

# In the Shade



NEWSLETTER OF THE ISA TEXAS CHAPTER  
February, 2018





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# President's Letter

*Micah Pace*



Greetings to the entire ISA Texas membership and a happy and productive New Year to everyone! 2017 came and went with unexpected speed. They all seem to anymore. Gratefully, we can look back and be proud of all the work we did individually as well as a team through ISA Texas.

ISA Texas reached several milestones or firsts in 2017:

- more than 4,000 email newsletter subscriptions.
- more than 1,200 active members.
- the most profitable annual Texas Tree Conference to date.
- an increase in the number of Certified Arborists.
- more educational events sponsored and conducted than ever before.
- a year so successful that ISA Texas recovered the losses from not hosting its annual conference in 2016.

While all these great accomplishments might leave us a little worse for wear, we are poised to have another amazing year! In fact, ISA Texas has already begun the year by advancing Texas arboriculture through our Hurricane Harvey Recovery efforts. Last month we organized and conducted an ISA Texas Work Day to help assess damaged trees throughout the Rockport area during the Martin Luther King Jr. Day weekend. Partnering with the City of Rockport, Aransas County, Aransas County Texas A&M Agrilife, and Texas A&M Forest Service, we were able to provide important level 1 tree risk assessments for local residents/property owners. Thank you to everyone for their generous participation, especially Mark Bird, City of San Antonio arborist, for serving as the special project chair and leading this collective effort.

Your board and executive committee will be focusing on important strategic planning this year with the goal of developing a 5- to 10-year plan for where ISA Texas is headed and how we will get there while allowing for continued growth and diversity in membership, certified/credentialed arborists, and the educational opportunities we provide. Please visit the **ISA Texas Calendar of Events** often to plan your next workshop attendance.

One of our main focuses is the restructuring of standing committees to reduce redundancy, reprioritize, and increase efficiency of the board's efforts. One example is improving the efforts of our publicity and outreach committee (and subcommittees) to enhance our messaging of how trees are valuable community assets and why hiring credentialed arborists is important. We must continue to promote the ISA and ISA Texas brand names. We always need more members willing to step up and give back, so please contact me if you would like to participate in any of our sponsored events or if you would like to host the ISA Texas booth at one of your local community events. Together we make this organization strong!

If any of you would like the board to address specific issues or concerns please email me at [mica hp@preservationtree.com](mailto:mica hp@preservationtree.com) or contact our executive director, John Giedraitis, and we will bring them forward to the board on your behalf. Have a productive and safe start to 2018 and thank you for all you do to make Texas arboriculture such a great industry.

Sincerely,

## In the Shade

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by the Texas Chapter,  
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## ON THE COVER

Snow in December and temperatures down into the teens in January: unusual weather for most of Texas. This photo was taken at a park in Kingsville by Jason Alfaro, ISA Texas board member. See page 15 for some information on how this weather affects trees.

*Be like a tree. Stay  
grounded. Connect with  
your roots. Turn over a  
new leaf. Bend before you  
break. Enjoy your unique  
natural beauty. Keep  
growing.*

— Joanne Raptis



Meet the 2018 board...

# ISA Texas Board Retreat

by Emily King and Micah Pace

With ISA Texas President Micah Pace at the lead, your 2018 board of directors has gone straight to work! The entire board gathered for a two-day retreat in early December. With the Dr. Pepper Museum in Waco as the backdrop, the volunteer ISA Texas leaders had a full agenda:

**New director orientation.** Matt Simmons, Priscilla Files, Steve Driskill, and Curtis Hopper were welcomed and given the full tour of ISA Texas essentials.

## Review and discussion of the structure of ISA Texas standing committees.

Did you know that there are almost 20 committees?! The board is working to streamline to create more organizational

efficiencies. This may include updates to our chapter's bylaws.

**Reports from committee chairs.** All completed and planned committee-level work is presented in committee reports during each board meeting. If you'd like to read these reports, our executive director compiles them with other meeting materials and stores them in the "About" section of our website:

[www.isatexas.com](http://www.isatexas.com).

