



Texas Chapter International Society of Arboriculture

May 2023 TreEmail



Texas Tree Climbing Championship **Join us this week in Austin** May 19-20, 2023 - Austin

Bring the family, a lawn chair and a cooler and come out to see the best climbers in Texas at this year's Texas Tree Climbing Championship in Richard Moya Park in Austin. The winners will represent the Texas Chapter at the 2023 International Tree Climbing Championship in Albuquerque, New Mexico this summer.

The five preliminary events all day Friday and the final round of competition - the Master's Challenge - will be Saturday morning.

[Click here for more information on the 2023 Texas Tree Climbing Championship](#)



Texas Tree Climbing Championship Workshop **Climber Skills Field Day with ISA Climbing Champion Mark Chisholm** This Thursday, May 18, 2023 - Austin

Do you or members of your crew want to improve your climbing skills?

Join us this Thursday and learn from international tree climbing record holder Mark Chisholm. Mark with Erick Palacios will lead bilingual discussions on "MRS" vs "SRS" systems, "Practical Aerial Rescue Approaches", and the "Science behind Rigging."

[Register here](#)



Wielding the A300 Standards: The Sword and the Shield

Webinar May 24, 2023 11am-12pm

Wielding the A300 Standards May 24th ZOOM Webinar - 1 CEU

The ANSI A300 Standards are a documentation of what industry stakeholders can agree upon within the context of the ANSI approval process. When wielded correctly, they can form powerful legal weaponry to use both defensively and offensively.

Learn how to limit your liability when performing risk assessments by following the mandatory requirements. Learn how to avoid offensive strategies by plaintiffs that attack insufficiency of inspections, reports, and pruning practices.

Your instructor will be James Komen, a consulting arborist in California specializing in risk assessment and tree appraisal.

[Join us for the informative webinar!](#)



The 43rd Texas Tree Conference Mark your calendars now!

The Texas Tree Conference Committee is hard at work to produce the biggest and best event yet. Mark your calendar now to join over 1,000 of your peers to learn about and celebrate trees.

Registration will open soon

[**Sponsors and Exhibitors can register here**](#)



2023 Texas Tree Awards

Help us find and recognize the best in Texas

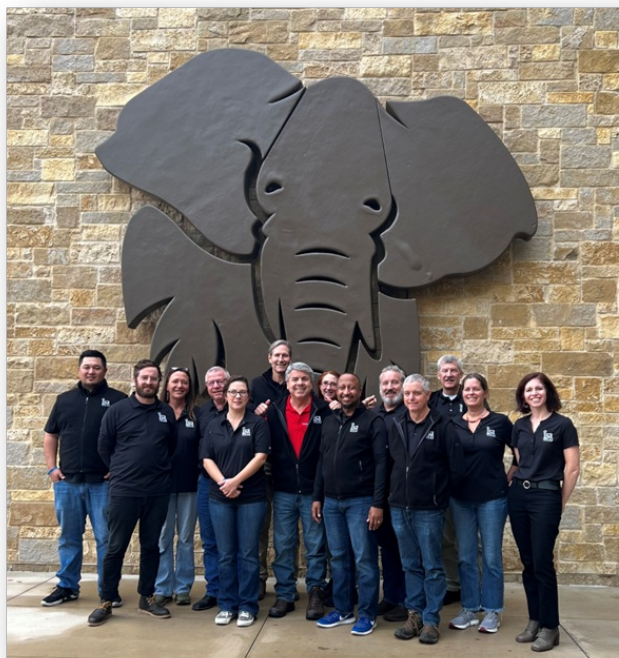
Deadline - July 28, 2023

Celebrate the accomplishments of those who have dedicated their talents to spreading a leafy green canopy over Texas by nominating them for the 2023 Texas Community Forestry Awards Program. Nominate yourself or another! Awards will be presented at the awards banquet at the Texas Tree Conference.

Award Categories:

- Arborist of the Year
- Gold Leaf - Outstanding Landscape Improvement
- Arboricultural Project of the Year
- Outstanding Community Forestry Program

[Submit a nomination here](#)



Texas Chapter ISA Board of Directors Elections

How can you share your knowledge and experience with others? How can you give something back and leave a legacy to your profession? How can you develop as a leader?

Serve!

Nominations are being sought from the ISAT membership to fill several positions on the ISAT Board of Directors. You may nominate yourself or another qualified ISAT member interested in serving on the ISAT Board.

The Election Committee will fill the slate from the nominations. Elections will be held in August and the Board members will be installed at the annual membership meeting at the Texas Tree Conference in Waco this September.

