

HORTICULTURE DEPARTMENT NEWSLETTER

For the Week of April 21, 2008

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DATES TO REMEMBER:

***LAST DAY OF CLASS—April 25, 2008**

***FINAL EXAMS—April 26-May 3, 2008**

***CAFLS GRADUATION—Friday, May 9, 2008, at Littlejohn Coliseum at 9:30 am.**

***Student Plant Sale**—Students in HORT 304 and HORT 310 will be selling plants on Fridays in April—April 4, 11, 18 and 25—from 12 noon until 5 pm in the Biosystems Research Complex greenhouses, located near the Poole Ag Center and Newman Hall. Select from a variety of plants at nominal prices. Some of the plants that will be sold include flowering annuals, perennials, herbs, tomatoes and hanging baskets. Cash or personal checks will be accepted. For additional information, contact Dr. Jim Faust at 864-656-4966 or by e-mail at jfaust@clemson.edu

***Dr. Whitwell Resigns as Department Chair**—Dr. Ted Whitwell will be stepping down as Chair of the Horticulture Department after 10 years of service. His last day will be August 15, 2008. He will help with Dean Alan Sams in the process of selecting an interim chair and later a permanent replacement. We would like to thank Dr. Whitwell for leading our department for the past 10 years.

***New Adjunct Faculty Member**—Dr. James H. Blake, Director of the Clemson Extension Home & Garden Information Center (HGIC) and Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Entomology, Soils, and Plant Sciences was recently appointed an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Department of Horticulture. Dr. Blake has been employed by Clemson University for 18 years and is former Director of Diagnostic Services (Plant Problem Clinic, Nematode Assay Laboratory) for the Agricultural Service Laboratory and taught Diseases of Ornamental Plants and Diseases of Turfgrasses in the Department of Plant Pathology and Physiology (currently the Department of Entomology, Soils, and Plant Sciences). Potential contributions to the department include a return to the classroom, serving on graduate student advisory committees, and working with students on writing projects for publication on the HGIC web site (<http://hgic.clemson.edu>).

***Congratulations**—To Dr. Judy Caldwell for receiving the 2008 Eddie H. Kaiser Teacher of the Year Award. The award, named in memory of Eddie Kaiser (Professor, Applied Economics and Statistics), who passed away in 2006, is awarded in recognition of outstanding teaching by a faculty member with more than ten years teaching experience in the College.

***Congratulations**—To Dr. Greg Reighard for receiving the Snell–Godley Outstanding Research Award. The award is given by the Public Service Activities (PSA) Department of Clemson University.

***Interim Director of Coastal REC Announced**—Dr. Bob Dufault has been named interim director for the Coastal Research and Education Center (REC), located in Charleston, SC. Dr. Dufault will be succeeding Dr. Jim Rushing, who retired in 2007.

***New County Agent**—Vicky Bertagnolli (E-mail: vbtag@clemson.edu) has joined the Lexington County Extension Office and will be the urban horticulture agent for the Midlands. She will also be the new MG coordinator for the Midlands and will be a member of the Horticulture Program Team. Vicky received her Masters degree in entomology from Auburn University.

***CONGRATULATIONS**—To Opal Rousey on receiving her certificate from the State of SC for 10 years of service.

***Congratulations**—To Susannah Horton for having her project for the Riley Child Development Center be selected by Clemson University's Teaching and Learning Creatively committee to be put on their website. She is one of several students

from across the campus whose work was selected to be showcased on their website. To see Susannah's work, go to <http://www.clemson.edu/caah/teachingandlearningcreatively/>. From there, choose "Archives" and select "Fall 2007." She will also be presenting her work at the ASHS-SR meeting in Dallas, TX. Susannah is a horticulture major.

***Congratulations**—To Robert Cross for receiving the 2008 Outstanding Senior Turfgrass Student Award and to Ryan Knauer for receiving the 2008 Outstanding Senior Horticulture Student Award, the Carter Newman Award for Outstanding Graduate Award, and the ASHS Outstanding Horticulture Student Award. The awards were given to them by the Horticulture Department at the CAFLS Honors and Awards Banquet.

***SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**—Congratulations to Raymond McCauley (MS candidate, PES (Turfgrass)) and Daniel Sinclair (Senior, Turfgrass) for receiving the 2007 South Carolina Sports Turfgrass Managers Association (SCSTMA) Scholarship and to Christian Baldwin (Ph.D. candidate, PES (Turfgrass)) and Williams Sarvis, III (MS candidate, PES (Turfgrass)) for receiving the Korean Turf Industry Scholarship. Each of these scholarships was for \$500. May these scholarships continue to help them continue in their academic careers.

