



HORTICULTURE HORIZONS

The Newsletter of the Oklahoma Horticultural Society

SPRING 2004
MAR/APR/MAY

COMING ATTRACTION:

“Garden Tour for Connoisseurs”

The time has once again come to recruit volunteers for central Oklahoma’s most anticipated garden tour. Our tour is set for Saturday, June 5, 2004, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., rain or shine. Each garden is unique, beautiful, and offers the viewer potential ideas for their own home landscape. Warren Filley and Beth Wagner are co-chairmen and the tour committee has been working to plan the sixth annual tour.

The success of this tour is up to YOU! Over 80 wonderful people helped us with the 2003 tour. Please volunteer today to again help us work greeting visitors, selling and marking tickets or answering questions visitors may have about a garden or our group. If you have never been able to work the tour, but can this year, please don’t hesitate to volunteer. The shifts will be so that you will have plenty of time to tour the other gardens. Now here’s the best part...all volunteers receive a FREE TICKET to the tour! If you have non-OHS member family or friends who could work with you in a garden, recruit them. Last year, I asked three friends to help me and we now have three new members! If you are a new OHS member, this is a great way to become acquainted with others in our group.

Before you put this newsletter down or lose track of it, make a call to volunteer NOW. You can contact Sharon Beasley (392-4727 / e-mail her at gardener@pldi.net) or Jeanie Spence (751-8799) and let them know you will help. Both members have answering machines. The sooner you call, the better your chance to choose a preferred time .

Remember, the tour profits are used solely for educational purposes. You will be so glad you helped the OHS!

Scott Ogden Programs

Oklahoma gardeners were treated to an enlightening three days of programs by Austin, Texas plantsman, Scott Ogden during the OHS Winter Speaker Series Events this past February.

On February 26th, 2004, a full house at Tulsa’s brand new Hardesty Regional Library heard Scott’s program on “Garden Bulbs for the South”. His slide show consisted of eighty shots of flowers covering tulips, amaryllis, daffodils, iris and, lilies of all kinds. All the plants shown grow in Oklahoma. One came away with the feeling that the best plants aren’t always the brand new ones you see pitched by mail order catalogs, but rather those found in forgotten cemeteries, abandoned homesteads or in roadside ditches. These are the plants that have survived droughts and floods and thrived in our native soils.

On February 27th and 28th, Stillwater and Oklahoma City were presented with “Plants With Presence”. This was a passionate look at what feelings and emotions plants evoke in a gardener. Often we are driven

continued on page 3

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Cathy Connel
Brent Suttles
Frank Arney
Scott Brenkert
Jim Kirby
Paul Johnson
Brian Pirtle
Beth Wagner

Board Members Through January 2005

Shirley Kennedy
Rodd Moesel
Shirley McFarland
Johnny Satterlee
George Vaclavek
Wanda White

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Publicity & Programs

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Warren Filley
Dean & Wanda
Manderscheid

Education & Publications

Victoria Michalik
Youth Activities

Marjorie Moesel

Membership

Sharon Beasley

Finance

JoAnne Vervinck

Webmaster

Hugh Stout, Jr.

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I want to thank everyone who attended our Annual Meeting Saturday, February 28 at the OKC Zoo. It looked like a large turnout, at least from where I was standing! (Still a little shy of crowds.) Scott Ogden gave a very interesting and original talk on 'Plants With Presence'.

We swore in a new Board of Directors and Officers, and said farewell to some wonderful members. All those that stepped down assure me they will not be far and can be counted on for any help our society calls for. On behalf of all of us, I'd like to say **thank you** to Sharon Beasley, Warren Filley, Wanda Mandersheid, Victoria Michalik, Pearl Pearson and Allan Storjohann for your devotion to the "Hort" Society.

