



The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

April 2024

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

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Co-Chairman's Comments

By Richard Vaughn

It was really great to have such a good attendance at the Heritage Chapter monthly meeting last Friday morning. Several of our members who had not attended for a while braved the weather and the "City of Renton Demolition Crew" who had closed the street in front of the VFW and were working on it with big equipment and many workers. It was almost impossible to park your car and get to the building. This was the second month for the work and we are hoping it will soon be completed. Thank you, all you brave souls. I want to welcome all attendees to the meetings and to ask you if you can make it to the meeting just one Friday each month? It would mean a lot to every one of us.

Our speaker for the day was from Cascade/PBS, Channel 9 (KCTS) and was one of the best we have had for some time thanks to Jim Beasley, Speaker Coordinator for the Heritage Chapter.

"A BIG THANK YOU to Jim Beasley."

I should say that Jim has been in this position for some years and he always does his very best to get speakers who are timely and who are of interest to our membership. We appreciate this very much.

Summer with warm weather is on its way and if we are planning to have an outside picnic, plans need to begin very soon. The first step is for a member to step forward and offer to lead this activity. A committee of volunteers will also be needed to set a date, find a good location (at no cost please), and carry out the plans for the event. Do we have any willing members to help the chapter have a great activity this year? I would love to hear from you.

Have a wonderful month of April and I look forward to seeing many of you at the meeting on April 26th at the VFW in Renton



Speakers and Presentations

Jim Beasley, Speaker Coordinator

The precentor for Friday April 26th general meeting will be a presenter from Seattle Mayor Harrell’s office who will provide a progress report on the updated Seattle Waterfront Project.

This effort, called Waterfront Seattle, is a \$806M, multi-year investment between now and 2025. It is led by the City of Seattle’s Office of the Waterfront and Civic Projects.



Seattle Office of the Waterfront and Civic Projects.

March Meeting Summary



By: Mary Ulibarri

Don Hilt opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and then asked for March birthday attendees. Richard Vaughn was the only one present. My list shows many others: Emmett Omar, Bernie Pfaff, Linda Bagley, Meri England, Yoshi Akers, Doug Hoople, Karen Baker, Margaret Stone, Pat Archer and Heinz Gehlhaar.

Jim Beasley then introduced the speaker, Kerry O’Keefe, Vice President of Philanthropy, Cascade PBS, formerly known as KCT 9 and Crosscut.

When the company made the initial announcement of the new transition last year, Cascade PBS made it clear that bringing KCTS 9 and Crosscut under one banner “reflects two important things: the regional community served, and the quality PBS programming and local news customers rely on.”

Mission: To inform and inspire our community to make the world a better place.

Vision; To be the most essential and relevant media organization in the region.

Cascade is an award-winning PBS television station serving Washington State and British Columbia. In addition, they produce enterprise journalism expressed through written articles, video series, podcasts, newsletters, and community engagement events.



KCTS 9’s nearly 70 years of award-winning local television comes together with the deeply reported investigative journalism of Crosscut by joining under the most trusted name in media: PBS. While KCTS and Crosscut have been part of the same family for several years – the name is changing, but the local, national and international programming isn’t going anywhere.

Their new home at 316 Broadway, on Capitol Hill, is a place open to all; engaging minds and lifting spirits while fostering dialogue and innovation. It is a place the community can look for insightful and informative journalism that will bring engagement and understanding to the issues facing the community.

tober 18,

The Cascade PBS name reflects two important things: the regional community being served, and the quality PBS programming and local news as provided throughout the years. Which means PBS will keep delivering high-quality television that entertains and news reporting with the same care and skill as always.

As KCTS 9 and Crosscut come together as Cascade PBS, fans will begin to see the new name here and there, including online at the current web addresses, KCTS9.org and Crosscut.com and in the email newsletter. Watch for a CascadePBS.org website to debut next Spring, where viewers will be able to find all content—both regional news and PBS and locally curated programming—in one place.



