

Bluebill FLYER

October 2018



Olympic Peninsula Boeing Bluebill Newsletter Serving Clallam, Jefferson, and Kitsap Counties



Barbara Berthiaume

From the Chair By Barbara Berthiaume



Clint Webb

Put on your seat belts as we have a very busy last quarter of the year. We raised \$19,900 and still counting for Dove House Clients from the Dove House Golf Benefit in August. Clint and Pat Webb are recovering from chairing a very successful Used Book Sale last Saturday with proceeds going to support STEM. Now we are gearing up for the Silent Auction November 16 to raise money for STEM and expanding World Vision programs on the Peninsula. Bob Reasoner has developed workshops for teachers with the Museum of Flight along with all else that he does to promote STEM programs. A strong advocate of the Bluebills, Jay Gilmour, is moving on to a new chapter of a very enriched life and is moving back to Seattle. He will be missed but has promised that his heart is still in Port Ludlow. Happy landings, Jay! **The Christmas Giving** event will be upon us sooner than we think on Tuesday, December 4. The cost of the luncheon will be \$20 pp and people need to **RSVP by Wed, Nov. 27**, the day before Thanksgiving, so be sure to send a response to Bluebillsrsvp@aol.com. We need a good count to send to God Bless Food.

With all of the recent activity, Bluebills still maintain work on all of the ongoing programs we support. We have a lot to be so proud of to be associated with the Olympic Peninsula Bluebills!

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Bluebills Fall Social Focuses on Kitsap Team and Oktoberfest!

The social was held at Vinland Lutheran Church in Poulsbo on a fine fall evening. Food and drink were provided Mark Byl and served by Mark & Joan Byl, and Charlie & Pati Marquis.

After a fine meal of three different kinds of wurst, German potato salad, and excellent sauerkraut, there were presentations by Bluebills and a special guest.

Bob Kever opened the show with reports on Fall prevention and Builder's projects. Ed Berthiaume explained the Bluebills involvement with World Vision's Essential Supplies Program. Myron Vogt shared plans for the future.

Our special guest was Andrea Dolan Potter, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Director for Lutheran Community Services NW-Bremerton/Kitsap Office . Her kind remarks are included below.

I understand that Bob Kever promised all of you less talk and better food this year. I think that sounds like great event planning!

Congratulations on another year of being the most unreasonably modest and hardest working group of volunteers I know. My old Puget Sound Naval Shipyard tool-pusher father's highest accolade definitely is appropriate here. As a true Son of Norway, he was minimalist in his praise but I think he would bust out the "flowery language" here and say: "The Bluebills are better'n average. In fact, they are pretty good eggs. And they wouldn't say crap if they were standing knee-deep in it." (For those of you who don't speak Norske, this is the equivalent of Dad grabbing pom poms and turning cartwheels.)

The median age of Kitsap residents is rising and this is creating a sea-change in our county's landscape. Our demographic shift is attributable to a number of factors, including residents deciding to "age in place" and retirees deciding to return to Kitsap. In just two years (2020) almost one in four Kitsap residents will be over the age of 60. In fifteen years, one in three households nationally will be headed by someone 65 or older (Harvard Joint Center for Housing Studies). This means we need to consider what our communities require to support successful, healthy, and happy aging at home.

continued

Goal of aging all have one thing in common: Supporting and maintaining independence. A National Council on Aging survey reveals up to 94% of people plan to “age in place” at home. A recent AARP study reveals 87% of people over the age of 65 want to stay in their current homes and communities.

But

- More than 7 in 10 of these people will have two or more health concerns that can impact living alone: physical disabilities, diabetes, heart disease, dementia, hypertension and other medical issues.
- More than 50% of non-drivers 65 and older will not leave home most days because they do not have transportation.
- Escalating medical costs and fixed retirement income put modification of older stock housing out of reach for many people.
- Even with resources, maintaining safety at home is an ongoing challenge. As Bette Davis notoriously said, “Old age ain’t for sissies.”

What do these trends and concerns mean? They mean we need to look at policies, but we also must act locally and figure out how we can rally as citizens and neighbors to make Kitsap an “aging-friendly” place.

This is not only about aging and social supports. This is the language of democracy. It is about building a floor of decency and access for everyone to stand on. When “aging in place” is supported, everyone is better off: Families, friendships, neighborhoods, church congregations, social groups, and even local economies.

This is why I hold the Olympic Bluebills in such high esteem. Bluebills help seniors and disabled adults, but they are also are a visible expression of what it means to be active members of a civil society. In these times of social fissures created by political fault lines, that is a very great thing.