**2018 budget.** The operating budget was approved for this calendar year.

**2018 Texas Tree Conference.** 2018 marks the 40-year anniversary of our chapter, and the board has chosen "sustainability" as this year's theme.

**Educational events.** The approved list of educational workshops conducted and/or sponsored by ISA Texas is currently under development...and growing! Make sure to periodically explore the events on the ISA Texas Calendar of Events page (<http://isatexas.com/events/>) to find an educational opportunity near you. Don't forget to invite a friend!

**Strategic Planning** will kick off for our chapter this spring. ISA is providing support for these planning sessions. These efforts will culminate in a 5–10 year plan for our future growth and direction.

We are excited to kick off the new year and look forward to working alongside the great folks in our industry to keep Texas green. ■

*Front row:* Zaina Gates (Vice President), Emily King (President Elect), Micah Pace (President), Lara Schuman (Past President), Rebecca Johnson (Editor), Gene Gehring (Treasurer).

*Middle row:* Misti Perez (Certification Liaison), Curtis Hopper, Jason Alfaro, Matthew Simmons, Priscilla Files, April Rose.

*Back row:* John Geidraitis (Executive Director), Chris Lane, Steve White, Evan Anderson, Steve Driskill, Michael Sultan (CoR Liaison).



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*by Keith Babberney, Urban Forestry Program, City of Austin Development Services Department*

Reflecting on 2017, I am proud to say we held another successful Texas Tree Climbing Championship (TCC). Thanks to hours of volunteer efforts in the weeks and months leading up to the event, we crowned new winners and nobody was seriously injured. Though I'm sure every contestant wanted to win, the camaraderie and mutual assistance between competitors is something that sets us apart from most sports and other competitions, which is one of the things I like best about TCCs.

But after another year as a judge for Aerial Rescue (AR), I am reminded that the event is a game. By practicing things like pre-installing an emergency access line, controlling the scene, ensuring there is not a second victim, and other basic principles, we become more prepared for whatever may happen. Still, like any game, we sacrifice realism in order to get consistency and fairness for everyone.

There are a number of ways this happens. First, we set a time limit. Assuming the worst-case scenario,

we want climbers to be aware that we may have mere minutes to rescue an unconscious victim before brain damage or death could occur. Not every situation is so dire, though. Often, someone stuck in a tree is not catastrophically injured and might be conscious. The appropriate action might be to talk to them until they are calmer so they can rescue themselves. We might just need to carry up a bandage to control bleeding, freeing up their hands so they can get themselves down. Someone who is dehydrated and exhausted might just need a drink of water and a calm conversation to recover and get themselves out of the tree.

On the other hand, our game ignores or minimizes potential complications that could worsen the problem if not addressed. Someone who is unconscious and hanging an unknown length of time might be suffering from suspension trauma,<sup>1</sup> which could lead to severe complications when the patient reaches the ground. Banging through the canopy with a broken bone might make less sense than carrying a splint up to the

patient so the break can be stabilized. And no matter how long I keep adding to this list, we could probably think of more and more examples where it makes sense not to rush a patient to the ground.

So, as AR judges and organizers, we do our best to create realistic scenarios within the framework of the rules. A lot of thought goes into how to set up the tree, then a lot of refining the details so we can keep things running smoothly and on schedule. Still, we can't anticipate everything any more than contestants can, and I remember a few mistakes we've made over the years. This time, my biggest concern was whether I spoiled the event with a poorly-tied hitch.

Throughout the day, we watched climber after climber struggling to get the dummy to move because the hitch would not release. I worried time after time that something had gone wrong. Repeatedly, once the dummy reached the ground, I raised it back up just a few feet to work the hitch and make sure there was no

◀ new problem; repeatedly, I found the hitch was stubborn but not impossible to break.

