



NEXT MEMBERSHIP MEETING: JUN 21, 2023 6:30PM

Final President's Message



This is will be my final message as president of the LIC. At our membership meeting on June 21st, we'll be replacing about half of our board as part of that election. We'll also be serving members a terrific barbecue dinner and thanking you all heartily for the volunteer hours, heart and spunk you've provided to make the LIC the LIC.

It's important to think back on what being a member of the Longbranch Improvement Club provides you. Top on my list is that we provide community. We have an historic clubhouse to recreate in and offer up to the public as a rental for key gatherings. We have a network of forested trails and streams anyone, not just members, can enjoy. Thanks to the energy of David Shinnners, we also offer a

community garden that is shaping up to be a space we can also enjoy, grow delicious food and possibly serve as another community space to rent out. There's our huge field that has served as a space for so many things – rummage sales, car shows and in years past baseball games. Finally, we own one of the friendliest and most picturesque marinas in the entire Puget Sound.

What I'm trying to say is it's a privilege to be an LIC member. It's an honor to serve on our board. We are 102 years old now and have proudly served the community that entire time. This has been one of my chief priorities these last two years, to focus squarely on being a community resource and start nudging the LIC back to being more social as it was in years past, especially in the wake of the pandemic.

Have we succeeded? I think we are well on our way to that goal and I expect our new board will continue this task. We also established TGIF as a monthly event, that's been a steady source of new members, and passed a 5-Year-Plan that gives us a very clear roadmap to continued success.

This is Goal Number One from the 5-Year-Plan:

Create fun, desirable and highly utilized community gathering spaces where people feel safe and connected.

There is no doubt in my mind we are doing this. We call these five spaces the Clubhouse, the Forest, the Community Garden, the Field and the Marina. And to maintain and use all of them, we have to have dedicated volunteers, something I know I go on and on about. But we don't survive as an organization without this volunteerism, and that goes from helping to weed around the clubhouse to serving on the board. We live and die by our volunteers.

Continued on pg. 2

President's message, continued:

To that end, as president, we also expanded our zipcode areas so you can live from Key Center south all the way to the edges of Victor and enjoy regular membership status – plus the benefits that come with it such as discounts and getting a slip at the marina if you wish. And you get all of this for just 15 volunteer hours a year and attending three membership meetings in person.

What's next for me is that I'll be putting money where my mouth is. I'll continue volunteering. The board elected me the Trustee-at-Large for the next two years so I'll be helping guide the LIC – and likely fundraising – as we tackle our next two biggest and costliest challenges: Finishing the roof project and replacing docks to meet the Department of Natural Resources standards.

I also plan to help the events committee. While our 5-Year-Plan pushes us to become a more social organization, that means we need bodies to help make these events successful, such as TGIF and our new Open Mic Night. And I have other ideas up my sleeve. What about a Farmer's Market in our field every couple of week to sell/trade vegetables and other possible rummage items? How about outdoor movies during the warmer months... maybe even starting this summer?

Don't let anybody tell you it's not a privilege to be an LIC member. We 'rock' as an organization. We make a major difference in the community. We are also attracting new and younger members. And with more volunteers, we'll rise to even greater heights.

A big thanks for electing me as your president two years ago. I truly love the LIC. (And if I moved any of you, we do have an open vice president position on the board. 😊)

