



# The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills  
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

June 2017

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

VOLUME 23 ISSUE 06

## Chairman's Corner

By Jim Orchekowsky



This Year's Theme

### "GET INVOLVED"

Bluebills is for You and Me!

*To make it effective the Bluebills family need your THREAD of effort to stitch it together. Check the wonderful list of volunteers who share their time to have a great Heritage Chapter.*

*We have a few openings that need to be filled to keep the chapter ready to fill the needs of other Retirees plus others of all levels of life. Wow what an opportunity!*

*Heritage had five positions open last month two of which have been filled:*

- *Special Projects—Richard Vaughn*
- *Public Relations—Lonnie Stevenson*

*Open :*

- *Education Chairman*
- *Volunteer Coordinator*
- *Retiree Assistance*

*I would like someone to serve as coordinator to oversee the Bluebills volunteer informational effort at the Puyallup Fair in September 2017. There are a number of volunteers interested in participating but we are in desperate need of a Coordinator.*

*Be sure to turn in all of your Volunteer Hours as it validates our Volunteer efforts as Bluebills.*

*Bring non-perishable food or monetary donations to our monthly Chapter Meetings for the Food Banks.*



## May Chapter Meeting Recap

By Mary Ulibarri

Jim Orhekowsky opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Bill Anardi was the only May birthday in attendance, with no anniversaries and no new members. Jim pointed out again the need for members to fill some vacant Heritage Chapter positions, such as Volunteer Coordinator, Retiree Assistance, Education. Give it a try, folks you'll like it. He mentioned Lonnie Stevenson is doing very well after her surgery and is stepping into the position of Public Relations coordinator.



Oscar Olague acknowledged the good works of the Busy Bs donating eight blankets and 18 medical dolls to the Seattle Cancer Care Alliance. He brought a couple of the medical dolls to explain how they are used to describe to the children a bit about their medical procedure. Thank you, Oscar and the Busy Bs.

He also suggested members brighten Zip Zuther's day by sending a card to him at: Providence Mount St. Vincent, 4831 35<sup>th</sup> Ave. SW, Seattle, WA 98126.

Jim called attention to a volunteer opportunity from now until September 4 at the Pacific Science Center featuring the Terracotta Warriors of the First Emperor exhibition. If you are interested, go to [www.pacsci.org/volunteers](http://www.pacsci.org/volunteers) or call 206-443-2868.

The subject of manning a booth at the Washington State Fair in Puyallup this Fall was discussed. A number of members were interested in participating, but a coordinator is desperately needed to oversee the project. The visibility for the Bluebills has been worthwhile in the past – let's keep it going.

Jim Beasley then introduced the speaker Wesley Wenhardt, Executive Director, Foss Waterway Seaport in Tacoma. Since 2013, Wesley brings his enthusiasm and extensive experience in the development and leadership of na-

tionally and internationally regarded museums and cultural attractions to the Foss Waterway Seaport. He has held executive positions with the several auspicious museums in Canada, New Zealand, and The Tech Museum of Innovation in Silicon Valley, California. His work has taken him around the world, planning, opening and revitalizing heritage sites, museums, science centers and IMAX theatres in major cities.

Wesley is a graduate of the University of Alberta, Canada with a degree in Resource Planning and has completed the Management Leadership course at the Getty Institute in Los Angeles.

With the help of a great power point presentation, Wesley proceeded to explain why the Foss Waterway Seaport is such a gem. By realizing the restoration and renovation of the historic Balfour Dock Building that transforms it into a year-around heated facility and using the Balfour Dock Building, docks and adjacent areas as a public facility, visitors will enjoy the rich maritime history of the Tacoma community and the region through interpretation, education, and events that tell the stories of a collective past, present and future. These stories will celebrate:

### The Natural Environment

Marine and environmental science fostering an understanding of Puget Sound and the surrounding mountains, valleys, and rivers.

The balance of humanity and nature and the degradation and rebirth of the Thea Foss Waterway and Commencement Bay.

### People of the Region

The story of human progress; the Native Americans of the region, the settlers and their varied ethnic backgrounds, the laborers who built and worked on the waterfront, the citizens of today who live and work on the waterfront and our children who represent our future.

