



In the Shade

Vol. 31, No.3
September 2007

Stay Up to Date with the 21st Annual Texas Tree Conference & Trade Show

Attention arborists, urban foresters, tree advocates, growers, landscape contractors, landscape architects, consultants, parks & recreation and public works employees, and landscape inspectors:

The best way to stay up-to-date is by attending the 2007 Texas Tree Conference October 10–12, 2007, at the Waco Convention Center, Waco, Texas.

Network and build relationships to take your business and programs to the next level.

Highlights of the 2007 conference include:

- Tree Academy with Nelda Matheny and Dr. Bruce Fraedrich (separate registration required);

- the latest in tree research and arboriculture
- the opportunity to enhance your technical skills
- the latest equipment and technology
- Texas Outdoor Tree School, a review of basic tree care for tree workers (separate registration required)
- ISAT certification exam
- tree care awards luncheon
- dinner and evening social, barbecue and beer

A registration form is on page 3, or you can register online at www.ISATexas.com

Special TTC hotel rates expire September 10 or when the room blocks are full. See hotel information on page 5.

Preliminary Conference Schedule



Wednesday, October 10

Tree Academy (a separate item on the registration form; includes lunch)

Your choice of:

1. Municipal Specialist 101 10:00 am–5:00 pm (5.5 ISA CEUs)

A day with Nelda Matheny This is a “must attend” for city tree managers who want to grow in their job. Nelda is president of the consulting firm HortScience, Inc.

2. Tree Risk Assessment and Management 10:00 am–5:00 pm (5.5 ISA CEUs)

A day with Dr. Bruce Fraedrich. Dr. Fraedrich is a national leader in tree risk assessment and management. You will be a better arborist after this fast paced and informative workshop.

Other Wednesday Events

Changing Roles for Arborists 1:00–4:00 pm

People are moving to the outlying areas of cities in droves and they need the services that skilled arborists provide. Learn tools for marketing yourself to this new demographic. *Presented by the Texas Forest Service. No cost.*

Wednesday Business Meeting, Dinner and Evening Social 6:00–7:30 pm

Barbeque and Beer at Cameron Park Clubhouse
(Included with full-conference registration)

Continued on page 4



President's Message *by Gene Gehring*

The past year has been busy. This will be my last message as the 06-07 ISAT president. I officially hand over the gavel to president-elect Jordy Hagen during the business meeting at the 28th Texas Tree Conference in Waco (October 10 – 12). I think we had a very successful year, and there are a number of people who were responsible. I would like to thank our executive director, Mike Walterscheid, and the board of directors for all their hard work.

Individually, I would like to thank John Giedraitis for serving as chair of the Education Services committee. He was responsible for ISAT hosting several workshops this past year such as the oak wilt certification workshops. He also hosted a successful tree worker workshop in

El Paso that will be used as a model for future workshops.

Russell Peters chaired the committee for the National Oak Wilt Symposium in Austin in June 2007. It featured an outstanding lineup of researchers from around the country. We had 170+ people who attended from all over the country. It is a major feat for an individual chapter to host and organize a national conference.

Keith Brown chaired the Texas Tree Climbing Championships again this year. They were held in Plano and the event ran relatively smoothly, especially considering he lives almost four hours away in Austin.

Courtney and Jeannette have done a marvelous job with the newsletter. It

was bumped from four issues a year to six. It was even nominated for an award from national.

The committee putting the 28th Texas Tree conference together has been hard at work. It looks to be another great conference (please see the write-up elsewhere in this newsletter).

I am looking forward to serving as past president, because my primary responsibility will be to fill out the nominations roster for the new board. (There are no other responsibilities spelled out in the bylaws.) If you would like to serve or would like more information about serving on the board please talk to me at the Tree Conference.

STIHL®

Treetop Tools for the Pros

MS 200 Chain Saw
A rear handle version of "The ultimate arborist saw." Perfect for ground or bucket work. Features include a Quad Power™ engine, tool-less fuel and oil caps with retainers, and a carburetor preheat shutter for summer/winter operation.

PP 780 Telescoping Pole Saw
For cutting tree limbs of varying diameters and heights where access with more than one tool is impractical. Lightweight telescoping adjustable shaft, 16' 10" overall length.

HT 101 Pole Pruner
Ideal for hard-to-reach places, the HT 101's adjustable shaft telescopes to 11.5'. Powerful 31.4 cc 4-MIX® engine.

