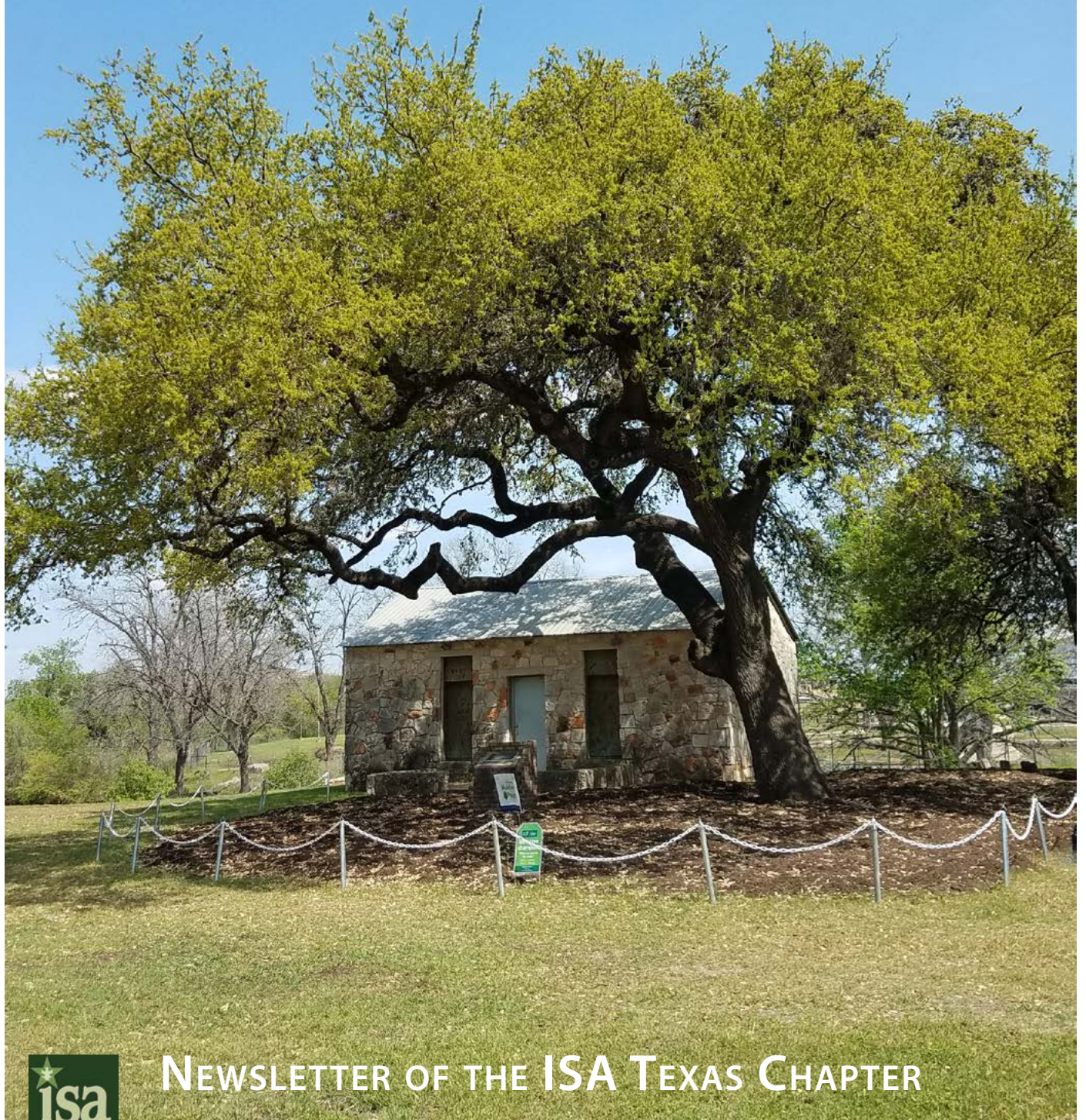


# In the Shade



NEWSLETTER OF THE ISA TEXAS CHAPTER

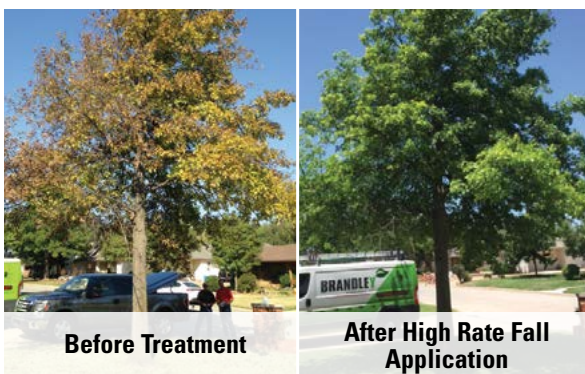
August, 2018

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# President's Letter

*Micah Pace*



## In the Shade

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**In the Shade**  
**August, 2018**  
**Vol. 42, No.2**

### ON THE COVER

San Marcos' Kissing Oaks–  
listed in *Famous Trees of*  
*Texas*– recently received some  
needed TLC. Check out the  
story on page 7.  
Photo by Lydia Worthen.

*Now in the cool of the evening I catch  
a hint of the forest, of that taking  
of sudden breath that pines demand;  
it's on my skin, a light oil, a sweat  
born of some forgotten leaning into fire.*

From the poem *Fire*  
by Philip Levine

A warm August summer greeting to all ISA Texas members! It is hard to believe that August has arrived already and that summer is on the down-turn. Before we know it, kids will be back in school and we'll be gathering in Waco for the **38<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Tree Conference**. We are working hard to develop another great event for you all and we look forward to seeing everyone there.