### Maritime and Boating History



Fishing, boat building and maritime transportation of people and goods.

### Commerce and Trade

Stories of the water, the docks and the shore.

Rails to Sails which details how the early railroads in the Puget Sound played a critical role in linking Tacoma, the Northwest and the United States to the rest of the world.

### Unique Stories of Tacoma

The Foss Family Story, the Willits Story, the story of the Balfour Building, the ethnic richness of the region, and the people of the waterfront.

Visitors to the Seaport will return because of their intellectual curiosity about and their emotional attachment to the stories told through multi-dimensional and multi-sensory encounters with the past, the present, and the future that include:

- Historic artifacts and boats and education programs that put students and adults both in the classroom and on the water "doing and discovering."
- Permanent, rotating and transient exhibits that are visual and three dimensional, hands-on, and invite visitors into the experience through sight, sound, smell, touch and emotion and allow visitors to direct their own experience.
- A true "feel" for the historic Balfour Dock Building and the waterfront.

The mission of the Seaport is to celebrate Tacoma's rich maritime heritage. Located on the waterfront in a century-old wooden wheat warehouse, built for cargo arriving by rail and departing by sail during the early years of Tacoma. The Seaport is Puget Sound's premier maritime heritage, education and event center where families, students and entire communities come to discover, explore, work and play; and a great place to hold a wedding.

The development partners of this project—the Foss Waterway Seaport and the Foss Waterway Development Authority—are dedicated to creating a venue that will continue to bring the downtown waterfront to life as a place for everyone.

### Explore the Activities

- Maritime Heritage Exhibits
- Heritage Boat Shop
- Land and Boat Based Education Programs
- Guest Boat Moorage
- Event Rental Space

Wesley stated the Seaport is always looking for interested volunteers and encouraged the members to consider it. For more information on hours, admission, directions and upcoming events, go to:

[www.fosswaterwayseaport.org](http://www.fosswaterwayseaport.org).

After many relevant and interesting questions, Wesley shared a couple of handouts and encouraged everyone to visit the Foss Waterway Seaport.

Jim then concluded the meeting with the door prize drawing and wished the audience a great weekend.



### Busy B's

by Janice Hawes

Hi Bluebills, the following was written by one of our Busy B's, Sibyl Fletcher.

**Short story:** *I didn't win the quilt block contest.*

**Long story:** I love to quilt! Last summer, while heading home from a weekend in eastern Washington, my husband and I pulled into the I-90 rest stop at Indian John Hill. I asked the volunteer who was serving coffee for what organization he was raising funds. He told me it was a youth fiddling event in Union Gap, Washington (near Yakima). Arriving home, I searched the internet and found the event called "Play the Gap." It sounded right up my alley: fiddle contests, a quilt block contest, vintage trailer rally, classic cars and kids activities. In February, I contacted the organizer to reserve a camping spot for our vintage trailer for the following May. I also requested six quilt block kits - one for me and five for my grandchildren.

Over the winter and spring, I worked on designing my quilt block. The requirements were few, and it had

(Continued on page 4)

to be a specific size. Other than that, the sky was the limit! The theme for the event was "A Slice of Americana." What would YOU design? I settled on mom, apple pie and baseball! My grandkids - ages 3 to 8 - were helped with the design and sewing of their blocks. Most of them loved the process. You never know what will strike the fancy of a child, right? I mailed all of them back to the event coordinator ... and waited for the day of the contest, May 20.

On May 19, my husband and four of the grandkids (and their parents) drove to Union Gap for the event. We pulled up beside other vintage trailers, all decked out in their vintage finery: pink flamingos, gold-speckled Formica and brightly striped awnings. So fun to look at all the trimmings!

The next day, the quilt blocks were on display. All six of ours were there, and all event attendees had the opportunity to vote for the People's Choice award. There were traditional blocks, funky blocks, a chicken, a cat, and Sunbonnet Sam (Sunbonnet Sue's brother). I had to wait ALL DAY for the award to be announced.

When the announcement was made, the chicken won! Well, bless her heart. It was a fun experience and I will try again next year. Let's see, what could I make next time? A dog? Dogs are popular. A baby? Who doesn't love a baby?! If YOU have an idea, let me know! Or make a block of your own.

