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The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

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Maarch 28th Chapter Meeting Presentation

By Jim Beasley



By request there will be a Special Flatlife Video Presentation - "Evolution of BOEING". This Presentation was originally scheduled for the November 2024 meeting, which was canceled, and several had asked that we reschedule it. Looks to be a very

interesting and informative presentation for many of us as retirees.



February Meeting Summary

By Mary Ulibarri

The monthly meeting was held at the Umpqua Bank in Renton, a temporary location due to the VFW being closed for upgrading. That may be the reason for the smaller than usual attendance. We hope those missing members will attend future meetings. The March 28th meeting is also being held again at Umpqua Bank, 333 S.W. 7th St. in Renton. The room is on the second floor with elevator service. Attendees are reminded to park in the rear behind the bank and enter in the front door. Any disabled attendees are welcome to park in front. Beverages will be available.

Doug Hoople opened the meeting with the pledge of allegiance. Due to no flag in the meeting room, the attendees faced the one at the building across the street. There were no members with February birthdays in attendance. The ones on my list are Tom Moberg, Mavis LaBounty, Micki Brown, Roy Banes, and Mile Holman. Richard and Norma Vaughn celebrated their 71st wedding anniversary in February.

Jim Beasley introduced the speaker,



Melissa Davis, Deputy Opinion Editor, The Seattle Times, who spoke on recycling and landfills in the Seattle area.

One can assume a landfill is a place all garbage goes to die. Wrong. A mountain of trash is quite alive in ways that are wholly unpleasant. It's not just the smell of rotting everything.. It's the gushing leachate, a perpetual chemical soup drained from the buried garbage depths that never stops. And the heat from furnaces burning landfill gases, hoovered up in a labyrinth of pipes around a 920-acre complex. All while 100 tractor trailers tip roughly 2,500 tons of trash down the gullet each day.

A look around the Cedar Hills Regional Landfill in Maple Valley was surely eye-opening. In the yearlong quest to be better recyclers, the place we're hoping will one day no longer be a necessity, hopefully will be greatly reduced.

But the pressure is literally mounting. Cedar Hills is running out of space. King County is also embroiled in a lawsuit over what to do with harmful landfill gas components emitted

there, including arsenic. For now, staff are merely able to burn the 7,200 standard cubic feet per minute of methane produced within the trash, converting it to carbon dioxide. Hardly ideal in an era of climate change.

A trip through Cedar Hills is a good reminder of why work on recycling is both personal and political today. In just minutes, 117,000, plastic bottles will have been used up somewhere in the world, according to the United Nations. And most didn't go to a depot to be made anew.

We put our garbage in plastic bags, and then at the landfill those bags are put inside of one enormous garbage bag. Most nights, after smooshing football field-sized sections with heavy equipment, workers at the landfill roll tarps over the latest trash pile. Once each "cell" is filled, it's sealed within the ground. It's methodical and precise. Yet the trees surrounding the facility are still draped in plastic bags that drifted off in the wind. Workers must routinely go take them down.

What's curious is that Cedar Hills — King County's only landfill — is a bit of an anomaly in the Northwest in its more urban location and capacity constraints. Much of the waste produced in Puget Sound heads by train to landfills near the Columbia River east of the Cascades — dry expanses with room for more than a century's worth of trash. It goes out of sight, out of mind for most people.

Given that organic materials, including food, make up most of the landfill's contents, it's not surprising microbes begin a feast that produces a potpourri of gases. And those gases are not pleasant.

The county previously signed an agreement that invited Bio Energy Washington to open a plant on site and capture the landfill gases. The company produced biogas equivalent to powering 18,000 homes. But a dispute over the discharge of arsenic in the byproduct of the landfill gas has in part led the company to sue the county in federal court. A trial is slated for next spring. Meanwhile, the methane silos are used for burning off the gas, powering nothing.

Unfortunately, there's still some stuff that just hasn't been figured out yet what to do with: pet waste, diapers, certain types of demolition debris, to name a few.

And then there's the case of littered bottles and cans.

It was Oregon that pioneered the country's first bottle deposit system in 1971 — more than a half-century later, there still is nothings north of the Columbia. The result is the Oregon's beverage container recycling rate was more than eight out of ten cans or bottles in 2023. Washington doesn't even get half back.