If you have not yet downloaded the **ISA Texas Tree Conference App** (Oh yes we did!) please go to the Google Play or iTunes App Stores today to get it!

If you're looking for an opportunity to serve, don't forget that there are many volunteer opportunities available: Would you like to help with pre-conference setup? Do you have some good items/ideas for the Silent Auction? Would you like to assist the Tree Academy on Wednesday prior to the conference? Please let us know if you have any interest and we'll find a great fit for you. Please contact Kelly Eby at [KEby@sanmarcostx.gov](mailto:KEby@sanmarcostx.gov) if you are interested.

Don't forget to watch for ISA Texas Board of Directors election voting information on our website and in your Inbox. Although the deadline for nominations has passed, we still need to hear from you through the voting process. If you or someone you know would like to be considered next year, please stay in touch or volunteer at one of the many educational events throughout 2019 so you may get a better understanding of the roles and responsibilities of the Board.

Your ISA Texas Educational Events Committee continues to provide top-level learning opportunities. Dr. Dave Appel (A&M), Robert Edmonson (TFS), and Gene Gehring (ArborMasters) worked hard to bring us another *Oak Wilt Qualification Course and Assessment* workshop in Fredericksburg on June 14 and 15. What a great course and wonderful location. Here are some upcoming events to watch for and don't forget to visit <http://isatexas.com/events/> often to plan your next workshop attendance.

A very special *Thank You* goes out to Ms. Zaina Gates who has recently stepped down from the board and her roles as Educational Events Committee Chair and Vice-President. Zaina has resigned from the Texas A&M Forest Service to pursue a new out-of-state opportunity. She has provided valuable leadership and countless hours to ISA Texas. Thank you, Zaina. We will miss you.

As this is my final President's Letter, please allow me to publicly state the gratitude I feel to entire the Board of Directors for all they work they put in to make ISA Texas the wonderful organization that it is. This collection of men and women volunteer hundreds of hours (each) each year to help all of us grow and learn. It has been very rewarding working with each of them. Thank you for all you do to make Texas arboriculture such a great industry.

Sincerely,

ISA Texas President 2017-2018

# Highlights: 2018 Texas Tree Conference and Trade Show

At this year's Texas Tree Conference and Trade Show, we will continue our history of providing outstanding education programs featuring nationally known speakers, the latest in tree research and arboriculture, an expanded trade show, an awards luncheon, and numerous networking opportunities.

Learn from national leaders in research, commercial, utility and municipal arboriculture, urban forestry and landscape architecture.

Featured speakers include: Dr. Dirk Dujesiefken, Professor, University of Applied Science (HAWK), Hamburg, Germany • Dr. Kathleen Wolf, Research Social Scientist, University of Washington, Seattle • Dr. Fredric Miller, Senior Scientist-Entomology, The Morton Arboretum, Naperville, IL • Dr. Hans Williams, Professor of Forestry and Dean of the Arthur Temple College of Forestry and Agriculture, Nacogdoches • Dr. Todd



Watson, Tree and Landscape Consultant, Millican • Dr. David Kulhavy, Professor, Stephen F. Austin University, Nacogdoches • Dr. Raul Cabrera, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Rutgers University, Bridgeton, NJ • Dr. Linda Chalker-Scott, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist, Washington State University, Puyallup • Dr. Mike Arnold, Professor and Associate Department Head, Texas A&M University • Skip Kincaid, Director of Urban Forestry, Hansen's Tree Service and Environmental Services, St. Louis, MO • Ben Thorpe, Transmission Utility Forester, American Electric Power, Laredo • Erik Palacios, Arborist Training Instructor, ACRT, Donna • George Leader, Vegetation Maintenance Manager, Pedernales Electric Coop • Matthew Austin, Utility Forester/UAV Pilot, Fredericksburg • Sheila McBride, Program Extension Specialist, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service • Thais Perkins, Executive Director, TreeFolks, Austin.

## The 2018 conference theme is “Sustainability in Arboriculture”

Topics will include:

- Trees: A Matter of Life and Death?
- Compartmentalization 2.0
- Drones for Vegetation Management
- The Urban Forest and Community Economics: Money Does Grow on Trees!
- Standard of Care and Liability for Arborists
- Utility Vegetation Control on Transmission Systems
- What Size Tree Should I Plant?
- Hamburg Tree Pruning System
- Line Clearance Trimmer Certification is Critical
- Urban Tree Genetics
- Arboricultural Myths
- Development of a Large Utility Tree Program
- Alternative Water Sources for City Trees
- Stationary Rope System: Company's Perspective
- Wood Waste Options for Urban and Utility Forestry
- Sustainable Soils
- Sustainable Practices in Texas Cities
- Using Parasitoids to Battle EAB
- Latest Utility Tree Work Equipment
- RFLP Oak Wilt Detection
- University Drone Research – Mapping and Record Keeping
- Crape Myrtle Bark Scale
- University Drone Research – Working With Land Owners

More information at <http://bit.ly/2018TTC>

## And at TTC they'll have TRAQ renewal & posters & a bigger trade show & regional beer & more ...

At the Texas Tree Conference we're also offering TRAQ renewal (advance registration required; more information at <https://conta.cc/2NYewGU>), the Tree Academy, Tree School and a Certification Exam.

In addition to the education programming, the trade show will be better than ever. ISA Texas and its partners have been working hard to redesign the trade show floor to incorporate a better flow with more connectivity between vendors, an expanded design to increase capacity, and a booth selection process for exhibitors.

