Western Days 2015
Celebrating Saint Simeon’s, Where Caring Really Matters

Thank You for Giving
Donor Report Page 8

Plus: Tradition of Caring
Giving thanks for those who have served
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Dear Friends,

This letter greets you as we wrap up Saint Simeon’s 19th annual tradition, Western Days. What an accomplishment! For nearly two decades, Saint Simeon’s Western Days has brought friends together in what Father Bill Holly aptly called “Homecoming.” As summer draws to a close, Western Days Patrons have toasted summertime and welcomed the new beautiful autumnal season.

Saint Simeon’s has wonderful traditions – both annual and daily. Celebrating nearly 55 years of caring is simply remarkable. Celebrating a fundraiser for 19 years is unbelievable! I am delighted to share Western Days 2015 raised $510,239 in support of Saint Simeon’s! It was special to recognize Karen and Rick Garren as Honorary Chairs and Saint Simeon’s Resident, Jim Dempster, as the Pioneer Spirit Award Recipient.

Every year, I start my annual tradition of Western Days Worrying around the first of February. Like all worrying, it is in vain. Every year, Western Days committee members make sure Western Days is successful and fun. Judy Lawson, for example, donated her late father’s vintage spirits for our “Stock the BARn” live auction item. She and Karen Garren spent countless hours making sure the silent auction was in traditional “world famous” condition. Janet Word (and let me tell you, this is a lady who likes a challenge) sold more raffle tickets than I could have ever imagined. New live auction items were imagined and committed. Committee members sent beautiful items for the silent auction. The Resident “A Stitch in Time” crafting and sewing group made hundreds of handmade, special items.

There is no end to the expressions of love from Western Days sponsors and donors. From friends who have lent their support of Western Days for decades to new supporters, this tradition of giving is appreciated every day.

The Western Days tradition makes brighter days for Saint Simeon’s Residents. Over the last year, Western Days Chairs, June Patton and David Hogan, as well as Patron Chairs, Donna and Will Farrior, shared their ideas and talent to make Western Days 2015 a year to remember. Western Days 2015 Celebrating Saint Simeon’s, Where Caring Really Matters will continue Saint Simeon’s special tradition of caring every day. From all of us, we offer our most sincere thanks.

Carolyn Blair, Executive Director
Saint Simeon’s Foundation
A Message from our President & CEO

For Western Days 2015, Carolyn Blair had a video made of Residents, Families, Trustees, Volunteers and Staff giving their thoughts on Saint Simeon’s. For my part of the video, Carolyn asked me to answer the question ‘What makes Saint Simeon’s so special?’ That was an easy question to answer. It is the people – absolutely the people.

This edition of Ambiance tells of Saint Simeon’s traditions of caring. Those traditions were made, passed down, and continued through the years by the wonderful people associated with Saint Simeon’s. I wish you could spend a day in my shoes, I promise that you would be inspired. Let me tell you about someone that inspired me, and inspired so many others.

When I joined Saint Simeon’s, I was told about Stella Reynolds. Stella had been at Saint Simeon’s, at that time, 20+ years. I was told of Stella’s kindness and her devotion to the Residents. Residents, Staff and Trustees referred to Stella as ‘an angel.’ I quickly learned she truly was. Stella simply exudes love. Her very presence makes you feel special. One of my favorite stories of Stella is a time when a Resident wanted to hem a pair of her own slacks. The Resident had been a wonderful seamstress but now needed help. Stella sat on the bed with the Resident, each with a pant leg to hem. Stella lovingly guided the Resident, and together, they hemmed the slacks. The stories of Stella’s care are many. It was such a privilege to know, to work with and to love Stella.

Stella finally decided it was time to retire in late August after 29 years of serving the Residents of Saint Simeon’s. I think Stella’s own words describe her best: “The Residents have always been the best part of my job. They are like members of my family. One reason I didn’t retire before is that I would get attached to a Resident who would ask me to promise I wouldn’t leave until they passed. But by the time that happened, I had promised another Resident!”

Stella is a wonderful example of the tradition of caring at Saint Simeon’s. You’ll read of more traditions in the pages ahead.

As we enter the holiday season may your traditions bring joy, laughter and love.

Lindsay Hurley Fick, President/CEO, Saint Simeon’s

Western Days 2015 Patron Chairs Will and Donna Farrior
with Event Chairs June Patton and David Hogan.

