

THE BLUEBILL FLYER

**A monthly Publication of
BOEING RETIREE VOLUNTEERS**

of the OLYMPIC PENINSULA BLUEBILLS CHAPTER

May 2008

**Editor:
Cynthia Ann Joyner**



**THE
SPRING
SOCIAL 2008**

***GIFTS IN KIND/
SCHOOL SUPPLY DISTRIBUTION
VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION LUNCHEON***

The theme at our spring social this year was Gifts-In-Kind and School Supply Distribution Volunteer appreciation. Like much of the work we do, the Bluebill GIK/SSD volunteers never actually see the persons receiving the benefits. It is important that our members know the work they do is meaningful and important to the communities. For these reasons we tried to give our GIK/SSD volunteers some special recognition.

Special invitations were mailed to each GIK/SSD volunteer so they would know we were holding this meeting to show our appreciation for their contribution. In addition all the

THE SPRING SOCIAL 2008

volunteer's names were displayed on a bulletin board and special name tags were made for them. A special slide presentation was given reviewing the program history with photos and data about their accomplishments. Catholic Community services made table centerpieces and displays with GIK/SSD program themes.

Lastly, **Tim Hockett of Olympic Community Action Programs and Donna Jones of Catholic Community Services** spoke about how important the GIK/SSD products were to the communities and, until Bluebills started this program, they were not getting anything.

We had sixty-nine Bluebill and eleven agency attendees at the lunch. The lunch was hosted by Boeing and we were pleased to have Sandee Baker of Boeing attend. It is important to the moral of Boeing retirees to know that the Boeing Company cares about helping us help the communities and that the company shows it by funding these kind of events. It is even *nicer when someone from Boeing attends*.

Special thanks to Michael Graham, our social chair, who did his usual great job with the lunch and a lot of other details.

We have a committee working on how to provide our volunteers with the recognition and appreciation they deserve for so many of the activities they participate in. We will probably be doing something similar to this for the other Bluebill volunteers.

Until we get a chance to recognize your contribution to a specific program, the Leadership Team wants to say:

**THANKS TO EACH AND
EVERY ONE
OF YOU
WHO CONTRIBUTE TO BLUEBILLS
AND THE COMMUNITIES WE LIVE IN.**

from Myron Vogt.



THE SPRING SOCIAL 2008



Donna Jones of Catholic Community Services made the table centerpieces. The centerpieces were later given to one of the lucky people at each table.

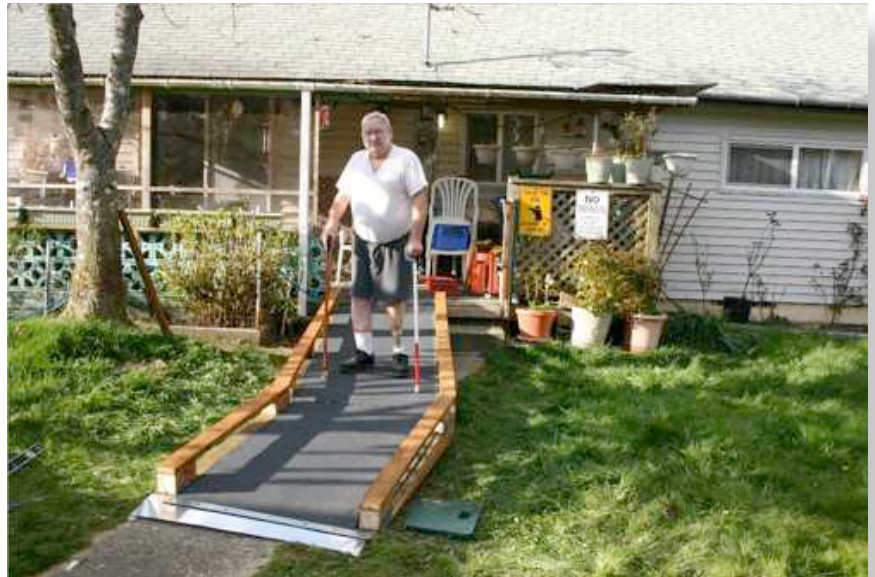
Chuck and Wanda Sherred, Amy Miller and George Ansley discuss things during the social hour preceding lunch. In the background is a bulletin board with the names of all the GIK volunteers and the nearly 40 letters of appreciation received from members of the GIK program.