The ISA bookstore and silent auction table will be in prime locations surrounded by vendors. We even have a demo stage that we are attempting to implement this year as well. Our goal is to improve the experience of conference attendees while increasing the exposure and interaction for exhibitors. We hope that everyone has an amazing time at the trade show this year.

Also, the poster session promises to be informative and interesting. Register to display your poster today. (The deadline for poster submission ideas is September 15. This is simply to gauge attendance. You do not need to submit a physical poster at this time.) Posters will be displayed and while presenters are not expected to stand by their poster throughout the day, there will be dedicated viewing times during the event.

Posters will be exhibited for informal browsing with opportunities for individual discussion with poster authors. Graphic materials will be displayed on easels supplied by ISA. More information is available at <https://conta.cc/2L4X0Tp>.

Don't forget to come prepared to support arboricultural education in Texas and bid at the silent auction. We're still looking for items; to donate, contact April Rose at [apriltrose@gmail.com](mailto:apriltrose@gmail.com).

Finally, plan to attend the Wednesday evening social at a new location this year. The social will be at the Dr. Pepper Museum, an easy two blocks up and a block over from the Convention Center at 4th and Mary. Plan to come see old friends and network with new acquaintances. There will be satisfying snacks and the second annual regional keg challenge. We cannot let an Austin keg float first again. We're looking for volunteers to help supply "Texas" regional beers. Contact Gene Gehring at [ggehring@lycos.com](mailto:ggehring@lycos.com) or Vincent Debrock at [vincent@txheritagetreecare.com](mailto:vincent@txheritagetreecare.com) if you can help supply a keg from your region.

### Behind the Research:

## Meet Dr. Kathleen Wolf

*Dr. Wolf will speak September 27 at the Texas Tree Conference.*

**Your research focuses on nature and human health. What is your ultimate goal with this line of study?**

Research confirms that humans literally need time in nature, and I'm proud to have been part of that community of science. Evidence demonstrates that everyone needs access to "nearby nature" on a regular basis. Next we need to provide nature programs that encourage more healthful activities. Of late I've become interested in making the availability of nature part of city policy beyond urban forestry, to elevate the science of nature benefits to city-wide change.

**What trends do you see in this area of research?**

The research is expanding; I think the bigger change is social change. There is now greater public awareness and recognition by public officials of nature and human health benefits. People in environmental health have traditionally focused on clean air and water, and removing toxins. Now they're looking at nature in cities as a salutogenic influence, a way to prevent disease and promote health. This leads to all sorts of new research questions, such as *What is the best "dose" of nature? Where, how much, how often? What are the characteristics of nature (e.g., native plants vs. ornamental) that are better for human health?* and so on. There's also more interest in collaboration across science disciplines. At the University of Washington, we have a cross-campus Nature & Health group that welcomes all comers.

**Do you have any final thoughts or words of wisdom you'd like to share?**

Trees and arboriculture are important. But I think we should take urban forestry to another level in many communities. Trees are part of human health solutions, but we may need to take a broader look at how we define nature in cities and who we partner with.

*This excerpt of the TREE Fund interview with Dr. Wolf has been edited for length. Read the full interview in the Recent Updates section of their website (<https://www.treefund.org/archives/15756>).*

### Research Update

The economic valuation is dependent on scientific evidence of positive health outcomes associated with trees. The grant award does not provide enough funding to actually do benefits research, so the first step is to scan existing studies for health effects, followed by the process to monetize them. I am in the midst of the health effects screening, and am doing this in collaboration with Health Canada and Natural Resources Canada. The work has been accepted for presentation at the International Urban Forestry Congress (IUF) to be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada from September 30 – October 3, 2018. The presentation will cover our benefits screening process and early results. We found that the study set addressed a wide variety of topics, including asthma, noise attenuation, birth weight effects, metabolic outcomes, mental health, etc. *Read the full research update at <http://bit.ly/TreePress062018>.*

# Razones para Contratar a un Arbolista

por Mark Duff, BCMA (TFS retirado)

Un arbolista es un especialista en el cuidado de los árboles. Los arbolistas conocen las necesidades de los árboles, además de estar entrenados y equipados para proporcionarles un cuidado adecuado. La decisión de contratar a un arbolista no debería tomarse a la ligera. El cuidado adecuado de los árboles es una inversión que puede proporcionar en el futuro unos ingresos sustanciales. Los árboles bien cuidados resultan atractivos y pueden incrementar considerablemente el valor a su propiedad. Los árboles mantenidos inadecuadamente pueden constituir una responsabilidad significativa. La poda o apeo de árboles, especialmente los grandes, puede resultar un trabajo peligroso. El trabajo con los árboles debería ser realizado solamente por personas entrenadas y equipadas para trabajar de forma segura con éstos.

## Servicios Que Puede Proporcionar Un Arbolista

Los arbolistas pueden proporcionar una gran variedad de servicios para ayudar a mantener una valiosa inversión con los árboles.

1. **Poda.** El arbolista puede determinar qué tipo de poda resulta necesaria para mantener o incrementar la salud, apariencia y seguridad de sus árboles. Dichas técnicas incluyen:
  - Eliminación de las ramas que se rozan mutuamente.
  - Eliminación de las ramas que interfieren con cables eléctricos, fachadas de edificios, canalones o canaletas, tejados, chimeneas, ventanas o que obstruyan calles o aceras.
  - Eliminación de ramas muertas o débiles que constituyan un peligro o puedan ser el inicio de pudrición.
  - Eliminación de ramas irreversiblemente enfermas o afectadas por plagas de insectos.
  - Mejoramiento de la estructura para disminuir la resistencia al viento y reducir el potencial de daños por tormentas.
  - Formación de árboles nuevos.

