

THE OKLAHOMA STATE SOCIETY



A social organization for Oklahomans living in Washington, DC



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GOLD CUP IS MAY 1ST

Dates To Remember

- **April 17th or 18th:** Thunder playoff watch party
- **April 22nd:** NFL draft party
- **May 1st:** Gold Cup
- **May 26th:** General Contracts Association host an OKSS happy hour
- **June TBD:** Congressional Reception
- **June TBD:** Oklahoma prayer breakfast
- **September 13th or 14th:** State Chamber of Commerce Meet and Greet
- **Nov. 16th:** Celebrating Statehood Day with a performance of *Oklahoma!* at the Arena Stage

The OKSS will once again be taking 2 buses from D.C. to The Plains, Virginia for the [Virginia Gold Cup Steeplechase Races](#) on Saturday May 1st 2010.

Tickets are currently on sale at our [website](#) for \$90. The ticket includes a light breakfast from Chick-fil-a before we depart; a bus ride to and from the event; entrance into our OKSS reserved tent; catered lunch; and drinks including beer, wine, liquor, soda and water.

We will also be selling our exclusive OKSS cigars for \$5 each. Don't forget to bring your OKSS Koozie to use throughout the day.

We will be meeting at 8:30 AM at the NRA Capitol Hill offices at 410 1st. St. (just above Bullfeathers). The buses will leave promptly at 9:30 AM and will be returning to the district around 7:00 PM.

This year marks the 85th running of the famous Virginia Gold Cup Steeplechase races, which are run in Fauquier county, Virginia. The race has been attended by over 50,000 spectators since 1922 and is a fixture of any D.C. social calendar.

Race day features six hurdle and timber horses' races, Jack Russell Terrier races, tent, tailgate, and hat

booths for shopping.

If you hope to join the OKSS for Gold Cup, please do not delay in purchasing your tickets. Due to space limitations both on the bus and in the tent, we are only able to sell a limited number of tickets. Once those tickets are sold out, we will be unable to sell any more.

Races will be run both rain or shine, so plan accordingly. We hope to see you May 1st.



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OKSS CHERRY BLOSSOM PRINCESS

Mika Leonard, a program specialist in the Office of the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs at the US Department of Interior, has been named as Oklahoma's 2010 Cherry Blossom Princess.

Leonard is a member of the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma and attended

Northeastern Oklahoma University.

Previously, she served as the Princess of the Miami Tribe and has been involved in tribal government/affairs, issues very important to the state.

"I am very excited about representing Oklahoma in

the 2010 Cherry Blossom Festival." Leonard exclaimed.

Her duties will occur during the week of April 4th and include a visit to the White House.

The 2010 Princess will be chosen at random during the

DATES TO REMEMBER

April 17th-ish - The [OKC Thunder](#) have secured their place in the playoffs, and the OKSS wants to watch their first game together at [Crystal City Sports Pub](#).



Unfortunately, we won't know the exact date, time, or opponent of the first game until around April 15th, so be looking for more info to come soon.

Wednesday, May 26th 5-7 PM - The General Contractors Association will once again be hosting their annual reception for the OKSS at [bullfeathers](#). All OKSS members are welcome to join for free cocktails and appetizers.

June TBD - The OKSS will be hosting this year's Congressional Reception on the Hill sometime in June. Details are still being ironed out,

so expect more info to come soon.

June TBD - The Oklahoma Prayer Breakfast will be on the Hill also in June. The OKSS is not planning the event, but once details are given to us, we will pass them along to you.

September 13th or 14th - [The State Chamber of Commerce](#) will once again be hosting their annual "Meet and Greet" on the Hill. More info will be passed along as we receive it.



Tuesday, November 16th - The OKSS, along with the [OU](#) & [OSU](#) Alumni Associations, will be celebrating Statehood Day with

a reception and performance of *Oklahoma!* at the [Arena Stage](#).

This will be the first performance in the recently refurbished [Arena Stage](#) in S.W. Washington, DC.



For more information about any OKSS event, or to suggest events the OKSS can participate in, please either visit our [webpage](#), join the [facebook](#) group, or [e-mail us](#).