As judges, we always want a fair event for everyone. If we had discovered a glazed cord that couldn't be made to work properly, we would have replaced it. If we had noticed any foreign substance on either the rope or hitch cord, we would have replaced it. But, so long as each climber faces the same situation, sticky knots or hard routes are fair game. My early instincts were to say I should have tied that hitch with one less wrap, but now I think it made for a better event. Some of the earliest climbers struggled with the hitch and didn't finish. Some of the later climbers struggled but did finish. We had high scores early, midday, and late. It seems evident that, though challenging, the sticky hitch was not impossible to defeat. Going forward, at least a few climbers will

be aware that, if a real rescue ever arises, hidden dangers may present themselves and the only correct solution is the one you create in the moment. Practicing AR not only creates muscle memory to carry us through the adrenaline of a real emergency; it also opens our eyes to the fact that we cannot prepare for every possibility.

So, as much as I advocate for aerial rescue practice and the aerial rescue event, it is important to realize that the real world likes to surprise us. Though the AR in a contest isn't very realistic, this game can prepare us more than we realize. To improve their performance in a TCC, climbers often consider a range of potential scenarios and try to be ready for all of them. When mistakes are made, they get a chance to see their weaknesses and how to improve. Ultimately, the most important lesson we can learn from AR practice might be how to

deal with the unexpected. So, even though I probably won't deliberately tie a difficult hitch next time, don't be too surprised if things don't go exactly how you expect. ■

*<sup>1</sup> I encourage everyone to read John Ball and Christopher Stimson's article on suspension trauma in the June, 2017, issue of Arborist News for a full treatment of this topic. To summarize, when the leg straps of a safety harness cut off return blood flow from legs to heart, deoxygenated blood accumulates, along with waste products that would ordinarily be filtered through the circulatory system. If we are not careful about how we release the tension on the straps, we can allow those toxins to rush into the system and cause complications—up to and including death.*



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# TEXAS ARBOR DAY CELEBRATED IN GRAND STYLE



Holding Grand Prairie's Tree City USA flag are: Dan Lambe, Arbor Day Foundation; Ron Jensen, Grand Prairie mayor; Jorja Clemson, city council member; Susan Henson, city arborist; Mike Sills, TFS regional urban forester; and Tom Boggus, Texas state forester.

Host city Grand Prairie celebrated the official Texas Arbor Day last fall in Grand Central Park with a ceremony and guest speakers. The event featured 1,000 fourth graders, giveaways, and educational booths, as well as performances by the Grand Prairie High School mariachi band, drum line, and show choir, and a free concert by Trout Fishing in America.

In Texas, the official state Arbor Day celebration is hosted in a different city each year on the first Friday in November. According to one of the event organizers, Susan Henson, Grand Prairie has hosted the event a total of four times.

"I get to go to a lot of Arbor Day events around the county," Dan Lambe, Executive Director of the Arbor Day Foundation, said. "I've been to Arbor Day events in Australia, Korea, and Thailand, and nobody does it like Grand Prairie. This is really impressive."

"Right now, we need trees more than ever," Lambe said. "Over

the last couple of months Hurricane Harvey came through Texas, and millions of trees were damaged and destroyed. Texas A&M Forest Service and Texas Arbor Day Foundation are going to work together to help restore those trees and plant over five million trees to help recover from the damage."



Fourth graders see Oncor trucks up close.



Kid-friendly educational booths covered a variety of outdoor topics.

A message from the Texas Governor Greg Abbot was delivered through his senior advisor, Tommy Williams. "We benefit from urban forests in many ways," Williams said. "Whether we are relaxing in the shade, drinking clean water, or breathing clean air, trees help us with all these things. While trees are taking care of us, who is taking care of the trees? It is our responsibility to take care of the trees."

The ceremony ended with the planting of a state tree, the Texas red oak, donated by Oncor Electric. ■

**Note: El Paso will host the 2018 Texas Arbor Day November 5.**



# ARBOR DAY CELEBRATIONS AROUND TEXAS

## San Antonio



The Alamo Forest Partnership partnered with the Advanced Learning Academy and St. Paul's Montessori School to promote Texas' Celebration of Arbor Day through a poster contest with the theme "It's Better in the Shade".

