

Outgoing AARP Officers



These are the officers who have provided outstanding leadership to the Eagle Lake Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons for the past year. New officers will take office in January. The 1976 officers shown above are, left to right, Mrs. Sophie Zoller, treasurer; Mrs. Dora Larson, secretary; Mrs. Grace Dorson, first vice president; and Mrs. Helen Ball, president.

Local Chapter of Retired Persons Has Luncheon-Meeting

The Eagle Lake Chapter of the American Association of Retired Persons met last Wednesday, Dec. 1st at the noon hour in the Fellowship Hall of the First Baptist Church for the annual Christmas Party and regular meeting, highlighted by a delicious covered dish luncheon. The buffet table was laden with all sorts of delicious foods.

There were forty-eight members and three visitors, Mrs. J. W. Shacklett, Mrs. Heynie Dromgoole and Luther Sheldon. Members welcomed Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon, residents at Lake Sheridan, as new members. The chapter now has 99 members.

Mrs. Albert Pustejovsky was the birthday lady of the month. Also present was Fred Franks of the Headlight to take pictures of the officers.

Members brought gifts to the meeting which were distributed to residents at the Heritage House.

New Officers: The new officers for 1977 are as follows: Mrs. Grace

Towell, president; Clyde Brown, vice-president; Albert Pustejovsky, second vice-president; Mrs. Gladys Pidgeon, secretary; and Mrs. Sophie Zoller, treasurer.

The group joined together at the close of the meeting for singing of lovely old Christmas carols.

New members are welcome to join the club at any meeting. Board meeting will be held Monday, Jan. 3rd at the church fellowship hall; and the regular meeting will be on Wed., Jan. 5th.

Miss Terry Kohleffel, bride-elect of Fred Knebel, Jr., was honored with a Miscellaneous Shower at the church on Wednesday, Dec. 1st at 7:30 p.m. Upon entering the hall, Miss Kohleffel and her mother, Mrs. Albert Pustejovsky, were greeted by the bride's family.

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Move Underway to Expand WCJC Dist.

A movement to enlarge the area's community college by including Matagorda County in the present Wharton County Junior College District has begun with circulation of petitions that call for a January 15 expansion election.

Two prominent Matagorda Countyans, Mrs. C. C. Mehrens of Bay City and R. B. Trull of Palacios, were the first to sign petitions urging inclusion of territory that embraces the independent school districts of Bay City, Tidehaven, Van Vleet, Matagorda and Palacios.

Combining Matagorda County with the present WCJC District for junior college purposes would eliminate "out-of-district matriculation fees" presently charged Matagorda Countyans.

These extra charges for non-residents of the district presently amount to \$81 per year based on an 18-hour class load per semester. The sum far exceeds the average tax figure now paid by district residents.

"We must have help if we are to continue to do what we know is in the best interests of the area," stated Dr. Theodore Nickels, Jr., speaking at a meeting of the Wharton County Junior College Foundation Board.

The Junior College has provided Matagorda County residents with the only higher education opportunities within reasonable commuting distance since 1946. In 1968, the Coordinating Board, Texas College and University System, formally recognized the institution's local importance by assigning Matagorda County to the WCJC service area.

Dr. Nickels expressed a strong "kinship" between the WCJC District and Matagorda County indicating that it is "interwoven through almost every best of life."

"People are the same, industries and agriculture are the same and the same Colorado River winds through both areas which comprised a single county in the early days of the Texas Republic," he added.

Matagorda County would have a direct role in the governance of the institution if it joined the adjoining WCJC District.

Initially, one board member would be appointed. All the seats on the board would be thrown open at the next regularly scheduled election. A "gentlemen's agreement" could then be reached for equal representation from all areas of the new district. This understanding has been in effect for the present district during the 30 years.

Other advantages for the new residents of the proposed district include sharing a \$13 million plant that is practically debt-free.

General obligation bonded indebtedness for WCJC in fiscal year 1976-77 is only \$72,000.

College officials expect a large increase in student enrollment by 1980 based upon ever increasing high school class statistics.

They stress the need for an enlarged district in order to continue WCJC's role as an outstanding educational institution serving the area's scholars who today vary from recent high school graduates to those who are returning to the learning process after several years absence.

Chairs To Visit (By Justino Moreno)

The seventh and eighth grade choirs of Eagle Lake Middle School will visit Garwood and Sheridan on December 15. They will present a Christmas program of three songs by each choir and two songs by the combined group.

The two songs for the combined choir are "Echo Canyon" and "Redneck," the Red-Nosed Reindeer. The eighth grade choir will sing "Good Christian Men Rejoice," "Beau Bambino," "Go Tell It on the Mountain," and "What Do All These Things Mean." The seventh grade choir will sing "Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah" and "Do You Hear What I Hear?"

Performance times are 10:30 at Garwood and 1:00 at Sheridan. We hope members of these communities will be able to come and hear our programs at their school.

Completes Projects (By Sheila Parker)

The Eagle Lake Middle School Student Council has

3rd in St. Paul's Hall in Columbus. Mrs. Oscar Schade, chapter president, welcomed the guests. The invocation was given by Mrs. Hollis Massey.

After a traditional Christmas buffet, four new members were presented their certificates: Mrs. Randa Harrison Wagonho of Eagle Lake, Mrs. Laura Sronce Githero and Mrs. Lillian Sronce Mehrens whose mother, Mrs. Mattie Auerbach Sronce, was a charter member, and Mrs. Marion Hopkins Seymour who is a Confederate Reel Daughter.

