



In the Shade

Vol. 30, No. 2
September 2006

20th Annual Conference October 4–6

ISA Texas Tree Conference Will Look at “What Works in Texas”

“What Works in Texas—The Voices of Experience” is the theme of the 20th Annual Texas Tree Conference October 4–6 at the Austin Marriott North in Round Rock

The conference will kick off with two afternoon workshops Oct. 4. *Firewise* will show you how to incorporate fire-resistant management practices into your business in this time of high temperatures and extreme drought. *Texas Tree Ordinances* will give urban forestry professionals the chance to share what works and what doesn't in tree protection ordinances. The ISA Certified Arborist exam will also be held on October 4.

The 15 conference speakers—most of them from Texas— will cover a host of topics over two days, from insects and disease to marketing strategies, to organic tree care. Don't miss the Thursday awards lunch, where the winners of “Arborist of the Year” and “Arboricultural Project of the Year” will be recognized. That evening after dinner, everyone is invited to enter the second annual ISAT Texas Hold 'em Poker Tournament.

A registration form is on page 3, and more information will be posted on the ISAT website (www.isatexas.com) as it becomes available. Following is the preliminary schedule:

PRELIMINARY 2006 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 4

- 12-5 p.m. Registration
- 1-4:30 p.m. *Firewise Workshop*
 - Session I: Bobby Young, Texas Forest Service – Fire history over the past year and your part as the solution to devastating fires
 - Session II: Judith Leraas-Cook, National Firewise – Firewise concepts and defensible space
 - Session III: Justice Jones, Texas Forest Service – Marketing strategies, training and community programs
- 1–5 p.m. *Texas Tree Ordinances—What Works and What Doesn't*
Arborists and foresters from diverse Texas cities will discuss successes and challenges in urban tree preservation. First floor of McConico Bldg., 301 W. Bagdad, Round Rock. Please RSVP to Jim Carse at jcarse@round-rock.tx.us or call 512-341-3368.
- 4-9 p.m. ISA Certification Exam (See *Certification Corner* on page 5 for more information.)
- 6-11 p.m. After Hours Social

Thursday, October 5

- 7-9 a.m. Registration
- 7-8 a.m. Member Breakfast
- 8-8:15 a.m. Welcome, ISAT president
- 8:15-9:15 a.m. *Marketing 101*, Kevin Tuerff, Enviromedia
- 9:15-10 a.m. *Marketing: What Has Worked for Texas Arborists*, John Davis, J. Davis Treecare
- 10-10:30 a.m. Break



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President's Message by Pat Wentworth

A second chance at a last message: The last *President's Message* was, I thought, going to be the last one, but starting with this newsletter ISAT will now be bringing you six issues a year instead of four. We've hired an associate newsletter editor to take some of the load off Courtney. Welcome, Jeannette Ivy, to our team. This newsletter goes out to over 600 folks in the field of arboriculture. It's an opportunity to share information with fellow arborists, and it's also an

opportunity to reach a select group of people who are striving to do the best tree work in Texas. Looking for help? Advertise in the newsletter. Looking to buy or sell equipment? Advertise in the newsletter.

A recent survey of the Texas chapter showed that 86% of the folks had an e-mail address. (I suspect it's actually more than that.) Did you know that the ISAT newsletter is also available as an e-mail

sent to you? It's easier to store and keep track of the newsletter on your computer, and the electronic version is in full color! If you are not receiving the newsletter via e-mail, please contact Mike Walterscheid (mbwalter@totalaccess.net) and let him know that you would like to receive the newsletter electronically rather than via snail mail.

John Giedraitis has done wonders with the web site. Check it out at www.isatexas.com. It's still a work in progress and will have more content and links added over the coming months. It will be a great resource for our members as well as the buying public.

Buying public? We are looking into how to put an "arborist for hire" page on the website. It will list any certified arborist who is "for hire" along with their specialties and the cities/counties in which they work. The page isn't ready yet, but it should be soon. There will be a small annual fee.

