

the union times

the newsletter of the oklahoma state university student union

february 2011

state of the union

by Mitch Kilcrease, Director

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Another new year has started, and it is once again time to make New Year's resolutions. Although my track record with personal resolutions is less than stellar, I thought this year I would look at what organizational resolutions I could focus on with the hope of getting others on board and committed to helping me with compliance. As we see more and more progress of the Student Union renovation, it is apparent the dream is quickly becoming a reality, and we will once again inhabit the newly renovated facility sooner than later. The newly renovated Student Union will be truly a wonderful asset for the OSU community and will allow us to provide improved services and programs. However, the physical improvements made by construction will be diminished if an equally impressive effort in improving our customer service is not part of the finished product. Therefore, our first resolution should be to raise the bar in the delivery of excellence in customer service.

Our second resolution is, by far, one of the most important things we can undertake together to improve the quality of life for our organization. This past year the Student Union management team implemented an initiative to improve the personal general health of our organization by creating a Healthy Union program. I am very pleased thus far with the overall success of the initiative and how well it has taken shape. (No pun intended.) It is encouraging to see staff are beginning to find their way to the multitude of offerings and are actively participating in opportunities made available to them. Given the significance of having a happy and healthy staff, we should all resolve to continue this important effort and work to increase participation and fully support the program wherever we can.

Our third and final resolution is to evaluate how we will embrace the future of the fast changing landscape of higher education. As we look to the completion of our new facility and create a culture of service, it will be equally as important to continue the work of innovation and creativity. The ability to innovate may be the single most important thing we can do as an organization. No new resources are going to come our way without the ability to challenge, re-think and overcome historic roadblocks with new and innovative solutions. We must truly see ourselves as a unified front in helping with the overall campus challenges and be entrepreneurial in developing solutions that will address larger campus issues and needs. Therefore, we should resolve to create an environment of innovation and creativity at every level of the Student Union organization and work to fully realize the vast resources our organization brings to this effort.



A view of renovation construction on the north side of the Student Union in late January.

In closing, let's all resolve to work together to not let these important resolutions fall along the roadside of good intentions as do so many New Year's resolutions and make 2011 our year to shine.

Daffodil Days are Here

The American Cancer Society's Daffodil Days are here. Daffodil Days is one of the oldest and most beloved fundraising programs of the American Cancer Society. Daffodils can be ordered by the bunch for \$10, a bunch in an etched vase for \$15 or a bunch with a Boyd's Bear for \$25.

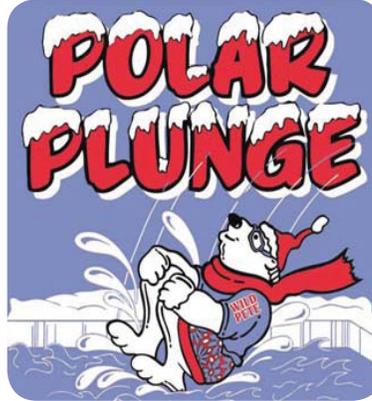
If you are with a department, the SLVC plans to contact each department for orders. The last day to order daffodils is Wednesday, February 23 at 4 p.m. and flowers can be picked up on Wednesday, March 9 in the Classroom Building Room 008. Departments ordering 25 bunches or more will have the bouquets delivered to the department by OSU volunteers. The SLVC is also looking for student volunteers to be sales representatives to student groups. You may call Joyce or Courtney at the Service Learning Volunteer Center to order daffodils or volunteer at (405) 744-5145.

The reason the American Cancer Society uses the daffodil as its flower is because it is one of the first flowers of spring; making it a symbol of hope. Each donation made by purchasing a bunch of daffodils helps the American Cancer Society save lives. In the past 14 years, Daffodil Days has raised more than \$240 million to support the American Cancer Society's mission.

Take the Plunge

Taking a plunge into Boomer Lake during February isn't just for polar bears. The 10th Annual Polar Plunge is the primary fundraiser for the Special Olympics of Oklahoma. This year the Polar Plunge will be on Saturday, February 12 at Boomer Lake. Registration is at 10 a.m. and the plunge is at 11 a.m.

Polar Plunge is a fundraising challenge, made by an individual or group, challenging them to collect pledges from family and friends. The participants are then challenged to dive into freezing cold water. This year participants should dress as a superhero, because that is exactly what they are. If you don't plan to jump into Boomer Lake, feel free to come watch and cheer for the superheroes who are brave enough to participate.



The entry fee is \$50, and you may sign up at sook.org. For more information, please call Joyce Montgomery at the Service Learning Volunteer Center at (405) 744-5145.

