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FOUNDATION
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EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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Spotlight on Board Member, Cathy Leichter



“If you want something done, ask a busy person.” That old saying is especially true about Tree Bank Board Member, Cathy Leichter.

In her professional career, Cathy worked in all phases of advertising. She owned and managed her own advertising agency for many years.

Cathy is an accomplished and published author, writing many articles about her travels and humorous articles from her unique point of view.

Cathy now has a second career as a volunteer. She generously donates her time and talents to many civic and private organizations in Oklahoma City.

Cathy has a great respect for the environment and is a long-time Board Member and the Vice Chairman for The Tree Bank. Cathy is Co-Chair of our Public Relations Committee, Co-Chair of our Fundraising Committee and has produced our newsletter in the past.

As major supporters of Habitat for Humanity, Cathy and her husband, Kurt, were the first individuals to fully fund a Habitat house. They also funded the Habitat Renovation Station.

Cathy organized and presented a plan to OCU for funding OCU’s first Habitat home in 1999. This was the first project to involve every student organization on campus and they have now built several homes.

One of Cathy and Kurt’s, major projects is fund-raising for OCU. Cathy has chaired balls and other fundraising events for OCU and serves on many Boards and Committees. She is currently President of the Societies of OCU.

Cathy is a Board Member of the Oklahoma City Orchestra League, The Lyric Theater, Executive Advisory Board of the OCU School of Music, President’s Club Advisory Committee of OCU, 2006 Co-Chair of the Symphony Designer Show House, Trustee of the National United Methodist Higher Education Foundation, active member of Our Lord’s Community Church and the Juliette Low Leadership Society.

Memorial & Commemorative Tree Plantings

Your tax-deductible gift to The Tree Bank will enable us to continue the greening of Oklahoma. What better way to remember a loved one, honor a friend or celebrate the birth of a child, than to give the gift of trees to our communities? We will send a memorial or commemorative letter to the person you choose to honor. We cannot label a specific tree as your tree. It will be one of many trees planted on public lands in Central Oklahoma, adding to the health and beautification of our communities.

Yes, I wish to make a gift to The Tree Bank of \$_____.
(First tree \$35)

In honor of In memory of _____

Gift made by _____

Best Time To Contact Me _____ Phone _____

Please send an acknowledgment to the person below:

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Mail to The Tree Bank 16301 North Rockwell, Building A, Edmond, OK 73013

NeighborWoods Program Helps OKC’s Urban Forest Grow



Volunteers from Chesapeake Energy; the City of Oklahoma City Department of Parks, Planning and Public Works; and the Oklahoma State Department of Forestry join forces to plant 176 Tree Bank trees in the Douglas Edgemere and Helm Farm neighborhoods.

As Oklahoma City grows bigger, it also grows greener, thanks to NeighborWoods, a program of the City of Oklahoma City Planning Department, whose mission is to facilitate tree planting projects in low-to-moderate income neighborhoods by connecting businesses, who donate the trees, with city residents, who plant and maintain them.

The objective of the program is to provide individuals, who do not otherwise have the resources, the opportunity to improve their property and to enhance Oklahoma City’s urban forest for the benefit of us all. Oklahoma City is one of the few cities whose urban forest is getting bigger.

The first project, sponsored by Chesapeake Energy Corp., planted 176 Tree Bank trees in the Douglas Edgemere and Helm Farm Neighborhoods. There are many, many more neighborhoods that could benefit from the program. For more information, contact The Tree Bank at 405-330-4701.

Urban Trees Need Water

Did you know that urban trees need watering? Many people see trees growing well in the countryside and assume that trees in their yard or in the city don’t need to be watered either. Trees in the country were started in a rainy season or they are on a high water table or near a creek. This is not true of urban trees. They need your help to thrive.

Mark Bays, Oklahoma Urban Forester at the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry Services, recommends early morning watering, as early as 5 A.M. Trees get the most benefit for the least amount of water when ground temperatures are coolest.

