



The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

October 2020

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

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Co-Chairman's Report – October, 2020

By: Don Hilt

In the Rear View Mirror

I can't wait to see **ALL** of 2020 in the "Rear View Mirror," not that I expect much to change or improve in the next few months. The 2nd day of fall, September 23, ushered in a stormy day of wind and rain, and the November elections may create a storm of its own. Most of us now know that Zoom can be more than a close-up camera setting! We may not use it, but we know about it.

It's hard to believe we've been sheltering-in-place for six months. For emphasis, let me say it again, **SIX MONTHS**, except for trips to pick up things from the pharmacy, Costco, a few drive-thru restaurant orders, groceries we've ordered on-line. We've also had summer patio visits with our son and his wife – wearing masks and observing social distancing.

I sat down today and made a list of the **THINGS I believe have changed the most.**

Economic Impact: Lost business and closed businesses: Tourism, hotels, theatres, restaurants, bars, and retailers. We've had massive Unemployment Benefits fraud, estimated at up to \$650 million dollars, wild fires throughout the state, and rumors of Boeing Dreamliner production being moved to South Carolina.

Health and Social Impacts: We're trying our best to control new cases of Covid-19 and Covid-19 hospitalizations. There have been spikes in suicides, domestic violence, alcoholism, and drug abuse. We have a state mandate to wear masks. Many of us have missed family celebrations, holidays, been unable to spend time with friends, or attend planned social events and activities. Homelessness has grown and, at the same time, three homeless shelters have been closed in Seattle.

Police and Public Safety: We see police being abolished, defunded, reimagined, reviled, and assassinated. Seattle has been designated as one of three anarchist jurisdictions.

Violence: In major cities we've seen increasing lawlessness, rioting, arson, looting, murder, drive-by shootings, assaults, destroyed statues and defaced monuments and buildings. Tonight, September 23, it's happening in Louisville, Kentucky. It is not peaceful protesting. Two police officers have been shot.

Social Distancing Restrictions: Attendance restrictions have been placed on church services, weddings, graduations, banquets, conferences, etc. Just now, some students are returning to classroom learning.

Supply Shortages: How many of you have been affected by grocery/warehouse shortages for items like paper towels, toilet paper, disinfectant wipes, and hand sanitizers? I wonder if prescription drugs will be next.

Sports: We have seen empty stadiums with no football, basketball, baseball, or soccer fans, the summer Olympics cancelled, and sporadic closures of parks, playgrounds, and sport courts.

When will we feel safe to plan a trip, fly again, stay in a hotel, or book a cruise? Hard to say. In all, it's been a stressful time and I believe it will continue.

The following e-mail has been circulating on the internet, author unknown. I believe it's interesting and worth the time to read. I've added information, and edited its order of presentation and length.

I never dreamed that I might consider the prospect of not living in the United States, at least not the one I have known all my life. But I've realized that everything is about to change. No matter how I vote, no matter what I say, something has happened in our country – and our lives may never again be the same.

Nothing makes sense anymore, we seem to have no values, morals, civility, honor or respect. We seemingly live in an upside-down world. It's frightening to see we are perilously close to becoming a socialist country. That's not why we've lost "treasure" fighting for our freedoms.

Here are some examples:

Russians influencing our elections are bad, but illegal immigrants voting in our elections are good.
People who have never owned slaves should pay slavery reparations to people who have never been slaves.

People who want to legally immigrate to the United States must go through a rigorous vetting process, but anyone who jumps the southern fence is welcome.

People who have never been to college should pay the debts of college students who took out huge loans for their degrees.

\$15-20 billion for border security is too expensive, but \$1.5 trillion for free health care is not.

Criminals are caught-and-released to hurt more people (often without posting bail) but stopping them is bad - because it violates THEIR rights.

Some people are held responsible for things that happened before they were born, and others are not held responsible for what they are doing right now.

And pointing out this hypocrisy makes us "racists?"

I believe people are right when they say this will be the most important election in our lifetime. The choice is yours. Make it wisely.

Don

Chapter News

POP TO TABS and ALUMINUM CANS COLLECTION

By Micki Brown & Dick Beham

On Thursday September 10 we set-up collection of Aluminum Pop Tops and crushed Cans in the Renton Red Lion parking lot.. Our thanks to Doug Hoople, Meri England, and Oscar Olague for coming by and delivering their aluminum for recycle. The Bluebill collection will be added to that of area Square Dancers for recycling and donation to Northwest Kidney Center.



