



The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

April 2021

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 04



Co-Chairman's Report – April, 2021

By Doug Hoople

The saga continues.

Over the last several months we have been calling our membership to find email addresses so we can send newsletters out and invite members to our monthly Zoom meetings.

Originally, I had five volunteers calling people, two have retired from helping due to medical considerations. Another has completed their list. I finished my list and inherited the other two lists. I hope the remaining person is still working their list.

From these calls our email contact list has grown to over a hundred. However, at our meeting Friday we had only eleven Bluebills to listen to a very informative presentation from our guest speaker, an editor from the Seattle Times. Now exactly a good showing.

Our Governor currently has us at Phase 3 of our COVID Reopening. Meetings can be 10 people. If you serve food, you can have 50% capacity. So, we could cheat with our coffee and donuts and have a meeting at the VFW. Personally, I would like to wait for Phase 4 and ensure everybody has their vaccination shots.

But that will also lead to another dilemma, we will need someone to bring our equipment and meeting supplies from the office to the meeting. This has been the responsibility of our Chairman. At the present time we do not have a Chairman, we have three previous Chairmen, serving as Co-Chairmen, who are sharing the duties because they all have other responsibilities and/or time constraints. When we start meeting again, two of them will have to step back from their commitment. As the only one remaining. I will also have to step out because I cannot perform the duties as Chairman alone. I am occupied with responsibilities at the SeaTac USO which keeps me from attending the Bluebills Central Leadership meetings to represent the Heritage Chapter and from picking up the equipment and necessary supplies at the office for the meeting.

For the past two plus years the three of us have been sharing these responsibilities since the last elected Chairman resigned mid-term. We have been asking for someone to step up and help with the leadership of our organization.

We may be able to pull off a Bluebill in person meeting in April or May, but we need a Chairman or that might be our last meeting.

Recently Myron Vogt from the Olypen Charter announced his move to Atlanta, that leaves a leadership void in their Chapter and the Bluebills Central Leadership as well.

Last call for a commitment to help us keep going. Time to step up.

Doug



March ZOOM Meeting Summary

By Mary Ulibarri

Doug Hoople called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM. There were 12 members logged in. Good news hearing most have gotten at least one of their COVID-19 vaccinations, and some have both shots. Doug stated he will check into the rules for group gatherings to see if the Bluebills can return to meetings at the VFW. And, he once again asked for volunteers to step into the Chairman/Co-Chairman positions.

Mary read the names of the three April birthdays on her list: Chandler Lall, Helen Mah and Theodore Pfaff. And reminded folks to continue submitting their volunteer hours to her at marybarri@centurylink.net or Dick Beham at bbbeditor@live.com.

As mentioned last month, Boeing is continuing to support our use of the South Park office space. The Vaughns and Mary are picking up where they left off a year ago.

Richard reported that Myron Vogt, Central Leadership Council Chairman, and his wife Valeria, will be moving to Atlanta, GA the first part of April to be with family. Thank you for your services, Myron, and enjoy life in the South.

Jim Beasley introduced the speaker, Brier Dudley, who was appointed Free Press editor of The Seattle Times on January 22 of this year. A third-generation Seattleite, Dudley received a B.A. in English from Whitman College and studied film production in Italy before starting a career in newspapers. He jumped right into newspaper business in 1992 until 1996 with the Yakima Herald-Republic, followed by a year with the Tacoma News Tribune before signing on with The Seattle Times. He has won numerous regional and national journalism awards

Dudley's prior history with The Seattle Times started in January 1998 as a Metro Reporter. In 2001 he became Senior Technology Reporter until 2006. During this time, he consistently broke news and wrote definitive stories covering Microsoft and included coverage of all leading tech companies in software, devices and services. National awards included Scripps Howard William Brewster Styles Award and AAJA for international reporting on Microsoft growth

in India.

Then in 2006 through 2015, he was named Technology Columnist providing reporting and commentary on technology industry, products and leadership, with emphasis on the Seattle region. He broke major stories about Microsoft, Google and Amazon. Awards in 2006 and 2013 included Best in Business Column award, Society of American Business Editors and Writers.

From 2015 until January 21, 2021, he was Editorial Board Member and Opinion Columnist, where he analyzed and explained complex topics to inform community and influence opinion and public policy. He wrote persuasive commentary on regional, national and international issues, with emphasis on technology, business and trade. He represented publisher and chief executive in engagements with government, business and community leaders to increase understanding and influence. He reported and wrote editorials and columns on deadline for print and digital platforms, supported social media initiatives and produced enterprise reporting projects.

