



MEMBER NEWS

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY

MARCH 2021

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



President's Message

This week I've been reminded in a very special way how truly fortunate we are to live on the Key Peninsula. As many of you are aware Nancy and I have working to schedule our members and others in our community for their first Covid 19 vaccination. This project is truly a cooperative community effort. Tacoma Pierce County Health

Department, Mustard Seed, Key Medical Center, Key Peninsula Community Services, the Key Peninsula Business Association and Key Peninsula Fire, are all working together to make this event happen. I want to publicly thank these organization and the folks involved in this effort. They are all truly amazing. If you know people in these organizations, please tell them thank you. They are giving a very valuable service to our community.

For our part, Nancy and I took on registering folks for their vaccinations, and many of our members have volunteered to help folks register for their 2nd shots. During the registration process I had some real fun conversations with the people I registered, and they all communicated their relief and gratitude in many ways. It was an extremely rewarding experience, and Jilly said that she hadn't heard me laugh this much in a long time.

I know that many of you are not yet eligible, or able to get your vaccinations but we are already starting conversations with the health department about future clinics. Hang in there folks. We will work to get everyone who wants one, a vaccination as soon as possible.

While we still can't hold in person meetings, that's not stopping our valiant Centennial Committee from planning some really fun events for the upcoming months. Have you noticed our banner down at the building? If you haven't seen it, cruise by and check it out, it looks great. Kicking off our events is The Longbranch Foundation's biennial auction "Brighter Futures". Also in the works is a new plaque at the marina to accompany our existing one. This one is a tribute to the Native Americans who inhabited Filucy Bay. We will have a dedication ceremony for this sometime in April.



President's Message (cont'd)

Centennial specific merchandise is on the way. There will be shirts, caps and sweatshirts for starters, and you will be able to order on-line. These will be must have items you can pass on to your great grandchildren and beyond. Wouldn't it be cool if some lasted until our next 100 year celebration?



At the May and June member meetings we will be presenting Centennial Stories, pieces of history from our past. It is likely that at least the May meeting will still be on Zoom. These events will be open to the public no matter where they are held and will be a wonderful way to engage the community in our celebrations.

In July, we will be celebrating Marina Days. The Virginia V is scheduled to visit and will stay overnight. You can book a trip on her cruise from Tacoma to Longbranch, tour the boat during the afternoon that she is at the dock, and we are currently planning a party on the boat for that evening. Things are still in flux, so stay tuned for details.

In August, Covid permitting, we will be having a two-day Centennial Celebration. A baseball game, an old-fashioned picnic, including a watermelon-eating contest, and other events that will involve our whole community, are in the works.

Our September meeting will feature a presentation on the History of the LIC and the South Key Peninsula.

I know that things are still very difficult for many people, but I'm seeing glimmers of hope that we are going to get through this, so as the British say: Keep Calm and Carry on.

Marsha Kremen
President





[The Longbranch Foundation \(TLF\) - March 2021 Update](#)

The Longbranch Foundation is planning our biennial Auction for Education, to build on our five-year plan to enable more assistance to Evergreen Elementary, to start supporting students in the Middle School, and to increase our scholarships to students pursuing higher education. We could not do this without volunteers from the Longbranch Improvement Club, and the sponsorship of many wonderful organizations. The Longbranch Improvement Club just voted to give a major sponsorship donation to this Auction.

The Longbranch Foundation Board of Directors, and eventually the students, thank you for your caring and generosity.

[Building Brighter Futures for Our Students](#)

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

Tickets will be available March 22. Each ticket includes an appetizer party box and a bottle of wine or sparkling water.

Watch for access information to the Auction Web Site on mytlf.org.

Bid on delicious desserts, exciting auction items & experiences or make a donation

You can pick up your party box & wine at the LIC on April 10 from 1-4pm and view some of the exciting auction items which will be on display.

Join us at 6pm for the Virtual Auction and a fun party!





STAY SAFE, STAY HEALTHY

We are making headway on controlling the virus. Thank you for doing your part!

