A History of Valentine’s Day

Retrieved from http://www.history.com/topics/valentines-day

The history of Valentine’s Day and the story of its patron saint is shrouded in mystery. We know that February has long been celebrated as a month of romance, and that St. Valentine’s Day, as we know it today, contains vestiges of both Christian and ancient Roman tradition. But who was Saint Valentine, and how did he become associated with this ancient rite?

One legend contends that Valentine was a priest who served during the third century in Rome. When Emperor Claudius II decided that single men made better soldiers than those with wives and families, he outlawed marriage for young men. Valentine, realizing the injustice of the decree, defied Claudius and continued to perform marriages for young couples in secret. When Valentine’s actions were discovered, Claudius ordered that he be put to death.

Other stories suggest that Valentine may have been killed for attempting to help Christians escape harsh Roman prisons, where they were often beaten and tortured. According to one legend, an imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first “valentine” greeting himself after he fell in love with a young girl who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed "From your Valentine," an expression that is still in use today. Although the truth behind the Valentine legend is murky, the stories all emphasize his appeal as a sympathetic, heroic and, most importantly, romantic figure. By the Middle Ages, perhaps thanks to this reputation, Valentine would become one of the most popular saints in England and France.

Valentine greetings were popular as far back as the Middle Ages, though written valentines didn’t begin to appear until after 1400. The oldest known valentine still in existence today was a poem written in 1415 by Charles, Duke of Orleans, to his wife while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London following his capture at the Battle of Agincourt. In addition to the United States, Valentine’s Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France and Australia. In Great Britain, Valentine’s Day began to be popularly celebrated around the 17th century. By the middle of the 18th, it was common for friends and lovers of all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes, and by 1900 printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. Ready-made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct expression of one’s feelings was discouraged. Cheaper postage rates also contributed to an increase in the popularity of sending Valentine’s Day greetings.

Americans probably began exchanging hand-made valentines in the early 1700s. In the 1840s, Esther A. Howland began selling the first mass-produced valentines in America. Howland, known as the “Mother of the Valentine,” made elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures known as "scrap." Today, according to the Greeting Card Association, an estimated 1 billion Valentine's Day cards are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year. Women purchase approximately 85 percent of all valentines.
Each semester offers a fresh start, and I wish you all the best with your academic pursuits, personal goals, and family life as you complete the Spring 2013 semester.

This semester we will again be looking at our budget needs for the coming year. We will not have a rate increase in FGSH for the 2013-2014 contract year. Please be assured we are doing our very best to control costs in order to provide you with the lowest cost possible. We wish to thank everyone that has participated in helping us control costs by keeping air conditioners/heaters running at reasonable temperatures, turning off unneeded lights, not running water unnecessarily, and all the other things that make a difference.

Please remember that starting this year all FGSH residents had to purchase parking permits. As we discussed in our community meeting in July 2012, OSU Parking and Transit services determines the cost of parking permits, and the cost of all OSU permits (including FGSH permits) will increase for the 2013-2014 school year. Please visit parking.okstate.edu for more information about parking permits.

As always, if you have any comments, concerns or questions about your experience in FGSH, please contact your AA, the FRC, or the FGSH office. As always, we will assist you in any way we can.

Sarah Wilkey
FRC & FGSH Assistant Director

New to FGSH?
The Family Resource Center is the center of activity for the Family and Graduate Student Housing residents and student families. The FRC staff answers many questions concerning our programs, the university and Stillwater.

Below are important phone numbers for other questions.

Apartment Maintenance Issues (Facilities):
405.744.8510

Apartment Contracts/Billing (FGSH office):
405.744.5353

Help
Conserve Energy
Staff Spotlight

Each month, we will highlight staff members from the Family Resource Center.

Name: Amanda Travis  
Hometown: Fort Worth, Texas  
Education: Agricultural communications senior  
Role at the FRC: Communications and Marketing Assistant  
Favorite Food: Anything Mexican and everything at Orange Leaf  
Favorite Activities: Going to the lake and being with friends and family  
Future Plans: Have a job at some sort of marketing or design company, and eventually become a mother  
Favorite movie: “P.S. I Love You”  
Favorite thing about the FRC: Working with people from so many backgrounds  
Interesting Fact: “I’m a neat freak. Everything must be in place.”  
Favorite Quote: “Let all that you do be done in love.” - 1 Corinthians 16:14

