



The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

August 2020

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

VOLUME 26 ISSUE 8

Co-Chairman's Report – August, 2020



By: Doug Hoople

Greetings from the “end of the road.”

Did you ever wonder where that was? Well according to Charles Kurland, the TV personality who is famous for his “On the Road” series and his 13 years as host of CBS News Sunday,” it is here in Ely, Minnesota. He was from Minnesota and early in his career he worked at the radio station up here in Ely and declared that he was up at the end of the road.



And what is up here? Heaven for canoeists. It's one of the entry points into the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness and the Canadian Quetico National Park.

I'm here on vacation, reliving the old canoe trips I took into the Quetico. I personally believe the Canadian areas are nicer. Which means campsites are further away from civilization, with fewer people and more wildlife.

Every morning I wake up to songbirds and loons, same at night as I go to sleep. I can't remember any songbirds in Bellevue, just crows and ravens making their noises.

And up here in Ely they actually had a live big public Fourth of July parade. Seems the only COVID-19 patient in the area was the High School girl at the local Dairy Queen (who took orders and collected money) who caught it from a tourist. (Almost a great crisis, you should see the line at the only fast food place up here. No McDonalds or Burger Kings exist here and believe it or not no Starbucks in sight. The local Dollar store actually went out of business.) Is this place great or what! Just talking about camping and canoeing nothing about the CHOP in the Central District of Seattle or any politics other than a bond issue to improve the West entry into town.

Regretfully we can't paddle out into Canada, they don't want us to cross the border. The borders up here are a little more strict than back in Washington. This is helping business in Ely, the people who can't get to fishing resorts in Canada are coming here.

Back in Washington, we really don't have much of a change in status for meetings. A lot of Bluebills are still staying put and don't want to go to public gatherings. I can't blame them. When I return to Washington, I'm going back to zoom meetings and isolation.

For now, I'm going to enjoy my freedom in Minnesota and travel on to Nebraska to join the Nebraska Star Party to look at the heavens. They actually cancelled the official star party, but the site has several spread out camping/observing sites where social distancing can be observed.

Some of us are willing to do anything to get away from the craziness that is going on in Seattle. I haven't seen the news in two weeks and haven't missed it at all. I do hope there is a Washington to come back to live in. Until then stay well and stay healthy.

NEWS BREAK – Afton, Minnesota

I just turned on my I-Pad and listened to the news. Wish I hadn't, when did the USA turn into Camp Run-A-Muck?? I thought the COVID-19 was a little under control and Seattle might be making a decision on the CHOP. Now what's this with Portland???

With the increase in COVID-19 statistics across the country, there is no way I'm going to attend an astronomy star party with 100 to 150 people from seven different states who may or may not be concerned with social distancing and wearing masks.

In my travels on this trip, most people I see are not wearing masks. Even in the best areas, it's less than half. We are in for the long haul on this one.

My plan is to turn tail and run for home as fast as my truck will let me.

NEWS BREAK – Bellevue, Washington

Made it safely home to Bellevue. That's if you can determine the Pacific Northwest is safe. I don't know if I want to watch the latest news from Seattle and Portland.

However, I did find some important lessons learned from my vacation and travels. Four months of inactivity makes us soft. I didn't realize this until I tried to toss canoes and camping equipment around. Not going to the gym or doing some meaningful active activity is a necessity we need to think about. Time for me to find those old weights and dumbbells in my basement to get some muscle tone going. How many of you are focused on keeping healthy and fit? Hope you are all eating well, but are you exercising? Time to really think out this whole COVID-19 quarantine and how to manage our lives. Stay well and safe.

Doug

Chapter Report

HERITAGE CHAPTER PICNIC -- CANCELLATION

Your Heritage Chapter Co-Chairmen, Doug Hoople, Don Hilt, and Richard Vaughn have made the decision to cancel this year's picnic that was planned to take place on August 26, 2020, at Coulon Park in Renton. This decision was made due to COVID19.

We made the decision after we reviewed our options and also made a survey of some of our members. Most of their responses were in favor of not having any gatherings now. With that being said, we have cancelled the picnic and all future gatherings until we know it is safe for us to resume our activities.

Please take good care of yourselves, stay safe and in good health.

**Your Co-Chairmen,
Richard, Doug and Don**

Chapter News

Myron Vogt

Submitted by: Norma Vaughn

Hello everyone. We hope this finds each and every one of you healthy and taking good care of yourselves at this very trying time. Val Vogt sent a message this afternoon with important information about Myron that we know you will want to be aware of.