Morton Payne, Chairman and President of The Tree Bank, states that, “although nature waters trees from the top, it is the best use of water to keep it low.” Do not use sprinklers that shoot high into the air.

Remember that a rain shower may not be enough to meet the needs of a tree. Check the soil at a depth of 12 inches for saturation.

Perhaps you have seen green plastic bags around the base of trees that have been recently transplanted. These are called “Gators” and when filled with water, they slowly release it at the base of the tree. These are especially good for trees transplanted in warm weather.

All trees can benefit from a three to four inch layer of mulch that helps the ground retain water by cooling soil temperatures. Cypress and cottonseed hulls are especially beneficial mulches.

Welcome New Advisory Board Members

Welcome to our new Advisory Board Members: Nancy Denton, Mustang; Rose Morgan, Moore; Carol Carter Shi, Seminole; and Edye Draper, Oklahoma City.

The Envelope Please...



The Tree Bank’s Centennial Groves Program won the 2005 OK Recreation & Parks Society award of Excellence in the Program Category.

Becky Durrett, Tree Bank Board Member, was recently awarded the first place Keep Oklahoma Beautiful 2005 Individual Achievement Award. Congratulations, Becky!

Morton Payne, Tree Bank Board President, won the Myriad Gardens Crystal Orchid Award for 2005. This annual award honors his contributions and dedication to the vision, development and success of the Myriad Gardens. We’re very proud of Morton!

Bill Kopplin, Tree Bank Board Member, and Stanley Draper, Jr., Past President, both won lifetime achievement “Icons of Gardening” awards at the OKC Beautiful’s 2006 Distinguished Service Awards Luncheon and Celebration.

Bill Kopplin won the April 21, 2006 Daily Points of Light Award for Volunteers.

Margaret Bjorklund Comes Full Circle



Margaret started working with The Tree Bank as a volunteer. She later worked with us as a contractor in our office helping with newsletter distribution, clerical tasks and award nominations. Margaret has been our “resident artist,” designing our displays, providing calligraphy, etc. Margaret is now a volunteer again, donating her time and talent to support us. Many thanks to Margaret!

**Focus on Contractor
John Walls**



Since The Tree Bank received its first donated computer, John Wall, Qualisys, has been our committed and dedicated "computer guru."

John has provided technical assistance, consultation, software and hardware. He has donated countless hours to our efforts. He meets every challenge with a smile and a great sense of humor.

The Tree Bank would not have a successful fund raising campaign each year without John's assistance.

Thank you, John!

**Thank You To Our
Major Donors**

- Chesapeake Energy Corporation
- Devon Energy
- The Dolese Company
- Emmett R. Quady Foundation
- Fred and Mary Eddy Jones Foundation
- Mary Gilmore Caffrey
- Inasmuch Foundation
- INTEGRIS Health
- Jean I. Everest Foundation
- The Kirkpatrick Family Fund
- Cathy & Kurt Leichter
- The Meinders Foundation
- OGE Energy Corp.
- The OKC Community Foundation
- The Oklahoman
- Public Service Company of Oklahoma
- The Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation
- Rob Shaff
- Pen & Robin Woods
- USDA Forest Service
- Oklahoma Forestry Services
- David Yost
- Generous Anonymous Donors

Stanley Draper, Jr.

A Lifetime Of Service...



On May 27, 2006 The Tree Bank lost our friend and long-time supporter, Stanley Draper, Jr. Our state has been blessed with many great leaders, but Stanley stands alone. Through his commitment to his community and environmental concerns, Stanley has improved the quality of life for all Oklahomans.

Through his leadership of The Tree Bank, Stanley has been involved in planting 54,000 trees on public lands in central Oklahoma. He spear-headed tree plantings at Will Rogers World Airport; State Fair Park; the Atkinson Arboretum in Midwest City; Ford Park in Oklahoma City; Lincoln Boulevard, gateway to the Capitol; sixty "Leaf It To Me" school arboretums in Central Oklahoma; State Parks; Public Housing complexes; and in municipal parks, streets and public buildings around the state.

