



Oklahoma Women Veterans Organization Tulsa Chapter 0212



OKWVO-TC—e-Newsletter

OKWVO-TC0212 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.

Christina Smith, Editor



President's Message:

Happy last of spring weather in Oklahoma! We've had quite the spring weather season, haven't we? I hope that all of you are safe and haven't been impacted by the tornados, flooding, and over all cloudy skies.

We will be celebrating Flag Day on June 14th, the day our Continental Congress adopted our United States of America flag, the red, white, & blue on 14 June 1777. The resolution of our flag is 242 years young. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation that officially established June 14th as Flag Day;

June 8 Meeting Agenda

50/50 Raffle Birthday Salutes,
Recognition of New Members
Wellness Updates
Announcements
Discussion of Scholarship Award-
New Name?
Round Table Discussion

OKWVO-TC 2012 Board

President - Ann Schermer
Vice-President - Tina Smith
Secretary - Deborah Wipf
Treasurer - Elyce Holloway
Chaplain - Sandy Bingaman
Historian - Debra Clark
Social Chair - Deborah Drain
Sunshine Lady - Melissa Hurst

in August 1946, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress.

The week of June 14 is designated as "National Flag Week." During National Flag Week, the president will issue a proclamation urging U.S. citizens to fly the American flag for the duration of that week. Do you fly our American flag? Some organizations hold parades and events in celebration of America's national flag and everything it represents; others will hold flag retirement celebrations. What will you be doing to celebrate Flag Day?

I'm pleased to congratulate all who participated in the auction we held in April. We made \$1,019 toward our goal of \$1,500 to purchase the Mission 22 bench. In the time since our April meeting, we have received two additional donations; one from member Joyce Van Nostrand who was unable to attend the April meeting and the other from the Kimberly-Clark SALUTE fundraiser for \$1900. SALUTE stands for Service, Alliance, Uniting, Together and is Kimberly-Clark's Veterans Employee Resource Group. Thank you all for your donations!

See you all on June 8th for our next bi-monthly meeting.

Ann

On May 16, 2019, Sandy Oxford was presented the Mayor G.T. Bynum Key to the City by Amy Brown, Deputy Mayor of the City of Tulsa. This experience was a “shock and awe” moment for Sandy. As read by Amy Brown:



Proclamation: **WHEREAS:** The Mayor’s Veteran Advisory Council was established in June 2009 with sixteen members playing a vital role for sharing information, combining resources, and networking to better serve Tulsa area veterans; and **WHEREAS:** Currently there are more than 100 members who sit on the Mayor’s Veteran Advisory Council who bring military members and veteran service organization together to address vital issues regarding veterans directly to the Mayor; and **WHEREAS:** Sandra L. Oxford has selflessly served the Mayor’s Veteran Advisory Council for a decade, impacting the lives of countless veterans with her true energy and advocacy. **NOW, THEREFORE, I, G.T. Bynum, Mayor of the City of Tulsa, do hereby proclaim May 16th as**

“Sandra L Oxford Day”

In the City of Tulsa

Sandy, thank you, from all your OKWVO sister friends near and far for all you have done to make a better place for each of us. You’ve been a mentor and a friend to all. Thanks for the good times and getting us through the tough times. Do send us a post card or two if you can! “Anchors Aweigh until we meet once more. OKWVO wishes you a happy voyage wherever you travel. “



“For those I Love, I will Sacrifice”

WIMSA is getting fewer and fewer dollars with all the monuments being built. If you can, please donate to WIMSA.

Women in Military Service for America Memorial



UNITED IN THE WAR AGAINST VETERAN SUICIDE

**OKWVO-TC Honors Union High School AFROTC
Halie Stokes
for Outstanding Leadership**



Deborah Drain, Captain, USAF Retired, and Social Chair of OKWVO-TC presented a certificate to Halie Stokes for her active role in the Union AFROTC squadron for the 2018-2019

academic year. Union AFJROTC sponsor, Dan Snow nominated Halie for this award, stating “she was truly an outstanding student in all areas of assessment.” Halie was on the Drill team, Color Guard and a key member of the Fitness Competition team. She led her team of five female cadets through the high desert terrain in a challenging march in the heavy division (35-pound division back packs) of the Bataan Memorial Death March at White Sands Missile Range, NM. Halie is a nationally ranked youth amateur wrestler, competing and beating both males and females. This year, she performed 144 hours of community service.

