



Latah County Chapter Newsletter

Latah County Chapter #678

May 2009

AARP Meeting

University Inn Best Western

**Friday
May 15, 2009
11:30 a.m.**

Meal

Chicken Caesar Salad – Romaine lettuce with Parmesan cheese, Caesar dressing and croutons, topped with broiled breast of chicken, rolls and butter, Vanilla ice cream

Price: \$9.75

Program

Idaho Legislative Roundup 2009

Idaho State Senator Gary Schroeder, Idaho Representatives Shirley Ringo and Tom Trail will tell us about legislation coming out of the Idaho 2009 legislative session—if they can bring it to conclusion! Sue Hovey will moderate the program

Latah County Food Banks

Please remember to bring nonperishable food items for Latah County food banks. This year we have distributed items to food banks in Troy and Genesee. May collection will go to the Moscow Food Bank.

Treasurer's Report

Chapter treasurer Bob Carver reported a February checking account balance for the chapter of \$761.50. That amount includes \$200 received from the State AARP for the Divided We Fail pledges collected at the Latah County Fair in September.

A Fair with A Flair

Laura Miller will soon be looking for volunteers to help with an AARP booth at this year's Latah County Fair: *A Fair with A Flair*— September 17 to 20.

Future Meeting Dates

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

- ❖ September 18th
- ❖ October 16th
- ❖ December 11th

Watch for Updates on our Web site

<http://www.geocities.com/latahaarp>

AARP Safe Driving Classes

The AARP Safe Driving Class for May has been rescheduled. See new dates and times below. The cost is \$10. Contact Bill Parish (882-5381) if you are interested in the class or have questions.

Safe Driving Class Schedule Change

May 19th and 20th (Tuesday/Wednesday)
5:30 pm to 9:30 pm

[Claudine Plank will be teaching this evening session. Contact: 882-2098]

Location: Gritman Conference Center.

Remember! – you must attend both sessions

A Total of 8 Hours!

Future Safe Driving Class Schedule

June 22nd and 23rd – 8:30 am -12:30 pm

September 19th – 8:30 am-5:30 pm

Instructor: Linda Shepard

October 20th and 21st – 5:30-9:30 pm

Instructor: Dick Bull

November 17th and 18th – 8:30 am -12:30 pm

Instructor: Elaine Broyles

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

august.leavitt@gritman.org

Thank You to Moscow AARP Tax Aid Volunteers for another year of great service! They helped nearly 200 people at the 1912 building site.

State AARP Activities

Linda Pike (a member of the state AARP board) reported on activities in April:

Idaho's AARP State Director, Jim Wordelman and State President, Peggy Munson toured north Idaho the week of April 15. They stopped in Grangeville and Lewiston to talk about health care reform before coming to Moscow.

Idaho U.S. Senator Mike Crapo also scheduled four health care reform forums across the State and asked AARP to make a presentation. Jim Wordelman represented Idaho AARP in Coeur d'Alene and Lewiston. Peggy Munson and Linda Pike, State Executive Council Member, met with Moscow Mayor Nancy Chaney, Gritman's Board Chairman, BJ Swanson; and representatives from Gritman Day Health and Good Samaritan to discuss future nursing shortages and health care reform.

Peggy Munson and Linda Pike hosted a *Staying Sharp* program at Gritman's Conference room on April 16. Approximately 37 people attended this session, which describes how the mind ages and provides tips on keeping mentally fit. The program is a joint project of NRTA, AARP's Educator Community, and the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives.

Following this presentation, Peggy, Jim, and Linda traveled to Coeur d'Alene and met with Legal Aid Attorney, Alan Wasserman, to discuss problems he sees with Medicaid. They also met with the Director of Nursing at NIC and toured the nurse training facility. Jim was the noon speaker at the National Retired Teachers' Assn. convention in Post Falls on that day also. Jim, Peggy, and Linda then presented the *Staying Sharp* program to the AARP Chapter in Bonners Ferry, which Ozzie Osborn, chapter president, hosted.

AARP nationally is feeling the economic crunch and is narrowing its focus to health care reform issues. AARP has 4 primary goals:

- 1) Ensuring Americans age 50 to 64 have a choice of affordable health care plans.
- 2) Strengthening Medicare for current and future generations by lowering health costs and improving benefits.
- 3) Ensuring both the benefits and the cost of health reform is shared by Americans of all generations, and
- 4) Helping people to stay in their homes and out of costly institutions.

Plan now to attend AARP's annual membership event in Las Vegas in October. Watch the AARP magazine or bulletin for details or go to www.AARP.org and click on event.

New CEO Appointed

In April, AARP appointed A. Barry Rand to replace Bill Novelli, who had served for eight years as the CEO of AARP. Rand, who serves as the volunteer Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Howard University, is best known for his 30-year career at Xerox. Under his leadership, Xerox became the most diverse company in the Fortune 500. While at Xerox, Rand worked to ensure minorities and women had every opportunity to advance in the company.

Senior Stimulus

If you are receiving a Social Security benefit of any kind, you will receive a senior payment—\$250 for individuals, or \$500 for couples—beginning in late May. You may have already received a letter about this from the Social Security Administration. The payment will arrive the same way you regularly receive your Social Security benefit. Direct deposit payments will begin in May. Those who receive payments by mail will see theirs in June. Federal and state retirees who do not receive Social Security benefits also are eligible, but may have to file 2009 tax returns before receiving the senior benefit. Max Baucus (Mont) proposed this payment for the Senate bill. AARP supported this measure, arguing that many retirees would not be eligible for workers' tax credits proposed in the House-authored stimulus package.

The AARP Newsletter is published by

Latah County Chapter 678
Moscow, ID 83843

Peter Haggart, Writer/Editor (haggart@moscow.com)

President: Susan Roberts
Vice President: Roger Falen
Secretary: Judy Reisenauer
Treasurer: Bob Carver