



The Heritage

Heritage Chapter Bluebills
Boeing Retiree Volunteer Newsletter

November 2022

WWW.BLUEBILLS.ORG

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 11



Presentation for - November 18th General Meeting

By Jim Beasley

Our presenter for November is currently TBD as we have not been able to secure a firm commitment from the University of Washington Center for Informed Public, CIP, before publication of this month's Newsletter. Should we be unable to get a commitment we will have a video presentation on the "Seattle Aquarium's New Ocean Pavilion".

There will be no program in December as it will be our Annual Christmas Potluck.

Jim



October Meeting Summary

By Mary Ulibarri

Don Hilt opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. There were two members with October birthdays in attendance – Carmel Carmerini and Azar Hanson. And two others on my list – Mattha Battles and Ted Osborne.

Richard briefed the attendees on why the meeting was a little behind schedule. Turns out Jim, who usually opens the VFW doors on Friday morning was missing. His car was broken into last night, so he was attending to that matter and would not be at the meeting. As a result, no one could get into the building. Finally, after a few phone calls, another VFW member arrived and opened the door.

Richard also shared good news: Our new Boeing coordinator, Cory Erttl, spent two hours in the office a couple of weeks ago on the phone with IT and managed to get the three computers up and running again. The office had been without them for four weeks. Unfortunately, all historical data was lost in the process. Efforts will be made to retrieve as much data as possible, including the list of all Bluebills members, currently and historically. Volunteer hours may still be submitted to Mary at marybarri20@gmail.com or Dick Beham at bbbeditor@live.com.

Jim Beasley then introduced the guest speaker, John Purvis. John began by apologizing for not being able to access his visual presentation. He, along with four Bluebill members, tried for almost an hour to get the computer synced with the video set up with no luck. Despite the

glitch, John proceeded to share much interesting information about himself and the Museum. He also pointed out the various number of Museum magazines and booklets available on a nearby table.



John pointed out the Museum of Flight has been around as long as the commercial air travel industry. So too has he, himself, as a museum trustee and one of the knowledgeable docents who gives tours of the building's many wings. As the museum celebrated its semicentennial this past September, he is most excited about passing the torch to a new generation of aerospace enthusiasts.

John got his engineering degree from the University of Washington and put himself through school working for Boeing. He introduced his wife, Nancy, who is also a former Boeing employee. Both were in Product Support and were with Boeing for over 40 years. They lived overseas for six years (Amsterdam and the United Kingdom) and he eventually became the manager of Air Safety Investigation upon his return to the states. After he retired in 1998, he was giving a safety talk at the museum and someone said, "With that background you really ought to be a docent." And the rest is history.

One of the joys of working at the Museum of Flight is interacting with kids, who are like little sponges. With the Raisbeck Aviation High School nearby, they have a permanent home at the museum, and free rein, buzzing around the library and the archives.

John touched on many aspects of the Museum including the Aviation Pavilion across the street from the main campus. There are 20 airplanes on display, five of which are open for viewing. Those include the Concorde, the Boeing VC-1378 "Air Force One," Boeing 727, 757 (prototype) and 787 Dreamliner.

He stated one of his favorites at the museum is the Red Barn. The building itself is an artifact. Mr. Boeing started his company out of that barn. It used to be on the river, a mile and a half away. He and others actually wheeled it off the land, put it on a barge, and moved it upstream. Needless to say, it was quite the sight.

And, oh yeah, John admits flying is still a big deal to him. He always wears a jacket and tie every time..

Jim presented John with the Boeing 100-year anniversary book and invited him to return at a future date to share his visual presentation to the attendees. Don then held the door prize drawings and adjourned the meeting.

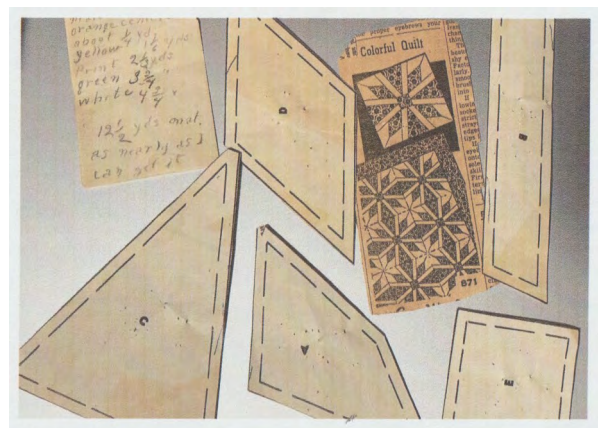


Busy B's

By Janise Hawes

Everything I know about quilting I learned from my years with the Busy B's. I grew up with two Grandmothers who were expert quilters and slept under wonderful quilts they made but never attempted to make one until I joined this group.

