



# In the Shade

Vol. 33, No 3  
September, 2009

Join us for the  
**30TH TEXAS TREE CONFERENCE,  
TREE ACADEMY, AWARDS & TREE SCHOOL**  
Austin Marriott North Hotel, Round Rock  
September 30–October 2

**T**HERE HAS ALWAYS BEEN a relationship between trees and risk. And fair to say, it isn't always a healthy one. As professionals, we all have a duty to reduce the likelihood of tree risks, and to inform others when a situation exists. During this years conference we hope to bring you an assortment of speakers and information that will help you address this age old issue, and in turn improve your career. Please join us in Round Rock and be part of the best Texas Tree Conference ever.

Take advantage of the excellent lineup of events at this year's conference:

- *education program features many international speakers*
- *the latest in tree research and arboriculture*
- *enhance your arboricultural technical skills with hands-on workshops*
- *the latest equipment and technology*
- *ISAT certification exam on Friday*
- *awards luncheon*
- *Silent auction*



Keynote speakers:

**Dr. Edward F. Gilman**, Professor, Environmental Horticulture Department, University of Florida. Dr. Gilman received his PhD from Rutgers, and has been a professor in the Environmental Horticulture Department at the University of Florida in Gainesville since 1984. Ed wrote the popular *Illustrated Guide to Pruning* in 1997 which is in its second edition. He

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*President's Corner* by John Giedraitis

## THE BEST OF THE BEST

“WHEN YOU REACH THE TOP, KEEP CLIMBING.”

This old saying certainly wasn't written for arborists! But hold on, in Texas we have a select group of outstanding arborists and foresters who show us all how to reach the top and keep climbing. I'm talking about our Texas Tree Award winners. These folks exemplify the best of the best of our profession and every year we get a chance to recognize and reward those who have made this extra effort.

We have four categories of Texas Tree Awards:

### **1. Arborist/Professional of the Year Award**

These are our top Texans. Nominations for individual awards are evaluated for leadership, commitment, innovation, impact and sustainability.

### **2. Arbicultural Project of the Year Award**

This is where we recognize a specific tree planting, care, or protection project that exemplifies modern arbicultural practices and customer service. Nominees may include arborists, tree care companies, landscape contractors, etc.

### **3. Gold Leaf Awards**

The Gold Leaf Award is designed to recognize an individual, organization, or community for outstanding Arbor Day programs or community landscape beautification projects. Projects should show an impact over several years. Nominations for the award can be made in either of the following two categories:

*Outstanding Arbor Day Activities:* recognizes individuals, organizations, or municipalities that have promoted Arbor Day through special projects, ceremonies, news articles or observations with an Arbor Day theme.

*Outstanding Landscape Beautification Activities:* recognizes individuals, organizations, or municipalities that have made significant contributions through tree planting and landscaping which enhances environmental protection, conservation, beautification, energy conservation, or wildlife protection. This award could also be for non-planting landscape activities that have had a positive impact in promoting tree care and tree preservation.

### **4. Special Achievement Award**

This award recognizes folks that have reached the top in our profession and have kept on climbing. It is awarded for exceptional achievement over a long period of time.

The award winners are recognized in front of their peers at our Texas Tree Conference Awards Luncheon, to be held this year on October 1 in Round Rock. They also receive a handsome numbered, remarked and framed, limited-edition print specially commissioned for the awards from outdoor artist Ronnie Wells of Salado. This year's print is of the Las Cuevas Ebony, the anchor for the last hand pulled ferry on the U.S.-Mexican border.

You can see who are past winners are and get nominations for this year's awards at [www.ISATexas.com](http://www.ISATexas.com).

See you at the top – and beyond!

— John Giedraitis, President

# TEXAS TREE CONFERENCE *Continued from page 1*

received the Author's Citation Award in 1999, the Educator's Award in 2003, and the Research Award in 2007 from ISA for sustained excellence in research, publishing and teaching. He has published more than 70 scientific peer-reviewed journal articles on roots and pruning trees in his 30 years in academia and industry.

**Dr. Bonnie Lee Appleton**, Professor of Horticulture, Hampton Roads Agricultural Research & Extension Center (HRAREC), Virginia Tech University. Dr. Appleton received her PhD from Oklahoma State University, and has been a Professor at Virginia Tech since 1985. She is also currently a Nursery Specialist/Landscape Management Specialist with the Virginia Cooperative Extension. Her list of awards include the ISA Gold Leaf Award for Outstanding Landscape Beautification in 2008, the Southern Group of State Foresters Urban Forestry Award for Partnership in 2004, and the Nursery Extension Award from ANLA in 2003. She has authored five books including *Container Nursery Design* in 1986, and has written over thirty professional journal articles and 68 Virginia Cooperative Extension publications.

