



The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

December 2016

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

VOLUME 22 ISSUE 12

Chairman's Corner

By Doug Hoople



Hail and Farewell. In the Navy as organizations change who is in charge they have a Hail and Farewell event. **Hail** to the incoming: in our case our Volunteer of the Year, Lonnie Stevenson, will be our incoming Chairperson. Don Hilt, Jim Orchekowski, and I will be the Vice Chairmen. This was the decision of the present Heritage Chapter Board/Officers. We had only one candidate for each office, it didn't create the need for us to send out a ballot with no choices. So for the second year in a row, the Board moved to elect the single slate of officers, thus saving some of our dwindling budget.

And a **farewell** for me leaving as your Chairman. The past two years has been a learning experience. (Where have I heard that before.) I'm reminded of an old saying "It's not what you don't know that will hurt you, it's what you do know that isn't so." I relearned that over the past two years. I wanted to be able to do certain things that I believed would help improve our efforts and the Bluebills. If you have been keeping track of my Chairman's Corner over the past twenty-four months, you know I have not been able to accomplish what I had hoped.

We still are not able to reach out to retiring Boeing employees and gain them as members. We have not seen an increase in those interested in serving as an officer in the Heritage or Central Bluebills boards. We are still only seeing approximately twenty five percent of our active members turning in their volunteer hours. Attendance at our meetings is stagnate at best (including our picnic and Volunteer Recognition Dinner) I won't state the attendance percentage because it's so low.

We need to hope Boeing will keep providing us with a small budget, but are we proving our worth?

We need to keep Mary busy recording our monthly volunteer hours to show some of us are still out there. We send out over seven hundred newsletters and less than ten percent report hours.

Our December meeting will be the usual pot luck, let's see how many members we can get there to enjoy the conversations. Don't forget it is a week earlier than normal because of Christmas.

As I close my last Chairman's Corner I'd like to thank all those people who keep us going behind the scenes. There's Mary Ulibarri who keeps the volunteer hours and works on the newsletter. Dick Beham who gets the newsletter together. The invisible group of ladies who put the address labels on the newsletters. Howard and Don who help with everything. Eleanor who is our door greeter at our monthly meetings. Tom who is invaluable at the VFW Hall. Janice and her Busy B's. (And anybody else I missed.)

Thank you all for two exciting years. See you at the December meeting.



Busy B's

by Janice Hawes

The Busy B's are winding down the year and getting ready for our winter break. We will be distributing all the stuffed animals and afghans and crocheted items on the last Tuesday of this month. We have 6 food banks we give these items to, Kent, Renton, Highline, Federal Way, Maple Valley and Des Moines.

Richard Vaughn took quilts and lap robes and lap protectors to the Washington State Soldiers Home in Orting and Jim Beasley and Bob Lambert delivered quilts to the Seattle Veteran's Hospital and I delivered children and adult quilts to compass House in Renton, all in time for Veteran's Day.

Oscar Olague will be delivering our monthly donation of quilts and medical dolls to Children's Hospital. This time of the year, we make Christmas fabric quilts and the dolls are dressed in hospital gowns made with Christmas fabric.

We are still selling raffle tickets for our Seahawk quilt and will be picking the winning ticket at our Christmas potluck on December 16th.

The Busy B's want to thank Elstelle Meade for all the lovely crocheted items she makes all year long. She creates such beautiful afghans, hats, mittens and scarves.

Thanks to another important person to us, Becky Prenavost, who collects hundreds of stuffed animals for us each year. These two women make a lot of children happy.

We'll be back at our sewing machines in January, so until then, Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from all the Busy B's.



November Chapter Meeting Recap

By Mary Ulibarri

Chairman Doug Hoople called the

meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance. There was only one November birthday among the attendees – Happy 80th Janice Hawes - and no anniversaries this month.

Doug stated that since there were a limited number of folks in the running for next year's Heritage Chapter officers, they are the ones who will lead us in 2017. They are: Lonnie Stevenson, Chairperson, and three Vice Chairmen: Don Hilt, Doug Hoople and Jim Orchekowsky. Congratulations to all.

