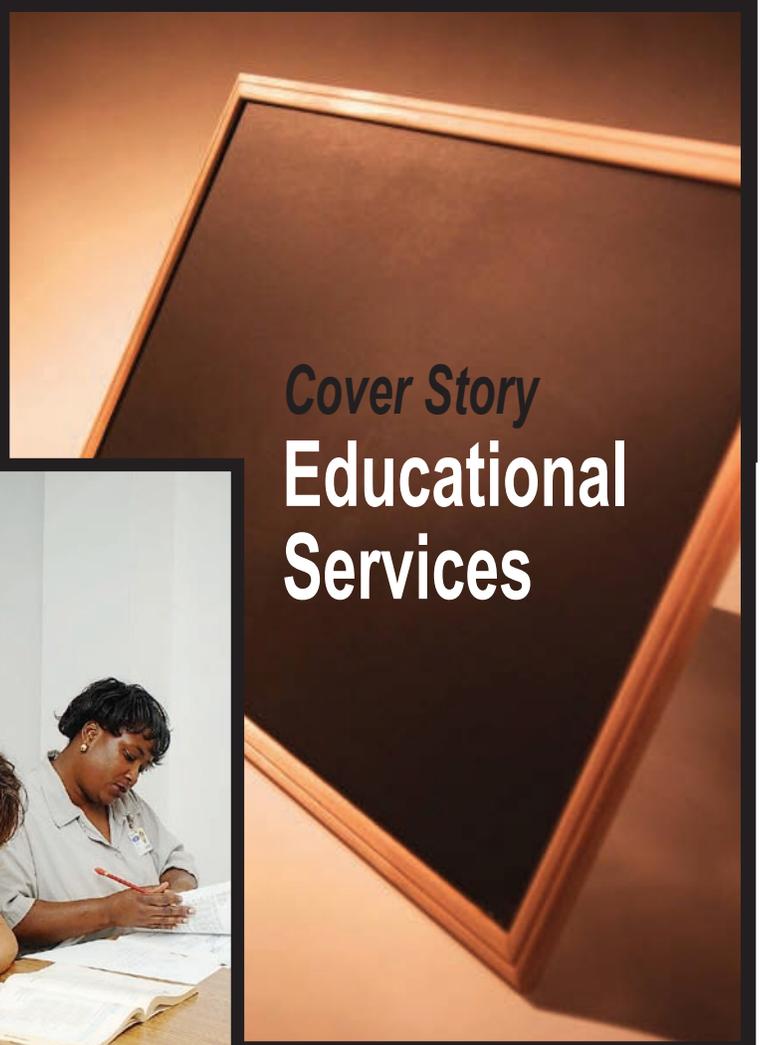


MAY/JUNE 2007

INSIDE

CORRECTIONS



Cover Story
**Educational
Services**



Part I
Those Who Have Served
-A Military Connection-

**Entrepreneurial
Program**

ACCESSORIES

*That Compliments
Any Office Furniture*



Inside Corrections is an Oklahoma Department of Corrections monthly publication distributed to employees, retirees and friends of criminal justice, to enhance communications and provide information on the development and achievements of this agency.

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On the Cover

Offenders from the Kate
Barnard Community
Corrections Center
in a classroom.

INSIDE CORRECTIONS

May/June 2007 • Volume 19, Issue 3

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Oops! In our March/April cover story on Oklahoma Female Offenders, we forgot to mention the Altus Work Center has 110 female offenders. We apologize for our mistake.

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

MISSION:

TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC, THE EMPLOYEES,
AND THE OFFENDERS

All employees are encouraged to submit articles, letters, comments and ideas for future issues. Copy should be submitted to marcella.reed@doc.state.ok.us by e-mail, on diskette or typewritten and must be received no later than the 10th of the month. Statements contained in articles submitted to Inside Corrections are the personal views of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions or policies of the Oklahoma Department of Corrections. All articles are subject to editing, with every effort made to preserve the item's essential meaning.

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Welcome to *Inside Corrections*



By the time this version of *Inside Corrections* goes to print, the department will have received a total supplemental appropriation of 33 million dollars. All of these funds will be expended on contract bed deficits which include county jail contracts and back up, private prisons, and halfway houses. This supplemental allows the department to not have to reduce facility and other operating budgets in an effort to pay the aforementioned deficit areas. Payroll trending excess and the closing of the Hinton Private Prison Facility reduced our supplemental request need to where the 33 million received was adequate.

Our fiscal year 2008 appropriation is still being negotiated and progress is being made. Due to net offender growth, it may take another year and another supplemental cycle to arrive at a point where we are funded to operate for a full year without a supplemental. As some of you may recall me say that

if it were not for net offender growth and certain unfunded employee benefit increases that the department has to pay, a supplemental request would not be necessary. From July 1, 2005, to the present day, there has been a net increase of almost 900 offenders into our prison system. The Bureau of Justice Statistics projects that Oklahoma will continue to grow at a net rate of over 2% per year, for the next decade. Needless to say that other than a few county jail beds, there are no potential offender growth beds available at this time in Oklahoma. The Burdick building at WSKCC has opened and we will soon have additional beds with the new Healdton CWC and an addition to the Idabel CWC. There are plans to add a 200 bed minimum unit at JCCC next year and lastly, the CWCCC will open in late fall 2008. Of course the main concern is now and the current unavailability of growth beds.

To assist with receiving a continual net growth of offenders we have explored several options to include a non violent offender deportable detainee commutation docket. This would accelerate federal immigration officials to exercise their detainers on these individuals. We are also exploring usage of a state statute concerning DUI offenders that was passed in 1997 and has not previously been utilized. This law allows the DOC to place incarcerated DUI offenders on GPS and ignition interlock

and allow them to reside at home once they have completed a residential treatment program provided by DOC, DMHSAS or contract provider.

Since 2001 our largest increase of prison receptions has been sex crimes with a 63.5 % increase, assaults at 48% increase and Burglary I at 22.7 %. Again, this is an increase in receptions and not total population, but this type of data is helpful in that it helps project future bed and security needs. Also, these listed crimes are all 85% to serve crimes so these increase are especially concerning when applied toward future bed needs. Of course life without parole will continue to increase as high index crimes are on a record setting pace in Oklahoma.

With all the net growth and other issues that our employees address every day; by all definitions the Oklahoma Department of Corrections is continually viewed as a national standard of excellence. Of all key indicators of a well ran system to include low inmate on staff assaults, inmate on inmate assaults, escapes, absconder rates, uses of force, recidivism rates, and many more, the department always rates as one of the best in the nation.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Justin Jones". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Justin Jones
Director

Oklahoma Department of Corrections

In Other Words

Director Jones,
I would like to take this opportunity to recognize and thank you and the below listed officers for the outstanding support provided to our officers during Operation "Return to Sender" which was conducted in Tulsa and Oklahoma City from July 12, 2006, through July 15, 2006. Specifically, I would like to recognize: Rick Parish, District II Supervisor, Johnny Blevins, Asst. District Supervisor, and senior officers Rosa Balandran, Alice Gillispie, Pat Dankbar, Robert Hert, and Kevin Nunnelee.

When asked to assist in this operation, these individuals did so without hesitation and with a commitment to continue until all targeted aliens were taken into custody. This reflects highly on your staff's dedication and commitment, and also reflects how important it is for mutual cooperation between law enforcement agencies to work together to meet our mission mandates. Their participation was vital, and as a result, we were successful in making 127 arrests.

Again, I want to thank you and your staff for a job well done.

Nuria T. Prendes

FIELD OFFICER DIRECTOR
U.S. IMMIGRATION AND
CUSTOMS ENFORCEMENT

Director Jones,

Please extend to Warden Workman our sincere appreciation for visiting our campus. On Friday, October 13, Warden Randy Workman spoke to our Adult Correctional Systems class here on the East Central University campus. Warden Workman did an outstanding job of giving our students a perspective of what it is like to run an Oklahoma prison facility.

We are very appreciative of Warden Workman taking time out of his busy schedule to become involved in the lives and futures of our students who, many of which, will one day join the ranks of DOC employees. We hope that Warden Workman continues to visit ECU and speak to future classes. Warden Workman is also allowing Lesia Miser, his Case Manager Coordinator, to supervise one of our interns this semester and we are grateful for that as well.

Thank you again for the department's continued support in the education and experiential learning of our students.

Dan Denny, Ed.D.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

Director Jones,

I would like to commend to you several of your employees beginning with J.C. Colbert and Kristin Tims, who came to speak to my Introduction to Criminal Justice class earlier this semester. They provided excellent information about departmental job opportunities and served as very positive representatives of the department.

I also took tours of Oklahoma State Penitentiary and Elk City Community Work Center for my U.S. Corrections class. These were excellent tours, efficiently arranged and very informative as conducted by several staff members.

I am continually impressed by the many dedicated employees in the department.

Philip D. Holley

CHAIR
PROFESSOR OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE
SOUTHWESTERN OKLAHOMA
STATE UNIVERSITY

Warden Province,

Thank you for allowing your Chief of Security, Paul Rogers, to visit East Central University's campus and to speak to our Adult Corrections class. Paul's comments on Wednesday, November 29th, were very relevant to our course work. He spoke to our students about becoming a correctional officer and some of the demands the profession demands of its members.