Val's message said that two years ago it was discovered that Myron had a cancerous tumor in his right lung, directly attributable to smoking. Because he had recently had a heart bypass operation, it was decided that intensive radiation would be the treatment. However, that didn't work completely and some of the cancer cells survived the radiation and started growing. When this was discovered he and his doctors decided that surgery would be the best hope for a cure. So, on June 11th he underwent the operation. When the doctor got into the lung he found some additional cancer that hadn't shown up on the PET scan. In order to remove it all the doctor had to remove Myron's two top ribs on his right side. So, what was supposed to be a 4 day stay in the hospital turned into 3 weeks. He had a hard time recovering and after 3 weeks he went to a rehab facility. The next day he wanted to come home. Their son, David, came up from Atlanta to help. He and Val considered this for about 1 day but they finally had to tell him he was too sick to come home and would have to stay where he was until he improves enough that they can take care of him.

It was Myron's wish that his family and friends know of his medical condition so she was sending the message asking for help informing them. They do not know how he will be when he recovers but are prepared to wait and see. Val did not include any mailing address for sending cards to him but if you would like to do that his address is 166 Greenview Lane, Port Ludlow, WA 98365.

We will keep you informed when we have an update.

Thank you.

Norma and Richard

Myron Update

Submitted by Barbara Berthiaume

Myron was diagnosed with a recurrence of lung cancer and underwent an operation at the UW Hospital recently. He had his 1st and 2nd ribs removed as the cancer had spread. He is now home recuperating and getting lots of medical inputs. Valeria is the scheduling coordinator and we all are hoping for a successful recovery.

Donna Palmer

Submitted by: Lonnie Stevenson

I talked with Janice Hawes today (July 31st), and she was asking about Donna Palmer, wife of BB Gary Palmer (who passed away a few years ago) and who was a resident at Judson Park Retirement Community.

Through our Judson Park Weekly Updates Newsletter, which posts all kinds of info on residents and staff including 'IN MEMORIAM', I saw the name **Donna Palmer**.

She was an awesome BB volunteer, Busy B quilter, and more: **June 30, 1934 – July 06 2020**.

Hope everyone you know and love is still healthy and sane in spite of the insanity that's taken over our country and our world.



Be safe out there. Refuse to participate in this COVID stuff . . . and always support our law enforcement and first responders.
And remember to VOTE !

God Bless America.

Margaret Stone

Submitted by Phillis Stone

Our mutual friend, Margaret Stone, had an accident on the 4th of July while working in her front yard. She tripped on a garden hose and fell, face first, on the concrete sidewalk to her house. Her grandson called 911. She was taken to Valley General Hospital - but was transported to Harborview because of a brain bleed.

She spent two nights in the hospital. She has one heck of a "shiner," a minor heart issue, and several body scrapes.

We talked to Margaret yesterday and today. She's doing much better and working with a physical therapist at home. Monday she will see the doctor about lifting restrictions, including driving, navigating stairs, etc. She said it was fine to share information with others and begged we remind everyone to "watch where they're going and not trip."

Margaret would welcome phone calls. Her number is 425-255-3831. We're sending this to Bluebills in our combined email address books. If you would like to send a card or note, her address is 12641 SE 158th, Renton, 98058. Feel free to share this information with others.

Margaret Update:

Submitted by Lonnie Stevenson

I called Margaret today . . . she was tired but so glad for the call. Loves the contact with every one. Says she is doing ok.! So Just call her . . . she will love it.

Following is an obituary for one of our Bluebills GeorgeJean Erickson:

From: Norma Vaughn

GeorgeJean Erickson passed away on July 3, 2020. GeorgeJean was a Boeing engineer for 30 years starting her employment in the wind tunnel; she retired in 1998. GeorgeJean joined Bluebills after she retired and faithfully reported her volunteer hours to Bluebills each month. Her volunteer activities included Bloodworks Northwest, beach naturalist, grade school tutor, and for the Nordic Heritage Museum for over 20 years. A private family "Celebration of Life" will be held in lieu of a service.

