



# The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills  
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

November 2012

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

VOLUME 18 ISSUE 11

## Chairman's Corner

Fall has arrived with rain, winds, bare trees, fallen leaves everywhere and snow in the mountains. Let us not drop our guard because of the weather, but continue our great efforts to help others.

Remember to show that the Bluebills know how to 'GET ER DONE' every day, every month, all year long.

Many others look forward to our POSITIVE approach to VOLUNTEERING. They look to us for direction to fill their lives with a helping hand.

With Thanksgiving fast approaching it's the time of year to give thanks for gifts received as well as gifts given. Let us contribute to organizations that help those in need have THANKSGIVING DINNER, either monetarily or with our time, in order to provide for that special meal.

Howard will be back from his trip to England in time to chair the next meeting. Welcome home to the Syder's!

Have a great month.

*Jim Orcekowsky*

Vice Chairman, Boeing Bluebills Heritage Chapter

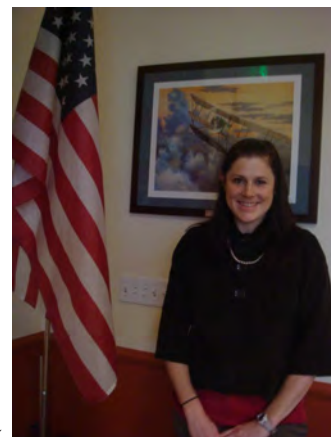


Bluebills in fine fashion with a very spooky and ghostly décor – we hope everyone enjoyed them! Some of our Bluebills added to the festivities with their own style of costumes ... hee-larious!

The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance and was followed by announcements celebrating birthdays and anniversaries. Vice Chairman Jim Orcekowsky stepped in and led the meeting for Howard Syder and kept us entertained in his usual style ... complete with a good joke! Here are some keynote announcements:

- **Zip Zuther** gave a wonderful overview of how our talented Busy Bees help make the lives of kids at Children's Hospital a bit more bearable during their stay. These creative quilts are gifts of love which the children keep with them throughout their stay as well as take them when they go home. Please Note: the Busy Bees inventory of supplies has been impacted due to finances. Not to be ones to give in easily, they have made a beautiful quilt that will be raffled off at the November Heritage Chapter Meeting. See the article later in this newsletter ...

- **Hilary Case, Recruitment & Outreach Coordinator, Transportation Program for Senior Services**, the largest non-profit organization serving seniors in the State of Washington was next on the agenda. Hilary is looking for volunteers to help seniors get out and about Senior Services serves seniors 60 years of age or better residing in King County who are able to self-transfer into a private vehicle. We have several members who are driving for them, as part of a team of over 600 volunteer drivers who use their own vehicles to transport and accompany seniors to medical and other essential appointments—offering a ride and a



## Recap

### Chapter Meeting October 26th

*By Micki Brown*

Friday – October 26th – Downtown Harley-Davidson again hosted our Heritage Chapter of The

helping hand. **For complete details, visit their website at [www.seniorservices.org](http://www.seniorservices.org).** The flexibility for volunteering makes this a very attractive way to lend a hand, whether it is the area you'd prefer to drive or the days you may be available. Mileage and parking are reimbursed. No CDL driver's license is required, but their health exam is and is paid for by *Senior Services*. If you'd like to make their services a part of your strategy for independent, vibrant living, please give Ms. Case a call. **Her contact information is 206-748-7588 or via e-mail, [hilaryc@seniorservices.org](mailto:hilaryc@seniorservices.org).**

Reporting your Monthly Volunteer Hours: Eleanor Skinner asked if you turn in your hours at our monthly meeting, to please use the bottom portion from the page of our newsletter -- and yes, you've got it in your hand! An alternative is to e-mail your hours to [blue-bills@boeing.com](mailto:blue-bills@boeing.com). Your help in keeping costs down is greatly appreciated by our administrative staff!


Jim Beasley introduced our guest speaker **Michelle Ryberg, Client Solutions Exec- IRU, AT&T Signature Client Group**. Michelle has been in telecommunications about 15 years and has watched the evolution of the mobility industry. She spent most of her years in sales but her favorite role is her current position at AT&T marketing to the individual users of our signature clients ... such as Boeing retirees. She gets the opportunity to meet thousands of people, host events to educate and help others save money in this tough economy, and support The Boeing Company as the preferred provider of wireless services. Michelle lives in Newcastle with her husband and three great kids, and in her spare time enjoys cooking, scrapbooking, sports, and travel. Michelle gave us a wonderful presentation albeit a bit frustrating for her since there was no sound to her video ... nonplussed, she forged ahead.



