



STS NEWSLETTER

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

May Meeting - "10 of my favorite trees" with Donald Hodel

On May 22nd, STS held our first virtual meeting. The Board would like to thank Don for sharing his knowledge with the attendees. ~RE

People frequently ask me what are my favorite trees, which is a nearly impossible question to answer because too many come to mind. Nonetheless, from hundreds if not thousands of trees I could call favorites, here are 10, with my humble apologies to the countless others. Most are adapted to our warming and likely drying climate, once established needing hardly any winter irrigation and a thorough irrigation only about once every 10 days in the summer.

Angophora costata smooth-barked apple, rose gum



A eucalypt but not included in the genus *Eucalyptus*, this Australian native can become a large tree and is especially noted for its colorful bark, which sheds in various shades of gray, silver, and orange. Its white flowers in early summer are also showy. An exceptional planting of this handsome tree lines Kenilworth Ave. in Pasadena.

Bombax ceiba red silk cotton tree



Native from India to Australia, this briefly deciduous, tropical tree puts on one of the most spectacular flowering displays I have ever seen. Devoid of leaves in late winter, it bursts forth with an incredible display of large, waxy, red flowers covering its bare branches. Catch this relative of our well known *Ceiba speciosa* (floss silk tree) at its peak in late February

and March at the Los Angeles County Arboretum and Botanic Garden in Arcadia.

Cassia brewsteri Brewster's cassia



Another Australian native, this variable but handsome tree blooms from old wood and in late spring is typically heavily festooned with pendulous tresses of showy yellow to orange flowers. The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens in San Marino has several forms of this spectacular tree in its Australian section.

Delonix regia royal poinciana, flamboyant



Picture a *Jacaranda mimosifolia* with orange-red flowers, and *voilà*, you have *Delonix regia*. This Madagascar native is one of the most common yet spectacular tropical flowering trees in the world. A legume, it typically drops its finely dissected leaves in late spring and the orange-red flowers cover the bare branches nearly in their entirety, putting on a profuse display. Trees are scattered throughout Southern California, for example at the Fullerton Arboretum.

~Continued on page 2

FAVORITE TREES, continued from pg 1

Ficus macrophylla Moreton Bay fig



I have recently become smitten with *Ficus* and for us in Southern California the champion and most imposing species and largest exotic tree is *Ficus macro-*

phylla. It is famous here for the typically huge, spreading buttresses adorning the base of the trunk, a feature common in the tropics but rarely developing in our arid, subtropical garden. Give it plenty of room. Imposing specimens are here and there in Southern California, for example at Fig Tree Park in Glendora and at the train station in Santa Barbara.

Handroanthus heptaphyllus ink tab, pink trumpet tree



Formerly known as *Tabebuia impetiginosa*, this glorious tree is the king of winter and spring floral displays, densely covering its bare branches with copious clusters of lavender,

trumpet-shaped flowers. It is widespread in Southern California now, and for good reason.

Jubaea chilensis Chilean wine palm



If you know anything about me, I would be remiss if I did not include a palm in this listing, so here is the leviathan of the family, *Jubaea chilensis*. Imposing would be an understatement. With gray, Greek-column-like trunks up to five feet in diameter, this palm is easily the center of attention. But beware, it is slow, and the adage “always late but worth the

wait” applies here. Lotusland in Santa Barbara has more of this palm than anywhere except its native haunts in Chile.

Lagerstroemia indica crape myrtle

I have come to much admire and have an affection for these handsome and useful trees despite many people disdaining them, including a favorite arborist friend of mine who commonly refers to them by common name, only dropping the “e” from crape. But what is not to like about them, from their bountiful and colorful, showy, late spring and summer floral displays; smooth, attractively colored bark; striking fall color; manageable size; and tolerance of diverse and often harsh conditions? What say you, friend?



Quercus tomentella island oak

I am fond of oaks, and to me *Quercus tomentella* is perhaps our best native oak. Native to the Channel Islands, its most appealing feature is its unusually handsome, thick, leathery, heavily veined leaves, dark glossy green above and striking gray below. Of typically nice and suitable, upright habit, it is an all-around winner for our landscapes and urban forests.



