Ozarka Welcomes New Students

August 21st marks another “first day of classes” at Ozarka College. Last week during New Student Orientation and Registration, the faculty, staff and administration at Ozarka welcomed approximately 150 new students on campus.

After Ozarka President, Dr. Dusty Johnston welcomed the new students. Admissions Assistant, Laura Lawrence gave a presentation on the available student services at Ozarka.

Students were then directed to their advisors to schedule classes and register. Assistant Financial Aid Director, Joyce Goff was then available to discuss and finalize their financial aid.

Late registration will continue through Thursday, August 24th. To take advantage of late registration, contact the Ozarka Admissions Department at 870-368-7371 or toll free 1-800-821-4335. To view the current online Fall schedule, log on to www.ozarka.edu.

Congratulations Dustin Shannon!!!!!

During New Student Orientation and Registration August 16 & 17, the Ozarka College Student Services Department, held a drawing from all new students who participated in the orientation for two tickets to the upcoming Little Big Town concert hosted by the Ozarka Foundation Board.

Dustin is from Shirley and will be attending classes at Ozarka in Mountain View.
Ozarka College received approval for its fourth urban forestry grant in four years. This year’s proposal was entitled “Tree Island Demonstration and City Assistance Projects” and includes multi-faceted projects that involve activities on the Ozarka campuses and in conjunction with the City of Melbourne. The funds awarded to Ozarka totaled $8,445 with $1,700 designated to purchase 11 trees to plant in the City of Melbourne and $1000 to pay for Ozarka students to do a tree inventory along the Melbourne walking trail located in the Veterans Park.

The activities sponsored by the grant include assisting the City of Melbourne achieve Tree City status via development of a tree board, tree management plan, tree inventory, tree ordinance, tree management budget and a Melbourne Arbor Day Celebration. For Tree City USA status, Melbourne will have to produce a $2 per capita budget that will come from in-kind donations of volunteer time including that donated by the tree board and perhaps time donated by the North Central Unit in Calico Rock whereby prisoners assist with clean-up of the Veterans Park and other urban forested areas in the city.

Melbourne Mayor Mike Cone states, “We are pleased as always to work with Ozarka College and we will do our part on this worthwhile project. Last year the Council voted in favor of Tree City USA and we are pleased to move ahead with this project that will help beautify our city.”

Ozarka College will add one or more tree islands to the Miller Building parking lot on its main campus in Melbourne to demonstrate how parking lots can be transformed into more beautiful and energy efficient spaces. Tree islands provide shade that prevents parking lots from becoming heat sinks in the summer months and keep cars cooler, reducing energy consumption. Ozarka will also hold three Arbor Day celebrations, one on each of its locations.

TRiO Seeking Tutors

Ozarka College’s TRiO Student Support Services currently has peer tutoring positions available in Melbourne and Ash Flat. Applicants must be TRiO participants and will be selected based on the following criteria: Completion of 15 hours of transferable college course work, cumulative GPA of 3.0, two faculty recommendations, interview score, previous tutoring evaluations, demand for subject area expertise, and willingness to assist others. Contact Tutor Coordinator, Tracy Cone in the Tutoring Lab, call 368-2033, or email tcone@ozarka.edu.

Applications will be in the TRiO office and on the TRiO webpage under “Student Services” at www.ozarka.edu. The new TRiO page will be updated with information on staff, events, transfer trips, tutoring and scholarships.

Harold Crawford Memorial Scholar Named

Admissions Assistant, Laura Lawrence (pictured left) was on hand in Cherokee Village on August 5 at the First Annual Harold Crawford Memorial Golf Tournament to award Ozarka student, Martha Flores (pictured right) with a $500 scholarship in honor of former Sharp County Judge Harold Crawford.
All Ozarka College Students should be aware of the student clubs and organizations that are available at Ozarka. These clubs and organizations are fun and great way to meet other people sharing the same interest or motivations. One of the most beneficial factors to students being involved with college organizations is the experience gained that can be used on resumes when searching for jobs, scholarship applications or applying to four-year institutions.

Some of Ozarka’s student clubs and organizations can be joined by simply signing up and getting involved; while others are based on academics or majors. As Ozarka College continues to grow, student clubs and organizations will also grow and become more active. This Special Section includes a full list and description of each club at Ozarka. All students are invited to see what goes on beyond going to class at Ozarka, by coming to a club meeting. The Ozarka Campus Connection always includes a calendar of club meeting dates, times and locations in the “Around Campus” section on the front page, or check the My.Ozarka website.

