

The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

February 2021

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 02



Co-Chairman's Comments – February 2021

By: Doug Hoople

Well, here we are another month into our new year with some of our same old challenges.

In the past month I've been able to begin calling Bluebill members to get their email addresses so we can get them reengaged with us. I am learning a few things.

Nobody wants to answer/return phone messages. It was suggested that people just aren't using their land lines anymore. Switching instead to cell phones. That may be true because there are a lot of people out there with phones that are no longer connected. I've found a few people who aren't interested in getting reconnected with us and a few who are not joining the computer age.

I had an interesting talk with Elfriede Noble over in Seattle. She doesn't have a computer but really wants to read the newsletter. So, she is going to become my special case. Next week I'm going to send her the January and February newsletters.

Instead of completing my lists I keep getting more. Two of my volunteers have had to give me their lists to call. Both indirectly due to medical situations. Could it be that we're getting older?

Anyway. we did have a few new faces at our meeting this week. And we can hope for more after they receive their first copy of the newsletter in many months. And at our next meeting we're going to have a speaker. Our old program guru and our newspaper editor have gotten together to work it out.

I hope everybody is getting their shots scheduled. Seems to be taking a while and as usual with challenges. I've got my first shot scheduled but not my second.

I can tell I'm not a doctor. When the information first came out you had to get your second shot after 21 days plus or minus 4 days. Now they say you can get the second shot up to 6 months later. Turning plus or minus 4 days into plus 6 months is beyond my medical understanding.

We are still looking for officers for next year. The tenuous setup we have now is rapidly dissolving. And the last man standing can't do it alone because of other volunteer commitments. So, it could all go poof in an instant. We need your help. Time for someone to step up.

See you next month.

Doug

<u>Editor's Note</u>: At press time Jim Beasley and I had not yet been able to firm-up a presentation for the February ZOOM Meeting. You will be notified when the meeting notice is sent out.



January ZOOM Meeting Summary



By Mary Ulibarri

Doug Hoople called the meeting to order at 10:30 AM. There were 14 members online, two more than last month. Doug mentioned having a speaker next month is in the works. Reminder: No Zoom meetings should be posted on Facebook or other social media due to privacy issues.

Howard mentioned he and Jean recently celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary. Congratulations! And Eleanor Skinner pointed out she was having a birthday tomorrow. As for February birthdays, Mary's list includes Tom Moberg, Mavis LaBounty, Micki Brown, Roy Barnes and Mike Holman.

Not much new to report with respect to the Boeing office space and conference room being provided for the Bluebills. Boeing is physically downsizing and consolidating, so will likely take over the office space. And perhaps the Busy Bs will share the conference room with Boeing employees. There are some spare cabinets near the small kitchen area that may help with storage.

Doug then asked for reports from each of the attendees on what they were doing to keep busy and/or to entertain themselves. It was interesting to hear how folks were being productive, creative and doing their best to stay sane.

Warning: Heinz Gehlhaar reported his email account was hacked and reminded all members to be on alert for phony scam messages.

The folks who volunteered to get updated email addresses made a lot of calls and completed their "assignments." Thanks Lonnie, Doug, Dick, Richard, Howard, Heinz and Micki.

Volunteer hours may be submitted to Mary Ulibarri at <u>marybarri@centurylink.net</u> or Dick Beham at <u>bbbedi-tor@live.com</u>. It is acknowledged that folks have trimmed back their volunteering during these days of COVID-19, but we will still keep track and turn in reports to Boeing at some point.

All Bluebills are invited to join the February 26, 2021 meeting scheduled for 10:30 AM (PST). Let Doug Hoople (<u>ddhoole@earthlink.net</u>) know so he can send you the Zoom link.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM with best wishes for all to stay safe and have a Happy Valentine's Day.

Hello from Judson Park

from: Heinz & Lonniie

Today JP had tropical Friday . .dress in beach gear, we wore shell necklaces from Tahiti and American Samoa . . and colorful shorts and tops . .

Heinz, beautiful in his flaming swim shorts and bareoot, caught the eye of the photographer, and I in the only tropical garb I own . .

Just an awesome example of the fun we have at Judson Park Retirement Community !

