbranch. Due to rising costs, fewer travelers because of the Spanish Flu, and other factors, regular ferry service stopped in late 1919, leading to a two-year effort to reestablish a connection for folks living on the southern end of the peninsula. With a county road that was impassable more than it wasn't, it was critical that residents had a means by which they could reliably get help, and supplies, and/or simply communicate and receive news of the rapidly changing world.



Ferry *Elk* coming into Longbranch, May 1922
(Photo credit: *Early Days of the Key Peninsula*, 1998, 2nd Ed.)

Six members of the LIC leadership at the time, including Club president Sam Watkinson, were heavily involved in this effort, working with county commissioners and engineers for months to come up with a plan to keep people on the southern end of the peninsula connected with "Big City," as it was termed in a local report. Finally, after months of meetings, the keel was laid and construction began on the 82-foot long, 26-foot beam ferry, the Elk, capable of carrying 150 passengers and 16 cars. It was also designed with space for farmers to transport produce for sale back on the mainland.

The LIC, under the leadership of Sam Watkinson, hosted the festivities welcoming the Elk, considered the “Cadillac of her day,” into Longbranch in May, 1922. One local teacher wrote, “As the ferry Elk entered this little bay she posed an unmistakably and stately air, like a gracious queen, who had deigned to come to humble Filucy Bay.” The Elk’s time as reigning queen of Filucy Bay was a short three and a half years, but critical to the development and growth of the area. The City of Steilacoom, a larger and faster vessel made the Longbranch-Steilacoom run until the Narrows Bridge. made the service obsolete.



Longbranch Ferry Dock, ca. 1923 (Photo credit: *Early Days of the Key Peninsula*, 1998, 2nd Ed.)

It’s great to know the critical role our Club played getting the Elk’s keel laid, and reestablishing the much-needed connection to the mainland, easing the fears of those afraid that our communities would be cut off from the rest of the world.

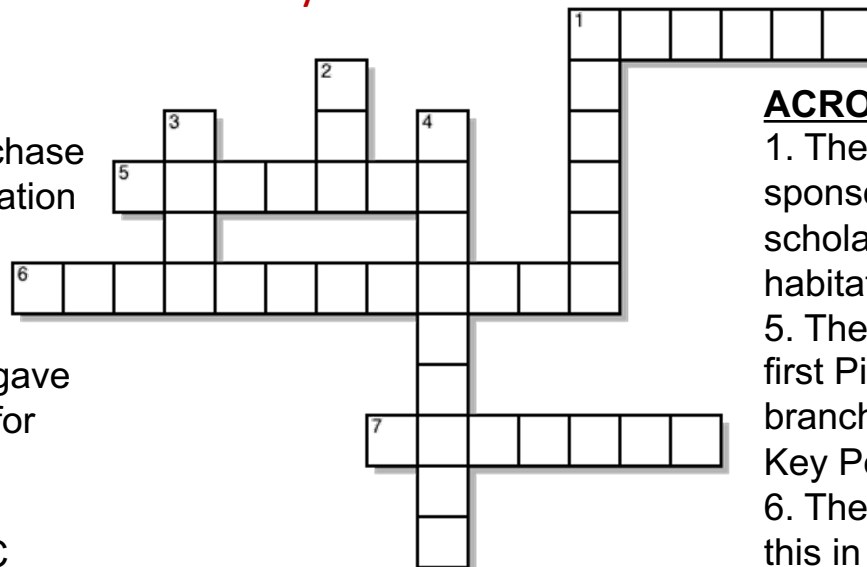
Contributed by Polly Robinson
LIC Member



Centennial Crossword – February 2021

DOWN

1. The LIC was incorporated to purchase real estate for recreation and what?
2. Who built the LIC clubhouse?
3. In 1958, the LIC gave a piece of property for the first Longbranch _____ station.
4. What was the LIC clubhouse initially built to be?



ACROSS

1. The LIC has sponsored dances, scholarships, and what habitat restoration?
5. The LIC hosted the first Pierce County branch _____ on the Key Peninsula.
6. The LIC celebrated this in 1976.
7. The first President of the LIC was Ernest

Membership

Thanks to those that have sent in 2021 membership renewal. There are forms on the website and I will be happy to provide one if that is easier.

As everyone knows, 2020 was a different year. However, as an organization, we still had some good times, kept up with meetings and helped our community. I am glad we are able to have the monthly meetings, and it is good so see folks without a mask!

We ended up with 146 memberships, and about 3658 volunteer hours so far for 2020. There are more folks that need to turn in hours, please do so – they all count! When you enter 2020 hours in the app, make sure the volunteer date is correct then. Here is where some of those hours went:

Community Service – Helping others	312
LIC – Building & Grounds	247
LIC Events	262
LIC – Marina Grant	7
LIC – Marina Pumpout	100
LIC – Preservation Grant	55
LIC – General	845
Newsletter	59
TLF – Fundraiser	502
TLF – General	515
TLF – Student Activities	56



Thanks everyone for your help and service and stay safe

Nancy Carr
Memberships



“If you want light to come into your life, you need to stand where it is shining.”

~ Guy Finley

From the Sunshine Corner

Hello All,

This month I sent out a congratulations card, and a sympathy card on behalf of the LIC to a prominent community member who lost her mother.

Sadly, long time member, Harry Faas, has passed.

Cheril Allen
Sunshine Representative



Buildings and Grounds

We have a lot of volunteers to thank for their work on the building and grounds this month. Tom Talman and Larry Silva cleaned gutters, filled potholes in the parking lot and trimmed trees along the road. Gary Brownlee filled in a hole around the foundation and replanted a tree.

David Shinnars helped Jim rebuild a bridge in the back trail area that was rotting and blew all the trails clear.