Vachellia xanthophloea fever tree

Formerly known as *Acacia xanthophloea*, overly zealous Australian botanists, striving for botanical and taxonomic purity, kicked out all non-Australian species of *Acacia*, assigning them to other genera. Thus, this African species, which one can readily picture on the Serengeti plains, lifting



WTMS Summer 2020 - Virtual Format**

8:45 – 9:00am

Welcome / Gathering, George OleRose Epperson, Epicenter Management

9:00 – 10:00am

Southern California Emerging Tree Pests: What to look out for, Dr. Beatriz Nobua-Behrmann, UC Cooperative Extension

Emerging tree pests are a major threat to the trees in Southern California. Particularly, several species of invasive insects are causing severe damage -and even death- to thousands of trees, both in the urban forest and in natural areas. This presentation will provide an overview of some of the most damaging emerging tree pests in Southern California. We will cover how to identify the pests and/or their infestation symptoms, what kind of damage they cause, and what are the best management practices recommended to control them.

10:00 – 10:15 – Break / Discussion Room open

10:15 – 10:45am

The Importance of micronutrients for trees – Dawn Fluharty, Arborjet

Micronutrients are key building blocks for healthy trees. As we know, trees that are healthy are less susceptible to diseases and pests. There are more ways to accomplish health trees than by just adding micronutrients to the soil to. We will look at an integrated approach for making plants healthy utilizing tree growth regulators such as ShortStop. We will also look at specific pests and diseases that are prevalent when there are insufficient micronutrients in a tree.

10:45 – 11:15

Treating Sycamore Anthracnose, Alison Herrel, Rainbow Scientific
Sycamore anthracnose is a serious disfiguring disease impacting most *plantanus* species. It causes woody tissue lesions which can cause branch dieback and under heavy stress tree mortality. Managing this pathogen requires improving plant health and a macro infusion of Arbotect 20S to reduce the canker stage. Tree growth regulators such as cambistat can also be used to improve the tree's general health, thicken the leaf cuticle, and increase defense against the pathogen. Traditional foliar fungicide applications can also be done to manage the leaf stage. We will discuss the biology behind this pathogen and how to build an integrated pest management program to provide arborists with all the tools needed to improve tree health.

11:15 – 11:50am - Break / Discussion Room open

11:50 – 12:20

Delivery systems for treating your trees, Will Harrison, Target Specialty

With the diverse pest problems in trees today there is a need to know, understand, evaluate and use the most efficient techniques in delivering various plant protection materials. Treatments can range from foliar to very specialized tree injections. Using the most effective delivery system will minimize the



July 23, 2020

8:45am - 2:00pm

Identifying & Treating Pests in So Cal

**A web based symposium through Zoom

\$50.00 members

\$75.00 nonmembers

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amount of plant protection materials needed. Using the most effective delivery system also reduces the potential for problems from offsite movement of materials. Each delivery system has its benefits and problems. Discussion will be done to educate the participants so they can do their own evaluations on the best delivery system for their situation.

12:20 – 12:50pm

The most BORE-ING talk of the seminar: all about Invasive Shot Hole Borers and ways to control them. Rafael (Andy) Vega, DPM, J.J. Mauget
A brief history of the invasive shot hole borer; how they got here, how and why they are spreading and what can we do about them. The invasive shot hole borer (ISHB) is, as its name implies, a "new" pest insect introduced to California. It has a huge economic impact on both urban and natural landscapes and is now impacting agriculture. This presentation will discuss how the pest was introduced and why it is causing so much damage to the industry. We will review its biology to better understand how the insect causes damage and what the latest research has discovered. Using this information, we can discuss how to exploit its weaknesses and new and different ways to control or mitigate the dam-

age ISHB causes.