PP 900 Pole Pruner Set
The ideal tools for demanding, high-volume tree work. Durable extended fiberglass poles with 12' reach and a pruning capacity of 1.25".

MS 192 T Chain Saw
NEW! Introducing the tough little brother of the MS 200 T, this saw delivers exceptional power and balance. This is STIHL's lightest gasoline powered chain saw ever, only 6.6 lbs. For in tree-use only by professionals.

Only 6.6 lbs!

Replacement Parts Available! Limited Lifetime Warranty!

To find the STIHL dealer near you, call 1-800-GO-STIHL or visit stihlusa.com

A well maintained landscape with mature trees can increase property values up to 25 percent. Trees can cool houses in the summer. A city lot with 30 percent plant cover provides the equivalent cooling necessary to air condition two moderately sized houses 12 hours a day in the summer.

– The Value of Trees Around Your Home.



2007 Texas Tree Conference and Trade Show

Name _____ ISA Member # _____

Organization Name _____

Address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Phone _____ Fax _____ Email _____

Commercial Arborist Utility Arborist City/County Employee State/Federal Employee Consultant Landscape Architect Other

<i>Early Bird registration postmarked by October 1</i>	ISAT-Member	Non-Member	Total
Wednesday, October 10 pre-conference Tree Academy (after Oct. 1 add \$25) includes lunch and breaks Choose one: <input type="checkbox"/> Municipal Specialist 101 review session <input type="checkbox"/> Tree risk assessment and management	\$125	\$150	
<input type="checkbox"/> Full Texas Tree Conference (includes Wednesday evening BBQ social, Thursday awards lunch, Thursday exhibitor reception, Thursday and Friday educational sessions (after Oct. 1 add \$25)	\$150	\$175	
<input type="checkbox"/> Texas Tree School (after Oct. 1 add \$15) includes lunch	\$75	\$95	
<input type="checkbox"/> Awards Luncheon (for guests—one ticket included with each Texas Tree Conference Registration)	\$30	\$30	
<input type="checkbox"/> Student Registration (all venues included) Name of School: _____	\$50	\$50	
<input type="checkbox"/> Changing Roles for Arborists (Please check if you will be attending this Wednesday workshop)	\$0	\$0	
<h2 style="margin: 0;">You can also register online at www.ISATexas.com</h2>	Scholarship Fund Donation \$10 (optional)		
			Grand Total \$ _____

Method of Payment

Check/PO# _____ MasterCard VISA Card Number _____ 3 digit code on back _____

Exp Date _____ Name (as it appears on card) _____

Card billing address _____ City/State/Zip _____

Signature _____

<input type="checkbox"/> Please make your check payable to: ISAT	<input type="checkbox"/> Cancellation and refund policy: Refund will be made if requested at least two weeks prior to the conference. No requests for refunds will be honored less than two weeks prior to the conference. Substitutions permitted.
<input type="checkbox"/> Send completed form with payment/PO# to: ISAT 242 Monkey Road Elgin, Texas 78621	

TTC Preliminary Program *Continued from page 1*

Thursday, October 11

General Session 8:00 am—12:00 pm (3.5 CEUs)

- 8:00 **Welcome**, President, Texas Chapter ISA
- 8:30 **Trees and global climate change**
- 9:15 **Tree preservation: how much space is enough?** Nelda Matheny, HortScience
- 10:15 **Break with exhibitors**
- 10:45 **Working with contractors to protect trees**, Bruce Fraedrich, Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories
- 12:00 **Texas Community Forestry and Tree Care Awards Luncheon**

Thursday Afternoon (3.5 CEUs)

Session A: Arboriculture from the bottom up Moderator: Hans Williams

- 1:30 **Diagnostic techniques for soil and root disorders**, Dr. Bruce Fraedrich, Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories
- 2:15 **Basic root structure and function**, Dr. Hans Williams, Stephen F. Austin State University
- 3:00 **Break with exhibitors**
- 3:30 **Pathogens on roots of Texas trees**, Dr. David Appel, TAMU
- 4:15 **Soil properties affecting root growth**, Dr. Ken Farrish, Stephen F. Austin State University

Session B: Roots of urban forestry. Moderator: Eric Copeland

- 1:30 **People, the urban in urban forestry**, Paul Revel, Virginia Department of Forestry
- 2:15 **Inventories and management plans**, Pete Smith, Texas Forest Service
- 3:00 **Break with exhibitors**
- 3:30 **Legal roots—ordinances**, Dr. Buck Abby, Louisiana State University
- 4:15 **Urban forestry and climate change**, Gene Hyde, City Forester, Chattanooga, TN

