



The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

December 2019

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

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Chapter Report

By Richard Vaughn



Over the past several months I and other Bluebills have asked and even begged our members to step up and help the Heritage Chapter continue to operate but have had no responses. We are on the verge of ceasing all activities. Will you help?

I recently received a letter from one of our dedicated Bluebills. Following is a portion of that letter:

“Subject: Keeping the Heritage Chapter “Active”.

As a Boeing retiree who started with the company in 1958, I have always had a warm spot in my heart for the company and the caring culture it shares in the community. Like many people, when I retired in 1997 I entered the world of volunteering. I have reported my volunteer hours to the Heritage Chapter nearly every month since I left Boeing with the hope of keeping the chapter functional and supportive of people in need.

Even though I have always lived too far away to make it to chapter meetings, I always look forward to reading the newsletter. In an odd – slightly out of reach – way reading the newsletter and sending my hours helps me feel I am still a part of the Boeing family.

Like many members of the Chapter my history of volunteering has transitioned as I age. When I left Boeing I volunteered as a business counselor for SCORE, a part of the U.S. Small Business Administration. After helping several hundred small businesses in North King County and Snohomish County begin and grow, we moved to Port Orchard where I shifted my volunteering to helping women in prison develop plans for new businesses when they are released.

I realize I could have transferred my volunteer hours to the Olympic Peninsula Chapter, but as a long-time Boeing Seattle person I chose to help the Heritage Chapter with my hours.

A few years ago a battle with cancer stopped my prison volunteering but as my “treatments” lessened I entered a new phase of volunteering (not quite as stressful as a prison environment). I am now a member of the Kitsap County Aging Advisory Council and this position is why I am writing this note to you.

With my Advisory Council role, I am very involved with senior citizens who are becoming physically and mentally limited and losing friends they have known for many years. The people I deal with are wonderful people who led very active and fulfilling lives, but as they age, they tend to become socially isolated and very lonely. Maintaining contact, even monthly through chapter meetings, can go a long way toward helping them stay alert, feel they are not alone, and age gracefully. It can literally give them a reason to get up in the morning and go see other people.

I hope as the Heritage Chapter volunteerism declines you can convince the membership to continue meeting each month to provide social contact for remaining members to help each share their friendships.”

This is the reason we were organized 25 years ago and the reason it is so important that we continue to re-

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main a vital part of the community. You may be there someday.

Richard



Busy B's

Submitted by Janice Hawes



We had some nice donations at the October meeting. A big bag of knit/crocheted hats was donated by Marilyn Moore from the Reserve in Renton and a large bag of yarn was donated by King of Kings Lutheran Church of Renton. Meri England, our faithful provider of baby hats brought in a bag of them.



We sorted our accumulated quilts and are giving assorted sized quilts to Mary's Place, delivered by Lisa Nyreen. Lana Mitsules will take children's quilts to Child Haven in Auburn, Richard Vaughn is delivering some to the Washington State Soldiers Home in Orting and I'm taking lap robes and quilts to Renton Rehabilitation and baby hats to the Pediatric Interim Center in Kent. Meri England is delivering medical dolls and baby hats and quilts to Seattle Children's Hospital, and baby hats to Valley Medical Center.

We will be meeting on December 5th to sort and bag up our stuffed animal collection and deliver them to 5 area food banks. That will be our last meeting of the year. We'll start up again on the 23rd of January.

The Busy B's, Lana, Lisa, Sibyl and I wish you all a wonderful holiday season and Happy 2020.

November Chapter Meeting Recap

By Mary Ulibarri



Co-Chair Don Hilt started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were four November birthdays in attendance - Janice Hawes, Judy Leyden, Oscar Olague and Fran Parker and one anniversary Jerome Durbin - 57 years next month. Congrats to all!

Richard stepped up later, after running an errand to get utensils needed for lunch after the meeting, and mentioned there is still a need for members to step up as Chairman, Vice Chairman and some other positions for next year. Please consider filling these positions - time is running out. Our current officers need a break.



Janice Hawes displayed the beautiful quilt and a number of members purchased tickets hoping to win the drawing at the December potluck meeting.

Jim Beasley then introduced speakers Amber DiMarco and Jon Taylor, graduate students at Seattle University pursuing a leadership MBA.

As part of their studies, Amber and Jon are establishing a sustainable program to address social injustices in the community. Their intent is to create an intergenerational connection to bring hope and



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improved job prospects to at-risk young adults while giving retirees an opportunity to share their wisdom and life experience.

Amber and Jon are currently partnering with the Accelerator YMCA located at 2100 24th Ave., off Rainier Ave. in Seattle, to establish a life and career-skills program. Information for those who aren't familiar with Accelerator, they provide support to young people and families experiencing trauma.

The program will consist of five, three hours sessions spread across several weeks where they intend to pass along concepts like the importance of having a positive attitude, communication, teamwork, resume creation and interviewing. It will culminate with interviews with employers in the community. So far, they have successfully recruited Costco to interview and potentially hire on the spot.

So how do the Bluebills play a role?

Amber and Jon recognize the knowledge and experience within the Bluebills group, and they would like for those in the organization interested in sharing that wisdom to join them. They are looking for retiree volunteers to teach, mentor, conduct mock interviews, and assist with resume writing.

They encourage all volunteers to share their first-hand experience, both good and bad, with the younger generation to provide perspective and understanding of how to conduct themselves in the workplace.

Over the next month they will be finalizing the curriculum and intend to start the first round of students in mid to late January.

If anyone is interested in getting involved or have questions, please contact Amber DiMarco at 717-476-2258 or dimarcoamber@seattleu.edu

The members asked a number of questions of Amber and Jon, then Jim thanked Amber and gave her *The History of Boeing* book.



Jim then introduced the featured speaker Kristine Leander, Executive Director of Swedish Club NW. Kristine supervises the other staff and is responsible for running the Club. Her dedication and hard work are evidenced by the amount of time she puts in to support the Club's many activities. In spring of 2015, Kristine held numerous meetings that sought members' input on what the future of the Club should look like. She recognizes the significance of this activity, and has been putting a lot of effort all this time up to the present to completing it.

Kristine is the granddaughter of Swedish pioneers in the Skagit Valley. She grew up on a dairy farm west of Mount Vernon, where she claims everyone was named either Olson, Benson, Johnson or Carlson. At 40, Kristine moved with her three daughters to Norway, where she earned a Candidata magisteril degree (between a bachelor's and a master's degree) from the University of Trondheim. Upon returning to Seattle, she earned a Ph.D. at the UW, and has worked in health care and the adoption field.

Kristine is also the founder of the Leif Erikson International Foundation, a local organization that has given statues of Leif Erikson to Norway, Greenland and Newfoundland, Canada. She began her affiliation with the Swedish Club as a member of the Board in 2007, and oversaw the strategic plan that started in 2008. She joined the staff as the cultural director in 2009, and was hired as executive director in 2012. She is the author of "Norwegian Seattle" (2008). Kristine's daughters, sons-in-law and grandson all live in Seattle.

With the help of a visual presentation, Kristine began with some background of the Swedish Club which was founded in Seattle in 1892. It has grown from a modest beginning to become a prominent presence in the Pacific Northwest community. Membership consists not only of Scandinavians, but people of many cultural backgrounds.

The Swedish Club is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization with the objective of promoting a better understanding between the United States and the Scandinavian countries, through learning about, practicing and celebrating the culture and traditions of Scandinavia, with an emphasis on Sweden.

Completed in 1961, the current building overlooks beautiful Lake Union and downtown Seattle, and is ideally located just a few minutes north of downtown Seattle. It serves its members as well as visitors and guests from other parts of the United States and Scandinavia. Among a number of prominent visitors over the years, includes the Swedish King, Carl XVI Gustaf.

The Club hosts a variety of educational and cultural events and celebrates traditional Swedish and American holidays. And especially don't forget to try their famous Swedish Pancakes breakfast: <http://swedishclubnw.org/Events/pancake.htm>



The Swedish Club's first building opened in downtown Seattle at Eighth Ave. and Olive St. in 1902.



The current building on Dexter Avenue opened in 1961.

For a list of upcoming events at the Swedish Club, go to <http://swedishclubnw.org/Events/regular.htm>

After a number of questions from the audience, Jim thanked Kristine and presented her with *The History of Boeing* book. Richard then followed with the door prize drawing. There was a short break and then the pizzas

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USO and the Snowball Express

By Doug Hoople who is once again heading up this years effort and will be the point of contact.

Every year the USO assists the Gary Sinise Foundation and American Airlines at the SEATAC Airport bringing in the families of fallen Military Service members as they are transported to Orlando, Florida for a week at Disney World.

We escort the families from the ticket counter, through TSA, and on to the departure gate. There they are treated to refreshments and greeted with gifts from Santa Claus and his elves. People actually pay to be one of Santa's elves, it's a big auction item at the annual Northwest USO Gala fundraiser.

If you'd like to join the fun, get involved with the USO and it's various activities to support our active duty military men, veterans and their families in the beautiful Northwest.



Solitaires

Submitted by: Nina Schuler

Solitaires—A Social Activities Group for Unattached Bluebills will be gathering for lunch at 11:30AM on the third Thursday, December 19th, at Stanford's 17380 South Center Parkway. If you are interested please join us. There's always room for several more.

For Reservations and further information please contact Lana at 425-919-7028

Read Your Newsletter Online and in Color with Easy Access to Hot Links

By: Dick Beham

When you receive a hard copy of your monthly Heritage Chapter Newsletter each month and find you would like to see some of the photos in color or easily access the hot links to additional information presented in the Newsletter, well you can! Just go online to **Bluebills.org** <http://bluebills.org/>, go to your chapter **Heritage –Renton/Seattle** <http://bluebills.org/heritage.html> and select Newsletters from the menu **Newsletter** <http://bluebills.org/heritagenewsletters.html>. From that page you can select the current Newsletter or by going to the **Archived Newsletter Section** <http://bluebills.org/archived%20hnl.htm> you can open and read any number of past Newsletters or print a Newsletter on your own printer in color. Once you have accessed the Newsletter page "Save It" in your "Favorites" for even easier access in the future.

