MEMBER NEWS

FOR THE BETTERMENT OF THE COMMUNITY



DECEMBER 2020

NEXT MEMBERS MEETING: DECEMBER 16, 2020 6:00PM – ZOOM DETAILS TO FOLLOW



President's Message

A number of years ago Jilly and I attended a performance of the musical Spamalot at the Paramount Theater in Seattle. The play is a send up of the movie "Monty Python and the Holy Grail". One of the songs in Spamalot is actually lifted from another Monty Python movie "The Life of Brian". The refrain of the song is "Always look on the bright

side of life". We sing it to each other a lot these days. It makes us smile because the play was so funny that our sides hurt when we left the theater and because I think we just need to keep reminding ourselves that while things can seem pretty dark these days, there is often a bright side to our lives that we sometimes lose sight of.

By all accounts Trunk or Treat was a tremendous success this year and gave our community a much needed break. Thanks to Allen, Marcel and crew and Ann Nesbitt and the fire department for making this happen. Definitely a bright spot this fall.

We hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving. Jilly and I kept our celebration small and close to home. Much as we would have loved to see family, we all agreed that it wasn't a wise move at this point.

Speaking of bright spots, have you seen our building? A crew of your fellow club members has lit up the old girl and the Longbranch sign for the holidays, in lieu of indoor decorations. Denny and Jan Pritchard, Jeff Tritt and Pen Light's Cory all assisted in this project. Many thanks to all of you. This might just become a new tradition.

The pump out station project continues to wind its way through the bureaucracy. The Archeological study was completed with results showing no impact on any archeology, the rest of the information was sent to Pierce County towards our next Shoreline Permit Hearing.



President's Message (cont'd)

We have filed our final grant report to the county for the 2020 Preservation Grant. I will be working with Bart Wolfe to determine our next funding request. We are very fortunate to have Bart working on this with us. He is keeping things moving along and providing a great deal of expertise.

All is not lost for The Lakebay Marina. Mark Scott has had a change of heart and has renegotiated with RBAW to allow them until September, 2021 to complete the purchase of the marina. This is great news for our community and another bright spot to focus on.

I'm pleased to announce that after Bob Perry's resignation, Jim Sobieck and Ann Morris have agreed to take over his position as Building and Grounds chair. A big thanks to both of you for stepping up.

Jilly and I wish you a warm and bright holiday season.

Marsha Kremen President



Relationship of the LIC & TLF

Following is a brief review of the relationship and roles of the LIC and TLF.

The two organizations are managed independently and staffed with volunteers, primarily from the LIC membership. The LIC is a non-profit social welfare organization that manages and operates the Historic Clubhouse and Marina. It accomplishes this with income from memberships, rental of the clubhouse, and marina fees. The LIC also pursues Grants from the County, State and TLF. Because the LIC is a 501 (c) (4) organization, it is not eligible for some grants permitted for 501 (c) (3) organizations, like TLF.

TLF is a non-profit charitable organization, affiliated with the LIC and supports six charitable causes. Students are supported from their time in Evergreen Elementary through academic or vocational higher education. Grant requests from likeminded KP non-profits are supported as well as the needs of the community, currently hunger being the greatest need. In addition, TLF responds to Grant requests from the LIC that align with its charitable purposes, such as the large grant obtained to protect the Marine environment and safety upgrades at the Marina; money to match the Preservation Grants for the Building upgrades; and money for Trail maintenance.

Donations to the foundation are tax deductible and deposited in reserved accounts per the donor's instructions. Monies in these designated accounts cannot be used for other purposes per IRS guidelines. The foundation currently has three fundraising activities to support these charitable purposes: a yearly Celebrate Campaign, a biennial Auction, and a biennial Super Sale.

Both organizations have basically the same mission, to Improve the South Key Peninsula Community, and we work together to accomplish this.

THE LONGBRANCH FOUNDATION

INVESTING IN THE SOUTH KEY COMMUNITY





The Longbranch Foundation (TLF) - December 2020 Update

December may be marked by Christmas, Hanukkah and Kwanzaa, but for pagans it's the time to celebrate Yule. The holiday marks the winter solstice in the Northern Hemisphere (Monday, Dec. 21, this year) and is the longest night and shortest day of the year. The Earth's axis tilts the furthest away from the sun at 23-and-a-half degrees, giving all locations north of the equator less than 12 hours of daylight. It is marked by many festivals and rituals celebrating the victory of light or goodness over darkness or evil. However you celebrate this "season of light", we hope you find peace and happiness.