Congratulations, Halie Stokes! What a great role model for Halie to receive her award from Captain Deborah Drain!

Thank you, Debbie.

“The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their nation.”

George Washington

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2019 General Meetings
2nd Saturdays 10:00 am - 12:15 pm
Meeting Location: VFW Post 577
6th and Peoria Tulsa, OK
Come and join your OKWVO
Sisters and friends
for Breakfast \$6.00
8 June
10 August
12 October
14 December
(Christmas Party and Election of Officers)

**35th Annual Oklahoma Women Veterans
Recognition Day, Saturday, Oct 5, 2019
8:30 am - 3:00 pm
Norman Embassy Suites Hotel
and Conference Center**

BOARD MEETINGS
3rd Sunday of the month
2:00 pm - 4:00
Contact womenvetstulsa@gmail.com

CELEBRATING MAY BIRTHDAYS

Camille Cloud, USA, USNG
Carol Kimbler, USAF
Dolly Kirk, USAF

*Wishing you a day filled with happiness
and a year filled with joy!*

CELEBRATING APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Frances Chapman, USAF
Terry Fenner, USAF
Kelli Ingraham, USAF
Marjorie Lasky, USN
Bernice Trotter, USMC

Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System VA Secretary honors Tulsa Veteran Advisory Council



Veronica Jackson-Patrick (third from left), Program Analyst with the Veterans Experience Office, presents a Certificate of Appreciation from VA Secretary Robert Wilkie to the Tulsa Mayor’s Veteran Advisory Council on April 18. Also in photo (left to right) is Jonathan Plasencia, Associate Director of Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System, Mark E. Morgan, Director of Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System, Veronica Jackson-Patrick, Sandra Oxford, Chair of the Tulsa Mayor’s Veteran Advisory Council, Amy Brown, Deputy Mayor of the City of Tulsa, and Jason McClellan, Director of the Muskogee VA Regional Office.

In 2009, the city of Tulsa established a Mayor’s Veteran Advisory Council to bring military members and veteran service organizations in the community together and to have a direct line to the Mayor on issues concerning Veterans. Today, the council has grown to 99 members, which includes the Eastern Oklahoma VA Health Care System and Muskogee VA Regional Office. It meets the third Thursday of the month at VFW Post 577, which gives members an opportunity to share information, combine resources, and network to better serve Veterans in the city of Tulsa and the surrounding communities.

On April 18, VA staff from the Veterans Experience Office visited Tulsa to attend the council meeting and present a Certificate of Appreciation from VA Secretary Robert Wilkie.

“I am here today on behalf of the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to thank those of you who are either members of this council or support the council,” said Jim Wartski, Executive Director for Veteran, Family and Community Engagement with the Veterans Experience Office, in a speech to the advisory council.

“There’s a lot that can happen in Washington, DC but the best, most tangible, and most important work, caring for Veterans, happens right here at the local level. The Tulsa Mayor’s Veteran Advisory Council has proven that. I’m told that council members take active roles to improve the experiences of Veterans, including supporting suicide prevention initiatives, homeless Stand Downs, care packages for deployed troops, and Vietnam Veterans commemoration ceremonies.”

Thanks, OKWVO-TC members, guests and Kimberly-Clark for your wonderful support and generosity as we reached our Mission 22 Goal of \$1500!
SALUTE!





In Memoriam to Our Fallen Sisters of OKWVO-TC 0212

*Anna Jacobs King, USA Nurse Corps, Korea,
(1949 -1957) 1925 - 2014*

*Virginia Lee Kruizinga, USMC,
(1954 - 1957) 1933 - 2016*

*Tina Pendola, USA,
(1973 - 1976) 1949 - 2016*

*Christy Peterson, USN,
1949 - 2018*

*Julie Traynor Schuman,
USAF, 1931-2018*

*Pietje (Gertruda) Smits Wall, WWII USMC,
(1944 - 1948) 1924-2016*

