The Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture dedicates this year’s Newsletter in memory of Ken Karner, Station Superintendent, Oklahoma Pecan and Fruit Research Station, Perkins, Oklahoma.

Kenneth Herbert Karner was born May 31, 1954, in Tulsa, Oklahoma and died May 9, 2004 in an automobile accident. He graduated Broken Arrow High School in 1972, and in 1977 graduated from Oklahoma State University with a B.S. in Entomology. Ken joined the Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture as Superintendent of the Fruit Research Station at Perkins in 1977. Later, he assumed additional Superintendent duties for the Pecan Research Station at Sparks. In 1994, the Sparks research station was closed, and both pecan and fruit research was consolidated at the Perkins station.

Ken was instrumental in the development of the Pecan and Fruit Research Station at Perkins. When he started in 1977 the only facility at the station was a termite-infested tractor shed. The plantings consisted of about 3 acres of grapes, 10 acres of peaches and 5 acres of apples. In 2004, there is a modern conference building, the Herman Hinrichs Conference Building; a building with office, walk-in cooler, peach grading facility and shop; a building for pecan processing and storage; and two equipment storage facilities. Plantings have expanded to about 40 acres of peaches, 60 acres of pecans and 3 acres of grapes. Ken worked with faculty in horticulture, plant pathology, entomology, agricultural engineering, and other departments that used the station plantings and facilities for research and extension activities.

Survivors include his wife, Janet, of the home; two sons, Cameron and Logan; one daughter, Nicole; a father, Herbert; one brother, Gary; and one sister, Valerie Kolkmann. Ken will be missed by all who knew him.

McGinnis Memorial Scholarship

Jeremy T. Biswell was the recipient of the Scott A. McGinnis Memorial Scholarship.

This is a new scholarship honoring the memory of Scott A. McGinnis. Scott McGinnis was a native of Cushing, OK and a 2001 graduate of the Oklahoma State University Turfgrass Program. After graduation Scott was employed at the Fountain Bluffs Sports Complex in Liberty, KS as the facilities superintendent. Scott’s motivation, work ethic, and likeable personality set him in the direction toward a superintendent’s position. In fact, he was offered an assistant superintendent’s position with a professional baseball team shortly before his death. We feel certain that Jeremy will carry on Scott’s legacy and example and many other students will follow in his footsteps in the years to come.
Competition Placings
Each year students participate in national and regional contests. The 2004 rankings are as follows.

Southern Region American Society for Horticultural Science Contests in Tulsa, OK, February 2004:

Team Ranking:
1st Place - Outstanding Club
2nd Place - Fruit & Nuts
2nd Place - Vegetable Crop

63rd Annual Floral Crop Quality Evaluation & Design Competition at Colorado State University, April 2004:

Team Ranking:
3rd Place - Overall Team Ranking

Individual Ranking:
1st Place Judging of Potted Plants - Julia Brotton
1st Place Asymmetrical Floral Design - Julia Brotton
3rd Place Judging of Potted Plants - Anna Williamson
4th Place European Hand-Tied Design - Shannon Lambert

Associate Landscape Contractors of America Career Days at Columbus, Ohio, March 2004:

Individual Ranking:
4th Place Overall Individual - Darren Scott
10th Place Overall Individual - Cliff Mathis

2005 Oklahoma Proven Selections
Each year Oklahoma Proven recommends a tree, shrub, perennial, and annual for use in Oklahoma. Below are the selections for 2005. Oklahoma Proven is the brain child of the Department of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture and is supported by the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture and the Oklahoma Green Industry.

Oklahoma Proven Selections for 2005
*Ulmus crassifolia*, Cedar Elm
*Bignonia capreolata* ‘Tangerine Beauty’, Crossvine
*Ceratostigma plumbaginoides*, Perennial Plumbago
*Angelonia angustifolia*, Summer Snapdragon

Click here for Past Oklahoma Proven Selections

Congratulations to our Graduates
The department would like to extend its congratulations to the following students who graduated from our department.

