



STREET TREE SEMINAR, INC.

Your Los Angeles/Orange Regional Urban Forest Council
P.O. Box 6415
Anaheim, CA 92816-6415



NEXT MEETING:
Thursday, March 21, 2013
LOGS TO LUMBER, Andy Trotter
Descanso Gardens, La Canada

2013 MEETING SCHEDULE

March 21	LOGS to LUMBER Andy Trotter, West Coast Arborists, Inc.	Descanso Gardens La Canada, CA
May 23	TBD	
June 19th	WTMS Summer Program	CalTECH University Pasadena, CA
July 19th	Annual Golf Outing	Robinson Ranch Santa Clarita, CA

Want to host a meeting in 2013?

MISSION STATEMENT

"To promote the advancement of urban forestry and provide a forum for tree care professionals to share their experiences, knowledge, and expertise for the benefit of the membership and the enhancement of Southern California's community forests."

VISION STATEMENT

"To enhance the health and beauty of Southern California cities by improving the quality of our community forests."



STREET TREE SEMINAR, INC. - Your Los Angeles/Orange Regional Urban Forest Council

STS Newsletter

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2013

VOLUME XIX ISSUE 1

Highlights from Western Tree Management Symposium (WTMS)

This year's winter WTMS was held at the stunning new Sheraton Fairplex Conference Center located within the historic Los Angeles County fairgrounds in Pomona. STS President, Robert Sartain, gave the group a warm welcome and introduced our theme, "Managing Our Urban Forests for a Greener Tomorrow".

The day's line-up included a dynamic mix of speakers that provided a day of education and cutting-edge information regarding new pest management, urban forestry principals, and a primer on incorporating sustainability into our daily practices.

Don DeLano, Horticulturist of Pomona Fairplex, lead the morning with the *History of the Pomona Fairgrounds Horticultural Program*.

Founded by a group of Pomona businessmen, the city of Pomona secured 43 acres through a variety of investments, incorporated as the L. A. County Fair Association, and the name 'L.A. County Fair' was registered. October 17, 1922 was opening day of the first Los Angeles County Fair. It ran for five days and was visited by 49,461 paid attendees. Harness racing, chariot racing and airplane wing-walking were the major highlights. In the early years, the grounds were only used to host the Fair and landscaping was a once a year project. A few year round employees would perform landscaping maintenance starting in June and ending in October. In 1932, the Grandstand was opened and all of the land and the buildings were deeded to the County of Los Angeles. In 1933, the Fair meet became the first in Southern California to allow fans to gamble at the horse track. From 1941 - 46, the fairgrounds were engaged by the U.S. Army and were turned into a motor base, served as a Japanese-American internment camp, became home of the Pomona Ordnance Base and Command shop, were used as a desert training center for army recruits, and as a German and Italian prisoner of war camp. Post-war brought a host of improvements to the grounds. More land was deeded to the County and a boom of buildings, barns and other structures was undertaken. On January 1, 1949, the L.A. County Fair presented a float entry into Pasadena's 'Tournament of Roses' parade to advertise that the Fair was back in business. Over the ensuing decades, numerous buildings and exhibits have been added to host events that educate visitors, while highlighting the area's rich agricultural history and providing landscaping and horticulture ideas from around the globe. By the 60's, there was a larger, year-round landscape maintenance facility, but no separate landscape department. Trees were still topped and most maintenance still started in June and ended in October. In 1984, more effort was put into the year round maintenance of the grounds. A separate landscape crew of 4 was kept on staff year round, and some of the tree trimming was contracted out.

In 1985 - 177,612 people attended the fair on September 21, establishing a daily record that still stands. Within the last 25 years, a RV Park

has been constructed, major renovations were made to buildings, adjacent land- and hardscaping areas were updated, and the Sheraton Suites Fairplex Hotel was added. In 1992, outsourcing of the landscape contract was discontinued



By Christy Cuba, Secretary



L.A. County Fairgrounds, 1930

and an in-house Horticulture Department was created with a Horticulturist and 10 year round employees. This crew expands over the summer to gear-up for the Fair. Most recent additions to the Fairplex include the Conference Center, a Wedding Garden, and Table to Farm Dining. Due to the year-round use of the facilities, much landscaping done during fair-time is temporary. Planters are sometimes installed in 2 days and torn down over one night to make way for incoming events the week after Fair. Some plants are grown 2 years in advance for specific attractions. They are also rented out to various shows and exhibitors over

the year. Most of the palms for the Conference Center and plaza development were relocated from other areas of Fairplex. Development of the Wedding Garden was based on the reuse of existing trees moved for the building of the Conference Center. They had been stored on grounds for 3 years. In 2013, a Grant will be used to help build a new farm area for a year-round visitor-education program that will be combined with school activities.



