



Remember to call  
Rebecca Latta at (626)  
335-9304 or email her at  
rebeccalatta@earthlink.net  
no later than 12/14/03  
with your reservation for  
the general meeting.

Rebecca Latta, Secretary  
STREET TREE SEMINAR, INC.  
P. O. Box 6415  
Anaheim, CA 92816-6415

**Next Meeting:**  
**DECEMBER 16, 2003**  
**Scholarship Awards**  
**2004 Officer Induction**  
**San Antonio Winery**  
**Los Angeles, CA**

**Hosted by STS!**

**MEETING SCHEDULE:**  
10:30-11:00 Gathering  
11:00-12:00 Lunch  
12:00-1:00 Program &  
Meeting

**PRICE:**  
\$5.00 RESERVED

## 2003/04 MEETING SCHEDULE

December 16, 2003	Scholarship Program Installation of Officers <i>*Note—Date Change</i>	San Antonio Winery Los Angeles, CA
January 22, 2004	Western Tree Management Symposium <i>"ARBORICULTURE—The Full Circle"</i>	LA Arboretum Arcadia, CA
February 19, 2004	State Forestry Tree Grants John Melvin, CDF <i>HOSTED BY TRUGREEN LANDCARE, INC.</i>	Santa Clarita Sports Center Santa Clarita, CA

REBECCA LATTA, SECRETARY  
STREET TREE SEMINAR, INC.  
P. O. BOX 6415  
ANAHEIM, CA 92816-6415

# Street Tree Seminar, Inc. Monthly Newsletter



DECEMBER, 2003

VOLUME IX, ISSUE 12

### STREET TREE SEMINAR

has been instrumental in the development, health, care and management of street trees in Southern California for over 40 years.

### STREET TREE SEMINAR

is comprised of Street Tree Superintendents, supervising personnel, professional consultants, arborists, individuals and firms whose businesses are related to street tree management.

### STREET TREE

problems within your own city can be brought to an open forum on a monthly basis to assist you in timely information that could save your city thousands of dollars and salvage beautiful irreplaceable street trees.

## FIRE SAFETY IN URBAN WILDLANDS

This month's meeting was held at the Malibu Forestry Unit, a part of the County of Los Angeles Fire Department and Forestry Division. The site has a 20-acre nursery and conservation education center. Mike Takeshta and Craig Zimmerman who work at the unit, described their role in fire safety activities. The unit has a strong public education component that includes a 'Cottontail' program for 1<sup>st</sup>—4<sup>th</sup> grade children. The program emphasizes the importance of tree planting and natural resource protection. The site has a nursery that grows locally native plant material. Plants are made available to local home-owners for slope stabilization.

The unit also has responsibility for certain administrative functions such as emergency oak tree permits and tree assessments. Mike and Craig perform assessments of native vegetation including trees.

Tom Briscow from the Pacoima Vegetation Unit described his job working with the administering the county oak tree ordinance and enforcing fuel modification zone requirements. He discussed the from earlier times when pine trees were encouraged freely in the Santa Monica Mountains for erosion control. Prevailing wisdom now recommends native trees and shrubs, such as the oak, planted an appropriate distance from structures. No plant is flame resistant. Some burn faster and hotter than others.

Defensible space is what fire fighters look for when choosing which houses to defend in a fire event. These properties would have structures with boxed-in eaves, non-flammable roofing material and be landscaped and **maintained** according to LA County's fuel modification requirements.

The Fuel Modification Guidelines for Zone 4 (Very High Fire Hazard) from 1998 are very progressive and are beginning to be adopted in other parts of the country. The guidelines describe a Fuel Modification Zone as one that is placed as a buffer to open space, or areas of natural vegetation.



Craig Zimmerman describes his role in fire safety activities to STS members at the Malibu Forestry Unit.