Fall 2003
Kendi Nelson
Dustin L. Elms
Blake M. Emerson
Timothy Endicott
Laura Gruenau
Edward W. Miodell
Abbie M. Nidiffer
Andria M. Ripley
Kyle Waters
Jeremy W. Williams

Spring 2004
Brian A. Beach
Colby S. Brewster
Amy S. Brooks
Russell A. Chronister
A. Brooke Winters Cox
William Kyle Desautell
Jennifer L. Frantz
Joshua G. Fuder

Ryan G. Henderson
Anjanette K. King
James R. Lee
Clifton K. Mathis
Kara McCarty Mitchell
Mary Kathryn Morgan
Ryan N. Ochsner
Sarah Ann O’Neal
Tracey L. Payton
Alyssa K. Ramm
Jason C. Roberts
Darran A. Scott
Corilynn A. Tauer
Nicholas W. Thompson
Kendall R. Wiley
Anna L. Williamson
Matthew W. Wood
Adrian C. Wooten
Jackey R. Yocham
Jason E. Young

Summer 2004
Vincent Boelte
Robert O. Brown
Joshua J. Burnett
Eric E. Gubser
Wesley Scruggs, Jr.

American Society of Horticultural Science Collegiate Scholars Award
The Department of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture at Oklahoma State University is pleased to recognize the following Horticulture majors who meet the criteria for the ASHS Collegiate Scholars Award:

Julia C. Brotton
Eileen Cravello
Michael R. League
Sarah A. O’Neal

Scholarships and Awards
At our 29th Annual Departmental Awards Program on August 28, 2004, our students were awarded $118,450 in scholarships for the 2004-2005 academic year and several special awards were given by the department. For a complete list of the department’s scholarship and award recipients please click here.

The department would like to extend a thank you to all of the scholarship donors. We appreciate your supporting our students.

New Grants and Publications
Please follow these links for a complete listing of grants and publications!
Educators’ Leadership Academy

Dr. Maronek was invited by the Educators’ Leadership Academy to participate in their Outstanding Professors’ Academy. Dr. Maronek worked with colleagues within the chapter to present a session on leadership development as it pertains to the horticulture discipline, Oklahoma State University, and the world at large.

OSU Student Chapter of GCSAA Hosts Successful Benefit Golf Tournament

by Kyle DeSautell, 2003-2004 Secretary, OSU-Stillwater Student Chapter of GCSAA

Thirteen teams battled it out in a 4-person scramble for prizes and glory in Stillwater on Saturday, April 17th at Lakeside Golf Course. The event was the 4th Annual Benefit Golf Tournament of the OSU-Stillwater Student Chapter of the Golf Course Management Association of America.

The student club cleared approximately $2400 to use for club functions such as field trips and covering speaker expenses at local club meetings. Participants could further assist the student club, and possibly their golf score, through the purchase of Mulligans and Tee Busters. Superintendent Mike Buxton had the course in excellent playing condition during the event.

The Student Club would like to express their sincere appreciation to all of the golf teams and as well as the following businesses for sponsoring either tee boxes, donating prizes or donations towards the cost of the event: Persimmon Hills Golf Course, Green Acre Sod Store, Tom Tatman, Mike McGraw, Jackson Jewelers, Direct Discount Tire, Mike & Renna Eddins, Salim Akrabawi, M.D., El Tapatio, Chris’s University Spirit, BASF, Karsten Creek, Larry & Rita Biswell, Kinko’s, TV 31, Cowboy Sportsplex, Eskimo Joe’s, Estes, Inc., Causley Productions, Verdigris Valley Sod Farm, Hooters, Yocham Trucking, Mike’s College Bar, Field & Field Chiropractic Clinic, Inc., Wormy Dog Saloon, Cushing Regional Hospital, Luber Bros., Ryan Lawn and Tree, Taylor’s Concrete Construction, O’Higgins, Gofourth Insurance Agency, Beaven’s Martial Arts, Top Quality Roofing and Construction, Cliff Brunken, Harley Halen Concrete, Randall Faryer Masonry, Ms. Carolyn’s Beauty Shop, Toro Professional Lawn Care Products, Stillwater National Bank, and UAP Verdicon.

Departmental Support

The Department would like to extend its gratitude to the following individuals and companies for their support during 2004:


International Council On Monuments and Sites US Committee Internship

Michael Albert was selected by UNESCO’s International Council on Monuments and Sites’ U. S. Committee (US/ICOMOS) for the only Fall semester Wilanow Palace Internship to Poland to work on a restoration plan for the Muskau Park/Estate located between Poland and Germany. Muskau designed by Prince Plucker in 1850s is best the example of the English landscape design style of the Romantic Period on the European continent Dr. Leider nominated Mike for the internship. He competed against other nominees from all the Landscape Architecture programs in the U.S. In the Spring of 2002 Mike worked on a Special Topics Project team on the preparation of a Historic Restoration Plan for the Marland Estate in Ponca City. When he returns to OSU for the Spring semester he will be a 5th year student. Mike has also held internships with MESA in Little Rock, and EDSA in Ft. Lauderdale and Beijing, China.