## Montgomery County



Arbor Day poster contest winner Zisel Braza, her teacher Tracy Gray, and her dad plant a ceremonial tree at Lone Star College-Montgomery, a Tree Campus USA. Patrons at eight libraries were scheduled to receive a bookmark with Zisel's drawing. Montgomery County Beautification Association and Lone Star College-Montgomery celebrated Texas Arbor Day with Texas A&M Forest Service.

## Georgetown



The City of Georgetown gave away 200 five-gallon trees (100 cedar elm and 100 Monterrey oak) to Georgetown residents for Texas Arbor Day. All trees were paid for from the mitigation fund that developers pay into during new development projects. This was a first, and they plan to make the event larger next year.

## New Braunfels



New Braunfels celebrated Arbor Day at Landa Park with tree giveaways, booths, and kids' activities. For more photos of the New Braunfels celebration, see [bit.ly/NBArborDay2017](http://bit.ly/NBArborDay2017)



## ANOTHER TEXAS ARBOR DAY CELEBRATION



Photos by Jennifer Chapman, Austin Nature and Science Center.

### Austin

Austin celebrated Texas Arbor Day October 21 at the Austin Nature and Science Center. To see more Arbor Day photos, visit: [bit.ly/AustinArborDay2017](http://bit.ly/AustinArborDay2017).

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## What's Up Doc?

# The Case of a Diseased Bay Laurel in San Antonio

by D.N. Appel, Professor and Extension Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, TAMU

*Note: An exercise similar to this feature was premiered at the "What's Up Doc?" Tree Academy during the 2017 ISA Texas Chapter Tree Conference in Waco on Sept. 17. Following the success of that event, we're presenting this as a regular feature. If you like this article and would like to contribute to a future installment, please submit images and a description of your disease scenario to Dave Appel at [appel@tamu.edu](mailto:appel@tamu.edu).*

This case begins with a submission of an image of an ailing bay laurel (*Laurus nobilis*) by Mark Peterson, Project Coordinator of Conservation with the San Antonio Water System. The pathology of bay laurel in Texas, where it is a long way from its native range in the Mediterranean basin, is not well understood. When confronted with these sorts of difficult cases, it is important to remember the one universal rule of plant disease diagnosis: know the host, know the potential pathogens, and know the environmental conditions that allow them to develop.

Before we consider the growth requirements of *L. nobilis* and its habits, let's review the symptoms depicted in the accompanying photo as well as the observations made by Mark. The most obvious symptom is a random scattering of dead branches. The tree appears to be at least 10 to 15 years old, if not older. Mark gave the following information: the tree was growing in partial shade, clay loam to clay soil, 18+ inches deep. There was no supplemental irrigation, but natural rainfall and topography could cause saturation for 24–72 hours. Mark noted that there was not obvious evidence of a canker pathogen on the branches.

According to the website of the North Carolina State University Extension Service ([bit.ly/NCExtBayLaurel](http://bit.ly/NCExtBayLaurel)) bay laurel is an evergreen shrub that grows best in partial shade, moist soils, and a hardiness zone of 8b-9. The Aggie Horticulture website provides further valuable information. Bay laurel prefers acidic soils, and

the primary cultural concerns are cold hardiness and poorly drained soils ([bit.ly/AggieHortBayLaurel](http://bit.ly/AggieHortBayLaurel)). Also, root rots were mentioned as a disease of concern when growing on wet sites. The aromatic bay laurel is a fascinating species that played a prominent role in the course of early western civilization, not to mention being prized for the value of the leaves in cooking. Many millennia ago, bay laurel dominated the woodlands of what was once a very humid Mediterranean basin. As that region dried out, the dominant bay laurel declined and the species has become only a remnant of what it once was.