"There Is life after Retirement!"

Lonnie and Heinz



Thank You Blubills for Your Aluminum Tops & Cans

Submitted by Dick Beham



December, 2020

Boeing Blue Bills c/o Dick Beham 155 Capella Drive NW Issaquah, WA 98027

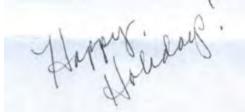
Dear Boeing Blue Bills:

We are sorry that this letter to you is late in coming, but George and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you and all those who are working with you in continuing to collect cans and or tabs to help those with kidney disease. We know it takes a lot of time and effort and we want you to know how much we appreciate the help. We feel that anything we can do to help those who spend most of their lives with this terrible disease is worth the time and effort.

We are happy to let you know that with recycle donations from those who want to make a difference and our added dollars, we presented the Kidney Foundation earlier this year with another donation which so far has brought the total dollars raised for research to over \$12,000.00. Please keep up the good work! Thank you, again. Boeing Blue Bills for helping make this possible!

Sincerely.

George and Sharon Broom



An Old Man and a Bucket of Shrimp...



From Micki Brown

We all need a good story once in a while, I think this is one. Kind of reminds me of stories from Paul Harvey.

An Old Man and a Bucket of Shrimp...

A wonderful story and it is true. You will be glad that you read it, and I hope you will pass it on.

It happened every Friday evening, almost without fail, when the sun resembled a giant orange and was starting to dip into the blue ocean.

Old Ed came strolling along the beach to his favorite pier.

Clutched in his bony hand was a bucket of shrimp. Ed walks out to the end of the pier, where it seems he almost has the world to himself. The glow of the sun is a golden bronze now.

Everybody's gone, except for a few joggers on the beach. Standing out on the end of the pier, Ed is alone with his thoughts. ...and his bucket of shrimp.

Before long, however, he is no longer alone. Up in the sky a thousand white dots come screeching and squawking, winging their way toward that lanky frame standing there on the end of the pier.

Before long, dozens of seagulls have enveloped him, their wings fluttering and flapping wildly. Ed stands there tossing shrimp to the hungry birds. As he does, if you listen closely, you can hear him say with a smile, 'Thank you. Thank you.'

In a few short minutes the bucket is empty. But Ed doesn't leave. He stands there lost in thought, as though transported to another time and place .

When he finally turns around and begins to walk back toward the beach, a few of the birds hop along the pier with him until he gets to the stairs, and then they, too, fly away. And old Ed quietly makes his way down to the end of the beach and on home.

If you were sitting there on the pier with your fishing line in the water, Ed might seem like 'a funny old duck,' as my dad used to say. Or, to onlookers, he's just another old codger, lost in his own weird world, feeding the seagulls with a bucket full of shrimp.

To the onlooker, rituals can look either very strange or very empty. They can seem altogether unimportant, maybe even a lot of nonsense.

Old folks often do strange things, at least in the eyes of Boomers and Busters.

Most of them would probably write Old Ed off, down there in Florida . That's too bad. They'd do well to know him better.

His full name: Eddie Rickenbacker. He was a famous hero in World War I, and then he was in WWII. On one of his flying missions across the Pacific, he and his seven-member crew went down. Miraculously, all of the men survived, crawled out of their plane, and climbed into a life raft.

Captain Rickenbacker and his crew floated for days on the rough waters of the Pacific. They fought the

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sun. They fought sharks. Most of all, they fought hunger and thirst. By the eighth day their rations ran out. No food. No water. They were hundreds of miles from land and no one knew where they were or even if they were alive.

Every day across America millions wondered and prayed that Eddie Rickenbacker might somehow be found alive.

The men adrift needed a miracle. That afternoon they had a simple devotional service and prayed for a miracle.

They tried to nap. Eddie leaned back and pulled his military cap over his nose. Time dragged on. All he could hear was the slap of the waves against the raft. Suddenly Eddie felt something land on the top of his cap. It was a seagull!

Old Ed would later describe how he sat perfectly still, planning his next move. With a flash of his hand and a squawk from the gull, he managed to grab it and wring its neck. He tore the feathers off, and he and his starving crew made a meal of it - a very slight meal for eight men. Then they used the intestines for bait. With it, they caught fish, which gave them food and more bait...and the cycle continued. With that simple survival technique, they were able to endure the rigors of the sea until they were found and rescued after 24 days at sea.

