Celebrate the "Sweet Sixteen" of Western Days!

Western Days 2012

Spirit of the West!

HONORARY CHAIR

This year, we celebrate The Patsy and Robert B. Lyon Family, a family continuing a tradition of trustee leadership for two generations. The late Robert Lyon served as Foundation Board President and Rob Lyon, Jr., son of Robert and Patsy, has a 25 year legacy of board service. Patsy is a valuable member of our volunteer Auxiliary. Rob Lyon, Jr. shared, “My late father and father-in-law were both Residents of Saint Simeon’s and no other options were considered for each, because our families wanted only the best.”

EVENT CHAIRS
Margaret & Ross Swimmer

PATRON CHAIRS
Jane & Lowell Faulkenberry

ADVISORY CHAIRS
Phyllis & George Dotson

INAUGURAL PIONEER SPIRIT Awardees

Celebrating Saint Simeon’s most tenured Residents
Ruth & Dr. Reece Boone
Bernice Fields, (posthumous)
Ruth Fishburn
Ruth Staudt (posthumous)

Git that pig by the tail - reserve your spot today!
(918) 794-1937
Tuesday, September 11
Getting to Know... Sylvia Lyons

When Sylvia was nominated, this proclamation was also submitted. It pretty much says it all!

Team Work

Defined by Merriam-Webster, is work done by several associates each doing a part, but subordinating personal prominence to the efficiency of the whole.

It is a critical factor in every workplace and everyone reaps the benefits. Everyone in the Health Care Center would like to nominate Sylvia Lyons for Kris’s Caring Champion for outstanding team work and building morale.

On a daily basis Sylvia will be seen feeding Residents, watching call lights and working the floor for aides who have gone on break. In addition to doing her own work, she coordinates themed pot luck lunches such as our “Soup, Salad, Sandwiches and Sweets” for Valentine’s Day, and recently the “Taste of Italy” pot luck. She also spearheaded the CNA week, and made each and every one of us feel appreciated.

Big hugs and Thank You for all that you do in the Health Care Center. You are our “Champion” every day.

“I’m a Licensed Practical Nurse in the Health Care Center. My job is to take the best possible care of the Residents. For example, I pay close attention to skin care. The condition of the skin can indicate a lot about a Resident - if they are eating enough or not, whether they need to drink more, or if they have been up long enough and need to lie down. We are always being careful to prevent any skin breakdown. I also supervise the Nurse Aides and make sure they are getting all of their work done correctly. I attend Care Plan Meetings every Thursday with the Residents and their families, and we talk about how they are doing, whether they are progressing or not, and if there is anything else we could be doing to ensure that they have the best quality of life.”

“I was born here in Tulsa, the oldest of four children. Because I was the oldest, I stepped into being...
kind of a mother figure at an early age to help take care of my siblings. My mother is Kim Hooks and she is a nurse, and my grandmother also was a nurse. My father is Keith Cain, and he retired from a military career where he was a chef. Both my parents have remarried and my mother lives here and my father is a chef in Savanna, Georgia. Being in the military, we moved around quite a bit. I’ve lived in Texas, Louisiana, Georgia and Iowa. Overseas, I’ve lived in Germany, Greece and Japan. But Tulsa was always where we came back to, and I got most of my education in Tulsa Schools – Alcott Elementary, Wilson Middle School, and I graduated from Booker T. Washington High School.”

“My plan was to go straight into the Air Force, but my father advised me to go to school first so I could enter the military as an officer. I became a Phlebotomist (draws blood) and worked for several years at what is now Oklahoma State University Medical Center. Later, I got my Nursing degree from Rogers State University in Claremore, and worked for several agencies since. I did a variety of things, including working at a hospital covering everything from the Intensive Care Unit to Labor and Delivery.”

“I came to Saint Simeon’s in 2010 because of my Grandmother, Jewel Hooks. Many years ago she was a Private Duty Sitter out in the Cottages, and I remember her always telling me what a beautiful place this was to work. I had gotten tired of traveling around so much working for agencies and wanted a ‘Home’ where I really had time to get to know the people I was caring for. Also, I had moved from downtown to the Gilcrease Hills neighborhood. That location is perfect for working here. I remembered what my Grandmother had said to me, and came here to apply for a job.”

“I attend Greenwood Christian Center, where I am a member. I like to watch movies with drama and suspense, and also basketball and football games. I’ve been able to attend an OKC Thunder game. I love to go to Las Vegas, although I’m not much of a gambler. I enjoy visiting my sister who lives there, seeing the different shows, and just walking the strip experiencing all of the lights and activity. The show I enjoyed most recently was the Jabberwockies. They are a seven-member, male, hip-hop dance crew best known for being the winners of the first season of “America’s Best Dance Crew” and always perform wearing masks and white gloves.”

