

A HISTORY OF THE
SOCIETY
OF
MUNICIPAL
ARBORISTS

1964 - 2014

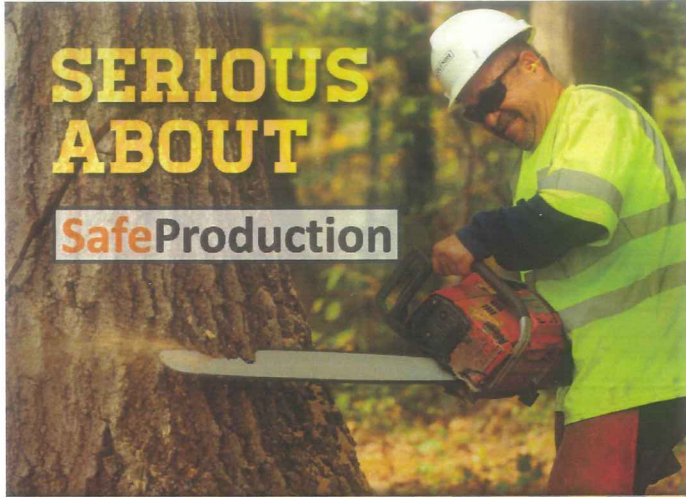
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1964 - 2014

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A HISTORY OF THE SOCIETY OF MUNICIPAL ARBORISTS 1964 - 2014

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50 Years
 1964 - 2014
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 SOCIETY OF MUNICIPAL ARBORISTS

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CHAPTER 1

THE FOUNDING OF THE SOCIETY OF MUNICIPAL ARBORISTS

On October 8, 1964, in Olmsted Falls, Ohio, Frank Karpick, Jim Oates, and Ed Scanlon called a group of eight dedicated municipal arborists (MAs) together to consider forming a professional society. This group of MAs had sought better representation and more time at the International Shade Tree Conference's Annual Meeting, but being unsuccessful, the group decided to split away and form a new society with 21 founding members. The most significant accomplishment of the new Society of Municipal Arborists (SMA) was that it established the municipal arborist as a professional in the field of arboriculture and forestry.

Most of the founders met at an organizational meeting in Philadelphia on February 19-20, 1965 to write a constitution and elect officers. The emblem and slogan, "Trees ARE the City" was adopted in April, 1965. The logo was modeled after a street scene in Byrne, Switzerland. The first annual meeting was held from September 30 to October 2, 1965 in Philadelphia, PA. The SMA grew to the point of incorporation on February 25, 1981 and the organization had over 175 members by 1987.

SMA FOUNDERS

Blankenship, Earl, City Forester	Pittsburgh, PA
Burk, Frederick C., Tree Warden	Swampscott, MA
Clark, Loring, Tree Warden	Marblehead, MA
English, Arthur A., Tree Warden	Boston, MA
Firsching, John G., Supt. of Landscape and Forestry	Wichita, KS
Gerling, Jacob, Superintendent of Eastman Park	Rochester, NY
Graves, Frederick C., City Forester	Baltimore, MD
Jarm, Victor J., Superintendent of Parks	Hartford, CT
Karpick, Frank E., City Forester	Buffalo, NY
Keenan, Frank, Superintendent of Parks and Gardens	Melbourne, VI, Australia
Metz, Robert, Commissioner of Forestry	Toledo, OH
Middlewood, Darrel C., Superintendent of Forestry	Birmingham, MI
Miller, Robert, Municipal Arborist	Dayton, OH
Oates, James T., City Arborist	Richmond, VA
Plante Jr., Joseph H., City Forester	Providence, RI
Scanlon, Edward H., Commissioner of Shade Trees	Cleveland, OH
Schrader, Edward J., Commissioner of Forestry	St. Louis, MO
Shoobridge, David, Supt. of Parks and Gardens	Canberra, CT, Australia
Sweeney, Joseph A., Commissioner of Forestry	Toledo, OH
Vink, Henri, Architect of Parks	Rotterdam, Holland
Ward, Jean T., Assistant Commissioner of Forestry	Toledo, OH

SOCIETY OF MUNICIPAL ARBORISTS ORIGINAL CONSTITUTION

Section I - Name

The name of this organization shall be the "Society of Municipal Arborists."

Section II - Objectives

The purpose of this Society shall be to represent to the public, to public officials, and to other professionals within horticulture the manifold benefits that accrue to people, cities, and countries when municipal arboriculture is conducted on a scientific plane and as a major ingredient of city planning.

