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TRACI DEBOARD/VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

LORETTA LAWSON/PIA COORDINATOR

RETIRED AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM OF KAY COUNTY

"Sponsored and Funded by United Way of Ponca City"

DECEMBER/JANUARY, 2012



"Happy New Year"



It is our hope and prayer that You and your families are blessed immeasurably each day of 2012. We also hope you will truly enjoy the volunteer service you are performing for residents of our communities this year. Many people remember You and your service, knowing how You have paid a great price in helping others: the price of your time, your money, sometimes your health, your vehicle, and forgone opportunities for more pleasurable experiences.

Retired Senior Volunteers Honored at Annual Recognition Banquet

It was a great opportunity to recognize and honor our volunteers, (You) for another great year of service to our communities at the 14th annual RSVP Recognition Banquet held recently at Kay Electric in Blackwell on October 15, 2011. The theme for this year's event was "Volunteering: Oklahoma's New Frontier." You all dressed for the occasion so well with western attire and colorful bandana scarves symbolizing the new frontier.

The "New Frontier" represents the many changes taking place in volunteering including the decline in numbers of some of the formerly active senior volunteers, attributable to chronic disease and death, and the recruiting of the many baby boomers, who began turning 65 this year at the rate of approximately 10,000 a day.

Loretta Lawson served as banquet coordinator. Assisting her were Glenda Garriga, Ruth Thiele, Carol Orr, and Earleine Harman. The door greeters were Dayle and Jane McGaha and Betty Glasgow. Volunteers serving at the Registration Table were Carol Sneath, Rita Sells, Nancy Fetters, and Jane McGaha. Music for listening and dancing prior to the beginning of the program was provided by Jack Kelsey and "The Country Notes" band. Herb Hale led the Pledge of Allegiance and Pastor Bill Brigden offered the dinner prayer. Food servers for the meal were the Volunteers from Integris Blackwell Regional Hospital.

Chuck Clark provided technical support and Margaret King served as photographer for the event. Guests attending included Barbara Holmberg from Oklahoma City, banquet guest speaker, Melanie Wright, Director of Volunteers and Outreach for Hospice of North Central Oklahoma, Nesley Fortenberry, Director of Development and Education for Hospice of North Central Oklahoma, James Carter, Northern Oklahoma Youth Services, Inc., and Paula Dill, Director of Volunteer Services at Integris Blackwell Regional Hospital.

The highlight of the afternoon was presentation of the Volunteer of the Year award to Irma Bain (Cont'd Page 2).

who volunteers at the Newkirk Senior Center, the Wheatheart Nutrition Program, and the River Road Fire Department in Newkirk. Other awards presented included: Newcomer of the Year to Norma Buffalow of Tonkawa, and Overcoming Adversity to Glenda Garriga of Ponca City. The Kay County Community Awards were presented for McCord to Lonnie Wittmer, Blackwell to Earleine Harman, Newkirk to Irma Bain, and Tonkawa to Norma Buffalow. The Volunteer Supporter went to Northern Oklahoma Youth Services located in Ponca City, the Chatline to Lorene Stalcup of Ponca City, the Station Partnership Award to the House FM/My Praise FM radio station, The Frankie Moore Memorial I award, to Virgie Haines of Ponca city, and the Director's Merit to Burton Casad of Ponca City.



January, 2012 is our **Annual Update** month where an RSVP volunteer or staff person will be giving you a friendly call to insure we have your current contact and volunteer service information. Thanks in advance for your cooperation with this event.

YOU MIGHT BE A WINNER

*Win a gift card from Walmart for finding your name in this edition of the Newsletter: if you see your name in asterisks like this: ** your name** on the RSVP website: www.rsvppc.org, then call our office at (580) 762-9412 to claim your free card.*



CONGRATULATIONS: Irma Bain from Newkirk. Irma was selected as RSVP's *Volunteer of the Year for 2011*. This honor, the highest recognition which can be received, is bestowed on one individual each year who exhibits not only great commitment of service to their community but also continuity of exemplary leadership in service.

ONCE AGAIN: RSVP VOLUNTEERS MAKE A HUGE DIFFERENCE

Medicare Part D: Option Period Meetings

RSVP of Kay County helped sponsor the Medicare Part-D Assistance Program provided to area seniors in Kay County, October 24-28, 2011. According to Rich Terrill, ConocoPhillips Retirees Association President, data was collected on the outcomes of the 212 appointments performed by his team of advisors. Aggregate savings exceeded \$130,000, with an average annual savings of nearly \$560 per person.

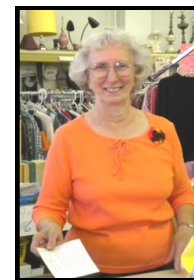
Additionally, ConocoPhillips retirees volunteered nearly 400 hours in advising senior residents which allowed them to submit team grant requests to ConocoPhillips resulting in funding of nearly \$10,000 for area non-profit organizations, RSVP of which, being one of those benefiting organizations.

RSVP greatly appreciates the hard work and brain power of ConocoPhillips Retirees in producing a significant benefit to our communities like this.

