

An Arborist takes  
care of a tree for life.



# OUT ON A LIMB

SUMMER 2018, VOLUME 38, ISSUE 3



Hughes's Grapple Demonstration at Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Summer Field Day. Story on page 6.

## VETERANS DAY 2018

By: Jim Keepers, Veteran

On Monday, November 12, 2018, we will officially celebrate Veterans Day. It is a legal holiday dedicated to all living American veterans. It was originally called Armistice Day. On November 11, 1918, it was the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month an armistice was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I. This war was called the 'Great War'. It was declared an official federal holiday in the United in 1938. Armistice Day became known as Veterans Day after World War II & the Korean War. It is a day we honor our living veterans, not to be confused with Memorial Day (the fourth Monday in May) when we honor our American service members who died in service to our country resulting from injuries incurred during battle.



**Phil Pierce**  
US Air Force



**Terry Hughes**  
US Army Reserve

President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed Veterans Day an official holiday on November 11, 1919. Observation included parades, public gatherings and a brief pause in business activities. Times sure have change in the way we observe this holiday!



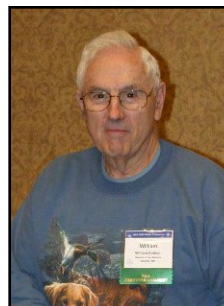
**Jim Keepers**  
US Navy &  
US Air Force

So why change the name to Veterans Day? The reason was World War II and the Korean War. More than 16 million U.S. Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force personnel were mobilized for WW II and additional 5.7 million served in the Korean War. On June 1, 1954, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the legislation officially changing the name from Armistice to Veterans Day.

Veterans Day received another change in 1968 when Congress passed the Uniform Holidays Bill. Veterans Day became one of four national holidays (Washington's Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day and Columbus Day) celebrated on Monday.

Another change occurred in 1975 when President Ford signed a new law returning the observation of Veterans Day to November 11 starting in 1978. When November 11 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, it is an observed holiday on either the previous Friday or the following Monday.

Continued on page 3.



**William (Bill) Hudson**  
US Air Force

## 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](mailto:jlkeepers45@gmail.com) or (402) 332-0715 or (402) 618-8837.

Submission deadlines for the NAA  
2018 quarterly newsletters:

4th Quarter - December 1, 2018

Photo contributions throughout  
courtesy of Jim Keepers.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Kevin Popken, NAA President

This past month I took my oldest son out to California for school and had the opportunity to stop by Sequoia and Yosemite National parks before settling him into his apartment in Redding. I have been to some pretty spectacular places in the world but I have to say visiting the Sequoias and Yosemite never gets old and they remain near the top of my list of favorite places. There is something about standing beneath 2,000 year old trees that puts things in perspective.



On this trip there were also the charred remnants of the Ferguson Fire that threatened the Yosemite valley as well as the Carr fire that burned 1,200 homes and hundreds of thousands of acres right up to the edge of Redding, turning thick forests into a moonscape that will take decades to recover to anything resembling its former glory. There is much discussion about how to manage forests and people living amongst these grand places and how to best find a balance that takes into consideration the long-term needs of both. A contributing factor in both these fires was the amount of fuel available; trees that could have been removed by logging so as not to contribute to the rapid spread of these fires.

While we are not likely to see a forest fire like they regularly see in California here in Nebraska, we too have similar questions to ask regarding our urban forests and the people within it who call it home. Hopefully we never have something so dramatic and disruptive as a forest fire but we do find ourselves dealing with threats to our tree populations; Arborists need to be prepared to address these issues and threats to our urban forests from a broader and ethical position. There will always be situations where the solution will not always be financially the best for us but will be the right course for the life of the tree, environment and better for the customer. We have created unnatural, less-than-ideal settings for trees to exist, and it falls on us to offer advice and direction that is not always popular but nonetheless needs to be heard. As arborists you are on the front line meeting with customers, looking at trees, making recommendations for care and long-term sustainability of our urban forests. We are on the brink of EAB's devastation of our Ash trees in addition to other serious threats. It will fall to us to give direction and advice to help people make the right decisions for their trees going forward.

All the Best,

Kevin Popken  
NAA President

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**2018 Arborist School Seminars**  
Pruning, Climbing & Safety Seminar  
October 4-5, 2018  
Carol Joy Holling, Ashland, NE

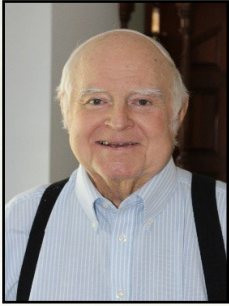
**Plant Health & Tree Biology Seminar**  
November 14-15, 2018  
Carol Joy Holling, Ashland, NE

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

## ARBORIST SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarships are available for NAA's Plant Health & Tree Biology Seminar, taking place November 14-15, 2018 at the Carol Joy Holling Center in Ashland. The scholarship application deadline is October 14. The application process is simple. Visit the NAA website at [www.nearborists.org](http://www.nearborists.org) and select "NAA Scholarship Applications and Guidelines" to learn more about the process.

