

An Arborist takes
care of a tree for life.



OUT ON A LIMB

FALL 2018, VOLUME 38, ISSUE 4



Dan Nye working Wood Mizer Saw Mill. Arborist
Spotlight story on page 4.

PASSING OF A GOOD FRIEND AND STRONG SUPPORTER OF THE NAA

By Jim Keepers; NAA Newsletter Coordinator

With the passing of Terrance P. "Terry" Hughes on October 9, 2018, I have lost an Arborist friend and a strong supporter of the Nebraska Arborist Association.

I am sure most of our NAA members don't realize Terry was a strong supporter behind the curtain of your association's independent and joint winter conferences. Over 16 years ago when I began as a chairperson for the NAA's winter conference, I turned to Terry for his help and support. I remember back in 2003 when we held the conference at the Clarion Hotel in Omaha, Terry was the first one in line to buy tickets for our first every conference raffle. We had two gift baskets and Terry bought \$50.00 worth of raffle tickets. The value of the conference's raffle prizes increased in the following years with the addition of a STHIL Professional Chain Saw. This allowed the NAA's fund to grow and more scholarships could be awarded yearly. Terry was the individual who donated the saws to these raffles for a number of years.



I often went to Terry in my early years of conference work asking for speaker recommendations and topics to be addressed to the conference. I did have Terry give a presentation one year at a conference. I must say his memory was so sharp, he told the audience the location, the type of tree, the problem it had and the year it was worked on by his company.



**Gayle & Terry with the NAA
Arborist of the Year Award
2009.**

The NAA added a silent auction to our winter conference program and I still remember to this day the year Terry went around to each item I had made a bid on and increased my bid by 1 cent. That continued throughout the entire day. That was Terry being Terry. The NAA then took the next step and joined the NNLA's conference live auction and Terry was a strong bidder during the auction.

Terry was always a strong supporter of the NAA's Arborist Certification program. I remember a few years back, Terry had nine of his workers establish a study group and they worked together to prepare themselves to take the NAA Arborist Certification Exam. It was the first time I have ever seen nine individuals from the same company take the exam and pass.

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A QUARTERLY UPDATE OF THE NEBRASKA ARBORISTS ASSOCIATION

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SUBMIT ARTICLES:

If you have anything you'd like to submit for inclusion in the Quarterly Update, please contact Jim Keepers at jlkeepers45@gmail.com or (402) 332-0715 or (402) 618-8837.

Submission deadlines for the NAA
2019 quarterly newsletters:

- 1st Quarter - February 22, 2019
- 2nd Quarter - June 7, 2019
- 3rd Quarter - September 13, 2019
- 4th Quarter - November 11, 2019

*Photo contributions throughout
courtesy of Jim Keepers.*

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Kevin Popken, NAA President

As we wrap up 2018, I want to give you as members a brief update on the association. Membership is up over 7% and our number of certified arborists is up 5% over 2017. We continue to have a great turnout in our Arborist school, this year was no different with 34 attendees. We had an even mix of participants both from the private sector, government and grounds managers of large organizations like Offutt air base and hospitals as well as individuals representing state arboretums. The importance and value of the Arborist certification continues to work its way into our community's awareness which is great for all of us as an association but more importantly for the people and urban forests we are serving. Continue to promote your certification credentials and the importance of certification to your customers.

I appreciate all of you who represent the association well to those you are serving. When each of us raises the bar, all of us benefit as well. Being a part of the community should for all carry with it some level of responsibility to offer exceptional, ethical service to our customers. As we are coming into the Christmas season I would also like to encourage you to consider how you and your company (organization) can give back to your community. As a private company like ours you probably experience some slow down in the winter. We have found it is the perfect time to do pro bono work for individuals or organizations that may lack the funds or ability to take care of a hazardous tree or limb(s) on their own. I can speak from experience that the benefits outweigh the costs, by far. It boosts morale in employees by being a part of something bigger, while at the same time future customers want to work with a company that cares and is willing to make an investment into their community. A giving company will be the one people think of first when they have a need down the road. Finally, I believe giving is an essential key to our own happiness...trust me, few things feel better than giving back...especially when least expected. So whether it is to help a veteran or current soldier serving our country and their family, removing dangerous limbs in a backyard for a single mother trying to make ends meet or trimming trees in a neglected cemetery, do yourself and your company a favor and find someone in need and go for it... you will be glad you did.

