



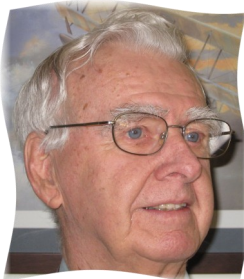
The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

April 2013

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

VOLUME 19 ISSUE 04



Chairman's Corner

What exactly does volunteering mean? Well, Webster's definition is "A person who enters or offers any service of his own free will, or serves as a volunteer, usually without compensation." As Bluebills, we volunteer in different ways.

First, and foremost, we volunteer our time and experience at schools, hospitals, food banks, and the American Red Cross. With willing hands and hearts we make things needed by others, including quilts, afghans, lap robes, knitted caps and wooden toys. We dress Barbie dolls, fill pack backs with school supplies, support the airport USO, put together seasonal gift baskets for the most frail in our communities, and make Christmas stockings. We deliver meals on wheels, drive people to essential appointments, Shop with a Child for school clothes, and work in shelters and food kitchens. Our list is endless and awesome!

Volunteering gives each of us a reason to get up and get going. We have places to go and things to do. That's our paycheck. Volunteering gives us an opportunity to make new friends, share skills, talents, and experiences, and make a difference in our communities or someone's life. In return, our lives are enriched, we receive community good will, enjoy better health, and (studies show) a longer life. We're not just helping others, we're helping ourselves.

Second, we volunteer to run the chapter's business.

Right now, we have a pressing need for everyone to think more about how they can support the chapter and make it run more smoothly. Are you willing to come to our monthly meetings early, for example, and help set up tables and chairs? Are you willing to help at the office on Tuesdays? We have thirteen chapter committees, are you willing to be a member on one of the committees? Are you willing to offer your time and talents for special projects? Are you willing to be involved with our summer picnic, our booth at the Puyallup Fair, or our Annual Volunteer Award Dinner? I'll be asking for volunteers at our monthly meetings and hope you'll raise your hand and say "Hey, Don, add me to the list of volunteers!"

Lastly, we need our volunteerism to include donating cash or supplies to support several of our ongoing programs. Bring items to the meeting, leave them with me, and I will see they are distributed. The Busy B's could use material, yarn, Barbie dolls, and batting for quilts. The RAPCO group could use DVDs, stuffed animals, stocking caps for cancer patients, candy, and travel size toiletries. The School Supply Program would appreciate cash to buy much needed school supplies. I could use your "repurposed" items or "white elephants" for our monthly gift raffles. Please volunteer and give until it almost hurts!

Don

Volunteer Quote of the Month: "Volunteers are the only human beings on the face of the earth who reflect this nation's compassion, unselfish caring, patience, and just plain love for one another. — Erma Bombeck.

Recap
Chapter Meeting March 29th

By Dick & Earlene Beham

Don opened our meeting at 10:30 AM, and introduced Don Peterson who led the Pledge of Allegiance. Next Don asked for a moment of silence in remembrance of our troops and the Vietnam draw down of our forces commencing in March 1971.

One new member, Lois Barnes was introduced. She is retired and worked for 10 years at Boeing as a sheet metal bench mechanic and a secretary.

After brief announcements Jim Beasley introduced



our speaker for the month, David Boardman. He is Executive Editor and Senior Vice President of The Seattle Times, Washington

State's largest news organization.

Under his leadership, the Times won the 1997 Pulitzer for Exxon Valdez and 2012 Pulitzer Prize for investigative reporting for a series on abuses on the Indian reservations.

In 2010, The Times won the Pulitzer Prize for the ongoing coverage of the assassination of four police officers.

He has served four times as a juror for the Pulitzer Prizes.

He is a graduate of the Medill School of Journalism at Northwestern University and has a graduate degree from the University of Washington.

He has volunteered as a youth basketball coach and has served on advisory boards supporting music and journalism programs in the Seattle Public Schools.

His is married to Barbara Winslow Boardman, a writer and editor. They have two daughters.

He hopes Northwestern will make it into the NCAA basketball tournament before he dies.

Mr. Boardman showed a video entitled "Changing Times: The Perils and the Promises". It



was comprehensive, to the point and showed the way for seniors to have an active participation in the community through the newspaper. He said newspapers across the country are disappearing. There are very few independent papers left. Revenue has dropped substantially and costs are rising as people are getting more of their news via the internet and advertising is shifting.

The Seattle Times provides an avenue to the world especially for seniors who are not very computer proficient. People can also read The Times on the internet for free with a subscription to the daily or Sunday newspaper while non-subscribers will have to pay a small fee.

Don closed the meeting after presenting Eileen Bear, Retiree Assistance, with \$42 collected on the sale of books resulting in our Chapter move to a smaller office area and the awarding of door prizes.

UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

By Maybelle Brickley

1. Northwest Center is having their second annual auction benefiting Northwest Center Kids. The auction will be held at Sodo Park – 3200 1st Ave. S., Seattle, WA 98134 on May 3, 2013 which is a Friday. It will be held from 4:45 PM to 10:00 PM. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, please contact Stephanie Koetje at 206-37-6365.

(Continued on page 3)

They are looking for volunteers to help with registration, greeting, bagging auction items, running auction items, set-up/tear-down, etc.

This does sound like a fun time so if you have the time and are able, please contact Stephanie.

2. Here is a volunteer opportunity that would be great to do as a group of Bluebills. There are several positions and different times of day that are available to volunteer. Please let Maybelle Brickley know if you are interested so I can coordinate this with the agency. My e-mail is maybelleib@msn.com or you can leave a message at the Bluebill Office.

The agency is LifeWire, formerly Eastside Domestic Violence. The opportunity is LifeWire's World of Hope Dinner and Auction. It will be held on Saturday, May 18 at the Meyndenbauer Center in Bellevue and the parking is free.

The morning shift is 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. or 1:00 P.M. Casual/comfortable attire. Bagels, snacks, coffee, beverages provided.

The evening shift for the Silent Auction is 4:00 P.M. to end time depending on volunteer roll. Live Auction is 6:00 P.M. to end time depending on volunteer roll. Dress code for evening shift: Either formal cocktail attire or black pants/skirt and a white blouse or button down shirt. Please remember to wear comfortable shoes. You may be on your feet all night. Dinner, snacks, beverages provided. Dinner will be available at 5:45 and 7:15 P.M. If your shift is at 6:00 P.M., please come a little early for dinner. If your shift starts at 4:00 P.M., you will be given a break at 7:15 for dinner.

The following positions are available to volunteers:

- Silent Auction Setup
- Silent Auction Greeter
- Silent Auction Closer
- Silent Auction Raffle Ticket Sales
- Silent Auction Cleanup
- Live Auction Runner
- Live Auction Balloon Gifter
- Live Auction Cake Model
- Live Auction Concierge/Greeter

- Live Auction Spotter
- Auction Registration
- Auction Volunteer Check-in



2013 Earth Day Events
Pre-registration required in Total Access

Saturday 4/20

- Tacoma Parks Demonstration Rain Garden
- Rain Garden Refurbishment at Steve Cox Memorial Park Teen Center in Seattle
- Earth Day event at Islandwood on Bainbridge Island
- Nature Consortium's Earth Day and Duwamish Alive! In Seattle
- Renton Urban Farm Rain Garden planting
- Snoqualmie River tree planting event in Carnation Garden with Lettuce Link at Marra Farm in Seattle
- Duwamish Alive! Event on West Marginal Way in Seattle
- Duwamish Alive! With Puget Soundkeeper Alliance in Seattle
- Highline Botanical Garden spring cleanup in SeaTac
- Earth Day at Clark Lake Park in Kent
- Point Defiance Zoo & Aquarium in Tacoma
- Earth Day at Camp Killoqua in Stanwood
- Washington Trails Association Sky Country Trailhead in Issaquah
- Edible Rain Garden at Edmonds Community College in Lynnwood
- Duwamish Alive! At Pigeon Point Park in Seattle
- Trail project on Tiger Mountain in Issaquah
- Restoration project at Tollgate Forest in North Bend
- Earth Day celebrates "Earth Gay Seattle 2013"
- Earth Day at Woodland Park Zoo in Seattle
- Earth Day Greenhouse Tree Potting in Maple Valley
- Earth Day Volunteering along the Duwamish River Shoreline with Forterra NW Earth Day trail restoration at Japanese Gulch in Everett
- Earth Day at Cedar River Watershed Education Center in North Bend

Saturday 4/27

- Forest restoration with Seward Park Audubon in Seattle
- Habitat restoration with Citizens for a Healthy Bay in Tacoma

- Whidbey Island beach cleanup with The Nature Conservancy at Ebey's Landing Preserve in Coupeville
- Earth corps and Puget Sound keeper Alliance at the Union Slough in Everett Save the trees! Protect them from the invasion! Weed & mulching in Renton Earth Day at the Lively Environmental Center Garden
- Get your hands dirty at EFN's Mother Earth Farm in Puyallup
- Beach Cleanup Event at Alki Beach Park with Seattle Aquarium
- Happy Trails! Trail Building at O'Grady Park in Auburn
- Friends of the Cedar River Watershed at Cavanaugh Pond Natural Area in Renton

BUSY B'S

By Janice Hawes

The Busy Bee's are always happy to receive donations and this week we got some darling children's aprons from a nice lady, Yukari Sugano, from the Kent Senior Center. They will be given to Child Haven in Auburn where I know they will be appreciated. We also got a dozen Barbie dolls donated by Don Hilt, and some lovely fabric from another Boeing Retiree, Norma Blanchard.

