



NEXT MEETING:
Thursday, March 19, 2009
Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens,
Claremont, CA

2009 MEETING SCHEDULE

March 19	Spring in the Gardens	Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Gardens Claremont, CA
May 21	TBD	
June 18	STS Annual Golf Tournament	
August 20	TBD	
October 15	Tree Horror Story Susan Sims	Sims Tree Learning Center Pedley, CA
December 10	Annual Scholarship Awards/Officer Installation	TBD

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 JOHNNY AGUILA @ JOHN.AGUILA@SMGOV.NET WITH YOUR RESERVATION



What's Been Goin' on With our Trees?

Highlights From WTMS

by Johnny Aguila

January 15, 2009 marked this year's 'Western Tree Management Symposium' presented by Street Tree Seminar, Inc., and held once again at the calming LA County Arboretum in Arcadia. Approximately 300 devoted folks attended to hone their skills by paying close attention to 6 of our industry's more well-known, educated and experienced speakers.

Here are some worthy bits and pieces that came up that got the pencils off the tables.

Dr. James Downer, UCCE, Ventura, CA Shade Tree Disease Update

To avoid the chance of pink rot (*a fatal cool weather disease*) attacking a stressed palm you are treating, wait for the onset of warm weather to treat, when palms are more resilient.

It's well known that chain saws move the Fusarium Wilt inoculum from palm to palm. The sawdust alone can float down and spread the same inoculum over a wide area to adjacent hosts.

To avoid spread of Fusarium Wilt when removing a Canary Island Date Palm, the extreme (\$\$\$) approach would be to pluck the entire palm out with a crane while making one lower trunk cut. Other solutions include:

Sterilizing tools – 50% bleach 50% water or 1 part bleach 3 parts water.

Use of a portable gas plumbers torch in the field to completely kill (*burn*) the inoculum, between trims, from pole saw blades, hand saw blades, pruner cutter (*not chains*). 100% effective.

Banana Moth larvae found in Queen Palm

Basal Canker in Kentia Palm, phytophthora usually bred from nursery. Natrasia (*Sooty Canker*) in recent Ficus decline.

Dr. Fred Roth, Cal Poly Pomona, Pomona CA Maintenance of Mature Trees

Mature tree challenges: Site changes, soil compaction, construction in root zone, nutrient deficiencies, changes in associated vegetation and reduced organic content.

Routine Maintenance – Follow ISA Pruning Standards: Pruning ONLY for tree health, nutrient management, irrigation, safety exams.

Limit the size of pruning wounds by: Training trees while young, pruning more frequently making smaller cuts with hand clippers, loppers.

Wind sail effect is corrected by height reduction (*drop crotching*) not canopy thinning.

Irrigation: Established trees need very little water.

General Approach for good tree health: Remove competing plant material (*turf grass*) and relieving soil compaction for gas/air exchange. Impeded gas exchange kills trees. Mycorrhizal fungi treatments good for seedlings not mature trees.

Dr. Tom Scott, UC Riverside, Riverside, CA Diseases/Insect Pests Affecting Coast Live Oaks

There are 16 varieties of Oak (*Quercus*) in California. Precipitation drives the distribution of Oaks, in low precipitation areas you'll find scrub oaks and in high precipitation areas you'll find tree oaks.

Oaks have the ability to strategize their shape and size (*colonization*) by the amount of water that is available to them. They will grow slower or faster as they need to.

What's killing Oaks in Southern California? Drought, Golden Oak borer from Guatemala, fire, changes in understory, increasing injuries and pathogens (*Xylella*).

Mr. Andy Trotter, West Coast Arborists, Inc., Anaheim, CA

Tool Kit for Municipal Arborist

At this point in time the "Tool Kit for Municipal Arborist" is in the process of attaining a conceptual framework for the developing of a plan, the elements of a plan and on-line tools you can use to put together your own "Urban Forest Management Plan".

