Veterans Q&A

The following will hopefully clear up some questions people might have about the requirements the Veterans Centers located in Oklahoma have for entry, as well as information regarding The Psychology Club’s trip to the Veterans Center in Clinton, Oklahoma.

- What makes a person eligible for entry into any of the Veterans centers? The Oklahoman must have served in the active Armed Forces of the United States during Wartime and not be discharged dishonorably. These wartimes include:
  - WWI from 4/6/17 to 11/11/18
  - WWII from 12/7/41 to 12/31/46
  - Korean Conflict from 6/27/50 to 1/31/55
  - Vietnam Era from 8/5/64 to 5/7/75
  - Persian Gulf War from 8/2/90 through to a future date that will be set by law of presidential proclamation

- Veterans must have served at least 90 days unless that person is discharged on a service disability, where one or two of those days were involved during a time of war.

- The Veteran must also be disabled by age, disease or by some other affliction that is found through a physical examination. If the person is able to dress themselves, they can be placed in domiciliary. Otherwise, they are placed within nursing care where they receive top care for all of their needs.

The trip made to the Veterans center in Clinton, Oklahoma was an eye-opener on just how diligent the workers there are. They do an exceptional job in creating a friendly
atmosphere where each veteran there is treated with respect and compassion. They host a series of activities in a recreation hall that fits up to 300 residents, they have a beautiful cafeteria that has many choices for each individual to choose from, and the entire place was kept really clean. This Veterans Center is mostly funded by the state, but there are times where it becomes hard to make ends meet, as it becomes difficult to house a few hundred residents with varying needs. If you are interested in lending a helping hand, here are some things you could do.

- What kind of supplies do they need? Mainly the common essentials, such as soap, shampoo, conditioner, toothpaste, socks, etc. During the end of the year is when the financial situation of the Veterans Center is in its most critical state. By sending supplies such as these, it will allow them to allocate their finances to other activities and supplies.

- Would the Veterans Center benefit from having volunteer help? YES. Usually each worker has to take care of more than 5 people at a time. Offering the time to help out these people would allow the other workers to more readily assist the residents, as well as lighten their work load. Not to mention that having any kind of volunteer help further adds to your resume and makes you that much more appealing if going to Graduate School is in your future.

- How do I get in contact with them? Should you be interested in helping out such a wonderful group of people, please do not hesitate to do so. You may contact them at 1701 South 4th/P.O Box 1209. Clinton, Ok 73601 (580) 331-2200.