

# Diane Schaule: A Life in Service

Diane Schaule knows what it means to be busy.

In the 25 years prior to her move to Canyon Lake, Schaule lived in the sprawling and hectic Washington, D.C. metroplex, where she worked primarily at the Pentagon, the world's largest office building. When she retired in 2004 as the Chief of Military and Civilian Manpower Policy for the Department of the Army, she and her husband, a retired Air Force colonel with 31 years of service, wanted to relocate to somewhere a little more laid back.

"My husband is a Texan at heart so there was no doubt in our minds that we would retire out here," she said. "We just didn't know where. Initially, we were looking at [moving to] San Antonio, because we were thinking we would enjoy living [there]. Then, one day, I was doing some research [online] and stumbled across Canyon Lake."

"What really drew us to this area was the fact that it was outside of the big city, it was away from traffic, the population was significantly lower than what we were used to," Schaule said. "We came to Canyon Lake basically sight-unseen and we put a contract on a house the second day we were here."

While western Comal County is decidedly more



Diane Schaule, right, presents a Nintendo Wii donated by the Pilot Club of Canyon Lake to Gloria Marinez, activities director of Oak Tree Assisted Living in New Braunfels.

capital, Schaule has nonetheless pushed the limits of what it means to stay busy and, in the six years since joining the community, has become active in many of its most prominent service organizations.

Today, she is president of the Pilot Club of Canyon Lake, membership chair and past-president of the Lindheimer Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists, activities co-chair of Canyon Lake Republican Women, a member of Community Resource and Recreation Center advisory board, a member of the Morning Glories Garden Club, and a member of the civilian

for the Association of the U.S. Army in Arlington, Virginia. She also has her own jewelry design business.

"I had no idea that retirement would be this much fun!" Schaule said. "I really didn't."

"All these things keep me busy and I enjoy doing them," she said. "But it goes beyond keeping busy. I see so much value-added in so many of the organizations that are out here at the lake. There are just so many opportunities available for volunteerism and serving the community; this whole area revolves around its volunteers. It gives me a sense that I'm a part of the