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JUST FOR FUN
TRY OUR CROSSWORD
& THOUGHTS FROM THE EDITOR
Hello there family.

Welcome to another issue of Oklahoma’s Oxford House Newsletter, The Oxford EDGE. I’m reminded in recent days of the strength that we draw from one another, and so I’d like to talk about that for a minute with you guys.

We have an excellent team here in the state of Oklahoma, and lately I’ve been blessed to be able to call on almost all of my colleagues for support, advice, and comfort trying to navigate the daily challenges of being of service to our Oxford Houses. We, in Oxford House are fortunate to have an ever-growing number of people that we can call ‘family,’ and there’s a reason why we use that word for one another. That’s the significance we have to one another.

We pull that principle of sharing our experience, strength and hope from one another from the principles put forward by our respective 12-step programs that help us get through each day as people engaged in this effort that we call ‘long-term recovery.’ There is, in my opinion, no one better suited to helping an addict or alcoholic than another addict or alcoholic. We have an instinctive knowledge and relation to each other’s struggles, and as such are in a unique position to be of service to one another.

Being one of the happy and growing many that are involved in Oxford House as well, we are able to relate to each other on another level too, the daily struggle of attempting to play our part in the triangle of support that makes up how our organization stands strong year after year.

As we saw at this year’s staff training, our family continues to grow and grow, and so I think it’s important now to remind each other of the incredible asset we have that’s just a phone call, or a facebook message away, and that’s each other. We have, will and should continue to take advantage of the support, strength and love that we can offer each other. It’s important to remember that it’s a ‘we’ thing, and that’s what has always made this work from it’s earliest days. It’s important to reach out, and remember how strong we are when we stand together.

Thanks for letting me share, and thanks for reading ‘The Oxford EDGE.”
The houses of the Oxford Houses of Oklahoma held their annual State Convention at the Ardmore Convention Center this year from February 21st-23rd. The gathering was attended by several hundred members from Oxford Houses across the state, members and Outreach workers from several different states and several special guest speakers who provided knowledge and training for all to take back and benefit their respective houses and areas.

The convention kicked off in the usual fashion with a women’s conference specifically for the ladies of Oxford House. They had the opportunity to fellowship and discuss issues that affect them and ways they can come together as women in recovery.

Following our women’s conference all present gathered in the main hall for opening remarks from Thomas Floyd, senior outreach worker for the state, Ray Caesar, Oxford Houses former liaison with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, and the State Chair. Once everyone was settled into their hotel rooms and ready for the convention to begin in earnest they
gathered back in the main hall for our Friday Night Fellowship event. This year’s event was recovery bingo, and members were treated to a veritable cornucopia of prizes totalling over $2000.00. After a smattering of great prize giveaways and a fair number of mandatory chicken dances in front of the group for members who mistakenly called bingo everyone retired to their rooms for the evening to get a good night’s sleep before Saturday’s onslaught of learning and sharing.

Saturday morning to start things off members heard a welcome to the convention from Dan Hahn, Thomas Floyd, the aforementioned Ray Caesar and our current liaison with the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse, Suzanne Williams. Following that the convention moved into it’s first general session with Jackson Longan’s popular lecture on the 4 House Stages and 5 Core Principles. Breakout panels for the day included such topics as Keeping the Model Simple, Presentation Protocols, Drug Court/Probation and Parole and

State Association and Rural Services. Following the breakout panels and a hearty lunch members were treated to a presentation on ‘Next Level Recovery’ by one of our special guests for the convention, the honorable District Judge for Oklahoma County Kenneth Stoner. Judge Stoner gave a presentation on what actually happens in the brain of someone who struggles with substance abuse issues, providing the group with unique insight into how we can help each other try and navigate the struggles inherent in trying to maintain long term recovery.
Saturday evening our members got all gussied up for our Saturday Night Awards Banquet. Pictures were taken of everyone in their Sunday best and members were treated to an excellent meal by the hotel staff. Awards presented for the evening included a special appreciation award presented to Midfirst Bank for their ongoing services working with our houses financial needs, the James McClain award to Jackson Longan for his tireless efforts on behalf of Oxford House, and the Paul Molloy Service Award to Mike Pond for his service work in the houses in Northeast Oklahoma.

The Saturday night awards ceremony was wrapped up with Joshua Ploub, Outreach from the state of Oregon as our recovery speaker. Sunday morning members gathered to close out another successful State Convention by giving away the last of our many raffle prizes and coming together one last time to talk about the importance of Recovery in our homes and our traditions. It was an incredibly successful convention for Oklahoma.
Check out Oklahoma’s latest and greatest.

**EAST HILLS**
Women/Children 8 beds
Moore, Oklahoma

**INVICTUS**
Men 11 beds
Durant, Oklahoma

**PRESTIGE**
Men 13 beds
Tulsa, Oklahoma
SKYLINE 2
Men 6 beds
OKC, Oklahoma

VOYAGE
Men 10 beds
OKC, Oklahoma

STATURE
Men/Children 10 beds
Tulsa, Oklahoma

JUST FOR FUN

ACROSS
1. Storm precursor
5. Lamb or veal item
10. Worst band?
14. Muses in the majors
15. Condor’s digs
16. Piedmont wine center
17. Kind of drum
18. Latex in the southwest
19. Fiction enthusiast?
20. French, to some
23. IV x XIII
34. Sean Connery, among many
35. Put aside
29. "Brugh" predecessor
33. Radical '70s org.
34. Sitting on
36. Prepare for knighthood
37. Mae West’s asset?
41. Kuwait biggie
42. He jumps through hoops
43. Apt. grouping
44. S. England county
46. Places of “action”
49. “... Mia”
51. Brew holder
52. 1979 Double Brothers hit
59. Tommy of Mets’ history
60. It’s projected
61. Off course
63. Shaw Fury
64. “Awake and Sing!” playwright
65. Mudville group
66. Is off the mark
67. Action after an alarm
68.Freshly

DOWN
1. It’ll take you for a ride
2. Cry of dismay
3. Diet successfully
4. Favor or exterior
5. Traveling amusement show
6. Take, as advice
7. Kind of contract
8. Pocket breads
9. Meeting with a medium
10. Greeting an officer
11. It covers plenty of ground
12. At type of beetle or party
13. Take on
21. Black gold
22. Russian author of “The Lower Depths” (Var.)
25. Replay effect, briefly
26. Rutgers of “Blade Runner”
27. Frat letters
28. Prescription data
30. Kind of surgeon
31. Lissy targets
32. Matador boosters
33. Food fish
35. HS junior test
38. Nick-of-time types
39. “Wunderbar!”
40. Most subject to chance
45. Earth mover
47. Home in the hills
48. Spiny lizard
50. Living quarters
52. Celt’s kin
53. Operatic prince
54. Kind of miss
55. Part of YSL
56. Wee pest
57. Half a matched set
58. Shore prospector
62. Arrow wood
Quarterly Training

Check out some pics from our training!
THANKS FOR READING
THE OXFORD EDGE
KEEP COMING BACK.