As Free Press editor, Dudley covers the current local and national crisis in journalism, along with the efforts to preserve the independence and sustainability of the nation's local free press system. He will focus his coverage on four key areas:

- The consolidation of and disinvestment in local newspapers under absentee owners.
- The negative impacts of Big Tech on newspapers' ability to monetize their content or compete for advertising against their monopolistic practices.
- Legislative efforts to stem the losses of local newspaper and media journalism jobs.
- The emergence of "ghost newspapers" and "news deserts" with their devastating impact on the health and vibrancy of our local communities.

Dudley will serve as one of the primary voices for The Seattle Times Save the Free Press initiative. The initiative was launched in late 2019 with the goal of reforming and reinvigorating the national free press system. This program will rejuvenate the civic value of local news organizations as the trusted and reliable guardians of democracy and public accountability. He is of the opinions that this is a great opportunity to help advance our incredibly important effort to save the free and independent press, not just in Seattle but across the country.

In a recent column in the paper, Dudley said the Free Press initiative also includes a new website producing informational materials to track and explain challenges facing the free press and policy solutions.

In his new role, he said coverage areas will include newspaper consolidation and disinvestment by absentee owners, plus weekly columns examining press issues and advocating for reforms, particularly in Congress. He believed newspapers are part of the cure. Places with decent local papers have less corruption and more engaged and informed citizens.

Dudley then opened the floor to a number of good questions from the attendees and the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 AM.

All Bluebills are invited to join the April 23, 2021 meeting scheduled for 10:30 AM (PDST). Let Doug Hoople (ddhoole@earthlink.net) know so he can send you the Zoom link.

*Happy Easter!!
Mary*



Eastside Stories

Eastside Stories: The Fleet that Never Was

By Margaret Laliberte July 21, 2019

EHC Volunteer

The head of Yarrow Bay is a dreamy backwater on a sunny summer afternoon these days, but for a few months in the summer of 1945 the bay was the subject of a lively, often acrimonious, debate. Community and civic groups from around Lake Washington squared off against each other over a proposal by the US Navy to place more than three hundred ships for safekeeping between the marshy head of the bay and what is now Carillon Point.

This largely-forgotten slice of Eastside history happened as the war in the Pacific was coming to an end. In fact, on the day the atomic bomb was dropped on Hiroshima the steering committee of the Kirkland Commercial Club met to consider the proposal. (They supported it.)

The Navy needed a place to mothball part of its National Defense Reserve Fleet, smaller ships that could be readied quickly for sea duty. Navy planners identified Yarrow Bay, drew up blueprints for two north-south docks and received a \$4,000,000 appropriation for construction. The shoreline would be filled in and the whole bay dredged. This, according to the Navy, would beautify the harbor.

The Seattle Chamber of Commerce, Kirkland officials and a few civic groups and local unions saw the chance to keep jobs as the Lake Washington Shipyard in Houghton slowed down

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with the end of the war. A local union official argued “It may be hard on the scenery, but you can’t eat scenery. The presence of those ships means jobs. Jobs mean that our kids will be fed.” (At first the figure going around was 2500 jobs, but later it was revealed that there might be only about 100 civilian jobs.; the rest would be Navy personnel.)

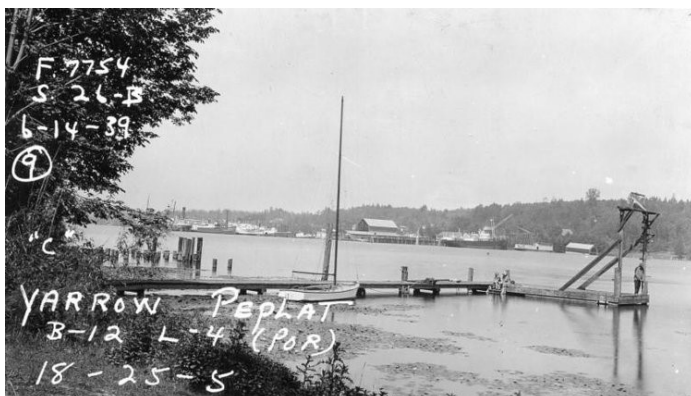
Supporters faced the vehement opposition of community groups around Lake Washington who feared the “industrialization” of the lake, water pollution, loss of views, and falling home values, to say nothing of all those sailors in town. Fred Delkin of the Hunts Point Community Club put it plainly: “Hunts Point doesn’t want the honky-tonks and other things that will go with [the ships] if a big maintenance crew is kept here.” The Yarrow Point Community Club sent flyers urging residents to protest to their senators, the Governor and Pentagon leadership.



