



# Texas Chapter International Society of Arboriculture Business Meeting Minutes

8:00 a.m., Thursday, September 29, 2022  
Waco Convention Center – 2022 Texas Tree Conference

### Present

Mark Bird, President	Priscilla Files, Director	John Giedraitis, ISAT Exec Dir
A.J. Thibodeaux, Past President	Ronny Nelson, Director	Gene Gehring, Assist. ED
Rebecca Johnson, President-Elect	Amy Heath, Director	Megan Wood, Program Manager
Gary O’Neil, Vice Pres	Penny Swanner, Director	
Neil Manich, Treasurer	Rachel McGregor, Director	
Courtney Blevins, COR Liaison	Haywood Morgan, Director	
Kirsten Schneider, Director	Star Quintero, Director	

### Absent

Beth Corbin, Director	Heather McKnight, Editor
Jesse Neumann, Cert. Liaison	

- I. Call to order at 8:05 a.m. Mark Bird, President
- II. Welcome Mark Bird
- III. Executive Director Report John Giedraitis
- IV. Recognition of Committee Chairs Mark Bird
- V. New Business
  - a. ISA International update Caitlyn Pollihan, President ISA
  - b. ISAT Year in Review Mark Bird
  - c. 2023 – 2025 Texas Chapter ISA Strategic Plan Mark Bird
    - i. **A motion was made by Susan Henson to accept the 2023 – 2025 Strategic Plan as presented by the ISAT Board. Dana Karcher seconded, and the motion passed.**
  - d. Recognition of 2021-2022 ISAT Officers and Directors Mark Bird
  - e. Installation of Rebecca Johnson as ISAT President for 2022-2023 Mark Bird
  - f. Recognition of Mark Bird for service as ISAT President Rebecca Johnson
  - g. Recognition of 2022 Texas Tree Conference Committee Rebecca Johnson
  - h. Installation of new ISAT Officers and Directors for 2022 - 2023 Rebecca Johnson
- VI. Questions and comments from the membership
- VII. Next Board Meeting/Retreat Date: December 2022, Location: TBA
- VIII. Adjourn 8:55 a.m.

**Mark your calendars: 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Texas Tree Conference  
Texas Chapter ISA – September 20-22, 2023, Waco Convention Center**



**2021-2022 Board of Directors**

Mark Bird, President  
 A.J. Thibodeaux, Past President  
 Rebecca Johnson, President-Elect  
 Gary O'Neil, Vice Pres  
 Neil Manich, Treasurer  
 Courtney Blevins, COR Liaison  
 Heather McKnight, Editor  
 Priscilla Files, Director  
 Ronny Nelson, Director  
 Amy Heath, Director  
 Penny Swanner, Director  
 Rachel McGregor, Director  
 Haywood Morgan, Director  
 Star Quintero, Director  
 Kirsten Schneider, Director  
 Beth Corbin, Director  
 Jesse Neumann, ISA Certification Liaison

**2022-2023 Board of Directors**

Rebecca Johnson, President  
 Mark Bird, Past President  
 Gary O'Neil, President-Elect  
 Ronny Nelson, Vice Pres  
 Neil Manich, Treasurer  
 Courtney Blevins, COR Liaison  
 Heather McKnight, Editor  
 Priscilla Files, Director  
 Jaime Thibodeaux, Director  
 Amy Heath, Director  
 Penny Swanner, Director  
 Rachel McGregor, Director  
 Haywood Morgan, Director  
 Star Quintero, Director  
 Kirsten Schneider, Director  
 Beth Corbin, Director  
 Jesse Neumann, ISA Certification Liaison

**2020-2021 Committee Chairs**

Advocacy	Keith Mars
Certification	Jesse Neumann
Council of Representatives	Courtney Blevins
Digital and Social Media	Rachel McGregor
Educational Events Committee	Gary O'Neil
Executive Committee	Mark Bird
Member Services	Priscilla Files
Newsletter	Heather McKnight
Nominations and Elections	A.J. Thibodeaux
Outreach	Amy Burkett
Students and Scholarships	Ronny Nelson
Texas Regional Plant Appraisal	Micah Pace, Greg David
Texas Tree Conference	Rebecca Johnson
Treasurer	Neil Manich
Tree Climbing Championship	Markus Smith, Kirsten Schneider
TREE Fund Liaison	Amy Heath