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rely on.”

Kerry provided us with an exclusive screening of “Mossback’s NW” new season program airing April 4th at 8:50PM on KCTS 9, “The Boeing Cover Up”. During WWII a Hollywood set designer used his skills to fool the enemy on top of Plant II.

For \$5 a month or \$50 a year pledge you can subscribe to Cascade/PBS Passport for access to podcasts and other features like “Mossback”’s NW” available to PBS subscribers. Just go to [KCTS-9 PBS](#).

Kerry answered a number of questions at the end of her presentation, as well as during it.

The meeting was adjourned following the prize drawing.



Help Continue Quality Monthly Presentations

March attendance was improved and we had another excellent speaker. Lets keep it up !

Highlighted in our January 2024 Newsletter were some of the excellent presentations in 2023. We are fortunate that Jim has been able to continue obtaining quality speakers thus far this year. **BUT...**As noted in this and other monthly newsletters, it is becoming more difficult to obtain speakers for our monthly meetings due to low attendance. Presenters want to know our attendance before agreeing to commit.

Let’s help with this effort by attending regularly each month and invite a friend or fellow retiree to join you as well. As an added bonus there is coffee and donuts and it is always enjoyable to swap stories and share experiences with others.

NEWS THEN HISTORY NOW



Opening Day

Baseball season is here again, and this week we offer a look back at the history of professional baseball in Washington. In 1872, Seattle had an amateur team called the **Dolly Varden** (Go Fish!), but professional ball didn't arrive in Washington until **1890**, when franchises were awarded to Seattle, Tacoma, and Spokane. Soon after, **Daniel Dugdale** arrived in the Northwest and managed many teams, including the legendary 1912 Seattle Giants, which later became the **Indians**.

During the Great Depression, the Seattle Indians fell on hard times. Labor leader and baseball fanatic **Dave Beck** was offered ownership of the team for free, but had no interest in becoming a baseball mogul. Instead he consulted his friend **Emil Sick**, who had made a small fortune brewing beer after the **end of Prohibition** four years earlier. Sick bought the team in 1937, renamed it the Seattle Rainiers, and built a **brand-new stadium** in **Rainier Valley**.

The Rainiers were well-loved throughout the region. Crowds of **baseball fans** showed up at **Sicks' Stadium** to enjoy **hot dogs** and **Rainier beer** while watching sports legends

(Continued on page 6)

like **Fred Hutchinson** and **Earl Averill** knock a few dingers out of the park. Others watched from **Tightwad Hill**, while thousands more listened to the games **on the radio** and followed the **team's progress** in the **local papers**.

Here to Play

By the 1960s attendance had dropped off due to television coverage of Major League Baseball. That all changed in **1969**, when the **Seattle Pilots** came to town as Seattle's first major-league franchise. But the team bailed after only one season, mostly because Sicks' Stadium **wasn't ready** for the big leagues. Sports fans rallied for a **new stadium**, the Kingdome, which **opened** in 1976.

The new stadium was not without its **detractors** and **naysayers**, but 57,000 fans showed up on **April 6, 1977** to watch the newly enfranchised **Seattle Mariners** play – and lose – their first game. The stadium hosted an **All-Star Game** in 1979, but it wasn't until 1991 that the Mariners had a winning season, and the team didn't win its **first playoff series** until 1995 – the same year that voters **rejected funding** for a better stadium

The Mariners won their division again **in 1997**, by which time the state legislature had **stepped in and approved taxes** for a new home field. The Kingdome was **imploded in 2000**, after Safeco Field (now T-Mobile Park) rose nearby to take its place. Since then we've experienced some **heartfelt moments** from **Hall of Famers** – both **on** and **off** the field – as well as some **exciting** and **historic** events that have entered into the **record books**. The championship, alas, remains elusive, but as many Mariners fans will tell you, this just might be the year.