From fellow Bluebills!

Lana Mitsules

Here is a picture of my 80th birthday party, July 12.



Shown are my sister Gwen Rhodes, me, my daughters Shawn and Megan.

Here are some dinner plate sized Dahlias from my garden.



Helen Lowe

Hi:

Wish I had something to tell. Been getting caught up on surgeries is about all. Nothing to pass on.

Will be happy when things improve.

Richard Vaughn



Norma Vaughn had a Birthday September 6th and meets her great granddaughter for the first time.

We had a wonderful time getting acquainted.

Janice Hawes

Even though the Busy B's haven't been meeting, quilting still goes on. Lana and I met Lisa at the office last

week and watched in awe as she unloaded 38 quilts!! Such beautiful quilts too. She does such creative and wonderful work.

I had been feeling good about the mere 15 quilts I made! Sibyl has come in to work independently on quilts and Lana has made, I don't know how many Masks and done lots of work on her yards.

Lonnie donated many bags of stuffed animals since she had been downsizing to prepare for her move to Judson Point.

Miss seeing everyone in the office and at our monthly meetings.

Stay safe.

Oscar Olague,

from editor

Oscar while unable to volunteer at Children's during the COVID-19 pandemic has found other pursuits. He finished off the limited season of Boeing Retirees X-Outs league play in good fashion, with a hole in one on the Par 3, 5th hole at The Willows—Coyote in August. On the September Field Day Event he finished with 1st Low Gross, 2nd Low Net, and 3rd Least Putts in his division. Congratulations Oscar!

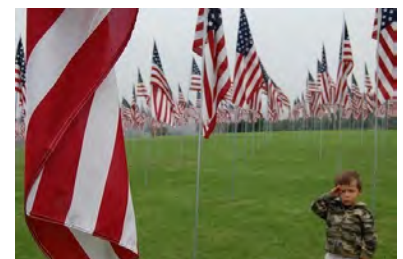
Lonnie & Heinz

Our response to Miki's input from last newsletter ...about anniversaries and birthdays – the trip around the sun:

Since February 2020,

BIRTHDAY: Heinz Gehlhaar, March 31 (no pics), got take out from Red Lobster to savor at my house. Yum!

BIRTHDAY: Lonnie Stevenson, May 30. the original Memorial day. (no pics) but again take out from Red Lobster YUM!



Anniversaries

August 29 2020: 4th anniversary of First date of Heinz & Lonnie, Dinner at Europa, Covington.

Sept 02, 2020: Two Month-anniversary of OUR move into Judson Park Retirement community In Des Moines WA. Top deck, right side. We are loving it.

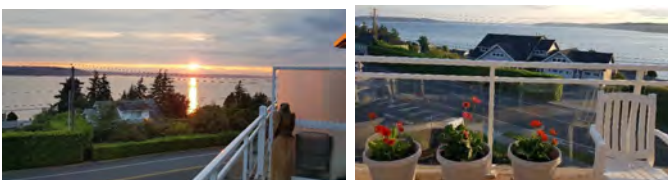


And we are still ‘seen-agers’.

Always Think positive thoughts, always smile because it happened, not because it’s over.

Move & New Experiences...

I am the luckiest guy in the world. I got really connected with a great friend of my long-departed wife and I. One thing led to another and soon we got to be a couple and she accepted to be my fiancé. And she agreed to join me in the move to Judson Park, a Retirement Center in Des Moines, WA.



And so, since real weddings were not allowed, we became ‘seen-agers’ and finally, on July 2, we moved into Judson Park. What a neat place. Two bedrooms, Kitchen and Dining Room; big, long balcony with great view of the Olympic Mountains and the South Sound.

What an experience!! Her stuff and my stuff slowly became our stuff; we really got to know each other. Like for instance, in the kitchen we have this pot with all sort of OUR



cooking utensils.

“What are all of those?” I ask.

“Oh, those are my tools for my fine cooking which I will do for you”



“And those little things hanging from the side, what are they?” I ask.

“Oh, those are special measuring spoons. Very concise spoons too.”