Mrs. J. J. Everett was recognized as the chapter's senior active member. Thanks were extended to Mrs. John Matern, Mrs. Brandon Fitzpatrick and Mrs. W. G. Clayton for the decorations and place cards and to Mrs. Edgar Litmann who served as reservation chairman.

The program was introduced by Mrs. Jack Draper. Mrs. Burney Parker, accompanied by Blaine Hollab, sang "I Carried Both Lord and King," "Sweet Little Jesus Boy" and "Jesus Bambino."

Mrs. Clayton reviewed the tender Christmas story, "A Stable Boy," by Edgar Brown. In conclusion Mrs. Parker led the group in the singing of carols. One hundred and two guests and members attended.

PUT YOUR NAME ON OUR LIST

AND YOU MIGHT WIN A PONG™ GAME

Put Someone's name on our List of Depositors - Give a Savings Account for Christmas - A gift that keeps on giving

PONG DRAWING THURSDAY, DEC. 23

1/ In cooperation with National Weather Service & Texas Water Development Board.

2/ Sheltered air temperatures.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1976 9:45 A.M.

FARM WEATHER OUTLOOK THROUGH SATURDAY: Fair to partly cloudy skies are forecast for the Texas Rio Belt through Friday, increasing cloudiness and a few showers are expected about Saturday. Low temperatures tonight in the upper 20's are expected inland with temperatures around 40 degrees along the coastline. Night-time temperatures in the 50's and upper 50's are expected Wednesday night through Friday night. Afternoon highs in the low to middle 50's today will warm to the 60's and low 70's Thursday through Saturday. Light northerly winds this afternoon and Wednesday will become southeasterly the rest of the week.

PAST WEATHER: Rainfall over the Rio Belt on Monday varied from around 1/2 inch or less in the western part of the Rio Belt to over 2 inches in the eastern part. New Caney reported 2.25 inches, and Goldsboro 2.18 inches. Through temperatures on Monday ranged from the middle 60's in the eastern Rio Belt to around 70 degrees in the west. Lows this morning were in the upper 30's and low 40's.

FARM MANAGEMENT: Good drying conditions may remove excess soil moisture to allow soybean harvest and flax planting to be resumed in some fields by Thursday or Friday. Many, however, particularly in the eastern Rio Belt will remain too wet to work before the showers are expected on Saturday.

With an anticipated population increase of 25 percent in 25 years in the United States and a doubling of world population in 30 to 35 years, he said farmers and ranchers can expect "a tremendous increase in demand for our food and fiber products."

He said the struggle for world market continues, and "there are other factors that adversely affect our ability to manage our farms."

Unimpeded exports of agricultural commodities "are vital to us in agriculture," he declared. Texas ranks third behind Illinois and Iowa in value of farm products exported, and nationally, the production from about one acre in three is shipped overseas, he pointed out.

"We depend upon exports to take 60 percent of our wheat, 55 percent of our rice, 50 percent of our soybeans, 40 percent of our cotton and 20 percent of our feed grains," he explained.

Chaloupka noted that current farm programs for rice, wheat, feed grains and upland cotton expire with the 1977 crops and said national farm legislation is "another factor affecting what we grow and how we sell."

Because of the current slump in farm prices and the changed political climate, he said he foresees pressures to return to higher price guarantees and acreage controls. "I trust that we will not permit the market to work to the detriment of the farmer," he declared. "If you take away all the risks, you take away all opportunity."

Farmers and ranchers have fared better during the past four or five years than during the previous 20 years, he said. During the 1950s and 1960s, farm prices rose only about 12 percent, while the consumer price index went up six-fold. Net farm income has doubled in the past five years, he pointed out.

"Taxpayers no longer have to pay \$4 billion annually in subsidies to keep farmers from growing crops," he declared. "Storage of government-owned grain no longer costs taxpayers \$1 million or more a day. The farmer has a much better image. We are looked upon today as an asset to the economy, not a drag. The fact of the matter is that we were never drags, as you well know. We were, in fact, subsidizing a cheap food policy. We were the givers, not the recipients."

The market was very active and prices were stronger on most classes of cattle at the sale at Columbus Livestock Market in Columbus last Thursday. A lot of buyers were on hand.

The firm handled 1400 head of cattle with the good to choice butcher calves and yearlings bringing 29 to 36, heifer/packer cows 24 to 26, commercial packer bulls 33 to 39. Heavy Hereford and Angus steer calves went 30 to 45 and heifers 27 to 32 while crossbred steer calves sold 27 to 32 and heifers 30 to 40. Good stocker cows went \$180 to \$200 per head; butcher boys 35 to 37 and lambs 15 to 30c.

WHARTON CO. LIVESTOCK The market was higher on all classes of cattle at the Wharton County Livestock Market sale on Dec. 1st. Steaghter cows were up two to three cents; some classes of thin steer calves were up three to five cents and slaughter calves were two to three cents higher. Owners reported good demand with excellent buyer attendance.

The firm handled 1200 head of cattle with 450 to 550 lb. choice stocker and feeder steers selling 34 to 36 and 500 to 600 lb. standard steers bringing 25 to 28. Choice heifers in the 350 to 450 lb. group sold 28 to 32 and utility slaughter cows went 23 to 27 while bottle brought 30 to 35.

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AGRICULTURAL OBSERVATIONS

From TEXAS A&M RESEARCH SITE EAGLE LAKE

Date	Air Temp	2/	Soil Temp	Rain	Evap
Nov	Max	Min	Max	Min	(ins)
30	51	24	49	37	0
Dec					
1	57	34	52	38	0 .040
2	55	37	52	44	0 .083
3	63	31	53	42	0 .112
4	67	34	55	42	0 .068
5	60	53	57	53	2.00 N/A
6	66	58	59	54	.57 .108

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