Requirements include submitting a letter of recommendation from your employer or instructor, and a short description about how you would benefit from receiving a scholarship. For more information, contact the NAA office at (402) 761-2219.



**John Housley, Sr.**  
**NE National Guard**



**Galen Olsberg**  
**US Army**

Veterans Day is a special day when we give a special thanks to our living veterans who served our country honorably during war or peacetime. Following the tradition of honoring our living veterans, I want to take the time to thank the following Nebraska Certified Arborists/Veterans for their service to our country

and the Nebraska Arborists Association: William (Bill) Hudson, John Housley, Sr., Galen Olsberg, Phil Pierce and Terry Hughes. I am honored to be included in this group. Our oldest NAA Veteran is 85 years old. They are still practicing their trade in the Arborist career field!

In closing, I want to leave you with a verse from a Lee Greenwood song: "I'm proud to be an American where at least I know I'm free." We are free because of the military sacrifices of our Nebraska Certified Arborists/Veterans.

*PS. If by any chance I failed to include any Nebraska Certified Arborists/Veterans, I do apologize. Please let me know and send me a photo.*



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## 2018 ARBORIST SCHOOL

Attendees can earn certification credits.  
For more information about Arborist School, visit the NAA website at [www.nearborists.org](http://www.nearborists.org).



**Pruning, Climbing & Safety**  
**October 4-5, 2018**  
**Carol Joy Holling Center, Ashland, NE**



**Plant Health & Tree Biology**  
**November 14-15, 2018**  
**Carol Joy Holling Center, Ashland, NE**

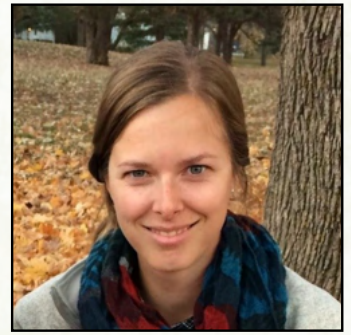
### NAA BOARD NOMINATIONS DUE TO NAA OFFICE

- Treasurer – this is a three-year term from January 23, 2019 through January 2022
- President Elect – this is a one-year term & then move up to president January 23, 2019 through January 2021
- Director – This is a three-year term from January 23, 2019 through January 2022

Nominations are due to the NAA office by November 30, 2018. Please visit the NAA website at [www.nearborists.org](http://www.nearborists.org) to obtain a nomination form and read a general description of NAA board member roles and responsibilities. Nomination forms should be mailed to NAA, PO Box 10, Milford, NE 68405 or emailed to [staff@nearborists.org](mailto:staff@nearborists.org). You can nominate yourself if you would like to run for one of these positions.

# ARBORIST SPOTLIGHT

By: Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator



This quarter's Arborist Spotlight features a landscape designer and recent Nebraska Certified Arborist. With so many young arborists becoming certified it is hard to select just one to feature this quarter. In the past, most homeowners were not concerned if the arborist they hired had an arborist license or were certified. An arborist city license is required in a number of Nebraska cities. I believe many homeowners are more cognizant of hiring certified arborists.

The NAA Certified Arborist being featured this quarter is Sheila Schrader. Sheila is a landscape designer and has worked for Lincoln Landscaping since 2009. She became an NAA Certified Arborist this past winter. I asked her why she became an NAA Certified Arborist and this was her response: "I am always looking for opportunities to learn and grow as a professional and I have always had an interest in trees." She put in long hours studying for the NAA exam and she passed the exam on her first try. This is an amazing accomplishment!

She grew up on a farm in Wayne, Nebraska. Her first job was working for a perennial and specialty daylily farm spending her days weeding and dividing daylilies. After graduating from high school she attended the University of Nebraska at Lincoln where she obtained a bachelor's degree in horticulture with an emphasis in landscape design. She has been a landscape designer in the Lincoln area since 2009. She recently started her position at Lincoln Landscaping. She often comes across tree plant health issues when she meets with clients to talk with them about creating a landscape design for their home. Her recent Arborist certification education is a major asset when it comes to designing a landscape with trees on the property.

When I asked Sheila what were her future goals as a Nebraska Certified Arborist she said the following; "As an NAA Certified Arborist I hope to have more opportunities to evaluate trees for damage, pests, and diseases and to cultivate my skills in recognizing and diagnosing them in the field."