I have a box of patterns from one of my grandmothers. They used cardboard to make the pattern pieces, all kinds of cardboard.



Pattern pieces cut from cardboard

Some of the fabric used was from sacks of animal feed that were printed in colorful patterns. The companies competed to get the farmers business for these. I grew up wearing dresses made from these and eventually found pieces of these in a quilt.

After the quilt pieces had been sewn into the desired pattern it was put on a quilting frame and quilted by hand with precise stitches. I have a couple of these quilts and I treasure them.



*Around the
World quilt*



The newspaper was a good source for new patterns. One of my grandmothers had one from a 1936 newspaper called "Around the World" and I made this one myself.

Not an easy job!!

One of my grandmothers gave me 5 quilt tops and I had them finished with the batting and backing, then quilted and I stashed them in my cedar chest (do they still make these) and as each of my 5 children were married, I was able to give them a wonderful gift from one of their Great Grandmothers.

EASTSIDE HERITAGE CENTER



Connections for yesterday, today, and tomorrow.

East Side Stories

The Lake Sammamish Harbor Seal

Strange as it may sound, there once was a seal who lived 25 years in Lake Sammamish. Lovingly referred to as "Butch", the 250-pound harbor seal was first spotted in 1950. At first, locals thought he might be a muskrat or an otter, but his size quickly ruled out those options. Harbor seals, unlike other pinnipeds, are known to live in low-salinity waters, like rivers and estuar-

(Continued on page 5)

ies. But how did Butch get to Lake Sammamish in the first place?



Butch the seal being lured ashore by Shannon, the golden retriever, in order to capture him for medical treatment (2003.022.006b)

It is possible that Butch made his way from Puget Sound, through the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks to Lake Union and then Lake Washington, and finally up the Sammamish Slough. There have been other seal sightings in Lake Union and the north end of Lake Washington. There is just one flaw in this explanation; Butch was wearing a collar. It may be more likely that Butch was a pet someone released in the lake once they tired of him.

In 1961, Jack Jarvis of the Post-Intelligencer reported that Butch was outgrowing his collar. It was cutting into his neck and blood was found on the dock where he usually slept. Some members of the community worried that this wound would make the seal more aggressive, while others maintained that he was a friendly (albeit mischievous) creature.

There was a brief effort to establish a "Save Butch Fund", designed to facilitate capturing and rehoming Butch at Woodland Park Zoo. This plan was ultimately abandoned due to unknown cost for such an undertaking and the risks associated with tranquilizing the seal.



Butch being netted and taken for medical treatment in 1975 (2003.022.005b)

Over the years, Butch became a known and mostly accepted part of life on Lake Sammamish. He would occasionally bump up against swimmers or wave a flippers at folks on the docks. He established a sort of friendship with several lakeside dogs, although the dogs may not have found his style of "play" very fun. He would sometimes pull a dog a short ways under the water before releasing them to swim back to the surface.

In September of 1975, Butch nearly drowned a dog named Shannon when he dragged her from a dock and into the water. This incident, and a few others, indicated that the seal was becoming a threat to the community. The collar around his neck was still a concern and he likely needed medical treatment as well. Department officials lured Butch from the water with Shannon, netted and sedated him for transport. The aim was to release him into Puget Sound when he had recovered.

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Butch the seal netted for medical treatment by the Washington State Dept. of Game in 1975 (2003.022.004b)

Unfortunately, he never made it to Puget Sound. Butch died September 12, 1975, from complications of old age. The collar wound was the most severe problem, which had constricted his breathing. Butch's skeletal remains were given to the Museum of Natural History at the University of Puget Sound where they were to be used for long-range mammal comparison research.

Medicare.gov

Submitted by: Micki Brown

MEDICARE OPEN ENROLLMENT Oct. 15 - Dec. 7

Medicare's Open Enrollment Period is here! Now's the time to compare Medicare plans for 2023. Visit Medicare.gov through December 7 to compare plans and make any changes. If you decide to change plans, your new coverage will start January 1.

Why compare plans for next year? Plans change, and your health care needs or situation may have changed, too. Think about what benefits matter to you and find a Medicare plan that fits your needs.