New Board members are Frank Arney, Scott Brenkert, Jim Kirby, Paul Johnson, Rodd Moesel, Brian Pirtle and Beth Wagner. Brent Suttles and Cathy Connel have been re-elected for another two years and Steve Owens is our new vice president. I somehow got roped into another term as president but honestly look forward to it. After one meeting with the new Board, I can assure you this society isn't going to skip a beat! Please feel free to contact any of us with your, ideas and comments. Boards of directors are the servants of the society.

Our website is a beehive of activity and is full of calendar events statewide, pictures, resources, etc. Many clubs across Oklahoma without a website are eager to promote their events with us. We are becoming a hub of horticulture. Anything you want to know about plants, gardening clubs, or events you can find at www.okhort.org. If it's not there, there's a link to it!

I look forward to the coming year. We are growing and becoming very visible statewide. We added around thirty new members in the last couple of months! Our monthly meetings in Oklahoma City have had a resurgence of attendance. Many of our members are providing horticulture type programs for other groups. Sometimes they're judges or speakers for garden shows. Some write for newspapers and magazines and host TV shows. Many make their living in the nursery

business and several teach, or have taught plant related courses. Then there are those, like me, that just like to play in the dirt and grow things. I'm very proud to be a member of the Oklahoma Horticultural Society because of our members. Our thirst for knowledge causes us all to reflect our society in a positive light. It's a truly unique organization we have and we should all try to spread the word! Thanks for everyone's support!

Hugh Stout Jr.

ADVERTISING INFORMATION

	Members	Non-member
Bus card	\$15.00	\$20.00
1/4 page	25.00	35.00
1/2 page	45.00	55.00
full page	85.00	100.00

Issue	Deadline
Spring	March 1
Summer	May 1
Fall	August 15
Winter	November 15

A Trip to Kansas

by John Fluitt

Every year in early March, just north of the Oklahoma state line, one of America's finest landscape gardening shows takes place in the historical district of downtown Wichita Kansas. Once again, this year as in the past, the 2004 Wichita Garden Show was truly a sight to be seen.

Five elaborately-designed Great Gardens and eight charming Mid-Gardens stole the show at the annual event within the Century II Civic Center. Trees towering over 40' in height, masses of flowering shrubs in full bloom, and a reported 300 tons of massive boulders helped create the 2004 theme of "Hat's Off to Spring". I was delighted to be a judge for the Mid-Gardens, all of which were designed with considerable care and skill.

"This year the garden contractors collectively produced the best 13 garden displays we ever hope to have," declared Jennifer Sloyer, a member of the show's board of directors. "It definitely rivals the Philadelphia Flower Show."

One interesting fact that surprises the average show visitor is the amount of mulch required by the 13 garden show displays: this year, a whopping 32 semi loads! Try spreading that out along the yellow brick road. The five-day affair, almost 40 years in the making, draws enormous crowds each day, with a total attendance of over 45,000 visitors this year alone. It is said to be in the top ten for shows of it's kind in the United States.

Next year, for those of you who have always enjoyed the Oklahoma Garden Festival in Oklahoma City, you certainly won't want to miss the show of shows in our region: the Wichita Garden Show.

...Scott Ogden continued from page 1 by looks or even costs when selecting plants. This program pointed out the attributes that give certain plants presence. These plants bring out feelings in a gardener that make the plant almost magical. It may be a special flower that came from a grandmother's garden or a wildflower that stirs pleasant memories of never-ending fields of wildflowers. We also learned that plants also convey formal, classical or a modern spirit.

Scott Ogden's programs were most inspiring and left us all ready to get this winter over with and get back in the yard.

TWO ITEMS TO NOTE.....

- 1. When paying your annual dues, please send your check to the OHS instead of the AHS. This allows us to update your records more quickly and keep your membership continuous. The time frame from when the AHS receives your check and when we know about it, is quite long.**
- 2. We are sending reminder notices of meetings to those who give us e-mail addresses. If you would like to be included in this group, please send your email address with a short note to Sharon Beasley at gardener@pldi.net**

www.Okhort.org

Remember to check our website regularly, Hugh Stout has done a super job in managing the site. You will find all the information you need concerning the OHS doings. And the links on the site are such a great resource for information.

