Welcome to "Rod's Tree Tours" of the University of Nevada, Reno Arboretum. My name is Rod Haulenbeek, AKA "The Tree Hunter." I am the host for this tour.

This is the "Center Street Parking Area" Tree Tour. It starts at the steps on the south side of Morrill Hall, heads west on the south side of the parking area, goes east along Orr Ditch, goes north on the west side of the Sarah Fleischmann Building, and ends on the east side of Morrill.

Walk around to the large tree on the west side of Morrill Hall at number 1 on the map, then press "play."
Ohio Buckeye (Tree Number 1)

This is Ohio Buckeye (scientific name Aesculus glabra). Native to the Midwestern U.S., this tree has hand-shaped leaves with five leaflets. In Spring the tree has panicles of yellow-green flowers, which ripen to spiny fruits with brown nuts inside. Many parts of the tree are poisonous, and the Indians, rather than eating them, used the nuts to tan leather or to string necklaces. This tree has beautiful Fall color. It is the Nevada State Champion.
2 Northern Catalpa

Head toward the parking lot to the tree with the large heart-shaped leaves at number 2 on the map. This is a *Northern Catalpa* (scientific name *Catalpa speciosa*). Native to the Midwestern U.S., this tree has 6-inch-long panicles of white flowers in Spring, followed in Fall by dark brown pods several inches long.

3 Scotch Elm

Head toward the flagpole; when there, turn right. The huge tree nearest the flagpole, at number 3, is *Scotch Elm* (scientific name *Ulmus glabra*, planted about 1908). This European native is one of several elm species, and this particular tree is the Nevada State Champion. The Quad north of Morrill Hall is lined with Elm trees of a number of species.

4 Contorted Eastern White Pine

The conifer with twisted needles at number 4 is *Contorted Eastern White Pine* (scientific name *Pinus strobus* 'Contorta', planted 1988), a cultivar of the main conifer species in the Northeastern U.S. This cultivar varies anywhere from slightly twisted needles (as in this case) to wildly twisted tree form.

5 Sweetgum

On the left of the path at number 5 is *Sweetgum* (scientific name *Liquidambar styraciflua*). Native to the eastern U.S., it has maple-like leaves with five smooth-edged lobes and spiny one-
inch fruits. It can grow rapidly to a large size and, in the best years, has orange-red or purplish Fall color.

The white-barked tree about 25 feet farther at number 6 is **Cutleaf Weeping Birch** (scientific name *Betula pendula* 'Laciniata'). Compare this cultivar of **European White or Weeping Birch** with the next tree, a smaller, white-barked Birch at number 7, scientific name *Betula pendula*. The cultivar has a different leaf shape, and its several-foot-long branches hang like curtains. Both trees have attractive white bark, but both are plagued with Bronze Birch Borer, an insect which attacks and kills stressed Birch trees. The Cutleaf Weeping Birch you see is a Nevada State Co-champion Tree, a title it shares with another tree in Reno.

The trees next to the concrete-channeled ditch, which is part of the Orr Ditch (an irrigation channel constructed over a hundred years ago) were probably planted in the 1980s.

At number 8, between the sidewalk and the concrete-channeled Orr Ditch, is a line of several **Trees of Heaven** (scientific name *Ailanthus altissima*). A native of China, Tree of Heaven has escaped cultivation and is now considered a weed tree all over the world. It forms thickets and is the only tree on the Acropolis in Athens, growing directly out of a rock!

Between the first and second Trees of Heaven, at number 9, is a tree with furrowed bark, unlike that of the Tree of Heaven. It is **Red Mulberry** (scientific name *Morus rubra*), native to eastern and central U.S. The leaves of this tree typically have one lobe in the crown and two or three lobes in new shoots. There are both male and female trees. Note how closely the tree was planted to the ditch.
Tree No.

10 Elm
Proceed along the ditch about 30 feet to see a tree by itself at number 10. This is an Elm (scientific name Ulmus sp.). This is likely a "volunteer," that is, a tree resulting from seeds blown from the parent tree.

11 Boxelder
Go about 30 feet farther to number 11, a tree with what looks like compound leaves having 5 leaflets spread apart. This is Boxelder (scientific name Acer negundo). Native to the U.S., it has a county in Utah named for it, as well as an insect pest. This tree is an example of the variation in leaf shape in maples: it is pinnately compound (like the Ashes) with a central stem and lance-shaped leaflets.

12 Crabapple
Before the steps, at number 12, is Crabapple (scientific name Malus sp.), a tree cultivated for thousands of years because it stays small, it has gorgeous flowers in Spring, and its fruits, if present, are small and not messy in a lawn setting. A few years after planting, crabapples have shaggy and mottled bark.

13 Dawn Redwood leaves and fruit
Go toward the Scotch Elm to a tree with brown fibrous bark, a thick trunk and upswept branches. This is one of three Dawn Redwoods at number 13 (scientific name Metasequoia glyptostroboides, probably planted around 1980). The branches of this tree tend to arch upward, and the cones are egg-shaped with deep grooves. This tree was found in the wilds of
Tree
No.

China in 1947, and it has been imported all over the world. Its fast growth rate, interesting form and brown Fall color (it loses its leaves in Fall) make it a sought-after accent tree.

