

# South Austin AARP

## Chapter 2426

Website: [www.southaustinaarp.org](http://www.southaustinaarp.org)

March, 2020

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**Wednesday**

**March 18 1:00 p.m.**

**Project Connect**

Please note: we ask you to wait until 12:30 pm to enter the meeting room to allow time and space for setting up the room.

Capital Metro Project Connect Vision Team will be providing Chapter 2426 with an informative overview of the Project Connect Action Plan for our community and our generations to come.

Project Connect is a plan that could benefit all Central Texas, whether you ride transit or just drive. A modern transit system is a vital part of the solution to ease traffic and give us more options to get where we're going.

**IT'S FOR EVERYONE** GOOD FOR ATX

By 2040, 4 million people will call Central Texas home – that means 4 million more people will be on Central Texas roads. We already have some of the worst traffic in the country - can you imagine what it will be like when our population doubles? We need innovative solutions that can be put in place faster to provide their benefits sooner.

So, what are the benefits of Project Connect's vision? It goes beyond how we move people from A to Z; great cities are built to take care of their people. And it's important to remember why all these people are moving here: It's because Austin and Central Texas are great places to live! The fact that we have traffic congestion means people want to be here and want to get out and enjoy all that Austin has to offer. More public transportation options will benefit us all, both for when you drive your car and when you take transit. It's not this *or* that. It's this *and* that.

Better transit gives you more options.

You shared your priorities — easing traffic, more transit options, cutting down on greenhouse gas emissions — and with that feedback, we've developed a vision of a modern, sustainable transit system that builds on what we have today to create the Austin and Central Texas of tomorrow. We're building a public transportation system to match the growth in innovation and development our region is experiencing. Investing in transit helps protect what we love about Central Texas and improves our quality of life now and into the future.

Even if you don't use public transit – we all need it. Everyone wants good schools and strong public safety departments. We need a high-quality transit system just like we need those other public services - because it serves everyone. What we decide now will be the foundation for the growth that's coming tomorrow.

(source: Project Connect website: <https://capmetro.org/projectconnect/>)

**Refreshments:** Thanks to our members who faithfully provide refreshments each month.

We are trying to reduce the amount of time spent going through the line. Remember this is for snacks not for a meal. Please bring snacks or finger foods. Please do not bring anything that requires the use of a spoon to serve.

**Volunteer Hours**

*Ed Gonzales*

Year to date: **287**

**Please print the form on the last page, fill it in and bring it to the February meeting.**

**Message**  
**from the Chapter President**  
*Crespin Guzman*

**Chapter 2426**  
**Volunteer of the Month**  
**Crespin Guzman**

**If it Aint Broke, Don't Fix It...But**

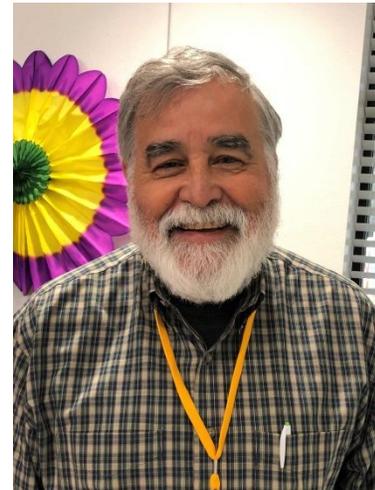
**As Volunteers**, we all have choices to make when it comes to being involved with **CHANGE**. So why am I bringing this up, especially if you hold to this opinion? Very simply because when it comes to making changes, most are done to varying degrees from wholesale to the miniscule where it is not readily apparent.

In our case, managing the AARP South Austin Chapter, I have already implemented some very apparent changes with regards to managing our business. I have already introduced a more structured and orderly manner in using established business meeting procedures and best practices relative to efficiency and transparency. All our Board of Directors are well engaged with our work. Expect more of the same as we carry on our normal business matters and programming. **But**, also expect that we will introduce some new areas of interest in making ours **a more fun and interesting AARP Chapter!** How exciting and engaging it gets to be **will be up to All of US, the Membership!**

For example, the **Board** will continue to revisit the Chapter's standing rules and processes of engaging our members, new and old, into all of our committees. In so doing, the **BOARD will clarify expectations of working and communicating with each other with focus on behavioral characteristics such as professionalism, respect, and fellowship in general harmony** in keeping with AARP guidance.