Wishing you all a very Merry Christmas!!

Kevin Popken

UPCOMING EVENTS

NAA Certification Exam (by appointment)
January 22, 2019
Holthus, Conference Center, York, Nebraska

Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference
January 23-24, 2019
Holthus, Conference Center, York, Nebraska

Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Summer Conferences
Date and Location to be finalized

BIRDS, BUTTERFLIES, TREE & INSECTS

Trees are feeding caterpillars that may end up feeding the Birds. The Birds in turn are feasting on plants, they're pollinating them, dispersing their seeds and eating insects that might otherwise damage the plants.

The trees below are listed in order by the impressive numbers of butterfly and moth caterpillars they host:
Oak, Quercus – 532
Willow, Salix – 455
Poplar, Populus – 367
Maple, Acer – 297
Hickory, Carya -235

From "A Seasonal Guide to the Best Plants for Birds" The NSA "Seed" Magazine 2018

continued from page 1.

On the association's formal educational side of the house, Terry always sent crew members to the NAA's Arbor School and the summer and winter conference. I believe he has sent the most crew members of any company in the state of Nebraska to the NAA's winter and joint Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conferences over the past 16 years.



Terry with friends at the 2014 NE GREAT PLAINS Conference.



NAA President Kent Holm presenting Terry with the 2013 NAA Lifetime Achievement Award.



Stacy, Terry & Gayle NAA Lifetime Achievement Award 2013.

Terry never held a formal position on the NAA board but his personal support of your association was what made him special and the association membership did award him with two of the association's highest awards.

I could spend the time writing up Terry's complete arborist career but I just want to list a few personal facts and accomplishments. At the top of my list was his marriage to Gayle 'A Saint on Earth' for over 51 years and his son Stacy, a strong supporter of the NAA who took over the running of Terry Hughes Tree Service a few years ago. Terry obtained his NAA Arborist Certification in 1990. He was awarded the NAA's Arborist of the Year in 2009 and NAA's Lifetime Achievement award in 2013. His company was the first Nebraska Arborist Company to receive accreditation from the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA). His company has also been a Best of Omaha, 'First Place' winner for numerous years.

Terry also gave back to the community over the years. His company was always doing church or church-affiliated school tree work at no cost. He was also one of the leading Arborists in Nebraska who felt a duty to support Nebraska's Arbor Day celebration by sending his crews and equipment out into the field free of charge to accomplish some type of Arborist support on that special day.

Terry never seemed to hold a grudge when one of his employees left and then asked to come back to work for him. As some employees moved on from his company, he kept in contact with them and encouraged their growth. Terry developed relationships with everyone he worked with. He spent his time connecting with those he employed and many other people in the Arborist career field.

spent his time connecting

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Terry started Terry Hughes Tree Service with a pick-up truck and a lawnmower. His company then grew to an arborist company employing approximately 50 people and serving over 20,000 Arborist clients in the Omaha metro area.

I had a very hard time writing this article about an Arborist who I knew personally and someone who is close to my age. I will miss the gruff-talking and straight shooter Terry Hughes.

In closing, I want to thank Gayle for her love and care of Terry. You are always welcome to attend any NAA event as our guest. I also know that Stacy will continue his strong support of the NAA as the leader of Terry Hughes Tree Service.

ARBORIST SPOTLIGHT

By Jim Keepers; NAA Newsletter Coordinator

The last time I stopped by Hughes Tree Service and Omaha Tree, I saw piles and piles of tree trunks just waiting to be ground up in massive wood grinders. I know there is money to be made by selling wood chips but my question to my fellow Arborist is “Are you wasting valuable wood from these large tree trunks?” Could more money be obtained through an alternate use?

Ifeltheanswertomyquestionisanabosulteyes.Treelogs can be returned into valuable by-products such as slabs instead of wood chips. Our Oak, Ash, Maple, Juniper and Osage orange trees just to name a few have some of the most beautiful color wood and magnificent grain texture inside their bark when they are cut into slabs.

