

BLUEBILL FLYER

April 2021



Olympic Peninsula Bluebill Newsletter Serving Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap Counties



Chair Barbara
Berthiaume

From the Chair By Barbara Berthiaume



Co-Chair
Needed

For those of you who may not know, Myron and Valeria Vogt are moving to Atlanta to be closer to their son. Although we all know good things do not last forever, it was still a shock to hear that they are flying out in mid-April. When we think about the Bluebills, we think of Myron and when we think of Myron, we think of the Bluebills. It is definitely a time of transition for the Bluebills as we have been so used to Myron's leadership which has provided the strong foundation we enjoy today. Over the past year, Myron has quietly been encouraging members to assume more areas of responsibility. Many Bluebills have stepped up to help out and I am confident that we will continue the legacy that Myron has left us. We wish Myron and Valeria safe travels and a heartfelt thank you for all they have done in our community. They will be missed!

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So Long, Farewell, Auf Wiedersehen, Good-bye...

A Tribute to Myron and Valeria Vogt

By Karen Griffith



There are some people who bring into a community endless goodwill, talents and energy. When those same people leave that community, the loss is almost immeasurable. Such is the legacy of The Vogt's – Myron and Valeria. They are leaving Port Ludlow in mid-April to move to Atlanta to be closer to family.

They have been active in Port Ludlow and surrounding areas since the late nineties. Myron was an early supporter of the Olympic Peninsula Chapter of the Boeing Bluebills. Valeria was a “Founding Mother” of the Community Enrichment Alliance (CEA). Both organizations have brought good works to our area.

When I asked Pat Lohrey, another founding member of CEA what contributions Valeria made to the organization, she said: “How many

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pages do you want? We wouldn't have survived without her. She was always the "go-to" person when we needed anything put on paper. She is a wizard with Publisher and created beautiful booklets for the Home Tour and the Silent Auction. She was always very generous with her time without complaining - she always had a "can-do" attitude."

Vicki Tallerico, former president of CEA noted that Valeria was responsible for designing and printing all required paper working – mainly responsible for the production of the graphic art for all flyers and posters for the events held over the year.

Shirley Davies–Owens, a long-time friend of Valeria's, reminded me that nobody had a sense of humor like Val. She could keep you in stitches relating the experiences she had living all around the world and bringing up her three beautiful children in places like Denmark, Japan, Ireland and Canada. Eline Lybarger, another friend, said that Valeria must have always had a guardian angel watching over her. And that was a good thing as Valeria joined the Peace Corps where she lived in the jungle of Peru in her early twenties. So many challenges that she handled so skillfully!

Myron's platform to shine so bright in our community came primarily through the Boeing Bluebills, a volunteer organization which seeks to tap into the talents and energies of the Boeing retirees and others in order to help the less fortunate in our area. Myron joined the group shortly after moving here and took an early leadership position. The group started small but has since branched out, under Myron's guidance, to include Kitsap and Clallam counties as well as Jefferson.

Much of Myron's work was with the Builder's Project, building ramps and installing grab bars to make homes safer. You can't drive through our area without seeing the Bluebill ramps that our group built in front of many homes. Bob Keever remarked that Myron's "Tribal Knowledge" helped the builders carry out their mission. Myron made sure that there was a Builder's Team in each of the three counties.

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Charlie Johnson, Clallam County Coordinator, told me: “Myron and Valeria were the Flesh and Blood of the Clallam County Bluebills. They were the heart that pumped the ‘want-to’ into us all to help the less fortunate and they were the lungs that moved us to complete our missions. Without them, the residents of Clallam County would not have had the opportunity to enjoy the hundreds of thousands of dollars in benefits Myron and Valeria coordinated through the Builders Program, Backpacks for Kids, World Vision Essential Supplies, School Supplies, and STEM Programs. Their endless desire and energy set an example for all of us. On behalf of all the present and past Clallam County Bluebills, thank you Myron and Valeria for all you have contributed to the people of Clallam County to make this County a better and safer place to live.”

Robert Chanpong wrote: “Myron is one of the people you meet in the course of your life who quietly allows you to realize that you can make a difference in this world. I met Myron just 5 years ago on the golf course playing with the Early Bird Golf group. At first Myron seemed distant, but then I was a newcomer to the group. My golf needed work, but Myron was always there with a congratulatory comment when I made a good shot. Eventually Myron, who really never spoke much, said to me that I should join the Bluebills. Not fully knowing what it was about, except the casual conversation about building ramps for those in need, I agreed.

