

Oklahoma Women Veterans Organization Tulsa Chapter 0212

womenvetstulsa@gmail.com

March 2018



Tulsa Chapter-e-Newsletter

OKWVO-TC 0212 is a 501 (c) (19) nonprofit War Veterans service organization composed of women who have served or are currently serving in the United States Armed Forces. The mission of OKWVO-TC-0212 is to provide an opportunity for communication and association with women who have served, retired, and are serving in the United States Armed Forces.

President's Message: Spring has S-P-R-U-N-G

Have you taken the time to stop and view the beauty God has granted us to have? For those who have seasonal allergies, I don't suggest the deep breaths, but the view of those pre-emergent blooms in the yards and fields are breath taking.

We have two April events in our near future that I hope many will take advantage this spring. On April 14th we will be holding our first of many bi-monthly meetings at VFW Post 577, 1109 E. 6th St. They are open for a \$6 breakfast from 0800-1000 and will be leaving coffee and pastries for us to snack on during our meeting. But I would like to encourage you to enjoy the breakfast they offer on Saturday mornings. We're already going to be there, right?

Our first event that is happening in April is also on the 14th and it is the VA funded Spiritual Retreat that will be held in Sand Springs. I've heard the event is already full and some of our ladies will be in attendance. I would like to encourage those that attend the retreat to come to our June meeting and share their experiences.

Our second event in April is the Medal of Honor Ceremony on the 28th at Tulsa's Veteran Park, 21st and Boulder. This will be the 17th annual ceremony hosted by the Marine Corps League Albert E Schwab Det. 857. The event takes place 10 am - 4 pm. We will be having a vendor table set-up and if you are inclined to help Tina with this, please contact her.

Enjoy this beautiful time of year when the earth renews itself with blossoms, greenery, babies, and our ourselves. God Bless you all for the service you gave or are still giving to our great nation.

Ann

Agenda Topics @ April 14th Meeting

50/50 Raffle
Birthday Recognitions
Recognition of New Members
Medal of Honor Vendor, April 28
Benefit Garage Sale Sat, May 5th
Round Table Discussion
Post Card Membership Renewals

OKWVO-TC-2012 Board

President - Ann Schermer, USAF, Retired
Vice President - Tina Smith, USAR, Retired
Secretary - Deborah Wipf, USAF, Retired
Treasurer - Elyce Holloway, USAF
Co-Chaplains - Sandra Bingaman, USN and
Christy Peterson, USN
Archivist - Sandy Oxford, USN Social Chair -
Adele Krause, USA, Retired
Sunshine Lady - Cynt Simon, USA Retired

OKWVO St Patrick's Day Luncheon in OKC



Presidents Lisa Williams of the Ft Sill Chapter and Ann Schermer of the Tulsa Chapter share chapter ideas during the OKWVO St Patrick's Day Luncheon.

OKWVO-HQ hosted this first-time event, giving us all their best "Irish Blessings" in full regalia.

Along with Ann Schermer, those attending from the Tulsa chapter included Deborah Drain, Deborah Wipf, Tina Smith, and Sandy Oxford. We all had wonderful opportunities to visit with our sister veterans from the other two chapters.

Pam Bloustine emceed the luncheon, providing the "Feast of Saint Patrick's Day celebration." We are not sure what menu item was the most popular: the dish of mashed potatoes, Shepherd's pie, or the corn beef and cabbage. Last but not least, we all waited patiently for the wild berry bread pudding! Those two pans went quickly.

The gals from the Northeast certainly enjoyed our St Patrick's Day Luncheon and visit with our sisters from the Metro and Ft Sill chapters.

'Tis a great way to welcome in Spring and meet new friends and enjoy the company of sister veterans.

Thank you, Pam and HQ, for all your preparation and planning for this wonderful event.



As the Irish say "Cara (CA-ra) Friend. OUR CONNECTION TO ONE ANOTHER."

Who is this?



Do you know this WAC?

2018 Calendar of Events

OKWVO-TC Meeting Dates
Meetings Location: VFW #577
6th and Peoria

10:00 -12:15

April 14

June 9

August 11

October 13

December 8

(Christmas Party)

Veteran Activities

Saturday, April 28

Medal of Honor @ Veteran Park

Saturday May 5th

OKWVO-TC Benefit Garage Sale

@ Twin Oaks Home (*seearticlefordetails*)

Veteran Activities, con't

Saturday, September 29

Tulsa Stand Down for Homeless
 @ First United Methodist Church

Fri-Sat, October 5 & 6

WVRD-Women Veterans
 Recognition Day @Midwest City
 Reed Convention Center

Saturday, Nov 5

DAV 5K @ Tulsa Guthrie Green

Monday, November 12

Veterans Day Parade!
 Start inviting your friends now to
 ride with us in the parade!

