



STS NEWSLETTER

A bimonthly publication of Street Tree Seminar
Your Los Angeles/Orange County Regional Forest Council

DECEMBER MEETING HIGHLIGHTS:

Celebrating our Scholarship Recipients and Leadership

December's meeting was held at Kellogg West in Pomona. Each December we gather to celebrate the scholarship recipients, thank our outgoing board and welcome the board for the coming year.

Scholarship Chair Al Remyn and committee member John Conway presented the awards for our two 2019 scholarship recipients. Congratulations to our students. Read all about them below. As part of the scholarship process, applicants submit an essay on **the importance of street trees**. Ashlyn's essay is on page 2. Look for Jose's essays in an upcoming newsletter later this year.

Ashlyn Pouvaranukoah is currently a Senior at Cal Poly Pomona with a course of study in Plant Science and a minor in Pest Management. She started work as a Farm Bill Assistant in 2016 at the National Resource Conservation Service. She has also worked as an Outreach Coordinator for Cal Poly on the Asian Citrus Psyllid until May 2018, and is currently employed as an Account Manager Assistant at RPW, Inc with duties including checking on residential and commercial properties for insects and diseases. She is active in her school and community as well, serving as the 2018 Treasurer of the Los Robles Horticulture Club and UCR Research Field Data Collector and volunteering for events in the community.

Ashlyn's Professor Frank W. Ewers states that Ashlyn is advanced in her thinking and has good writing ability. Additionally, Ashlyn will be giving a lecture on Shot Hole Borer disease.

Jose Alfredo Gama Vargas is a returning scholarship awardee. He is a full time student at Mount San Antonio College with a course of study in Integrated Pest Management. He has worked as a Plant Health Specialist with Smart Water Irrigation & Landscape, and as Mt. SAC's Agricultural Ambassador to the California Department of Food and Agriculture. He is also active in his school and community, serving as a volunteer for the Common Vision Fruit Tree Tour 2016-2017 and is a student member of both the California Association of Nursery & Garden Centers and the California Association of Pest Control Advisors 2017-present.

Jose has played a major role in controlling the spread of HLB (Psyllid) on Citrus in Southern California. He inspected over 2000 citrus trees and worked with the restoration project for Tree People at Ernest E. Debs park. Jose's Professor of Horticulture Jennifer Hinostroza states that Jose has recently discovered his love for horticulture and is very friendly, outgoing, and willing to help others.

After lunch, outgoing President, Ann Hope, thanked her board of directors with the gift of a tree. It was a lovely acknowledgment of how they had grown over the last year.

We welcomed in our 2019 Board of Directors with new President, Emina Darakjy sharing her thoughts on the coming year. Cheers to 2019!



Pictured here: from L: Al Remyn, Jennifer Hinostroza, Jose Gama Vargas, Ann Hope, Ashlyn Pouvaranukoah, John Conway and Alan Hudak

2019 Board of Directors

- President**
Emina Darakjy
- Past-President**
Ann Hope
- Vice-President**
Lisa McCoy
- Secretary**
Lucas Mitchell
- Treasurer**
George Olekszak
- Directors**
Ted Lubeshkoff
Rachel Malarich
Adrian Sanchez



2019 President, Emina Darakjy welcomes the new year.

NOTES FROM DECEMBER MEETING

Our December 2018 meeting was held at Kellogg West on the Cal Poly Pomona campus.

Past Presidents in attendance were: Al Remy, Ken Pflanzgraf, Rose Epperson, Alan Hudak, John Conway

Prizes were donated by:

JTL Consultants, Emina Darakjy, Lisa McCoy, Ann Hope, Rose Epperson, Ken Pflanzgraf, Al Epperson, Agriturf, Alan Hudak and TreePros

Congratulations to our Raffle Winners: Lorna Remy, Lisa McCoy, Ken Pflanzgraf, Alan Hudak, Antonio Gomez, Emina Darakjy, Alan Hudak, Ann Hope

Next Meeting:

WEDNESDAY!

March 20, 2019 // 10:30AM
URBAN LUMBER - "Street Tree Revival"
West Coast Arborists, Inc.
2200 E Via Burton Anaheim, CA



Visit our website for more information <http://www.streettreeseinar.com> - online registration is available.

SCHOLARSHIP NEWS

The Importance of Street Trees by Ashlyn Pouvaranukoah

As naturalist Aldo Leopold said, "The last word in ignorance is the man who says of an animal or plant: 'What good is it?'" A city without trees would be a sad and dangerous place to live. Numerous studies have proven that trees planted along streets promote awareness to drivers. There are less accidents in areas that are affluent in trees compared to areas that are lacking in these beneficial forms of life. Trees provide protections to pedestrians walking along sidewalks and create a clear visual of lanes to drivers. Naturally, trees also provide a clearer and calmer state of mind. Trees provide a positive sense of community. They create a vital interaction between nature and humanity. This has been found to alleviate depression and anxiety that are often affiliated with modern day troubles. Not only are city trees pleasant to look at, but they also filter out the abundance of noise pollution we encounter on a daily basis. Trees absorb some of the vibrations and noise produced from traffic and construction. The foliage of trees is also habitat to birds who fill the air with their songs. Besides having physical lure, trees and plants provide physiologi-

cal functions that are detrimental to our health. Areas that are plentiful in tree foliage are cooler in temperature. This is an important aspect as temperatures are rising from the shift of climate change. Air is also cleaned and oxygen rich when plants are performing photosynthesis. As all drivers now, Southern California traffic is a driver for terrible air quality. It is important to have trees plentiful in areas nearby freeways and city streets to make up for the abundance of toxins that are being pushed into the air we breathe.

