



Ozarka College Connection

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2011 Graduation Info



2010 Commencement

The 2011 Ozarka College Commencement will take place on May 12 at 7:00 p.m. in the John E. Miller Auditorium.

For those students graduating, practice will be held in the John E. Miller Auditorium at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday May 5. Graduates will meet in the Lecture Hall at 6:00 p.m. on

the night of commencement. Caps and gowns may be picked up May 2-13 at the Ozarka College Bookstore.

A photographer will be available in the Conference Room of the John E. Miller Education Complex prior to graduation from 5:00-6:30 p.m. as well as after the ceremony.

The Registrar's Office is streamlining the process for graduation. Students who have filed an intent to graduate form should receive an electronic form on their myOzarka account asking them to fill in their graduation information. If students have not completed a

paper intent to graduate form, they should contact their advisor to file their intent electronically. Once the advisor submits that, the student will receive the short graduation form on their myOzarka to complete. **All those who intend to graduate should have an intent to graduate form submitted to the registrar's office no later than April 8.**

For further information regarding Ozarka College 2011 Graduation ceremony, contact Registrar, Zeda Wilkerson at 870-368-2028.

Around Campus

- **FALL SCHEDULE POSTED ONLINE APRIL 5**
- **NAMI Meeting** Tuesday, April 5 at 2:00 p.m. in Ash Flat AF102
- **Powerpoint Workshop: April 6-8** (see page 6 for more info)
- **Relay for Life Bake Sale/Silent Auction** Thu. April 7 Main Dining Room; 10AM-2PM.
- **SGA Meeting** - Thu. April 7 2PM via CV: AF102, M215B, MV101.
- **PTK Info Meeting** - Thu., April 7 2:30PM Miller Bldg. Lecture Hall.
- **Deadline to file Intent to Graduate** Friday, April 8 (see Graduation article above)
- **Money Management Series** April 18-21 (see page 5 for details)
- **Spring Carnival - April 21 4-6PM** (see page 5 for details)
- **Last day to withdraw/Classes End** April 28

FOR THE MOST CURRENT EVENTS AROUND CAMPUS CHECK THE ONLINE CAMPUS CALENDAR AT WWW.OZARKA.EDU UNDER NEWS & EVENTS

Deadline for Ozarka Academic All-Star is May 2

Ozarka College and the Arkansas Association of Two-Year Colleges (AATYC) present the Arkansas' Two-Year Colleges Academic All-Stars scholarship program. One student is selected to receive a \$500 scholarship during the Spring 2012 semester and represent Ozarka as the All-Star at the AATYC annual conference on October 18, 2011 in Hot Springs.

The Academic All-Stars program is designed to reward excellence in academics and leadership at each two-year college in Arkansas as well as service to the college and the community.

To be eligible, students must be an Arkansas resident, expect to be enrolled at Ozarka College through Spring 2012, have completed at least 24 credit hours in pursuit of an Associate degree by the end of the current Spring semester and intend to graduate at the end of Summer 2012. The student must also currently post a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.25 out of a possible 4.00 in all credit coursework taken at that college.

The deadline to apply is May 2, 2011. For more information or to obtain an application packet contact Vice President of Student Services, Ron Helm at rhelm@ozarka.edu, or 368-2027. Applications are available in Student Services on the Melbourne campus or in the main offices at Ash Flat, Mammoth Spring, and Mountain View.

From the Kitchen

Sign up for Text alerts each morning for the daily menu in my.Ozarka

Now serving an entrée or choice of Salad Bar, Chicken Strips, or deli sandwich.

The menu is online so check it out!
Lunch Served 11AM-12:30 PM

Breakfast available 7:00 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.



"I sincerely appreciate the hard work and scholarship of our students, and the dedication and professionalism of all faculty, staff and administration at Ozarka College."

-Dr. Richard Dawe,
President.

College Update from President Dr. Dawe

Thankfully spring is upon us in the beautiful Ozarks and we are preparing for commencement and already making plans for summer. We have had an outstanding academic year, and after celebrating a very successful evaluation visit from a team of the Higher Learning Commission's North Central Association, we are now focusing on potential new programs and developing a Facilities Master Plan.

