



The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

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WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

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Chapter Report

By Richard Vaughn



Here we are at the beginning of the New Year 2020 and I am once more asking you to please help us start the year off right. We are in the process of updating our membership list so we can better contact our members. When we try to use the list today we find that many members have moved and have new addresses or they have changed their phone numbers and/or their e-mail addresses.

We are asking you to please help us update the Bluebills Heritage Chapter roster by calling the Bluebills office at 206-544-6286 and give us your name, mailing address, telephone number and e-mail address. We have a recorder on the phone so you can call at any time. We will retrieve your message and update your information. If you prefer, you can e-mail Bluebills at bluebills@boeing.com. A third option is to "snail mail" your information to:

Bluebills
The Boeing Company
P.O. Box 3707, MC: 1K-B02
Seattle, WA 98124-2207.

Note: This information is not distributed or available to anyone beyond those Bluebills using it to for organizational purposes.

There is still a huge need for volunteers who are willing to give some time to working on the Volunteers Coordinator, Education, Community Outreach, and Public Relations committees. We have needed assistance in these areas for some time and without leadership in these areas this chapter is not going to continue. It does not take a lot of time so will you please give it a try for the sake of the chapter?

If we all work together we can make 2020 a great year. If not, then the chapter cannot continue to operate. Let's work together to make this an outstanding year.

Richard





Busy B's

Submitted by Janice Hawes

The Busy B's were pretty busy in 2019. We made over 100 quilts and gave 99 medical dolls to Children's Hospital, plus 246 baby hats to Children's, PIC and Valley Medical Center. 75 military bags to Tahoma National Cemetery, and gave 290 stuffed animals and some dolls to 5 area food banks. We're taking a break and look forward to starting all over again in 2020.

The following article was submitted by Sibyl Fletcher and I hope you will enjoy reading this history of quilts.

America's Quilting History

World War II & Beyond: Quilting, Alive Beneath the Surface

The fun of Christmas is halted with the awful news over the radio last night; we were visiting friends in Brooklyn and we all sat as if stunned when we heard the news ... Maybe I'll get out my Nine-Patch quilt and try to finish it — practice what I preach. Good to keep busy when you are troubled or worried." a letter written December 8, 1941 by Florence Peto¹

A Shift in Focus From the Past to the Present

Pearl Harbor had been bombed by the enemy and America was no longer safely isolated from the rest of the world. World War II ended the Great Depression but brought in a period of fear and anxiety along with pride and patriotism. *Womenfolk.com*

There was no time to romanticize the good old days that had been idealized during the Colonial Revival of the 20s and 30s. The present was what mattered, the present and winning the peace.

It was not so much that quilting disappeared at this time; it simply became less important in the greater scheme of things. Some folks quilted and some didn't but the world was focused on much greater concerns. The American way of life was threatened; the world was at risk.

Quilts Made for Comfort and Patriotism

A delightful photograph of a young Kansas woman holding a quilt is inscribed with "I love you - hurry home and help me use it, honey."³ The picture was probably sent to her husband overseas.

As in other times of war patriotic themes were popular in quilts. Magazines and newspapers published quilt patterns including stars and stripes, airplanes and V for victory patterns. Mountain Mist published two patterns with the eagle motif one in honor of army and the other navy aviation.

Quilt like Blue Star Banners were made and hung in windows signifying that the family living there had someone in serving in the war. Saddest of all were those with a gold star, signifying that a soldier from that household had lost his life.

Women Join the Workforce

Women went to work in great numbers to fill in for the men who had gone to war. In fact even more workers were needed to manufacture materials for the massive WW2 effort. A million men would be lost. Although many women left their jobs and went home again after the war others remained in the work force.

A Focus on the Modern While Quilting Went Out of Vogue

Even after the economy recovered and the war ended quilting continued to be out of vogue. The general public's perception was that quilting was something only poor people made quilts because they couldn't afford to buy modern bed coverings. The focus was on the future, the modern way of living including modern possessions and modern design.

Also there was a general attitude that the quality of quilting was poorer than it had been in the past. An over idealization of the perfection of old fashioned quilting contributed to this impression. The making of quilts with kits and the use of polyester fabric were cited as proof of this belief.

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Quilts pieced by machine were considered inferior based on the myth that quilters of the past always pieced and quilted by hand. Quilts made during this mid century period were often not quilted closely and many quilts were simply tied. Of course there were still some women who prided in doing fine hand quilting.

Quilting, Still Alive Beneath the Surface

In her doctoral thesis Valerie S. Rake⁴ suggests several reasons as to why quilt making became less visible after the 1930s. She writes that, "Changing styles in home decorating; the increasing number of leisure activities for women, including radio and television; sports and civic groups; and, most notably, the decline in home sewing of clothing probably all contributed to the contraction."