Jonny Cash Looking Inside

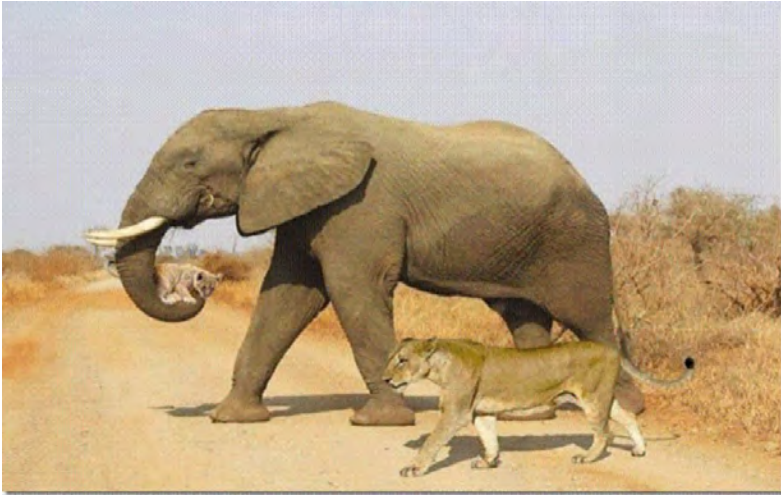
Submitted by Micki Brown

Chills ... I can't say I have ever heard that song and verse. It sure holds true, that good ole red, white and blue. Thanks for the reminder of all we've been through. *Click on this link* ["That Raggedy Old Flag"](#)

-- Micki

Photo of the year

Submitted by: Millard Battles



It was considered the best photo of this century by many. A lioness and her cub were crossing the Savannah but the heat was excessive and the cub was in great difficulty walking.

An elephant realized that the cub would die and carried him in his trunk to a pool of water walking beside his mother.

And we call them wild animals? It's a great lesson for mankind who are fighting and dying for no worthwhile reason.

Actually they *are* wild animals but they are anything but dumb animals.

Definitely a beautiful picture and definitely a lesson that could and should be learned.

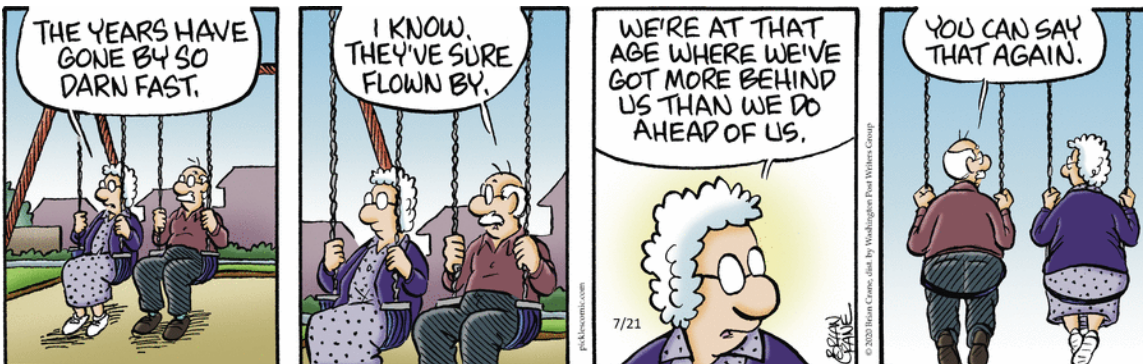
“WE ARE ALL EQUAL”

COVID-19 Month 7

From Dick & Earlene Beham

The months seem to repeat as we stay close to home except for shopping and occasional drives. We are harvesting an abundance of vegetables from the garden already with lots of strawberries, blackberries, peas, beans, zucchini, and even some tomatoes. Most of our socializing continues to be via ZOOM and visiting with neighbors, while maintaining our distance, during daily walks.

Just last Tuesday evening we again had a bear visit. This has been the 4th or fifth visit since June. I think he has established residency.



(Continued on page 6)



Eastside Stories

Eastside Stories is a way of sharing Eastside history through the many events, people, places and interesting bits of information that we collect at the Eastside Heritage Center. We hope you enjoy these stories and share them with friends and family.

May 27, 2020

Cold War Defense on the Eastside: Redmond, Washington and the Nike Missile Project

After the discovery of the atomic bomb during World War II, Washington state became a major site of nuclear production and defense. From fabricating uranium cores which fuel atomic production to the 12 bases established to protect us from a Russian nuclear attack, Washington is at the heart of the Cold War legacy. Hanford Site produced the uranium cores that were used in the bombs dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki during the summer of 1945. This site in the middle of the state, still houses a large amount of nuclear waste from this time period, although the last reactor was shut down back in 1987.