CHECK IT OUT!



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HOW PLANTS GOT THEIR NAME

by Warren Filley 16th in a series

YAUPON HOLLY

Common Name: Yaupon Holly, Cassina, American Tea Plant, Emetic Holly, Yapon

Botanical Name: *Ilex vomitoria*

Family Name: Aquifoliaceae

USDA Zones: 7-10 AHS Heat Zones: 12-8 (based on native distribution)


Several years ago when I was attending a Southern Living Gardening School at the Myriad Gardens, one of our members, Steve Hill of Norman approached me with a question. He mentioned that he really enjoyed reading the articles about how plants got their name and was curious about several more that I had not addressed. One of them was *Ilex vomitoria* or Yaupon holly. He wondered how that plant got its name. Great question I said. After our conversation I attempted to find the needed information and was surprised at the lack of information in my horticultural textbooks. Dr. Welch mentioned the use of *Ilex vomitoria* in colonial southern gardens as a replacement for boxwood in his book "The Southern Heirloom Garden" but how did address how the plant get its name. I asked information from other horticulturists and I looked in other books over the ensuing years and didn't come up with much until recently. At the Society's Christmas party I was presented with a beautiful weeping Yaupon which among other things made me think of Steve Hill's request and I set out on another fact-finding mission. With the aid of the internet (in particular the University of Iowa health care web site) I now have his answers.

The holly family (Aquifoliaceae) includes more than 400 species of plants worldwide and *Ilex* is derived from the ancient name of the European holly oak. *Vomitoria* refers to the medicinal effects of the plant in ancient times.

The natural distribution of *Ilex vomitoria* is the Atlantic and Gulf coastal plains from Virginia down through Florida and over to Texas. It is widely believed that inland distribution (as far as Southeastern Oklahoma) was due to Native Americans who took the plant with them as they traveled to use it for both medicinal and ceremonial purposes. The young leaves contain caffeine and when dried may make a tea. When the tea is used from fresh green leaves, however, severe gastric distress and vomiting occurs. Hence the name.

Many Native American groups in the Southeastern United States prepared a "black tea" from this plant and drank it hot. Spanish colonists in Florida drank the product and termed it "cassine" or *te del indio* and actually exported it to Europe and England as "South Sea Tea". It was reportedly used not only as an emetic but as a diuretic to treat smallpox, diabetes, gout and even as a cure for alcoholism. Thus establishing it as an early day American herbal health food remedy. I guess people can be quite ingenious when there is no Starbucks in the neighborhood. According to Jean Louis Berlandier, a French biologist and a member of a scientific expedition to Texas in 1827, the Caddoan peoples there were using an infusion of *Ilex vomitoria* for medical purposes and as an expectorant. There was also some evidence that the drink was used prior to stick and ball games and in formal and ritualized religious ceremonies by other Native American tribes. Alas, the introduction of fine teas from Asia as well as coffee and chocolate have supplanted consumption of "black drink" in American culture. So ends another legacy of "health food herbal remedies" in the United States.

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Thanks to the Oklahoma Garden Festival Committee & Volunteers !

The Oklahoma Garden Festival booth for 2004 was outstanding once again. This year the displays were judged and our display received wows, excellent scores and a BLUE RIBBON from the panel of judges. We want to thank our committee on a great display. We especially want to thank the committee chairman, Jennifer Stout, Scott Connel and Frank Arney for building the display, Cathy Connel and JoAnne Vervinck for figuring out the message to go on the display, Johnnie Satterlee for donating all the plants, bench and fountain, Brent Satterlee for delivering, setting up and packing up all the plants, bench and fountain and Jeannie Spence for organizing the many volunteers who helped man the booth for 4 days.