Super Sale

Major thanks to more than thirty people who worked more than 185 hours to bring in over \$5,000 from our Super Sale Fundraiser. Working under very unusual circumstances, with the virus dictating how to conduct this sale, Kelly Hettinger and her team found a way to sell items within guidelines, including a "garage sale" in the rain!

Great job everyone, thank you!

All proceeds will go into an account dedicated to our Historic Building.

Annual Celebrate Campaign

A big thank you to everyone who has donated to Celebrate! We have received donations running from \$25 to \$1,000. Any amount will help, and the first \$25 will be matched. If you have not done so already, please consider a yearend donation.

Visit our web site to learn the many ways you can donate: longbranchfoundation.org

You may be aware that the CARES Act stimulus bill permits a \$300 deduction per person in 2020 for taxpayers who do not itemize who give that amount (or more) to charity. In addition, the Cares Act has a rule change waiving required minimum distributions (RMD) in 2020. You can still take a distribution and make a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) to a nonprofit. You will get a tax break for your gift, even if you take the standard deduction.

Thank you for your support!







The Longbranch Foundation Board is sad to announce that Don Swensen has resigned his position. If you have any interest in joining the board, please contact Barbara Floyd.

THE LONGBRANCH FOUNDATION WVESTWG W THE SOUTH KEY COMMUNITY

Building Brighter Futures for Our Students

We have started planning for our biennial auction on April 10, 2021. It will be a Virtual Gala & Auction.

The Auction will raise money for our Student Programs at Evergreen and KP Middle School as well as award Academic and Vocational scholarships.

We currently spend about \$15,000 a year on these programs. The need exists so we could easily spend \$25,000 a year. This year we supported Evergreen students and teachers with supplies, families with food cards, as well as awarded five new and recurring scholarships, including one vocational scholarship.

We will need your help to make this evening a success.

- We have picked an on-line auction system, MaxGiving which is compatible with our current system. We will need volunteers to help with data input to the system, describe items, write notices, etc. If you are interested in getting involved or leading an activity, please contact us.
- 2. We want to produce a one-hour virtual show that is fun, engaging and raises a lot of money. We have a compelling story to tell, if you have experience with event or show production, please let us know.
- 3. We could use a few more Auction Items, we have about twenty neat items and need a few more. We are looking for "get-away" locations, thinking people would like a change of venue after a year of not traveling! like a cabin in the Methow, a beach house, etc ...

Please contact Michele Gorman or Barb Floyd if you would like to volunteer to help us out.











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

Thank you for working with us to make a difference in our community.

Barb Floyd President <u>bjf.4969@yahoo.com</u> longbranchfoundation.org home: (253) 884-3796 cell: (206) 920-3273 The Longbranch Foundation P. O. Box 111 Lakebay, WA 98349



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

amazon smile

Events

Instead of Decking the Halls this year, we will be decorating the outside of the LIC. Although opportunities to get together inside will be few and far between, we can all enjoy a festive atmosphere outside driving by the LIC.

We will also be holding a drive-up version of Kids and Christmas and plans for this event are underway. The activity will be similar to Trunk or Treat in that families will stay in their cars as they drive a concourse through the LIC parking lot. We will need volunteers to gather information on the family, prepare gift bundles, and transfer the bundles to cars while meeting the CDC guidelines for COVID-19 prevention. This is scheduled for December 13 from 1–3pm. We also expect to need volunteers for gift sorting and wrapping the week beforehand, so expect an email providing volunteer opportunities.

We wish you all the best of health this holiday season!

Allen & Marcel Ballinger

Events Co-Chairs

Dockmaster Report

Hello from the dock,

It has been pretty quiet at the marina, November has blessed us with some nice weather and we took advantage of that with boaters doing maintenance, cleaning, and decorating their boats.