Section III - Membership

Because the problems and projects of municipal arborists are unique in the field of arboriculture, voting membership shall be restricted to past and present practicing municipal arborists and will be by invitation or by approval of application.

1. Membership shall be dependent upon presentation of evidence to the effect that the applicant is employed full time as a municipal arborist or assistant municipal arborist for the city from which he or she has applied for membership.
2. Each applicant shall require the approval of three-fourths of the Membership Committee.
3. Membership shall consist of the following classifications: member, fellow, sustaining, affiliate, associate, and student.
4. Member: A Member shall be qualified by training or experience as a practicing municipal arborist, city forester, city arborist, shade tree commissioner, tree warden, or any such person officially in charge of street tree planning and management in his or her city. Such an individual must be employed in the above-stated work full time and be on the payroll of the municipality. Assistants to individuals fitting the above description may be eligible for membership if they are qualified by training or experience, if they are actively engaged in the practice of street tree planning and management, and if they are employed by the municipality full time. Each Member shall have one vote.
5. Fellow: Upon retirement from an active position, a Member in good standing shall be designated a Fellow and will maintain voting rights.
6. Sustaining: Any political subdivision may become a Sustaining Member. This membership shall not include voting power.
7. Affiliate: Membership for commercial companies representing materials and equipment used in the field of arboriculture. No voting rights.
8. Associate: Membership for non-commercial people in fields related to arboriculture. This would include landscape architects, scientists, and arborists other than municipal or utility arborists. No voting rights.
9. Student: Membership for students with the stipulation that following graduation his or her status will be as an Associate Member and will remain so until he or she becomes a municipal arborist and applies for active membership. No voting rights.

Section IV - Officers

1. There shall be a minimum of one general meeting per year at which time election of officers shall be by ballot.
2. A notice of the general election will be sent to all voting members 90 days prior to the annual meeting.
3. Nominations will be received by the Secretary-Treasurer up to 60 days prior to the meeting.
4. Members shall elect a President and Vice President. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be appointed by the Executive Committee for a three-year period.
5. The President and Vice President shall be elected for one-year terms and shall not serve for more than two consecutive terms.
6. Officers shall be elected only from the active membership as defined in Section III - Membership, Paragraph 4. However, this ruling will not apply to the Executive Committee until the provisions set forth in Section V - Executive Committee items 1 and 3 regarding Founding Members are fulfilled.
7. All officers shall serve without remuneration.
8. All officers shall be members of the Executive Committee.

Section V - Executive Committee

1. The original Executive Committee shall include all officers and four Founding Members who will be appointed by the President. Founding Members shall serve as follows: two for one year, one for two years, and one for three years. Thereafter, election to the Executive Committee shall be for a three-year term.
2. With the exception of officers, the Executive Committee term will be as stipulated in Section V, item 1.
3. When all of the Founding Members have served a term, the four posts shall be open for election by the membership.
4. The outgoing President shall automatically become a member of the Executive Committee for one year.
5. The Executive Committee shall be charged with the management and control of the affairs and the property of the Society and shall authorize and approve all expenditures and all contracts of the Society.
6. The Executive Committee shall also have authority to fill vacancies occurring in elected offices between annual meetings and within 60 days after such offices are vacated.

Section VI - Meetings

1. The Society shall meet annually in October at a time and place designated by the Executive Committee.
2. Special meetings may be called at any time by the President with the consent of three other members of the Executive Committee or by petition of 20 percent of the members.

Section VII - Voting

1. Each voting member of the Society shall be notified at least 30 days in advance of any meeting at which there will be a general membership vote taken. Such notice shall include the date, time, place of meeting, and a ballot.
2. Members unable to attend shall cast their vote by mail.
3. Failure to vote on three successive occasions shall terminate membership. The Secretary-Treasurer shall keep a three-year record of voting by members.

Section VIII - Dues

Dues will be determined by the Executive Committee, subject to the approval of two-thirds of the membership.

Section IX - Chapter Organizations

1. Should there arise in the future a request for participation by a sufficient number of qualified persons (with a minimum of 25 active members) outside the continental limits of the United States of America, there will be granted, on a two-thirds vote of the membership, a charter to that group to operate as, for example, the "Australian Chapter" of the SMA.
2. Chapters shall elect their own slate of officers with the same terms of office and duties as specified under Section IV - Officers.
3. All Chapter meetings shall be held within 60 days of the annual October meeting to facilitate and expedite publication of proceedings.