**Mr. Stephen Cieslewicz**, President and CEO, CN Utility Consulting, Inc. in Sebastopol, California. Mr. Cieslewicz's company consults internationally with utility companies, vendors, and regulators on all issues related to utility vegetation management (UVM). He was one of the principal UVM investigators for the Joint US/Canada Task Force investigating the August 14, 2003 Northeast blackout,

commissioned by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC). He is a member of the NERC UVM Standards drafting committee, and has developed national standards for required clearances between vegetation and transmission lines. In August 2003 he received the Utility Arborist Award at the ISA Conference in Montreal, Canada. He is a past president of the Utility Arborist Association, and has been an ISA Certified Arborist since 1989.

## Highlights:

**Texas Tree Academy, Wed., Sept. 30., 10 am to 5 pm.** You choose one of two all-day academies:

1. Roots Workshop with Dr. Bonnie Appleton: "Bare Root to Bare Root – Coming Full Circle." (Limited to 25 participants.) Dr. Appleton will discuss and demonstrate how bare root planting can help solve many of today's urban tree problems.
2. Tree Workshop with Dr. Ed Gilman: "Producing, Designing, Planting, Pruning, & Restoring Trees in Storm-prone Landscapes." Dr. Gilman will give first hand accounts on how to properly manage trees to survive the stormy South.

The Tree Academy requires a separate registration from the Conference and includes lunch.

**Dinner and Evening Social, Wed., Sept. 30, 6 to 7:30 pm.** Barbeque, beer & live music. Included with full-conference registration.

**2009 Texas Community Forestry and Tree Care Awards Luncheon, Thurs., Oct 1, noon to 1:15 pm.** Awards will include: Arborist of the

Year, Arboricultural Project of the Year, and Gold Leaf Award. Submit nominations to [www.ISATexas.com](http://www.ISATexas.com) before September 14.

**Texas Urban Forestry Council Meeting, Thurs., Oct 1, 5:30 to 6:30 pm.**

**Texas Hold 'em Tournament, Thurs., Oct 1, 7 pm to ?** Sponsored by Bartlett Tree Experts.

**Texas Tree School: An Introduction to Arboriculture. Fri., Oct. 2, 10 am to 3:30 pm.** This stand-alone introduction to basic tree work will be a combination of classroom and hands-on learning, including basic tree biology, tree and chain saw operations and safety. Teacher: Guy LeBlanc, owner of Arbor Vitae, Austin. The Tree School is not part of the main conference and requires separate registration. Lunch is included.

**ISA Certification Exam, Fri., Oct. 2, 12:30 to 4:30 pm.** Separate registration is required. Contact ISAT at 512-587-7515.

**Don't miss the 2009 Texas Tree Conference**  
**Sept. 30 – Oct. 2**  
**in Round Rock!**  
**For more information or to register online go to**  
[www.ISATexas.com](http://www.ISATexas.com)

**OUR NEWSLETTER  
COMES IN  
TWO FLAVORS!**

*In the Shade* comes in a print edition, delivered right to your mailbox but unfortunately not in color, and a downloadable pdf edition that's *in color* and has *clickable links* to all the websites in each article. Download it at:

<http://www.isatexas.com/Members/Newsletter.htm>.

Previous issues are also available, going back to 2004.



Just to let you know that we do indeed take our tree preservation philosophy seriously here in San Antonio . . .  
– Mark Duff CF BCMA

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# Municipal Arborist Exchange Program 2010

## What Is the Exchange Program?

The Society of Municipal Arborists is offering an exchange program for municipal arborists located around the world. SMA and contributing sponsors will fund airfare and basic expenses for professional exchanges within the next year, which will take place in spring or summer of 2010. Each participant will spend at least one week visiting and working with another city's forestry department. An "exchange" may be "two-way," meaning that paired participants take turns hosting the other, or "one-way," where a selected participant only visits a willing host city identified and approved by SMA.

## Why Sponsor an Exchange Program?

The purpose is to create a way for municipal arborists to exchange urban forestry expertise, management ideas and technology through "in-person" contact and on-site experience. What better way to find out how other forestry practitioners operate than to spend time with each other? We have much to learn from other programs in our own countries and around the world, and we each have much to offer. Not only will the program facilitate the transfer of knowledge, it will help foster an international community of municipal arborists.

## Who Can Apply?

A candidate must be a member of SMA. One can apply immediately upon joining. A candidate must be employed within the urban forestry profession, preferably as a municipal arborist, for at least two years. Knowledge of

a second language is helpful but not essential, although the application must be submitted in English. For a two-way exchange, a chosen participant (or the host municipality) must be able to provide lodging for the visiting participant (private homes are encouraged). The willingness to host a visiting municipal arborist increases the chance of being selected.