TAKING CARE OF PORT ORCHARD

Dan Nordmark is our Kitsap County Independent Living Coordinator. All the requests for help in that county end up in Dan's "In Basket". He does a wonderful job taking care of things. Here is a typical project.

Dan and Larry Noedel put in 28 hours building a couple of ramps for a client in Port Orchard. They had to react quickly to the request because the client needed the ramps to come home from the convalescing center. Quite often the release of a client is dependant on having aids such as ramps and grab bars in their home.



A Bluebill client tries out the new ramp.

Bluebills try to give these jobs request priority.

Nice Job Dan!



Volunteer hours

For March we had 28 volunteers contribute 839 hours.

This included:

picking up Gifts in Kind items in Kent and delivering them to agencies in Clallam and Mason counties,

building wheel chairs ramps in Clallam and Jefferson counties,

putting up 800 feet of new horse fencing for the Second Chance Ranch,

and installation of a new floor at the Salmon Enhancement facility in Port Angeles.



From Jack Hawker

The Bluebill Spotlight is on

Big Brothers Big Sisters has been serving Jefferson County since 2004, growing over 37% each year. The organization currently matches over 184 children each year with caring adult mentors. Donations from the Gifts-in-Kind program benefit the families in the program, as well as keeping operating costs to a minimum. Liesl Slabaugh is the Branch Manager for the Jefferson/Clallam County office.

The mission of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound is “to partner with actively involved community members to match caring adults with children, both of whom benefit from the one-to-one mentoring programs.” The Bigs (mentors), Littles (children), and families come from all walks of life. Littles have a desire to have a caring adult other than their parent or guardian in their lives. Bigs have a willingness to share fun, little



Liesl
Slabaugh
Branch
Manager
Big
Brothers
Big
Sisters
of Puget
Sound

moments that have a big impact on a young person’s life. BBBS matches these children and adults, supports their relationship, and presents them with opportunities to learn, grow, and explore the world together.

The need for mentorship is powerful. In Jefferson County:

- 13.5% of children ages 5-17 live in poverty and 37% are participants in free or reduced lunch programs.
 - 25% of 8th graders reported feeling so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks in a row that they stopped some usual activity.
 - Nearly one in ten 8th graders reported being drunk or high at school at least once in the last 12 months. This number jumps to 27% of 10th graders and 36% of 12th graders. (Jefferson County Public Health)
 - Seventy-five percent of Washington’s students say that they do not have adult role models to help guide them.
- (Kids Count, 2002, Annie E Casey)

One-to-one mentoring changes the equation through the steady presence of a caring adult to help stabilize the life of a child and enrich the life of the adult. The program transforms lives and communities, one child at a time.

The Bluebill Spotlight is on

Simple acts of mentoring yield powerful results. Independent studies show that, in contrast to their peers, Little Brothers and Little Sisters are:

- 97% less likely to become involved with juvenile authorities.
- 52% less likely to skip school.
- 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs.
- 37% more trusting of parents and guardians.
- 33% less likely to use violence to solve problems.



It costs only \$1300 to find, train and support a match for one year. Consider this savings: \$1.7 – 2.3 million is saved by society over their lifetime by putting one high-risk youth on the right path. (Washington State Institute for Public Policy)

Big Brothers Big Sisters is recognized as a BluePrint for Violence Prevention by the University of Colorado at Boulder and by Forbes Magazine as one of the top ten most efficient charities at focusing its resources on its mission. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound is funded privately by individual donors and corporations; through grants from private foundations, Big Brothers Big Sisters of America, United Good Neighbors; and through money earned from our Donation Center. The administrative costs are low, with \$.82 of every dollar going directly to support our programs. Additionally, the agency has aggressive growth goals, planning to double the number of children served by 2010. From 2004-2007, mentoring in Jefferson County increased from 3 to 184 matches.

