

Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs

Memorial

They gather in silence Rows of men
and women Some in wheelchairs
Others with their walkers

Old and young Standing shoulder to
shoulder Some broken
By time And circumstance
Each with their own story to tell

Donald served with Patton
Drove his jeep Across most of Europe
Jessie was at Pearl Harbor Watched the
first planes fly over Lost his leg later that
day

Michael served in Korea
Was shot five times Before they finally
sent him home He said that he'd go
back tomorrow But at 72
I doubt there is much of a chance

Mary went to Vietnam As a nurse
Was shot in the hip by a sniper
She stayed for hours with the injured
Before she finally got help for herself Bill
was injured in Desert Storm The first
one At 34
He stands out amongst his elders

A reminder to us all
War does not discriminate
When it comes to its victims
He too would serve tomorrow
If he only had his legs

Before these heroes Young men in uni-
form present the colors
We all share a pledge Whose words
were paid for By these and so many
others

Seven men march to the center of a field
Raise their rifles And fire to the heavens
Three times each
Twenty-one shells in all
Fall to the grass at their feet

Names are read of the fallen
A bell tolls for each one
The list goes on as everyone listens
A father or brother Some just another
man's friend A special name

They each hope to hear After the last
name is read Taps echoes across the pa-
villion Men who stood in the face of horror
Try to wipe away their tears
Before others notice

With a short prayer The ceremony is over
Just another Monday for so many
A day to kick off their summer

For me A Memorial Day I will always re-
member For on this day I rang the bell for
my Father And this simple chime Rings in
me still I walk away slowly With an empty
shell casing in my pocket Held closely To
my heart

Ed Roberts 5/29/06

July

Central Office

BIRTHDAYS

NONE

LONGEVITY

Leona Watson 2 years

Claims and Benefits

BIRTHDAYS

Carl Boyes 07/01

Angie Bilby 07/08

Lynda Waldroop 07/14

Steve Voss 07/15

LONGEVITY

Jimmye Blair 31 years

Patrick Duane 33 years

Lynda Waldroop 28 years

Angie Bilby 5 years

David Middleton 10 years

SAA

BIRTHDAYS

Danny Stewart 07/24

LONGEVITY

August

Central Office

BIRTHDAYS

James Calkins 08/02

Tamara Hodge 08/03

Shane Sealock 08/12

Belinda White 08/27

Martha Spear 08/29

LONGEVITY

Shane Sealock 3 years

Martha Spear 43 years

Claims and Benefits

BIRTHDAYS

Jill Grimes 08/02

David Stallings 08/03

John W. Cloud 08/12

James Pass 08/19

Jimmye Blair 08/28

LONGEVITY

Margaret Woodfork 19 years

James Pass 4 years



September

Central Office

BIRTHDAYS

Sabrina Diffie 09/21

Mary Beth Cunningham 09/29

LONGEVITY

Mr. Phillip Driskill 37 years

Claims and Benefits

BIRTHDAYS

Pete Rogers 09/04

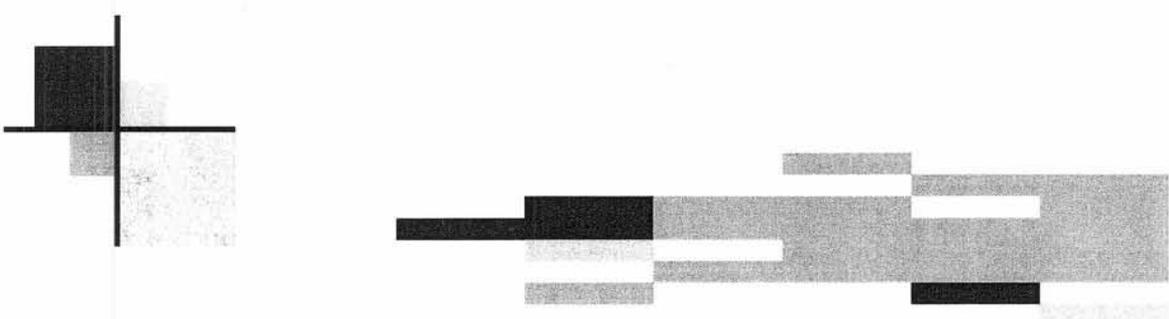
Tony Brown 09/21

LONGEVITY

Mark Fromme 4 years

Lorraine McReynolds 2 years

Joseph Pinkowski 13 years



**Central Office had the annual Employee Recognition Banquet in May.
Here are the winners for the favorite Central Office employees in the different for- fun categories:**