## How Will Selections Be Made?

Two-way exchange pairings will be made by our selection committee on a "best match" basis. The number of participants will depend on available funding. Selected participants will most likely be from cities of similar size and climate, and speak a shared language. Ideally, each forestry program will have or do something that the other can learn from – a unique or exemplary program, site condition, problem, etc. The selection committee will consider if an applicant wishes to have an exchange with someone from a preferred city, country, or region. Municipal arborists from communities participating in the Sister City International Program that propose an exchange with a sister city are especially encouraged to apply. One-way exchange selections will be based on the applicant's programmatic



needs and the potential for a viable learning experience.

## What Is Required From Selected Participants?

Participants will spend at least one full work week with the host city's forestry department or arborist. Each participant will be required to write an article for the SMA journal "City Trees" about what he or she learned and experienced for the interest of the SMA membership.

## What Is the Deadline?

All applications must be received by September 23, 2009. Awardees will be notified by December 1, 2009. The timeframe for the exchanges will be determined by the participants, with assistance from SMA program coordinators.

## How Do I Apply?

Join SMA and obtain the application online at [www.urban-forestry.com](http://www.urban-forestry.com).

Mail applications to:  
Society of Municipal Arborists  
c/o Douglas Still  
Roger Williams Park,  
Dalrymple Boathouse  
1000 Elmwood Avenue  
Providence, RI 02905  
(Or fax to 401-941-5920.)

Applications and questions can be emailed to [dstill@providenceri.com](mailto:dstill@providenceri.com). (You may have to email twice due to a spam filter.) Answers must be clearly numbered, with none omitted, and all application instructions followed.

**Thanks to our 2009 sponsors:**  
**Davey Resource Group**  
**City of San Diego, CA**

# Texas Tree Climbing Champion Miguel Pastenes Featured in Hometown Paper

By **Judy Truesdell**  
Staff Writer, *Murphy Monitor*

Once again, Wylie's Miguel Pastenes, a foreman with Arborilogical Services on Steel Road, has represented the Texas chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture at the International Tree Climbing Championship.

The competition was held this year in Providence, R.I. July 24 and 25; 52 men and women representing 14 countries competed in the event.

Pastenes placed first in the Men's Secured Footlock competition and second in the Men's Belayed Speed Climb.

It was the 18th time Arborilogical Services has won the state championship and sent a competitor to the international event; they won first place 17 times and competed once more when they were the first runner-up and the other competitor couldn't compete.

In the footlock competition, the climber must get up a 50-foot rope using two different methods and then ring a bell at the top; the climber holds the rope with his hands and raises his feet up near his chest to bite on the rope and advance up the rope three to five feet with each bite.

Steve Houser, an owner of Arborilogical Services and one of Pastenes' trainers, provided more insight into the impressive nature of Pastenes' showing.

"It is important to note that he won first place ... and was half a second from a new world-record time! He is faster than anyone for this event."

Competitors in the belayed speed-climbing contest are timed as they race or speed-climb 40 to 60 feet up a tree while on "belay," a friction-enhancing device that helps keep the climber from falling.

The top four competitors, decided by point totals, progress to a Master's Challenge final event. Houser said a judge told him Pastenes, ranked seventh overall, was only five points from qualifying for that event.

Miguel said he took the competition very seriously. "I practiced almost every weekend for the last year," he said, "which helped in winning the footlock event and second place in the speed climbing event. Although I was pleased with my performance, I'll continue to practice on the weekends during the next year."

Houser said Pastenes was under something of a disadvantage in another event, the work climb. It had rained the night before, and the tree was wet; since Pastenes was the second competitor, by a random drawing, his performance was affected by the condition of the tree. "Since I was second in the work climb event in the morning and it had rained the night before, I could not run at my normal speed, which did not help my point total."

Houser said safety must come first; Pastenes was forced to slow down rather than risking a 30-40 foot fall.

Houser said safety and trust are important, not just in competition, but in their everyday work. "We're in a very unforgiving business, and you only get one mistake. If you don't tie a knot right, you may fall 100 feet, and you're done."

"The insurance industry considers this the fourth most dangerous business in the U.S."

He also said his men rely on each other to be conscientious. "We climb 100 feet off the ground in 100 degree heat, roping off thousands of pounds of logs over somebody's house. If the guy on the other end of the rope isn't well trained and watching what he's doing, he can kill me. It's like police and firemen; there's a close-knit brotherhood among tree climbers."

According to information from the ISA, the international competition simulates working conditions of arborists in the field. Male and female competitors perform five different events during the preliminary round; each event tests a competitor's ability to professionally and safely maneuver in a tree while performing work-related tree-care tasks in a timely manner.

