Department of Environmental Horticulture • University of California, Davis

GROWING Points

http://envhort.ucdavis.edu

Tony Kofranek To Be Inducted Into the California Floriculture Hall of Fame

by Heiner Lieth, Chair, Dept. of Environmental Horticulture

It is my pleasure to announce that Professor Emeritus Tony Kofranek, one of our department's founding members, is being inducted into the California Floriculture Hall of Fame. As you may be aware, Tony has done an immense amount for the floriculture industry and this is obviously a just reward for his many years of service.

The California Floriculture Hall of Fame is administered by the Kee Kitayama Research Foundation and its education committee, the California Ornamental Research Federation. This award was established in 1986 to honor those individuals who have made outstanding and permanent contributions to the floriculture industry in the areas of production, marketing, transportation, research and legislative activity. Recipients are honored at each of the California floral markets where their names appear engraved on permanent plaques located at the San Francisco Flower Market, the Los Angeles Flower Market and the San Diego International Floral Trade Center.

Contributions to the California floral industry

Dr Kofranek's contributions to the California floral industry span half a century, starting in the early 1940s and including 18 years at UCLA and 17 years at UC Davis; since 1987 he has been Professor Emeritus. During his career he made innumerable contributions to teaching, research, and extension in the industry. Students who were mentored or advised by him can be found throughout the industry. His commitment to students was always a major element of his work. One example of this was the spearheading of a chapter of the national horticulture honor society (Pi Alpha Xi) and taking undergraduate students to flower judging competitions throughout the United States.

Professor Kofranek's dedication to the floral industry has resulted in a legacy of research information that is still in use today. He worked on photoperiodic control of a number of the ornamental crops including chrysanthemum and Majestic daisies and pioneered the use of cyclical lighting which is used widely to reduce the energy costs of photoperiodic lighting. He also explored the effect of salinity on ornamental crops. He did pioneering work on fertilization and plant nutrition of a number of ornamental crops, an area that is becoming particularly relevant again as growers are finding it more important to recirculate irrigation water. The resulting information on deficiency levels in chrysanthemum, rose, and azalea is still in use today in diagnosing tissue samples for nutrient deficiencies. Prior to moving from UCLA to UC Davis he also worked on drip irrigation technology and fertilizer injection.

In the mid 1960s, Professor Kofranek was part of the group of UCLA faculty that moved to the (then new) UC Davis campus to form what is today the Environmental Horticulture Department. The founding faculty was responsible for developing research, extension and teaching programs with statewide focus and were instrumental in achieving an international reputation for the new department.

Professor Kofranek's focus at UC Davis included continued work on production of ornamental crops such as chrysanthemum,

Continued on page 8

UC Davis Students Tour Horticultural Research Facilities and Universities in Germany

by Heiner Lieth

EH travel group sponsored by the German Academic Exchange. Dr. Fritz Schröder is second from left.

Last year I had the idea of taking a group of students to Germany to learn about European horticulture, and especially German horticulture. My friend at the University of Applied Sciences in Dresden, Germany offered to help me with this idea and offered to help me apply for funding from the Deutsche Akademischer Austauschdienst (DAAD). Earlier in the year we heard that they decided to fund our proposal (to fund all the local costs in Germany) and we immediately set out to assemble the group and to make our travel plans. The students were assigned to various planning tasks and they really assembled the entire trip according to their horticultural interests.

We started the tour on August 12 in Dresden, Germany, and over the next two weeks toured horticultural and cultural sites throughout Germany. We visited various government research stations (Dresden, Erfurt, and Grossbeeren) focusing on ornamental horticulture, pomology, and vegetable crops where researchers made presentations on the research that was going on at their facilities. We also visited universities (HTW Dresden, TU Munich, TU Geisenheim, and U Hannover) where it became clear that the professors were very happy to connect with us and in some cases we were approached about developing ongoing academic relationships. Most of the students in the group had had some research experience at UC Davis and were amazed that much of what they had been exposed to in the past was very relevant to the German scientists. At the same time, we learned a lot about the various facets of horticulture including breeding of horticultural crops, hydroponic production including oxygen and fertility management and suitability of perennial plants.