Eddie Rickenbacker lived many years beyond that ordeal, but he never forgot the sacrifice of that first life-saving seagull... And he never stopped saying, 'Thank you.' That's why almost every Friday night he would walk to the end of the pier with a bucket full of shrimp and a heart full of gratitude.

Reference: (Max Lucado, "In The Eye of the Storm", pp...221, 225-226)

PS: Eddie Rickenbacker was the founder of Eastern Airlines. Before WWI he was race car driver. In WWI he was a pilot and became America 's first ace. In WWII he was an instructor and military adviser, and he flew missions with the combat pilots. Eddie Rickenbacker is a true American hero. And now you know another story about the trials and sacrifices that brave men have endured for your freedom

As you can see, I chose to pass it on. It is a great story that many don't know. You've got to be careful with old guys, you just never know what they have done during their lifetime.



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News from the Social Security Administration

All taxpayers now eligible for Identity Protection PINs

IRS YouTube Video:

Get an Identity Protection PIN - English | Spanish

WASHINGTON – The Internal Revenue Service today expanded the Identity Protection PIN Opt-In Program to all taxpayers who can verify their identities.

The Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) is a six-digit code known only to the taxpayer and to the IRS. It helps prevent identity thieves from filing fraudulent tax returns using a taxpayers' personally identifiable information.

"This is a way to, in essence, lock your tax account, and the IP PIN serves as the key to opening that account," said IRS Commissioner Chuck Rettig. "Electronic returns that do not contain the correct IP PIN will be rejected, and paper returns will go through additional scrutiny for fraud."

The IRS launched the IP PIN program nearly a decade ago to protect confirmed identity theft victims from ongoing tax-related fraud. In recent years, the IRS expanded the program to specific states where taxpayers could voluntarily opt into the IP PIN program. Now, the voluntary program is going nationwide.

About the IP PIN Opt-In Program Here are a few key things to know about the <u>IP PIN Opt-In program</u>:

- This is a voluntary program.
- You must pass a rigorous identity verification process.
- Spouses and dependents are eligible for an IP PIN if they can verify their identities.
- An IP PIN is valid for a calendar year.
- You must obtain a new IP PIN each filing season.
- The online IP PIN tool is offline between November and mid-January each year.
- Correct IP PINs must be entered on electronic and paper tax returns to avoid rejections and delays.

• Never share your IP PIN with anyone but your trusted tax provider. The IRS will never call, text or email requesting your IP PIN. Beware of scams to steal your IP PIN.

• There currently is no opt-out option but the IRS is working on one for 2022.

How to get an IP PIN

Taxpayers who want an IP PIN for 2021 should go to <u>IRS.gov/IPPIN</u> and use the Get an IP PIN tool. This online process will require taxpayers to verify their identities using the Secure Access authentication process if they do not already have an IRS account. See <u>IRS.gov/SecureAccess</u> for what information you need to be successful. There is no need to file a Form 14039, an Identity Theft Affidavit, to opt into the program

Once taxpayers have authenticated their identities, their 2021 IP PIN immediately will be revealed to them. Once in the program, this PIN must be used when prompted by electronic tax returns or entered by hand near the signature line on paper tax returns.

All taxpayers are encouraged to first use the online IP PIN tool to obtain their IP PIN. Taxpayers who cannot verify their identities online do have options.

Taxpayers whose adjusted gross income is \$72,000 or less may complete <u>Form 15227</u>, Application for an Identity Protection Personal Identification Number, and mail or fax to the IRS. An IRS customer service representative will contact the taxpayer and verify their identities by phone. Taxpayers should have their prior year tax return at hand for the verification process. Taxpayers who verify their identities through this process will have an IP PIN mailed to them the following tax year. This is for security reasons. Once in the program, the IP PIN will be mailed to these taxpayers each year.

Taxpayers who cannot verify their identities online or by phone and who are ineligible for file Form 15227 can contact the IRS and make an appointment at a <u>Taxpayer Assistance Center</u> to verify their identities in person. Taxpayers should bring two forms of identification, including one government-issued picture identification.