Many thanks to all of those who made Western Days 2015:
Celebrating Saint Simeon’s, Where Caring Really Matters,
such a huge success! See pages 6-9 for a full recap.
This year, Saint Simeon’s celebrates its 55th anniversary. For 55 years, Saint Simeon’s has upheld a tradition of quality caring that is unprecedented in the Tulsa area, which was recently honored when Saint Simeon’s was named “Best Retirement/Assisted Living Community in Tulsa” by the Tulsa World. Naturally, when one thinks of caring, the smiling faces of Saint Simeon’s nursing staff come to mind. Yet, caring is also seen at Saint Simeon’s through the dedicated service of our Trustees. Let’s take a look at some of the families that have been impacted through the care demonstrated at Saint Simeon’s over the years.

Greg Gray
Greg Gray serves as the Executive Vice-Chair for the Saint Simeon’s Home Board of Trustees. Greg’s mother, Mary Gray, lived in Assisted Living Plus (what was then called “D Wing”) from 2001 to 2004. “The Residents made her feel welcome, and she had excellent attention from the staff — people like Stella Reynolds and Julie Wood,” Greg said.

Greg mentioned how the move to Saint Simeon’s wasn’t expected to be an easy one for his mother. “My mother had lived in the same house from the time she was 9 to the time she was 81, so moving was a huge adjustment for her. It took a while, but between the staff and the Residents, it was a very good experience. It very quickly became home.”

The decision to move his mother to Saint Simeon’s was a relatively easy one, since Greg had become involved on the Saint Simeon’s Board about 10 years prior. He became interested in Saint Simeon’s when Malcolm Deisenroth told him about the Memory Center construction project. “Malcolm is hard to say ‘no’ to,” Greg said.

George Dotson
George Dotson is Past President of the Saint Simeon’s Foundation Board of Trustees. George’s mother, Alma McGee Dotson, moved to Saint Simeon’s in 1990. George had become very involved in the Saint Simeon’s Board in the ‘80s, so the decision to move his mother to Saint Simeon’s was a given.

In 1985, George was approached by a fellow member of Saint John’s Episcopal Church, Dickson Saunders, who asked him to join the Saint Simeon’s Board. George eagerly accepted and was quickly asked by Priscilla Tate, President of the Board at the time, to be Chairman of the Building Committee.

“That was the beginning of my long association with the building and maintenance operations at Saint Simeon’s,” George said. I enjoyed it, since it mirrored what I did in business.”

George has a great respect for past and current members of the Saint Simeon’s Board. “When Dick Saunders invited me to join the Board, the Trustees were a group of people that you really enjoyed being with, and I think that’s one of the things

“This

SAINT SIMEON’S IS A TULSA TREASURE — IT OFFERS THE HIGHEST STANDARD OF CARE FOR OUR ELDERLY IN SEVERAL DOMAINS, INCLUDING MEMORY, FITNESS AND REHABILITATION, AND HEALTH CARE. I’M LUCKY TO SERVE ON SAINT SIMEON’S BOARD OF TRUSTEES WITH SOME OF THE SMARTEST, MOST COMPASSIONATE AND FORWARD-THINKING INDIVIDUALS IN THE WHOLE REGION.”

John Schumann, MD, President, University of Oklahoma – Tulsa campus, Trustee, Saint Simeon’s Home Board
Phyllis and George Dotson with Stella Reynolds, who recently retired after 29 years of service at Saint Simeon’s. Stella is an excellent example of Saint Simeon’s tradition of caring.

we’ve maintained over the years,” he said. “The Board is made up of people who enjoy being together, who are committed to the past, and who are willing to do whatever it takes to make Saint Simeon’s a warm and inviting.”

When George’s mother fell and broke her pelvis and arm in 1989, George knew it was time for her to move from the senior living community where she was in Oklahoma City to Saint Simeon’s. “We called ahead to let Saint Simeon’s know we were coming, and Stella was outside waiting for us.” At the time, George and his wife, Phyllis, weren’t sure if his mother would ever be able to walk again, but thanks to the excellent care she was given, she did. “My mother was very independent but the staff anticipated everything about her and cared deeply, especially Kum Yon Jones, Stella Reynolds, and Bud and Julie Wood.”

George said he’s grateful he can continue to give back to Saint Simeon’s through his Board service. “I always wanted to give back – you can give back in terms of money, and you can give back through service. It’s been of great satisfaction to me.”

Rob Lyon

Rob Lyon, Jr. serves as Executive Chair for the Saint Simeon’s Home Board of Trustees. Rob’s late wife’s father came to live at Saint Simeon’s in 1988. Although he only lived at Saint Simeon’s for the last six months of his life due to diabetic complications, Rob said the great care offered at Saint Simeon’s was why they chose it for his final home.

Two decades later, Rob’s own father, Rob Lyon, Sr., came to live at Saint Simeon’s, though sadly, only for 1 ½ days. Rob Lyon, Sr. had also been a long-time Board member and former President of the Board. “Our family thought it was important for him to be at Saint Simeon’s for his last few days,” Rob said. “Father Holly was there quickly at the end to comfort our family. I don’t think that would have happened at many other facilities.”