Friday, October 12

Friday Morning (3.5 CEUs)

- 7:00 **Municipal Tree Managers Breakfast** (Invitation only, sponsored by Davey Resource Group)
- 8:00 **General Session** (News from international headquarters)

Session A: The bottom line—the business of arboriculture. Moderator: Keith Brown

- 9:00 **Finding buried treasure: Roots on your bottom line**, Dr. Todd Watson, Texas A&M University
- 10:00 **Break with exhibitors**
- 10:30 **Roots of profit: business bottom line case studies**

Session B: The best in Texas (urban track). Moderator: Eric Copeland

- 9:00 **Best in Texas—inventories & plans**, Victor Cordova, City Forester, Houston; Larry Maginnis, Arborist, UT Austin
- 10:00 **Break with exhibitors**
- 10:30 **Best in Texas—citizen foresters**, Melinda Adams, City Forester, Fort Worth
- 11:00 **Best in Texas—tree ordinance**, Ouina Rutledge, Recycling Manager, City of McAllen
- 11:30 **Best in Texas—tree program**, Ron Lee, Addison, Texas

Other Friday Events

Texas Outdoor Tree School, 1:00 pm–3:00 pm (4.0 ISA CEUs)

Review or introduction to tree care, Guy LeBlanc, Owner, ArborVitae Tree Care and Paul Johnson, Regional Urban Forester, Texas Forest Service. Separate registration required.

ISA Certification Exam, 12:30 pm–4:30 pm

Separate registration required. Contact ISAT at 512-587-7515.

Conference Hotel Reservations

Special Texas Tree Conference rates—\$109 Single or Double— expire September 10th or when the room blocks are full. Space is limited so make reservations early.



Hilton Waco
113 South University Parks Drive
Waco, TX 76701-2241
For Hilton reservations call (254)
754-8484

Directions from IH-35: Take the University Parks Dr. exit 335 B west. The hotel is at the intersection of University Parks Dr. and Franklin Ave.



Courtyard by Marriott Waco
101 Washington Avenue
Waco, TX 76701
For Courtyard reservations call (254)
752-8686

Directions from IH-35: Take the University Parks Dr. exit 225 B west. Turn right on University Parks Dr. The hotel is on the corner of University Parks Dr. and Washington Ave.

“There is No Tree That Is Worth Your Life”

Several members sent in this item about an Austin utility worker who was killed while trimming trees:

A tree trimmer doing maintenance work on the Austin Energy system died Wednesday in South Austin after coming into contact with a power line, said Ed Clark, a spokesman for Austin Energy. The man’s name was not released pending notification of relatives. He died at Brackenridge Hospital, Clark said.

The work being performed required the trimming crew to climb trees, Clark said. Because about 60 percent of Austin Energy systems run along the rear of lots, bucket trucks cannot be used to reach those lines, he said.

The Austin Police Department and the Occupational Health and Safety Administration are investigating the incident, which happened at 10 a.m. in the Emerald Forest subdivision. It was the first fatality involving tree maintenance for Austin Energy, Clark said.

—from the Austin American Statesman website

An anonymous member sent this comment:

There was a tree worker electrocuted in Texas on August 8th while working on routine power line tree trimming. Please take notice of this very unfortunate event. Those that have tree operations in the proximity of power lines should go back and review their “Electrical Hazard Policies and Rules” in fine detail. Make sure every worker understands the rules and the restraints dictated by OSHA and others. Get everyone’s questions answered and “re-group” on this type of work. There is no tree that is worth your life.

—Anonymous

Tree Inventory for Bogotá, Colombia

Scientists, academics and members of the national forestry community are facing an unprecedented challenge in Colombia, South America – to inventory, for the first time in history, the entire population of urban trees in Bogota, Colombia, one of the largest cities in South America.

By decree number 472, the Jose Celestino Mutis Botanical garden (responsible for reforestation efforts in Bogota) along with the National Statistics Department, the District University Francisco Jose de Caldas, Aqueduct and Sewer Authority and the Institute of Urban Development began to implement the capitol city tree inventory in September 2005 and is scheduled for completion in December 2007. The project cost is estimated at 2,300,000 USD and will include a census of over 1,200,000 trees.

The census is being conducted with the latest in GIS technology including advanced mapping and GPS for georeferencing. A total of no less than 43 variables will be measured to determine everything from species, size, age, leaf area index, condition and vigor to physical location with reference to infrastructure elements. This data will then be used to develop a master urban forestry plan for the city.