I asked Rick Clark, president of Lincoln Landscaping, to give me an evaluation of Sheila's job performance. The following is Rick's response and I want to quote his entire response because I feel it describes Sheila's abilities to a tee. "Sheila has been working for me for the past year as a landscape designer. She also heads up our annual tree orders for landscape installs and has been instrumental in helping organize our tree storage area and watering system. Her work ethic and professionalism is among the best I have seen. Her knowledge of plants, trees, and landscape design is very thorough. I would consider her to be a sincere defender of the environment. She is especially knowledgeable in the area of native planting including natural prairie lands. She is personable and we all enjoy working with her. She is a huge asset and advocate for the Eastern Nebraska community regarding trees, landscaping, and natural prairie lands."



I believe Rick hit the nail on the head when he gave his evaluation of Sheila.

I managed to obtain some personal information about her. She is married to Matt and they have a 1-year-old son named Jacob. They live near Garland on an acreage where they have a big garden, orchard, and chickens. Between family, friends, and their acreage they manage to stay busy.

I asked her what she would like to see at the next Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference. This was her response: "As our climate warms and changes, it will be important to learn more about how trees and plants will respond. Diseases and pests may change behaviors and expand their ranges. I would be very interested in attending panel discussions and lectures on this topic."

Rick also told me some additional information I feel shows how Sheila is looking at ways to improve their customers' outlook on trees. Rick and Sheila have been working on a handout for their customers regarding the importance of trees and why not to remove them. Sheila has a presentation ready and Rick believes she is ready to talk at the next NAA conference on this subject. Rick also feels Sheila is somebody who might be interested in being on the NAA board.

I tried to be very sneaky in obtaining information from and about Sheila. I didn't want her to get the idea I was going to write an article about her in the NAA newsletter. I started my quest to obtain information on her background in early 2018. So I hope this article is a surprise to her.

I believe young women like Sheila are the future of our association. Let's see if we can convince her to run for an NAA board position and also have her present their new customer handout on trees and the importance of keeping them in the landscape at a future NAA event.

In closing, I want to thank Rick for all his help in obtaining information on this Nebraska Certified Arborist! Sheila, I do believe you have the drive and determination to accomplish any task you set your sights on no matter what the challenge. Keep up the good work and I wish you the best!

**NAA ARBORIST CERTIFICATION EXAM WILL BE GIVEN ON THE AFTERNOON OF THE 15TH OF NOVEMBER AT THE CAROL JOY HOLLING CENTER, ASHLAND, NE. CONTACT THE NAA OFFICE AT (402) 761-2219 TO SCHEDULE YOUR TESTING IF YOU ARE NOT ATTENDING THE PLANT HEALTH CLASS.**

# A SPECIAL OR UNIQUE TREE

By: Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator



Photo A.

The NSA 2018 Deciduous Tree of the Year is the American Sycamore *Platanus occidentalis* and it is our special or unique tree for this quarter. This tree is a species native to the Eastern part of the United States but will grow in Eastern Nebraska. This tree can be easily identified by the large bark sections flaking off in large masses. After removal, the surface of this tree is mottled, and greenish-white, gray and brown. It is a unique sight. All trees must change their bark structure by either stretching, splitting or infilling. The Sycamore shows its growth process for the entire world to see by sloughing off its bark. In addition, this tree has very large leaves, large seed balls and the tendency to lose small branches. The London Plain tree is a similar tree and they are confused by the general public.

After ten years, I now have four very healthy Sycamore trees. One tree suffered extrema planting stress and has tried to recover over the years.



Pictures of this damaged tree can be found in another article in this newsletter.

If you want a high quality tree that will provide lots of shade and you have a very large lot or acreage, then this is the tree for you.

Photo A shows one of the five large American Sycamore trees I had planted in 2018 by crews from Lanaha nursery. The tree balls were so large it took three men and a large ball cart to move the trees off the truck and into the holes. These were the largest trees I have had planted on my acreage. It took over two years before these trees started to develop any leaf structure. I was sure they were dying and almost had them replaced.

I believe the reason for the delay of structure growth because it was taking the roots that long to develop and grow in the soil. My only treatment for these five trees was ample deep watering over a

two year period. I also made sure the mulch ring around the trees was large, turned and refreshed every year. I didn't fertilize any of these trees. The grass near the trees was brome grass and this grass was never fertilized.



White, and gray Sycamore tree trunk after bark removal.