Peruvian Studio Exchange Program

In February 2003 and 2004 the 4th year Peruvian students and faculty members from the Architecture Program of the Universidad Peruana de Ciencias Aplicadas (UPC) from Lima arrived at OSU. The Peruvians were at OSU for four weeks in February. During their stay at OSU they participated in a studio design project with Design IV class. After the studio problem was complete, they toured built works in Texas for one week before flying back to Lima from Houston.

The OSU Landscape Architecture students returned the visit to UPC in Lima, Peru in May and participated in course work which included outdoor sketching and tour of
Landscape Design in Russia

A husband and wife team who are alumni of the Junior Faculty Development Program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education have channeled their U.S. experiences into the creation of the Department of Landscape Design at Vladivostok State University of Economy and Service, the first such program in the Russian Far East.

The idea of focusing on landscape design came to Oksana Maslovskaya during her stay at Oklahoma State University during the 2002-03 academic year. Her husband and colleague, Grigory E. Ignative, spent the 1996-97 academic year at the University of Oregon and also joined her for one semester in Stillwater.

There is very high demand for landscape architects in Vladivostok, Ms. Maslovskaya noted. Roads, highways, and public spaces all require sprucing up, while private clients are increasingly demanding beautification of residential areas. Restaurants and shops see better landscaping as a way to attract more customers.

Ms. Maslovskaya and Mr. Ignatov approached the president of Vladivostok State with the idea to create the new department. In July 2003 the Department of Design was subdivided into the Department of Interior Design and Department of Landscape Design. Already 16 students have enrolled as juniors, following two years of studying basic design. When it reaches full steam after four years, there will be 80 students total.

Ms. Maslovskaya is in regular contact with Charles Leider who was her advisor while she visited our department. He provides input on the curriculum, building on their experiences together in the 2002-03 academic year.

Japanese Urban Landscape Design Study Abroad Program

The LA program conducted a three week study abroad program of Japanese historic and urban landscapes in May 2003 and 2004. The study program involved the viewing of built landscapes in the Kyoto and Kameoka region in Japan. A one day charette problem was given at the Landscape Architecture program at the Kyoto College of Art and Design. The program is designed to improve the sketching ability of beginning design students. Prof. Paul Hsu led the OSU group.

Horticulture in the European Community and the United States (HORTECUS) Study Abroad Program

During 2004, Horticulture major Julia Brotton participated in the HORTECUS study abroad program. In August she traveled the Netherlands to study at Hogeschool INHOLLAND Delft and also worked in a floral shop in Rotterdam. Julia returned home in December.

Faculty & Staff Recognition

The Department of Horticulture & Landscape Architecture would like to congratulate the following Faculty & Staff for their accomplishments:

Lou Anella, 2004 OSU Technology Innovator Award, OSU Office of Academic Affairs and the Information Technology Division.

Greg Bell, Huffine Endowed Professorship, Oklahoma State University

Janet Cole, 2004-2005 Southern Region President, American Society of Horticultural Science (ASHS)

Janet Cole, ASHS Outstanding Undergraduate Educator at the 2004 ASHS Annual Conference, July 2004 in Austin, TX

Paul Hsu received a University Teaching Grant from the Rotary International Foundation allowing him to teach at the Maejo University, Chiang Mai, Thailand from June 5-September 5, 2004

Stephanie Larimer, Service Pin - 15 years

Charles Leider, 2004 OSU Technology Innovator Award, OSU Office of Academic Affairs and the Information Technology Division

Charles Leider, 2004 OSU Parents Association Outstanding Faculty Award

Doug Needham, 2004-2006 President, Pi Alpha Xi - national honor society for floriculture, ornamental horticulture, and landscape horticulture

Doug Needham, 2004 L.M. Ware Distinguished Teacher, Southern Region of the American Society for Horticultural Sciences (ASHS)

Doug Needham, 2003 Fellow, Pi Alpha Xi - national honor society for floriculture, ornamental horticulture, and landscape horticulture

Mike Schnelle received the Keep Oklahoma Beautiful Award along with Pat Bolin, Integrated Pest Management Coordinator; and Kathleen Kelsey, Agriculture Education, Communications, and 4-H Youth Development, have been recognized for their urban and landscape Integrated Pest Management efforts.

