



Olympic Peninsula Chapter of the Boeing Retiree Volunteers

JUNE FLYER 2011



Ken Mellott

CLALLAM COUNTY BUILDERS BUSIER THEN EVER

Bluebills have always done a lot of work in Clallam County but the last month or two has been unusually busy and more jobs are yet to be done. So far in 2011 they have build 10 ramps, and installed 8 grab bars, railings and steps. All of these jobs are in Sequim or the Port Angeles area.

There has been a unique situation in Clallam County that has made our jobs more difficult. In certain parts of the county a building permit was needed. We have always build our ramps to the structural requirements of the US Uniform Building Code and the US Government Americans with Disability Act Accessibility Guidelines. Our Independent Living Project Handbook follows these guidelines.

Still, some counties and cities have different requirements for ramps than the Federal guidelines. One of these is Clallam County.

Obtaining a building permit not only required a lot of red tape but also cost money that normally wasn't easy to roll into the cost estimate. So jobs dragged on. Our guys have been working on trying to fix this for a year or two but Ken Mellott of Sequim persevered, having several meetings with the building department.

Finally they came to an agreement:

1. We put together a special Project Handbook for Clallam County that reflected their code requirements. They agreed to accept this in lieu of a drawing each time we built a ramp.
2. They agree to forgo any permit fee.
3. We put together a permit application form that covered all the needs of the building department so our project coordinators knew what they wanted.
4. And lastly, no on-site inspection was required.

Ken Mellott was the guy who coordinated all this. We now have a process to handle these job that will make them proceed faster and with less cost. And, incidentally, eliminate all the wasted time and red tape the building department had to go through.

A really great break-through thanks to Ken.

Clallam County Builders

Late in May the Builders put in a ramp in Sequim for a woman in a wheel chair. Her husband had an artificial leg and that made it extra difficult for him to assist her into and out of the house. These pictures are of that project but are typical of most ramps we build.

The material for this ramp was funded by Olympic Area Agency on Aging. The funding and Bluebill participation is coordinated by Teri Wensits of Catholic Community Services.

Permits, ordering materials and arranging the Bluebill crew is coordinated by Ken Mellott. Most of the Clallam County jobs is coordinated by Larry Elton or Ken Mellott.



Gifford Asher has been a mainstay in helping with Clallam County projects. Giff is something like 87 years old and still one of our most active and valued volunteers.



We mixed a lot of concrete by hand on this job. Handling the shovel on the left side of the wheelbarrow was Bob Walling, Bill Shain is on the right side.



Larry Elton gets ready to cut a 2x6 for a ramp section. Ken Winter and Bill Shain are in the background.

Clallam County Builders



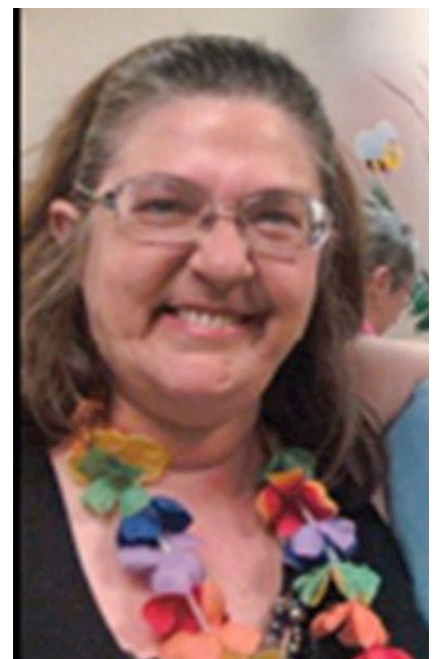
Giff and Ken nailing down plywood flooring.



Bill Shain and Ken Winter work on getting the upper landing installed.



Some of the Clallam County Builders: Ken Winter, Gifford Asher, Bob Walling, Larry Elton, Bill Shain, Myron Vogt and Ken Mellott. Other frequent helpers in Clallam County are Michael Graham, Jack Hawker, Ed Hughes, Ken Snider and Russ Rousseau.



Teri Wensits, VCS Director Clallam and Greys Harbor Counties.

All of our jobs in Clallam County are coordinated by Volunteer Chore Services. Teri Wensits handles the VCS office and she takes all the inputs, handles payment in cases that are not self-pay, covers our volunteers with insurance and is a great person to work with. Thanks, Teri!