The design committee consisted of:

Scott & Cathy Connel
Shirley Kennedy
Shirley McFarland
Brent Satterlee
Hugh & Jennifer Stout
George Vaclavek
JoAnne Vervinck
Wanda White

We also wish to thank the many volunteers who represented OHS at the booth. They are:

Marianna Anderson
Juhree Bassett
Sharon Blagg
Peter & Sue Coppolna
Bob Corcorran
Viola Ernst
Nancy Fernandes
John Fluitt
Linda Frizzell

Janis Johnson
Shirley Kennedy
Pat Lee
Dean & Wanda Mandersheid
Bob & Dorothy McLemore
Keith Pierce
Kathleen Ryan
Jeanie Spence
Pat Steffens
Keta Stephens
Hugh & Jennifer Stout
Pat Sturm
Jan Swinney
George Vaclavek
JoAnne Vervinck
Wanda White

OHS TREASURER'S REPORT
February 26, 2004
CHECKING ACCT. BALANCE: \$1,189.86
SAVINGS ACCT. BALANCE: \$24,116.01

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DAYLILIES THE VERSATILE PERENNIAL

by Bob Scott

Daylilies are one of the easier perennial flowers to grow. Before we get into growing of the flower, let us understand the diversity of the flower by understanding some of the terms.

Dormant daylilies - a daylily that loses all of it's foliage after a hard freeze.

Evergreen daylilies - a daylily that maintains at least a little green foliage during the winter in all but the coldest regions of the country.

Single flower - each flower has three petals and three sepals (these are the segments that surround the flower before it opens).

Double flower - each flower contains three sepals but at least six petals.

Wide petals - the flowers are wide and round in form.

Spiders - the flowers are long and very narrow.

Unusual Forms (UFO's) - There are certain guidelines that shows use to describe this type, but for this discussion, they fall in between the wide petals and the spiders.

You can have any of the flower types within both dormant and evergreen daylilies. You can also have any of the flower colors within both types.

In the last 30 years or so there has been an explosion in the amount of diversity of colors, patterns and shapes of the daylily flower. The diversity has continued to increase it seems with each passing year it seems with each passing year as we now have literally hundreds of people trying their hand at daylily hybridizing. Each year there are new and ever more interesting flowers to look at and buy.

Of course lessor expensive flowers in the three to five eight dollar range are also available at most garden centers. Being a hybridizer, we sell many of our

seedlings that are not introduced. These are sorted by color and shape and sold in gallon cans, usually for \$6.95 per gallon.

Daylilies need full sun to perform at their best. They also respond to elevated, well drained soil with lots of organic material in it.

Most daylilies bloom in central Oklahoma during the month of June. Once planted for a year or two, they will bloom for three to four weeks per bloom cycle. Each flower last for one day. But each flower scape or stalk can have from 10 to 30 or more flowers on it.

Some varieties will re-bloom if given enough water and fertilizer to keep them actively growing. But under good conditions some will re-bloom several times.

Some varieties bloom earlier and some varieties bloom later. So to extend your blooming season it is recommended that you plant as many different varieties as you have space for. They will maintain their vigor for several years before you need to separate the clumps. The best time to do that in central Oklahoma would be either late February to early March or in late September.

Daylilies come in a diversity of colors. Red, yellow, pink, lavender, purple, near white, and orange. There are many shades within each color. If you are looking for a particular shade or color it is best to select them while they are blooming. Be prepared to shop more than one day if want to see all the different shapes and colors. We tell our customers to come back at least once per week for at least three weeks to see the diversity of flowers we offer each year.

Bob Scott, an OHS member, and owner of Bob Scott Nursery & Contracting, located at 10116 W. Wilshire can be reached at (405) 721-0802.

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*Now's the
time to think about the
"FESTIVAL IN THE PARK"*

Saturday, June 12, 2004 is the day of this year's "Festival in the Park". As you may remember, this festival has booths from plant-related groups, nurseries and greenhouses, plant judging, and numerous lectures. For the Oklahoma Horticultural Society, it is a fund-raiser and a chance to increase our membership.