Relocation of Phoenix canariensis to the Conference Center

After Don's introduction to the Fairplex, we received an *Update on the Status of the Los Angeles Urban Center for Natural Resources Sustainability by Kevin O'Donnell, USDA Forest Service*. Kevin runs the LA Urban Center Forestry Field & Research Station, which promotes sustainable urban forestry.

They officially launched as a research station in September of 2012. The first phase of research started in October 2012 with a strategic planning meeting. This meeting was held to collaborate with the public on the mutual benefits of the research station and to gather ideas



Relocation of trees to the Wedding Garden

for reciprocal resources. The USDA is partnering with the City of LA and phase 2 will be creating two teams: one team of key stakeholders which will create and plan 2, 5, and 10-year benchmark goals, and the second team will be charged with implementation. There may be opportunities for funding projects. Contact Kevin for

more information or if you are interested in participating.

Our next speaker on the morning program was Dr. Jim Downer, UC Cooperative Extension, Ventura County. Jim presented a lesson the latest information regarding *Trees and Turf*. He posed the question, is this a Lose/Lose situation?

Remember to email Christy Cuba at christy@cycarlberg.com with your reservation

Continued on page 2

WTMS Highlights - continued from page 1

PRESIDENT

Robert Sartain
City of Santa Clarita
25663 Ave. Stanford
Santa Clarita, CA 91355
661/294-2548

PAST PRESIDENT

John Conway
City of Newport Beach
3300 Newport Blvd.
Newport Beach, CA 92659
949/644-3083

VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Fred Roth
Cal Poly University, Pomona
3801 W. Temple Avenue
Pomona, CA 91768
909/987-7165

SECRETARY

Christy Cuba
Carlberg & Associates
80 W. Sierra Madre Bl., #241
Sierra Madre, CA 91024
626/248-8977

TREASURER

Dan Jensen
R. Dan Jensen & Associates
18011 Clearwater
Huntington Bch, CA 92648
714/841-2905

DIRECTORS

Emina Darakj
1044 Prospect Blvd
Pasadena, CA 91103
626/792-0586

Jon Baker
County of LA Fire Dept
12428 High Horse Drive
Rch Cucamonga, CA 91739
909/899-2580

Leon Boroditsky
City of Los Angeles, Recs
and Parks - Forestry Div
3900 W. Chevy Chase Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 900939
310/779-0111

MEMBERSHIP

Kevin Holman
714/412-5348

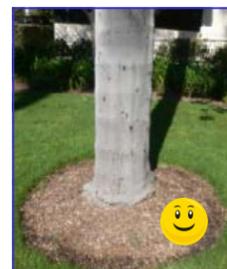
SCHOLARSHIP

Al Remyn
714/538-3821

MAILING ADDRESS

Street Tree Seminar, Inc.
P.O. Box 6415
Anaheim, CA 92816-6415
www.streettreeseminar.com
714/639-6516

Jim reminded us that trees growing in turfgrass are a violation of nature, of adaptations, and of basic requirements for both trees and turf. Turf grasses want full sun, uniform and persistent irrigation, and if mowed, fertilization. If not mowed, turf does not like traffic. Trees want full sun, little if any understory competition, little or no compaction or traffic under their canopies, and lots of leaf litter accumulation. In addition, trees' wants can be highly variable because trees grow everywhere! Jim went on to discuss root characteristics and needs of trees and turfgrass and the long-range management implications of their differences. He regaled us with the differences in tree vs. grass root biology and development, root rots, mycorrhizae, allelopathy, distribution of organic matter and nutrient cycling, leaf-litter and litterfall zones in the natural environment vs. the man-made. Maintenance conflicts between trees and turf are common: mowing and edging turf under trees often results in "mower blight" or string line trimmer girdling; trees have to be thinned to allow for light penetration, and; while tree care does not injure turfgrass roots, mowing injures tree surface roots. *The take-away message – maintain trees not turf grass!* Design turfgrass areas away from trees, pull back existing turfgrass at least three feet from the trunks of established trees and 1-2 feet from newly planted young trees, add mulch and allow litterfall, and irrigate grass by ETO models and fertilize appropriately.