## **Speaker for June Chapter Meeting**

*By Jim Beasley*

Mark McDermott, Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action, PSARA who will speak on making Retirement Security Real for Everyone.

Learn about past struggles to win Social Security and Medicare and see how essential these programs are, especially for women, people of color and other marginalized communities.

What will happen if these necessary programs are rolled back, converted to vouchers, or privatized? Will seniors who need long term care still have access to Medicaid?

Mark spent his life working for economic, social and racial justice and peace. He is a full-time economic justice and labor educator and has given 270 speeches and

workshops in 18 states over the past 5 years to affiliates of 22 international unions and many progressive community-based organizations.

He "retired" in 2010 after serving as U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis' Regional Representative for the Pacific NW and northern plains states.



**You can View your Monthly Newsletter in Color and Connect to the linked articles and programs on the Web at**  
<http://www.bluebills.org/heritagenewsletters.html>

♦ Did you know that dolphins are so smart that within a few weeks of captivity, they can train people to stand on the very edge of the pool and throw them fish?

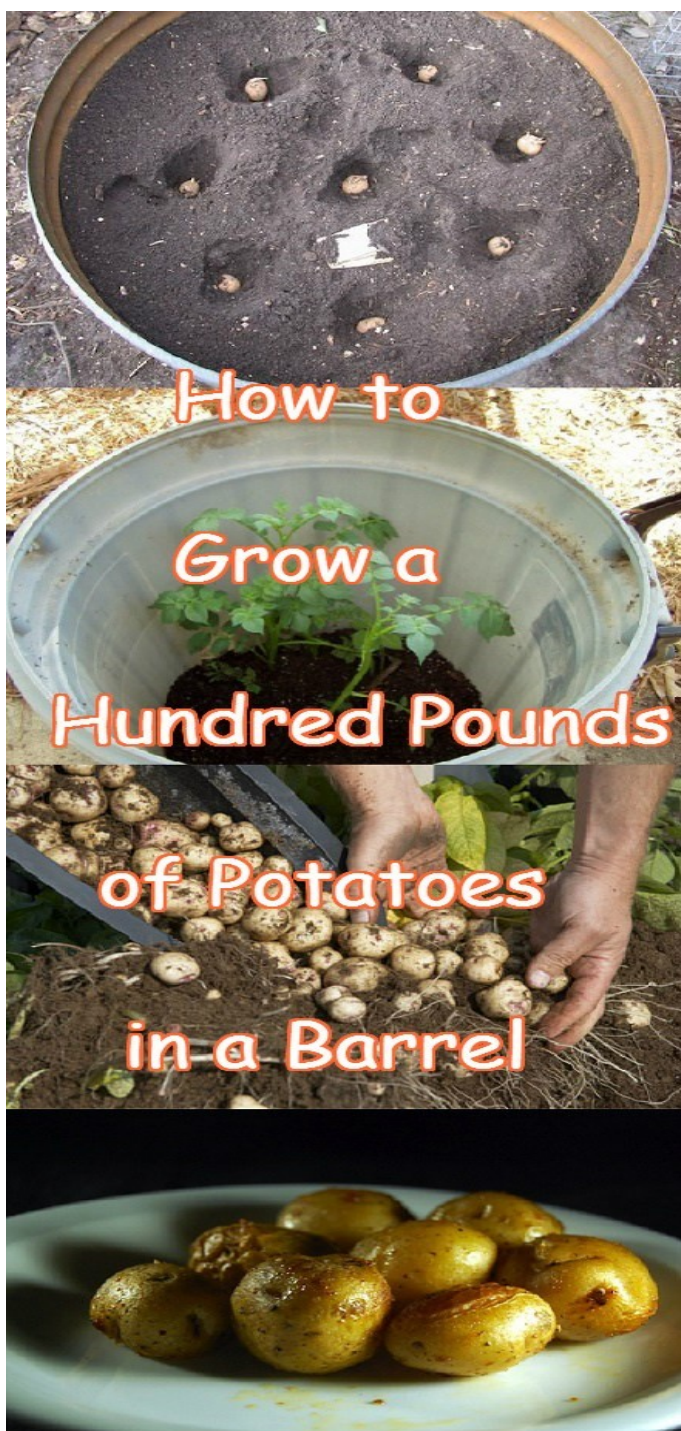
♦ A recent study has found that woman who carry a little extra weight, live longer than the men who mention it.