Name: Jordan Zanardelli  
Hometown: Edmond, Oklahoma  
Education: Majoring in human resources management  
Role at the FRC: Residential Life Ambassador and Front Desk Clerk  
Favorite Food: Omelettes, pizza, and enchiladas  
Favorite Activities: Football, baseball, soccer, video games, watching movies, and hanging out with my friends  
Future Plans: “I don’t know. That chapter of my life has no outline. I like wingin’ it.”  
Favorite movie: “Saving Private Ryan”  
Favorite thing about the FRC: Definitely the people and the friendly atmosphere they create.  
Interesting Fact: “I was originally born and raised in California. I lived there the first 14 years of my life.”  
Favorite Quote: “Pain heals, chicks dig scars. Glory lasts forever.” - Shave Tallo, “The Replacements”

If you enjoy learning more about current FGSH staff members, be on the lookout for more spotlights and interesting facts in the upcoming Newsline editions!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhood</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Building</th>
<th>Apartment</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
<th>Room Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Brumley</td>
<td>Sara Cheriki</td>
<td>Bldg. 124</td>
<td>Apt. 1</td>
<td>744-1876</td>
<td><a href="mailto:chahard@okstate.edu">chahard@okstate.edu</a></td>
<td>120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Demaree</td>
<td>Andrea Moore</td>
<td>Bldg. 41</td>
<td>Apt. 5</td>
<td>744-3452</td>
<td><a href="mailto:landrea@okstate.edu">landrea@okstate.edu</a></td>
<td>S36, S37, S38, S39, S40, S41, S42</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morrison</td>
<td>Mitch &amp; Tiffany Tillison</td>
<td>Bldg. 246</td>
<td>Apt. 111</td>
<td>744-3776</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mitch.tillison@okstate.edu">mitch.tillison@okstate.edu</a></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prosser</td>
<td>Bruce DuVall</td>
<td>Bldg. 21</td>
<td>Apt. 11</td>
<td>744-1221</td>
<td><a href="mailto:bruce.duvall@okstate.edu">bruce.duvall@okstate.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Stevens</td>
<td>Samar Abid &amp; Ahmed Moneeb</td>
<td>Bldg. 73</td>
<td>Apt. 11</td>
<td>744-8039</td>
<td><a href="mailto:samaraa@okstate.edu">samaraa@okstate.edu</a></td>
<td>S70, S71, S72, S73, S74, S75, S76, S90, S91, S92</td>
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<tr>
<td>West</td>
<td>Ky Le &amp; Vinh Nguyen</td>
<td>Bldg. 89</td>
<td>Apt. 5</td>
<td>744-3145</td>
<td><a href="mailto:kyle@okstate.edu">kyle@okstate.edu</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Williams</td>
<td>Farag Mewafy &amp; Mona Nafea</td>
<td>Bldg. 101</td>
<td>Apt. 1</td>
<td>744-1875</td>
<td><a href="mailto:farag.mewafy@okstate.edu">farag.mewafy@okstate.edu</a></td>
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### Neighborhood Gatherings

**BRUMLEY**
Saturday, February 9 • 4pm at the Brumley Community Center
Crafts / Burgers

**WILLIAMS**
Saturday, February 16 • 4pm at the FRC
X-Box 360 / Burgers, chips and drinks

**STEVENS**
Saturday, February 16 • 5pm at the FRC
Gestures around the world game / Buffalo wings, veggies & soda

**WEST**
Saturday, February 16 • 2pm at the FRC
OSU Q&A / Pizza, chips, vegetables and soda

**DEMAREE**
Sunday, February 17 • 2pm at the FRC
Tornado awareness quiz / Sandwiches, desserts & drinks

**MORRISON**
Sunday, February 17 • 4pm at the FRC
FIFA 2013 Video Tournament / Mediterranean Cuisine

**PROSSER**
Sunday, February 24 • 6:30pm at the FRC
Bingo / Middle Eastern food

### Coming Soon!
It’s getting close to that time again for the second annual FGSH Soccer Tournament! Preliminary games will be held in March, and the final games will be held in April. Contact your Apartment Assistant for more information. Be on the lookout for more details in the March Newsline and AA newsletters.

### Cable Problems?
If you are having problems with your cable, you must report them directly to Suddenlink. You can do so by filling out the form found here: https://stillwater.sharepoint.okstate.edu/RES_LIFE/RRS/cable_problem_reporting.aspx
FGSH News

Apartment Maintenance

The Facilities Management Office (FMO) is the office that handles maintenance issues. If your apartment requires maintenance you should contact the FMO at 744-8510. The FMO is open 8am-5pm. In case of a maintenance emergency after 5pm or on weekends, contact the Physical Plant Action Desk at 744-7154.