## IMPORTANT LEGAL LIMITED LIABILITY COMPANY (LLC) INFORMATION

By: David Stage, Attorney | Intro By: Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator

I just had my will and trust reviewed by Gretna Attorney, David Stage. He asked me if my company Finders Keepers Landscaping LLC was registered with the Nebraska Secretary of State. I told him I didn't know and then he explained the entire procedure to me. I felt it would be beneficial for other arborist LLC companies to have this registration information so I asked him to write up a short article on this subject. After reading David's article you might have some questions to ask him. You can reach him on the following email address – [Dave@stagelawoffice.com](mailto:Dave@stagelawoffice.com). Dave is a very easy going individual and is willing to help you with any legal problems.

Many small businesses in Nebraska have determined to establish a limited liability company ("LLC") as a legal entity for their business. Each Nebraska LLC must file a Domestic Limited Liability Company Biennial Report (the "Report") with the Nebraska Secretary of State ("SOS") in odd-numbered years. Forms are typically sent by the SOS to the LLC's Registered Agent the first week in January of each odd-numbered year. The Report must be reviewed, updated and filed with the SOS between January 1 and April 1. The filing fee is \$10.00. The SOS accepts filing of the Report and payment of the fee electronically (with an additional convenience fee of \$3.00).

The owner(s) of the LLC should review, update and file the Report in a timely manner. If the Report is not received by the SOS by April 1, a "Record of Determination for Failure to File Domestic Limited Liability Company Biennial Report" ("Report") will be issued. Some consider this Report a "second warning" that the Report is due no later than June 1 of the odd-numbered year.

If the Report is not submitted by June 1, the SOS will issue a "Declaration of Dissolution" and the LLC will be administratively dissolved. The LLC can be reinstated within 5 years by paying each missed \$10.00 fee and a reinstatement fee of \$15.00. However, if the LLC has been dissolved for a period of 5 years or more, the reinstatement fee jumps from \$15.00 to \$500.00. The amount owing can be determined by calling the SOS at 402-471-4079.

An issue may occur if it has been more than one year since the Declaration of Dissolution has been issued. After one year, the name used by the LLC may have been "taken" by another applicant. Therefore, the name is only "protected" for one year from the date the Declaration of Dissolution is issued. When this occurs, the dissolved LLC may need to change its name in order to be reinstated. This has the potential to cause harm to the LLC since it may lose the name recognition it has established over the years by providing excellent service to its customers.

The lesson to be learned is that if you do not "pay attention to the man behind the curtain" or in this case, if you do not "pay attention to the letter(s) you receive from the SOS", your business may be negatively impacted.

# GLORIOUS DAY AT GREAT PLAINS NURSERY

By: Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator

The sun shone brightly on August 17, 2018, for the 8th joint Nebraska Arborists Association (NAA) and the Nebraska Nursery and Landscape Association (NNLA) joint Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Eastern Summer Field Day. This year's event took place at Great Plains Nursery just outside of Weston, Nebraska.

On behalf of the NAA, I want to thank Brian, Heather, Heather father's Tim Bittinger and their nursery staff Kendra Bretschneider, Rich Wehmeyer and Haley Kabourck (college student) for opening their nursery for our yearly summer event. Funding for the conference was saved because we were not charged for the use of their nursery. Thanks again Heather and Brian for being so generous.



A special thanks also goes out to Heather for her work before, during and after the conference since she had delivered a beautiful baby girl, Hazel, just over a week before the event.

Thanks also goes out to Heather's mother for stepping in and taking care of Hazel so Heather and Brian could participate in the conference. Grandfathers and grandmothers are great to have around when you need help and they don't charge for their assistance. Heather you have great parents. Please give them a personal thanks from the members of the NAA.

There were a total of 151 attendees including the nursery staff, exhibitors and demonstrators. Attendance number by association were 60 NAA registrants and 45 NNLA registrants. I believe this was the highest total we have ever had for a joint Eastern Summer Field Day.



I won't go into great detail about our summer field day. I do want to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors, exhibitors, speakers and demonstrators. A complete listing of these companies can be found in this newsletter's 'Summer Field Day Photo Display'. Our speakers during the breakout sessions did an outstanding job. The event wouldn't have gotten off the ground without the work of our joint association conference committees. I must not forget to thank our association's staff members Tiffany, Jodi and Jennifer for their work before, during and after the conference. This was Tiffany's last joint summer field day. She will be leaving us and moving to Iowa because of her marriage on September 14.



I was very impressed with the 'Tree Identification' session set up by the crew at Great Plains Nursery. It was not on the program schedule but our attendees show great interest in this contest. Brian and Heather's description of each tree in the contest was a great learning experience for both arborist, nursery and landscaping attendees.



Take a few minutes to look over the Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference 'Summer Field Day Photo Display'. This article features some of our finest attendees. You just might recognize someone you know.