The events provide a competitive learning environment for those working in the industry. "The ITCC is an opportunity for arborists from around the world to learn new techniques from one another and to see the use of new and different equipment," said Jim Skiera, ISA executive director. "Competitive tree climbing also introduces the public to the skills professional tree-climbing arborists must use for safe, professional tree work."

Houser said Pastenes' showing at the competition is the result of the company's teamwork. Onecimo Carlos,

*Continued on next page*

## Miguel Pastenes *Continued from previous page*

production manager, has worked with Houser for over 20 years. "He trained Miguel as well," he said. "There are lots of tree climbers in the company, and all of them give Miguel advice.

"We are deeply honored to once again represent the state in the international tree-climbing competition. To be recognized as the best in Texas as well as in international competition by our peers for 17 years is greatly rewarding to our team."

For more information about the competition, visit [www.isa-arbor.com](http://www.isa-arbor.com) or go to <http://arborillogical.com/> for more about Wylie's Arborillogical Services.

*Judy Truesdell is a staff writer for C&S Media publications which includes The Wylie News, the Murphy Monitor, the Sachse News, The Princeton Herald and The Farmersville Times. This article reprinted with permission.*

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## Tree Injection Training Sessions

All Forest Pest Management Coop members, seed orchard managers and contractors are invited to attend one of four FPMC contact meetings scheduled for the end of October and early November. In anticipation of the registration of TREE-age™ (emamectin benzoate) for seed orchard use, the meetings will focus on information related to the use of systemic products and provide hands-on training with tree injection equipment. The four meetings are tentatively scheduled for Oct. 27 (TFS Magnolia Springs SO, TX), Oct. 29 (Weyerhaeuser's Magnolia SO, AR), Nov. 3 (AL) and Nov. 5 (GA). Registration is \$10, which includes a lunch. For additional information, contact Don Grosman at 936-639-8170 or [dgrosman@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:dgrosman@tfs.tamu.edu).

*—From the August 2009 PEST newsletter*

## 2010 Municipal Forestry Institute

The 2010 Municipal Forestry Institute (MFI) will be held February 21-26, 2010 at the Lied Lodge and Conference Center at the Arbor Day Farm in Nebraska City, Nebraska, about one hour south of Omaha, NE.

MFI is a week-long intensive educational program designed to help you grow professionally. Go to: <http://www.urban-forestry.com/mc/page.do?sitePageId=50685&orgId=sma> for more information and to register online. Registration closes November 15, 2009 or when full.

## Entomology Seminar

All Western Gulf Forest Pest Management Cooperative executive and contact representatives, industry, and TFS foresters are invited to attend the fall session of the East Texas Forest Entomology Seminar scheduled for October 22 & 23. The meeting will be held from 1 to 8 pm on Thursday at Kurth Lake Lodge, north of Lufkin, and will continue from 8 am until noon on Friday at the College of Forestry and Agriculture, SFASU in Nacogdoches. The agenda will be available in early October. Registration is \$30, which includes an evening meal. For additional information, contact Ron Billings at 979/458-6650 or [rbillings@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:rbillings@tfs.tamu.edu).

*—From the August 2009 PEST newsletter*

## Tennessee Conference

The 18th annual Tennessee Urban Forestry Conference October 22-23 at Lipscomb University, Nashville, will feature expert presentations, panel discussions, and hands-on demonstrations about greening your community with urban forestry. Alice Ewen Walker, Executive Director of the Alliance for Community Trees, will give the keynote address. For more information visit [http://www.armour-armour.com/tufc/index\\_gyc.html](http://www.armour-armour.com/tufc/index_gyc.html).

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# Vegetation Management Conflicts in Dallas

An article by Roy Appleton in the *Dallas Morning News* covers utility vegetation management conflicts in Dallas. Concerns of homeowners and the utility are presented, along with this:

“Steve Houser, a certified arborist and chairman of the Dallas Urban Forest Advisory Committee, said his group’s proposed changes to the city’s tree preservation ordinance may well include requiring that a certified arborist be accountable for all utility-related vegetation removal.

Other recommendations, he said, could call for treating pruning tools between properties to combat the spread of disease and asking the city to urge the state Public Utility Commission to establish pruning standards.”

The article is online at:

<http://www.dallasnews.com/sharedcontent/dws/dn/latestnews/stories/072509dnmettrees.3b76152.html>

To register online  
for the 2009  
Texas Tree Conference,  
go to  
[www.ISATexas.com](http://www.ISATexas.com)

## Webinar Trainings from TCIA

The Tree Care Industry Association offers a series of webinars that require only a computer with an Internet connection for the visuals and a phone to call in for the audio portion. Upcoming topics include Incorporating a Tree Injection Program Into Your Business and Social Media Practices and Strategy. To sign up go to: <http://tcia.org/webinars/>

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## News from North Texas

North Texas Alternative Futures will explore alternatives to “business as usual” September 18 at the Sheraton Grand Hotel at DFW Airport. Registration is available online at

<http://northtexas.uli.org/Events/Upcoming%20Events/81461017.aspx>.