There are a number of ways to become involved. One can become a BIG, volunteer skills and expertise as a member of the Jefferson/Clallam County Partnership Council, donate, come to an event, put together a fund raising team, contribute needed goods and services, or sponsor events or activities.

Those interested in becoming a mentor should contact Jennifer Shatraw, Enrollment and Match Specialist, at the Jefferson County Office, 2021 E. Sims Way, Port Townsend, WA 98368, 360-379-4984 or 360-531-1959 or email, jennifer.shatraw@bbbs.org. For other ways of supporting the program, contact Liesl Slabaugh, Jefferson County Branch Manager, liesl.slabaugh@bbbs.org. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Puget Sound will also give presentations about the organization to clubs and organizations.



BLUEBILLS SAY THANKS TO WORLD VISION STAFF

Every month Bluebills travel to the World Vision warehouse in Kent to pickup goods for our local Gifts-In-Kind program.

Our GIK program is possible through the cooperation of World Vision and the friendly and helpful World Vision personnel running the warehouse.

To show our appreciation we recently took World Vision personnel Richard Baker and Deanne Cline to lunch and presented Deanne with an Appreciation Award and gift certificate.

Deanne has the goods we request all wrapped up, on pallets and ready for loading when we get there. Her friendly and helpful attitude are always appreciated. Richard is warehouse manager and coordinates the goods we are to pick up.



Myron Vogt and
Deanne Cline

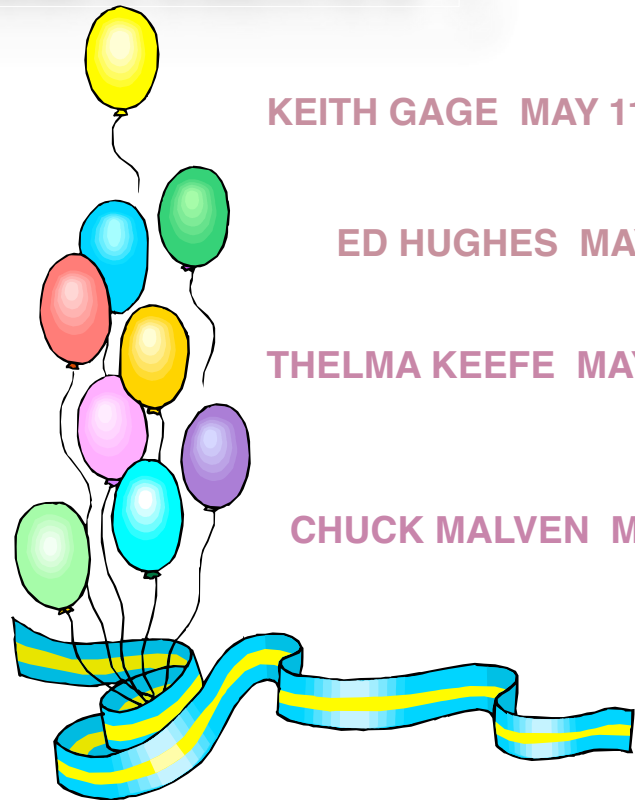
TO the Olympic Chapter of Boeing Bluebills Deanne, Richard and their manager, Jim Peterson, **ARE** World Vision and we appreciate all the support they give us.



Deanne Cline and
Richard Baker of World Vision

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

BETTY FAULKNER MAY 5
DAVIS STEELQUIST MAY 13
WALTER KOHN MAY 14
WANDA SHERRED MAY 15
MICHAEL GRAHAM MAY 20
KEN MELLOTT MAY 26
CYNDYANN JOYNER MAY 27



KEITH GAGE MAY 11
ED HUGHES MAY 1
THELMA KEEFE MAY 19
CHUCK MALVEN MAY 24

rodenem@olypen.com

KNOW SOMEONE WHO IS INTERESTED IN BLUEBILLS?