Margaret Struble, Service Pin - 25 years

Lynda Wells, Service Pin - 5 years

Karen Williams, Service Pin - 5 years
Landscaping with Trees, Shrubs, and Vines in Oklahoma CD

We would like to announce the release of a new CD from Oklahoma State University, E-972 Landscaping with Trees, Shrubs, and Vines in Oklahoma. This comprehensive publication covers benefits, design concepts, recommended methods for planting, care and maintenance, and pest control. There are also lists of suggested plant species for each region of Oklahoma as well as lists of plant material for specific purposes like dry locations, shade, plants with showy flowers, fruits, fall color, and native plant species. Each chapter is filled with colorful pictures and detailed diagrams and there are additional features of helpful internet links and several video clips from Oklahoma Gardening to watch on your computer.

E-972 Landscaping with Trees, Shrubs, and Vines in Oklahoma is a helpful tool for all gardeners and makes a wonderful gift. For only ten dollars each, you can order one for every gardener you know.

To place your order send $10 per CD with a request and make check payable to:
The Horticulture and Landscape Architecture Dept.
Attn: Stephanie Larimer
360 Agricultural Hall
Stillwater, OK 74078-6027
phone: 405-744-5404

Patriot Bermudagrass Now Available in Oklahoma

‘Patriot’ (Cynodon dactylon X C. transvaalensis) is a new hybrid, patent-pending bermudagrass developed at Oklahoma State University. Characteristics of Patriot include dark green color, improved cold hardness, high shoot density and a medium fine texture. Patriot was tested nationally in the 1997-2001 NTEP bermudagrass trial as entry OKC 18-4 and as Patriot in the current 2002-2007 NTEP trial (http://www.ntep.org). Patriot is intermediate in spring dead spot disease resistance, better than Sahara, AZ Common, Tifway and U-3 but less resistant than Midiron, Midlawn and Midfield. The quality of Patriot exceeds that of Midlawn, Midfield, Midiron, U-3 and many other bermudagrasses. Patriot offers quality comparable to Tifway and Tifsport, but Patriot has a more aggressive rate of spread, allowing for rapid recovery from traffic and divot injury when managed properly.

The characteristics of Patriot make it well suited for use on lawns, athletic fields and areas on the golf course such as tee boxes, fairways and surrounds, where a high quality hybrid bermudagrass is desired and where moderate to high intensity of management will be practiced. Patriot is adapted from a 3/8 to 1.5 inch height-of-cut. At mowing heights below 3/8, Patriot will begin to thin out. Above 1.5 inches, the short internodes of Patriot will result in a puffy and uneven appearance of the turf. Patriot’s improved cold hardness allows it to be well suited throughout Oklahoma when irrigation will be practiced. Patriot is adapted into the upper regions of bermudagrass adaptation in the transition zone as well as throughout most of the traditional areas of bermudagrass use.

Patriot is available only as Certified sprigs or Certified sod, insuring only the highest quality of planting material for the consumer. Patriot is a proprietary variety, exclusively licensed for production in Oklahoma to Easton Sod Farms (ESF), Inc. In Oklahoma, contact John Easton at (405) 749-1622 or sales@eastonsod.com regarding purchase of Patriot sprigs or sod. Licence options for production of Patriot are still available in certain other regions of the U.S. For more information on these options contact Dr. Bob Westerman, Oklahoma State University, (405) 744-5398.

Facts About Riviera Seeded Bermudagrass

What is so great about Riviera bermudagrass?

Riviera provides excellent cold hardiness and improved spring dead spot as well as higher visual and functional appeal (quality) than any other seeded turf bermudagrass for Oklahoma. Riviera was rated #1 performer in the 1997-2001 National Turfgrass Evaluation Program’s bermudagrass performance trial (www.ntep.org) which was conducted across several states.

Where was Riviera developed?

Riviera seeded bermudagrass was developed by the Oklahoma State University at Stillwater - Bermudagrass Breeding and Development Team. The grass was developed with funding from the United States Golf Association (USGA) and the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station (the Agricultural Research Arm of OSU). The development team is lead by Dr. Charles Taliaferro with other team members including Drs. Dennis Martin, Jeff Anderson, Mike Anderson and Arron Guenzi. Riviera is protected under “US Plant Variety Patent Applied For” status.

