

Spring 2019
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ARBORICULTURE SOCIETY DONATION TO HELP FUND UF/IFAS TREE EXPERT

NEWS RELEASE

December 19, 2018

By: Brad Buck, 352-294-3303, bradbuck@ufl.edu

GAINESVILLE, Fla. --- UF/IFAS will hire a new tree scientist, at least partially with funds donated recently by the Florida Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture.

During a campus visit on Dec. 3, Florida ISA Chapter CEO Norm Easey and President Scott Shultz provided a pledge payment to help the UF/IFAS department of environmental horticulture in



Florida Chapter ISA delivers annual endowment check and climbing gear for students.

L-R: Research Dean Jackie Burns, UF Vice President Jack Payne, Florida Chapter CEO Norm Easey, Environmental Hort Department Chair Dean Kopsell, Florida Chapter Past President Scott Shultz, Student Arborist Club Advisor David Fox, Student Arborist Club President Ryan Krammes

[Tree Expert continued on page 4](#)

A Message From the President



Florida Chapter ISA Members,

I would like to introduce myself as the new president of the Florida Chapter ISA for this upcoming year.

For those who may not know me, I have been a part of our chapter board now for 8 years. I have been the chair of our Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) for 9 years. The TCC is what opened my eyes to the board and our chapter. Being around climbers and being one myself grew my passion to want to grow and bring our climbing arborist in to our organization more than any other chapter.

I became a Certified Tree Worker Climber Specialist, in 2009 and became a Certified Arborist in 2012. I strive to move forward in the field of arboriculture with innovative ideas and research.

As president, I am focused on what our past presidents have accomplished and keeping the legacy of our chapter moving forward, as we are one of the strongest chapters that supports and helps grow our industry throughout the world

As TCC Chair I would like to thank all the climbers who competed this year. I would also like to thank all who supported the event. We can't have such a great event without our wonderful volunteers; I appreciate all of your time and hard work that you donate to make the Florida TCC run smoothly. Thank you to our sponsor's who provided monetary and in-kind donations. And thanks to our exhibitors for their additions to the event on Saturday.

Thank you,

Adam Jackson

President, Florida Chapter ISA (2019)

Donate your old Certified Arborist Study Guide for a Good Cause

Florida A&M University is developing certification training programs for the State Department of Corrections and one of the major areas of focus is the arboricultural industry. In order to do this and have training that is industry approved, they will be using the ISA Certification Manual as our text. Unfortunately, the state cannot provide enough manuals to meet the anticipated need. They are hoping that arborists who have passed their exam and no longer need to keep the manual, will donate them to the university. They, in turn, will issue them to inmates who have enrolled into our arboricultural training class.

They already have inmates signed up to begin attending classes in April and next Fall they plan on beginning another class. The budget won't allow for the purchase of more than a dozen manuals. It would go a long way if individuals would help by donating their used manuals.

One very positive development is that the DOC has offered to pay for the inmates' ISA certification exam fees for those who have successfully completed the class and otherwise have met the field experience requirement to become certified. Some of the inmates have already worked in the utility pruning industry and others may earn their work experience via an internship with one of the major utility companies they are planning to partner with.

Anyone who wishes to help with this program by donating your green Certified Arborist manuals, new or used, may mail them to Sam Hand at the following address. If successful, this program has the potential to change the lives of inmates who, without a career potential, would likely recidivate back into prison. Email Sam Hand if you have any questions

Sam Hand, Jr.
506 Williams Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
samuel.hand@famu.edu

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2-day Tree School Short Course
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This class is now filled.

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▷ **Register**

Trees and Storms

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May 9, 2019
Orlando
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▷ **Flyer**

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Administration

Norm Easey, Chief Executive Officer
Jan Easey, Admin. Assist.
Patty Morrison, Admin. Assist.

We honor and thank the Florida Chapter ISA Past Presidents

2018 - Scott Shultz
2017 - Lori Ballard
2016 - Bonnie Marshall
2015 - Celeste White
2014 - Dr. AD Ali
2013 - Patrick Miller

2012 - Eric Hoyer
2011 - Don Winsett
2010 - David Reilly
2009 - Mike Robinson
2008 - Mary Edwards
2007 - Rick Joyce

2006 - Rick Joyce
2005 - Bruce Smith
2004 - Michael Marshall
2003 - Perry Odom
2002 - Perry Odom
2001 - Loren Westenberger

2000 - Dane Buell
1999 - Dr. Ed Gilman
1998 - Richard Bailey
1997 - Joe Samnik
1996 - Joe Samnik

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Morrison/800-786-1422

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[Tree Expert continued from page 1](#)

its search for a new faculty member, said department Chair Dean Kopsell.

The new person will fill a vacancy created by the retirement of internationally recognized professor Ed Gilman. Among his contributions, Gilman conducted considerable research and Extension to help the public protect trees against wind damage.

“What we hope to find is an expert who can support the arboriculture industry in the state with outreach programs and research designed to facilitate the training process for professionals in the state and region,” Kopsell said. “The educational component includes a course in arboriculture, which will attract students enrolled in various plant sciences majors in the UF/IFAS College of Agricultural and Life Sciences and the UF/IFAS School of Forest Resources and Conservation, also part of UF/IFAS CALS.”

The ISA supports the arboriculture faculty position in the UF/IFAS department of environmental horticulture through an annual deposit, Kopsell said. Since 1989, The Florida Chapter ISA has pledged more than \$1 million to the University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences for research and the teaching of arboricultural sciences classes in UF/IFAS CALS. The arboriculture endowment, which helps fund positions such as this, was created in 2009, Easey said.

The ISA endowment supports teaching, research and Extension programs at UF/IFAS, exclusively for the arboriculture program. In addition to their pledge payment, Easey and Shultz provided \$3,000 in new arborist equipment to UF/IFAS CALS students researching arboriculture in the department of environmental horticulture.

“Dr. Gilman has had such a profound impact on how arboriculture is practiced in Florida and around the world that we wanted to continue his legacy,” Easey said. “We are doing all we can to make that happen.” ❖





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Biotech Could Modify Trees to Protect against Pests

By John Fialka, E&E News

U.S. forests are among the most vulnerable in the world to predators and disease, and those threats are being compounded by climate change, according to a new report from the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine.

The report suggests that two U.S. agencies—the Department of Agriculture and EPA—and the nonprofit U.S. Endowment for Forestry & Communities Inc. consider using more tools from emerging fields of biotechnology to promote healthy forests. They would include the use of genetically engineered trees to prevent the loss of forested lands from pests.

It notes that the United States has more than 100 million square miles of forests, an area exceeded only by Canada, Brazil and Russia. A panel of scientists convened by the National Academies to explore deteriorating forest health estimates that 7 percent of U.S. forests could lose at least 25 percent of their trees by 2027.

In a press conference on Tuesday, Jason Delborne, an assistant professor at North Carolina State University, noted that most studies on using biotechnology to protect forests have been done in Canada and Europe. Relatively little work is

underway in the United States.