We will be selling plants from our members. So if you have plants to divide, extra seedlings, or volunteers in your garden that you would like to donate, now is the time to get them potted. We ask that you label them, botanically, if possible and include a reasonable price. We usually raise a nice amount of money and all from donated plants! It is fun to donate and also to go and buy from our booth as well as others around the festival.

For questions about plants, or to volunteer to work, call Shirley Kennedy at 787-1897.

Crystal Bridge Cultivating Junior Master Gardeners

by Kristy Potter

Thanks to a donation from the Oklahoma Horticulture Society the Myriad Botanical Gardens is once again hosting the Junior Master Gardener program for boys and girls ages 7 to 15.

More than 30 kids are registered for program (we even have a waiting list) that takes place March 13, April 10 and May 15. Kids will be taught by Janet Latham and her crew of staff and volunteers from the new JMG curriculum *Health and Nutrition from the Garden*. Students will learn about the best dirt on earth and experience soil structures by creating their own soil out of chocolate chips, gummy worms, brown sugar and marshmallows. Kids also get to plant their own vegetables, make terrariums and root baby plants to take home. We tip our hat to OHS! (405) 297-3903 ph.

*OHS will have a booth
there again this year!*

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Precure Garden Center Holds Sale for RAIN

Once again, Precure Garden Center shows they have a big heart, as well as a green thumb. Sandra Precure and the staff will open their doors for a very special sale on Friday, April 9, from 6 to 9 pm to benefit RAIN Oklahoma. A portion of proceeds from the sale will be donated to RAIN to support their services for people living with HIV/AIDS.

According to Precure, manager of Precure Garden Center, "We are thrilled to continue to offer support for RAIN. Most people purchase planting materials in the spring, and by shopping during our special event, our customers are making a contribution to RAIN. It is such an easy way to donate to a worthy cause."

RAIN offers non-medical direct care and services to people living with HIV/AIDS across the state of Oklahoma. These services include transportation to medical and social service appointments, assistance with meal preparation and light home maintenance. Most importantly, RAIN volunteers provide the social and emotional support which is so important for those who suffer with this disease.

RAIN executive director, Jean Ann Van Krevelen, says it is one of her favorite events in the year. "There is so much excitement and energy in the spring. It is wonderful to see all of the people who are planting seeds, both literally and figuratively."

Precure Garden Center is located at 4535 NW 63rd Street in Oklahoma City. For more information, please call the OKC RAIN office at 947-3434 or Precure Garden Center at 721-5637.

Jean Ann Van Krevelen, MSW
Executive Director, RAIN-Oklahoma
www.rainoklahoma.org
405-947-3434



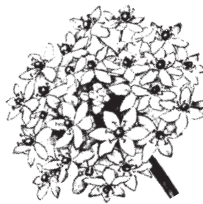
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Tulsa Flower, Plant and Landscaping Show and Sale info

March 26-28
Tulsa Convention Center
The theme is "Noah's Ark"
Friday 3/26: 1:00 PM to 9:00 PM
Saturday 3/27 10 AM to 9 PM
Sunday 3/28 11 AM to 4 PM
The OHS will have a booth there.

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**KEEP THESE WINNERS IN MIND
WHILE YOU ARE PLANT SHOPPING
THIS SPRING...**

2004 All American Selections:

- Celosia plumosa 'Fresh Red'
- Celosia plumosa 'Fresh Yellow'
- Gypsophila muralis 'Gypsy Deep Rose'
- Hollyhock 'Queeny Purple'
- Petunia 'Limbo Violet'
- Melon F1 'Amy'
- Squash F1 'Sunshine'
- Watermelon F1 'Sweet Beauty'

**Perennial Plant Association's
Plant of the Year**

- Athyrium niponicum 'Pictum' (painted fern)

American Ivy Society

- Hedra helix 'Duck Foot'

All American Rose Society

- Hybrid Tea Rose: 'Memorial Day'
- Floribunda Rose: 'Honey Perfume'
- Floribunda Rose: 'Day Breaker'

**All-American Daylily Selection
Council Winners**

- Hemerocallis 'Chorus Line'
- Hemerocallis 'Lady Lucille'

Give some of these a try in your garden this year and see if they stand up to their titles of plant winners for 2004.