But don’t just take my word for it. The Bluebills are loved and respected across Kitsap communities. Here are a few testimonials from key partners in fall prevention

Kaiser Permanente: As the Community Resource Specialist here at the Silverdale Kaiser Permanente, my job is to allocate resources for our members and share with them what is available in our community. In Kitsap particularly, our senior population is booming, which allows me to work with many wonderful seniors and give them hope. A large part of this hope comes from knowing there is a resource such as the Olympic Blue Bills.

continued

Many of these seniors live alone and are on a fixed income. One of our biggest concerns as medical providers is of course, falls, with our senior population. This outstanding program is one of the most utilized resources I give our to our patients. Many of these seniors do not have family or friends that can simply come over, install grab bars or build a wheelchair ramp. Being able to provide the Olympic Blue Bills information to our members is an unmeasurably joyful opportunity for me. We are truly blessed in our county to have a program like this and I am forever grateful for all of the hard work these retirees put into helping our seniors! Our deepest thank you from Kaiser Permanente.

Mayor of Bremerton, Greg Wheeler: As Mayor of the City of Bremerton I am very appreciative of the work the Olympic Bluebills do in our community. I am aware of their projects such as building ramps and railings, installing grab bars and other repairs needed for people to be able to remain in their homes. I also appreciate the support the Olympic Bluebills give to Habitat for Humanity and the work they do with World Vision. These volunteers give of their energy, experience and knowledge and improve the quality of life for those less fortunate in our community.

Mayor of Port Orchard, Rob Putaansuu: “As the Mayor of Port Orchard I recognize the positive impacts that organizations like the Olympic Blues provide to our citizens by improving their quality of life and maintaining their ability to continue to live independently. Thank you for the service to our Community”

CHI/Franciscan: “I have had the fortunate opportunity to be able to work with Bob and the Bluebills recently during our planning for a community event regarding home safety and fall prevention. Bob provided a presentation on his work with the Bluebills, and the services they provide regarding home modifications and home safety. His presentation was one of the highlights of the event! The members of the Bluebills are clearly engaged with their work and passionate about ensuring clients are safe at home and have the resources they need. We see so many patients at the hospital that are concerned about navigating around their home, or accessing their home due to multiple stairs. The services that the Bluebills provide are of utmost value and are integral to our community as our population continues to age. We are so fortunate for their commitment.

Finally, from one senior who wished to remain anonymous: It's hard to be alone sometimes. Living a long time means living with loss and losing your people. Just knowing there are people who care about my wellbeing and safety is what I need to get through and appreciate another day.

Thank you all, Olympic Bluebills, for your kind service to Kitsap County!

Andrea Dolan Potter



Hosts Joan Byl, Mark Byl, Pati Marquis, and Charlie Marquis



Tasty Oktoberfest fare



Ed Berthiaume Presents the Essential Supplies Program



Guest Speaker Andrea Dolan-Potter

PSO Used Book and Media Sale Draws Folks From all over the Community



BOOK SALE SUCCESS!

By Clint Webb

Last Saturday Sept 29, our long-awaited Used Book and Media Sale was held at the Beach Club and it was a rousing success! The proceeds of \$1,940 were very close to our goal of \$2,000. The turnout was excellent with around 140 customers. The early-bird sale, requiring a \$5 entry fee was particularly successful. We had 27 people come in and they were heavy buyers. One book seller alone bought \$400 worth of books.

A lot of Bluebills and several other helpers did a lot of the work and we owe them many thanks! We had several people working for more than two months, sorting and categorizing books in Myron's daughter's garage. We had people putting up posters, not only in Port Ludlow, but Port Hadlock, Chimacum, Brinnon, and Quilcene.

On set-up day, we had our stronger Bluebills hauling 154 heavy boxes to the Beach Club in pick-ups and SUV's. We had many workers inside helping direct placement of books into well-marked categories. All of this was going on while books were still pouring in from all over the area. We were swamped trying to cope, but a lot of hard work by many finally brought order to the chaos.

continued

All told we had, for the two month effort, the set-up, and the sale about 40 Bluebills and others working to make it all happen. After set-up, we had over 6000 books, 500 CDs, and 100 DVDs. We then sold approximately 1500 hardback and large paper-backs, 600 pocket paper backs, 150 CDs and 25 DVDs.

At the end of the sale a company called Discover Books came in and hauled away all the unsold books. Discover Books, by the way, tries to give all books a new life. They have an amazing website where they sell books online. Books that don't sell are donated to non-profits, e.g. nursing homes, etc. If all their efforts fail to find the books new homes they will then recycle the paper.

The Jefferson County Library took all the unsold media.

Again, many thanks to all who worked so hard to make the sale a big success!

Clint and Pat Webb



The crew arrives at the "storage facility" to move the books to the Beach Club.



Arrival at the Beach Club



6600 books and media are set up and ready for the sale.