Compare Plans

When comparing plans, look at the estimated "Yearly Drug & Premium Cost." A plan with the lowest premium may not always provide the lowest total cost to you.

NOTE: If your income for 2022 is below \$18,600 (\$25,000 for married couples), you may be able to save on your monthly Medicare premiums and other out-of-pocket Medicare costs, including prescription drug costs. See if you qualify for Medicare Savings Programs and learn how to apply.

Sincerely,
The Medicare Team

The Gift of Time

Submitted by: Micki Brown/ Thomas DiLuzio

The last wishes of Alexander the Great:
On his deathbed, Alexander summoned his army generals and told them his three ultimate wishes:

1. The best doctors should carry his coffin;
2. The wealth he has accumulated (money, gold, precious stones) should be scattered along the procession to the cemetery;
3. His hands should be let loose, so they hang outside the coffin for all to see.

One of his generals who was surprised by these unusual requests asked Alexander to explain, here is what Alexander the Great had to say:

1. "I want the best doctors to carry my coffin to demonstrate that in the face of death, even the best doctors in the world have no power to heal."
2. "I want the road to be covered with my treasure so that everybody sees that material wealth acquired on earth, will stay on earth."
3. I want my hands to swing in the wind so that people understand that we come to this world empty-handed and we leave this world empty-handed after the most precious treasure of all is exhausted, and that is TIME.

We do not take to our grave any material wealth. TIME is our most precious treasure because it is LIMITED. We can produce more wealth, but we cannot produce more time.

When we give someone our time, we actually give a portion of our life that we will never take back

The best present that you can give to your family and friends is your TIME.

May God grant you plenty of TIME, to share with all.





Hello, all

Registration is now open for The Salvation Army's annual **"Toy & Joy"** event. This event requires a monumental amount of volunteers and we'd love to have your help! All ages are welcome to participate.

Please note that we will be at a new location this year! **Warehouse address:** 1101 Southwest 16th Street, Renton, WA 98057

In King County:

The volunteer sign up link is here: <https://volunteer.usawest.org/OpportunityDetail.aspx?ID=6999>

- ✦ We will be sorting toy donations and packing them for clients, based on each child's wish list.
- ✦ This event is a combined effort of our 5 King County Community Centers (*Bellevue, Renton, Federal Way, North Seattle and White Center*)
We're sorting and packing toys for 2,000+ families (*see attached photo for example*)

A look back at last year's Toy & Joy:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1GfSCuX6oeM&t=41s>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zOFiD-iuTEI>

Thank you so much,

Lisa Borders
Corporate Engagement Director
Click here: The Salvation Army Northwest Division
serving Washington, N. Idaho and W. Montana
206.459.6351

Bits & Pieces

A recent study found that the average golfer walks about 900 miles a year.

Another study found golfers drank on average 22 gallons of alcohol a year.

Which means, on average, golfers get about 41 miles to the gallon.

Kind of makes you proud I almost feel like a hybrid!



"IF THAT'S THE ONLY MOP WE'LL EVER NEED, WHY ARE THEY TRYING TO SELL US A SECOND ONE?"

**POLICE TOILET
STOLEN
COPS HAVE NOTHING TO GO ON**

Calendar of Events 2022

In Person Meetings

<i>Jan 28</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Feb 25</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Mar 25</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Apr 29</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>May 27</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Jun 24</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Jul 29</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Aug 26</i>	<i>Chapter In-Door Picnic</i>
<i>Sept 30</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Oct 28</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Nov 18</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>
<i>Dec 16</i>	<i>Chapter Monthly Meeting</i>

Food Bank Schedule For 2022

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>Lonnie Stevenson</i>
<i>April</i>	<i>Maple Valley</i>	<i>Vaughn's</i>
<i>May</i>	<i>Kent</i>	<i>Melinda Stubbs</i>
<i>June</i>	<i>Auburn</i>	<i>Martha Battles</i>
<i>July</i>	<i>West Seattle</i>	<i>Heinz Gehlhaar</i>
<i>August</i>	<i>Tacoma</i>	<i>(open)</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>Des Moines</i>	<i>Lonnie Stevenson</i>
<i>December</i>	<i>Issaquah</i>	<i>Eleanor Skinner</i>

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

Bluebills Heritage Chapter Meeting



November 18, 2022

Social 10:00AM, Meeting 10:30 - 11:30 AM

Speaker: TBD (To be determined)

Subject: ?

(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.

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 1K-B02, Seattle, WA 98124
Email to bluebills@boeing.com or bring to Bluebills monthly meeting