“My mom’s cat recently had a litter so I now have a kitten named Pepper. She is all black except for two little strips of white at her eyes. I am also an avid singles and doubles tennis player with the Lacy Park League. I started playing tennis three years ago after attending a tournament and seeing how much fun it was. I have gone to tournaments all over from Texas to Tennessee to Georgia. I love that people of all ages and sizes can enjoy playing tennis.”

“Someday I would like to actually start up a facility like Saint Simeon’s. I’ve also thought about turning a big house into a group home. I think as time goes on that kind of care environment is going to become more popular. Helping people gives me the greatest satisfaction. Here’s an example: I just went to see a Resident who was very upset and confused. I sat down with her and let her know that everything was going to be okay. That gave her peace of mind, and I later took her to her room and made her comfortable. Some situations are harder than that, but throughout my nursing career, there have been so many, many times that I could help people, that it far outweighs any of the bad days.”
IT'S RAININ' CALADIUMS! We are doubly blessed this year with Caladiums. For the plant novice, those are the plants you see all over Saint Simeon’s with large beautifully colored leaves. Ever since JoAnna Newman moved here, each spring she has 200 jumbo rainbow Caladium tubers delivered from Fancy Plants Farms in Lake Placid, Florida. This was a long-time tradition at her own home and we are thrilled she continues it here. They arrive at just the right time to plant and presto in two weeks the first shoots appear. No matter how awful this summer ends up being - and we may be on the way to a repeat of last year – these Caladiums will be gorgeous every single day. They prefer the shade but there are varieties now that can tolerate the sun and we have a mixture, so some are growing in full sun as well as shade and partial shade.

In addition this year we had 500 more caladiums tubers donated by Craig Jenkins. Oh, my goodness, now the grounds look even more beautiful! There are caladiums in every courtyard, every entrance into the building, at the Roots n’ Shoots Cottage, every flower bed, and even at the traffic circles. Thanks to everyone who made this Caladium Bonanza possible!

Talk about making lemonade out of a lemon. After the old Assisted Living Building was torn down, there was a rather unsightly mound of dirt left covering an entrance into one of the basements. The entrance had a cover over it, but just a few inches of soil on top of that to grow anything so it kind of stuck out like a sore thumb. No more. Now there is a wonderful raised bed there made out of the same stone as the building. It’s wide enough to sit on to enjoy up close a beautiful bed of red Knock-out Roses, colorful Zinnias and purple Salvia. You need to see this new flower bed up close to appreciate all the butterflies and bees it attracts. It is so new that it isn’t listed in our Visitor Guide, but if you step outside the Ice Cream Parlor into Eckel Park – voila!

Do you enjoy the many wild birds who visit our feeders, bird baths, and bird houses? We are able to do this because of the generosity of the many folks at Western Days who take the opportunity to donate at the “Feed the Animals” booth. Father Evans is our “Bird Man”. He not only regularly fills several of the feeders but he also replenishes our bird seed supply when it gets low. He says that it is costing around $150 each trip (about every two weeks) to buy the large bags of Sunflowers Seed and Peacock Scratch that we use. Mind you, he and Anne don’t mind running this errand. Green Country Feed and Seed in Turley is where they go and there always seems to be homemade peanut brittle sitting on the counter there. A big thank you to all who donate to the animal fund (at any time). The wild birds, peacocks, pigeons, deer, aquarium fish, Koi, aviary birds, tortoises and even Simone all appreciate it very much. Actually the squirrels, raccoons, and opossums do too, but that’s another story….
Dear Residents, Families and Friends of Saint Simeon’s,

When I was in college, I sang in the choir at Saint Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Stillwater, OK. I was kind of a music and liturgical (worship) snob back in those days. I thought all the newer music that was being introduced was just silly. Turns out, that I was just silly, but that’s another story. Our Choir director was Flute Professor Gwen Powell, and she mixed up the sources of music pretty well. We sang many genres of religious music, but her favorite of the “contemporary” type were a couple of guys who wrote music for churches, and simply went by Avery & Marsh. They were actually Richard Avery and Don Marsh. Gwen made us do many of their songs. They were catchy, but in my youthful snobbery, quite trite!

My how things change! I find those songs creeping back into my mind often. The fresh approach they brought to not just the music but the lyrics as well, helped to teach important things about being a Christian. That’s one of the things religious music is supposed to do – instruct.

Recently, as I was reflecting on the Colorado theater shooting, various drive-by shootings locally, Iraq, Afghanistan, and a host of other horrible news reports, I found a tune moving from the deep recesses of my unconscious mind. Suddenly, there were words with the music in my head: “Daily news is so bad it seems the Good News never gets heard. Get it straight from the Easter People, God’s in charge; spread the word! Every morning is Easter Morning from now on. Every day’s Resurrection Day, the past is over and gone.”