Section X - Proceedings

1. The full proceedings of each formal annual conference shall be printed. This shall be a duty of the Secretary-Treasurer assisted by an editorial committee composed of two members to be appointed by the President.
2. Distribution of the proceedings shall be restricted to members (without charge), university and public libraries, political subdivisions (upon acceptance as a sustaining member), and students engaged in the study of Street Tree Management and Arboriculture. Cost of single copies to other than members shall be \$10.00 except as stated for Sustaining Members.
3. In the event Chapters are established in countries where the principal language is other than English, the Chapters shall publish their own proceedings if desired and shall submit translations in English for inclusion in the master proceedings.

Section XI - Amendments

1. Amendments that change the original constitution under headings "Name," "Membership," and/or "Voting" must have 50% of members in good standing voting and three-fourths of those in favor.
2. Other amendments to the constitution must receive two-thirds of the votes of members in good standing.

CHAPTER 2

THE FIRST MEETINGS

Besides providing educational opportunities, the first meetings were organizational. For example, the SMA established its objectives:

1. Promote municipal arboriculture
2. Stimulate interest in trees and their care
3. Promote tree conservation
4. Establish a code of ethics
5. Support scientific research
6. Sponsor an annual meeting
7. Establish an educational/research fund

From 1964 until 1980, the SMA's dues were \$15.00 per year. Attendance at the annual meetings rose from 40 at the first meeting in 1965 to 80 people at the fifth meeting in 1969. Membership in the early years also rose from the founding 21 in 1964 to 112 by 1970. The early meetings featured talks about municipal line clearance, tools and equipment, financing street tree planting projects, selection of urban tree cultivars, current insect and disease problems, and Dutch Elm Disease. The practice of planting a tree in the host city during the meeting quickly became a tradition. At the third meeting in 1967, invitations were extended to exhibitors for the first time.

Prior to 1970, membership in the SMA was restricted to the arborist and an assistant from each city. At the sixth annual meeting, the limits on members per city was eliminated and the membership classifications were expanded to accept:

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. Active members | - municipal arborists |
| 2. Fellows | - retirees or outstanding members |
| 3. Honorary | - appointed by the Executive Committee |
| 4. Associate | - related field (private arborists, landscape architects, teachers) |
| 5. Student | - full time only, affiliate after graduation |
| 6. Affiliate | - commercial company representatives |
| 7. Sustaining | - city or utility with several members |

The 1971 SMA Annual Meeting produced the first SMA publication that was not a proceedings. That year the Ways and Means Committee published a 25-page bound booklet that reported the results of a survey entitled, "*A Review of Planting Practices in Selected Cities.*"

At the eighth meeting in 1972, accounts totaled \$2,000 in expenses, \$5,000 in revenue, and a savings account of \$7,500. The budget consisted of over \$1,400 in meeting expenses and about \$500 in office expenses. Over \$1,100 in income came from dues, over \$3,100 from the annual meeting, and the balance of income came from bank interest and sales of proceedings and other miscellaneous items. The year 1972 also saw the first publication of *City Trees* as a four-page leaflet containing news and notes

about the Society. Ed Scanlon was the first *City Trees* editor in addition to his other duties as the SMA's first Secretary-Treasurer.

It wasn't until the ninth meeting in 1973 that the first spouse's program was prepared. While the registration fee for this meeting rose to \$25 for members, spouses paid a \$15 fee for their program. By 1976, the fees had risen to \$65 for members and \$40 for spouses.

The chart below shows mostly steady growth in SMA membership from 1964 through 1972, followed by fluctuations.

Year	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970	1971	1972	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981
Membership	21	50	60	78	90	105	113	124	119	112	125	95	97	100

From the period of 1972 to 1976, the idea of the SMA merging with another municipal arborist association was often mentioned. Finally, in 1976, the SMA voted to table any consideration of affiliation until 1981 at the earliest.

In 1975, the SMA co-sponsored a film with the EPA, "Pesticides - Play it Safe." Also that year, the SMA was granted life membership in the Joyce Kilmer Birthplace Association.

Later in 1975, at the conclusion of the tenth annual meeting, the SMA's budget reached an all-time high of \$18,465. The financial statement indicated receipts of \$9,500, including \$6,000 from the annual meeting and the remainder from interest and dues. The expenses included \$2,500 for the annual meeting, \$1,000 for proceedings, and the remainder for office expenses, to a total of \$4,400. The savings account had a balance of \$15,000.

Early in 1976, SMA founder Ed Scanlon passed away. In his memory, the members and friends of the SMA dedicated the Scanlon Memorial Grove at Crosby Gardens in Toledo, Ohio. This grove was designed to contain 55 trees, including 24 varieties of Scanlon's own propagated "Tailored Trees," but unfortunately, the planting was never completed. Ed's wife, June, was appointed to Ed's position as SMA Secretary-Treasurer and Editor of *City Trees*.