In addition to the incredible horticultural experiences that the students (and non-students) had, we also had a lot of opportunity for historical and cultural learning as well as connections with German students. In fact, one of the conditions of the DAAD program was that it *had* to include cultural factors. We learned a lot about how young Germany is as a republic and how turbulent its history has been. It was very sobering for everyone to learn what initiated the various wars and how these came about and how little the German people were able to stop these forces, and how similar these forces are to what we see in the world around us today. The devastating effects from the last World War and the cold war were still present everywhere in the former eastern states. It was very sobering.

As part of this project, students on the trip were given the opportunity to write articles related to their experience on this trip. In fact, we are encouraging our students to write articles for *Growing Points* to give you a sense of how they see the horticultural world. GP

Compendium of Strategies to Reduce Tree Root Damage is Now Available

Reducing Infrastructure Damage by Tree Roots: A Compendium of Strategies is available to help you with your tree root problems. The Compendium offers solutions in three different categories: tree, infrastructure, and root zone.

The Compendium identifies and describes key strategies used to prevent or mitigate damage to sidewalks, curbs, and gutters by tree roots. Strategies include the use of root barriers, structural soil, species selection, alternative design, soil management techniques, and many others. Each strategy is described in terms of objective(s), methods, materials, and limitations.

Dr. Larry Costello and Katherine Jones have compiled information that will serve as a quick and complete reference for all professionals interested in reducing infrastructure damage. Literature citations are included and field photos are used to illustrate techniques whenever possible.

You can obtain a copy from the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture (WCISA) by calling 530-892-1118 or faxing 530-892-1006. Cost is $15.00 per compendium plus $8.00 for shipping and handling in the U.S.

--Jim Geiger, Center for Urban Forest Research (http://cufr.ucdavis.edu)

Neuschwanstein, Hofbräuhaus and Radeberger, or Everything I Learned in Germany: A Satire

By Robby Flannery, Horticulture Graduate Group

Growing up as a relatively over-protected American child of the 80s, my perception of Germany and its culture was derived from movies and television of the day including the Indiana Jones trilogy, Bugs Bunny and Daffy Duck. As I grew older, I came to realize that Germany has provided the world with many fantastic cultural additions including Black Forest Ham, German Chocolate Cake, the VW Beetle, schnitzel, lederhosen, sauerkraut (or liberty cabbage), bratwurst, Albert Einstein and many fine beers. Although this list of German icons seems extensive, I learned that my knowledge of German culture had a few shortcomings. Recently, I joined Dr. Heiner Lieth on a cultural and horticultural tour of Germany. This tour was partially funded by the German government as an opportunity to explore German culture and numerous horticultural sites throughout the nation. So, with my wealth of ignorance about Germany, its culture, and the language, I ventured forth to the largest industrial country in the European Union.

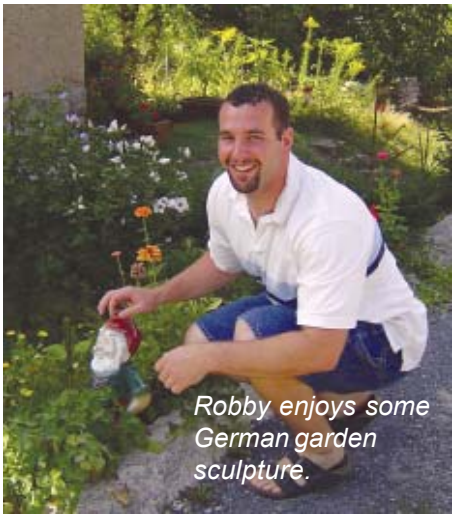
As I walked on the plane that would take me to Frankfurt, I noticed that people around me were not speaking English very well at all and were wearing Birkenstocks with socks, shorts that came up to their mid-thighs, and green visors. It took me a while to realize these were German tourists speaking German and I began to wonder uneasily how I was going to get around in their country without knowing the language. Lucky for me and any other unassuming American traveling to Germany, I would soon learn that Germans are extremely accommodating to their visitors.