Rob Lyon, Jr. joined the Board in 1988. He said his decision to join the Board was largely because he saw the commitment his father had made to the Board. “He was devoted to Saint Simeon’s, and I felt the same level of devotion when I made a commitment to serve on the Board,” Rob said.

Saint Simeon’s is thankful for the care demonstrated by our dedicated Board members and staff members that have made Saint Simeon’s such a special place for 55 years.
Saint Simeon’s Foundation is thrilled to announce that Western Days 2015: Celebrating Saint Simeon’s, Where Caring Really Matters, was a huge success with over $510,000 raised. The event, held on Tuesday, Sept. 15 at Central Park Hall at Expo Square, marked the 19th annual milestone of the fundraising event benefitting Saint Simeon’s.

Nearly 700 people attended Western Days 2015: Celebrating Saint Simeon’s, Where Caring Really Matters, which featured a marvelous silent auction, as well as the always entertaining live auction, led by volunteer auctioneer, Tommy Williams. Live auction items ranged from a traditional multi-course Polish dinner prepared by Debbie and Bishop Ed Konieczny, a private dinner for 10 and tour of Gilcrease Museum’s archival collection with Gilcrease Museum’s new Executive Director, James Pepper Henry, getaways to beautiful vacation homes in Washington, D.C. and Ruidoso, N.M., a tour of Tulsa’s Marshall Brewing Company with founder Eric Marshall, accompanied by a beer tasting and South American cuisine, a nine-course chef’s tasting for 10 with paired wines at Polo Grill, a flower design class for 12 taught by Toni Garner of Toni’s Flowers, and a trout fishing experience at Spring Valley Anglers, a private fishing club in Northwest Arkansas.

The evening also featured the traditional General Store stocked with handmade items from residents, and a delicious dinner. In addition, Western Days attendees were entertained by music from the Shelby Eicher Band. Donations raised during Lots of Love giving at Western Days will go towards...
a new physical therapy room at Saint Simeon’s. Guests also enjoyed a video highlighting residents, staff, trustees, and family members expressing why “Celebrating Saint Simeon’s, Where Caring Really Matters” was the perfect theme for this year’s event!

June Patton and David Hogan served as Event Chairs, with Donna and Will Farrior serving as Patron Chairs. Karen and Rick Garren were selected as Honorary Chairs and were celebrated for their long-time volunteerism and support of Saint Simeon’s.

The Pioneer Spirit Award was presented to Saint Simeon’s Resident Jim Dempster. Jim exemplifies the spirit of volunteerism, serving on the Saint Simeon’s Peggy V. Helmerich Library Committee, and also having served as a number of years as a Gillie, Gilcrease Museum’s volunteer program. Jim also started a husbands’ support group for men whose wives were experiencing memory loss issues.

King Wildcatter Underwriting sponsor of Western Days was the H.A. and Mary K. Chapman Charitable Trust. Wildcatter Underwriting sponsors were Phyllis and George Dotson, the E.L. and Thelma Gaylord Foundation, and the Ralph and Frances McGill Foundation.


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Mr. and Mrs. Harold D. Hieker
In memory of Pat Deisenroth
Mr. and Mrs. Ted Hieker
In memory of George Harrington
Mr. and Mrs. Joy R. Hieker
In memory of George Harrington
Ms. and Mrs. Stephen E. Jackson
In memory of Pat Deisenroth
Ms. Sarissa Walsh
In memory of Pat Deisenroth
Ms. Bobbie S. Stoy
In memory of Pat Deisenroth
Ms. Rebecca A. Wyatt
In memory of Betty Ammann
Mr. and Mrs. Donald B. Atkins
In memory of Pat Deisenroth
Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Lyon
In memory of Pat Deisenroth
Mr. and Mrs. Kyle Wilson
In memory of Mary Kunneman

Society of Saint Simeon's The following members have
remembered Saint Simeon's
in their planned giving plans:
Mr. James E. Allison
Mr. John S. Althe"s
Mrs. Mary W. Althe"s
Dr. and Mrs. Gregory L. Althe"s
Estate of Geraldine L. Bailey
Mrs. Margarita H. Baird
* Mrs. Marjorie F. Bird
* Ms. Luftina B. Best
* Mr. Charles Bobbitt
* Ms. Dacie S. Bobbitt
* Mrs. and Mr. G.R. Beaird
* Mrs. Ester of Ruth Brann
* Estate of Ruth S. Brann
* Mrs. Mary A. Cabeat
* James A. and Mrs. Lea M. Chapman Endowment Trust
The Rev. William J. Cox
* Mrs. Barbara A. Colson
* Estate of Irene Dickins
* Mr. and Mrs. Confordt
* S. Dietrich

