



MEMBER NEWS

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY

MARCH 2022

NEXT MEMBERS MEETING: MARCH 16, 2022 6:30PM – DETAILS TO FOLLOW



President's Message

After this last bout of cold, March can't get here fast enough. You can now enjoy a bit more warmth, if you ski – sun on the slopes, and the official arrival of spring. (And referring to my February address... I did have to break down and mow my lawn a couple of weeks ago.)

Big news is that as of this writing, mask mandates go away on March 12th making our events after that officially maskless, including TGIF on March 18th. The member meeting on the 16th will also be maskless. And that feels like progress to me.

A huge thank you to members! I heard the LIC cleanup event had a great turnout and none of that happens without dedicated volunteers. Also, if you attended the CPR class, thank you for being a good neighbor.

We have officially launched our new membership software, Neon. Kristen Zink, our new membership chair, has invited every member to try out the system, update their profile and log their volunteer hours. Track It Forward has been phased out as of this writing. If you have questions, please reach out to Kristen.

The LIC board will likely be meeting this month to get our new 5-year strategic plan underway -- kicking off with a retreat at the LIC clubhouse. And we'll fill you in with those details when I touch base next month.

Enjoy the longer, warmer days. And soon – events with no masks.

Warmly,

Kelly Guenther



I wake up last weekend to a dry, partly sunny morning. Looking out at Fil Lucy Bay, I noticed that the water was glassy and that the tide was nearly full. So, at 7:15 AM I picked up my paddle board and headed towards the marina. The air was crisp, and the water was beautifully calm, making for an easy paddle.

Growing up I never was on the water, whether in a boat, kayak, rowboat, whatever. Getting out now and seeing life in, and around the water, or back to land is a new perspective. Think about it, being on the water is experiencing an entirely different part of the world – it's not land. You see things differently; you see things you can't see from land. You also experience the water; how it moves under your board or boat. What's the tide doing? The wind? Is it choppy? Will that seal, or river otter come close?

“The air was crisp, and the water was beautifully calm...”

Experiences mean so much in our lives. Hopefully they enrich us, educate us, make us think. We often need to use new judgement, such as “if this chop hits my paddle board, will I fall off? How can I correct for that?” And when you come through challenging or exciting new experiences, your confidence is raised. And that can't be taken away, it only adds.

At The Longbranch Foundation, our goal is to support local Evergreen Elementary and Key Peninsula Middle School students to gain new experiences through projects or outings. One of those very important experiences is for the Evergreen 5th grade students to attend Camp Seymour Environmental and Educational Camp. This camp experience is something the students look forward to and know is available when they get to 5th grade, and the anticipation is exciting! Sleeping away, being outdoors and on the water! For many this is entirely new experience.

“This camp experience is something the students look forward to...”

Last year, I interviewed two 6th grade students about their experiences at Camp Seymour. For these boys, the time spent at camp was so meaningful. They were away from home in a new way, bunking with others and meeting young counselors who were their outdoor educators while in camp. They both talked at length about being on the water in a canoe and learning to navigate through it with a partner. An entirely new experience. It can't be taken away from them. And we, as a community, supported those boys.

At Key Peninsula Middle School, we have recently funded three mini-grant requests. One group will build a drone, one group of students with physical limitations will be able to garden, and one group will have new concert toms. Each of these adds to the students' education, supported by teachers. And we are helping to support them.

“And we are helping to support them.”



This year, we have heard back from four students who are applying for a Recurring Scholarship from the Foundation. In addition to reviewing those requests, our Higher Ed Committee will review new requests for scholarships from PHS seniors who attended Evergreen. March is the month for these reviews, and we are excited to support our local students. They are asking us to help them take this next big step, as they pursue a dream of attending an academic or technical/vocational school. Again, a new experience.

And we are ready to do more. We make an impact. I have seen it and heard it, both from parents and from students I have had the privilege to meet.

“We make an impact.”

The Longbranch Foundation relies on this community to fill positions on our board and to help with committees (e.g. Student Programs and Higher Education). If you are a retired educator, or have an interest in the education of our local students, please contact me and join us, either as a committee member or board member.

And what you may not know is that The Longbranch Foundation supports the Longbranch Improvement Club as well. It is through the Foundation that the LIC applies for grants that have been used to upgrade the marina and will support upgrades to the historic building. These grants cannot be secured directly by the LIC. We need both organizations to be fully supported, board positions to be filled, in order to be healthy and functioning.

Support the Longbranch Community by joining our efforts.

