

EARC News Express

EARC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2008



These Rotary Club Members seem to be having too much fun, considering all of the gardening work they did for EARC on their April 12th Service Day.

MANY FRIENDS & MAY FLOWERS

EARC is fortunate to have so many friends with green thumbs. Saturday, April 12th the Edmond Rotary Club celebrated their international service day by sending their members out to our Group Home and The Nova Centre. They planted flowers in our planters, then weeded and worked up our numerous in-ground and raised flower beds. They covered a lot of ground, so to speak, and we are so thankful for their beautification efforts.

Prior to the Rotarians visit, another volunteer, Teresa Crelling, spent hours selecting the best plants to put in the various locations and the rest of the needed supplies for the project. Certain flowers for sun and others for the shade were picked with colors coordinated accordingly. Soil, manure, pots and shovels, all were thought through in her plan. After our Rotary Club Gardeners had worked in the beds, Teresa came back to finish planting in the flower beds at both locations. What some may not know is that this volunteer gardener is no novice. Teresa's naturally green thumb grew professionally when for years she managed the green houses and was in-charge of all of the horticulture training programs at The Center of Family Love. Thank you, Teresa,

for your time, labor and expertise.

When we plant a seedling, water it, tend to it and watch it grow, we can feel good when we see it bloom. May we all learn to develop our friendships in the same way. Through attention and caring for others, will many friendships flower.

Bonnie Wells, Executive Director
EARC, Inc.

Group Home News:

The residential program continues staying busy this spring, with various activities planned. For starters the weather is warming up and everyone is really excited to get out and enjoy the outdoors. We had two birthdays in April; on the 8th Carl Sims celebrated his 71st birthday! He invited his friends and family to dinner at his favorite Mexican restaurant, PePe's. Everyone had a great time. Patrick Starnes turned 23 April 10th; his family took him out for a nice birthday celebration.

On April 12th the Rotary Club came to the group homes as well as the Nova Centre to plant flowers and clean up several flower beds; something that has greatly improved the appearance of the homes. They did a wonderful job and on behalf of EARC we'd like to say Thank You for taking time out of your day to do something special for us. We really appreciate it!

EARC News Express

EARC MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MAY 2008

Employees of The Month:

David Atlee is one of our March 2008 Employees of The Month. David works at The Trails Workshop and has since 1992. David's favorite job is working on the Quality Bags Contract. David's preferred break time activity is enjoying a diet Coke. David was surprised with this Employee of The Month Award during a site visit attended by our Board of Directors and United Way volunteers. He can probably still hear their loud clapping ringing in his ears. Congratulations, David, on the hard work that earned you this recognition!

John Adame is our Vocational Employee of The Month for March. John's current position with EARC is as the Floor Supervisor at The Trails Sheltered Workshop. Previously, John worked for EARC as a job coach and was supervising the vending operations last spring. Since taking on the duties of Floor Supervisor, John has focused on getting The Trails physical plant and daily operating procedures more organized. John likes things to be organized and done per the schedule and his supervisor appreciates his tenacity in getting The Trails in ship shape.

Moji bade Obe is our Residential Employee of The Month for March. Moji is a Certified Medication Aide who has worked at EARC's Nova Centre since September of last year. Moji's supervisor says that she is always willing to learn and try different ways to achieve the goal. Moji's nomination for Employee of The Month is due to the initiative she takes in looking for what needs to be done and always being willing to help her supervisor, the Director of Nursing, with gaps in the schedule. Congratulations Moji!

On The Spot Award:

Marcy Guest: For her dedication in helping when she was needed the most. Marcy helped clean the Trails warehouse and Guthrie Thrift Store.

HR Information:

Gardening is a great way to get out in the wonderful sunshine that spring has brought our way. One of the most rewarding aspects of gardening is starting plants or flowers from seeds. There are just a few factors that you should keep in mind before you start your garden: types of soil, amount of water needed and light or shade required. When you are determining the location of your garden, make sure those factors are considered. When watering your plants, water should seep from the drain holes and the plant should feel "heavier". Using compost is a great way to give your plants some natural nutrients. Compost is great for new gardens or already established gardens. Watching your garden grow and create beautiful colors will be rewarding throughout the summer months. Enjoy your time outside and good luck with your new garden!



Nova Centre News:

The Nova Centre resident's attended a picnic on April 13, 2008 at Tinker Air Force Base sponsored by the Tinker Air Force Sergeant's Association. They have an annual picnic and dance celebration for the developmentally disabled in the community. Our resident's enjoyed the day with food, dancing, prizes etc.. One of our resident's commented "I had a great time and I can't wait till next year!" Thank you Tinker Air Force Base.

Thrift Store News:

Happy 2nd Birthday EARC Thrift Store!!! We will be celebrating the 2nd year at 92 E 15th street. We will be serving Cake, Coffee and Punch all day on Tuesday May 13th. Come by and check out our Birthday specials! We hope to have another great year! Thank you Edmond!

We would like to recognize a long time employee of the Guthrie Thrift Store. Tina Pickard, Assistant Manager of the Guthrie store, has been an EARC employee for 11 years. Tina has a very big heart; she is hardworking and a very caring lady. She has dealt with many situations, good and bad, at the Guthrie store and can take care of anything that arises or cover for others that need help or time off for emergencies. Tina is a get it done lady. All the customers, donors, co-workers, and clients love Tina because she can make them laugh or smile with her great sense of humor and her warm positive attitude. Tina is a shining star in EARC's crown. Thanks Tina for being a part of EARC for 11 years. We Love You!!! *Submitted by Kim Pittman Edmond Thrift store Manager.*

EARC would like to recognize Diane Douglas owner of Diane Lee's for all the years of donations to our organization. Your donations have made a huge impact on our ability to continue our mission at EARC. Thank you and all your staff for being so kind and generous to EARC. Submitted by Kim Pittman Thrift store manager

Trails News:

Upcoming Event – Spring Fling:

The Spring Fling will be Friday May 2nd, 2008 from 5pm-7:30pm. The theme for this year's Fling Is Mexican Fiesta. We will be having traditional Mexican food, and some not so Mexican, for those of us who can't handle the heat. Please help us celebrate by dressing in costume (Mexican attire) if possible.



MAY 2008 BIRTHDAYS

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6 <i>Stephen Nganga</i>	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20 <i>Ann Muchwe</i>	21	22	23	24
25 <i>Bonnie Wells</i>	26	27	28	29	30	31