Estate of S. M. Doemer
Mr. and Mrs. George S. Dotson
Ms. Mary E. Dotson
Ms. Elizabeth Eckel
* Dr. Edward H. Eckel
* Mr. and Mrs. Jon Eckel
* Mrs. V. Ruth Fabbrini
* Mrs. Joan F. Flint
* Ms. Patricia M. Flint
* Ms. Anna Belle Ferri
* Estate of Elizabeth L. Fox
* Estate of Nito Frank
* Estate of Dots E. Garneau
* Mrs. Ruby J. Garrett
* Mr. and Mrs. Richard T. Garrett
* Mrs. Mary G. Gilliland
* Mr. and Mrs. Grant T. Gilliland
* Ms. Chris Grzeskowiak
* Estate of Arden E. Hargis
* Mr. and Mrs. James D. Hargis
* Mr. James M. Hawley, Jr.
* Mrs. Lora P. Hill
* Mr. and Mrs. Bill Hilsch
* Mrs. Gloria H. Hollis
* Estate of E. M. Hunt
* Mr. and Mrs. Anthony J. Zajac
* Estate of Audie B. Jones
* Mrs. Bethel L. Jones
* Estate of D. Kirk
* Mrs. Nell Larm
* Mr. and Mrs. Shawn Lawhorn
* Estate of S.T. Lovelace
* Mr. Margaret Lund
* Mr. Robert B. Lyon, Jr.
* Mr. and Mrs. Stephen F. Mason
* Mrs. Glady's F. McClary
* Mrs. Vivian McNamara
* Ms. Anna T. Messemer
* Mr. Robert C. Millsap, Jr.
* Mrs. Melis Milesof
* Estate of Pauline S. Mosier
* Estate of Hildy S. Nilek
* The Rev. Dr. and Mrs.
* Mrs. John R. Norris
* Frances W. O'Connel
* Estate of K.A. Reiford
* Pierott
* Mrs. Mary S. Pearse
* Estate of Elina G. Phillips
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* Powers
* Mrs. Nancy B. Searcy
* Mrs. Evelyn Sharp
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* Estate of Clementine Sisk
* Mr. Edward C. Sloan
* Mr. William S. Smith
* Estate of Edna Stanke
* Mr. John Sullivan
* Ms. Joan T. Tate
* Estate of Catherine M. Throckmorton
* Ms. Mae E. Volden
* Estate of Charles & Matron
* Webber Foundation
* Mr. Arthur Whit
* Mrs. Virginia Zimmerman

* Deceased

FRIENDS OF SAINT SIMEON'S GENEROUS DONATIONS RECEIVED
Juanita Hamby has been a Resident of Dotson Family Assisted Living Center since December 2014. "I’ve been made to feel so welcomed, and I enjoy living in such a beautiful place," she said of Saint Simeon’s.

Mrs. Hamby was the youngest of seven children. "I was everybody’s pet," she said. "We were taught to always look out for each other." She grew up on a farm in southwestern Kansas. "I was raised within spitting distance of Colorado and Oklahoma," she said.

Once she graduated from high school, Juanita moved to Bartlesville, where she attended Bartlesville Business School. When she graduated, she accepted a position at Phillips in Bartlesville. After working there a short time, she learned of an opening for a stenographer at the Phillips office in Washington, D.C. "I was only 19, but they took me there on the executive jet," she remembers.

It was during her time in Washington, D.C. that Juanita met her future husband, Larry E. Hamby, who was originally from Bartlesville. At that time, he was working for the Federal Power Commission. "We got married within a year of meeting," she said.

The Hambys lived in D.C. for a while — until they moved back to Oklahoma in 1978 when Larry was offered a position in Pawhuska with the Department of the Interior working at the Osage Indian Agency.

Her husband passed away in 2011, and she stayed in Pawhuska until her move to Saint Simeon’s last fall. Her older son, Carl, lives in Stillwater with his wife, and her younger son, David, lives in Tulsa with his wife and two daughters.

One of Mrs. Hamby’s favorite past times is reading. "I’m delighted with all of the books available in the Peggy V. Helmerich Library at Saint Simeon’s," she said. She also enjoys the volunteer activities, especially sacking pet food for the Tulsa Animal Welfare Shelter.

Saint Simeon’s is delighted to have Mrs. Hamby as a part of our family!
Saint Simeon’s
TULSA’S SENIOR COMMUNITY
3701 Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
Tulsa, OK 74106-6450

www.saintsimeons.org | 918-425-3583 | facebook.com/simone.saintsimeons

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The Saint Simeon’s Foundation enhances, through philanthropy and stewardship, the physical, social, and spiritual well-being of the Resident of Saint Simeon’s and their families.