So, based on using tree trunks for a different byproduct, I decided to visit a small independent sawmill operator in the local area. Certified Nebraska Arborist, Randy Dillon, recommend I visit Dan’s Custom Sawmill, based



Osage orange slab with yellow wood inside

on my education in sawmill operations as well as my location visit, I decided to feature Dan Nye and his fiancée Ashley Chase in the “Arborist Spotlight” article.

Dan’s Sawmill is located at 11725 S. 36th Street, Bellevue, Nebraska. Having just recently moved from 50th and L Street in Omaha a few weeks ago, the American Flag lined entrance is hard to miss. This new location with a house and a small pasture gives him more room for the mill behind the home and ample storage for additional wood slabs.



Wood drying Kiln

I was very impressed with this one man mill operation. Dan does have an advantage in that his fiancée and “business helper” Ashley Chase does all the internet and bookwork, so Dan is able to concentrate on the sawmill and his woodworking skills. Ashley works full time a Marketing Coordinator for E & A Consulting Group, a civil engineering firm located in Omaha, and often jokes that “when I get off work, I head home so I can get back to work!” Dan was born in Nebraska and attended Bellevue East High School. He graduated from the University of Nebraska with a Bachelor of Science in Fish and Wildlife Management. When I asked Dan how he got into the sawmill trade and woodworking, he told me he had developed a love for wood and had milled all the way through high school and into college. At the age of 17 he built his first sawmill and moved all the logs manually, as his work increased, he enlarged his mill.

In 2016, Dan set up his company as an LLC. His woodworking shop is currently located in the new garage on the property, while his Wood Mizer Sawmill is outside. Despite any weather conditions, he will do all the slab cuttings outside. The Wood Mizer Sawmill can cut logs into slabs 1 to 2½ inches wide with the live edge (bark) on both sides. In his woodworking shop, he converts the wood slabs into everything from dining tables to wood pens from smaller block slabs. In addition to his larger mill, he also has a mobile sawmill that he has modified to take to work sites when needed.



Dan Nye



Business name on Wood Mizer Sawmill



Woodworking shop



Juniper slab with red wood inside



Dan & Ashley



Cut slabs in woodworking shop

He has the capability to pick up logs at Arborist tree removal sites or they can be delivered to his milling location. Dan does have one limiting factor at his sawmill and that is the size of his kiln used to dry out his wood slabs. Wood slabs from different trees must be dried over a different period of time out before they can be used for woodworking projects. Dan does not cut down his own trees, he leaves that to the capable hands of Certified Nebraska Arborists in the Omaha and Bellevue area, that he works closely with. I wanted to take a moment to say a few words about Ashley, as she has been taking care of Dan's marketing efforts and helping around the shop for almost five years. She has learned a great amount about the woodworking and sawmilling industry over the years. Working mostly by word of mouth in the past, she has helped him transition into the modern age by creating a company logo, Facebook page

and a company website (danscustomsawmill.com). The Facebook following has grown from 300 followers to 2,600 in just a few years. Having little experience in the social media realm, I feel it is a great accomplishment for someone like Ashley, a recent graduate from UNO with a Bachelor of Science in Communication with an Emphasis in Marketing. Because of Ashley's continued efforts, Dan has been able to turn his milling and woodworking love into a full-time operation. Ashley had the following comments to make about Dan, "When I first met Dan in March of 2013, I could immediately tell how passionate he was about woodworking." "If he wasn't at his then full-time job, he was in his shop milling logs or making custom wood projects." Ashley and Dan will be married on the 24th of May 2019.



Table made from wood slab in Dan's woodworking shop



Dan cutting a log into slab on Wood Mizer Sawmill

I was very impressed with Dan's Custom Sawmill and woodworking shop and hope to have Dan attend the 2019 Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference as an exhibitor. I would like to see the rest of our Certified Nebraska Arborists develop a working arrangement with a local sawmill in their area. I firmly believe, we as Certified Nebraska Arborists can take advantage of our Nebraska sawmills be reaching out to sawmill operators and have our removed trees cut into wood slabs and made into beautiful wood products. I do believe some of our Certified Nebraska Arborists do have own their own personal sawmill and I would like to give them a short write up with photos in future NAA newsletters. All they need to do is contact me.