## UPCOMING MEETING INFO

**DECEMBER 16, 2003**  
**Scholarship Awards**  
**2004 Officer Induction**  
San Antonio Winery  
737 Lamar Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90031  
**Hosted by STS**



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10:30-11:00 Gathering  
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**WHERE TO CONTACT US:**

**2003 EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**PRESIDENT**

David Thompson  
City of Arcadia  
11800 Goldring Road  
Arcadia, CA 91066  
626.256.6676

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Dan Jensen  
U.S. Landscape  
18011 Clearwater  
Hunt Bch, CA 92648  
714.847.0229

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Greg Monfette  
City of Los Angeles  
600 S. Spring St.,  
Los Angeles, CA 90014  
213.485.5675

**SECRETARY**

Rebecca Latta  
359 N. Westridge Ave  
Glendora, Ca 91741  
626.335.9304

**TREASURER**

Omar Davis  
City of Santa Clarita  
25663 Ave. Stanford  
Sta Clarita, CA 91355  
661.294.2518

**DIRECTORS**

Kevin Holman  
R.P.W. Services  
2473 E. Orangethorpe  
Fullerton, CA 92831  
714.870.6352

Sergio Hernandez  
US Landscape, Inc.  
25208 Broadwell Ave.  
Unit B  
Harbor City CA. 90710  
310-784-1852

Bob Chavez  
City of Whittier  
13230 E. Penn Street  
Whittier, CA 90602-1772  
562.464.3375

**MEMBERSHIP**

Pat Duff  
Arbor Tender  
173 E. College St, # 149  
Covina, CA 91723  
626.331.4666

**SCHOLARSHIP**

Al Remyn  
1410 E. Everett Place  
Orange, CA 92867  
714.538.3821

**MAILING ADDRESS**

Street Tree Seminar  
P. O. Box 6415  
Anaheim, CA 92816

**ON THE WEB:**

www.streettreeseminar.com

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES FROM NOVEMBER 20, 2003**

Vice-President Greg Monfette called the meeting to order. Past president in attendance - Al Remyn.

**Treasurer's Report—Omar Davis**

Omar submitted the following report:  
General Account \$12,193.98  
Moneymarket \$25,160.46  
Certificate of Deposit \$103,598.41  
**Total \$140,952.85**

**Scholarship – Al Remyn**

Al Remyn indicated that there were 3 recipients of the scholarship awards. One was from UCSB, one from Mt. San Antonio and one from Mt. Sac.

**Door Prizes**

West Coast Arborists, Century Products, RPW Inc., and Street Tree Seminar donated door prizes. The lucky winners were Bob Chavez, Janessa Butts, Rebecca Latta, Mike Takeshta, Tom Briscow, Art Murphy, Greg Monfette and Omar Davis

**2004 Slate of Officers**

Greg Monfette nominated Kevin Holman for treasurer. Greg Monfette nominated Omar Davis for Vice President.


The new slate of officers to be installed at the December meeting will be as follows:  
President – Greg Monfette  
Past President – Dave Thompson  
Vice President – Omar Davis

Treasurer – Kevin Holman  
Director 1 year – Sergio Hernandez  
Director 2 years – Bob Chavez  
Director 3 years – Art Murphy  
Secretary – Janessa Butts  
Sergeant of Arms – Robert Sartain

**Next Meeting—December 16, 2003**

Have lunch on STS at the San Antonio Winery on December 16, 2003. We will be presenting our scholarship awards, installing the new board and touring this historic landmark.

**SAN ANTONIO WINERY**  
737 Lamar Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90031



Don't forget to RSVP by December 14, 2003.

Respectfully Submitted,  
**Rebecca Latta**  
Secretary

**INDUSTRY CALENDAR**

**JANUARY 21, 2004—APRIL 28, 2004**

**ARBORISTS CERTIFICATION WORKSHOPS**  
Treeco Learning Center  
2251 E. Lambert Road—La Habra, CA  
**CONTACT: TREECO 714.990.5553**

**JANUARY 22, 2004**

**ARBORICULTURE—THE FULL CIRCLE**  
**WTMS—STREET TREE ANNUAL MEETING**  
Los Angeles County Arboretum  
Arcadia, CA  
**CONTACT: Greg Monfette—213.485.5675**

**JANUARY 29, 2004**

**CREATING A FIRE WISE COMMUNITY**  
CaUFC cosponsored with San Diego Regional Energy Office—City of San Diego—Ridgehaven Building  
9601 Ridgehaven Court—San Diego, CA  
**CONTACT: CaUFC—707.524.1190**

