Saint Simeon’s Auxiliary Hosts Annual Spring Luncheon

Over 100 people, including Auxiliary members, Residents, family, friends, and staff of Saint Simeon’s gathered for the annual Auxiliary Spring Luncheon on April 9. The event is an opportunity for the Saint Simeon’s Auxiliary, which has been serving Saint Simeon’s through volunteerism since 1961, to recruit new members and share its endeavors over the last year.

In 2012, the Auxiliary was reorganized in a way that will allow its members to spend more time with Residents and their families. The Auxiliary has a number of ongoing opportunities for volunteers to become involved at Saint Simeon’s, including field trips, gift shop helper, and assisting at parties and special functions. The Auxiliary also hosts four annual events at Saint Simeon’s – the Spring Luncheon, the Ice Cream Social, the Harvest Moon Festival and Christmas parties. This year’s Spring Luncheon was planned by Brenda Haesloop and Sue Thompson.

All Auxiliary activities and events are made possible through membership dues. Membership is open and begins at $15 annually.

During the Spring Luncheon, the new Auxiliary officers for 2013-2014 were installed. The new Auxiliary President is Elaine Hanner; Vice-President, Brenda Haesloop; Recording Secretary, Kim Tatro-Smith; Corresponding Secretary, Revelle Clausing; and Treasurer, Karen Garren. The Auxiliary took time during the luncheon to thank Trudy Williams, outgoing Auxiliary President, and gifted her with a donation to the Memory Center Courtyard Beautification Project.

Teresa Reno, Activities Coordinator at Saint Simeon’s, was one of the luncheon speakers. Teresa shared about the many outings Residents go on, including trips to the Oklahoma Jazz Hall of Fame, the Tulsa Zoo, Tulsa Drillers Games, restaurants, and much more. Volunteers are always needed and welcomed on Resident outings.

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Getting to Know: Stella Reynolds

“Over the last 6 ½ years, Stella has been a loving and empathetic caregiver to my mother, Ruth Matlock. She quickly realized what she needed to do if my mother was sad or anxious. Her awareness of the small details that eased my mother was amazing and a big part in making her more relaxed and comfortable. She has referred to Stella as another daughter and close friend. Stella is the type of employee who reflects well on Saint Simeon’s. Since my mother’s move, Stella comes by to assist when she is able and her visits always brighten my mother’s day.” Mary Newman, Family Member

“Stella is a gracious, dedicated and devoted CNA who enhances the quality of life of each of the Residents on the first floor of Assisted Living. Each morning, when she greets me, it is as though a breath of fresh air has engulfed the room. She is a major asset to Saint Simeon’s and the Residents are fortunate to have the care of this outstanding lady.” William K. Pooser, Resident

“Stella provides great service and always has a smile for us. She is very efficient and caring.” Izzy Levine, Resident

You can tell from these nominations that Stella is pretty special.

“I first started working here in 1986 in the Dietary Department where two of my sisters were already working. I ended up cooking and waitressing in all areas of the Home. In 1995, I became the Residential Service Aide, and that is what I’ve been doing ever since. Currently, I work on Casey and Chapman Halls in the Dotson Assisted Living Center. I have a little work room that I share with the CNAs that has an ironing board and sewing machine for when I help Residents with their clothes.

I was born in Buford Colony, which is south of Sand Springs between Prattville and Sapulpa. My dad, King Brown, worked for the Vigo Dog Food Company in Sand Springs. I remember my mom, Marie Brown, going to get people and taking them to vote on election days. Her main job was taking care of us 14 kids – I was the 13th child. I had nine brothers, and they have all since died of heart attacks – the youngest when...
he was only 45 years old. I attended Booker T. Washington School in Sand Springs, which had grades from 1st to 12th. When I was in the 11th grade, Sand Springs Schools were integrated, so in my senior year, I transferred to and graduated from Charles Page High School.”

I have a wonderful family. I am blessed with sweet children who have never caused me any trouble. They love their mother and they love the Lord. And I’m lucky to have a wonderful husband, Herbert. We’ve been married for 45 years. He worked at Southwest United painting airplane parts until he retired. Prior to that, he owned his own auto body shop. We have three boys and two girls. Our oldest son, Herbert, Jr. has worked at the post office for 21 years. Marco got a degree in Hotel Management from Oklahoma State University, supervised the Hilton Hotel in Hawaii for seven years, and is now at the Hilton in Las Vegas. LaTanya started as a counselor at the David Moss Correctional Facility (City/County Jail) and is now a Detention Supervisor there. Tyrone works at T&W Tire Co. and fixes those huge tires on 18 wheelers. LaShonda, the youngest, got a degree in Childhood Development from OSU and now has her own day care in her home. Her dream has always been to entice her Mom to come and help her there. I also am blessed with many wonderful grandchildren that I enjoy taking care of on my days off.

