Fall 2019

Shade Tree Notes

New York State Arborists, ISA Chapter Inc.

www.nysarborists.com

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President's Message

I hope everyone had a safe summer. September was a very busy month with both the Tree Fund's Tour des Trees and the fall conference. I want to thank everyone who rode or volunteered for the Tour des Trees. We had five riders this year and an amazing volunteer that cheered on the riders. Thank you Karen Grimm for your cheerful and colorful welcomes throughout the tour. Collectively, we raised approximately $21,614 for the Tree Fund. Next year's ride is in Colorado. Feel free to ask me, or our other riders, how it feels to complete the tour.

The fall conference was well attended again this year. We had great weather for the two outdoor demonstrations. For the first time, we held our NYSDEC Pesticide Update session outdoors with a UTV spray rig mock inspection presented by Don Nelson. It was informative, interactive and an eye-opening experience for some. We are hoping to bring a similar session to the winter conference in Suffern so more members can benefit from these discussions. A second new topic I found informative was NYS Trooper Brenon's commercial vehicle inspection update. As someone who is not a CDL driver, I have to say this session taught me more about commercial vehicle laws and, judging from the discussions in the room, it needs to be repeated at the winter conference. It would serve as a good refresher course for everyone.

The board has been busy working on the new strategic plan that is starting to take form. To keep it moving, we are asking members for assistance. There will be several task forces and committees taking shape in the coming months, where your expertise would be valued. We need your help. The organization can only grow and

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Mission Statement

We are an association of professional arborists and educators that promotes public interest, and fosters research and education in the care and benefits of trees, shrubs and their environment.

From The Chapter Office

Brian's Books Free Library Debuts at Fall Conference

What better way to find a new home for Brian Skinner's personal library than to give the books to his fellow professionals and what better place to do so than our conferences? The free library was the idea of James Maloney and Art Brooks. Jim figured, since attendees rarely visit the National Grid table (yes, he has been watching),the table is now "Brian's Books – A Free Library". And it's exactly that – free! Free for the taking. No return expected. Four large boxes of books were on display with subjects ranging from arboriculture, horticulture, biology, entomology and agrostology, manuals on bonsai to coffee table photo books. It was a great success – what Art Brooks described as "…a mob scene."

