

THE BLUEBILL

FLYER

A monthly Publication of the Olympic Peninsula Bluebills Bluebills is a Boeing-supported Volunteer Program

May 2007 Editor: Cynthia Ann Joyner



Ms. Anne Roosevelt, granddaughter of Franklin D. and Eleanor Roosevelt, and Merv Shetler, Chair of the Bluebill Central Leadership Council.

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From the Chair's Keyboard

On Tuesday, April 10, the Bluebill Central Committee had the distinct pleasure of hosting Anne Roosevelt, VP of Global Corporate Citizenship at a luncheon.

Ms. Roosevelt graciously took time out of her busy schedule to travel from Chicago. This allowed us to provide her with a brief history of the Bluebills, an outline of our Mission, Goals and Objectives and the contribution made by each chapter in its respective area.

We then provided Ms. Roosevelt with a "wish list" of what the Boeing Company could do to aid us in our endeavor to improve the quality of life for the elderly and disabled in our respective communities.

Ms. Roosevelt was very receptive to our situation and exhibited an obvious interest and sincerity in where we are and where we are trying to go.

From Mike Graham



FIND YOUR CAUSE FIND YOUR SOMETHING

THE MAY BLUEBILL SPOTLIGHT IS ON



Our Spotlight feature this month is Jefferson Home Health and Hospice. Bluebills have been working with this group since our beginning. Thanks to the pictures from them we can now put a face to many of the people we deal with. See the faces on the next page.

-- From Myron Vogt

From Keri Johns to the Bluebills:

Jefferson Home Health and Hospice provides in home health care for all the residents of east Jefferson County. Our patients have a skilled medical need and a great difficulty leaving home. Our patients range from people with recent orthopedic surgeries to those who are at the end of life. JHH/H sees over 600 patients a year and you help us with many of them.

The Bluebills are a godsend. Many of the people we see need adaptations to their homes to make activities of daily living safer or just possible. Bluebills work with our occupational and physical therapists to install necessary equipment and modify the homes. They have installed grab bars in bathrooms, wheelchair ramps and other adaptive carpentry. They have built chair raisers and widened doorways to accommodate wheelchairs.

Our patients appreciate all you do for them. Sometimes when the families don't have the money or resources to get equipment for them the Bluebills have assisted by providing materials to complete the job. Some Bluebill volunteers have even picked up supplies/materials from the lumber store and delivered them to the homes of our patients.

Lastly, and I find this very unique after all the other things you do, you give parties and invite us to celebrate with you. Thank you for all you do for the patients we share.



Keri Johns, Executive Director



Mary Coggins, RN
Ed Presnal Social Worker
Elizabeth Worden Home Health aide



Karen Hunter, Nursing Director



Karen Hunter, Ruth Burns, Mary Coggins

BLUEBILLS TO THE RESCUE AT SECOND CHANCE RANCH

FROM CHUCK SHERRED

The Second Chance Ranch is a not-for- Profit animal sanctuary and rescue organization located near Quilcene.

The facility is home to myriad animals including horses, llamas, goats, iguanas, chickens, sheep, ducks, geese, cats and etc., owned and operated by **SARA PENHALLEGON** with the help of caring, unpaid volunteers. While primarily serving Jefferson County, including Port Townsend and Port Ludlow, the ranch has become home to even some animals from outside of this area.

Sara works full time at the Chimacum Valley Veterinarian Hospital and spends all of her remaining time caring for the animals at the ranch, many requiring daily medications. She told me that this sanctuary has been her dream since she was nine years old.

Over the past five years she has placed hundreds of companion animals with caring families.

The enclosure constructed by our work team.



There is a continuing need for volunteers and donations to keep this important service going. If you wish to help the animals at Second Chance Ranch please contact Sara at 360-765-0598.

Last winter was exceptionally hard on the chicken, duck, peacock and bunny enclosure. Snows totally collapsed the protective netting cover, onto the ground. Major repairs were required to provide more structurally sound containment for the animals. The cover netting is required to keep hungry eagles and hawks from helping themselves to the small critters.

Along came a team of Bluebills to the rescue. In two work sessions our team built strong new fencing and a totally new chicken wire covering. Many thanks to:

HOWARD SCHAIBLE, MYRON VOGT, MICHAEL GRAHAM, GEORGE SICKLE, BILL ANSTISS, JACK HAWKER, LARRY ELTON, AND CHUCK SHERRED



HOW THE BLUEBILLS GOT STARTED

BY JACK RANDALL, OPB HISTORIAN

CHAPTER TWO

I explored two places for office space and got a quote from each. We had in our budget funds for office space, furniture, telephone and a post office box.

A small group of us approached the Central Committee, including a representative from the Boeing Community Relations Department, presenting and supporting our needs to establish a chapter. At that time we were denied any funding.