Paul's vast experience working at the Oklahoma State Penitentiary, at the Jackie Brannon Correctional Center, as a Pittsburg County Reserve Deputy and as a Volunteer Firefighter were evident as he spoke with our students. He described the process of executions and the coordination involved in performing this duty as an agency. Paul is highly professional and represented your facility in a capable manner. We certainly appreciate his insightful comments and knowledgeable presentations.

Again, we thank you for allowing Paul to come and speak to our class. Please express to him our gratitude. We understand you are busy in your duties as Warden; however, if you have time, we would love to have you come and speak to our class.

Dan Denny, Ed.D.

COORDINATOR
CRIMINAL JUSTICE PROGRAM
EAST CENTRAL UNIVERSITY

Inside Corrections welcomes the views of readers. Letters are subject to editing and must include name, address, and a daytime phone number. Send letters to Inside Corrections, Attn: Editor, 3400 Martin Luther King Avenue, Oklahoma City, OK 73111, or fax to (405) 425-2502. Address electronic mail to marcella.reed@doc.state.ok.us.

Someone You *Should Know*

by Teresa Patton, Training Administration

Meet Lynne Presley. Lynne and her family moved to Oklahoma in 1975, after her husband Del discharged from the Marine Corps in California. Del was hired at OSP in 1975 as a correctional officer and Lynne became involved in DOC activities soon after as an “E-Squad wife.” (E-squads were the forerunners of CERT.) Members frequently met after work to practice maneuvers and many of the wives came along as volunteer helpers lugging equipment, clothing, and picnic lunches. The friendly OSP employees and their families were Lynne’s introduction to our agency, eventually influencing her to apply for employment.

She began her DOC career in 1978 as a correctional officer at Joseph Harp Correctional Center then transferred to McAlester Community Treatment Center in 1981

and Mabel Bassett Correctional Center in 1982. In late 1982, she was offered a position in the DOC Security Unit (later to be known as Internal Affairs.) She worked in that unit for 16 years performing a variety of duties including drug abuse testing, providing security at the hospital units, performing security audits and duty officer readiness drills, running the escape desk, supervising the teletype unit, performing background investigations on all new employees, escorting escaped prisoners from out of state to Oklahoma, and acting as the agency’s security intelligence officer. During this period she and Alice Parker of Information Technology developed an intelligence database. In fact, Lynne used this data to create the original “Visitor Alert” intelligence bulletin. She also worked closely with local law enforcement gang units sharing information about street gang members. Lynne and Officer Ray Gehrig of the Edmond Police Department started an intra-agency gang intelligence group; this group eventually became the Oklahoma Gang Investigators’ Association.

She became a familiar sight at the training academy in Wilburton where she would give a day-long orientation on street gangs to each cadet class. Lynne, who helped her husband to raise

and train narcotics detection dogs, helped to make academy training memorable by bringing a K-9 officer and narcotics dog and staging competitions between cadets and the dog to see who was first to find contraband hidden in an agency van.

Lynne joined the Y2K Embedded Systems Team in 1999, developing a Y2K database and web site. When the team’s work ended, she transferred to Staff Training & Development where she currently works. She created the training web site and developed the agency’s library of online training courses. The online courses have been welcomed by agency employees. In fact, over 62,000 hours of online training, the majority CLEET-accredited, were earned by employees in 2006. Her online courses have also been requested by The National Institute of Corrections and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center in New Mexico.

Lynne has also participated in our agency’s partnership with Metro Technology Center in Oklahoma City setting up and running the electronics at Upper Management meetings. This partnership led to Metro Tech personnel offering Lynne a part-time job teaching computer workshops on Saturdays. She taught several classes during the winter semester and will teach seven classes during the 2007 spring-summer semester including classes in graphics enhancement, introduction to video editing, and creating multimedia slide shows. Students in her classes include the public and Metro Tech employees earning in-service hours. Since Lynne also offers periodic computer classes to our agency’s employees, the partnership with Metro Tech has helped to improve her teaching skills and techniques.

Lynne considers herself fortunate to be a DOC employee. She commented, “In what other job could I have been assigned such a wide variety of interesting duties through the years? DOC is an amazing place to work!”

We think you’re pretty amazing, too, Lynne!



Council on Law Enforcement Education & Training



AWARD RECIPIENTS

CHRISTOPHER BROOKS
Lexington Assessment &
Reception Center
Academic Award

JAMES SHEPHERD
James Crabtree Correctional Center
Academic Award

RAPHARD LEON COX
Joseph Harp Correctional Center
Class Speaker

JAMES SHEPHERD
James Crabtree Correctional Center
Class Speaker

REBECCA BOSCH
Dick Conner Correctional Center
Outstanding Performance

ANTONIO VASQUEZ
Walters Community Work Center
Outstanding Performance

The Correctional Training Academy in Wilburton hosted a graduation ceremony on February 15, 2007, for Correctional Officer Cadet Class W010807. Lewis McGee, Chief of Security, Mack Alford Correctional Center was the graduation speaker. The 54 cadets in this class successfully completed the required 240 hours of pre-service instruction. Eighteen

different facilities ranging in security level from maximum security to community security had students in W010807.

The staff of the Correctional Training Academy in Wilburton would like to commend the Class of W010807 on a job well done and wish them the best of luck in their careers with the Department of Corrections.

new appointments

Renee Watkins was appointed to serve as the Administrator of Private Prisons, Jails and Safety Administration effective April 23, 2007.

Renee began her career with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections in 1986.

During her career with the Department, she held the position of Deputy Warden at Eddie Warrior Correctional

Center and Deputy Warden at Mabel Bassett Correctional Center.

During her tenure with Corrections Corporation of America (CCA), she served as the Deputy Warden at Cimarron Correctional Facility (CCF) and Warden of Whiteville Correctional Facility in Tennessee.

Welcome Back



Oklahoma Department of Corrections' Education Program maintains full accreditation through North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI) and the Oklahoma State Department of Education. All teachers in the Department of Corrections' Education Program must be certified through the Oklahoma State Department of Education, possessing either an elementary or secondary teachers' certification. More than half of our teachers possess masters' degrees, and some possess doctorates.



This article was written by Pam Humphrey, Senior Principal, with the Education Unit. Pam began her career with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections in January of 1988.

Educational Services

By maintaining accreditation, Oklahoma Department of Corrections' Educational Program qualifies for federal funds. Educational programs are provided under the umbrella of adult basic education.

Adult Basic Education has grown tremendously over the years. The purpose of adult education is as follows:

1. To assist adults to become literate and obtain the knowledge and skills necessary for employment and self sufficiency
2. Assist adults who are parents to obtain the educational skills necessary to become full partners in the educational development of their children, and
3. Assist adults in the completion of a secondary school education

The program has a system in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to ensure that its services are accessible and barrier-free and that no adult, by reason of a disability, is excluded from participation or denied the benefits of the program.

Local adult education programs, such as the Department of Corrections, are expected to provide year-round adult education and literacy services and a well-trained, certified staff to conduct such services throughout the fiscal year.

In compliance with the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act, the State Depart-

ment of Education is committed to high standards of performance. Oklahoma submits application to the U. S. Department of Education for the fiscal year. Oklahoma must establish levels of performance and have core indicators which are standards that ensure program quality. Department of Corrections must also meet all of those standards in order to qualify for federal money.

Through the years, millions of federal dollars have been received in support of this program. These dollars, intended to supplement, not supplant, provide the students with the necessary software programs, books, and related materials that support the teachers' instructional methods. The cutting-edge technology hardware and software provides the latest opportunities to assist offenders in achieving the goal of secondary completion.

Oklahoma Department of Corrections' Education Program is nationally recognized both in correctional education and in public education. When attending a national Title I Conference recently in Dallas, Texas, Oklahoma Title I was honored as one of the top fourteen in the nation. Personnel from the State Department of Education cited the partnership with the Department of Corrections as one of the contributing factors for receiving the award.

Offenders are provided with a "ladder" of educational opportunities. Open-en-

try and open-exit classes are provided which place the student in the appropriate program, based on assessments, and move the student to the highest level of achievement in the amount of time they remain in our system. The main goal is to achieve the high school diploma level; however, many achieve associate degrees and some achieve bachelor degrees.

Last year, 7,443 individual offenders participated in educational programs, with 841,605 reported hours of instruction in the three basic education programs: literacy, ABE, and GED.



Region V attendees taken at the National CEA Conference in Anaheim, California this past July.

Our college program provided services to 799 offender participants. Curriculum Materials Instruction Center (CIMC) Life Skills is provided for offenders closest to release, and an additional program “Training Ex-Offenders as Entrepreneurs” highlighted in a previous issue, provides offenders with information to be able to set up their own business upon release.

Graduations are hosted at least once a year at each correctional facility throughout the Department of Corrections to recognize those who have successfully completed the GED Program, as well as other educational accomplishments. Last year, 1,129 offenders completed the GED Program

and received a high school diploma. The pass rate for this past year was 76.9%, which is better than the statewide Oklahoma pass rate. Oklahoma consistently has a better pass rate than the national pass rate.

An additional portion of our correctional educational program is the Corrections Learning Network (CLN). The federal grant received by the State of Washington, provided each of our facilities in Oklahoma DOC, as well as the training program, the dish and receiver to be able to receive available programming.

CLN, now in its eighth year of service, provides programming to state and federal prisons, jails, juvenile detention facilities, and probation and parole offices in forty-eight states. It provides over 1400 hours of reentry, life skills, academic and post-secondary programming and over 600 hours of staff development from twenty-six national and federal agencies. All National Institute of Corrections (NIC) training is aired “live” on CLN. These classes can be viewed live or taped for later viewing.