I will leave you with this, the next time you remove a tree with a large diameter trunk and branches, think about taking it to a local sawmill and have it converted into useful wood slaps for future woodworking works of art!

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WINTER CONFERENCE MOVES WEST

By Jim Keepers, NAA Winter Conference Chairperson

The joint conference committee has taken a leap of faith and decided to move the 2019 Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference west to the Holthus Convention Center in York, Nebraska. For the past 16 years, our western members have been making the long drive from western Nebraska to attend our winter conference.



Holthus Convention Center

I cannot find any record of our annual event being held outside of either Omaha or Lincoln.



Mark speaking at the NE GREAT PLAINS Summer Field Day 2016

The conference will be dedicated to Mark O. Harrell, PhD., retired Forest Health Program Leader, Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Nebraska – Lincoln, Nebraska Forest Service (NFS), Forest Health Department. Mark recently retired after 36 years at the University and has been our association's key instructor at numerous NAA Arborists Schools in addition to the summer and winter conferences. Mark and his wife Dottie will be attending our NAA business meeting, held at noon on the first day of the 2019 Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference.

We hope you will attend the meeting and join in helping us thanking Mark for his great service to the NAA and the State of Nebraska. We will have a special dinner on the evening of Wednesday the 23rd of January, with Devin Henderson providing the entertainment. More information about the dinner and the entertainer will be included in the conference attendance brochure, which will be distributed within the next coming weeks.

THE ART OF TREE WORKER COMMUNICATIONS

By Jim Keepers, Nebraska Certified Arborist

As I go out into the field accomplishing photo documentation of our Arborist's crews, I have always wondered how the workers on the ground and the Arborists in the trees are able to communicate. There just seems to be a lot happening with a lot of noise, making communications between those aloft and those on the ground critical.

Most of the time, I have heard the word "headache" being used to signal a cut branch will be following to the ground. I am not sure how this word entered our vocabulary and I am sure most Arborists do not know the source or development of this word.

Struck-by hazards are a major problem in our industry and the use of this word might not be the best to use. When using the word "headache" the goal is to make sure the workers on the ground hear the word, they understand what it means, and they won't be under the tree when the branch falls.



Arborist cutting a branch aloft



Ground crew cleaning up the area

New words are now entering our tree worker's communication process, such as "Stand clear" and "All clear". The Arborist in the tree shouts out "Stand clear" and doesn't cut until the worker on the ground responds with "All clear". I feel this is an improvement in the communication process but is it the best possible?

Technology is now entering the Arborist's communications arena with the introduction of the two-way radio communications systems attached to all the crew workers helmets. So the need to raise your voice or knowing no one is under the tree when a cut branch falls off the tree has been eliminated. These systems are being improved. They are getting smaller, lighter and more reliable. They are also Bluetooth enabled.

The up-front costs of outfitting all your crews with two-way radios might be an expense but the safety of your crew members is the driving factor. I suggest all Arborist companies look into acquiring this new technology and let's get away from shouting in the tree or around the work site.

Source info for this article can from "The Tree Worker" publication, October 2018, Number 426, TCIA



Grewe Family Photo



Roy all wrapped up for the holidays

ADDITION TO THE GREWE ARBORIST FAMILY

Congratulations to NAA Board Member, Jeff Grewe and his wife Amy on the birth of their new son, Roy. He was born October the 17th 2018 and weighed in at 7lb 11oz.

NEWLY CERTIFIED ARBORISTS

Ben Osborne
Kasey Bogus

NEW MEMBERS

Grant Foster
Jacobus Grobler
Matt Horan
Jonathan Nielsen
Ben Osborne
Steve Schlichting

NEW NEBRASKA FOREST SERVICE, FOREST HEALTH SPECIALIST

By Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator



David learning the art of knots during

David Olson is the newest member of the Nebraska Forest Service. Filling the Forest Health Specialist position previously held by Jennifer Morris, who has recently moved to Iowa. Now working for ABS Tree Care, Nebraska's loss is Iowa's gain but luckily Jennifer is still filling a director's position on the NAA board, so we have not lost her completely.

Originally from western New York State, David received a Bachelor of Science degree in Environmental Sciences at Allegheny College in 2015. He has worked extensively in environmental education and will be a great resource for the NAA on environmental issues.

