

The founding principles of AARP are: To promote independence, dignity and purpose for older persons, to enhance the quality of life for older persons, and to encourage older people "To serve, not to be served."

PROGRAMS

MARCH 15, 2018

SWAN SONGS

Karen McElhatten

Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator

512-294-9540 www.swansongs.org

Swan Songs is an Austin, Texas based non-profit organization that fulfills musical wishes at the end of life by organizing private concerts for individuals with a terminal illness. At their request, a favorite style of music or musician is brought directly to the home or facility. The concert allows patient, family and friends to focus beyond the illness and come together through music.

Board Sponsor Chinell Williams

APRIL 19, 2018

**YMCA Silver Sneakers, Traci Schank,
512-335-9622**

Board Sponsor Enedelia Obregon

MAY 17, 2018

Christa Horst and the name of her NGO is "**That's Amore**" and it's in Shimbuli, Kenya. Just north of Lake Victoria and near the Uganda border.



Village lady celebrating a new water well. Tenth one done by Give Amore.

Board Sponsor Dot Clark

JANE PARSONS UPDATE

Report by Sally Scott

Jane is in the North Austin Medical Center (St David's). She just got out of Intensive Care tonight, Wednesday, March 7, and is going to Room 427. She had abdominal surgery for a bowel blockage. She would love a card or anything.

A NOTE FROM CONNIE DUNN

Thanks for all the prayers, phone calls, cards, gifts and emails I have received while going through chemotherapy. I appreciate all of them. I have had 7 treatments and I have more to go.

NEXT CHAPTER 2700 MEETINGS

DATE:

Thursday, March 15, 2018 (Board Meeting)

Thursday, April 19, 2018

PLACE:

Bethany United Methodist Church
10010 Anderson Mill Rd
Austin, TX 78750

SOCIAL TIME: 2:00 pm

MEETING TIME: 2:30 pm

All board meetings are open to the membership!

2018 OFFICERS

President: Enedelia Obregon.....512-331-1890

Vice President: Dot Clark.....512-460-9946

Secretary: Carol Stimson.....512-331-0095

Treasurer: Leslie Ashton.....512-750-1513

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Bea Bates

Doris Hill

Dixie Saxon

Judy Devore

Argie Horn

Kitty Traylor

Connie Dunn

Phil Horn

Chinell Williams

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Check-In:

Nelda Lee 512-451-1019

Check-In:

Doris Hill 512-452-7325

Membership Sign Up:

**Hilda Venema & Martha Dyess
512-837-4052**

Membership & Website

Chair:

Judy Devore 512-420-9494

Co-Chair:

Phil Horn 512-219-1999

Legislative Chair:

Enedelia Obregon 512-331-1890

Programs:

Various Board Members

Community Service:

Chinell Williams & Diane Wright

Caring:

Barbara Bishop 512-926-4256

Telephone Chair:

Bea Bates 512-258-4088

Volunteer Hours:

Carolyn Hunt 512-834-0528

Refreshments:

Randi Parker 512-258-0039

Travel Chair:

Connie Dunn 512-497-2897

Travel Treasurer:

Dixie Saxon 512-944-6011

Newsletter Editor:

Kitty Traylor 512-569-9479

kittytraylor@gmail.com

COMMUNITY SERVICE

by Chinell Williams & Diane Wright

Hygiene Bags for the Homeless

NEW: When you go to the dentist, would you ask your dentist if he/she would like to donate: toothbrushes, toothpaste or floss for AARP Chapter #2700 for the Homeless Hygiene Bags.

At each monthly meeting, we will place a blue bucket in the volunteer area for the collection of travel size soaps, shampoo, body lotion, conditioner, hand wipes, small toothpastes, toothbrushes, and adult tube socks. When we have gathered a substantial amount, we will announce before the next meeting when we plan to assemble the bags. Completed bags will be delivered to the St. Ignatius Food Pantry which serves approximately 500 homeless clients a month in addition to low-income households with approximately 2400 individuals. The Pantry is partnered with the Central Texas Food Bank as well as local businesses and donations. Please remember to save the unused toiletries you receive when you travel.

Bingo

The next community service project will be bingo at the Stonebriar Nursing & Rehabilitation Center. The date is set for March 30, 2018. We will accept donations during March. Volunteers will also be needed. A wish list will be provided.

Thank you for your generous, kind spirit.

FUNNY KIDS STUFF

A 1st grade school teacher had twenty-six students in her class. She presented each child in her classroom the 1st half of a well-known proverb and asked them to come up with the remainder of the proverb. It's hard to believe these were actually done by first graders. Their insight may surprise you. While reading, keep in mind that these are first-graders, 6-year-olds, because the last one is a classic!