Her job is to drive awareness to employees and retirees of Boeing and its subsidiaries regarding AT&T's *It Can Wait* campaign, as well as service discounts. This initiative focuses on educating people of all ages,

but especially teens, about the dangers of texting and driving.

All employees, retirees, and subsidiary members of The Boeing Company are eligible for a 25% discount off their monthly service with AT&T, as well as 35% off accessories, and up to 50% off on equipment (some exclusions apply). To take advantage of this, just stop into your local AT&T retail store and provide proof of your Boeing membership via your medical ID card or go to the Boeing Discount Program to obtain the Point of Purchase Card located on the Boeing intranet.

Those who send  text messages while driving are **23 times** more likely to be in a crash.

The message is simple, yet vital: When it comes to texting and driving, it can wait. You are probably thinking how does this apply to me? More than 100,000 accidents per year are a result of texting and driving causing life changing injuries and death.

The mobile world continues to evolve at an alarming rate, and in 2010 texting rose 50% over the course of the year. AT&T projects that 854 billion text messages crossed its network in 2011.

Texting takes your eyes off the road for an average of five seconds. At 55 mph, that's like driving the length of a football field completely blind.

Texting ranks as the #1 mode of communication among teens and those between the ages of 12 and 17 text 60 times a day on average – up from 50 in 2009.

The number of messages exchanged monthly per teen in third quarter 2011 was 3, 417. That's an average of seven (7) messages per waking hour.

Help promote AT&T's *It Can Wait* campaign. To view the video, please go to: <http://itcanwait.com/videos/att-dont-text-while-driving-documentary>.

You'll never text while driving again.

The meeting was closed with the fun door prize drawing and the announcement that Dr. Edwin Rubel will be the speaker at our November 30<sup>th</sup>

**Reminder: Please hold your conversations during meetings. It is a common courtesy to our speakers and guests. A lot of us are already hard of hearing and need every advantage. Thank you.**

**Don't Text and Drive ...IT CAN WAIT.**

Learn more at [www.ITCANWAIT.com](http://www.ITCANWAIT.com) where you can take the pledge, download the DRIVE-MODE application, and get involved.



Remember *Boeing retirees* and family members are eligible for a 25% discount off your monthly wireless service and 35% off accessories. Stop by an **AT&T** store with proof of eligibility and start saving!

**BUSY B's Busy B's Busy B's**

The year is vastly fading, where is it going so fast anyway? Wish it would slow down a tad and give us a chance to catch our breaths, OUCH !

The Busy B's are working fast and furious, trying to accomplish as much as possible while we still have a little time left in the year 2012,

We have more THANK YOU's as usual.. our biggest is **BECKY** again, THANKS **BECKY** for ALL THE STUFFED ANIMALS and Dolls, so very much appreciated.

I tell you folks, if not for BECKY being such a super 'gleaner' we would not have much at all in our cabinets as far as stuffies go. She's a total wonder, a God given gift to us!

And before I forget, please note that the beautiful quilt (flowers appliquéd on) that Janice Hawes made is still being raffled off at the next meeting, one more month, and as most know, the profit from it will go to buy more batting for us to make even more quilts for the Child Haven, Vet's in hospitals and Cancer Alliance, where needed the most at this time. Tickets are \$1 each, please don't forget to put your name and phone number on back of the one to return for the drawing so we have that information should your ticket be the one drawn, Hey I bought some tickets, I want a chance at winning it also, it's special, made with Love.

As I mentioned last month if anyone has any yarn (4 ply) they would like to donate, we would be so happy to receive it. Our supply is quite low at this time.

A special THANK YOU to all the Busy B's who work so hard each week, some even work TWO days a week, and Janice worked until she went in for Surgery on her knee . We are thinking of you big time Janice, and want you to heal strong and swiftly. and

when you come back in January, we shall see a pain free Janice once again, that we look forward to big time! You are in our hearts... with love.

Next month the end of November we pack up items and pass them out to the five food banks. Then first time without Janice here to help us though it all, *we sure miss you and all you do Janice*. Get well quickly, we need you!

That's all I can think of if I missed someone, so sorry, brain not in gear.. If I forgot someone to thank, please forgive me, you are still appreciated.