He worked for a season with New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation (NYS OPRHP) as a Forest Health Specialist dealing primarily with the threats of Emerald Ash Borer and Hemlock Woolly Adelgid in the western half of his state. He then worked in the Forest Entomology lab at the University of Kentucky and where obtained his Master's degree in Entomology in 2018. Primarily focusing his research on EAB in a new host, White Fringe tree, and the implications to host expansion and current biological control efforts.

David just completed the NAA Arborist School and we look forward to him becoming a Certified Nebraska Arborist. He has the knowledge we need and after a few NAA presentations under his belt, he will become an old hand at working a crowd of seasoned and mature NAA Certified Arborists. David is very excited to be part of the Nebraska Forest Service team especially with EAB recently found in the Eastern counties of our state. He is looking forward to learning a new ecosystem and being able to apply his entomology skills towards tree pest problems in Nebraska.

Give this young man a break when he steps in front of us to infuse some knowledge into our seasoned brains. I know David will be up to the task and before you know it, we won't know he is the newest Nebraska Entomologist on the block. David, I want to welcome you to the great State of Nebraska.

ARBORIST NEWS FLASH

The TCIA Reporter Magazine, October 2018 stated the following: "A recent survey reported women make up only 13 percent of arborists in-the-field workforce." I know our percentage of women working as certified arborists in the state of Nebraska is much lower. So my question to my male and female Certified Arborist is "Why is this number so low and is it good for our industry?" I look forward to printing your responses to this question in the March issue of the NAA newsletter.

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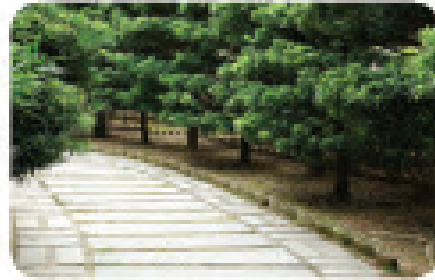
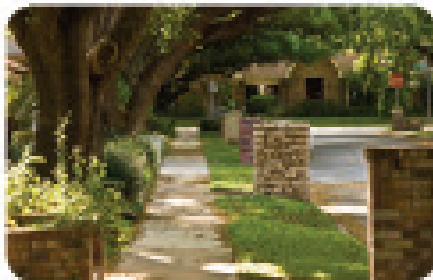
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NAA PRUNING, CLIMBING & SAFETY CLASS UPDATE

By: Jim Keepers, NAA Communication Chairperson



NAA had another successful “Pruning, Climbing and Safety” class at Carol Joy Holling Center in Ashland, NE. The lead instructor was NAA Certified Arborist Jerel Converse, City of Omaha, the NAA board member was assisted by the following Certified Nebraska Arborists: Michael Ayres, A & C Tree Service, Robert Schreiner, Nebraska City Utilities & Tom Anderson, Wright Tree Service. The class started with learning basic climbing knots and then moved outside



to receive proper tree climbing methods. The second day of class dealt with worksite and chainsaw safety given by Certified Nebraska Arborist & NAA Past President Lon Nutter, Asplundh Tree Service. Proper tree pruning was also covered along with a refresher on tree climbing.



A total of 26 people attended the 2-day class. Most of the attendees desire to become Certified Nebraska Arborists. The NAA wants to take this opportunity to thank all the Certified Arborists for taking the time from their work schedule to assist with the pruning and climbing instructions.



2018 ARBORIST SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Dick Cisar
Arbor One

Cole Housley
JR's Lawn Care

John Housley III
JR's Lawn Care

Tyler John
CM's A Cut Above

Andrew Kennedy
Kennedy Landscape Services

Dillion Kraft
Fischer Tree Central

Charlotte Lawless
Dillon Tree Service

Andy Nelson
Arbor One

Luis Sehoviano
A & C Tree

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEARS EVE NAA OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The NAA office will close for the Christmas holiday at 3:00p.m. on Friday, December 21 and reopen Wednesday, December 26 at 1:00p.m. The office will be closed on Monday, December 31 and Tuesday, January 1 for the New Year's holiday. Mail, emails, and voice messages will be checked during the last two weeks of December so that urgent matters can be handled, if necessary, even during the days the office is scheduled to be closed. The NAA staff and Board of Directors send best wishes to you and your families for the holidays. Thank you for your membership during 2018 and we look forward to serving you in the new year.