**Student Council:** Open to all students, to become directly involved with student issues, concerns, and needs. “Stu-Co” promotes communication among students, faculty, staff, and administration. Student council members are the “voice” of Ozarka students and provide leadership to the student body. Members plan, implement, assist and participate in many Ozarka functions and activities.

**Phi Theta Kappa (PTK):** PTK is an international academic honors fraternity for students in two year colleges. Ozarka PTK members must have completed 12 semester hours of coursework counting toward an Associate’s degree and have a GPA of at least 3.50, while adhering to the school’s conduct code. PTK members wear honor stoles at graduation and are eligible for PTK scholarships.

**Vocational Industrial Club of America (VICA):** Open to students, former students or others interested in the various career fields, such as Automotive, Culinary Arts, or other technical programs. VICA students compete at events on the state and national level in their technical field.

**Phi Beta Lambda (PBL):** A National organization of students preparing for business-related careers. PBL members learn to engage in individual and group business enterprises, hold office and direct the affairs of the group and with other organizations. PBL students compete honorably with colleagues on the local, state and national level.

**Arkansas Licensed Practical Nurses Association (ALPNA):** The official “voice” of LPN’s in the State of Arkansas. Membership promotes practical nurses as important members of the health care team, as well as advancing education standards, alerting legislation of LPN’s views or initiatives, and encouraging and supporting schools that teach practical nursing. ALPNA members meet and compete to build professional knowledge necessary for licensure.

**Student Arkansas Education Association (SAEA):** This newly established organization at Ozarka works to improve the quality of education in Arkansas. This active chapter focuses energy to develop an understanding of the education profession, provide for a united student voice in matters concerning teaching careers, and influence the conditions under which prospective educators are prepared. Ozarka students enrolled in the AAT program are eligible for membership.

**American Association for Medical Transcription (AAMT):** A professional organization which advances high standards in skills, education and training for medical transcriptionists. Students in Ozarka’s Health Information Management (HIM) program are encouraged to join AAMT at reduced student membership rates to take advantage of education products, receive the Journal of the AAMT, purchase discounted reference materials, participate in conferences on the state and national level, and be involved in the field on a professional level.

**Vocational Industrial Club of America (VICA):**

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**GED Testing for September**

Ozarka College’s Adult Education Department has announced dates and locations for the GED Test during the month of September. The test will be given at Ozarka College in Melbourne on September 6 & 13 at 8:30 a.m. in Room 516 of the Wyth Duke Adult Education Building.

The test will also be given at the following locations in September:

- **Ash Flat, AR**
  - Courthouse
  - 9:00 a.m.
  - Sept. 5 & 8

- **Mammoth Spring, AR**
  - Simmons First National Bank
  - 9:00 a.m.
  - Sept. 11 & 18

- **Mountain View, AR**
  - Ozarka College
  - 9:00 a.m.
  - Sept. 12 & 19

- **Salem, AR**
  - Courthouse
  - 9:00 a.m.
  - Sept. 21 & 28

You must present an Arkansas photo ID, a Social Security Card, and proof of passing Practice Test scores dated after January 1, 2002. There is no cost to take the GED Test. However, if you plan on taking the test at any of these locations, you MUST register by calling Ozarka College at 368-7371 or 1-800-821-4335 before the day of the test. Because of increased demographic information needed, it will be necessary to allow two days for the testing.
Fitness Courses in the Miller Fitness Center

Ozarka College’s Paul Miller Fitness Center located in the Miller Complex at Melbourne, will offer fitness courses beginning on August 21st. These courses are designed to include basic fitness assessment and introduction to fitness activities and equipment. Students who complete these courses will develop individualized fitness plans utilizing aerobic and strength training equipment. Each student must schedule an appointment with the fitness center director for initial assessment and orientation prior to using the facility.

Those students age 60 or over are eligible for a tuition waiver, which decreases their cost of enrolling to $45. Holly Ayers, Fitness Center Director announced this week that there are several other fitness programs scheduled in the upcoming weeks. “We want to encourage overall wellness for the area and will be adding programs such as a walking group, circuit training, arthritis class, and monthly lunch n’ learn seminars during the Fall semester.”

Further information can be found at the Ozarka College website at www.ozarka.edu under the Fitness Center heading. Students enrolling in the fitness courses are expected to complete a minimum of three hours per week in fitness activities.

The Fitness Center is extending its hours of operation beginning August 21st. New hours are Monday through Friday, 6 a.m. until 8 p.m. and Saturday, 6 a.m. until Noon. For more information, call the fitness center at 870-368-2090.