



STREET TREE SEMINAR, INC.

Your Los Angeles/Orange Regional Urban Forest Council

P.O. Box 6415
Anaheim, CA 92816-6415



SAVE THE DATE:
March 26, 2015
Topic TBD
LA Arboretum
Arcadia, CA

2015 MEETING SCHEDULE

- Jan 22 Western Tree Management Symposium Winter Program
Wyndham Anaheim/Garden Grove - Anaheim, CA
- March 26 TBD
- June 25 Golf Tournament
- July 16 WTMS Summer Program

Interested in hosting a program in your community? We are interested in hearing from you!
Contact heather@streettreeseminar.com

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."

Remember to email Ann Hope at ann@mauget.com with your reservation



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

STS Newsletter

JAN/FEB 2015

VOLUME XXI ISSUE 1

Scholarship Awards & Officer Installation

December's STS meeting was held at Kellogg West in Cal Poly Pomona. We honored our outgoing Board of Directors, welcomed our 2015 Board of Directors, and awarded three scholarship recipients. We've put another year behind us, and look forward to a great year ahead.

Congratulations to our 2015 Board of Directors:

- President**
Christy Cuba
- Past President**
Fred Roth
- Vice-President**
Leon Boroditsky
- Secretary**
Ann Hope
- Treasurer**
Ken Pfalzgraf
- Directors**
Emina Darakjy
Rebecca Criscillis
George Olekszak



Your 2015 Board of Directors

A big congratulations to our 3 scholarship awardees- look for their essays in upcoming newsletters.

Amanda Duncan

Amanda is currently attending Pierce College in Woodland Hills with a course of study in Horticulture/Landscape Design. Amanda worked for 20 years in the television industry in the Midwest, where her favorite pastime was gardening. Amanda moved to Southern California, where she found there were more opportunities in horticulture, so she went to Pierce College where she earned her Landscape Design Associates Degree.

Amanda's statement: I work full time for living expenses. This heavy work and school schedule leaves me little time. I am proud that I managed the Dean's Honor List. My overall goal is to be a residential landscape designer. With the help of your generous scholarship, I hope to achieve my aspirations and someday my designs will also be a benefit to the mission of Street Tree Seminar.



Brian Scott, Jennifer Hinostrroza, Zane Martin, Amanda Duncan, Joseph Wolf, Al Remyn and Fred Roth

Zane Martin

Zane is currently attending Mt. SAC with a course of study in Ornamental Horticulture. He is affiliated with the California Teacher's Association and the National Education Association. Zane has been a teacher for 16 years and has worked at People, Resources, Conservation Foundation as a consultant and editor. He won the 2004-05 Teacher of the Year Award for El Rancho Elementary school.

Zane's statement: Currently I am pursuing an Associate of Science Degree. As of recent, my attention has been in the field of arboriculture. I have been teaching for over 20 years in elementary schools. I like to teach others. The field of horticulture has been a passion of mine for most of my life. One of my hobbies is traveling- particularly like exploring coastal tropical countries such as Vietnam and Costa Rica.

Joseph Wolf

Joseph is currently attending Mt. SAC with a course of study in

Tree Care & Maintenance and Integrated Pest Management. He is a Qualified Applicator, Certified Master Composter, and a Master Gardener. Presently, Joseph works as a soil conservation specialist and an equipment maintenance technician. Joseph has given several presentations such as Soil and Water Health, Intro to Soils and Composting, Intro to Arboriculture, and Sustainable and Edible Landscaping.

Joseph's Statement: I was born in one of the poorest slums in a struggling third world economy (Egypt). I had a hard time living on the outskirts of Cairo. Working the land on the banks of the Nile River was a mystical, healing and life altering experience. It became a mission for me to preserve this oasis, because I dreaded returning to a lifeless landscape in the city, one barren of trees and animals.

Notes from our December 2014 General Meeting

Our December 2014 meeting was held at Kellogg West on the Cal Poly Pomona Campus.

Past Presidents in attendance were: John Conway, Rose Epperson, Alan Hudak, Al Remyn and Fred Roth

Prizes were donated by: George Olekszak/Tree Pros, Emina Darakjy, Mauget, Leon Boroditsky, Alan Hudak, Christy Cuba, Epicenter Management, John Conway

Raffle Winners: Joseph Wolf, Brian Scott, Antonio Gomez, George Olekszak, Christy Cuba, Fred Roth, Amanda Duncan, Ann Hope, Leon Boroditsky, Alan Hudak, Roy Chavez, Ross Montes

Next Meeting: Please join us January 22nd in Garden Grove for our bi-annual Western Tree Management Symposium. Visit our website for more information or to register. www.streettreeseinar.com

STS Scholarship Essay– Zane Martin

It is routinely reiterated that trees beautify your cluttered streets, that they effortlessly purify our polluted air, that they provide safety and cover for wildlife, that they comfort and inspire us to accomplish meaningful and lasting achievements, that trees are mysterious, profound works of art beyond the busy hands of human artists, that they are, of course, prime locations for tree houses, the dreams of countless children over countless centuries.

All of these assertions made on behalf of trees are true, and by themselves reasons enough to protect and preserve those we do have, as well as those we do not yet have. This is certainly especially true of the innumerable trees lining the countless paved and unpaved, busy and quiet streets across our enormous state.