**And Please continue 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
bjf.4969@yahoo.com

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The Longbranch Foundation
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Lakebay, WA 98349

Food Market

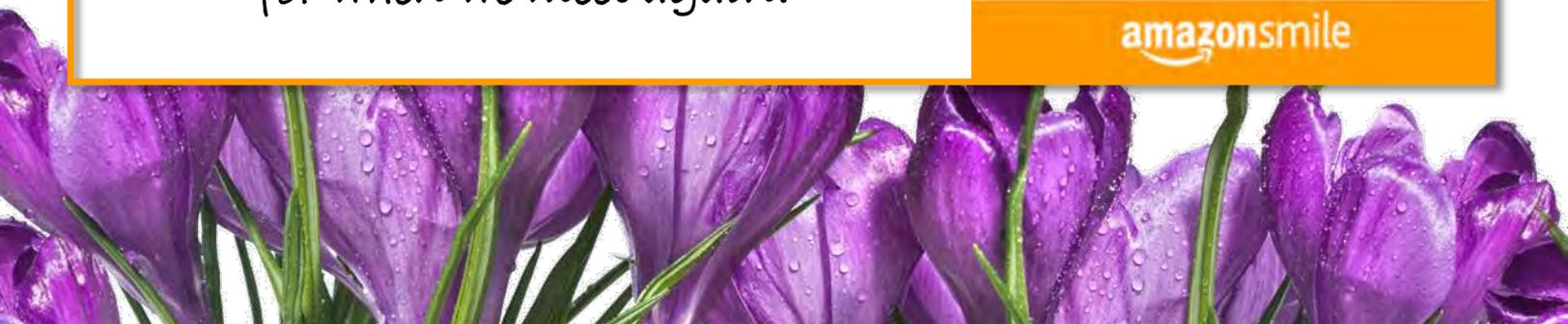
*A reminder, please continue to
save your Food Market receipts
for when we meet again.*

Support Longbranch Foundation.

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

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







A note on why I'm writing these articles. When Tanya mentioned at an LIC meeting at the end of last year that she was looking for items of interest relating to the Centennial, having done my share of non-profit newsletter work, I know that often the burden of doing the work alone can be a bit frustrating, so I sent an email suggesting the topic above. And here we are.

So . . . as we know from last month and our own LIC website, our organization donated three acres for a school to be built, leading to a two-room—and one meeting-room (later converted to a classroom)—schoolhouse which remained in use until the mid-1940's.

The 30's for our state were a busy time. Some examples: Boeing's Stratoliner took flight; two dams (Rock Island and Bonneville) were completed, the Indian Reorganization Act to "allow" Native American's the right of self-determination; the UW Men's Crew won gold in Berlin, handing Hitler another defeat and transforming the sport in the US.

The 1930's were just as busy for the families on the Key; this is when things really moved for our LIC. The 1929 stock market crash hit Washington in the early 1930's, devastating our economy along with the rest of the nation. Part of Roosevelt's New Deal included the Works Progress Administration, providing relief for the more than 20-percent of Americans in need of work. Our own building was, as most of us know, the result of a project that resulted in 4,000 schools, 130 hospitals; 9,000 miles of storm drains and sewer lines, 29,000 new bridges, 150 new airfields, the repair or paving of 280,000 miles of roads, and 24 million new trees planted.

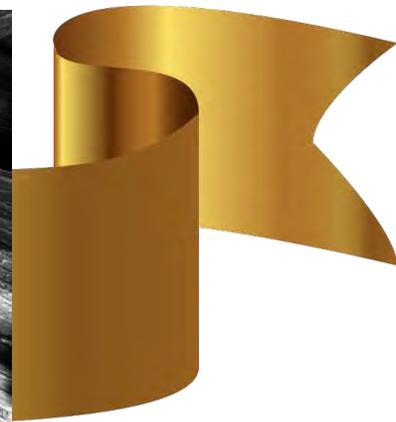
As a nascent woodworker, it's the hands that built our building which interest me the most. I recently took a poke around our old building to see what I could see. Here's what I found.



