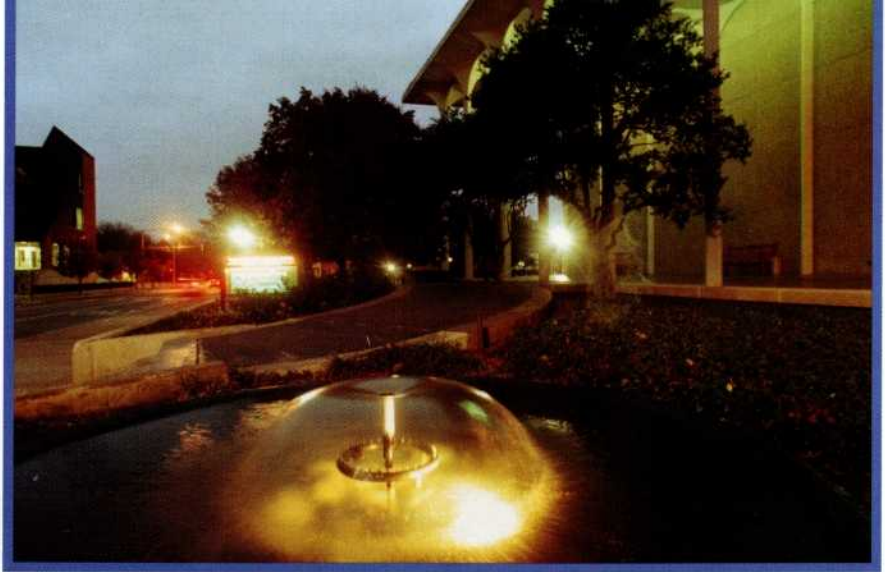


Whether decorative or utilitarian, public or private, fountains have been hallmarks along the journey to civilized living. Man was fashioning fountains at least as far back as 3000 B.C., and the work continues today. There is something about running water—cascading down rocks, shooting high into the air or pouring from the open mouths of gargoyles and sea creatures—that cools the body, calms the mind, brings the spirit pleasure.

The transformation of the Norman campus over the past few years, with its emphasis on flowers and trees and parks and benches, has sparked a renewed enthusiasm for renovating existing fountains and building new ones. Redesign plans for the Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City include that campus' first fountains.

*Sooner Magazine* presents a camera's eye view of the campus fountains.



**Fine Arts Center Fountain**—Most theatergoers visit Rupel Jones Theatre at night, the best time to view this fountain. The fountain is part of the building's original architectural design by Blaine Imel, of Tulsa, recipient of the 1999 Regents' Alumni Award.



**The Fountain Plaza**—Centerpiece of Engineers' Court is the Fountain Plaza with this beautiful 14-foot fountain imported from Vicenza, Italy, constructed of a stone local to that area. The court is a series of beautifully landscaped plazas occupying the corridor between Carson Engineering Center and Felgar Hall. The 2,500-square-foot Fountain Plaza was sponsored by James K. and Jerrie Anderson, of Norman.

PHOTOS BY ROBERT TAYLOR ■ TEXT BY CAROL J. BURR

# Fountains



**Bailey's Fountain**—This little concrete fountain, situated in the shady area between Evans Hall and Bizzell Memorial Library, was called the "dog fountain" when given to OU last year by First Lady Molly Boren. However, since the recent death of the Borens' West Highland terrier, Bailey, the fountain has taken his name. A replica of an Italian village design originally for washing feet as well as watering dogs, the fountain serves dozens of canines who daily walk their masters on the Norman campus.



Gil Jain

**Patricio Gimeno Memorial Fountain**—After the death of the revered modern language professor in 1940, friends and colleagues raised funds for this fountain, which was designed by his son, Harold Gimeno, a 1920 OU graduate, former faculty member and prominent California architect. Constructed in 1942 between Buchanan and Adams halls, the fountain underwent a \$62,000 renovation in the 1980s with the addition of walkways, bench seating, security lights and extensive landscaping. Patricio Gimeno came to OU in 1911 and taught art, Italian and Spanish. Inscribed at the base of the fountain is: "To the memory of Patricio Gimeno, whose life was devoted to the encouragement of sympathetic understanding between the two Americas" and, translated from the Spanish: "His words never wounded me, but always consoled me."



