

STS NEWSLETTER

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



Highlights from our May Meeting: Nature Walk with Kevin Somes at Oak Canyon Nature Center in Anaheim

Street Tree Seminar held our May meeting in person at the beautiful Oak Canyon Nature Center in Anaheim Hills, CA. A huge thank you to the staff and especially to Kevin Somes for leading our tour.

Oak Canyon Nature Center is a 58 acre natural park owned and operated by the City of Anaheim Community Services Department. The park consists of three adjoining canyons, has four miles of hiking trails and a stream that flows year around.



The Nature Center officially opened in July 1976, but its roots go back to the early 1970s when the site was used for outdoor education programs for Anaheim schools. The area was originally part of the Nohl Ranch and the land was acquired by Anaheim Hills, Inc which was a subsidiary of Texaco. Oak Canyon was considered to be too rugged and steep for development and was designated as park land and given to the City of Anaheim.

Over the years, the Nature Center has offered many programs to generations of Anaheim residents and other visitors. From family programming such as the annual Nature Nights program to a popular summer day camp program to group tours for local schoolchildren, Oak Canyon lives up to its mission of providing innovative and creative programs which increase appreciation for the natural world and advocate environmentally conscious lifestyles.

During the May Street Tree Seminar tour, Kevin Somes, one of Oak Canyon's Program Specialists, took the group on a tour that covered a distance



of over one mile and traversed riparian, oak woodland and coastal sage scrub plant communities. Along the way the group walked by the park's oldest oak tree, examined the homes of Trap Door Spiders, looked at pack rat nests along the trail and learned about the area's flora and fauna. Beyond what the group covered during the hike, there are many more miles of trails to explore and great programs to attend at Oak Canyon Nature Center.



You can visit the center at 6700 E Walnut Canyon Rd, Anaheim Hills, CA Monday through Friday during daylight hours. For more information, visit <https://www.anaheim.net/1096/Oak-Canyon-Nature-Center>

In Memory

David Cooper
December 19, 1952 - May 20, 2022

On Friday May 20th we lost our good friend, colleague and mentor, Dave Cooper. Dave passed peacefully at his home with family after a battle with Parkinson's disease. He was a proud husband, brother, father, and grandfather with a love for golf and Dodger baseball. David Cooper worked with WCA for nearly 25 years, retiring in January of 2019 as the Area Manager for the South Bay region. Dave served as on the Street Tree Seminar board from 2008 to 2010. They say it's all about the "dash" and Dave lived every day to the fullest.

He was known around Southern California for his humor, ingenuity, kindness, tree knowledge and overall ability to lighten the mood.

Please join his family for a memorial service to celebrate his life. They will gather on Saturday, July 30th at 11:00 a.m. at the Crossroads Christian Church at 2331 Kellogg Avenue, Corona, 92881 to remember David who is greatly missed. The Celebration of Life will be held in the Plex / Packing House area. A buffet lunch will be served afterwards.



Your STS Board in the Community – Lucas Mitchell *Felling Fire Damaged Trees at Camp Whitsett in Kern County*

Earlier this month, I was contacted by my friend STS Past President, Andy Trotter about Camp Whitsett in the eastern Sierra mountains being in desperate need of some help.

The Camp was scheduled to open Saturday, June 18th to campers and groups consisting mainly of children. The Forest Service had gone into camp and marked a number of dangerous trees to be removed prior to kids attending camp. There were multiple agencies involved including Edison, A local logging company, Boy Scouts of America, and Camp Whittset staff.

The other agencies agreed to take responsibility for many of the tree removals however, it left Camp Whitsett's staff responsible for 53 remaining trees. These trees were all either dead, fire damaged, hazardous, and/or a combination of all. Some of them were estimated to be as tall as 160', however most were between 80'-120' tall. My son and I were



able to go up just days before camp was scheduled to open and take all of the hazard trees which were Whitsett's responsibility down to ground level.

