

Bluebill *FLYER*

January 2017

Olympic Peninsula Bluebill Newsletter

2016 REPORT

We did a lot of work in 2016 but things slipped a bit from 2015.

Membership: We gained 12 new members in 2016. Still, our membership went down from 212 to 186. This is mainly due to people moving. In addition we had some old names that should have been removed before. David Goudie does a good job trying to keep our membership list current, but if you move or change email addresses, you have to let him know at oldsilverback@g.com.

Volunteer Hours Reported: Our hours went down from 15414 in 2015 to about 13000 for 2016, approximately a 15% decrease. One reason is that outside of Builders and the World Vision program, demands for our services seemed to decrease in 2016. There is no longer a Tri-Area food bank truck to unload each month and requests from Dove House are fewer and there is no longer a need for period drives to collect items for them. The situation is similar with our support for the Homeless.

Members Participating (Reporting Hours) : In 2016, 107 members reported doing some volunteer work vs 114 in 2015. This meant that almost half of our members were not able to find some Bluebill activity that they could help with or that they wanted to work on.

To all of you, I like this quote from Teddy Roosevelt: "It's not the critic that counts...the credit belongs to the person who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs again and comes up short again and again...who spends himself on a worthy cause and who, at best, knows the triumph of achievement, and at worst, fails while trying. **Happy New Year, Myron.**

Bluebill Builders

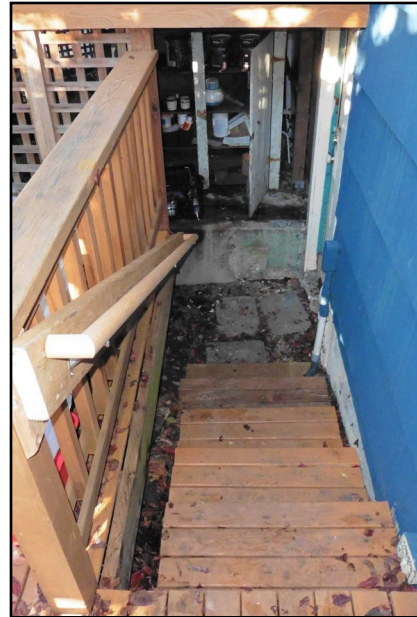
Preventing Falls

It's always good when we can implement fall prevention fixes before an accident happens. Bluebills received a request via Catholic Community Services to put in step railings for a client in Suquamish. Railings were installed in 3 locations and some bad treads replaced as well. A stairway leading down to the garage looked particularly ominous with it's lack of railings, damaged tread, and cement blocks at the bottom of a pit (see before and after photos).

North Kitsap Fire & Rescue collaborated with the Bluebills and provided all of the materials for this project using a special fund that's supported primarily with donations from their member's paychecks. Their public information officer stated that "We're excited to be partnering on this effort and look forward to additional opportunities in the future."

Volunteers: Bob Keever, Marty Dasler

Total hours: 15



PARROT SANCTUARY

Client provides a sanctuary for unwanted and abandoned parrots. In addition to the fall prevention (grab bars, railings) fixes, Tim Ruddy repaired this door leading from an enclosed deck to an outside aviary.

Volunteers: Bob Keever, Tim Ruddy

Total hours: 14



BUILDERS DATA

Here is the data for 2016. Pretty much what we do in this area every year. But, stop to think about it a bit...

Fifty-five ramps. We put in so many of these in cases where you wonder how the family coped without the ramp.

On hundred and fifty grab bars and fifty-five railings. Lots of these were put in after the client had already fallen a few times.

We helped families in one hundred-ninety five different households live better and safer. We're not some large organization supported by fund drives and publicity. Every time we run into a client who cannot afford to pay for the material needed, we have to work to find a way to cover the cost. Thanks to organizations such as Jefferson County Real Estate Professionals for Affordable Housing (REPAH), Port Townsend Elks and Legions Clubs and various other organizations, funding can almost always be found. Thanks to all of you who help with this.

Special thanks to our partners at Catholic Community Services, Donna Jones (Jefferson and Kitsap Counties) and Teri Wensits (Clallam County), who provide us with insurance coverage for these jobs.



Builders Data

Our last ramp was built for a 6 year old who was born with a disability. He was finally able to maneuver with a wheelchair but couldn't get into the house. When we did this ramp, his mother was in tears knowing her son could be home for Christmas and be mobile. Material for the job was paid for by Real Estate Professionals for Affordable Housing. (REPAH).



