

Quill of the Hill

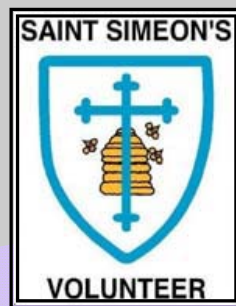
Volume 47

Issue 13

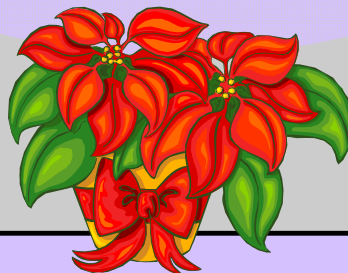
January 2011

Saint Simeon's Auxiliary

2011 Marks 50 Years of Growth
through Love, Loyalty & Leadership



The purpose of the Saint Simeon's
Auxiliary is to enrich and enhance
the lives of the Residents of Saint
Simeon's.



All Residents, Family
Members & Friends of
Saint Simeon's are
welcome to join the
Auxiliary.

Next Auxiliary Meeting
Tuesday, January 11th
1:00 p.m.
Smith Conference Center

*Come to the meeting
and learn about
our programs &
activities!*



Getting to Know: Gary Coleman

Gary Coleman tied with Brenda Scott to be our most recent Employee of the Month. He works in the Facilities Services Department (aka Housekeeping) and this was what their Crew Chief had to say about them.

On the weekend of Nov 6th and 7th, our Department was down three people. That left myself, Brenda, & Gary to take care of everything but the Laundry. They helped me out by taking on a lot of extra duties the whole weekend. They never complained and worked very hard. I appreciate the teamwork and going above and beyond for the Residents and for Facility Services!!

Gary has been here since September and is primarily a Floor Technician, though he does whatever needs to be done, from changing light bulbs to cleaning rooms. He found out about Saint Simeon's from Sandy Hewitt, who recommended that he come apply for a job here. "I had done this type of work before when I was younger, so I knew that I could do it. I've also been a Security Person, Cable TV Guy, Welder's Helper, and worked in Construction."

"I was born in Talihina, Oklahoma but grew up in Tishomingo, Oklahoma; both are in the southern part of the state. When I was seven, we moved to Sherman, Texas and I lived there until I was 18. After graduating from Sherman High School, I moved back to Oklahoma for a couple of years but returned to Texas - Dallas this time. I worked at Texas Instruments, building computer boards and also doing some floor work."

"I have two sons. Bobby is 21 years old and manages an Auto Zone, and Dakota just turned four and his job is to create chaos. They both still live in Dallas and I am sorry that I miss some of their growing up but I go down at least once a month, sometimes twice when I can, to see them. I wouldn't trade either of them for a million bucks – they are my pride and joy."

"I moved to this area in 2008 and got a job in Housekeeping (stripping rooms) at the Cherokee Casino, now called the Hard Rock Casino. My trainer there, Victoria Mueller, later become my fiancé. We are still co-workers because we both came to work here. We live in Beggs, Oklahoma (on the way to Henrietta) with her two boys, Braden, 13 years old and Colin, 15 years old and daughter, Kimberly (K-Girl), 16 years old. The boys like playing anything that is a game – video games, board games, even Nerf guns. Kimberly enjoys music (high school choir and also Karaoke) and just got her driver's permit. We all enjoy sitting around talking, finding out how our days have gone. We have a Family Movie Night (complete with snacks) where we vote on which movie from our collection we want to watch. With the exception of our cat, our pets are not the usual ones. We have an Alligator Snapping Turtle named Cuddles. Cuddles is a survivor. Victoria helped some friends move and discovered that they left behind an aquarium."



Above, Saint Simeon's Facilities Management coworkers Gary Coleman and Brenda Scott received December's S.T.A.R. employee of the Month award.

(continued on Page 4)

Morrison Dining Employee Earns National Award



On Monday, December 6, Jonathan Kincaid was called to the Smith Conference Center, where he was joined by many of his Saint Simeon's and Morrison Dining coworkers. Morrison Dietary Director Ashwin Shrinivas, Saint Simeon's CEO Lindsay Hurley Fick, and Morrison Divisional Vice President Dawn Himes were also in attendance, and Himes had a very special announcement to make.

Over the course of the past year, Morrison Dining dietary server Jonathan Kincaid has been recognized for going above and beyond his normal duties on Christmas Day 2009. First, he received Saint Simeon's S.T.A.R. Employee of the Month, then shortly thereafter, a gift card and certificate under Morrison's signature *'Be A Star'* program. In October, Kincaid was honored regionally by Morrison as a *'Regional People First Champion'*.