ISAT will be holding the election by e-ballot so if you need a paper copy mailed to you call Gene at ISAT at 817.395.9055.

[Click here for more information](#)



TRAQ Renewal **August 2, 2023 - Virtual** **September 20 - Waco**

The Texas Chapter ISA is offering an ISA Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) renewal. You can register for a renewal if you already have a current TRAQ credential and are within 18 months prior to your expiration date.

TRAQ virtual renewal course: This is an online ZOOM event hosted by the Southern, Texas, Midwestern and Georgia ISA Chapters. Registration will close after 30 seats are filled or on July 2nd (whichever comes first).

TRAQ live renewal course: The TRAQ Renewal Course is a one-day refresher, with five hours of instruction, and three hours to take the exam and will be offered just before the Texas Tree Conference in Waco.

[August 2: Virtual Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Renewal](#)
[September 20: Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Renewal- Waco](#)



Texas Chapter ISA Gets New Leadership John stepping down - Gene stepping up!

For almost eleven years, John Giedraitis has served the Texas Chapter ISA members and Board as the Executive Director. As you may have heard, John has stepped down and Gene Gehring has taken over as Executive Director as of April 1st.

The Chapter will be in good hands as Gene has a decades-long history with ISAT serving in many leadership roles including as President of ISAT. For the past three years, he has been on the ISAT staff serving as the Education Program Manager and most recently as Assistant Executive Director.

John has turned the reins over to Gene but is staying on through the fall as the Executive Director Emeritus to help ensure a smooth transition.

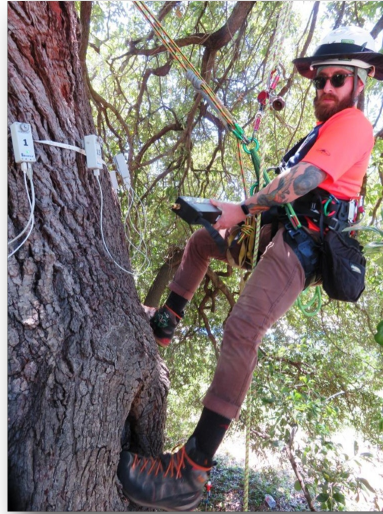


2023 ISA Annual Conference August 14-16 - Albuquerque

Join arborists from around the world at the ISA 2023 Annual International Conference in Albuquerque, NM this August.

The ISA 2023 Annual international Conference offers a forum for participants to learn and network with others in the arboricultural profession. This event provides a lineup of keynote speakers and educational breakout sessions led by industry leaders from around the globe, sharing their thoughts and views about research, practice, and technology.

[More information here](#)



Volunteer Spotlight - Jesse Neumann

(Above - Jesse is doing a recent sonic tomography of the Treaty Oak in Austin)

How did you end up in tree care?

My journey to work in the tree care industry began early with helping my dad do tree work on our small property growing up. I dragged a fair amount of brush. My very first series of paid work was trimming small conifers with shears on a local Christmas tree farm. I more formally committed to a career path in tree work and arboriculture in college, where I initially intended to study wildlife but decided to declare a major in Urban Forestry after meeting an arborist friend who introduced me to tree climbing and arboriculture. I joined the Student Society of Arboriculture and learned some of the hands-on skills that I still use for work and teaching others. At this point I have worked in various arboricultural capacities for privately-owned companies and a few municipalities between Wisconsin and Central Texas for the last fourteen years.

You volunteer in a few capacities with the Texas Chapter ISA - How did you get involved?

I became aware of ISAT in 2011 shortly after moving to Central Texas to work on a municipal tree crew. My first volunteer experience was at the 2011 Texas Tree Climbing Competition; I learned a lot from tech'ing the Belayed Speed Climb with Bill Koenig and Jim Dunlap. I attended the 2011 Waco Conference, where I took the Certified Arborist exam. After completing my first professional certification and attending more ISAT events I knew that at some point I would want to help the organization that helped me with my career development. This has taken a few shapes, including further tech'ing and judging at climbing competitions, helping as quartermaster of the ISAT Texas Tree Climbing Competition gear trailer, and currently serving on the ISAT Board of Directors as Certification Liaison. The opportunities to become involved with ISAT have typically been presented through announcements from the ISAT Board of Directors and Executive Committee members - who are a group of very dedicated people!

In volunteering as the Chapter Liaison for credentialing with ISA, what has been the most interesting thing you've learned about credentialing as an arborist?