**Volunteers: Jo Nieuwma, Dan Nieuwma, Michael Graham, David Parrish
Jack Hawker & Schultz.**

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	YTD Total
Grab bars	7	13	19	8	13	7	20	18	9	8	10	25	150
Ramps	0	6	4	8	5	2	5	7	7	7	3	3	55
Railing	5	11	7	0	5	1	6	3	5	4	3	6	55
Miscellaneous	7	6	6	2	4	5	7	7	6	1	0	13	59
Total Clients	14	15	17	17	17	8	18	19	20	20	11	27	195
Total Different Volutneers	9	11	17	17	19	10	14	14	13	13	12	16	n/a
Open Projects	21	29	27	19	27	34	43	53	55	52	66	50	n/a

HP Chrome Books for the 1st Grade Class at Chimacum Creek Primary School

The Bluebills have adopted the 4 classrooms of 1st graders at the Chimacum Creek Primary School. Their teachers tell us that their most critical needs are technology tools and volunteers in the classroom. In January, one of the teachers will initiate a [DonorChoose.org](https://www.donorchoose.org) request asking for donations to fund 24 HP Chrome Books with child friendly headphones and mice for their classrooms. When the teacher gets the okay from [DonorChoose.org](https://www.donorchoose.org), she will generate an email to us asking to donate towards this project. We will send a copy of the email to all of the Olympic Peninsula Bluebills with this request. If you respond by email back to them within 7 days, [DonorChoose.org](https://www.donorchoose.org) will match your donation. Charity Navigator has given [DonorChoose.org](https://www.donorchoose.org) it's highest rating. Please check it out for yourself as it is an amazing charity. If you have any questions or need more information, please call Barbara Berthiaume at 437-0423 or 301-6207 or email her at:

barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com

If you are not comfortable using this method of donating, you can send a check to the Bluebills with a memo that it is for Chimacum Creek Primary School. **Send to Bluebills, 120 Spinnaker Place, Port Ludlow, WA 98365.**

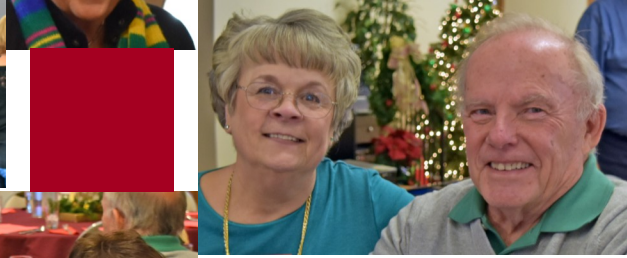
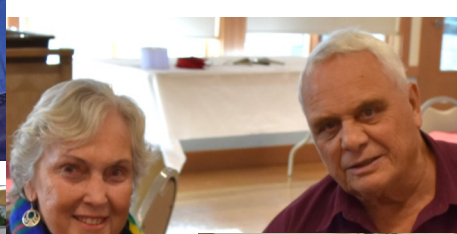
If you would like more information on volunteering in the classroom, please contact Judy McKay at 437-1186 or email her at judym0416@gmail.com.



Bluebill Christmas Social



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NEW MEMBER COORDINATOR

By Myron Vogt

The most common complaint from newer members is that once they have sent in their application, no one ever calls them or asks them to do something. This is mainly the job of our program coordinators and I'm afraid I don't do any better at it than the rest.

To address this problem, **John Ratchford** has agreed to be our New Member Coordinator.

John is retired from Boeing where he worked in Quality Control. (We can use a little of that!) He has been a Bluebill since 2013, working on a lot of stuff, but mainly building. Unfortunately his back has given out and he has to take it easy.

John's job as New Member Coordinator is to mail out information to potential members and ensure that each new member is contacted by the appropriate program coordinators. He will have a column in the Flyer each month informing people how to join Bluebills and introducing any new members. John will also be responsible for keeping our member questionnaire current. There are a number of old ones floating around that are out-of-date.

David Goudie will still be responsible for maintaining an up-to-date Membership List. David sends out all the communications that go to everyone, such as this Flyer. It is important that if you change your email, phone number or address, you let David know. Contact him at oldsilverback@g.com



John Ratchford

Thanks, John!

CLINT WEBB NEW CO-CHAIR



We like to have some turnover in our officers, so our chapter has created the position of Co-Chair who is essentially in training to accept the Chair position in the next year or so. The Co-Chair shares the Chair's duties and acts in that position when necessary. We are lucky to have an experienced Bluebill like Clint accept this position

Clint was an engineer at Boeing for 38 years. That included 10 years on the 747 development program. His final 15 years were in a variety of management positions on the B2 Stealth Bomber.

He has been involved with the Bluebills for eight years. His current interests include the Bluebill distribution program for World Vision supplies and the variety of Bluebill special services. These include the golf tournament benefiting Dove House, support for the YMCA programs supporting schools, and the Christmas Gift Program for the needy.