“Myron asked me shortly after to meet him at 8:00 am at the SBCA parking lot to talk about grab bar installations. I thought that he was going to talk me through an installation, but when I arrived, he said, ‘Get into the van’. Off we went, and I learned on-the-job how he installed grab bars. And that was the beginning of my career with the Bluebills: installing grab bars, building ramps, helping with the Bluebills Golf Tournament, fund raising and assisting the Chimacum School with their fledgling Robotics program.

“I have really appreciated how Myron can organize, delegate and advise. His attitude is one of calm and assurance. He can be encouraging, and still let you take charge. Nothing seems to be too big of a problem that it cannot be solved. He dispenses advice in a way that you seem to be thinking of solutions yourself. He cares and quietly champions what we do

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to help those in need. You don't have to be asked, because volunteering becomes natural around Myron. And that's why I say he quietly showed me that I can make a difference in this world where it counts. Thank you, Myron. And best wishes to you and Val."

Starting out with a partnership with Habitat for Humanity, the Bluebill "reach" eventually included Catholic Community Services, REPAH, OlyCap, Chimacum School Backpacks for Kids, World Vision Essential Supplies, Dove House, Museum of Flight, Tri-Area Food Bank, Bayside Housing, YMCA Feeding Program.

Laura and Ray Paul commented on their departure: "After we moved here, we looked for places to get involved to meet people in the area. Bluebills and Myron Vogt were recommended and shortly Ray was working on ramps and I was working with another newcomer putting together the Bluebill socials. It was a great way to meet people. Myron is a great leader, delegating and letting us carry it out. I also enjoyed getting to know Val and hearing all her stories of their life in other countries. She is a great storyteller. "

Kathy Morgan from OlyCap said, "Farewell to my old friends, Myron and Valeria. I would like to thank you on behalf of OlyCap and REPAH for the generous amount of time you have spent so that less fortunate folks that need help received help. Myron does not know the word NO; his reply is 'let me figure it out and we can help'! So many things should be said at their departure that would describe how indebted to you we are, but there would never be enough room."

Bekka Bloom of Dove House observed: "Myron and Val have been beloved supporters of Dove House for many years. We are incredibly grateful for their enthusiasm and leadership for the golf tournament - our most important fundraising event each year. Their work with the Bluebills goes well beyond these activities including building ramps and providing supplies from World Vision - all of which are invaluable for our clients. They have been amazing role models of true generosity and how to get things done and we all follow their example. Val and Myron: We send you both heartfelt best wishes in your new home - we will miss you!"

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Rachel Peterson, our representative from Boeing says: “Myron has been an incredible and highly effective partner who has guided the tremendous work done by the Bluebill’s OlyPen Chapter to new heights. His enthusiasm, compassion, and smile will be missed, and we wish him the best of luck as he embarks on a new chapter.”

We know that many community groups have honored Myron for all his contributions, such as Hearts of Service and Citizen of the year, but no one award can comprehensively cover the magnitude of community work that Myron selflessly did over the years in Port Ludlow.

And so, as we bid these two wonderful people adieu, may we think of the thoughts of Walter Reuther, American leader of organized labor and civil rights activist: “There is no greater calling than to serve your fellow man. There is no greater contribution than to help the weak. There is no greater satisfaction than to have done it well. There is no power in the world that can stop the forward march of free men and women when they are joined in the solidarity of human brotherhood.”

May you be enfolded into the love of your family in your new home!





GOLFERS

SAVE THE DATE!

Friday, August 27, 2021

Bluebills

Dove House Benefit Golf Tournament

Port Ludlow players - Members - \$65

Non Members - \$110

Cost includes: Golf cart, box lunch, winner prizes, awards ceremony with spaghetti dinner, free wine and beer bar.

Sign-up forms will be available at the Pro Shop starting in July.

Or, send players' names and check made out to Dove House.

Dove House, 1045 10th St., Port Townsend, WA 98368

**For more information: Robert Chanpong, 925-360-4360,
chanpr@hotmail.com**

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE HURTS!

JEFFERSON COUNTY NEEDS YOUR HELP.

NO MORE

TOGETHER WE CAN END DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND SEXUAL ASSAULT.