So help us become **Agents of Change for the Good of the Order.**

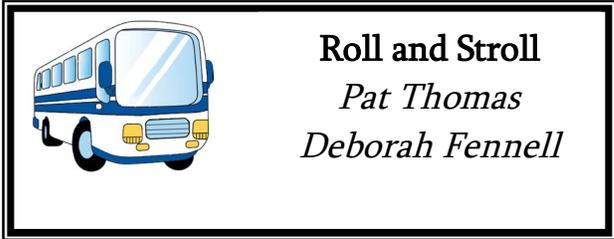
Crespin Guzman, PE, President



Crespin Guzman was born, raised and attended the public schools in San Benito, Texas. One month after graduation he enlisted in the Army and was quickly dispatched to Fort Polk for Basic followed by advanced training at Fort Belvoir, Va. in the Corp of Engineers Construction and Surveying School. This prepared him for overseas duty in Thailand and along Cambodia and later completed his service in Munich, Germany. After the service and thanks to the GI Bill, he attended Texas Southmost Junior College in Brownsville and attended The University of Texas where he earned his degree in Civil Engineering. He began his career in Brownsville and worked City of Austin Public Works in 1979 and 5 years later moved the Water and Wastewater Utility until retirement in 2003. He worked in the private sector until retirement in 2010.

Crespin has had a very active volunteer resume. He began his service with the Texas Section of American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), a professional body founded in 1852 to represent members of the civil engineering profession, in the Austin Branch in 1980. He served as President of the Austin Branch in 1990, Texas State Director, Vice President of Education, President in 2004, Region 6 Governor. He became a Life Member in 2010 while working his first year as Executive Director and spent 6 years in that capacity until retirement November 2016.

Other professional association activities included the Tx Section of AWWA as Chair of Diversity and the Reclaimed Water Committee, Austin Chapter of the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers of which he was a Founding member in 1983 before serving as President in 1996. In 1998, Crespin was the Austin Chapter President and later in 2005 State Board of Directors Chair for the Texas Alliance for Minorities in Engineering (TAME, Inc.). Afterwards he has continued to serve on the TAME Advisory Board, an affiliation that began 1979 and even predates his service with ASCE. Crespin and his wife Maria reside in Austin and celebrated their 50 wedding anniversary in 2018. Over that period of time, they raised five children, and have 11 grandchildren.



**Roll and Stroll**  
*Pat Thomas*  
*Deborah Fennell*

**A Brief Interruption:**

Roll and Stroll excursions will be temporarily postponed until the return of our leader, Pat Thomas. Until then, please continue to enjoy CapMetro transportation on your own for Pat has trained us well.

**Members who are 85 years and older are exempt from paying annual dues.** But, they must submit each year a **Membership Renewal** form to stay on the membership list. The form for 2020 is available at the monthly meeting registration desk and on the last page of the newsletter. The completed form is to be given or mailed to the Treasurer, Bill Nicholson, for updating the **Membership Roster**.

**Chapter 2426 Treasurer's Report**  
*Bill Nicholson*

Checking	\$3455.63
Travel	\$ 2351.95
Savings	\$ 25.00

**Travel**  
*Mario Macaluso*

The next day trip will be to the Institute of Texan Cultures in San Antonio with a guided tour April 14, 2020. The trip is currently full with 4 people on the waiting list.

Departure time is at 8:30 am from SASAC. Check in with Rosie starts at 8:00 am.

After the Institute of Texan Cultures there will be free time with lunch on your own at the Tower of America's or transfer to River Center to shop, eat at restaurants on the Riverwalk or the Food Court and take a boat ride if you plan your time. Coach leaves to return home at 4:30pm.

The cost of \$55 includes chartered coach, driver gratuities, admission to the Institute of Texan Cultures, guided tour, water, treats and raffles prizes.