**ISAT Staff**

John Giedraitis, Executive Director  
 Gene Gehring, Assistant Executive Director  
 Megan Wood, Program Manager

## **2021-2022 ISAT Sponsored or Co-Sponsored Activities**

### **October 2021**

Certified Arborist, Municipal, Utility, Tree Worker Written Exam- Waco

### **November 2021**

Texas State Arbor Day - Weatherford

Certified Arborist, Municipal, Utility, Tree Worker Written Exam- Ft Worth

Non-Profit Arbor Chat Online Meeting

Texas Tree Care Business Owners Arbor Chat Online Meeting

### **December 2021**

Municipal Arbor Chat Online Meeting

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Course and Assessment – Austin

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Renewal – Online with the Southern Chapter

ISAT Annual Board of Directors Retreat and Quarterly Board Meeting – College Station

Wildfire Risk Reduction Qualification with the Florida and Southern Chapters –TN & FL

### **January 2022**

Texas Oak Wilt Qualification Three-Year Renewal with Dr. Appel

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification course and Assessment in Austin

Texas Chapter ISA Day of Service with the Texas Rangers - Ranger Oaks - Seguin

### **February 2022**

Certified Arborist, Municipal, Utility, Tree Worker Written Exam – Austin

North Texas Urban Forestry Conference – Hurst

### **March 2022**

San Antonio Arborist Association Bilingual Workshop - Schertz

Texas Tree Care Business Owners Arbor Chat Online Meeting

Tree Diagnosis Workshop at Texas A&M - College Station

Master's Series Workshop: The Science of Pruning - Georgetown

### **April 2022**

Tree Risk Appraisal Qualification Renewal - Houston

Tree Risk Appraisal Qualification Course and Assessment - Houston

Texas Tree Care Business Owners Arbor Chat Online Meeting

Texas Wildfire Risk Assessment Qualification – Oak Hill

Women's Tree Climbing Workshop - Wimberley

### **May 2022**

ISAT 2023-2025 Strategic Planning Session with Dr. Paul Ries – San Antonio

Texas Tree Care Business Owners Arbor Chat Online Meeting

Municipal Arbor Chat Online Meeting

Texas Oak Wilt Qualification Course and Assessment with Webinar Component – Glen Rose

Texas Tree Climbing Workshop – New Braunfels

Texas Tree Climbing Competition – New Braunfels

Non-Profit Arborchat Online Meeting

### **June 2022**

Texas Oak Wilt Qualification Online Renewal

Oak Wilt Qualification Course and Assessment, Fieldwork for Webinar- Fredericksburg

Oak Wilt Qualification Course and Assessment – Fredericksburg

Texas Tree Care Business Owners Arbor Chat Online Meeting

Tree Risk Appraisal Qualification Course and Assessment - Dallas

### **July 2022**

ISAT Board meeting - Waco

### **August 2022**

TNLA Nursery/Landscape Expo San Antonio Convention Center

North American Tree Climbing Championship – Minneapolis

### **September 2022**

International Tree Climbing Championship - Copenhagen

42<sup>nd</sup> Texas Tree Conference, Academy, Trade Show and Tree Schools, Waco

Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Renewal with Skip Kincaid - Waco

Certified Arborist, Municipal, Utility, Tree Worker Written Exam - Waco

THE TEXAS CHAPTER INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE  
**42ND ANNUAL TEXAS TREE CONFERENCE**  
TREE ACADEMY, TRADE SHOW & TREE SCHOOL



THE  
CHANGING SEASONS  
*of* ARBORICULTURE *and*  
URBAN FORESTRY

SEPTEMBER 27-29, 2022  
WACO CONVENTION CENTER  
100 WASHINGTON AVE. - WACO, TEXAS 76701



## Tuesday, September 27 Events

### Texas Tree Academy *Completing The Cycle - Making Money From Waste*

**Jeff Carroll, Urban Wood Economy, Baltimore, MD**  
**Devin Ginther, Texas Urban Sawmill, Dripping Springs, TX**  
**Jennifer Alger, President, Far West Forest, Olivehurst, CA**