Thanks, Clint!

WE NEED A REPORTER OR TWO!

I know our Flyer editor pretty well and when we give her items about Bluebill activities, she often asks me about the people we help and what were the circumstances. Most of our inputs are like Joe Friday's reports: Just the facts.

Our articles in the Flyer don't tell the whole story about how much some of the things we do mean to those we help. I want to quote something our Kitsap Coordinator sent me.

"We meet some interesting clients out here, including WW2 vets and other colorful characters. Also, the heartfelt ones who are just trying to survive and are grateful for Bluebills support. You sometimes just want to call a reporter to come out and capture their stories..."

We would like to capture some of these stories plus a few others.

The job requires initiative as you will be deciding on what to report on. I know our program leaders will be able to give you leads and suggestions. You will be a member of our Leadership Team which meets once a month in Port Ludlow.

This is part of our 2017 initiative, "Increase Member Participation" and you will be a member of that team.

If you are interested, let me know.

Myron Vogt,
vogt@cablespeed.com



JANUARY CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 5th ~ Thursday : Leadership Team Meeting– Beach Club

January 10th ~ Tuesday: Pick up at World Vision for Clallam Co., Fife
Warehouse inventory crew at Chimacum.

January 10th ~ Tuesday: Central Leadership Council Meeting, Seattle
10:00 ~ 11:00AM

January 31st ~ Do the pick for Clallam Co. Meet at Chimacum warehouse
at 9AM.

NOTE: Clallam Co. delivery is on Friday, February 3rd.



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 THESE HOURS COUNT TOO!

Volunteer hours for November, 2016

39 Bluebills reported 848 hours. That is 20% of the membership reporting.



Born in
January

Michael Peterson ~ January 1st

Vicki Tallero ~ January 4th

David Grellier ~ January 7th

Kathy Traci ~ January 13th

Ken Avicola ~ January 14th

Leonard Stadmiller ~ January 18th

Larry Lang ~ January 26th

Marilyn Chadwell ~ January 27th

Mea Graham ~ January 28th

HAPPY Birthday to you all!!

OFFICERS & PROGRAM CHAIRS

CHAIR ~ Barbara Berthiaume

barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com

CO-CHAIR ~ Clint Webb

cwebb91275@aol.com

VICE CHAIR ~ Myron Vogt

vogt@cablespeed.com

SECOND VICE CHAIR ~ Bob Kever

stableguy@hotmail.com

Membership	David Goudie	oldsilverback@q.com
THE FLYER	Valeria Vogt	valeria@valvogt.com
Photography	Peggy Lee Flentie	flentie@me.com
Historian	Jack Randall	zjemrandall@msn.com
Hours	Judy McCay	jmmccay@cablespeed.com
Publicity	Barbara Berthiaume	barabara.berthiaume@gmail.com
New Member Coordinator	John Ratchford	redriffboy@yahoo.com
Social	Kathy Roden	kroden0408@aol.com
	Laura Paul	rlplep@yahoo.com
Web site	Ted Muralt	bluebill@clallambay.net
Clallam Co.	Charlie Johnson	racer6j@hotmail.com
Jefferson Co.	Myron Vogt	vogt@cablespeed.com
Kitsap Co.	Bob Kever	stableguy@hotmail.com

WORLD VISION ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES ~ Myron Vogt

Kitsap Co. Coordinator:	Ed Berthiaume	edberthiaume@gmail.com
Clallam Co. Coordinator:	Larry Lang	parkbear47@yahoo.com
Jefferson Co. Coordinator:	Erica Mayfield	emayfield@q.com
Hood Canal Coordinator:	Bonnie Douglass	lbdouglass@wildblue.net

SCHOOL WEEK-END FEEDING PROGRAM

Chimacum School:	Barbara Berthiaume	barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com
Quilcene & Brinnon:	Bonnie Douglass	lbdouglass@wildblue.net
Sequim Schools:	Charlie Johnson	racer6j@hotmail.com

ELECTRICAL / ELECTRONIC RECYCLING

Port Ludlow	Steve Failla	stevefai@cablespeed.com
Sequim	Charlie Johnson	racer6j@hotmail.com

FALL PREVENTION

Jefferson Co.	Dick Ostlund	dickostlund@gmail.com
Clallam Co.	Charlie Johnson	racer6j@hotmail.com
Kitsap Co.	Bob Keever	stableguy@hotmail.com

DOVE HOUSE GOLF TOURNAMENT

Barbara Berthiaume	barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com
Myron Vogt	vogt@cablespeed.com



HAPPY NEW YEAR

To all of you.

May it be a year
of

**HAPPINESS &
HEALTH!!**