In my time spent as Chapter Certification Liaison I have confirmed an assumption that I made before becoming involved with the Chapter, which was that successful Chapter-wide events do not simply happen on their own. The credentialing aspect of ISA is an important component to the entire scale of the professional arboricultural community, but Chapter events that bring arborists together to learn about and celebrate trees require many hours of planning, coordination, and follow-up. The familiar faces you see at annual conference and the climbing competition are always upbeat because [in my opinion] there is a dedicated group of professionals behind the scenes making sure that Chapter members are supported and given access to tangible community events. CEUs are just documentation of these events.

When you're not doing tree stuff, what's something else you enjoy?

In my non-tree time, my pursuits are pretty simple. I like to visit my family in Wisconsin and

Colorado when I can. I've always enjoyed riding bicycles, whenever I can make the Thursday Night Social Ride in Austin it is the highlight of my week.

Texas Notes:

- [News from the 88th Texas Legislative Session: Ashe juniper tree loses protection](#)
 - [Tree company brings talents to East Texas by restoring damaged trees into works of art](#)
 - [Recognizing citrus tree diseases in Southeast Texas](#)
 - [Take Action: Join with the Texas Invasive Species Institute](#)
 - [Support Mino's ride for tree research in the Tour des Trees here.](#)
 - [Survey finds room for 500 new trees in Houston neighborhood](#)
 - ISAT is looking for arborists who would like to help to bring Spanish language arborist workshops to Texas. If you are interested, contact Amy Heath at amy@texastreesurgeons.com or 214.415.5524.
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International Society of Arboriculture Notes:

- [ISA 2023 International Conference in Albuquerque, NM](#)
 - [ISA Digital Badges - Share your passion](#)
 - [Arboriculture and Urban Forestry Magazine on a new online platform](#)
 - [4th Edition of the Arborists' Certification Study Guide is available](#) - book, digital and MP3 formats
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From Around the World Notes:

- [OSHA Launches New National Emphasis Program To Prevent Workplace Falls](#)
 - [Urban Forestry Initiatives Within Major U.S. Cities](#)
 - [A Conversation with the USFS Forest Service Chief - Randy Moore](#)
 - [Can a city store as much carbon as a forest?](#)
 - [The many benefits of Sacramento's urban forest explained](#)
 - [How to protect your business from cyber criminals](#)
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Calendar of Events

Members receive notice of events before non-members, and events often sell out quickly.

Don't miss out - join today!

May:

- [May 18: Texas Tree Climbing Workshop - Austin](#)
- [May 19-20: Texas Tree Climbing Championship - Austin](#)
- [May 25-26: Texas Oak Wilt Qualification Course and Assessment - Glenrose - Sold out](#)

June:

- [May 25 \(virtual class\) June 7 \(fieldwork\): Texas Oak Wilt Qualification Course and Assessment - Hye - Sold out](#)
- [June 8-9: Texas Oak Wilt Qualification Course and Assessment - Hye \(Fredericksburg area\) - Sold out](#)
- [June 15: ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and Municipal Specialist Paper Exam - Austin](#)
- [June 20-22: Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Course - Houston](#) (May 22 deadline)
- [June 27-28: UAA Texas Regional Meeting - Fort Worth](#)

July:

- [July 11 to Aug. 1: Certified Arborist Prep Course - Austin](#)

August:

- [Aug 2: TRAQ - Virtual Renewal Course - Online](#)
- [Aug. 9-11: Texas Nursery and Landscape Expo - San Antonio](#)
- [Aug. 11-13: International Tree Climbing Championship - Albuquerque](#)
- [Aug 14-16: International Society of Arboriculture Annual Conference - Albuquerque](#)

September:

- [Sept. 1: ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and Municipal Specialist Paper Exam - Austin](#)
- [Sept. 8 to Oct. 6: Certified Arborist Prep Course - San Antonio](#)
- [Sept. 20: Tree Risk Assessment Qualification Renewal- Waco](#)
- [Sept. 20: ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and Municipal Specialist Exam - Waco](#)
- [Sept: 20-22: Texas Tree Conference, Academy, Trade Show and Tree Schools - Waco](#)
- [Sept. 26-Oct. 2: Tour de Trees - NV & CA](#)

October:

- [Oct. 16: Partners in Community Forestry Conference - Washington, D.C.](#)
- [Oct. 25: Society of American Foresters National Convention - Sacramento](#)

November:

- [Nov. 1: TRAQ Virtual Renewal Course - Online](#)



Chinquapin Oak
Quercus muehlenbergii

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Not a Texas Chapter ISA Member?
[Click Here](#)

Texas Chapter ISA | 817.395.9055 | www.ISATexas.com