Also, there is a false sense that the one bin is the weekly magic trick. Here today - recycled tomorrow. The reality is that what is valuable in your bin — cans and paper mostly — stands a good chance of being reincarnated. The rest is probably off to a landfill. There are no guarantees in recycling.

However, some very clever entrepreneurs have found ways of connecting stuff deemed unrecyclable with companies that have found new uses for it. For example, Ridwell in South Seattle. The world's largest collection of separated pill bottles, dead light bulbs and plastic bags.

A lot of Ridwell partners are startups seeking new roles for products likely sent to landfills. It seems fitting Ridwell has risen in Seattle, home of product (and packaging) giants like Amazon and Starbucks.

For example, Ridwell takes light bulbs and batteries and supplies them to a startup known as EcoLights. The company can dissect certain valuable metals while disposing of harmful components, like mercury in compact fluorescent light bulbs.

Thus, Ridwell saw a problem in the existing system, and filled a need. But not everyone will pay for a monthly subscription to have their landfill-destined refuse hauled off. So, the question confronting policymakers in Olympia and elsewhere: Are we OK relying on clever entrepreneurs and a scrap market to stave off some stuff going to landfills — or do we intervene “upstream” and motivate the packagers themselves to use materials that can be more effectively recycled?

Washington’s Legislature will likely again take up a cause to consider “Extended Producer Responsibility,” or EPR. Approved in California, Colorado, and Oregon, it puts product producers on the hook for using the most recyclable packaging possible. In other words, the things likely headed for a garbage dump will cost those companies more to bring to market.

In the meantime, it’s worth remembering there’s something even better than recycling. It’s called reusing old stuff before it’s ready to be put out to pasture. The average plastic bag is in use for just 12 minutes. Bring those bags back to the grocery store!

And, another thing, when you do buy new things, purchase it with an eye toward making it last. A couple of Oregon entrepreneurs have started a business selling refillable wine bottles that can be returned after consumption. Like a bottle deposit, the empty bottle is cleaned by [Revino](#) to be used again. Up to 50 times.

Look to products and packaging that have proven themselves in this new recycling economy — our waste streams are treated as commodities, after all. Aluminum cans and paper products can be circular, that is, made into new things. And it’s profitable for companies to do so.

That’s the beauty of paper. It gets a chance to live again — at least seven times. That’s better than most materials. And it’s leaps and bounds better than plastics, whose polymers are very difficult to break down and make new — if they can be recycled at all.

Remember: RECYCLE AND REUSE.



Mounds of glass, plastic and other debris, recently pulverized by a rotating pulper, await transport to a local landfill. The pulper removes non-paper products so Longview paper mill NORPAC can... (Josh Farley

Busy Bees Report

by Milinda Stubbs

Thank you to all the Bluebills who purchased raffle tickets for our quilt drawing or made donations to the Busy B's. We are most appreciative for the continued support.

You helped us raise \$57.00, That helps tremendously for us to purchase batting, our largest expense, in order to make more quilts we donate within our Puget Sound community.

Thank you!

Busy B's



From Lisa Borders

Salvation Army 2024 Impact Report

Hi all,

Working for The Salvation Army, people often ask, “*What does The Salvation Army do?*”

Well, the answer is: *a lot* 😊!

Here is link to the Salvation Army 2024 impact report which highlights the incredible work being done through our various social service programs. <https://res.public.onecdn.static.microsoft/assets/fluentui-resources/1.0.23/app-min/assets/item-types/16/pdf.svghttps://res.public.onecdn.static.microsoft/assets/fluentui-resources/1.0.23/app-min/assets/item-types/16/pdf.svg>

I hope this provides a meaningful impact of your support and how, together, we are creating lasting change.

With warm appreciation,

Lisa Borders

Corporate Relations Director

The Salvation Army Northwest Division

serving Washington, N. Idaho and W. Montana



Securing today
and tomorrow

Submitted by: Micki Brown

Tax season is officially underway! By now, your clients should have received the necessary forms and documentation to file a complete and accurate tax return. The Social Security Benefit Statement, also known as the SSA-1099 or SSA-1042S, is a tax form we mail each year in January to people who receive Social Security benefits. It shows the total amount of benefits your clients received from us in the previous year, so they know how much Social Security income to report to the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) on their tax return.