On June 30, five panels were completed and four more were nearly done, representing 624,479 trees. The inventory procedure and its analysis may be able to serve as a model for cities in other countries of interest. For more information on this inventory, contact Carlos Llanos at www.asesoriasforestales.com

—Mark Duff

Registration Deadline Oct. 17...

Certified Tree Worker Workshop in Austin Nov. 3 & 4

The first ISA Tree Worker Specialist Certification workshop in Texas is going to be held on November 3 & 4 in Austin on the UT campus. The program is available in both English and Spanish.

The Certified Tree Worker Specialist designation shows that a climber has demonstrated a certain level of climbing skill, aerial rescue ability and tree knowledge. The purpose of the certification is to provide employers with a standard to train employees and hire new employees. It also affords the public, those in government, and the commercial sector the opportunity to make an informed selection of services based on the knowledge that is represented by the Certification designation. And, most importantly it provides an opportunity for tree workers to advance their professional careers.

There is a large list of requirements that must be met to become a Certified Tree Worker Specialist. The

upcoming workshop will provide opportunity to meet all requirements with one exception; you must have 1 ½ years field experience. Beyond the experience requirement, the ISA requires the following items be accomplished: completion of an approved aerial rescue training program; Red Cross CPR/first aid certification; demonstration of knot tying ability; in-tree demonstration of tree climbing and safe climbing practices (a.k.a. "skills test"); and passing a written test. The workshop being held at the UT campus on November 3 & 4 is the first opportunity in Texas for tree climbers to complete the skills test, and the workshop will include all activities and training needed to meet the Certified Tree Worker Specialist requirements.



Although the workshop will provide aerial rescue certification and Red Cross certification, it will be the responsibility of the climber to be prepared to pass the skills test and the written exam, and you must have 1 ½ years field experience. A complete list of information about these tests is available at www.isa-arbor.com/certification/resources/TWappJan2003.pdf.

The cost for the workshop will be \$250 for ISA members and \$300 for non-members. Enrolling for the workshop is a little complicated because two registration forms must be completed and each form must be mailed to a different address. One registration form is on the next page of this newsletter. Fill it out and mail it to CTW Workshop, 1414 E. 5th St., Austin, TX 70702 along with a check made out to ISA Texas for \$150. The other form is at www.isa-arbor.com/certification/resources/TWappJan2003.pdf.

Fill out that form and mail it to the address provided with a check (\$100 for ISA members and \$150 for non-members) AND with a letter signed by your supervisor stating that you are enrolled in the Texas CTW workshop.

Only 30 seats are available for the workshop and the deadline for entry is October 17. Contact Nevic Donnelly at 512-922-7058 if you have further questions.

—Keith Brown

TREE ACADEMY

Wednesday, October 10
at the Texas Tree Conference in Waco
(Includes lunch. Requires a separate registration from the Conference)

Choose a day with one of our special guests/ keynote speakers:

Municipal Specialist 101: A day with Nelda Matheny
10:00 AM—5:00 PM (5.5 ISA CEUs)

A "must attend" for city tree managers who want to grow in their job.

Tree Risk Assessment and Management: A day with Dr. Bruce Fraedrich

10:00 AM—5:00 PM (5.5 ISA CEUs)

You WILL be a better arborist after this fast paced and informative workshop.

More information in the conference brochure. Visit www.isatexas.com

Certified Tree Worker Workshop Registration Form

Company	Name
Address, City, State, Zip	
phone	email
Spanish or English	Have you send in your ISA test application? Y N
available at: www.isa-arbor.com/certification/resources/TWappJan2003.pdf	

Please fill out this registration form and mail it to: CTW workshop, 1414 E. 5th St., Austin, TX 78702 along with a check for \$150 to ISA Texas.

Also, fill out an ISA CTW application and mail it along with payment to address indicated on form (available at: www.isa-arbor.com/certification/resources/TWappJan2003.pdf). Also, include a letter sign by your supervisor stating that you are enrolled in the Texas ISA CTW workshop.

It is your responsibility to meet the experience requirement of 1 _ years field experience set by the ISA and to send in your registration in time.

**Deadline for Registration is October 17th
And
Space is Limited to First 30 Applicants**

Signature

Date

Who Deserves to Be Named Arborist of the Year?

Nominations are being taken for Arborist of the Year and Arborological Project of the Year. Nominate your person or project before September 21! Go to www.ISATexas.com for information on categories and how to nominate.