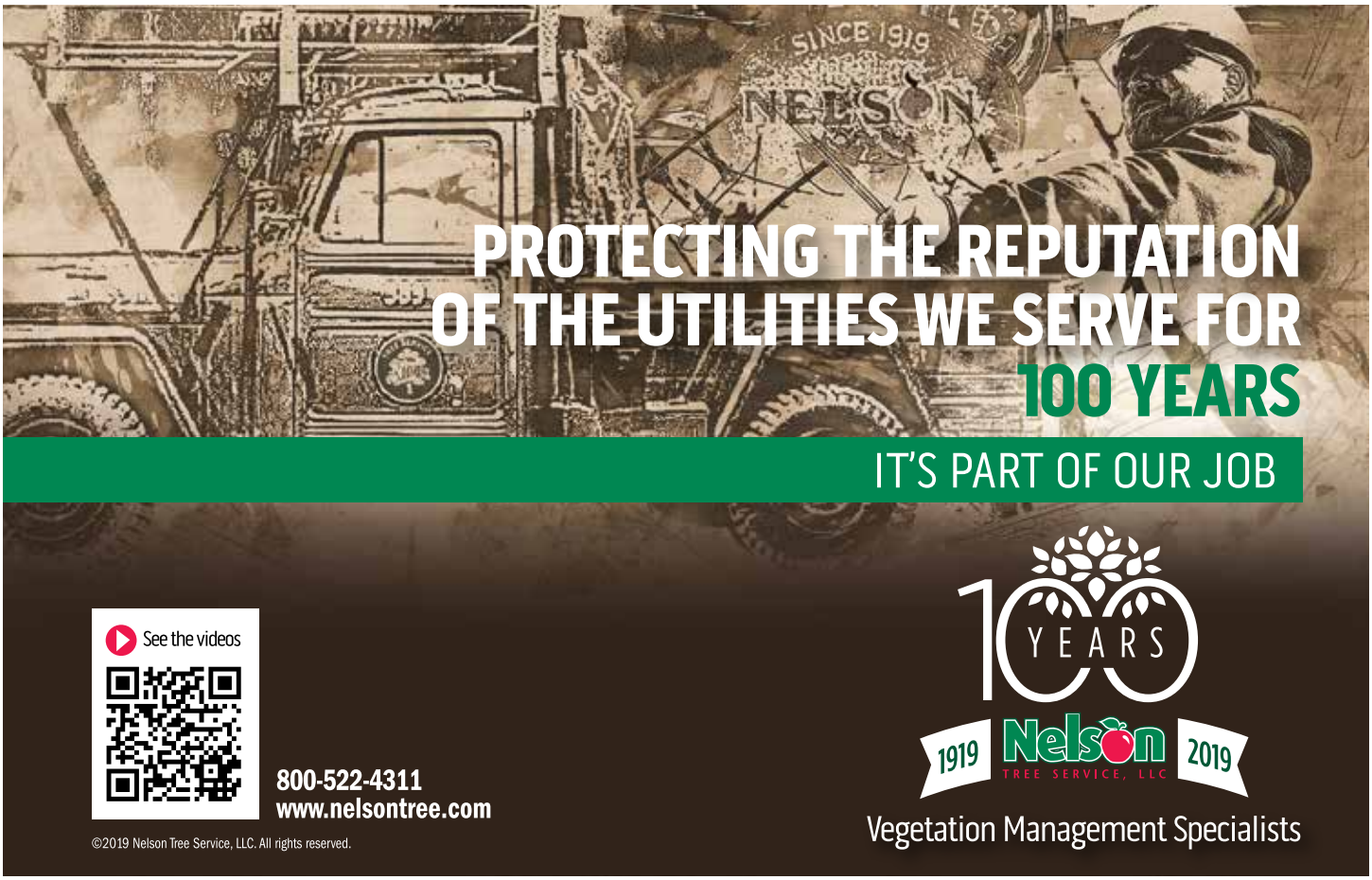
One downside is that, after the fall conference, the library is almost out of books! So, here's your call to action – bring your books, manuals and studies that you no longer use to one of our conferences and drop it off. We'll display them for a couple of conferences and, if they aren't adopted, we'll donate them to one of the local colleges or universities. Couldn't be simpler.

Chapter Members Volunteer

More than 90 arborists and tree service professionals volunteered their time for the 5th Annual Saluting Branches, held September 18 at the Gerald B.H. Solomon Saratoga National Cemetery in Schuylerville, NY. Paul Gardner of Valley Falls spearheaded this special day of service that provided exceptional tree care to keep our veterans cemeteries safe, beautiful places for all those who visit. NYSA was proud to donate lunch for the crew.

Renew Your Membership

Our 2020 membership campaign will begin in November. Thank you for your continued support of the chapter. Membership renewal notices will be in the mail soon and we want you back as members in 2020. You can renew your membership online at *www.nysarborists.com*. Please note: If you renewed your dues through ISA, please don't send payment. We value your membership and strive to continue to provide outstanding benefits for you. Please feel free to contact us to share your thoughts on how we may help your business grow.



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Fall Conference Great Success

More than 130 arboriculture professionals attended the fall conference on September 24 & 25 in Liverpool. We appreciate the support by our members, sponsors, speakers and vendors, and for their making time in their work schedules to spend a couple of days with their colleagues and learn about the latest issues and trends from industry experts. The support of our sponsors and vendors enable us to provide valuable education and training opportunities for our members.

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Jordan Jozak

Lou Hicks

Phillip Kelley

Rich Cartier

Don Nelson

Sean Adams

Beth Brantley

Share Your Story

Do you have a story to tell or information on current issues or trends? We are looking for articles to place in the next issues of Shade Tree Notes. Your article should be approximately 500 words, and the deadline for the next issue is December 1. You can send your articles to NYSA at *info@nysarborists.com*.