Doubleheader

April 1 marks two important anniversaries in the early history of **Tacoma**. The first occurred on April 1, 1852, when Nicolas Delin began **constructing a sawmill** at the head of Commencement Bay. And on **April 1, 1868**, developer Morton Matthew McCarver arrived to purchase land for a new townsite, which he called Tacoma City. Within five years he had helped convince the Northern Pacific Railroad to choose Commencement Bay as its **western terminus**.

Earned Run

On **March 31, 1889**, Seattle's first **electric streetcar** took to the streets and was an **immediate success**. The people of Seattle officially took over operation of the city's streetcar lines on **April 1, 1919**, but the date of the deed should have given somebody pause. It soon turned out that Seattle Mayor **Ole Hanson** had paid a grossly inflated price of \$15 million and accepted disastrous terms to acquire the private system from the

giant utility cartel **Stone & Webster**, which had gobbled up all local streetcar lines by 1900.

Change Up

On April 1, 1946, **shipbuilding** industrialist **Henry J. Kaiser** began **aluminum production** operations in Mead, just north of his former hometown of Spokane. Kaiser had no experience in the metals industry and many of his peers thought the business would be a failure. Kaiser Aluminum went on to become the country's third-largest producer of the versatile metal.

Antiwar activists spoof the **Seattle Post-Intelligencer** on April 1, 1991.

By Peter Blecha

Posted 2/17/2009

HistoryLink.org Essay 8927



On Monday, April 1, 1991, citizens of Seattle - already jittery from the George H. W. Bush administration's long saber-rattling PR campaign and then its January 17th Operation Desert Storm attack against Iraqi forces -- wake to find their morning edition of the *Seattle Post-Intelligencer* bearing a shocking headline: "WE LIE For your own good ..."

A Tale of Two Headlines

Additional above-the-fold headlines in that *P-I* included "Gulf casualties estimated at over 100,000," and "Life goes on, and Americans are thinking about vacation again." A third -- "War reporting called 'inadequate'" -- got to the heart of the matter: that many people felt

that the city's oldest metropolitan newspaper had been among the news-media outlets who had aided the White House's efforts to create an unjustified level of general fear about a purportedly dangerous enemy. A foe who was then vanquished in less than 60 days of battle -- albeit with massive loss, according to the International Red Cross, of Iraqi civilian lives. That essay opened with a statement that "Journalists from around the world have shirked their responsibility" and that "concerned citizens" have "a deep resentment" that "the world press was complicit in a government-organized campaign of misinformation and media control."

For a stunned moment or two, at least a few locals naively figured that the *P-I* had miraculously searched its soul and bravely come forth with a confession -- but it didn't take long to realize that: *nah*, it was just April Fool's Day! That blaring headline -- featuring GIGANTIC 2.25-

INCH-TALL type-font -- was indeed *not* the *P-I's* intended front page, but rather, a 7.5 inch-tall strip of newsprint that had been cleverly applied over the actual feel-good top story: "20,000 GIs will leave Iraq, officers say."

Sympathy for the Rebels

As the hours passed, news broke that the whole thing had been an agit-prop protest prank conducted by an anti-war group called Disturbing the Peace. That band of artists -- in a well-planned scheme -- had raided newspaper street racks around town, pasted their fake satirical headline sheets to each copy, and then raced to return the altered units back to those various newspaper-vending street racks.

The *P-I's* publisher, Virgil Fassio, denounced the stunt as "unauthorized and illegal" and "a cowardly act" of sabotage "in the dead of night" that was "not likely to earn any sympathy for any cause." Newspaper circulation crews scrambled quickly and were able to confiscate and destroy about 500 copies of the altered units before they were purchased by any more unwitting customers.



Securing today
and tomorrow

Submitted by: Micki Brown

News Release

March 27, 2024

Mark Hinkle, Press Officer

Today, the Social Security Administration published a final rule, "Omitting Food from In-Kind Support and Maintenance (ISM) Calculations." The final rule announces the first of several updates to the agency's Supplemental Security Income (SSI) regulations that will help people receiving and applying for SSI.