Rake found that those women who did quilt often got their start later in life perhaps as a part of a church sewing group that made quilts to raise money or to give to the needy. She points out that more women went on to further their education than had done so previously and others worked in offices, factories or stores for a period of time before marrying.

American culture had changed, as a result of these changes many brides preferred modern bedspreads to what they considered to be old-fashioned quilts.

Changes in Quilt Making During This Time

Women who quilted during these years were more likely to buy most of the fabric for their quilting projects. With the decline in sewing there were few left over scraps from making a dress or shirt. Quilts were no longer a cost efficient form of bedcovering.

During the Great Depression making a quilt had been a way a woman could be creative using primarily materials at hand. Now women were quilting more for the companionship it provided through church or other sewing groups.

Some still made quilts for special occasions like weddings and births. Many made quilts for children in their families. From 1940 to 1965 Marion Cheever Whiteside Newton⁵ designed storybook quilts on such themes as Swan Lake, Pinocchio, The Ugly Duckling and Peter Rabbit. Many mothers and grandmothers were inspired to make a quilt using a delightful children's theme.

Quilts for War Torn Europe

The results of World War II were devastating to Europe. People from both sides of the conflict were left destitute. Attempts to get needed food and bedding to these people was thwarted by restrictions on what could be shipped to various regions so much of the relief didn't get to the people until the world war was over.

To a family living in a room with no heat and blown out windows warmth was desperately needed. Quilters were urged to make wool quilts for these people. The wool quilts made for war-torn Europe were often tied, as they were too heavy and thick for quilting. What a blessing these quilts would be to a family living under such chilling conditions.⁶

Rural Quilting Including the Amish

Country folks still quilted though perhaps not at the same level. State and local fairs continued to feature quilt competitions and shows. Quilt historian Barbara Brackman⁷ reminds us, "Quilting did not die out in rural America after World War II, although few new patterns or styles evolved until the 1970s."

Another significant group that kept quilting throughout this period was the Amish.⁸ New styles in furniture or fads in entertainment did not touch their communities. Quilting continued as it had for years. In the resurgence of interest in quilting during the years surrounding the Bicentennial of the United States in 1976 the American public discovered the beauty of Amish quilting.

Although quilting was out of vogue during the 1940s through the 60s we can see that quilting was still well and alive beneath the surface of more pressing cultural concerns.

Speaker for December 20th Chapter Meeting

By: Jim Beasley



The speaker for Friday January 31st meeting will be Lindsey Desmul from The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife. She will discuss the changing role of the WDFW, its mission, changing demographics with the land and sea changes.



November Chapter Meeting Recap

By Mary Ulibarri

Co-Chair Richard Vaughn opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were two December birthdays present – Millard Battles and Helen Lowe. No December anniversaries, but guest Linda Houser introduced herself and stated she plans to become a member. She heard about the Bluebills through two members who were volunteering at a Boeing blood drive and handed her a pamphlet. Her official retirement date is January 1, 2020 and she is taking the rest of the year off. Welcome, Linda.

Norma Vaughn read a nice note from John Moravich who is an active volunteer, but is not able to attend monthly meetings. Doug Hoople shared a number of humorous quips in honor of our good pal Jim Orchekowski, who moved from the Puget Sound area. Lots of good laughs.



Richard and Norma displayed some sentimental family holiday items in honor of their daughter, Susan, who passed away in February.

The floor was then opened to audience members who wished to recognize and thank individuals for the various good works and personal contributions. So many wonderful people and memories. We are all blessed in many ways by friends, family and experiences.



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Don Hilt then presented the Volunteer of the Year award for this 2019 – Tom Moberg. Tom was instrumental in getting the VFW Hall for the Bluebills monthly meetings. In addition, he is always the first to arrive to open the doors and help set up and also the last to leave after making sure everything is back in the proper order. He was awarded the large painting of the first Boeing airplane – the Bluebill. Thank you, Tom.

Janice Hawes drew the winning ticket for the beautiful hand-made quilt. It was Nina Schuler. Richard then proceeded with the door prize drawing, which was followed by folks lining up for the potluck lunch. Once again there were many delicious items: meatballs (lots of meatballs), a variety of side dishes and marvelous desserts. Wow! Wonderful. Thank you one and all.

Best wishes for the holidays and the new year from yours truly. Merry Yuleberry.





Bluebills Like To Help Their Friends And Neighbors

Experience indicates volunteers like to help those in the communities where they live. Bluebills are looking at organizing ourselves to support an organization that has localized volunteer programs and support. The advantages are that your work is done locally so commuting is not a big problem, you work with community organizations and volunteers so teaming is easier, communications will be done by e-mail. Everyone would still be a Heritage Chapter member but working locally.



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/heritagene-newsletters.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.