To provide the best environment for a tree, city planners or homeowners need to be aware of the species' needs. Climate, susceptibility to pests and diseases and cultural practices need to be taken into consideration before planting.

The Street Tree Seminar has published a highly recommended guide to street tree characteristics. As an individual who works with a tree pest company, treating trees for many ailments could be prevented by proper knowledge and implementing good cultural practices.



Ashlyn with Scholarship Chair Al Remy, John Conway, and her father Jesse

A TREE'S SUCCESS STARTS WITH THE SELECTION PROCESS



What if a tree was able to vet its prospective owner and landscape before agreeing to be purchased? Arborists would smile and say 'yes,' a young tree would whistle at the possibility! A silly idea? Well hold on a minute and consider human history. We don't have to look very far, especially in urban settings, to see examples of 'problem trees.' Is the tree really the problem? These amazing organisms are sometimes criticized for doing what comes naturally, and what millions of years of evolution led them to do. Looking back, we often see that the problem began long before when well-intentioned people anchored them in conditions and locations either unsuitable to their nature or destined for conflicts. From that moment, they were fated to do poorly, possibly fail completely, become an inconvenience or even a hazard. When a battle of wills between trees and humans ensues, the chainsaw rules

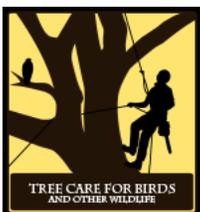
because trees can't run away. This often results in improper and needless pruning which injures and further compromises the tree's future. The wrong tree planted in the wrong place is really a set up for failure, can you see? So, since trees can't speak for themselves, getting professional help in choosing one is the best first step.

Selecttrees.com is a super resource. Keep these key questions in mind as you give the website a try: First ask yourself, why do you want a tree? A tree can offer various benefits such as shade, flowers, fruit, a pleasing architectural element, a screen, support for wildlife and more. Given your goals and the tree's intended location, consider whether the space will accommodate the eventual size of the tree, as well as its roots? Will the roots affect the surrounding hard scape? What other conditions will the tree face? Is the climate, soil, and amount of sunlight suitable for the tree in the long term? Will it have sufficient drainage? How much and what type of human activity will the tree have to endure? Did you know that heavy foot traffic under the canopy compacts soil and damages tree roots? Bark wounds from things like knife carvings, manual edgers, even staplers used to affix signs can injure a tree.



It's an oversimplification to say trees are invaluable to the welfare of humans and to the planet. [Click here to learn why.](#) When we give a tree a good start and put its care in the hands of professionals, we protect our investment, and we ensure the tree will serve us well.

It's a pity that trees can't talk, but another great way of getting acquainted with those in California, at least, is to walk and drive around with Matt Ritter's novice-friendly book, *A Californian's Guide to the Trees Among Us*. You will observe where they thrive, where problems arise, and what they look like when they are all grown up.



Blog post reprinted from TreeCareforBirds.com. The Tree Care for Birds and Other Wildlife Project is a recognized committee of the Western Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture. Participants represent the tree care industry and wildlife advocates in California, Arizona, Nevada and Hawaii. The project's principal supporters are CalFire and The Britton Fund.



MEETING SCHEDULE 2019

Remember to email Lucas.Mitchell@cityofrc.us with your reservation

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| March 20 | Urban Lumber - Street Tree Revival | West Coast Arborists, Inc. Anaheim, CA |
| May 22 | Pests and Tree Care for 2019 | Mauget Arcadia, CA |
| July 18 | Western Tree Management Symposium Full day Summer Program | Kellogg West Pomona, CA |

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

INDUSTRY EVENTS

February 14, 2019
 Brush Chipper Safety Operation
 San Diego, CA
www.unitedtreeclimbers.com

February 19-22, 2019
 ASCA Consulting Academy
 Seattle, WA
www.asca-consultants.org

February 24, 2019
 Society of Municipal Arboriculture
 Municipal Forestry
 Institute Silverton, OR
www.urban-forestry.org

February 25, 2019
 Structural Pruning Seminar Encinitas, CA
www.wcisa.net

February 26, 2019
 Structural Pruning Seminar
 Los Angeles, CA
www.wcisa.net

April 29-May 2, 2019
 WCISA Annual Conference Honolulu, HI
www.wcisa.net



MISSION

"To provide a forum for professionals to share their experience, knowledge and expertise for the benefit of the membership and the enhancement of Southern California's Urban Forest".



**Street Tree Seminar is your
 Los Angeles / Orange
 County Regional
 Forest Council**

VISION

"To enhance the health and beauty of Southern California's Urban Forest".