Many in attendance for this latest announcement had already been briefed by Shrinivas. Therefore, feeling fully informed, most assumed that Jonathan was the only one who was in for a surprise that day, and simply waited in anticipation for the big reveal.

As Himes recapped the events on the morning of December 25, 2009, she spoke of Kincaid's dedication to his coworkers, many of whom were stranded in one of Tulsa's worst snow storms in history. She also spoke of his focus on taking care of the Residents as he moved seamlessly from cooking to helping serve their Christmas breakfast. Himes then announced that, as a result of his exceptional actions and service, Jonathan Kincaid had been selected to receive Morrison's *'People First National Award'*, awarded annually to only six individuals out of the over 20,000 employed across the United States. Supporters applauded and cheered aloud—and Himes continued: as reward for his



Several supporters were on hand to see Jonathan receive his award. Pictured (l-r) Stephanie Fink, Donna Olivier, Lindsay Hurley Fick, Ella Barnes, Sheila Daniels, Dawn Himes, Laverne Shaw, Dorinda Hill, Jonathan Kincaid, Treena Moreland, Jernill Myers, Ebony White, Lori Maynard, Kashif Khan and Ashwin Shrinivas.

dedication to Morrison's values of *'Great People, Great Service'*, Jonathan would be receiving an **all-expense paid trip for two to anywhere in the world!**

After a brief pause by all, reality set in. What a most inspirational way to celebrate this job well done! And just like the proud and dedicated family that they are, Jonathan's coworkers wasted no time putting up a sign announcing the award and asking "Where Should Jonathan Go?" He researched several suggestions before finally deciding on the French Polynesian island of Bora Bora.

Famous for its aquacentric luxury resorts featuring bungalows on stilts over the lagoon, Bora Bora translates to "First Born". This is notable perhaps since Jonathan is the first Saint Simeon's Morrison employee to receive this honor. And it's nice to know that good guys like Jonathan are setting the standard. Congratulations Jonathan, and enjoy—you've earned it! ☺

Kris's Caring Champions – Recognizing Our Best

On January 1, 2011, Saint Simeon's will kick off "Kris's Caring Champions" as an exciting new program to help recognize employees who exemplify Saint Simeon's best of the best. Named in honor of former Resident Kris Nichols, the "Kris's Caring Champions" program will allow the leadership of Saint Simeon's to highlight employees who make that special effort to bring joy, comfort and security into the life of the Resident.

Residents, family members, friends, vendor partners and fellow employees are encouraged to nominate any Saint Simeon's employee (including Morrison dietary and Wackenhut security employees) for their good works at any time throughout the year. Each month, nominations will be reviewed by the Home's leadership team and recognized at the Home's monthly "Winners' Circle" employee meeting as members of "Kris's Caring Champion Circle." From the circle of nominees, the Home's leadership team will select the one "Kris's Caring Champion" for the month. Each nominee will receive a \$25 gift card and the winner will receive a \$100 cash prize plus their own parking space for the month.

"Kris's Caring Champion" nomination forms are available at each nurse station and reception desks. Or, you may also email us your nomination at any time to Bonnie Gorrell, HR Director, at bgorrell@saintsimeons.org. The nomination form will also be available at www.saintsimeons.org. An announcement will be made when the Website nomination form is available.

"Kris's Caring Champions" was created with a generous endowed gift from our friends Kris and Jerry Nichols. With Jerry's blessing, the Staff re-named the previous employee recognition program as a tribute to Kris, who is in the latter stages of Alzheimer's. The Staff was honored that Kris was a Resident in 2010 and we all appreciate Jerry for his desire to reward staff members who offer outstanding care. Investment earnings from this new "Employee Recognition Endowment Fund" will fund the benefits provided to each "Kris's Caring Champion" circle nominee and winner.

We are very thankful for Kris and Jerry Nichols and we are excited that everyone, through the nomination process, will be able to help us recognize those employees who work so hard to fulfill the mission of Saint Simeon's.

Getting to Know - Gary Coleman (continued from Page 2)

"The other turtle had already died but Alligator Snapping Turtles are very resilient so she was able to rescue him. He was just the size of a silver dollar then but has grown a lot. Adults can weigh up to 150 pounds!

Braden has a pet rat named Joey who really has become a member of the family. Colin has three hamsters, two males and one female. Yes, he provides the female separate living quarters from the males or we'd have LOTS of hamsters by now."