**2020 Membership Dues**

It is time to pay your \$10 yearly chapter dues for the fiscal year 2020. **Chapter 2426** fiscal year is January through December. **To be considered an active member of Chapter 2426 your 2020 yearly dues must be paid by March 2020.** The membership form is on the last page of this newsletter. If you have not paid your 2020 dues, please bring the form and \$10.00 to the next meeting. If unable to attend the meeting, you may mail the form and the dues to Bill Nicholson, 12512 Gun Metal Dr, Austin, TX 78739. If paying by check, make the check out to AARP Chapter 2426. Remember if you are 85 or older, you are exempt from paying the yearly dues.



**SENIORS**  
I'M SPEEDING BECAUSE I HAVE TO GET TO  
WHERE I'M GOING BEFORE I FORGET WHERE  
I'M GOING

**Chapter 2426**  
**Draft Meeting Minutes**  
**February 19, 2020**

Please read the minutes and be prepared for corrections and approval at the March meeting

President Crespín Guzmán called the meeting to order and lead the Pledge of Allegiance at 1:00 PM.

**Announcements:** The next regular Chapter meeting will be on March 18, 2020 and the next Board meeting will be on March 17, 2020, at 10:00am at the Menchaca Branch of the Austin Public Library.

**PROGRAM**

Our presenter was Dr. Itamar Birnbaum, a Board Certified Cardiologist with Cardio Texas who specializes in Interventional Cardiology. Dr. Birnbaum gave an excellent overview of the goal of his organization, which is to educate their patients with a knowledge and understanding of their specific medical condition in order to help them fully participate in a shared decision making.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Crespín reported that effective immediately, Mr. Randy Hsi will be the new Chairman of the Program Committee. Further, in the future, all committees will be reporting to Vice president Nancy Crowther.

Minutes: Secretary Ed Gonzales asked if there were any revisions or corrections to the minutes as published in the recent newsletter. A motion was requested to approve the minutes as corrected. Mario Macaluso so moved and was seconded by Dolores Macaluso. Approved by acclamation.

Nancy reported that she has completed the revision and updating of the new trifold AARP Chapter 2426 Informational Brochure, which will be available for distribution and will also appear on our website.

**Chapter 2426 Officers and Board Members Reports**

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Nicholson reported that all accounts are current and up to date. Additionally, if you have not paid your dues for 2020, Bill is collecting these at the back of the meeting room. Please pick up your receipt if you have already paid.

**Board Members:** Wanda Hensley and Maria Martinez reported that they have been tasked with coordinating the programs for the July and December 2020 meetings and will be working on finding fun activities or programs for these meetings.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Attendance and Membership Committee**

Joanne Cepero announced that today we have 6 guests, 2 new members since our last meeting and had a total of 89 attendees present. We now have well over 250 members.

**Community Service Committee**

Deborah Fennell sent in the reported the following information regarding recent Roll and Stroll events: Pat Thomas successfully underwent spinal surgery on February 4th and is now recovering at home with ongoing rehabilitation. She wishes to thank you for all your prayers and support. On January 20th we visited the LBJ Library where we toured the Motown Exhibition and dined at the New World Deli on "The Drag" (Guadalupe Street). We also had the opportunity to visit Austin's oldest cemetery, Oakwood Cemetery, which was originally established in 1839, the same year the city of Austin was established. We enjoyed a family-friendly backyard lunch at the Sour Duck Market on MLK Blvd. We had to cancel The Lunar Chinese New Year Festival on February 15th due to a change in vendor re-location. This location wasn't on a convenient CapMetro route for our group. All other Roll and Stroll adventures will be postponed until Pat has fully recovered and back to her familiar self. Please continue to enjoy CapMetro transportation, on your own, as Pat has trained us well.

**Sunshine Committee**

Kathryn Stone, committee chair, helped us celebrate 4 January and 3 February Birthdays but there were no Anniversaries.

#### Program Committee

Randy Hsi reported that there are several health related programs planned for 2020, and reminded everyone that February is Heart Health month. He also reminded the members that there will be a resource table located at the back of the meeting room with various handouts and pertinent information covering many aspects of health.