12:50 - 1:00pm - Break / Discussion Room open

1:00 – 2:00pm

Phytophthora diseases (Really? In Southern California?) Dr. Igor Lacan, UC Cooperative Extension
Root and crown rots, dieback, and cankers caused by Phytophthora have been a longstanding but often under-recognized problem in cultivated landscapes, and some recent developments have made it clear that this pathogen has remained as devastating as ever and is occurring in new settings and presenting new challenges to arborists and landscape managers. In this presentation, we will start by covering the basic biology of Phytophthora, the mechanisms of infection, and the effect of Phytophthora on plants. We will then cover three examples that illustrate the importance of understanding how Phytophthora spreads, infects, and affects the plants, and what we can learn from settings different from ours: (1) "Root and crown rot" in landscape plants (*Phytophthora cinnamomi* & friends); Sudden oak death; and "New" *Phytophthora* species in nursery plants and restoration plantings. We will then transition to *Phytophthora* diagnosis, prevention and management. We will examine in detail the diagnostic methods and their limits; we will discuss the paramount importance of sanitation, quarantine, and monitoring of newly-planted trees. We will also discuss chemical control methods, their efficacy, limitations, and evidence for/against chemical controls. We will conclude with practical steps that arborists and landscape managers can take to reduce the risk to their trees and landscapes, and to manage diseased trees and plants when needed.

FAVORITE TREES, continued from pg 2

its lofty, multi-tiered, flat-topped canopy just out of reach of grazing giraffes, was put into *Vachellia*. Besides its picturesque habit, the beautifully colored bark, finely dissected leaves, and powder-puff flowers are appealing features. But beware! Spines abound. The San Diego Zoo Safari Park has a nice collection of these trees.



Links:

<http://ucanr.edu/sites/HodelPalmsTrees/PalmArbor/>

<http://ucanr.edu/sites/HodelPalmsTrees/>

We look forward to spending more time with Don this Fall. Stay Tuned!

Webinar - July 20, 2020 – 10:00AM-11:30AM

Trees are Essential – Growing Human Health and Equity

Featuring Dr. Ming Kuo – Landscape and Human Health Laboratory Lead, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Should our urban forests be considered an essential element of the public health system? Can the presence of urban forests lead to lower crime, more equitable communities and greater social cohesion?

Suggested donation:

\$25.00

We are providing this webinar for free, but please, if you can, make a donation so that we can continue to host great speakers.



To answer these questions, and more, we will be joined by Dr. Ming Kuo for this not to be missed webinar. **Register now.** You will receive a link to the **survey** to let us know what topics interest you the most:

- stronger communities
- crime and violence
- equity and access
- children, academic achievement
- mental health

www.caufc.org



NEW DATE FOR WESTERN CHAPTER ISA CONFERENCE

Reach your Highest Peak

86th Annual Conference & Tradeshow
November 9-12, 2020
Resort at Squaw Creek
Olympic Valley, CA

WWW.WCISACONNECT.COM





MEETING SCHEDULE 2020

Remember to email chango369@hotmail.com with your reservation

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July 23	WTMS Summer Program Identifying & Treating Pests in So Cal - <i>a web based symposium via Zoom</i>	Online
August 20 TENTATIVE	Tools of the Trade– Carl Mellinger Cal Poly Agriscapes Visitor Center	Pomona, CA
October 22	TBD	TBD
December 17	Scholarship/Officer Installation Kellogg West @ Cal Poly Pomona	Pomona, CA

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

INDUSTRY EVENTS

Street Tree Seminar, Inc. remains fully operational at this time. We have shifted our team members to working remotely following the guidelines of global health officials, but all association work is continuing. Some of our support services will be operating on reduced hours in order to focus on business continuity and operations. At this time, most face to face events have been cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19 pandemic guidelines. There are many web based options available as well. We will share those as often as possible. Stay connected on our [FaceBook page](#)

Aug 21, 2020 **PTCA - 2020 Vision for Arboriculture WEBINAR** Online
www.ptcaosd.wildapricot.org

Nov 9-12, 2020 **WCISA Annual Conference** Olympic Valley, CA
www.wcisaconnect.com

Various Webinar Providers: Western Chapter ISA www.wcisa.net/events; TREEFund www.treefund.org; Rainbow Treecare www.treecarescience.com; Urban Forestry Today www.urbanforestrytoday.org/; and Forestry Webinar www.forestrywebinars.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”.