The most recent accomplishment provided by CLN is that staff and inmates can earn post-secondary credits, up to an Associate of Arts Degree, at

Last year, 1,129 offenders completed the GED Program and received a high school diploma. The pass rate for this past year was 76.9%, which is better than the statewide Oklahoma pass rate. Too, Oklahoma consistently has a better pass rate than the national pass rate.

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One teacher commented that her most memorable moment was when she was able to hand a seventy-two year old student his GED certificate. With tears in his eyes, he stated, "I didn't think I'd ever be able to do this."

Recently, the field was asked for views of why Oklahoma is considered to be a model correctional education program. Items randomly listed are as follows: accreditation and standards, certified personnel; excellent in-service training for professionals; partnerships with other agencies, organizations, college and universities; individualized instruction with state-of-the-art technology and software curricula; communication; and leadership.

One administrator relates the receipt of a letter from a former student, who had been out for quite some time, thanking the administrator for assisting him in achieving his goal during his incarceration, which was to receive his bachelor degree. Since his discharge, he has become a journeyman electrician and continues on his road to success.

One teacher commented that her most memorable moment was when she was able to hand a seventy-two year old student his GED Certificate. With tears in his eyes, he stated, "I didn't think I'd ever be able to do this."

Recently, a student at another facility commented to his teacher that he never felt he was able to do well in school, but through the patience of the classroom teachers, and the curriculum provided, he has renewed his goal to get his GED and go to college.

Another student who had, by his own admission, struggled in special educa-

tion classes during his public school years, began the literacy program in corrections. At one point, discouraged and ready to quit, his principal counseled him, relating to him that his assessments showed that he had moved up several years academically over the short time he had been in school. "It was as though a light came on inside," the principal related. "His whole expression changed, and he left my office with renewed determination." That student went on to complete literacy, ABE, GED and nearly ninety hours of college coursework before discharging the system. Following his release, he sent a letter offering his appreciation to the school and education staff for "never giving up on me even when I wanted to give up on myself."

Providing students with a second chance to accomplish what they were unable to accomplish in public schools is a highlight for correctional educators.

\$325 for three semester credits. Correctional Education Association (CEA) owns the satellite which provides the classes, so additional classes of interest can be recommended and aired through CLN.

A most outstanding reason that Oklahoma remains at the forefront in correctional education is the involvement in professional organizations. Networking with other correctional educators across the nation and gleaning new ideas for curriculum and teaching methods provides extremely valuable professional in-service for our teachers and administrators.

Dr. Owen Modeland currently serves as the President of the National/International Correctional Education Association (CEA). In March, Dr. Modeland, as CEA President, will be addressing the senior staffers of Senators Arlen Specter, Ted Kennedy, and Tom Harkin in educational matters that pertain to correctional education. The hope is to have them sponsor legislation that will enhance educational opportunities for offenders.

Dr. Modeland also serves as Vice-Chairman of Academic/Vocational Education and Training Committee of the American Correctional Association (ACA). He most recently agreed to serve on the new independent National Commission on Adult Literacy (NCAL),

which works with the Council for the Advancement of Adult Literacy (CAAL). All of these are two-year terms. Having one of our own serve on national committees brings great recognition to our state's correctional education program, as well as to the department.

Dr. Don Kiffin and Jan Walton also serve on the National CEA Board as Region V Director and National Secretary, respectively. Other members of the regional office are Pam Humphrey, Assistant Director, Gussie Drain,

*Oklahoma
Department
of Corrections'
Education
Program is
nationally
recognized both
in correctional
education and in
public education.*

Regional Secretary/Treasurer, and Jim Williams, Oklahoma Representative. Region V is made up of four states: Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, and Texas. Oklahoma remains very active at the regional and national levels. The Oklahoma Department of Corrections' Education Unit continues in our quest for excellence and our determination to provide the offenders in our system the very best possible correctional education program available. ■

Oklahoma Department of Corrections Volunteer Training Program

Fairview Baptist Church

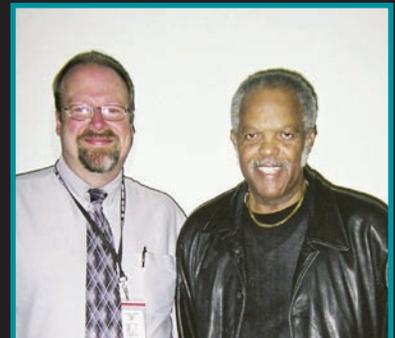
January 6, 2007



Left to right: Linda Jackson, Chaplain, Mabel Bassett Correctional Center, Donna Thompson, Oklahoma Baptist Convention, Prison Ministry Director, Leo Brown, Religious and Volunteer Services Coordinator, and Paula Harth, Religious and Volunteer Services.



Volunteer program graduates from left to right: Reverend Charles Douglas, Cora Kemp Epps, and Reverend Derrick Walter.



Left to right: Leo Brown, Department of Corrections, and Reverend John A. Reed, Fairview Baptist Church.

5th Annual Prison Ministry Workshop

St. John Missionary Baptist Church

March 31, 2007



Reginald Hines
Deputy Director
Div. of Community Corrections



Larry Adams, Chaplain
Lexington Assessment and
Reception Center



Addie Richburg, Keynote Speaker
Director of Training & Admin.
National Alliance of Faith
and Justice



Entrepreneurial Project

by Dr. Don Kiffin

As of August, 2006, over 800 individuals have been assessed with a total of 264 graduates. The program is pleased to report that 13 ex-offenders have started their own businesses ranging from a trucking company to a home construction cleaning service to a catering business. In addition, many graduates are currently employed. One of the teaching principles promoted by the program's educators is that the ex-offender may have to be an employee for a period of time before he/she will be able to accrue enough capital to start their own business. The program is well aware that one of the major reasons for business failure is the lack of capital. Thus, while being an employee during said period, the offender should endeavor to accumulate capital (the program staff recommends saving a minimum of 10 percent per pay period), increase skills, and gain supportive and accommodating knowledge.

One of the requirements for graduation is for the offender to complete a business plan. This serves as an action plan and it aids in keeping the offender focused on his/her goals. Upon completion of the plan and a minimum of 100 training hours, the offender is certified as a Training and Supporting Ex-offenders as Entrepreneurs' graduate.

Pictured above: Back Row L-R Joe Mills, Dr. Robert Jarrett, and Dr. Don Kiffin. Front Row L-R Dr. Owen Modeland, Rose Lewis and Tom Larman.

WEB SITE

The Training and Supporting Ex-offenders as Entrepreneurs' web site is www.ok.gov/eeots. The site was developed not only to disseminate information concerning the program but also for ex-offenders to partake in three surveys. The surveys named the Environmental Deprivation Scale (EDS), the Current Satisfaction with Life (CSWL), and the Maladaptive Behavior Record (MBR) are utilized by the Institute for Social and Educational Research which is the independent evaluative component of the program. The surveys are taken quarterly by the graduate releasees as well as control group releasees. The purpose of the quarterly surveys can be used not only for comparative purposes but also can aid in the attainment of current information and help determine which, if any, supports and services are needed by the ex-offender. To date, 33 ex-offenders have taken the quarterly surveys once; 2 of

the 33 have taken the quarterly surveys twice. Unquestionably, the measurement pool will be expanded as additional offenders are released and participate in the surveys.

EVALUATION PLAN

The Institute for Social and Educational Research, which is the independent evaluative component of the program, web site developers, and program staff contribute to the modification and/or development of the site's surveys. Other instruments developed and/or utilized by the Institute are the Entrepreneurial Selection Scale (ESS), the Law Encounter Severity Scale (LESS) and the Crime Sentiment Scale (CSS).

DATABASE

A continuing database has been created for program enrollees, including graduates, partial completers, dropouts/transfers, and comparison group.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING

Interested Department of Correction's personnel participated in staff development and training with regards to life skills and character education. Accordingly, Dr. Ray and Diana McCalment, of Designs for Progress, Inc., have completed three training sessions which were attended by correctional teachers and case managers. The completion date for Methods for Teaching Life Skills and Character Education Part I was October 13, 2005; Methods for Teaching Life Skills and Character Education Part II was November 10, 2005; Methods for Teaching Life Skills and Character Education Part III was February 16, 2006. Additionally, the McCalments visited Mabel Bassett Correctional Center to monitor and advise participants/offenders.

SUPPORT

Ongoing support for many graduates, as well as participants who did not complete the graduation requirements is an element of the program. Areas of support include, but are not limited to, employment, housing, and counseling. For instance, the program staff provides employment opportunities through "felon friendly" employers, housing opportunities through Hand Up and Living Faith ministries; and counseling through instructors and other organizations such as the Second Chance Network (See Second Chance Network below). In addition, reentry challenges faced

by offenders are discussed and expanded upon through a variety of materials including large resource packets. Furthermore, program staff checks periodically with many parole officers to acquire status reports and offer support services for the parolee. The program is pleased to report that 13 ex-offenders have started their own businesses ranging from a trucking company to a home construction cleaning service to a catering business, and many other graduates are currently employed.