In closing, I want to thank everyone for making this summer conference one of the most successful we have ever had. It doesn't matter how small or large your role was in this conference. Without your hard work, we would not have achieved the conference goals to provide our association members with the best summer educational experience. Heather and Brian, thanks again for having us!

## NEW MEMBERS

- Troy Krasser
- Theresa Widhalm
- Zachary Kalal
- Jason Smith
- Jeff Davis
- Mitch Garcia
- Brent Beckstrom
- Don Arms
- Don Arnsell
- Brandon Schock
- Debra McDaniel
- Johnathan Nielsen

Luis Villegas-Hernandez

- Jacob Tolliver
- Jeron Sundberg
- Branden Clause
- Luis Segoviareo

## NEWLY CERTIFIED ARBORISTS

- Scott Cisar
- Nolan Millar
- Jason Smith
- Jeff Davis

**THE 2019 NAA MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL NOTICE WILL BE MAILED IN OCTOBER. MEMBERSHIP DUES ARE DUE TO THE NAA OFFICE BY DECEMBER 15, 2018. YOU NEED TO HAVE YOUR RENEWALS IN BY THAT DATE IF YOU WANT TO BE LISTED IN THE 2019 NEBRASKA GREAT PLAINS DIRECTORY.**



# 2018 GREAT PLAINS EASTERN SUMMER FIELD DAY



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- Nebraska Forest Service
- Bluebird Nursery, Inc
- Nebraska811
- Crop Insurance Solutions
- Helena Agri Service
- Arbor Systems
- Sun Valley Landscaping



## EXHIBITORS

- ArborSystems/Helena Agri Service
- Bluebird Nursery, Inc.
- Ditch Witch UnderCon
- INSUR
- Nebraska 811
- Nebraska Department of Agriculture
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- Spring Lake Park Team
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- Grappler, Hughes Tree Service,
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# LET'S LOOK BACK INTO OUR ASSOCIATION HISTORY

By Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator

The featured article "Veterans Day" found on the front page of this quarter's newsletter explains the establishment of Veterans Day and highlights six senior Nebraska Arborists Association Certified Nebraska Arborists and Veterans still taking an active role in the Arborist career field. It would be an injustice on my part if I left out a retired Nebraska Certified Arborist and Veteran in my salute to NAA Arborists and Veterans.

I found it very hard on my part to find out if this Arborist/Veteran was still alive. What do you do when you call their number and the wife answers and you ask her if her husband was still alive? I was relieved of this unpleasant task when I called and I heard a voice message from the individual in question. I left a message as best I could and asked them to call me back. I called again and was relieved to hear the voice of the individual in question. He told me he had just celebrated his 94th birthday this past April. He told me he was in good health and his wife, Bonnie, was doing OK. I asked him what was the secret of his long life and he said after he got past his 60s & 70s, he was doing great!



The individual being honored in our newsletter's celebration of Veterans Day is Fire Controlman, 3rd Class Petty Officer and retired Senior Nebraska Certified Arborist Jack Nebelsick.

Jack is one of the original 29 NAA Chapter Members and he served as NAA Association President in 1982. He played a major role in the formation and the growth of your association established in 1977. I had the honor of interviewing Jack a few years ago and also I talked to him on the phone.

He joined the Navy when he was 18 and was a crew member of the USS Wesson, Destroyer Escort (DE 184). During the battle of Okinawa the USS Wesson was struck by a kamikaze plane. The ship survived this engagement and after major repairs went back into combat. Jack survived WWII without any major injuries.

After the war he was a County Agent and he started in the tree business working at Acme Tree Service in Lincoln, Nebraska. He bought the company and sold the business in 1995. There were no bucket trucks or lifts when Jack got into the arborist trade so climbing was the only way to ascend a tree. Jack had the untimely event of falling 10 feet out of a tree and landing on a stump but for some unknown reason he came away with only a few scratches.

Jack decided he had enough adventure in his arborist life and shunned any formal arborist jobs to spend more time with his family after his retirement. Jack lost his first wife but was lucky enough to find another lovely lady, Bonnie, and married her on August 10, 1990.

So this Veterans Day, let's remember one of our fellow arborists and Veterans for his service to his country and the Nebraska Arborists Association.

I want to thank Jack Nebelsick personally for all he has done and ask our members if they want to send him a Veterans Day card his address is Mr. Jock Nebelsick, 6040 Old Farm Circle, Lincoln, NE 68512. THANKS JACK, YOU SURE HAVE DONE WELL!