After Dr. Downer, Thomas Shoots, our Los Angeles and Ventura County Regional Forester, gave an update on the **Cal-FIRE** programs and grants still available.

While many of the 2012-2013 grants have been awarded and are winding down, new funding programs, such as Cap and Trade, are being explored. There are still many opportunities to team with Cal-FIRE in support of your urban forest programs. They are working on technological advancements for mapping and phone applications and are advancing topics such as storm water capture and concrete rainwater gardens. Thomas is also available to come to City Council meetings, Arbor Day functions, community outreach projects, and Tree City USA award ceremonies. Check out the Cal-FIRE website for more information and Thomas's contact information.



From one Cal-FIRE representative to the next, we moved into a **Goldspotted Oak Borer (GSOB) update** with Kim Camilli, a member of the Cal-FIRE Forest Pest Management staff serving the South Coast

and Southern CA. GSOB continues to be a huge threat to Southern California oak forests. Cleveland National Forest is reporting 60 – 70% mortality of affected oaks. Kim recently found an infested black oak tree in the Riverside County mountain community of Idyllwild. This represents the first known infestation site outside of San Diego County. Firewood movement is still the main cause of transfer. Research is showing that GSOB is favoring older, larger trees. Coast live oak greater than 7 inches and California black oaks greater than 14 inches seem to be the most susceptible. From attack to death is 5-7 years on average. Symptoms usually include crown thinning and blood red trunk staining at holes from grade to about 10-feet up and can be on lateral limbs, too. Woodpeckers like to feed on the larvae in coast live oaks. Look for black frass-packed galleries. More than 25 exit holes usually mean death for the tree. There is a GSOB application that can be downloaded from the Cal-FIRE website – MOM, "Monitoring Oak Mortality" – data that is collected goes directly into the database. Research is being conducted at UCR labs with parasitic wasps from Arizona. For now, removal of infected trees along with air-tight tarping of the cut material for at least 3 weeks is recommended. This will starve the adults that attempt to leave the host tree, as they only live for 12-14 days. Research trials for insecticides and systemic treatments are underway. Topical preventative treatments can be used on non-infested or very lightly infested trees (<4 entry holes). It will reduce the days that the GSOB lives and the rate of sapwood consumption and cambium disruption. We all need to spread the word that firewood needs to be purchased where you plan to burn it. Know where your firewood comes from and do not transport it out of the area.

To work up our lunch appetite, Gordon Mann presented the group with ideas for **Practicing Sustainable Urban and Community Forestry**. Gordon's definition of urban and community forestry includes "The management of trees where people live for the benefits to people". His definition of sustainable is "A practice that is repeatable with minimal long term impacts on the community, and without significant drain on resources and budgets." Therefore, Gordon is promoting sustainable urban forestry through "Managing the trees where people live for the benefits to people, with reasonable costs and high return on investment." Gordon discussed the value and benefits of trees and some basic tenets of urban forestry. He proposed that some transitional approaches can be taken immediately without increasing budgets, like using existing systems with modifications and incrementally setting the stage for longer-term practices. He challenged us to look for ways to utilize new technology, materials, or designs in our programs and to think of trees as infrastructure. Overall, Urban Forestry requires interaction with many different disciplines and stakeholders. Small steps can move transitionally towards developing a longer term



More Highlights from WTMS- continued from page 2

solution as our education and partnering increases. Just as trees take time to grow, change may take time, too. New approaches are being tried and implemented. Stay current on the topic and learn from someone who has already advanced an idea. Cooperate with others and share as professionals. Lastly, if you live in and don't work for the City, advocate for positive change in their approach to sustainable urban forestry.

After a networking lunch and stimulating Plant Identification challenge, Nancy Sappington of the Inland Urban Forest Council (IUFC) presented the nuts and bolts of creating **Urban Forestry Management Programs**.



Just as STS is the L.A. and O.C. regional council for CaUFC, the IUFC is the Inland area's regional council for CaUFC. Nancy discussed the process by which IUFC prepared the Urban Forestry Management Plan (UFMP) Toolkit; an interactive, online tool for assistance in creating UFMPs. Then, she discussed the process of creating a draft UFMP and the need for a vision and a mission statement. Management practices must be addressed and some level of tree inventory is mandatory. Inventories can be of pilot project area or a percentage of the overall area. You want to arrive at a desired canopy cover that is realistic and conceive of a percentage increase that will be realistic over time. Targets for UFMPs can include not only cities, but water districts, HOAs and Resource Conservation Districts. Nancy's presentation brought home the point that UFMPs are tools for resource managers at many levels and that, with the tools available, the process is less intimidating than ever.