Ed Gilman Booked For 2020 Annual Conference

Make plans to join us January 26-27 at the Crowne Plaza Suffern for our Annual Conference. Ed Gilman returns to Suffern as our featured speaker, along with our plant health care and tree academy tracks.

Thank you to all of the volunteers for working the 2019 Great NYS Fair. We appreciate your time to share your expertise with fairgoers.

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One Successful Lumberjill

By Alex Miller Spoly

Seven years ago, I came across the woodsmen demo in the quart yard at ESF (College of Environmental Science & Forestry). I was a transfer who had played softball my whole life. I even played for GCC (Genesee Community College). I thought the demo looked neat and I went to the open practice held at the field. I threw a full pit in pulp toss, meaning I got 24 pulp logs in between stakes about 20' apart. I was then asked to join the woodsmen team!

In my second year (senior year) at ESF, I found out that my older sister had suddenly passed. I was at the worst state in my life. I wanted to quit school but my fellow woodsmen friends really helped me through this tragic event. Woodsmen was my vice. It kept me believing in something. I believed in the team and winning with them. I also was chosen to represent the ESF team for the Women's Stihl Collegiate competition, held at spring meet. I trained after practice and before to be the best I could be, and finished fourth at the Stihl Collegiate. Overall, we finished second as a team. It's one of my proudest moments.

After college, I joined the semi- pro ranks as part of the New York State Lumberjack Association, and the competitors welcomed me with open arms. It was hard to do well but I always gave it my best. It took me four years to get good equipment so I could be competitive in every event. I am now in my fifth year out of college and am considered a professional lumberjill.

Hard work does pay off!

My drive to make my sister, all my family and friends, and my fellow ESF "Stumpies" proud has led to my success! Now I have goals and aspirations that I will achieve, and I already have achieved some!

One of those goals was placing sixth in the US for the Women's Stihl Series, which is the biggest stage for women. The is the second year women have been allowed on the same stage as men, and on TV. I have been at both! I am one of the youngest to be on the stage of the competitive 10 in the US.

Stock saw, underhand chop and single-buck are the events at the series. I won the MS661 stock saw which is a down and up cut in 16" white pine. Single-buck is one cut through 16" white pine using a 6' hand filed saw, also called the misery whip. Finally, the most technical event, the underhand chop, which is swinging a 6 lb razor sharp axe between your feet on a horizontal block (like felling a tree). Overall, I had an impressive showing for all the Miller-time fans! The 2019 Series will be on CBS in the fall!

This sport has given me so much already. I can't wait to see where it takes me. All I know is I won't stop until I have reached my goals and made everyone proud!

Alex Miller Spoly is New York project manager with the Davy Resource Group, and is based out of the Buffalo office. She competes as Millertime because Miller

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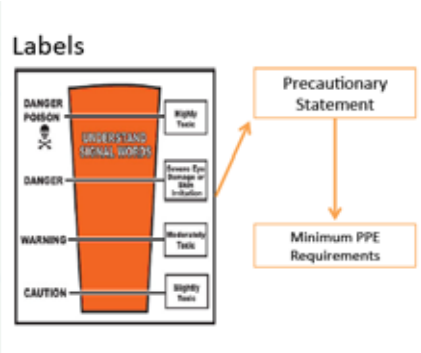

At the fall conference, Rich Cartier, Northeast Territory Manager for Rainbow Tree Care Scientific Advancements, spoke about the need to make safety part of your Plant Health Care (PHC) culture, just as it's part of your pruning and removal culture.

Rich explained that field research is the basis for Rainbow's PHC protocols. The company partners with industry leaders and universities to conduct research in real world situations. Science is required for predictability.

After reviewing the popular industry magazines for 2016 and 2017, Rich found no articles or direct references to PHC technician safety, PPE or how to read a pesticide label.

Although the ANSI Z133 standard gives specific guidelines, Rich asked the question, "When was the last tree industry event that highlighted PHC technician safety?" The next question he asked was, "Is the industry failing us....or are we failing as an industry?" He then went on to ask the following:

- What products are you using & have you reviewed the label and Safety Data Sheet (SDS)?
- What PPE are you using and what is available?
- Outside of mixing and application, how else are you exposed to product residues?
- Are you prepared for a spill or emergency?