SECOND CHANCE NETWORK

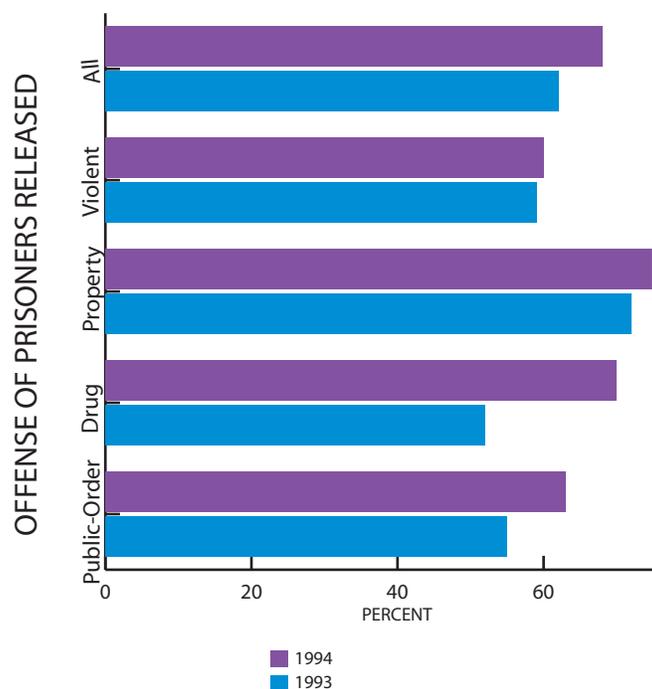
A networking organization was recently formed to provide support services for ex-offenders. The organization meets monthly to discuss employment, housing, and other issues affecting the ex-offender. Membership includes, but is not limited to, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, Driver Carrier Services, Oklahoma Department of Human Services, Hand Up Ministries, Reconnect Staffing, the Urban League of Greater Oklahoma City, Career Connections, Felon Resources, and Vocational Rehabilitative Services.

Accordingly, the program would like to take a moment to highlight Kirk Drury of Driver Carrier Services. Mr. Drury has helped ex-offenders with information, counseling, and employment opportunities in the trucking industry. Even though he will be leaving the organization soon due to a significant family illness, his commitment

FACILITIES SERVED

Facility	Security Level	Gender
Jackie Brannon	Minimum	Male
Jess Dunn	Minimum	Male
Eddie Warrior	Minimum	Female
Mabel Bassett Minimum Unit	Minimum	Female
Kate Barnard	Community	Female
Hillside	Community	Female
John Lilley	Minimum	Male
James Crabtree	Medium	Male
Joseph Harp	Medium	Male
Dick Conners	Medium	Male
Lexington	Medium	Male
Mabel Bassett	Medium	Female
Oklahoma City (OKCCCC)	Community	Male
Mabel Bassett	Maximum	Female
Mack Alford	Medium	Male
Howard McLeod	Minimum	Male
Riverside	Community	Male

PERCENT OF RELEASED PRISONERS REARRESTED WITHIN 3 YEARS, BY OFFENSE, 1983 AND 1994



to aiding the program's ex-offenders is worth noting. It is the program's intent and desire to find a suitable replacement.

EX-OFFENDERS/ PARTICIPANT'S FEEDBACK

We are pleased to report that many participants have informed staff how the program has been very helpful to them. Additionally, program staff has received communications from several non-participant ex-offenders who were seeking help. This is a very positive development since it not only indicates offender needs but also demonstrates program growth.

SUMMARY

Valuable, effective, and innovative reentry programs are imperative in the fight against recidivism, meeting the critical needs of the individuals we serve, and aiding to fulfill the mission of the department. Based on two studies performed by the U.S. Department of Justice (Office of Justice Programs/Bureau of

Justice Statistics) in 1983 and in 1994, one must conclude that recidivism is prevalent, serious, and a growing dilemma that must be thwarted. Consequently, reentry programs such as this and others are a positive, constructive, and highly useful tool to help combat the 800 pound gorilla sitting at the dining room table, and that is recidivism.

Thus, it is a great benefit to the department, participants, and the community to continue on the positive course of reentry. We cannot wipe away all of society's burdens, but we can do our part since most of today's inmates will be tomorrow's neighbors and citizens. The changing of program participant's attitudes through education leads to changing lives, which in turn, creates a better Oklahoma. Accordingly, we should continue to strive to promote the positive reentry into the community of our program participants by enhancing entrepreneurial, personal, and professional development. ■

40th

ANNIVERSARY
MAY 8, 2007

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

In his Legislative address on January 10, 1967, Governor Dewey F. Bartlett announced:

"I have prepared for introduction, today, a bill creating a new Department of Corrections. This bill has been prepared after consultation with leaders of both Houses of the Legislature. It is a joint recommendation of your leadership and the administration. Briefly, this bill provides for the creation of a new State Corrections Department, consisting of a State Board of Corrections, and State Director of Corrections, and three divisions: a Division of Institutions, a Division of Probation and Parole, and a Division of Inspection. The Division of Inspection will perform the duties of the present Charities and Corrections Department."

On May 8, 1967, the Legislature passed the Oklahoma Corrections Act of 1967 (title 57, section 501). House Bill 566 created the seven member Board of Corrections, to establish and review operational policies, appoint directors, confirm appointments of facility and unit heads, and provide oversight and direction of the department.

Celebrate
Mother's Day
May 13th



Lawton Town Hall Meeting

Lawton Professional Development Center
February 24, 2007

An Oklahoma Department of Corrections public education project, coordinated in partnership with Drug Courts of Oklahoma and the Oklahoma Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services.



Philip Brandon, Oklahoma Department of Corrections, and Earnest Ware, Board of Corrections



Kathy Kelly, Judicial Advocate



Dale Cagle, Comanche County Jail Administrator



Mike Cooper, Videographer and Reginald Hines, Deputy Director, Division of Community Corrections



Donna Thompson, Oklahoma Baptist State Convention Prison Ministry Director and Justin Jones, Director, Oklahoma Department of Corrections



Patrick Loscalzo, Probation and Parole Officer, Mental Health Court Office



Vicki Downing, State Mental Health Coordinator, Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services



Michael Tupper, Former Cleveland County Assistant District Attorney

Part I

Those Who Have Served A Military Connection

Elvin Baum, an Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC) employee for almost 30 years, was born and raised in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. He moved to Shawnee Oklahoma in 1972, when afforded an opportunity to further his education at Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU) via a basketball scholarship. It was at OBU where he met his wife Maggie. They have one son, Elvin Baum II.



Elvin Baum

Military service was a destiny and an obligation, as well as a family tradition. His grandfather, father, both brothers, and maternal uncles have served in the military, primarily the Army. Additionally, most of these family members served during a time of war. Elvin initially joined the 95th

Infantry, later transferring to the 45th Infantry, then transferring to the Army Reserve under which he still serves. He is currently into his 28th year of service, having entered as a Non-Commissioned Officer. Elvin has also served with the infantry and military police corps and has held ranks of Senior Drill Instructor, 2nd Lieutenant, and currently holds the rank of Major. He has completed the Intermediate Level Education/Command and general staff requirements. Elvin likes the structure and discipline aspect of the military and believes these fundamentals have proven beneficial. In addition to these influences, his parents raised and taught him to “always mind your own business and be respectful of others”. His parental and military influences have positively impacted and affected his social life as well as his career in corrections.

When asked to describe himself, Elvin stated that he perceives that others may sometimes think that he is withdrawn and doesn't want to get involved. However he believes that one should always show respect to others and mind one's own business along with honesty, integrity and humility.

Elvin is a true public servant having devoted almost 30 years of service to both his country and to the State of Oklahoma.

Debbie Bonenfant was born and raised in Michigan, where her parents still reside. In 1974, at age 18, she decided that she wanted to see the world, prompting her to join the Air Force. As fate would have it, the part of the world the Air Force first bestowed was Montana. While serving in Montana she met her husband, a civil engineer from Kansas, who was a carpenter involved in a remodeling project at the missile base where she was stationed in Malmstrom, Montana. The marriage lasted eight years and produced two children.

Eventually she did have the opportunity to experience other parts of the world when she was deployed to Germany for approximately 3 years. While in Germany she seized every opportunity to travel. Destinations included much of England, Spain, and Malta. She was subsequently



Debbie Bonenfant

transferred to Tinker Air Force Base in 1982 and discharged from Tinker AFB in 1983. Her military tenure lasted just over 9 years and she attained the rank of Staff Sergeant. She credits the military with instilling discipline. Time spent in the military was enjoyable and she now regrets that she didn't commit to a full 20 years.

Debbie has been employed by the ODOC as a Human Resource Management Specialist for over 11 years.



Carrie Croy

Carrie Croy joined the U.S. Navy on February 4, 1992. She attended boot camp at Naval Recruiting Center, Orlando, Florida where she was in the first integrated company in the Navy. Following 8 ½ weeks of boot camp she was sent to Naval Hospital Corps School, Great Lakes, Illinois and graduated in August 1992. While in Great Lakes she served as a member of the Hospital Corps' School Honor Guard.

Officer Croy received her first set of orders and reported to Naval Hospital Beaufort, South Carolina, where she was assigned to Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island as a Hospital Corpsman. She served as medical support in the clinic and as an Emergency Medical Technician. She qualified as a medical screener, allowing her to treat and diagnose recruits, perform minor surgical procedures and provide initial inoculations for incoming recruits.

In January 1994, she reported to the USS McKee, AS-41 for duty in San Diego, California. She performed many of the same medical and surgical procedures and was a member of the emergency response team which was called upon in the event of fires, major damage and any radiation emergencies. She performed two dependant cruises aboard the USS Chicago, SSN-741 and the USS Pasadena, SSN-752 by providing medical support for family members of the crew attending a four hour cruise. She also qualified as an Enlisted Surface Warfare Specialist as a Hospital man (E-3) which led to her honorary advancement to Petty Officer (E-4) through the Command Advancement Program.