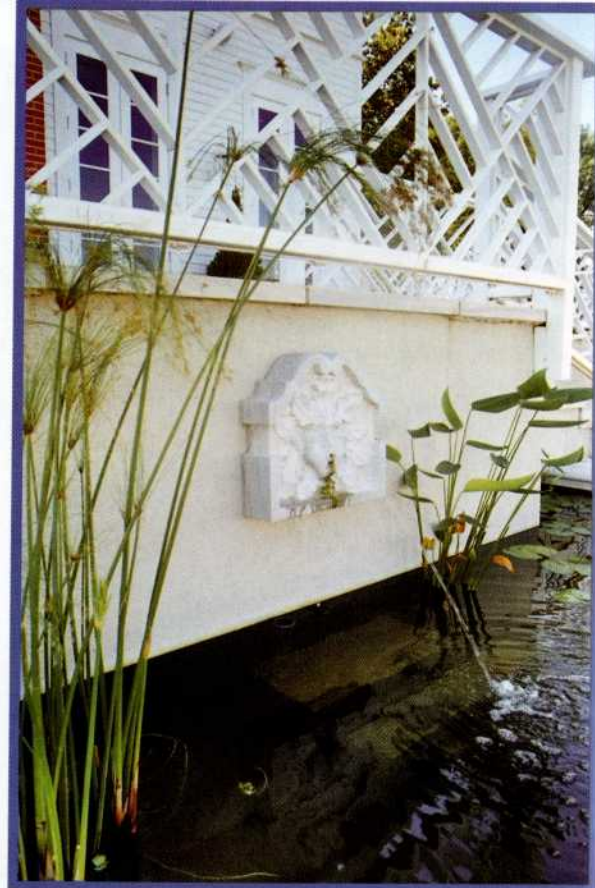
**Pitman Fountain**—The newest of the campus fountains is the work of OU stonemason Patrick "Red" Dennis, completed for Homecoming 1999. Located on Van Vleet Oval just north of the chrysanthemum gardens, the fountain honors the late Morris R. Pitman, of Oklahoma City, and his family, whose \$700,000 gift endowed in perpetuity the area now known as the Pitman Parterre.

*continued*

# Among the Flowers



**Library Plaza Fountain**—Dedication of the E. T. Dunlap Tower and Plaza, with this long wall fountain, occurred in November 1981 before the spring 1982 completion of the adjoining Doris W. Neustadt Wing of Bizzell Memorial Library. The tower and plaza, built with the assistance of the Noble Foundation of Ardmore, honored the longtime chancellor of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education upon his retirement. Also visible from the plaza level is a second small fountain replicating a natural spring in the Canyon Garden, a gift of President and Mrs. Boren, that is located at the bottom of the lightwell area adjacent to the library's lower levels.



**Boyd House Fountain**—The landscaping of inviting gardens that accompanied the renovation of Boyd House would not have been complete without a fountain. This discreet wall fountain is located on the north side below the elevated patio that surrounds the house on two sides, providing the cooling sound of gurgling water to those on the patio above as well as those sitting or strolling in the gardens.