He and other members of the panel stressed that more public funds are needed to expand tree breeding programs and the use of biotechnological tools such as genetic editing to help grow trees that can survive threats such as the chestnut blight and root rot, which have killed 4 billion American chestnut trees.

But there are complicating problems, such as the time it takes to develop genetically modified trees. Potential public opposition to the “loss of wildness” in forests could also slow government response to the threat. Most of the biotechnology used in the United States has been in the private sector, and the first cases of how to regulate chestnut trees that have been genetically modified to resist blight will be presented to U.S. agencies in coming months, Delborne said.

The panel’s report stressed that it’s not easy or quick to first select trees that can survive pests and diseases and then use their genetic material to grow trees that are more resistant. “Not all of the progeny will be resistant,” it noted. It also advocated that surveys, town meetings and focus groups be used to help people who live near forests get a better understanding of biotechnological solutions before field testing of modified trees is undertaken.

It says that people who worry about the loss of “wildness” in their nearby forests should understand that many of the losses from imported pests are caused “by people and native pests extending their range because of human influence on climate change.”

“A healthy forest sustains ecosystems over time and space and provides value to humans,” noted Susan Offutt, the chairwoman of the panel. She pointed out that healthy forests tend to promote water filtration and help sequester more carbon dioxide emissions.

“The loss of a tree species can have cascading harmful effects on the forest ecosystem and on the benefits it provides to human populations,” she said.

The panel, which listened to 43 speakers and reviewed the growing literature on biotechnology, concluded that “gaps” in Americans’ understanding of growing forest problems could be filled by retraining academics and others involved in more traditional approaches to the problem. ❖

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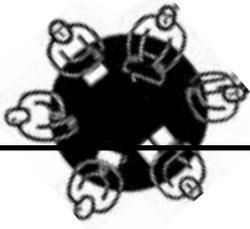
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Florida Chapter Board Updates

BOARD SHORTS:

DUE BY MAY 15TH



Nominate a deserving fellow arborist or someone in the industry! The Florida Chapter of the International Society of Arboriculture recognizes outstanding achievements in the arboriculture profession, as well as the efforts by individuals to make an impact on the practice of arboriculture. We recognize these contributions through several award programs. The awards categories are:

- EDWARD W. BOK AWARD**
The highest award category awarded by the Florida Chapter ISA. This award will be presented from time to time, as deemed appropriate by the awards committee, to that individual whose lifetime achievement is exemplary to the goals and mission statement of the Florida chapter.
- AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION**
This award is given to an individual who has made an outstanding contribution to the education of the Florida Chapter members or to the sum knowledge of arboriculture.

- AWARD OF DISTINCTION**
This award shall be bestowed upon an individual, long standing active member (10 years or more) who has provided substantial, long-term contribution to the advancement of the purpose and substance of the Florida Chapter.
- THE LOREN WESTENBERGER AWARD**
This award shall be given to an individual who, like Loren Westenberg, has practiced the professional principles of arboriculture consistent with the mission and objectives of the Florida Chapter ISA to better the environment for future generations.

[Take a few minutes to submit your nominations by clicking here for the form.](#)

DUE BY JUNE 15TH



Students! Applications for the John White Scholarship for the Fall 2019 semester are due by June 15th. Do not delay! One deserving student will be award \$1250. Students must be enrolled full-time, part-time, or place-bound in an arboriculture or urban forestry program or related field with the intent to graduate in that field.

Late applications are not accepted. You can fax to 941-342-0463, scan/email to jan@floridaisa.org, or mail in your paperwork to Florida ISA – 7853 S. Leewynn Court – Sarasota, FL 34240.

[Click here to get the details.](#)



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Florida Chapter ISA Awards Application

Due Date: May 15 (annually)

Enter yourself or a colleague. Please select one award category:

- EDWARD W. BOX AWARD**
- AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION**
- AWARD OF DISTINCTION**
- THE LOREN WESTENBERGER AWARD**

Applicant Information	
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Submitted by Name	
Email Address	
Date submitted	
Qualifications	
Summarize applicant's qualifications for award category. Attach additional pages if needed. Limit 3.	
Mail to: Florida Chapter ISA • 7853 S. Leewynn Court • Sarasota, FL 34240 or fax to: 941-342-0463	

Florida Chapter ISA 2018 Accomplishments

Below is a partial list of accomplishments of the Florida Chapter ISA during the past two years:

	2017	2018
Welcomed new Certified Arborists	92	123
Welcomed new Board-Certified Master Arborists	5	2
Hosted Certified Arborist exams	8 plus 2 TRAQ classes/exams	8 plus 5 TRAQ or renewal classes/exams
Hosted Arboricultural seminars	19 seminars in 12 cities	20 seminars in 9 cities
Trained arborists	1376	1396
Hosted a Florida Chapter TCC event	Postponed until spring 2018 due to hurricane Irma; permanently moved to spring each year	Held at Moss Park in Orlando 40 total competitors
Sponsored TCC Chapter winner at ISA ITCC	Alisha Amundson and Jason Gerrish – Washington DC	Alisha Amundson and Jason Gerrish – Columbus, OH
Hosted annual Trees Florida Conference	Hosted Trees Florida 2017 in Palm Coast, FL	Hosted Trees Florida 2018 in Fort Myers (Punta Rasa), FL
Earned proceeds from our Florida Specialty Plate "TreesAreCool"	\$119,016	\$122,725
Published monthly Florida eTree Newsletters	Sent to 6074	Sent to 4896
Published 4 quarterly Florida Arborist Newsletters	Sent to 1643 Chapter members	Sent to 1451 Chapter members
Answered phone calls to the Florida Chapter office	Approx. 3350 calls	Approx. 3400 calls
Answered emails to the Florida Chapter office	Approx. 9400 emails	Approx. 9500 emails
Processed CEU requests	142	132
"Likes" on our Chapter Facebook page	623	741
Donated to the TREE Fund	\$7191	\$7075
Donated TAC revenues to our UF Arboriculture Endowment	\$80,000	\$95,000
Gave Chapter service awards to deserving individuals	5	5
Financially contributed to Tour de Trees riders	2 riders - Washington DC	3 riders - \$3000 in support at Columbus, OH Tour
Welcomed new people to the Board of Directors	6 (4 elected and 2 appointed or at-large)	7 (5 elected and 2 appointed or at-large)
Matched TREE Fund Kimmel Award	\$5000 to UF-IFAS Gulf Coast REC (Andrew Koeser)	None given
Florida Chapter Grant Program	2 new grants approved for distribution totaling \$49,000 plus 2 ongoing grants for \$60,000	3 ongoing grants approved for distribution totaling \$100,000
Scholarships awarded	2 each \$1250	1 for \$1250
Specialty gifts given	0	UF Student Arborist Club: \$3000 in climbing equipment

TREES FLORIDA 2019

CONFERENCE and TRADE SHOW



Marriott Harbor Beach Resort: Reserve rooms By May 24th.