Here on the Eastside we have a different kind of legacy around the Cold War in our communities. Starting after Russians smuggled plans for the creation of their own bomb from the USA and had their first successful test in 1949, America started thinking about atomic defense. Fear of a nuclear holocaust became a huge concern of the public and perhaps fueled the creation and expansion of the Nike Missile Project. This led to bases in the Kenmore/Bothell area, Issaquah, and Redmond.

Named for the goddess of victory in Greek mythology, this project involved the creation of several high-speed missiles that would be able to stop aircraft and perhaps even warheads still in flight. It also created a need for several strategically placed bases which would be able to launch missiles. One of these bases was built in Redmond. Known as Nike Missile Base S-13 and S-14, the Redmond site consisted of a fire control area located two miles up a hill from the launcher in the valley below. The site was said to be located on 95th off Avondale by locals at the time of operation, but some articles say residents knew little about what went on there during its seventeen years of operation from 1957-1974.

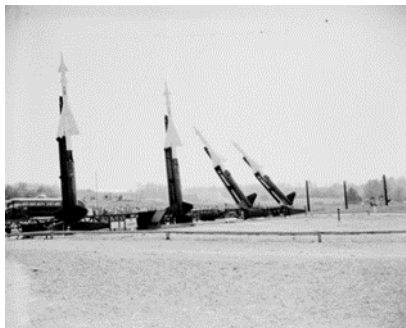


Photo from the Sammamish Valley News shows missiles readying for launch (only a test) at the Redmond facility.

This base was a double launch site which meant it had twice the missiles of similar bases. Although originally run by the US army the base passed into National Guard hands officially in 1958. It was operated during its entire existence on a 24-hour, 365 days a year basis. Still, it seems soldiers stationed there were not overly burdened by the work.

Winning repeatedly in contests of skill around tracking and launching missiles, showing they had time to practice, they also enjoyed a fair amount of recreation. In September 2006 Bill Sund, who was stationed at the base from 1962-64, recounted to the Redmond Recorder how being stationed at the base was the best unit he'd ever been assigned to. It seems much of the soldier's time there was spent in

leisure as he recollected multiple recreational activities as perks of the job including ping-pong, tennis, basketball, volleyball, speedboats, rowboats, fishing equipment, and water skiing.

After being decommissioned in 1974 the National Guard continued to have a base nearby at the control site on 95th Avenue NE and 172nd. The property, consisting of two sites with a collective acreage of about 40, passed into the hands of the Lake Washington School District. Although there was talk of it becoming a park as early as 1987, for many years the site was dilapidated and covered in graffiti as the base sat and rotted. One report of a visitor during this time said someone had spray painted the words “Abandon All Hope Ye Who Enter Here,” the famous inscription over the gates of hell in Dante’s *Inferno*, over a door. It is a far cry from the words reported by William Schuize, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer Aviation Editor in 1960 as being over the door, “Coles Imp ramus” meaning “*We Rule the Skies*”.

Like all missile defense sites involved in the Nike Project, the Redmond Nike Missile Base never launched a missile defensively. Still by the time the project was conceptualized in 1952 the military was already developing an improved version. The Nike Ajax Missile was replaced by the Nike Hercules and the Nike Hercules was replaced by the Nike Zeus starting in 1960. Across America, sites were dedicated to the development of nuclear warheads, production of nuclear supplies, and storage of/defense against nuclear attack. Today, we see much of this as a fear-based response to the potential of a nuclear holocaust in which military-fueled economies thrived.

Volcanoes: The Geologic Force that Shapes the Eastside

After reading the articles put out about the Mount Saint Helens eruption during its 40th year of remembrance, the significance of the geographic history of our region appears to be one of constant threat. There are multiple volcanoes located in and around King County which have shaped the actual earth beneath our feet. The U.S. Geological Survey’s National Volcanic Threat Assessment in 2018, said Washington State volcanoes are the most dangerous in the nation. But what does that really mean?

Although many news articles make the danger seem imminent each volcano has its own likelihood of eruption and in geological time “soon” has a variable of thousands of years. Some of the earliest scientific examinations of volcanoes and geology occurred in the mid-1800s. Still, formalized volcanology (the study of volcanoes) while a part of scientific practice by the 1920s, is not considered to have come into its own until the eruption of Mount Saint Helens on May 18, 1980. (Showing how the Eastside has shaped this field’s history.) Until this eruption brought changes, volcanologists often created their own instruments for recording data. Some reported instruments included Coke bottles and heat-sensitive paint to record temperatures on mountains. This is a far cry from the thermal imaging technology used today.