The mission of the Special Olympics is to provide athletic competition and sports training year-round in a variety of Olympic-type sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. The Big 12 has a special partnership with the Special Olympics, working between the universities and the programs and fundraising events. OSU has been supporting the Special Olympics in its winter and summer games for many years.

Be a Valentine

The Second Annual Payne County Youth Service Valentine Dinner will be held Saturday, February 12 at the Wes Watkins Center. This is a one-of-a-kind evening featuring dinner, entertainment and a silent auction. Attendees will enjoy the 40s big band sound of Stillwater Jazz.

Payne County Youth Services was established in 1972, led by two dedicated staff members. Today PCYS has about 22 employees and numerous certifications. The primary function of PCYS is to provide specialized programming for families and youth struggling with issues of adolescence. Each year, PCYS provides their services for approximately 250 young people.

Tickets to the Valentine Dinner are \$50 per person and are available at pcys.org. Contact Linda at (405) 377-3380 or by e-mail at lindap@pcys.org for more information.



Get Involved

Renaissance Assisted Living is asking for volunteers from the Stillwater community. The Renaissance offers personalized living services for seniors and a special neighborhood for residents experiencing memory impairment.

If you are interested in this opportunity, The Renaissance wants to meet you and explore your interests, relative to the company, and then match you to best serve residents, volunteers and needs. If you are interested, please call Cassie at (405) 743-4900. To learn more about Renaissance Assisted Living, please visit their website at renaissanceok.com.

INK-O-DEM Saves Money

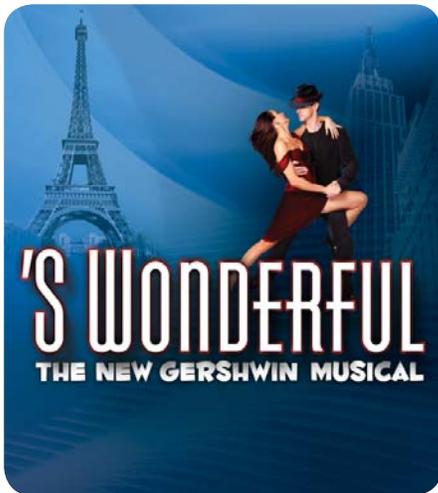
The Student Union Bookstore is continuing its partnership with INK-O-DEM to provide printer cartridge refills to the OSU campus. Users will save up to 50 percent off new cartridge prices by using the system. Cartridge refills cost \$9.99 for black ink and \$14.99 for color ink. It's a convenient way to save money and be eco-friendly at the same time. When your printer prompts you to replace the ink or when pages begin to streak or fade, simply remove the cartridge from the printer (be careful not to touch the electronic circuitry on the end of the cartridge), place it in a zip lock bag and bring it to the Student Union Bookstore U^{too} facility to have it refilled as soon as possible. Visit the INK-O-DEM website to determine if your cartridge is compatible at inkodem.com.

Never use household tape over the ink nozzles and try to avoid extreme hot and cold conditions. Always try to store your cartridges at room temperature.



'S Wonderful Musical

On Friday, February 18 OSU Allied Arts will welcome a new Broadway style musical revue when *'S Wonderful* performs at the Seretean Center Concert Hall at 8 p.m.



'S Wonderful is an all singing, all dancing, musical revue celebrating the genius of George and Ira Gershwin. The talented cast of five triple-threat singer/dancer/actors will bring the music of the Gershwin brothers to life. Incorporating five mini-musicals inspired by the real events occurring in and around the lives of the Gershwin brothers,

this new musical theater revue illustrates their impact on the world. First, it's New York City in 1916 and Paris in the 1930s, followed by Hollywood in the 40s and New Orleans in the 50s. *'S Wonderful* takes you on a ride to the different places, times and musical styles that made the Gershwin brothers the most successful songwriting team in the history of popular music.

The Inside Story lecture for this performance will take place in the Seretean Center Room 123 at 7 p.m. on the night of the concert. The Inside Story is free and open to the public.

Tickets for the performance are \$8 for OSU students and children 12 & under, and \$15 or \$20 for all others. Tickets will go on sale February 1 and can be purchased at the Student Union Bookstore U^{too} facility or by calling (405) 744-7400. For more information, please call OSU Allied Arts at (405) 744-7509.

UDS Plans Busy February

February is an exceptionally busy month for University Dining Services (UDS). Below is a sampling of the variety of promotions on the calendar. For more information, please visit dining.okstate.edu.