The level of confidence for any tree diagnosis depends on the quality and quantity of information provided. For example, you may note that the image submitted

by Mark is somewhat out of focus and begs for more pictures. Close-ups (in focus) of the area around the base of the tree, as well as the dead branches, would be extremely helpful. An image of the tree from the street-side would be useful. Also, personal inspection of the symptomatic branches themselves would greatly increase our level of confidence. For these reasons, I have followed up with Mark and am in the process of taking these extra steps to hopefully add to our knowledge base of bay laurel pathology in Texas. Therefore, we will follow up with a Part II of this case in the next installment of this feature. In the meantime, if you think you know what the problem is, I would be glad to entertain your input and add it to the next discussion. Send me your ideas or opinions at my email address: ([appel@tamu.edu](mailto:appel@tamu.edu)). ■







# Climbing, networking, confidence, fun at the Women's Tree Climbing Workshop

by Debbie Evans, Certified Arborist

Years ago, when I first entered this industry, someone told me that I didn't have a place in this field because I couldn't physically do everything that a man could do. For me specifically, it was true to a certain degree.

I do lack upper body strength, and it would not be cost effective to send me up a tree with a chain saw for production purposes. This is not true for all women, but it is true for me. I know it, and own it. My strengths lie elsewhere and are based in academics.

Fortunately, this field has a lot to offer both women and men of all ages and body types. Being actively engaged in production isn't the best fit for me; thankfully the consulting and management side has blessed me and made use of my education and experience.

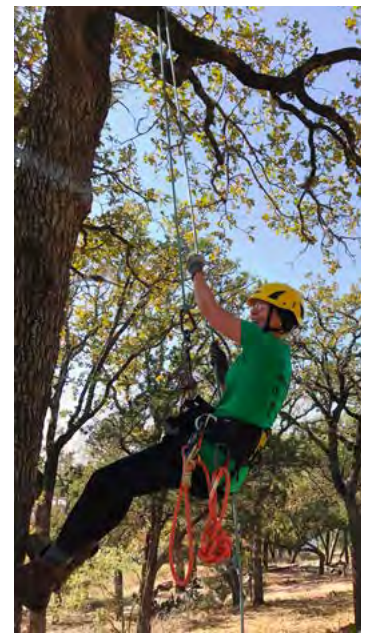
In November, I was one of the lucky ladies who attended the ISAT first annual Women's Tree Climbing Workshop (WTCW). It was an expensive workshop, but it was well worth its weight in gold. Before November, I had climbed only one other time when I was in college; it was for fun . . . at a party.

In one weekend, I not only learned to efficiently climb, but I now have confidence in my ability to climb. Technology has come a long way, and there are so many tools and tricks of the trade that help compensate for a lack in upper body strength. I will never look at a rope the same way again; it is full of possibilities! I even have a favorite hitch knot, and I can tie it with my eyes closed.

Bear, Melissa and Roxy were patient, kind, and excellent at helping us work through a problem when we were uncertain of how to solve it. I met several women like myself, and some that were more avid climbers than I. It was fun and encouraging to network and meet other women in our industry from all over the US.

As an additional bonus, the WTCW brought all of the gear we could possibly need, and a wide variety for us to try. They graciously helped us find equipment that would suit us perfectly.

I wasn't aware that organizations like the Women's Tree Climbing Workshop existed, but I am thankful that they do. I just wanted to thank the ISA Texas for helping make this workshop happen. ►





◀ Santa was very nice to me this year. Not only did I get some new climbing gear and a rope, I even climbed on Christmas day. Thank you! ■

*Debbie Evans is co-owner of Certified Arbor Care in Austin. Her work focuses on bids, consultations, and tree appraisals.*

**Thanks to these sponsors  
of the first annual  
Women's Tree Climbing Workshop**



## New app connects homeowners/landowners with service providers



The Texas A&M Forest Service has developed an innovative online application called My Land Management Connector. It is located on the Texas Forest Information Portal at <http://texasforestinfo.tamu.edu/>.

My Land Management Connector is an application that connects homeowners/landowners with land management service providers, including Certified Arborists.

Within the application, arborists can create an account and be listed as a service provider. In that process, you will be able to list info about yourself, your business, the services you provide, and the geographical location in which you work. Once your account is reviewed and approved, you will show up in the list of service providers.

