Some members of Ozarka’s Student Arkansas Education Association have been quite busy over the last couple of weeks. On February 27th, the organization hosted its Second Annual Future Teachers Conference for area high school students and Ozarka’s own students who desire to pursue a career in education.

The conference featured keynote speaker, Director of Guidance Services at ASU-Beebe, Dr. Mark Taylor. The approximately 55 attendees could then choose three different breakout sessions to attend. These sessions were conducted by Sue Smith of AEA, Ozarka Faculty members, Joanna Fulbright, Kim Lovelace, Rachel Faulkner, Kathryn Langston, and JD McCrackin. Also providing the closing session was Judy Cannady.

The Conference was funded by NEA’s SOAR grant which stands for Student Organizing Assistance Resources.

Some SAEA members also participated in celebrating Dr. Seuss’ birthday on Tuesday, March 2nd, as a “Read Across America Project.” SAEA President, Wanda McConnaughhay, The Cat in the Hat, to the 3-5 year old classes at the Ozarka Kids Academy.

Through a continuing community project funded by NEA’s CLASS grant last year, the SAEA member were able to give each child a copy of the book to take home with them.

Advisor of SAEA and Education Instructor, Lisa Lawrence has worked very hard to pull these projects together, according to the Administrators of the college. Lawrence gives full credit to the four students who organized and worked hard during conference as well as the Dr. Seuss project.

She comments, “These four students have shown their leadership abilities throughout the planning and implementation of the activities. Each of them have been excellent students and will be successful educators.” Read more about Lawrence in her spotlight on page 3.

The members who participated in these activities were: McConnaughhay, Vice President, Lee Ann Gillihan, Secretary, Tabatha Stanley, and Reporter, Pamela Schultz.

For information about joining this student club, please contact Lawrence at 368-2037 or via email, llawrence@ozarka.edu
Ozark Students Span Three Generations

Three of Ozark College’s current students are also related. The women represent three generations in their family. Jean Bullard of Mountain View, Lynda Mohr of Leslie and Chrystal Elliott, also of Leslie, are all fulltime Ozarka students, each pursuing different types of degree programs. The matriarch of the family is Bullard, who is Lynda’s mother and Chrystal’s grandmother.

Jean Bullard, who is retired from the restaurant business, began her college career in the Fall of 2003, when she decided pursue an associate of arts degree. She had not been in school since graduating from high school in 1961. “My daughters and granddaughters had been trying to urge me to go to school for a couple of years,” she says. “They finally talked me into it and I am so happy I decided to give it a try.”

Expressing an interest in technology, Bullard eventually wants to study computerized graphic design. She was inclined to begin college to keep her mind active and learn more about computers. “Although I was intimidated at first, there are many others in my classes who are non-traditional, older students like myself. This has made it easier to get more involved in my classes,” she notes.

Bullard’s daughter, Lynda Mohr has previously been through Ozarka’s practical nursing program. She is currently taking courses to pursue an associate of applied science degree in general technology. Her future plans include obtaining a bachelor of science in nursing and to ultimately becoming a nursing instructor.

Mohr works as an LPN for the Stone County Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, a division of WRMC. She also fills in at the Nursing and Rehab Center in Marshall, located in Searcy County. She adds that she has enjoyed the flexibility of her classes at Ozarka as well as the diversity of students that she has gotten to know, and adds “If it was not Combined on Page 3

Ozarka to Host Film for Foothills Film Fest

On Monday, March 29th, at 7:30 PM, Ozarka College will play host to The Edge of the World, as part of the Ozark Foothills FilmFest. There is no admission charge for this film, which will be held in the John E. Miller Auditorium.

The Edge of the World, a 1937 movie directed by Michael Powell, was given rave reviews after being included in the New York Film Festival last year. “An irresistible gem: not just one of the earliest and best films by the great British director, but a bona fide cinematic legend,” said William Arnold of the Seattle Post-Intelligencer.

According to Ozark’s Director of Business Outreach, Karla Rush, “Ozarka College is pleased to be a part of the Ozark Foothills Film Festival for the first time this year. The organization is only in its third year but has grown steadily. We are delighted the festival planners were interested in bringing a film to Melbourne. Hopefully, moviegoers will take advantage of the chance to see this film in our auditorium.”

The Edge of the World story involves a fishing community struggling to maintain the traditions in the face of the inevitable evacuation of their island home. A love story of a couple and their disagreeing families heightens the drama as a dispute is settled by a race to the top of a cliff. The race ends in tragedy, however, and the effect on the whole community is severe. The film is approximately 70 minutes in length.