"I'm just an 'Average Joe'. My favorite sport teams are any team playing for the University of Oklahoma, New England Patriots, and Oklahoma City Thunder. I like to hunt (bird or deer) and fish (catfish or bass). I like to watch NCIS, Dancing with the Stars, and Wheel of Fortune – which I wish I could get on! I'd like to own a house someday and wish that I could have all my boys with me but I know that is not possible. I like to laugh all the time, country western dancing, and Karaoke – and I have actually placed in several contests I've entered. What I like best about this job is that I get to work with and around so many friendly, nice people. It makes me really happy to be here." ☺

Several of our potted plants come inside for the winter. **Laveta Anderson** (husband Ralph moved here in October) brought several of their plants and is watering them and helping with other plants – like helping plant the pansies in the pedestal pots outside the Hilltop Dining Room. We hope to keep her plants happy until spring and then they can go back outside and really start thriving again. In the Health Care Center are a small **Croton, Fern/Impatiens and Variegated Spider Plant**. On the ramp by the Ice Cream Parlor she brought a **Rubber Plant and Mandevilla Vine**.

But there is one plant that has been coming inside for many years and is in a class all by itself and that is **Ruth Anderson's magnificent Fluffy Ruffle Asparagus Fern**. You can find it on the second floor of the Dotson Family Living Center on Mabee hall. It is so beautiful that many people think that it is artificial until they see Mary Newman (Ruth Matlock's daughter) watering it along with the other plants in that building.

This fern has a history and I asked Ruth Anderson to share it with us. There were five sisters in her family. Four of them have lived at Saint Simeon's, Ruth, Marian Franks, Irene Dickinson, and Beth Parker. Marian was bosom friends with Martha Cole, also a former resident here. When their Mother, Cecile Parker, died (or as Ruth says, "graduated") over 33 years ago, Martha Cole gave a small fern to Marian who promptly passed it on to Ruth since everyone knows that Ruth has about the greenest thumb known to mankind.



This fern has lived with Ruth all these years. It grew and grew and had to be transplanted and divided countless times. There is no telling how many folks now have a "sister fern" from that plant. Even before Ruth moved here she sent two starts from it ahead and for several years those two ferns were at the Main Entrance to Administration. They would move a few feet inside and spend winters between the sets of doors and when Gene and Ruth Anderson retired here, Gene would water them over the winter. Of course, Ruth brought the original fern here and you may have seen it in front of her cottage these past summers.



What is Ruth's secret for growing such beautiful plants and saving the lives of so many plants that were on their "deathbed" when folks brought them to her "infirmary"? Milorganite. She scratches the surface of the soil and adds Milorganite. It is the only fertilizer she uses. We keep a bag at Saint Simeon's and because plants don't require very much, it will last us a very long time. If anyone would like to try some, just let us know.

Another plant inside for the winter resides in the Hearth Room. This is **Art Rubin's Bird of Paradise Plant**. It has been here several years but this is the first time it has bloomed. I wish you could see the colors (those of you receiving this newsletter by e-mail are able to) because the flower is a striking orange, purple, red, and green. The photo is when the first flower had emerged on the stalk. Two *more* flowers followed! ☺

The Chaplain's Chat *by Fr. Bill Holly*

Dear Residents, Families, and Friends of Saint Simeon's,

One of the most common images that has become associated with Christmas is the visit of the Magi or Wise Men. Cards, billboards, signs and all manner of media will display the Magi at the manger or the silhouette of the Magi on camels against the night landscape with only the light of the star guiding them. It is a beautiful image; however, this is not a Christmas event. It is an Epiphany event!

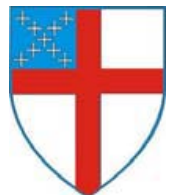


Epiphany, which begins on January 6th, is a Season of the Christian Church year that celebrates the manifestation of Emmanuel (God with us) in dramatic ways. The three biblical stories traditionally associated with Epiphany are: the Visit of the Magi, the Baptism of Jesus, and Jesus' first miracle at the wedding in Cana (changing water into wine). But it is the story of the Magi that inspires this reflection.