After struggling with the language barrier, I was eventually able to find myself in Dresden. This eastern city was the beginning of our trip, and also where we met a professor of horticulture at the University of Dresden in Pilnitz. Dr. Fritz Schröder was an integral part of our trip, as he introduced us to German culture and acted as an interpreter for the many horticultural stops along the course of our excursion. If there is one thing, however, that Dr. Schröder taught us that will stick with me for the rest of my days, it is this: Radeberger is Germany's best beer. After twelve days of Fritz's daily affirmation of Radeberger's superiority, I will forever associate the name Radeberger with untouchable quality, top-notch flavor in all of its hoppy goodness. Another realization that Fritz was able to convey about German culture is that Germans are infatuated with horticulture. You can't walk for more than ten minutes in Germany without finding yourself knee-deep in the flowers of somebody's garden.

This horticultural trip included many stops, where we were able to peruse their greenhouses, every one of which was in tiptop shape. Besides one or two of the major German universities, our tour hit all the key horticultural research facilities the nation has to offer. Although these stops in our trip were appealing, by far the most fascinating part of the trip was visiting the many private or public gardens. Horticulture is king in Germany, and it is most apparent in the countless botanical gardens. Unfortunately, it is difficult to describe in words the awe-inspiring collections of plants. Flowers such as begonias, petunias, dahlias, geraniums, and of course thousands upon thousands of roses are just a few of the plants highlighted in the gardens of Germany. The perennial plant registry was another stop in our tour. This garden provides space to test the hardiness, versatility, and overall beauty for up and coming horticultural plants.

Walking through gardens, research facilities, laboratories and greenhouses is fine and dandy but being a creature of simple pleasures, I found the food to be some of the most memorable parts of the trip. Lucky for me, I'm not a vegetarian because it was sometimes difficult to find fully vegetarian meals. In fact, I actually ate a bratwurst salad. Granted it did come with one quarter of a tomato and a few slices of cucumber, the rest of the meal consisted of thinly sliced bratwurst sausage served cold with a vinegar dressing. Before leaving America for this tour, many of my peers who had visited Germany before had told me to stop by the Hofbräuhaus while in Munich because of their expansive menu. When I say expansive, I really mean that the amount of food and beer you get is expansive not the amount of menu items. This is my type of eatery. This particular evening I was a rock star. I was able to finish off 4 liters of beer and eat ¾ of a chicken, mash potatoes and some sauerkraut.

Our cultural tour led us to the south of Germany, where we explored the Bavarian castle Neuschwanstein. While walking up to the peak that this palace sits on, one can see Neuschwanstein appear among the trees and peaks of the Alps. Most people of the group on the tour were amazed by this structure, but I was sadly disappointed, as it resembled the castle in a certain Southern California amusement park. It took me a few minutes to realize that Neuschwanstein, although never fully completed, opened its doors in 1886 so was probably the inspiration for that theme park castle built in the 1950s. I really came to appreciate the beauty of the original Bavarian castle. From what I understand, King Ludwig II built Neuschwanstein as a pleasure palace. Although the palace did not have the luxury of an indoor pool or an entertainment center with big screen TV and 5-disc DVD changer, I can imagine that for its time Neuschwanstein was a pretty hip place to party.



Robby enjoys some German garden sculpture.