As we moved later into the afternoon, Dr. John Kabashima, of the Orange County UC Cooperative Extension, gave us an update on the **Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer**.



The vector beetle is a new *Euwallacea* species relative of the tea shot hole borer (an exotic Asian ambrosia beetle). It is very small and difficult to see. The beetle holes penetrate approximately 0.4-1.57 inch into the wood and there are often many entry/exit holes on an infested tree. The entry hole on avocado trees is about 0.033 inch wide. Mated females bore into trees and

create galleries that are infected with a symbiotic *Fusarium* fungus. The fungus grows on the gallery walls and spreads through the tree, killing the vascular tissues. It was first detected in CA in 2003 in Whittier Narrows and caused the death of large number of Box Elder street trees in Long Beach in 2010. In February 2012, fellow researcher, Akif Eskalen, found it on a backyard avocado tree in South Gate. It is now widespread in Los Angeles County and parts of Orange County. Unfortunately, it attacks many host tree species that also support beetle reproduction, including; Castor bean, Box elder, Coast live oak, Avocado, and Sycamore. There are also a number of trees that host the fungus, but not beetle reproduction. At this time, the final outcome of this interaction is unknown. Symptoms include; leakage of xylem fluid noticed on trunk and branches, dieback of branches, and entry/exit holes with surrounding white powdery exudate on avocado. Symptoms may be different on different hosts, such as different levels of staining and/or gumming. To confirm, scrape off the bark layer around the infected area to look for necrotic tissue. Follow the gallery to look for the discolored necrosis caused by the fungus. For vector control; do not move firewood, chip or grind infected material as fine and possible and bag it for removal or cover with plastic for at least a week, and sterilize your tools with 25% household bleach, Lysol® cleaning solution, or 70% ethyl alcohol. If you think you have PSHB, contact Akif Eskalen at eskalenlab.ucr.edu or Tim Paine at timothy.paine@ucr.edu.



So, what now with the PSHB? Our last speakers of the day, Lee Mangum and Donald Grossman, of Arborjet addressed this question in their presentation on a **Case Study: Battling the Polyphagous Shot Hole Borer**. They discussed the fact that since this is such a new pest/fungus association and infestation, not much is yet known about treatment options.

Tests are currently underway at UC Riverside and Lee and Donald are conducting several case studies in the San Gabriel Valley. Two studies are underway in San Marino, one at the Huntington Gardens and the other at a private residence, and another case study is being conduct-

ed at Descanso Gardens in La Canada-Flintridge. Tree species included in the studies are coast live oak, sweetgum, and Japanese maple. Two conditions are represented in the case studies: 1) Healthy = no PSHB infestation of *Fusarium* infection at Descanso Garden, and 2) Light – Moderate = PSHB infestation and *Fusarium* infection at Huntington Gardens. Specific topics of discussion included cultural care and sanitation, potential biological controls, trapping/pheromones, and chemical controls. Cultural care for infected plants includes tree removal, branch pruning, chipping, wound painting, solarization, and restricting firewood movement. Potential biological controls include the possibility for a native shift or introduction of natural enemies and biocontrol of fungal symbionts. No attractants or repellents are available at this time. Chemical treatments being tested include: systemics – soil injection/drench, trunk injection with insecticides/fungicides, bole sprays, and trunk sprays. After treatment, Lee and Donald will evaluate the efficacy and duration of several pesticide treatments for protecting individual trees from attack by PSHB. That will help to determine attack threshold for therapeutic treatments. Hopefully, they will have some results by the next WTMS meeting.

At the end of the presentations, Don DeLano took a group of members on Grounds tour of the Gardens. It was a perfect end to a day of history, education, and outreach. A big thank you to all our speakers and Fairplex for a wonderful winter WTMS.

Congratulations to all the raffle winners throughout the meeting and to our grand prize winner, Alan Hudak! The plant identification was won by Tim Crothers, Area Manager for West Coast Arborists, Inc. Way to know your trees, Tim!



Join us for our next meeting
March 21, 2013
Logs to Lumber w/Andrew Trotter

LOCATION: DESCANSO GARDENS
1418 DESCANSO DRIVE, LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE 91011

TIME: 10:30 PROGRAM
FOLLOWED BY GENERAL MEETING, LUNCH AND RAFFLE

COST: \$15.00/RESERVED \$20.00/ONSITE

NEXT MEETING!