Inside the application, you will be able to view land management service needs from homeowners and landowners, including: consulting, disease/insect management, fertilization, herbicide, tree care/ arboriculture, tree planting, tree removal, and tree valuation. You can send a request to provide services to homeowners and landowners through the application. ■

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# Four from ISA Texas Compete at NATCC



ISA Texas had four climbers competing in the North American Tree Climbing Championships October 20–22 in Salt Lake City: (l to r) Star Quintero, Amanda Hancock, Miguel Pastenes and Jimmy Prichard.

“Our experience at NATCC was a long weekend for sure. Between gear check, walk throughs, prelims and Masters I believe it totaled four days. I did have a good time hanging out with Joseph Williams from the southern chapter and drank coffee every chance we could. Comp the next day didn’t start till noon. Normally I would be pretty happy about this but right as we started a front moved in with 40 mph winds and the temps dropped literally 40 degrees – oh and it was rainy. Somehow we got through the prelims that day and it wasn’t terrible, but you know everybody has to go through the same weather. It was funny how bundled up and cold all the Texas people looked (me included). The following day we finished the rest of the prelims and then did the awards ceremony. A lot of top guys had rough days and it was wide open who made the Masters. Well except for Luke Glines out of Colorado, who at 49 years old won the prelims at NATCC, pretty amazing.”

–Jimmy Prichard, Integrity Tree Care

“The air was thin, the trees were beautiful, and Jimmy was deadly.”

– Star Quintero, Bartlett Tree Experts

“For me (as a supporter and spectator), the city and the park were beautiful and although the weather became problematic for some of the preliminary events, it was an overall good competition. As always, it was good to see all of the camaraderie between competitors, especially as new changes to the competition were brought in.”

– Kirbie Houser, Arborological Services, Inc.

“NATCC was an incredible learning opportunity. I was blown away by how supportive of each other all of the competitors were, and how well run and organized the whole event was. The aerial rescue scenario was creative and challenging, and the speed climb was really fun! (Albeit an incredibly windy ride.) Watching Krista Stratting compete in the Masters’ Challenge was probably my highlight, because she’s an incredible climber and it’s inspiring to see how comfortable she is in a tree. The competition is fierce, but I really hope that NATCC is something that I can experience again.”

–Amanda Hancock, City of Austin Parks & Recreation, Urban Forestry

## How our Texas competitors did at NATCC

Miguel Pastenes – 2nd in Belayed Speed, 3rd in Work Climb, 17th overall preliminary events

Star Quintero – 3rd in Aerial Rescue, 4th overall preliminary events

Amanda Hancock – 3rd in Ascent Event, 5th overall preliminary events

Jimmy Prichard – 12th overall preliminary events

## Link to NATCC results

[bit.ly/2017NATCCresults](http://bit.ly/2017NATCCresults)

## See photos from the NATCC

[bit.ly/2017NATCCpics](http://bit.ly/2017NATCCpics)

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# How does this weather affect our trees?

by Paul Johnson, Texas A&M Forest Service

Texas has experienced some unprecedented weather this season, with snow as far south as Brownsville. How does that affect our trees? Well think about it, water makes up a large part of tree cells and water expands as it freezes. Unlike animal cells, plant cells are fairly rigid and don't expand. If the liquid inside the cell expands too much it can burst the cell wall and kill that part of the tree. Extensive cell damage can cause the death of the tree. Trees that originate in warm areas haven't been selected for defenses against cold and are more likely to suffer damage. Many of our sensitive trees are root hardy and can grow back if they aren't grafted; however it could take extensive restoration pruning to restore a top killed tree. Luckily, in Texas, we are unlikely to experience temperatures that would cause root damage. Morton Arboretum has some great info at [bit.ly/winterinjury](http://bit.ly/winterinjury). ■

Photo by Dennis Ivy



Snow-covered backyard just south of Austin in Hays County.



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Rafael Benavides sent in this picture of Avery Griffin of Tarrant Tree Services (Grapevine) taking down a dead cottonwood trunk section weighing in at 4500 lbs.