“And what recipes do you use those for?” I ask.

“They are just made for fixing your liquor drinks”

Like I said: I am the luckiest guy in the world.

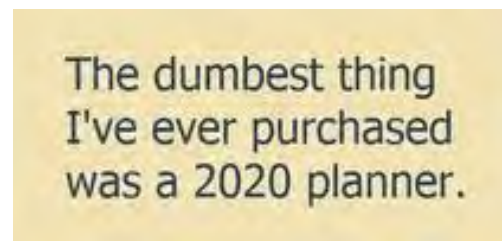
Heinz Gehlhaar & Lonnie Stevenson
Judson Park, Des Moines WA

Dick & Earlene Beham

We continue to stay close to home but it too comes with it’s unique challenges and experiences. We get out and walk when we can but the smoke kept everyone pretty much in. You didn’t see the dog walkers or families out walking and visiting as usual, either.

We are nearly finished with the canning and freezing of our garden harvest. Golf, limited as it was, is nearing a close for us fairweather golfers, but we still have our online ZOOM exercises three days a week.

Our ZOOM exercises too have had their challenges. For instance last Thursday our instructor had to accompany her husband on a hurried trip to Flagstaff, AR. So on Friday she conducted our ZOOM class from the parking lot at a McDonalds Drive In, in Utah. This was not without its humor and laughs, but we got through it. She is to return by Monday but if she doesn’t make it we may hold class from who knows where. You will have to wait until next month for the answer to that outcome.





Comments from Co-Chair Doug Hoople

Saturday September 26th

I was just about to write, “well here we are in for another month of COVID-19 quarantine”.

Then I went down to Renton to volunteer with VFW Post 1263 as they hosted their weekly free Saturday breakfast for their neighbors who are in need for a little nutritional help. I wanted to volunteer as a Boeing Bluebill since they have been our host for our monthly meetings. (Providing us with a free meeting place for quite a while.) Providing a little pay back.

I asked their Post Commander about restarting our meetings. He stated: NO PROBLEM. The Governor will let us have a business meeting with all who are able to attend.

So great news we can get back to having a monthly meeting. ***I've spoken with our other Co-Chairs and they are in agreement that we should have a meeting in October.***

Now that's good news and bad news. We still don't know exactly what support we can expect from Boeing. We do know there is currently no financial support. We don't know how many of our members are ready to go out in public and engage in social distancing in a meeting room.

So, I'd like to invite all of you to attend, to bring your views of what you think the future of the Boeing Bluebills should be. Share in coffee and donuts (donuts on me for this meeting). Talk to your fellow Bluebills. Discuss your ideas for our future direction.

We will not have a speaker. Let's use this time to get reacquainted. Gather those ideas for our future and begin to plot out our actions and activities.

For those of you who are not ready to get out in public before there is a vaccine, stay home but communicate to one of your Co-Chairs your intention to stay involved with Bluebills in the future and any ideas for us to discuss. We also have the possibility of connecting our meetings up to ZOOM and have you attend safely from your home.

Right now is a critical point for us. Boeing support is unknown, the COVID-19 virus is still with us. We haven't been meeting for many months. Involvement of existing Bluebills members is unknown. The future is something we should all have input, concern and a vote. Make your intentions known, help us determine the future of our group.

In closing, as you think about attending the meeting and any inputs you may have, I think it's a good time to remember the original purpose of our program: “The purpose of the Bluebills is to provide opportunities for Boeing retirees and their spouses to use their time, energy, skills. Knowledge and experience to improve the quality of life in their respective communities and thereby to enhance their own lives.”

It will be good to see you all again on **October 30 in Renton at the VFW.**

(Continued on page 6)