It was a lot of hard work with the temperature in mid to high 80s (topping at 91 degrees one afternoon.) All work was completed with 3 medium to large saws which consumed almost 5 gallons

of mix. If one is familiar with workload/fuel usage in a chainsaw- that is ALOT of cutting and tanks of fuel.

I enjoy the work and it feels good helping the community at the camp.

If you're out and about in the community and care the share– you can submit an article and photos to info@streettreeseminar.com

Great Trees of the LA/OC - *Emina Darakjy*

Parkinsonia florida – blue palo verde

This issue's tree highlight is the *Parkinsonia florida* – blue palo verde, also known as *Cercidium floridum*.

This tree belongs to the Fabaceae family and is native to southeastern California, central and southern Arizona where it is considered the official State tree and in northwestern Mexico where its name means “green stick” in Spanish.

The blue palo verde is a moderate to fast growing small to medium size deciduous tree, 20 to 30 feet tall and about 20 to 25 feet wide with a rounded canopy with arching branches. The leaves are light green, alternate and bipinnately compound.

The trunk on young trees is chartreuse green turning grayish and scaly as the trees matures, the branches are green and smooth making the tree interesting to look at throughout the year even when it is leafless and not in bloom.

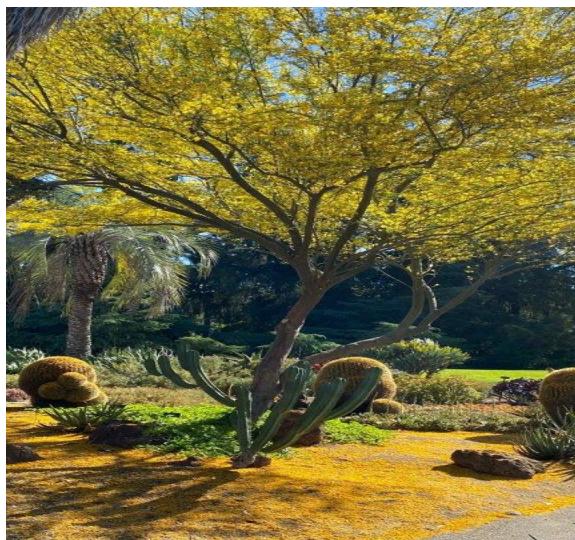
In late spring and into the summer with the leaves absent, the tree produces a spectacular display of bright yellow flowers with tiny red splotches in the center of them. The

flowers are lightly scented. The fruit or pods as they are called appear in the fall, are light green, very small and contain seeds in them. The pods are a good source of food for birds and the flowers are a magnet for honey bees.

This is considered a very though tree, does better in full sun but can tolerate some partial shade, is very drought tolerant and prefers a well-drained soil. The tree is very easy to grow and care for, if you need to do that, prune lightly in the summer. This tree is a good candidate for planting under the power lines and the damage to sidewalks from its roots is very low.

Pests to look out for are wood borers, spider mites and root rot. Having said that, if you keep your tree healthy and not over water it, you don't need to worry too much as pests seem to attack when trees are stressed.

This is a gorgeous tree when in bloom, can be grown as a single or multi trunk form in parks, parking lots and adds a beautiful focal point to one's garden complementing other drought tolerant plants.



To order a copy of the third edition of “Street Trees Recommended for Southern California”, visit our website at www.streettreesseminar.com, or call Heather at 714.639.6516

Scholarship Essay– by Sahar Fazelvalipour

Street trees, also known as a tree population in the urban platform, are considered by many experts as an urban feature. Street trees provide many benefits, like reducing the urban heat island effect., reducing carbon footprint, and improving economic health. However, so many people think they are unnecessary and are just being used as a beauty feature.

