



The Garden News

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Botanical Garden and Arboretum

Fall 2002 Vol. 8 Issue 4

UNLBGA 2002 Photo Contest



Aaron Stoddard, age 4, "Gazebo Shadows at Noon" **1st Place Winners** Harlan Heald, "Footbridge" BEST OF SHOW

In this Issue:

- ◆ *Personnel Updates* p.2
- ◆ *New Interim LS Director* p.2
- ◆ *LS Keep Nebraska Beautiful Award* p.2
- ◆ *Proposed Budget Cuts* p.2
- ◆ *2003 Campus Landscape Photo Calendar* p.3
- ◆ *UNLBGA Donors* p.4
- ◆ *Maxwell 35th Anniversary Celebration* p.4
- ◆ *Surviving the Summer of '02* p.5
- ◆ *Campus Project Updates* p.6
- ◆ *UNLBGA Education Programs* p.7
- ◆ *Landscape Connections* p.7

UNLBGA is an affiliate site of the



More than 40 photos were submitted to the UNLBGA Garden Photo Contest this year. There were both adult and junior divisions of amateur photographers shooting black-and-white 8 x 10 photographs of the UNL landscape in four categories: Spring, Summer, Fall and Winter.

Both top photographs in the adult and junior divisions were shot in Maxwell Arboretum on the UNL East Campus. Harlan Heald of Lincoln won 1st Place-Winter/Best of Show with his photograph, "Footbridge." Aaron Stoddard of Lincoln, age 4, won 1st Place-Summer with his photograph, "Gazebo Shadows at Noon."

The winners, all from Lincoln, are:

◆ Spring: 1st Place: Mary Shipman "Viburnum 'Wentworth'"; 2nd Place: Dominique Ellis "Bumblebee Dance"; 3rd Place: Mary Shipman "Viburnum"; Honorable Mention: Heather Luehring "Statuesque"

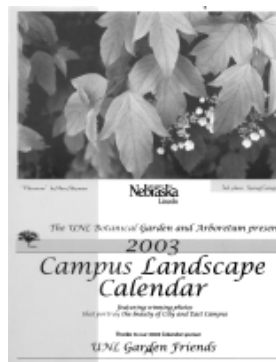
by Twyla Hansen, Project Assistant

◆ Summer: 1st Place, Junior Division: Aaron Stoddard "Gazebo Shadows at Noon"; 1st Place: Dominique Ellis "A Lily of a Time"; 2nd Place: Karyn Maxey "I'll Help You Up"; 3rd Place: Crystal Corman "Ripples"; Honorable Mention: Ramendra Nath Saha "Victor"

◆ Fall: 1st Place: Ramendra Nath Saha "Fallen Soul."; 2nd Place: Harlan Heald "Architecture Hall"; 3rd Place: Dominique Ellis "Leafy Blanket"

◆ Winter: 1st Place/Best of Show: Harlan Heald "Footbridge"; 2nd Place: Harlan Heald "Winter Stems"; 3rd Place: Marcia Claesson "Snowdrops"

The 2002 Garden Photo Contest prizes were provided by Lincoln businesses: The Photo Shoppe, Lee Booksellers, Dick Blick Art Materials and the Photo Factory. The judges were Don McKibben, D. J. Hogan and Larry J. Wells of the Lincoln Camera Club.



Calendar p.3

Personnel Updates

by Carol Bom, Staff Assistant

Congratulations:

- ◆ Eileen Bergt - Landscape Architect: named Interim Director

Good-bye & Good Luck:

- ◆ Robert Hensarling - Director: moved to Auburn University in Alabama
- ◆ Ken Rynearson - Grounds Supervisor, Nursery Crew: moved to Oregon
- ◆ Steve Gamet - City Campus Area 1 Supervisor: transferred to Agronomy/Horticulture Dept.
- ◆ Heather Erhart - City Campus Area 2 Supervisor: moved to western Nebraska

Proposed Budget Cuts

from UNL Chancellor Harvey Perlman's State of the University address September 6, 2002:

As you know, your university faces some very serious financial challenges of a nature not seen since the 1930s. The Legislature has addressed on three separate occasions the University's budget. For the current fiscal year of 2002-2003, we have reduced our expenditures by approximately \$10 million and we have, in the last month, been asked to undertake another \$7.5 million reduction.