Greatest Idea Susan McClure

Behinds the Scenes Jewell Coe and Belinda White

Rookie of the Year Amanda Lomonaco

Holiday Cheer Leona Watson

Loch Ness James Calkins

Teamwork Mary Beth Cunningham

Never Leave the Office Martha Spear

Friendliest Cherri Robinson

Chatterbox Sabrina Diffee

Best Department Fiscal

Most Organizes Martha Spear

Best Politian Scott Clymer and Mr. Lamb

Above and Beyond Jim Rodman

Most Helpful Mary Beth Cunningham

Always Late to an Event Susan McClure

Best Kept Secret The Diffee's

Most Knowledgeable Martha Spear

Most Patriotic Mike Walters

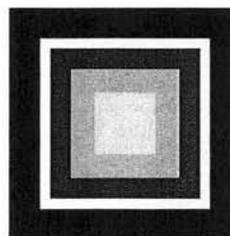
Drive the Farthest Ed Noltensmeyer (65 Miles)

Drive the Least James Calkins (4.57 miles)



Norman Birthdays for June

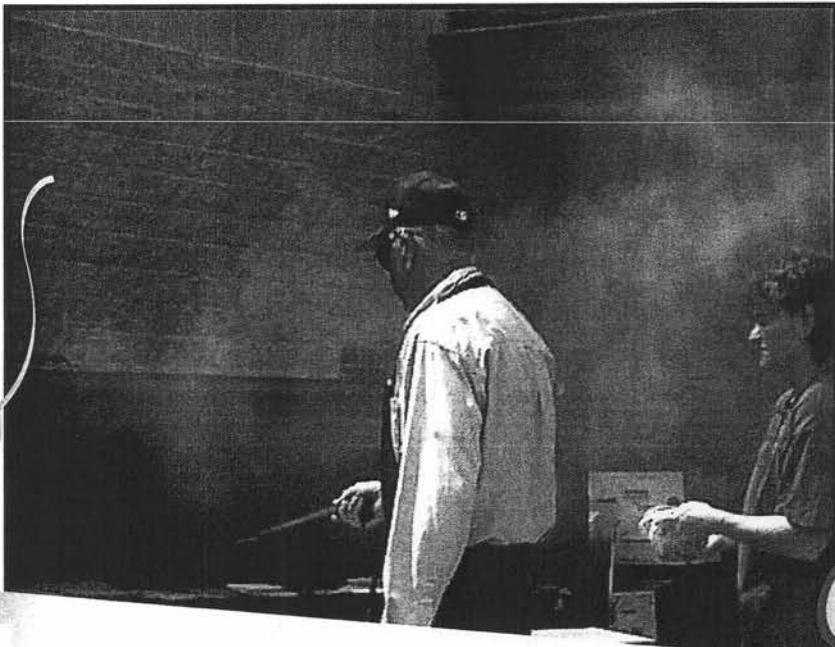
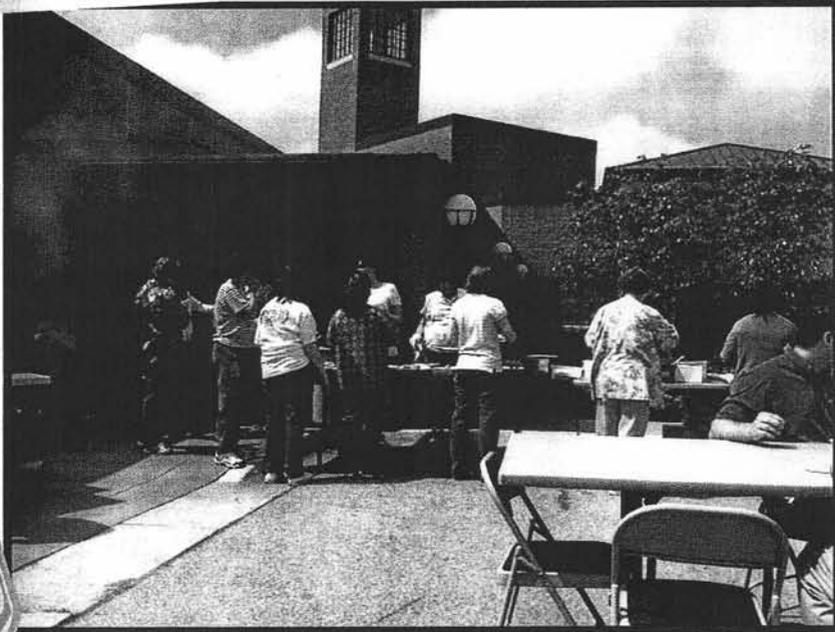
Month	Day	Name
6	13	Carroll , Audra M
6	8	Carter , Angela D
6	26	Condit , Rick E
6	10	Craft , Tamarr J
6	14	Culp , Brenda J
6	23	Flick , Bradley
6	29	Healy , Juliana
6	3	Hill , Sharon K
6	1	Hiti , Pamela S
6	29	Holder , Carole
6	17	Huckeby , Tuesdie R
6	14	Hugo , Linda K
6	24	Lairson , Darold O
6	1	Loonan , Bonnie L
6	12	Lough , Joyce E
6	9	Lyday , Jeremy
6	23	Mason , Linda S
6	19	McKee , Shelley D
6	16	Nelson , Tiney
6	9	Nero , Travis D
6	9	Paul , Mary E
6	24	Plumley , Cindy R
6	8	Readis , Kaven M
6	27	Sharp , Patricia A
6	11	Walsh , David G
6	17	Williams , Glen D
6	28	Zimmerman , Nathan W



