

THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA BLUEBILLS

DO THE HOLIDAYS !



HI EVERYBODY!

**Here's a supplement to the regular Newsletter of the OPB Bluebills.
There will not be a regular newsletter for January,
instead resuming with the
February issue.**

There's still time to vote for the new name for the newsletter.

Just be sure to address your choices to:

**Cyndyann
Newsletter Editor
starwave@olypen.com**

See you all next year!

Cyndyann

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



Bluebills Christmas Luncheon



December 6, 2006

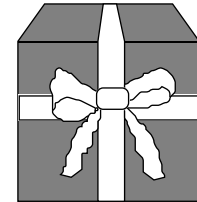




Although Boeing hosts our year-end recognition luncheon, we ask attendees to make the holiday season a little better for the less fortunate in our communities.



The centerpiece of each table served as a collection box. The contributions were used to buy gifts for the women and children in the Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault programs. Attendees were also asked if they would like to be a shopper for one of the families. If so, they chose a name from the board and received some of the collected money for shopping.



At the luncheon, Cheryl Bozarth, of the Jefferson County Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault program spoke on their history and goals. Sharon Commander, of the Community Enrichment Alliance (CEA) presented the Bluebills with a \$5,000.00 contribution.



The Choral Belles provided cheerful, happy harmonies and Vince Pace provided music for the Social prior to the luncheon.

Our treasured Jack Randall was presented with our Lifetime Achievement Award. His contributions to the Olympic Peninsula Bluebills are chronicled later in this publication.

The pictures of the gathering of the Bluebills who did shopping and came together with the wrapped gifts to take to the program for distribution anonymously are here too.



OPB Christmas gift giving program



Is there anyone among us

that is not aware that Christmas is a joyous time for most and, unfortunately, an extra difficult and depressing time for many?

Because Christmas is a special time of the year, families in crisis should not be forgotten. Over the past several years our Olympic Peninsula Bluebills have been buying gifts for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault (DV/SA) in Kitsap, Clallam, and Jefferson Counties. Each DV/SA agency provides us with a coded list of clients for whom we buy gifts. We do not have the names of the recipients only their gender, age,

size of clothing and Christmas wish.

This year our program was our most successful because we received donations totaling \$6,027.00 from Bluebills and our friends. One spirit filled individual donated \$200.00 and our largest contribution of \$5,000.00 came from the 'Community Enrichment Alliance' (CEA) organization. CEA is an active all-volunteer group whose main focus is to raise funds for non-profit organizations, particularly educational institutions. The Bluebills are very grateful that CEA also believes that Christmas is a time when families in crisis should be helped.

This year our Bluebills;

1. bought gifts worth \$60.00 for 85 individuals and \$40.00 Safeway gift certificates for 26 families of two or more people.

2. along with some new bicycles, also gave several refurbished bicycles, to adults and children.

3. out of our Gifts-In-Kind program, selected dresses donated by the Dress Barn for lady DV/SA clients, gift wrapped, and delivered them with all of the other Christmas gifts.

When our OPB Christmas gift giving program began, the best we could scrape up was about \$20 for each

client and only in Jefferson County.

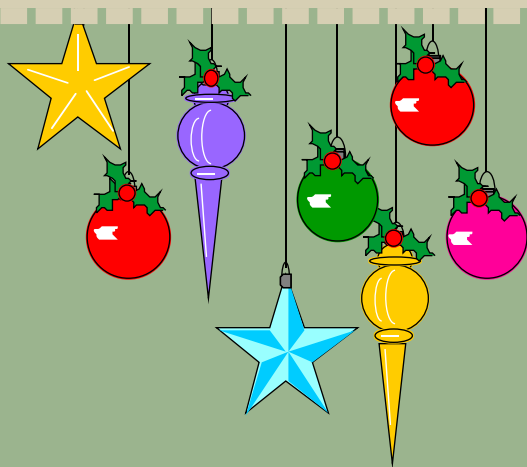
Now we are able to buy much nicer gifts for people in three counties including grocery gift certificates for families.