As part of the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Sustainable Skyline Initiative, the City of Dallas, the EPA and the North Central Texas Council of Governments partnered to complete an urban heat island (UHI) study of the Dallas area. The Houston Advanced Research Center was hired to complete the research. The final report was just released and can be found on our list serve ([www.DallasTrees.org/lisfiles.asp](http://www.DallasTrees.org/lisfiles.asp)) under “Dallas Urban Heat Island Report by HARC.” You will also find new information on building downtown streetscapes under “Expanded Tree Boxes” and also under “Sustainability Details for Streetscapes.”



Candace Fountoulakis, Data Collection Technician with the City of Plano, recently released a tree identification guide for the most common species in Plano’s Oak Point Park. It also includes some great photos that help the public identify trees:

<http://pdf.plano.gov/parks/OPTreeIDGuidePDF.pdf>

– Steve Houser  
*Dallas Urban Forest Advisory Committee Chair*

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## Replacing Farmland with Trees

A recent *USA Today* article discusses the congressional plans to replace farmland with trees in an effort to confront climate change:

[http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/environment/2009-08-19-forest\\_N.htm?POE=click-refer](http://www.usatoday.com/news/nation/environment/2009-08-19-forest_N.htm?POE=click-refer)

## Trees of Texas Field Guide

Naturalist, wildlife photographer and writer Stan Tekiela, has released a new pocket guide that makes identifying Texas trees much simpler. It includes detailed photographs. Mr. Tekiela’s website is [www.naturesmart.com](http://www.naturesmart.com) and the following link will take you to more information on the guide: <http://www.adventurepublications.net/tek9.asp?pg=products&specific=jmmniofoo>

## US Economy Could Save 23% of Non-Transportation Energy

Global management consulting firm McKinsey & Company had done a detailed analysis of the efficiency potential in non-transportation uses of energy, a thorough assessment of barriers to greater efficiency, and an outline of practical solutions available to unlock the potential.

The research shows that the U.S. economy has the potential to reduce annual non-transportation energy consumption by roughly 23 percent by 2020, eliminating more than \$1.2 trillion in waste – well beyond the \$520 billion upfront investment (not including program costs) that would be required. The reduction in energy use would also result in the abatement of 1.1 gigatons of greenhouse gas emissions annually – the equivalent of taking the entire U.S. fleet of passenger vehicles and light trucks off the roads.

Such energy savings will be possible, however, only if the United States can overcome widespread and persistent barriers. Overcoming these barriers will require an integrated set of solutions, including information and education, incentives and financing, codes and standards, and deployment resources well beyond current levels.

How best to pursue the energy efficiency opportunities identified in the report within the indicated timeframe? An overarching strategy would need to:

- Recognize energy efficiency as an important energy resource that can help meet future energy needs while the nation concurrently develops new no- and low-carbon energy sources
- Formulate and launch at both national and regional levels an integrated portfolio of proven, piloted, and emerging approaches to unlock the full potential of energy efficiency
- Identify methods to provide the significant upfront funding required by any plan to capture energy efficiency
- Forge greater alignment between utilities, regulators, government agencies, manufacturers, and energy consumers
- Foster innovation in the development and deployment of next-generation energy efficiency technologies to ensure ongoing productivity gains.

An executive summary and the complete report are both available at:

[http://www.mckinsey.com/clientservice/electricpowernaturalgas/US\\_energy\\_efficiency](http://www.mckinsey.com/clientservice/electricpowernaturalgas/US_energy_efficiency)

# Study Shows Tree Shade Has Substantial Impact on Electricity Consumption for Cooling

Following is an abstract of an article by David N. Laband and John P. Sophocleus published in the July 2009 issue of *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry*.

Trees cast shade on homes and buildings, lowering the inside temperatures and thus reducing the demand for power to cool these buildings during hot times of the year. The potential monetary savings may be sizable, especially for those who live in hot climates, because electricity usage for cooling residential and commercial structures

in summer months is costly. A controlled experiment was conducted to quantify the impact of tree shade on electricity consumption devoted exclusively to cooling a structure. We examine electricity consumption used to run air conditioning units set at identical temperatures in two otherwise identical buildings, one set in full sun, the other in full shade during the summer months of 2008 in Beauregard, Alabama.

The building in full sun required 2.6 times more electricity for cooling than the building in full shade. Our

findings contribute to a growing body of research which demonstrates that owners of residential and commercial properties located in hot regions can reap sizable monetary savings from shade trees that serve as natural complements to their artificial air-conditioning.

