



# The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills  
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

June 2019

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

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## Chapter Report

By Doug Hoople



Well I'm still here for some more comments as I reach the middle of my active tour of duty as Co-Chair.

"Here we go again!" is a way a fellow Boy Scout volunteer starts his emails when he's passing on a sudden priority action item from someone who is replacing our important activity with their action item. (We're adult advisors helping scouts plan the Cascade District Camporee.) Someone's urgent item is now our new immediate urgent item.

Don't you hate it when that happens? Not getting your important items done because of an urgent item from someone else. Why can't people understand our priorities? This also comes from being over committed, which is where I've found myself the last few months. Like I said last month, I need to retire from being retired.

This is all part of what someone called "the new normal." I think everybody must have their own "normal." When we were born our normal was eating and sleeping. Then your normal became eating playing and sleeping. Then eating, school, playing and sleeping. And growing with every major change in our life: college, work, marriage and more. Now that we are retired; back to eating, enjoying our favorite activity and sleep.

So, when do I get to work on my yard, clean out my garage and go look at stars? Not as often as I'd like, but this is my new normal. Time for a paradigm shift. Next fall, as the school year restarts, I need to look at my volunteering priorities.

I'd like to challenge you to do the same thing. Take a look at your "normal." As you do this, think about why we are involved with Boeing Bluebills. Remembering 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."

Is any of that purpose in your normal? Coffee, donuts and socializing is part of that, but there is more. What will that look like? What should it look like?

All of us at Boeing have attended meeting and know what makes good and effective meetings. We all have set goals and accomplished tasks. We all have managed our time. We have all worked with other people on joint tasks. Have you put any of those skills and attributes to work in the Bluebills? Why not? What are you waiting for?

A lot can be accomplished by a dedicated team of people devoting a little time on a worthy activity. Where

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have I heard that before? We have too long depended upon a few people doing more. Think about joining our new office volunteers to build a new generation of Bluebill involvement and growth.

I know at the present time I would have to stop volunteering at several organizations in order to run for an officer position or spend more time in the office. But I can continue delivering the Bluebill message to SPEEA retirees at their monthly retirement sessions. I can continue to help set up and take down our monthly meeting equipment.

OK, time for me to get off my soap box.

Come join us, the waters fine.

*Doug*

## **Speaker for June**

*By: Jim Beasley*

Dave Glenn will be our speaker from the Seattle Aquarium for the June meeting. He will talk about the new aquarium expansion and the volunteer program.

## **May Chapter Meeting Recap**

*By Mary Ulibarri*



Doug Hoople started the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were three members with May birthdays in attendance – Lois Barnes, Carla Becker and Lonnie Stevenson. There were no new members and the only anniversary was that Howard Syder came to America on May 27, 1967.

Doug recognized the passing of Adrian Lawler and gave the pertinent information for his memorial in a few days. Jim Beasley reminded folks that Adrian was artistic and once carved the Bluebills name on the side of the watermelon he brought to the summer picnic. Very clever.

Doug also pointed out that were flyers on the tables giving information for folks to join the volunteer duties at the SeaTac Airport USO. Contact him if you are interested.

The speaker being coordinated by Jim Beasley and Howard Syder for the June meeting will be from the Seattle Aquarium. And Doug reminded everyone again of the picnic at Coulon Park, South Shelter 2, on July 26<sup>th</sup>.

Doug held the door prize drawing while folks lined up to dig into the lunch provisions and Heinz Gehlhaar got set up for his river cruise Power Point presentation.

The potluck was a huge success with a great variety of delicious items. There were a number of main dishes in crockpots and casseroles, several salads, deviled eggs, shrimp with dip, fresh fruit and yummy desserts, espe-

*(Continued on page 3)*

cially a homemade Earthquake Cake brought by Oscar Olague. It would have won my vote, hands down, had there been a contest. 🤗



## Our Mississippi Travels

Phyllis, Don, Judy, Ted, Lonnie, Heinz,

Heinz then proceeded to tell the audience all about his recent river cruise on the American Queen paddlewheel steamboat down the Mississippi River from Memphis to New Orleans. Five other Bluebills joined him on this wonderful adventure -- Lonnie Stevenson, Ted and Judy Leyden and Don and Phyllis Hilt. He had so many great pictures, maps and stories, one could almost feel they were on the trip with them.

The first noteworthy sight on the agenda was a visit to Elvis Presley's former mansion Graceland. The visit was very informative and enlightening about the man himself. Highly recommended visit.