Polly Robinson figured out how to hook us up to the Arlo system. And, finally, multiple volunteers helped us weed the beds and clear out some junk around the back shed.

We also renewed contracts with Katie Harrison for rental management and Kitty Voyce for custodial services.

Currently, we're investigating costs and steps required to build a fence around the propane tank and use the storage container. The latter is in need of insulation and some way of either relocating it or making it less unsightly.

Two requests to members: if you are bringing cans for recycling, please put them inside the dumpster enclosure. Otherwise, they are hauled away as garbage. Also, we're looking for anyone interested in joining a Building and Grounds committee. Contact Jim at jamsob@msn.com.

Jim Sobieck and Ann Morris
Buildings and Grounds



In Remembrance

Our friend and long-time member, Harry Faas passed away on January 6th. No plans have been made at this time, but his daughter asks that cards and condolences be sent to:

The Faas Family
c/o Jan Peters
17545 – 110th Ave SE
Yelm, WA 98594

She will let us know any future plans.

LIC General Meeting

January 20, 2021



Marsha Kremen, President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Guests & New Members Introductions – All Members were welcomed by President Marsha Kremen.

Marsha introduced the speaker Kira Rubel, who spoke on the Importance of Estate Planning – Wills – Trusts – Power of Attorney. Further information is available at Harbor Law Group in Gig Harbor.

BOARD REPORTS

Secretary: Sheryl Low asked that the minutes of the December Membership Meeting be accepted as written and submitted. MSP

Treasurer:

- Review of the December and year-end Financial Reports. We had a very good year in 2020, most of that due to moorage being full at the Marina. The invoices for the moorage for the year were emailed to all. If you pay the full year upfront by February 15th, 2021, you can get a 5% discount. You may also use your LIC Bucks for payment. You can see your LIC Bucks accrued for the year by going to the members section of the LIC website, member list as of 12/31/2020.
- Reserve Additions: Jim Hettinger presented the document listing our proposed additions to our reserve accounts this year. This money goes to

various designated projects or the promissory note. Motion: To move the designated funds from the checking account to the reserve accounts. MSP

- Proposed Budget: Jim presented the proposed budget for 2021. Motion: To approve the Budget as presented for 2021. MSP
- Capital Expenditures: Jim presented the Capital Expenditures Request for 2021. Motion: To approve the Capitol Expenditures requests for 2021. MSP

Membership:

Reminders: Nancy explained how the volunteer hours are documented. Connie Hildal is working on our Food Market Receipts and those totaled \$42,980.26. We get a percentage back for all of those receipts. Please fill out your annual membership renewals.

Buildings and Grounds:

Volunteers have helped filling in holes in the parking lot and others made repairs to the trails. Jim would love suggestions to paint the storage container, and some ideas are to paint it like trees. There will be a weeding party on Saturday at noon. We had a lawnmower disappear so Robert Theisen and Larry Layton are rehabbing a used mower for use at the LIC. The lawnmower will be kept in the storage container.

Marina:

All 14 cameras are up and running for security at the Marina and Rick Harrison is working to get WAVE Broadband installed at the Marina.

LIC General Meeting January 20, 2021



Vice President:

We have a number of great events planned for the Centennial Celebration. The Virginia V, the oldest mosquito fleet steamship in the Sound is planned to be here for rides at the culminating event.

President:

- Pumpout Station: We have submitted and are in the process of obtaining our Shoreline Permit. Brett Allen has worked hard on this project, and feels we are doing very well in completing the steps needed with the County.
- Preservation Grant: Marsha met last night with the Historical Preservation Committee. There were 9 applicants for building grants for the pool of money, so we are waiting to hear if we will be granted more money for our roof project. We have applied for \$25,000 to begin the engineering and design to replace the roof on our LIC building.
- No COVID testing in January, but hope to have two testing dates in February.

The Longbranch Foundation:

Jan Prichard has agreed to step on as our new Board Member. She has been working as a liaison for our elementary school and we are glad to have her join us. We have a virtual Auction that we are planning for April 10th, 2021.

Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Virtual Membership meeting, February 17th, 2020, at 6:30 for socializing and 7:00 for the meeting.

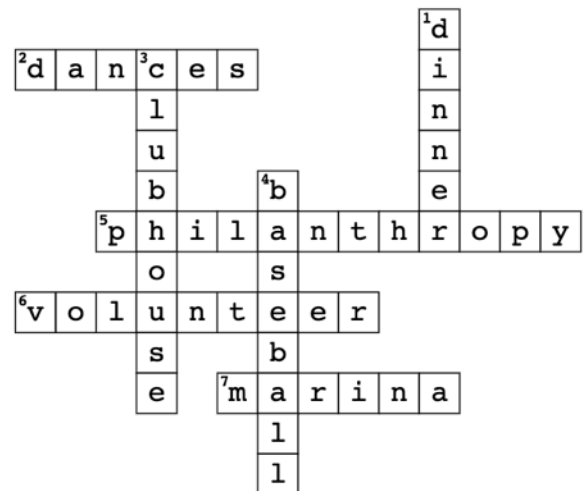
The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm

Respectfully submitted by:

Sheryl Low
Secretary



January 2021 Crossword Key



Across

2. These were held during a full moon to light the way for those rowing home
5. LIC shifted from a social club to this type of club in 1921
6. Randy Carr had lots of this in 1973
7. Randy Carr spearheaded the expansion of this in 1973

Down

1. A fundraising strategy was auctioning off these kind of baskets
3. This was built by the WPA in 1939
4. Marv Rickert from Longbranch played this professionally

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www.longbranchfoundation.org






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Longbranch, WA 98351
253.200.0308

Marina
5213 Key Peninsula Hwy SW
Longbranch, WA 98351

Longbranch Improvement Club
 PO Box 111
 Lakebay, WA 98349

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