A Letter from our Executive Director

Dear Friends,

It’s official: Western Days 2017: Seasons of Change, is in the record books. What a special celebration the 21st annual Western Days was for Saint Simeon’s friends, old and new. Of all the Western Days I have been honored to be a part of, this has been my favorite theme. Saint Simeon’s helps individuals and their families navigate a season of life with compassion and love. Event Chairs Caron and Shawn Lawhorn created the theme, and from beginning to end, Western Days: Seasons of Change was a success thanks to their leadership.

Early receipts for Western Days show $463,000 in support of Saint Simeon’s. Western Days does far more than raise financial support for Saint Simeon’s. It brings together friends who have either long been familiar with the care at Saint Simeon’s, or may be new to learning about Saint Simeon’s and joined in at Western Days to support a friend who may have a loved one at Saint Simeon’s. Patrons make a last toast to summertime and usher in a new calendar season, all the while making a great deal possible for Residents who call Saint Simeon’s “home.”

We celebrated at Cox Business Center complete with unique items in the silent and live auctions, a General Store that put hand knit dishcloths on the map (along with the newly invented and tremendously handy “scrubby”), a photo booth, raffles, and Shelby Eicher and his talented band members. If you missed our Western Days video, you can see it online at www.SaintSimeons.org. We offer special thanks to Kyle Meyers who volunteered his time as live auctioneer, and The Rev. Irv Cutter who graciously served as emcee of the event. Thanks, as well, to Joseph Arndt, organist/choirmaster at St. John’s Episcopal church, and the St. John’s Young Adult Group for volunteering at the event.

Western Days planning begins long before September, and special thanks goes to Caron and Shawn Lawhorn who shared their talent and love for Saint Simeon’s throughout the year. Lisa and Tom Schooley served as Patron Chairs, and Marcia and Ron MacLeod served as Auction Chairs, all bringing creativity and energy toward the effort. It was special celebrating Ellen and Don Atkins, Honorary Chairs, who for over four decades have helped Saint Simeon’s in unique and wonderful ways. Anne Evans, longtime Saint Simeon’s Resident, was recognized with the Pioneer Spirit Award, and she certainly deserves it!

Most of all, thanks to you. A fundraising event in its 21st year proves seasons change, but traditions remain. Thank you for keeping this special tradition close to your heart throughout the years.

Sincerely,

Carolyn Blair, Executive Director
Saint Simeon’s Foundation
**Table of Contents**

4 CAMPUS REMODELS
Read about how a generous contribution from the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma has made possible recent campus remodeling.

5 FLORA AND FAUNA
Family of a former Resident recently made a generous gift to allow our flora and fauna to continue to flourish.

6-7 WESTERN DAYS WRAP-UP

8-10 DONOR REPORT

11 RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT
Read about a former Resident who was famous for being a doctor clown.

**ON THE COVER**
(from left to right) Western Days: Seasons of Change Honorary Chairs Donald and Ellen Atkins, Event Chair Caron Lawhorn, Pioneer Spirit Award Recipient Anne Evans, Patron Chairs Lisa and Tom Schooley.

Anne Evans, Pioneer Spirit Award Recipient at Western Days 2017, was celebrated by all of her children on Sept. 12.
Thank You, EPISCOPAL DIOCESE!

Saint Simeon's is grateful to the Episcopal Diocese of Oklahoma for its recent three-year capital support. This support has allowed us to make extensive repairs and replacements in the Common Room/Chapel area.

These repairs include:
1. Exterior wood repair/replacement, and exterior insulation and finish system repair and repainting.
2. Roof replacement, and installation of new gutters and down spouts.
3. Replacement of the windows and doors in the Common Room and Chapel.
4. Replacement of the Common Room ramp.
5. Replacement of the Common Room flooring.

In addition, the support has also allowed us to replace two small natural gas generators with a combined power output of 225 KWS with a new diesel-fired generator with a power output of 600 KWs. This will help ensure that we still have power in the building after electrical outages during storms.
In honor of long-time Resident Ruth Matlock, the Ruth Logue Matlock Flora and Fauna Committee Fund was recently created as a source of financial support. This Resident committee meets regularly to explore the plant and animal world at Saint Simeon’s and beyond.

Mary and Joseph Newman, daughter and son-in-law of Ruth Matlock, decided to create the gift to support Flora and Fauna at Saint Simeon’s. Ruth was a highly involved member of the Flora and Fauna Committee and enjoyed the many opportunities for Residents to interact with the outdoors through daily walks among the courtyards and walking paths.

Ruth and The Rev. Charles R. Matlock, Jr. shared a life devoted to service and began their married life in missionary service in Liberia, West Africa followed by 27 years in missionary service in the Philippines. During her time in the Philippines, Ruth reopened and managed the Easter School Weaving Room in Baguio. She later worked for the U.S. Military in Manila.