2010 OKSS Board Members

- [President](#): Anna Pope
- [VP for Finance](#): Liz Lawhon
- [VP for Membership](#): Ginny Stone Badanes
- [VP for Social Affairs](#): Tabitha Layman
- [VP for Public Relations](#): Joshua Gibson
- [Treasurer](#): John Senger
- [Technology Officer](#): Geoff Wilson (second term in post)
- [Sergeant of Arms](#): David Badanes
- Congressional Trustee: [Congressman Tom Cole](#)
- Senior Advisors: Gayela Bynum and Lou Priebe

Facts About Our State

- **State Seal**: Centered by a five-pointed star bearing a three-figured symbol of the Frontiersman, the Indian, and Justice," the state motto and other symbols, all surrounded by 45 smaller stars.
- **State Motto**: The Latin, "Labor Omnia Vincit," meaning "Labor Conquers All Things."
- **State Flag**: An Osage warrior's shield in a field of blue with the shield crossed by a pipe and olive branch.
- **State Song**: "Oklahoma!" from the Rogers and Hammerstein musical of the same name.
- **State Floral Emblem**: Mistletoe
- **State Tree**: Redbud
- **State Bird**: Scissor-tailed Flycatcher
- **State Grass**: Indian Grass
- **State Reptile**: Mountain boomer or collared lizard
- **State Rock**: Barite Rose Rock
- **State Fish**: White Bass or Sand Bass
- **State Animal**: American Buffalo (Bison)

NFL DRAFT WATCH PARTY

This year will mark one of the best [NFL drafts](#) in recent memory for OU and OSU football players.

With such anticipation building about where Sam Bradford, Gerald McCoy or Dez Bryant will end up, we would like to invite you to join us at [Penn Quarter Sports Tavern](#) to watch our Oklahoma athletes in the 1st round of the NFL draft.

For the first time in draft history, round 1 will be on its own night, which will be Thursday, April 22nd at 7:30 P.M.

OU players in the draft:

Sam Bradford - #1 overall: With the St. Louis Rams (who have the #1 pick) releasing their starting QB, and the Redskins trading for Donovan McNabb showing they don't think Bradford is still an option, Sam will likely be the #1 overall pick and subsequently the instant starting QB for the St. Louis Rams.

Gerald McCoy - #2 or #3: McCoy is a premier defensive tackle and will likely be either the #2 pick going to Detroit or the #3 pick going to Tampa Bay.



Trent Williams - #17: Trent will likely go mid-way through the first round and possibly to the San Fran 49ers.

Jermaine Gresham - #25: Sitting out your entire Senior year after a season ending knee surgery is never good for your draft prospects, but Gresham was still regarded as the best tight-end in college football, so he will probably go in the first round

to the Baltimore Ravens.

OSU players in the draft:

Russell Okung - #2 or #4: The Lions need a better O-line so they might pass on Suh and McCoy for Okung at #2. However, if the Lions take Suh or McCoy, the Redskins will probably happily pick up Okung at #4.



Dez Bryant - #10: Although his final season with OSU ended on a bad note, Dez is still a great receiver. He will likely go high in the first round and possibly even #10 to the Jaguars.

Whether you are a Sooner or a Cowboy, come join the OKSS as we cheer on our Oklahoma athletes, while enjoying some great beverages and bar food.

STAY IN TOUCH

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[Join our facebook group](#)

[Visit our webpage www.okstatesociety.org](http://www.okstatesociety.org)



The Oklahoma State Society is an organization specifically designed for Oklahomans living and working in the D.C. metro area. You do not have to be from Oklahoma to participate, although most members have some sort of connection to the State, whether they spent time in Oklahoma for the military; attended one of Oklahoma's fine colleges and universities; have a friend who is a member; or work for a member of the Congressional delegation. Everyone who is interested in celebrating Oklahoma is welcome to join and participate. We hope to see you at our next event.

If you would like to join the Oklahoma State Society, please visit our websites' [membership page](#) and pay your 2010 dues.

For more information about the OKSS, or the 2010 dues, please e-mail our VP of membership [Ginny Stone Badanes](#).