NAA'S PLANT HEALTH & TREE BIOLOGY CLASS

By Jim Keepers, NAA Communication's Chairperson



NAA President Kevin Popken addressing the class

The last of the three-part NAA Arborist School, "Plant Health & Tree Biology" class was held at Carol Joy Holling Center in Ashland, Nebraska. Another record attendance was set for this class, totaling 32 attendees. A total of 34 individuals took the NAA Arborist Certification Exam, given at the end of the two-day course.

I want to take time to thank Certified Nebraska Arborist and NAA president, Kevin Popken, for all the work he put into

setting up the classes for the 2018 Arborist School. Also, special thanks to Kathi and her staff for their administrative support and to the class presenters Graham Herbest, Jennifer Morris, John Fech and Eric Berg. Without these gifted speakers, your association would not be able to conduct a class of such high quality.

I have been associated with the NAA Arborist's school for a number of years and I am astonished how our association's class numbers just keep growing. This just shows the importance of being a Certified Nebraska Arborist in our workforce. I believe this can be traced back to our customer realizing the need for well trained and educated Certified Arborists.



Class attendees at the "Plant Health & Tree Biology" class



Jennifer Morris reviewing her class presentation



Graham Herbest stressing the important aspects of tree biology

SUPPORT OF THE 2019 NEBRASKA GREAT PLAINS CONFERENCE NAA SILENT/LIVE AUCTIONS



Our NAA silent/live auctions have allowed the association to have a healthy education fund, providing money for the NAA's scholarships. This year multiple scholarships were given to selected individuals to attend any or all of the Arborist School three-part class. Our association's scholarship funds are being put to good use.

However, your association does need your continued support of the NAA's silent/live auction at the 2019 Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference. You can make your contribution by either contacting Jim Keepers with a donation or bidding at the conference auction. Your continued help with raising money for the NAA's education fund is greatly appreciated.

REVISED ANSI PART 2 STANDARD

ANSI A300 (Part 2) – 2018 Soil Management A, Modification, b, Fertilization, and c, Drainage is now available for all NE Certified Arborist. All Certified NAA Arborists who perform soil management assessment need a copy of this standard. According to ANSI, this standard provides the following: "Standards for practice and specification writing guidelines for soil management, as well as establishes the best practices, training materials, regulations and other performance measures." Remember ANSI A300 standards are the final authority when it comes to any legal matter regarding tree management operations. A listing of all the current ANSI Standards for Tree Care can be found in this issue.

Information obtained from the TCLA, "REPORTER NEWS", November 2018, Number 406

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Figures accurate as of Jan. 1, 2016

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NAA EDUCATIONAL BOOTH

By Jim Keepers, NAA Communication's Chairperson



Mother and daughter watch Randy climb

The sun was bright, the wind was light, and the color of the fall trees was beautiful at the second annual free Forest Festival at Horning State Farm. The only problem was the scheduling of a postponed Husker Football game on the same day!

I set up the NAA exhibitor booth and climbing demonstration under a stately Sycamore tree. Certified NAA Arborist Randy Dillon and NAA member Charlotte Lawless handled the climbing demonstrations as I fielded questions referencing the tree information we had on hand. Randy also brought out a number of saws and other Arborist equipment items.



Randy gearing up to climb the sycamore tree

This was the second year for the NFS event at Horning State Farm and Randy was generous to give up his Saturday to show off his climbing skills. I feel we had a larger turn out this year and a number of new exhibitors. The only limiting factor was the football game. I would recommend doing the booth and climbing demonstration again next year. We did have several families visit us, who seemed to enjoy our new NAA bookmarks and candy treats.



NAA booth under the sycamore tree



Charlotte climbing the sycamore tree

Any time the NAA is given the opportunity to show itself off to the public, it is a win for the association and the membership. So let's make the most of any future opportunity to have an NAA booth at home and garden shows.