A spectacular view of the interwoven beams (scissor and ridge), struts, under purlins, props, and shingles.



Custom-cut under purlins, beams, and struts, complete with 1930's porcelain knob insulators, part of the original wiring system (no longer in use, obviously).

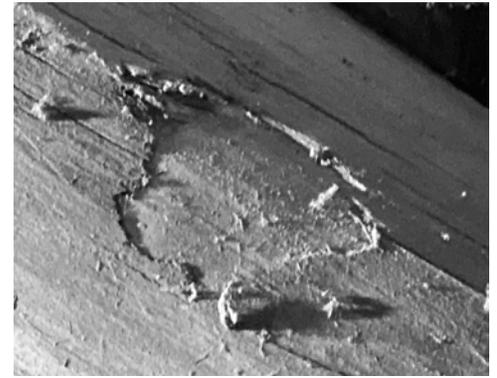




Finger-tracings through the mortar used to set the foundation stones. (Yes, I made sure to photograph only the old mortar, not the repointed work done later). Think of it. We have literal lines in which we can place our fingers to trace the same path as the maker, 83 years ago.



Another “fingerprint,” though this time I suspect it’s a thumb (the groove in the center-ish of the image). Even better, in this image you can see the marks of the draw knife used to strip bark from the log set above the stone.



I saved the best for last. Someone carved a heart into one of the scissor beams. I looked as hard as I could for initials, but couldn’t find any. I guess we get to imagine our own in there, instead.