Awards will be presented at the Texas Community Forestry and Tree Care Awards Luncheon October 12 at the Texas Tree Conference.

Davey Resource Group provides a full range of arboricultural and horticultural planning and consulting services:

Our consultants specialize in:



- Natural resource consulting services
 - Urban forest inventories
 - Management Plans
 - Contract foresters
 - Tree management software
 - Ecological surveys and wetlands restoration
- Vegetation management services, including:
 - Auditing services
 - Work planning & notification services
 - Contract personnel
 - Vegetation Inventories
 - Work load surveys
 - Storm Services
- Facilities and equipment management services, including:
 - Pole & hardware inventories
 - Joint-use audits and inventories
 - GPS field inventories
- Information technologies, including
 - ROW Keeper software products:
 - Work planning software
 - Work reporting software
 - Desktop Geographic Information Systems
 - Pole inventory
 - Tree inventory
- Project Management/Specialized Consulting
 - Comprehensive project management services for complex and distinct projects.



A Division of The Davey Tree Expert Company

Davey Resource Group, A Division of the Davey Tree Expert Company

Matt Grafton can be reached at 405-826-8984, mgrafton@davey.com

or contact our corporate office at 1-800-828-8312 or via mail at

1500 N. Mantua Street, Kent, Ohio, 44240

www.davey.com



INDUSTRY CALENDAR

October 10–12

21st Texas Tree Conference – Waco, TX

This year's theme is "The Roots of Arboriculture" Register online and get more information at www.isatexas.com. Or look elsewhere in this newsletter for a preliminary conference schedule and information on registration and accommodations.

October 19–21

ISA Fall Leadership Workshop, Champaign, IL

For more information: www.isa-arbor.com/calendar/calendar.aspx

October. 26

Texas Forest Expo, Lone Star Convention Center, Conroe, TX

Texas Forest Institute Professional development series. Track 1: Emerging issues in the urban-rural interface. Track 2: Tree care and grounds maintenance For more information and to register online, go to:

<http://tfsweb.tamu.edu/conferences/TexasForestEXPO/article.aspx?id=2848>

November 3–4

Tree Worker Specialist Certification Workshop, University of Texas, Austin, TX

First such workshop in Texas, it will be available in both English and Spanish. Only 30 seats are available. **Deadline for entry is October 17.** Contact Nevic Donnelly at 512-922-7058 if you have further questions.

November 14-15

Partners in Community Forestry National Conference, Radisson Plaza, Baltimore, MD.

A broad-based gathering of professionals concerned with community forestry, sponsored by Arbor Day Foundation, ISA and other partners. For more information visit:

<http://arborday.org/shopping/conferences/brochures/pcf/2007/index.cfm>

November 28, 2007–Dec. 1, 2008

ASCA Annual Conference, Loews Vanderbilt Hotel, Nashville TN

This conference of the American Society of Consulting Arborists is co-sponsored by the ISA Southern Chapter. For more information visit: www.asca-consultants.org

February 24–29, 2008

Municipal Forester Institute, T Bar M Conference Center, New Braunfels, TX.

Registration closes November 1, 2007 or when class is full. Download a brochure or apply online at:

<http://www.urban-forestry.com/mc/page.do?sitePageId=50685&orgId=sma>.

What's in a Name?

Texas Gets a Head Start on Renaming Trees

By Pete Smith

Shakespeare's Juliet would have made a poor taxonomist, after famously professing not to care about family names. But when we're talking trees – especially champion trees – knowing what to call the tree you're looking at can make the difference between a new champ and an also-ran! Since American Forests published the first National Register of Big Trees in 1941, one document has served as the source of official common and scientific names for all species in the U.S. recognized as a kind of tree: *Elbert Little's Checklist of U.S. Trees*, last updated in 1979.

Since then, there has been much discussion at the national level about updating Little's text in order to include additional species and to simply update the common and scientific names to current standards and usage. American Forests has promised to issue a new list to go into effect in 2008 for the national list, but in Texas we decided to get a head start. With the latest quarterly edition of the Texas Big Tree Registry, we have updated all scientific names and most common names to conform to the Integrated

Taxonomic Information System (ITIS) (found at <http://www.itis.gov/>) and the USDA's PLANTS database (<http://plants.usda.gov/>).

