



Retired and Senior Volunteer Program

June through December 2020

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Upcoming Dates:

December 24-25
Holiday Office Closure

January 1
Holiday Office Closed

January 1-31
Martin Luther King Jr. Service Act: Nursing Home/Assisted Living Pen Pal Encouragement Cards

April 6th
National Service Recognition Day: St. John's Soup Kitchen

April 23rd
Birthday Banquet

Volunteer Recognition Drive-Thru Event

In order to recognize our volunteers – and since our April Birthday Banquet was cancelled – RSVP held a drive-thru recognition event in which we handed out gift bags to volunteers. Included in the bags were promotional items from RSVP and items donated by the Oklahoma Blood Institute and U.S. Army Recruiter.

Those volunteers who participated in the drive-thru event were entered into a Live Facebook drawing for prizes that were generously donated by community businesses for our Birthday Banquet.

Thank you to the following donors:

- Applebee's
- BrookRidge Retirement Community
- Cali Burrito
- Edible Arrangements
- Firehouse Subs
- Los Tres Amigos
- McAlister's Deli
- Mike's Grill
- Olive Garden
- Outback
- Promise Care
- S&B Burger Joint
- Salas Cantina
- Thai Noodle World
- Thunderbird Lane



Michael Mullholland brought along his friendly gray parrot.



Volunteers Wynn Ann Wright and Mary Johns.



Tony Washington visits with Elfriede Werdehoff.



RSVP Administrator Jessica Musselman greets volunteer Barbara Gratten.

9/11 Service Act

The 2020 September 11th Service Act RSVP was a book drive to collect children's books to encourage literacy growth in K-12 early readers struggling in language arts.

Lawton RSVP volunteers generously donated over 200 books that were delivered to Pat Henry Elementary School! Teachers distributed the books amongst students who will no doubt enjoy the many stories and tales!



Volunteer Recognition Banquet

Our 47th Annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet was held on Friday, September 18. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, two banquets were hosted to comply with social distancing and other requirements. Between the two banquets we had over 85 volunteers and guests attend!

Volunteers enjoyed a roast beef or turkey meal catered by the Great Plains Coliseum, a video presentation revealing our new branding logo and other AmeriCorps Seniors volunteers in service, and of course, raffle drawings!

Thank you to our local community businesses that generously donated prizes and Scott's House of Flowers for the lovely table centerpieces:

- Applebee's
- Back Porch Grill
- Buffalo Wild Wings
- Cali Burrito
- Firehouse Subs
- Fusion Buffet
- Los Tres Amigos
- McAlister's Deli
- Mike's Grill
- Outback
- S&B Burger Joint
- Salas Cantina
- Texas Roadhouse
- Thunderbird Lane
- Wayne's Drive-In



Ted and Marilyn Janosko



Patricia Cameron



Tomoko Kassik

Thank you!
You make a difference.

RSVP Veterans Recognized for Their Service

On November 13, volunteers and guests attended the 2020 Veteran Corps Pinning Ceremony. The evening was full of celebrating our veterans, recognizing their service to our nation and local community. The Lawton-Fort Sill Chapter of Buffalo Soldiers kicked off the evening by Posting the Colors before the playing of our National Anthem and Pledge of Allegiance. The Chapter operates as an affiliate of the National office of the Ninth and Tenth (Horse) Cavalry Association.

With our COVID-19 precaution plan in place, our 41 attendees enjoyed pre-packaged meals containing a club sandwich, macaroni salad, chips & dessert and a Veterans Day video presentation. Veterans were presented with their 2020 Veteran lapel pin and enjoyed time catching up with other volunteers.

The event concluded with a drawing of door prizes and every guest went home with a gift! Prizes included an assortment of baskets filled with goodies to encourage at-home activities and wellness.



Lois and Horace Whetstone

Quilts of Valor Presentations

In June and July RSVP Partner VFW 1193 hosted "Quilts of Valor" ceremonies in which over 50 combat war veterans were presented with handmade quilts. Volunteers from America's Veteran Supporters assisted with the presentations.

The Oklahoma Quilts of Valor Chapter created these as a way to thank veterans, providing comfort and warmth to men and women who fought for their country.