If a client misplaces their Benefit Statement, they can instantly get a replacement form with a personal [my Social Security](#) account. Replacement tax forms for the previous tax year are typically available starting February 1 of each year.

To further assist your clients, the [IRS Help](#) webpage offers a wide range of resources that can simplify the tax preparation process. Individuals with a Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number (ITIN) can create or securely access their Individual Online Account to get the latest information about their federal tax account and take actions to support their tax filing experience and protect their tax-related information. They can also use the [Interactive Tax Assistant Tool](#) to get answers to common tax questions and determine if their Social Security benefits are taxable. Additionally, the IRS offers free online and in-person tax preparation options for eligible taxpayers through [IRS Free File](#), [IRS Direct File](#), [Volunteer Income Tax Assistance \(VITA\)](#) and [Tax Counseling for the Elderly \(TCE\) programs](#). To locate a VITA or TCE site, your clients can use the [VITA Locator Tool](#) or call 800-906-9887.

Visit our [Information for Tax Preparers](#) webpage to learn more.

Please share this information with your members, colleagues, affiliates, and other interested parties.

Office of Strategic and Digital Communications

OEA.Net.Post@ssa.gov

SAVE THE DATE!

National Slam the Scam Day

Thursday, March 6, 2025

The Social Security Administration and the Office of the Inspector General are partnering with other government agencies for the 6th Annual Slam the Scam Day. Please join us, as part of National Consumer Protection week, as we work to raise public awareness of government imposter scams.

We encourage you to visit our [Slam the Scam Resources](#) page for more information on this year's campaign. This page will also highlight organizations dedicated to helping us "Slam the Scam!"

Contact us at OEA.net.post@ssa.gov for more information.

Washington History

Historylink.org



Model T Fords were all black because the paint dried faster.

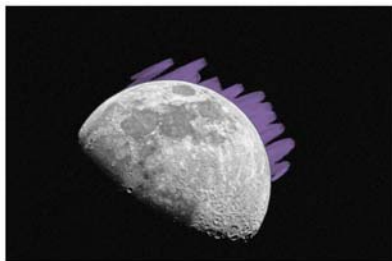
Picture a classic Ford Model T and you'll likely envision not just its distinctive shape, but also its black color. The earliest Model Ts, which rolled out in 1908, actually came in several tones, including bright red. But founder Henry Ford soon developed a preference for the simple dark shade. According to his [autobiography](#), Ford announced in 1909 that in the future, "any customer can have a car painted any color that he wants, so long as it is black." His reason, however, had little to do with aesthetics. At the beginning of 1913, [a single car](#) took around 14 hours of labor to make. By October that same year, that figure dropped to 90 minutes, thanks to Ford's groundbreaking moving assembly line. In 1914, 1,000 Model Ts were coming off the line every day, and there wasn't enough space for multiple coats of paint and primer to dry on that many cars at the same time.

There's a commonly held belief that Ford only produced black cars because black paint dried faster. That's true to some extent, but the time-saving benefit was due to the [kind of paint](#) the company used, which was only available in dark colors. In 1914, Ford switched to oven-baked paint, which cured in 400-degree heat within an hour instead of air-drying, which required up to 24 hours. The oven-baked colors contained Gilsonite, a special kind of asphalt, which limited the color palette to black and very dark hues. Black was the cheapest to make and the most durable, and painting all the cars one color streamlined the process, too.

Model Ts were available only in black between 1914 and 1925. In 1926, colors started appearing in the Model T lineup once again after Ford overhauled its car designs and started using pyroxylin lacquer, a nitrocellulose-based coating.

The Ford factories recycled extra Model T paint.

The early Ford assembly plants were nothing if not efficient. One method they used to paint auto bodies quickly was running paint from an overhead tank through a pipe that was held up to the car as it passed down the assembly line. The application was imprecise, and a lot of paint ended up on the floor — but it didn't go to waste. Any runoff was [collected](#) and put back into the tank for future use.



Apollo 12 left a piece of art on the moon.

When Apollo 12 departed Kennedy Space Center on November 14, 1969, the spacecraft was carrying a tiny artwork titled "[Moon Museum](#)" — albeit unknowingly to the astronauts aboard. The piece was a ceramic tile measuring less than an inch, inscribed with designs from six contemporary artists. However, the idea was never sanctioned by NASA, and "Moon Museum" had to be smuggled into space.

