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, fund raising 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 of friends 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 by Shelby Eicher and the Tulsa Playboys.

Caron and Shawn Lawhom served as Event Chairs.

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GETTING TO KNOW

JOSH SMITH
FACILITIES MANAGEMENT

“I had surgery in May and was off for 3 1/2 weeks. During that time, Josh stepped up and made sure maintenance kept running smoothly. He worked well with Jaunise, Tadd, and the maintenance staff. Instead of just sitting back and just doing his job, he made sure maintenance was successful all the way around without being asked to. He went above and beyond what was expected of him. Saint Simeon’s and maintenance are lucky to have a person like him with such high ethics.” — Wayne Davis, Facilities Management Manager

“I am from Tulsa and graduated from Will Rogers High School. I went to elementary school at Owen Elementary, the same elementary my dad attended, and the school my daughter is now attending Pre-K. The year 2012 was a good year for me – I got married at the beginning of the year, and we had our daughter Kristina at the end of the year on 10/11/12.

My wife Jamie and I have known each other since high school and have been friends ever since. It just took us a while to become a couple!

I have been fortunate to travel all over the world. Through the army, I was stationed in Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, and Qatar. I was active duty from 1990 to 1992. When I was on the flight to the Middle East, Desert Shield turned into Desert Storm.

I have also traveled to Germany, Guatemala, and Belize. I’ve also driven to the 48 continental states – many of them while I drove an 18-wheeler cross-country. It got monotonous – especially the trips from Dallas to L.A. and back.

My dad was a framer, roofer, and carpenter, so he put me to work at a young age and I learned how to construct and repair all kinds of things. My first job after the military was for a construction company that did fire and flood restoration. I’ve had many other jobs, like delivering pizza, carpentry, tending bar, waiting tables, and self-employed construction.

I first came to Saint Simeon’s in 2006. I took care of my grandmother her last four years of life until she passed away in
2004. That experience got me interested in earning a CNA license.

When I originally applied at Saint Simeon’s, I got a rejection letter! It turned out to be because I had left one number off my application! I went up to Saint Simeon’s to visit with the Director of Nursing, and they were impressed by that, and I ended up getting the job!

I was a CNA for 1 year, then got my CMA license and was a CMA for 1 year – all in the Memory Center. I was then transferred to the Saint Simeon’s Adult Day Center, which was at St. Dunstan’s Church, to be a supervisor. When that closed a year later, I returned to Saint Simeon’s to do Maintenance.

At one point, I thought “the grass was greener on the other side” and took employment elsewhere. I earned my CLEET certification and did armed security for Spartan’s dorms. I was working nights and on call 24/7, so it was not the right job for me, since I hardly ever saw my wife and daughter.

I was very happy to return to Saint Simeon’s a few years ago! I like the many challenges in my job here. I have to use my noodle to figure stuff out. I really enjoy the Residents and being able to make things. I made the new office in the kitchen, the serving kitchen, and a new office in Administration.”

WESTERN DAYS EVENT
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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 Lawhom.


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

One of the great blessings of our buildings and grounds is Saint Anna’s Chapel! How marvelous it is to have a dedicated Chapel in a facility such as this. I’ve seen TV rooms and reading rooms that “double” as a chapel on Sunday mornings in some facilities. Usually, churches are allowed to come in and use the dining room or perhaps a living area to hold a brief service. That’s because “real estate” is in such high demand in most health care and retirement communities that a Chapel would be at the very bottom of the priority list. Yet, here we have space set aside; dedicated to the feeding of the soul just as dining space is dedicated to the feeding of the body.

Saint Anna’s Chapel is more than just a place to hold services. It is sacred space. It is a place where residents, staff, family members – anyone really – can sit in prayer or meditation. It is a place where one can pour out one’s heart before God, pray for a dying friend, lift up a distressed loved one, or ask for healing. Our Chapel is a quiet place where we can actually sit in silence and perhaps even listen for God’s direction in our lives and experience God’s peace in our souls.

Of course, Saint Anna’s Chapel is also a place of corporate worship – where the Word is proclaimed and the Sacraments are duly administered. It is a place of singing, crying, praying, and even laughing. We greet one another in the name of the Lord, there. We say “goodbye” to friends and loved ones there. We hear the story of God’s never failing love for us, and are comforted by the Spirit.