10:00 am - 5:00 pm  
Texas Ballroom

Arboriculture and urban forestry are changing and it's time to embrace the full cycle management of trees. Join the Urban Wood Network as we explore how to maximize the use of trees once they've met the end of their living, standing life. From mulch, compost, and firewood to biochar, furniture, and art there are many ways to utilize this wonderful resource and create a more sustainable urban forest. For the practicing arborist, learn how you can make additional money with "waste". For the urban forester, learn how you can help your community meet its zero waste goals and receive the SFI Sustainable Urban Forest certification. Learn harvesting techniques to maximize value and build networks to increase wood utilization.

*(The Academy is not part of the main conference and requires a separate registration)*



### *Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Renewal*

With Skip Kincaid  
8:00 am—5:00 pm  
Ranger Room  
**Pre-registration Required**

*(TRAQ Renewal requires a separate registration from the Academy and Conference)*

Scan the QR code below to  
download the 2022 Texas Tree  
Conference App to your device



### You Are Invited—FREE! Arborist BBQ Social

September 27 from 6-8 PM  
The Backyard Bar Stage and Grill  
511 S. 8th Street, Waco, Texas

Join fellow arborists for free food and drink in  
this unique outdoor venue. Visit with friends  
and make new ones.

*All registered attendees are invited—please  
wear your nametag.*



# Wednesday, September 28 Texas Tree Conference

General Session 8:00 am - 11:45 am McLennan Rooms 208 - 209
8:00 - 8:15 <b>Welcome by ISAT President, Mark Bird</b>
8:15 - 9:15 <b>Urban Forests for All</b> <i>Beattrra Wilson, Assistant Director for Urban &amp; Community Forestry, USDA Forest Service, Washington, D.C.</i>
9:15 - 10:15 <b>Current and Emerging Plant Health Topics</b> <i>Dr. Stephanie Adams, Forest Tree Pathologist, The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL</i>
10:15 - 10:45 <b>Break with Exhibitors</b>
10:45 - 11:45 <b>How to Build a Sustainable Safety Culture</b> <i>Chris Dichard, Corporate Safety Director, Asplundh Tree Experts, Rockwall, TX</i>

Spanish Language Track   Texas Room North
1:30 - 2:15 pm <b>Barrenador del Fresno y Marchitamiento del Laurel: Perforadores de Madera Invasores en Texas</b> <i>Demian Gomez, TFS Forest Health Coordinator, Austin, TX</i>
2:15 - 3:00 pm <b>El mantenimiento del Bosque Urbano</b> <i>Vanessa Sepúlveda, Director, co-owner / Directora General, Dendroma.com, Mexico City, Mexico</i>
3:00 - 3:30 pm <b>Break with Exhibitors</b>
3:30—4:15 pm <b>Diagnóstico de Arbolado en la Ciudad</b> <i>Mónica Martínez Hurtado, Director, co-owner / Directora General, Dendroma.com, Mexico City, Mexico</i>
4:15 - 5:00 pm <b>La Trepia y El Cordaje de Otro Ángulo</b> <i>Eduardo Medina, Climbing Instructor, Davey Tree Expert Co., Chicago, IL</i>