The Residents are the best part of my job. They are like members of my family to me. One reason I haven’t retired yet is that I get attached to some Resident and say that I’ll stay until they pass. But by then, I’m attached to someone else! I don’t really like to travel. I’m just not a traveling woman, but I did make one exception to go to Hawaii. It was just ‘us girls’ – my two daughters and a granddaughter. I didn’t care for the plane ride, but I enjoyed being there. The one place I really do want to travel to someday is Israel. I want to see all those places I’ve read about all my life in the Bible.”

ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL
Thursday, May 23 at 7 p.m.
Saint Simeon’s Eckel Park
Join the Auxiliary and Residents for delicious ice cream and live entertainment!

FLORA & FAUNA FRIENDS COMMITTEE
NEXT MEETING:
Saturday, May 11 | Smith Conference Room
10:15 a.m. (Social Time), 10:30-11:30 a.m. (Meeting)
Kathy Hinkle, Chair
Dear Residents, Families and Friends of Saint Simeon’s,

When I lived in Austin, Texas, I loved the spring because it meant a trip to the Hill Country to see fields of blue bonnets and Indian paintbrushes. There were fields of one, then the other, then a mixture of both. It is a marvelous sight to behold!

Here in Tulsa, I have favorite spring sight: along the Tisdale parkway, around mid-April, one can see the beautiful red clover in bloom in the center meridians and on the hills. The ground becomes green, and then – a carpet of scarlet! Sometimes it coincides with Palm Sunday, and it is as if the world is ablaze in deep red, recounting the triumphal entry of Jesus into Jerusalem and his subsequent passion.

As I write this, the earth has again produced this majestic robe. I remember the words of Jesus, how he said, “Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these.” (Matthew 6:28-29)

How true those words are! I have never seen anyone arrayed more beautifully than this grass, which, Jesus reminds us, is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven.

Jesus was teaching us that we are of more value than the grass of the field and the birds of the air for which God beautifully provides care. Therefore, we should set our minds and hearts on the things of God, where true beauty is to be found and our real needs are met, rather than filling those minds and hearts with endless anxiety.

So, did I really get all that from red clover? Yes; yes I did. May you have many opportunities to come upon a beautiful vista takes away your anxious breath, and fills you with the wonder of God.

Blessings to you,
Fr. Bill Holly †
It’s official: the peahens are laying their eggs. Peacocks don’t require nests like most birds. They just find a little bare spot behind a bush or in a corner, somewhere with a little privacy and protection, and lay their first egg. Then a couple of days later, the “mom-to-be” returns and lays her second egg. After a few more days, the third. This process goes on and on until she is through laying (around six eggs) and then she “sits” for 28 days. We literally will never see her off the nest. Of course, under the cover of darkness, she slips away for a quick meal and break.

These two photos illustrate what a peahen should and should not do. Maybe this is where the expression, “pea brain” originated? One hen laid her first egg behind a rose bush. Good location. Another laid her first egg five feet off the ground in the middle of our playground Jungle Gym. Bad location. Peacock eggs are larger than chicken eggs but smaller than goose eggs. Even though the eggs have been laid as much as two weeks apart, none start developing until the hen sits. This is important because they must all hatch at the same time (usually the same hour), so the family can all leave the nest together. Peachicks are ready to go! Mom just needs to introduce them to all the wonderful world of things to eat – and peacocks eat almost everything – fruit, vegetation, insects, seeds, and anything humans like.

When the chicks are only a week or two old, the mother peahen, instead of sitting on the ground and covering her babies at night, will decide it is time to roost in a tree like the adults. Looking at these little birds that don’t even have all their feathers yet, you would think it was impossible for them to “fly” up into the tree. The secret is their powerful legs, which become apparent within days. These are not your farmyard chickens! They are able to spring up and “walk” up the trunk of the tree. Once on a limb, they all gather under the mother’s wings for protection from owls.

