South Austin AARP
Chapter 2426

Website: **southaustinaarp.org**

October 2023

Wednesday
October 18, 1:30 p.m.

National Book month is held each October. The month-long celebration focuses on the importance of reading writing, and literature. Our AARP October program brings in a panel discussion with Norma Archibald and Barbara Frances, two authors, and Bill Benitez, a publisher. Norma Archiblad is a noted singer, songwriter, poet, artist, and author. Barbara Frances is a noted screenwriter and author. BIll Benitez is a writer, publisher, and consultant. They bring a wealth of knowledge to help us celebrate National Book month. Join us as we learn more about what it takes to be in the wonderful world of literature.

At our September meeting, we celebrated Diez y Sies and National Hispanic Month by bringing in Texas Senator Gonzalo Barientos and Gary Moreno, Director of the Latin America Cultural Center at ACC. Senator Barientos spoke about growing up, his time spent in the Texas Senate, and his love for the Hispanic community, and of course Dies Y Sies. Gary Moreno spoke about the Latin America Cultural Center, the work they do, and the impact on the community and State of Texas.

Message from the President
Crespin Guzman

According to the Farmer's Almanac the Harvest Moon just made it's appearance recently and it looked ***Big and Beautiful as it shone Brightly*** on all of us! The best part was that it was not Hot like the sun*. FALL has arrived in great fashion, cooler and hopefully with more rain.*

Now will be the time to get out and about more often with family, friends and neighbors and shine like the Harvest Moon!

AARP in general and Chapter 2426 in particular have more activities planned that will help you do just that. Every time I turn on my computer or look at my telephone, there is an AARP something or other going on or planned for the near future. So, do not miss out on an opportunity to enjoy the 3 F's, **FUN, FOOD, FELLOWSHIP!**

Our Chapter Committees work hard to provide some of these experiences locally and you can find out about them in our Newsletter. At the same time, you may want to consider joining or just simply helping a committee that makes things happen and has fun doing it!

Your ideas and your energy as a Volunteer on behalf of Chapter 2426 do matter and are appreciated greatly!

Have a Great day, week, month, year (s)...

From Where I sit

Nancy Crowther, AARP Chapter 2426 Vice-President

October is Disability Access and Belonging Month!

During the month of October, we are excited to engage the entire state community to continue to improve access and cultivating a sense of belonging for disabled residents, neighbors, AARP members and visitors.

Now open: Butler Shores' newly updated exercise area.

Completed as part of The Trail Conservancy's Arts & Culture Plan, the Butler Shores Exercise Enhancement project features:

- New surfacing
- Equipment that supports ~100 types of exercise combinations
- A seating plaza
- A solar powered, chilled drinking fountain
- Austinites can join in on community celebrations of the project where folks can explore the new equipment, enjoy the Music on Trail Series, and take a community fitness class.

A big impact

According to the US Census Bureau, starting in 2030, all baby boomers (those born between 1946 and 1964) will be older than 65, and make up 21% of the population.

By 2060, nearly one in four Americans will be 65 years and older, the number of 85-plus will triple, and the country will add a half million centenarians.

With this comes an increase in the number of people with disabilities. This census information looks at the similarities and differences of two cohorts of older adults; those who are formerly able-bodied adults who are aging
into disability and those with early-acquired disabilities who are aging with disabilities.

The League of Women Voters of Texas'

The League of Women Voters of Texas' 2023 Constitutional Amendments
Election Voters Guide can now be found at lwvtexas.org and VOTE411.org. Each of the fourteen proposed amendments is explained in clear language, along with arguments
for and against each. The subjects of the propositions range from local to regional to statewide issues, covering parks, internet, teacher's pensions, property taxes and other matters of critical importance to Texans.
In order for these resources to reach as many voters as possible, LWV Texas is providing the Guide and its information in various formats:

- At lwvtexas.org, the easily-readable, printable, web-friendly PDF version of the Guide is available in four languages: English, Spanish, Vietnamese and Chinese.
- VOTE411.org, the League's interactive website, presents the Guide in English and Spanish. At VOTE411, voters can also obtain information about local races and ballot measures, if there is a League in their community.
- The League also produced "explainer videos" for voters who prefer to get information in a different format. These can be found on the LWV Texas YouTube account at youtube.com/@LWVTexas and at lwvtexas.org.
- And, of course, printed copies of the LWV Texas Voters Guide have been distributed across the state to public and college libraries, voting advocates, and food banks.

