

# Thunderbird Clubhouse News

## January 2007

### Thank You to Bud & Julie Miles, Steve & Barbara Owens and all Their Friends!

Once again this year, a party was held early in December and the beneficiaries were Thunderbird Clubhouse members. We are so appreciative of all the hard work by Andrea Miles, Barbara Jones, Suby Williams and a huge team of folks! Each party guest brought a Christmas gift for a member which were later handed out by Santa Steve Owens. On the day Steve handed out the gifts we had over 50 Clubhouse members and 25+ guests to join us in celebration and appreciation. After the gifts were opened we ate pizza and visited.



We so appreciate the generosity of everyone and hope the holidays are merry and bright for you all!

### Christmas with Santa Steve Owens & Elf Jason White

Everyone was gathered to see Santa Steve pass out the presents. We came in with the pizza from Coach's and heard whispers " Jason White is here too ! " Steve said "find Jason a Santa hat also." Jason said I'm not wearing a Santa hat, please find me an elf hat. So out of nowhere, I looked across the room and saw Deanne with one on. I said " It is probably not as big as your football helmet, but it will do the trick " , he laughed. The truth being that it was actually too small , but he wore it anyway, being the good sport that he is.

Then the festivities began with Jason Barnes, a member, making a presentation to Steve Owens.



Jason had written something from the heart to Steve and finalized it with a \$50 contribution to the capital campaign.

So with Jason White in tow as his elf, & Steve as Santa, they handed out all the gifts to Clubhouse members. They also took pictures and signed autographs for several lucky members and staff.

Christi Wilson



#### Thunderbird Clubhouse Mission Statement

To build a community that offers respect and opportunities to adults living with and recovering from mental illness, enabling members to achieve their social, financial, vocational, and independent-living goals.



### Christmas Party

Friday, December 8th, was our annual Clubhouse Christmas party and dance. There was an estimated 75 members, board members, and guest here to eat delicious food, punch, and delectable desserts, and then to dance the calories away until 9pm. Many of us danced to the Electric Slide, the Bee Gees, and to the YMCA! Thanks to everyone who helped cook, serve, set up and clean up! Also, thank you to the Junior League and Wal-Mart for the food and monetary donations.

Jane A.

### THE DIRTIEST DIRTY SANTA EVER!



We all brought presents, and placed them in the center of the room. All nineteen of us gathered around with a number to go by to open or snatch a gift from someone else. At least five packages were passed around and finally frozen.

The best of all had to be Jane. Someone took Jane's hot chocolate snowman, so out of nowhere comes Jane's hand and swoops down to take the bagful of chocolate that Pam had just stolen from myself prior to all of this. Of course this is just one of the many things that happened during the course of the game, but it was so funny it had to be told!!

Christi Wilson



### CHRISTMAS LIGHTS TRIP

Eleven of us went to see the Christmas lights. First we went to OKC to see the lights at Bricktown. Then we went to Midwest City and drove through a park with various animated figures.

We ate at Sonic in Bricktown. Then we made various stops along the way from Midwest City. The lights were beautiful all along the way! I can't wait until next season!!

Christi Wilson





January's List of Events/Socials

- Monday, 1st:** New Year's Day Lunch @ Clubhouse  
p/u 8-9
- Wednesday, 3rd: Program meeting 10:15  
Celebration Dinner @ Golden Corral
- Saturday, 6th:** Wal-Mart shopping, p/u 9-10
- Wednesday, 10th: Program meeting 10:15  
Board Meeting 5:30
- Saturday, 13th:** Movies @ Clubhouse, pizza \$1
- Wednesday, 17th: Program meeting 10:15  
Housing meeting 3:00
- Saturday, 20th:** Thrift Store shopping, p/u 9-10
- Wednesday, 24th: Program meeting 10:15
- Thursday, 25th: Employment Breakfast 8:30 @ Clubhouse
- Saturday, 27th:** Bingo @ Clubhouse, sandwiches \$1

Panera Bread Fundraiser

Thunderbird Clubhouse had a fundraiser at Panera Bread on December 18th. If you told them you that you were with Thunderbird Clubhouse, 10% of the proceeds from that day went to Thunderbird Clubhouse. We would like to thank pianist Bill Mullins and violinist Suzanna Turpin, who played beautiful Christmas music that evening. We had a great time and would like to thank everyone who donated to Thunderbird Clubhouse.

Leann B.