- Eliminación de ramas dañadas por condiciones climatológicas adversas.
- Aclareo o eliminación de ramas innecesarias.
- Mejoramiento de la forma o silueta del árbol.

2. **Apeo.** A pesar de que el apeo es la última solución, existen circunstancias en las que resulta necesario. Un arbolista puede ayudar a decidir si un árbol debiera o no ser eliminado. Los arbolistas tienen la habilidad y el equipo para apear árboles de una forma segura y eficiente. Como norma general se recomienda el apeo cuando:

- El árbol está muerto o moribundo.
- El árbol se considera un peligro irreparable.
- El árbol está causando una obstrucción imposible de corregir a través de la poda.
- El árbol se está apiñando y causando perjuicios a otros árboles.
- El árbol debe ser reemplazado por otro de una especie más adecuada.
- El árbol debiera eliminarse para permitir una nueva construcción.

3. **Cuidado urgente del árbol.** Las tormentas pueden causar la fractura o rotura de ramas o de árboles enteros, que caen sobre casas, coches, otras estructuras u otros árboles. El peso de los árboles dañados por tormentas es grande y pueden resultar muy peligrosos de apear o trozar. Un arbolista puede ayudar a realizar el trabajo de una manera segura, reduciendo el riesgo de un daño más extenso en su propiedad.

4. **Plantación.** Algunos arbolistas plantan árboles y la mayoría pueden recomendar el tipo de árbol más apropiado para un lugar específico. El árbol equivocado en el lugar erróneo puede ser el inicio de futuros problemas debidos a un espacio limitado para el crecimiento, plagas, enfermedades o un pobre crecimiento. ►



## ◀ Razones para Contratar a un Arbolista

5. **Otros Servicios.** Muchos arbolistas también proporcionan otros cuidados como:

- Práctica del Cuidado de la Salud de las Plantas, un concepto de mantenimiento preventivo para mantener a los árboles con una buena salud, que ayudará al árbol a autodefenderse mejor contra plagas, enfermedades y otros problemas del sitio.
- Fertilización.
- Cableado e instalación de pernos para incrementar el soporte de las ramas con uniones debilitadas.
- Aireación para proporcionar el crecimiento radical.
- Instalación de sistemas pararrayos.
- Aplicación e inyección de diversas sustancias para controlar ciertos problemas de plagas y enfermedades. ■

# San Marcos' Kissing Oaks Receive some TLC

by Kelly Eby, Urban Forester, Community Services, San Marcos

You may have wondered why there is a housing development in San Marcos named "Kissing Tree." Two grand live oaks between Boy Scout Lodge and the Texas State River House hold the title of the "Kissing Trees." Once the grove included a large bur oak but the tree was removed. The oaks recently received some TLC (tree loving care) after some damage from an underground electrical project. Funds were obtained from the city's capital improvement department to repair the damaged trees, and a microgrant was obtained from Texas Urban Forestry Council for a fence to deter people from parking or further compacting the soil.

Heritage Tree Care provided a complete root reinvigoration, 7-12-foot radius aeration, and 1-foot-wide aerated spokes out to the drip line, and then top-dressed with 2 inches of compost and 3 inches of mulch. Texas State students attending Dr. Cades' woody plant class got to help with the installation of the fence. Twenty students worked to drive sixty 3-foot-tall t-posts 12 inches into the ground, sliding 2-foot-tall steel posts over the t-posts. Then they glued a cap on top and threaded white plastic chain through and zip-tied it all.

The oaks have put on 3–6 inches of new growth this spring and the fence looks fantastic. Lissa Martinez of the Texas Urban Forestry Council says "[this project] is a very good example of small scale, but highly visible, urban forestry. The photos tell a wonderful story about San Marcos practicing good stewardship and [Kelly's] ability to pull together concerned citizens and professionals to provide great care to that singular heritage tree. I'm glad that she thought to ask for a grant from TXUFC."

For more information about the Kissing Oaks, see page 10 of the *Famous Trees of Texas*. For more information about TXUFC microgrants, check out their website at <http://www.txufc.org>. The deadline for the next round of funding is September 15. ■



Right: The Kissing Oaks after root reinvigoration behind their new fence.

Above: Texas State University students installing the fence.



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# A Simple Review: The Plant Cell

by David M. Vaughan

I am fascinated by the plant cell.

All life functions must occur within a cell. This microscopic structure is filled with organelles and tunnels and performs manufacturing of everything needed for life on an unimaginable scale at speeds that cannot be comprehended.

Just how small? You need to forget about inches. Plant cells are 10 to 100 micrometers. For the metrically challenged, that's 0.0004 to 0.004 inches. They are three dimensional. About 50 can fit on the period at the end of this sentence. While this size might seem like a limiting factor, it is the perfect size for life.

The plant cell is surrounded by a cell wall. Woody plants also have an inner cell wall. It is called a wall, but it looks more like lattice work. Water, ions, and gas can easily move through this cellulose lattice to the cell membrane. This can occur at a rate of 10 million molecules per second.