With the 1976 American Bicentennial efforts going strong, the SMA voted to adopt *Acer rubrum* as its suggestion for a national tree, one that should be used for bicentennial plantings. Bicentennial Tree Planting Committee Chairman David Shaw planted a Gerling Red Maple in the National Arboretum on Arbor Day, April 30, 1976. SMA's Immediate Past President Richard W. Boers wrote the SMA commissioned a bronze plaque and the text for the plaque. 35 members and friends of the SMA attended the dedication ceremony. The 80-year-old founding SMA member Jake Gerling, for whom the red maple cultivar was named in 1950, made the longest speech. He surprised everyone at the ceremony by getting up from his wheelchair to finish putting mulch around the tree.

In 1978, the daily operations of the SMA changed somewhat. Robert Miller became Secretary to relieve some of June Scanlon's workload. June remained as Treasurer and Bob also became Editor of *City Trees*. Beginning in December 1978, Bob published *City Trees* monthly and the size increased to eight

pages. The personal touches of the "Scanlon Era" were supplemented with timely articles on arboricultural themes prepared by SMA members.

In 1979, Jake Gerling passed away. He left the SMA his slide collection of 1,005 trees, cataloged by Len Phillips in 1999. Interest in slides of trees within the SMA emerged in May 1974 when member F. Philip Neuman was chairman of the Tree Research Committee. He prepared a speech for the 1974 annual meeting on the subject of street tree plantings and requested that SMA members send him between one and three slides of their best looking street tree plantings.

On January 27, 1979, the SMA presented a Norway spruce to Forest Lawn Cemetery in Buffalo, NY in honor of Clara C. Reeb, the SMA's oldest member. She became a member in 1974 at age 98 and lived for five more years.

THE ORIGINAL SMA COMMITTEES

Ways and Means
 Membership
 Department Functions
 Line Clearance
 Equipment
 Tree Research
 Public Relations
 Sustaining Membership

STANDING COMMITTEES IN EARLY 70s

Finance
 Membership
 Department Functions
 Line Clearance
 Educational Curriculum
 Street Tree Research
 Editorial
 Pesticide Control

CHAPTER 3 NOTABLE EVENTS OF THE EIGHTIES

On February 25, 1981, the SMA became incorporated as a tax-exempt organization according to the IRS code, Section 501 (c)(5). The SMA was also allowed to accept tax-deductible contributions in accordance with Section 170 (c)(2) of the Internal Revenue code. As a result of the incorporation, the Executive Committee became the Executive Board and the Constitution became the Code of Regulations and Bylaws. Soon after the incorporation, the positions of Secretary and Treasurer were merged to become the Executive Secretary, who then functioned as the part-time staff.

Also in 1981, the decision was made to overhaul *City Trees*. Beginning in January 1982, Ed Olsen became Editor. The journal increased from 8 half pages to 16 full pages, started hosting advertising, and began providing a page of business cards from our Affiliate Members. Also included were special features such as the President's Column, a Park or City of the Month feature, a Professor's Column, and reports from SMA committees. The most important feature of all, however, was the recognition that *City Trees* was to become a professional quality publication, indicative of the quality of the SMA.



Figure 1: Membership pin featuring original logo.

The 1982 Conference presented a Scanlon Red Maple to the City of Dayton, Ohio's Cooper Park. June Scanlon graciously donated the tree. Also in 1982, a Memorandum of Mutual Understanding was signed between the SMA and the Municipal Arborists and Urban Foresters Society (MAUFS). This agreement allowed for the Presidents of these two organizations to meet and to discuss items of mutual concern and, with approval of their respective Executive Boards, to release joint statements of facts and concerns. The concept behind this agreement was to provide better communication and a stronger voice for urban forestry without having the organizations merge.

At the 1984 SMA Annual Meeting in Freehold, NY, Dale Gaasland assumed the duties of Executive Secretary from Bob Miller. The SMA presented Bob an Award of Merit and Honorary Life Membership in appreciation of his 20 years of dedicated service to the SMA. At about this time, modest urban forestry funding within the US Forest Service was under threat of elimination. SMA members contacted their senators, and helped preserve urban forestry as a vital component of the USFS.

At the 1985 meeting, *City Trees* Editor Ed Olsen was elected to SMA President; Len Phillips was appointed to replace Ed. Beginning in 1987, *City Trees* became bimonthly and efforts to find advertisers were increased substantially. Another significant change was the elimination of Annual Meeting Proceedings as a special publication. Instead, all the presentations from the Annual Meeting were edited to become articles for *City Trees*.

