



## BLACK FOREST CHAPTER OF AARP #1100

"To serve, not to be served"

Chapter Web Site: <http://aarpchapter1100blackforest.weebly.com>

September 11, 2019

### Luncheon at the Golden Corral, Powers Blvd. & Palmer Park Meet at 11:30 to eat at 12:00

#### Summer in Black Forest

Summer in Black Forest was a busy time for Chapter 1100 of AARP. First there was the Black Forest Festival, then our Chapter's Blood Drive, & later in the month, the Senior Social.

The Black Forest Festival, held on August 10th, was bigger & better than ever before. There were many vendors & activities, & the AARP Chapter 1100 booth did well. The Chapter gave away free bottles of cold water, free potted plants, & had delicious homemade cookies & baked goods for sale at reasonable prices. Visitors at the booth were given the opportunity to donate money to Shield 616, a local 501c3 charity, if they so desired.

A week later, on August 17th, the Chapter hosted a blood drive at the Black Forest Fire & Rescue Station on Teachout Road. A local professional organization did all the work of interviewing donors & extracting the blood properly to preserve it for future use in area hospitals. Chapter 1100 members served to greet & help with the administrative activities of signing donors in, & helped set up the area in the firehouse for use during the day.

The monthly Senior Social on August 28th featured the usual opportunity for individuals of all ages to participate in games, crafts, puzzles, or just sit & talk in an informal atmosphere. Light snacks were provided. The Senior Socials, the fourth Wednesday of each month from 1-4 pm at the Black Forest Lutheran Church, is open to all without membership or financial obligations.



The Black Forest Chapter 1100 booth on the midway.

Numerous Chapter volunteers furnished items for the booth & assisted in staffing the booth during the day.

Chapter 1100 Volunteers, L-R, Shirley Karlstrum, Chuck Karlstrum, Jim Belk, Patricia Dix, Electa Beckner & Lori Belk, help conduct the Blood Drive at the Black Forest Fire & Rescue Firehouse in Black Forest.



**SMART DRIVER COURSE - Thursday, October 17th from 11:45 to 4:00 PM at the Black Forest Lutheran Church Meeting Hall.**

**Call Stephen Blucher at 597-5683 for a reservation, cost, etc.**

Editor: Since we don't have any meeting minutes I'm slipping in an article Lin sent me a few months ago. Very interesting!

### THINK BEFORE YOU DONATE

THE AMERICAN RED CROSS - President & CEO Marsha J. Evans her salary \$651,957 plus expenses.

MARCH OF DIMES - It's called the March of dimes because ONLY A DIME FOR EVERY DOLLAR IS GIVEN TO THE NEEDY.

THE UNITED WAY - President Brian Gallagher receives a \$375,000 base salary along with numerous expenses & benefits.

UNICEF - CEO Carly M. Stern receives \$1,200,000 per year plus all expenses including a ROLLS ROYCE. LESS THAN 5 CENTS OF YOUR DONATED DOLLAR GOES TO THE CAUSE.

GOODWILL - CEO & Owner Mark Curran profits \$2,300,000 a year. Goodwill is a very catchy name for his business. You donate to his business & then he sells the items for PROFIT. He pays nothing for his product & pays his workers minimum wage. Nice guy. \$0.00 GOES TO HELP ANYONE!

### NOW LET'S PUT YOUR MONEY WHERE IT'LL DO SOME GOOD

THE SALVATION ARMY - Commissioner Todd Bassett receives a small salary of only \$13,000 plus housing for managing this \$2 billion dollar organization. 95% OF DONATIONS GO TO THE CAUSE.

THE AMERICAN LEGION - National Commander receives \$0.00 salary. Your donations go to help Veterans & their families & youth.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS - National Commander receives \$0.00 salary. Your donations go to help Veterans & their families & youth.

THE DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS - National Commander receives \$0.00 salary. Your donations go to help Veterans & their families & youth.

THE MILITARY ORDER OF PURPLE HEARTS - National Commander receives \$0.00 salary. Your donations go to help Veterans & their families & youth.

THE VIETNAM VETERANS ASSOCIATION - National Commander receives \$0.00 salary. Your donations go to help Veterans & their families & youth.

MAKE A WISH - for children's last wishes. 100% goes to funding trips or for special wished for dying children.

ST, JUDE RESEARCH HOSPITAL - 100% goes towards funding & helping children with cancer who have no insurance & cannot afford to pay.

RONALD McDONALD HOUSES - All monies go to running the houses for parents who have critically ill children in the hospital. 100% goes to housing & feeding the families.