What a gift it is to have such space dedicated for our souls. I encourage you all to make use of this gift. Come to Saint Anna’s Chapel and refresh your spirit!

God’s Blessings to you,
Fr. Bill Holly †
When last we “talked”, our newest peahen had flown the coop and ended up at Crestview Senior Duplexes (35th St N & Martin Luther King, Jr Blvd). She was staying there because she saw her image in a blue car and thought she had found a friend. A posse of Saint Simeon’s employees tried (but even peafowl can fly) and failed to catch her.

Two of our peahens have been sitting on eggs — one in each courtyard. One of them is the hen who lost her chicks to the hawk while they were still quite young. Sure enough, Mother Nature gave her a second chance this year, and she hatched three chicks on September 11th! The other peahen is a chick born years ago here that we found a home for. Her owner raised her as a pet (sometimes even in the house) and named her Josephine. Her owner is currently experiencing pretty severe heart problems and asked if we could take care of Josephine until he recovers.

Of course we said yes, and we hope she can someday return home to him. While she is here, she laid eggs and is currently sitting on them! He says that Josephine laid eggs each year but since there was no peacock around, the eggs were not fertile. This is a first time experience for Josephine. She has not been around other peafowl, so she doesn’t quite understand that her job is to stay on the eggs until they hatch and not go gallivanting around whenever she wants to.

Also, some peahen (my money is on Josephine) laid eggs in totally inappropriate spots for a nest — like on the landing of the playground equipment and at the end of the slide. Those eggs are currently in an incubator we now have in the Flora and Fauna Office and are marked with an X on one side and a 0 on the other so we can be sure that we are turning them each day like the mother does. We’ll see if we have any luck hatching them.

Never a dull moment around here...
Several Residents and staff members enjoyed safely watching the eclipse on Aug. 21. Many Residents created their own eclipse-watching cereal box contraptions. Others wore eclipse glasses.

In the Memory Center, Life Enrichment staff member Becky Ashwill used the foil and poster board method to project the shadow. The Residents clearly could see this and it most resembled for the MC residents what eclipse stages was occurring on television. They even ate Moon Pies to celebrate.

Family Screening of "Alive Inside"

Saturday, October 7 at 2:00 p.m. & Tuesday, October 10 at 6:00 p.m.

Saint Simeon’s Smith Conference Room

The Music and Memory Program at Saint Simeon’s will be kicking off soon, providing Residents with personalized playlists on iPods. Having their personal music can help them be calmer, happier and reduce behavioral symptoms associated with Alzheimer’s disease and other dementias.

The film “Alive Inside” by Michael Rossato-Bennett illustrates how the program works.

“Alive Inside” is a joyous cinematic exploration of music’s capacity to reawaken our souls and uncover the deepest part of our humanity. Filmmaker Michael Rossato-Bennett chronicles the astonishing experiences of individuals around the country who have been revitalized and awakened by the simple act of listening to the music of their youth.

Come and learn how the Music and Memory program is working at Saint Simeon’s.
DONATIONS FOR PETS OF THE HOMELESS

Dog and cat food donations for the pets of the homeless in Tulsa will begin mid-November. The donation collection stations will again be placed at the entrance to the Dotson Assisted Living Center and the Administration entrance door.

MUSIC DONATIONS NEEDED!

Saint Simeon’s is looking for donations of iPods, iTunes cards or Music CDs with popular music from the 30’s on. If you have something to donate, please contact Chris Gruszczki at 918-794-1940 or cgruszczki@saintsimeons.org.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

Tuesday, October 3, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. in the Common Room

We welcome you to bring your pets to receive a special blessing from Fr. Bill Holly! Simone will of course be there to receive her blessing.

APDA – Oklahoma will be holding its first ever walk on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 9 a.m. at Chisholm Trail South Park in Broken Arrow. This will be a DOG-FRIENDLY WALK! Simone will be there!

Please visit apdadparkinson.org/Oklahoma and search for the Saint Simeon’s Team to join our team and/or make a donation!
ASSISTED LIVING
Christmas Tea
FRIDAY, DEC. 15 - 2:30 P.M.
COMMON ROOM

HEALTHCARE
Christmas Party
SATURDAY, DEC. 16 - 10:00 A.M.
HCC BISHOPS PLAZA

MEMORY CENTER
Christmas Party
SATURDAY, DEC. 16 - 1:30 P.M.
MEMORY CENTER COMMON AREA