

Our **June** meeting will include a hot dog cook out with all the trimmings! Please be sure to sign up for the cook-out at the May meeting, or call Sue Braun (329-8294) by **June 18** if you wish to join the cook-out but are unable to be at the May meeting. Additionally, if you sign up - but are unable to attend - call Sue to let her know!

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- **Mark Your Calendars!**
- **Potluck Meeting Months: June And September**
- **First Week In October: Yard Sale!**

"Blessed are those who mourn, For they shall be comforted." **Matthew 5:4**
 A Get Well card was sent to Allison Caruso (Knee Injury). We wish her a speedy recovery!

WE CARE			
Wynelle Sando	26 th	Ruth Davis	26 th
Donna M. Kersey	9 th	June Harris	13 th
Juanita Smith	3 rd	Franki Hodge	7 th
Lenora Price	24 th	Marliou Dixon	27 th
Pierce Castleberry, Jr.	18 th	Walter Huckeba	20 th
Evelyn Mickleis	14 th	John Padgett	16 th
Theresa Godt	7 th	Howard Jordan	13 th
Leokadia Koloziej	4 th	H. Jay Walker	6 th
Choice Editor/Typist	Greg Davis	318-0471	922-7774
Chaplain	Winona Smith	923-6997	956-4134
Treasurer	Nancy Harrison	922-1526	922-2003
Secretary	Ivis Bedrick	923-4533	929-2202
Vice President	Allison Caruso	923-7219	929-2202
President	John Echols	953-5060	987-7220
Maureen Echols	953-5060		

Officers	Names	Telephone	Board Of Directors	Telephone
Meeting Dates/Time:	Wednesday, May 28 th and Wednesday, June 25 th (10:00 A.M.)			
Location:	Wellston Center - 152 Maple Street Warner Robins, GA 31093			

Choice
 May 2008 | Volume 12 - 5
 Monthly
 Warner Robins, Georgia
 "To Serve - Not To Be Served"
www.Choice1952.com

The Newsletter Of AARP Chapter 1952

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Wednesday, June 25th (10:00 A.M.)
 Location: Wellston Center
 152 Maple Street | Warner Robins, GA 31093

With gasoline edging towards \$4.00 or more per gallon, just about everybody's feeling an economic pinch these days, and the suggestion that (on top of already record-high gas prices) we're not even getting a fair shake at the pump is enough to make anyone see red. So it's not surprising that the above quoted warning of "cheating as gas pumps" has quickly gained widespread currency. **SEE GAS >>**

Here is how to check a pump to see if you are getting the right amount. **Which ever grade you are using, put EXACTLY 10 GALLONS in your tank, then look at the dollar amount, if the dollar amount is not EXACTLY 10 times the price of the fuel you have chosen, then the pumps are rigged. In my case as I said the mid-grade was \$3.71 9/10 per gallon, my dollar amount for 10 gallons should have been \$37.19. If I had only check the pump. It doesn't matter where you pump gas, please check the 10 gallon price. If you do find a station that is cheating, contact the Georgia Department of Agriculture, and direct your comments to Tommy Irvin, Commissioner.**

From The Internet: Cheating At Gas Pumps (Various E-mail reports account of customer being cheated by a malfunctioning gas pump.)

[BEGIN QUOTE] This is a true story, so read it carefully. On April 24, 2008, I stopped at a Kangaroo BP gas station, located at 1325 Main Street, Cartersville, GA. My truck's gas gage was on 1/4 of a tank. I use the mid-grade, which was priced at \$3.71 per gallon. When my tank is at this point, it takes somewhere around 14 gallons to fill it up. When the pump showed 14 gallons had been pumped I began to slow it down, then to my surprise it went to 15, then 16. I even looked under my truck to see if it was being spilled. It was not. Then it showed 17 gallons had been pumped. I stopped at almost 18 gallons. This was very strange to me, since my truck has only an 18 gallon tank. I went on my way a little confused, then on the evening news I heard a report that 1 out of 4 gas stations had calibrated their pumps to show more gas had been pumped than a person actually got.

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We're able to provide our newsletter from the support of advertisers. We sincerely appreciate all advertisers (past and present) and - with **everyone's** assistance - we'll get (and keep) new advertisers as well!

Editor's Notes
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AARP Defensive Driving Classes: Contact Lynn Partillo at 478/971-4473.
Evening Classes: Contact Paul Bennett at 478/783-1988 (Hawkinsville Number).
Attention Readers Of This Newsletter: "Local Chapter Membership" Has Its Rewards **And Privileges!** Members: Please keep your dues (only \$5.00/year) and membership directory information (birthday, address/phone number, etc) current! If you are NOT a member of our local chapter **but** you are a member of AARP please consider joining us ... only \$5.00/year! Thank you! ggd ©

GAS (Continued):



Don't blame the gas guys. Even consumer advocates say retailers may be losing as often as consumers, and no one appears able to rig the meters. But the small "check valve" at the end of the multibillion dollar industry just wears out, and often goes unnoticed for months.

A bad valve can also work against retailers, freezing the price gauge for an instant after gas starts. No one's sure who gets gored more, or how deeply.

Unfortunately, much of the responsibility for spotting such irregularities and reporting them to regulatory agencies falls upon consumers themselves, and it isn't always easy for the average consumer to notice problems like the ones described in the above-quoted message. Determining whether a particular pump is correctly reporting the amount of gasoline dispensed can be rather difficult, especially if the difference is relatively small — just about all consumers can do in this area is to be aware of how much gasoline their vehicles should take at various fuel gauge level readings and note whether the reported number of gallons they buy corresponds to this number. (That is, if you know your car typically takes seven gallons to fill when your gas gauge needle is on the halfway mark, you should be concerned if a half-tank fill-up suddenly takes eight or nine gallons instead. Note that you need to learn this system by trial and error: Because gas gauge needles do not necessarily move at an even rate across the full range between "F" and "E", you can't assume that a car with a 14-gallon gas tank will necessarily take exactly seven gallons to fill when the needle sits on the halfway mark.)

It's much easier to determine whether pumps are accurately registering the proper charge for the amount of gasoline dispensed simply by multiplying the number of gallons you buy by the price per gallon. (If you can't easily do this calculation in your head, you can either use a calculator or employ the suggested method of noting the total dollar charge at the moment the pump reads exactly ten gallons dispensed.) But of course, catching this sort of problem is only possible if the pump is accurately reporting the amount of gasoline dispensed, which (as noted above) is usually much more difficult to determine.

For now, though, it's generally the case that the retail gasoline industry has a number of other (and bigger) problems to deal with, and that consumers have not (so far) been very aggressive in reporting the problems they might encounter:

"I think our industry would love to replace anything that wears down," Bob Renkes of the Petroleum Equipment Institute said. But the check valves aren't a high priority when the industry is dealing with issues such as preventing identity theft when swipe cards are used, static electricity discharges and the 5 percent of retailers whose old mechanical equipment can't register a price of \$4 a gallon.

State and local regulators doubt any but the most ambitious consumers would contact them in case of a problem, even though the phone numbers are on inspection stickers. More likely, consumers fume and wonder if they were cheated, or report it to the manager of the gas station or convenience store.

If gasoline prices continue their upward spiral, however, this may all change — and quickly. **Now You Know! ggd ©**