Harbor Beach is offering a specially price optional conference amenity package for an additional \$25/day!
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Dying Trees in Cities? Blame it on the Pavement

North Carolina State University



Scale insects accumulate on a maple tree in Raleigh. Scale insects wreak havoc on maples in the midrange of studied cities in the Southeast. Credit: Adam Dale

A new study of urban tree life in the Southeast shows pavement and concrete may have a bigger effect than longitudinal warming.

A North Carolina State University study examining urbanization, scale-insect abundance and latitudinal warming on tree health in the Southeast captured a few surprising results.

The study showed more scale insects on red maple trees in the midrange of eight cities within a 10-degree latitudinal difference, from Newark, Delaware, to Gainesville, Florida.

Cities in that midrange, including Raleigh and Asheville, showed poorer tree health, due mostly to these high volumes of tree-destroying gloomy scale insects (*Melanaspis tenebricosa*), which appear as tiny bumps on tree branches and leaves.

“Impervious surfaces -- basically concrete and pavement -- near trees was a better predictor of scale-insect abun-

dance than temperature, and thus a better predictor of poor tree health in the study area,” said Michael Just, an NC State postdoctoral entomology researcher and corresponding author of a paper describing the research. The finding was surprising, Just said, as the study’s original hypothesis predicted higher scale-insect abundance at lower latitudes -- the study’s southernmost areas.

“What we’ve learned over the years in natural areas like forests didn’t translate in this study, which means we may need to consider if other natural-system theories can be used in urban areas,” Just said. “That’s important if we want to have reliable predictive ecological models.” ❖

Utility Forester Supervisor

CNUC is currently seeking a Utility Forester Supervisor in the surrounding areas of Ocala and Orlando, FL. Individual must be a Certified Arborist, have a minimum of two years of experience in a management or leadership position, and a minimum of 5 years of experience in the utility line clearance industry.

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Hand Pruning and Training Tropical Fruit Trees

Jeff Wasielewski, Commercial Tropical Fruit Agent, UF/IFAS, Miami-Dade County Extension Service
 Jonathan H. Crane, Tropical Fruit Crop Specialist, UF/IFAS, Tropical Research and Education Center
 John McLaughlin, UF/IFAS, Miami-Dade County Extension Service
 Carlos Balerdi, Emeritus Commercial Tropical Fruit Agent, UF/IFAS, Miami-Dade County Extension Service

Tropical fruit trees should be pruned for the following reasons:

- ⚙ Control their size and shape
- ⚙ Potentially promote earlier flower and fruit production
- ⚙ Maintain fruit production in the lower tree canopy
- ⚙ Remove unhealthy portions of the trees
- ⚙ Reduce the likelihood they will fall or break apart during a tropical storm.

In order to maintain fruit production in a tree’s lower canopy, it must be exposed to sufficient light. When fruit trees are allowed to grow too tall or to become shaded by adjacent trees the lower canopy will be lost and only the middle or top of the tree will flower and eventually set fruit. To prevent this, fruit trees should be pruned annually or biannually.

The art and science of hand pruning takes time and thought. Before making the first cut, study the tree’s potential size and natural shape, and imagine how it might appear in three to four years. Try to maintain that shape in your mind as you prune. This will help you to make the sometimes difficult decisions associated with pruning. The recommended tree height for tropical fruit trees varies and depends upon the species and sometimes the cultivar (Table 1).

Terms to Know

There are a number of terms which will make describing how to train and prune trees in the home landscape and commercial fruit grove more understandable. These include:



The **branch collar** is the area where a branch connects to the trunk of the tree. This area is sometimes raised and should not be pruned of when making a thinning cut. This area has callus cells that will help the tree to properly heal after a cut.



branches should be removed.

Crossed branches are unhealthy. When branches cross, there is a likelihood of the branches rubbing or growing together and creating a weak point in the tree as well as an entry point for pathogens. The smaller or weaker of the crossing



is left in a tree, it is a hazard as it may fall at any time.

Dead wood offers a prime entry point for wood borers, as well as pathogens that can damage your tree. Carefully cut away any dead wood from the tree while avoiding cutting into the healthy portion of the tree. When dead wood



Thinning cuts are made on a branch all the way back to a major limb or trunk of the tree. They generally remove a section of the tree.



Heading cuts (tipping) are made toward the end of a branch near a node or growing point. Heading cuts are used to make a branch break buds and create multiple new shoots (or limbs). This is a common pruning cut used to train young trees.

Heading cuts are used to make a



Included bark occurs when two branches or trunks grow so close that they superficially join and create a narrow V as their width increases and they grow into each other making the trunks and limbs vulnerable to splitting. This situation may be remedied by removing one of the included branches. Usually the largest

[Hand Pruning continued on page 15](#)

[Hand Pruning continued from page 14](#)

branch is left in place and the smaller branch removed.

Pruning Mature Fruit Trees

Mature trees are those that are either bearing fruit or more than four to five years old. The height and eventually the spread of mature trees should be such that fruit production is maintained throughout the entire tree canopy. Before starting to prune, ensure that you have the appropriate tools; three essential items are: a hand pruner, a lopper and a hand saw. These should all be of high quality and compatible with the user. Make sure your tools are properly sharpened and in good condition, as this will greatly ease your job of pruning. If tools are used to remove diseased wood cutting surfaces should be disinfected after each cut (1 part pine oil disinfectant to 3 parts water).

Chainsaws and pole-chain saws are not necessary but may be of use if large wood needs pruning or many trees need to be pruned. Sometimes a person with a chainsaw tends to make snap decisions that are executed without considering if they will ultimately benefit or harm the tree. Therefore, extra caution and thought is required when using chain saws. In contrast, using a hand saw for your major cuts will allow you to think through your decisions before they are implemented.



Hand Pruners

Loppers

Hand Saw

When you are ready to begin pruning, look for unhealthy conditions such as included bark, dead wood or crossed branches and rectify these as you prune. Remember that each cut you make on the tree is causing the tree stress by producing a wound on the tree. With that in mind, keep pruning cuts to a minimum and only prune what you feel must be removed. Prune with a purpose.

After the obvious cuts have been made to further the tree's health, it is time to evaluate what remains to be done. This is the time in pruning when your mind is just as important as your saw. Decide what cuts are needed in order to reduce the tree's height, open the canopy to decrease wind resistance, and at the same time, maintain the overall shape of the tree.

Three Step Thinning Cut

When a thinning cut is made, it is important to make the cut in the proper position on the tree. Do not leave an obvious stub when a cut is made. The stub will either die and rot back into the live wood and create a weak point in the tree, or it will profusely re-sprout. Both conditions are undesirable. Do not make

a flush cut all the way back to the trunk or major branch. While a flush cut is visually appealing, it removes what is known as the branch collar. The **branch collar** appears as a swelling at the base of most branches (see photo on page 2) and should be left intact as the cells there will aid in the healing of the wound created by the pruning cut. If the collar is removed, the wound may never heal leaving the tree open to fungal attack and rot.