Both systems are fairly consistent in terms of nomenclature, with a couple of exceptions. The complete list of "old" and "new" names can be found on the TFS big tree web page, at <http://texasforests.tamu.edu/>

It does seem as though taxonomists have been busier than the proverbial one-armed paperhanger. Our new species list adds 25 species and subtracts one, bringing the total number of recognized tree species to 319. But the biggest adjustment will be what we call them. Some have new Latin species names (mockernut hickory is *Carya alba* instead of *C. tomentosa*) and many have new common names or common name spellings (Berlandier ash is now Mexican ash). Some species have been demoted to varieties (sugarberry is now *Celtis laevigata* var. *laevigata*), while some varieties have been elevated to subspecies (eastern cottonwood is now *Populus deltoides* ssp. *deltoides* instead of var. *deltoides*) or even full species status

(Texas oak was *Quercus shumardii* var. *texana* and is now *Q. buckleyi*).

Most challenging of all will be learning entirely new genus and species names for several common trees: the genus *Bumelia* is now *Sideroxylon*, so gum bumelia (*Bumelia lanuginosa*) becomes gum bully (*Sideroxylon lanuginosum*); and tallowtree (*Sapium sebiferum*) becomes (*Triadica sebifera*). At the genus level, *Myrica* switches to *Morella* (the waxmyrtles) and *Rhamnus* is now *Frangula* (the buckthorns). Proving taxonomists don't always stick to this pattern, the two Texas species formerly in *Pithecellobium* – Texas ebony (*P. flexicaule*) and huajillo (*P. pallens*) – are now known as *Ebenopsis ebano* and *Havardia pallens*, respectively.

So while we may have learned in school that Latin was a "dead" language, taxonomists continue to revive it and put it to work to describe the world around us. With advances in genetic sequencing, it's likely we will see plenty of other changes to our list over time, even if the trees themselves don't!

Last Certification Exam of the Year October 12

Texas has only one more Certified Arborist exam scheduled for this year: Friday October 12 at the Texas Tree Conference in Waco. Check-in is 12:30 pm and the exam starts at 1:00 pm. Capacity is 45.

With any scheduled test, one may take the Certified Arborist, Municipal Specialist, Utility Specialist, or Tree Worker written tests.

Visit www.isatexas.com for more information. **Important Reminder:** The test application form must be at ISA's office with your check 16 calendar days before the test date or you will not be allowed to take the exam.

*Today's mighty oak is
just yesterday's nut,
that held its ground.*

– Anonymous



Cool Tools by Patrick Wentworth

STAY COOL IN AN AIR CONDITIONED SHIRT

This product really is cool. With the hot, humid days of summer fast upon us, we're all trying to stay cool. Kouzi Ichigaya, an ex Sony technician, has come up with an interesting way to do so.

Mr. Ichigaya has invented an air conditioned shirt.



The shirt is powered either by the USB port on your lap top or computer, or by four AA batteries. It has two 10-centimeter fans located on the right and left sides at the back of the clothing at waist level. These fans draw in a large amount of air which helps to vaporize and dissipate sweat and bring down the wearer's



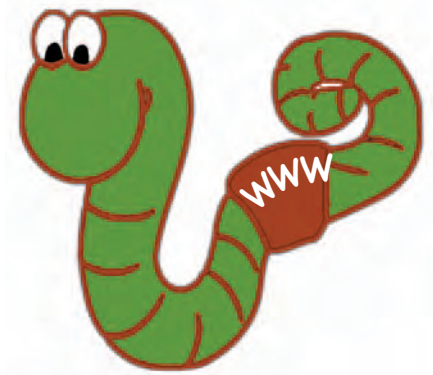
body temperature. The clothing comes with a switch to adjust the fan speed.

At present half sleeve shirts for men and women are available with this unique system in Japan. Unfortunately there is no word on when they will come available in the US or how much they will cost.

If you're working in an environment that does not require a hard hat, another product worth looking at is Gempler's Solarweave® Sun Protection hat. Thin, breathable Solarweave® material blocks out 99.1% of harmful UVB rays and 93.5% of UVA rays. A removable flap extends to the shoulders and forward around the face to fully cover ears and neck. Hook-and-loop closures attach the flap to the hat and seal the flap in



front of your neck. The top of the hat is covered while the sides have open mesh panels to keep you cool and comfortable. Tan color. Adjustable sizing. Imported. Find it at: www.gemplers.com/workwear/headwear/sunprotectheadwear/932SP.html



WEB WORM

Here are some more informative websites for you to check out:

<http://www.extension.umn.edu/distribution/housingandclothing/DK6135.html>

This is a site to refer your customers to about how to protect trees during construction.

http://www.forester.net/sw_0203_trees.html

At this site, you can learn about how trees affect storm water runoff.