Before leaving for this cultural and horticultural tour, my appreciation of German culture was surprisingly limited. After spending 12 days touring the country, I feel that my understanding of Germany is now more complete. Germany isn't just about beer, sauerkraut and a different language. Germany is also about flowers, big Bavarian castles, and the Hofbräuhaus. So I have Heiner and Fritz to thank for giving me a newfound respect and adulation for German culture, which I will gladly celebrate by strapping on some lederhosen and hoisting a liter of Radeberger. GP

Living Landscapes: Linking Ethnobiology and Restoration Ecology in the Revival of Native Systems

by Kat Anderson, Ethnobiologist, Natural Resources Conservation Service, USDA

Finding ways to use and live in the natural world without destroying its renewal capacity is one of the major challenges facing modern-day people, just as it was for the people who migrated here more than 12,000 years ago. The detailed descriptions of the plant and animal uses and management practices of indigenous people that will be discussed at the 27th Annual Ethnobiology Conference—the results of thousands of years of experimentation, adaptation, and ingenuity—can help us meet this challenge. For example, regular burning of many types of vegetation across the continent created better habitat for game, eliminated brush, minimized the potential for catastrophic fires, and encouraged a diversity of food crops and basketry materials.

Without the indigenous presence, the early European and Asian explorers would have encountered a land with less spectacular wildflower displays, fewer very large trees, fewer park-like forests, and less biological diversity overall. In addition, the grassland habitats that today are disappearing in such places as Mt. Tamalpais in California and the Ozette Prairies of Olympic National Park in Washington might not have existed in the first place.

Indigenous people maintained, enhanced, and in part created a fertility that was eventually to be exploited by Eurasian farmers, ranchers and entrepreneurs, who imagined themselves to have built civilization out of an unpeopled wilderness. The concept of the continent as unspoiled, raw, uninhabited nature—as wilderness—erased the indigenous cultures and their histories from the land and dispossessed them of their enduring legacy of tremendous biological wealth.

Courtesy of the Natural Resources Conservation Service ©

Ethnobiology Conference Set for March 2004

We invite you to attend our three-day conference, sponsored by the Society of Ethnobiology, to discuss this enduring stewardship legacy of the native peoples of the United States, Canada, and Mexico, as well as other native peoples from around the world. Not only will plenary and concurrent sessions focus upon some of the rich and varied ways that native people have used and managed landscapes, but also on how to restore landscapes utilizing indigenous traditional ecological knowledge, so that this knowledge lives on the land once again.

The Society of Ethnobiology is a nonprofit professional organization dedicated to the interdisciplinary study of the relationships of plants and animals with human cultures worldwide. The Society hosts an annual conference and oversees publication of the *Journal of Ethnobiology*, a semi-annual professional journal. Ethnobiological studies are

multidisciplinary in nature and use methods from anthropology, ecology, biology, and history to elucidate the historic and current interrelationships between human cultures and the natural environment.

This year's conference will explore a vision for our environmental future based on a greater dialogue between indigenous peoples, ethnobiologists, and restoration ecologists. We will also consider how the findings of ethnobiological research can assist ecological and cultural restoration efforts in a variety of contexts.

Some of the broad goals of the Conference are the following:

(1) To link ethnobiology with conservation activities such as land restoration and natural area stewardship;

(2) To promote dialogue between indigenous people, ethnobiologists, and researchers/practitioners in wildland management/restoration, agroforestry, agronomy, and the range sciences;

(3) To contrast "Western" and "indigenous" beliefs about science and resource management;

(4) To integrate academic with indigenous and place-based forms of knowledge;

(5) To better define the ancient linkages between the pre-agricultural cultivation of wild nature and domesticated agriculture;

(6) To evaluate the effectiveness of institutional regulations in conserving biocultural diversity;

(7) To review the latest research findings in ethnobotany, ethnozoology, historical ecology, environmental anthropology, and related fields.

Conference Details

When: March 24-27, 2004

Where: Wright Theater on the UC Davis campus

Sponsors: the Society of Ethnobiology; the Department of Environmental Horticulture, UC Davis; the California State Office of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS); and the National Plant Data Center of NRCS.