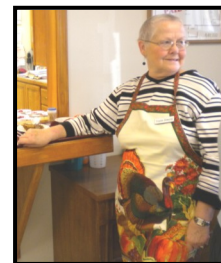
Volunteers of the Month

IT IS AN HONOR TO GET TO RECOGNIZE THE FOLLOWING VOLUNTEERS WHO HAVE EARNED THE DISTINCTION AS "VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH" SINCE OCTOBER, 2011:

October: Barbara Shoemaker— Blackwell, Barbara is a very familiar face in Blackwell and very diverse in her volunteer service which includes quilting, delivering meals and working at the Good Buy Shoppe. We know that this community and RSVP are very fortunate to benefit from the drive and enthusiasm of Barbara! *Way to go, Barbara!*



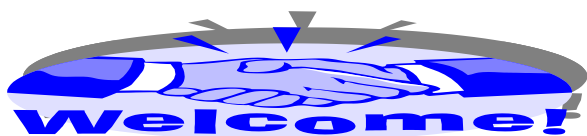
November: Virginia Edwards— McCord, Virginia is a site for sore eyes with her warm smile and welcoming demeanor. She has a great attitude about volunteering which is contagious to everyone who meets her. She sure brightens the day inside the McCord Senior Center. *Thanks for all you do and a great attitude, Virginia.*



December: Paula Dill — Blackwell, Paula is not only an awesome person and volunteer she is also Director of Volunteers for Integris Blackwell Regional Hospital. So, she knows the hard work involved from both sides of the volunteerism spectrum. RSVP is honored to get to partner with her from time to time for special events and projects. Also, On her own time, Paula has coordinated our Awards banquet meal serving with the help of her awesome Volunteers. *Paula, you do so much, we just don't know how you manage to fit volunteering in to the picture- thanks for all you do!.*



January: Jack Kelsey— Ponca City Jack Kelsey is a 27-year veteran of RSVP and as you can see...he is still "pickin' and a grinnin'" He is not only a good person to know, he also serves his community well. Jack and his Country Notes Band perform every Tuesday evening at the Ponca City Senior Center playing popular country and western tunes we all know and love for two solid hours without charge. We all love to either get out there and dance to their great sounds or sit and listen for a while. We sure enjoy having him play at the RSVP Annual Awards Banquet, where people are always asking to have them back. *Jack, you are the best and were grateful to have you in our part of this country!*



WELCOME ABOARD NEW VOLUNTEERS
SINCE OCTOBER, 2011

Christina Rich-Splawn, representing Ponca City Main Street presents volunteer Roy Furr and other deliverers of the Downtown Flyer with certificates of appreciation for their recent service.



- | | |
|-------------------|----------------|
| Charles Dickerson | Cecilia Wright |
| Grace Nalepa | Susan Thompson |



“Save the Dates”

1. Great Workshop for Seniors: “*Managing Change in the Midst of Change*”.

Date: March 30, 2012 **Time:** 12:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. **Place:** Ponca City Senior Center

This is a no-cost workshop for seniors presented by Margaret Love, MSW, from Tulsa, Oklahoma who does an excellent job in this presentation, designed specifically for seniors to give us practical insight and tools for making necessary life changes. It is designed to give participants greater responsibility and authority over their lives. Its better to be prepared for change than to simply react to it! Call RSVP of Kay County for more details.

2. **National Volunteer Week: April 15 through April 21, 2012.** Details coming in the next edition of the RSVP Newsletter.

“New Beginnings”

A series of programs about new skills and hobbies:

A great way to actively challenge our minds in later years will be presented as follows:

Date: January 20, 2012

Time: 11:00 a.m. – Program Introduction

11:30 a.m. – Lunch (\$2.00 charge) Must call the Ponca City Senior Center for reservations (580) 763-8051

12:00 Noon – Program continues

Place: Ponca City Senior Center (319 West Grand Ave)

This program, made possible by the Ponca City Senior Advisory Board, in partnership with the Ponca City Senior Center and RSVP of Kay County, is the first in a series, featuring people who have developed new interests or hobbies later in life.

The first presenter will be Tim Hataway from Edmond, Oklahoma, and his skill is “woodcarving”, a hobby he undertook after retiring as a firefighter. He describes his skill as “a new found passion”. Tim will be bringing two of his fellow carvers to participate in the program. They want to share with you how they became interested in this hobby and how they got started.

They will be doing some actual carving during the program as well as having some of their completed works on display. Last year Tim won the “Best in Class” Woodcarving Award at the Oklahoma State Fair.

Please contact Ponca City Senior Center as soon as possible at (580) 763-8051 to reserve your seating.



Tim Hataway, displaying some of his award winning carvings.

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VOLUNTEERS & FRIENDS

THE 3 MUSKETEERS: WINNIE, RON & EMMA	ARLYN & NADINE BAUER
VEARL D. CAID	PALADIN APARTMENTS/BOBBY GIBSON
EARLEINE HARMAN	RUTH RITTER
BETTY FAIRCHILD	ROSEMARY RAMSEY
MARIE KRISLE	ROSS & CHERYL HIATT
PERRY AND THETA PEDERSON	DON & SANDRA LOCKWOOD
CHUCK & JOAN CLARK	RITA SELLS
EARL & IRENE CZAPLINSKI	CARL R. AND CAROLYN S. RENFRO
TODD A. CANTRELL: DBA CANTRELL CONSTRUCTION CO.	WILLIAM H. THOMASON AND JANE M. THOMASON
CAROL ORR	JERRY L. CATHEY
IN MEMORY OF OTIS GIBSON (FATHER OF MARIE TRENARY)	NETA MCCARTNEY (IN MEMORY OF DON COLSON AND JIM BULLINGTON)

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Pictures from the 2011 Awards Banquet

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Internet address is www.Facebook.com. To locate our site after log on please type **RSVP of Kay County** in the search box.