1. Don't change horses until They stop running.
2. Strike while the Bug is close.
3. It's always darkest before Daylight Saving Time.
4. Never underestimate the Power of termites.
5. You can lead a horse to water but How?
6. Don't bite the hand that Looks dirty.
7. No news is Impossible.
8. A miss is as good as a Mr.
9. You can't teach an old dog new Math
10. If you lie down with dogs, you'll Stink in the morning.
11. Love all, trust Me.
12. The pen is mightier than the Pigs.
13. An idle mind is the best way to Relax.
14. Where there's smoke there's Pollution.
15. Happy the bride who gets all the Presents.
16. A penny saved is Not much.
17. Two's company, three's the Musketeers.
18. Don't put off till tomorrow what you Put on to go to bed.
19. Laugh and the whole world laughs with you, cry and You have to blow your nose.
20. There are none so blind as Stevie Wonder.
21. Children should be seen and not Spanked or grounded.
22. If at first you don't succeed Get new batteries.
23. You get out of something only what you See in the picture on the box.
24. When the blind lead the blind Get out of the way.
25. A bird in the hand is Going to poop on you.
26. (The winner and last one) Better late than Pregnant

SENIOR DISCOUNTS IN RESTAURANTS

<http://www.lifed.com>

- **McDonald's**: discounts on coffee and beverages (55+)
- **Whataburger**: free drink with purchase of a meal, depending on location (55+)
- **Wendy's**: give free coffee or other discounts depending on location
- **Piccadilly Cafeteria** – 10% discount with "Prime Time for Seniors" card
- **IHOP** – 10% discount (55+) and a menu for people aged 55 and over at participating locations
- **Golden Corral**: Senior discount varies by location
- **Krispy Kreme Senior Discount**: 10% off (50+) (age and discount varies depending on location)
- **Perkins Restaurants**: Fifty-Five Plus menu Offers special deals (55+)
- **Subway**: 10% off (60+) varies by location
- **The Old Spaghetti Factory**: Spaghetti Factory "Senior Menu" offers discounted list of menu items
- **Uno Pizzeria & Grill**: "Double Nickel Club" 25% off on Wednesday (55+)
- **Sizzler**: Offers "Honored Guest Menu" (60+) varies by location
- **Papa John's Senior Discount**: check with your local stores (no standard senior discount policy)
- **Old Country Buffet**: Daily discounts for seniors (55+)
- **Friendly's Restaurants**: 10% off meal w/ free coffee at breakfast or free small sunday during non-breakfast hours
- **Fazoli's**: Join "Club 62" for special senior menu items (62+)
- **KFC**: free small drink with any meal depending on location (55+)
- **Country Kitchen**: Great Senior Menu (55+)
- **Burger King**: 10% discount on purchase (60+)

HELP IN FILING YOUR TAX RETURNS FOR 2018

(Call before you go for info)

The checklist below includes items you need to bring when you visit an AARP Foundation Tax-Aide site for us to help you prepare your tax return(s)

- Previous year's tax return(s).
- Social Security cards and/or ITIN notices/cards or other official documentation that show the taxpayer identification numbers for every individual on your return.
- Photo ID for each taxpayer.
- Checkbook if you want to direct deposit any refund(s) or direct debit any amounts due.
- Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) (for each individual if applicable).

Faulk Central Library 512-974-7400
Hampton Branch @ Oak Hill 512-974-9900
Howson Branch 512-974-8800
Little Walnut Creek Branch 512-974-9860
North Village Branch 512-974-9960
Pleasant Hill Branch 512-974-3940
Ruiz Branch 512-974-7500
Southeast Branch 512-974-8840
University Hills Branch 512-974-9940
Yarborough Branch 512-974-8820
Allen Baca Senior Center 512-218-5499
Cedar Park Library 512-258-6346
I Jones Library 512-267-7511
Leander Public Library 512-259-5259
Pflugerville Community Library 512-990-5375
South Austin Senior Activity Center 512-448-0787



2018 TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES

Travel Committee:
Connie Dunn, Dixie Saxon, Judy Devore

All costs listed are per person based on double occupancy and \$75 Deposit Required to Hold Your Reservation. For Diamond Tours additional costs for single occupancy and trip insurance is available.

DEPOSITS CAN BE MADE ON ALL TRIPS AT THIS TIME

Mail deposits to: AARP Chapter 2700
 P O Box 201898 AUSTIN, TX 78720

NEW YORK CITY & THE STATUE OF LIBERTY

June 5 - 15, 2018. 10 nights, 11 days, 18 meals ; Two guided Tours of New York City. See Central Park, Rockefeller Center, Times Square, Wall Street, the 9/11 Memorial and much more! Visit Ellis Island and Liberty Island – home of the Statue of Liberty! **COST \$1065** pp/Double Occupancy. Deposit due at time of sign up. Group Tour Leaders Connie Dunn 512-497-2897 Dixie Saxon 512-944-6011.