Concurrent Sessions: Two full days of presentations on many topics in ethnobiology

Special Activities: plenary session on the Ethnobiology of Crop Diversity in Contemporary Agriculture; workshop on Community-supported Wild Foraging Training; cultural demonstrations of basketweaving and acorn processing by California Indians; exciting field trips

For more information consult the Conference Website:

http://www.ethnobiology.org/2004Conference

Diverse Participation Encouraged

This conference will draw five important sectors of society together: academia, government, indigenous groups, nongovernmental organizations, and the private sector. Because of the theme, we anticipate excellent attendance by personnel from land managing agencies including the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the National Park Service, and the U.S. Forest Service. Native plant nurseries, restoration groups, watershed groups and botanic gardens will find this conference of interest, as will museum curators who use anthropological collections in restoration contexts. Because indigenous people were the major innovators with regard to the semi-domestication and domestication of the plant world, we anticipate that a wide variety of farming organizations will be interested in attending this conference. Additionally, since this conference is interdisciplinary in nature, we anticipate interest on the part of faculty and students from a wide variety of college campuses representing different departments.

Ethnobiologists and restorationists are recognizing that indigenous peoples need to be a part of any serious efforts at restoring and preserving ecosystems. It is their ancestors who shaped and conserved many of the ecosystems that we are now trying to restore. The conference organizers hope that there is high indigenous involvement in all facets of the conference including cultural demonstrations, field trips, speaker sessions, and audience attendance. Particularly important is the attendance and participation by Native American students and faculty from various college campuses, and tribal colleges such as DQ University.

GP

<<<< Ethnobiology Conference Artwork by Frank Towendolly LaPena (Nomtipom-TunaiWintu)

Mr. LaPena is Professor Emeritus in Native American Studies at California State Univ., Sacramento.

The painting is titled, "The World is a Gift." This world was created by healers, holy people, elders, singers and dancers who understood the relationship of the natural and spiritual world as part of the sacred circle. It is in ceremony that our connection to the Earth is renewed and all of life's forms given recognition and respect.

The painting shows Mt. Shasta in the north—sacred to the many tribes that surround it. The Jump Dancer is identified by the brilliant red woodpecker-feather headdress used by the Klamath River tribes. The Bear Dance is from the northeastern area. The feather or "Toto" Dancer is a tradition still practiced by many California tribes.

The rock art of the south coastal peoples is known throughout the world as some of the finest in North America. The plank boat allowed people to venture out into ocean waters to seek subsistence. Petroglyphs and pictographs recall the "old ones" whose rock art is found all over the state. The style of rock art depicted is from the south, in the dry desert areas. The bird singers of southern California are central to keeping alive the stories and songs of the region.

The white jimson blossom is a medicine plant and was part of an important ceremonial practice. A basket represents the significance of basketry to all tribes. Acorn and salmon were two important food sources for many of the California peoples. The woman wears a dress style of the foothills and holds a beaded sash used in dancing. Her flower wreath, worn in the Spring Ceremony, represents the plants and bulbs used for food by the people. The ceremony carries the prayers and wishes for a good fall harvest.

Notes From the Chair... by Heiner Lieth

The EH department is facing some very tough financial times along with every other department in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences (CAES). We are looking for ways to minimize the damage, but all the talk about changing for the better under these circumstances is just talk. Most of the hardest-affected departments never recovered from the severe budget cuts of the early 1990s and it is clear that the CAES will be reducing the faculty size (hopefully only through attrition). This means that some programs will be eliminated and downsized. There will be little or no new faculty hired in the next few years. Moreover, for those of us here, there will be little institutional funds for research and extension. Such funds will have to come from outside the University.

At the same time, funding for commodity research has not kept pace with the cost of doing research. Looking back at the last five years, I see that commodity-type grants typically are in the $10,000 to $20,000 range (lower in the past two years as investment income has declined). In the past, we were able to accept such funds as we could combine them with University resources to make the projects work. Since the latter have been pretty much eliminated, it will force us to seek research funding from sources that can pay the entire bill. If we do not apply for industry funds in the future, it is not that we don't want to do applied research; it will be a pragmatic matter of survival.