Warmly,
Kelly Guenther

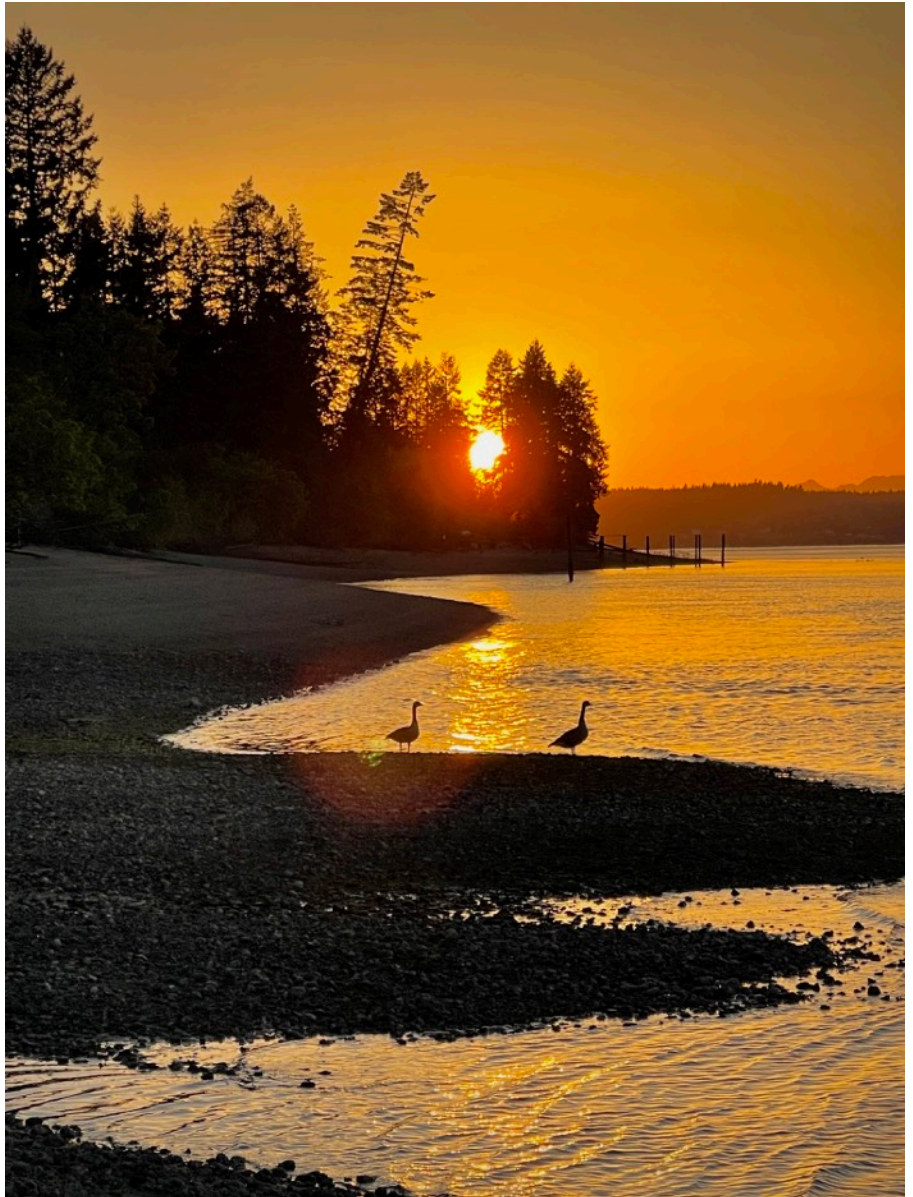


Photo by Kelly Guenther

Events

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the dedicated volunteers who generously offered their time and effort to ensure the 2023 Memorial Dance was an unforgettable experience.

We appreciate the support of Track It Forward; it helped create a signup process, efficiently identifying areas needing volunteers. The user-friendly app allowed adding volunteers to various tasks on the go, streamlining the coordination process. Track It Forward sent email reminders two days before the event to ensure volunteers knew their designated spots.

One remarkable feature was the automatic logging of volunteer hours for approval. Volunteers didn't have to worry about recording their hours; the system took care of it once they attended.

Thank you again to all the volunteers who contributed to the success of the 2023 Memorial Dance.

Upcoming Events:

June 6th, 6:00PM – Event Committee Meeting

June 13th, 6:30PM to 9:30PM – Open Mic at the LIC – The GNOSH food truck is joining us.

June 16th, 5:30PM – TGIF

We currently have two events requiring dedicated volunteers to step up and take the lead. TGIF and Trunk or Treat. Please let us know if you are willing to take on this vital role or have any recommendations for potential volunteers. Together, we can ensure the continued success of TGIF and Trunk or Treat and create unforgettable experiences for our community. Please reach out to Rosa Velder at rosavelder@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering or would like to learn more.

