President Boren founded the festive tradition of an annual OU holiday ornament and personally selects each new offering. The tradition is now in its 16th year. The official 2015
ornament commemorates the University’s 125th anniversary. It’s available at the Sam Noble Museum of Natural History gift store and at the Oklahoma Locker Room on Campus Corner for $16 plus tax.

This is FINAL EXAM WEEK and your Final Monday Memo for the fall 2015 semester.

ALERTS:
• **PIANIST NEEDED** for fall convocation this Friday (12/18)! Please contact Mona Springfield at mspringfield@ou.edu if you are interested.
• **This week** the Dean’s Office will host Walk-In hours on Tuesday (12/15) **only**, from 1:30 PM – 2:20 PM.
• **Next week** the Dean’s Office will host Walk-In hours on Monday and Tuesday (12/21 and 12/22) **only**, but with extended times: from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM and from 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM each day.
• The **Dean’s Office will reopen** on Monday, January 4, 2016. We will host walk-in hours all that week and the following week (1/11-1/15) at the regular 1:30 PM – 2:30 PM time. Or you can call (405) 325-3095 to schedule an appointment.
• OU will be closed and there will be **no classes on Monday, January 18**, due to Martin Luther King Day, which is a federal holiday.
• The **spring 2016 semester begins** on Tuesday, January 19, 2016.
• **Calling all** Fall 2015, Spring 2016 and Summer
2016 Degree Candidates! We would greatly appreciate it if you would take the College’s Graduation Exit Survey here.

You will receive your next Monday Memo on Tuesday, January 19th, 2016 – the day the spring 2016 semester begins.
Jessie (left) and Wynree (right) had a great time at therapy camp! Jessie will be back Monday - Wednesday this week, and she LOVES to be pet!

Make the NWC Library your Exam Study Destination

We're thrilled to announce that the National Weather Center Library will remain open 24 hours a day until 5:00 PM this Friday, December 18th to provide you with a quiet, comfortable, study-friendly environment.

The Library will also have an assortment of snacks and beverages on hand to help you stay motivated. Coffee, hot chocolate, tea, soda pop, Capri Sun, Kool-Aid, cookies, crackers, chips and granola bars will all be available every day from 8:00 AM to 10:00 PM -- even on Saturday and Sunday. There will also be popcorn in the afternoons and evenings some days.

And of course -- puppies! Therapy dogs will return to the Library this Monday - Wednesday from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM and from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM to relieve stress and just be cute. By the way -- a BIG correction here -- the group in charge of the therapy dogs is actually A New Leash on Life, Inc. not Second Chance. A New Leash on Life trains service and therapy dogs, and also teaches inmates at the CCA-Davis Correctional Facility in Holdenville, Oklahoma to train shelter dogs into well-mannered companion dogs, who are then adopted by people in the community. Go here for more information about this great group of people and dogs and check out the “Ways to Help” link to find out how you can support this terrific organization.
The Molly Shi Boren Ballroom will be a fantastic location for the A&GS fall convocation.

**Fall 2015 Convocation News**

We’re looking forward to a wonderful fall 2015 Convocation this Friday, December 18 at 7:00 PM in the Oklahoma Memorial Union. While we were originally scheduled to be in the Scholars Room, we’re very excited to be moving to the Union’s big and beautiful Molly Shi Boren Ballroom instead! The evening will begin with a formal dinner and finish with the actual convocation ceremony. Caps & gowns are required. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our events planner Mona Springfield at mspringfield@ou.edu.

**Open Weather Data Challenge**

Are you interested in exploring open weather data and creating new applications that make a difference? Then take the Open Weather Data Challenge sponsored by Vaisala, a Finnish company that develops, manufactures and markets products and services for environmental and industrial measurement. You can find out all the details about the Challenge (including the deadline to submit your entry)
The winner of the challenge will be announced on March 31, 2016--and will take home 20,000 Euros (a little over $21,000 in U.S. currency).