CURRENT ANSI A300 STANDARDS FOR TREE CARE

The following is a listing of the current ANSI A300 standards for tree care. All Arborist companies should have a complete listing of these standards so employers and employees are familiar with them and are follow all the SHOULD and SHALL requirements. Ignorance of these ANSI standards won't hold up in a court of law if OSHA decides there are safety violations:

ANSI A300 (PART 1) - 2017 PRUNING

ANSI A300 (PART 2) – 2018 SOIL MANAGEMENT (INCLUDES FERTILIZATION) UPDATED!

ANSI A300 (PART 3) – 2013 SUPPLEMENTAL SUPPORT SYSTEMS (INCLUDES CABLING, BRACING, GUYING AND PROPPING)

ANSI A300 (PART 4) – 2017 LIGHTNING PROTECTION SYSTEMS

ANSI A300 (PART 4) – 2014 LIGHTNING PROTECTION SYSTEMS

ANSI A300 (PART 5) – 2012 MANAGEMENT OF TREES AND SHRUBS DURING SITE PLANNING, SITE DEVELOPMENT, AND CONSTRUCTION

ANSI A300 (PART 6) – 2012 PLANTING & TRANSPLANTING (R2018) NEWLY REVISED!

ANSI A300 (PART 7) – 2018 INTEGRATED BEGETATION MANAGEMENT (IVM) UPDATED!

ANSI A300 (PART 8) – 2013 ROOT MANAGEMENT

ANSI A300 (PART 9) – 2017 TREE RISK ASSESSMENT

ANSI A300 (PART 10) – INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM)

Copies of ANSI Standards can be obtained from the Tree Care Industry Association (TCIA) or the International Society of Arboriculture (ISA)

Listing from the TCIA "REPORTER" Magazine, October 2018 Issue

NOMINEES BALLOT

This ballot has been prepared so that as members you may vote on the slate of officers as prepared by the Nominating Committee in accordance with the bylaws. In compliance with Articles VII, VIII, and IX of the bylaws, the Nominating Committee has prepared a slate to be submitted to the membership. In further concurrence with the bylaws and as defined by Roberts Rules of Order, the slate lists one candidate per position. In an effort to allow individuals to review candidate information, below is information about the individual on the ballot. In order to move forward with the business of the association, it is imperative that you return your ballot by the time specified. Without your vote and active engagement in the business of the association, we will not be able to have an association to promote our profession. **Ballots need to be returned by January 15th.**

Board candidates will be introduced on at the start of the 2019 Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference NAA Business Meeting. All members listed in this notice of annual meeting are eligible candidates, and have agreed to have their names placed on the ballot. The membership will vote on candidates prior to the conference. The NAA Board will have an opening to elect a person to serve as Treasurer, President-elect, and Director. Individuals elected will officially begin his/her term on January 25, 2019.



JEREL CONVERSE (Treasurer) is currently employed with the City of Omaha Parks, Recreation and Public Property Department. He started his career as a groundsman at Terry Hughes Tree Service in 1997 and worked his way up in the company. During that time, Jerel became an NAA member, a Nebraska Certified Arborist, CTSP certified, an ISA Certified arborist, and a Midwest Tree Climbing Champion. In 2008, with the help of some great volunteers, Jerel started teaching the Pruning and Climbing class for the NAA Arborist School and received the NAA Educator of the Year Award in 2010. Jerel and his wife Amber have three boys, Gage, Laine, and Keegan. When Jerel is not working he enjoys coaching baseball, camping, hunting, and fishing. Jerel's statement of candidacy is as follows; "I would like the opportunity to continue to serve the profession and its members as long as I feel I can make a difference."



JEFF GREWE (President-elect) owns Arbor Aesthetics Tree Service in Omaha, Nebraska with his wife, Amy and currently serves on the NAA Board of Directors. He started the business 13 years ago when he found he had a knack for making trees beautiful, and a natural talent for climbing. Jeff is an NAA Certified Arborist, CTSP Certified, and is also TRAQ qualified through the ISA. Jeff brings to the NAA Board a business owner's and tree climber's perspective. He has many ideas for how the NAA can better serve business owners and educate tree care workers for safety and perfecting their trade. Jeff strives to operate a highly ethical business and to offer his employees a place to work where their safety, skills, and education are valued. In his spare time, Jeff enjoys spending time with his two sons, Miles (2) and Roy (1 Month), hiking and is hobbyist photographer, shooting landscapes, storms, trees (of course), long-exposure night shots and time lapse footage. Jeff's statement of candidacy is as follows: "Greater Collaboration with TCIA for learning events, with an emphasis on professionalism and skills development."