The OlyPen Bluebills welcome comments and feedback concerning Bluebills projects, programs, events and the Flyer. We reserve the right to edit comments for grammar, privacy...etc. Political, defamatory, anonymous, soliciting, or comments not related to Bluebills activities will not be included. If you wish to submit a comment, please email it to:

olypenbluebills@gmail.com.

Thank you.

(Looking forward to some comments next month)

October Calendar

- Oct 2 Deliver W/V goods to Jefferson Co. Meet at warehouse at 9:00
- Oct 4 Leadership Team and PSO Meeting-Bay Club 3:00-4:00
- Oct 9 Central Leadership Council Meeting-Seattle 10:00-11:00
- Oct 9 Pick up at World Vision for Kitsap County. Meet in Fife at 9:00
- Oct 10 Caregiving Forum– Port Townsend Community Center, 6:30-8:30
- Oct 31 Halloween

October 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			



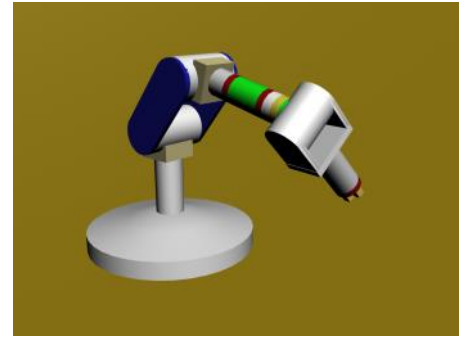
WAYPOINTS



- Nov 2 Pick for Kitsap W/V goods
- Nov 6 Delivery to Kitsap Co
- Nov 16 PSO Silent Auction– Bay Club
- Dec 4 Christmas Giving/Social Event



Volunteers Needed for Robotics



Our Peninsula Support Organization, the non-profit arm of the Bluebills, has been working with the schools of Jefferson County to help them strengthen instruction in science, technology, engineering and mathematics to better prepare students for jobs in the world of tomorrow. One of those critical skills is learning how to work with robotics, so we plan to fund robotic teams in as many schools as possible using the FIRST Washington Robotics program, an innovative and inspiring education program.

Boeing is a strong supporter of FIRST Washington Robotics so they have agreed to provide financial support to those programs mentored by a Boeing retiree. Thus, we are making an urgent appeal to anyone from Boeing, not just engineers, to volunteer to serve as an advisor or mentor to teachers or robotics teams. Please contact Bob Reasoner at Esteem1@AOL.com or call 437-0200 if you have questions or to volunteer.

To view First Washington's website, click on the logo below:





There will be a **Caregiving Forum** at the [Port Townsend Community Center](#) Oct. 10 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm with State Reps. there as well. Dan Jones is with the Puget Sound Retirement Action who is coordinating this forum. The sponsoring organization is Puget Sound Advocates for Retirement Action, PSARA, <https://psara.org>. They write that we all hope to stay healthy and independent for a long time, but in the end, most of us will need some help. What will it look like? Who will provide it? How will it feel? Will we be able to afford help? The Puget Sound Retirement Action invites us to join to view a screening of the award winning documentary "CARE", which pulls back the curtain on the poignant and largely hidden world of in-home care. Beautifully shot and deeply moving, the film reveals the deep bonds that form between paid care providers and care recipients while exposing the cracks in the US care system. The Huffington Post writes "A powerful tale of dedication through the eyes of workers and clients." This presentation is co-sponsored by Peninsula Home Care Cooperative, **the Bluebills**, and Dove House Advocacy Services. You can read about this presentation in the PSARA's latest newsletter: the [September 2018 Retiree Advocate](#)

October 10
6:30-8:30 PM



Builders' Pages

Jefferson County



Michael Graham, Dan Packard and I finished the railing this morning. When I went back a few hours later to sand the wood filler, they had not only sanded it but started painting it.

-Todd Knoblock



Did several projects for a client today. Used leftover routed wood that Todd Knoblock made for building front porch rail. Also installed 3 grab bars on tile, installed hand held shower wand, installed smoke detector, and surveyed back steps for replacement - told her it was starting to rot and should be replaced, estimated about \$200 in materials. Put \$50 cash in Bluebills box collected to cover materials taken from Chimacum Storage.

-David Parish

The client's wife needed a ramp to be able to get to her studio where she makes candles. She used the ramp with her walker minutes after it was finished and offered candles to all of our project team. The client has knee surgery in two days and was very thankful for Bluebills doing the job.

Dave



Bluebills in action (supervised by Elska).

Michael Graham, Dan Nieusma, Ron Chanpong, Todd Knoblock, and Dave Parrish



Completed Ramp.



Myron Vogt repaired the Tri Area Community Center sign which "had suffered from age and deterioration". Sheila Ramsey, the director sent along this picture with the following message:

Hello Myron –

This picture doesn't do it justice – it's awesome. Thank you so much!