As I look back on this year, I can safely say that ISAT has made significant accomplishments:

- We now have a better organized Education Committee, and it will be bringing bigger and better workshops to ISA members in the near future.
- We've partnered with TFS to form the first Oak Wilt Specialist Certification Course that allows TFS to train certified arborists to correctly identify and treat oak wilt. The first workshop was a huge success. A second is planned soon. Watch for an announcement.
- Planning has begun for the 2nd National Oak Wilt Symposium (NOWS) June 5-7, 2007, in Austin. I have been urging ISAT to put such a program on for the past three years. (The first one was in Austin in June of 1992.) We began a nationwide advertising campaign at the ISA Convention in Minneapolis; over 1000 brochures were eagerly snapped up at the registration tables. Interest is building in other parts of the country, as oak wilt occurs in more than 26 states.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE *continued from page 1*

- 10:30-11:30 a.m. *How to Diagnose Tree Problems*, Pat Wentworth, Austin Tree Specialists
- 11:30-1 p.m. Lunch (Awards Luncheon/Business Meeting)
- Concurrent Sessions, Track A
- 1-2 p.m. *Tree Injection*, Jim Zwak, Rainbow Treecare Scientific Advancements
- 2-3 p.m. *Pesticide/Diagnosis: What Has Worked for Texas Arborists*, Jerry Pulley, Tree Clinic
- 3-3:30 p.m. Break
- 3:30-5 p.m. *Bacterial Leaf Scorch, from Grapes to Oaks*, Dr. David Appel, Professor & Associate Dept. Head, Plant Pathology & Microbiology, TAMU
- Concurrent Sessions, Track B
- 1:30-3 p.m. *Tree Inventory Systems, iTree*, Scott Maco, Davey Resource Group, Urban Forester and Project Manager
- 3-3:30 p.m. Break
- 3:30-5 p.m. *Tree Management Plans*, Walter Warriner, City Forester, Santa Monica, CA and ISA Vice President
- Thursday Night Social
- 8-11 p.m. Texas Hold'em Tournament

Friday, October 6

- 7-9 a.m. Registration
- 7-8 a.m. Member Breakfast
- 8-9 a.m. *Hazard Tree Assessments & Dynamics*, Todd Watson, Asst. Professor, Urban & Community Forestry Program, TAMU
- 9-9:30 a.m. *Hazard Trees, Real World*, Kerry Kellam, Horton Tree Care
- 9:30-10 a.m. Break
- 10-11 a.m. *Cabling/Bracing: ANSI Standards*, Kevin Bassett, Arborological
- 11 a.m. - 12 p.m. *Lightning Protection*, Jan Yoder, Independent Protection Co.
- 12-1 p.m. Lunch (provided)
- 1-1:45 p.m. *Causes of Chlorosis*, Jim Zwak
- 1:45-2:30 p.m. *Fertilization*, Sam Hill, Sam Hill Tree Care
- 2:30-3 p.m. Break
- 3-3:45 p.m. *Organic Treecare*, John Dromgoole, The Natural Gardener
- 3:45-4:30 p.m. *Sales*, Jim Houser, Tree Clinic
- 4:30-5 p.m. ISA Hispanic committee update, Mark Duff, Texas Forest Service

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Conference Registration

Registration before September 13th

_____ \$150.00 ISAT member

_____ \$195.00 Non-ISAT member

_____ \$ 50.00 ISAT student member

Name of School You Attend

After September 13th or at the Conference

_____ \$195.00 ISAT member

_____ \$240.00 Non ISAT member

_____ \$ 75.00 ISAT student member

Name of School You Attend

Tree Protection Ordinance Workshop Firewise Workshop

Thursday night Texas Hold 'em Poker Tournament

Name: _____

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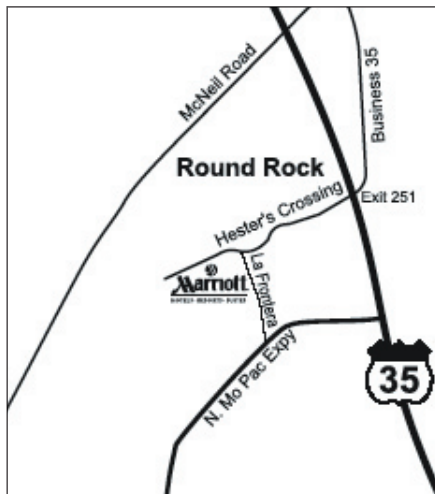
Amount Charged: _____

Fax registration to 512-281-3974 or mail your registration form with your check or credit card information to: ISAT, 242 Monkey Road, Elgin, TX 78621. For more information, contact Mike Walterscheidt at 512-587-7515.