DUSTIN NELSON (Director) is an NAA certified Arborist that has been in the Arboriculture Industry since 2010. He has worked as a climber for a few companies here in the Omaha/Metro Area as well as a smaller company in North Carolina. He currently works for Terry Hughes Tree Service as a Foreman climbing trees. His climbing style involves both SRS and MRS climbing techniques although most of the time he gravitates towards climbing SRS. He has been interested in teaching modern techniques to those willing to learn for quite some time now and is eager to do so when given the opportunity. He looks forward for a chance to give back to his local climbing community by joining the NAA Board of Directors.



2019 SLATE OF NOMINEES BALLOT

YOUR VOTE MATTERS! PROXY BALLOTS MUST BE RETURNED BY 01/15/19.

I accept the 2019 Slate

I do not accept the 2019 Slate

I abstain from voting

Treasurer.....	Jerel Converse	NAME Required
President-elect	Jeff Grewe	
Director	Dustin Nelson	

Please return your ballot by January 15, 2019 to the NAA office by mail or fax to (402) 761-2224.

A SPECIAL OR UNIQUE TREE

By Jim Keepers, NAA Communication's Chairperson



Mature sweetgum tree in Celina, Texas



Mature American sweetgum bark



Young vertical American sweetgum with suckers

can increase the weight of snow or ice accumulation on the tree causing branch breaking. Because the tree wood is heavy and hard with the interlocking grain it is difficult to season.

I would recommend planting this tree in a protective area. I am not sure it would survive in an open area. The trees glossy green leaves and great fall colors make it worth planting for those rare customers who are looking for a "special or unique" tree!

Two weeks ago, I was going to feature the Canadian hemlock, *Tsuga Canadensis* in this article but after our trip to Celina, Texas, I had a change of heart. I had the opportunity to see a mature American sweetgum tree not common in Eastern Nebraska. I am lucky to have one of these trees on my acreage. 10 years ago, I just happened to find the small container tree at Heritage Nursery in Elkhorn, Nebraska. It still maintains its vertical shape with lots of suckers. I hope the canopy will start to open up.

The American sweetgum, *Liquidambar styraciflua*, has a number of common names like American storax, hazel pine, redgum, satin-walnut, star-leaved gun, alligatorwood, or just sweet gum. It is a deciduous tree native to warm temperate areas of North America. Which probably explains why it is not one of our most selected trees for our area. My Sweetgum is in a very protect tree growth area and I believe that is the reason it has survived our harsh Nebraska weather. On the negative side, I believe the tree has put on minimal growth because of our variable Nebraska growing conditions. The tree also has a tendency to put on large amounts of succor growth requiring removal every year.

To key identification factors for the Sweetgum are the five-pointed star-shaped leaves and its hard, spiked fruits. The glossy green leaves turn beautiful shades of yellow, orange, red and purple in the autumn. Our variable fall temperatures also affect the leaf color changing. The peculiar appearance of the tree's small branches and twigs is also a distinctive feature of this tree. The tree is sometimes called "alligatorwood" because the bark attaches itself to the tree's plates edgewise instead of laterally and the piece of the leafless trach takes on this reptilian form. The bark is light



Five pointed American sweetgum leaf in fall color

brown with tinges of red and sometimes gray with dark streaks with deep fissures with scaly ridges. The tree's branches sometimes have ridges of "wings" which

ARBOR DAY

By *Evan Lafferty*

Arbor Day has finally come,
Planting trees is so much fun.
You place them down and get your hands dirty,
Digging in the soil to keep them sturdy.

They grow and grow until they're big and tall,
Then they lose their leaves in the fall.

All trees may come in a different size,
Some even provide you with fruit to make pies.

Apples, oranges, peaches, and pears,
Arbor Day is everywhere!

Evan Lafferty is a 4th grade student at Aspen Creek Elementary School, Gretna, Nebraska. He was a Gretna Arbor poetry contest winner for Arbor Day.



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 402-761-2219 or email staff@nearborists.org.

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