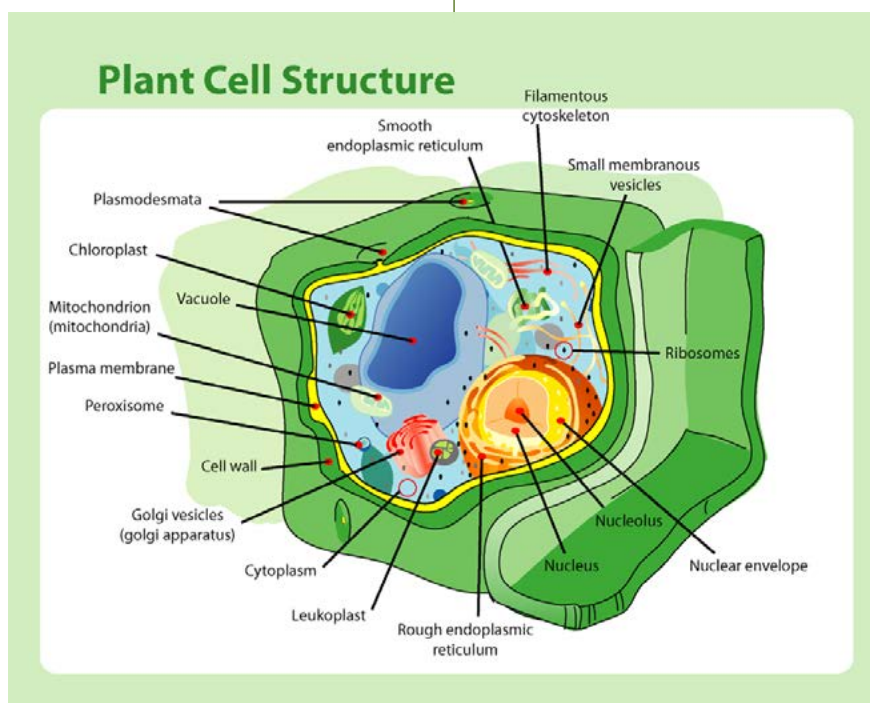
The cell membrane sits against the cell wall. There are special proteins on the cell membrane that produce the cellulose and lignin lattice structures that form the cell wall(s). The cell membrane is fluid and is the consistency of thick motor oil. It is constantly moving and changing position. It is a double phospholipid membrane.

The outer cell membrane is called the plasmalemma. It is a semi-permeable membrane that only allows certain stuff to pass through. Good stuff in, and good stuff and waste out. Good stuff out like the exudates that are intended to feed mycorrhizae and beneficial bacteria. Water and what is dissolved in water can easily pass through. So can oxygen, carbon dioxide, and nitrous oxide. Other molecules enter through special transport proteins and carbohydrates embedded in and going through the plasmalemma.

The plant cell membrane has tunnels called plasmodesmata and these tunnels are connected to all adjacent cells. Every cell in the plant is connected by these tunnels. Once inside the plasmodesmata, water and other molecules of the right size can travel to every cell in the plant. You could enter one of

these tunnels in a root cell and eventually travel all the way to a leaf cell without ever leaving this tunnel system. An individual plant cell can have from 1,000 to 100,000 of these tiny tunnels.

Aquaporins are proteins embedded in the plasmalemma. They are so small they can only transport water one water molecule at a time. Aquaporins use no plant energy for this transport and rely on the cohesion property of water. One at a time, water molecules move through an aquaporin, 10,000 per second. Wonder what



Wikimedia Commons contributors, "File:Plant cell structure.png," *Wikimedia Commons*, the free media repository, [https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Plant\\_cell\\_structure.png&oldid=254301499](https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?title=File:Plant_cell_structure.png&oldid=254301499).

graduate student did the counting?

There are many other types of transport proteins embedded in the cell membrane. Each allows specific molecules to enter or exit the cell. A tremendous amount of the energy used by a cell is dedicated to producing these transport proteins.

Pump proteins use energy from sodium and potassium and hydrogen to move other molecules across the cell membrane. To enter, a molecule must have a charge. It must be an ion (with the exception of boron).

The plant cell is very cautious about what it lets in. Even with all these specific mechanisms for transport, sometimes something is available that is needed and it is too big or there are no specific transport proteins for it. The cell membrane envelopes it (endocytosis) and moves it across. ■

*This covers the exterior of the cell. Next issue we'll delve into the interior of the cell.*

*This article is based on Chapter 1 of Teaming With Nutrients by Jeff Lowenfels.*

# Headin' West to See Famous Trees

by Wes Culwell, BCMA, historic tree researcher and tour guide

On April 28, the Texas Tree Tour headed west out of the Dallas-Ft. Worth area with 35 people on a bus tour to look at some very large trees and several Famous Trees of Texas. The weather was absolutely perfect. It was a full nine-hour day and about 300 miles. We enjoyed lunch at Mary's Café in Strawn. It was a tasty, but lengthy, process of getting everyone fed.

There wasn't much downtime on the bus. Discussions about local history were covered along the way. The group also learned detailed characteristics of pecans, live oaks, bur oaks and post oaks while on the bus. The route for the tour included beautiful FM4 from Grafford to Santo. This area is one of the most scenic areas in the Palo Pinto area: incredible vistas, steep terrain, high rock escarpments and peaceful native pecan orchards along a winding creek.

The first stop was just a few miles north of Weatherford to view the largest pecan in America. Courtney Blevins, our regional forester, reminded us of the North American range for pecan trees, and that we were probably viewing the largest pecan in the world. Now that was pretty impressive, and a real good start for the day.

The rest of the morning was spent viewing the graves of Oliver Loving and Bose Ikard. Oliver Loving and Charles Goodnight, with the support of Bose Ikard, started the Goodnight-Loving Trail, a historic cattle trail that sent over 250,000 cattle to market. We viewed the very large pecan tree in Oren, Palo Pinto County, where these men forged their agreement to begin this historic trail. This story was the basis for the book and movie "Lonesome Dove." History and fiction comparisons were made throughout the morning.

