



# STREET TREE SEMINAR, INC.

Your Los Angeles/Orange Regional Urban Forest Council  
P.O. Box 6415  
Anaheim, CA 92816-6415



### NEXT MEETING

**February 3, 2016**  
**WTMS Winter Program**  
The Huntington  
Rothenberg Hall  
**San Marino, CA**

## 2016 MEETING SCHEDULE

February 3	WTMS - Winter Program A Conversation about Trees	Rothenberg Hall Huntington Library and Gardens
March 24	Growing Investments in CA's Urban Forests Guy Anderson, Cal FIRE	TBD
May 26	TBD	TBD
July 21	WTMS Summer Program	Kellogg West Pomona, CA

Interested in hosting a program in your community? We are interested in hearing from you!  
Contact [heather@streettreseminar.com](mailto:heather@streettreseminar.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](mailto:ann@mauget.com) with your reservation



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

# STS Newsletter

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016

VOLUME XXII ISSUE 1

## Recap of Scholarship Awards & 2016 Officer Installation

December's meeting was held at Kellogg West in Pomona. We honored our scholarship awardees and outgoing board members and welcomed our 2016 Board of Directors. We look forward to interacting with all of you in 2016.

### 2016 Board of Directors:

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



Left: Leon Boroditsky, President Above (from left): Rebecca Criscillis, Ann Hope, Rose Epperson, Christy Cuba, Ken Pfalzgraf, Emina Darakjy, Lucas Mitchell and George Olekszak

Scholarship Chair, Al Remyn presented awards to our 2015 Scholarship recipients. Congratulations to our three local students introduced below ~ watch for their essays in upcoming newsletters (Melissa Brey's in on page 3).

### Gretchen Heimlich

Gretchen is currently attending Mt. San Antonio College with a course of study in Integrated Pest Management. She is a member of several professional organizations including the WCISA, ISA, SCA, UAA and SMA. She is also active in her school and community, and manages her community gardens.

Gretchen's statement: In 2013 I returned to college to study horticulture and Integrated Pest Management, and to complete my lower division science classes (I have a BA degree in Creative Writing and Studio Art). I began volunteering at (and eventually became the manager of) a community garden space, and wanted to have a science-based background from which to educate the public on growing plants. Through my classes, I reawakened a lifelong fascination with insects, in particular how they interact with trees and plants. My goal is to transfer directly from Mt. SAC into a Master's program to study Entomology, and potentially a PhD, and to work as an advisor and researcher in the field.

### Benjamin Brown

Benjamin is a two-time STS Scholarship Awardee. He is currently attending Cal Poly Pomona with a course of study in Plant Science/Environmental Biology. He is a member of the WCISA and is active in the industry. Benjamin is very active in his school and community, volunteering his time and energy for various activities and clubs.

Benjamin's statement: In the past year, I graduated from Mt. SAC with degrees in Ornamental Horticulture and IPM. I completed 113.5 units and maintained a 4.0 GPA, graduating in the top 19 students with the highest academic honors of a graduating class in the thousands. I was decorated with numerous awards including academic recognition from my department. I also completed certificates in nursery management, tree care and maintenance, landscape irrigation, and landscape design. While I had originally planned on going to work after getting my associates degree, after careful consideration I decided to continue my education at Cal Poly Pomona. I am now working on 2 degrees at Cal Poly- plant science and environmental biology.



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**Notes from our December 2015 Meeting**

Our December 2015 meeting was held at Kellogg West in Pomona.

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

**Prizes were donated by:** Lisa McCoy, Ken Pflazgraf, John Conway, Rose Epperson, Leon Boroditsky, Antonio Gomez, Emina Darakjy,

Alan Hudak, Ann Hope, Kevin Holman  
**Raffle Winners:** Emina Darakjy, Leon Boroditsky, Christy Cuba, Alan Hudak, Antonio Gomez, Rose Epperson, George Olekszak, Al Remyn, John Brown and Lisa McCoy.