At the same time, some of us are starting to anticipate the next round of budget problems. Some of our administrators and politicians have tried to mitigate the problems by borrowing against the future, hoping that there will be no future cuts. But if the economy does not turn around substantially in the next few months, then we will have to face yet more cuts.

We are not sitting still here on campus "waiting for the sky to fall". We understand that the Legislature cut our supply of funding for a reason and that we are not perceived as a core need for the people of California needing to be preserved. Thus we are taking measures to plan responsibly for the future. The size of the College faculty will decrease by 50 to 60 professors, meaning that every department will be smaller and will not be able to do what we do now. We must streamline our operations. The faculty in the Plant Sciences is ahead of the rest of the College in trying to plan for the future.

The major organizational effort underway to try to mitigate the resulting devastation is the reorganization of departments to simplify operations for the future by combining forces. We are proposing to combine into one large Plant Science department. While the name and other details have yet to be decided on, it has been decided that this change will be made. An implementation committee will be working for the rest of the year to develop a plan which can be implemented by mid-year 2004.

Another effort has been to look at some of our resources to see if we can manage operations more efficiently. The first of these efforts is focused on the campus' greenhouse facilities. From April through July I chaired a committee that created a proposal for developing a campus-wide greenhouse facility consisting of new and existing greenhouse space. While it is unlikely to save a lot of money, it will give faculty better access to the various types of greenhouse space that is currently only available within departments.

While the above information probably creates the impression that everything is "doom-and-gloom" around EH, this is not the case. We are worried, but taking steps to do what we need to do to be available to you in the future and to retain as much of our excellent reputation as possible. In fact, elsewhere in this issue, you will see that we are planning to celebrate the opening of a number of new Plant Science facilities created over the past two years and we invite you to come join us in the celebration. GP

Michael Barbour on Sabbatical in the Canary Islands

This fall plant ecologist Dr. Michael Barbour will be on sabbatical, spending two months in the Canary Islands investigating the stand dynamics of old-growth Canary Island Pine forests. *Pinus canariensis* has become widely planted as an ornamental and a source of wood in many places throughout the world.

On several of the Canary Islands, Canary Island pine occurs in a nearly continuous elevational belt, about 2500-6500 ft elevation, on the slopes of tall volcanoes. The pine occurs as a component in at least a dozen different community types, ranging from nearly monospecific stands to being mixed with other tree species and underlain with a variety of shrubs and perennial herbs. On the largest island, Tenerife, 75,000 acres are covered by natural stands, and another 30,000 acres are in plantations. About half of the natural stands have more than 60% canopy cover and can be called forest; the rest are various types of woodlands thought to represent successional phases that in time will lead to monospecific pine forests.

Dr. Barbour will be working with a local expert on Canary Island pine, Professor Marcelino del Arco Aguilar, who led a team of investigators to the publication of a four-volume reference on the distribution, history, and management of the pine throughout the Canary Islands. Professor del Arco is a faculty member in the Department of Plant Biology at the University of Santa Cruz, which is located on the island of Tenerife. He and Dr. Barbour have a small grant from his university to work together on the community ecology of *Pinus caneriensis*. Their objective will be to determine the age structure of trees in successional and climax natural pine forests. The age structures will allow them to reconstruct the past several hundred years of tree births and deaths, dates of such disturbances as fires, and the response of the populations to those disturbances. Such information is useful in developing sustainable techniques of forest management, whether the management is for timber harvest or for the conservation of stands and the biotic diversity they include.