Yes, we will be selling our chicks again this year because we have all the adults we can accommodate. After a month or so of our enjoying watching them grow up in the courtyards, they will need to find new homes. Let us know if you or someone you know is interested. Saint Simeon’s is blessed with our “wonderful world of peacocks” thanks to Art Rubin who also has taught us all about them. Thank you, Art!
Saint Simeon’s hosted a “Doggone Birthday Party” for Simone on April 2 celebrating her 4th birthday. Simone’s birthday wish this year was to help other dogs find homes, so Saint Simeon’s hosted several dogs from local dog rescue groups, including Tulsa SPCA, STAR (Sandite Team Animal Rescue), and PALs (Pet Adoption League). One lucky dog named Sugar Ray was adopted by Jennifer Armstrong, a CNA in the Health Care Center.

During the “Doggone Birthday Party,” attendees had the opportunity to hear the history of Simone from her “mom,” Education Director Kathy Hinkle. The Culinary Club also baked a cake especially for Simone, as well as special dog treats for the visiting canines.

The local media even took interest in Simone’s birthday party, and Channel 6’s Rick Wells aired a segment on the 6:00 evening news. (The link can be found on Simone’s Facebook page at facebook.com/simone.saintsimeons). Tulsa Pets Magazine also attended the party, and Simone will be the “cover girl” for their May/June issue!

All in all, it was a “doggone” good time, and Simone couldn’t have wished for a better birthday!
MAY BIRTHDAYS

5/3 Nell Davis
5/3 Pat Perrin
5/3 Gladys Scott
5/5 Edythe Schroeder
5/6 Bernie Robak
5/8 Joseph Keuchel

5/19 Paul McGraw
5/24 Dolores Dukes
5/24 Emma Herndon
5/28 Elizabeth Dinsmore
5/28 Vivian Lassiter

Would you like to receive the Quill by e-newsletter?
Send an email to Lindsay Morris at lmorris@saintsimeons.org

Receiving the Quill by email is faster and reduces postage costs to Saint Simeon’s!

WE REMEMBER IN OUR PRAYERS

Sally Cordell
Betsy Bird
Dick Kelley
Jackie Payne
Evelyn Wegener

Are you a Resident interested in writing for the Quill?
Are you a wordsmith? Would you enjoy turning your opinions or ideas into enjoyable columns, poems, or anecdotes? Call Lindsay Morris at 918-794-1945, or stop by the Foundation Office!

WELCOME OUR NEW FAMILY MEMBERS

Betty Hitzman & Louise Treadway

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

HEALTH CARE CENTER
Thursday, 5/30, 10:30 a.m., Garden View Dining

COTTAGES & 1ST FLOOR DOTSON ASSISTED LIVING
Tuesday, 5/28, 10:30 a.m., Deisenroth Bistro

2ND FLOOR DOTSON ASSISTED LIVING
Tuesday, 5/28, 10:30 a.m., Dining Room

MEMORY CENTER
Thursday, 5/30, 3:00 p.m., Home 6

D-HALL ASSISTED LIVING
Tuesday, 5/28, 1:15 p.m., Common Room

Are you a Resident interested in writing for the Quill?
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Dr. Mary Nole, Director of Saint Simeon’s Wellness Center, also spoke during the luncheon. She shared about how the Auxiliary has donated adaptive exercise equipment for Residents to use. Saint Simeon’s is unique in that almost all Residents, no matter their level of ability, are active in some form of exercise, Mary said. Mary also encouraged volunteers to contact her about helping with the Annual Pool Party, which will be on Wednesday, May 22 from 2 to 5 p.m. Mary can be reached at 918-794-1905.

For more information on becoming an Auxiliary member, contact Debbie Reif at dreif@saintsimeons.org or 918-794-1977.

Do you love shopping?
Do you love Saint Simeon’s?

Then head over to either of Nielsens Gifts’ two locations – 3515 S. Peoria Ave. or 8318 S. Lewis Ave., Suite A.

If you mention Saint Simeon’s at the time of check-out, Nielsen’s will contribute 10% of your purchase to the Saint Simeon’s Foundation!

MEN’S SOCIAL CLUB

NEXT MEETING:
Thursday, May 16 | 3:00 - 4:30 p.m.
Deisenroth Bistro

The men of Saint Simeon’s meet every third Thursday to chat and duel each other in games of wit and strategy.