Sheila Ramsey



2018 Builder Data



BUILDERS DATA

You might note that through September we have dealt with 222 different “clients”.

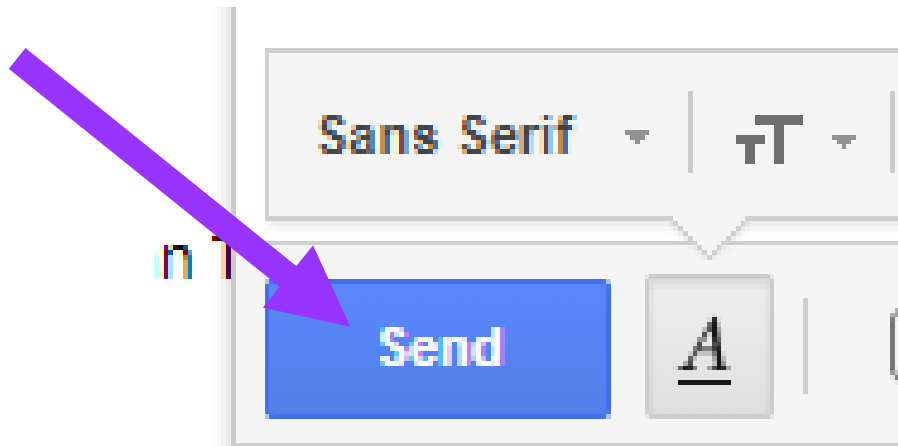
This is practically one person each week day that is helped by just our Builders. This data doesn’t include the good done by all the other programs we have. That help is reflected in the hours reported so try to get yours’ in each month.

Thanks, Myron

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sep	YTD Total	2017 TTL
Grab bars	19	13	41	37	11	25	25	11	28	210	229
Ramps	7	7	9	9	2	2	7	6	2	51	52
Railing	1	3	7	7	5	6	4	6	5	44	38
Miscellaneous	6	7	8	5	13	6	11	8	9	64	56
Total Clients	25	20	26	28	28	21	24	31	19	222	222
Total Different Volunteers	16	17	27	19	13	18	14	20	11	n/a	
Open Projects	45	55	36	47	40	31	23	56	48	n/a	



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 OF THESE HOURS COUNT TOO!

DID YOU KNOW?

BOEING SETS OUR BUDGET BASED ON OUR REPORTED VOLUNTEER HOURS?

EMAIL YOUR HOURS TO Judy McCay:
jmmccay@cablespeed.com

73 volunteers reported 1813 hours. That is 38% of the Bluebill membership reporting hours for August.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Ken Snider	10/1
Bill Anstiss	10/2
Peggy Lee Flentie	10/4
Ray Paul	10/6
Jim Kelly	10/7
Barbara Shain	10/8
Gail Chanpong	10/9
Judi Hyde	10/9
Diane Kobz	10/9
Mary Rouser	10/9
Charlie Marquis	10/12
Hugh Grenquist	10/13
Kathy Cianci	10/15
Tim Propeck	10/18
George Zimmerman	10/20
Jim McGonigle	10/22
Roberta Enders	10/23
Mary Kowalczyk	10/24
Joni Williams	10/26
Kenneth Orth	10/27
Robert Keever	10/28
Frank Vahcic	10/31



HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

OFFICERS

CHAIR ~ Barbara Berthiaume	barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com
CO-CHAIR ~ Clint Webb	cwebb91275@aol.com
1st VICE CHAIR ~ Jo Nieuwsma	rocketmama@verizon.net
2nd VICE CHAIR ~ Bob Kever	stableguy@hotmail.com

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World Vision Essential Supplies

Myron Vogt vogt@cablespeed.com

World Vision School Supply Distribution

Clint Webb cwebb91275@aol.com

Ed Berthiaume edberthiaume@gmail.com

World Vision Regional Coordinators

Clallam Co. Larry Lang parkbear47@yahoo.com

Jefferson Co. Erica Mayfield emayfield@q.com

Hood Canal Bill and Candy Anstiss billandcandya@gmail.com

Kitsap Co. Ed Bethiaume edbethiaume@gmail.com

School Week-end Feeding Program

Chimacum School Barbara Berthiaume barbara.berthiaume@gmail.com

Quilcene & Brinnon Bonnie Douglass lbdouglass@wildblue.com

Sequim Schools Charlie Johnson racer6@hotmail.com

Fall Prevention Dave Parrish parrishdav@aol.com

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Kitsap Co. Bob Keever stableguy@hotmail.com

Dove House Tournament

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Myron Vogt vogt@cablespeed.com

Jefferson Co. Homeless / Dove House Support

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