## Editor's Note

*Rebecca Johnson*



Welcome to our new publication schedule. Starting with this issue we'll be publishing on the even months of the year. This issue is super packed because we packed three months into space that is normally reserved for two months AND we've had an active three months – with Arbor Day celebrations, Tree Climbing events, and a board retreat, and that's not even getting into one of the biggest news stories this period – SNOW in South Texas. Please forgive us if we left out something you wanted to see, we'll do our best to run it next issue as long as it's still timely.

My goal for the newsletter this year is to increase our diversity of contributors; we want to hear from our members in all the sectors of our industry. If you or someone you know blogs or writes for their business, ask them to contact me about contributing to the newsletter. I'd also like to increase our Spanish language offerings. If you write in Spanish and are willing to contribute an article, let me know.

My personal/professional goals include increasing the training opportunities for women in the industry. This year I worked to bring the Women's Tree Climbing Workshop to Texas and it was a very rewarding experience (see story on page 12). We're already starting to plan for next year; if you're interested in helping, I'd love to hear from you. We still need a location for next year's workshop so let me know if you know of a great camp with climbing trees.

2018 is already off to a great start, and this is going to be our best year yet, with your help!

## ONE SOURCE. ONE CALL.



Whether you are working of right-of-way, tree care, or removal, there is no doubt that you know your trade. And we know the equipment that helps you perfect it. For over 30 years, we have been the leading assembler of forestry aerial lift trucks. We have partnered with other companies to form Utility One Source, a new company that is a single-source supplier for all equipment needs. UOS Forestry is a division of Utility One Source focusing on the manufacturing and selling/renting of forestry equipment. Please give us a call to discuss your forestry needs!

(434) 525-2929  
[www.uosforestry.com](http://www.uosforestry.com)  
[fevasales@u1source.com](mailto:fevasales@u1source.com)  
 12660 E Lynchburg Salem Tpke, Forest, VA 24551

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 FORESTRY



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**Fast and effective solution for  
interveinal chlorosis caused by  
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- Liquid formulation, easy to mix
- May be applied as formulated, or diluted with water
- Use as injection or foliar application
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**Before Treatment**

**After High Rate Fall  
Application**



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[emuennink@arborjet.com](mailto:emuennink@arborjet.com) or 214-799-6115

**ARBORjet**  
Revolutionary Plant Health Solutions



# EVENTS

## Historical Texas Trees

Wednesday, February 14, noon–2 pm

Mercer Westside Arboretum

22306 Aldine Westfield Road, Humble, TX 77338

<http://www.hcp4.net/community/parks/mercerc>

Historical Texas trees form a vital link to unique moments in Texas history, such as the Battle of the Alamo and the Great Storm of 1900. This session (bring a lunch) will include an outline of Mercer's Historic and Champion Tree Project and an interactive, walking tour to teach basic tree identification. Recommended for ages 12+. For reservations or more information call Mercer Botanic Gardens at 713-274-4160.

## Municipal Forestry Institute

February 18 - February 23

Wisdom House Retreat and Conference Center

229 East Litchfield Road, Litchfield, CT 06759

[bit.ly/2018MFI](http://bit.ly/2018MFI)

A high-level training opportunity in the leadership and managerial aspects of urban forestry. Learn to grow a more successful community tree program by mastering leadership and management tools.

## TREE Fund Webinar

February 22, 12 pm central

<https://www.treefund.org/webinars>

Dr. Michael Arnold, Texas A&M University: "Do Planting Stock Decisions Really Make Much Difference Down The Road?"

## Cranes and Trees - A Workshop With Mark Chisholm

Friday, March 2, 8 am to 4 pm CST

Fort Worth Botanic Garden

3220 Botanic Garden Blvd., Fort Worth, TX 76107

Practical and advanced rigging, estimation of weight, and proper cuts associated with crane use. It will include class time and an outdoor demonstration. [bit.ly/ISATCrane2018](http://bit.ly/ISATCrane2018)

## 9th Annual Bilingual Tree Care Workshop

March 8, 8 am –4:30 pm

Schertz Civic and Community Center

1400 Schertz Parkway, Schertz, TX 78154

Registration will be through ISAT and will be posted at

<http://isatexas.com/events/>.