Yarrow Bay in 1936. Lake Washington Shipyard (now Carillon Point) near the top, and wetlands that would have been dredged at the bottom

Residents of Houghton, which was unincorporated at the time, felt that Kirkland and the Seattle Chamber of Commerce were selling them out. “They dropped this thing on us like a bombshell,” said Houghton resident Marcus Johnson. “I’d never think of buying a thing in Kirkland now,” said Mrs. Fred Gash. “We’d rather go all the way to Bellevue, and that’s what we’re doing.” The community had a much-loved beach park on the bay: 600 feet of waterfront where hundreds gathered on weekends to swim and picnic. It must have felt impossible to imagine the entire bay filled with military ships.

The Navy flew out two captains, one from the Navy Office of Public Information, to assess local sentiment at three meetings. The first, on Mercer Island, drew 400-500 people from 34 different community organizations bordering Lake Washington. Capt. Campbell’s patient assurances that bilge water and sewage would be safely piped ashore and not dumped into the lake did nothing to alter the vehement opposition of all the community groups. The captain asserted that the federal government had full authority over Lake Washington as a navigable body of water and could establish a moorage wherever it chose, although it would prefer to consult residents’ opinion. (He had the grace to admit that 98% of mail received back in Washington D.C. on the matter was in opposition to the plan.)



View from the northeast side of Yarrow Point, across Yarrow Bay to the Lake Washington Shipyard in 1939. The proposed Navy piers would have filled in this space.

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At the third meeting, held at the Seattle Chamber of Commerce and lasting three hours, sentiment was declared about evenly divided, though the meeting ended in some confusion as to whether the proper rules of procedure had been followed. The Navy captains were clearly weary. "This has been no vacation," Capt. Campbell admitted. "I've heard some of the hottest air I've ever heard during my time here."

Local meetings and debate continued through the summer, but at the end of the day, the Navy ran up its flag and withdrew. According to reminiscences of V.J. Berton, Houghton's first elected mayor, the proposal was finally dropped because the Navy had concluded that acid in the lake's water would rust the ships' metal. The fleet was instead sent to the Columbia River; the Navy moored the ships at long concrete piers just east of Astoria at Tongue Point Naval Air Station until 1963.

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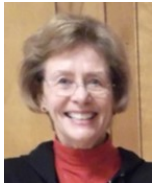
The strong opposition to the Navy's project might have surprised the early promoters of the Lake Washington Ship Canal who envisioned significant industrial development on the lake. But as residents of the growing region increasingly appreciated the exquisite beauty of the lake and its shoreline, industrial uses stopped making much sense.

Thanks to Margaret Laliberte, Eastside Heritage Center volunteer, for researching and writing this story. Margaret is a resident of north Clyde Hill, just south of Yarrow Bay. If you would like to contribute an article to Eastside Stories, contact us at info@eastsideheritagecenter.

Presentation for April 30th ZOOM General Meeting

By Jim Beasley

The speaker for April will be Andrew Schmid, Speaker Coordinator for Sound Transit, presenting light rails current progress, funding and future plans.



News from the Social Security Administration

Submitted by : Micki Brown

Financial Literacy Month, a Perfect Time to Plan for Your Future

April is Financial Literacy Month, a time focused on educating people about the importance of planning for a secure financial future. Social Security is a vital part of any financial plan. We have online tools to help you understand your potential Social Security benefits and how they fit into your financial future.

You should periodically review your *Social Security Statement* with your personal *my Social Security* account at www.ssa.gov/myaccount. Your *Statement* is an easy-to-read summary of the estimated benefits you and your family could receive, including potential retirement, disability, and survivors benefits.

Additionally, our Plan for Retirement tool in your *my Social Security* account allows you to run various benefit estimate scenarios. You can compare different future earnings and retirement benefit start dates for how they could affect your benefit amount.

Start improving your financial literacy today by logging in to your *my Social Security* account. If you don't have an account, create one at www.ssa.gov/myaccount.

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Social Security's Many Online Services

There's probably been a time in your life when you've wondered, "Can I do this online instead of visiting a Social Security office?" The answer is more than likely yes, and you can find more information about our online services at www.ssa.gov/onlineservices. Online, you can apply for retirement and disability benefits, appeal a decision, and do much more.