She reported to Naval Air Station Pensacola, Florida (her hometown) to attend Aerospace Physiology Technician School in January 1996. While attending school she became a certified Naval Instructor responsible for teaching survival classes to aviators and air crew members. After three months of training, she was assigned to Naval Air Station in Miramar, California. She became qualified to instruct aviators and air crew in the use of oxygen systems in their specific aircraft and taught crew members how to treat themselves after oxygen depletion using the hypobaric chamber.

She returned to Pensacola, Florida in 1997 where she became a qualified Naval Water Survival Instructor. She provided survival

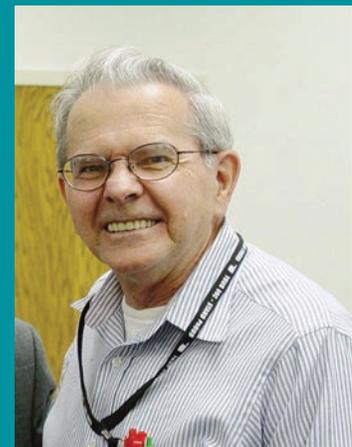
Tom Naughton was born and raised in Boston, Massachusetts. His mother moved Tom and his four siblings to California just prior to his senior year of high school. Jobs being scarce and lacking employable skills, Tom joined the Air Force, in 1960, just out of high school. He remained in the Air Force until 1972, only to re-enlist in 1975. He retired from the Air Force in 1983, after having served a total of 20 years. Most of his military service was spent overseas, primarily in the Middle East. Assignments included stations in Iceland, Germany, England, and Turkey.

In 1975, while stationed at Tinker Air Force Base, he met Mary whom he married in 1983, just after discharging from the military. This union lasted until 1999 when Tom incurred the misfortune of becoming a widower. In September of 1994, Tom accepted a job at the Oklahoma State Reformatory (OSR) where he remained for 6 years until promoting to his current position in administrative payroll and moving back to Oklahoma City. While employed at OSR Tom met

his current wife, Carol, whom he married in 2000.

Tom believes that his military experience has significantly improved his life as he has been places and incurred experiences that would have otherwise bypassed him. It is notable that his military tenure included the Vietnam conflict and he attempted, on more than one occasion, to serve in Vietnam but was never allowed to do so.

When asked what might be something that most ODOC employees don't know about him, his reply was that he grew up in New England but has long since relinquished his New England accent and associated characteristics.



Tom Naughton

training to aircrew members in the event they crashed into water. While Stationed at Miramar, she was able to train civilians such as Tony Hawk and Andy McDonald, Frank Gifford, James Brolin and the cast of Pensacola Wings of Gold.

In 1998, NAS Miramar became MCAS Miramar and Officer Croy took an assignment at the clinic as Senior Corpsman running active duty sick call. She received an Honorable discharge in January 2001, and joined the U.S. Naval Reserves where she served with Fleet Hospital Dallas. She has recently completed her military career after fourteen years of service.

Rhonda Orange was in the Air National Guard for two years during 1977-1979. Her rank was E-2 and she worked in personnel at the Federal Flight Administration (FFA) in Oklahoma City. Her primary reason for enlisting was to parachute and to travel. Unfortunately, she was never able to do either.

She does, however, believe that she benefited from her military experience as it made her a stronger person. Prior to her service she was shy and timid, traits she overcame while in the military. She also feels as her service caused her to be a more caring person.



Rhonda Orange

She grew up in Oklahoma City, the daughter of a professional military man (Marine). She also has military connections via a sister and a niece who have served in the Army, and several uncles who have served in the Air Force. These influences and her service resulted in her being a structured and detailed person.

She has two children who both live in Oklahoma City and she has 7 grandchildren. Hobbies include photography (she has album upon album of pictures) and she also collects purses, hand bags, and hats with a penchant for the unusual.

Samuel Terry joined the Air Force in 1968. At that time, the Vietnam conflict was in full force with no end in sight. Samuel believed that enlisting was the “right thing to do.” He ended up serving over 9 years. His first tour of duty was in Saigon. He was a member of a crew that conducted air lifts behind enemy lines. In addition to Vietnam, he was stationed at various times in Hawaii, California, Texas, and Alaska. Upon discharge, Samuel took full advantage of the

“For lack of knowing what to do” with her life, **Nikki Kennedy** enlisted in the Navy under the delayed entry program while only sixteen years old. Upon completion of high school, in 1989, she was sent to boot camp in Orlando, Florida. She celebrated her 18th birthday on the 3rd day of boot camp. Following boot camp she was sent to San Diego, California, and trained in telecommunications. Nikki was next sent to Subic Bay, in the Philippines, spending two months awaiting arrival of the USS Samuel Gompers, a 20,500-ton destroyer assigned to the Pacific Fleet. Her Naval journeys took her to Japan and Korea before returning to the United States; first to Alameda, California, then to Moffett Field, from where she discharged.

Nikki credits the military with teaching her the true meaning of teamwork and making her a better leader. Her military travels introduced her to other cultures providing insight and enlightenment “first hand!” She also emerged with a sense of pride, believing her experiences to have molded her into a more complete person; becoming a better person in the community.

While not influencing her decision to

join the military (she grew up wanting to be a policewoman), both grandfathers served in the military, her dad served in Vietnam, and her great grandmother was a WAC during World War II.

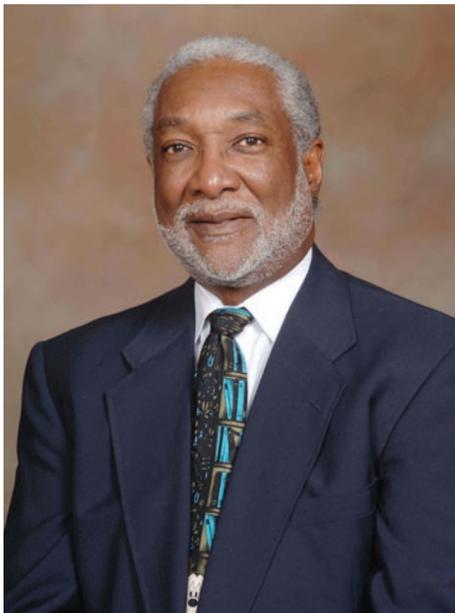


Nikki Kennedy

Nikki is an avid football fan, particularly pro football. She traces her love of football to her girlhood days when she, usually the only girl, played football with the boys in neighborhood streets. Having been born in Ohio, she is a diehard fan of the Cincinnati Bengals. She and husband Chris occasionally travel to Texas to watch the Dallas Cowboys.

G.I. Bill educational benefits. He has obtained undergraduate degrees from both Oklahoma State University and University of Central Oklahoma (UCO) and also has a masters degree from UCO,

After discharging from the Air Force, Samuel initially settled in Alaska. While residing in Alaska, in 1972, he decided that he wanted to tour the United States. He acquired a car in Seattle, Washington, and began the tour. While touring, he spent some time with a military friend residing in Oklahoma. Samuel resumed his tour, but while heading back to Alaska he once again visited his friend in Oklahoma. This friend had set up two job interviews for him. One of the interviews was with the Oklahoma City Police Department. In March of 1973, he relocated to Oklahoma City and accepted employment with the Oklahoma City Police Department under the Law Enforcement Education Program (LEEP) in the Human Resources Department. After 6 years with the Police Department, he accepted a Human Resources position with the Guthrie Job Corps Center. Next he taught Criminal Justice studies at Langston University. While at Langs-



Samuel Terry

ton University, Samuel encountered his first contact with the Oklahoma Department of Corrections (ODOC) when he invited, then director, Larry Meachum to speak to students in one of his classes. While teaching at Langston University, he lived in Oklahoma City and, tiring from the daily commute, he accepted a position, in 1985, with the Oklahoma Merit Commission. Next, he worked at University Hospital as Grievance Manager and Employee Assistance Program Coordinator. This was followed by employment with the Department of Mental Health as Civil Rights Administrator and, most recently, his employment



Ryan Tiger

Ryan Tiger, Probation and Parole Officer III, began his career in the Navy at eighteen years of age. He enlisted on August 7, 1990 as an E-1 and attended Boot Camp from August to October 1990. After Boot Camp he attended A School where he learned to be a Gunner's Mate. Officer Tiger began serving on the USS David R. Ray in April 1991. As a Gunner's Mate he was responsible for maintaining the forward gun mount and the armory. He served on this vessel until his honorable discharge as an E-5 on July 7, 1995.

After serving on active duty for five years Officer Tiger joined the Reserves in Sep-

tember 1995. He served in the RIMA Unit in San Diego, California until July 1996. At that point he decided to take time off from military service.

After graduating from Northeastern State University and beginning his career with the Department of Corrections, Officer Tiger re-enlisted in the Navy Reserves in June 2001. He was assigned to the United States Pacific Command Detachment 111 which is based at Camp Smith, Hawaii. Officer Tiger's reserve unit was based in Broken Arrow, OK. He served in that unit until May 2006. During this time he received several Certificates of Commendation for services provided in Hawaii on highly confidential assignments.

In May 2005 Officer Tiger joined the Embarkation Security Detachment Command Unit 263 based in Norfolk, Virginia. His reserve unit is in Broken Arrow, OK. While in this unit, he completes training required, including firearms, that to ensure the unit will be prepared if called to duty. The units job is to offer security onboard ships in the Persian Gulf.