Programs being considered include a Criminal Justice and Corrections Associate Degree; Certificate Program in Diesel Technology; and an Associate Degree and Certificate in Tourism and Hospitality Management. The Facilities Master Plan will involve a diverse committee representing the college community as we consider physical plant requirements to support

our growth in enrollment and additional programs.

We want to ensure we look forward and carefully consider the building needs for the future at each campus location. Our first priority will be to consider future construction at the main campus in Melbourne. To properly support record-setting enrollment and additional programs, we have been hiring additional faculty and staff to properly serve our students' needs. This can be tiring for our hiring committees, but it is critical to our success and their efforts are extremely important, and appreciated!

Another exciting initiative at Ozarka is the partnerships that we continue to develop with four year institutions as we strive to establish a 'University Center' in Melbourne. In the

near future this will result in Bachelors and Masters Degree offerings at the Melbourne campus for our alumni and for members of the community wishing to continue their education. We are aware that many people are unable to relocate to a four year college or university and we and our four year institution partners feel that this is an exciting new opportunity. Arkansas State University is presently seeking approval to offer a bachelors degree in business at Ozarka College as soon as the fall semester. Look for additional information on this in the near future.

I sincerely appreciate the hard work and scholarship of our students, and the dedication and professionalism of all faculty, staff and administration at Ozarka College.

Foundation Spring Gala Held March 31



Gale Tinsman (left) pictured with Ozarka friends, TRiO staff, Shelia Titus (middle) and English instructor, Joanna Fulbright (right).

The Foundation Board of Directors Annual Spring Gala, *Celebrating COMMUNITY*, was held on Thursday, March 31, 2011. Ozarka Alumna, Gale Tinsman spoke about her positive experiences at Ozarka College and how the faculty and staff encouraged her to continue her education. After graduating from Ozarka in 2003, she completed her Bachelor's Degree at Williams Baptist College and received her Master's Degree from Forest Institute of Professional Psychology. Gale is currently a Psychotherapist at Families Inc. Counseling Service serving clients in Sharp, Izard, and Fulton Counties.

Corporate sponsors for this year's Gala were: Bancorp South, CenturyLink, First Community Bank, First National Bank of Izard County, First National Banking Company, Freedom Ford, G.H. Miller and Sons, Liberty Bank, NAEC, and Simmons First Bank. Sysco also helped sponsor the event this year.

There were also many donated items for the silent auction that was conducted this year by auctioneer, Joel King. The Spring Gala is one of the Foundation Board's biggest fundraising events each year. All proceeds from the event will go toward the Foundation's general fund which will be applied to high need projects at all Ozarka College locations.

For information on ways to give to the Foundation, contact Director of Advancement, Suellen Davidson at 870-368-2059 or interim Director of Development, Nancy Dust 870-368-2006.

Ozarka Kids Academy to Celebrate Children's Week



hands-on, age appropriate science learning, which is the theme of this year's event. Activities are tentatively planned for each day of the week as follows:

- Monday - Health Fair for children hosted by Ozarka College nursing students
- Tuesday – Potting flowers with volunteers from the Master Gardeners and a visit from Smokey the Bear
- Wednesday – "Tee shirt day" and a balloon release
- Friday – Emergency vehicles will be on-site, including a fire truck, police patrol car, and ambulance. Mark Miller of Modern Woodman has donated child ID kits for the children.

During Arkansas Children's Week, early childhood programs across the state, including child care and Head Start programs, preschools, and elementary schools, hold special events to bring awareness to the needs for young children. "Young children and their families across the state depend on quality education and care," said Rich Huddleston, executive

Director of Arkansas Advocates for Children and Families.

"Arkansas Children's Week is a time to recognize the people, programs and policies that are helping to build better futures for children."

There are several ways that others can get involved to show that high-quality early education is the right choice for kids, including: Volunteering to work with children and teachers at a school, community center, Head Start, or child care program; spend time playing with a child; supporting policies and programs that help improve professional opportunities and compensation for teachers and staff; or simply thanking early childhood educators and others who play a vital role in preparing young children to succeed in school and beyond.

Ozarka Kids Academy is located at 218 College Drive, next to Ozarka College. The pre-school serves 42 young students ranging from infants to age 5. For more information regarding Arkansas Children's Week at the Academy, contact Hall at 870-368-7868 or email khall@ozarka.edu.