Taxpayers who verify their identities through the in-person process will have an IP PIN mailed to them within three weeks. Once in the program, the IP PIN will be mailed to these taxpayers each year.

No change for confirmed identity theft victims

Taxpayers who are confirmed identity theft victims or who have filed an identity theft affidavit because of suspected stolen identity refund fraud will automatically receive an IP PIN via mail once their cases are resolved. Current tax-related identity theft victims who have been receiving IP PINs via mail will experience no change.

See <u>IRS.gov/IPPIN</u> for additional details.

The IRS also encourages tax professionals and employers to share information with taxpayers about the availability of the IP PIN. Tax professionals and employers can print or email <u>Publication 5367</u> or share IRS social media/e-poster products.



Sunset Shopping Center

by Margaret Laliberte

Few shoppers trying to negotiate the parking lots and traffic bottlenecks of the Factoria Mall of today—officially Marketplace@Factoria--remember the modest and very useful little shopping center that preceded it in the same spot. In 1949 Swedish immigrant Ole Chellson and his son Henry began construction of their Sunset Super Market in what is today's mall's extreme northwest corner. Ole had driven an ice truck for the Leschi Ice Company; now he turned entrepreneur. The Factoria area had been initially logged in the 1890s and platted in 1911 with hopes it would become a major manufacturing center. That dream died early, although in 1927 the old stove factory (the only actual factory that opened at Factoria) was purchased with the expectation that it would become marketing headquarters of a developing rabbit industry on the Eastside. The plant was being equipped to handle fresh and canned rabbit meat and to cure and market the fur.

The Chellsons were in the right spot at the right time, with a clear eye to the future. Ole Chellson had bought his parcel in 1940, just as the Sunset Highway—today's I-90—east to Issaquah was being straightened and widened to four lanes to be ready for the July 2nd opening of the new Lacey Murrow Floating Bridge across Lake Washington.

In 1949 Norwood Village, a community of over 100 homes largely for families of World War II veterans, was being developed across the highway, and on hills to the East, in Horizon View and Hilltop, homes were being built. Eastgate and Lake Hills would arrive within a few more years. A *Seattle Times* reporter noted that "the Chellsons expect the district will develop even faster when the tolls come off the Lake Washington Floating Bridge."

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Photo: Three stores occupying Sunset Shopping Center Shown, Factoria Supermarket, Olive's Sundries, and George Bondo - Realty Priced Right.

By December 1950 the Sunset Super Market was open for business, and the following year a second building went up next door, occupied by Olive's Sundries (Olive was Henry's older sister) and by George

Bondo Real Estate. At some point one of the walls of the grocery held a huge mural, perhaps created by "Mother Chellson," illustrating life on Lake Washington. On the market's first anniversary, Ole and Henry advertised in the *Mercer Islander* a free television set and groceries "to select customers." Also in 1950 the Sunset Drive-In Theater opened, the venue for the shopping center's "annual" Easter egg hunt in 1951 for kids under 12 years old.



Photo: Mural designed by Mrs. Chellson shown here on the back wall of the store.

In 1952 Henry was recalled to the Marines and went off to the Korean War. The grocery was leased out, and to keep himself busy Ole built a gas station in the little complex and operated it for Richfield Oil. Over the years more small businesses were added: a barber shop, Bob Jones Surveyor, and Petersen's Uphol-