#### Travel Committee

Mario Macaluso reported that next trip to visit the [University of Texas at San Antonio](#) (UTSA) Institute of Texan Cultures, a [museum](#) and [library](#) located in [HemisFair Park](#) in [Downtown San Antonio](#), Texas is FULL. However, there is a waiting list in case someone cancels.

#### Telephone Committee:

Elaine Benton reported that there are 29 members on the telephone call list and there is a need to update the listing.

#### Newsletter Committee

Diane McGowan would like to see a new section in the newsletter highlighting one of our outstanding volunteers of the month. Please nominate someone who you would like to see honored. Additionally, if you have an address change, either physical or on email, please let Diane know. In her absence later this spring, Nancy has graciously agreed to produce and edit the April newsletter.

#### Greeting Committee

Marilyn Totten, Chair, would like some assistance with meeting and greeting both old and new attendees to our meetings.

As a closing remark, president Cres Guzman asked members how they liked today's program and the response was overwhelming positive.

Remember: Bring your aluminum ring tabs to Rita Furbish for the Ronald McDonald House.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:30pm

The secret of staying young is to live honestly, eat slowly and lie about your age.

– Lucille Ball

## 2020 Officers And Committee Chairs

#### Officers

President:	Crespin Guzman	737-222-8155
Vice President	Nancy Crowther	512-808-7486
Secretary:	Ed Gonzales	512-444-3335
Assistant Secretary:	Marilyn Totten	512-280-8030
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 and Marie Martinez 512-276-4771		

#### Committee Chairs

Community Service:	Pat Thomas	512- 441-1485
	Deborah Fennell	512-282-9931
Greeters:	Marilyn Totten	512-280-8030
Health:	Barbara Kaiser	512-282-0960
	Gail Glick	214-808-6622
Hospitality:	Connie Flores	512- 444-8636
Legislative:	Vacant	
Membership:	Joann Cepero	773-710-2053
Newsletter Editor And Web Manager:	Diane McGowan	512-923-3218
Program:		
Phone Committee Chair:	Elaine Benton	512- 799-2224
	Kathryn Stone	512-441-6038
Sunshine:	Mario Macaluso	512-432-5255
Travel		

## TEXTING FOR SENIORS

**BFF** - best friend fell  
**BTW** - bring the wheelchair  
**TTYL** - talk to you louder  
**BYOT** - bring your own teeth  
**LMDO** - laughing my dentures out  
**FWIW** - forgot where I was  
**IMHAO** - is my hearing aid on?  
**OMMR** - on my massage recliner  
**ROFLACGU** - rolling on the floor  
laughing and can't get up

**CIVIC AND/OR COMMUNITY SERVICE BY  
SOUTH AUSTIN AARP CHAPTER 2426 VOLUNTEERS  
PLEASE BRING THIS INFORMATION TO THE CHAPTER MEETING  
AND TURN IN TO : ED GONZALES**

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	
<b>Advocacy/Legislation/Information/Referral Services</b>		Independent Living: Transportation Services	
<b>Education/Scholarships or other</b>		All Other Volunteer Areas	
Subtotal		Subtotal	
<b>Total Volunteer Hours</b>			

**South Austin Chapter 2426  
Membership Renewal 2020**

**PLEASE PRINT**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail Address: Please Print: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Dues are \$10.00 per individual.

Complete and bring this application with payment to the next meeting (checks should be made payable to: South Austin AARP Chapter 2426) OR this application and payment can be mailed to :

South Austin AARP Chapter 2426 Bill Nicholson 12512 Gun Metal Drive Austin, TX 78739

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

\_\_\_\_\_ Program \_\_\_\_\_ Membership \_\_\_\_\_ Hospitality/Welcoming \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Sunshine \_\_\_\_\_ Nominating \_\_\_\_\_ Legislative \_\_\_\_\_ Community Service  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Health Care \_\_\_\_\_ Public Relations \_\_\_\_\_ Travel \_\_\_\_\_ Ad Hoc