LIONS CLUB INTERNATIONAL - 100% of donations go to help the blind & they buy hearing aids, support medical missions around the world. Their latest undertaking is measles vaccinations, \$1 per shot.



**First day of Autumn—September 23rd**

As of the January 4, 2019 Board of Directors meeting we will no longer include the Chapter Financial Report in our monthly newsletter. Instead the Treasurer will update the membership as to the current account balances, income & expenses during the monthly meeting.

### CHAPTER COMMITTEES

**Health Care:** Wash your hands. Waldo has a list of members willing to loan walkers, etc. so if you need one, or have one to loan, please contact him. If you have questions check with Waldo.

\*\*\* Max Stucky has 3 walkers if anybody needs to use one. Please talk to him.

**Notification:** Thanks to Pat Guild & Anita Wolfe for their work on the monthly telephone member notifications & thank you Patricia Dix for notifying members via e-mail.

**Public Relations:** PSAs were sent to 8 local newspapers, the Gazette blog & posted to our website regarding Chapter related recent activities. Thank you Stan.

**Sunshine:** Electa sent get well cards to Dick Cole, Lin Rozak, Anita Wolfe & Max Stucky. (Electa is the Sunshine Committee & can be reached at 596-6787. Please call her directly so she doesn't hear about a member second hand.)

- **Visit the Chapter website** at <http://aarpchapter1100blackforest.weebly.com/> so you too can see the latest Chapter information & upcoming events. Many people visit our website during the month & our members find it useful.
- **REMINDER OF CHAPTER MEETING CANCELLATION POLICY:**  
If School District 20 cancels classes, or is on late reporting, Chapter meetings will not take place.
- **Senior Social** - The Senior Social will be held on September 25th in the Meeting Hall of the Black Forest Lutheran Church. Join other seniors for various games, or just visit.
- **REMINDER ABOUT THE MONTHLY DOOR PRIZE DRAWINGS** - The new person in charge (?) of this activity will need items for the monthly door prize drawings, a Chapter fund-raising activity. Those who attended the July Picnic enjoyed food purchased with money collected through these drawings rather than from the Treasury.

### Will You Attend?

The FREE semi-annual AARP Colorado Volunteer Recognition Event will be held in Denver on 15 October. We know of several Chapter 1100 nominees who will be honored at that time for their outstanding service to the Community & our AARP Chapter.

Stan has the sign-up sheet which is being circulated for all those who wish to attend. Those who volunteer to drive will be reimbursed for the mileage cost if they have at least four people in their car. You can make reservations to attend on line or by contacting Stan with your details. LET'S SUPPORT OUR FRIENDS BY ATTENDING.

If individuals have difficulties, or cannot go on-line, they can contact Stan & he will register them.

**HOLIDAY DINNER DANCE** - This year's Holiday Dinner Dance will be on 16 November from 5-8 PM at the Colorado Springs City Auditorium. The event is FREE, but reservations are required. Reservations fill up fast, so sign up at the Chapter meeting or contact Stan at 596.6787, if you plan to attend or want to volunteer to help prepare for the event.



## Auto Repair Fraud

Auto repairs are a fact of life for anyone with a vehicle. While most auto mechanics are trustworthy, there are some who are out to make a quick buck. Dishonest repairmen might falsely inform you that certain repairs are needed or they may bill for services/repairs that were not requested or completed. Here are some simple steps you can take to avoid fraudulent or unnecessary auto repairs:

**Get referrals** from your family, friends or co-workers for a qualified mechanic. For major, high-cost repairs, consider shops that hold certifications and employ specialists.

**Ask questions and request definitions.** Don't be embarrassed to ask questions. Avoid making on-the-spot decisions about repairs & instead request the technician contact you about any proposed repairs—and their estimated costs—before any work is done to your vehicle.

**Demand everything in writing.** Make sure you get written estimates for parts & labor before authorizing repairs. Ensure you understand all shop policies in relation to prices, guarantees, timelines & methods of payment.

**Request a walk-through with your mechanic.** Once your repair is finished, get an explanation of the completed work & guarantees in writing. If any major new parts are installed, be sure to check them before leaving. Remember to research auto repair shops & mechanics before you select one. Read independent review sites & obtain information from the Better Business Bureau.

If you have questions, don't hesitate to contact an AARP ElderWatch volunteer specialist if you need more information or want to report an auto repair scam. Auto Repair Fraud Recognize, Refuse, Report! Call us Monday–Friday, 9 a.m.–4 p.m.

Denver Metro Area 303-222-4444 [www.aarpelderwatch.org](http://www.aarpelderwatch.org)

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