Thank you,

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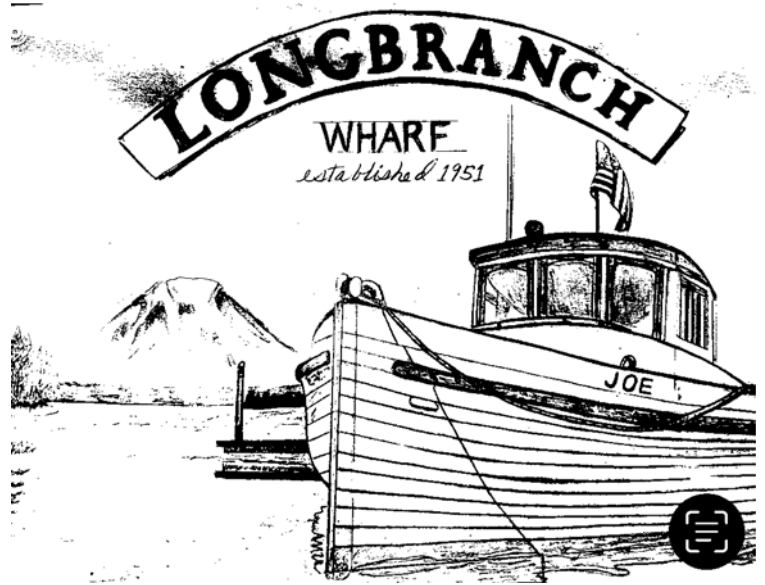


Food Market

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

COMING SOON

We are excited to reveal this year's design for our Opening Day apparel! Look for details coming soon for how to order yours.



Buildings and Grounds

Not too much to report this month.

- David Shiners is the new Centennial Committee chair.
- Kitty Voyce updated the rental rate web site.
- Jim Sobieck fixed the handicapped toilet in the men's room. The part was under warranty, so it didn't cost anything. If anyone wants to do plumbing in the future, Jim would be elated as it's one of his least favorite things.

- Jim Sobieck, Jim Hettinger and Marsha Kremen fixed the two failing thermostats with help from Honeywell Tech support.
- We had a successful wedding on the 19th and rented the building for a memorial on the 26th of March.
- We had an outdoor clean up on March 26th.
- Dave Deress graded the driveway. Thanks Dave!

Jim Sobieck and Ann Morris
Buildings and Grounds



"Every storm runs out of rain."

~Maya Angelou

From the Sunshine Corner
Hello All,

This month I mailed out two get well cards, both for members who had surgery, and a sympathy card.

Cheril Allen
Sunshine Representative



Activities

The next upcoming activity is the Super Sale on April 23rd from 9AM to 3PM at the LIC. This event is held every other year at the LIC and includes items being sold by vendors who rent spaces from the LIC as well as used items donated by our members to the sale. Proceeds benefit the Longbranch Foundation and will be earmarked for the historic preservation of the club house. A couple of key things to remember: 1) volunteers and donated items are needed and 2) collection of donated items will not be until the week of the sale in April. If you want to volunteer or donate to the Super Sale, contact Barbara Green at bfg14012@gmail.com or 206-802-8848.

The Memorial Day Dance will be Saturday, May 28th, from 8-11PM at the LIC clubhouse. "Triple Treat is a band that plays a wide variety of Fun, Party, Dance type Old School, and some new, R&B music, with some of the motown flavor. A seven piece multi talented group with 3 female vocalists out front that can really SING, DANCE and ENTERTAIN. (from the Triple Treat Band facebook page). Stay tuned for volunteer opportunities for this event!

LIC has adopted a portion of the Key Peninsula Highway by the LIC and we are in need of someone to lead litter cleanup. Contact Barb Green if you are interested. This involves coordination with Pierce County and LIC volunteers to clean the road twice a year.

If you are not already part of the Events Committee, please join us at the meeting. The next two meetings will be at 3PM on March 9th and March 30th at the LIC. Hope to see you there!

Thanks!

Allen & Marcel Ballinger
allenandmarcel@hotmail.com



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TO BENEFIT LONGBRANCH IMPROVEMENT CLUB HISTORIC PRESERVATION

Saturday 9 to 3 APRIL 23
SUPER SALE
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Sell your stuff at the biggest sale of the year
Indoor tables \$35
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**Space is limited!
Sign up for yours now**
For your space reservation, email
thelongbranchfoundation@gmail.com

Donations made to The Longbranch Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, may be tax-deductible.