For detailed information on the latest round of proposed UNL budget cuts and how it will affect Landscape Services, go to: <http://www.unl.edu/pr/chancellor/index.shtml>

Landscape Services Interim Director

by Rachelle Setsodi, Communication Relations Manager, Facilities Management

Eileen Bergt has been named Interim Landscape Services Director. The position of Director was left vacant by the resignation of Robert Hensarling. Bergt's current appointment at UNL is as Campus Landscape Architect.

Bergt came to UNL three and one-half years ago from Clark Enersen Partners, where she had been a Landscape Architect working on numerous projects in Lincoln and throughout Nebraska. She



Eileen Bergt

earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Architecture from UNL and a Masters Degree in Landscape Architecture from Kansas State University.

Eileen Bergt is a Registered Landscape Architect and is a member of the American Society of Landscape Architects. She is active in Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, Garden Club of Lincoln, and the Preservation Association of Lincoln.

LS Keep Nebraska Beautiful Award

by Dale Ekart, Recycling & Solid Waste Resources Mgr.

UNL Landscape Services was honored at the annual Keep Nebraska Beautiful awards luncheon June 21 with the Deanie Anderson Outstanding Community award, for "efforts in keeping the campus beautiful and using the garden tours for education and promotion."

It is fantastic to be recognized by outside organizations around the state who notice the tremendous effort put forth by the staff of Landscape Services in their daily toils.

Congratulations and Thank You to all Landscape Services staff!

Fall 2002 page 2

Howdy!

by Robert Hensarling, former Director

My official title at Auburn University is director of Ag Heritage Park and Ag Alumni Relations. I am in charge of forging new ground for the college of agriculture and developing the 40 + acres set aside for the park. I have one person on staff.

We are doing fine home-wise and our sons are enjoying school. They have a lot of new friends from school and have been to several play days with their friends.

My wife Shelly is traveling to Chile for a few days soon for her work.

Howdy to all and take care!

UNLBGA 2003 Campus Landscape Calendar

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln Botanical Garden and Arboretum has created a "2003 Campus Landscape Calendar" now available from UNL Landscape Services



Harlan Heald "Winter Stems" January-2nd Place Winter



Marcia Claesson "Snowdrops" February-3rd Place Winter



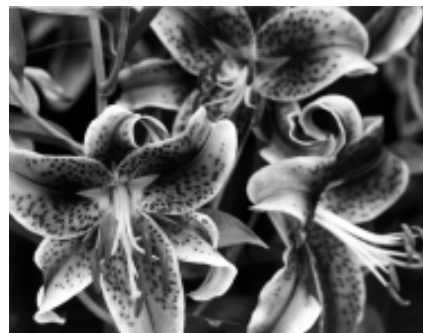
Mary Shipman "Viburnum 'Wentworth'" April-1st Place Spring



Dominique Ellis "Bumblebee Dance" May-2nd Place Spring



Karyn Maxey "I'll Help You Up" July-2nd Place Summer



Dominique Ellis "A Lily of a Time" August-1st Place Summer



Ramendra Nath Saha "Fallen Soul" October-1st Place Fall



Harlan Heald "Architecture Hall" November-2nd Place Fall

The 2003 Campus Landscape Calendar, made possible by the UNL Garden Friends, features winning photos from the 2002 UNLBGA Garden Photo Contest. For more information, call Landscape Services at 472-2679.

Thank You to UNLBGA Supporters!

The UNL Garden Friends have provided support for new garden brochures and the new 2003 Campus Landscape Calendar (see p. 3).

The Friends of Maxwell have provided funds for the Maxwell Arboretum 35th Anniversary Celebration held July 26, including a memory scrapbook of the arboretum, and also support for NU Landscape Connections on September 14.

Landscape Services wishes to thank both groups for their generous support of these projects.

by Kay Kottas, Education Programs Manager

Recent memorial dedications include:

◆Aristocrat Pear *Pyrus calleryana* 'Aristocrat'
"In Memory of Shirley Rae Anderson When someone we love becomes a memory, the memory becomes a treasure"

◆European Alder *Alnus glutinosa*
"Nitrogen Fixing Tree In Memory of Dr. Robert V. Klucas Professor of Biochemistry From Bob's Many Friends"

Maxwell Arboretum 35th Anniversary Celebration

by Twyla Hansen, Project Assistant



*Master of Ceremonies Ted Hartung
President, Friends of Maxwell*



*Featured speaker Spencer Crews, Exec. Dir. of
Lauritzen Gardens-Omaha's Botanical Center*



*Reception for Maxwell 35th Anniversary Celebration July 26, 2002
including a memory scrapbook and Maxwell History PowerPoint presentation
Thank You to all our Friends!*

1934 - 1952

Earl Maxwell
State Forester

Earl planted trees on
campus to study their
usefulness in this
Nebraska climate



Surviving the Summer of '02

One for the records: Summer of 2002

UNL became a community leader during the drought this summer by not only complying with the city's water restrictions, but by letting the grass go dormant. Landscape Services staff concentrated on hand-watering of more valuable trees, shrubs and perennials.