June Birthdays

Andrews	Glenn	30-Jun
Beam	Gwen	7-Jun
Berthiaume	Barbara	16-Jun
Boucher	Paul	29-Jun
Weavewr	Mark	19-Jun
Clear Padilla	Mary	15-Jun
Cox	George	20-Jun
Elton	Margo	6-Jun
Hawker	Jack	24-Jun
Hollister	John	16-Jun
Holtz	Daniel	14-Jun
Humphrey	Darryl	16-Jun
Patric	Steve	26-Jun
Peden	Bob	2-Jun
Snider	Kathy	21-Jun
Patrick	Steve	26-Jun



June Bluebill Events

- Thursday, June 9, Leadership Team Meeting-Bay Club, 3:00-4:00
- Tuesday, June 14, Unload Food Bank Truck- Tri-Area Community Center, Chimacum. 8:00-9:00 am
- Tuesday, June 14, Deliver Gifts-In-Kind goods-Jefferson County. Meet at Chimacum warehouse at 9:00.
- Tuesday, June 14, Central Leadership Council meeting. Seattle, 10:00-11:00
- Saturday, June 25, CEA Antique Road Show-Bay Club. Bluebills help unload, load larger items. Time to be announced.

2011 Bluebill Socials - Mark Your Calendar

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Summer, Gift-In-Kind Recognition (golf) July 11, Monday, 11 am (picnic 3-7pm Bay Club)

Fall, Partner Recognition/Oktoberfest October 13th, Thursday 3 to 7 pm, Bay Club

Winter, Christmas Giving Program, Luncheon, December 8th, Thursday, 11 to 3 pm, Bay Club

CHAIRMAN'S CORNER



Dick Ostlund,
Chair of the
Bluebills of the
Olympic
Peninsula

My first blush with the Bluebills included an assignment to become responsible for the SSD, School Supply Distribution Program. I've never regretted accepting the job. If the Bluebills are the ice cream sundae, The SSD program is one of the best flavors. Therefore, I will take this month to say a couple words about why I love this particular flavor.

It's almost like we have our own little foundation here. Like those charities set up by professional ball players, movie stars, and the foundations such as the one created by Bill Gates, the service we do in the GIK field is to accept gifts from those who offer and give to those who are needy. In this case I think one of the most satisfying examples is in school supplies. When we deliver the supplies to the schools, help is often provided to empty the van/truck and carry the boxes of gifts into the school. This help is usually the kids themselves. We have the unique opportunity to see and speak to those who are the end users. When the boxes are open and the notebooks, pencils, paper, rulers, crayons, glue, can be seen, these children act as they would in a candy store run by Willy Wonka. Sometimes it's not the classroom supplies that are most appreciated. Clothes, personal items, and hygiene supplies also create the oohs and aahs. I was told last week about a group of students in one of "our" schools that fit the 70% rule about lunches, but here there are some kids whose families are homeless. How about them apples, Mr. Gates. It's a wonderful world we live in. Dick



←
Dick stands before the boxes of school supplies that will be distributed in early June.

Among the things there are literally thousands of pens, pencils, crayons and rulers. There are hundreds of rolls of scotch tape, notebooks, books, clipboards, scissors and boxes of other items like folders and clips. Seems like a lot, but when split among the schools we serve it can all be used.

Grab Bar Installation by the Bluebills



On May 12th, Mike Graham and I attended the Older Americans Annual Conference in Bremerton, WA. There was over 1200 people in attendance, most over 60 years old. We manned a booth with a theme of Independent Living in a safe environment. We stressed the important of safe access into every room in their home. Grab-bars, stair railings, removing throw rugs, etc. and how they can obtain assistance in having these safety features installed in their home.

We have already received requests for Lifeline and grab bar installations from attendees of the conference and we expect many more. Marvin Segar

The Bluebills and the Brinnon Shrimp Fest



Shelley and Russ Rousseau at the Bluebill booth in Brinnon.

The Brinnon Shrimp Fest was a two day event attended by and estimated 10,000 people.

Also working a shift in the booth were Michael Graham and Marvin Segar, John and Cindy Hollister, and Myron Vogt and Davis Steelquist.

Bluebill Officers and Program Chairs

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Our Mission

The purpose of the Bluebills is to provide opportunities for Boeing retirees and their spouses to volunteer their time, energy, skills, knowledge, and experience to improve the quality of life in their respective communities and thereby to enhance their own lives.