First Flight Around the World

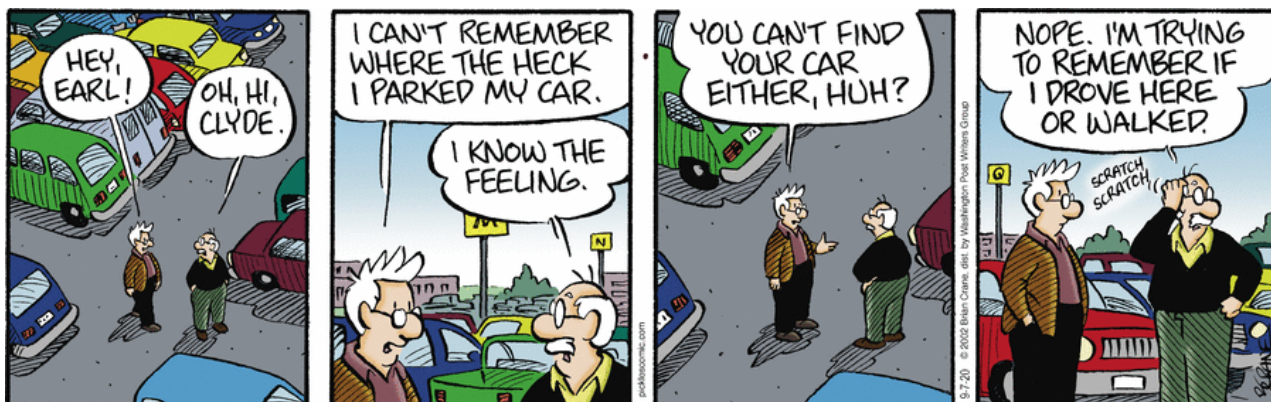
On April 6, 1924, eight U.S. Army Air Service pilots and mechanics in four airplanes left Seattle, Washington, to carry out the first circumnavigation of the globe by air. They completed the journey 175 days later on September 28, after making 74 stops and covering about 27,550 miles.

The airplanes were named for American cities and carried a flight number: *Seattle* (1), *Chicago* (2), *Boston* (3), and *New Orleans* (4). They flew over the Pacific, Indian, and Atlantic oceans and encountered climatic extremes from arctic to tropical. Only the *Chicago*, flown by Lts. Lowell Smith and Leslie Arnold, and the *New Orleans*, flown by Lts. Erik Nelson and John Harding Jr., completed the entire journey.



The *Chicago*, *Boston II*, and *New Orleans* head toward Mitchel Field, Long Island, outside New York City on September 8, 1924.

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)



THE NEW FILM 'KISS THE GROUND' WILL HAVE YOU DOING JUST THAT

Carbon farming is the future, says this new documentary timed to Earth Day.



By INGRID ABRAMOVITCH
MAR 13, 2020



From their picturesque five-acre avocado ranch in Ojai, California, Josh Tickell and Rebecca Harrell Tickell have become darlings of the environmental movement via the award-winning documentaries and feature films they have written and directed with their production company, [Big Picture Ranch](#). These titles include *Good Fortune*, *Pump*, *The Big Fix*, and *Fuel*; for the latter, they drove across the country in a car powered by algae gasoline.

Now the husband-and-wife team are set to debut their latest film, [Kiss the Ground](#), a documentary about the movement to reverse climate change by pulling carbon out of the air and putting it back into the soil. (The film's world premiere had been scheduled for April 22—the 50th anniversary of Earth Day—at the [Tribeca Film Festival](#) in New York City, but the festival is currently on hold due to the coronavirus pandemic.) Narrated by Woody Harrelson, *Kiss the Ground* spotlights the environmentalists and farmers who are leading the movement across the globe and features such eco-minded celebrities as Gisele Bündchen, Tom Brady, and Patricia Arquette. (Rebecca Tickell is herself a former actress—she starred in the Christmas movie [Prancer](#) when she was just nine years old.

We asked the Tickells about the new documentary and why they think carbon farming can be a powerful tool for reversing climate change.

For the full interview and more information go to <https://www.elledecor.com/life-culture/a31282524/earth-day-movie-kiss-the-ground/>.





Calendar of Events 2020

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

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

Food Bank Schedule For 2020

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	Lonnie Stevenson
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	Des Moines	Lonnie Stevenson
December	Issaquah	Eleanor Skinner

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting

“MEETINGS SUSPENDED DUE TO COVID-19”

“SEE BREAKING NEWS ALERT”

IN THIS MONTH’S NEWSLETTER

OCT. 30TH, 10:00 AM Social, 10:30—12:00N Meeting

VFW Post 1263 Renton

Website: vfw1263.org

- **Address: 416 Burnett Ave S, Renton, WA 98057**

Phone: (425) 255-9010

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