Stanley served as President of The Tree Bank for six years, and as Fundraising Chairman for sixteen years. During that time, he was responsible for raising almost 50% of the budget single-handedly.

Stanley never asked of anyone that which he himself would not do. He was often seen picking up litter or pruning trees along the roadside, even in the middle of a hot Oklahoma August. He looked for no reward other than a sidewalk free of trash or a distressed tree that was saved. As president and founder of many organizations, Stanley was never influenced by what was popular, but by what was right. He viewed his work as more important than himself. He spoke spiritedly about making and keeping Oklahoma beautiful and he lived his words.

Stanley's wonderful sense of humor and positive attitude challenged us all to be better people. One of his favorite teachings was to "look for the pony." That is, if you find a pile of manure, there must be a pony around somewhere for you to love and ride. As we go forward, strive to take Stanley's advice, and always "look for the pony."

**"Trees Make A Difference"
License Plates Are Now Available**



Purchase a license plate and help plant trees in cities and towns across Oklahoma. Proceeds help The Oklahoma Department of Agriculture, Food and Forestry provide grant funds to local, non-profit organizations for public tree planting projects. The license plate sells for \$35, with an annual renewal fee of \$35. (These costs are in addition to regular registration fees.) For each license plate purchased, \$20 funds tree-planting grants.

Tags may be purchased at local tag offices or through the Oklahoma Tax Commission.

The Greater Oklahoma City

Tree Bank Foundation

Non Profit Organization

Quarterly Newsletter

Summer, 2006

**Tree Bank Board Member Receives National
Daily Points of Light Award for Volunteers**



Congratulations to Bill Kopplin for winning the nation's April 21, 2006 Daily Points of Light Award.

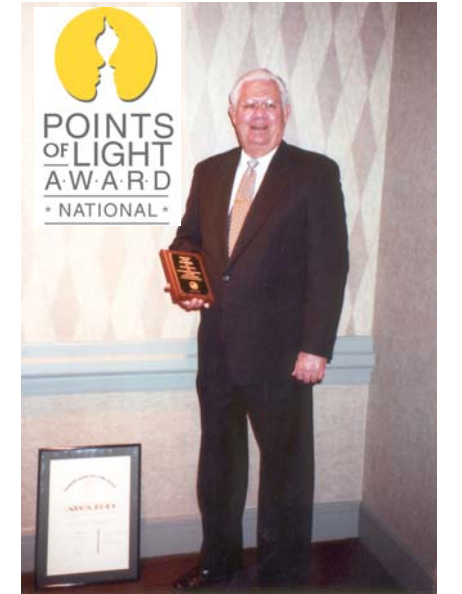
The Daily Points of Light Awards program honors those who have made a commitment to connect Americans through service to help solve serious social problems in their communities.

Given each weekday, the Awards are bestowed upon deserving recipients who exemplify the best of volunteerism, a sense of caring and responsibility for others that connects citizens and solves community problems.

In addition to his many other volunteer efforts, Bill Kopplin serves as the Chairman of the Centennial Groves Committee of The Tree Bank Foundation. In the past, Bill volunteered two full days each week at the Foundation offices. Bill still gives numerous hours in support of the efforts of The Tree Bank Foundation.

Bill is the creator and principal developer of a statewide Centennial Groves Project, bringing about plantings of groves of trees throughout Oklahoma, as part of Oklahoma's Centennial celebration.

We're proud of your accomplishments, Bill.



Telephone: 405-330-4701
 Fax: 405-330-5415
 Email: treebankok@msn.com
 Web Site: www.thetreebank.org
 16301 North Rockwell, Building A
 Edmond, OK 73013

The Greater
Oklahoma City
Tree Bank



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