Bob Weeks cooking up the burgers and Hot dogs for Nursing Week and State Employee Appreciation Week!



Norman
Division





Left to Right - Katherine Kreizenbeck, Administrator, Kris Orth, Diedre Chambers, DON

Kris Orth, Patient Care Assistant

April

"ABOVE & BEYOND"

Employee

From the Nominations by a co-worker:

"Kris Came to center on her day off to clean out a flower bed on Special Needs Unit and planted flowers and vegetables. Also organized a center softball team for fun and in support of the Biggest Loser competition."

May "ABOVE & BEYOND" Employee



Donna King (center) is shown receiving her award from Katherine Kreizenbeck, Administrator (left), and Deidre Chambers, Director of Nursing

Donna King, of Arapaho, has been named the May "Above and Beyond" Employee for the Oklahoma Veterans Center in Clinton. Mrs. King is a Licensed Practical Nurse and has been on staff with the Department of Veterans Affairs since October of 1983. She was cited in nominations by co-workers for being a real team player and always willing to help out when or wherever needed.



**June
"ABOVE & BEYOND"
Employee**



Katherine Kreizenbeck, left, and Gale Misner

Gale Misner, of Clinton, has been named the June "Above and Beyond" Employee for the Oklahoma Veterans Center in Clinton. Ms. Misner is a Social Services Specialist and has been on staff with the Department of Veterans Affairs since June of 2006. She was cited in a nomination by a co-worker for volunteering her time to do whatever is needed to take care of the residents.

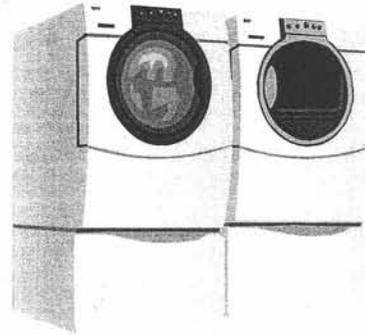


The Clinton Veterans Center recently had the old water tower dismantled. It was quite the interesting process taking only one day. Many of the residents watched the entire process throughout the day. The weather was rather threatening that day with thunder and some lightening making the overall effect even more dramatic. Thankfully, it never got close enough to stop progress. The water tower provided the Clinton Veterans Center with water until about 7 to 10 years ago when the town of Clinton built a large water tower.

Clinton Divison
Clinton Divison



Ardmore Division



James Broaden, retiring from the laundry department at the Clinton OVC after 11 years of service.

MAY 2008

BIRTHDAY LIST

Stephanie Hamilton
 Vada McAfee
 Lurline Lewis
 Samatha Raybon
 John Hester
 Ashleigh Foster
 Yvette McGee
 Mary South
 Rose Skelton
 Ray Sanders
 Cathy Gillipsie
 Janet Hartsell

JUNE BIRTHDAY LIST

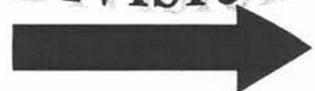
Leo Peters
 Letha Taylor
 Joe Hutchins
 Sharon Cryer
 Rowena Bernardo
 Anthony Williamson
 Betty Meniffee
 Nellie Dodd
 Michelle Lampkin
 Linda Campo
 Amber Kelley
 Vince Seeman
 Nelda Burns
 Stanley Devenport
 Lou Dorsey
 Darrell Kroth
 Georgia Trammell
 Miles Blevins
 Vickie Eubank
 Carolyn Keeton