Please give your opinions at: <http://www.caufc.org/> Toolkit on-line Survey. California Urban Forests Council @ 415.408.3222

UPCOMING MEETING INFORMATION

MARCH 19, 2009

LOCATION:

RANCHO SANTA ANA
BOTANIC GARDENS
1500 N. COLLEGE AVE.
CLAREMONT, CA 91711

COST: \$10.00

TIME: 10:30 - PROGRAM
11:30 - LUNCH & MEETING
1:00 - GARDEN TOUR

GETTING THERE:

From I-10:
Exit Indian Hill Boulevard north (approximately 1.5 miles) to Foothill Boulevard. Turn right on Foothill Boulevard. Turn left on College Avenue and proceed north to the RSABG parking lot.

From 210 Freeway (driving east):
Exit Towne Avenue south (approximately 1 mile). Turn left on Foothill Boulevard. Turn left on College to the RSABG parking lot.

From 210 Freeway (driving west):
Exit Baseline. Turn right on Baseline to Mills Avenue (approximately 1/2 mile). Turn left (south) on Mills to Foothill Boulevard (approximately 1 mile). Turn right (west) on Foothill Boulevard to College Ave. Turn right on College to the RSABG parking lot.

Please note:

The Garden is open during construction of Claremont Graduate University housing. Entry to the Garden must be made from Foothill driving east. If you are coming from the west, pass College Avenue and make a U-turn at the red light at Dartmouth Avenue. We are sorry for the inconvenience and thank you for your patience.

(Continued on page 2)

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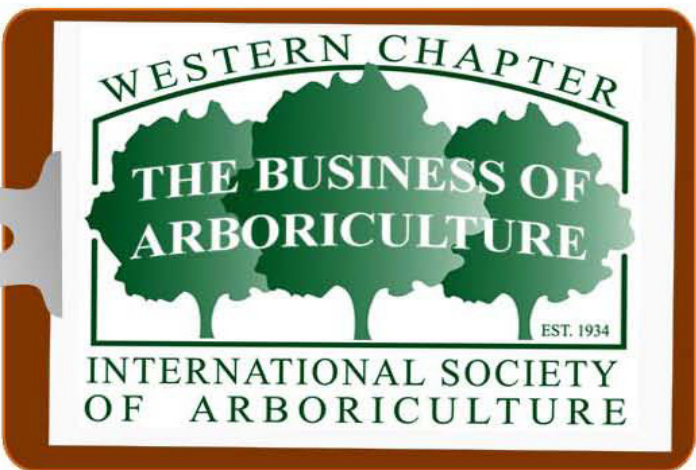
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Upcoming Industry Events

- Feb. 11 - April 22 Ted Stamen's Arborist Cert. Program Brea, CA
Contact: Ted Stamen 949/454-2409
- Feb. 26 Urban Forest- Future Perfect Los Angeles, CA
Register online: <http://futureperfect.wcisa.net/futureperfect/>
- Feb. 27 & 28 Arbor Camp/Work Day Emerald Bay Catalina, CA
*Contact: Andy Trotter (atrotter@wcainc.com)
Or Carl Mellinger (ginkgoone@aol.com)*
- March 5 The Oak - it's not just a Tree La Canada, CA
Register online at www.wcisa.net

CELEBRATING 75 YEARS



MAY 4 - 8, 2009

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Anaheim, CA 92816-6415
www.streettreeseminar.com

WTMS continued

Dr. Deborah Mathews, UC Riverside, Riverside, CA
A new canker disease of alder trees in California and an update on Xylella fastidiosa in landscape plants

In November 2007 alder trees were inspected with upper canopy dieback and some trees failing. Trunk bark exhibiting dark brown, moist spots were chiseled out to find cankers in the wood. Along with phytophthora disease specialist Dr. Michael Coffey, samples were taken of similar trees in Orange County and Los Angeles. A fungal culture was obtained in Costa Mesa from a single sample identified as *Phytophthora siskiyouensis*, a quarantined pathogen fairly new to California.