Where can Riviera be used?

Riviera is well adapted to full-sun areas on parks, grounds, lawns, golf courses and athletic fields that will receive some amount of lawn care. It is being used in Oklahoma as well as other states where it is appropriate for bermudagrass to be grown. Additionally some Riviera is being...
used outside of the US. Riviera is adapted from 3/8 inch mowing height on up to normal lawn heights of 1.0 to 2.0 inches. Riviera benefits from the normal lawn care practices that are part of a sound management program (OSU Fact Sheet 6420: Lawn management in Oklahoma: http://osuextra.okstate.edu/pdfs/F-6420web.pdf).

**How can I tell whether the performance/recommended variety information for Riviera or any turfgrass that I am being told about is truthful information?**

This is an excellent question and is the basis of why the non-Profit organization called the National Turfgrass Evaluation Program (NTEP) was formed. The NTEP coordinates turfgrass variety testing and unbiased presentation of grass performance results across the US and Canada. The NTEP organization presents unbiased performance information but does not make grassing recommendations. As a fact finding American, you can search the NTEP website for grass performance information and make your own informed decisions regarding any turfgrass that has been tested by NTEP. See the NTEP website at: www.ntep.org and follow the links.

**What does Riviera seed cost and how does this cost compare to regular seeded bermudagrass?**

Riviera seed costs between $18 and $27 per lb, depending upon the volume of seed you are buying (http://www.johnstonseed.com/getProducts.do?cat=103). The least expensive seeded bermudagrasses such as Sahara (which through research have been shown to have serious problems with winter-kill and spring dead spot disease in Oklahoma) cost approximately $4.00 per pound. Remember, the initial cost of grass seed is relatively small compared to the long term benefits of a good lawn and the amount of time and labor used in even low to moderate lawn maintenance over time. Often, lawn care practices cost more and/or your satisfaction with your lawn is less in the long run if you choose a poorly adapted grass for your lawn.

**How do I establish Riviera bermudagrass?**

Riviera is established as a lawn just like any other seeded bermudagrass. See the details of establishing a lawn in OSU Fact Sheet 6419: Establishing a lawn in Oklahoma at: http://osuextra.okstate.edu/pdfs/F-6419web.pdf or pick up a copy of the fact sheet at your county OSU Cooperative Extension Service Office.

**Is Riviera a miracle turf grass?**

No, there is no such thing as a miracle turfgrass. If you believe that there is, then you will be parted from the cash in your pocket several times in life as well as be disappointed with every turfgrass that you buy. All grasses have their own unique benefits and challenges. Sound lawn management practices are still important regardless of which grass variety you choose. The key is knowing what problems are present in your turfgrass area and picking types like Riviera that have improved resistance to the common and serious problems that are present. You can learn about sound lawn management practices through OSU Fact Sheet 6420: Lawn management in Oklahoma at: http://osuextra.okstate.edu/pdfs/F-6420web.pdf.

**Where can I buy Riviera seed?**

Riviera seed is available through Johnston Seed Company of Enid at:

Johnston Seed Company, P.O. Box 1392, 319 West Chestnut, Enid, OK 73702. Phone: 800.375.4613, email: johnseed@johnstonseed.com

**If I have more questions on Riviera bermudagrass performance or use, who should I contact?**

Start with your local county OSU Cooperative Extension Service Office, whose phone number is available in the phone book or contact 405.744.5404. This information sheet was prepared by Dennis Martin, Ph.D. Turfgrass Extension Specialist, Oklahoma State University/ Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service. Questions regarding the content of this information sheet should be directed to: Dennis.L.Martin@okstate.edu or 405.744.5419.
Yes, I want to contribute to the Horticulture & Landscape Architecture Program Support Fund

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I pledge $_________________ to the following areas:
☐ Horticulture  ☐ Landscape Architecture  ☐ Landscape Contracting
☐ Turf Management  ☐ Public Horticulture

My tax deductible gift of $___________ is enclosed. Please make checks payable to the OSU Foundation.

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Oklahoma State University  
Stillwater, OK 74078  
Phone: 405-744-7964

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Stillwater, OK 74078-6027

Any contribution in excess of $30 is tax deductible and should be submitted separately with a check payable to OSU Foundation. All proceeds go to support OBGA programs and activities in Oklahoma.

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☐ $250 Sustaining Partner  
☐ $500 Garden Partner  
☐ $1000 Founding Partner