The League of Women Voters of Texas will also cover the Special Election for Texas House District 2 at VOTE411.org, so that voters in that district can learn more about the candidates for that race.
"The League embraces its mission of Empowering Voters. Defending Democracy by giving Texas voters the knowledge they need to vote with confidence. The League does not have a position on any of the propositions. We encourage voters to become informed and decide for themselves. And, we urge our supporters and other
organizations to share these resources with their communities across Texas." Said Dorothy Marchand, Vice-President of Voter Education for the League of Women Voters of Texas. Marchand added, "As we do every election year, the League has been registering voters across the state, and educating Texans about voting and elections. We are here, as we have been for over 100 years, to provide unbiased, understandable information about elections. Please share the League's website and VOTE411.org with friends and
family so that ALL Texas voters can be INFORMED."

Travel

Mario Macaluso

Before the October 18, 2023, monthly meeting, I will notify you if I will be able to secure a chartered coach and a date to go to San Antonio to enjoy the lights and the festive atmosphere of the season. If I am successful, I will inform you about the details, and Rosie will collect at the meeting. (Checks or cash only)

In order to continue running the day trips in an orderly fashion, we like to refresh your minds about our guiding rules and regulations:

1) Rosie will not accept checks before the meeting or take your name by phone. First choice on the list is for members who are present at the meeting. 2) Members do not have to be present to sign up. However, be aware that Rosie will list FIRST those members who hand their checks in person. Then all the others who send them with somebody else. If you are married or are a couple only one will suffice to sign up in person. 3) There are no refunds for cancellations, 4) If you cannot go on the trip, you may sell or donate your ticket ONLY to people who are members of both chapters of AARP. It's your responsibility to check out first with Rosie if there are members on the waiting list who could replace you. 5) Members who need special assistance have to make sure that their companion is also a member of both chapters of AARP before going on the trip. Their companion must sign up as other members do, and also sign a Waiver. 6) It is your responsibility to find a replacement in ample time. Sorry, both Rosie and I are not able to do so at the last moment.

Greetings and Thank you,

Mario Macaluso, Travel Coordinator

Rosie Perez, Assistant-Coordinator

Roll and Stroll and Community Service Committee

Pat Thomas and Deborah Fennel

On October 8th we traveled to McCallum Fine Arts Academy to enjoy a musical production of "Sweet Charity". With a live band and talented dancers we enjoyed the energy exhibited by these young students. We are planning a trip to La Guna Art Museum to explore the beautiful landscaped grounds. On Thursdays it is free to the public. Watch for a Roll & Stroll email alert with more info. We are waiting for a cool sunny day. Thankful that Fall weather has finally arrived.

Chapter 2426 Treasurer's Report

Bill Nicholson

A friend sent a list titled "*Things You Learn if You Live Long Enough*." After leaving the pharmacy yesterday I remembered this from the list: *"Ask your doctor if a drug with 32 pages of side-effects is bad for you."* And this morning *"I put our scale in the bathroom corner and that's where the little liar will stay until it apologizes."*

My term as Treasurer ends on December 31, 2023. Someone out there would like to be our next chapter treasurer so contact Nancy Crowther, Chairperson of the Nominating Committee, or me so you can visit about the opportunity.

And now for some numbers. There are 128 folks who have paid their 2023 dues and 26 who are exempt from paying dues. That totals an active membership of 154 individuals. Sixty-six members attended the September meeting, and that number includes three new members Effie Harris, Irma Nunez and Clematine Swain. And Brenda Wright has returned to active member status. Along with the 66 members, there were 12 guests and two speakers for a grand total of 80.

