



The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

April 2020

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 4



Chapter Report

By Doug Hoople

Greetings from one of your three Co-Vice Chairmen, yes, we're back to that, the three Musketeers have returned. We're sharing duties like last year with most things the same and some situations changed. We have lost our Chair of two months and Boeing has ended their financial support of the Bluebills.

This will cause some major changes in how the Heritage Chapter will operate and meet, if it's able to continue. In an email to my fellow Musketeers and Heritage officers, I stated "I was not ready to pack my bags and go quietly into the night."

We are face to face with that "new normal" I warned you about in my Chairman's Comments last Spring. Here is what I'm advocating now as a plan forward.

To restart the Heritage Chapter, have the three Co-Vice Chairs meet to evaluate the separation from Boeing and what future direction to advocate. Have a second meeting with the Officers and individuals listed on the back of our newsletter (and anybody with a special Heritage Bluebills interest) to formalize a plan for how the Heritage Chapter should go forward.

Then, when the Governor has lifted the ban on meetings, schedule the next Heritage Bluebills meeting at the VFW on the last Friday of the next month to have an "all hands" meeting to really determine the future of the Bluebills Heritage Chapter (Donuts on me.).

Remember, the purpose of the Bluebills is to "provide opportunities for Boeing retirees and their spouses to use their time, energy, skills, knowledge and experience to improve the quality of life in their respective communities and thereby to enhance their own lives."

Is any of that purpose in your normal? Coffee, donuts and socializing is part of that, but there is more. What will that look like? What should it look like? (That's what I asked back in May 2019.) If you're willing to contribute to the discussion, come attend this "mandatory" meeting.

Until then we will communicate by email and notices on our Heritage page of the Bluebills website (bluebills.org). (Note: the contact information for your three Co-Vice Chairs are on the back page of your past newsletters.)

We need each of you to get this word out about our present situation to all your friends who are Heritage Bluebill members who may not have received this email. And I'm also asking all of you to update your contact information with the Bluebills office at bluebills@boeing.com (current mailing address, current email and phone numbers).

As most of you know Fran Parker passed away this month (March). She will be missed by all, her long-time volunteering and advocating for school supplies and the USO made her our hero. Lonnie Stevenson is heading up an effort to buy a Star for her on the Seatac USO Gallery of Stars. Donations can be sent to the USO Northwest at 17801 International Blvd, PMB 313, SeaTac, Wa. 98158 (a check to the USO Northwest) with a note indicating "Star for Fran Parker." Event to install the star, at the USO, will be scheduled for a later date.

From Your Editor

DUE TO BUDGET CONSTRAINTS THE HERITAGE CHAPTER NEWSLETTER WILL NO LONGER BE PRINTED AND MAILED TO ALL CHAPTER MEMBERS. WE ASK THAT YOU SEND US YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS AND WE WILL SEND YOU A NOTICE AND LINK EACH MONTH TO VIEW, READ AND/OR PRINT THE CURRENT NEWSLETTER.

PLEASE SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO:

BBEDITOR@LIVE.COM



Chapter Meeting Recaps

By Mary Ulibarri

Heritage Chapter Meetings have been suspended due to the COVID-19 Virus outbreak!



Speakers for Chapter Meetings

By: Jim Beasley

Heritage Chapter Meetings have been suspended due to the COVID-19 Virus outbreak. Speakers will be rescheduled for our Chapter Meetings once they are resumed.



Busy B's

Submitted by Janice Hawes

The Busy B column for this month was written by Sibyl Fletcher who submitted a clever quilting crossword puzzle, but a word from me first.

I would like to thank Marilyn Moore who donated 36 baby hats. She buys the yarn, makes the hats and then donates them. Many thanks to her. Kathy Lyon recently donated 33 baby hats and 18 large ones. Thanks Kathy for those and all the hats you have given us over the years. And a big thanks to Meri England for 32 assorted sized hats. She usually greets me at the monthly meeting with a bag of hats.

Now on to the puzzle: *Click on the link and solve on the puzzle* <https://compuquilt.com/pages/quilting-fun-crossword-puzzles>

Please continue to submit your volunteer hours to BLUEBILLS@BOEING.COM !

Bill Gate's beautifully articulated views

Submitted by: Micki Brown

What is the Corona/ Covid-19 Virus Really Teaching us?

I'm a strong believer that there is a spiritual purpose behind everything that happens, whether that is what we perceive as being good or being bad.

As I meditate upon this, I want to share with you what I feel the Corona/ Covid-19 virus is really doing to us:

- It is reminding us that we are all equal, regardless of our culture, religion, occupation, financial situation or how famous we are. This disease treats us all equally, perhaps we should to. If you don't believe me, just ask Tom Hanks.

- It is reminding us that we are all connected and something that affects one person has an effect on another. It is reminding us that the false borders that we have put up have little value as this virus does not need a passport. It is reminding us, by oppressing us for a short time, of those in this world whose whole life is spent in oppression.