After lunch, we traveled to the downtown square in Comanche

to see the huge and deeply furrowed bark of the Fleming Oak (<http://bit.ly/FlemingOak>). Rumors abound surrounding this tree, but around 1910, Martin Fleming, near 80 years old, toting a 10 gauge shotgun, kept this tree from being removed for increased parking at the square. He said that the tree had saved his life many years earlier and his horse liked being tied there each day while he worked across the street.

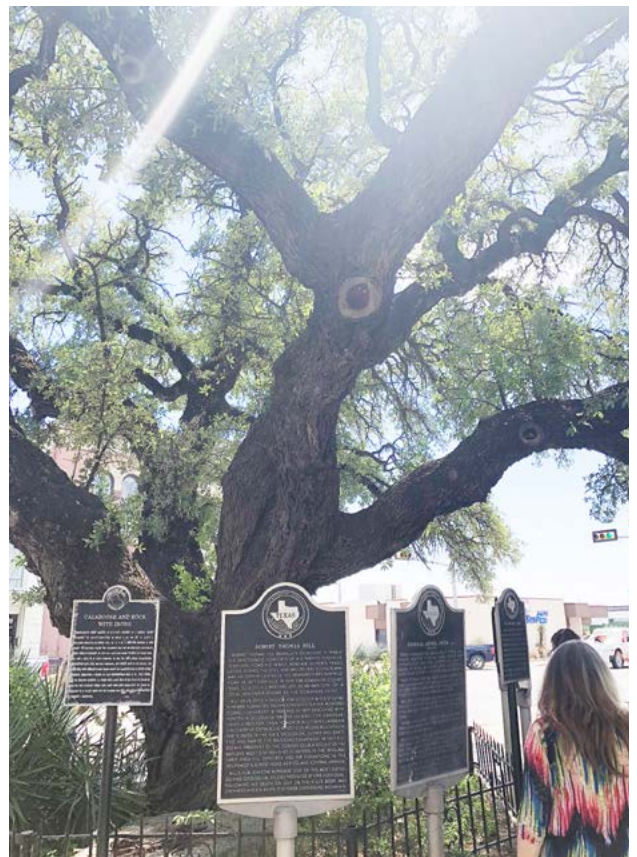
East of Comanche, we saw the Choctaw Bill Robinson Oak (<http://bit.ly/ChoctawRobinson>). At this huge double-trunked live oak, the Rev. Bill Robinson would set his rifle and begin preaching, sometimes for hours. The Choctaw Indians thought that he preached way too long. He was the only original settler in this sinful town of Hazeldale to die with his boots off.

In Hamilton and the Twin Oaks, we reviewed the details of an Indian attack that took the life of William Willis, who was traveling in severely cold weather to meet a girl at a Christmas dance on December 24, 1866. He was the last man to be killed by Indians in Hamilton County. On the way back, we saw the former state champion bur oak in Benbrook. ■

*The Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council is dedicated to providing varied and interesting annual tree tours. Check [ctufc.org](http://ctufc.org) spring and fall for upcoming tour information.*

Right: Twin Oaks historical monument.

Far right: Fleming Oak and historical markers in Comanche.



A hand holding a silver stopwatch in front of a tree trunk. The background is a lush green forest with sunlight filtering through the leaves.

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# Healthy Trees, Healthy Lives

Take care of the urban forest, and it will take care of you. As research is becoming available, findings reinforce what much of the urban forestry community already knows – that trees have a positive impact on human health. This research is increasing our collective understanding of how our health can be connected to the trees in our communities.

This connection could impact many aspects of our personal and community lives, such as the placement of and access to green spaces, medical regimes and prescriptions, school playtime and learning environments, economic development and urban planning, environmental justice, lifestyles, and values.

Explore how urban forests can improve our physical and mental health at <http://healthy.southernforests.org>. They've put together a great infographic that can be customized with your logo. To find out how to get yours, contact Linda Moon at TFS at [lmooon@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:lmooon@tfs.tamu.edu).



*Note:*  
We're looking for life's moments of Healthy Trees, Healthy Lives. Tag yours on social media #HealthyTreesHealthyLives.

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Russell Cain . . . . .	Kyle
Sarah Campbell . . . . .	Dayton
Philip Dierker . . . . .	Houston
Ricardo Espinoza . . . . .	San Antonio
Ryan Evans . . . . .	Houston
Daniel Garcia . . . . .	Fort Worth
Alicia Hernandez . . . . .	Phoenix AZ
Jordan Huertas . . . . .	Houston
Justin Jacks . . . . .	Round Rock
Cody Jones . . . . .	Austin
Hayden Keane . . . . .	Parker
Joshua Maudlin . . . . .	Meridian ID
Avery McGuire . . . . .	Hondo
Scott McMillan . . . . .	Cedar Park
Robert Montgomery . . . . .	Mc Kinney
Brandon Murphy . . . . .	Kingwood
Michael Presta . . . . .	Richardson
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## Conservation & preservation at Freedman's Town

Texas A&M Forest Service urban forester and Certified Arborist John Warner, foresters Eric Wannlund and Stuart Morris, and Stephen F. Austin State University forestry senior Andre Saenz worked with Rutherford B.H. Yates Museum, Inc. in historic Freedman's Town near downtown Houston to reestablish trees on properties once owned by freed slaves.

