

# Events....

## Fall Sizzled!

Claremore is indeed a happening place with activities by the dozen!! Thousands attended the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Bluegrass & Chili Festival. Thank you to the Festival sponsors, volunteers and our business community for welcoming attendees to Claremore. Visitor surveys reported representation from 156 cities across Oklahoma, state attendance from Arkansas, Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, Louisiana, Missouri, New Mexico, Tennessee, Texas and international visitors from Germany. Over 400 volunteers with 1,600 hours of donated time and expertise, over

250 local and regional musicians who added their talents to the national performers, 7,000 pounds of ice, 1,000 feet of snow fencing, every component of the event ran like a well oiled machine. Great people make great things happen! Thank you to everyone....your efforts are appreciated, *YOU* are what makes Claremore a great place to live, work, do business in and this quality of life event is a definite reflection of those outstanding qualities.



## 2009 Fall Classic Golf Tournament

The weather was definitely not cooperative for the scheduled October 9<sup>th</sup> tournament. The Golf Committee reported, that hip waders would have been the appropriate attire for the tournament. Due to two weeks of heavy rains a reschedule was necessary.

October 23<sup>rd</sup> was a brisk fall day...but the golf was super. Congratulations to our teams who tied for 1<sup>st</sup> place: Community Home Health & RCB Bank. Everyone reported a fun day, great food, prizes and networking opportunities. Even better news per Julie Adams, Golf Chair, the Chamber has completed their loan obligations for Operation Renovation! Thank you to everyone for the tremendous support for this project.



## Boobdazzled....Bra Art Auction

Claremore Regional Hospital's Healthy Woman program and the Chamber's Women's Expo Committee teamed together to raise money for breast cancer research. The Bra Art idea and display began at the Women's Expo in March and continued at the Lilac Festival in May and the Bluegrass & Chili Festival in September and concluded with the lively auction in October. Dinner speakers included KOTV Morning Show host LeAnne Taylor and business owner Peggy Rice. Both ladies shared their personal experiences with cancer. LeAnne even wore a pink wig in support of Breast Cancer Awareness Month.



Rick Reimer served as auctioneer for the evening festivities and couldn't resist a few good natured puns along the way, thanking the attendees for their "support" of the event and encouraging corporate bidders to "augment" their bids.

The evening was a great success with \$3,718 dollars raised for the Susan G. Komen Foundation for breast cancer research.

Mark your calendars for March 27, 2010 for the Women's Expo.... You just never know what is coming your way!!!



## Christmas Parade:

Santa felt right at home in Claremore...with cold temperatures and the smiling faces of the Parade attendees. The entries as always were unique and in the best Claremore style. New this year was the collection of canned goods from parade entries and spectators, in an effort to assist our neighbors in need through the two largest year-round food pantries. The idea was well received and we hope to add this to the Parade yearly.

As with any event the Parade would never happen without the efforts of many: Special thank you to the Claremore Daily Progress, Claremore Police, Fire, Park & Recreation Departments, Street Dept., Expo Center, Rogers County Sheriff and Officers and Classic Golf Carts. Volunteers: Larry Rahmeier, Travis Eubanks, Mark Ogle, Clarice & Mike Doyle, Myrtle Prather, Dennis & Linda Coons, Lindel Stephens, Sherry Hinds, Ken & Cindy Bissett, Dave & Linda McFall, Anita & David Wolf, Kenna Parrish and of course Sam Stone...who had direct contact with Santa & his Elves.

We appreciate everyone who participated in this annual tradition. As with every year the judges have the difficult task of deciding the awarded entries based on the parade criteria. Congratulations to our winning entries:

- "Best Use of Theme"  
Card Head Start,
- "Best Use of Lights"  
Make It Special,
- "Best Parade Spirit"  
Mustard Seed Pre School and  
Judge's Choice:  
Westside Holiness Church."

Thank you to Claremore Daily Progress for assisting with the cash prizes.