"Early learning experiences are crucial to the growth and development of young children."

-Karen Hall

Director, Ozarka Kids Academy

The Ozarka College Kids Academy will celebrate Arkansas Children's Week April 10-16, 2011, with the theme: "Let's Explore Science!" This event recognizes the needs of young children and thanks educators and others involved in the education and care of young children. Arkansas Children's Week coincides with the national Week of the Young Child and is celebrated across the state and county by thousands of local organizations working to improve opportunities for all young children.

Director of Ozarka Kids Academy, Karen Hall says, "Early learning experiences are crucial to the growth and development of young children. Arkansas Children's Week provides opportunities for all of us to recognize the importance of early learning experiences, including opportunities for

Ozarka LPN Students Compete at ALPNA

Ozarka College's Practical Nursing students and instructors recently attended the 15th Annual Arkansas Licensed Practical Nursing Association (ALPNA) Student Skills Competition and Conference held on the campus of the University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville.

There were one hundred students from the Ash Flat, Melbourne, and Mountain View programs who competed against other students from LPN programs across the state in events such as nursing skills, medical spelling, quiz bowl, CPR, job interview, prepared speaking, anatomy and physiology, nutrition, medical terminology, pharmacology, and talent.

According to LPN instructor, Katie Wilson, who was one of seven instructors who accompanied the students, Ozarka's students performed well in all the events and maintained a display of good sportsmanship throughout the competitions.

Meagan Taylor of from the Ash Flat program placed third in medical terminology; and the team of Melbourne senior students: Sarah Cochran of Salem, Megan Kulczycki of Cherokee Village, Sarah Pierson of Franklin and Rita Sullivan of Smithville placed third in the quiz bowl competition.

Izard County Single Parent Scholarship



“The most effective way to help single parents become self-sufficient is to enable them through education, and to prepare them for a career that will sustain their families.”

*-Laura Lawrence
Chair, Izard County
Single Parent
Scholarship Board.*

Izard County Single Parent Scholarship committee recently awarded a \$600 scholarship to Sara Lawrence of Melbourne. Sara is a single mother of two and began the Practical Nursing program this semester at the Melbourne campus. She anticipates graduating in May of 2012 with her LPN degree.

Ozarka College Director of Financial Aid, Laura Lawrence, who serves as Chair of the Izard County Single Parent Scholarship Committee, explains the purpose of the scholarship. “This program is designed to provide single parents in Izard County the opportunity to pursue a diploma or a degree from a post-secondary school in order

to improve their job skills, become self-sufficient and improve the lives of their families.”

She adds, “The most effective way to help single parents become self-sufficient is to enable them through education, and to prepare them for a career that will sustain their families. We want to find every resource possible to help them fulfill their needs in order to alleviate some of the financial burden of obtaining a degree.”

Applications are currently being accepted for upcoming Summer and Fall semesters. To be eligible, a student must be a resident of Izard County and the single head of household with a child under the age of 18 in the home. Applicants must

also be high school or GED graduates.

Applicants should demonstrate evidence of financial need and plans of pursuing a career-oriented course of study. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office at Ozarka College in Melbourne. As long as a student applies by May 2, 2011, their application will be considered for summer and/or fall semesters.

For information about the scholarship or to apply, contact Lawrence at Ozarka College 870-368-2010. The website for the Single Parent Scholarship Fund is www.aspsf.org and applications are available online.

Adult Ed Announces GED Testing for April

The GED Test will be given at Ozarka College in Melbourne, Arkansas on April 7 and 20 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 April:

- Mammoth Spring; Simmons First National Bank 9:00 a.m. April 4 and 18
- Calico Rock; City Hall 9:00 a.m. April 5 and 12
- Mountain View; Ozarka College 9:00 a.m. April 7 and 14
- Salem; Fulton County Courthouse 9:00 a.m. April 14
- Ash Flat; Sharp County Courthouse- Main Courtroom 9:00 a.m. April 19 and 28

You must present an Arkansas photo ID, a Social Security Card, and proof of passing practice test scores dated within the last year. 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 may be necessary to allow two days for the testing.

Ozarka to Host Spring Carnival on April 21

Ozarka College is again hosting a Spring Carnival in Melbourne from 4:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 21 in front of the John E. Miller Education Complex. The Spring Carnival will be FREE to Ozarka College students, their families and the community.