**American Sycamore Tree Damaged 8 years ago. Will the tree wall itself off or will other insects or diseases cause it to fail?**

**Same Sycamore showing callus forming on each side of the damage area. Notice the stress crack in the center of the trunk. I believe lightning caused the ordinal damage but not certain.**

## CALL FOR NAA AWARD NOMINATIONS

The NAA awards committee is requesting nominations for the association's annual awards to be presented at the NAA business meeting during the first day of the Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference. All award nominations must be submitted to the NAA office by November 16, 2018. The following NAA awards are open for nominations: Lifetime Achievement, Educator of the Year and Arborist of the Year. The requirements for each of these awards can be found on the NAA website – [www.nearborists.org](http://www.nearborists.org). It is not a requirement for all three of these awards to be presented on a yearly basis. If you nominate an individual, the association requests your willingness to ensure the award winner along with family members attend the NAA business meeting at the conference. The awards are a secret so nominees are not notified of their nomination or their selection for the award. The nominating individual is notified of who has been selected for each award. If you feel someone is qualified for one of these awards, please submit a nomination package to the NAA office prior to the deadline.

# FALL TREE PLANTING

By Jim Keepers, NE Certified Arborist

Fall is an ideal time to plant a deciduous tree. The reason is that the soil temperature takes a long time to go down to freezing temperatures. With the warm soils and milder air temperatures, the tree roots can grow and the upper part of the tree is not required to withstand the harsh summer air temperatures. The days are mild and the nights are cooler so the tree is not forced to lose moisture because of transpiration like during the hot summer days. Spring is a good time for tree planting, but the cold soil temperatures causes the tree roots to grow more slowly.



So you might ask why I should be interested in tree planting. 'My job as an arborist is to prune and remove trees not plant them.' This is not a correct statement. More and more arborists are getting into the tree planting business because their customers want this service and the customer feels the arborist of today is more knowledgeable.

I want to recommend the Nebraska Statewide Arboretum (NSA) as a great point of contact when looking for the right tree to plant in the right location. NSA has a program called 'Plant of the Year'. In this program, NSA recommends perennials, shrubs and trees (deciduous & evergreen) suitable for our Nebraska environment. Not all the plants recommended are suitable for both Eastern and Western Nebraska so your location in Nebraska will be the governing factor when selecting a tree. The arborist must also be knowledgeable when it comes to bare root trees, container trees, balled & burlap and RootMaker grown trees. A discussion of the difference between these various tree growing methods and their root structures will be discussed in a later newsletter issue.

## SUCCESSFUL TREE ID, EVALUATION & SELECTION, PLANTING & ESTABLISHMENT CLASS

By Jim Keepers, NE Certified Arborist



The success of this year's Tree ID, Evaluation & Selection, Planting & Establishment Class can be credited to the hard work your NAA President Kevin Popken put into the class development and the two outstanding presenters: Justin Evertson, Nebraska Forest Service/Nebraska Statewide Arboretum, and Graham Herbst, Nebraska Forest Service. A total of 97% of the class were striving to become Nebraska Certified Arborists. Every year our classes continue to bring new people into the arboriculture career field. Thanks Kevin for all your hard work!

### FOREST FESTIVAL AT HORNING STATE FARM

2108 Horning Road,  
Plattsmouth, NE 68048

October 27, 2018  
9:00 – 4:00 p.m.

Hosted by the Nebraska Forest Service

The NAA will have an exhibitors booth and conduct a climbing demonstration. This is a great event for the entire family.

## NEBRASKA FOREST SERVICE PROPERTIES MANAGER

By Jim Keepers, NE Certified Arborist



Aaron Clare is the Forest Properties Manager for the Nebraska Forest Service (NFS) where he oversees the management of four properties owned by the University of Nebraska Foundation: Horning State Farm Demonstration Forest, Prairie Pines Nature Preserve, Cedar Canyon Demonstration Forest and Timmas Farm Ecological Preserve. The goal for these properties is to serve as forestry education centers for the purposes of research, public education and outreach.

Aaron also leads NFS's efforts in developing new hybrid hazelnut varieties for the Great Plains and Midwest as a member of the Hybrid Hazelnut Consortium along with Oregon State University, Rutgers University and the Arbor Day Foundation.

After growing up in Norfolk, Aaron obtained a degree in Horticulture from UNL in 2007. He then met and followed his future wife to Missouri and Pennsylvania for her graduate studies, eventually returning to Nebraska to settle down. During their travels, Aaron developed skills in landscape management, environmental science, and plant research. Today they live in Lincoln where he enjoys his gardens, aquariums, bowling, guitars, and of course, the outdoors.

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Contact us to begin your membership today!

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# IS CPR TRAINING WORTH THE TIME AND EFFORT?