♦ Money can't buy happiness, but it keeps the kids in touch!



## **Simple Steps to Grow a Hundred Pounds of Potatoes in a Barrel**

Amazing instructions that will help you to grow 100 pounds of healthy potatoes in controlled environment – in a barrel. Just follow four easy steps and you will learn how to grow potatoes in a barrel.



1. Select and prepare a container. You'll need to pick out a container such as a 50-gallon trash barrel or one of those half whiskey barrel planters. Alternatively, you can buy used food-grade barrels or commercially-available potato planters.

Just about any 2 to 3-foot tall container will work, but be sure to select a container that either already has holes in it, or is okay to cut holes in. Next you'll want to clean your container with a mild bleach solution to get out any of the nasties that have been lingering in there. If you don't want to use bleach, you can make a bleach alternative to use instead.

2. Choose a variety and plant potatoes. Seed potatoes can usually be found at nurseries early in the growing season, but you should only have to buy them once. If you can, "chit" or sprout your potatoes before planting them by setting them out in an egg carton, the side with the most buds facing up, and putting them in a cool light room out of direct sunlight to sprout. Putting the tubers in an open paper bag can have this same effect.
3. Add more soil. When they have about 6 to 8 inches of foliage, add another layer of your soil-compost mix covering about one-half to three-quarters of the visible stems and foliage. Repeat this process of allowing the sprouts to grow and then covering the sprouts and moistening the soil as the plants grow up toward the top of the barrel.
4. Harvest the potatoes. After about 10 weeks or until the plants flower and start to yellow, the potatoes should be ready to harvest. Carefully dig down with your hands to inspect the top-most layer. After you've confirmed your suspicions, dump the barrel out on a tarp and inspect your bounty.

[Simple Steps to Grow a Hundred Pounds of Potatoes in a Barrel](#)

## Calendar of Events 2017

Jan 12	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jan 27	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Feb 16	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Feb 24	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Mar 16	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Mar 31	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Apr 13	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Apr 28	Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck)
May 11	Heritage Leadership Meeting
May 26	Chapter Monthly Meeting
<b>Jun 15</b>	<b>Heritage Leadership Meeting</b>
<b>Jun 30</b>	<b>Chapter Monthly Meeting</b>
Jul 13	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Jul 28	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Aug 10	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Aug 25	Heritage Chapter Picnic (TBD)
Sep 14	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Sep 29	Chapter Monthly Meeting (Craft Fair)
Oct 12	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Oct 27	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Nov 1	Chapter Honors Luncheon
Nov 16	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Nov 17	Chapter Monthly Meeting
Dec 14	Heritage Leadership Meeting
Dec 15	Chapter Monthly Meeting

## **Food Bank Schedule For 2017**

Cash donations collected at each monthly meeting to be given to a different food bank each month.

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

## **Bluebills - Heritage Chapter**

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# Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting

**June 30, 2017**

**10:00 AM Social—10:30 AM to 12:00 Noon Meeting**

**Speaker: Mark M McDermott,** *Board of the Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action*

**Subject:** "Making Retirement Security Real for Everyone."

"

*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** \_\_\_\_\_

(month/year)

**For** \_\_\_\_\_

(agency name)

**Hours worked** \_\_\_\_\_

(month/year)

**For** \_\_\_\_\_

(agency name)

**Hours worked** \_\_\_\_\_

(month/year)

**For** \_\_\_\_\_

(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



## Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting Directions

From the **north** take 405 S  
Bronson Way. Keep right  
and continue on S 2nd St. to  
Williams Ave S. Turn left  
onto Williams Ave S and turn  
right onto 5th St. Go one  
block and turn right onto  
Burnett Ave S to VFW.

From the **south** go north on  
Highway 405 to Exit 2 Hwy  
167 Rainier Ave S. Go  
north to S Grady Way. Turn  
right on S Grady Way to  
Talbot Rd (3rd light) turn  
left on Talbot Rd. One block  
turn right on 7th St and then  
left on Burnett Ave S. Con-  
tinue three blocks to VFW.