Special Rates on Accommodations

We look forward to seeing you in Round Rock. The Marriott has a special \$85.00 per night single rate (\$119.00 double) for everyone who registers before Sept. 13. Call 1-800-865-0546 or 512-733-6767. **You must mention you are with the ISAT Tree Conference.**

*Marriott North, Round Rock
2600 La Frontera Blvd.
Round Rock, Texas 78681
512-733-6767*



New Official ISAT Website Is On Line

The new official website of ISAT—www.ISATexas.com—is now up and running, and the old one is offline. The new site was designed by John Giedraitis, who is looking for member feedback. If you have any comments about the new site, contact John at jpg@tfs.tamu.edu

Many consumers use the internet to find local arborists for tree work. Contact John if you are interested in advertising on the site.

What Not to Do

A Jacksonville, FL tree service owner was arrested in August after the death of one of his employees from electrocution. The owner was charged with workers' compensation fraud, first degree, for failure to provide workers' compensation insurance coverage for his employees. Because of the lack of insurance, the family of the deceased worker may not receive death benefits.

According to Tom Gallagher, Florida's chief financial officer. "Workers' compensation coverage ensures workers, especially those in high-risk jobs, have a safety net in the event of an accident. Employers who break the law and do not provide this coverage put their employees and their families at great risk and unfairly compete with law-abiding businesses."

The employee died after his tree trimming equipment came in contact with a power line. At the time of his death he was two days short of his 22nd birthday. The official investigation confirmed that the owner and four employees were working at a private residence without workers' compensation coverage, a violation of Florida law.

—From Florida Dept. of Financial Services

Citizen Foresters Help Fort Worth Do More Tree Work With Fewer Dollars

Like other parts of the state, the Cross Timbers Urban Forestry Council (CTUFC) region is experiencing brisk population growth. For cities and towns in the region, the challenges posed by growth are complicated by limited budgets and small staffs.

To address this situation, last fall the CTUFC proposed and received a matching partnership grant from the Texas Forest Service to develop a volunteer program called Citizen Forester. Fort Worth forestry staff took lead responsibility for implementing the program.

To become a Citizen Forester, a volunteer must complete an intensive six-month training program, consisting of classroom instruction and field training, followed by 25 hours of community service under the guidance of his or her city's urban forestry staff. A continuing commitment of 25 hours a year is required to maintain the title of Citizen Forester.

The Cross Timers pioneer class began their training in January and completed it in June. The curriculum included benefits of trees, proper pruning and planting techniques, recommended

Citizen Foresters learn to measure street trees for proper height clearance. Volunteers can now help Fort Worth carry out its "Look Up! Don't Lose A Limb!" campaign.



native and adapted trees, recognition of hazardous trees, comprehensive urban forest inventories, protecting trees throughout the construction process, and other urban forestry subjects.

Twenty-seven of the 29 people who started the program completed the training portion and are now doing their volunteer service "internship" in support of tree projects on public property. The training itself included hands-on work such as planting, pruning, and tree inventory of a park.

So far the pioneer class has contributed 918 hours of volunteer work during the training phase and 122 hours since the training concluded, for a total of 1040 hours of volunteer service.

While these volunteers are not qualified for climbing trees, using powered pruning equipment, or providing consultations, they can assist in a myriad of other ways. In Ft. Worth, for example, the Citizen Foresters are working on projects such as pruning newly established trees and taking tree inventories of parks

Other tasks they can handle include: measure street trees for proper clearance, prune crape myrtles on public property, plant and mulch trees in parks, and participate in public tree planting programs and tree give-away events. As trained tree advocates, Citizen Foresters can also recognize a good pruning job and recommend that their family, friends and colleagues hire a certified arborist.

How much money are these volunteers saving? In Ft. Worth they are performing tasks for which the city simply doesn't have available manpower. So whether or not they help cut budget expenses, these volunteers have definitely helped expand the level of services provided.