January Birthdays

Jeffrey V.	01-02	Greg L.	01-23
Mike C.	01-05	Barbara A.	01-24
Carl A.	01-09	Charles D.	01-24
Argentina J.	01-09	Bill D.	01-25
Michael M.	01-12	Brian D.	01-27
Greg A.	01-12	Kathi K.	01-27
Elizabeth G.	01-17	Angela W.	01-28
Paul G.	01-19	Judy G.	01-28
Larry H.	01-23	Kristy S.	01-30



**Members poems, stories, etc.****Pocket Watch**

By a chain along a fenceling  
 Hanging from the bar  
 Almost to the surface of the ground  
 Was an artifact of timekeep  
 A pocket watch someone once had  
 Now in free air and weather  
 Where sun baked time  
 Back into its facing piece  
 And the hands were dull  
 Rusted to a standstill  
 The whole thing of time had  
 Stopped still, hanging from a fence  
 The days past stood there  
 In dead motion  
 No where else to go  
 And the memories of that time  
 Were in a man somewhere

David T.

**To: The Court**

We have taken our bruises and bumps with our light hearts and turned away the pain in our own way, it seems as through an eternity. Our Lord made His way through life even to his humbling death but he never gave up to the World the prophesies His Father made for Him and he lives still! We sometimes get onto ourselves about the lives we've lived but our lives go on and keep getting better if we keep doing right thing. Maybe Jesus is like us and we like Him. He knew his life would keep getting better even through the tests of living.

Thanks,  
 Michael C.

**DECORATING FOR THE CHRISTMAS PARTY !!!**

While everyone else had their own jobs, we had a job that was tedious ourselves, decorating. While it was fun, we had to make several trips to the stores. This was necessary to get all of our items we needed to decorate the Clubhouse.

Making sure we had enough greeting cards was also our job, but it was fun picking them out and sending them.

Liz and company took on the task of making sure everything was green and red, windows tables and all!

We also bought the baskets which were filled with goodies for the Board members. Merry Christmas to all!!!

Christi W.

**Amanda's Good News**

I'm so thrilled and excited about moving into one of clubhouse's apartments. It was completely remodeled. It is very beautiful. It is great to be living independently. Before I was living with my parents. A lot of people were very generous to me. By their generosity, I have a fully furnished apartment. Thank you to all my friends at Clubhouse and East Main place.

Amanda S.





**CLERICAL UNIT UPDATE**

We are very glad that the clerical unit is running so efficiently. Maria has been a asset to the unit. She is an old member recently returning. Maria is on top of things, with answering phones and making sure everybody signs in and out.



We were very busy stamping, labeling and addressing Christmas cards. The unit is continually updating our members address and phone lists. Please let the clerical know unit of any changes.

Karen H.

**KITCHEN UNIT UPDATE**

The Kitchen Unit had a busy month of December! We had our Christmas party December 8th and helped bake and decorate cookies for gift baskets.



Thanks to all who helped (kitchen and clerical units) get us through the month and to the following people/organizations for their donations: Steve and Barbara Owens; Bud, Julie and Andrea Miles; Ken and Connie Zorger; Jason White; Larry Jewell (thanks for the cookbooks); Thunderbird Clubhouse Board Members; McFarlin Methodist Church; JC Land Management; Wal-Mart and Republic Bank.

We had a wonderful Christmas and are looking forward to 2007!

**Employment News****Little River Zoo Update**

Things at the zoo are okay. I'm doing my usual work, which is fixing the animal buckets, but I'm also making morning coffee in the office

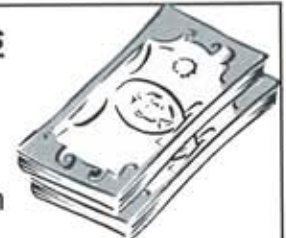
I've been doing a cartoon drawing for the zoo. Since October for our 10th anniversary, golf tournament, Thanksgiving, and now for the Christmas holidays, I just do what they need me to do. I do what I can.

We are a non-profit organization. We are working on trying to keep the zoo open if we can get a big donation to stay open.

For me it means a whole lot and it makes me feel really good mentally and physically.

I might be in the Norman Christmas parade as Prickles, I hope.

Jan T.

**Job Opportunities  
at OU Couch  
Cafeteria**

If you are interested in returning to paid employment, the Clubhouse has three job opportunities at OU Couch Cafeteria opening up soon.

Couch Cafeteria is a great place to work and many of our members have worked there in the past.

If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Akufor at the Clubhouse 321-7331.

Thunderbird Clubhouse  
P.O. Box 1666  
Norman, OK 73070

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U.S. Postage Paid  
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Thunderbird Clubhouse is proud to be United Way of Norman member agency.

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## CONTRIBUTIONS

Thunderbird Clubhouse gratefully accepts financial and in-kind donations. All donations are tax-deductible.

Financial donations can be 'ear-marked' to benefit one of the following:

- \* General Operational
- \* Capital Campaign
- \* Social and Recreational Account
- \* Dental and Eyeglass Account for Members

To make a donation or request more information, detach this form and send it to:

Thunderbird Clubhouse, P.O. Box 1666, Norman, OK 73070

- I would like to make a donation
- I would like to request more information
- I would like to volunteer my time

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_