Dozens of Olympic Peninsula Bluebill families and friends are involved in this wonderful Christmas giving project. The generosity of so many caring people has allowed us to touch the hearts of, not only a greater number of gift recipients but also of the good folks that buy, wrap, and deliver the packages.

Thank you all very much.
from Chuck Sherred.



Cheryl Bozarth, Director of Jefferson County Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault, was our speaker. She reviewed the programs development and explained how the gifts we provide are distributed to the clients.



AT THE LUNCHEON



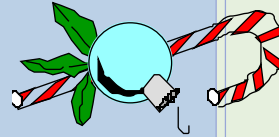
Show us the **MONEY!**



Sharon Commander of the Community Enrichment Alliance presents to Blubill Chuck Sherrd the \$5000.00 in cash from CEA for gift buying.!



WHO IS CEA?



As in the past two years, CEA joined Bluebills in helping victims of domestic violence and sexual assault by making a cash contribution to our gift-giving fund. This year they presented us with a record-breaking \$5000!

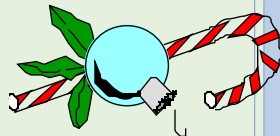
Who are these women who do so much for our organization and the community?

CEA stands for Community Enrichment Alliance. It is a group of volunteers that strives to bring interesting and enriching programs and activities to the residents of our communities. The group was started in 2002 and currently have a membership of about 26 women. They are a 501 (C-3) organization. (In fact they are one of our Gifts-In-Kind members.)

The main focus of CEA is to raise funds for other non-profit organizations. It has a scholarship fund for Chimacum High School and makes contributions to many other groups. In addition to fundraising CEA con-

tributes to the community by organizing a wide range of educational programs. Fun and entertaining events are sponsored as well. All of these activities are designed to bring together and benefit members of the community. A goal that sounds similar to Bluebills.

This organization has done wonderful things and Bluebills is indeed fortunate to have them as a "partner".



THANKS, CEA!



JACK RANDALL RECEIVES OLYMPIC PENINSULA BLUEBILL LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD.

Jack Randall started the Olympic Peninsula Chapter of Boeing Bluebills.

In 1995 he read about Bluebills in the Boeing News and asked to be kept informed. In November 1997 Jack became interested in Habitat for Humanity, which was attempting to form a chapter in Jefferson County. He and a friend, Ralph Huth, thought that if they could form a chapter of Bluebills in our area it would be a good fit to work with Habitat.

Jack contacted the local public TV station and the Leader newspaper and got them to add a notice asking Boeing retirees to attend an informational meeting at the Bay Club. Chuck Sherrard and Armon Enders were the first to respond. At that meeting it was decided to pursue a Bluebill Chapter for our area.

Twenty-one people attended the first "Bluebill" meeting on March 5, 1998. A poll was taken to see who was interested in forming our own chapter. Sixteen people responded.

You could call March 19 the first chapter meeting. At that meeting. We elected our first Chair, Jack Randall, and two vice chairs, Rosemary Houghton and Myron Vogt. Roberta Enders volunteered to be Secretary and take notes.

On July 23, 1998, the Olympic Chapter was approved to operate as an Authorized Bluebill chapter, joining the existing Heritage and Sno-King Chapters. We had forty names on the membership list.

From that start in 1997, here is where we are nine years later:

Increased our membership to 167 Boeing retirees, spouses and volunteers.

Have a \$10,000 budget, provided by Boeing, for 2007.

Have quarterly social events.

Have a monthly newsletter.

Created our own webpage.

Acquired our own warehouse.

Routinely work with over forty agencies, churches and schools.

Probably more important, here is what we have done to improve the lives of people in our communities in the last nine years

.Purchased Christmas gifts for over three hundred women and children in Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault programs.

Repaired hundreds of pieces of hospital equipment.

Unloaded tons of food for the food bank.

Provided seventy five pickup truck loads of goods to agencies, churches and schools through our Gifts-In-Kind program.

Provide school supplies to thirteen needy schools every quarter through our School Supply Distribution program.