**A&GS Open Courses:**

The following A&GS Courses are still open. Contact Asst. Dean Hempe at mahempe@ou.edu if you encounter any enrollment stops:

**GEOG 4943**, Natural Hazards. This timely course examines changes in patterns of a range of natural hazards and the impact they have on society and studies the general concepts of hazard mitigation and design and our perceptions of risk and how that affects preparedness and mitigation decisions.

**AGSC 3011**, Career Planning and Development for A&GS Majors.

**GEOG 4970**, Water for a Thirsty World (Presidential Dream Course)

**METR 5503**, Climate Dynamics
**Sustainability in Action!**

Over 500 students at Bayside MLK Jr. Academy in Marin City and Willow Creek Academy in Sausalito, California, eat 100% organic, non-GMO, sustainably sourced meals this year, all prepared on-site through The Conscious Kitchen. Read more about this outstanding project [here](#).

**A little advice before storm season begins in the spring...**
ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR MM?
If you have any announcement you would like posted in Monday Memo (e.g., meetings, seminars, jobs, internships or just some great news) please send it to Asst. Dean Hempe (mahempe@ou.edu) by Friday at noon to appear in the next week's edit.
Pictures like this are common in Oklahoma, but they’re a rarity for Oregonians.

**On This Day In History:**

**In 1798,** David Wilkinson of Rhode Island patented the nut and bolt machine.

**In 1799,** George Washington, the first president of the United States, died at the age 67 of what is believed to have been strep throat.  **In 1807,** a meteorite fell at Weston (now Easton), Connecticut, at 6:30 AM. The huge fiery space rock was witnessed by a number of early risers that morning as it streaked through the New England skies. Many scientists did not believe that rocks could fall from space; even President Thomas Jefferson thought such an idea was ludicrous. But shortly before dawn, the naysayers were proven wrong when residents heard three loud explosions as the meteorite hit the atmosphere, followed by chunks of rock raining down on six locations.

**In 1819,** Alabama, the “Yellowhammer State” (after its state bird) became the 22nd state to join the Union.

**In 1900,** 42-year old German physicist Max Planck of Berlin
University presented his revolutionary Quantum Theory at a meeting of the German Physics Society. While Planck’s theory was a little slow to gain acceptance, once it caught on it proved to be a true game changer in the field of physics, fueling Albert Einstein’s own revolutionary theories five years later. And as if being a pioneering physicist weren’t enough, Planck was also a talented musician who sang, played the piano, organ, and cello, and composed songs and operas! In 1911, 39-year-old Norwegian explorer Roald Amundsen became the first man to reach the South Pole. He reached the destination 35 days ahead of his rival, Captain Robert F. Scott.

In 1985, 40-year-old Wilma Mankiller became the first woman to lead a major American Indian tribe as she formally took office as principal chief of Oklahoma’s Cherokee Nation. She served for ten years and was awarded a Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bill Clinton in 1998. She died of pancreatic cancer in 2010. In 1988, the first transatlantic underwater cable to use fiber optics went into service. The new cable cost $335 million dollars ($673 million today) and served the US, England, and France. It was retired in 2002. In 2010, a rare tornado struck the tiny town of Aumsville, Oregon. Fortunately, no one was injured, but property damage was severe. The powerful EF2 twister tore the roofs off dozens of buildings, hurled objects into vehicles and homes and uprooted a number of trees.

In 2013, the Chinese spacecraft *Chang'e 3*, named after the Moon goddess in Chinese mythology, became the first spacecraft to "soft"-land on the Moon since 1976.

**And your parting shot:**
Photographer Deanna Hoyt captured this holiday-worthy close-up of an icy spider web in Washington’s Normandy Park on November 30, 2015.
Please remember to like us on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/OU.AGS) and follow us on Twitter (@OUAGS)!

Have a fantastic holiday season! See you next semester!

The College of Atmospheric and Geographic Sciences
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