For a very large number of people, however, those of the past and present, trees represent a great deal more beyond their purely functional, utilitarian attributes. Nearly every major civilization across all historical eras has elevated the tree, regardless of the space it occupied, to heights of spiritual and mythological realms where unattainable cosmic powers resided. Symbols of stability, strength, order and longevity are only a few of the attributes assigned to trees by cultures. They have been universally understood as “Cosmic Trees, The Tree of Life, The World Tree, The Tree of Knowledge, and The Family Tree. People have worshipped them, have married them to increase fertility, have been buried beneath them for shelter, have been symbolically turned into them, have been enlightened under them, and at least five country flags display trees or tree parts in them– an honor for sure.

Evergreen trees, such as the Laurel, have long been associated with immortality; deciduous ones have represented the cycle of life, death,

and resurrection. As a universal connection symbol of earth and the universe, trees have no equal. In Norse mythological iconography, Yggdrasil is the World Tree from where all life flourishes; for the Celts, the Oak was sacred; for the Germans, it was the Lime; for Pueblo Indians, the Pine; and for Buddhism, it is of course the Bodhi. More recently, trees have continued to inspire new generations of readers and movie enthusiasts. Coming to the rescue of the forces of good in the movie *The Hobbit*, or tree people (the oldest and longest-living race in Middle Earth) sacrifice themselves for the fate of the world. The Mother Tree in *Avatar: The Movie*, is defended at all cost by, again, the forces of good.

Setting the symbolism aside, although reluctantly, each and every tree that occupies a space along our crowded streets is no less the center of a unique, intact, self-supporting habitat. Among the root system of every tree inhabits innumerable beneficial species of fungi, bacteria, arthropods, and microorganisms; reptiles, amphibians and mollusks live in and around the soil beneath the canopy; birds, insects and mammals spend part of their lives on the branches and inside the cracks and crevices. Along any neighborhood street exists dozens of functioning microclimates supporting an array of habitats, all of which serve some important role in the health of our neighborhoods. Street trees must be protected. Their environmental contribution is immeasurable, yet not indestructible.

**Zane is our first of three 2015 scholarship awardees to be recognized. Stay tuned for the rest!*



New restoration focus for Western dry forests— from “Frontiers”

“The most significant current threat to western dry forests is from insect outbreaks and droughts, not wildfires, research shows. Historically abundant small trees offer the greatest hope for forest survival and recovery after these events, authors say.”

Dry forests are low-elevation western forests with tall pines. The study used government records of insect and wildfire damage to compare current threats to dry forests and used records from land surveys conducted in the late 1800s to understand how dry forests persisted for thousands of years in spite of insect outbreaks, droughts, and fires. These forests persisted, this study suggests, by having both young and old trees that together provided bet-hedging. Data on recent threats to dry forests used government maps of insect outbreaks and wildfires from 1999-2012 across 64 million acres of western dry forests or 80% of the total dry-forest area.

“When comparing the rates of insect outbreaks and wildfire over the past fourteen years, we were surprised to discover insect outbreaks impacted 5 to 7 times the area that wildfire did,” said Dr. Mark Williams, a co-author of the study and recent PhD graduate of the University of Wyoming’s Program in Ecology.

“In contrast, restoration efforts to increase resilience of dry forests to changing climate focus primarily on threats from wildfire. Our work suggests that impacts from insect pests should be considered with greater weight when formulating restoration prescriptions.”

To understand how forests were resilient to multiple disturbances in the past, the researchers utilized historical data which included 45,171 tree sizes measured along 13,900 section-lines traversed by land surveyors in about 4.2 million acres of dry forests in Arizona, California, Colorado, and Oregon in the late-1800s.

“The late-1800s land surveys provide us with a spatially extensive and detailed view of how these dry forests persisted through unpredictable episodes of insect outbreaks, droughts,

and wildfires,” said Dr. William Baker, a co-author of the study and Professor Emeritus in the Program in Ecology and Department of Geography at the University of Wyoming. “What we see from the surveys is that dry forests historically had many large trees, that often survived wildfires, but even more small trees that were less prone to be killed during insect outbreaks and droughts. The combination of abundant youth and older trees provided bet-hedging insurance that allowed these forests to survive and recover regardless of whether an insect outbreak, drought, or wildfire occurred. These unpredictable events may increase with global warming.” The study’s findings suggest current programs that remove most small trees to lower the intensity of wildfires in dry forests and restore large trees lost to logging, may reduce forest resilience to the larger threats from insect outbreaks and droughts.

“Using historical forests as a guide, our study suggests we may want to modify our restoration and management programs so they do not put all our eggs in one basket, but instead hedge our bets by keeping both large trees and abundant small ones,” said Dr. Baker.

Key findings:

- Over the last fourteen years, insect outbreaks have impacted 5 to 7 times more dry forests than have wildfires.
- Historically, dry forests had large trees, but were numerically dominated by small trees, 52-92% of total trees.
- The variable structure of past forests provided bet-hedging insurance against multiple disturbances and continued persistence.

Removing most small trees for modern restoration treatments may reduce the resilience of these forests.

Editor’s Note: In these historical drought conditions, it’s more important than ever to consider all facets and all options for tree care.



Winter 2015 WTMS~ Don’t Miss this Opportunity~ Register Today!



The Winter 2015 WTMS is coming January 22, 2015. Join us as we discuss “Trimming the Risk from Our Urban Trees”. Don’t forget to study for our annual “Professionals vs Students” tree ID contest!

****NEW VENUE****

**Thursday, January 22, 2015
Wyndham Anaheim/Garden Grove
12021 Harbor Blvd. , Garden Grove**

Registration is available online at www.streettreeseinar.com