Dove House Benefit Golf Tournament
Friday, August 27, 2021

Port Ludlow Golf Course, Port Ludlow, WA

Be a player or a sponsor






Call: Robert Chanpong 925 360-4360 or
Barbara Berthiaume 360 437-0423

A Boeing Bluebill Sponsored Event

April Calendar

- April 4** **Easter**
- April 13** **WV Jefferson County Pick up- 9:00 AM in Fife**
 Unload and inventory- 11:30 at Chimacum Warehouse
- April 20** **WV Jefferson County Pick- 9:30 at Chimacum Warehouse**
- April 22** **Earth Day**
- April 23** **WV Jefferson County Delivery- 9:30 at Chimacum Warehouse**

April 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4		5	6	7	8	9
10						
11	12	13		14	15	16
17						
18	19	20		21	22	
23						
24						
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Builders' Pages

JeffCo Builders

Bluebills Build Ramps for Peter's Place

The Bluebills received a special request in February. In Myron's following call for builders:

"Folks, many of you are probably aware of the small house village built for the homeless at the Methodist Church in Port Hadlock. The facility has common toilets, bathing and eating buildings. Each of these needs a handicap accessible ramp. The ramps will be 16' long to an existing landing. See the attached pictures. 16' is a little steep but we don't want to have the ramp take up too much space. I would like to build these ramps the first week in March.

Would you please let me know if you can help on Wed, March 3.

Start at 9:00. Address is 130 Church Rd, just off Chimacum Rd, Port Hadlock. We can use all that show up. I can't do any lifting so I will be looking for help to get this organized. Please let me know. Many of us will have had our shots by then but plan to wear a mask.

Thanks, Myron"

On March 3rd, 2 ramps were completed with Myron supervising the team of John Fillers, Todd Knoblock, and Dan Nieuwsma. On the following day Mark Cattabriga, John Fillers, Todd Knoblock, and Dan Nieuwsma completed the third ramp. The Peninsula Daily News wrote a nice article about Peter's Place including a bit about the Bluebill's assistance, including a picture of Dan's best side. A link to that article is given below.

<https://www.peninsuladailynews.com/news/self-governance-hallmark-of-peters-place/>

See the following page for photos.

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Todd Knoblock and John Fillers conducting structural integrity testing on the lavatory/shower facility ramps.



The three completed ramps. Two for the lavatory trailer and one for the kitchen trailer. Bluebills Todd Knoblock, John Fillers and Mark Cattabriga. Dan Nieuwsma took the photo.

Kitsap Builders

Priority Ramp

We try to make it a priority when someone is in the hospital or rehab and they can't come home until there is a means to get safely in and out of the house. Sometimes we get little advance notice of the need for a wheelchair ramp.

A nurse was aware of our Bluebills Builders services because of a presentation we made during a Fall Prevention seminar at Harrison (now St. Michael) hospital in Silverdale. She advised the family of a client in need to contact us, which they did. Within an hour, Catholic Community Services, whom we partner with, did the intake paperwork. We performed a site survey the following day, and were able to get a ramp put in a couple days later.



Dangerous concrete steps had no railing.



Greg DeVault, John White, and Bob Keever with the completed ramp.

Builders Data

Folks,

For the past number of years I have been one of the focal points for receiving requests for Bluebills' assistance with ramps, grab bars, railings and other minor improvements that make a home safer and easier to access.

My wife and I are moving to Atlanta in mid-April. Requests for Bluebill help should now be directed the following:

Jefferson County and Clallam Co.

Robert Chanpong: 925-360-4360 chanpr@hotmail.com

We are active in Jefferson Co. but Clallam Co has been pretty well closed due to COVID. We will evaluate each request based on the ability of Bluebills to handle the work-load.

Kitsap County

Bob Keever: 360-779-1203 stableguy@hotmail.com

Please include with each request:

Name, address, phone number and what needs to be done.

Be aware that we partner with Catholic Community Services on these jobs so the client will be contacted by them.

When your request is received (email preferred.) it is logged in and assigned to a Bluebill who should be contacting you within a week.

Bluebills charge nothing for labor but the client is expected to cover the cost of any material. If this is a problem, let us know and we will try to find a solution. Also, for your info, Bluebills will provide and install grab bars for \$25 each.

Any questions, contact one of the above. For more information on Bluebills go to Bluebills.org.

Myron Vogt



World Vision

Mike and Barbara Burke will be coordinating World Vision activities for the Bluebills. Check the roster at the end of the Flyer for their contact information. We can always use help!