Calendar of Events 2020

Jan 9	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jan 31	Chapter Monthly Meeting
<i>Feb 13</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Feb 28</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Mar 12</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Mar 27</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Apr 9</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Apr 24</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>May 14</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>May 29</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck)</i>
<i>Jun 11</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Jun 26</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Jul 9</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Jul 31</i>	<i>Chapter Picnic</i>
<i>Aug 13</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Aug 28</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Sep 10</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Sept 25</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Oct 15</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Oct 30</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Nov 12</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Nov 20</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting & Pizza Party</i>
<i>Dec 10</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Dec 18</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck)</i>

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
<i>February</i>	<i>Bellevue</i>	<i>Doug Hoople</i>
<i>March</i>	<i>Federal Way</i>	<i>Jim Lee</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>Maple Valley</i>	<i>Vaughn's</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>Kent</i>	<i>Melinda Stubbs</i>
<i>June</i>	<i>Auburn</i>	<i>Martha Battles</i>
<i>July</i>	<i>West Seattle</i>	<i>Heinz Gehlhaar</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>Tacoma</i>	<i>Ted & Judy Leyden</i>
<i>September</i>	<i>Renton</i>	<i>Eleanor Skinner</i>
<i>October</i>	<i>White Center</i>	<i>Heinz Gehlhaar</i>
<i>November</i>	<i>Issaquah</i>	<i>Eleanor Skinner</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>Des Moines</i>	<i>Lonnie Stevenson</i>

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

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting



January 31, 2020
10:00 AM Social
10:30—12:00N Meeting

Speaker: Lindsey Desmul, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Subject: Changing role of the WDFW

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)

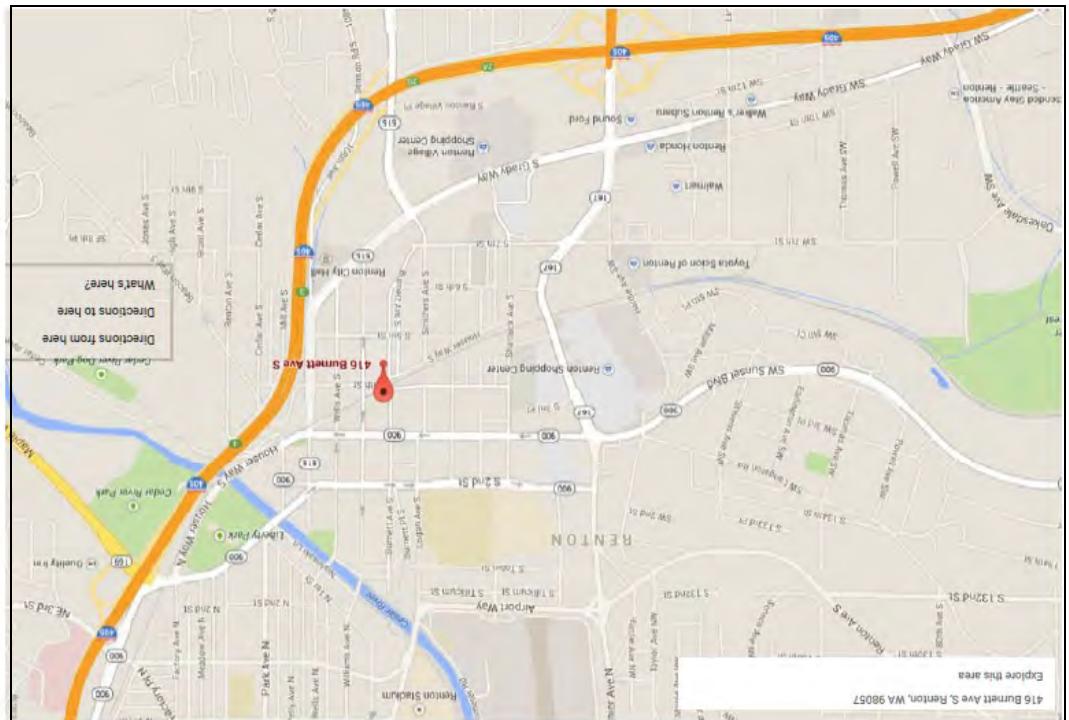
Hours worked _____ For _____
(month/year) (agency name)

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

From the south go north on Highway 405 to Exit 2 Hwy 167 Ramier Ave S. Go north to S Grady Way. Turn right on S Grady Way to Talbot Rd (3rd right) turn left on Talbot Rd. One block turn right on 7th St and then left on Burnett Ave S. Continue three blocks to FW.

From the north take 405 S to Exit 4 Sunset Blvd N to Bronson Way. Keep right and continue on 2nd St. to Williams Ave S. Turn left onto Williams Ave S. Continue on S 2nd St. to Ave S Williams Ave S. Turn right onto Sth St. Go one block onto 5th St and turn right onto Ave S and turn right onto Sth St. Turn right onto 5th St and turn right onto Sth St. Turn left onto Ave S to FW.



Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting Directions