After explaining the important information on pesticide labels (see photos

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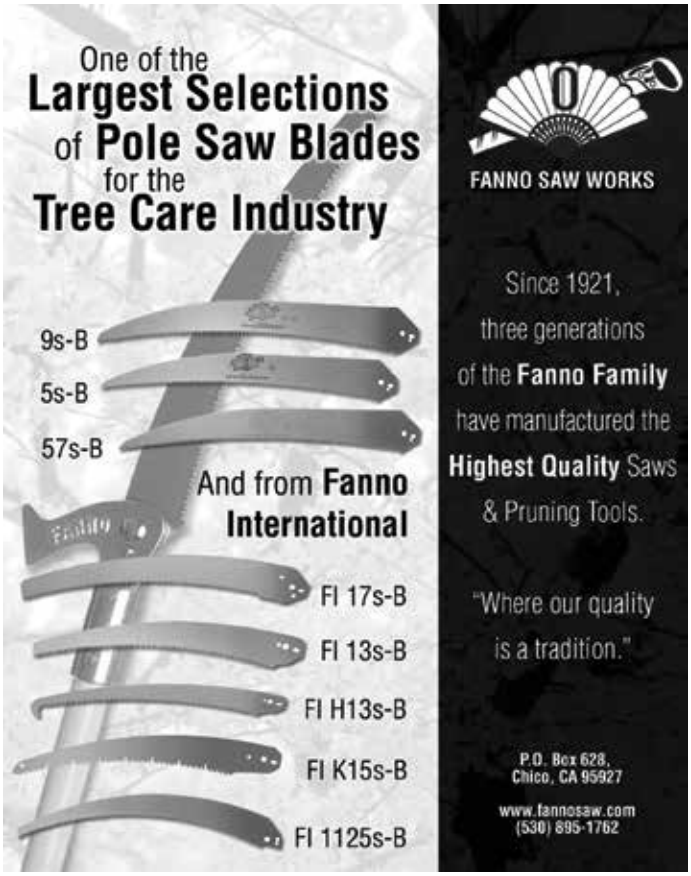

Plant Health Care Safety & Culture

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on previous page), Rich turned to SDSs (Safety Data Sheets), explaining that they are intended to provide comprehensive information about a substance or mixture for use in workplace chemical management, including,,,

1. Identification
2. Hazard(s) identification
3. Composition/information on ingredients
4. First-aid measures
5. Fire-fighting measures
6. Accidental release measures
7. Handling and storage
8. Exposure controls/personal protection
9. Physical and chemical properties
10. Stability and reactivity
11. Toxicological information
12. Ecological information
13. Disposal considerations
14. Transport information
15. Regulatory information
16. Other information

Turning to PPE (Personal Protective Equipment), Rich said that his company's minimum recommended PPE includes long sleeved shirt, long pants, chemical resistant gloves, shoes plus socks and wrap around safety glasses. For special circumstances, you should also carry...

- Hard hat: for above hazards, as barrier from overhead spray drift
- Face shield: barrier from spray drift
- Apron: mixing of particular products
- Approved respirator: to keep from breathing dust while mixing, and spray drift
- Rubber boots/over boots: barrier against spray drift, recommended for soil injections
- Reflective vest
- Cones

It's important to maintain PPC, too. Maintenance includes inspecting reusable gloves daily for wear and holes, and washing them daily with soap and water; and washing any contaminated headwear, facewear, and footwear daily.

If a piece of equipment was used in application or mixing, it's considered contaminated. Wear gloves when handling contaminated pieces of equipment. Store contaminated equipment away from non-contaminated areas. Wash with soap and water solution, and mark equipment or pesticide areas with tape.

For contaminated PPE, use detergent and hot water. Keep and wash PPE separately from other laundry. This includes pants and shirts.

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Plant Health Care Safety & Culture

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If you come into contact with a pesticide through your eyes, mouth, inhalation or ingestion read the first aid section of the label, as treatment may vary between products, and may be counterintuitive. Carry a first aid kit on your truck at all times. Call 911 or poison control for serious exposure issues.