We returned home somewhat discouraged. Soon after that I got a call from Bob Peden, Executive Director of United Way, saying that he had possible office space. I met with Bob and Jim Westall, Executive Director of Skookum, at the Skookum Building in Port Townsend. After explaining our Program to Jim Westall agreed to provide us with free office space, a line on their telephone system. He said that we could have the space, rent free, as long as we continued our Program. The next step was for office furniture.

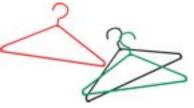
Since the Bluebill organizations are not 'not-for profit', because we are aligned with Boeing Committee Relations, we did not qualify for any of Boeing's furniture. Bob Peden stepped in and requested furniture through United Way, which is non-profit.

United Way was eventually awarded a \$1,000 certificate for furniture from the Boeing Surplus Store. We finally had our furniture, telephone, and a computer. Next was the P.O. Box.

We decided to expand into Clallam County. We had a recruiting meeting at the Sequim Library. Bob Peden initiated our first 'fund drive'. He put a coffee can on the podium and place \$5 in it and challenged the rest in the meeting to meet or beat it. I don't remember how much we collected, but it was a start.

We rented a P.O. Box in the Port Townsend Post Office. We staffed our office on a part-time basis.

GIFTS-IN-KIND DRESS BARN DONATIONS



Through World Vision Bluebills have received over 300 boxes of women's clothes to distribute within the past year. Since each box contains about 20 new, unused items of clothing, shoes and accessories, this is a lot of goods. Clothing has been distributed to practically every GIK member we service: agencies, food bank, churches and schools. – From Myron Vogt

"Your donation of shoes and clothing could not have come at a better time for our school community. Two weeks ago a house in our neighborhood burned to the ground during the night. A second grade student from our school was killed and her mother and younger brother injured. Obviously, all of their belongings were destroyed. Mom is now out of the hospital and she came in yesterday and was able to go through the boxes of donations from you and get quite a few things to begin her new wardrobe. She was so grateful and thrilled to have the opportunity to "shop" at school. She would not have been ale to replace her clothing so quickly without your generosity.

We also use your donations to keep in our office for extra clothing for our students when there is an accident of some kind and fresh clothing is needed. Our older girls are excited to have such beautiful things to choose from. We do not have a wealthy school population and with your donation we have the ability to give away lovely things to kids who really appreciate them.

Thanks you so much for your donation to our school.

While clothing is not usually thought of as a "school supply" it is obviously a necessity to have in our learning environment and you make that possible. We appreciate the ability to pass it on to people who cannot afford to just shop for shopping's sake. Every item and pair of shoes is valued beyond measure and is made available to those in need. We have over 325 families in our school population. Many of them utilize our "extra clothing" closet. It is wonderful for us to have resources to offer them in a way that can meet their needs and not negatively affect their self esteem and pride.

Thank you again for your kindness and generosity."

From an Elementary School in Kitsap County

MAY CALENDAR OF BLUEBILL EVENTS

Tuesday, May 1 pickup at World Vision Warehouse in Kent

Monday, May 7 - Bluebill Exec Board Meeting / 9:00am - 10:00am at the Bay Club in Port Ludlow

Tuesday, May 8 - Bluebill Central Committee Meeting 10:00am - Noon in Seattle

Tuesday, May 15 – Delivery to Clallam Co. Members

FROM MIKE GRAHAM

Jack Hawker sends word that during March we had 32 volunteers report 777 hours. This gives us 1,961 hours so far this year!

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THE SPRING SOCIAL

MERV SHETLER, Bluebill Central **Leadership Committee** Chairman, told us about the origins and history of Bluebills. He also discussed the make-up and function of our governing body, the Central Leadership Committee (CLC). This committee is made up of 15 members from all the chapters. The committee also is our interface with Boeing. The **CLC** members from our chapter are Mike Graham (our Chair), **Dan Nordmark and** Ed Berthiaume.



Donna Jones and Pat Downie of Catholic Community
Services provide door prizes and awards to our members in recognition of the volunteer work we have done with these organizations.
Thanks to them almost everyone won some sort of prize or received an award.
Donna and her staff also provided table centerpieces



Our social coordinator, Howard Schaible, discusses something with one of our members. The screen in the background shows

Mike Graham at work on a ramp. Dick Padilla set up a slide-show of pictures which ran through most of the event.

TO SEE THE ADDITIONAL
SPRING SOCIAL PICTURES, GO
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http://homepage.mac.com/cyndyann1/PhotoAlbum11.html

CLICK ON THE SLIDE SHOW BUTTON
TO SEE ENLARGEMENTS OF THE PICTURES



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2007 OFFICERS

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SEE YOU NEXT MONTH!