So until next month, May God bless you with good health and happiness,

*Hugs from the Busy B's and Bambi*



A message from Bambi Lee and the *Busy Bees* Just take a look at this beautiful quilt! The *Busy Bees* are in dire need of a of batting for their beautiful

creative quilts, but have exhausted their supply of batting and to add insult to injury, are out of funds (for you non-sewers, this is the "stuffing" that goes inside to keep you warm!). Being the innovative ladies they are, they decided to have a raffle to raise the money. This beautiful quilt will go to the winning RAFFLE TICKET at the November 30<sup>th</sup> meeting! Please bring your hard earned cash and checks (tickets are only \$1.00!!) and participate largely to ensure the recipients of these lovely and thoughtful quilts can continue.

## MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT BEGAN OCTOBER 15 – START REVIEWING YOUR PLAN

By Kirk Larson

Social Security Western Washington Public Affairs Specialist

With more benefits, better choices and lower costs, the Social Security Administration is encouraging people with Medicare and their families to start reviewing drug and health plan coverage options for 2013. The Medicare Open Enrollment Period starts October 15 and will end until December 7. This will give seniors and people with disabilities more time to compare and find the best plan that meets their unique needs.

Using Medicare's Plan Finder – available at [www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan](http://www.medicare.gov/find-a-plan) – can help you find the best plan in your area. You can also see if your current plan is highly rated or may have some problems.

If you need help finding the right plan, you can contact the Statewide Health Insurance Benefits Advisors (SHIBA). SHIBA is part of the Washington State Insurance Commissioner's consumer protection services designed to help answer your health care questions. You can get free, unbiased assistance with Medicare health care choices. You can visit them at <http://www.insurance.wa.gov/shiba/index> or call 800-562-6900.

In 2012, there were a number of improvements to Medicare such as; additional benefits to people with Medicare include lower prescription drug costs through a 50 percent discount on covered brand name drugs in the coverage gap (also referred to as the "donut hole"), wellness checkups, and access to certain preventive care with no copayments. Visit [www.medicare.gov](http://www.medicare.gov) or [www.socialsecurity.gov](http://www.socialsecurity.gov) and see what changes are ahead for 2013.



As November 6, 2012 approaches, it's relevant for every eligible voter to make sure and get your ballot submitted in a timely fashion and be counted.

A lot of men and women have "given the ultimate gift" to ensure that we, citizens of the United States of America, have the freedom to vote.

### The speaker for the Friday November 30 meeting is Dr. Ed Rubel from the U of W Bloedel Hearing Research Center.

*Since so many of us have a hearing problem, I thought his research would be an interesting subject. His subject will be "Can you hear me now." Jim Beasley*

**Edwin W Rubel** was born in Chicago, Illinois, and was awarded the Ph.D. in Physiological Psychology from Michigan State University in 1969. After a very brief postdoctoral fellowship at UC Irvine, in Jan. 1971 he joined the faculties in the departments of Psychology and Biology at Yale University as an assistant and then associate professor. In 1978 he moved to the University of Virginia as Professor in the Departments of Otolaryngology and Physiology. Since 1986 he has been a professor in the Departments of Otolaryngology and Physiology and Biophysics, and Adjunct Professor in the Department of Psychology, at the University of Washington in Seattle. He has been Director of Research for the Dept. of Otolaryngology since 1986, and was the founding Director of the Virginia Merrill Bloedel Hearing Research Center at the University of Washington from 1989 to 1993. In 1991 he was named the Virginia Merrill Bloedel Professor of Hearing Science. He has published over 300 scientific papers and book chapters and edited 5 books. His honors include the Jacob Javits Neuroscience Investigator Award and the "Award of Merit" of the Association for Research in Otolaryngology. His research interests include development and plasticity of the central and peripheral auditory system, hair cell regeneration, and modulation of hair cell death. Most recently, he and his colleagues have developed a unique high,

throughput screening system using larvae zebrafish to search for genes and drugs that influence the integrity and resistance to of inner ear hair cells ototoxic injury. They now have 1 drug under development toward clinical use to prevent one form of hearing loss.

## Becky Wallick' Book Project

Dear Friends,

Some of you are already aware that I've been working on a book about my father and the other Boeing test pilots and flight engineers of the early commercial jet era (1950s-1980s). I'm calling it *Growing Up Boeing*.

I've created a Kickstarter project to seek crowd funding to finish the research and writing, and ultimately publish the book.