PICKLEBALL

AT THE LIC



Come play with us every **Tuesdays from 10-6**. Dress warm. Temperature will be about 60 degrees in the gym. We have paddles to share until you fall in love with this and purchase your own.

Any Questions call, text or email Kelly Hettinger
253-220-7808 kelhettinger@gmail.com



Photo by Kelly Guenther

Hello from the dock!

Another Opening Day is in the books. A big thank you to all that attend and your generous donations.! A huge thank you to all who volunteered! Special mention to Mary Lemon, I could not do it without you. Also to Dennis Westphal and Mike Baker for grilling up some very tasty burgers! It was a very successful event and fun was had by all! Magnet Fishing was a huge hit! Thank you to Jeffery Tritt for the idea and getting all the supplies to make it happen!

Seasonal boating is in full swing, we had South Sound Island in for their annual cruise. A wonderful group from Gig Harbor. We always enjoy this group and look forward to seeing them.

We are expecting a busy marina this year. This will help with our upcoming improvements that will be taking place. A committee has been formed to complete our DNR lease which will include looking at the 3 bids for B dock replacement.

Rick Harrison – Marina Chair
Katie Harrsion – Dockmaster

See Opening Day photos on page 5

Thirsty Thursday

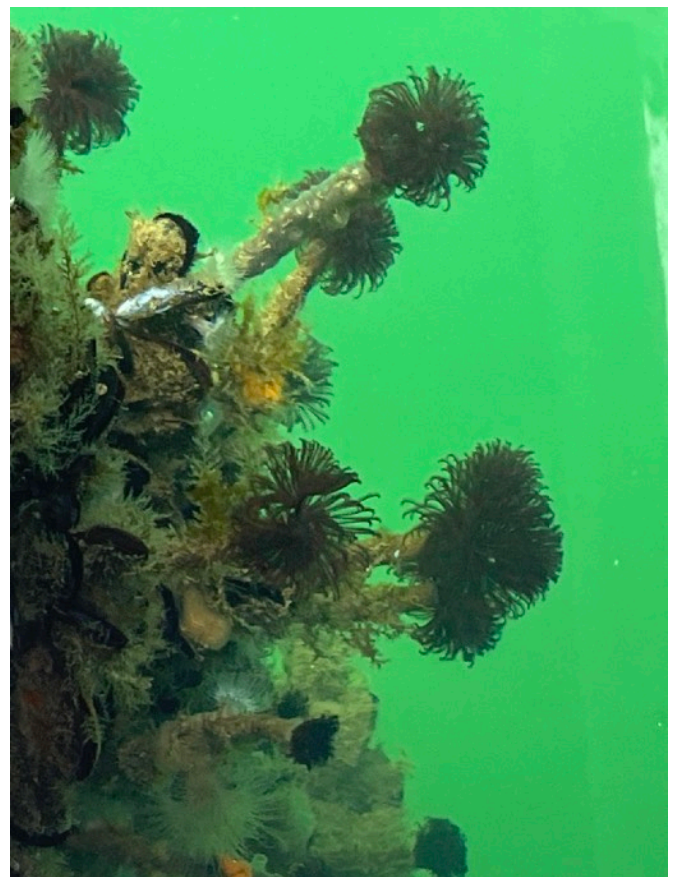


**June
1ST!**

Thirsty Thursday starts Thursday June 1ST!

For those of you who have never attended a Thirsty Thursday come down to the marina at 4:30, bring a beverage and a nibble to share. TT will continue until Labor Day. Depending on the crowd, weather and boats available we will head out for a cocktail cruise or just cocktail at the dock. We have been known to tie 3 boats together and cruise the bay with our nibbles and cocktails. Questions contact Kelly Hettinger your TT cruise director 253-220-7808

Come join the fun!