Most members of the pioneer class found the training a positive experience. "The field training was always a bonus activity and helped to enhance the classroom learning. It was fun to meet so many people with a like mind and I even ran into some familiar faces from other activities," said volunteer Camille Drinan. Another volunteer, Jannis Ghaddar, stressed the community benefits: "Through my participation in the program, I learned the importance of trees in our communities and the value of a well maintained tree."

The professionals thought the program was worthwhile too. "I am excited about their level of dedication to the Citizen Forester program and am pleased with the quality of their work performance," said Melinda Adams, Ft. Worth City Forester. "Their input for improving the program has been

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Certification Corner *by Pat Wentworth*

At last count ISA Texas had 499 Certified Arborists with a little over 500 members. Prior to Certification, the numbers were less than half that amount in Texas. Worldwide, there are over 18,500 certified arborists.

The next Certification Test will be given Wednesday, October 4 at the North Austin Marriott in Round Rock, just prior to our annual convention. This will be the seventh time the test is given this year and the 95th time it's been given in Texas since June, 1992.

In the past, we have given the test at the end of the annual meeting. This time, by giving the test before the meeting, those who stay for the convention (assuming they have passed the exam) will begin to immediately acquire their continuing education units (CEUs). It will be possible to take the exam and then acquire nearly half

of the required CEUs for re-certification in just two and a half days.

Check-in for the exam will be 5:30 p.m. You can download an application online at <http://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/resources/certapp.pdf>

Applications, along with your check, must be physically in the hands of the folks at ISA in Champaign, IL 16 calendar days (12 working days) before the exam date or you will not be able to take the exam. Demand for this test has been steadily increasing; you should get your application in right away.

At *any* Certification Test, the Certified Arborist, the Utility Specialist, the Municipal Specialist, and the written portion of the Certified Tree Worker exam, as well as make-up tests, can be taken.

Studying for the test has proved challenging for some. For those, I recommend not only the *ISA Certification Study Guide* (black cover, available through ISA Texas at 512-587-7515, but also Dr. Alex Shigo's books *A New Tree Biology* and *Modern Arboriculture*; *Arboriculture* by Harris Matheny and Clark; the ANSI A-300 (*Pruning Standards, Cabling & Bracing Standards, Fertilization Standards, and Lightning Protection Standards*) and Z-133 *Safety Standards* as well.

Dr. Todd Watson will be giving his *Arboriculture 101* course early next year to help folks having trouble with the exam. Todd's classes have helped increase the passing rate significantly. Look for an announcement for this class soon in this newsletter.

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International BOD Votes Down Change in Structure

The International Board of Directors meeting in July looked at several small issues unrelated to our activity or concern. One issue, however, would have a direct impact on our chapter and how it is represented at the International level. This item was a proposal to reduce the number of members of the ISA BOD to 15, with all members being appointed by the Executive Committee. Chapters would no longer be allowed to select their own representatives.

The international administrative budget would increase 30% since this budget would have to pay for travel and expenses of the appointed board. (Chapters now fund directors' travel to meetings four times a year.)

The measure was voted down for now. I voted "no" due to all the concern that this measure was being fast tracked. Many chapters, especially foreign, did not like it at all since in its current form it really is quite vague on how it would operate or how chapters would be represented. The vote also would have pushed it forward with closure on a new system by winter meetings, 2007.

What this vote essentially does is ask the task force to state what is wrong with the current arrangement, how chapters feel about it, and how this total re-arrangement of the structure will create a more productive environment than the one that already exists.

Other items:

- The Municipal Specialists Certification Study Guide for Certification will be ready soon, possibly within the month.
- International assets reached over \$2.4 million, 11.2% net revenue for fiscal 2005-2006.
- The Pittsburgh conference lost \$66,000.

—Russell N. Peters,
Alternate International BOD

FOR SALE

After 35 years in the tree care and pest control business in northeast Tarrant County, Texas, it's time for me to "sit under the tree in the shade and relax."

With a large customer base, this company is financially very sound and would be a good head-start for a new business owner or even to add to an existing business.