Nearly 30,000 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) youth met from June 27–July 1 in Houston for service learning days. TFS worked with these high school and college students to strategically place and plant 50 trees furnished by TFS. These trees are going to become a living green buffer between new urban development and historic buildings and properties. Youth groups also worked on historic properties under restoration by clearing and removing debris and building new fences and painting older fences.

This fall, TFS foresters and volunteers will plant specific tree species that would have been planted by freed slaves as a living fence between property lines according to research conducted by Prairie View A&M University.



Youth planting trees in historic Freedman's Town property with Houston in the background.

Freedman's Town in Houston's Fourth Ward is on the National Register of Historic Places and is a post-Civil War community of African-Americans. Originally, some 1,000 freed slaves started settling this area near Buffalo Bayou in 1866. ■

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# EVENTS

August 3-8

## **ISA International Conference and Trade Show**

Columbus, OH. This international event is the world's premier gathering of arboricultural professionals, where practicing arborists and urban foresters come together with top researchers and educators. Industry leaders from around the globe share their thoughts and views about the newest trends in equipment, practice, technology and research in arboriculture and urban forestry. Earn up to 30 ISA CEUs when you attend ticketed events as well as the regular conference programming.

<https://www.isa-arbor.com/Events/Annual-Conference/2018-Annual-Conference>

August 15-16

## **CTSP Workshop**

Grand Prairie. Two-day advanced safety/behavioral workshop and certification exam. 9.0 ISA CEUs.

<http://bit.ly/2tWTVt7>

August 16-18

## **TNLA Expo**

San Antonio. Discover the latest nursery and landscape products. Gain a new perspective while meeting face-to-face with industry experts and share new ideas by participating in over 32 education sessions and two notable keynote presentations. Approximately 11 ISA CEUs.

<http://www.nurserylandscapeexpo.org>

September 7, 9 am–4 pm

## **Healthy Trees and Certified Arborist Preparation Course**

San Antonio Botanical Garden, 4 Fridays September 7 through October 5. Call Emma Trester-Wilson, SABG @ 210-536-1413 with questions. <https://saarborist.org/event-2936369>

September 19, 8 am–??

## **Saluting Branches**

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery, 1520 Harry Wurzbach Rd., San Antonio, 78209.

<https://saarborist.org/event-2654880>

September 26, 8 am–5 pm

## **Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) Renewal–Waco**

Registration deadline is August 28 and class size is limited to 30. This is a one-day refresher with five hours of instruction and three hours to take the exam. Current TRAQ holders can complete

the course as early as three and one-half (3 1/2) years into their Qualification (18 months before your expiration date). Once your current expiration date passes, you will need to retake the full course and assessment to be reinstated.

<https://conta.cc/2NYewGU>

September 26-28, 8 am–5 pm

## **Texas Tree Conference, Academy, Trade Show and Tree School**

Join us in Waco for the largest and best Texas Tree Conference ever! We anticipate over 1,000 attendees as we explore "Sustainability in Arboriculture." Up to 20.5 CEUs.

<http://bit.ly/2018TTC>

September 28, 12 noon–4 pm

## **ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, Municipal Specialist, and Certified Tree Worker Written Exam – Waco**

<https://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/becomeCertified/examDatesAndLocations?id=8614>

October 5, 9 am–4 pm

## **Corpus Christi area ISA Certified Arborist Prep Course**

For more information contact Bill Green, [bgreen@tfs.tamu.edu](mailto:bgreen@tfs.tamu.edu). Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, 710 E. Main St. Suite 1, Robstown, TX. 4 Fridays in October. Up to 10 ISA CEUs and 4 TNLA credits.

October 16, 9 am–4 pm

## **Amarillo Tree & Turf Safety Workshop**

Amarillo College Downtown Campus. ISA & TDA CEUs will be available. Watch the Amarillo Parks website for more information.

<https://www.amarilloparks.org/>

October 19, 7:30 am–11:30 am

## **ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, Municipal Specialist, and Certified Tree Worker Written Exam – Selma**

<http://bit.ly/2LbYStu>

## **Texas Women's Climbing Workshop**

October 19-21, 4:30 pm–5 pm

Mark your calendars now for the Texas Women's Climbing Workshop scheduled for October 19-21.

<http://isatexas.com/event/texas-womens-climbing-workshop-2/>



Perceptions matter. But sometimes perceptions aren't rooted in reality. We were recently informed that there's a perception that the board is dominated by government employees. How many government employees do we have? The list of board members is at <http://isatexas.com/about/board-of-directors/>. Looking over that list, I see that out of 17 board members, Lara, Emily, Zaina, April and Jason are government employees (and when she was elected April was a small business owner), Evan is an employee at a university, and Priscilla is a nonprofit employee.

So seven board members—less than 50 percent-- work for the government, and that's if you stretch "government" to include the non-profit sector. Two of those will be rolling off the board, and Zaina just resigned. Of the remaining 10 board members, we have one utility representative, two tree farm owners, three small business owners and four employees of larger businesses.

I've also had people complain to me that there are too many women on the ISA Texas board. How many women are there? Looking over the list, I see that out of 17 board members we have seven women on the board, two of whom will be rolling off this year and one of whom recently resigned. Seven out of 17 is 41 percent, so less than half the board is made up of women, and unless we get some women to step up to serve on the board, it will be less than 25 percent.

And we won't even discuss geographical diversity. For the longest time a large portion of the board were from Austin; now we're shifting to DFW, but we still have geographic areas that are underrepresented.

Is the board a perfect mix? No, but the board makeup is dictated by who gets nominated. If you think there are too many of any one group, recruit and nominate someone from the group you want to see better represented.