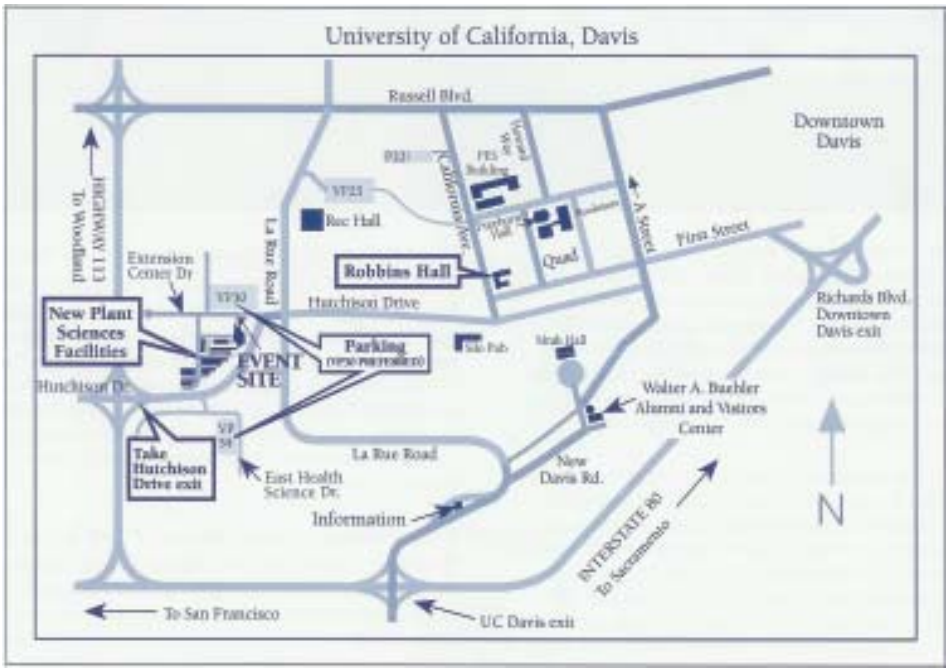
Other vegetation types on the islands include alpine scrub, warm-temperate montane evergreen forest, semi-arid succulent scrub (with euphorbs that look like columnar cacti), low-elevation forests with dragon tree, mobile dunes, and salt marsh. Major agricultural products include cut flowers, sugar cane, bananas, and a variety of vegetable crops.

Dr. Barbour will be on Tenerife from 8 September to 9 November, 2003. His wife, Valerie, will join him for about three weeks, but her job as a Holmes Junior-High Language Arts teacher prevents her from taking a longer leave. Dr. Barbour promises to bring back scores of photos for a departmental slide show later in November. GP

New Plant Sciences Facilities Opening and a Celebration of the Plant Sciences

UC Davis Chancellor Larry Vanderhoef and Dean Neal Van Alfen of the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, invite you to the Opening Celebration for the new Plant Sciences Facilities on the UC Davis campus.

The Celebration will take place Wednesday, October 15, 2003, beginning at 10:00 am with a program followed by refreshments. See the map at right for the event location. Building tours and research displays will be available from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm.



Plant Reproductive Biology

The new Plant Reproductive Biology facility houses the Seed Biotechnology Center and research programs focused on plant reproductive biology. Funding for construction was through a partnership with the seed industry and the campus. This facility is also the temporary home of the UC Davis Genome Center and Bioinformatics Program until the larger genomics facility is completed.

Core Greenhouse Complex

The Core Greenhouse Complex is a state-of-the-art campus facility, capable of accommodating a broad range of plant species and providing cost-effective, quality control over environmental conditions. This beautiful facility adds 27,000 square feet of premier greenhouse space to the campus and is critical to teaching and research in basic and applied plant science. Funding for the greenhouses was a joint effort among the campus, the college, the Division of Biological Sciences, the Office of the Vice Chancellor for Research, UC Agriculture and Natural Resources and a grant from the National Science Foundation.

High Throughput Genomics Facility and Ralph M. Parsons Foundation Plant Transformation Facility

The new genomics facility, located in Robbins Hall, houses state-of-the-art equipment and provides campus researchers with timely and low-cost DNA sequencing. The transformation facility, also located in Robbins Hall, was made possible by a grant from the Ralph M. Parsons Foundation. This facility provides plant transformation research and services for the campus, other academics and industrial parties.