If you are an ISA member please visit <http://www.isa-arbor.com/members/members.asp> to log in and access this and other articles. To become a member, go to: <http://www.isa-arbor.com/members/becomeMember.asp>.

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## Jumping into the Mud to Measure a Crown

While in Galveston on assignment to locate all the dead trees requiring removal, TFS foresters Paul Johnson (San Antonio), Jason Ellis (Jacksonville), and Pete Smith (College Station) took a short drive back across the causeway to measure what could be the new state champion Great Leadtree (*Leucaena pulverulenta*), or as it's known in the Rio Grande Valley, Tepeguaje. It was a big surprise to find this species so far north of its native range, perhaps an indicator of warmer winters across coastal Texas. More surprising was the fact that this tree survived Hurricane Ike even though it is perched right next to Galveston Bay!

Measuring the tree proved to be difficult, since part of the crown extended over the nearby marsh, but Jason would not be denied! While the two urban foresters watched from the safety of the shore anchoring one end of the tape, Jason plunged off into the muck to find the best spot from which to record the crown measurement. Thanks, Jason, for answering the call of duty!

The first picture shows Paul Johnson (clean clothes) smiling next to the possible champ (dimensions: 91" - 27' - 42' for 129 pts.); the second and third show Jason maneuvering into position; and finally, Jason posing next to the tree with muddy legs.



# Report on the ISA Conference in Providence

I have to admit, I was pretty excited about leaving the Central Texas “desert” for the 85<sup>th</sup> ISA Conference in Providence, Rhode Island. The thought of the much cooler and wetter New England forecast was something to look forward to. It didn’t get above the low 80s, and the month of July was the wettest on record with almost 10 inches of rain falling in Providence. So, for my first trip to an ISA Conference, I guess you could say I lucked out.

I wasn’t fortunate enough to attend the International Tree Climbing Championship on the Friday and Saturday before the conference, but I would definitely like to recognize Miguel Pastenes who represented the Texas Chapter at the event. He had a great performance and placed first in the Secured Footlock, and second in the Belayed Speed Climb. The overall men’s winner was Jared Abrojena from the Western Chapter, and women’s champ was Anja Erni from Switzerland.

The conference was held at the Rhode Island Convention Center, and the trade show floor, where I spent most of my time, was enormous. There were vendors from throughout the US, Canada, and even my home state of New Jersey. The “Climber’s Corner” was an area at the end of the hall where experts were giving trainings on rigging and removals, aerial lift techniques, and many other climbing-related topics.

The educational sessions started on Monday morning with a keynote talk from Mr. Thomas Pakenham, a prize winning author from Ireland who writes about the world’s trees. Oddly enough, he lives in a castle in

Ireland and travels all over the globe to photograph and write about the diverse species of trees. He comes across as a true tree hugger whose passion is to put into words his love and respect for all trees.

The “Trees and Risk” session topics obviously grabbed my attention, as it’s the theme for our 2009 Texas conference. I heard a meteorologist from Kent State University, Ohio, talk about deaths from wind-related tree failures – a subject he’s been researching for several years. His research showed 407 deaths in the US between 1995 and 2007, with thunderstorms causing the highest (41%) of all tree failures. Under the same topic, a gentleman from Germany talked about wind load assessments on trees. His company conducts strength tests on mature trees to determine stiffness, wood property strength, and strain. They are able to use this data to estimate branch and crotch strength, and determine what level of stability a tree might have during a storm event.

Being a member of the Society of Municipal Arborists, I decided to take the SMA tour of Roger Williams Park on the last day of the conference. Named after the founder of the City of Providence and one of the biggest city parks in New England, Roger Williams Park encompasses an arboretum, zoo, a museum of natural history, and seven lakes. It was built in the 1880s, and most of the roads, bridges and sidewalks were constructed by President Franklin Roosevelt’s Works Progress Administration in the late 1930s. It was great to see some huge tulip poplar, red oak, and spruce on our tour, and to hear that city

arborists in Rhode Island are dealing with similar issues as we do in Texas. The City Forester, Doug Still, was kind enough to invite all the folks from the tour over to his house for a BBQ the night before. There was a good time had by all, and plenty of New England clam chowder to go around.

The trip home was interesting to say the least. All the flights in and out of my connection airport, Newark, were delayed or canceled due to heavy thunderstorms Wednesday afternoon. I was lucky to get the last flight to Houston that ended up leaving about 11:30 pm. After a few hours on the Houston Airport floor, I got back to Austin in one piece. It was nice to see my baby boy Nolan, who at 11 months I was worried wouldn’t remember his dad – but he did!