**GEORGE J. VACLAVEK
AWARD RECIPIENTS**

This year the George J. Vaclavek Awards went to Russell Studebaker, noted horticulturist, writer and consultant. And to Shirley McFarland, known for her gardening, garden club work and for always being 'there' for the OHS with her amazing knowledge of 'how-to get things done' quality that we love!

*Congratulations to you both,
Russell and Shirley!*

Here is a list of the recipients of the George J. Vaclavek Awards to date:

2/6/99	George J. Vaclavek	2/24/01	Wm.C. Welch
	Marjorie Moesel		John Fluit
	Wolfgang Oehme		
		2/16/02	
6/19/99	John E. Kirkpatrick		Dr. Warren Filley
			Pearl Pearson
			Steve Bieberich
		9/22/02	
9/19/99	Dr. Richard Payne		Charles Shackelford
	Preston Warren		Johnny Satterlee
	Hugh Hedger		
		3/18/03	
2/12/00	Mary Ann Haliburton		Dr. Carl Whitcomb
	Dick Moesel	2/26/03	
	H. Marc Cathey		Russell Studebaker
			Shirley McFarland
		9/24/00	
	Loretta F. Aaron		

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4-H HORTICULTURE & PLANT SCIENCE PROJECT

The OHS donated funds to the 4-H Youth Development Program. They are using this money partially to do a 'Horticulture & Plant Science Project'. Here are the goals of the project:

- Learn principles of plant science, including biotechnology
- Learn to plan, care for, and manage vegetable and/or flower gardens, lawns or commercial horticultural crops
- Learn and practice safe, effective pest control/management methods
- Apply knowledge of plants and soils through experiments and/or field trials
- Explore all aspects of horticulture, including its therapeutic role and its relationship to agricultural production

This is just one of the organizations that the OHS sponsors for education. In addition, we have funded the FFA, Myriad Jr. Master Gardeners, numerous university scholarships, the Oklahoma Gardening PBS show and the Myriad Gardening School to name a few.



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OKLAHOMA HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY 2004-5 EVENTS

- >March 26-28 ----- Oklahoma Flower, Garden Show - Tulsa Convention Center
- >April 9 ----- Precure Garden Center Holds Sale for RAIN - 6-9 pm - see article inside
- >April 27----- OHS Monthly Meeting; Antique & Old Garden Roses by Keta Stevens
Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Bldg; 7 pm; bring snacks
- >May 25 -----TBA - OHS Monthly Meeting; Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Bldg;
7 pm; bring snacks
- >June 5 ----- OHS's Garden Tour for Connoisseurs - 9 am - 5 pm
more information coming soon !
- > June 12 ----- Festival in the Park - Will Rogers Park, OKC
- >June 22 -----TBA - OHS Monthly Meeting; Will Rogers Garden Exhibition Bldg;
7 pm; bring snacks
- >September 19 or 26 ----- Bi-Annual Meeting & Program OBGA, Stillwater; 2:00 PM
- >Garden Gala ----- date TBA (fall) - OKC Zoological & Botanical Gardens
- >January 27- 30, 2005 (est.) --- Oklahoma Garden Festival - Cox Convention Ctr, OKC

Educational Sessions 4th Tuesday of month at 7:00 PM
(except July, Aug. and Dec.) Will Rogers Park, OKC; 7 pm

For questions, call Vicky at (405) 330-9150, or email to tohightek@hotmail.com

Mailing address: OHS P.O. Box 75425 Oklahoma City, OK 73147-5425
Web Page: www.okhort.org