VIRGINIA BEACH, COLONIAL WILLIAMSBURG & HISTORIC NORFOLK

September 14 - 24, 2018. 10 nights, 11 days; 18 meals; visit the Virginia Beach Boardwalk and the Yankee Candle Village; plus Virginia Beach Aquarium & Marine Science Center; guided tour of Colonial Williamsburg; Dinner Cruise & Entertainment on the Spirit of Norfolk; Admission to the Nautilus & Battleship Wisconsin. **COST \$1140** pp/Double Occupancy. Deposit due at time of sign up. Final payment due July 7, 2018. Group Tour Leaders Dixie Saxon 512-944-6011 and Connie Dunn 512-497-2897.

NASHVILLE SHOW TRIP

November 4 - 10, 2018. 6 nights, 7 days; 10 meals; **2 Great Shows: 1) THE GRAND OLE OPRY, 2) NASHVILLE NIGHTLIFE DINNER THEATER;** Guided Tours of NASHVILLE and BELLE MEADE PLANTATION; Admission to the COUNTRY MUSIC HALL OF FAME; Admission to the GRAND OLE OPRY BEHIND THE SCENES TOUR; Ride on the DELTA FLATBOATS inside the OPRYLAND HOTEL; Admission to the JOHNNY CASH MUSEUM. **COST \$735** pp/Double Occupancy; Deposit due at time of sign up. Final payment due August 28, 2018. Group Tour Leaders Connie Dunn 512-497-2897 and Dixie Saxon 512-944-6011

Visit our AARP North Austin Chapter 2700 Website to see pictures of our wonderful trips!

Photos for the website: <https://photos.google.com/>.

Share the link with us and we can post that to our website.



NOTE: Drawing for prizes!
You have to be present to win!

SUMMARY OF TRAVEL SURVEY

An online survey about travel was sent in January 2018 to members with an email address. 107 members participated in that survey. An additional 26 members took the survey on paper at the February meeting. Our thanks to all who responded. 108 of the 133 responses indicated they were willing to travel within the US by air to get to a tour location. The following shows how many wanted these places, which were in choices on the survey:

Oregon (64)
 New Mexico/Ruidoso, Taos, Santa Fe, Carlsbad (61)
 Michigan /Upper Peninsula (61)
 Washington (58)
 Central California/San Francisco (56)
 Pennsylvania Dutch Country/Philadelphia (54)
 Southern California/San Diego (54)
 Arizona/Flagstaff, 4 corners, etc. (54)
 Hawaii (50)
 Southern California/LA, Disneyland, Venice Beach (47)
 Nevada/Las Vegas (43)

We also asked about travel outside of the US, and these are those results.

Europe (land or river travel) (52)
 Scandinavia (36)
 Panama Canal (31)
 Caribbean Cruise (27)
 Costa Rica/Guatemala (25)
 Eastern Europe (25)
 East Asia (China, Japan) (19)
 Southeast Asia (Vietnam, Thailand, Burma, Philippines, Singapore, Indonesia) (18)
 Russia (17)

We are grateful for all the comments, and the Travel Team will look for new options to offer to Chapter 2700.

AARP Chapter 2700 T-Shirts

Connie Dunn will bring red or maroon "AARP 2700" t-shirts for sale at the meetings. We especially encourage anyone who wishes to attend our community events to wear a red t-shirt to promote our chapter.

MEMBERSHIP

by Judy Devore

If you are **not** getting the newsletter or notices from the travel committee by email or by snail mail, it may be because your information is not correct on our list, or you have not paid your dues for the year.

Please check the list at the meeting for any corrections or call Judy Devore @ 512-420-9494!

AARP Smart Driver Course Online (\$19.95)

<https://www.aarpdriversafety>

The AARP Smart Driver course is the nation's first refresher course specifically designed for drivers age 50 and older. In many states, drivers may benefit from a discount on their auto insurance premium upon completing the course. And you will learn something new along the way. In fact, an evaluation of the course found that 97% of participants changed at least one driving habit as a result of what they learned.

Our Smart Driver online course will help you:

- Receive a multi-year discount on your auto insurance.*
- Refresh your driving skills and your knowledge of the rules — and hazards — of the road.
- Reduce your chances of receiving a traffic violation or getting into an accident.

Learn at your own pace — you'll have 60 days to complete the course!

Course highlights:**The AARP Smart Driver online course covers:**

- Research-based safe driving strategies.
- Information on the effects of medication on driving.
- Preventive measures to reduce driver distractions.
- Proper use of safety belts, air bags, anti-lock brakes, and new technology found in cars today.
- Techniques for handling left turns, right-of-way, and roundabouts.
- State-specific rules and regulations in 19 key areas, including construction zones, child safety seats, school buses, cell phone use and more.
- Easy-to-follow format incorporating adult-learning principles.

NORTH AUSTIN AARP Chapter 2700
P O BOX 201898
AUSTIN TX 78720