If you come across similar Alder problems please contact Deborah for possible sample collection. (951.827.3864)
dmathews@ucr.edu

Phytophthora alni is another disease found in Europe which has decimated over 30% of the Alders there. Found in the U.S. in Alaska and possibly the Colorado Rocky mountains, it prefers cold climates and hopefully will not be a threat in California. As a popular landscape tree, either of these fungi (*and the possibility of another*) could be a serious threat to this tree crop.

Emerging Diseases in landscape plants:

Bacterial Leaf Scorch caused by Xylella fastidiosa

Primarily vectored by the '*Glassy Winged Sharpshooter*' which has an extremely broad host range of >200 species in >35 families. Over 195 plant spp. susceptible. List of feeding hosts can be found at <http://www.cdfa.ca.gov> A good vector + broad host range + plenty of susceptible hosts = a nice disease epidemic. Bacterium in xylem forms aggregates that block xylem and overall effect is the stoppage of water flow to the plant. Symptoms of scorch, chlorosis, stunting and decline often appear to be water stress or nutrient deficiency.

CONTROL is a big challenge in California.

- ◇ *Tetracycline injections* appear to alleviate symptoms-but costly and repeat applications are needed.
- ◇ *Vector control* is difficult due to efficiency of transmission.
- ◇ *Irrigation management* may help alleviate symptoms.
- ◇ Millions of dollars being directed toward *Xylella* and *GWSS* research in California.

SAMPLING cannot be done on tissue that is completely dead. Good samples with live bacteria are needed for testing methods. Live bacteria are most likely to be found in diseased, but live plants. Green stems, petioles and leaf midveins are often the best choice for testing.

How to send samples:

- ◇ Only a few grams of green stems or petioles are needed for testing.
- ◇ A few 6" pieces of good samples are more than enough.
- ◇ Place samples in a plastic zip-lock bag and either drop off personally asap or overnight mail for best chances of having a good test done. If transit time will take longer, place a barely moist towel in the bag. The tissue should not be allowed to mold in transit.

No Real Control at this Time!

Dr. John Kabashima, UCCE, Riverside, CA

New insect pests and what to expect from some old pests

Threats to California Agriculture:

- Fruit Flies, Insects, Diseases, Weeds, and Nematodes.
- Eucalyptus pests (*borer larvae*) are being found in the lumber which wooden shipping pallets from overseas are constructed of.
- Discovered an interesting looking pest? Do Not** move/spread to other areas.

Report to your County Agricultural Commissioner:

- Orange County-714.447.7100 or 7115
- L.A. County-562.940.7234
- S.D. County-619.565.5789
- C.D.F.A.-800.491.1899, www.cdfa.ca.gov

John's websites - www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74140.html
www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/EXOTIC/exoticpestsmenu.html



Special thanks to our Exhibitors and Sponsors:

- California Releaf
- California Urban forests Council
- Mauget
- RPW Services (*provided lunch refreshments also*)
- Street Tree Seminar, Inc.
- Target Specialty Products
- Tree People
- United Voices for Healthier Communities
- Western Chapter ISA

Many thanks to Eric Gorsuch, Tree Care Safety, for providing the sound system. Safety Program Evaluations
www.treecaresafety.com 714.743.8715

"Let's do it Again"





2008 Scholarship Awards

Scholarship Chair, Al Remyn, presented five scholarships to very deserving southland students at the December General Meeting. Let's meet this year's honorees.

Hector Ramirez

Education

Hector is presently attending Mount San Antonio College studying Horticulture with a 3.75 GPA.

School/Community Involvement

He has been very active in several groups such as Sports Turf Club and is a member of several associations.

Work Experience

Hector worked in landscaping for 5 years and the Pomona Unified School District for 2 years. Since August 2007 until now he is working for the City of Riverside.

Letter from Advisor

His professor of Horticulture is Jennifer L. Garwick at Mt. San Antonio College. She recommended Hector highly as a Scholarship

recipient. Hector has also taken the initiative to be involved in the industry while he attends school.