The story is a very simple one found only in the Gospel of Mathew. The Magi are Persian men who have been very well educated in many subjects, including astrology. They appear on the scene in Jerusalem at King Herod's palace, looking for "the one who has been born king of the Jews," as indicated by a star that had appeared. Herod is disturbed by this news, and discovers from his own Chief Priests and scribes that Bethlehem is the place where such a child has been prophesied to be born. So Herod sends the Magi in search of the child, asking that they return when they have found him so that he might also pay the child homage. Of course, Herod has evil intentions. The Magi find the child, Jesus, in a house in Bethlehem and offer him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Their part in the story concludes with them being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, so they take an alternate route home.

The story is significant in Matthew's Gospel because Jesus has been born in Bethlehem with no fanfare, no indication that anything important has taken place. There is no manger or shepherds or angelic chorus – that's Luke's story. In Matthew's story, Joseph knows what an angel has told him in a dream, but that's it. Suddenly, these men from Persia show up bearing gifts for a king! It is as if the world is just slowly becoming conscious of what has happened. Something new has manifested itself in creation – it's an epiphany!

It is this dawning of consciousness that we celebrate in this story. We celebrate it because we can relate to it on a personal level. Whenever anyone suddenly becomes aware that God is with them, it is an epiphany. When this happens, what seems to be normal, even mundane, takes on a whole new life-changing significance. Faith teaches that this world was deemed worthy by God of the Christ Child. Epiphany happens when you become aware of the eternal truth that God has deemed you, so worthy.



Epiphany Blessings to you,
Fr. Bill+

Resident Council Meetings

Each living area of the Home has its own Resident Council, which meets monthly. The meetings are facilitated by a Resident Representative or a staff member if the Residents prefer. The Resident Council meeting provides an opportunity for Residents to hear announcements about upcoming events at the Home and to ask questions or express concerns about any aspect of their care and life at Saint Simeon's. Those concerns are then relayed to the appropriate department for attention.

Family members are welcome to attend the meetings, and are especially encouraged to attend on behalf of their loved ones who are unable to express their concerns.

Resident Council Meetings for January:

Health Care Center

*Wednesday, Jan. 19th, 11:00 a.m.
Garden View Dining Room*

Memory Center

*Wednesday, Jan. 26th, 2:30 p.m.
Home 6*

Dotson Family Assisted Living Center

*Tuesday, Jan. 25th, 10:30 a.m.
Smith Conference Center*

Welcome to Those Who Have Joined Our Family!

Juanita Gibson
Marcia Lewis
Tillie Schneider
Patricia Stanfield

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS! 

- 1/1 Patricia Fowler
- 1/4 Juanita Jones
- 1/8 Ruth Matlock
- 1/9 Grace Bakamijian
- 1/24 Bernice Fields
- 1/24 William Cox
- 1/26 James Dempster
- 1/26 James Murphree
- 1/28 Nancy Taylor
- 1/29 Loretta Dewey

.....

PLEASE MAKE NOTE:

Fall Saturday Swims at the Wellness Center have come to an end. We look forward to offering weekly Saturday swims in the summer!

*We Remember
in Our Prayers
Those who
Departed this Life*

<i>Lyle Barnes</i>	<i>Billie Jean Morton</i>
<i>Franklin Bolch</i>	<i>John Stuart</i>
<i>Dottie Clary</i>	<i>Minerva Thomas</i>
<i>Dr. Frank Gatchell</i>	<i>Norma White</i>
<i>Patricia Hays</i>	

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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Fine Dining Evening at The Deisenroth Bistro

This month, our fine dining evening will be **Thursday, January 27th, 2011.**

This is a wonderful opportunity for Residents and families to celebrate special occasions or simply enjoy an evening with family and friends!

For reservations, please call the Dietary Office at 794-1927 (or 425-3583 x227.)

Fine dining at *The Deisenroth Bistro* is offered on the last Thursday of each month.

Auxiliary Education Committee

We would like to thank Judges Linda Morrissey and Bill Musseman for making our first program of the year, **Here Come the Judges**, so successful. Each shared their particular area of expertise, and it was quite interesting.

The second program will be at 1:00 p.m. on January 11th in the Smith Conference Room, and will be quite different. Our Friends of the Animals Committee, led by Father Bob and Anne Evans, will be presenting **The Animals of Saint Simeon's**. It will be your opportunity to see and learn about some "critters" you otherwise may never see. From our Indian Fan-Tail Pigeons, to our three Saltwater Reef Aquariums, our two Aviaries, our famous Peacocks, to our missing (and missed) Turkeys. Also, a special appearance by our Golden Retriever, Simone II. Come and enjoy!

If you have suggestions for Auxiliary programs or speakers please contact:

Kathy Hinkle at 794-1946

KHinkle@SaintSimeons.org