I’d like to say thanks to the Texas Chapter for covering my trip, and giving me the opportunity to attend a great conference and learn more about my profession and the ISA. I’m looking forward to the 2010 conference in Chicago, another place I haven’t been. But first, I need to get through our conference that’s just around the corner! Hope to see you in Round Rock, September 30 – October 2 at the Austin Marriott North Hotel. Register & get more info at [www.isatexas.com](http://www.isatexas.com).

*–Jim Carse*

**To register online  
for the 2009 Texas Tree  
Conference, go to  
[www.ISATexas.com](http://www.ISATexas.com)**

# Historical Flashback: The Turner Oak

The photo at the right was taken around 25 years ago at a dedication ceremony for the Turner Oak, a tree named for one of the founders of Fort Worth, Charles Turner. (For the story of the tree, see the excerpt from *Famous Trees of Texas* at the bottom of the page.) The recent photo below shows the tree now, alive and well.

– Heather Brewer, ISAT Historian



Mark Heil on the left with representatives from the Greenwood Cemetery after the ceremony with the nice monument marker in the foreground.

From the book *Famous Trees of Texas*,  
Third Edition, © 1984, Texas Forest Service.

## The Turner Oak

Live Oak

*Quercus virginiana*

Page No. in "Famous Trees of Texas": **81**

County: **Tarrant**

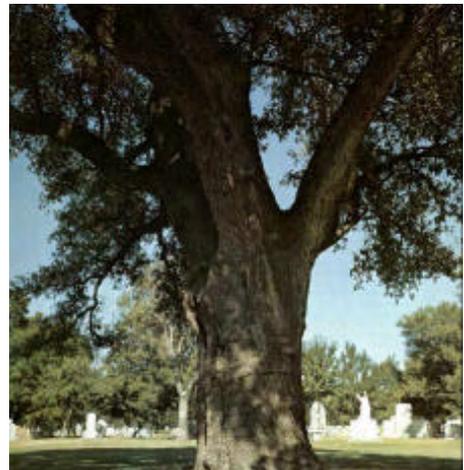
Topic: **Civil War**

Condition: **Fair**

Owner:

Public Access: **Yes**

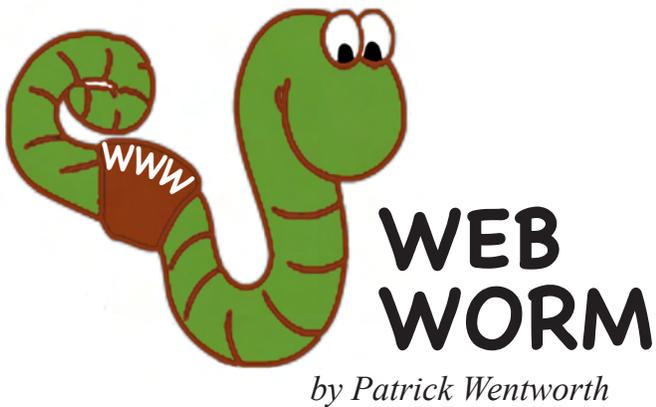
Directions: *The Turner Oak is about 200 yards north of the corner of White Settlement Drive and Boland Street in Greenwood Cemetery, Fort Worth. A bronze marker set in granite has been placed near the tree by the Daughters of the American Revolution.*



**W**hen the war between the states broke out, Charles Turner (1822-1875), one of the founders of Fort Worth, opposed the secession of Texas from the Union. However, when the state voted to secede, he abided by the majority decision of his kinsmen. Evidence of his acceptance of the mandate was manifest in his equipping a company of local volunteers out of his own pocket.

But when the Confederacy demanded that its citizens exchange their gold for Confederate notes, Turner chose not to follow the directive. Instead, he buried his gold under a live oak which was growing on the farm he had settled in 1851.

After the War, Turner used his gold to aid in restoring to prosperity the town he had helped found.



<http://eap.mcgill.ca/publications/eap3.htm>  
Controlling pests in an ecological manner.

<http://www.ca.uky.edu/entomology/entfacts/ef448.asp>  
Alternatives to insecticides.

<https://www.msu.edu/~nixonjos/armadillo/expansion.html>  
Expansion of the lowly armadillo.

<http://www.aquadiamonds.com/>  
Copolymer aids in transplants.

<http://www.soilfirst.com/>  
Soil testing service.

<http://www.marroneorganics.com/>  
Organic pest control.

<http://greenmethods.com/site/>  
Biological pest control and IPM.

<http://www.buglogical.com/>  
Use bugs to control bugs.

<http://www.arbico-organics.com/>  
Organic resource.

<http://www.bio-control.com/>  
Biological control of weeds.