*Photo by Pat Altree-Myers
on Opening Day - the piers at low tide.*

Opening Day

May 6, 2023



Building & Grounds

Thank you to the grounds volunteers, Mike Fay, Tim Richmond and Larry Silva, who keep the grass mowed and the weeds wacked!

The following Grounds Committee members are needed:

- Flag Committee – Lower the flag to half staff when our country is in mourning. The task requires 2 minutes of training and access to Gov website.
- Plant watering – The plants in the wine barrels need hand watering every two days or so.
- New Stoves – Anybody with mechanical abilities to help with modifying some roller wheels for the new stoves. I have the parts.

Thank you for our support.

Chris Wright Building & Grounds Chair 509-710-6525

Rentals & Marketing

Since last month we've booked two more reservations and have turned away several more requests looking for summer dates that are now unavailable. The clubhouse will be very busy throughout the summer months, sometimes with rentals booked back-to-back with LIC events. When you're leaving the clubhouse after an LIC-sponsored event, please help out by taking a moment to look around and pick up any small trash or other items that may otherwise get left behind.

Thank you! Stefanie Warren
(206) 387-2726



From the Sunshine Corner

Hello All,

This month I have sent out two get-well cards to members, another pet sympathy card, and three sympathy cards. Remember, if you are aware of a member that needs a bit of Sunshine, please let me know.
Thank you.

*"May every sunrise hold more promise
and every sunset hold more peace".
~ Umair Siddiqui*



LIC Member Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, May 17, 2023

Meeting was called to order at 7:15PM

Membership

Nancy Carr gave a short presentation regarding Track It Forward. Members no longer need to enter hours for attending meetings. Membership will upload your attendance, so it is very important to check in when attending meetings. The check-in sheet is printed in alphabetical order according to **first** name. The attendee list for March 2023 is not usable, so membership will send out an email asking for you to confirm if you attended that meeting or not, please be sure to respond so you get credit if you attended.

Please be sure to add your volunteer hours to Track It Forward as it is not possible for us to migrate your 2023 hours from Neon into Track It Forward. If you receive an email with a link to sign up for an event, and respond through the link that you are volunteering, those hours will automatically be entered into Track It Forward. If you have not downloaded the Track It Forward app, you may consider doing so as it provides an easy way to enter your volunteer hours. If you have a household membership, and only use one email, instead of a separate one for each person, and both people volunteer the same amount of hours, you can enter double hours with a note stating more than one person volunteered. Help sheets are available for using Track It Forward.

If you have not been receiving emails, please double check your email address on the check-in sheets when you attend a meeting, or reach out to either Nancy Carr or Robyn Enders.

Board & Committee Reports

President

It is time to elect new board members! A list of open positions, and the candidates who are running, was distributed at the meeting. If you are interested in joining the board, or know of someone who is, please reach out to the board to

let them know. The open positions, and candidates who have been nominated are:

President Nomination - Bob Perry
Treasurer Nomination - Jim Hettinger
Marina Chair Nomination - Rick Harrison
Membership Chair Nomination - Open

This will also leave the Vice President position open. The board will appoint a Vice President, if you are interested, please reach out to the board. Kelly Guenther was elected by the board to serve as Trustee at Large when his term as President ends.

If you pre-ordered marina gear for Opening Day, this merchandise will be available until Friday May 19, 2023. Any items not paid for by that date will become available for purchase by the general public. Please contact Katie or Rick Harrison if you would like marina gear.

The roof of the clubhouse has begun to leak. Marsha Kremen has been working very hard with Ferguson & Anderson Architects and Washington Patriot to make the roof renovation happen. Unfortunately, the LIC did not receive grants from the state as we were hoping. At this time, we have paused work with the contractors while a new leadership team reviews the plans and tries to find ways to reduce the expected costs related to replacing the roof. This project remains a top priority.

The LIC also has a significant amount of work that needs to be completed at the marina by 2030 to satisfy DNR requirements. This may seem like ample time to get that work done, however, this project is also costly and we need the time for raising adequate funds.