The Film Festival is sponsored by the USDA Forest Service and Entergy Arkansas. For further information, call 870-368-7371.

Ozarka’s Continuing Ed Department announces upcoming non-credit computer classes in Melbourne and Ash Flat. Introduction to the Internet will be offered in the Hall Building, Room 101 at Melbourne, from 5-7PM beginning Tuesday, March 30. It will also meet on April 6 and 13 for a total of six hours.

The course will also be given at the Education Center in Ash Flat from 1-3PM beginning March 12, and continuing on March 19th and 26th. The cost for either class is $40. Topics to be covered include basic use of the internet and fundamentals of using email. Also available in Melbourne is Basic Computer Maintenance. This course is designed for anyone wanting to learn routine, basic computer maintenance and the process of evaluating and protecting computers from viruses and other intrusive programs such as “pop-ups.” This course will meet from 5-7 p.m. on Tuesday April 20 and 27 in Hall, Room 101. Cost is $40.

Beginning Computer will begin on Friday, April 2 from 1-3PM in Ash Flat. It will also meet on April 9, 16, 23 and 30 for a total of ten hours of instruction. This course will cover basic fundamentals of using the computer such as creating files, saving documents, and the Windows Operating System. Cost is $60.

With limited enrollment, please pre-register for these classes by calling Karla at 368-7371 or email karla@ozarka.edu.

Ozarka’s Practical Computer Classes"


**“SPOTLIGHT” SERIES...**

**Lisa Lawrence** began teaching at Ozarka in August of 2003. She was hired on to teach courses in Ozarka’s newest degree offering – Associate of Arts in Teaching. Her classes include Intro to Education, K-12 Technology and Math. Lawrence is also the Student Arkansas Education Association Advisor at Ozarka. Currently she is executing the Second Annual Future Teachers Conference scheduled for February 27th. Lawrence has been teaching for 12 years. The last five were spent at Timbo, where she taught ninth through twelfth grade math. She has also taught at Newark and Cushman. She is a graduate of Lyon College, where she received a bachelor of arts. Her Masters Degree is from the University of Central Arkansas in Conway in Instructional Technology. She also has many graduate hours in math, which, according to Lawrence is her “passion.” Her motto is “Technology is the smooth, but math is the passionate kiss!”

Lisa and her family live in Onia, a small community in Stone County. “I love living in Onia. I just enjoy being in the country in the middle of nowhere,” Lisa states. She and her family like to be outdoors, hunting or fishing together. Her husband, Roger is a purchasing agent for Conestoga in Mountain View. Lisa enjoys painting and playing piano.

When asked what she likes about working at Ozarka, she responds, “I like everything!” More specifically, Lisa expresses the fact that “Anytime I need help with something or if I have a question, there is always somebody there to help me with whatever I need.”

**Steve Benoit** is the newest member of the Ozarka College faculty. He began teaching for the college at the beginning of January 2004. He is currently teaching seven classes in the Information Science and Technology Program, including: Introduction to Information Systems, Internet Technologies, Leadership and Trend Studies, and Network Operating Systems. Benoit comes to his current role as instructor from the private business sector. After working as the Marketing and Sales Manager for CenturyTel for 12 years where he was also involved in Training, he was the District Manager for MCI in Little Rock for a year.

Benoit’s education began in his native State of Florida, where he obtained Bachelor of Science degree in Journalism/Communications from the University of Florida. His graduate work was in Telecommunications from George Washington University and Webster University.

Steve’s family consists of his wife, Mary, and their two teenage children. They live in Franklin on their “mini-farm”, where they raise horses. Mary is a teacher and is currently working as a substitute at ICC. She enjoys watercolors and horseback riding. Their children are seventeen year-old, Kelsey; and fifteen year-old, Jeff, both of whom attend ICC. Kelsey enjoys dancing, especially ballet, and Jeff is into dirt bikes, paintball and anything scientific. Both children have plans to attend college. Steve likes water skiing, canoeing, cooking Italian, and considers himself to be a “lifelong learner.”

Although he has been at Ozarka for less than a month, according to Benoit, he really enjoys teaching at the college. He states, “It is apparent that Ozarka employees are a team of people who are working hard to improve the life of all the people in the communities it services. I like being a part of that team and hope I can add something positive to it.”

**Kim Whitten** is part of Ozarka’s Marketing Department, hired on in what was a new position for the college in September of 2002 - Public Relations Specialist. Part of her duties have included the Spotlight Series, which began as a way to inform the public about the diverse and interesting group of people who are part of Ozarka. “I have thoroughly enjoyed interviewing my colleagues at the college. I have learned so much about everyone and I hope in turn have been able to share that information with others interested,” says Whitten.

Originally from Conway, Whitten spent the first two years of college at William Woods College (now William Woods University), in Fulton, Missouri. She then transferred back “home” to the University of Central Arkansas where she received a Bachelor of Science in Marketing. After she and her family moved to Ash Flat in 1995, Whitten worked for Larry and Carolyn Kissee at Kissee Law Office as a legal secretary. Then, having seen the job posting for her current position, she states she was thrilled to be able to put her college degree to work in such a positive environment – education.

Kim’s family includes husband, James and his children, Alex, Brooke, Cody, and his wife, Amy, all of whom have attended Highland School. Brooke, Cody and Amy have graduated and Alex attends sixth grade at Highland Middle School. A favorite pastime for the Whitten’s is riding horses and spending time at the Spring River. “The river is one thing that attracted us to move to this area. We had enjoyed coming up here when we lived in Little Rock to camp and canoe the river while visiting my family.” She adds that her roots are in North Central Arkansas – The Hutchison’s in Evening Shade, and The DeShazo’s in Viola.

Her feelings about Ozarka College are simple: “I love my job!” She adds that she has been blessed with a great working relationship and friendship with her supervisor, Karla Rush, who is Director of Marketing/Business Outreach. She is also excited about the educational opportunities that Ozarka has to offer to so many people who might not have the chance to attend college if not for Ozarka. “I appreciate the way the administrators, faculty and staff of the college work so hard to make sure students gain a positive experience from education.” She goes on to express her enthusiasm about the continued growth and outreach in Sharp, Fulton, Stone Counties, and beyond.

---

Continued from Page 2

For the support of my husband and two teenagers at home, I would not be able to attend college.”

Elliot, the youngest representative of the family is following her dream of becoming a teacher. After obtaining her GED from Ozarka’s Adult Education Department, she was awarded the GED Scholarship to help finance her education at Ozarka. With two boys, age two-and-a-half and eighteen months, Elliott is expecting her third child – a girl - in May. Therefore, she says she has benefited from the Internet and AETN, telecourses offered by Ozarka, which affords her more time to be at home with her husband and children. Incidentally, her husband, Jason is also an Ozarka student.

These three students are not the only members of their family who have been Ozarka students. Bullard says she has a stepdaughter, step-granddaughter, as well as another daughter that have also been to school at Ozarka College.
ASU, UALR & UCA Transfer Students

Any students interested in transferring to Arkansas State University, University of Arkansas at Little Rock or University of Central Arkansas, will be able to pre-register with these institutions in April.

Students MUST sign up in advance in order to schedule an appointment to meet with the universities’ representatives. TRiO Student Support Services students will need to sign up with Deltha Shell. All other Ozarka students will need to sign up with Gin Brown.

Times and Dates are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASU</td>
<td>Monday, April 12th</td>
<td>Time to be announced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UALR</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 6th</td>
<td>2PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UCA</td>
<td>Tuesday, April 20th</td>
<td>10AM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Upcoming Restaurant Nights

The Ozarka College Culinary Arts Department will hold its second Restaurant Night of the Spring Semester on Friday, March 19, 2004. There will be two reserved seating times, the first at 5:00 PM and the latter at 7:00 PM.

The menu selection for this dinner will be ala carte with prices based on the entrée selected. Menu choices for this dinner include appetizers of shrimp cocktail or escargot; Caesar or tossed salad; entrées of ribeye steak, blackened salmon, lobster tails, roasted pork loin, or chicken parmesan; and “mouthwatering” desserts to include a choice of cheesecakes, Death by Chocolate, or a black and white daquoise, which is described as a multi-layered cake with buttercream and meringue.

There will be a final Restaurant Night for the Spring, scheduled for April 8th. To reserve seating for the March or April event, call Culinary Arts 368-2062 or 368-2061.

Arbor Day March 15th

Ozarka College Landscaper, Dave Rush wants to remind everyone that Arbor Day is Monday, March 15th. In honor of this date, he urges everyone to take the opportunity to plant a tree. Log on to arborday.org for more information.