

# AMBUNK

Week of:  
November 28, 2022

## GREAT PLAINS AMBUCS NEWSLETTER

A publication of  
Great Plains AMBUCS Lawton,  
OK

Edited by Monte Brown  
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### THIS WEEK

The November 28, 2022, chapter meeting was called to order by Jenny Clement-Shaw. Gordon Shaw led the group in prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.



*Judge Grant Sheperd*

Grant Sheperd, a Special District Judge for Comanche County and soon to be District Judge, was the guest speaker. He was appointed to the bench in 2019 and elected to a District Judgeship this year. He'll be sworn into his new office in January.

Sheperd said he was born and raised in Hobart. He later graduated from the University of Oklahoma and then completed law school. That's where he met his future wife, whose family is from Lawton. After settling here, Sheperd worked in private practice for eight years before he was selected to serve as a Special District Judge.

Sheperd said special judges deal with a wide range of issues. Their most complex civil matters reach \$10,000. That includes small claims cases and evictions. They are also responsible for reviewing, issuing or denying protective orders. He said there has

### THANKSGIVING AT FORT SILL



*Great Plains AMBUCS members and City of Lawton officials made sure Fort Sill basic training soldiers received a warm Thanksgiving meal in the field.*

been a substantial increase in filings in Comanche County. He said there was a record number in 2021, which will be broken this year. Sheperd said continuous changes in state law have allowed more applicants to qualify for protective orders. He and fellow Special District Judge Susan Swaan are responsible for all the requests. They have two weeks to hear the matters and issue a ruling.

Sheperd said changes to the way small claims cases are handled have been well received. Instead of scheduling 90 to 100 cases on one docket, they are now spread out to a maximum of 40 to 50. That has increased the number of days cases are scheduled, but Sheperd said it has made it a faster and smoother process for all involved.

Special judges are also responsible for setting bonds in criminal cases. Sheperd said many factors are weighed when setting bonds, but decisions are not meant to be punishments. In terms of filings, he said both misdemeanor and felonies in Comanche County have increased in 2022 over the year prior.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Great Plains AMBUCS were leading the way after the first week of the district blood drive for OBI. Results should be available at next meeting.
- The Salvation Army Angel Tree program has received 200 requests above last year's total. Tanna Vu said United Way is working with groups to help make sure every child receives a gift. Members can bring unwrapped toys to the next meeting and Tanna will take them to the Salvation Army.
- Two foundations have provided over \$4,000 in dividend payments for the Kids Zone investments. Mark Glenn said board members will consider new investment opportunities in the future.

### GUESTS

Vincent Saylor  
(Application Submitted)  
Sponsored by Monte Brown

Christi Chambers  
(Application Submitted)  
Sponsored by Gordon Shaw

### 50/50

Zeldon Rice drew the King of Hearts.  
The pot stood at \$152.

### NEWSLETTER

Scott Meaders had the winning ticket and his copy of AMBUNK.