Many of our members learn about Bluebills from someone who is already a Bluebill. They may ask how to join or how to get more information.

We have a Membership Coordinator, Eleanor Roden, who does a wonderful job. If someone is interested in joining Bluebills or wants more information, get the persons name and address, then send this information to Eleanor via email (rodenem@olypen.com). Eleanor will send the person a packet of information. When Eleanor gets the included form back she adds the member to the membership list and sends an email to the coordinators of the programs the new member is interested in working on.

Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, Bluebills remember Southeast Asia rescue mission

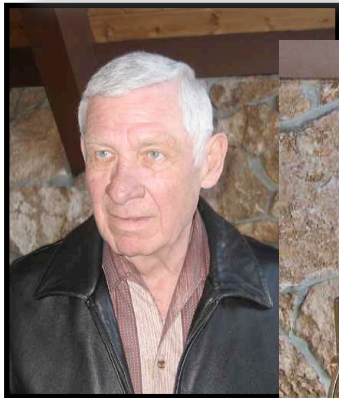


Retired U.S. Air Force Col. Bob Lambert, chief of intelligence in Nakon Phenom, Thailand from 1969-1970, gives a presentation on Boxer 22, one of the largest air search and rescue missions ever conducted Dec. 5-7, 1969, at the Naval Air Station Whidbey Island Officers Club, March 21.

TO READ THE WHOLE ARTICLE GO TO:

http://www.northwestnavigator.com/index.php/navigator/whidbey/naswi_bluebills_remember_southeast_asia_rescue_mission/

Naval Air Station, Whidbey Island, Bluebills Continued



Lt. Cmdr. Brian Danielson and **Bluebill**, Retired Air Force Col. Bob Lambert giving the rescue mission presentation at the luncheon in the Officer's Club at the Naval Air Station on Whidbey Island.

Pictured here are some of the 80 or so Bluebills attending the briefing and the luncheon on a beautiful day at the Naval Air Station -- Merv Shetler, Norma and Richard Vaughn, Ed Berthiaume, Dan Nordmark, Cyndyann Joyner, Larry Elton and Lee Amundson.

FLYER CONTENTS AVAILABLE ON LINE

This month we added a list of the articles in each ***Flyer*** to our web site. This makes it easy to look for a particular picture or article that came out some time ago.

The current and all past issues of the ***Flyer*** are also on this site at:

<http://www.bluebills.org/opbb/olympic-peninsula-bluebill-newsletters.html>

Our web site is available at **Bluebills.org**. All kinds of other information is available here so check it out.

May 6 – GIK Pick up-Kent

**May 12- Leadership Team Meeting -
Bay Club, 9:00 – 11:00**

May 13 – Central Leadership Team Meeting - Seattle

**May 13 – Unload Food Bank Truck –
Tri-Area Community Center. 8:00 – 9:00**

May 27 – GIK Delivery- Clallam County

**MAY
CALENDAR**

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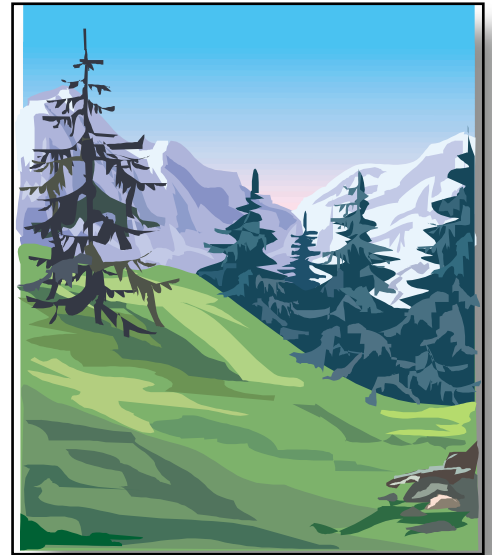
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THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA BLUEBILLS CHAPTER

HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU !