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and salad arrived. Lunch was concluded with a lovely cake decorated to honor the 25th Anniversary of the founding of the Bluebills.



No Speaker for December 20th Chapter Meeting

By: Jim Beasley

“Annual Christmas Potluck”

Snowball Express 2019

Snowball Express was established to provide a special holiday trip, as well as a healing experience, for children whose parent died while serving in the U.S. military since Sept. 11, 2001. The holiday season will be difficult for many of these families, particularly those who have recently lost a parent and spouse. On December 7th, 2019 families, (children of our fallen and their surviving parent or guardian) will be flown to Orlando, FL from cities across the country, to attend a five-day national gathering of Gold Star Children. This five-day gathering is provided at no cost to these families. All costs are either donated by our community partners or paid for by the Gary Sinise Foundation.

American Airlines, the official airline of Snowball Express, will provide thirteen chartered aircraft and space on other commercial flights to transport the families to Orlando, FL. Our mission; Honor America's fallen military service members who have made the ultimate sacrifice since 9/11 by humbly serving the families they left behind. Champion their children's future success by creating opportunities for joy, friendship, education, and communal healing, by connecting these families to one another. The Snowball Express program has provided this experience for several thousand children over the years. This year, we will host more than 1,700 attendees from 49 states and as far away as Australia, Japan and Europe.

NORTH POLE

All of us at American Airlines are truly grateful to our military servicemen and servicewomen, and to their families for the sacrifices they have made to protect the freedoms we all hold dear. Send-off parties, like the one we are hosting here in Seattle, will be held at every charter city around the system, and will then fly to other cities picking up children along the way. If you would like to participate in our send-off party this year, we are looking for volunteers. We will need help decorating and setting up the day prior, but also would just love for you to join us for the very special festivities the day of. Even though it may be early in the morning, I encourage you to come be a part of this amazing event. If you are interested please email me @ jennifer.hussey@aa.com for more info.

This year's theme: Winter Wonderland at the North Pole



Saturday December 7th, 2019
Festivities begin @ 0400- Gate D8

DO YOU THINK YOUR MEDICARE INCOME-RELATED PREMIUM IS WRONG?

Social Security cares about accuracy and we want you to get the exact benefit amount you deserve. Changes in the law affect how we calculate monthly Medicare Part B (medical insurance) and Medicare prescription drug coverage premiums.

- Medicare Part B provides coverage for physician services, outpatient hospital services, certain home health services, durable medical equipment, and other items. Most beneficiaries will pay a standard premium for Part B coverage. Some beneficiaries may also pay a late enrollment surcharge. **A small number of beneficiaries with higher incomes** will pay a higher Part B premium based on their income.
- Medicare prescription drug coverage helps pay for prescription drugs. Plan costs vary depending on the plan, and on whether you get Extra Help with your portion of the Medicare prescription drug costs. **A small number of beneficiaries with higher incomes** will pay a higher prescription drug premium based on their income.

If you're a Medicare beneficiary who must pay more for your Medicare Part B or Medicare prescription drug coverage premium because of your income, and you disagree with the decision, you may request an appeal. The fastest and easiest way to file an appeal is by visiting www.socialsecurity.gov/disability/appeal.

You can also read more at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10125.pdf.

If your income has gone down due to certain specific circumstances, or if you filed an amended tax return, you can ask for a new decision without having to file an appeal. See our fact sheet, *Medicare Premiums: Rules for Higher-Income Beneficiaries* (SSA Publication No. 05-10536) at www.socialsecurity.gov/pubs/EN-05-10536.pdf. You don't have to file an appeal to get a new decision.

Regional Public Affairs Office

Community Outreach

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From your Bluebills
Newsletter Co-Editors
and Contributors...

A VERY MERRY
CHRISTMAS
and Happy New Year!

Calendar of Events 2019

Jan 10	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jan 25	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Feb 14	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Feb 22	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Mar 14	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Mar 29	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Apr 11	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Apr 26	Chapter Monthly Meeting
May 16	Heritage Leadership Meeting
May 31	Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck)
Jun 13	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jun 28	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Jul 11	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jul 26	Chapter Picnic—Coulon Park, Renton
Aug 15	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Aug 30	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Sep 12	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Sept 27	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Oct 10	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Oct 25	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Nov 14	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Nov 22	Chapter Monthly Meeting & Pizza Party
Dec 12	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Dec 20	Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck)

Food Bank Schedule For 2019

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	Jim Lee
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	Issaquah	Eleanor Skinner
December	Des Moines	Lonnie Stevenson

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

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting



December 20, 2019

10:00 AM Social

11:00AM—12:00N Holiday Potluck

“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 1K-B02, 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 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.