Contributed by Polly Robinson
LIC Member

CENTENNIAL CROSSWORD - MARCH 2021

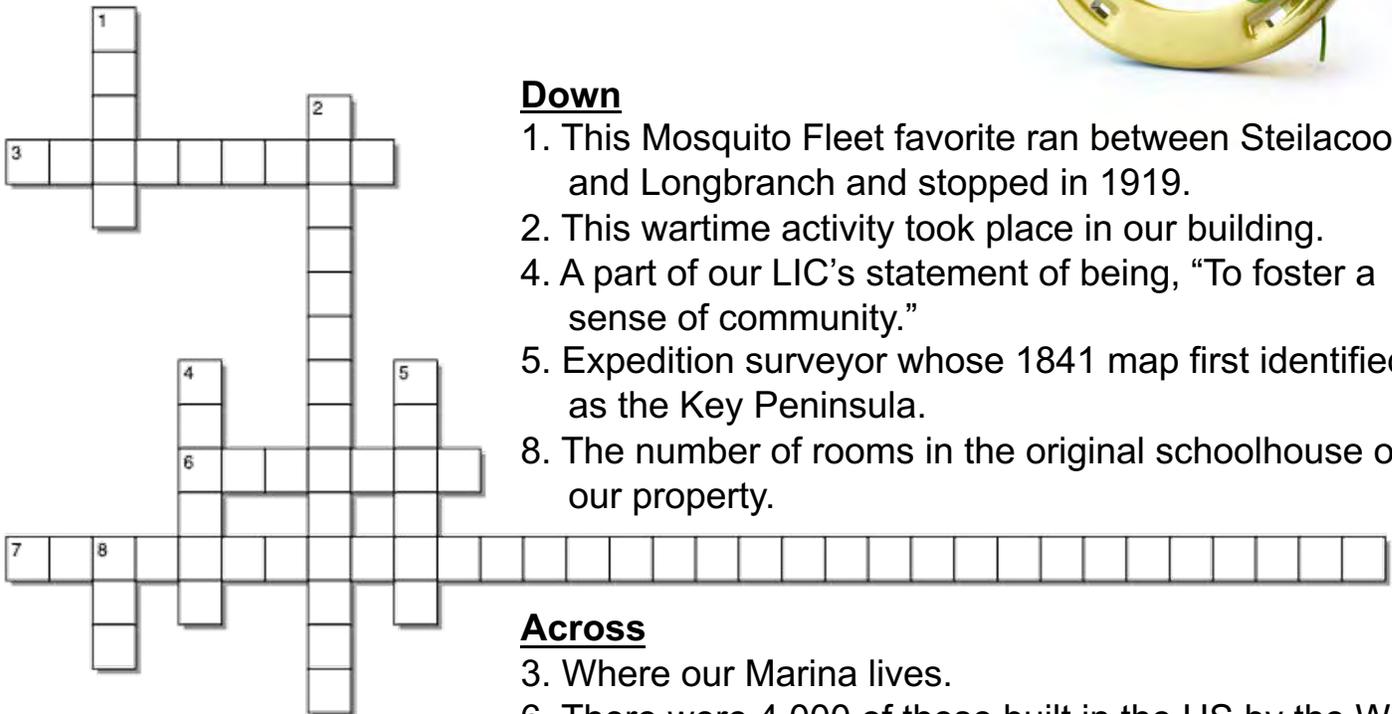


Down

1. This Mosquito Fleet favorite ran between Steilacoom and Longbranch and stopped in 1919.
2. This wartime activity took place in our building.
4. A part of our LIC’s statement of being, “To foster a sense of community.”
5. Expedition surveyor whose 1841 map first identified us as the Key Peninsula.
8. The number of rooms in the original schoolhouse on our property.

Across

3. Where our Marina lives.
6. There were 4,000 of these built in the US by the WPA.
7. In 1987, our building was added to this.



Dockmaster Report

Hello from the dock,

February was quiet at the marina for the most part. We had a couple of guest boaters visit us. March starts back up with visiting Yacht clubs. First in will be Viking Yacht Club, then Totem Yacht Club. Both are clubs with wonderful people, and I look forward to their visit!

Opening Day is a go at the marina. However, it will be scaled back due to Covid-19 restrictions that will most likely still be in place May 1st. We will be sending out information soon on the event and how to order your Opening Day gear!

Katie Harrison
Dockmaster



Please pay your membership dues. Forms are on the LIC website or from Membership Chair at ncarr44@centurytel.net. You can mail to:

LIC - Membership
P.O. Box 111
Lakebay, WA 98349

The Membership Chair and the LIC thank you!

Nancy Carr
Memberships



*"There are two ways of spreading light: to be the candle or the mirror that reflects it."
~Edith Wharton*

From the Sunshine Corner

Hello All,

Since my last report, I have mailed out 2 get well cards to members that had recent surgeries.

Cheril Allen
Sunshine Representative



Activities

We hope that you all enjoyed the brief, heavy snowstorm over Valentine's Day weekend. Like a good snowstorm, it arrived on the weekend, compacted enough to make snowmen and snow forts, then disappeared after a few days. We made a couple of snow people at the foot of our driveway, then went down to build snow people on the dock. When we got there, we found Jack and Jill Frost chilling out on the deck chairs. We offered them a couple of straw hats and a beer and when we came back the next day, they were gone. Apparently, they had forgotten to put on sunscreen and there wasn't enough magic in the old straw hats they wore. The last remnants we saw of them, they were going thump thump thumpity over the waves of Mayo Cove...

Signs of spring are approaching, and we are looking forward to longer days and warmer temperatures. We are hopeful that we will soon have reduced pandemic restrictions and can gather to enjoy each others' company in person.

As a reminder, 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.

Allen & Marcel Ballinger
allenandmarcel@hotmail.com



Marina

On the 2nd of March, the main gate to the Marina will be upgraded. The work should be done no later than the 5th of March. On the 6th, Katie and I will be at the LIC Clubhouse from 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm to replace your old entry card with a new one. If you don't currently have an entry card and would like one, we can issue it at that time. There is a fee for a new card, but not for the exchanges. The fee is yet to be determined.

On another note, Katie and I have noticed that some boaters are wrapping shore power cords around the J-box. This is not a good practice as it causes problems. Please unwrap your shore power cords and place them next to the J-box.

Thanks,
Robert Theisen
Marina Chair



LIC General Meeting

February 17, 2021



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

President Marsha Kremen welcomed all Members. The President also welcomed returning member Tim Kezele.