Some branches are so heavy that if you tried to remove them, they would begin to fall before a full cut was made which would result in a tearing bark off the trunk/branch to which it was previously attached. In order to avoid tearing bark, a three step cut should be employed on all branches over two inches in diameter.

- 1) Begin with an undercut three to four inches from where the final cut will be made. The undercut prevents the limb from tearing the bark as it falls.
- 2) Make the second cut slightly distal to and above the undercut. This cut will remove the weight of the limb and prevent tearing.
- 3) The final cut removes any remaining portion of the limb. This cut should leave only the branch collar attached to the tree.



Training (Pruning) Young Fruit Trees

In training young fruit trees, the goal is to try to shape the tree for the future by creating a multi-branched structure that allows all portions of the tree to be exposed to sunlight. Generally, tree training is only necessary the first two to three years after planting, thereafter, to maintain fruit production (from the ground upward) selective pruning is used to control tree height and spread and maintain fruit production.

Some types of tropical fruit trees, and particularly some specific cultivars, are less vigorous than others and have a tendency towards profuse branching and smaller internodes (the distance between leaves) which facilitate maintaining a smaller tree and heavy fruiting. Others are inherently more vigorous and must be allowed to be larger trees (but still controlled) to remain fruitful.

Tree training and pruning to maintain height begins when the fruit tree is newly planted. A heading cut should be made at approximately three feet from the ground if the tree is not already

[Hand Pruning continued on page 16](#)

Hand Pruning continued from page 15

branching. This cut will encourage the tree to develop three to four branches which will eventually become the main branches of the tree. Heading cuts should be applied to the resulting branches when they reach approximately 20 inches. This will again cause branching and should be repeated each time a branch reaches about 20 inches.

Vigorous vertical branches should always be removed in favor of horizontal or wide-angled branches. The horizontal or angled branches will help the tree to maintain a reduced height. This type of pruning continues until the tree is about two to four years old. Once the tree has reached the desired height, one to two thinning cuts a year should be made to help control the



First pruning cut Good young branching Eventual shap of tree

height. Over time major woody branches will develop which do not contribute much to fruiting and can be removed one by one over a period of several years. This will result in the rejuvenation of the overall canopy of the fruit tree as well as help to control tree height.

Homeowners frequently allow fruit trees such as mango and avocado to become far too large. These trees should be reduced in size, but it is a job best left to a professional arborist, particularly if it requires climbing into the tree.

Hand Pruning continued on page 17

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[Hand Pruning continued from page 16](#)

Hand Pruning and Traing Tropical Fruit Trees Chart

Common Name	Scientific Name	Recommended maintenance tree height (ft)
Abiu	<i>Pouteria caimito</i>	8-12
Atemoya	<i>Annona cherimola x A. squamosa</i>	8-12
Avocado	<i>Persea americana</i>	10-15
Banana	<i>Musa hybrids</i>	Control suckers
Black sapote	<i>Diospyros digyna</i>	12-15
Caimito (star apple)	<i>Chrysophyllum cainito</i>	8-12
Canistel (egg fruit)	<i>Pouteria campechiana</i>	10-12
Carambola	<i>Averrhoa carambola</i>	6-12
Cashew	<i>Anacardium occidentale</i>	10-12
Citrus	<i>Citrus spp.</i>	10-14
Cocoa	<i>Theobroma cacao</i>	6-8
Coffee	<i>Coffea arabica, C. canephora</i>	5-15
Custard Apple	<i>Annona reticulata</i>	8-12
Guava	<i>Psidium guajava</i>	3-12
Jaboticaba	<i>Plinia cauliflora</i>	8-12
Jackfruit	<i>Artocarpus heterophyllus</i>	8-14
Longan	<i>Dimocarpus longan</i>	10-15
Loquat	<i>Eriobotrya japonica</i>	6-12
Lychee	<i>Litchi chinensis</i>	10-15
Macadamia	<i>Macadamia integrifolia and M. tetraphylla</i>	12-14
Mamey sapote	<i>Pouteria sapota</i>	12-15
Mamoncillo	<i>Melicococcus bijugatus</i>	12-15
Mango	<i>Mangifera indica</i>	6-15
Pineapple	<i>Ananas comosus</i>	---
Pitaya	<i>Hylocereus undatus and hybrids</i>	---
Pomegranate	<i>Punica granatum</i>	9-12
Sapodilla	<i>Manilkara zapota</i>	12-15
Soursop	<i>Annona muricata</i>	8-12
Spondias	<i>Spondias spp.</i>	8-12
Sugar apple	<i>Annona squamosa</i>	8-12
Tea	<i>Camellia sinensis</i>	5-6
White sapote	<i>Casimiroa edulis and C. tetrameria</i>	10-15

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For additional information, contact Jeff Wasielewski, Commercial Tropical Fruit Agent, 305-248-3311, ext. 22 or jwasielewski@ufl.edu.

2019 ArborMaster Climbing Kit Prize Package

The Florida Chapter ISA is pleased to announce the 2019 ArborMaster Climbing Kit Prize Package for the Tree Climbing Champion (TCC), held in conjunction with the Chapter's 2019 Tree Climbing Championship (TCC) event.

This climbing kit has been offered to each Chapter champion (both male and female, if applicable)! The package is intended to help equip the Chapter representative(s) for the International Tree Climbing Championship (ITCC) competition.



Get Geared Up!

Each prize package includes:

- Buckingham Master 5.0 Arborist Tree Saddle
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- Samson ArborMaster® 150' Hawkeye Climbing Line with eye splice

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2019 FLORIDA TCC EVENT

March 8th and 9th marked another successful year for the Florida Chapter Tree Climbing Championship. The 2-day event was held in Maitland, FL this year; preliminaries were held at Lake Lily Park and the Master's Challenge was held at Minehaha Park.

Along with the beautiful weather the audience was treated to watching the five high-energy events performed by 40 climbers:

- Aerial Rescue
- Belayed Speed Climb
- Open Ascent
- Throwline
- Work Climb

The day progressed smoothly thanks to the planning of Field Day Chair Bonnie Marshall and TCC

Chair Adam Jackson. Thanks to Brian Gould as head judge and his station judges and timekeepers, all group leaders, Susan Carter as our dedicated scorekeeper and the multitude of other volunteers.

We would like to thank our sponsors. The City of Maitland provided beautiful venues. Our platinum sponsors were A Budget Tree Service, Advance Tree Pros, ArborWear, Asplundh, Davey Tree, Fielder Landscapes, Husqvarna, O'Neil's Tree Service and Yellowstone Landscaping. Our gold sponsor was Altec and silver sponsor was Stihl Southeast.