JUNE LONGEVITY

Rhonda Adams	1 year
Nellie J. Dodd	9 years
Lou W. Dorsey	6 years
Ernest S Eubank	2 years
Cytnthia E. Ferrell	4 years
Michelle P. Fuego	3 years
Sheila F. Hallford F.	1 year
Janet K Hartsell	1 year
Bobby L. Olive	11 years
Melinda A Ritter	4 years
Sherry L Shelton	1 year
Martha J. Stout	1 year
Renee D Thomas	7 years
Jogie M West	2 years



Ardmore Division



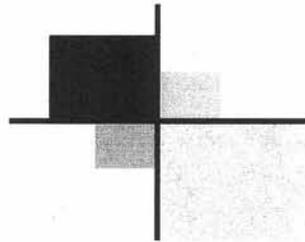
April Birthdays

2008

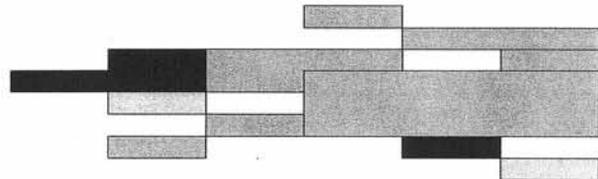
- Mamie Swick
- Cherry Tibbs
- Judy Blanton
- Larry Christiansen
- Ramona Bjornsson
- Jourith Blalock
- Betty Skanes
- Jacqueline Cohee
- Jennifer Richards
- Debra Debord
- Peggy Young
- Marcia Burnett
- Megan Vowell
- David Hutchcraft
- Erma Alford
- Regina Hamon

April Longevity

- Erma Alford 1 year
- Rudy Apoliner 9 years
- Judy Blanton 6 years
- Tammy Cook 1 year
- Ruth Davenport 14 years
- Haley Esquibel 1 year
- Keri Gentz 6 years
- Alice Gregory 8 years
- Carlandus Knight 7 years
- Michelle Mickelson 1 year
- Brenda Parrott 2 years
- Lillie Randolph 12 years
- Samatha Raybon 1 year
- Dosha Sanders 1 year
- Robbie Sharp 1 year
- Melissa Windham 1 year



Ardmore
Division



Special section

Scott Bottoms is in Iraq serving this country. Please pray for his safety. (From Lawton)

Rin Tin Tin Visits Veterans in Tulsa Friday, July 4, 2008

To help celebrate America's birthday Rin Tin Tin paid a visit to the residents of the Claremore Veteran's Center on the 4th of July. Rin Tin Tin spent about two hours at the functioning memorial to Oklahoma's wartime veterans greeting each of the residents, family members, staff and live-in mascot, Clyde, a one-year-old Labrador Retriever mix. While there, Rin Tin Tin also offered a friendly hello to resident cat Gus. Traveling from room-to-room Rin Tin Tin offered high-fives to the some 40 residents for their service to America. When he saw the 90 lb. sable German Shepherd Dog, one WWII POW said, "That is the kind of dog who kept me in my cell when I was a prisoner of war." Rin Tin Tin's trainer Debra Hnath, of Claremore, responded by saying, "Oh no, it was this kind of dog, a Rin Tin Tin line descendant, who was in California during WWII training dogs for our side." She continued to explain that at the onset of WWII Duncan and Rin Tin Tin III trained some 5,000 dogs for the war effort at Camp Hahn, Calif. One highlight of the event was the exchange between two residents who had a friendly dispute over which thought Rin Tin Tin was the prettiest. One said, "The beauty is in the head, and he has one beautiful head."

The other resident retorted, "He is the most beautiful dog I have ever seen." According to Claremore Veteran's Center Administrator Cindy Adams the residents of the center were thrilled to meet the 10th generation line descendant of the original Rin Tin Tin who was found in France by Cpl. Lee Duncan in 1918 just before the end of WWI. One resident asked Mrs. Hnath, "How can Rin Tin Tin still be alive in 2008?" She responded by saying, "The 90-year-old bloodline was maintained by Duncan until 1957 then passed to current breeder Daphne Hereford's family in Texas 51 years ago. Rin Tin Tin was also accompanied by his photographer, John Hnath, of Claremore. According to Rin Tin Tin's co-breeders Miss Hereford, Tommy and Jan Hall he will be returning to Rancho Rin Tin Tin in Texas next week for a short hiatus from his rigorous training schedule. Rin Tin Tin's breeders said, "It is indeed an honor for Rin Tin Tin to have the opportunity to pay tribute to these veteran's on the birthday of our country's freedom. We sincerely look forward to visiting them again." Ms. Adams delighted residents by distributing several copies of Rinty's News, a bi-annual publication of the Rin Tin Tin Fan Club.



Claremore Divison



Claremore Division