Inquiries can be made to
fax # 817/868-6879
or e-mail tritree@sbcglobal.net

GRAPEVINE PARD OPPORTUNITY

Gardener for planting and maintenance of the Botanical Gardens. Apply in person at Personnel Department, First Floor, City Hall, 200 S. Main St., Grapevine, Texas., or mail completed application to P.O. Box 95104, Grapevine, TX 76099. For more information and application, visit www.ci.grapevine.tx.us

Five-Time World Champion Takes 2006 ITCC Crown

This year's competition was another fun, successful event. Held in Loring Park in downtown Minneapolis, the event drew 37 male and 19 female representatives from ISA chapters around the globe to compete for the top climbing titles.

The unusually warm weather made things difficult for staff, competitors and spectators alike, especially those from northern chapters, as temperatures during set-up and competition were in the upper 90s, with high humidity. Perhaps it was the heat that helped our Texas Chapter champion Miguel Pastenes, of Arborological Services in Dallas, win the Belayed Speed Climb event. Not only was this the first time the Texas chapter has taken first place in a preliminary event since 1984, but it was only the second time in 12 years that former world champion Mark Chisolm was beaten in this event. Miguel unfortunately had trouble in a few other events, and so ended up in 23rd place among the men overall. I predict that this 23-year-old has his best competitions ahead of him.

The heat may have also been in a factor in the Footlock, where neither perennial favorite Mark Chisolm nor current record holder Frank Chipps from the Prairie Chapter (Canada) were able to best Frank's record time of 14.10 seconds. Frank did come in first again this year, but Mark did not place.

The women as a group seemed to have improved significantly this year. As head judge at the Aerial Rescue I noticed this first hand, with many of the women (who were repeat competitors) as well as most newcomers performing very proficient rescues. Only a few women "timed out" this year. The women also turned in stronger performances in the speed events.

The day was marred by a brief scare at the Work Climb, where a contestant was injured and briefly hospitalized. This year's work climb tree, a thornless honey locust, was set up (as it is in many

years) so that long swings were options on the course. Brian Krawczyk, the New York Chapter rep, hit his head after missing a big swing, and was knocked unconscious. He was transported to a hospital, evaluated and released. He even returned in time to compete in the Throwline, although he was not allowed to compete in Footlock, despite his insistence. The next day Brian told me he was fine.

After the prelims were complete on Saturday, the finalists for the Master's were named. The men's four were five-time world champion Berndt "Beddes" Strasser from Germany, two-time world champ Mark Chisolm, last year's world champion Danny Kraus from Pacific Northwest Chapter, and European champion Ronny Epple, also from Germany. And much to the delight of the crowd, this year there were three women's finalists; last year's world champion Chrissie Spence of New Zealand Chapter, former world champion Kathy Holzer from Pacific Northwest, and newcomer Elena O'Neil, also Kiwi Land.

Other duties kept me from attending the Women's Masters, but all three women turned in solid performances. In the end, it was Elena O'Neil taking first, with Kathy Holzer second and Chrissie Spence finished third.

The Men's Masters was set up in a deceptively sized silver maple. Although it was not a large tree by northern standards, at about 80 feet tall, its branch structure and wide spread lent it to a clever course designed and installed by chairman Rip Tompkins and his main posse. Once again Mark Chisolm unfortunately had troubles with his throwlines, and although he ultimately turned in one of his trademark smooth and speedy climbs, the less than perfect rope installation cost him. Euro champ Ronny Epple gave the crowd a thrill with his "rope walk" ascent, done with ascender-like devices (Pantins) on his feet. This innovation certainly



Berndt Strasser of Germany was the 2006 ITCC winner.

gained him points, but Ronny seemed to take a lot of time between stations, and this cost him overall. Last year's champ Danny Kraus turned in a solid performance, but he departed from his more "old school" approach to climbing, using four ropes in this year's event, and that may have cost him.

That leaves Herr Strasser, who used a less technical approach this year than in the past, and turned in another flawless performance to once again become the World Champion. I think this win makes calling Beddes the Wayne Gretzky of our sport a not unreasonable thing.

For those wishing to learn more about the latest in climbing equipment and techniques, there is *no better way* than to attend the ITCC. The contestants are happy to display all their tricks. Well, almost all of them.