This year we had 6 exhibitors displaying information and or providing demos for their goods and services. The Kid's Nature Center run by Julie Iooss provided fun projects for the younger crowd.

EVENT WINNERS AND SPECIAL AWARDS!

Aerial Rescue

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Ethan Allen | 1. Ali Summersill |
| 2. Brian See | 2. Alisha Amundson |
| 3. Paul Lloyd Jones | |

Belayed Speed Climb

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Paul Lloyd Jones | 1. Alisha Amundson |
| 2. Brian See | 2. Ali Summersill |
| 3. Chris Bramlage | |

Open Ascent

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Trevor Hill | 1. Alisha Amundson |
| 2. Forrest McCullough | 2. Ali Summersill |
| 3. David Rodriguez | |

Throwline

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Chris Bramlage | 1. Alisha Amundson |
| 2. Carson Smith | 2. Ali Summersill |
| 3. Forrest McCullough | |

Work Climb

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Dominic Pallotti | 1. Alisha Amundson |
| 2. Jason Gerrish | 2. Ali Summersill |
| 3. Chris Bramlage | |

Sportsmanship Award: Tim Walters

Pay-it-Forward Award: Rick Wood

MASTER'S CHALLENGE

Eight climbers (female and male) proceeded to the Master's Challenge:

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Alisha Amundson | Trevor Hill |
| Ali Summersill | Paul Lloyd Jones |
| Chris Bramlage (from out of state: allowed to compete but cannot proceed to Internationals) | Forrest McCullough |
| Jason Gerrish | Dominic Pallotti |

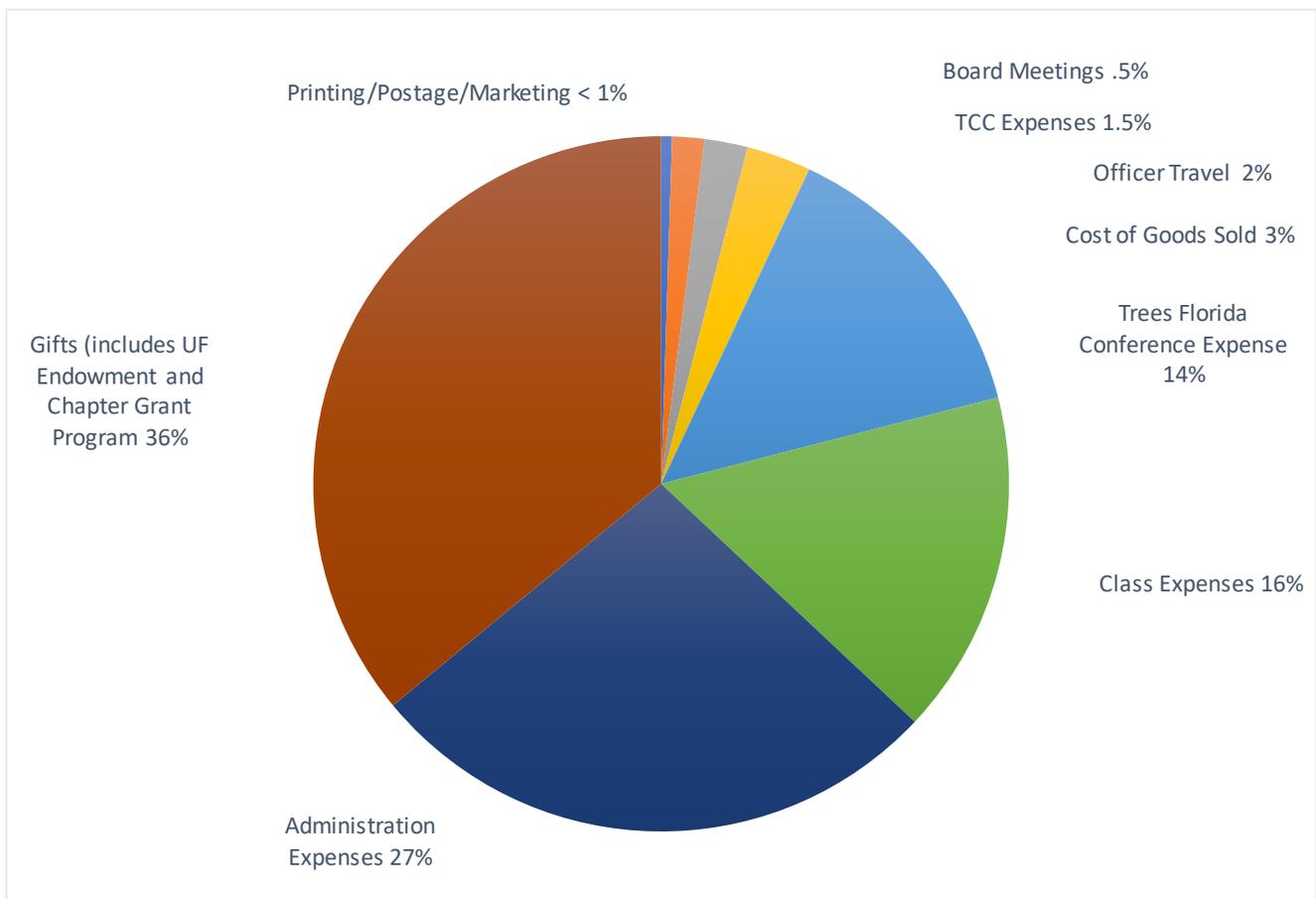
2019 TCC WINNERS

Our winning climbers who will represent the Florida Chapter at ISA International TCC are Alisha Amundson and Jason Gerrish.

Congratulations and good luck in Kentucky in August.



2018 Florida Chapter Expenses



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TREE FUND
Cultivating Innovation

From Your TREE Fund Liaison Chair - Eric H. Hoyer

TREE Fund News

Eric Hoyer, Florida Chapter TREE Fund Liaison

The TREE Fund had another banner year in 2018. I am pleased to report that ten new research grants were awarded totaling \$305,000. In addition, another \$135,000 was awarded for previously approved multi-year grants. The TREE Fund also awarded \$35,000 for seven scholarships for students to attend undergraduate or graduate school in an arboricultural or related field.

The following are examples of some of the grants awarded in 2018:

Dr. Andrew Hirons of Myerscough College in the United Kingdom received a grant for his research entitled, "Enhancing the Performance of Urban Storm Water Management with Tree Selection: Developing a New Approach to Accessing Waterlogging Tolerance on Temperate Trees".

Alexander Laver of Tree Logic in the U.K for his research entitled, "Optimised (U.K. spelling) Techniques for Arboreal Activities".

Dr. Carolyn Mahan, Penn State Univ, "Long Term Effects of Electrical Right of Way Vegetation Management on Floral and Faunal Communities".

Dr. Gregory Dahle, Environmental Consultants, LLC, "Development of a Regional Research Approach to Modeling Tree Failure Risk Probability Affecting Distribution Overhead Lines".