The message was simple; so simple, it appeared trite to my college-days snobbish mind. Yet it is so important to be incorporated into our daily mind set. I tend to fill my head with all the terrible news that I hear and read each day. It has a souring, a poisoning effect on my soul. What’s truly important for me and to this world is that I and all of us keep our minds focused on the very good that surrounds us at all times. Christ’s message was one of freedom from the evil of this world. That freedom requires that we let go of our obsession with that evil. I’m not saying, “Pretend like it doesn’t exist.” We do observe evil in the world, we just don’t let ourselves be overcome by it. We do acknowledge that in all things, God is God; and God’s Love always is the last Word.

In the words of the Apostle Paul:

Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. Philippians 4:8-9

God’s Blessings to you,
Fr. Bill Holly+
An exciting 16th Annual Western Days is only weeks away!

Please join us for Western Days 2012: Spirit of the West!

September 11, 2012 at Tulsa’s EXPO Center, Central Park Hall.

Over 70 volunteers have come together to create a remarkable dinner and auction experience benefiting capital improvements at Saint Simeon’s. The outstanding amenities Saint Simeon’s Residents experience everyday is in large part due to the fundraising tradition of Western Days. Now in its 16th year, we hope to raise a record setting total. Thanks to the leadership of Margaret and Ross Swimmer, Event Chairs, as well as Jane and Lowell Faulkenberry, Patron Chairs, we are already well on our way toward our goal. There is still time to join in sponsorship support of Western Days. Should you be interested, please contact Saint Simeon’s Foundation.

The event will include a silent and live auction, raffle for a $2,500 gift certificate at Tulsa’s Utica Square, and delicious dinner, thanks to devoted and long-time supporters Phyllis and George Dotson, Advisory Chairs. Their team of volunteers has made every effort to incorporate Western Days traditions like the Resident and Staff General Store and special clogging entertainment from Broken Arrow Dance Academy.

The Robert Lyon Family, represented by Patsy Lyon and Rob Lyon, Jr. will be celebrated as honorary chairs. The late Bob Lyon’s devoted service as trustee is continued by his son, Rob Lyon, Jr. The Lyon Family’s keen sense of business coupled with compassionate stewardship has made an indelible impression at Saint Simeon’s.

New this year, we will celebrate the Pioneer Spirit Awards. Honoring Saint Simeon’s most tenured Residents, we will celebrate Ruth and Dr. Reece Boone, Bernice Fields, Ruth Fishburn, and the late Ruth Staudt.

Individual tickets for Western Days 2012: Spirit of the West! start at $75. Please contact the Foundation office at (918) 794-1977 or contact Carolyn Blair, Executive Director, directly at (918) 794-1937 for sponsorship information. Raffle tickets may be purchased through the Foundation Office at $20 or six for $100.

Western Days is a special tradition for Saint Simeon’s. We hope you will join in the fun of a great evening benefiting capital improvements at Saint Simeon’s.
August Birthdays

8/3 Scotty Brainerd 8/12 Marie Millar
8/4 William Lavendusky 8/14 Tom Freeman
8/6 Mildred Carroll 8/20 Veda Duncan
8/7 John Lawhon 8/20 Grant McCabe
8/8 Roshen Framjee 8/24 Peggy Null
8/9 Bill Owens 8/30 Patricia Bartlett
8/11 Ford Bankston
8/11 Lloyd Hensley

Welcome
Ruth Gray
Emma Herndon
Charles Howard
John Lawhon
Norma McCreery

Our new family members!

Would you like to sign up to receive the Quill by e-newsletter?
Send an email to kimberly.earickson@gmail.com

Receiving the Quill by email is faster, and reduces postage costs to Saint Simeon’s!
If you don’t have email, we will gladly continue to mail the Quill to you.

August Resident Council Meetings
Learn about upcoming events and share your thoughts!
All Residents and family members are always welcome.

Health Care Center
Thurs, 8/23, 10:30 a.m., Garden View Dining

Cottages & 1st Floor Dotson Assisted Living
Tues, 8/28, 10:30 a.m., Deisenroth Bistro

2nd Floor Dotson Assisted Living
Tues, 8/28, 1:15 p.m., Common Room

Memory Center
Thurs, 8/23, 3 p.m., Home 6

D-Hall Assisted Living
Tues, 8/28, 1:15 p.m., Common Room

We Remember
in Our Prayers

Denise Austin  Lorene Fisher
Pam Berry    Elmina Iseley
Betty Cleere  Tony Schatz

Those Who Have Graduated from this Life
REMINDER

The September Auxiliary meeting, originally scheduled for Tuesday, September 11th, will instead be held on Tuesday, August 14th 1:00 p.m.

Smith Conference Center

This is to accommodate for the many Auxiliary members assisting with Western Days 2012: Spirit of the West!

Contact Debbie Reif for more information
(918) 794 - 1977
dreif@saintsimeons.org

Committee Meetings

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE
Saturday, August 4th
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Smith Conference Center
Committee Chairs:
JoAnna Newman & Kathy Hinkle

FRIENDS of the ANIMALS
Friday, August 10th
10:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
Smith Conference Center
Committee Chairs:
Bob & Anne Evans