**Next Meeting:** WTMS: A Conversation about Trees~ February 4, 2016 at Rothenberg Hall in The Huntington. Register now at [www.streettreseminar.com](http://www.streettreseminar.com)

**Upcoming Meetings and Events**



**Wednesday  
February 3, 2016**

**A Conversation about Trees**

*Join us at the new Rothenberg Hall at the Huntington for a full day of discussion and education about trees in our Southern California communities. Featured speakers are Andy Lipkis, Dr. Greg McPherson, Dr. James Downer, Dr. Natalie vanDoorn, John Kabashima, Joe McBride and Jeffrey Reimer. A Garden walk is included in workshop admission.*

**CONTINUING EDUCATION HOURS**  
5.75 CTM / BCMA - 1.5 P/ 2.75 M / 2.0 S  
*DPR hours will be applied for*

**The Huntington  
Rothenberg Hall  
1151 Oxford Road  
San Marino, CA 91108**



**Magic in Our URBAN FORESTS**  
WCISA 82nd Annual Conference & Trade Show  
Disneyland Hotel - Anaheim, CA  
May 2-5, 2016 | [wcisaconnect.com](http://wcisaconnect.com)

**The Importance Street Trees Essay— by Melissa Brey, 2015 Scholarship Recipient**

Street trees provide a vast number of benefits for us to enjoy on a daily basis. During a rainstorm, the branches and leaves of trees intercept the water and prevent runoff and harmful pollutants from entering our storm drains. Trees prevent soil erosion and ensure that our groundwater supplies are continuously being replenished.



about the dangers of tree topping is an area that more people need to be aware of. The average individual does not know that by topping a tree you shorten it's life and make the tree more unsafe! By extension, hiring a qualified arborist to care for our trees is crucial to the health and vitality of our urban forests.

Trees are as vital to the environment as breathing is to us. Just two mature trees can provide enough oxygen to support a family of 4 for a year. Trees are pollution fighters. One car that drives 26,000 miles is equivalent to the same amount of carbon that just one single tree absorbs in a year. In fact, over the course of a tree's life, it can absorb one ton of carbon dioxide. The more trees we have, the cleaner our air.

Cities riddled with pollution and crime need trees for the proven psychological benefits (trees are proven to reduce crime and have a positive effect on people), to reduce pollution and increase home value.

It is also important that we properly care for our urban forest. Educating the public

It is also extremely important to plant the right tree in the right site to ensure that the tree gets its best chance of survival and does not unnecessarily need to be removed. If we plant the right tree in the right place, we are helping to ensure it's chances of surviving and thriving in our city for as long as it is able to.

One of the most important things we can do us educate the public to the vital role that trees play in our lives as well as the proper care to ensure that they live a long, healthy life providing us with shade and beauty for as long as possible.



**Scholarship Introductions (continued from page 1)**

Even beyond my BS degree, I hope to continue my education. My aspirations to help the industry from the inside has evolved over the years as my education has progressed. I now have the goal of becoming a researcher and a professor in order to help the industry grow through new ideas— and through the training of the next generation.

**Melissa Brey**

Melissa is currently attending Cuyamaca College with a course of study in Arboriculture. She is the founder of a non-profit called Voice for the Trees, and volunteers in her church and community.

Melissa's statement: Thank you for considering me for your scholarship. My education has been a long and tenuous road but I am finally seeing some light at the end of the tunnel. After a decade long in fitness, my career aspirations are leading me to Arboriculture. I have a calling to help trees. I received a certificate from Mt. SAC in Tree Care last semester and now am working toward obtaining my Associate's Degree in Arboriculture at Cuyamaca College. This is an arduous task since I live 90 miles from campus. I am also raising a teenage daughter by myself and starting a non-profit called Voice for the Trees. My passion lies in educating the public about the problem trees face locally and globally.

**PRESIDENT**

Leon Boroditsky  
City of Los Angeles, Rec and Parks - Forestry Div  
3900 W. Chevy Chase Dr.  
Los Angeles, CA 900939  
310/779-0111

**PAST PRESIDENT**

Christy Cuba  
Carlberg Associates  
80 W. Sierra Madre Bl., #241  
Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
626/428-5072

**VICE PRESIDENT**

Ken Pflazgraf  
City of Beverly Hills  
455 N. Rexford Dr. Rm 200  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210  
310/285-2537

**SECRETARY**

Ann Hope  
JJ Mauget  
5435 Peck Rd  
Arcadia, CA 91006  
626/321-2473

**TREASURER**

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

**DIRECTORS**

Rebecca Criscillis  
City of Beverly Hills  
455 N. Rexford Dr. Rm 200  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210  
510/725-2915

George Olekszak  
Tree Pros  
15077 La Palma Dr  
Chino, CA 91710  
909/548-0033

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

**MEMBERSHIP**

Kevin Holman  
714/412-5348

**SCHOLARSHIP**

Al Remyn  
714/538-3821

**MAILING ADDRESS**

Street Tree Seminar, Inc.  
P.O. Box 6415  
Anaheim, CA 92816-6415  
[www.streettreseminar.com](http://www.streettreseminar.com)  
714/639-6516