– Guy LeBlanc

Correction

In the last newsletter, the results of the Texas Tree Climbing Championship contained an error. Third place in the Master's Challenge was Guy LeBlanc, not James Prichard.

Welcome, New Members

The ISA Texas Chapter is rapidly growing. In May and June of this year we added the following new members:

Said Agha	Waller, Texas
Brian Akers	Austin, Texas
Bruce Bloodworth,	Bryan, Texas
Kenneth Branard	Austin, Texas
Val Bruess	Katy, Texas
Tyler Burkett	Boerne, Texas
Keith Chucci	College Station, Texas
Cody Geiman	Katy, Texas
Suprina Geiman	Katy, Texas
Colbey Graham	Pearland, Texas
Moises Guerrero	Brownsville, Texas
Lynn Hall	Texarkana, Texas
Clayton Hollingworth	San Antonio, Texas
Samuel Holmes	San Antonio, Texas
Brian Hubbard	Rockwall, Texas
Miles Lefler	Austin, Texas
Jared Martin	Flower Mound, Texas
Michael Nentwich	San Antonio, Texas
José Perez	Huntington, Texas
Erika Rowles	Paris, Texas
Jayson Skidmore	Cedar Creek, Texas
Darren Smith	Comanche, Texas
Dusty Staggs	Lubbock, Texas
Jody Webster	Amarillo, Texas
Theodore Williams	Texarkana, Texas

In July and August, we added:

Nicholas Arthur	Austin, Texas
Aumnama Bailey	Austin, Texas
Mark Baker	Austin, Texas
Kenneth Barnard	Austin, Texas
Thomas Carey	Austin, Texas
Reneé Edwards	Seguin, Texas
Jefferey Hall	Grapevine, Texas
Agapito (Pete) Ortiz	Austin, Texas
Robert Peel	Little Elm, Texas
Markus Smith	Austin, Texas

That's 35 folks in just four months!



Your ISAT Board Update

Highlights of the board meeting held in Round Rock July 14:

Newsletter: The board hired Jeannette Ivy as associate editor for the ISAT newsletter. Jeannette will put each issue together, and publication will be increased from quarterly to every other month beginning in September. Courtney Blevins will remain as editor, but articles and ads should be sent to Jeannette at jkivy@austin.rr.com.

Convention 2006: A handout with an outline of the convention was distributed and it was decided speakers would get a complimentary room and free registration. A request from the TREE Fund to speak at the Convention was discussed and declined.

Certification: Certification continues to do well. The August test will be moved from Austin to Round Rock because of the need for more room.

Research Committee: A motion was made and passed to put all profits from the Oak Wilt Certification Workshop into the Research Fund.

Other Business: Nominating committee was formed; National Oak Wilt Symposium is progressing well; ISAT website being upgraded by John Giedraitis; Arbor Day 2007 will be held in Austin.

—Courtney Blevins

CLIMBERS WANTED

Established tree service needs full time climbers. Requires valid TX driver license/ good record, ability to drive standard truck, able-bodied, alert. Prefer ISA certified arborist, non-smoker, 3 years experience using rope/ harness.

Small business environment located 30 miles south of Austin. Owner is ISA certified arborist (TX-0186A) with degree in agriculture. Benefits for eligible employees include vacation & retirement. Pay commensurate with experience.

Send resume with references to hagerinc@centurytel.net or Hager Landscape & Tree, Inc., 1324 Old Martindale Road, San Marcos TX 78666. Phone: 512-392-1089 or toll-free (TX only) 800-443-8733.

Cool Tools *by Pat Wentworth*

The cool tool I have found the most use for recently is the Digital Blue QX5 microscope. Marketed as an “educational toy,” the Digital Blue QX5 is a great way to insert microscopy into reports and e-mails.

It sits on your desk but is connected to your computer through a USB cable. Instead of peering through the lens of a microscope, it gives you a display on your computer monitor with a 640 x 480 resolution.

It comes with 3 magnification powers, 10X, 60X and 200X. Images can be lit from above or below. No batteries are needed as it draws what little power it needs through the USB connection.



The 10X setting is perfect for most of the things you would use a hand lens for –

identification of insects, leaf spots, etc. The 60X setting is great for zooming in on fungal hyphae and mycelial

strands. The 200x allows you to see the cellular structure of most things quite clearly.