Officer Tiger has been in the navy, active and reserves, for a total of ten years. He plans to retire from the reserves after completing twenty years.

with the ODOC (8 years and counting). Samuel has a total of 21 years employment in Oklahoma with various public agencies. He is certified as a Mediator through the Oklahoma Supreme Court. He is also a certified Grievance Manager and Alternative Dispute Administrator.

While serving in the military during the 1960's Samuel encountered discrimination. This was particularly concerning to him as he felt that, as a man who had served his country, he was certainly an equal to all men. This influenced his course in life. Another moving moment occurred at the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture while observing a display

pertaining to Buffalo Soldiers. Samuel was not familiar with Buffalo Soldiers and he became engaged in conversation with a white man who proceeded to tell Samuel about these soldiers. That this man knew more about an aspect of his culture (Samuel's) than he did motivated Samuel to study and research Buffalo Soldiers. He discovered that there was a Buffalo Soldier motor cycle group and that there was no chapter in Oklahoma. Being a motor cycle enthusiast (he owns an 1800 Gold Wing), Samuel established an Oklahoma chapter. This chapter currently consist of 17 members, many who are military stationed at Fort Sill. Members of the group ride their cycles to schools, organizations, and events presenting programs about Buffalo Soldiers.

His mother and only sister live in Indiana (his father is deceased). He has two sons, one lives in Austin, Texas, and the other in Owasso.

On July 25, 1972, **Rick Allen** volunteered to be inducted into the U.S. Army, joining under what was known as the "Buddy Plan". This was where you and your "buddy" could serve together throughout your military career. On induction day, however, his "buddy" got cold feet and backed out;



Rick Allen

confessing the thought of going to Vietnam was a little nerve-racking. Two days later Private Allen found himself on a Greyhound bus headed for Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Arriving at Ft. Leonard Wood after dark, the induction process began with being assigned to barracks. Though going to bed wasn't the first thing the recently introduced drill sergeants had planned for Private Allen and his newly made friends. During the next few weeks, he had all of his hair cut off, received a new wardrobe of green clothing, green socks and black boots. Vaccinations were given by a pressure gun in an express lane with a hundred other guys. There was hour after hour of written tests; learning how to eat in a massive dining hall in record time; how to make a bunk military-style; and understanding why you never want to volunteer for detail duty. Truck and front end loader has a different meaning in the Army. To the Army, it means a wheel barrow and a shovel.

He was soon assigned to Echo 3-3 Company, where he was named as squad leader spending the next eight weeks being taught the fundamentals: automatic firearms, explosives such as hand grenades and rocket launchers, first aid, survival techniques, map reading, physical endurance, self-defense and of course, the ever popular fine art of marching. Upon completion of boot camp, Rick remembered standing in formation as each person's duty station was announced. When a name was called and the duty station was announced as Vietnam, you could instantly see the person's shoulders drop and a look of astonishment on their face. Most were staying stateside which was a surprise. When his duty station was announced, he couldn't believe it. He was going to Fort Sill Sergeant Missile group.

Arriving at his duty station, he found himself assisting in activating a deactivated unit of Sergeant missiles. He was assigned to the company motor pool inspecting vehicles to include jeeps and trucks of all sizes. Working this assignment also involved

training new recruits who were enroute to Germany where the Sergeant missiles were deployed. He also traveled with the recruits every six months to White Sands, New Mexico where an actual launching took place. He later transferred within the company to work in the unit armory where he was in charge of maintaining the company's small arms such as pistols, rifles, and the M-60 machine gun. He was responsible for issuing weapons and also ensuring they were cleaned and in proper working order. He was also assigned as the Company Commander's driver and than later as the Battalion Commander's driver.

Thirteen months before discharge, he was detailed to work with the Ft. Sill Recruitment Unit, in conjunction with the Ft. Sill Museum Unit. The unit he was attached to was named the "Fort Sill Field Artillery Half Section". This unit was comprised of a facility to house ten quarter horses, a cannon and caisson unit, saddlery, tack, and horse harness sets. Their function was to perform skits at rodeos and parades around the country. Allen personally performed in the Houston Astrodome and the Cheyenne, Wyoming rodeo to name a couple. Though he was not part of the ceremony, the unit was used in the burial ceremony of President John F. Kennedy.

Coming to JHCC in 1999 as a case manager, he began to get involved in inmate clubs. He has sponsored the Incarcerated Veterans of America (IVOA) club for over three years and feels it has become the most worthy and prominent inmate club at JHCC. First and foremost, the IVOA is solely for the purpose of remembrance of fellow veterans, whether the veteran is a fallen soldier, or living. It makes no difference if the veteran is incarcerated or not, there is no issue of undesirable or honorable discharges. The IVOA had a history of giving profits from food sales and charity drives to a variety of non-military related foundations. That has changed and the IVOA under the newly elected leadership have guided the

(continued on page 23)



In a lighter moment, Bryan Bell (training officer with probation & parole) and Kristin Tims (case manager instructor from Sentence Administration) are reminding case manager, Yolanda Washington, Elk City CWC, of a point to be considered in the scenario. Looking on (lower right) is OSP case manager, Brian Joyce. P&P students are (back row, from left) Geary Pittman, SEDCC, and Julie Whitehead, TCDCC (partially hidden).

Pre-Service Classes Merge for Reentry Training

by Gaylia Johnson

For the first time in the history of the Employee Training & Development Center (ETDC) in Stillwater, two separate pre-service groups merged into one class to discuss a common concern – how to reduce recidivism. The rising costs of incarceration and its impact on state budgets make this not only a major problem for Oklahomans, but for the nation. President Bush has proposed a 300 million dollar Prisoner Reentry Initiative to help newly released prisoners find a new path.

The US leads the world in incarceration rates with nearly

7 million adults under some form of correctional supervision. Over 600,000 individuals are released from prison each year and 1/3 of those are younger than 24 years of age. “Thus far, our efforts have not been successful at reducing returns to institutional confinement,” said Gary Kempker at the December 2006 Community Safety Through Successful Offender Reentry seminar. “As it stands, offenders are not prepared for their return to the community.”

Successful reentry takes collaboration, a working together for a common goal – a goal that

cannot be accomplished alone. It involves bridging individuals and networking agencies. In January, ETDC staff felt that a good place to start that process was between case managers and probation & parole officers.

Since both groups were in Stillwater for pre-service at the same time, and both had their own respective reentry training, it was decided to merge the two classes on Thursday, January 11. Bryan Bell (probation & parole) and Kristin Tims (case management) served as presenters to the combined class of 24 students.

During a group exercise, case

managers and probation & parole officers worked together on a pre-release scenario. After discussion, each group reported their recommendations and referrals based upon the scenario. Following the training one case manager reflected, “This introduced a whole different side of the job.” A bridge.

Present for the “merge” was Robert Dibble, ETDC Training Manager, Lenora Jordan, Training Administrator, Terri Vogt and Gaylia Johnson coordinate PPO Specific Training and CM Specific Training, respectively. ■

Black Heritage Celebration

Omniplex, Oklahoma City
February 27, 2007



Joyce Jackson, Administrator, Executive Communications, Oklahoma Department of Corrections



Dr. Howard H. Hendrick, Director, Oklahoma Department of Human Services



Master of Ceremony Dr. Eric Anthony Joseph, Chaplain and Assistant Professor, Langston University, presents Colonel Jerry N. Cason, Oklahoma Highway Patrol, the Lifetime Achievement Award.

The Oklahoma Black Heritage Celebration 2007 was held February 23, 2007, at the Omniplex in Oklahoma City. The Master of Ceremony this year was national lecturer Dr. Eric Anthony Joseph, chaplain and assistant professor at Langston University.

Entertainment featured the North-

east Academy Gospel Choir, singer Gary Williams, the Midwest City High School Jazz Ensemble, singer Melva Williams, the Star Spencer High School Drum Line and poet Al'yah Jeffery.

Sponsors for this year's event were the Oklahoma Historical Society, the

Oklahoma Employment Securities Commission, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections, the Oklahoma Department of Human Services, and the Omniplex.



Dr. Stephen Jackson, Associate Research Scientist, Oklahoma Medical Research Foundation, is presented the Trailblazer Award.



Diane McDaniel, Supervisor, Deborah Rothe Group Home for Girls, is presented the Community Service Award.



Dr. Sherleen Jackson, Retired Civil Rights Administrator, Department of Human Services, Former Chair, Black Heritage Committee

(Continued from page 20)

club into a total commitment which is military related only. The club has gone from financial hardships to a position of making a real difference in accomplishing their objectives.

JHCC had sponsored a monument for inmates that were veterans and passed away while incarcerated at JHCC. The monument was a concrete block painted gray with a plaque and engraved name plates of deceased inmates on them. The club proposed to erect a new monument made of granite and set out organizing an inmate committee. One year later, out of sheer determination, the project was approved and was erected this year. The most amazing part of this was the project cost close to \$2,000, with the majority of monies raised by the inmate population through food sales and donations. Staff also donated generously.

The biggest accomplishment to date has been the establishment of the Sierra Shephard college fund. Sierra's father, Army Warrant Officer Steven Shephard was shot down and killed June 27, 2005 while piloting his combat helicopter near

Taji, Iraq. Baby Sierra was born September 9, 2005, never knowing her father. The original opening of the account occurred after the birth of Sierra and started with



A monument located at Joseph Harp Correctional Center honoring inmates that were veterans and passed away while incarcerated at the facility.