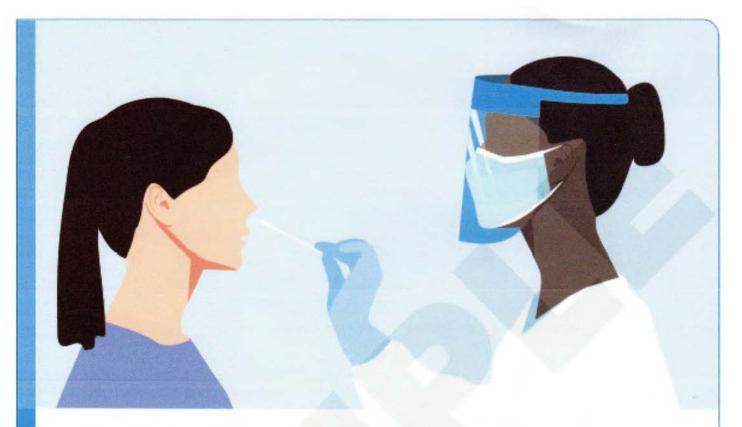
Thank you to Dennis and Sally Westphal, Andrew and Jennifer Guyler, Andy and Teresa Gano and Denny and Jan Pritchard for your work including pressure washing, securing dock boards, cleaning everything in the pavilion, sprucing up the flower containers, and decorating! The marina looks FABULOUS!

Looking forward to the possibility of Opening Day in May, fingers crossed!

Happy Holidays, and I wish you all health and happiness always! Katie Harrison Dockmaster

EST. 189

LICweb.org



COVID-19 Testing

Pierce County brings free testing to you.

Volunteers help you register on site. No ID required. Results in 5-7 days.

Anyone can be tested.

It's important to get tested if you:

- Experience fever, chills, cough, shortness of breath, fatigue, muscle pain, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, stuffy or runny nose, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea.
- Were close to a person with COVID-19 or attended a gathering with many people.
- Are a member of an at-risk community—Alaska Native, American Indian, Black, Hawaiian, Latinx and Pacific Islander.

Day, Month Date Wednesday, Dec. 23, 2020

Time a.m. - Time p.m. 10:00 AM-3:00 PM

Place Longbranch Improvement Club

Address 4312 Key Peninsula Hwy SW

City WA Zip Code Longbranch, WA 98351





Learn more at piercecountywa.gov/mobiletesting or tpchd.org/covidtest.

Membership

Hello to some new members -

- Wayland Wasserman and Stephanie Berg
- Samuel Haszelbart and Carl Hoehn
- Scott Schoenberg and Kim Westlin-Schoenberg

We welcome you and hope to be able to meet in person soon. Until then, it is Zoom!

The Christmas dinner will be just a little bit different this year. More details will be announced closer to Wednesday, December 16th. Please note, we will start at 6:00 pm.

The 2021 LIC renewal form will be e-mailed to you in the very soon. This form is on the website in the 'Members' tab, too. When you return the renewal form, please fill it out – not only with address and phone number (need to make sure the membership list is correct), but also the Events, Activities and Special Skills on the far right of the form.

At the last meeting it was decided to include the total volunteer hours and meetings to the membership list shown in the 'Members' tab on the website – like what is displayed on the sign-in sheets when we have in-person meetings. This is available now and includes all information as of November 24th at Noon. Any information entered in to Track It Forward or e-mailed to me after that date/time will be available with the next update, which I'll try to do monthly. If you don't know the password for the 'Members' tab, please see a Board Member.

Stay safe, everyone, mask up and see you on Zoom

Nancy Carr Memberships





From the Sunshine Corner Hello All,

Thankfully, this month there was only one member who needed some Sunshine after a surgery.

Cheril Allen, Sunshine Representative

"Don't let the sun go down without saying thank you to someone, and without admitting to yourself that absolutely no one gets this far alone."

~Stephen King

LICweb.org

2021 Key Peninsula Photo Calendar

KP in Bloom is part of the newly formed KP Rotary which loves to work with all clubs to better the community. If you've driven through Key Center lately, you've already witnessed the work making our uptown a beautiful place to shop and drive through, with hanging flower baskets, planters, cleaning up weeded areas and more! But we need your help to continue to the mission.



Our new 2021 calendar fundraiser highlights the beauty of this community, by local members of this community. I have collected photos from KP photographers such as Images by Gretchen, David Montesino, David Shinner, Beth Buffington and many more. The photos are fabulous (Water views, Longbranch Marina, Sunsets, Farm Animals) and the calendar will be as breathtaking. As an added bonus, the calendar will have tentative dates for special events such as Farm Tour, Boat Parade, LIC Auction, Civic Center Events, and more.