<http://www.trees.org.uk/index.php>

This is how it's done in the UK.

<http://www.palms.org/>

Everything you wanted to know about palms and then some.

<http://www.treebuzz.com/index.php>

The home for working arborists/climbers started by Mark Chisholm, Tom Dunlap, and Robert Phillips.

<http://www.treeandneighborlaw.com/main/>

A great site to see what precedents have been set over tree disputes.

<http://www.tomvolkfungi.net/>

A great site to help identify fungi.

ITCC Goes Tropical for 2007

By Guy LeBlanc

There were a record number of contestants for this year's International Tree Climbing Championship. No surprise, given the venue was Honolulu, Hawaii. Actually, the record was due to an increase in the number of female qualifiers: 19, two more than the previous record. There were 37 men, a similar number to recent years, primarily from North American chapters.

As you can imagine, the trees were a bit different than in years past. The Work Climb was in an African Baobab tree (*Adansonia* spp.), a tree known for its fat trunk and stubby branches. Ours was approximately 70 feet tall with a 16-foot trunk diameter. The course was very lateral with lots of ins and outs along two-foot-thick limbs that were extremely slick even when dry. Fortunately, little

2007 ITCC winner Berndt "Beddes" Strasser in a familiar place



rain fell during the day. Two-time world champion Mark Chisholm decided to skip going in and out on each limb and merely jump from station to station (or so it seemed) and he finished the course nearly a minute faster than the next fastest contestant. Potential competitors take note however, that Mark's long leaps caused him to set off the buzzer on the limb walk, and this point loss more than offset the point gained by his time, so he did not even place in the Work Climb.

Another exciting moment at Work Climb was provided by former world champion Mike Cotter. Mike won the ITCC way back in 1998 but has not competed much in the last few years. He told me that he has not climbed professionally for the last several years, as he now is a full time crane operator, but his wife insisted he throw his hat in the ring to qualify for Hawaii. Back in '98, Mike wowed the crowd with his totally old school performance that was every bit as capable as the younger guys with new tricks. Now in his early forties, Mike's climbing style hasn't changed a bit, and still using a taut line hitch with no slack tender, he turned in one of the fastest and most graceful work climbs of the day.

Texas champion Vicente Navarro unfortunately did not fare well. He tore his thumb nail off during the Work Climb, his second event of the day, and could not compete any further.

The Belayed Speed Climb was also quite different this year. The tree was a very short, wide one, and so the course was set with not one but two hand bell stations, and contestants had to self-belay while tied in.

Despite not placing in Work Climb, Mark Chisholm was still the first place finisher in the prelims due in part to his new world record in Footlock: 13.9 seconds (to 50 feet). Returning six-time champion Berndt "Beddes" Strasser was second, Brett Hamlin of Australia came in third, and six-time Illinois champion Todd Kramer was the final qualifier for the Master's.

From my spot in the judges' corner at Work Climb, I watched the women turn in their most impressive collective performance to date. Each year they get faster, stronger and more efficient. What made things even more interesting this year was that there had yet to be a repeat women's champion in their six year history. This year that would change, as all three qualifiers were former champs: Chrissy Spence of New Zealand, Kathy Holzer of Pacific Northwest, and Kiah Martin of Australia.

Continued on next page

ITCC *Continued from previous page*

The women's Masters was in a big-leaf or Indian banyan (*Ficus benghalensis*), a very wide tree with lots of aerial roots interfering with the course. I think it looked every bit as challenging as the men's course, if not more so.

The men's was in a monkeypod tree (*Samanea saman*), which, while quite tall at about 70 feet, was most impressive for its massive spread, which I estimated at well over 100 feet. Kind of like a Carolinas style live oak.

Kiah Martin went first in the women's, and really seemed to struggle with the course. I've seen (and judged) many of Kiah's climbs, and this was far from her best. Although she finished in time, she skipped a station to do so. Kathy Holzer went next, and although she seemed to have a good performance, she also skipped a station, and got her lines tangled with some aerial roots during extraction, and lost points as time expired. That left Chrissy Spence. The 2005 champ is not the largest gal on the circuit by any means, but she always turns in a competitive performance, and this year she turned in the absolute best climb I've ever seen by a female contestant. It was fabulous, and the crowd let her know it. There was no doubt she had won.

