

## Speaker Tells About 'Air Evac' Service and Costs



Jennifer Green  
Photo by George Lampton

Jennifer Green, Membership Coordinator for Air Evac Lifeteam, told us last week that McAlester had the first of eight Air Evac bases in Oklahoma.

The cost for one year, for a one-person household is \$50, and for a two-person household is \$55. A three-person household for a year is \$60.

The service is in 14 states, with 80 bases and over 100 helicopters.

In a heart attack, stroke or auto accident, fast action is critical, Ms. Green explained. "The Golden Hour" is the time from a traumatic injury until you reach advanced medical care.

Air Evac has 1,000 nurses, medics and pilots, professionally trained for medical emergencies, she said.

Ms. Green was asked how long it takes for a helicopter to get to Tulsa. It depends on the wind, she said, but approximately 37 minutes.

The company has over 20 years of service, with 170,000 safely flown missions, she noted. When you call 911, the dispatchers are trained to get the information needed to determine what type of medical transportation is best for the situation. If the dispatcher determines you would benefit from air medical transport, air and ground ambulances are sent to the area. The brochure Ms. Green handed out said that your Air Evac membership covers the complete cost of a helicopter emergency flight, no matter how many times a year it is used.

The company is the largest independently owned and operated air ambulance service in the U.S., with over 700,000 members, the brochure said.

## Animal Shelter Busy Place; Is Running At Full Capacity

Tracy Berg-Dalmont, the Director of the Animal Shelter says the facility is running at full capacity, with dogs and cats.

Ms. Berg-Dalmont told us Oct. 28, that the capacity of the new shelter is 70 to 100 dogs and 70 cats.

And now may be the best time to buy one, with the wide choice. It's \$40 for cats and \$50 for dogs, which may seem high. But look at what is included, says Mrs. Berg-Dalmont.

For that amount, you get a pet that has a spay/neuter, a current vaccination, de-worming, and an identification micro-chip. And the Animal Shelter will offer more in the future, judging from Mrs. Berg-Dalmont's plans.

She is currently looking for space in the shelter for free obedience classes for dogs.

The shelter is located at 1206 North West Street, near the prison. It

is open Tuesday through Friday, from 10 to 5 p.m. and on Saturdays, from 10 to noon. Saturday is for the public to adopt pets. The facility is closed on Sundays and Mondays.

Other than keeping the animals, the main aim of the shelter is to educate the public, said Mrs. Berg-Dalmont.

"If they can't feed them, they should not breed them," she said.

The shelter usually has five to 10 litters which people have brought out. The McAlester city animal control activity also provides dogs and cats for the shelter.

If anyone has a metal building which could be used for obedience training, it would greatly help, she said. There is no room for such an activity inside the shelter.

"Come on out, on Saturday, she said, and see what animals are available."

## Crystal Robinson Tells How She Became A Top Pro Player



Crystal Robinson  
Photo by George Lampton

Crystal Robinson, who had a one-day Basketball Camp here, held most of the records and titles that a woman basketball player could hold, as a professional ball player.

Crystal, who was from this area, told us Nov. 4, how she started playing basketball in about the third grade. They had a bicycle wheel with the spokes knocked out, for a hoop,

she related.

When she entered school, she played at Stringtown and Atoka. At Stringtown, they played six on six.

She had people at home who were alcoholics and so the people who helped her at Stringtown, Atoka and Southeast Oklahoma State College became her family, she said.

Then, "it didn't matter how cold it was or how hot it was." There was always basketball practice. She knew it was her "one way to go to college." Later it became her "way out," she said.

The same was true at church. When the church opened, she was there.

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# Newfield Vice President Tells About Horizontal Drilling

*Company has 220 rigs in this area*



Darryl Wright, George Dunn, Lynn Campbell  
Photo by George Lampton

George T. Dunn, Vice President of Newfield Exploration told us last week about the company's recent history in this area, and its horizontal drilling since 2004.

Most of Newfield's horizontal drilling is in this area, Dunn said. However, 40 percent is in Central Oklahoma and the rest of the state.

Newfield was formed in 1989 and went public in 1992. Its first offices were in Dallas and Denver.

The company had no horizontal drilling prior to 2004, Dunn said. But the "unconventional drilling" can cover a half mile, and in this area, is 4,500 to 5,000 feet deep.

Production has increased some seven times, he stated.

A single pad can have up to four "directional" wells, and there can be two pads per section.

However, the cost may involve a million feet of sand in one well, he stated.

However, Dunn said the company's current budget will run to

2009.

Dunn was accompanied by two other officers in the company, Darryl Wright and Lynn Campbell.

"We can deal with tough times for a while," if gasoline prices stay at 70 to 80 percent of what they have been." Asked about future gasoline prices, he said he expects them to remain "stable."

Asked how many rigs Newfield has in this area, Dunn said there are 220. That number is expected to be 250 "by December."

He said county roads have improved because of the company drilling, and other roads as well.

He showed the results of some "core drilling" by Newfield, noting that some was "brittle," he added, "That's how you get the gas out of the ground."

When they "frac," it is by pressure, rather than by explosion, he explained.

Asked if he had any trouble hiring workers, Dunn said, no. "We've been able to find the people that we need."



## Top Pro Player from Page 1

For a while, she played on a boys' baseball team, she recalled. But she learned early, "not to take the easy way out."

Two people who helped her at Atoka were Morris and Cindy Cochran. At Southeastern Oklahoma State College, Don Parham, the Athletic Director helped her. Phil Daniel of Coleman, Ok. also helped her.

At her first "tryout" for a professional team, she "didn't know anyone," she said.

But she became a "WNBA Legend." in her 10 years of playing for two professional women's teams in New York City. One team

was the New York Liberty.

Her basketball took her "all over the world," she said.

Asked the most points she scored in one game, she said 65.

Asked how much money she made, she explained that "a lot of people don't make a lot of money" (in women's sports.) A lot of people have sponsors, she said.

During the season she has made \$97,000 in four months, she said. However, injuries have "slowed down" a lot of people lately, she related.

She currently is on a speaking tour.

She spoke at a pep rally at the high school and put on a Basketball Clinic for the McAlester Boys and Girls Club.

## Attendance, Visitors and Handshakers *And the Great Big Pot*

Last week there were 44 present. Robert Stillwell was a guest of Yvette Martin. Phil Bruno was a guest of Dorothy Kennedy. Visiting Rotarians were Lavon Williams of Poteau and David Lee of Purcell.

There were 46 present the previous week, including the three officials from Newfield Exploration. Carl Voss, father of Angie Nelson, was her guest. Waverly Washington was the guest of Loise Washington. Kyle Burmeier is a Rotarian-in- Waiting.

On Nov. 11, there were 45 present. Francis Lerblance was a guest of Richard Lerblance. Steve Banker and Kevin Washington were guests of Lynn Edwards.

On Oct.28, there were 46 present.

HANDSHAKERS-Last week, Mary Shannon had the cash,

and gave it to banker Evans McBride. On Nov. 11, Jim Thompson had the dollar and gave it to Wayne Hanway. On Nov.4, Dick Dudley gave it to Doug Auld.

On Oct. 28, Jeff Sellmeyer "bailed out" Jim Northcut with \$1.

THEN ON THE BIG, BIG

POT-Steve Brock drew the wrong card last week. Nobel Miller drew the ace of Hearts on the 28th and on Nov. 4, Randy Sauier drew the king of spades, but neither one helped. Then Orlean Smith drew Nov. 11 and that didn't help. So there should be a lot of cash, somewhere.



'Good Citizens.'  
Devon Basinger and Jacob Overton  
Photo by George Lampton