We are taking "donations only" for these calendars to continue the KP Beautification Project by KP in Bloom. We are hoping people will give generously.

The calendars will be available the 2nd week of December at Blend, Sunnycrest Nursery, Cozy Country Keepsakes or by emailing me, kilyons@msn.com. They will make great Christmas stocking stuffers/gifts. The Key Peninsula is so beautiful it should have its own calendar.



Kathy Lyons 253-709-0400



LIC General Meeting November 18, 2020

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

Attendance at a record of 49 people.

Guests & New Members Introductions – New Member Wayland Wasserman was welcomed by President Marsha Kremen.

BOARD REPORTS

<u>Secretary:</u> Sheryl Low asked that the minutes of the October Membership Meeting be accepted as written and submitted. MSP

Treasurer: Review of the October 31st Financials. The financials were a couple thousand down on net income, due to noncash entries for depreciation. We are doing well for the year. We should come in double our budgeted income at the end of the year. The property taxes were paid this month as well as the taxes for 2019 were filed.

Membership: Member renewal forms are made up for 2021. Please fill out completely and update current information. Please fill out your interests on the back, so we can match you up to volunteer for events. Please update your volunteer hours on the Track It Forward or email Nancy. Nancy will update the membership list in the 'Members' section of the website volunteer hours and to include the meetings for each member. If you need the Track it Forward password setup for this section, please see Nancy or a Board Member.

Events:

- Allen and Marcel reported that the Trunk or Treat was a big success.
- Kids and Christmas will be on December 13th, between 1-3 pm. This focused on the Evergreen is Elementary school area. There will be volunteer opportunities to wrap presents and prepare for this event.

Building and Grounds:

- Bob announced he has resigned from the Board, but is a firm believer in the mission of the organization, and he thanked all for everything they have done.
- Gas lines are done. The storage containers need to be emptied and painted and moved.

Marina:

- Marina Security System Katie and Robert are researching bids for security systems.
- Marina Regulations and the Marina Rules and Rates: Motion - Clark Van Bogart recommended the membership adopt the new Marina Regulations and Rates and Rules. MSP
- Replacement of Finger Piers-status -We are obligated to improve the Marina over the life of the lease with the DNR. We are negotiating to replace the three finger piers on the north side of A dock.

Trustee at Large: Nothing to report

Newsletter: Get info to Tanya by the 25th of the month.

Historian: No report

LIC General Meeting November 18, 2020

Vice President: Centennial Committee includes Carolyn Wiley, Lynn Larson, Bob and Barb Green, Cathy Williams, Katie Harrison, Allen and Marcel Ballinger and Tanya Perry. They are working on plans for events spread over 6 months. They are looking for volunteers, so contact David Zeigler by email if interested.

President:

- Pump out station update The Archeological study was completed with results showing no impact on any archeology, the rest of the information was sent to Pierce County towards our next Shoreline Permit Hearing.
- Preservation grant update -Preservation Grant for 2020 was submitted on November 10th. Bart Wolfe is working with Marsha on the next step and which grants they are going to apply for the next cycle.
- Covid Testing Nov 28, Dec 23.
- Christmas Meeting We would like to have a fun virtual event, so Marsha is asking all to have some food and drink for the event. We will start earlier at 6 PM. There may be surprise music. We are going to hand out STAR Awards this year, and they will be announced during the December meeting.

The Longbranch Foundation:

 Celebrate Campaign - We are a few thousand short of the goal, so if you are thinking of a year-end contribution, please go to the website to donate. Supersale - Our Super Sale event this past year was staffed by 30 volunteers, (recording over 185 hours) and generating over \$5,000. A big Thanks to Kelly for organizing this event to raise money.

amannanan

Biennial Virtual Auction - Planned for April 10th, 2021, to raise money for our student programs, our current budget is \$15,000 /year, but the need would support a budget of \$25,000/year. Marcia Randy and are getting sponsors for this auction. The theme is Building a Brighter Future for our Students. Please let Barb know if you have any experience with Event Production for the online event, David Zeigler will be producing videos. Michelle Gorman is the co-chair, and Randy Carr and Marcia Harris are on the advisorv committee. Please contact Barb if you can help us make this event a success.

Old Business

New Business

Upcoming Meetings & Events: Virtual Membership meeting December 16, 2020. 6:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm



LIC Contacts:

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Lakebay, WA 98349 PO Box 111 Longbranch Improvement Club

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