Doug reminded folks that next month's meeting will be a week early due to Christmas falling on the weekend of our usual time. Everyone is encouraged to bring his or her favorite potluck dish to share. And there will still be tickets for sale for the Seahawks quilt being raffle at the luncheon.

Oscar Olague reported the Busy Bs donated, and he delivered, six blankets, 24 hats and 36 stuffed animals to Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. Well done, everyone.

Helen Lowe announced a Nordic Experience Sing-along at the West Seattle Senior Center, 4217 S.W. Oregon Street, on December 12 from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm. There will be a minimum admission charge and food available. For information contact John Giuliani, 425-255-2121.

Jim Beasley then introduced the speaker Kristina



Arsenault, Director, Community Services & Planning Washington State Ferries. Kristina graduated from Mississippi State University in 2003 with a BS in Geosciences, Operational Meteorology.

As director of Community Services and Planning, Arsenault oversees WSF's customer service, along with planning activities including service and schedule planning, forecasting and fare review. Before WSF, Arsenault came from the U.S. Department of

Homeland Security in Arlington, VA where she most recently worked in the Office of Emergency Communications ensuring that interactions with, and external information provided to stakeholders, communities, federal and state organizations reflected positively on the organization.

She also served in the U.S. Coast Guard as Marine Safety Specialist of Response. She was a technical authority with respect to the Maritime Transportation Security Program, coordinating port safety and security plan development with several ports, which included North New England, Delaware Bay, Baltimore, San Francisco, Honolulu and Puget Sound’s Earthquake Response Plan.

Kristina began with some general facts about the WSDOT Ferries Division: It is the largest ferry system in the United State and fourth in the world. It was created in 1951 and carried nearly 24 million riders in 2015. The fleet consists of 23 auto-passenger ferries, operates 20 terminals on ten routes and has 1,900 employees. The 1,750 mariner crew consists of those in the engine room who are assigned to a particular vessel, while the deck crews are assigned to a specific route. The vessels are aging with most approaching 30 years of service and operate 20-22 hours per day. There are two new ferries, which are built in Washington. One was recently christened and due to go into service this year with the second scheduled for service next year.

The agency is the third largest transit system in Washington (#1 King County Metro, #2 Sound Transit). The busiest route is Seattle/Bainbridge Island with more than six million riders per year. The largest ferries are the Jumbo Mark II Class, which carries 2,500 passengers/202 vehicles. The smallest ferry is the Hiyu, which carries 200 passengers/34 vehicles.

Some other general facts include the ferry system is part of the state highway network, serving eight counties and British Columbia, Canada. It is a critical link between urban areas on the east side of Puget Sound and growing communities on the Kitsap and Olympic peninsulas and San Juan Island. In addition to automobiles, the ferries carry foot passengers, bicycles and vanpools and provide

park and ride lots at or near ferry terminals. The WSF works with the Washington State Patrol and U.S. Coast Guard to implement security measure to ensure the safety and security of passengers.

The WSF vessels are a major tourist attraction and icon of Washington State. Plus they are a critical link between more affordable housing on the west side of Puget Sound and key employment centers on the east side. A big hit this year is the late afternoon ferry that delivers, amid much hoopla, Seahawks fans to within walking distance of the Century Link Field on game day.

Kristina took many questions during and after her presentation, allowing more details and facts about the Washington State Ferry system. She was a very interesting and educational speaker.

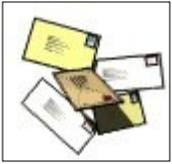
Doug held the door prize drawing and adjourned the meeting.