From the Wayback Machine

Taken from the very first (that the editor could find)
Olympic Peninsula Bluebills newsletter, August, 1998

OLYMPIC PENINSULA BLUEBILLS

serving Boeing, McDonnell Douglas and Rockwell retirees in Jefferson and Clallam Counties

August 1998

The August meeting was held at the Bay Club in Port Ludlow. We had three guests from Seattle. Howard Syder, Dale Smith and John Luebke.

Jodi Jerrell from the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault Program also spoke.

The big event was the presentation of the charter. We are now official Bluebills.

Gene and Mary Pogue and Pete and Barbara West are our new project coordinators for the Clallam County Area.

The "coffee can" collected \$54.00. So we're doing pretty well there.

HAVE YOU REPORTED YOUR VOLUNTEER HOURS?



REMEMBER: YOU CAN REPORT ANY VOLUNTEER HOURS! NOT JUST THE HOURS YOU WORK FOR BLUEBILLS. CHURCH, SCHOOL, COMMUNITY~ ALL OF THESE HOURS COUNT TOO!

EMAIL YOUR HOURS TO Judy McCay:
jimmccay@cablespeed.com

Volunteer hours for February, 2021

40 volunteers reported 612 hours. That is 21% of the Bluebill membership reporting hours for February.

April Birthdays

SAM ROBERTS	04/21
TIMM KELLY	04/03
BILL SHAIN	04/06
KATHLEEN RODEN	04/08
DALE GLIDEWELL	04/11
CLINT WEBB	04/14
BOB REASONER	04/16
ALANA MORRIS	04/17
CHIP GODFREY	04/20
ANITA KNAPP	04/21
JACK MCKAY	04/23
AUDREY WITSOE	04/24
ANN GAGNIER	04/29



Happy Birthday!

OFFICERS

CHAIR ~ Barbara Berthiaume barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com

CO-CHAIR ~ Vacant

1st VICE CHAIR ~ Jo Nieuwsma rocketmama@verizon.net

2nd VICE CHAIR ~ Bob Keever stableguy@hotmail.com

PROGRAM CHAIRS

Builders Robert Chanpong chanpr@hotmai.com

Regional Coordinators

Clallam Co. Charlie Johnson racer6j@hotmail.com

Jefferson Co. Robert Chanpong chanpr@hotmai.com

Kitsap Co. Bob Keever stableguy@hotmail.com

Education David Jackson david.jackson@wavecable.com

Twyla Jackson twyla.jackson@wavecable.com

The Flyer Jim Mueller jimmueller630@gmail.com

Historian Jack Randall zjackrandall@gmail.com

Hours Judy McCay jmmccay@cablespeed.com

Membership Calvin Williams willica05@gmail.com

Participation Rick Smith richard.j.smith@edwardjones.com

Photography Peggy Lee Flentie flentie@me.com

Publicity Barbara Berthiaume barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com

Web site Ted Muralt bluebill@clallambay.net

World Vision Essential Supplies

Mike and Barbara Burke mikebarb1975@centurylink.net

World Vision School Supply Distribution

Ed Berthiaume edberthiaume@gmail.com

World Vision Regional Coordinators

Clallam Co. John Behrens JEBWA52@aol.com

Karen Easterly-Behrens KAEB55@aol.com

Jefferson Co. Mike and Barb Burke mikebarb1975@centurylink.net

Hood Canal Bill and Candy Anstiss billandcandya@gmail.com

Kitsap Co. Calvin Williams willica05@gmail.com

School Weekend Feeding Program

Chimacum School Barbara Berthiaume barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com

Quilcene & Brinnon Bonnie Douglass lbouglass@wildblue.com

Sequim Schools Charlie Johnson racer6j@hotmail.com

Fall Prevention Dave Parrish parrishdav@aol.com

Regional Coordinators

Clallam Co. Charlie Johnson racer6j@hotmail.com

Jefferson Co. Dave Parrish parishdav@aol.com

Kitsap Co. Bob Keever stableguy@hotmail.com

Dove House Tournament

Barbara Berthiaume barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com

Robert Chanpong chanpr@hotmai.com

Barbara Burke mikebarb1975@centurylink.net

Rick Smith richard.j.smith@edwardjones.com

Jefferson Co. Homeless / Dove House Support

Laura Paul rllep@yahoo.com