Many departments, programs and student organizations will be involved in the event again this year. There will be contests, fun, food and games for children of all ages. Some of the activities this year will include the National Guard cart track, drunk-driving simulator, face-painting, pick-up ducks, photo booth, dart throw, bean bag toss, grand-prize game, and

other carnival type activities. Everything at the event will be **FREE** of charge and open to the public.

Organizers for the event, state, "The Spring Carnival is open to our students, their families and the community. Last year this event drew over 750 people and we hope to do the same again this year."

For further information or questions about this event, contact Zeda Wilkerson at 368-7371 or zwilkerson@ozarka.edu.

The event is funded in part by a grant received from the Arkansas Collegiate Drug Education Committee and in cooperation

with the Izard County Home-town Health Coalition.



Money Management Series— April 18-21 from 2:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Ozarka will again offer the Money Management series this year with a different format. Four topics will be available on different days at each site throughout the week of April 18 from 2:00 - 2:30 pm. each day. This series is sponsored by TRiO Student Support Services, Ozarka's Financial Aid Department, and Career Pathways.

This event is offered free to students as follows:

| Day | Budgeting <i>Kim Lovelace</i> | Grants and Loans <i>Laura Lawrence</i> | Banking, Interest & Credit <i>Deltha Shell</i> | Scholarships & Planning for College Expenses <i>Karin Brown and Bryan Jeffery</i> |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------|---|---|--|
| Monday April 18 | Mountain View Room 102 | Ash Flat Room AF103 | Mammoth Spring Room MS102 | Melbourne Room H112 |
| Tuesday April 19 | Ash Flat Room AF103 | Mammoth Spring Room MS102 | Melbourne Room H112 | Mountain View Room 101 |
| Wednesday April 20 | Mammoth Spring Room MS102 | Melbourne Room H112 | Mountain View Room 102 | Ash Flat Room AF103 |
| Thursday April 21 | Melbourne Room H112 | Mountain View Room 101 | Ash Flat Room AF103 | Mammoth Spring Room MS102 |

Ozarka Welcomes More New Employees this Semester

Ozarka College welcomes the following new staff members this semester:



Brandy Gore was hired last month as Ozarka's Director of Admissions. Brandy and her husband Stacy are fairly new to the Melbourne community and she looks forward to working with students in this role. With an MSE in Education Theory and Practice from ASU, Brandy has been teaching English at Brookland and Osceola high schools for the past five years. She has also worked for Sylvan Learning Center. Husband, Stacy works at Melbourne School and their daughter, Libby is in the first grade at Melbourne Elementary. Along with watching football, Brandy enjoys crochet and reading.

Izard County native, Jennifer Treadway, is the newest Ozarka Kids Academy staff member. She was hired in early March to work in the baby/infant classroom. Jennifer is an Ozarka College alumna and is currently working on a Bachelor's degree in early childhood education through Ashford University online. She and her husband, William live in Violet Hill with their two sons.



Ozarka's newest site in Mammoth Spring welcomes Cindy Pitchford. Cindy was hired as the Administrative Assistant and as also an Ozarka alumna. She is enthused to be a part of the institution where she and her husband both attended. Cindy completed the one year Business certificate program and her husband, Bill went through the Appliance Repair program several years ago. A high school graduate of Mt. Pleasant High School, Cindy now lives in Thayer, Missouri where she has worked as a secretary for Stateline Propane as well as owning a hair salon. The Pitchfords have three grown children and two granddaughters. Cindy enjoys photography, singing, reading and spending time with friends and family.

The Information Systems office welcomes Pam McFarlin, who was hired in March as administrative assistant. Her experience includes over 10 years as Executive Administrative Assistant for Network of Community Options. She graduated from Ozarka in 2005 with an Associate of Arts and was a member of Phi Theta Kappa. She and her son, Thomas, who was also an Ozarka Automotive student, live in Highland. Her interests include photography, computers, and modified and NOPI cars.