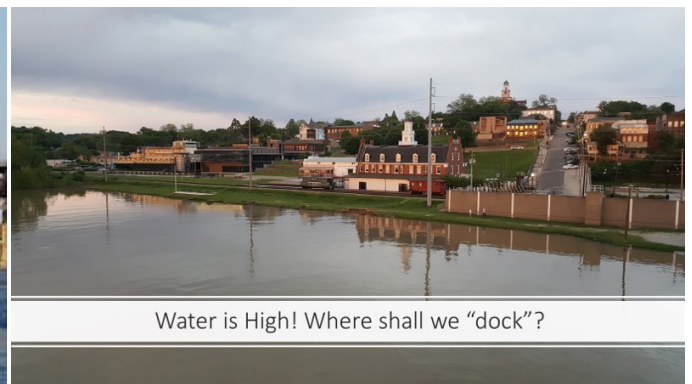


Elvis Produced Records &  
He Liked Fancy Clothing



The group then boarded the steamboat and one of the first requirements, of course, was the lifeboat drill. The American Queen is said to be the largest river steamboat built. It was built in 1995 and is a six-deck recreation of a classic Mississippi riverboat. Although the American Queen's stern paddlewheel is powered by a steam plant, her secondary propulsion, in case of an emergency and for maneuverability around tight areas where the paddle wheel cannot navigate, comes from a set of diesel-electric propellers on either side of the sternwheel. She has 222 state rooms for a capacity of 436 guests and a crew of 160. She is 418 feet long and 89 feet wide. In 2013 American Queen was fully refurbished and expansions were made to her dining areas and public venues.

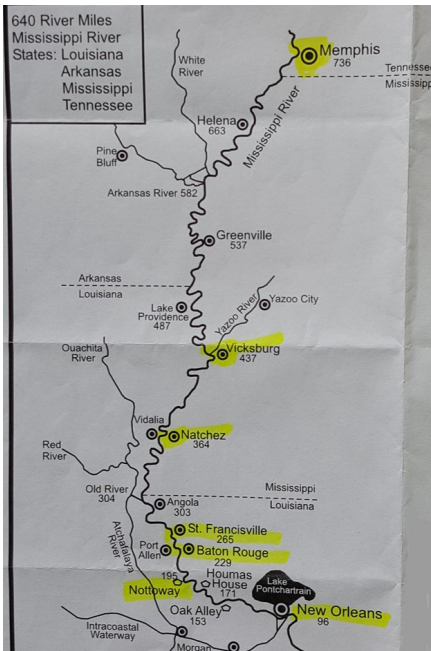
### *The American Queen*



Water is High! Where shall we "dock"?



## Memphis to New Orleans



Not only were there lots of sightseeing features pointed out on the river, but a number of highlighted stops along the way with lovely buildings and interesting towns. The river was quite high, which resulted in the boat landing at their stops as opposed to docking. One could enjoy the colorful walls erected along the bank to protect from the high water.



Heinz pointed out many features on the boat, such as the musical calliope on the upper deck in front of the captain's wheelhouse. And told about when passing beneath a bridge, it is necessary to lower the two smoke stacks and also the Captain's wheelhouse.

Heinz did such a wonderful job of describing what we were seeing on the screen, we could almost feel like we were on the trip along with the group. Thank you, Heinz, for sharing your wonderful experience.



## **Busy B's**

*By: Janice Hawes*

The quilts in our cabinet are piling up. Time to find homes for them. Some will go to Mary's Place, some to Child Haven. There are baby hats destined for the Pediatric Interim Clinic (PIC). As you see, although there are only 4 of us, we are pretty productive! Plus Meri England usually greets me with a bag of baby hats at the monthly meeting. My daughter Sara, who lives in Oregon, watched me make some baby hats and decided it looked like fun, so she has been making hats for us too.

We have a terrific "stash" of fabrics. So much to choose from. You go to the cabinets with an idea for a quilt in mind but can't find just the right colors, even though there are so many, so maybe your idea of a quilt changes a bit, but the results are still good.

There is something about sewing pieces of fabric together that is very satisfactory. Of course there are times when you are removing some of those same stitches (oops wrong pieces sewn together) that is not so satisfactory, but that's part of the experience. All in all, we enjoy what we do.

We always hang some of our quilts on the walls in the conference room. If you're in the neighborhood, drop by and see some of our handiwork. We are still looking for new members to join the Busy B's too.

## USONW

*By: Lonnie Stevenson & Doug Hoople*

USONW is looking for volunteers, especially people who are Night Owls anyway, or plagued with insomnia . .

See following specifics:



**The USO Northwest  
Needs YOU!**

**For 80 years, Americans have  
volunteered to take care of our  
Military Guests. Calling all  
Americans to Volunteer at the Sea-Tac Airport USO  
Center (parking is provided for at the airport)**

**There are 220 USO Centers worldwide but the  
Sea-Tac USO Center is 1 of 8 USO Centers that  
operate 24-hours a day**

**Help take care of military and their families at one of  
the busiest USO Centers on the planet!!**

**Are you a Night Owl? There are particular needs for  
late night and early morning shifts.**

**Are you a student or a Military Member?  
It's a great way to get Volunteer hours!!**

**Call the Center Manager at 706-341-6056**



# Tribute for Adrian Lawler

By: Lonnie Stevenson



Adrian Eugene Lawler, age 98 passed away in Seattle on April 25<sup>th</sup> . . .3 days before his 99<sup>th</sup> birthday.

A WWII vet, he also helped Boeing make missiles and rockets fly. In retirement he ran his own business and enjoyed traveling, skiing, hiking and living life on his own terms. Remember his jump from an airplane for his 96<sup>th</sup> birthday?