The BUS--Campus and Community Transit

The BUS is the campus and community transit service operated by the Department of Parking and Transit Services at OSU. The BUS provides fixed-route transit services throughout Stillwater and the OSU campus. Two routes provide service on the main campus every 7 minutes from 6am to 7pm and every 15 minutes after 7pm. The BUS also provides public transportation in Stillwater to all citizens from 6:30am to 10:30pm Monday through Friday. The BUS fares are as follows:

OSU Students, Faculty, and Staff ................................................................. Free with ID
General Public ...................................................................................... 75 cents ($0.75)
Child Under 5 .................................................................................... Free when accompanied by paying passenger
Child/Young Adult age 5-18; Seniors age 60+ ..................................... 35 cents ($0.35)
Persons with ADA Disability Card & Persons with Medicare Card ........ 35 cents ($0.35)
Exact fare required; fares are for one-way trips. Return trips require additional payment.

For route information, visit www.transit.okstate.edu.

Shopping Shuttle (free for all FGSH residents)

Sign up for the shuttle at the Laundry Mart 30 minutes prior to the shuttle’s departure.

Monday & Wednesday Schedule

5:30pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) ............. To Sultan International & Crepe Myrtle Asian Food
6:30pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) ............... To Walmart & Food Pyramid
7pm (Pick Up @ Brumley Office) ........... To Walmart & Food Pyramid
7:10pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) .................................. Return to FGSH Apartments
7:30pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) .................. To Walmart & Food Pyramid
7:40pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) .................. Return to FGSH Apartments
8:10pm(Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) .................. Return to FGSH Apartments
8:40pm (Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) .................. Return to FGSH Apartments

Saturday Schedule

9am (Pick Up @ Laundry) .................................................. To Walmart & Food Pyramid
9:30am (Pick Up @ Brumley Office) .................. To Walmart & Food Pyramid
9:40am (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) .................. Return to FGSH Apartments
10am (Pick Up @ Laundry) .......................... To Walmart & Food Pyramid
10:10am & 11am (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ........ Return to FGSH Apartments
11:40am(Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) .................. Return to FGSH Apartments

*All times listed above are approximate. Due to varying traffic flow, these times may be delayed.
Youth & Family Programs

Youth and Family Programs Schedule Spring 2013

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<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Days and Times</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Family Story Hour (ages 0-4)</td>
<td>Friday, 10 - 11am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toddler Time (ages 2-3)</td>
<td>Tuesday &amp; Thursday, 10 - 11:15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kindergarten Kids Club (ages 4-5)</td>
<td>Monday-Friday, 4 - 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>After School Adventures (ages 6-11)</td>
<td>Monday-Friday, 4 - 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Teen Club (ages 12-17)</td>
<td>Tuesdays, 6:30 - 8pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cowboys &amp; Cowgirls 4-H Club (ages 9-17)</td>
<td>Wednesdays, 4:30 - 6pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Book Club (ages 9-12)</td>
<td>Mondays, 5 - 6pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

All programs are currently full, so please send Mumbe an e-mail to place your child on the waiting list.

Drawing Competition for Children and Adults

On Wednesday, February 20 from 6:30-8pm, children ages 6-17 and adults ages 18 and up will have the opportunity to participate in a drawing competition sponsored by the BAEGSA Green Student Initiative. Participants must sign up for the event by Wednesday, February 15 at the FRC Front Desk; the sign-up sheet will be available on Friday, February 1. Children and adults will compete within the following age ranges: 6 to 8 years of age, 9 to 12 years of age, and 13 to 17 years of age, and 18 years and older. Participants will be provided with drawing materials and paper, a topic related to the environment, and an hour to create their entry for the competition. Additional information including judging criteria will be available along with the sign-up information at the FRC Front Desk.

Cultural Night at Will Rogers Elementary

On Thursday, February 28, Will Rogers Elementary will be celebrating the African/Middle East Culture from 5:30-7pm.

Teen Lending Privileges

The teen lending system provides parents with the opportunity to enroll their children between the ages of 13 and 17 to gain certain lending privileges and access to designated areas in the building without requiring parent supervision. Parents must sign up their teen for this privilege, designate the specific privileges their teen will be allowed, and accept full financial responsibility for damages to FRC property and loss of any items checked out from the FRC Lending Library. Teens receive an FRC-issued I.D. card that they must present to the FRC Front Desk staff upon entering the building. If you are interested in your teen having this privilege, please send Mumbe an e-mail to set up an appointment.