Student Success Center Powerpoint Workshop

The Ozarka College Student Success Center will offer another useful workshop during the first week of April. These free workshops will cover the basics of creating a Powerpoint presentation. All Ozarka students or employees are welcome to attend the workshop which will be offered at all locations as follows:

- Monday, April 4 - Mammoth Spring 12:30-1:30
- Wednesday, April 6 - Ash Flat Computer Lab 11:30-12:30
- Wednesday, April 6: - Mountain View Computer Lab 2:00-3:00
- Thursday, April 7 - Melbourne Computer Lab (Miller Building) 11:00-12:00

For more information please contact Mickey Freeze in the Student Success Center at 870-368-2056 or via email mfreeze@ozarka.edu

Ozarka SGA Hosting Softball Tournament

The Ozarka College Student Government Association is organizing a campus-wide softball tournament to begin at 10:00 a.m., on Saturday April 16 at the Melbourne Softball field by the high school. Each Ozarka location is encouraged to form a team or multiple teams comprised of faculty, staff, and students.

SGA Advisor and Registrar, Zeda Wilkerson states,

“Ozarka faculty, staff and administrators are putting together a team and are excited to get involved in some friendly competition on the softball field. We hope everyone will come out and cheer on all the teams who play!”

Anyone wanting to participate or find out more information contact the following at each Ozarka site:

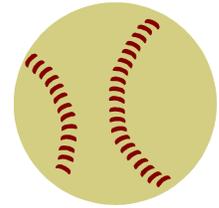
Mammoth Spring: Joe Smith
jwsmith@mail.ozarka.edu

Mountain View: Crystal Burns
winterslight@mail.ozarka.edu

Melbourne: Brian Neel
bgneel@ozarka.edu

Ash Flat: Angela Goodman
angela.goodman@centurytel.net

There will be concessions available the day of the tournament.



“We hope everyone will come out and cheer on all the teams who play!”

*-Zeda Wilkerson,
Registrar
SGA Advisor*

Ozarka College Hosting Upcoming Fundraisers for Relay for Life



The Ozarka College Relay for Life Team will host a bake sale and auction from 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on April 7 in the main dining room. Anyone who would like to donate items or participate in this event may contact Team Chair, Wanda McConnaughay in the Student Services office. The public is invited to attend and bid on items.

During the month of April employees of the college may participate in “Jean Thursday” by making a donation to Ozarka’s Relay team of \$20.

There will also be a hamburger lunch and delivery on April 26. Details and information about ordering will be available online.

The Ozarka Superheroes will have official team shirts available to purchase soon. The Ozarka Relay team invites the community to participate in these events. For more information contact Wanda at 870-368-2024 or wmconnaughay@ozarka.edu.

Successful Artmobile in March

Ozarka hosted the Arkansas Arts Center's Artmobile during the week of March 7-11. The Artmobile is a 40+foot mobile gallery containing original works of art from the Arts Center's permanent collection. The gallery's onboard Art Educator, Virgil Lawrence, brought the art to life by guiding groups and visitors through the mobile gallery. There were 376 visitors through the Artmobile throughout the week including several Ozarka classes, who used this as a learning opportunity.



Cheri McKee-McSwain's art class travelled from Mountain View to experience the Artmobile firsthand.

Ozarka College

P.O. Box 10
218 College Drive
Melbourne, AR 72556



**Our Mission is to
Provide Life-Changing
Experiences Through
Education.**

Early Fall Registration Begins this Month

The 2011 Fall schedule will be available for viewing on April 5 and registration for current students will begin April 12. Any student who has successfully completed a semester at Ozarka can register online after meeting and planning their class schedules with their academic advisor. Once registered, financial aid arrangements must be made.

Any new or first time, full time students may register during early registration beginning April 25 and

continue through July, Monday-Thursday, or students may register during open registration from August 16-19.

Anyone planning to enroll as a new student at Ozarka College must take the ACT or Compass Exam. These test scores are required for placement in English, reading, and mathematics.

Compass testing is available by appointment. To schedule testing, call (870) 368-2049 in IZard County,

870-269-5600 ext. 5001 in Stone County, 870-994-7273 ext. 4009 in Sharp County, in Fulton County 870-625-0411, or toll free 1-800-821-4335. A photo ID is required to take the test.

Summer and Fall course schedules are available online at www.ozarka.edu, or at any Ozarka College location. To request a copy of the schedule please call Admissions at 870-368-7371 or toll free listed above.



**The early bird gets the worm!
Be the BIRD, Register Early!**