"Moon Museum" was the brainchild of concept artist Forrest Myers, who collaborated with artists Andy Warhol, Claes Oldenburg, David Novros, Robert Rauschenberg, and John Chamberlain. Each artist sketched a unique image on the tile. Warhol signed his initials in the upper left, forming the shape of a phallic rocket; Rauschenberg drew a line next to it, and Novros created a black square in the upper right. From left to right on the bottom row,

Myers added an interlocking drawing, Oldenburg sketched Mickey Mouse, and Chamberlain drew an image based on a circuitry diagram.

Myers tried to get NASA's approval to stow "Moon Museum" aboard the Saturn V rocket, but was met with radio silence. He then contacted an anonymous NASA engineer known today as John F. to help smuggle the artwork into space. The employee responded two days before launch, stating, "YOUR [sic] ON A.O.K. ALL SYSTEMS GO." It's believed "Moon Museum" was covertly attached to the lunar module and deposited on the moon during landing, though it's impossible to confirm without sending another mission back to check.

NASA sent two golden phonograph records into space.

In 1977, NASA sent Voyager 1 and Voyager 2 into space, and each probe continues to explore the far reaches of the galaxy today. NASA included a "[golden record](#)" aboard each spacecraft — a gold-plated disc serving as a sort of time capsule in case the probe ever encountered extraterrestrial life. Each record contains 115 images depicting life on Earth, such as people eating and cars stuck in traffic. They also hold audio recordings of naturally occurring sounds such as waves and thunderclaps, as well as spoken greetings in various languages and classical music from different cultures. To ensure longevity, NASA made each record from gold-plated copper mixed with a pure sample of uranium-238, the latter of which has a half-life of 4.468 billion years. The cover of each record was then hand-etched with the inscription, "To the makers of music — all worlds, all times," along with diagrams instructing how to play the record.

BITS & PIECES



Mathew lived in a big city, and his hair was always cut by the same hairdresser. Mathew went to him once a month. He was allowed one hour for his lunch every day, and on the mornings when his hair was going to be cut, he made himself some sandwiches to eat in the hairdresser's.

The hairdresser had a very small shop near Mathew's office, and he worked alone, but he always cut Mathew's hair exactly as Mathew liked it, and while he was doing it, the two men talked about football or cricket.

But the hairdresser was an old man, and one day, when Mathew was sitting in his chair, and his hair was being cut as usual, the old man said to him, "Mathew, I'm going to be sixty-five years old next month, so I'm going to retire. I'm going to sell my shop to a young man who wants to be a hairdresser. The shop's being paid for by the young man's father."

Mathew was very sad to hear this, because he enjoyed talking to the old man, and he was also worried that his hair would not be cut as well by the new young man as it had been for so many years by his old friend.

He went to the shop again the next month, and the new man was there. He cut Mathew's hair, but he did it very badly.

The next month, Mathew went into the shop again. The young man asked him how he would like his hair cut, and Mathew answered, "Please cut it very short on the right side, but leave it as it is on the left. It must cover my ear. On top, cut all the hair away in the middle, but leave a piece at the front which can hang down to my chin."

The young man was very surprised when he heard this. "But sir," he said, "I can't cut your hair like that!"

"Why not?" Mathew asked. "That's how you cut it last time."



Bluehills Heritage Chapter Meeting



March 28, 2025

Social: 10:00 AM

Meeting 10:30 - 11:30 AM

Special Presentation: "Evolution of Boeing"



Come to the meeting, enjoy coffee, donuts, informative presentations, and socialize with other Boeing retirees.



Umpqua Bank, 333 SW 7th St., Renton, WA

Calendar of Events 2025 **In Person Meetings**

<i>Jan 31</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>	<i>Jul 25</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Feb 28</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>	<i>Aug 29</i>	<i>Chapter Picnic/Potluck</i>
<i>Mar 28</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>	<i>Sept 26</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Apr 25</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>	<i>Oct 31</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>May 30</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>	<i>Nov 21</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Jun 27</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>	<i>Dec 19</i>	<i>Chapter Holiday Potluck</i>

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

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