BOARD REPORTS

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

Treasurer:

- Review of the January Financials by Marsha Kremen.
- Sponsorship for the Foundation: The LIC Board has recommended a \$5,000 sponsorship for the Biennial Auction in April. This requires a vote by the membership.
- Motion: To Donate a \$5,000 sponsorship to TLF for the Biennial Auction in April. MSP

Membership Reminders: We are accepting the yearly membership renewals. Please contact Nancy Carr if you have any questions.

Events: We are planning to have Opening Day at the Marina on the First Saturday in May, May 1, 2021.

Buildings and Grounds: We are working on plumbing repairs and the building is rented in June for an Event.

Marina: The gate will be repaired in the beginning of March with new sensors and

a system to alert the Dockmaster that the gate is left open. This will increase security at the Marina. You can use the code or a new access card. There may be a charge for a card at cost, approx. \$20.00. The turn in on March 6, 2021 will be from 1-3 pm at the LIC. If you have an old card, please exchange at the LIC. If you don't have a card for entry, you can ask for a new one.

Vice President:

- Centennial Celebration – We are planning monthly events to celebrate the Centennial. The first two events will be at the meetings in May and June, with LIC Stories.
- May/June Member Meetings – LIC Stories shared at the membership meetings.
- July – Marina Days Celebration, July 17 & 18, the Virginia V will be coming to our Marina to spend the night. Members can sign up for a bus ride to Tacoma and ride the boat to the Marina. There will be tours of the boat, and a party on the Virginia V will be auctioned off at the April event.
- August – There will be a two-day event at the LIC, which should be fun, and we will include a whiffle ball tournament. Good old-fashioned picnic games and lots of fun.
- September – The LIC Historian will make a presentation.
- Centennial merchandise will be available on the website.

LIC General Meeting February 17, 2021



President:

- Pumpout Update – Brett has been working on pushing the county to move forward on our permit request. We will have some documents that we need by the end of the week. This should allow us a hearing within a month, and once we have a permit, we can move forward.
- Preservation Grant – We won't hear until early March if we have received a grant.
- COVID Testing at LIC: February 27th, 2021, 10am – 3pm

THE LONGBRANCH FOUNDATION

- Randy shared that donations to the Longbranch Foundation from our Covid page on the web site were sent to other local designated non-profits. We recently received thank you letters from KP Community Services, FB4K's, Mustard Seed and others.
- The Foundation donated storage bins to the 3rd, 4th and 5th grade students at Evergreen Elementary as part of their social distancing plan.
- Two important dates for the Auction:
 - March 22, purchase of tickets, which will include food and wine, and access to the site to bid on desserts and great auction items.
 - April 10th, you will pick up your party box of food and wine at the LIC and view some of the auction items displayed at the LIC that are on the system to bid on. The virtual auction is April 10, starting at 6 pm.

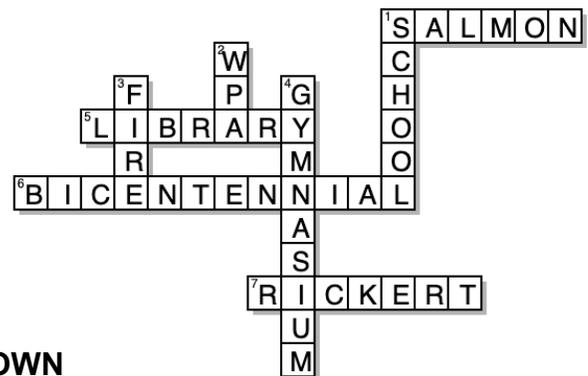
Upcoming Meetings & Events:

Virtual Membership meeting, March 17th, 2021 at 6:30.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 pm

Respectfully submitted by:
Sheryl Low
Secretary

February 2021 Crossword Key



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 _____.

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253.200.0308

Marina
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Longbranch, WA 98351

Longbranch Improvement Club
 PO Box 111
 Lakebay, WA 98349

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