Built about 250 ramps and installed over 500 grab bars and railings through our Independent Living program.

Completed hundreds of "handy-man" projects for individuals and agencies.

Repaired for re-distribution over 200 bikes.



Is it any wonder that Jack Randall deserves a lifetime achievement Award?

CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU, JACK !

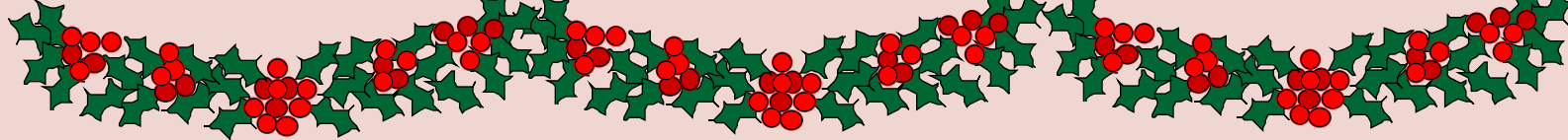


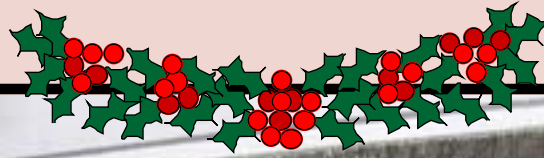
Edith and Jack Randall

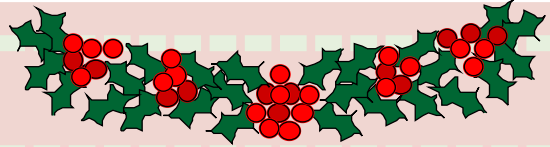
The Faces of OPB Bluebills

Wrapping and Gathering and Giving









Clothes-Sorting Session

At the November pick-up from World Vision one of the many items we received was 80 boxes of new clothes from Dress Barn. We distributed 40 boxes to our Gifts-In-Kind members in Kitsap County. It was decided that we should select clothes from the remaining 40 boxes for the women who would be in our Christmas Giving program. (We had done something similar in prior years but this year we had many more clothes.)

All 40 boxes were taken to the Bay Club and on December 4 thirteen members met to sort things out. How to proceed?

The women decided to go through all the boxes and sort everything by size. Once this was accomplished we had quite a few large piles of clothes. The women then proceeded to select outfits for all the women who had given us their sizes. (About 15).

There were enough clothes and variety that they were able to select several items for each woman in the program.

Once the selection was complete, the items were taken home and gift wrapped to be ready for the December 11 delivery to the Domestic Violence groups.

All-in-all, five of the 40 boxes of clothes were selected for this use. The remaining 35 will go to GIK members in Jefferson County when we make our January distribution.



Thanks to all the members who showed up to help with this job:

Bonnie Douglass,
Valeria Vogt,
Mia Graham,
Howard Schaible,
Ruth Schaible,
Mary Clear-Padilla,
Dan Nordmark,
Edith Randall,
Eleanor Roden,
Betty Faulkner,
Barbara Shain,
Myron Vogt and
Mike Graham.



Val Vogt, Mia Graham, Barbara Shain, Eleanor Roden, Mike Graham, Mary Clear-Padilla, Howard Schaible and Myron Vogt gather around the sorting table.



Bonnie Douglass, Eleanor Roden, Betty Faulker and Barbara Shain. About half the 40 boxes have been sorted.



Val Vogt, Mia Graham and Bonnie Douglas. The clothes are starting to pile up.



Mary Clear-Padilla, Betty Faulkner, Mia Graham, Howard Schaible and Bonnie Douglas.





**Val vogt, Mary Clear Padilla and Mia Graham,
Let's see, what pile does this go in?**



**Dan Nordmark wonders just what
to do with this item.**



Betty Faulkner and Barbara Shain open another box.





**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL
AND TO ALL A GOOD NIGHT...**

**AND FOR ALL
WINTER CELEBRATIONS,
JOY, PEACE AND
HAPPY HOLIDAYS
FROM**

THE OLYMPIC PENINSULA BLUEBILLS