FACTS

OZARKA GOLF TOURNAMENT - AT COOPER’S HAWK

On Saturday, September 27th, The Ozarka College Foundation held its 13th annual fall golf tournament. Twenty-eight teams of golfers assembled at the beautiful Coopers Hawk Golf Club in Melbourne to play an 18-hole scramble with proceeds benefiting the Ozarka Foundation. Once again, First National Banking Company served as corporate sponsor for the event.

The Championship Flight winners were: 1st – Justin Burns, Abby Cooper, Holly Cooper, Joe Cooper; 2nd – Kermit Blevins, Rusty Campbell, Tom Cone, John Thornton; 3rd – Ben Cooper, Daniel Taylor, Jim Cooper, Sam Cooper.


The longest drive winner was Phil Wade and longest putt went to Scotty NeSmith.

Along with the strong support by FNBC, many area businesses help to support this tournament each year. This year’s event sponsors included: Ash Flat Livestock Auction, B&B Supply, Bank of Salem, Bill Shelton DDS, American Burger Center, Columbia Flooring, Computer Source Inc.,

The Ozarka College Foundation Board is pleased to report that the Joe & Maxine Wyatt Honorary Scholarship is now fully endowed.

After successful efforts from the Stone County foundation board members which included a golf tournament to raise funds for this scholarship and generous donations from family, friends and the Wyatt’s themselves, this scholarship has attained the $10,000 mark and will be awarded in the Fall 2009 semester.
**Bruce Dietsche/Melissa Martin Honored**

An anonymous donation in the amount of $10,000 has been made to name a scholarship in honor of two science instructors at Ozarka College.

The Dietsche/Martin Scholarship was established in September by a student whose life has been impacted by Ozarka science instructors Bruce Dietsche and Melissa Martin.

This scholarship will be awarded annually to a student who is majoring in a science or health related degree program. The recipient will receive $500 for the academic year provided he or she meets federal financial aid eligibility guidelines.

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**New Foundation Board Member Announced**

**Garry**

Lawrence of Highland was unanimously appointed to serve a five year term on the Foundation Board.

Lawrence owns Highland Cabinet Shop and is a native of Sharp County. He has been involved in other community and civic groups including: Cherokee Village Lions club, AHEC board member, White River Planning & Development board member, White River Regional Development board member, Workforce Investment board member and the Spring River Performing Arts board member.

Garry also served in the Army National Guard and Naval Air Reserves for a total of 20 years.

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**Ozarka Foundation Will Host 2nd Concert Honoring Jean Jennings**

The Ozarka College Foundation Board of Directors will host a 2nd concert in honor of Jean Jennings on April 4, 2009 at 7PM at the Ozark Folk Center in Mountain View.

Jennings was a musician for over 46 years and performed with the original Rackensack Society and most recently with the Leatherwoods. She passed away in 2005 after a four year battle with cancer.

The Foundation Board has completed one endowment that will provide a $500 scholarship annually to a Stone County student attending Ozarka College. They have continued their efforts and are currently working on a 2nd endowment in Mrs. Jennings's name.

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**CMA Nominated Emerson Drive Performed at Ozarka**

The Ozarka College Foundation Board presented the CMA nominated Vocal Group for 2008, Emerson Drive on Friday, September 26, 2008.

Emerson Drive has also been nominated for various Dove Awards. The band is comprised of five musicians originally from Canada, who have the distinction of being one of the very few bands playing their own instruments on all of their records, a rarity in the industry. Some of their more popular hits include: "Moments", "A Good Man", and "Fall Into Me". Their performance was top notch according to those who attended the show.

Although attendance was not at capacity, the concert brought many new people to the Ozarka College campus and they were more than impressed with the facilities and hospitality offered.

First National Banking Company locations assisted once again with ticket sales, along with Sharp Realty and Foundation Board Members. Sponsors for this event included: Mark's Pharmacy, NAEC, GH Miller & Sons, Tom Cone Realty, Son Lamb, Mark Martin Chevrolet, First Community Bank, Bancorpsouth, Skeeter's Car Care, Arkansas 103 KWOZ, Hometown Radio KSAR 92.3, True KKountry 95, Real Country 100.9 KHOM, and KBCN 104.3.

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**Upcoming event - Ozarka College Foundation Spring Gala ..date to be announced.**
The Hardy United Methodist Church presented a check for $2000 to the Ozarka College Foundation at the Open House of the new Ash Flat building on September 8, 2008. The church's contribution was earmarked for the Sharp County Literacy Council/JaNoel Bess Endowment.

The Literacy Council created the endowment in July as a way to leave a legacy to recognize the work of the many people who made up the Literacy Council in Sharp County, including former member JaNoel Bess.

Presenting and receiving the contribution were Brien Nix Hall from Hardy United Methodist Church, the family of JaNoel Bess, Ozarka College President Dusty Johnston, Betty Waser of the Sharp County Literacy Council and Ozarka Foundation Board members Marc Goings and Beth McEntire Bess.

The Ozarka College Foundation, a 501 (c) 3 organization, offers $500 scholarships annually for each endowment fund that reaches a minimum of $10,000. Several new endowments have been created over the past few years honoring various individuals and organizations in the area, greatly increasing Ozarka's scholarship opportunities for students.

In January 2009, the first Sharp County Literacy Council/JaNoel Bess Scholarship will be awarded to a deserving Ozarka student.

Ozarka Accepts Donation from First Community Bank

During the recent open house and ribbon cutting for Community Insurance, a division of First Community Bank, Ozarka College President, Dr. Dusty R. Johnston (right) accepted a $1000 donation on behalf of the Ozarka Foundation.

FCB's Vice President of Commercial Lending, Fred Holzhauer (left), presented the check and stated that "First Community Bank is community minded and wants to support the efforts of the college." He added, "It is evident by the recent opening of the new nursing and student center facility at the Ash Flat campus that Ozarka College is a thriving part of this area and First Community is pleased to support their efforts."

Fred Holzhauer & Dusty R. Johnston
Applauding the Past…

Seems the end of the year brings reflection on where we’ve been and how far we’ve gone. Ten years ago, in 1998, the Ozarka Foundation was very much an ‘infant’ as an organization. Our assets totaled around $64,000 at that time. As we close out 2008, the Foundation has grown to hold over a million dollars (yes, $1,000,000) and now manages endowments to award over twenty scholarships to deserving students each year. In the past five years, Ozarka College has increased its enrollment 37% in student headcount.

These numbers alone show tremendous progress for Ozarka and its supporting Foundation. All this development has been accomplished through commitment. That commitment comes in a variety of forms - gifts of time, gifts of talent and hard work, contributions of dedication, moral support and kind words about the College, and of course, monetary donations. Each type of gift is equally important to our students’ futures.

Whatever your role has been in the fantastic growth of Ozarka College and the Foundation over the past ten years, pause a moment and bask in the success we have obtained together. Ozarka College is truly meeting its mission of offering life-changing experiences for students through education. Your part in that is commendable and possibly the best investment you can make in our community.

Best wishes for the holidays and the new year ahead.