By: Michael Housley, Certified NE Arborist | Intro By: Jim Keepers, NE Certified Arborist



Over the past 18 years, I have heard prospective NE Certified Arborists both young and old question why they needed to be CPR trained. I felt it was time to hear from someone who had some personal experience with saving someone's life because of their CPR training. I asked Michael Housley, recently NAA Certified arborist to say how the CPR training he received last year saved his grandfather's life while they were working on a job. Michael Housley is the son of NAA Certified Arborist Randy Housley. So let's have Michael tell this life saving story in his own words.

Basically what happened was we were on a job and got about 80 percent done. We had worked our way to the front of the house and as we were walking grandpa kind of stopped like he was out of breathe and hunched over with his hands on his knees which was odd. He said he was real tired all of a sudden and I needed to finish while he rested a minute in the truck. So I finished one side of a pretty large tree and as I came around the other side I yelled to the truck asking grandpa if I needed to hit another tree. He didn't respond so I said it again with no response. So I turned to the truck and he was motionless with his head down with his hands on the wheel like he was driving. Right when I saw him I ran over to the truck yelling "Grandpa, Grandpa, Grandpa!" He wasn't waking up, so I took both open hands and kind of smacked him on his shoulders at that point he came to but couldn't talk very well. As he came to, I said "Grandpa talk to me. I'm calling an ambulance." Then, grandpa being grandpa, he seemed to snap out of it and was pretty quick to tell me I wasn't calling the ambulance and he was just tired.

I said "Grandpa, I don't think you're just tired." Then he said we were going to call it a day and he wanted me to drive. As I came around the truck to switch spots with him. I got about half way around the truck and looked in the cab and he was convulsing and letting out a loud gasping noise. I immediately hit 911 and put them on speaker phone and threw the phone on the dash and tried waking him up (he would kind of gasp and convulse for a few seconds then would go limp and he did that about four times). When the dispatcher came on I said my grandpa is unresponsive I need medical help. At this point I'm trying to move him from the truck to lay him down but didn't have any luck. Then the dispatcher asked my location which I wasn't sure of the street so I ran to the end of the block to see the street number.

Once I gave her the address I ran back to the truck, she asked me to check his vitals. When there were none she said I needed to get him out of the truck (already tried and wasn't able to) and start CPR right now. Since I couldn't lift him to the ground, I threw the truck console in the backseat and laid him across the truck seat. Then I jumped up, straddling his waist since I couldn't get to his side, and began compressions and breathing until the ambulance arrived (I do not know how long I was doing it). Once they arrived, the paramedics told me to keep doing CPR until they said to move so I did. They told me to get back so I stepped out of the truck, out of their way and I collapsed from nerves and just being exhausted. I could barely stand and got physically sick in the grass.

When I composed myself, I went to the back of the ambulance to find out what was going on and the EMT was shutting the door to the ambulance. He kind of put his hands up to stop me and said they were doing what they could, they had already shocked him twice and were taking him to Lakeside Hospital. So at this point it's terrible news. I rushed back to the nursery, met the family and rushed to Lakeside. When we get there we find out they shocked him a third time on the way to the hospital and his heart started. We were just waiting to find out if he would be alright. The doctor came out and said that he came to as they were running his tests and they believed he would be fine as far as his brain function but he needed a quadruple bypass and a valve replaced. The doctor then said she wanted to know who did the CPR and to make sure they know they saved his life. I can't describe what I felt when she said that.

If it weren't for my CPR training, we absolutely would not still have grandpa. He had a stroke about a week after the surgery but no major damage occurred. The recovery has been slow but thanks to the NAA CPR training requirement, I have faith my family will have many more years with grandpa.

Thanks Michael for taking the time to tell your story about your experience with CPR and how it saved your grandpa's life. This story goes to prove that CPR training does work and perhaps in the future just saved a loved one's life.

John is now home after spending sometime at the Elkhorn rehabilitation center. I saw John and Michael on Sunday, September 9. He told me he had to get his lawyer's help to get out of the center. That is John for you! John is still doing physical therapy at home but I must say I fear he is driving Carmel crazy. I know he wants to get back to the nursey. He told me he will attend the 2019 Nebraska GREAT PLAINS Conference in York. He also said that is not such a far drive for someone like himself when you almost lost your life.



If you want to send John a card, his address is John Housley, PO Box 248, Elkhorn, Nebraska 68022. He would also appreciate you stopping by if you have the time for a visit. Just give him a call before you go.