**FEBRUARY 18—MAY 5, 2004**

**11TH ARBORISTS AND TREE WORKERS' CERTIFICATION PREPARATION COURSE**  
Brea Conference Center  
695 E. Madison Way—Brea, CA  
**CONTACT: Ted Stamen 949.454.2409**

**MARCH 29-31, 2004**

**TREES AND UTILITIES**  
**11TH ANNUAL NATIONAL CONFERENCE**  
Embassy Suites—Omaha, Nebraska  
**CONTACT: NADF—402.474.5655**

**MAY 9-13, 2004**

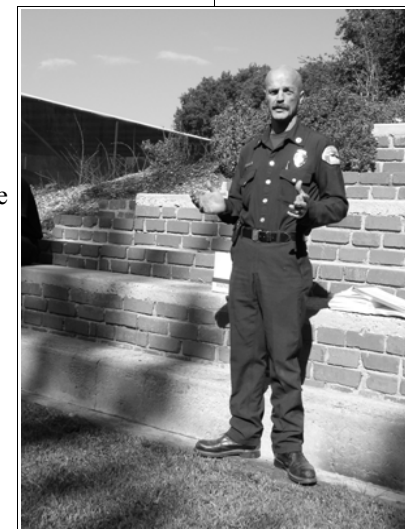
**EDUCATION BY ASSOCIATION**  
**WCISA ANNUAL MEETING AND TRADE SHOW**  
Konocti Lodge—Clear Lake, CA  
**CONTACT: WCISA—530.892.1118**

**FIRE SAFETY IN URBAN WILDLANDS—CONTINUED**

(Continued from page 1)

Tom Briscow is responsible for reviewing fuel modification plans for a portion of LA County. His unit reviews approximately 350 projects per year. There are four Fuel Modification Zones described in the guidelines.

1. The Setback Zone which is 20 feet from any combustible structure and well irrigated;
2. The Irrigated Zone which includes specimen native vegetation and plantings maintained at a height not to exceed 18 inches;
3. The Thinning Zone, which is an area where canopy cover is mostly preserved, but the fine fuels underneath are reduced or removed. Special consideration is given in this zone and the Interface Thinning Zone for rare and endangered species, tree ordinances and geologic hazards. Erosion control is also considered;
4. The Interface Thinning Zone, which involves thinning, and spacing of individual vegetation to reduce fuel load.



Tom Briscow from the Pacoima Vegetation Unit shared information on ordinances and enforcement.

Tom says that any remodel over 50%, new designs and projects requiring a building permit must submit fuel modification plans for approval in the County of Los Angeles. Local firehouses are charged with the responsibility to ensure that these fuel modification zones are maintained. Generally, annual inspections occur to determine compliance.

**Urban foresters in Southern California need to explore opportunities to work more closely with their local fire departments and the County. Fires can easily spread up to 1 mile from a fire front with embers carried on the wind. Highly flammable species such as some species of pine and eucalyptus may be better located a long way from the urban wildland interface zone (where native vegetation meets the suburbs).**

Urban forest master plans can take these issues into consideration recommending a phased removal of highly flammable species over time to reduce fire hazards. Stepped up removals of dead and dying trees in the area close to the wildland interface zone may also be advisable.

**PHOTOS OF INTEREST**



It never rains in California—but it sure snows! A rare snowy day in Los Angeles—November, 2003  
photo courtesy of George Gonzalez



Michael Mahoney pays a visit to the California Pepper tree planted at the Riviera Conference Center in Ensenada Mexico during the WCISA Annual meeting in 2002 —Photo taken on December 6, 2003  
photo courtesy of Michael Mahoney

**DO YOU HAVE A UNIQUE PHOTO YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE?**

Send to us and let us showcase your photo expertise. Photos can be sent to Street Tree Seminar, Inc. c/o Rose Epperson, 2200 E. Via Burton Street, Anaheim, CA 92806. You should include a short description of the tree or landscape with your photo. Please send a copy, as we are not able to return the photo to you. You can also email it to us at repperson@wcainc.com.

*Wishing you a Safe and Happy Holiday!*



*From all of us at Street Tree Seminar*