According to Jim Sommers, Irrigation Systems Manager, the outdoor water use was reduced to about 15 percent of normal. "All turf irrigation systems were shut off," said Sommers, "and grounds staff could only hand-water before 7:00 a.m."

"There are things you can do to cope with drought," said Kirby Baird, City Campus Landscape Manager. "Raising mower heights to 3.5 or 4 in. helps turfgrass survive. And because the grass didn't grow as fast, we mowed less often. Microenvironment makes a big difference during drought. Plants and grass at least partially shaded are less stressed." Baird also said a special turf-type tall fescue/perennial ryegrass seed mixture is used on both campuses that is wear tolerant and performs well in low maintenance conditions. He said damaged areas will be repaired in the spring.

Heather Erhart, former Area 2 Grounds Supervisor on City Campus, said she and her staff spent a lot of time hand watering during the drought. "We mulch perennial beds every spring with about 2 in. of wood chips, but with the heat and drought this year, we lost plants in Love Garden.

Erhart said grounds staff were willing to water more by hand, but they had no choice on timing because of departmental restrictions. "Most spruces planted this spring have died," Erhart said. "On the other hand, the native plants in Cather Garden survived just fine without any water."

Jeff Culbertson, East Campus Landscape Manager, said so much depends on what kind of winter we have. "The kind of moisture we receive—normal snowfall, wet, sloppy conditions, or not—will determine if we'll need to water new tree and shrubs. If we have another dry winter, we should be watering new plantings about once a month."

Culbertson said sometimes very dry branches can drop because of heavy leaf load, that he's noticed some on elms, but the damage to plants will likely show up in the spring. "There may be a branch that doesn't leaf out, which can be pruned, or whole

by Twyla Hansen, Project Assistant

plants may not leaf out. Sometimes a plant might leaf out in the spring, then drop them right away because it doesn't have enough energy to grow," he said.

Culbertson also said trees should be mulched with 3-4 in. of wood chips, but cautioned, "If the ground is dried out, like it has been the last year or two, the mulch forms a vapor barrier, and no moisture will get down to the roots, so you need to water first."

Emily Levine, Area 4 Grounds Supervisor on East Campus, said they had no significant plant losses in spite of the drought. "In Yeutter Garden and Fleming Slope [in Maxwell Arboretum], we saw perennials about half the normal size and half the number of blooms this year, but no losses," she said. "Some plants looked burned and stressed, but they should survive." Levine said they lost a few shrubs and sections of trees in Maxwell, but that others have already leafed out again.

Levine said there is an accumulative effect from years of drought and there are still few automatic underground irrigation systems in her area, so when the restrictions were imposed, it was difficult to keep up with hand watering. "Fleming Slope has a very efficient micro-spray low-volume irrigation system, but we weren't allowed to use it because it must run all day.

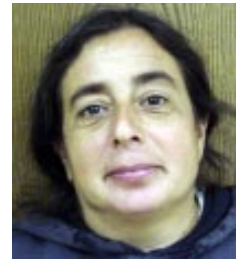
Both Culbertson and Levine expressed surprise at how quickly things greened back up after the rains returned in August. "The grass came back in two weeks," said Culbertson, "it was amazing." Levine said, "Plants love the rain. We watered to keep them alive, but they actually prefer and respond better to natural rainfall."

Jean Schultz, Area 1 East Campus Grounds Supervisor, said some of the plants in the Old Rose Collection in Maxwell Arboretum are diseased this year—a plant pathologist is testing them—and that it might be from heat stress. "We've noticed red tips on plants from reflected heat on the west sides of buildings, like the Japanese yew, burning bush and barberry. We also noticed shrubs growing under large trees were more subject to drought because the deeper-rooted trees were taking up the available water."