John Goodfellow, BioCompliance Consulting, Inc, "The Cost-effectiveness of Integrated Vegetation Management".

Space does not allow me to list all of the recipients and their research. For more information, go to the TREE Fund website at www.treefund.org. The site also provides an archive of all previous grants which can be accessed by either a subject or title search.

TREE Fund also provides several webinars which can be experienced real time or can be read afterwards from the webinar archives. The following webinars are scheduled for 2019:

June 11 – Dr. Nina Bassuk of Cornell University s providing a follow up webinar from 2018 webinar entitled "Reducing Tree (and Soil) Damage During Construction".

August 29 – Dr. Glynn Percival of Bartlett U.K. – "Can We Vaccinate Trees to Protect Against Diseases".

Nov. 19 – Dr. Kathleen Wolf of University of Washington – "Health Benefits of City Trees"

As you can see, the TREE Fund truly is a research and educational organization. This information is available to anyone by simply visiting their website. ❖

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Complete details on the 2019 Tour des Trees can be found [here](#).

Already registered? Be sure to follow the discussion and stay involved by joining our [Facebook event](#) and [Strava Club](#)!



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Consultant's Corner

by Joe Samnik, Expert Forensic Arborist

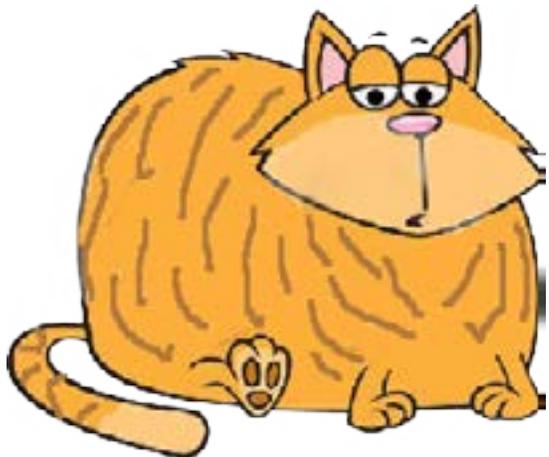


FAT CATS AND HONESTY

One commodity weighs heaviest among all professionals. The truth. Nothing separates success in the professional marketplace and private relationships quite like the truth. Synonymous with honor, integrity and character, the truth and a reputation for telling it are priceless. Except when the truth interferes with a constructed reality based on miscues driven by deception.

In this instance, I was having what is irreverently known as ‘A Coming to Jesus Meeting’ with my client, an attorney. Seasoned and successful attorneys retain an expert well in advance of filing suit. The expert, supposedly, teams with the attorney, and perhaps other experts, to inform the attorney regarding the strength or weakness of his case. Two things can go wrong during this exercise: one, the expert isn’t expert enough in the process or in his subject expertise to render an opinion; two, the potential “payday” is too great a possibility for the attorney to pause and see the proverbial chessboard from 100 feet in the air. Yes, there are weaknesses, however the attorney is skilled enough, or so he thinks, to navigate around those weaknesses in his case.

And so, it came to pass in the matter at hand. A quick back of the envelope calculation insured this counselor a



seven-figure payday. He was already spending the money. There was one slight issue with his case. His client was lying

to him and staging an event for a windfall of revenue, big dreams and fat cats. During my interview with the attorney’s client, a landscaper who also grew plants and trees, there were some things that just did not add up. For one, his inventory did not match his sales receipts. This fact meant he was either lying to me and to the attorney or his office produced and kept bad records. After spending an hour or so with his administrative staff I came to believe they were quite astute and that while they could have made errors, it was doubtful, and highly so, that a mistake of this magnitude could had been made. A closer inspection of his inventory demonstrated to me that plants he had claimed as a loss had been repotted and placed to the rear of his nursery, mixed in with other plants. I reminded myself that while I was indeed a first-generation son of an immigrant, I had not gotten off the boat that long ago.

I brought this matter to the attention of the attorney who retained me. His reaction told me everything I needed to know. I think that I recused myself from the assignment at about the very same time he discharged me from the assigned. Either way, I’m glad that my relationship with him had come to an end.

The world of expert witnesses is a small one indeed. As is the Inter-Sanctum of attorneys. Word on the street is that the expert he retained was not forthcoming during deposition. Things quickly went to hell in a hand basket. I don’t know what the expert will do for work now that her persona is so gravely damaged. I do not know what the marketplace does with attorneys in matters such as these but it can’t be good.

Honesty is indeed still the best policy. My job, and if I might please speak for other experts without their permission, is to tell the retaining attorney where he stands with regard to his case. My job is not to make the attorney happy. My job is to inform the attorney of what it is I think he has in the way of a prosecutable matter based upon the facts known to me at the time I give my opinions. While the attorney may not be happy with the news, it’s far better for him to know upfront rather than invest tens of thousands of dollars in a matter that will unravel as the case makes its way through the maze of obstacles to the verdict. ❖

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U.S. Farm Bill Passes Overwhelmingly!

SOURCE: FNGLA

Reflective of its longtime bipartisan legacy, the U.S. Senate voted 87-13 and the U.S. House voted 369-47 to pass the Farm Bill which will be in effect until 2023. In fact, the House vote smashed the record for “yes” votes for a Farm Bill: 182 Republicans and 187 Democrats. It’s fully expected to be signed quickly into law by President Trump. This bipartisan support was a welcome reversal of the politically-charged House vote in June when the Farm Bill barely squeaked by on a 213-211 vote with no Democratic support!

Every five years, Congress recalibrates the nation’s agricultural policy priorities via the Farm Bill. It’s a critical piece of legislation for nursery growers in Florida and nationwide because the Farm Bill often funds, or sets the funding parameters, for the research needed to wrestle with plant pest and disease threats. The Farm Bill also addresses risk management tools, including crop insurance. Buried deep in the 807-page Farm Bill, there is a brand new provision which establishes a USDA office for “urban agriculture and innovative production” to address issues and opportunities for indoor and rooftop farming. ❖



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Crowning Achievements Research Results on Root Severance and Tree Health

When soil near a tree in the urban environment is excavated for construction or infrastructure placement, tree roots are often damaged, leading to tree decline, reduced stability, and sometimes, tree mortality. This topic has been studied in a variety of ways, but in “Effects of Root Severance by Excavation on Growth, Physiology and Uprooting Resistance of Two Urban Tree Species,” Dr. Alessio Fini (University of Florence, Italy) wanted to specifically look at the effect of two different levels of root severing on tree growth, physiology and stability; assess the response to root damage by two species presumed to differ in tolerance to root manipulation (*Tilia x europaea* and *Aesculus hippocastanum*); and determine if root severance on one side of the tree affects leaf gas exchange over the whole canopy, or if the effect is restricted to branches attached at the severed side of the tree.