The software that comes with it is both intuitive and friendly enough to use without a steep learning curve. It’s available for both Mac and PC users.

With the included software, you can insert a date and time stamp, along with any text of your choosing and place it where you need it on the screen. And of course you can save any image in real time on your hard drive as a jpeg photo. This is great for inserting photos into reports or for sending off pictures to Cooperative Extension for their free, on-line diagnostic service.

The software allows for taking your own time lapse photos (jpegs) and then allows you to string them together to make a movie (up to 15 frames per second.) Or you can simply set it into movie mode and take real time movies of whatever you’re viewing or even post it to the web on a web cam.

You can buy this cool tool for \$75.99 at <http://www.meritline.com/hotinplayser.html>



Mickey Merritt stands next to the new Texas champion pignut hickory, located in Liberty County on the Trinity River National Wildlife Refuge. This tree made the Texas Big Tree Registry with these dimensions: 126" circumference, 97' tall, and 57' average crown spread. New Big Tree measurement rules can be found at <http://texasforests.tamu.edu/>

DON'T FORGET!

Register for the conference ASAP. Reserve your room at the Marriott by Sept. 13 for the special ISAT rate! (Tell them you're with the Texas Tree Conference!)

SWPRTI ARBORIST SCHOOL

Southwest Park and Recreation Training Institute (SWPRTI) will be conducting an Arborist School and Certification Examination on February 2 – 4, 2007 at Western Hills Guest Ranch located 8 miles east of Wagoner, Oklahoma.

Certified Arborists – This school will give you 11 CEU's at a classroom registration cost of \$80. For complete information go to the SWPRTI webpage www.swprti.org and follow our link to the Arborist School.

Questions? Please call Susan Campbell, Urban Forester, City of Allen, TX, (214) 509-4833

Pathologist's Corner

by *Russell N. Peters*
Certified Arborist

I have volunteered to provide a piece for each newsletter. What I thought I would do here is to define what it will be. I'd like it to be a valuable tool for the Texas chapter membership.

I did not want it to be only about problems, insects and diseases that are current issues here in North Texas, but something that could apply to the majority of arborists everywhere in the state if possible.

Here is where you can help if you so choose. That is to send me ideas on specific disease problems or diagnoses that constantly stump you in your everyday operations. If I receive nothing in the way of ideas, then I suppose I will just write what is on my mind and what we are seeing up here.

I do not think it will be a set length each time but will include more detail than the basic ID, management, or steps to diagnose a problem. As much or as little detail will be provided as needed to deal with the particular problem.

I am by far not an expert on anything, but I have seen a lot in 21 years. My background and training have honed my diagnostic skills considerably since that first lonely day of working with Alan Brooke in San Antonio 21 years ago.

I also live much too close to be a real expert anyway!

I look forward to all of your ideas on things that you might want to see discussed here.

INDUSTRY CALENDAR

October 4, 2006

Certification Examinations –A Certification Examination will be held in Round Rock, Texas on October 4, 2006 at the North Austin Marriott, 2600 La Frontera Blvd. Certification information and an application form can be obtained at the website (www.isa-arbor.com). As with all Certification Examinations, the application must be in the ISA office 12 working days (16 calendar days) prior to the Exam. NO EXCEPTIONS!

October 4–6, 2006

Texas Tree Conference – The ISAT Annual Conference will be held at the Round Rock Marriott on October 4, 5 & 6 with the theme “What Works In Texas – The Voices of Experience.” Look for details elsewhere in this newsletter.

October 20–22, 2006

ISA Annual Fall Leadership Workshop – Designed for people in chapter leadership positions, this workshop will be held at the Hawthorn Suites in Champaign, IL. There will be two separate sessions: a one-day session Oct. 20 for the paid person who handles the administrative duties for your chapter or professional affiliation, and a day-and-a-half session Oct. 21 and Oct. 22 intended for those in an elected or appointed position (such as an officer, board member, or certification liaison). Some reimbursements are available from ISA. For more information call Jerri Moorman at 217-531-2835 or email: jmoorman@isa-arbor.com

November 9 - 11, 2006

TCI EXPO 2006 will be held at the Baltimore Convention Center with pre-conference seminars starting on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2006. Contact TCIA at www.tcia.org for more information.