Yep, the chapter checking accounts have positive balances and have been reconciled as of September 30 and financial statements prepared for the upcoming board meeting. Attend a board meeting to hear all about the dollars coming in and going out. And while doing all this *"I can't believe I forgot to go to the gym today. That's seven years in a row now."*

And closing with nothing to do about being the chapter treasurer: "*Do you ever get up in the morning, look in the mirror and think, "That can't be accurate!""*

2023 Officers And Committee Chairs

Officers

President:	Crespin Guzman	737-222-8155
Vice President	Nancy Crowther	512-808-7486
Secretary:	Ed Gonzales	512-444-3335
Treasurer:	Bill Nicholson	512-481-8464
Assistant Treasurer:	Rosie Perez	512-440-7050

Board of Directors (in addition to officers):

Wanda Hasley 512-280-9276

Marie Martinez 512-276-4771

Committee Chairs

Community Service:	Pat Thomas	512- 441-1485
	Deborah Fennell	512-282-9931
Health:	Laura Dutton	512-740-9370
	Gail Glick	214-808-6622
Hospitality:	Connie Flores	512-536-0694
Legislative:	Vacant	
Membership:	Shirley Paz	512-689-7123
	Isabel Moreno-Orta	512-554-5338
Newsletter Editor and Web Manager:		
	Diane McGowan	512-923-3218
Program:	Randy His,	512-663-8196
Phone Committee Chair:		
	Elaine Benton	512- 799-2224
Sunshine:	Kathryn Stone	512-673-9705
Travel	Mario Macaluso	512-432-5255

Volunteer Hours

Ed Gonzales

Total for September: 432 Hours

Total for 2023: 1913 Hours

Please turn in your volunteer hours. The form is at the end of the newsletter and may be emailed or mailed.

CIVIC AND/OR COMMUNITY SERVICE BY
SOUTH AUSTIN AARP CHAPTER 2426 VOLUNTEERS
PLEASE EMAIL THIS INFORMATION TO ED GONZALES
Edgonzales7@gmail.com. If you do not have email,
mail to: Ed Gonzales, 710 Kinney Avenue, Austin,TX 78704

Note: You do not have to email the form. You may list the category and the hours for that category and the total number of hours.

Name_____Address_____Phone_____

Category	Hours	Category	Hours
AARP Annual Day of Service		Fundraising for Community Service	
AARP Driver Safety Program		Health & Wellness	
AARP Tax Aide		Long-term Care/Nursing Home Support	
Hunger		Independent Living/ In Home Care Giving/Home Repairs	
Advocacy/Legislation/Information/Referral Services		Independent Living: Transportation Services	
Education/Scholarships or other		All Other Volunteer Areas	
Subtotal		Subtotal	
		Total Volunteer Hours	

South Austin AARP Chapter 2426

Check one: __ New Member Application __ Renewal of Membership __ Update/change Information

PLEASE PRINT

Name _____

Address _____

City _____State _____ Zip _____

Phone Number (_____) _____

E-mail Address (Print Clearly) _____

*AARP Member No. _____ Valid Thru (Month & Year) _____ /_____

**(Found on your red membership card)*

Birthday (Month and Day) _____ /_____ Anniversary (Month and Day) _____ /_____

Signature _____ Date _____

Dues are $10.00 paid by cash or check. Dues are waived if you are 85 or older: Yes, I am _____.

Complete and give this form with your payment to the Treasurer (checks payable to South Austin AARP Chapter 2426).

OR mail this form with your payment to:

South Austin AARP Chapter 2426, c/o Bill Nicholson, Treasurer, 12512 Gun Metal Dr., Austin, TX 78739.

Please check any committee(s) on which you are interested in serving:

____ Program ____ Membership ____ Hospitality ____ Telephone
____ Sunshine ____ Legislative ____ Community Serv ____ Health Care
____ Travel (ad hoc) ____ Public Relations ____ Newsletter