Upon returning to the United States in 1973, they chose Tulsa as home, and The Rev. Matlock served as Associate Pastor of Trinity Episcopal Church, and Ruth worked for Williams Co. and was a member of the Vestry and Altar Guild of Trinity Church.

Ruth's memory will live on through this special fund. The distribution of this fund will help support the desires of the Flora and Fauna Committee members to potentially fund outings, special plantings on the Saint Simeon’s community grounds, special guest speakers, and similar designations.
SAINT SIMEON’S ANNOUNCES SUCCESSFUL WESTERN DAYS EVENT

Saint Simeon’s Foundation is thrilled to announce that Western Days 2017: Seasons of Change was a huge success, raising $463,000 in support of Saint Simeon’s! The event, held on Tuesday, Sept. 12 at Cox Business Center, marked the 21st annual milestone of the fundraising event.

Hundreds attended Western Days 2017: Seasons of Change, which featured a marvelous silent auction, as well as the always entertaining live auction. Live auction items ranged from a vacation for two in Charleston, South Carolina, a six-night stay for up to 10 in Angel Fire, New Mexico, an elegant evening at Polo Grill for 10 with paired wines, and a dinner for 10 prepared and served by local Episcopal priests.

The evening also featured the traditional General Store stocked with handmade items from Saint Simeon’s residents, and a delicious dinner. In addition, Western Days attendees were entertained by musical performances from Shelby Eicher and his band mates.

Caron and Shawn Lawhorn served as Event Chairs, with Lisa and Tom Schooley serving as Patron Chairs. Marcia and Ron MacLeod served as Auction Chairs. Ellen C. and Donald B. Atkins were celebrated as Honorary Chairs. The Atkins are among the most long-standing, loyal, and committed supporters of Saint Simeon’s.

The Pioneer Spirit Award was presented to Saint Simeon’s Resident Anne Evans. Saint Simeon’s applauds Anne Evans for her pioneering spirit in seeing her husband, the late Father Bob Evans, through his call to ministry and many changes in life.

Wildcatter Underwriting sponsors of Western Days were Caron and Shawn Lawhorn.


A Message from our President & CEO

Western Days 2017 was my 12th Western Days. My first Western Days 2006, was still held at Saint Simeon’s in what was then the back parking lot. A big tent, red and white gingham tablecloths, tasty barbeque, and patrons, Residents, families and friends all gathered to celebrate Saint Simeon’s and its mission. Twelve years later the setting is different and the number of attendees has grown tremendously, but, to me, the warmth, affection and devotion to Saint Simeon’s mission is the same. Saint Simeon’s is truly a reflection of the many people who throughout the year give of their time and their gifts, both talent and treasure, to ensure that Residents of Saint Simeon’s have lives of love, care and enrichment. A heartfelt thank you to each of you.

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

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His inspiration for clowning started when he went on his second trip to Ireland and met a widow who shared that she started downing as a way to cope with her grief. He latched on to the idea and decided to start cheering up his own life and the lives of others.

Dr. Moore’s clowning character – Wille O’ Moore – was a true tribute to his Irish roots. He found Wille’s costume at various consignment shops and garage sales, and it consisted of green knickers that bagged at the knee, a white tuxedo blazer, suspenders and an oversized tie that hung below his belt. The picture accompanying the story shows Wille O’ Moore decked out in all his glory.

Dr. Moore spent a large part of his career as director of clerkships and as a professor of surgery at the OSU College of Medicine. “I helped students get appointed at various hospitals in five states,” he said.

He was originally from Kirksville, Missouri, which was largely an Irish town when he was growing up. He remembered attending a one-room school year for five years as a child in the 1930s.

He studied chemistry for his undergraduate degree at what is now called Truman State University. He remembered during those days, he and his friends would visit the nearby Truman Presidential Library and Museum in Independence, Missouri. During several visits, President Harry Truman himself drove by them and greeted them.

“He would say, ‘Hello, boys,’ and stopped to talk to us a couple times.”

Dr. Moore moved to Tulsa in 1961. He practiced medicine in north Tulsa, in the same area as Saint Simeon’s, during his first five years in Tulsa. He later went on to practice head and neck surgery.

His second marriage was for 52 years to Priscilla Ann until she passed away of cancer. He has four sons and a daughter, eight grandchildren, and a great-grandson.

One of Dr. Moore’s fondest memories from clowning was meeting Patch Adams, another doctor who was famous for dressing as a clown. Adams encouraged Dr. Moore to travel with him during his lecture series, but he had to decline due to his wife’s medical issues. We will dearly miss our beloved Dr. Moore.