First, according to the EPA, it is beyond debate that since plants and suitable vegetation may be a good shade for building surfaces, controlling the sun's radiation and increasing the atmosphere moisture, they can be one of the main elements that may help reduce urban heat island effects. In other words, when carbon dioxide density is getting higher, the less water the plant needs for the photosynthesis. So it can lead to raising the volume of moisture in the air. Tall and broad trees may also create an excellent shade to protect buildings and pavement from the sun and regulate sun radiation. Additionally, reducing green spaces means increasing the concrete concentration. The more concrete we have, the higher the rate of sun absorption, which means the more need to cool down those areas, using a lot of energy and money in the process. In order to cool down the buildings, we are supposed to use air conditioning, which can have a significant impact on air pollution and increase the urban heat island.

Another main reason for using street trees is reducing our carbon footprint. The more trees planted, the more CO₂ they can absorb. Trees also may reduce the wind speed that can help reduce the emission of CO₂ by reducing the building's reliance on air conditioning in the summer and heaters in the winter. Additionally, adding trees and green spaces in cities makes the neighborhood more walkable by providing better air quality, enhancing people's connectivity to nature, providing a better place for neighbors to exercise and children to play. So, the more walkable the area, the more people use alternative transportation like bikes, which means the less carbon dioxide, which is less greenhouse gas emissions.

Third, street trees play an essential role in improving economic health. By removing distressed properties and replacing them with green areas, the property values rise. According to Crompton, properties near park areas are being sold at a higher price, which means the tenants will pay a higher tax, which means more money for developing the green areas. Moreover, the more walkable, greener, and safer the area, the more people are willing to move there. So, as the demands are going higher, the more people are OK to pay. So the property value goes up also. This encourages development, creates job opportunities, and creates places within the community to share experiences and meet with one another.

In conclusion, street trees positively affect the urban heat island effect, reducing carbon footprint and improving economic health. Their advantages pale into insignificance compared to the disadvantages. Unless the people and government take practical approaches to turn red areas into green fields, the consequences will be detrimental.



Sahar Fazelvalipour was one of our 2021 Scholarship recipients. Sahar is a student at Cal Poly Pomona with a course of study in Landscape Architecture. She is studying for her Masters Degree with a 3.7 GPA. She is also a student engineer at Cal Trans, and volunteers at local community centers teaching English. Sahar is passionate about sustainable design and hopes to one day own her own landscape design business. Sahar plans to continue her education after her Masters and pursue her PhD. Congratulations to Sahar, and we look forward to seeing more from her in the future!

July 14, 2022 @ Huntington Gardens
Creative approaches to managing trees in a changing environment

- 8:00am** *Registration opens*
- 8:30 am** *Introductions*
 Lucas Mitchell - STS 2022 President
- 8:35 am** *Welcome to the Huntington*
 Emina Darakjy, STS Past President
 Nicole Cavender, Telleen/Jorgensen Director of the Botanical Gardens
- 8:45 am** *Big Problems, Bold Solutions*
 Walter Passmore, State Urban Forester, CAL FIRE
- 9:15 am** *An IPM approach to managing invasive beetles in the urban forest*
 Beatriz Nobua-Behrmann, PhD., Urban Forestry and Natural Resources Advisor, University of California Cooperative Extension – Los Angeles and Orange County
- 10:15 am** *Stretch Break*
- 10:30 am** *Santa Ana Zoo & Arboretum: utilizing drones & multi-spectral imagery for horticultural management -*
 Brandon Elrod, PhD., President, Pacific Coast Arborists
- 11:15 am** *Santa Monica's urban tree canopy from 2014 to 2020: Good or bad news?*
 Matthew Wells MSc, MICFor, Public Landscape Manager, City of Santa Monica
- 12:00 pm** *Lunch (provided) & Tree ID Challenge- Students vs Professionals*
- 12:45pm** *Tour of Gardens -*
 Led by Emina Darakjy
- 2:00 pm** *Navigating drought restriction Legislation: Keeping trees the priority*
 Anita Matlock, Master Gardener, Sustainable Irrigation Expert (Retired), Ran Bird Corporation
- 2:45pm** *Trees and Stress: changing climate, stress related concerns, and potential mitigation options*
 Drew Zwart, PhD., Plant Pathologist & Physiologist, Bartlett Tree Lab
- 3:30 pm** *Wrap up/Drawing/CEUs*

GETTING THERE:

The Huntington is located near Pasadena in the city of San Marino, twelve miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles. The Huntington has two entrance gates: at Allen Ave., just south of California Blvd., and on Oxford Road.