Donna McCormack, the founder of the OK Quilts of Valor Foundation, told KSWO: "I want them to understand these aren't made to look pretty and sit on the shelf. These are made to be used so they can feel all the work we put into them and understand that we really appreciate what they have done for this country."



RSVP Volunteer Harold Davis (right) receives his quilt.



RSVP Volunteer David Perry receives his quilt.

Volunteer of the
Third Quarter
Harold Davis



Harold Davis is the Deacon of St. John's Missionary Baptist Church and joined RSVP in 2015. Through St. John's Feeding Ministry, Harold provides those in need with meals and continued doing so throughout the pandemic. From March through October, he directed the delivery of over 18,000 meals to people in our community!

Volunteer of the
Fourth Quarter
Tony Washington



Tony Washington joined RSVP in 2013. Tony has gone above and beyond volunteering with Southwestern Medical Center and the RSVP Advisory Council, assisting with events, and using local connections to better the RSVP program.

Station Spotlight:
Lawton Mobile Meals



Lawton Mobile Meals provides meals to the elderly and disabled who cannot get out and get meals prepared on their own. Seven RSVP volunteers are active with this program that continued to serve during the pandemic. From March through August, Mobile Meals delivered 8,118 meals to 379 recipients.

Volunteers are needed for this RSVP partner to deliver meals on Mondays and Fridays. Starts at 8:30 am and finished by 10:00 am. Contact Belinda Anderson, Program Director (between 9 am and 12 pm) at 580-357-5396 if you are interested or have any questions.

In Memoriam: SFC (Retired) Billy Ray Nash



Billy Ray Nash joined RSVP in May 2004 and volunteered with the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 751. He served in the Army for more than twenty years and retired from Fort Sill in 1981. Billy passed away June 3.

He was a Vietnam veteran and his awards include the National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal 6th Award, Aircraft Crewman Badge, Vietnam Service Medal with Three Service Stars, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Palm, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon Second Award and the NCO Professional Development Badge.

In Memoriam: Roland McWhorter



Roland McWhorter joined RSVP in April 1993 and volunteered with the Senior Center for Creative Living. Roland passed away September 26 at the age of 94.

Roland served in the military and in Vietnam. He was a master bridge player and loved playing dominos at the Senior Center for Creative Living.

In Memoriam: Ingrid Myers

Ingrid Myers joined RSVP in September 1998 and volunteered with the Flower Ministry and the Society of Military Widows. She passed away October 5 after a long battle with ALS.

Ingrid was an army wife and traveled with her husband and family. She was an accomplished artist and produced many of the Protestant Women of the Chapel retreat program covers over the years.



Welcome New Volunteers

Volunteer	Station
Joyce Grimes	Mobile Meals
Steven Howard	Hearts That Care Volunteer Clinic
Thomas Mills	Hearts That Care Volunteer Clinic
Mary Seiger	Hearts That Care Volunteer Clinic
Molly Sizer	Wichita Wildlife Refuge Center
Alberta (Peach) White	St. John's Missionary Baptist Church
Christine Young	Hearts That Care Volunteer Clinic

MLK Service Act: Encouragement Cards

The Martin Luther King Jr. holiday on Jan. 18, 2021, marks the 26th anniversary of the day of service that celebrates the Civil Rights leader's life and legacy. During the month of January, Lawton RSVP will collect "pen pal" encouragement cards to distribute to local nursing homes and assisted living centers.



National Service Recognition Day: St. John's Soup Kitchen

Our beneficiary of the 2021 National Service Recognition Day is St. John's Missionary Baptist Church and their Feeding Ministry. Join us by giving back to our community through donating canned foods, plastic utensils, cleaning supplies and paper products. RSVP volunteers will also participate in meal services on April 6th.

Veteran Corps Pinning Ceremony Photos



Juan and Bertilia Peredo



Michael Wynne



*Joyce Grimes &
Rose Mary Bazor*



Marsha Black

Volunteer Recognition Banquet Photos

Do you have something you would like to see in the next newsletter?

Send your pictures, stories, events to rsvp@lawtonok.gov



Elfriede Werdehoff, Colette and Nick Stewart, and Petra Taylor



Janet Baker



Lisa Howard



Lisa Lo



Hisako Hampshire



Sandy Baker

Links

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/LawtonRSVPCouncil

City of Lawton Website:
<https://www.lawtonok.gov/departments/retired-and-senior-volunteer-program>

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