For those of you with teens who you authorize to participate in the teen lending system, please remember to make sure that your teens are respectful of the FRC staff and property. Also, remember that by authorizing your teen to have an FRC teen card, you understand that your teen will not be supervised while accessing the designated areas of the FRC. Teens participating in the lending system must present their FRC-issued I.D. card to the FRC Front Desk staff member upon entering the building. Otherwise, they will not be allowed to enter the building. Also, please remember that parents are fully financially responsible for damages to FRC property and loss of any items checked out from the FRC Lending Library. Damage or replacement fees will be charged to your bursar account accordingly.

On Monday, February 18, Book Club will be cancelled due to a FRC staff meeting.
Community Development

Community Development Programs Schedule for Spring 2013

Beginning Pronunciation Skills with Leslie**.......................... Monday, 9:30 – 10:30am
English Conversation with Leslie**........................................... Monday, 10:30 – 11:45am
Basic English with Kadie**.................................................. Monday, 12:30 – 1:30pm
Craft Class with Kadie and Megan**............................... Monday, 1:30 – 2:30pm
Intermediate English with Megan........................................ Monday, 2:30 – 3:30pm
Pronunciation Skills with Leslie........................................... Monday, 8 – 9pm
Professional Development with Alejandro.......................... Tuesday, 9:30 – 10:30am
Basic Spanish with Alejandro**............................... Tuesday, 10:30 – 11:30am
Reading Skills with Aaron**................................. Tuesday, 12:30 – 1:30pm
Current Events with Alejandro**.................................. Tuesday, 1:30 – 2:30pm
American Idioms and Phrasal Verbs with Megan & Leslie............... Tuesday, 8 – 9pm
Writing Skills with Aaron**................................................... Wednesday, 9:30 – 10:30am
English Grammar with Aaron**........................................... Wednesday, 10:30 – 11:30am
American Idioms & Phrasal Verbs with Megan & Leslie**........ Wednesday, 12:30 – 1:30pm
Advanced English with Megan............................................... Wednesday, 1:30 – 2:30pm
Listening and Speaking Skills with Aaron......................... Thursday, 9:30 – 10:45am
Cultural Conversation Group w/ Alejandro & Megan**........ Thursday, 11am – 12pm
Everyday English with Kadie**............................................. Thursday, 1 – 2pm
Book Club with Kadie**................................................... Thursday, 2 – 3pm
American History with Adran**........................................ Friday, 9:30 – 10:45am
Cooking Demo with Leslie, Megan and Alejandro**........ Friday, 11am – 12:30pm
English in the Media & Situational English w/ Alejandro & Leslie... Friday, 1 – 2pm
Pronunciation Skills with Leslie........................................... Friday, 2 – 3pm
Survival English with Ron.................................................. Saturday, 6 – 7:30pm
Intermediate English with Ron........................................... Saturday, 7:30 – 9pm

**Activities for children provided

Couple’s Night: Popcorn and a Movie

In celebration of Valentine’s Day, the FRC will be providing a space for couples to spend time with each other over a movie and popcorn. Join us on Thursday, Feb. 14, at the FRC Great Room from 6:30-8:30pm.

Drawing Competition

On Wednesday, February 20, from 6:30-8pm, children ages 6-17 and adults ages 18 and up will have the opportunity to participate in a drawing competition sponsored by the BAEGSA Green Student Initiative. Participants must sign up for the event by Wednesday, February 15, at the FRC Front Desk; the sign-up sheet will be available on Friday, February 1. Children and adults will compete within the following age ranges: 6 to 8 years of age, 9 to 12 years of age, 13 to 17 years of age, and adults 18 years and older. Participants will be provided with drawing materials and paper, a topic related to the environment, and an hour to create their entry for the competition. Additional information including judging criteria will be available along with the sign-up information at the FRC Front Desk.

Chinese New Year

The tradition of Chinese New Year is celebrated all over the world. The FRC will have our own celebration for our Chinese and non-Chinese residents. We will have different activities fitting the celebration for the New Year. There will also be chances of winning prizes and snacks will be provided. The celebration will be on Sunday, February 24, from 6:30-8pm in the FRC Great Room with the Prosser neighborhood.