Dr. Fini’s findings provide further evidence that root protection during construction and trenching activities is critical. In his experiment, a single trench could re-

move 45-47% of the root system, and multiple trenches could remove as much as 75%. Interestingly, the two tree species responded similarly to the root damage, and growth reductions and altered hydraulic architecture were more severe on trees whose root system had been severed on the two opposite sides. While visible symptoms such as dieback or tree mortality may occur several years after root damage, Dr. Fini saw clear changes in tree physiology a few months after root loss, and those remained significant after 26 months.

Read more about this project and discover additional TREE Fund roots and soil studies on the [Research Archive page](#) of the TREE Fund website. ❖



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*Russell Lee | Vice President of Tree Care Operations
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– Accreditation program statistics 2010

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News From International

ISA Atlanta Headquarters Staffing Update

ISA is open for business in Atlanta, Georgia. We are training new staff and representatives to ensure we continue to provide exemplary service to our members, credential holders and partners. The entire ISA team is focused on reducing any delays that may have occurred due to our annual holiday closure and operations shift. Thank you for your understanding and support.

ISA Welcomes New Team Members:

Our newest team members by department:

Marketing Services:

- Tonya Brown, Event Planner
Tonya joins ISA with a long, solid history in professional meeting and event planning. Since 2005, Tonya has been planning events for companies such as Omnience Events and the Kellen Company where she spent the last 8 years planning events. During her time with Kellen Company, she developed a passion for the association industry and working with volunteers.
- Sydney Ransom, Event Planner
Introduction coming soon.

Credentialing Services:

- Roger Bell, Examinations Manager
Roger joined ISA with a wealth of knowledge in the field of continuing education (CE) and professional development. He founded a company that provided CE in the insurance field — offering live, paper-based self-study, and online CE in 48 US insurance jurisdictions and several national professional designations. He ran his company for more than 20 years before it was purchased by Success CE. Roger was retained to help run the operation after the purchase.
- Erin Dupree, Credentialing Manager
Introduction coming soon.

ISA Election News

The annual General Membership elections began 16 March. We have seen a record number of nominations this year for the three open seats on the ISA Board of Directors and two seats on the ISA Nominating and Elections Committee.

The International Society of Arboriculture holds two elections per year to fill the 15 positions on the Board of Directors. The annual ISA General Membership Election begins 16 March and closes 30 April. During this election, three upcoming seats on the ISA Board of Directors will be filled along with two openings on the ISA Nominating and Elections Committee. The NEC accepted a record number of nominations for these

elections.

Each voting member should have received a link to the ballot that will be automatically distributed 16 March at 12:01 a.m. EST.

Your link will be emailed from invitations@mail.electionbuddy.com.

The annual ISA Board of Directors Council of Representatives (CoR) election concluded 31 January. During this election, six candidates were considered for two openings on the ISA Board of Directors beginning August of this year.

The results of both elections will be announced following the conclusion of General Membership Election. We encourage you to participate! Member participation is critical to the success of ISA.

Save the Date: International Conference and Trade Show

Join ISA for its 2019 Annual International Conference and Trade Show 11-14 August. Expand upon your knowledge with advice from industry specialists, and network with leading professionals in the tree care community.

The trade show will provide you with exceptional opportunities to examine new products, talk to industry representatives and mingle with your peers. Live demonstrations from tree care professionals will be presented on the trade show floor.

Start your conference week by attending a pre-conference workshop, tour, or the International Tree Climbing Championship (ITCC) 9-11 August. Pre-conference events and the ITCC will conclude 11 August followed by the Arboriculture Celebration to begin the conference.

We invite you to join our reception which will take place immediately after the Arboriculture Celebration. Get acquainted with experts in the industry and build your network with pros from all over the world.

Hotel registration is open! The deadline for hotel reservations is 16 July. Hilton Knoxville is our host hotel this year, and it has a covered sky bridge that connects to the Knoxville Convention Center. The remaining hotels are a 5-10-minute walk to the convention center.

Conference registration will be open the first week of April. Learn more about the ISA Annual International Conference and Trade Show. Visit isa-arbor.com for more details...❖

2019 Certification Exam Schedule

The FLORIDA CHAPTER of ISA is pleased to announce our 2019 schedule of Certification exams. See the chart below for the site nearest you.

Date	Exam/ Class	Location	Time	Last Date to Register	Cost Member/ Nonmem
April 13, 2019	ISA Certified Arborist and Specialist Exams	Broward County Extension Davie (Ft. Lauderdale), FL	8 AM to 12 PM	12 business days prior to exam	\$170/ \$280
May 4, 2019	ISA Certified Arborist and Specialist Exams	Clearwater Countryside Library, Clearwater FL	7:30 AM to 11:30 AM	12 business days prior to exam	\$170/ \$280
May 4, 2019	ISA Certified Arborist and Specialist Exams	UF-IFAS Miami-Dade Extension, Homestead FL	9:00 AM to 1:00 PM	12 business days prior to exam	\$170/ \$280

There are currently 3 exams available for registration – exams are scheduled throughout the year so make sure to [check back on the website](#) when they become available. The test schedule is subject to change as additional tests and review sessions may be added.

Can't wait? Remember that most ISA credentials are conveniently available at Pearson Vue Testing Centers throughout Florida for an additional test center fee. See the [ISA International website for more information](#).

First-time applicants can apply online on the [International ISA website](#).

PREPAYMENT IS REQUIRED VISA/MC/AMEX accepted. US FUNDS ONLY

The pdf of the application form (to mail in) is part of the [Certified Arborist Information pdf](#).

The ISA International office in Champaign, IL must receive your application and exam fees AT LEAST TWELVE BUSINESS DAYS before the exam date. NO EXCEPTIONS. (The ISA International office is closed New Year's Eve, New Year's Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and the day after, and Christmas week)

To purchase an ISA Certification Study Guide, call the Florida Chapter ISA at 941-342-0153 [or order online](#)

Florida Chapter ISA - 2019 Education Schedule

*The schedule below is tentative and subject to changes.

Date	Seminar/Class	Location (s)	Open for Registration
April 12, 2019	Cranes in Arboriculture (with Mark Chisholm and Rick Yoos)	Clearwater	Register Online
May 7, 2019	Trees and Storms	Tallahassee	Register Online
May 9, 2019	Trees and Storms	Orlando	Register Online
June 17-19, 2019	Trees Florida 2019	Ft. Lauderdale	Watch for registration to open early April.

Welcome!

New Florida Chapter Members

Here are the individuals that joined the Florida Chapter during the fourth quarter of 2018. If you see a name from your area of the state, look up their phone number online* and give them a call. Introduce yourself and find out what aspect of arboriculture the new member is involved in. Let's make the Florida Chapter friendlier. We're all working in different ways for the same goals. Get to know other Chapter members. You might make some helpful connections for the future.