I would be grateful if you'd visit the Kickstarter page: <http://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1121575304/growing-up-boeing> You'll see a video and a detailed description of the project.

I've also created a *Growing Up Boeing* blog ( [www.growingupboeing.blogspot.com](http://www.growingupboeing.blogspot.com) ) and a *Growing Up Boeing* page on Facebook

( [www.facebook.com/growingupboeing](http://www.facebook.com/growingupboeing) ) for those of you already on Facebook. Ultimately, if the Kickstarter project is successful, I'll create a web site for the book. In the meantime, the blog and Facebook page will be quick ways for me to keep people updated on progress, post some photos and share some anecdotes. They are also ways for you to share with me photos and stories about Boeing and living in Seattle during the 1950s-1980s. Who knows – they may end up in the finished book.

Let me know what you think. I appreciate any assistance you can provide – financial, sharing the link with your friends and colleagues, or “liking” the Facebook page. Even just an attagirl is great. Crowd funding works best when a crowd hears about the project!

Everything helps. Thank you!

Rebecca

## School Supply Distribution Program

Fran Parker reported that the Hopelink school supply distribution did not go well, as expected. The policy of requiring all students to register by e-mail was very inappropriate because so many of the target families do not have computers. They gave about 1700 packages of supplies to food banks; last year Bluebills distributed over 5000. One of the very needy schools, Snoqualmie Valley got 1500 last year and 75 this year. Some schools got 1 or 2. Hopelink did not allow Bluebills to talk to the schools, apparently fearing that we would get too much credit. Bob Lambert will be sending a letter to Hopelink terminating our relationship.

The good news is Boeing is becoming increasingly interested in working with us next year.

### ...ALL PUN INTENDED...

- Two antenna met on a roof, fell in love and got married. The ceremony wasn't much, but the reception was excellent.
- Two Eskimos sitting in a kayak were chilly, so they lit a fire in the craft. Unsurprisingly it sank, proving once again that you can't have your kayak and heat it too.
- A woman has twins, and give them up for adoption. One of them goes to a family in Egypt, and is named “Ahmal.” The other goes to a family in Spain; they name him “Juan.” Years later, Juan sends a picture of himself to his birth mother. Upon receiving the picture, she tells her husband that she wishes she also had a picture of Ahmal. Her husband responds, “They're twins! If you've seen Juan you've seen Ahmal.”
- Two fish swim into a concrete wall. The one turns to the other and says “Dam!”
- I went to a seafood disco last week...and pulled a mussel.
- Deja Moo: the feeling that you've heard this bull before.

**Bluebills - Heritage Chapter**

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**Food Bank Schedule For 2012**

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

November	Issaquah	Eleanor Skinner
December	Des Moines	Dave & Mary Frantz

**Calendar of Events 2012**

<b>Nov 6</b>	<b>Annual Volunteer Dinner</b>
<b>Nov 15</b>	<b>Heritage Leadership Meeting</b>
<b>Nov 30</b>	<b>Chapter Monthly Meeting</b>
<b>Dec 13</b>	<b>Heritage Leadership Meeting</b>
<b>Dec 21</b>	<b>Christmas Potluck</b>
<b>Dec TBD</b>	<b>Christmas Potluck</b>

# Bluebills Heritage Chapter Monthly Meeting

Downtown Harley-Davidson  
3715 East Valley Road  
Renton, WA

## November 30, 2012

Social: 10:00 to 10:30 AM Meeting starts at 10:30 AM

**Speaker: Dr. Edwin W Rubel**

**Topic:** *"Can you hear me now."*

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 Downtown Harley-Davidson building at 3715 East Valley Road, Renton, WA. The door on the North side of the building is opened at **10:00 AM** sharp. Please enter the building only on the north side. We meet on the 2nd floor — there is an elevator on the right as you enter. The Social hour begins at that time. **PLEASE DO NOT ENTER BUILDING PRIOR TO 10:00 AM.**

## 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](mailto:bluebills@boeing.com) or bring to Bluebills monthly meeting



From the north take Highway 167 south to the SW 43rd St exit, turn right on SW 43rd St to the E Valley Rd and turn Right, go north to Downtown Harley-Davidson. From the south go north on Highway 167 take the SW 43rd St exit and turn left back over the freeway to the E Valley Rd and turn Right, Go north to Downtown Harley-Davidson. The meeting is in the Davidson building, 2nd floor. Signs are posted directing you to the meeting room.