LIC General Meeting

February 16, 2022



The meeting was called to order by Kelly Guenther at 7:02 PM. The meeting was in person at the Clubhouse and others attended on Zoom.

Kristen Zink, our new membership chair, introduced new members, Patrick and Vaness Thompson, Jake and Barbara Lansche, Jeff and Tammis Greene, and Eloise Colbert.

Secretary's Report: Sheryl Low asked that the minutes of the January meeting be approved as written and submitted. MSP

Treasurer's Report: Jim Hettinger reported that he has not yet seasonalized the budget, so there is just a profit and loss statement on the table. We did receive our \$25,000 grant for the preservation of the roof, so it is showing a large income. Due to moorage, we have a good start to the year. Our net amount is about \$7,000.

Membership Update: We are transitioning to a new software program for our membership, and tracking volunteer hours. Members will be expected to create a login and sign on and then go in and make sure your information is correct.

Events:

- A CPR class was held at 9 AM Feb 26th by the Key Pen Fire Department, \$40.00 a person for adult child and infant. This includes AED and First Aid. Sign up was through Barb Boettcher.
- There will not be a suds and spuds this

year. April 3rd is the Super Sale.

- May 28th from 8-11 is the Memorial Day dance with Triple Threat band.
- For Labor Day we will have Kim Archer back for that dance.
- We have a litter clean-up event 2x year, along the highway, if you want to volunteer for this, contact Barb Green and when we have enough people, we will schedule the clean-up event.
- Bob Green reported the Super Sale event is scheduled for Saturday April 3rd from 9 AM – 3 PM for the Longbranch Foundation. This event is to raise funds for the Building Preservation. We are taking reservations for spaces inside (\$30) and outside (\$15). If you would like a space email the Longbranchfoundation@gmail.com. We also need volunteers to sign up to tag and organize the donations. Donations of goods are solicited from the members for resale. No electronics or furniture.

Buildings and Grounds:

- Jim Sobieck started by thanking all those who came in to volunteer to repair the bridge and the falling trees.
- There is a new committee formed for the Centennial Garden and David Shinnars will be the chair.
- Outdoor landscaping cleanup is scheduled for February 26th at 10 AM.

LIC General Meeting February 16, 2022



Preservation Grant: Marsha Kremen met with Derek Young, and we should be able to eventually get more money for this year's grant cycle. The possible cost this year is \$70,000 to get full design done and be ready for construction costs.

Marina Chair:

- Opening Day will be held Saturday, May 7th! This is a member only event due to limited dock capacity. Anne Marie will be handling our food for the event. 2022 Opening Day gear design is in the works! We will have pre-registration for food and prepaid gear this year. Mark Lemon will head up our 2022 sailboat regatta.
- The water system at the marina was tested from meter to dock with passing results post the December freeze. Winter faucets are available for use at this time.
- Our fire line was damaged during the freezing event. Repair of the fire system line is in the planning stage. KPFM was officially notified within 48 hours of this situation.
- Marina staff met with KPFM Battalion Chief for training on the AED and battery replacement, the AED is located near the marina office window.
- On Saturday, February 12th four individuals were removed from the marina for trespassing and illegal drug use.
- Photos from our camera system helped identify a stolen pickup which has since been recovered by the owner.

- Please report any suspicious activities to Katie or Rick.

Vice-President: David Zeigler presented an overview of the Centennial events. He requested volunteers for the events. They will be advertised in the KP News. The Centennial Marina Days will be held July 16 & 17 with a number of events hosted at the marina.

President: TGIF was a resounding success. The event was so successful with 50 odd folks attending. We are glad we have this amazing space and hope to use this to get folks out and involved in the LIC. Our next TGIF is March 18th.



LIC General Meeting February 16, 2022



The Longbranch Foundation:

Michele Gorman reported about the formation of the Foundation, which started in 2016 as a 501(3)C to raise funds for the disbursement of grants on the Key Peninsula.

We have students receiving scholarships who will be submitting essays on their progress for yearly review.

We started a mini-grant program for the Key Peninsula Middle School, and teachers are applying to meet needs in the classrooms.

The Evergreen students will be going to outdoor camp this year, and the school has been granted the money to assist financially challenged students to attend.

Our higher education program could use a chair or co-chairs.

We could use more volunteers in order to expand and fulfill our mission.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Next member meeting March 16th at the LIC, unless designated by email, and on Zoom at 7 PM.

The next TGIF will be March 18th.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheryl Low
LIC Secretary



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LIC Marina
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Longbranch, WA 98351

Longbranch Improvement Club
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