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| Heather Albany, Port Orange FL | Norman Norton, Tallahassee FL |
| Eric Ames, Fort Myers FL | George Nottingham, Boynton Beach FL |
| David Ausburn, Clearwater FL | Drew Odell, Largo FL |
| Benjamin Bandfield, Navarre FL | Chase ODonell, Fruitland Park FL |
| Elias Baquero, Panama City Beach FL | Wayne Orr, Sarasota FL |
| Daryn Bohner, Tampa FL | Rick Ouellette, Middleburg FL |
| Joseph Briggs, Sarasota FL | Richard Panella, Pinellas park FL |
| Anita Clark, Opa Locka FL | David Peabody, Vero Beach FL |
| Anabel Daniel, Lauderdale Lakes FL | Nathan Peirce, Tampa FL |
| Malachi Dragiff, Saint Augustine FL | Omar Persad, West Palm Beach FL |
| Sean Farrell, Saint Petersburg FL | Steven Pietrzyk, Fort Myers FL |
| Jamie Frank, Dunedin FL | marten poppell, vero beach FL |
| Deanna Freniere, Sarasota FL | Chelsea Proia, Gainesville FL |
| Tammy Gautier, Key Largo FL | Robinson Quezada, Lauderdale Lakes FL |
| Chad Gibney, Merritt Island FL | Wilfredo Reguera, Miami FL |
| Paul Gomer, Tavernier FL | Marcos Ribeiro, Pompano Beach FL |
| William Granda, Miami Lakes FL | Julio Romero, Palmetto Bay FL |
| Emily Harrington, Sanibel FL | Raimundo Rueda, Pinecrest FL |
| Matthew Howell, Dade City FL | Lisa Sallee, Englewood FL |
| Richard Infinger, Panama City FL | Eliana Sepulveda, North Bay Village FL |
| Danae Jackson, Maitland FL | Rickey Shelhorse, Port Orange FL |
| Ryan Lebron, Kissimmee FL | Justin Steinbach, Edgewater FL |
| David Leon, Hialeah FL | Eric Stevens, Port Richey FL |
| Zhaokai Liu, Midlothian VA | Robert Stevenson, Bathgate United Kingdom |
| Charles Marinello, Fort Myers FL | Robert Sunshine, Miami FL |
| Wesley Mckeown, Sanford FL | Austin Tollman, Apopka FL |
| Kevin McSheehy, Fort Walton Beach FL | Oscar Fernando Vargas, Doral FL |
| Elaine Mills, Miami FL | Robert Watrous, Fort Myers FL |
| Cody Mitchem, Bradenton FL | |

*Go to <http://www.isa-arbor.com>, then go to "Members Only" and log in. Then go to ISA membership directory. If you do not know your log in for members only, contact ISA headquarters at (888) 472-8733. Once you log in, you can update your address, check your CEU's, edit or verify Certified Arborist information and search the membership list.

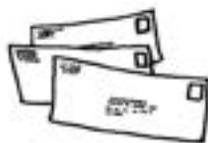
Letters to the Editor

We welcome your thoughts about Florida Arborist articles, about your Florida Chapter, or about tree issues in general.

Email your letters to:
jan@floridaisa.org

or mail to:
Florida Chapter - ISA
7853 S. Leewynn Court
Sarasota, FL 34240

Please remember: Letters should be no longer than 300 words. We reserve the right to condense letters, or to edit as necessary.



An invitation to all members
to attend a
Board of Directors Meeting!
Call 941-342-0153
for specific times and locations

Up-coming 2019 Board Meeting - Dates & Locations
May 17, 2019 - Kissimmee
July 12, 2019 - Orlando

Arborist Certification Committee Report

By Norm Easey, Florida Certification Liaison

[Click here to view all scheduled exams](#); clicking on the “state” column will group all Florida exams together for easy searching. The ISA Certified Arborist exam is also available at Pearson Testing Centers throughout Florida.

See the ISA International website www.isa-arbor.com for more information about the various ISA arborist credentials and how to earn them.

Florida Chapter currently has 1964 Certified Arborists.

The Florida Chapter would like to congratulate the following 42 Florida or Florida Chapter individuals for earning their certifications as Certified Arborist, Municipal Specialist and Utility Specialist :

Certified Arborist

Eric Ames, Fort Myers FL
 Dennis Bell, Port Charlotte FL
 Cheryl Callender, Boca Raton FL
 Carolyn Cheatham Rhodes, Tampa FL
 Thomas Danks, Boynton Beach FL
 Barry Donohue Jr., Naples FL
 Malachi Dragiff, Saint Augustine FL
 Luis Espino, Greenacres FL
 Nicholas Farina, Fort Lauderdale FL
 Laurie Frutchey, Fort Myers FL
 Daniel Goldstein, Davie FL
 Paul Gomer, Tavernier FL
 Brett Harbauer, Dunedin FL
 Emily Harrington, Sanibel FL
 Nathan Haynes, Saint Augustine FL
 Albert Jaques, Ave Maria FL
 Terry Kincaid, Kissimmee FL
 Kenneth Lott, Cape Coral FL
 William Mallett, Port Charlotte FL
 Elaine Mills, Miami FL
 Kathryn Moffatt, West Palm Beach FL
 Isaiah Mosley, Miami FL
 David Peabody, Vero Beach FL
 Martin Rhines, North Port FL
 Eliezer Rivera, Sarasota FL



Daniel Rodriguez, Miami FL
 Gregory Rust, Miramar FL
 Lisa Sallee, Englewood FL
 Marc Sleevar, Vero Beach FL
 Jordan Snyder, Dunedin FL
 Barbara Stalbird, Saint Petersburg FL
 Jonathan Sweat, Seffner FL
 Ron Thurner, Fort Walton Beach FL
 Fernando Toledo, MIAMI FL
 Shane Tucker, North Fort Myers FL
 Johnny Turvin, Jacksonville FL
 David Waddell, Miami FL
 Jeffrey Washeck, Casselberry FL
 Robert Watrous, Fort Myers FL
 Alejandro Zaragoza, Ponte Vedra Beach FL

Municipal Specialists

David DeLoach, South Miami FL

Board Certified Master Arborist

Nicholas Sardina, Cutler Bay FL

Are you thinking about becoming certified?

[Visit the International ISA website](#)

To access the certification application handbook with further information.

International Society of Arboriculture Florida Chapter

Our Mission: "To Promote and Improve the
Scientifically Based Practice of Professional Arboriculture"



Arborist Code of Ethics

Strive for continuous self-development by increasing their qualifications and technical proficiency by staying abreast of technological and scientific developments affecting the profession.

Not misuse or omit material facts in promoting technical information, products or services if the effect would be to mislead or misrepresent.

Hold paramount the safety and health of all people, and endeavor to protect property and the environment in the performances of professional responsibilities.

Accurately and fairly represent their capabilities, qualifications and experience and those of their employees and/or agents.

Subscribe to fair and honest business practices in dealing with clients, suppliers, employees and other professionals.

Support the improvement of professional services and products through encouraging research and development.

Observe the standards and promote adherence to the ethics embodied in this code.



Florida Arborist
Florida Chapter ISA
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