D. Gould and Virginia Bowley Plant Science Teaching Center

In 1996, Virginia Bowley, widow of the late D. Gould Bowley, made a generous donation to UC Davis to build a teaching center that forms the nucleus of the new plant sciences facilities. The Bowley Center integrates facilities for classroom, laboratory, greenhouse, garden and field-based education for plant sciences students at UC Davis. The center includes the Student Farm and the UC Davis Children's Garden. GP

RSVP for the Opening Celebration by October 6, 2003 by calling 530-752-1606 or by email to plantsciences@agdean.ucdavis.edu

Bowley Plant Sciences Teaching Facility and Core Greenhouse Complex

Continued from page 1

rose, and azalea, as well as research and extension work on postharvest physiology. This coincided with the emerging needs in the industry for shipping floral products. He was involved in pioneering work on the use of silver thiosulfate (STS) in extending the vase life of flowers and forced-air cooling to reduce the adverse effects of shipping flowers long distances.

His work had an enormous impact in the industry and led to him writing the textbooks on cut chrysanthemum production and potted azalea production.

In addition to mentoring students, Tony was also a mentor to new faculty in the Environmental Horticulture program as it was taking shape. This was particularly true for Professor Michael Reid and myself. His dedication to the industry and the relevancy of his work helped Professor Reid and I as we built our research and extension programs.

Last year I invited Tony to join me on a two-day class field trip in the industry (a decade after his official retirement). At virtually every stop on the tour, a grower, production manager, or owner recognized Tony and dropped everything to greet him. Many had been either his students or collaborators on research projects with him, or met him at one of his many talks. At that point it became clear to me that Tony had made a lasting impact and his record of accomplishment is clearly of the caliber that the California Floriculture Hall of Fame is designed to honor.

Since retiring in 1987, Tony and partner, Wyn Floyd, have traveled extensively around the world.

Leadership in local, state and national floral associations

During his career, Dr. Kofranek was a member of the leading horticultural science societies and worked on research under funding from virtually all flower grower associations nationally and in California. His significant contribution to floriculture resulted in his receiving the highest honor bestowed by the American Society of Horticultural Science, the prestigious Fellow of the Society awarded in 1978. Other important awards bestowed on him include the California State Florist Association Award of Merit in 1966, the Monterey Bay Flower Growers Award in 1987, and the prestigious Alex Laurie Award in 1993.

Biographical information

Anton Miles Kofranek was born in Chicago in 1921. He was in the army from 1942 to 1945. He obtained his BS from the University of Minnesota in 1947. He then studied under Prof. Kenneth Post at Cornell where he received his MS in 1949 and his PhD in 1950. He soon joined the faculty at UCLA as an instructor of floriculture. In the mid 1960s, the University of California realigned its horticulture program and the primary focus on agriculture was shifted to the new UC campus at Davis. Tony relocated and established a distinguished career as Professor in the Environmental Horticulture Department at UC Davis from 1968 to 1987. He is currently Professor Emeritus and frequently travels internationally with his partner, Wyn Floyd.

The ceremony for Tony's induction into the California Floriculture Hall of Fame will occur on October 7 in San Jose in conjunction with the Kee Kitayama Golf Tournament at the Cinnabar Hills Golf Club. Call 831-724-1130 for details.

For free subscription, contact Linda Dodge, Managing Editor
Environmental Horticulture Dept., University of California, One Shields Ave., Davis, CA 95616
Phone: (530)752-8419; Fax: (530)752-1819; E-mail: growing@ucdavis.edu
Download back issues of Growing Points (PDF format): http://envhort.ucdavis.edu

Cooperative Extension
U.S. Department of Agriculture
University of California
Oakland, CA 94612-3560

Mail ID: 6556
Official Business
Penalty for Private Use: $300

An Equal Opportunity Employer