Announcements:

Thursday May 18, 2023 there is a town hall forum with Robyn Denson at the clubhouse. This event starts at 6:00PM.

Continued on page 8

Member meeting minutes continued:

Saturday May 20, 2023 there is a celebration of life for David Starkweather at the clubhouse. The memorial begins at 2:00PM.

Secretary

Motion: Approve minutes from April membership meeting - **MSP**

Treasurer

Updated financials were presented. Stephanie Warren is doing a great job with clubhouse rentals.

Buildings & Grounds

Volunteers and committee members are needed for buildings and grounds. Some of the committees that need volunteers are: trails, weeding, and flag. For the flag committee, we need someone to keep up with half staff alerts letting us know when the flag should be lowered and raised.

We would like to ask the county to stop spraying the ditch in front of the clubhouse. The spray for noxious weeds, however, we prefer to have volunteers keep the weeds at bay manually. Volunteers are needed to contact the county and request the proper signage that we can put up. Thank you to the members who raised their hands and volunteered to look into this.

Volunteers are needed to help install wheels on the new stoves that were purchased for the kitchen. We are looking for someone with a workshop and some machinist equipment and capabilities.

There is a grounds party Thursday, May 18th 2023. Debbie Cassidy, from Sunnycrest nursery, generously donated some flowers that need planting. Please show up around 8:00AM if you would like to help.

Lisa Wolcott, who helps with the Centennial Garden, is asking for volunteers to "adopt a spot" in the garden. These volunteers would only need to spend about 15 minutes a week weeding and maintaining their spot. Please reach out to Kelly

Guenther if you are interested in adopting a spot in the garden.

Events

Volunteers are still needed for the Memorial Day Dance. An email was sent out asking for volunteers, you can sign up through this email and your volunteer hours will automatically be recorded.

Pickleball and TGIF are two easy events to sign up for and put in some volunteer hours.

Marina

Opening Day was a huge success! We had new events that included magnet fishing and sunshine necklaces. The sunshine necklaces were distributed to members spreading sunshine and kindness. There were prizes given to those who were awarded sunshine necklaces. All of the events were very successful.

Marina gear, including stickers, are now available. Thirsty Thursday at the marina will begin after Memorial Day.

Summer hours for the gate are 8:00AM - 8:00PM. If you have a boat at the marina and would like a fob so you do not have to use the gate code, please contact Rick or Katie Harrison. The fobs have a \$30 deposit, which is returned to you when you return the fob.

The Longbranch Foundation

The Spring Auction, which was held Saturday, April 22nd, 2023 raised 89K! Many thanks to all of the donors, sponsors, attendees, and volunteers who made this possible.

This year, TLF is giving out eleven scholarships. The scholarships include two for seniors pursuing vo-tech education, one for parks & recreation, and five recurring scholarships. The Hawks awards dinner is Thursday May 25, 2023. Sheryl Low and Beth Porter will be in attendance to award the scholarships.

TLF is also able to fund educational grants allowing students at Key Peninsula Middle School to see the movie Elemental at Galaxy theater, and

Continued on page 9

Member meeting minutes continued:

two grants to Evergreen Elementary which will be used to send students to the Museum of Glass and Point Defiance Zoo.

Upcoming Meetings and Events

1. Pickleball every Tuesday 10:00AM - 6:00PM
2. TGIF at the clubhouse - May 19th, 2023

This **may** be moved to the marina pavilion during summer months if there are no visiting boat clubs and no music scheduled.

3. Memorial Day Dance - Saturday May 27th, 2023
4. Next membership meeting - June 21st, 2023 This is the annual BBQ where the board will be serving a BBQ dinner. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share.
5. Thirsty Thursday - begins after Memorial Day

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted by
Xoe Frederick
LIC Secretary

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Tacoma-Pierce County
Health Department
Healthy People in Healthy Communities

Calling All Photos!

Have you captured a beautiful scene or fun moment in our community? Please consider sending a copy to licmembernews@gmail.com so it can be included in the monthly newsletter.

Thanks!

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Longbranch Improvement Club
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