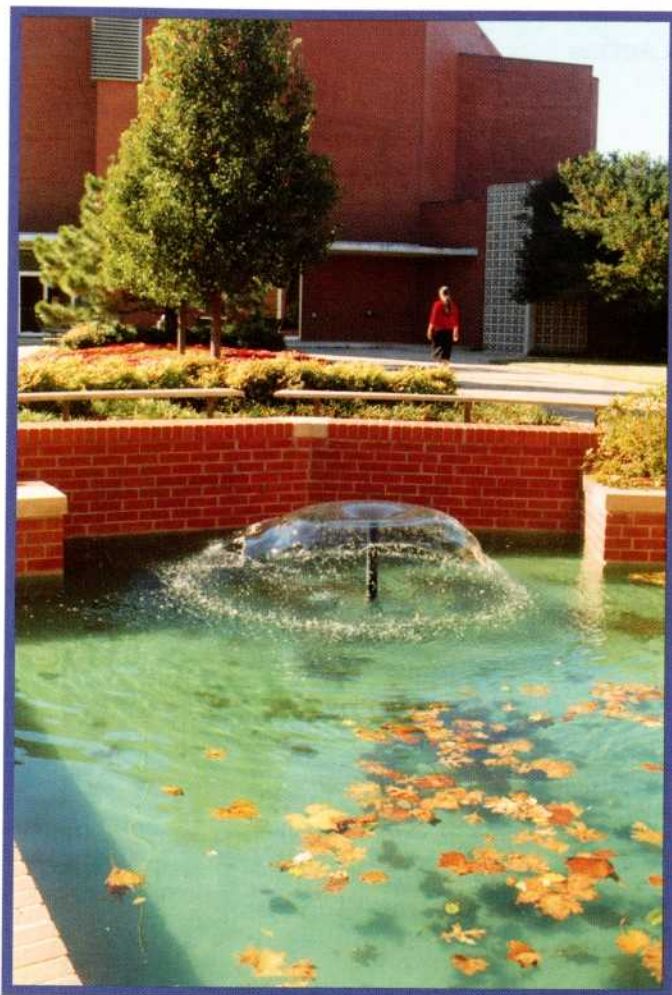


**Ada Lois Sipuel Fisher Fountain**—The successful struggle of a courageous young black woman from Chickasha to enter the University of Oklahoma School of Law in 1949 set the stage for the commitment to diversity that is the University today. Fittingly her name adorns a historic fountain built of materials coming from many places in many colors and shapes. Located within the circle walk between the first geology building (now Carpenter Hall) and the former library (now Jacobson Hall), the fountain was built in late 1922 but remained unnamed until 1995. The Oklahoma Geological Survey was charged with gathering rocks from each of Oklahoma's 77 counties for the fountain. Although the every-county plan was abandoned, the collection is suitably diverse: pink, black and white granite, sandstone, large rose rocks (barite roses), quartz crystals, basalt, gabbro, travertine, as well as fossilized ammonites, oyster shells, algae, wood and tree trunks.

**Roy C. Guffey Fountain**—The outdoor plaza level of the Sarkeys Energy Center is designed around this unique fountain. A gift of his family, the fountain is dedicated to the memory of OU alumnus Roy C. Guffey, of Dallas, a leader in the oil and gas industry, a long-time trustee of the University of Oklahoma Foundation and an Energy Center Founder.



# Fountains Among the Flowers



**OCCE Fountain**—The 1961 complex of buildings originally known as the Kellogg Center, then the Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education, clusters around a plaza, one feature of which is this fountain. Recent improvements, such as bench seating, blue-painted basin and umbrella-type water jet, have made the fountain area a gathering place for continuing education participants.

## *On the Drawing Board:*

**Class of 1935 Fountain**—The fountain between the west entrance to the Oklahoma Memorial Union and Monnet Hall has been removed during the construction of the Union's Archie Dunham-Conoco Student Leadership Wing, which will house the student government and other organizations. A new, small fountain is planned for the courtyard formed by the existing Union and the new wing. The 1935 fountain will be renovated and relocated in the plaza area connecting the Leadership Wing to Carnegie and Monnet halls.

**The Reflecting Pool**—The Class of 2000 has targeted restoration of the old Reflecting Pool, north of the stadium, as its gift to the University. Originally a gift of the Class of 1934, the pool was 150 by 30 feet and adjoined the Class of 1924's Memorial Tower, which featured a football timing clock on its south face. Expansion of the stadium in the 1950s eliminated the tower and reduced the pool's size by half; in the 1970s the pool was drained and converted to flower beds. The Class of 2000 is conducting fund-raising projects to obtain the estimated \$80,000 for the memorial project.

**Seven Steps Fountain**—Focal point of dramatic new landscape plans for the Health Sciences Center in Oklahoma City is an 800-foot mall being created by the closing of Stanton L. Young Boulevard from Everett Drive to Stonewall. Centerpiece of the Stanton L. Young Walk, being designed by Oklahoma City architect Rand Elliott, will be the Seven Steps Fountain. Symbolizing the seven colleges at the HSC, the 70-foot-diameter fountain will feature water cascading over seven concentric circles into a holding pool. A second fountain—a wall of water—is envisioned for the area bounded by the Basic Sciences Education and Dental Clinical Sciences buildings and Children's Hospital of Oklahoma.

**Honors College Fountain**—Plans are under way for a fountain to be built in the courtyard of the new Honors College facilities in the x-shaped dormitory area formerly known as "New Cate Center." The courtyard is being sponsored by Barbara and Bill Cowan, of Havre, Montana.