Schultz also said trees that were transplanted by spade last October showed drought stress first, but that well-established oaks and other large trees in his area are okay. He said some swamp white oaks dropped their leaves, linden leaves were discolored, and that the tops died on some American chestnuts.



Baird



Levine



Erhart



Culbertson



Schultz

Campus Project Updates

by Eileen Bergt, Interim Director & Landscape Architect



A small addition is under construction on the NE corner of the Barkley Center.

East Campus



East Campus Mall renovation.



Law College renovation and additions will include a multifunctional courtyard on the north side and new building approach on the south. Planting will begin next spring.

City Campus



The area where Lyman and Bancroft buildings were removed will be planted in the spring.



Teacher's College courtyard (above) and Othmer Hall (below) plantings to be completed in spring 2003.



The new Van Brunt Visitor Center - Ross Film & New Media Center. Planting will begin in 2003.

New Construction Projects: Irrigation Staff

The Landscape Services irrigation systems staff was quite busy this summer installing systems in new construction project areas. "This was a hectic year with all the new construction at UNL," said Jim Sommers, Irrigation Systems Manager. "We've installed irrigation systems on the East Campus Mall—about 60,000 sq. ft., former Bancroft-Lyman areas—1.5 acres, and the new Chemical Engineering building—30,000 sq. ft. And now that the systems have been allowed to run again, everyone's trying to water all they can before we shut down."

Sommers said it takes at least 30 days to



Sommers

by Twyla Hansen, Project Assistant

shut down the campus irrigation systems— all 102 of them—before winter to prevent freezing and winter damage. He also said campus areas are prioritized for installation of turfgrass irrigation systems. "The main core of City Campus—not outlying areas or parking lots—is about 95% irrigated. East Campus main core areas are about 80% irrigated," he said. Sommers said all other core areas on both campuses have quick-coupler irrigation connections for hose use available. Outlying area plantings are irrigated with the water truck or building hydrants.

UNLBGA Education Programs

by Kay Kottas, Education Programs Manager & Twyla Hansen, Project Assistant

Talks & Tours

Justin Evertson of the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum led a walking tour on East Campus July 13 on tree and shrub identification.

On July 18 and again August 15, Gary Gabelhouse conducted a hands-on workshop on "Bonsai How-To" for about 35 people each session. We received over 120 calls about this program!

Laurence Ballard, Nursery Plant Supervisor, gave a walking weed identification tour August 10 on East Campus.



Tree & Shrub ID tour

Dr. Paul Johnsgard, UNL Emeritus Professor of Biological Sciences, gave a presentation August 22 to about 30 people on "The Art of Nature: The Nature of Avian Art" in the Nebraska Union.

The 2002 UNLBGA Education programs ended for the year October 2 & 9 with noon fall color tours on City and East Campus led by Justin Evertson.

Thanks to the many speakers and leaders, and also to all the participants who make our programs a success!

NU Landscape Connections

Approximately 2,000 people came to East Campus and Maxwell Arboretum September 14th for the first annual NU Landscape Connections, a new event which combined Gardener's Gala and Festival of Color. Visitors toured campus gardens, research projects, greenhouses, and other facilities. Vendors provided garden treasures, and 4-H Leaders provided children's activities.



Gardening groups and organizations were represented. Plant and pest diagnostics were provided by UNL experts and Master Gardeners. Talks on Landscape design, ponds and many other gardening topics were well attended.



Conferences & Trips: How I Spent My Summer Vacation

by Kay Kottas, Education Programs Manager

I was fortunate to be able to take a trip to the Missouri Botanical Garden to consult with their experts in collections management, conservation and education.

Later in the year, I visited Canada for the American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta annual conference. Workshops and presentations that were most enlightening included collections management and mapping. Most impressive though is the visual appeal. Canada is home to some of the most



Missouri Botanical Garden

beautiful gardens in the world.

The Rock Garden at the Royal Botanic Garden in Hamilton, Ontario is a definite must see. The Niagara Parks Botanical Garden and School of Horticulture is as breathtaking as Niagara Falls. Here students work 40 hours a week on the upkeep of the gardens in addition to classroom activities. You can also take a ride on a horse-drawn carriage and visit the extensive butterfly conservatory.

Helping the Garden Grow

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Kirby Baird, *Landscape & Botanical Services - City Campus*
Carol Bom, *Staff Assistant*
Jeff Culbertson, *Landscape & Botanical Services - East Campus*
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