"A vital part of our mission is helping people access crucial benefits, including SSI," said Martin O'Malley, Commissioner of Social Security. "Simplifying our policies is a common-sense solution that reduces the burden on the public and agency staff and helps promote equity by removing barriers to accessing payments."

SSI provides monthly payments to adults and children with a disability or blindness, and to adults aged 65 and older, who have limited income and resources. SSI benefits help pay for basic needs like rent, food, clothing, and medicine. People applying for and receiving SSI must meet eligibility requirements, including income and resource limits. Under our old rules, ISM includes food, shelter, or both a person receives - the agency counts ISM as unearned income, which may affect a person's eligibility or reduce their payment amount.

Under the final rule, beginning September 30, 2024, the agency will no longer include food in ISM calculations. The new policy removes a critical barrier for SSI eligibility due to an applicant's or recipient's receipt of informal food assistance from friends, family, and community networks of support. The new policy further helps in several important ways: the change is easier to understand and use by applicants, recipients, and agency employees; applicants and recipients have less information to report about food assistance received from family and friends, re-

moving a significant source of burden; reducing month-to-month variability in payment amounts will improve payment accuracy; and the agency will see administrative savings because less time will be spent administering food ISM.

The agency continuously examines programmatic policy and makes regulatory and sub-regulatory changes as appropriate. Look for more SSI announcements in the coming weeks.

For more information on the SSI program, including who is eligible and how to apply, visit [Supplemental Security Income \(SSI\) | SSA](#).

To read the final rule “Omitting Food from In-Kind Support and Maintenance Calculations,” visit [Federal Register :: Omitting Food From In-Kind Support and Maintenance Calculations](#)

Appointed Representatives Services (ARS)

*Dawn Bystry, Asso. Commissioner
Office of Strategic & Digital Services*

The [Appointed Representatives Services](#) (ARS) application has been enhanced. Appointed representatives can now access a list of all their cases pending at the initial and reconsideration levels.

The ARS application allows appointed representatives to view electronic folder (eFolder) documents in real time, to download eFolder contents including multimedia files, and upload medical evidence and other documents directly into a claimant's eFolder. With this update to the ARS, we aim to help appointed representatives:

Determine if their [SSA Form-1696](#), *Claimant's Appointment of a Representative*, was processed to avoid having to submit the same form again; and

- Access their list of pending cases.

Instructions are available on page 13 and 14 of the [AR Status Reports User Guide](#).

We appreciate your continued support. Please share this information with your members, colleagues, affiliates, and other interested parties.

Editor's Note: "Sure hope none of you have a need for the following process."

Dear Colleague,

*Dawn Bystry, Asso. Commissioner
Office of Strategic & Digital Services*

We would like to remind you of our resources and best practices for collecting fees for attorneys representing Social Security claimants at the Federal court level.

We do not require attorneys who represent claimants at the Federal court level to submit a written notice of appointment. However, if you wish to receive direct payment of court-awarded fees, you must:

Complete a one-time registration, if you are not already registered with us, by faxing

a completed [Form SSA-1699](#), *Registration for Appointed Representative Services and Direct Payment*, to 1-877-268-3827. **Note:** This fax is exclusively for the SSA-1699. For more information, visit [Social Security Online - SSA-1699 Registration of Individuals and Staff for Appointed Representative Services](#).

Submit the required direct fee payment information using Section 5 (Affiliation and Direct Payment Information) of the [Form SSA-1696](#) (*Claimant's Appointment of a Representative*), or another writing containing the same information, for each case on which you request direct payment of a court-awarded fee.

Visit our [Representing Social Security Claimants](#) webpage for more information about forms and to subscribe for updates.

For more best practices, review our updated [Tips and Best Practices for Appointed Representatives](#) guide and visit our [Best Practices for Claimants' Representatives](#) webpage.