Todd Kramer got off to a great start in the men's, but unfortunately was DQ'd for dropping a piece of equipment. Mark Chisholm had less throwline troubles than he's had in recent years, but still took some time with it, and then proceeded to install a very complicated ascent line/work line set-up composed of at least three (maybe four) lines. This took a long time to execute, and although he performed beautifully once aloft, I think it really cost him on the score sheets. He really gave the crowd a thrill by finishing with just three seconds left (out of thirty minutes). Next up was Herr Strasser, who once again relied on less gear this year than he did a few years back, and once again turned in a seamless effort. Finally, Brett Hamlin batted clean up. While he seemed very pleased with his performance as he packed up all of his gear with over ten minutes left on the clock, he had left himself open to some extremely long swings (even by my standards), swings that would have put him into the ground in fact. As with the women's, this year there was no doubt who the men's champion was, and indeed, Beddes Strasser is now a seven-time ITCC champion.

I encourage all our members to support our chapter competitions by attending, volunteering, or competing. It is the most fun you will have at an ISA event.

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A synopsis . . .

2nd National Oak Wilt Symposium

by Sarah Brackin

The 2nd National Oak Wilt Symposium (NOWS) held in June at the Austin Hilton Hotel was educational, thought provoking, and entertaining. Approximately 25 speakers from all over the country presented their latest hypotheses, research, and conclusions in many subjects relating to oak wilt.

As a practicing consulting arborist in the Dallas-Fort Worth area for the past five years, I found it most interesting to learn the history of oak wilt, disease management in other parts of the state and county, and the effectiveness of current and potential management strategies. There was even a field trip to demonstrate the most common oak wilt suppression techniques of trenching, macro-injection and microinjection. We also toured the Austin area to witness the active movement of the disease, see local success stories, and visit the Treaty Oak.

Here are just few topics I found interesting:

- Is the difference in wood anatomy between red oaks and white oaks relevant to the susceptibility of the disease in red oaks?
- Is *Ceratocystis fagacearum* native to the US or was it introduced; and if not native, how was it introduced?
- The oak wilt pathogen and the host response in our native live oaks do not react in the same way as deciduous oaks in other parts of the country
- The affect of oak wilt on the Texas red oak population at Fort Hood and how this impacts the endangered golden cheeked warbler

- The efficacy of wound dressing on susceptible trees
- Studying the various strains of *Ceratocystis fagacearum* and the potential use of hypovirulent strains in disease suppression
- The Travis Heights Neighborhood Project: successful community initiative and project management to coordinate over one mile of urban trenching
- How trench inserts can improve the effectiveness of trenches in reducing root transmission of oak wilt
- The systemic movement of materials in trees through injection
- The effective longevity of Propiconazole in red oaks
- The potential for developing oak wilt-resistant live oak seedlings

All work and no play makes Johnny a dull boy . . . Don't worry, there was plenty of entertainment! The organizers of NOWS made sure it was a Texas Experience. We enjoyed a traditional barbeque dinner at Westwood Country Club during our riverboat ride on Lake Austin, visited Lady Bird Johnson Wildflower Center, and had a personal tour of the State Capital by none other than John Giedraitis. It was great to see old friends and a perfect time to make new ones. I encourage everyone to attend the next one. I had a wonderful time and thoroughly appreciated the variety of speakers and the detailed subjects covered. The organizing committee did a spectacular job . . . Kudos!

Registration Under Way for Municipal Forester Institute Feb. 24–29 in New Braunfels

The Municipal Forester Institute is for people who plan, manage, and administer urban forestry programs and who want to become more effective leaders and managers. MFI is scheduled for February 24–29, 2008 at the T Bar M Conference Center, New Braunfels, Texas.

A program of the Society of Municipal Arborists in cooperation with ISA and others, MFI is an intensive learning experience that goes from Sunday evening through lunch on Friday.

The all-inclusive registration fee covers all course materials, five nights hotel lodging, and all meals from Sunday dinner through Friday lunch.

To apply or for more information, visit www.urban-forestry.com. Registration closes November 1, 2007 or when the class is full. If you have any questions, contact SMA, 706-769-7412.

*A virgin forest is
where the hand of
man has never set
foot.*

– Anonymous

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information
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Instructors: Guy LeBlanc, Owner, ArborVitae Tree Care and Paul Johnson, Regional Urban Forester, Texas Forest Service

This workshop is not part of the main conference and requires separate registration. Register at www.isatexas.com

Early Bird Registration by October 1