Thanks to all the crocheting and knitting ladies, we have lots of baby hats. We just found a new place to donate some of them, St Francis Hospital in Federal Way. They can also use lap robes for their dialysis patients so we'll be making those also.

One of our Busy Bee's, Lana Mitsules, just got back from some "R & R" in Hawaii. What a nice place for a winter break.

Betty Stark, a Boeing Retiree, has been volunteering at Valley Medical Center for many years and has logged in 5800 hours. She has worked all over the hospital but for the last 10 years she has worked one or two days a



week at the hospital gift shops. Her smiling face is always a welcome sight when you walk into the gift shop. She is certainly a great asset to the hospital.

Happy Spring. I think it's almost here.

Janice

Speaker for April 26th Chapter Meeting

By Jim Beasley

Helen Sernett, Director of Annual Giving, Seattle Children's Hospital

Helen has dedicated her career to helping non-profit organizations attain the funds they need to pursue their missions. She has been with Seattle Children's since 2010 and is proud to have the privilege of speaking on behalf of our community's children. Her work centers on helping individuals throughout our community understand and support the mission of Seattle Children's which has 3 main facets: 1) Prevention of illness and injury when possible, 2) The best care when children need it, 3) Cures so that no child has to suffer from disease. She is excited to share with the Bluebills some recent highlights of Seattle Children's work and achievements including news of a recent expansion and the successful outcomes of some recent research conducted at Children's downtown research facility.

Something to think about !

By Lonnie Stevenson

Surely some of us know people who are NON Boeing retirees, who also do volunteer work in the community and might like to meet other retirees. Maybe we know others who would like to volunteer on Bluebill projects that we may be currently volunteering on.

We can invite those folks to become Associate Bluebill members. They would be welcome at our monthly gatherings as well as the picnic and the Dinner.

The only restrictions: they could not vote or hold an office.

Lucky Fluckey

THIS is a piece of history very few of you would already know ... enjoy. Submitted by Micki Brown

Thirty-nine years ago, an Italian submarine was sold for a paltry \$100,000 as scrap. The submarine, given to the Italian Navy in 1953, was originally the USS Barb, an incredible veteran of World War II with a heritage that should not have been melted away without any recognition.

The U.S.S. Barb was a pioneer, paving the way for the first submarine to launch missiles and it flew a battle flag unlike that of any other ship.

In addition to the Medal of Honor ribbon at the top of the flag identifying the heroism of its Captain, Commander Eugene 'Lucky' Fluckey, the bottom border of the flag bore the image of a Japanese train locomotive.

The U.S.S. Barb was indeed, the submarine that *SANK A TRAIN!* July 18, 1945 In Patience Bay, off the coast of Karafuto, Japan. It was after 4 A.M. and Commander Fluckey rubbed his eyes as he peered over the map spread before him. It was the twelfth war patrol of the Barb, the fifth under Commander Fluckey. He should have turned the submarine's command over to another skipper after four patrols, but had managed to strike a deal with Admiral Lockwood to make a fifth trip with the men he cared for like a father.

Of course, no one suspected when he had struck that deal prior to his fourth and should have been his final war patrol, that Commander Fluckey's success would be so great he would be awarded the Medal of Honor.

On January 8th the Barb had emerged victorious from a running two-hour night battle after sinking a large enemy ammunition ship. Two weeks later in Mamkwan Harbor he found the mother-lode... more than 30 enemy ships.

In only 5 fathoms (30 feet) of water his crew had unleashed the sub's forward torpedoes, then turned and fired four from the stern. As he pushed the Barb to the full limit of its speed through the dangerous waters in a daring withdrawal to the open sea, he recorded eight direct hits on six enemy ships. What could possibly be left for the Commander to accomplish who, just three months earlier had been in Washington, DC to receive the Medal of Honor? He smiled to himself as he looked again at the map showing the rail line that ran along the enemy coastline. Now his crew was buzzing excitedly about bagging a train!

The rail line itself wouldn't be a problem. A shore patrol could go ashore under cover of darkness to plant the explosives... one of the sub's 55-pound scuttling charges. But this early morning Lucky Fluckey and his officers were puzzling over how they could blow not only the rails, but also one of the frequent trains that shuttled supplies to equip the Japanese war machine. But no matter how crazy the idea might have sounded, the Barb's skipper would not risk the lives of his men.