We've organized our Online Services webpage into four popular categories for easy navigation:

- **Review Your Information.** You can access your secure, personal information and earnings history to make sure everything is correct.
- **Apply for Benefits.** You can apply for retirement, disability, and Medicare benefits without having to visit a local Social Security office.
- **Manage Your Account.** You can change your direct deposit information and your address, if you are receiving benefits, online.
- **Find Help and Answers.** You can find answers to your most frequently asked questions, as well as links to publications and other informational websites.

You can also access personalized information with your *my Social Security* account. This is a

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useful resource even if you are not receiving benefits. You can:

- Request a replacement Social Security number or Medicare card.
- Get personalized retirement benefit estimates.
- Get estimates for spouse's benefits.
- Print proof that you do not receive benefits.
- Check your application or appeal status.

Read your *Social Security Statement*. If you are receiving benefits, you can:

- Request a replacement Social Security number or Medicare card.
- Set up or change direct deposit.
- Print a Social Security 1099 (SSA-1099) form.
- Opt out of mailed notices for those available online.
- Print a benefit verification letter.
- Change your address.

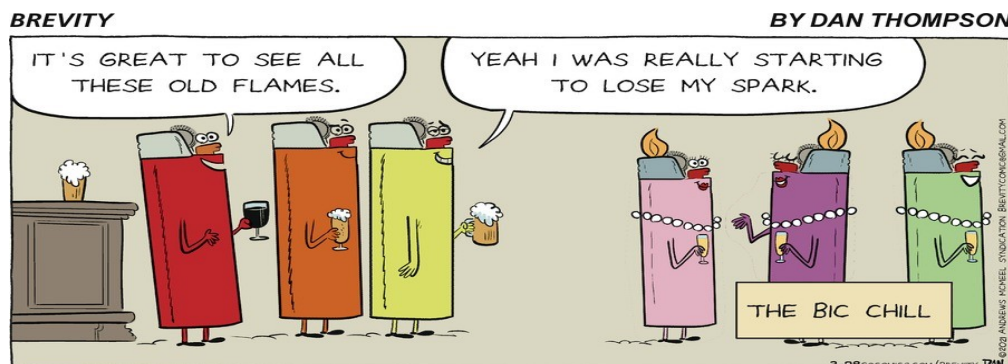
Please let your family and friends know they can do much of their business with us online at www.ssa.gov.

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- Change your address.

Please let your family and friends know they can do much of their business with us online at www.ssa.gov.



Only to those whose level of maturity qualifies them to relate to it..

1966: Long hair
 2021: Longing for hair

1966: Moving to California because it's cool
 2021: Moving to Arizona because it's warm

1966: Acid rock
 2021: Acid reflux

1966: Hoping for a BMW
 2021: Hoping for a BM

1966: Rolling Stones
 2021: Kidney Stones

1966: Disco
 2021: Costco

1966: Passing the drivers' test
 2021: Passing the vision test

1966: KEG
 2021: EKG

1966: Trying to look like Marlon rando or Liz Taylor
 2021: Trying NOT to look like Marlon Brando or Liz Taylor

1966: Seeds and stems
 2021: Roughage

1966: Going to a new, hip joint
 2021: Receiving a new hip joint

1966: Screw the system
 2021: Upgrade the system

1966: Parents begging you to get your hair cut
 2021: Children begging you to get their heads shaved

1966: Whatever
 2021: Depends



In Person Meetings
Currently Suspended

Calendar of ZOOM Events 2021

Jan 14	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jan 29	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Feb 11	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Feb 26	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Mar 11	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Mar 26	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Apr 15	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Apr 30	Chapter Monthly Meeting
May 13	Heritage Leadership Meeting
May 28	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Jun 10	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jun 25	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Jul 31	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Aug 28	Chapter Picnic— <i>TBD</i>
Sep 16	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Sept 24	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Oct 29	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Nov 19	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Dec 9	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Dec 17	Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck - <i>TBD</i>)

Food Bank Schedule For 2021

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

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

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| Jim Beasley | Speaker Coordinator
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**Don't Forget to
Report Your Hours!**

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting

“IN PERSON MEETINGS SUSPENDED DUE TO COVID-19”

“ZOOM MEETING”

April 30, 10:30 AM (PDT) ZOOM Meeting

Presenter:

Andrew Schmid, Sound Transit Speaker Coordinator.

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