# WOMEN BEHIND OUR MATURE ARBORISTS

By: Jim Keepers, NAA Newsletter Coordinator



I am fortunate to feature another bride of one of our Nebraska Certified Arborists in this quarter's newsletter. I know she doesn't want any publicity. I hope she will forgive me. I feel she deserves to be recognized for her achievements as a wife, mother and a business woman. To quote Terry Hughes when he received the NAA's 2009 Arborist of the Year he said the following: "Gayle, my wife, has played a major role in our business throughout the years and without her I would have not been able to develop Terry Hughes Tree Service into one of the premier tree services in the state of Nebraska."

So now you might have guessed, the lady I am featuring this quarter is none other than Gayle Hughes, wife of Terry Hughes and mother to Stacy Hughes.

She grew up in Geneva, Nebraska, and graduated from Geneva High school. After several years in Lincoln, she moved to Omaha. She married Terry in 1967 and this year they have been married over 50 years. I consider her a living 'Saint' for all her dedicated years of marriage. She worked for Fairmont Foods and Allied Chemical. Her last 29 years

of business employment was for the Caterpillar dealership, first Missouri Valley Machinery and then Nebraska Machinery. She started out as a secretary then sales coordinator and finally Promotion Manager.

After retirement, she worked for four years for Brush Art from Downs, Kansas, as an account representative. When their project ended, she really retired and took up gardening and helping with the tree service more than once in a while. She also found time to raise a son, Stacy, who now runs the business since Terry has retired.

Gayle was present when Terry received the NAA's 2009 Arborist of the Year Award.

I want to personally thank Gayle for being such a gracious lady and helping me obtain information on Terry for his Arborist of the Year Award. I also want to thank her for her gardening tips. Women like Gayle are independent ladies who will help their husbands as the business grows. She has also been a great supporter of the NAA. Thanks Gayle!



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## **NAA ANNOUNCES NEW ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR**

*By: Kathi Schildt, NAA Executive Director*



The NAA Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Katlyn Notter has joined Advanced Association Management, which provides the association's professional management services. As the Associate Director, Katlyn will work very closely with Executive Director Kathi Schildt. You can look to Katlyn for your membership and certification questions and concerns.

Katlyn graduated from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln with a Bachelors' Degree in Merchandising and a minor in Marketing. She previously worked as a Treatment Coordinator at Nebraska Oral and Facial Surgery, focusing on all aspects of patient care. Katlyn has a background in customer service, agriculture, marketing and retail. Having grown up on a farm in rural Nebraska, she enjoys spending her free time exploring the great outdoors, running, hunting with her husband, Justin, and stealing snuggles from her son, Kannon. In addition to her responsibilities with NAA, Katlyn serves as the Associate Director to the Nebraska Poultry Industries and Executive Director for the Nebraska Economic Developers Association. The Board encourages you to join us in welcoming Katlyn aboard the NAA Team. She can be reached at the NAA office at [staff@nearborists.org](mailto:staff@nearborists.org) or (402) 761.2216.

## **NEW ONLINE RENEWAL AND EVENT SYSTEM COMING SOON!**

*By: Kathi Schildt, NAA Executive Director*

The NAA Board has authorized Advanced Association Management (AAM) to work with GrowthZone to build a new and more powerful membership system for the association that meets our present needs and those of the future. This new system will allow members to renew memberships online and also register for events online. The new system's reporting and exporting functionality, coupled with an intuitive interface, will enable your association to make the most of AAM's staff time and the ease of register and renewing. Watch for emails and updates as we move forward through the transition process. If you have any questions or concerns about this system, please contact one of your board members or Executive Director Kathi Schildt.

## **IMPORTANT EHAP CLASS ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Thank you to those who attended the EHAP class that took place September 12th. Please note, this training does not qualify you to work in close proximity to energized conductors. Please refer to the ANSI Z133 Safety Requirements for specific rules applying to working around energized conductors. If a tree you are working in is in close proximity, contact your local electric utility for assistance.**

## **SILENT AUCTION DONATIONS**

Our Silent Auction, which benefits our education fund, has been a great event for many years. Because of the generosity of our conference attendees, your Association has been able to award numerous scholarships to students and young arborists so they could attend your Association training events, Summer Field Day and Winter Conference. To increase your Association's ability to award more scholarships next year, we are asking our membership to donate items for our silent auction. We are also asking for you to solicit business acquaintances, customers and friends for donations to our silent auction. Your donations to our auction are greatly appreciated. The donation form can be found on the NAA website. Donations can be sent to Kathi at the NAA office. Jim Keepers will also pick up your items in the Omaha area if needed.

## **NAA HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS**

The NAA office will close for Thanksgiving on Thursday, November 22 and Friday, November 23. The office will close for the Christmas holiday at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 21 and reopen on Wednesday, December 26 at 1:00 p.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.



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