Pesticides should not be carried within the cab of a vehicle. Pesticides should also be stored apart from PPE. Use a sealable, leak proof container capable of containing contents of the product. Before the start of each work day, all equipment needs to be inspected for leaks and wear.

All trucks carrying pesticides should be equipped with a spill response kit containing PPE, absorbent material, dykes and absorbent pads.

In case of a spill, it's important to know the three "C's":

- Control the spill (minimize the quantity released)
- Contain the spill (into as small an area as possible)
- Clean the spill right away

For large spills notify the DEC.

Rich also discussed, briefly, different rules covering fertilizer and organics before concluding with these take aways:

- Read and understand labels & SDSs on EVERYTHING
- Update your PPE!!!
- Review your training!!!
- Talk to your techs, invite them to your safety meetings and encourage them to participate.

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Calendar Of Events

Bayard Cutting Arboretum. Visit *www.bayardcuttingarboretum.com* for a complete listing of events.

Brooklyn Botanic Garden. Visit *www.bbg.org* for a complete listing of programs and events.

Green-Wood. Visit *www.green-wood.com* for a complete listing of programs and events.

Hamilton College Arboretum. Visit *www.hamilton.edu/arboretum* for upcoming workshops and events.

International Society of Arboriculture. Visit *isa-arbor.com* for a complete listing of programs and events.

Long Island Arboricultural Association. Visit *www.longislandarborists.org* for upcoming activities and events.

Madison Square Park. Visit *www.madisonsquarepark.org* for a complete listing of programs and events.

Morris Arboretum. Visit *www.business-services.upenn.edu/arboretum/index.shtml* or call 215-247-5777, ext. 125.

New York Botanical Garden. Visit *www.nybg.org* for a complete listing of programs and events.

New York State Urban Forestry Council. Visit *www.nysufc.org* for complete listing of programs and events.

Utility Arborist Association. Visit *www.gotouua.org* for complete listing of programs and events.

October 6-8, New England ISA Chapter, Springfield Sheraton, Springfield, MA. Visit *www.newenglandisa.org* for more information.

November 7-9, TCI Expo 2019, Pittsburgh, PA. Visit *www.tcia.org* for more information.

November 9, ISA Certified Arborist, Utility Specialist, and Municipal Specialist Exam, 8:00 AM, The New York Botanical Garden, Bronx, NY, Visit ISA at *www.isa@isa-arbor.com*.

November 19, TRAQ Renewal Course, Planting Fields Historic State Park, Oyster Bay, NY. Registration deadline is October 19. A few seats remain.

December 8-11, ASCA Annual Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana. Visit *www.asca-consultants.org* for more information.

January 13-17, 2020, ISA Certification Exam Preparatory Course, presented by Glenn Gentzke, CA, RCA, of Tree Services of Western New York, LLC, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, Buffalo Olmsted Parks Conservancy, Parkside Lodge, 84 Parkside Avenue, Buffalo, Contact Glenn at 716-949-6214 or *glenndny@yahoo.com***.**

January 26-27, 2020, NYSA Annual Conference, Crowne Plaza, Suffern, NY.

February 10-11, Penn Del Shade Tree Symposium, Lancaster Marriott, Lancaster, PA. Visit *www.penndelisa.org*.

February 27-March 1, 2020, ASCA Consulting Academy, Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel, Sacramento, CA. Visit *www.asca-consultants.org*.

President's Message

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become better with your help. I joined the board almost 10 years ago now and not once have I regretted it. I am very thankful to those individuals who encouraged me to take that leap and join. If you are just getting into the industry, it is a great way to build your network and learn from people with a variety of backgrounds and experiences. If you have been a member but not involved in the chapter, it is your chance to share your knowledge and contribute to helping us keep improving. If you're interested in joining a task force or a committee, don't hesitate one moment longer to contact a board member. We can share with you all the choices and help you pick one that best fits your interest.

Have a safe upcoming hunting season. I look forward to seeing you in Suffern in January for our winter conference.

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