Please be mindful of the surrounding neighborhood.

**REGISTRATION:**

\$175.00 if postmarked by July 1, 2022**

****\$25.00 discount for STS members**

\$75.00 Student Discount Rate

~NO REFUNDS WILL BE GIVEN~

ONLINE REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE @ WWW.STREETTREESEM-INAR.COM

VENUE

Rothenberg Hall
Huntington Library, Art Museum, and Botanical Gardens
 1800 Orlando Street ~
 San Marino, CA

CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS

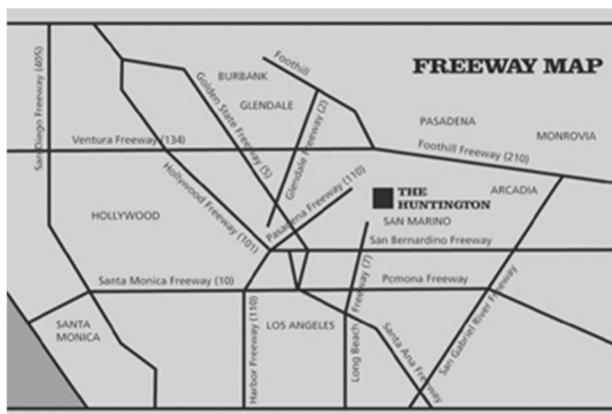
5.75 CA/MS/TW
 2.5 BCMA - Practice /3.25 BCMA - Management
 DPR 1.75 Other

TABLE TOPS

A limited number of table top exhibits are available. Fee is \$250.00 plus event registration - contact STS for more information or to reserve a spot. Representatives are required to register for the event.

INFORMATION

714/639-6516





Meeting Schedule 2022

PRESIDENT
Lucas Mitchell
City of Rancho Cucamonga
8794 Lion Street
Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91730
909/477-2730

PAST PRESIDENT
Emina Darakjy
1044 Prospect Blvd
Pasadena, CA 91103
626/792-0586

VICE PRESIDENT
Rachel Malarich
City of Los Angeles
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Los Angeles, CA 90015
213/365-7400

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OPEN**

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Rachel Malarich
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<i>July 14</i>	<i>Summer WTMS</i>	<i>The Huntington San Marino, CA</i>
<i>Aug 18</i>	<i>TBD</i>	
<i>Oct 21</i>	<i>Growing Grounds walk with Don Hodel</i>	<i>El Dorado Park Long Beach</i>
<i>Dec 15</i>	<i>STS Scholarship Awards/Officer Installation</i>	<i>TBD</i>

Industry Events

Aug 3	<i>Webinar - Climate Change from a Forester's Perspective w/ Henry Herrera wcisa.net</i>	Zoom
Aug 19-20	<i>PTCA Seminar & Field Day https://ptcaosd.wildapricot.org</i>	<i>San Diego, CA</i>
Sept 25	<i>Municipal Forestry Institute 2022 https://www.urban-forestry.com/mfi-2022</i>	<i>Bowling Green, OH</i>
Sept 29-30	<i>Lead with Trees California Urban Forests Conference www.caufc.org</i>	<i>Rancho Mirage, CA</i>
Oct 5	<i>Webinar — Nature Based Solutions for Healthier And More Resilient Cities with Matthew Wells Wcisa.net</i>	Zoom



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”.