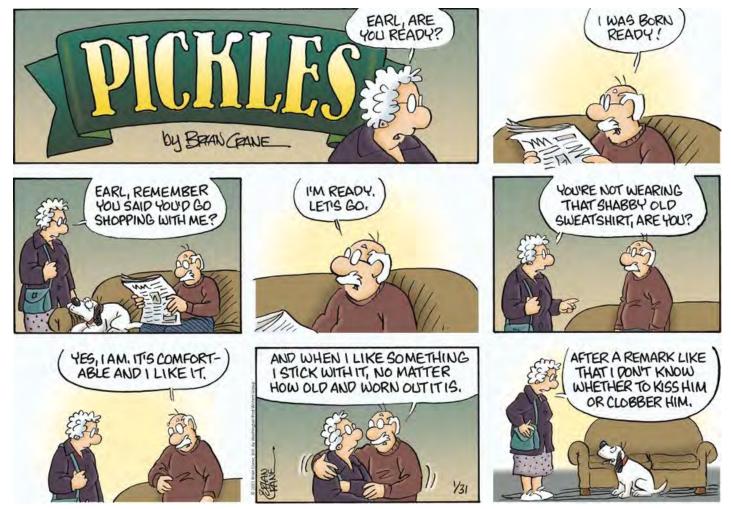
stery Shop. The market got Russ Baker's Russell's Meats, and Olive's Sundries became Maxine's Café ("a Good Place to Eat" according to local ads) and later Dotty's Lunch. There was even an electrical service and plant nursery, owned by Nap Nolet. The drive-in theater was a favorite draw. An Issaquah resident who grew up in Hilltop Community recalls that the local teenagers who didn't want to spend the money for an entry ticket would drive to the hill across the Sunset Highway, near the Unitarian church, and watch the movie from there, even though they couldn't hear it.

But the Eastside's population was exploding, and the local subdivisions offered their own larger supermarkets and related small businesses. In 1977 the Factoria Square Mall opened right next to and to the South of the drive-in and the little Sunset Shopping Center. Among the three largest stores were a Safeway, an Ernst Home Center and a Pay-n-Save drugstore. Several other buildings held smaller shops. In 1980 a three-theater complex opened at Factoria on the site of the old drive-in. The handwriting was on the wall.

In 1999 Henry Chellson donated to the Eastside Heritage Center a trove of family photos and memorabilia. Unfortunately, the outset of coronavirus has closed access to that collection, and with local libraries and archives still closed, it's not currently possible to trace the final stages of life of the Sunset Shopping Center. It still lives on in the memories of those current residents who grew up in the Eastside of the 1950s and 60s and for whose families the modest grocery was a godsend, a spot to pick up a quart of milk, loaf of bread, or some fresh meat on the way home from work in Seattle or shopping at Bellevue Square.



Photo: In this aerial photograph you can see the back of the drive -screen with the little shopping center buildings laying between the theater and highway 405.



<u>In Person Meetings</u> <u>Currently Suspended</u> Calendar of ZOOM Events 2021

- Jan 14Heritage Leadership MeetingJan 29Chapter Monthly MeetingFeb 11Heritage Leadership Meeting
- Feb 26Chapter Monthly MeetingMar 11Heritage Leadership MeetingMar 26Chapter Monthly MeetingApr 15Heritage Leadership MeetingApr 30Chapter Monthly Meeting
- May 13Heritage Leadership MeetingMay 28Chapter Monthly Meeting
- Jun 10Heritage Leadership MeetingJun 25Chapter Monthly Meeting
- Jul 31Chapter Monthly MeetingAug 28Chapter Picnic—TBD
- Sep 16 Heritage Leadership Meeting
- Sept 24 Chapter Monthly Meeting
- Oct 29 Chapter Monthly Meeting
- Nov 19 Chapter Monthly Meeting
- Dec 9 Heritage Leadership Meeting
- Dec 17 Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck TBD)

Food Bank Schedule For 2021

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

January	Highline
February	Bellevue
March	Federal Way
April	Maple Valley
May	Kent
June	Auburn
July	West Seattle
August	Тасота
September	Renton
October	White Center
November	Des Moines
December	Issaquah

Heinz Gehlhaar Doug Hoople Lonnie Stevenson Vaughn's Melinda Stubbs Martha Battles Heinz Gehlhaar Ted & Judy Leyden Eleanor Skinner Heinz Gehlhaar Lonnie Stevenson Eleanor Skinner

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Don't Forget to Report Your Hours!



"IN PERSDON MEETINGS SUSPENDED DUE TO COVID-19"

"ZOOM MEETING"

February 26, 10:30 AM (PST) ZOOM Meeting



VFW Post 1263 Renton

Website: vfw1263.org

Address: 416 Burnett Ave S, Renton, WA 98057



Phone: (425) 255-9010

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 complete	ed hours form to	Bluebills, PO Box	3707 1K-B02, Seattle, WA 98124