December 2012 Membership Minute Recap

President John Conway welcomed the group to Kellogg West on the Cal Poly Pomona campus for the December 2012 Business Meeting. Past STS presidents in Attendance were Cy Carlberg, Kevin Holman, Rose Epperson, Al Remyn, Dan Jensen & Alan Hudak.

2012 scholarship awards were presented by Chairman, Al Remyn.



Congratulations to our 2012 Scholarship Recipients – Danielle Booth, Amy Dolim, Fleur Nooyan, Chaz Perez, our scholarship winners.

Executive Director, Rose Epperson, swore in the 2013 STS Board:



President: Robert Sartain
 Past President: John Conway
 Vice President: Dr. Fred Roth
 Secretary: Christy Cuba
 Treasurer: Dan Jensen

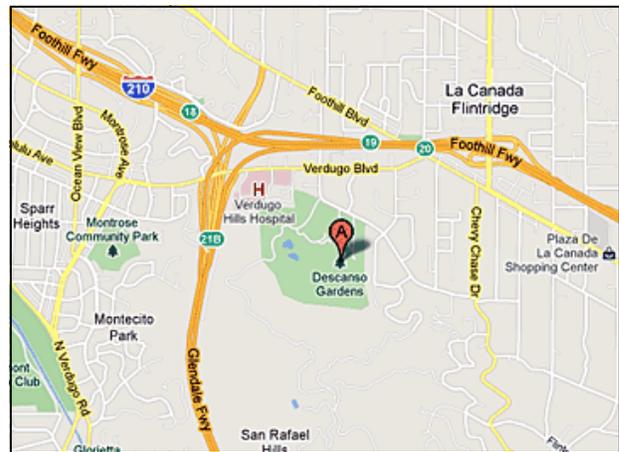
Directors: Emina Darakjy, Jon Baker, Leon Boroditsky

Thank you to our generous raffle prize donors:
 Emina Darakjy, Kevin Holman/RPW, Mauget, Christy Cuba, Robert Sartain, Rose Epperson, Alan Hudak, John Conway, Jorge Ochoa, Cy Carlberg

And Congratulations to our raffle prize winners:
 Nate Dodds, Ann Hope, Ron Call, Rose Epperson, Emina Darakjy, Ruben Flores, Alan Hudak, Amy Dolim, Fleur Nooyen, Robert Sartain, Kevin Holman, and Chaz Perea



Join us for our next meeting- March 21st at Descanso Gardens. Andy Trotter will be updating us on the benefits of a Logs to Lumber program. The program will begin at 10:30 and be followed by lunch and a short general meeting. Attendees are free to tour the gardens after the meeting.



Descanso Gardens is located at 1418 Descanso Drive, La Cañada Flintridge, CA 91011 near the intersection of the 210 and 2 freeways. It is a 20-minute drive from downtown Los Angeles.

Please RSVP to Secretary, Christy Cuba by email at christy@cycarlberg.com.



Have you renewed your Street Tree Seminar membership? If not, please do so today! Payment can be made online at www.streettreseminar.com

Upcoming Events

Tree Biology: Beyond the Basics

Feb 20: Honolulu
Feb 22: Kona
Feb 26: San Marino
wcisa.net



Landscape Disease Symposium



Hansen Agricultural Center
Santa Paula, CA
February 28, 2013
Registration info: ajdowner@ucanr.edu

WCISA Volunteer Work Day Camp Josepho, Pacific Palisades March 15, 16 & 17, 2013



Horticultural and Arboricultural Training Courses and Consulting

2013 Arborists' Certification Preparation Course

When:
All Wednesday Evenings, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
February 6, 2013 - April 17, 2013

Where:
Brea Community and Conference Center
In Convenient Orange County
695 E. Madison Way, Brea, CA 92821

Contact:
Ted Stamen 949/454-2429
www.tedstamen.com



Quench your thirst for knowledge at

Hot Arboriculture

WCISA 79th Annual Conference & Trade Show
May 7-10, 2013
Indian Wells, CA

Stellar multi-track program •
Tree Fund Golf Outing • Britton
Fund Ride • Casino Night • Wood
working 101 • Stump
the Chump •
Tour of The
Living Desert
and Thousand
Palms Oasis
Preserve

wcisa.net