- It is reminding us of how precious our health is and how we have moved to neglect it through eating nutrient poor manufactured food and drinking water that is contaminated with chemicals upon chemicals. If we don't look after our health, we will, of course, get sick.

- It is reminding us of the shortness of life and of what is most important for us to do, which is to help each other, especially those who are old or sick. Our purpose is not to buy toilet rolls.

- It is reminding us of how materialistic our society has become and how, when in times of difficulty, we remember that it's the essentials that we need (food, water, medicine)

as opposed to the luxuries that we sometimes unnecessarily give value to.

- It is reminding us of how important our family and home life is and how much we have neglected this. It is forcing us back into our houses so we can rebuild them into our home and

to strengthen our family unit.

- It is reminding us that our true work is not our job, that is what we do, not what we were created to do.

Our true work is to look after each other, to protect each other and to be of benefit to one another.

- It is reminding us to keep our egos in check. It is reminding us that no matter how great we think we are or how great others think we are,

a virus can bring our world to a standstill.

- It is reminding us that the power of freewill is in our hands. We can choose to cooperate and help each other, to share, to give, to help and to support each other or we can choose to be selfish, to hoard, to look after only our self. Indeed, it is difficulties that bring out our true colors.

- It is reminding us that we can be patient, or we can panic. We can either understand that this type of situation has happened many times before in history and will pass, or we can panic and see it as the end of the world and, consequently, cause ourselves more harm than good.

- It is reminding us that this can either be an end or a new beginning. This can be a time of reflection and understanding, where we learn from our mistakes, or it can be the start of a cycle which will continue until we finally learn the lesson we are meant to.

- It is reminding us that this Earth is sick. It is reminding us that we need to look at the rate of deforestation just as urgently as we look at the speed at which toilet rolls are disappearing off of shelves. We are sick because our home is sick.

- It is reminding us that after every difficulty, there is always ease. Life is cyclical, and this is just a phase in this great cycle. We do not need to panic; this too shall pass.



Frances Arlene Parker passed away March 2, 2020. She was born on November 12, 1933 in Yakima Washington.

Submitted by: Lonnie Stevenson

Fran was the youngest of 3 daughters born to Fred and Lillian Welham. She attended Tolt High School, Highline Community College, and Washington State University. Fran married the love of her life, Sam Parker, on December 1, 1956. The couple moved to New Orleans with their young son, Craig, in 1962 and welcomed their second son, Scott, the following year.

The family spent most of their weekends and summer vacations camping and seeing the East and South coasts as well as watching many Gemini and Apollo launches. She frequently said that these were the best years of their lives. The family continued to camp and fish upon their return to the Pacific Northwest in 1974.

Upon Sam's retirement from Boeing, the couple again explored the US from their motorhome as well as several other countries for several years, until Sam passed away in 1995. Fran continued to travel the world for several years with friends and family. Fran went Halibut fishing with her son, Scott, and grandson, Ryan, in Homer, Alaska in her 70's and ziplining in Mexico with her son, Craig, and grandson, Ryan, in her 80's.

Shortly after Sam's death, Fran discovered the Boeing Bluebills and thus began 25 years of volunteer work. Her sister joked that she had to schedule an appointment to see her as she was always volunteering somewhere. She was heavily involved with the Bluebills as well as the USO until her death. Fran was an active patron of the Village Theater in Issaquah and loved going to the Seattle Symphony, the Pops, and other shows in Seattle.

She is survived by sons and daughters-in-law, Craig and Evelyn Parker of Renton, Washington, Scott and Kathy Parker of Anchorage, Alaska, and grandson, Ryan Parker of Renton, Washington. She was preceded in death by her parents, Fred and Lillian Welham, husband, Sam Parker, and sisters, Mary Lou Haller and Jean Gallucci.

We are so sad at the sudden passing of our devoted Bluebill friend and volunteer, **Fran Parker**. She gave so many volunteer hours in the name of BLUEBILLS, for World Vision 'Kids In Need Warehouse' and school kids, along side of many of us Bluebills. Also with Hope Link, and then searched other ways to connect with needy children for school supplies.

Always thinking of others and how to make their lives better. A **devoted USO Northwest Volunteer for 10 (yes that's TEN) years**. We all are so in support of our troops who help keep AMERICA Free.

The family requested donations to the USONW in lieu of flowers, so what better way to honor Fran Parker's memory than with a star in "The RADM Herb & Shirley Bridge Gallery of Stars" located in our USONW SeaTac Center, the Gallery of Stars is a permanent wall display allowing you to engrave a special message or tribute of your choice on a wooden star. (See photo of the star gallery, that also contains 4 other Bluebill names, in memoriam.)



If you wish to contribute to Fran's Star or just make a donation to a very worthy cause in Fran's memory, Here's how you do it:

Make your check payable to: **USO Northwest**
Note on the check; **Fran Parker's Star**

Mail to: Mailing Address:

USO Northwest
17801 International Blvd., PMB #313
Seattle, WA 98158

Socially distancing from COVID-19 robocall scams

Scammers – and scammy companies – are using illegal robocalls to profit from Coronavirus-related fears. Listen to some of the latest scammy robocall pitches, so you can be on the lookout and know how to respond. (Here's a hint: hang up!)