This photograph was taken in the early 1960s. The aerial shot of Meydenbauer Bay shows the Yacht Club in the foreground. Since the photographer was facing east this also captures Mt. Rainier in the background, looming over miles of land.

Since 1980 there have been over 40 significant eruptions and the field has been equipped to allow scientists to record important data that grows and improves our knowledge about geological events like eruptions. Volcanoes in our region including Mount Rainier, Mount Baker, Mount Saint Helens, Glacial Peak, and Mount Adams have been stud-

ied by scientists over the last century and most continue to be regularly monitored, giving us data that could potentially save lives in the event of an eruption. Mount Rainier is an example of one heavily monitored volcano compared to not only other volcanoes in our region but the entire world. Still, it has not experienced a major eruption in around a thousand years and is last recorded to have shook in 1894-95 when explosions caused the summit to quake. Mount Adams is the only volcano of the ones mentioned here that has not had an eruption in the past 250 years over the course of which the population has grown immensely.

Awareness of the potential for a dangerous geological event is a part of living in the Pacific Northwest, but many people are misinformed about where the real danger is during an eruption. Some scientists express that the main threat to people is not lava or even molten debris but lahars, or landslides, which we can experience in Washington if a volcano melts ice and snow or disrupts the surrounding earth to send it speeding towards the valleys below. Debris in these kinds of flows can create a wave of earth anywhere within 10 miles of the actual eruption and travel for up to 50 miles in low-lying areas.

Mount Rainier and Glacial Peak have the potential for significant lahars. Scientists theorize that if Rainier erupted, people living in Rainier Valley could be buried by runoff of earth and debris from the volcano. Glacial Peak has experienced them in the past as well as explosions, known as pyroclastic flows, around 920 CE and again in the 1700s. More recent activity occurred at Mount Baker that sent steam and ash into the air in March 1975. Mount Baker always has thermal activity of some sort in its crater.

This is not uncommon for volcanoes in the Cascades. The Cascade Mountains formed around 5 million years ago due to volcanic eruptions guiding molten lava to the surface above the oceans to create land and mountain peaks. Our region was formed by this activity and can be shaped by it again. The volcanoes which created this space are also likely to have a heavy hand in its future, but with advances in volcanology, there is a very good chance that even a large eruption will have only minor impact on those living in the Pacific Northwest.



Senior Planet offers FREE Virtual Exercise & Computer Classes

Here are a few of the classes available:

- Wellness Discussion Group
- Fitness Fusion Workout
- Virtual Grandparenting
- All Things Zoom
- eBay & PayPal

Check out their website: <https://seniorplanet.org/coronavirus-2/>

Sign up for the free newsletter: <https://seniorplanet.org/get-involved/newsletters/>

Virtual Workshops

Washington Assistive Technology Act Program Webinars

WATAP provides resources and services to persons who face challenges related to disability and aging to help in the selection and use of assistive technology (AT) to help make tasks easier or possible in school, at work, at home, and in the community. For example, you can borrow an E-reader with large font types, a GPS system to help you get around, or a dressing stick to help get into clothes without bending.



WATAP serves seniors and persons with disabilities, and their circle of support, including family members, caregivers, employers, service provider professionals, educators, and others seeking assistive technology expertise.



Technology for Medication Management August 12, 10 am to 11 am

Learn about new devices & concepts that can help you remember to take your medications. This session covers medication compliance choices related to organizers, reminders / alarms, dispensers and monitoring options.

Register by contacting Scott at scottcan@uw.edu or 206-543-0877.



There, I Fixed It August 19, 10 am to 11 am

Many individuals have been solving their independent living, work or recreational challenges through their own ingenuity and materials they find available at home or locally. This webinar expands on these and explore novel improvements to positioning, stabilizing or affixing tools or devices used daily for independent living.

Registration required 24 hours prior to each workshop.

Contact Scott at scottcan@uw.edu or 206-543-0877.



Calendar of Events 2020

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

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| Fran Parker | School Supplies for Children
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**Don't Forget to
Report Your Hours!**

Food Bank Schedule For 2020

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

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