We will so miss his charm, artistic talent (I have granite book ends won in a BB silent auction event), adventurous spirit, never ending wit and positive attitude about everything! !

What an inspiration this man was to all. I had the honor to greet him upon his arrival at SeaTac for his O/B Honor Flight. Question to arriving vets is always “do you need a wheel chair, sir” ? His reply was, ‘No, but I will take a small Honda’.

When you asked him what war he was in, his standard reply “Spanish American War”. The PSHF crew said he was the most fun an inspirational dude on the whole flight weekend. And I got to welcome him back for the awesome homecoming celebration for all the vets. See photo.

Love you, Adrian and all the memories you gave us.

*Editors Note: He also would bring a watermelon to Heritage Summer Picnics.*



## Flag Day June 14, 2019

In the [United States](#), **Flag Day** is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the [flag of the United States](#) on June 14, 1777 by [resolution](#) of the [Second Continental Congress](#).<sup>[1]</sup> The [United States Army](#) also celebrates the [U.S. Army Birthdays](#) on this date; Congress adopted "the American continental army" after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.<sup>[2][3]</sup>

In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1946, National Flag Day was established by an [Act of Congress](#). Flag Day is not an official [federal holiday](#). [Title 36 of the United States Code, Subtitle I, Part A, CHAPTER 1, § 110](#)<sup>[4]</sup> is the official statute on Flag Day; however, it is at the president's discretion to officially proclaim the observance. On June 14, 1937, [Pennsylvania](#) became the first [U.S. state](#) to celebrate Flag Day as a [state holiday](#), beginning in the town of [Rennerdale](#).<sup>[1]</sup> [New York Statutes](#) designate the second Sunday in June as Flag Day, a state holiday.<sup>[5]</sup>

Perhaps the oldest continuing Flag Day parade is in [Fairfield, Washington](#).<sup>[6]</sup> Beginning in 1909 or 1910, Fairfield has held a parade every year since, with the possible exception of 1918, and celebrated the "Centennial" parade in 2010, along with some other commemorative events. [Appleton, Wisconsin](#), claims to be the oldest National Flag Day parade in the nation, held annually since 1950.<sup>[7]</sup>

[Quincy, Massachusetts](#), has had an annual Flag Day parade since 1952 and claims it "is the longest-running parade of its kind" in the U.S.<sup>[8]</sup> The largest Flag Day parade is held annually in [Troy, New York](#), which bases its parade on the Quincy parade and typically draws 50,000 spectators.<sup>[11][9]</sup> In addition, the [Three Oaks, Michigan](#), Flag Day Parade is held annually on the



weekend of Flag Day and is a three-day event and they claim to have the largest flag day parade in the nation as well as the oldest.<sup>[10]</sup> In [Washington, D.C.](#), Flag Day is celebrated heavily through the 7th and 8th Wards of the city. It is said that Clyde Thompson is the "Godfather of Flag Day". It is tradition in these wards to slow smoke various meats and vegetables.

### Help Your Fellow Bluebills

The Bluebills office has received calls from some of our members asking for volunteers to help clean up their yards. These are persons who are unable to do the work themselves. We had another call from a Bluebill who needs help with some yard work. Her husband has had a stroke and is unable to do it.

Would you like to take advantage of the much nicer weather and assist your fellow Bluebills? If so, please contact the Bluebills office at 206-544-6286, leave your name and phone number and we will get back to you with more information. Thank you.

### Text USO to 31996

From: Doug Hoople



It's simple, spam free and doesn't cost you a dime! What it does do is supports the USO-NW and our service members and their families in the Pacific Northwest!

Here's the kicker, when we reach **5,000** texts, **Tito's Handmade Vodka** will **double their support** and donate **\$10,000** to the USO Northwest!

**Help us reach 5,000 texts!**

**TANGO HOTEL X-RAY!**

USO Northwest, 17801 International Blvd, PMB 313, Mezzanine Level, Seattle, WA 98158

## **Calendar of Events 2019**

<i>Jan 10</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Jan 25</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Feb 14</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Feb 22</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Mar 14</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Mar 29</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Apr 11</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Apr 26</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>May 16</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>May 31</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck)</i>
<b>Jun 13</b>	<b>Heritage Leadership Meeting</b>
<b>Jun 28</b>	<b>Chapter Monthly Meeting</b>
<i>Jul 11</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Jul 26</i>	<i>Chapter Picnic—Coulon Park, Renton</i>
<i>Aug 15</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Aug 23</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Sep 12</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Sept 27</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Oct 10</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Oct 25</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Nov 14</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Nov 22</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Dec 12</i>	<i>Heritage Leadership Meeting</i>
<i>Dec 20</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting (Potluck)</i>

## **Food Bank Schedule For 2019**

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

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

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**HAPPY  
FATHER'S  
Day!**

## 10:30AM—12:00N Meeting



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

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.

**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)

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## Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting Directions

From the north take 405 S  
to Exit 4 Sunset Blvd N to  
Bronson Way. Keep right  
and continue on S 2nd St. to  
Williams Ave S. Turn left  
onto Williams Ave S and turn right  
ue to 5th St 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.