Urban Forestry Track   McLennan 207	Commercial Track   McLennan 209	Utility Track   McLennan 208
1:30 - 2:15 pm <b>Evaluating Species Diversity of the Parish of East Baton Rouge</b> <i>Dr. Brian Watkins, Assist. Director of Park Operations, BREC, Baton Rouge, LA</i>	1:30 - 2:15 pm <b>Soil Properties for Urban Tree Health</b> <i>Dr. Anna Paltseva, Assistant Professor, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, LA</i>	1:30 - 2:15 pm <b>Our Journey to ZERO HARM</b> <i>Orlando De La Garza, Safety &amp; Health Coordinator, AEP Texas, Bronte, TX</i>
2:15 - 3:00 pm <b>Ecological Research on Tree Canopy Reduction of Ultraviolet Radiation</b> <i>Dr. Yadong Qi, Professor, Southern University and A&amp;M College, Baton Rouge, LA</i>	2:15 - 3:00 pm <b>Lawn vs. Trees: The Ultimate Landscape Showdown</b> <i>Dr. Becky Grubbs-Bowling, Asst. Professor, Extension Specialist, Texas A&amp;M AgriLife Extension, Dallas, TX</i>	2:15 - 3:00 pm <b>End-to-End Work Management Solution for Capital Programs</b> <i>Caleb Williams, Client Support, ECI, Wake Forest, NC</i>
3:00 - 3:30 p.m. <b>Break with Exhibitors</b>	3:00 - 3:30 pm <b>Break with Exhibitors</b>	3:00 - 3:30 pm <b>Break with Exhibitors</b>
3:30 - 4:15 pm <b>Workforce Development in Arboriculture Careers</b> <i>Ian Brown, Urban Forest District Manager, City of Milwaukee, Milwaukee, WI</i>	3:30 - 4:15 pm <b>Trees Just Don't Die</b> <i>Sheila McBride, Extension Program Specialist, Texas A&amp;M AgriLife Extension, College Station, TX</i>	3:30—4:15 pm <b>Trees and Right of Way: What to do when a tree is removed, pruned or damaged outside the existing ROW</b> <i>Debbie Evans, Arborist, Tree Associates LLC, Liberty Hill, TX</i>
4:15 - 5:00 pm <b>Growing Roots: Best Practices in Engaging Youth in Urban Forestry</b> <i>Ashleigh Cibelli-Pettus, Conservation Program Coordinator, City of Austin, Ameila DeVito, Program Development Coordinator, City of Austin, Austin, TX</i>	4:15 - 5:00 pm <b>How Efficient is Your Operation?</b> <i>Sarah Cummings, Director of Continuous Improvement, SavATree, Bedford Hills, NY</i>	4:15 - 5:00 pm <b>A Discussion About Process Improvement in a Utility Vegetation Program</b> <i>Grant Ehlen, System Utility Forester, Oklahoma Gas and Electric, Oklahoma City, OK</i>

# Thursday, September 29 Texas Tree Conference



## General Session - 8:00 am - 9:00 am | McLennan Room 209

ISAT Business Meeting

Urban Forestry Track   McLennan 207	Commercial Track   McLennan 209	Utility Track   McLennan 208
<p>9:00 - 10:00 am <b>Root Wrestling: Happy Roots, Happy Shoots—Pneumatic Excavation Systems</b> <i>Daniel Miraval, COO and Brianna White, CEO, Green Extraction Technologies, Carol Stream, IL</i></p> <p>10:00 - 10:30 am <b>Break with Exhibitors</b></p> <p>10:30 - 11:15 am <b>Urban Forestry and Planning: Existing Together As One</b> <i>Kevin Charles, Senior Planner, City of Arlington, Grand Prairie, TX</i></p> <p>11:15 am—12:00 pm <b>Arborist Internship Program</b> <i>Ronny Nelson, President, Simply Horticulture, Prosper, TX</i></p>	<p>9:00 - 10:00 am <b>A More Inclusive Industry—Women in Arboriculture Panel</b> <i>Dana Karcher, Davey Resource Group, Amy Burkett, Burkett Arbor Care, Stephanie Adams, Morton Arboretum, Amy Heath, Texas Tree Surgeons</i></p> <p>10:00 - 10:30 am <b>Break with Exhibitors</b></p> <p>10:30 - 11:15 am <b>Oak Health</b> <i>Dr. Stephanie Adams, Forest Tree Pathologist, The Morton Arboretum, Lisle, IL</i></p> <p>11:15 am - 12:00 pm <b>Austin's Tree Regulations</b> <i>Sydney Tafolla, Environmental Review Specialist, City of Austin, Austin, TX</i></p>	<p>9:00 - 10:00 am <b>Evolution of a Partnership</b> <i>Michael Sultan, Market Manager, Davey Resource Group, Farmers Branch, TX and Shawn Huff, Lead Distribution Forester, Oklahoma Gas and Electric, OK City, OK</i></p> <p>10:00 - 10:30 am <b>Break with Exhibitors</b></p> <p>10:30 - 11:15 am <b>Utility Arboriculture: A South Texas Perspective</b> <i>Joshua Roberts, Vegetation Management Coordinator, Medina Electric Cooperative, Hondo, TX</i></p> <p>11:15 am - 12:00 pm <b>A Look at PEC's Underground Vegetation Maintenance Program</b> <i>Penny Swanner, Vegetation Supervisor, PEC, Johnson City, TX</i></p>



Scan the QR code below to download the 2022 Texas Tree Conference App to your device



Conference app sponsored by Sennebogen

## The Texas Tree Schools—9:30 am to 3:30 pm

*These workshops are not part of the main conference and require separate registration (lunch is included)*

### Track 1 English: An Introduction to Arboriculture

Ranger Room (downstairs)

Lead instructor is Certified Arborist Guy LeBlanc of Arbor Vitae Tree Care of Austin, assisted by Paul Johnson, BCMA with the Sustainable Forestry Initiative.

### Pista 2: Jornadas para Trabajadores de Arboles

Texas Room North (downstairs)

Instructors are Eduardo Medina, Davey Tree Expert Company, Chicago, IL, Mónica Martínez Hurtado and Vanessa Sepúlveda, Dendroma.com, Mexico City, Mexico, Bill Green, Forester, Texas A&M Forest Service and Mark Duff, Principal, Mark Duff Consulting.

## Sponsors + Exhibitors

Thank you for your support!

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### Exhibitors:

Acosta Lightweight  
AirSpade  
All About Equipment/Stanley Parts and Equipment  
Arborjet  
ArboRisk  
ArborSystems  
Asplundh Tree Experts  
ACRT  
Athens Tree Farm  
Bandit Chippers  
Bobcat of North Texas  
Brabandt Equipment/Bandit  
Chemical Containers  
CSI Acecap/Medicap  
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Davey Resource Group  
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Texas Chapter International Society of Arboriculture  
Texas Department of Agriculture  
Texas Outdoor Power Equipment Dist.  
Top Gunn Equipment  
Top Notch Tree Farm  
Tracked Lifts  
Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA)  
TreeDiaper  
Tree Clinic Pharmacy  
TREE Fund  
TreePro – NIP Group  
TreeNewal  
Vermeer Texas Louisiana

# 2022 Texas Tree Conference

## Event Overview

### Tuesday, September 27

8:00 am - 5:00 pm Registration Open  
10:00 am - 5:00 pm Tree Academy  
8:00 am—5:00 pm TRAQ Renewal Course—Ranger Room  
1:00 pm - 5:00 pm Exhibitor Set Up  
6:00 pm - 8:00 pm ISAT BBQ Social at the Backyard Stage and Grill, Waco

### Wednesday, September 28

7:00 am - 5:00 pm Registration Desk + Bookstore open  
7:00 am - 5:00 pm Trade Show + Poster Session open  
7:00 am- 7:50 am Breakfast with Exhibitors  
8:00 am - 11:45 am General Session  
12:00 pm - 1:15 pm Awards Luncheon, Brazos Ballroom  
1:30 pm - 5:00 pm Breakout Sessions  
5:00 pm - 7:00 pm Exhibitor Reception at the Trade Show—Drinks and Food

### Thursday, September 29

7:00 am - 10:30 am Registration Desk + Bookstore open  
7:00 am - 10:30 am Trade Show/Auction (closes at 10:30)  
7:00 am - 7:50 am Breakfast with Exhibitors  
8:00 am - 9:00 am ISAT Annual Meeting  
9:00 am - 12:00 pm Breakout Sessions  
9:30 am - 3:30 pm Texas Tree Schools  
12:30 pm - 4:00 pm ISA Cert. Arborist Exam—Texas South

Many thanks to the  
**2022 Texas Tree Conference  
Planning Committee Volunteers!**

**Rebecca Johnson  
2022 Texas Tree Conference Chair**



**Texas Chapter  
International Society  
of Arboriculture**