\$100. Another \$1,500 was added to the account a few months later. The account was established with the conjoined effort of Freddie Karcher, Lifeline program

counselor and co-sponsor of IVOA (Vietnam veteran – combat medic); Rick Dickerson, Correctional Counselor (retired USMC); and McClain County Bank President Charlie Sherman. Rick says that what makes the IVOA club separate from other groups of inmates and draws staff such as himself, is the unspoken loyalty to one another. This commitment creates a connection between people that can only be known by those persons who made that commitment.

Rick is very proud of the fact that he comes from a military family with members being in every U.S. conflict since WW II. He can't think of anyone he personally knows that hasn't had or currently doesn't have a family member in the military. That is why when help for Sierra Shephard was asked for, the response was enormous. This is what makes JHCC unique, that they pull together in a time of need. Rick would like for everyone to know how much he appreciates Warden Mike Addison for his input and guidance which has allowed IVOA to be the success that it is. ■

**LAW ENFORCEMENT
TORCH RUN**
for special olympics

FINAL LEG of TORCH RUN
May 9th - South Steps of State Capitol

To volunteer contact Milt Gilliam at 405.525.4512.

Special Olympic State Games May 9 - 11

Sex and Violent Offender *Registration Unit*

Parents for Megan's Law is an influential group in the country concerning sex offender registration. They desire good state registries and lobby at the federal level for legislative changes and for funding at the state level. Each year, Parents for Megan's Law issues a Megan's Law Report Card for all states based on sex offender compliance rates, the public's accessibility to sex offender information, and the extent of sex offender information available. In 2005, Oklahoma received an F grade. 27 states received a D or F rating, with only 5 states receiving an A grade. In their 2006 report, 33 states received a D or F, and only 2 received an A grade, reflecting an overall national trend down in the quality of sex offender registries. Oklahoma received a B for the year 2006. Only 5 states received an A or B grade, placing us at the very top of state sex offender registries in the nation. More information can be found on the rating of all states at: <http://www.parentsformeganlaw.com/html/links.lasso>.

By Jim Rabon, Administrator
Sentence Administration and
Offender Records

The Sex and Violent Offender Registration Unit maintains the statewide registries for both sex and violent offenders. The Sex and Violent Offender Registries are available to the public via the internet by going to www.doc.state.ok.us; clicking on Offender Information and then selecting either Sex Offender Lookup or Violent Offender Lookup.

Information on all registered offenders has been available to the public on the agency web site since July 2005. Prior to that date, information was available only on aggravated and/or habitual, high risk offenders. The sex offender registry is a live database of more than 5000 active offenders that is updated by the hour; making it one of the most up-to-date and current registries in the nation. The site is very popular and receives several thousand "hits" daily.

In April 2005, the number of delinquent sex offenders in Oklahoma was 1809. A delinquent offender is one who has not complied with the law by verifying their address with his/her local law enforcement agency and with the Registration Unit. As of July 2006, the number delinquent offenders had been reduced to 786. In the 2005 national report by the victim's rights organization, Parents for Megan's Law, Oklahoma's compliance rate (percentage of non-verified addresses) was 33%. In their 2006 report, the compliance rate for the Oklahoma registry was 15.7%. The national compliance rate was 24%.

The decrease in delinquent offenders can be attributed to an emphasis on training and an increase in staff. In addition to providing

training to probation and parole officers and facility staff, the unit provides CLEET certified training for law enforcement throughout the state on the sex offender registration process. Helping local law enforcement to stay current on registration laws has directly resulted in higher offender compliance. Prior to April 2005, the unit had only two full-time positions. Three additional positions have been added to the unit resulting in a much more efficient and effective operation.

The Sex and Violent Offender Registration Unit works diligently to maintain positive contact with local law enforcement and the general public. Communication and sharing of accurate and timely information is essential to the success of the registry. Please contact the unit if you have questions or feel free to congratulate them on a job well done.

Registry staff and their areas of responsibility are as follows:

Lawana Hamrick, Coordinator
405-425-2872

Carolyn Rhone, New Registrants
and Court Hearings
405-425-7071

Bonnie Yarbrough, Address Verifications
405-425-7067

Kerry Minyard, Delinquent Offenders
405-425-7069

Rita Modesto, Deceased and
Out of State Offenders
405-425-7145

Legislative Breakfast

Oklahoma State Capitol
March 6, 2007



Tony Coleman, Senate Staff; Beverly Young, Board of Corrections; Ted Logan, Board of Corrections; Senator Constance Johnson; and Earnest Ware, Board of Corrections



Stella Ezugha, Oklahoma Department of Corrections, with offenders from the Hillside Community Corrections Center Culinary Arts Skill Center

Sponsored by the Director's Office,
Oklahoma Department of Corrections,
Agri-Services, Oklahoma Correctional
Industries, and the Hillside
Community Corrections Center.



Department of Corrections' employees Linda Parrish, Debbie Mahaffey, and J'me Overstreet



Justin Jones, Director, Oklahoma Department of Corrections, and Representative Anastasia Pittman



Pam Ramsey, Oklahoma Department of Corrections, and Cheryl Harris, Oklahoma Court of Criminal Appeals

Internal Affairs Investigator *Makes a Stand Against Teen Predators*

No one can argue the internet is a technological revolution. A virtual library of information exists 24 hours a day at your fingertips. Unfortunately the same advances in computer and telecommunication technology that allow our children to reach out to new sources of knowledge and cultural experiences are also leaving them vulnerable to exploitation and harm by computer-sex offenders.

- At any given moment, there are 50,000 sexual predators online.
- 1 out of 5 children have been solicited by sexual predators or pedophiles on the Internet.
- Only 25% of solicited children were distressed enough by their encounters to tell their parents; 75% remained silent.

Most people think of computers as the only way to get online, but it's possible to reach into cyberspace from other devices including cellular telephones, personal digital

assistants, and even video-game consoles. Some video-game systems, for example, are Internet enabled so you can compete against, and chat, with players around the world. This provides a whole new avenue to approach children on-line.

This prompted DOC Internal Affairs Special Investigator Bob Peak to co-found a non-profit organization known as "Teens against Predators" or TAP for short. "The response has been amazing," said Peak. "In just 90 days our corporate sponsors have grown to include OG&E, Arvest Bank and the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. The sponsors have been wonderful. It's just incredible what corporations will do for you when you approach them with a worthy cause."

The first conference held in Moore, Oklahoma had 125 parents and teens from the metro-area and plans are to hold six more conferences across the state in 2007. The question asked most frequently regarding Internet safety for children, are filtering

programs which block certain sites on the Internet. It is important to realize that filtering programs cannot protect your child from all the dangers in cyberspace. To begin with, no program can possibly block out every inappropriate site. What's more, it's possible, in some cases, for the programs to block sites that are appropriate. If you use a filtering program, you should re-evaluate it periodically to make sure it's working for your family.

Regardless of whether you use a filtering program, you should still be sure that your teen follows all of the basic rules we teach in our class. Filtering programs are not a substitute for good judgment or critical thinking. With or without filters, children and their parents need to be "net savvy" The bottom line is to try and teach teens and their parents to communicate with each other and show them the Internet can be a shared experience. For more information, or a schedule of upcoming lectures, contact Bob Peak in Internal Affairs.

SPECIAL THANKS

To My Corrections Family,

I wish to express my profound gratitude for all the help I received in the past several months. The hours donated for family leave, financial assistance from the employee assistance fund, and emotional support while my husband, Steve Chase and I were struggling with his Melanoma. On January 15, 2007, he lost his battle with his cancer but, not without great effort to live. The cards, plants and presence of my co-workers at Steve's funeral were greatly appreciated.

I could not imagine having so much help anywhere else! Steve and I marveled at the sharing and caring that came from Oklahoma Department of Corrections. So many precious individuals, so many thoughtful programs of need, so much compassion in each department especially my own, Internal Affairs.

THANK YOU!