<http://www.nysaes.cornell.edu/ent/biocontrol/weedfeeders/wdfdrtoc.html>  
Bugs that eat weeds.

<http://www.algifol.com/>  
Algae based leaf protectant.

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# ISA Board Passes First Dues Increase in Ten Years

The ISA board has approved a \$15 dues increase starting in 2010—the first such increase since 2000. The following background information is from an email from ISA headquarters:

Economic times are tough for many people and organizations. ISA has worked hard becoming more efficient and cost-effective, delaying any dues increase. Members ask for high quality services and ISA can deliver, but only with your help.

With your membership support, ISA improved the arboriculture profession and moved it to a place not dreamed of ten years ago when the last dues increase was implemented. Membership doubled to over 21,000 members worldwide and the need for proper tree care grew.

For \$125, ISA members receive:

- A choice of one printed subscription to either *Arborist News* or *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry Journal*
- Online, searchable access to over 30 years of research through the *Arboriculture & Urban Forestry Journal*
- Discounts on ISA merchandise and educational products, workshops, conference, and events
- Discounts on all recertifications and certification exams (when you join a chapter of your choice)
- An active public relations programs sending press releases throughout the world:
  - Over 81 million readers/viewers in the past 12 months
  - 24+ press releases each year to over 100,000 media outlets
  - 3 issues of *Planting Seeds* – ISA’s e-newsletter for public education
- Members-only access to ISA website, including CEU quizzes online and public education resources
- Free resume and job posting on ISA website
- For ISA members with an ISA certification:
  - a free listing on one of the most popular ISA websites “Find A Tree Care Service/ISA Certification”
  - Access to ISA’s global network of members and certified arborists

In 2010, ISA members will also receive these new and improved benefits:

- Enhanced version of “Find a Tree Care Service/Verify a Certified Arborist” with option to include logo for free
- Increased logo compliance efforts to ensure value of ISA membership logo
- True Professionals Program – provides resources to equip members and increase their public recognition:
  - PowerPoint presentations with scripts for non-arborist audiences
  - Recognition awards for successful public education programs
  - Case studies of award winners so you can recreate the programs in your communities
  - Updated Job and Resume Bank coming in 2010

Membership dues also support green initiatives:

- Sustainable Urban Forest Coalition: [www.urbanforestcoalition.com](http://www.urbanforestcoalition.com)
- ISA Headquarters efforts for LEEDS green building certification
- Waste reduction through the electronic delivery of ISA member magazines and educational resources

If you renew using the ISA website, you can receive a \$5 or \$10 discount for saving data entry and future mailing expenses. Members should already have received an email with details, but if you need more information, contact [membership@isa-arbor.com](mailto:membership@isa-arbor.com)

– *Aliesha, Danielle, and Eric, ISA*

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The CTSP program helps companies develop and perfect a culture of safety – because when safety becomes part of your organization’s culture, safe practices become habit.

# Certified Treecare Safety Professional

## Improve Your Productivity and Profitability with a Culture of Safety

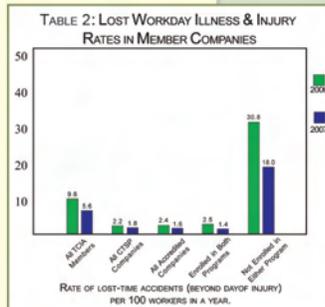
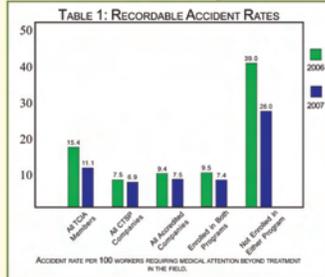
### How it works:

One or more employees enroll in the program to become your organization’s internal safety trainer(s). They have up to 18 months to complete a study guide with exercises, attend a workshop and pass the certification test.

### The benefits to having a CTSP on staff:

- Control at-risk behaviors to reduce accidents and associated costs
- Improve customers’ perception of your professionalism through your commitment to safety
- Improve employee morale, productivity, retention and recruitment
- Offer a rewarding new career path for key employees

### Survey Results



- **NEW** - TCIA member companies with CTSPs on staff are eligible to be considered for workers’ comp coverage under the new ArborMAX insurance program.

### The results are in.

TCIA Member companies with employees enrolled in the Certified Treecare Safety Professional program are **ten times less likely** to experience a lost workday incident compared with members that do not have a CTSP on staff.

Additionally, members with employees enrolled in the CTSP program are **nearly four times less likely** to experience a recordable accident (one that requires medical attention beyond treatment in the field) than members without a CTSP on staff.

The numbers don’t lie... safety-conscious tree care companies that get involved with the CTSP program experience fewer accidents, fewer injuries, and less lost time

– PERIOD.



**A workshop is coming to your area!**

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