Thus the problem... how to detonate the explosives at the moment the train passed, without endangering the life of a shore party. PROBLEM? If you don't search your brain looking for them, you'll never find them. And even then, sometimes they arrive in the most unusual fashion. Cruising slowly beneath the surface to evade the enemy plane now circling overhead, the monotony was broken with an exciting new idea : Instead of having a crewman on shore to trigger explosives to blow both rail and a passing train, *why not let the train BLOW ITSELF up ?*

Billy Hatfield was excitedly explaining how he had cracked nuts on the railroad tracks as a kid, placing the nuts between two ties so the sagging of the rail under the weight of a train would break them open. "*Just like cracking walnuts*", he explained. To complete the circuit [detonating the 55-pound charge] we hook in a micro switch... and mounted it between two ties, directly under the steel rail. "*We don't set it off ...the TRAIN will.*"

After the solution was found, there was no shortage of volunteers; all that was needed was the proper weather... a little cloud cover to darken the moon for the sabotage mission ashore. In the meantime, there would be no harassing of Japanese shipping or shore operations by the Barb until the train mission had been accomplished. Only five days remained in the Barb's patrol.

MIDNIGHT, July 23, 1945. The Barb had crept within 950 yards of the shoreline. Slowly the small boats were lowered to the water and the 8 saboteurs began paddling toward the enemy beach. Twenty-five minutes later they pulled the boats ashore and walked on the surface of the Japanese homeland.

Three men were posted as guards; The Barb's auxiliary man climbed the tower's ladder, and then stopped in shock as he realized it was an enemy lookout tower... an occupied enemy lookout tower. Fortunately the Japanese sentry was peacefully sleeping. And the auxiliary man was able to quietly withdraw to warn his raiding party.

1:32 A.M. Watching from the deck of the submarine, Commander Fluckey allowed himself a sigh of relief as he noticed the flashlight signal from the beach announcing the departure of the shore party. Fluckey had daringly, but skillfully guided the Barb within 600 yards of the enemy beach sand.

1:47 A.M. The darkness was shattered by brilliant light . . . and the roar of the explosion ! The boilers of the locomotive blew, shattered pieces of the engine blowing 200 feet into the air. Behind it the railroad freight cars accordioned into each other, bursting into flame and adding to the magnificent fireworks display. The Barb had sunk a Japanese TRAIN!

On August 2, 1945 the Barb arrived at Midway, her twelfth war patrol concluded. On September 2, 1945 in Tokyo Harbor the documents ending the war in the Pacific were signed. In 1992, Commander Fluckey's history of the U.S.S. Barb was published in the award winning book, "THUNDER BELOW".

Bluebills - Heritage Chapter

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Food Bank Schedule For 2013

Bring a non-perishable food item to monthly meetings to be given to a different food bank each month.

April	Maple Valley	Vaughn's
May	Kent	Bob Stubbs
June	Auburn	Lonnie Stevenson
July	West Seattle	Marian Herrin
August	Tacoma	Ted & Judy Leyden
September	Renton	Bob Lambert
October	White Center	Eileen Bear
November	Issaquah	Eleanor Skinner
December	Des Moines	Dave & Mary Frantz

Calendar of Events 2013

Apr 11	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Apr 26	Chapter Monthly Meeting
May 16	Heritage Leadership Meeting
May 31	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Jun 13	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jun 28	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Jul 11	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jul 26	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Aug 15	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Aug 23	Chapter Picnic
Sep 12	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Sep 27	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Oct 10	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Oct 25	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Nov 6	Chapter Awards Dinner
Nov 14	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Nov 22	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Dec 12	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Dec 20	Chapter Monthly Meeting

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Monthly Meeting

Downtown Harley-Davidson
3715 East Valley Road
Renton, WA

April 26, 2013

Social: 10:00 to 10:30 AM Meeting starts at 10:30 AM

Speaker: Helen K Sernett, CFRE *Director of Annual Giving
Seattle Children's Hospital Foundation*

Topic: " Seattle Children's Hospital"

Bring a non-perishable food item to monthly meetings to be given to a different food bank each month

Please Note:

The Bluebills monthly meetings are held at the Downtown Harley-Davidson building at 3715 East Valley Road, Renton, WA. The door on the North side of the building is opened at **10:00 AM** sharp. Please enter the building only on the north side. We meet on the 2nd floor — there is an elevator on the right as you enter. The Social hour begins at that time. **PLEASE DO NOT ENTER BUILDING PRIOR TO 10:00 AM.**

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 2T-04, Seattle, WA 98124
Email to bluebills@boeing.com or bring to Bluebills monthly meeting



From the north take Highway 167 south to the SW 43rd St exit, turn right on SW 43rd St to the E Valley Rd and turn Right, go north to Downtown Harley-Davidson. From the south go north on Highway 167 take the SW 43rd St exit and turn left back over the freeway to the E Valley Rd and turn Right, Go north to Downtown Harley-Davidson. The meeting is in the Downtown Harley-Davidson building, 2nd floor. Signs are posted directing you to the meeting room.

