



Latah County Chapter Newsletter

Latah County Chapter #678

December 2008

AARP Meeting

University Inn Best Western

Friday

December 12, 2008

11:30 a.m.

Meal

Baked ham with a fresh vegetable, scalloped potatoes, rolls and butter. Vanilla ice cream/raspberry sauce

Price: \$9.75

Program

Holiday Music

Presented by the

Genesee Music Program

Treasurer's Report

Chapter treasurer Bob Carver reported that the current (10/08) checking account balance for the chapter is \$553.00. Bob will be calling members about their 2009 dues and he will be happy to take your payment at the December meeting. Please renew your membership and help support our Latah County activities.

AARP Safe Driving Classes

An AARP Safe Driving Classes is scheduled for January. The cost is \$10. Contact Bill Parish (882-5381) if you are interested in the class or have questions.

Safe Driving Class Schedule

January 14th and 15th (Wednesday/Thursday)

8:30 am to 12:30 pm

[Bill Parish will be teaching this session]

The class will be held at the Gritman Conference Center.

Remember! – you must attend both sessions

A Total of 8 Hours!

Future Safe Driving Class Schedule

February 21st – 8:30-5:30

March 17th and 18th – 8:30-12:30

April 15th and 16th – 8:30-12:30

May 20th and 21st – 8:30-12:30

June 22nd and 23rd – 8:30-12:30

September 19th – 8:30-5:30

For information and sign-up contact: August C. Leavitt at Gritman Education – 883-2232 or email:

august.leavitt@gritman.org

State AARP Activities

Linda Pike (a member of the state AARP board) says that your Idaho AARP is very active.

✚ The Divided We Fall pledges collected at the Latah County Fair will be sent to Boise. Our chapter has received \$200 for contributing these pledges. AARP will be delivering one million pledges to Congress when it convenes in January.

✚ Due to the economy, the state AARP will be sponsoring more job fairs.

✚ State AARP sponsorship of Long Term Care Seminar Programs has ceased because the turn-out at the meetings did not warrant the expense of the programs - Latah County, of course, being the exception to that decision. Our participation was excellent

✚ State AARP again voted to donate \$200 toward the student essay/art awards for the Martin Luther King breakfast celebration in 2009. Our chapter will sponsor this award!

✚ The Annual Day of Service will be May 1, 2009 and state and local chapters will be assisting local food banks with money as well as enlisting volunteers to help with country food bank activities!

Mark Your Calendars

January 16, 2009 AARP Luncheon where we will elect new officers and executive committee for 2009 and a possible change in the chapter by-laws concerning terms of service for officers. **Also** Jeffrey Martin (President and CEO of Gritman Medical Center) and B.J. Swanson will give us an update on new Gritman programs and the Community Wellness Center. *Don't miss this important chapter meeting!*

Future Meeting Dates

Mark the following Fridays on your calendars for luncheons in 2009:

- ❖ March 20th
- ❖ May 15th
- ❖ September 18th
- ❖ October 16th
- ❖ December 11th

Latah County Fair Report

Laura Miller reports that 27 volunteers helped set-up, staff and dismantle the AARP booth. She said the AARP was well received by fair attendees and comments from fair goers were positive. 227 "Divided We Fail" pledges were collected during the fair. Our grand prize winner of a document shredder was Helen Dewey.

Slate of Officers and Executive Committee

The following members have been nominated for election to offices of the Latah County Chapter of AARP. Nominations will remain open until the voting takes place at the January 12, 2009 general chapter meeting. Please feel free to contact Susan Roberts (882-5639) or Alice Nau (877-1123) if you are interested in serving.

Nominations for Officers

- ✓ President Susan Roberts
- ✓ Past President Linda Pike
- ✓ Vice President Roger Falen
- ✓ V P/Newsletter Pete Haggart
- ✓ Treasurer Bob Carver
- ✓ Secretary Judy Reisenauer

Nominations for Executive Committee

(there is no limit to the number of members)

- ✓ Dale Everson
- ✓ Hugh Homan - 1 yr term
- ✓ Sue Hovey - 1 yr term
- ✓ Laura Miller
- ✓ Alice Nau
- ✓ Shirley Newcomb
- ✓ Shirley Ringo - 1 yr term
- ✓ Lois Samuelson
- ✓ Pat Scott - 1 yr term

Change Recommended in By-Laws

Your board and executive committee has recommended that the chapter by-laws be changed to reflect that officers and executive committee members of the chapter be elected to two-year terms, unless otherwise specified. You will be asked to approve these changes to the by-laws at the January meeting.

Food Bank Support

The board voted at its October meeting to support county food banks at chapter luncheons. Beginning with the December meeting members will be asked to bring food items for one of our county food banks.

Hugh Homan reported that all county food banks were very much in need of donations and that USDA commodity support is lacking. The Troy Food Bank will be the recipient of the food donations at the December meeting. Please bring a food donation to that meeting. Thanks!

Reminding Obama of His Campaign Promises

Will our new President-elect make it a priority to work across the aisle for REAL CHANGE on affordable health care and long-term financial security? *Divided We Fail* is sending a letter reminding Obama about his campaign promises. You can send a message to him at this site:

<http://www.yourchoiceforchange08.org/index.php>

Congress Expands Disabilities Protections

Nearly two decades after his father signed the original Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), President George W. Bush signed the most significant expansion of the law. With his father, former president George H.W. Bush, at his side, Bush inked the bill that expands the ADA to include those who use medications or prosthetic devices to manage their disabilities.

The ADA amendments direct employers and the courts to give the broadest definition to what constitutes a disability. It was drafted in an attempt to reverse years of U.S. Supreme Court decisions that narrowed the scope of the landmark ADA. That law, which most people identify with entrance ramps and handrails at public buildings and wider restroom doors, was broadly viewed as the civil rights act for the disabled.

Nancy LeaMond, an AARP executive vice president, hailed the bill as proof that "when Washington sees human problems in human terms it can break through partisan gridlock and get things done. "The bill will afford millions of individuals with access to the courts under the ADA and clarifies that anyone with a disability is protected from unfair discrimination," she said.

The AARP Newsletter is published by
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Vice President: Roger Falen

Secretary: Judy Reisenauer

Treasurer: Bob Carver