***DEAN'S LIST/PRESIDENT'S LIST CONGRATULATIONS**—Congratulations to the following students who made the Dean's List and the President's List for the 2007 Fall Semester:

Dean's List

James D. Blakely, Jeanette M. Cannon, Amanda K. Cihlar, Robert B. Cross, III, Justin Dale, Alejandro Deangulo, Kyle D. Guess, Erik J. Healy, Bryan W. Lowman*, Stephen J. Ratasky, Nathaniel P. Rogers, Kevin M. Satterfield, Steven T. Stuber, Andrew S. Wallace*, and Jeffrey R. Yeager

President's List

Jeffrey L. Atkinson*, Ryan C. Holmes, Susannah S. Horton, Ryan M. Knauer, and James M. Wilson

*Fall 2007 Graduates

***Dr. Vijaya Rapaka**, one of our former post docs, has accepted a position as a Senior Grower Research Scientist at Smither-Oasis Company in Kent, OH. Here is his mailing address: Vijaya K. Rapaka, PhD, Senior Grower Research Scientist, Smither-Oasis Company, 919 Marvin Avenue, Kent, OH 44240. Phone: 330-676-4450; E-mail: vrapaka@smithersoasis.com Vijaya was a research post doc with Dr. Jim Faust for the past two years. We wish him good luck in his new position.

SEMINARS FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2008:

April 25 (Last Seminar of the Semester; 9:05 am, F-149 P&A Bldg.)—TOPICS: "Research in the Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology" and "Research in the Institute of Tropical Biology". Speakers: Prof. Nguyen Khoa Son, Vice President, Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology, Hanoi, Vietnam and Assoc. Prof. Nguyen Quynh, Deputy Director, Institute of Tropical Biology, Hochiminh City, Vietnam

CONFERENCES/MEETINGS/LECTURES

***Vegetable Production Field Day**—May 6, 2008; Coastal Research & Education Center, Charleston, SC. Field day activities will cover: crop production practices, new vegetable var. organic vegetable production, strawberry production, cover crops and disease management. Vegetable growers and strawberry growers are encouraged to attend. Dinner will be served. For additional information, contact Roger Francis at 843-722-5940

***2008 Southeast Greenhouse Conference**—June 19-21, 2008; Carolina First Center, Greenville, SC. For additional information, visit their website at <http://www.sgcts.org>

***SC Master Gardener Conference**—June 22-24, 2008; Hyatt Regency Hotel, Greenville, SC. Theme: Greening Carolina: Creating the Eco-Friendly Landscape. Sponsored by the Greater Greenville Master Gardeners Association and Clemson University Cooperative Extension Service. For additional information, visit their website at http://www.greatergreenvillemastergardener.org/08SCMG/SCMG_Home.htm

***2008 ASHS Annual Conference**—July 21-24, 2008; Rosen Plaza Hotel, Orlando, FL. For additional information, visit their website at <http://www.ashs.org>

***2008 Clemson University Turfgrass Research and Education Field Day**—August 5, 2008; Madren Center, Clemson University campus. Field day begins at 8:30 am. For additional information, contact Dr. Bert McCarty at 864-656-0120; e-mail: bmccrty@clemson.edu

***2008 PLANET (Professional Landcare Network) Green Industry Conference**—October 22-25, 2008; Louisville Marriott Downtown Hotel, Louisville, KY. For additional information, call 800-395-2522 or visit their website at <http://www.landcarenetwork.org>

***2008 Partners in Community Forestry National Conference**—November 18-20, 2008; Sheraton Atlanta Hotel, Atlanta, GA. Sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation. Deadline for Presentation Proposals—May 2, 2008. For additional information, visit their website at <http://www.arborday.org>

ALUMNI NEWS

***Chris Wilson (B.S., '91; M.S., '94; Ph.D., '99) and Sandy Wilson (Ph.D., '96)** are the proud parents of a baby girl!! Their daughter, Kylee Jie Wilson, was born January 20, 2007, in China. Chris and Sandy went to pick her up on January 24 in Guangzhou, China, and returned home to Florida on Friday, February 1. It was a wonderful experience meeting their daughter for the first time. Mom, Dad, and daughter are all doing well.

***Gary Bachman (M.S. '93)** has accepted a new position with Mississippi State University at the Coastal Research and Education Center (REC) in Biloxi, MS. His office address is Coastal Research & Extension Center, 1815 Popp's Ferry Road, Biloxi, MS 39532. Phone: 228-546-1009; E-mail: gbachman@ext.msstate.edu

*Congratulations to **Dr. Peg McMahon (Ph.D. '92)** on becoming a grandmother!! Her son and daughter-in-law, Rhys and Kim McMahon are the proud parents of a baby boy!!! Owen Rhys McMahon was born at 4:09 Central time, April 8. He weighed in at 7 lbs. 7 oz. and was 21 1/4 inches long.

*Congratulations to **Dr. Teresa Cerney-Koenig (Ph.D. '01)** and her husband, Richard, on the birth of a baby boy!!!! He was born at 12:24 PM April 9. He weighed in at 7 lb 8.5 oz and 21 inches long.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!!!

John McIntyre—April 3

Jim Faust—April 4

Howard Harrison—April 7

Nirmal Joshee—April 17

Donald Garrett—April 19

William Sarvis, III—April 21

Linda Alexander, Editor