Reminder
Report your Volunteer
Hours
 By
Email: Bluebills@boing.com
 Or
Phone: 206-544-6286
 Or
Mail: To Address on Form
 Or
Bring Completed Reporting
Form to the Monthly Meeting

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The Missing Five Pound Note



Chippenham George worked for the Post Office and his job was to process all the mail that had illegible addresses. One day just before Christmas, a letter landed on his desk simply addressed in shaky handwriting: 'To God'. With no other clue on the envelope, George opened the letter and read:

Dear God,

I am an 93 year old widow living on the State pension. Yesterday someone stole my purse. It had £100 in it, which was all the money I had in the world and no pension due until after Christmas. Next week is Christmas and I had invited two of my friends over for Christmas lunch. Without that money, I have nothing to buy food with. I have no family to turn to, and you are my only hope. God; can you please help me?

Chippenham George was really touched, and being kind hearted, he put a copy of the letter up on the staff notice board at the main Fareham sorting office where he worked. The letter touched the other postmen and they all dug into their pockets and had a whip round. Between them they raised £95. [\$170 USD] Using an officially franked Post Office envelope, they sent the cash on to the old lady, and for the rest of the day, all the workers felt a warm glow thinking of the nice thing they had done.

Christmas came and went. A few days later, another letter simply addressed to 'God' landed in the Sorting Office. Many of the postmen gathered around while George opened the letter. It read,

Dear God,

How can I ever thank you enough for what you did for me? Because of your generosity, I was able to provide a lovely luncheon for my friends. We had a very nice day, and I told my friends of your wonderful gift - in fact we haven't gotten over it and even Father John, our parish priest, is beside himself with joy. By the way, there was £5 [\$10 USD] missing. I think it must have been those thieving fellows at the Post Office.

George could not help musing on Oscar Wilde's quote: 'A good deed never goes unpunished'



The Tale of the Traditional Christmas Pudding



Martha decided to move with the times and try the delights of microwave cooking. Whereupon, her devoted husband Archie went out and bought her a brand new top-of-the range Sharp Microwave oven.

Christmas approached and Martha got out her Christmas pudding recipe and assembled the ingredients. She proceeded along traditional lines and even got the each member of the family to stir the mixture 'for luck'. When Martha consulted the microwave's manual for the cooking time, she could not believe that ten minutes would be enough for a traditional Christmas pudding. Consequently she decided to substitute her normal cooking time of 50 minutes.

As Martha was in the lounge watching her favourite T.V. programme she did not see the pudding spitting in the microwave oven, nor did she hear the mini-explosions. When she finally extracted the pudding from the microwave after nearly an hour of cooking on 'High', it smelt of burnt sugar and looked like a ball of tar. Naturally, the Christmas pudding was a disaster, so much so, that Martha could not even prod it with a fork. In fact the black ball stuck to the bottom of the bowl and Archie had to get a screwdriver to prize it from its base.

In a fit of pique, Martha threw the shrivelled Christmas pudding to Togo her St Bernard puppy. After a few days she could see the funny side, and Togo loved his new indestructible toy, which amused him until the next Christmas.



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How They Forecast a Cold Winter

One day in early September the chief of a Native American tribe was asked by his tribal elders if the winter of 2011/12 was going to be cold or mild. The chief asked his medicine man, but he too had lost touch with the reading signs from the natural world around the Great Lakes.



In truth, neither of them had idea about how to predict the coming winter. However, the chief decided to take a modern approach, and the chief rang the National Weather Service in Gaylord Michigan.

'Yes, it is going to be a cold winter,' the meteorological officer told the chief. Consequently, he went back to his tribe and told the men to collect plenty of firewood.

A fortnight later the chief called the Weather Service and asked for an update. 'Are you still forecasting a cold winter?' he asked.

'Yes, very cold', the weather officer told him.

As a result of this brief conversation the chief went back to the tribe and told his people to collect every bit of wood they could find.

A month later the chief called the National Weather Service once more and asked about the coming winter. 'Yes,' he was told, 'it is going to be one of the coldest winters ever.'

'How can you be so sure?' the chief asked.

The weatherman replied: 'Because the Native Americans of the Great Lakes are collecting wood like crazy.'



Your Editor's suggestion for an enjoyable musical holiday treat.



SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

"What a glorious feeling, I'm happy again!" Embark on a dance-filled journey to the golden age of cinema as one of the greatest movie musicals of all time comes to the Village Theater, in Issaquah, with a splash! This faithful and loving adaptation by the original award winning screenplay team is exuberant, funny, and filled with songs you know and love—plus live, on stage rain! Make this show a part of your holiday plans.

November 10 — December 31, 2016

January 6 — 29, 2017 in [Everett](#)

Showtimes:

Select Tuesdays at 7:30 PM

Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30 PM

Fridays at 8:00 PM

Saturdays at 2:00 PM and 8:00 PM

Sundays at 2:00 PM and 7:00 PM

Running time: 2 hours 30 minutes including Intermission.

Location: Issaquah Village Theater
303 Front Street N
Issaquah, WA 98027

Link: www.villagetheater.org

Ticket Phone: 425-392-2202

Social Security and Veterans Affairs Partnership Means Faster Disability Decisions for Veterans

*By Kirk Larson
Social Security Western Washington Public Affairs Specialist*

The Social Security Administration announced the launch of a new Health IT initiative with the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) that enables all Social Security disability case processing sites to receive medical records electronically from all VA facilities. Veterans will receive a faster decision on their Social Security disability claim, speeding them and their dependents through this new process. Both agencies will save time and money with an automatic request through the eHealth Exchange.

The new Health IT program was tested successfully at Social Security locations around the country. On Veteran's Day, November 11, the eHealth Exchange went live, nationally, to all Social Security disability case processing sites.

Social Security requests nearly 15 million medical records annually from healthcare providers and organizations to make medical decisions on about three million disability claims. Medical documentation is essential to make a disability determination. Historically, the agency obtained medical records through a manual process (mail, fax, secure mail). This new national initiative puts in place an automated process to obtain medical records electronically without human intervention.

“VA is currently improving quality of life by enabling Veterans to share their health information with federal partners and integrating their data into a safe and secure health-related consumer application,” said Dr. David Shulkin, Under Secretary for Health of the Department of Veterans Affairs. “Currently, when eligible Veterans apply for Social Security Disability Insurance benefits the average wait time for Social Security to receive paper records from VA can take months; this partnership allows Social Security and VA to share the Veteran's health information electronically in minutes. The Social Security and VA partnership allows

VA to continue to be a leader in interoperability efforts among federal partners while improving overall quality of life for our Veteran patients.”

This partnership adds the VA to Social Security's more than 50 other Health IT partners, including the Department of Defense, in approximately 7,000 facilities across the United States providing electronic health records. Social Security's goal is to continue expanding the number of healthcare organizations and federal agencies providing electronic health records within a safe and secure environment.

To learn more about Health IT, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov/disabilityssi/hit.

Social Security offers two other programs to expedite disability claims filed by veterans. Wounded Warriors and veterans with a VA disability compensation rating of 100% Permanent & Total have their Social Security disability claims treated as high priority and receive expedited decisions. For more information about these programs, please visit www.socialsecurity.gov/people/veterans.

To get more Social Security news, follow the Press Office on Twitter [@SSAPress](https://twitter.com/SSAPress).

SOCIAL SECURITY COVERS YOU WHEN YOU'RE ABROAD

*By Kirk Larson
Social Security Western Washington Public Affairs Specialist*



Social Security has you covered, even outside our nation's borders. We're with you through life's journey, even if you're traveling outside the United States. Many people who travel or live outside the country receive some kind of Social Security bene-

fit, including retired and disabled workers, as well as spouses, widows, widowers, and children.

If you're a U.S. citizen, you may receive your Social Security payments outside the United States as long as you are eligible. When we say you are "outside the United States," we mean you're not in one of the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, Guam, the Northern Mariana Islands, or American Samoa. Once you've been outside the United States for at least 30 days in a row, we consider you to be outside the country. Whether you're off to Europe, or considering a stay in our newly reopened neighbor, Cuba, you may be able to receive your Social Security benefits even while you're outside the United States. If you receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI), you cannot receive benefits if you're outside of the United States for a month or more.