Nominations have closed for next year's board, but be sure to vote. Your vote truly does matter. Watch your TreEmail for directions. And now is the time to start working on recruiting the folks you want to nominate next year. Encourage them to get involved with an ISA Texas committee (such as the Outreach & Communications committee).

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# Texas A&M Forest Service Honored for GIS Achievement

Esri, global leader in spatial analytics, presented Texas A&M Forest Service with Esri's Special Achievement in GIS (SAG) Award July 11 at the annual Esri User Conference. Selected from over 300,000 eligible candidates, Texas A&M Forest Service received the award for its innovative application of mapping, data analytics, and thought leadership in the field of urban forestry.

The SAG Awards are meant to show appreciation for organizations that are using GIS to solve some of the world's toughest challenges. Through The Science of Where—the technology of GIS combined with the science of geography—the users honored with these awards are demonstrating the most groundbreaking and transformative possibilities of GIS software.

"Esri User Conference is a great forum for our users to come together and share the amazing ways they are implementing GIS technology," said Jack Dangermond, Esri founder and president. "The organizations recognized here are creating maps and using spatial analytics to make a difference in the world. We are honored to present these awards."

The Urban Forest Strike Team performs assessments on storm-damaged trees to identify those that pose a risk to people and property on publically managed land after a storm or natural disaster. Texas A&M Forest Service deployed a strike team to coastal communities following the landfall of Category 4 Hurricane Harvey in August 2017.

During fieldwork, the strike team recorded storm-damaged trees using Collector for ArcGIS. Offline data collection was performed in areas without cell service and the team developed a dynamic dashboard for real-time data tracking.

Putting the collected data on tree loss into action, Texas A&M Forest Service is now coordinating with the Arbor Day Foundation and other organizations to begin tree adoptions and plantings for communities in the hurricane's path. The recovery effort will consist of thousands of trees over 3 to 5 years.



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The Texas A&M Forest Service Urban Forest Strike Team was one of over 180 organizations in areas such as commercial industry, defense, transportation, nonprofit work, telecommunications and government to receive a SAG Award. Esri staff annually nominate hundreds of candidates from around the world for consideration and Dangermond selects the finalists.

For more information on how the Texas A&M Forest Service Urban Forest Strike Team is changing the world through The Science of Where, visit <http://ow.ly/SBQP30kUA9F>. And read about their work in Houston on the next page.

## Texas A&M Forest Service UFST Development Team:

Paul Johnson—Urban & Community Forestry Program Leader

Gretchen Riley—Urban & Community Forestry Partnership Coordinator

Shruthi Srinivasan—Geospatial Analyst

Mickey Merritt, Mike Sills, Matt Weaver, Brad Hamel, Monica Singhanian, Courtney Blevins, Mark Kroeze, Bill Green—Staff Foresters

John Warner—District Forester

Dudley Hartel—Science Delivery/Technology Coordinator, US Forest Service ■

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# Urban Forest Strike Team surveys Houston trees for flooding effects of Hurricane Harvey

Months after the storm, Hurricane Harvey was still causing damage. In June, Urban Forest Strike Team members from across the nation examined trees in Harris County Bear Creek Park for effects of prolonged flooding.

Bear Creek Park was under approximately four feet of water for several months post Harvey. This amount of time under water may have caused damage to the root systems of trees and can sometimes take months or years to show up. The sample surveys were being conducted nine months after the storm event for just this reason.

“A lot of these trees left out here looked okay during the spring,” said Paul Johnson, Texas A&M Forest Service Urban and Community Forestry program leader. “And then, as summer set in, they really started to drop their leaves and are dying back.”

Flood-impacted trees can pose dangers to people and property. Urban Forest Strike Teams come to the aid of a region whose urban forest has been impacted by a natural disaster. Strike teams provide tree damage and risk assessments and Federal Emergency Management Agency public assistance information to communities.

Houston’s trees were subjected to prolonged flooding and will show signs of weakening different from the severe wind damage seen along Texas coastal communities during the hurricane.

Information gathered in Houston will be provided to the City’s Precinct 3 Parks and Recreation Department for their use. The sample assessments were made as part of a strike team training for task specialists hailing from multiple state, federal and private organizations.

Learn more about Urban Forest Strike Teams at <http://www.southernforests.org/urban/ufst>.



Urban Forest Strike Team members from across the nation examined trees in Houston’s Harris County Bear Creek Park for effects of prolonged flooding caused by Hurricane Harvey.



Urban Forest Strike Team Task Specialist trainees reviewed and practiced how to detect and categorize damaged trees for defects, debris and safety considerations.

View more photos of the strike team in Houston at <http://ow.ly/vbIM30klrwt>

**Melinda Adams,  
Former President of ISAT,  
Retires as Ft. Worth City Forester**

Melinda Adams is retiring from the City of Ft. Worth, where she has been the city forester for 18 years. In addition to winning many awards for her service, she was a leader in the Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council, started the Fort Worth Heritage Tree Program and was on the Board of the Texas Chapter for many years including as the Texas Tree Conference Chair and as ISA Texas President.



The final Oak Wilt Qualification workshop of 2018 was held in the middle of an oak wilt center in Fredericksburg. The class is seen here in a grove of oaks infected by oak wilt.

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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 next issue. *Hint: it's a tree with a twist.*

### Last issue's winner



Last issue's winner was Laura M. Miller, County Extension Agent, Commercial Horticulture, Texas A&M AgriLife Extension, who correctly identified the Pyramid magnolia (*Magnolia pyramidata*), from last issue. She also provided this issue's challenge.