Illegal robocalls are universally hated, so why do scammers still use them? Because they need only a few people to take the bait for them to make money. They might do that by getting your bank account number, tricking you into handing over gift card PIN codes, or stealing valuable personal information like your Social Security number.

Times of crisis bring out the best in people, and the worst in scammers – as you can hear in these sample calls from Coronavirus scammers pretending to be from the Social Security Administration, offering fake Coronavirus tests to Medicare recipients, and scaring small businesses into buying bogus online listing services.

[Social Security Administration scam](#)
[Fake tests for Medicare recipients](#)
[Small business listing scam](#)

To hear more examples of illegal robocalls exploiting concerns about the Coronavirus, and to stay up to date on the latest FTC information, visit ftc.gov/coronavirus. The FTC is taking the fight against illegal Coronavirus robocalls to companies that help scammy telemarketers. That includes companies that transmit or carry these kinds of calls for telemarketers, or that give the phone numbers that scammers use for people to call them back. Today, [the FTC sent letters to nine VoIP providers and companies that license phone numbers](#), warning them about the penalties for helping telemarketers that use these kinds of illegal robocalls.

Now that you know what Coronavirus robocall scams sound like, make sure others do too – share, link, or like this post, and encourage them to [subscribe](#) to the FTC's consumer alerts. And, if you get scam calls like these, don't believe them. Instead:

- **Hang up.** Don't press any numbers. The recording might say that pressing a number will let you speak to a live operator or remove you from their call list, but it might lead to more robocalls, instead.
- **Consider using a call blocking app or device.** You also can ask your phone provider if it has call-blocking tools. To learn more, go to ftc.gov/calls.
- **Report the call.** Report robocalls at ftc.gov/complaint. The more we hear from you, the more we can help fight scams.

Seeking E-mail addresses!

Greetings Bluebills! We would like to start communicating to you using e-mail. But – we don't have everyone's e-mail addresses!



In the next few weeks, we will be calling to see if we can obtain your e-mail. If you would like to send an e-mail to let us know what yours is, please send to lindahouser@comcast.net. THANK YOU!

Linda Houser



Calendar of Events 2020

Jan 9	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
Jan 31	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
Feb 13	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
Feb 28	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
Mar 11	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
Mar 27	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
Apr 24	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
May 29	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck)</i>
Jun 10	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
Jun 26	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
Jul 31	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
Aug 28	<i>Chapter Picnic</i>
Sep (TBD)	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
Sept 25	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
Oct 30	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
Nov 20	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting & Pizza Party</i>
Dec (TBD)	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
Dec 18	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck)</i>

Food Bank Schedule For 2019

Cash donations collected at each monthly meeting to be given to a different food bank each month.

January	<i>Highline</i>	<i>Heinz Gehlhaar</i>
February	<i>Bellevue</i>	<i>Doug Hoople</i>
March	<i>Federal Way</i>	<i>Lonnie Stevenson</i>
April	<i>Maple Valley</i>	<i>Vaughn's</i>
May	<i>Kent</i>	<i>Melinda Stubbs</i>
June	<i>Auburn</i>	<i>Martha Battles</i>
July	<i>West Seattle</i>	<i>Heinz Gehlhaar</i>
August	<i>Tacoma</i>	<i>Ted & Judy Leyden</i>
September	<i>Renton</i>	<i>Eleanor Skinner</i>
October	<i>White Center</i>	<i>Heinz Gehlhaar</i>
November	<i>Des Moines</i>	<i>Lonnie Stevenson</i>
December	<i>Issaquah</i>	<i>Eleanor Skinner</i>

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**Don't Forget to
Report Your Hours!**

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting

“MEETINGS SUSPENDED DUE TO COVID-19”

WE WILL POST A NOTICE IN NEWSLETTER AND ON THE WEB AT BLUE-BILLS.ORG WHEN THEY RESUME

10:00 AM Social, 10:30—12:00N Meeting

VFW Post 1263 Renton

Website: vfw1263.org

- Address: 416 Burnett Ave S, Renton, WA 98057

Phone: (425) 255-9010

Please Note:

The Bluebills monthly meetings are held at the VFW Post 1263, 416 Burnett Ave South, Renton, WA. Parking is available in the lot immediately across the street from the VFW.

Bluebills Monthly Volunteer Hours

Volunteer Name _____

Phone Number _____

_____ Hours worked _____ For _____
(month/year) (agency name)

_____ Hours worked _____ For _____
(month/year) (agency name)

_____ Hours worked _____ For _____
(month/year) (agency name)

Please send completed hours form to Bluebills, PO Box 3707 1K-B02, Seattle, WA 98124
Email to bluebills@boeing.com or bring to Bluebills monthly meeting