If you're traveling outside the U.S. for an extended amount of time, it's important that you tell Social Security the date you plan to leave and the date you plan to come back, no matter how long you expect your travel to last.

You can use this online tool to find out if you can continue to receive your Social Security benefits if you are outside the United States or are planning to go outside the United States at www.socialsecurity.gov/international/payments_outsideUS.html.

This tool will help you find out if your retirement, disability, or survivor's payments will continue as long as you are eligible, stop after six consecutive calendar months, or if certain country-specific restrictions apply.

When you live outside the United States, we send you a questionnaire periodically. Your answers will help us figure out if you still are eligible for benefits. Return the questionnaire to the office that sent it as soon as possible. If you don't, your payments will stop. In addition to responding to the questionnaire, notify us promptly about changes that could affect your payments.

You can also read the publication titled *Your Payments While You Are Outside the United States* at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs.

Securing today and tomorrow is our priority, no matter where you might be living.

Boeing Names New Senior Leaders, Launches Integrated Services Business

Commercial Airplanes President and CEO Ray Conner plans end-of-2017 retirement; industry veteran Kevin G. McAllister to succeed him

Boeing Chairman, President and CEO Dennis Muilenburg today named Kevin G. McAllister president and CEO of Boeing Commercial Airplanes, succeeding company Vice Chairman Ray Conner in that role. Muilenburg also appointed Stanley A. Deal president and CEO of Boeing Global Services, a new business unit to be formed from the customer services groups within the company's existing commercial airplanes and defense, space and security business units. McAllister joins Boeing from GE Aviation. Deal is a veteran Boeing executive.



Ray Connor

Conner, 61, will continue to serve as Boeing vice chairman through 2017. He will work closely with McAllister in the months ahead on a purposeful hand-off of customer, supplier, and community and government relationships, and to ensure continuity of operations and customer support.



Kevin McAllister

McAllister, 53, joins Boeing after 27 years with GE Aviation, where he served since 2014 as president and CEO of GE Aviation Services. Before that, as vice president and general manager of global sales and marketing since 2008, he was credited with delivering record backlog growth for the nearly \$25 billion GE business.

Calendar of Events 2016

Jan 14	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jan 29	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Feb 11	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Feb 26	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Mar 10	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Mar 25	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Apr 14	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Apr 29	Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck)
May 12	Heritage Leadership Meeting
May 27	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Jun 16	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jun 24	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Jul 14	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jul 29	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Aug 11	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Aug 26	Heritage Chapter Picnic (Coulam Pk)
Sep 15	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Sept 30	Chapter Monthly Meeting (Craft Fair)
Oct 13	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Oct 26	Chapter Honors Luncheon
Oct 28	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Nov 10	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Nov 18	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Dec 15	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Dec 16	Chapter Monthly Meeting

Food Bank Schedule For 2016

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

January	Highline	Marian Herrin
February	Bellevue	Doug Hoople
March	Federal Way	Jim & Bambi Lee
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	Eleanor Skinner
October	White Center	Heinz Gehlhaar
November	Issaquah	Eleanor Skinner
December	Des Moines	Open

Bluebills - Heritage Chapter

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Fran Parker	School Supplies for Children parker33@q.com
Mary Ulibarri	Newsletter co-editor bbbeditor@live.com
(Open)	Special Projects

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting



December 16, 2016

10:00 AM—12:00 Noon



“Christmas Potluck”

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

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting Directions

From the **north** take 405 S
Bronson Way. Keep right
and continue on S 2nd St. to
Williams Ave S. Turn left
onto Williams Ave S and turn
right onto 5th St. Go one
block and turn right onto
Burnett Ave S to VFW.
From the **south** go north on
Highway 405 to Exit 2 Hwy
167 Rainier Ave S. Go
north to S Grady Way. Turn
right on S Grady Way to
Talbot Rd (3rd light) turn
left on Talbot Rd. One block
turn right on 7th St and then
left on Burnett Ave S. Con-
tinue three blocks to VFW.

