



# IN-TOWN GARDEN IDEAS

Published by Ron Melander Garden Service

WWW.RonMelander.net

Volume No.3 Issue No.2

## FHOM HL

### ***The Frederick H. Oelschig Memorial Horticultural Library***

Frederick "Rick" Oelschig was my employer from 1992 until 1998 at A.C. Oelschig & Son, the quality floral products company founded in 1882 that he, his partner Chris Carley and father ran. Tragedy struck on March 31, 2003 when Rick, 52, died from a ruptured aortic aneurysm while awaiting surgery. I was lucky to have known him. I learned many new things and we all worked hard but no one worked as hard as Rick and Chris. I purchased the 1924 Oelschig home this year at 1612 Skidaway Road and I am glad to own it. I have a desire to keep their good name associated with this historic house and the way I would like to do it is by moving my 1,000 + horticultural books and founding a non-profit horticultural library for the public to enjoy. This is a project that will require the help and input of volunteers because I know I do not have the time or energy to do it all by myself. I will be moving the books there in January of 2005 but setting up the library will be on the back burner until someone steps forward who would be interested in helping to organize it. Setting up a board and monthly meeting time, applying for non-profit status, deciding on a final name, etc. is all going to take time that I just do not have right now. If you know anyone with a background in library science who might be interested, let me know.

### ***Mr. Albert C. Oelschig, Jr.***

Mr. Albert passed away on November 10<sup>th</sup>, 2004, 7 days after his 81<sup>st</sup> birthday. It was a sad ending for a man who cared so much about his family, Savannah and all the people that shared his life. He loved to give plants away to his friends. Hospice and meals-on-wheels were favorite recipients. He kept an office at 1612 Skidaway which was his boyhood home when it was first built. His support and help during the renovations was invaluable. I will miss him dearly. I will especially take to heart what he said one wintry day while we worked together at the nursery. He had fallen hard on the icy road and I excitedly asked him "what can I do?" His response?

***"Just Take Care of the Place!"***



**Kathleen with her four year old  
Granddaughter, Kari**

### **KATHLEEN COLLINS, EA** ***Tax and Business Services***

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### ***New Firm Opens on Southside***

When I first met Kathleen in June of 2003, she was teaching a class at the University of Georgia Small Business Assistance Corporation office on Liberty Street and she was working with John W. Powell, Sr., RPA. I immediately knew I liked her and her professional attitude, I felt I could trust her. I hired her to take care of my payroll taxes including the quarterly filings which she has been handling from the start of my becoming an employer. This issue had been a big stumbling block before. Because I did not think I would be able to properly handle the record keeping and filing on my own, I had not considered hiring any employees. Thanks to Kathleen (and my first employee, Daniel) my business has grown and I've become more successful. Kathleen launched her own tax and business service a few months ago. She can handle any of your tax and business needs so please give her a call, I'm sure she will be able to help you. She is highly qualified and I sincerely recommend her. I hope you will enjoy working with her as much as I do!

***PLEASE TELL HER I SENT YOU!***

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## BARBRA KIRKLAND

Barbra joined Ron Melander Garden Service this past summer and is helping in all aspects of the business. I am delighted to have her on board. She is a terrific person and an asset to us all. When you see her please welcome her!

### *In Her Own Words*



I was six years old when my classmates and I planted lima beans in a glass jar and let them grow. Watching those dried beans develop into plants was a glimpse into the awe inspiring world of nature that is still with me to this day. I have been an avid gardener since childhood, though I didn't consider it as a vocation until much later. After graduating from high school, I joined the Marine Corps and was trained as an Avionics Technician. In addition to my avionics profession, I enjoyed additional duties as a training NCO, barracks Sergeant, legal clerk, and component repair list manager. When I left the Marine Corps, I joined Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation first as an Avionics Technician in the Production area and later as a Statistical Process Control facilitator. These vocations taught me to look at a problem very methodically, determine the root cause, and solve it. This methodology has helped me in all areas of my life, including gardening. Throughout these years, I had continued to be an avid gardener, learning as much as I could on my own. In early 2001 I decided to take my love of plants a step further and enrolled in the Georgia Master Gardener course. I graduated from the course and received my certificate as a Master Gardener in May 2001. In November 2001,

I was informed that my position at Gulfstream was being eliminated due to employee downsizing and I came to a crossroads in my life. I could either continue to work in the aviation and quality fields, or pursue a growing interest in landscaping. I chose the latter and in 2002, I enrolled in the Environmental Horticulture diploma program at Ogeechee Technical College. Having completed all my courses, and an internship at Secret Gardens Nursery, I graduated from Ogeechee Tech in June of 2004 with a dual specialization in landscape maintenance and as a horticultural specialist. In July, I joined Ron Melander Garden Service and continue to learn from him. My unique skills shine brightest in landscape design and in my love and use of native plants.

## CHECK OUT THE WEBSITE!

***More Articles Available On-Line at [www.ronmelander.net](http://www.ronmelander.net)***

I've posted some interesting articles on the website like the one about my Toyota T-100 truck being stolen at gunpoint In Late February, 2004. Read about this and other articles on-line!