- Sample Farm Fresh peanuts from Snider Farms at various dining units Monday, February 7 through Friday, February 11.
- Celebrate the Service Station's 10th birthday on Thursday, February 10. Join the Service Station from 5-8 p.m. and receive a free piece of cake with your meal.
- Visit the Little Bakery on Valentine's Day and get a sweet treat for your sweetie.
- Indulge in a delicious heart shaped pizza from Oregano's, and share it with someone you care about on February 14.
- Cozy up with friends or that special someone and enjoy a warm, rich sweetheart hot chocolate on Valentine's Day at Stout Coffee and Cafe.
- Celebrate Black History Month on Thursday, February 17 at the Adams Market as it serves a savory soul food dinner. The cost of dinner is \$8.50, but can be less depending on your meal plan options. UDS also accepts cash, bursar and meal plan.
- Support local farmers and growers by purchasing Made in Oklahoma products throughout the campus dining units.



Order of Omega Honors Two OSU Women

Each year the Order of Omega sponsors scholarships for Greek students who demonstrate outstanding service to their university and fraternity. Only two Order of Omega members from Oklahoma State University were allowed to apply for the Order of Omega scholarships. The Order of Omega sponsors \$700, \$500 and \$300 undergraduate scholarship awards in the name of current and past Order of Omega executive directors. Both OSU students who applied received this honor.



Bertrem

Tyler

Blaine Bertrem of Chi Omega and Erica Tyler of Pi Beta Phi were both awarded Order of Omega scholarships. Both women are OSU seniors and have been involved in various activities on campus and have done a fantastic job representing Oklahoma State University and Fraternity and Sorority Affairs. Bertrem will earn her undergraduate degree in psychology in May 2011 while Tyler will graduate in May 2011 with a degree in marketing.

The Order of Omega was founded at the University of Miami in 1959 with the purpose of honoring individuals in the Greek community for their service to their fraternity and the university. Their purpose rests upon these principles: recognize, encourage, unite, create and inspire. All words that every great leader should live by. For more information about Order of Omega, please visit orderofomega.org.

Training Corner

OSU Human Resources offers a number of development programs throughout the year to staff and faculty. Each issue of *The Union Times* provides a listing of upcoming training opportunities. Participating will help you in becoming more productive, improve your interpersonal skills and provide you with new ideas you can apply to your job. For more information about these programs, including applicable fees, times and locations, please hr.okstate.edu/hr/training/training.htm.

February

- 2 ++** ▲ FERPA Training, 1:30-3:30 p.m., 010 WIL
- 3 ** New Employee Orientation, 8:30-11:30 a.m., 361 AG
- 15 ++** ▲ Creating an Injury Free Environment, 1-4:30 p.m., SWC
- 16 \$ Purchasing Policies and Procedures, 9- 11 a.m., 107 WIL
- 16 \$ Red Flags Rule, 1:30-2:30 p.m., 105 WIL
- 16 \$ How to Hire International Employees, 3- 4:30 p.m., 010 WIL
- 22 \$ Financial Reporting System Training, 9-10:30 a.m., 403 CLB
- 22 \$ Fixed Assets, 1:30-3:30 p.m., 403 CLB
- 23 * Hiring without a Hitch, 9-noon, 107 WIL
- 23 * Maximizing Performance Reviews, 1- 4 p.m., 010 WIL
- 24 \$ Purchasing Card Training, 9-11:30 a.m., 102 ATRC
- 24 \$ Information Security Awareness, 1:30-2:30 p.m., 106B WH
- 24 \$ Understanding OMB Circular A-21, 3-4:30 p.m., 101 ATRC

* = Required Leadership Development Program

** = Elective Leadership Development Program

+ = Required Ambassador Program

@ = HRStar Program

[= Research Administration Program

++ = Elective Ambassador Program

^ = Advanced Leadership Program

\$ = Fiscally Fit Program

\$\$ = Strength Training for Fiscally Fit Program

⊛ = HRStar Program

▲ = Advanced Leadership Program

February SUAB Activities

- 1 Graffiti applications open
- 4 Old Saloon Casino
8 p.m., Starlight Terrace
- 9 French Cultural Dinner
5:30 p.m., SU Ballroom
- 9 The Dating Game
7 p.m., Starlight Terrace
- 10 Double Feature Movies
7 & 9 p.m., Starlight Terrace
- 11 Double Feature Movies
7 & 9 p.m., Starlight Terrace
- 11 Speed Dating Bingo
8 p.m., SU Ballroom
- 24 Harry Potter
7 & 9:30 p.m., location TBA
- 25 Harry Potter
7 & 9:30 p.m., location TBA

For more information about Student Union Activities Board events visit suab.okstate.edu.

The Union Times is published by the Student Union Marketing Department. Its purpose is to tie the Union staff together through news, entertainment and features.

The Union Times staff want to hear from you! All comments, ideas and suggestions are welcome. Please bear with us as we try new things and omit others. If you notice a mistake, please contact us so we can correct it. Tell us what you would like to see – we're listening! Thank you for your support.

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