**Coming in May:** Watch ISAT's Facebook page, your Treemail, and ISAT Events page (<http://isatexas.com/texas-chapter-isa-events/>)

**TRAQ and Renewal** - for more information go to [bit.ly/ISATRAQ](http://bit.ly/ISATRAQ)

**Oak Wilt Qualification** - for details go to [bit.ly/ISATOWQ](http://bit.ly/ISATOWQ)

In addition, be sure to watch your Treemail and our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/ISATexas/>) to be among the first to know about additional events.

# NEW MEMBERS

Jesus Balderaz . . . . . Corpus Christi  
Jose Canales. . . . . El Paso  
Gregory Church . . . . . Wylie  
Corey Criag . . . . . Auburn, AL  
James Dagley . . . . . Pampa  
Matthew Dykes. . . . . Longview  
Scott Ford . . . . . San Antonio  
Marcus French . . . . . Denton  
Roger Galvan . . . . . Arlington  
Jorge Gaona. . . . . Denton  
Mario Herrera . . . . . Katy  
Matthew Hesselberg . . . . . Katy  
Sam Heywood . . . . . Galveston  
Michael Klein . . . . . Austin  
William Lane . . . . . San Antonio  
Martin Maldonado . . . . . Austin  
Stephen Matcha . . . . . Round Rock  
Oliver Maxwell . . . . . Gun Barrel City  
David McNiell . . . . . Austin  
Whitney Milberger-Laird . . . . . Bay City  
Larry Moore . . . . . Willow Grove, PA  
Shannon Muir . . . . . Waco  
Eric Oscarson . . . . . Sugar Land  
Frank Palmitier . . . . . Pampa  
Sergio Peralta . . . . . Helotes  
Evan Peter . . . . . Austin  
Marcus Roach . . . . . Georgetown  
Craig Sims . . . . . Carrollton  
Andrew Spurlin . . . . . Austin  
Jay Volk . . . . . Colleyville  
James Walker . . . . . Livingston  
Heather Welch-Westfall . . . . . Fate  
Jeremy Wittenauer . . . . . Irving  
William Wyatt . . . . . Houston





# Join us!



Our mission is to advance tree care businesses while increasing safety, professionalism, and raising the profile of the industry.

## TREE ★ CARE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

Figures accurate as of Jan. 1, 2018

**\$195** **MEMBERSHIP**

Fee to gain access to exclusive benefits, resources and deep discounts

**142** **ASTI**

Workshops awarded by the Arborist Safety Training Institute since its inception in 2015

**2,570** **CTSP**

Certified Treecare Safety Professional graduates since 2006



**RESOURCES**

24/7 access to our ever-growing business, safety and arboriculture resources

**80** **TCIA**

Years that the Tree Care Industry Association has been working to advance tree care businesses and the industry

**15,148** **EHAP**

Electrical Hazard Awareness Program enrollees and certifications in the last 10 years

**8** **ROCs**

TCIA Regional Outreach Coordinators serve as local resources for our members

**9,256** **TREE CARE ACADEMY**

Individuals enrolled and credentialed in the last 10 years

**452** **ACCREDITATION**

Branches representing 205 companies have earned and maintained accreditation since 2004

Contact us to begin your membership today!

online **TCIA.ORG** or call **800.733.2622**



THE NEWSLETTER OF  
THE ISA TEXAS CHAPTER

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## What's the Big **ID**ea?

Can you identify this Texas tree?



If you know this tree, look for the photo on our Facebook page and correctly identify it in the comment section under the photo, using the full scientific name and one or more common names. If you don't know it, check the page for an answer in a few days. The winner gets bragging rights and the chance to submit a tree to stump fellow arborists in the April issue. *Hint:* One of the common names for this tree comes from Muscogee words for swamp tree.

November winner



Last issue's winner was Ricardo Sánchez, park planner at the City of Frisco, who correctly identified the American persimmon, *Diospyrus virginiana*. He also provided this issue's challenge.