Thank you for helping us to maintain accurate information to ensure proper payment of attorney fees awarded by a court. Please share this information with your colleagues and other interested representatives.

Medicare.gov

I actually had "the phone call" just 2 days ago ... Being the smart and astute octogenarian I am, I terminated the phone call but not before I grilled him and told him ... well, I wouldn't want my reply to surface in writing! -- Micki

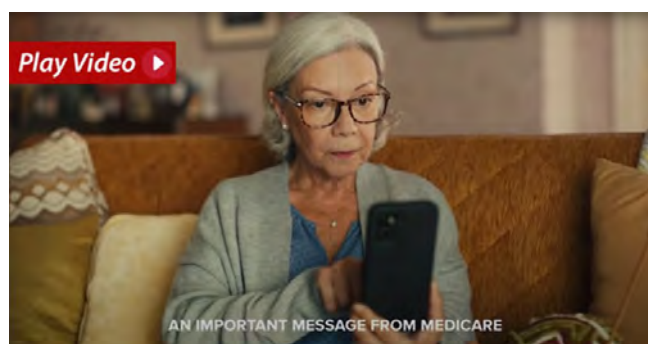
Here are 3 tips to protect yourself from Medicare fraud and scams:

- 1. If you get a call, text or email asking for your Medicare Number, don't respond.** Don't give your Medicare card or
- 2. Check your Medicare Summary Notices (MSNs) or claims statements carefully.** If you see a charge for a service you didn't get or a product you didn't order, it may be fraud. **If you suspect fraud, report it at 1-800-MEDICARE (1-800-633-4227).**
- 3. Guard your Medicare card like it's a credit card.**

Visit [Medicare.gov](#), the official source for Medicare information, to learn more about preventing Medicare fraud and medical identity theft.

Sincerely,

The Medicare Team



Bits & Pieces

SEEING IS BELIEVING...

A motorist was recounting problems he had driving to and from work lately. “It used to be easy,” he said “No traffic problems, no mad rat race. But now! Wow! Cars are coming from all directions. And-it’s been that way ever since I got my new glasses.”

AMAZING...

Isn’t remarkable how quickly the kids learn to drive a car, yet are unable to understand the lawnmower or vacuum cleaner?

ANATOMY OF A LOAN...

As the interest rates keep rising,
It’s clear from where I stand
That most banks charge an arm and a leg-
When they lend a helping hand.

GOLDEN YEARS...

Middle age is when your knees buckle and your belt won’t.



Calendar of Events 2024 In Person Meetings

<i>Jan 26</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Feb 23</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Mar 29</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Apr 26</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>May 31</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Jun 28</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Jul 26</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Aug 30</i>	<i>Chapter In-Door Potluck</i>
<i>Sept 27</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Oct 25</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Nov 22</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Dec 20</i>	<i>Chapter Holiday Potluck</i>

Food Bank Schedule For 2024

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

<i>January</i>		<i>Open</i>
<i>February</i>	<i>Bellevue</i>	<i>Doug Hoople</i>
<i>March</i>	<i>Issaquah</i>	<i>Dick Beham</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>Maple Valley</i>	<i>Vaughn's</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>Kent</i>	<i>Melinda Stubbs</i>
<i>June</i>	<i>Auburn</i>	<i>Martha Battles</i>
<i>July</i>	<i>Renton</i>	<i>Meri England</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>Black Diamond</i>	<i>Vaughn's</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>Federal Way</i>	<i>Don Hilt</i>
<i>October</i>	<i>White Center</i>	<i>Heinz Gehlhaar</i>
<i>November</i>		<i>Open</i>
<i>December</i>		<i>Open</i>

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

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting



April 26, 2024



Social: 10:00AM

Meeting 10 :30 - 11:30 AM

Speaker: Presenter from Seattle Mayor's office

Subject: Progress on updated Seattle Waterfront Project.



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