Benefit Garage Sale



Date: May 5, 2018, 9AM to 2PM
 Location: 3757 S. Darlington Ave

“Clean Out Your Household Unwantables”
 The BIG THREE Fundraisers to benefit Women Veterans:

- 1) Tulsa Stand-Down
- 2) Women Veteran Emergency Grants
- 3) Chapter Operational Funds

DROP OFF Donations

April 6 & 7, 23-27, May 1-3

To arrange drop offs, text 918-810-6703



OKLAHOMA WOMEN VETERANS ORGANIZATION-TULSA CHAPTER 0212

OKWVO-TC 0212

Garage Sale

Saturday, May 5, 2018 9 am-2 pm

Big Three Fund Raiser

(1) Tulsa Stand Down (2) Women Veteran Emergency Grants

(3) Chapter Operational Funds

Donation Sheet

| ITEMS | VALUE (\$) | ITEMS | VALUE (\$) |
|---------------------------|------------|--------------------------|------------|
| Bedspreads, Comforters | | Curtains, Drapes | |
| Blankets, Throws, Pillows | | Dishes, Pots, Pans | |
| Kitchen Items | | Small Kitchen Appliances | |
| Books | | Lamps, Shades | |
| Knick Knacks | | Craft Supplies | |
| Tools | | Bicycles | |
| Furniture | | Washer, Dryers | |
| DVDs, CDs, VHSs | | Electronics | |
| Toys | | Sports Equipment | |
| Rugs | | Luggage | |
| Vacuum Cleaners | | Televisions | |
| Seasonal Decorations | | Costume Jewelry | |
| Computer Items | | Misc. Items | |

Thank you for your participation in the OKWVO-TC 0212 GS -2018 Fundraiser for Women Veterans!

NAME OF DONOR _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ST _____ ZIP _____

All items donated to OKWVO-TC 0212 are deductible for income tax purposes at their present fair market value. Internal Revenue code placed the responsibility for estimating the "Fair Market Value" upon the donor rather than the organization receiving the donation. This worksheet is provided to assist you in listing your items and providing a fair market value.

TOTAL VALUE \$ _____

OKWVO-TC 0212 is a 501 (C) (19) nonprofit War Veterans service organization composed of women who have served or are currently serving on active duty in the Reserves, or the Guard in any branch of service of the United States of America. The mission of this organization is to provide an opportunity of community and association with women who have served and are in need of assistance. OKWVO-TC provides a medium of exchange between the organizations and other veteran organizations in Tulsa and throughout Oklahoma.

To become a member, you must have served at least 90 days with an honorable discharge.

We meet on the 2nd Saturday of February, April, June, August, October and December.

For further information, email christinas258@gmail.com.



3rd Annual Women Veterans Symposium

“Be A Force for Change” March 10th, 2018

Tulsa Chapter members, Sandra Bingaman, Tina Smith, Sandy Oxford, and Melva Thomas attended this symposium. A female sexual assault survivor and an author of an acclaimed military memoir shared their stories at the third annual Women Veterans Symposium.

It was hosted by the Student Veteran Academic Services at OSU focusing on helping female veterans become instruments of change and more involved in their communities. Also, at this symposium were opportunities for networking with women veterans from throughout Oklahoma, and opportunities to visit veteran booths set up for us. It was an opportunity for us to meet and build relationships with sister veterans and to hear advice from those who have successfully transitioned from the military to civilian life.

Let's spread the word to make sure that more of us have the opportunity to attend this free annual veterans' symposium in 2019.



Thank You All

OKWVO-TC Veteran Sisters, I want to thank each of you who offered up prayers for my sister Gloria Hays during her illness and surgery and for my family when she chose to be taken off life support.

Thank each one who sent condolences via Facebook and Sympathy cards after her passing. Your notes were all so appreciated.

It was so hard to give her up, but I know where she is now and one day will see her again. I am glad to be part of such a caring group.

Melva Thomas, USMC

Update on Christy and Kelly Peterson: On Mar 12th, they had appointments to follow up on the x-rays taken on Mar 9th. GOOD NEWS! The cancer markers went from 136 to 80.9 and the tumor on her liver has shrunk. Her oncologist changed her chemo drugs and schedule. Please continue to prayer for God's healing of our sister.

Celebrating Birthdays in March

Karen Bissell, USAF
Janet Burrow, USA
Melissa Hurst, USA
Camille Koster, USN
Sandy Oxford, USA, USN, Retired
Cynthia (Cynt) Simon, USA



Celebrating Birthdays in April

Linda Blayton, USAF
Moon Lim Canon, USN, Retired
Harriet Frank, USMC
Stacey Kitsmiller, USN, still serving
Adele Kraus, USA, Retired
Melva Thomas, USMC



Marines 2018 Medal of Honor Day of Observance Saturday, April 28 at Veteran Park, Tulsa

8:30 am-3:30 pm

There will be many booths at this special day of honoring.

We look forward to having volunteer members helping us at our WVO-TC booth.

Please call or text Tina Smith at 918-810-6703.

We would love to have volunteers for 2-3-hour shifts.

The event runs from 8:30 am - 4:30 pm



“News from our active duty sisters” PHILIPPINE SEA (March 14, 2018)

Ensign Karen Quiles communicates with the helmsmen during shiphandling training aboard the amphibious assault ship USS Bonhomme Richard (LHD 6). The training allowed junior officers, under the instruction of qualified officers, to gain hands-on experience in maneuvering methods that are used during various at-sea operations and response scenarios.

Bonhomme Richard is operating in the Indo-Pacific region as part of a regularly scheduled patrol that provides a rapid-response capability in the event of a regional contingency or natural disaster.

U.S. Navy photo by Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class William Sykes (Released)



Sandy Oxford, Army, Navy 1971-1998 as featured in the Tulsa World newspaper. Tim Stanley, author of the series on Veterans wrote a wonderful article about Sandy. Sisters in the Army and the Navy can claim our Sandy! Wonderful article.