Nanette Herndon-Chase and Family

FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

37 Years	Charles Riggs MCCC	Dora Leuty HMCC
Doris Sheppard Muskogee CCC	Donna Burkhalter Training	Ralph Brewster OCI Mfg./MACC
		Richard Blann SWDCC
35 Years	23 Years	18 Years
Michael Norcross OSP	John Lewis WKCC	Terry Wills WKCC
	Lori Evans-Wilson Legal	Jennifer Wells JLCC
32 Years	Ted Durfey BJCC	Esther Vaughn EWCC
Connie Roberts JCCC	Dannie Blevins OSR	Norman Thomas Agri-Svcs/WKCC
Kathy Moore CDCC		Larry Swigart WKCC
George Jablonski KBCCC	22 Years	John Somers JHCC
Bobby Cooper JLCC	Phillip Wilson DCCC	Rita Salmon WKCC
	Joel Sutton DCCC	Yvonne McMorris MBCC
31 Years	Roger Ingram JDCC	James Martin OSP
Patricia Collins SWDCC	Alan Howard MACC	Russell Littlejohn JLCC
		Jimmy Lane MBCC
30 Years	22 Years	Kenneth Keith ECCC
Frank Mesarick Div. of Comm. Corr.	Linda Haines Med. Admin./JCCC	Craig Graham JDCC
Becky Hart NOCC	Keith Baker DCCC	William George WKCC
	Ray Aldridge SWDCC	Dave Fullbright Agri-Svcs/JLCC
29 Years		Denise Feltner Division of Comm. Corr.
Robert Vaughan Agri-Svs/HMCC	21 Years	Sanra England EWCC
Barbara Goff HMCC	James Williams Educ./OSR	Christopher Crouch JEHCC
	Debra Elledge Med./Admin.	John Croslin JHCC
27 Years		Carrie Bridges WKCC
Danna Traylor Sent. Admin.	20 Years	
Mance Morris JHCC	Millicent Newton-Embry MBCC	17 Years
	Melvin Maxwell Comm. Sent./Fld. Svcs.	Bret Tustin SEDCC
26 Years	Kenny Holloway Div. of Comm. Corr.	Ronald Shipman NWDCC
Kelly Morgan NWDCC	Robert Carter DCCC	Virlin Hearod EWCC
Shon Bruesch JEHCC	Glenda Bradley CDCC	Lynda Forrester TCDCC
	Pat Blankenship Facility Class.	Carmellia Brossett NEDCC
25 Years		Herndon Aderhold Mental Health/LARC
Patricia Ridgway Med. Admin./MACC	19 Years	
Jim Rabon Sent. Admin.	Leslie Tollison OSR	16 Years
Patricia Davis Class. & Pop.	James Rudek Division of Comm. Corr.	Loren Wehrenberg JCCC
	Kathleen Pittman SWDCC	
24 Years	Daniel Pickett CDCC	
Mark Shipman JEHCC	Daniel Orr SEDCC	

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

37 Years	29 Years	27 Years
Jerry Mayfield DCCC	Barbara Tittle MCCC	Robert Wilson HMCC
	Karen Peters SWDCC	Zelma Wiley OCI Mfg./MBCC
34 Years	Jackie Lamptey Training	
Jerry Massie Communications Unit	Ron Anderson Legal	26 Years
Donice Johnson Fin/Acctg.		Brenda Simpson OCCCC/RS
	28 Years	Yvonne Olinger OCI Mfg./LARC
32 Years	Billy Taylor Educ./JBCC	Henry Needham NOCC
Marilyn Williams CDCC	Tony Marquis Agri-Svcs/NOCC	David Dionne JLCC
	Stephanie Keesee Medical/LARC	Catherine Brunken Fin./Acctg.
31 Years	Pamela Cooper JLCC	Jim Boston JEHCC
Linda Parrish Personnel Unit		
Vickie Eshleman Comm. Sent./Fld. Svcs.		

(continued on page 28)

(continued from page 27)

25 Years

Sharon McCoy JBCC
Becky Lawmaster Comm. Sent./Fld. Svc.
Robert Hadley NOCC
Deborah Gregg NOCC
Mark Carter Field Operations
Dwight Burrow OSR

24 Years

Donald Watkins Hollis CWC
Leonard Vaughan HMCC
Jimmy Sales CDCC
David Powell JDCC
Barbara Lewis Medical/JEHCC
Jimmy Janway JEHCC
David Fleck Union City CCC
Richard Davis Agri-Services
Bobby Craft OSR

23 Years

Gail Noblin NOCC
Patrick Dankbar TCDC

22 Years

Marty Raiburn MACC
Freddy Dove Med. Admin./EWCC
Loycene Colbert MBCC
Kenneth Beatty Institutions

21 Years

Leola Isbell CDCC

20 Years

Janice Thompson OCCCC/RS
Billy Pharaoh Operational Services
Michael Patterson Training
Michael Lillard Gene Stipe Corr. Trng.
Vicki Lang Academy
Brandyn Dorris NOCC
Martin Conway Trans. Unit/LARC
Shirley Burton WKCC
SWDCC

19 Years

Paul Yeary OCI Mfg./LARC
Jeff Woody SWDCC
Sherre Sexton LARC

Lindsay Phillips Oklahoma City CCC
Angela Nielson Medical/WKCC
Tracy McCollum OSR
James McBane Sayre CWC
Trudi Lindsey OSP
Tommy Fitch JHCC
Annette Fanning Oklahoma City CCC
Cloyce Conner OSP
Jim Cearley OSP
Carl Bicknell HMCC
Dick Bartley DCCC
Kathleen Asbury Edu./JHCC

18 Years

James Young Med. Admin./WKCC
Kevin Smith Mental Health/DCCC
Julie Rose Priv. Pris., Jails
& Safety Admin.
Delton Putman JEHCC
Jackie Perkins WKCC
Brandy Page JCCC
Michele Minietta Legal
Jack Merchant WKCC
Karen Malt Edu./WKCC

Promotions

FINANCE & ACCOUNTING

John New, Accountant III

HOWARD MCLEOD CC

Sean Pettyjohn, Corr. Sec. Off. IV
Jimmy Wilson, Corr. Sec. Off. IV

JAMES CRABTREE CC

Jessica Morton, Accounting Tech. II
Michael Rogers, Unit Manager I

JOSEPH HARP CC

Jonathan Honan, Corr. Case Mgr. I

MACK ALFORD CC

Thomas Billy, Corr. Sec. Mgr. I
Jay Goodwin, Corr. Sec. Mgr. I

JOSEPH HARP CC

Rebecca Bowen, Unit Manager I

PROCUREMENT

Darlene Nicholson, Contr./Acquis. Agt. I
David Williams, Contr./Acquis. Agt. I

DICK CONNER CC

Cecilia Green, Administrative Assistant I

JESS DUNN CC

Janice Wyatt, Corr. Case Mgr. I

TRAINING

Charlotte Schmidt, Corr. Trng. Off. II

MACK ALFORD CC

Donna Visotski, Food Service Manager III

DICK CONNER CC

John Cartwright, Corr. Sec. Off. IV
David De Andre, Corr. Sec. Off. IV
David Thornburg, Corr. Sec. Off. IV
Irene Whitney, Corr. Sec. Off. IV

IDABEL CWC

T. Franchiseur, Corr. Chief of Sec. I

MACK ALFORD CC

Regina Hicks, Food Svc. Mgr. I

CENTRAL DISTRICT COMM CORR

Jill Hinkston, Human Res. Mgmt. Spec. IV

JACKIE BRANNON CC

Fletta Cook, Food Svc. Mgr. II

JESS DUNN CC

Lealynne Martinez, Corr. Chief of Sec. II

MACK ALFORD CC

Sally Wiggins, Customer Svc. Rep. III

PROGRAMS

David Calvert, Psychological Clinician IV

TREATMENT & REHABILITATIVE SVCS.

Mary Leistner, Corr. Case Mgr. III

EDDIE WARRIOR CC

Eldon Arnold, Constr./Maint. Admin. II

NURSES APPRECIATION WEEK

MAY 6-12, 2007

Nursing ----a Profession and a Passion

In honor of the dedication, commitment, and tireless effort of the nearly 2.9 million nurses nationwide to promote and maintain the health of this nation, the Oklahoma Department of Corrections is proud to recognize nurses everywhere for the quality work they provide seven days a week, 365 days a year.

Traditionally, Nurses Appreciation Week is devoted to highlighting the diverse ways in which nurses, the largest health care profession, are working to improve health care. From bedside nursing in hospitals and long-term care facilities to the hall of research institutions, state legislatures, and Congress, the depth and breadth of the nursing profession is meeting the expanding health care needs of American society.

CELEBRATE
PUBLIC
SERVICE

Public Service Recognition Week • May 7-13, 2007



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This poster was developed through the generous support of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Federal Employee Program

Retirements

APRIL

Rosalinda Bonny, Administration Finance & Accounting

Danny Cooper, Sr., Administration IA

David Scheidel, Information Technology

Thomas Naughton, Administration Personnel

Jack Anderson, Institutions

Henry Anderson, Institutions

Roy Davis, Institutions

Carl Dickerson, Institutions

Joann Jones, Institutions

Bob Ludlow, Institutions

Tyrea Marker, Institutions

Lawrence Nierengarten, Institutions

Donald Wagenknecht, Institutions

MAY

Dennis Cunningham, Field Operations

James Westbrook, Field Operations

Archey Gearl, Institutions

Glenda Carter, Institutions

Bobby Craft, Institutions

Barbara Johnson, Institutions

Nancy Kliewer, Institutions

Lenora Arnold, Treatment & Rehab

NEXT ISSUE

Probation and Parole

PART II

Those Who Have Served
- A Military Connection

2006 Officers of the Year

Calendar

June

- 14 Flag Day
- 17 Father's Day
- 21 Summer Begins
- 19-22 Pardon & Parole Board Mtg.
Hillside CCC
- 28 Board of Corrections Mtg.
Dick Conner CC

July

- 4 Independence Day
- 17-20 Pardon & Parole Board Mtg.
Hillside CCC
- 26 Board of Corrections Mtg.
Lawton Correctional Facility

August

- 14-17 Pardon & Parole Board Mtg.
Hillside CCC

(No scheduled Board of Corrections Meeting for August.)

Excellence is doing ordinary things extraordinarily well.

----John Gardner

SWING SET

DECK CHAIRS

SEAT GLIDERS

UMBRELLA TABLES

DECK TABLES

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IN HONOR OF



**NATIONAL
CORRECTIONAL
OFFICER WEEK
MAY 6 - 12, 2007**

Donnie Frech
Lieutenant
James Crabtree Correctional Center
2005 Correctional Supervisor of the Year

OKLAHOMA DEPARTMENT OF
CORRECTIONS
"Standing Proud"