14 Northern Red Oak

Cross the sidewalk from the flagpole to the steps and continue in the same direction to number 14, a medium-sized Northern Red Oak (scientific name Quercus rubra, planted after 1986), a native of eastern North America. This tree has leaves with pointed lobes (indicative of the Red Oak Group). Northern Red Oak is an excellent ornamental tree for Northern Nevada because it has red, orange, and yellow Fall color, has few problems and grows rapidly. The tiny oak flowers look like strings drooping down from the branch, and appear before the leaves.

15 Colorado Blue Spruce

About 50 feet along the sidewalk toward the Sarah Fleishmann Building at number 15 is a silver-colored Colorado Blue Spruce (scientific name Picea pungens). Native to the Northern Rocky Mountains, it grows quite well in Reno. Its blue-gray foliage makes it a desirable accent tree.

16 Snow Fountains Cherry

A few feet farther, surrounded by sidewalks at number 16, is a flat-topped small tree, Snow Fountains Cherry (scientific name Prunus 'Snofozam'). This tree is aptly named: in Spring, white flowers seem to cascade from the tree. This tree has gold and orange Fall colors. This tree has been grafted at about six feet, and the branches only sweep up a foot or so from the graft, giving this tree a formal shape.
Tree No.

17 Flowering Dogwood

To the left of the door to Sarah Fleischmann at number 17 is a Flowering Dogwood (scientific name *Cornus florida*). This tree has been transplanted here in the last few years. These trees prefer shade, stay small, and grow slowly. They are branched and, unlike many other trees, do not grow straight up. They are a mainstay in forests of Eastern North America.

18 Red Maple

Continue along the sidewalk to the two white-barked medium-sized trees to the left of the sidewalk at number 18. These are Red Maple (scientific name *Acer rubrum*), native to the eastern and midwestern U.S. This tree is tough, grows quickly, is cold-hardy, and provides reliable red Fall color (which is possibly why there are so many Red Maples on campus). There are perhaps 100 cultivars of this species with different leaf shapes, some of which provide matte orange-red color.

19 Purpleblow Maple

To the right of the sidewalk at number 19 is Purpleblow Maple (scientific name *Acer truncatum*, possibly planted around 1990), native to northeastern Asia. Its leaves have toothless lobes. This small Maple turns yellow-orange in a good year.

20 Columnar Hornbeam

There are three tall thin trees between the sidewalk and the street at number 20. These are Columnar Hornbeam (scientific name *Carpinus betulus* 'Fastigiata'), a cultivar of the long-
Tree No.

1. European Hornbeam. The species name indicates that the leaves are shaped like Birch leaves. The tree turns dull yellow in Fall, but in the Winter the dense spare branches provide a screen. These are used as street or perimeter trees in many Reno settings. Note that the plaque misidentifies them as American Hornbeam.

21. Goldenrain Tree

The tree with toothed compound leaves at the end of the building at number 21 is Goldenrain Tree (scientific name Koelreuteria paniculata), native to China, Japan, and Korea. This is a three-season tree: in early Summer, after the other trees have bloomed, it has cylinders of small yellow flowers; it has lantern-shaped fruit which start out green, turn yellow in Fall, turn brown in Winter and stay on the tree until the leaves come out the next Spring.

Walk past the three Sweetgums to the small tree at number 22 just inside the fenced area of the Childrens' Play Area of Sarah Fleischmann.

22. Ginkgo

This is Ginkgo (scientific name Ginkgo biloba, planted 1957). Ginkgo is the "missing link" between Conifers and Flowering plants, and it has survived for over 150 million years. Its leaves are on the end of one-to-two-inch spurs off the large branches. The State Champion is in the Fleischmann Ag Quad about 200 feet away and is featured on the "Fleischmann Ag Quad" Tree Tour.

23. English Hawthorn

Cross at the crosswalk behind you, then turn left, passing two Red Maples (one of which is a memorial tree planted in 1978), and walk to a group of small trees near the corner of Morrill Hall and the street at number 23. The tree with one-inch three-lobed leaves is English Hawthorn (scientific name Crataegus laevigata), native to Europe and North Africa. This low-branching, round-headed tree has white flowers and stays small; it has one-half inch red fruits and no Fall
Tree No.

It has leaves alternating on each side of the branch. Contrary to its name, this tree is thornless.

Pink Flowering Dogwood

The two trees with leaves arranged oppositely on the branch are Pink Flowering Dogwood (scientific name *Cornus florida*). In the literature Pink Dogwoods have been described both as a variety (that is, a naturally-occurring different plant) and any of a number of cultivars of Flowering Dogwood, a mainstay in forests of Eastern North America.

Vine Maple

The tree with two-inch roundish leaves with pointed lobes radiating from the stem is Vine Maple (scientific name *Acer circinatum*), another shade-and creek-loving treeshrub (that is, a plant that can have either a tree or shrub form). It is native to Oregon. Its Fall color is variable, but in the best years it is brilliant orange-red.

London Planetree

Continue to where the parking lot meets the street at number 24. The large tree is London Planetree (scientific name *Platanus X acerifolia*). This offspring of American Planetree and Oriental Planetree was discovered in London in 1683. Since then it has been the dominant Planetree or Sycamore in both Europe and North America, because it grows rapidly to a large size yet can be shaped and because it is a resilient tree for cityscapes. It is identifiable by its maple-like leaves, its greenish/whitish mottled bark and its fruit of two beige balls hanging on the tree.
This concludes the "Center Street Parking Area" Tree Tour. Thank you for joining me on this tour. If you would like to support the Arboretum, please see the options on the “Donate” link on the UNR Arboretum website.