December 3-6, 2006

ASCA Annual Conference –Silverado Country Club & Resort Napa, CA. Contact ASCA at www.asca-consultants.org/conferences.html for more information

January, 2007

Arboriculture 101 – Class to be taught by Dr. Todd Watson – location and date to be announced later. See www.isatexas.com for information as it comes available.

February 20-23, 2007

2007 ASCA Consulting Academy - Hyatt Regency Hotel, Sacramento, CA. Contact www.asca-consultants.org/conferences.html

June 5, 6, & 7, 2007

National Oak Wilt Symposium - The Texas Chapter ISA is sponsoring the Second National Oak Wilt Symposium. at the Hilton Austin. (The first was in 1992.) Speakers from throughout the nation will discuss the latest information about the spread and control of oak wilt. Information will be sent to all ISAT members and others around the country who are interested in oak wilt. Registration will be limited. Be sure to sign up early. This event may not come around for another 15 years! (Learn more at www.isatexas.com)

President's Message

Continued from page 2

Space will be limited, so early registration is urged. Look for announcements; ISAT members will hear about it first.

- ISAT has built up a research fund dedicated to helping Texas researchers solve Texas tree problems. We're looking not only for researchers but also for arborists who have something they need solved. Suggestions for needed research should be brought to the attention

of the ISAT Board of Directors.

- ISAT is teaming with the Texas Nursery and Landscape Association at their annual Expo in San Antonio to promote ISAT, tree care, and the NOWS meeting. In the future we hope to be partnering with other green industry groups to educate folks in correct tree care methods.

As always, the Board of Directors welcomes any comments or suggestions (negative or positive) that will help improve the ISA Texas Chapter.

As I pass the gavel to our incoming president Gene Gehring, I will do so knowing that ISAT is in good shape and has a bright future. I would like to thank the members for the honor of serving as president and thank the Board and our Executive Director, Dr. Mike Walterschiedt, for making this a pleasant experience. You'll still see me around helping to run the Certification Program.

If you haven't yet served on the ISAT Board or run for an office, I highly recommend it. Adios.

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**THE NEWSLETTER OF
THE ISA TEXAS CHAPTER**

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**Texas Tree Conference:
“What Works in Texas”
Oct. 4–6
See details inside!**

Citizen Foresters Help City *Continued from page 4*



Under the guidance of Courtney Blevins, Texas Forest Service, a Citizen Forester prunes a cedar elm along the I-30-35 corridor in Ft. Worth.

invaluable and I look forward to working with the Citizen Foresters on the many upcoming projects we have planned.”

For more information about the Citizen Forester program, including starting a similar program of your own, please contact Melanie Migura at 817-871-5739 or melanie.migura@fortworthgov.org.

—Melanie Migura,
Forester, City of Fort Worth

Photo at left courtesy of Marilyn Sallee, Citizen Forester.

THE VOICES OF EXPERIENCE

Let a great lineup of speakers share their knowledge with you at the Texas Tree Conference October 4-6 in Round Rock. See pages 1-3 of this newsletter for more about workshops, speakers, social events, awards, Texas Hold 'em and more. Find out how to register and how to get discount accommodations.

Thank You!

The first Citizen Forester training class would not have been nearly as successful if it weren't for the following individuals who graciously gave of their time and expertise to serve as guest speakers and field training supervisors: Melinda Adams, City Forester, City of Fort Worth; Carrie Atchison, Staff Forester I, Texas Forest Service; Courtney Blevins, Regional Urban Forester, Texas Forest Service; Renee Burke, Urban Forester, City of Plano; Steven Chamblee, Chief Horticulturist – Chandor Gardens, City of Weatherford; Steve Chaney, County Extension Agent – Horticulture, Texas Cooperative Extension; Steven Hernandez, Assistant Field Ops. Supervisor, City of Fort Worth; Keith Martin, Landscape Administrator, City of Southlake; Melanie Migura, Forester, City of Fort Worth; Marilyn Sallee, Citizen Forester; Stevon Smith, Landscape Administrator, City of Mansfield; and Michelle Villafranca, Forester, City of Fort Worth.