Statement

Hectors father was a landscaper and did a lot of working in trees. He is planning to further study in arboriculture. He plans are the use the scholarship money for the arborist exam, for books and tuition.

Jess Johnston

Education

Jess is attending Cal Poly Pomona studying Ornamental Horticulture. He is completing his senior year with a cumulative GPA is 3.034.

School/Community Involvement

Jess is also a member of the los Robles Horticulture Club for this last year Member of the "Planet" team that competes nation wide

Also Volunteers for various events.

Work Experience

Presently he is working as an intern at Valley Crest. He worked in Landscaping and Restaurant business.

Letter from Advisor

Dan Hostetler is instructor at Cal Poly. Jess took courses at Santa Barbara City College and Orange Coast College in Horticultural and Urban Forestry.

Statement

Jess is a third Year Plant Science major. Lately he got more interested in urban forestry and arboriculture. He would use the scholarship money to pay for tuition.



2008 President Janessa Cotugno and Scholarship Chair Al Remyn pose with the 2008 recipients: Hector Ramirez, Daniel Delgado, Jr., Anna-Lisa Sharar, Daniel Hirschag, and Jess Johnston.

Daniel Hirschag

Education

Daniel is attending Cal Poly Pomona studying Ornamental Horticulture. He has completed 151 units with a cumulative GPA of 3.05.

School/Community Involvement

Daniel is a member of the Los Robles Horticulture Club as well as the turf club.

2008 Scholarship Awards - continued

Also works as a volunteer at CHOC Hospital in Orange.

Work Experience

He has been working on Golf Courses at the Vellano Contry Club and the Pelican Golf Course.

Letter from Advisor

Daniel's Professor is Fred Ross at Cal Poly. He has taken a course in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry

Statement

Daniel is studying for getting his Bachelors of Science degree in Horticulture. The Scholarship money would be a great help for paying his final year at Cal Poly. Also his goal is to be a Certified Arborist.

Daniel Delgado JR.

Education

Daniel Delgado is attending Cal Poly Pomona studying Ornamental Horticulture. He is expecting to graduate in the spring of 2009 and his Cumulative GPA is 2.3.

School/Community Involvement

Daniel was selected for the 08'-09' "PLANET" Career day completion. Also was president in 2007 for Los Robles Horticulture Club and other functions

Work Experience

Presently he is working at the Cal. Poly Horticultural Unit as a Nursery Assistant. He worked for two years at the K&D Nursery. He was active as a Fireman for the U.S. Coast Guard and Volunteer for the L.A. County Sheriff Dept.

Letter from Advisor

Fred Ross is his Professor. He highly recommended Daniel for the Scholarship award. He is highly motivated and energetic.

Statement

Daniel likes to finish his Bachelors of Science Degree in Ornamental Horticulture and continue his

education by completing an Agricultural Business Masters program. He would like to use the money for tuition, books and living expenses.

Ana Lisa Sharar

Education

Anna-Lisa is attending Cal Poly Pomona studying Master of Landscape Architecture. She has completed 17 units and is working in her 18th unit. Her cumulative GPA is 3.77.

School/Community Involvement

Student Member: American Society of Landscape Architects 2008-to present

Work Experience

Intern: La Canada Tree Care/Stevens Tree Experts-2008 to present; Flintridge Tree Care/ Landscape Engineering-2008 to present; Park West Landscape, Inc 2005-June 2008; Norman's Nursery 2002-2005

Letter from Advisor

Her Professor is Fred Ross. He got to know her 6 years ago as an undergraduate. She was very active in various activities. She is studying at the present arboriculture. She would be highly deserving of the scholarship.

Statement

She is solely relying on student loans. The Scholarship monies would be off setting tuition fee books etc.

Congratulations to all the recipients - look for articles written by each of them in upcoming newsletters.

A big THANK YOU to chair Al Remyn for another great year!