The 1987 annual meeting produced several important items. First of all, the SMA membership voted overwhelmingly to support the National Arbor Day Bill, something that Ed Scanlon had advocated for since 1936. Second, in light of budgetary shortfalls, the SMA Executive Board voted to raise annual

dues to \$40, which later was, unfortunately, thought to account for the loss of 65 members in 1988. The Board also voted to raise advertising rates in *City Trees* by 10%.

The 1988 annual meeting produced action in the SMA Tree Research Fund when its first donation came in. The Tree Research Committee then began a sincere effort to collect more donations and prepare regulations for distributing the funds in the future. Another announcement at this, the 24th SMA Annual Meeting, dealt with the plans for the SMA's Silver Anniversary. The conference was to go to Canada for the first time (Saskatchewan) and a special anniversary program was prepared, including distribution of "*The First Twenty-Five Years of the SMA.*" A commemorative tree was planted in the spring of 1989 at the National Arboretum. The tree, a Whitespire birch, was donated by Princeton Nursery, who dedicated it to the 25th anniversary of the SMA.

The 1988 meeting also presented awards to speaker Alex Shigo for his lifetime of tree research and to Dale Gaasland and John Sosnowski for their service to the SMA. Norma Bonham was appointed to replace Dale as the SMA's Executive Secretary. At this meeting a committee was established to develop standards and a program to award municipal forestry departments SMA Accreditation. One of the most interesting topics on the 1988 agenda however, was the restoration of an old SMA tradition—planting a tree in the conference host city.

City Trees expanded the number of pages from the traditional 16 pages to 20 or 24 depending upon the number of advertisers. The journal also began being printed on glossy paper and in 1991, color was added for the first time.

SMA membership grew in 1989, primarily with Canadian members but in 1990, the number dropped dramatically back to 1982 levels. As a result of this dramatic drop in membership, a campaign was launched at the 1990 meeting to regain old members and to solicit new members. The chart below summarizes the number of members during the 1980s.

Membership in the 80s remained constant except for a jump in Canadian members during mid-decade.

Year	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989	1990
Membership	115	124	124	150	163	166	121	131	113

In 1989, the SMA Book Club was established as an offshoot of the Editorial Committee. This club allowed SMA members to purchase popular recent editions on arboricultural subjects at reduced prices. Any profit generated from the club was turned over to the Tree Research Fund.

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE 80s

- Ways and Means
- Tree Research
- Editorial
- Local Arrangements
- Arbor Day
- Membership
- Public Relations
- Program
- Exhibits and Advertising
- Awards

STANDING COMMITTEES OF THE 90s

- Ways and Means
- Tree Research
- Editorial
- Local Arrangements
- Arbor Day
- Membership
- Public Relations
- Awards
- Accreditation
- National Affairs
- Professional Improvement
- Municipal Management

CHAPTER 4 NOTABLE EVENTS OF THE NINETIES

At the 1990 annual meeting, the Bylaws were amended to show changes in committees. The duties of the Advertising Committee and the Program Committee were absorbed into other committees, reflecting what was happening in actuality.

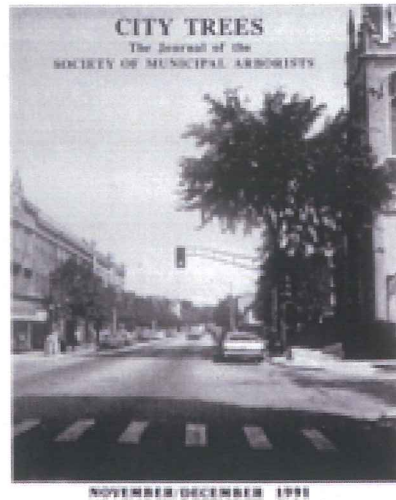


Figure 2: *City Trees* cover, 1991.

Three new committees were established: National Affairs, Professional Improvement, and Municipal Management. The 1990 meeting included the announcement that the first two municipal forestry departments had been awarded SMA Accreditation and that the program had been made available to any city regardless of whether or not the city's arborist was a member of SMA.

The 1991 annual meeting was held in Niagara Falls, NY. Attendance was unusually low; it was speculated that there were too many other organizations competing for attendees (ISA, AFA Urban Forestry Conference, Arbor Age's Expo, and NAA's TCI Expo) and the economy was such that members could not afford to attend all the conferences they wanted to.

One major new long-term benefit, however, that came from the 1991 meeting was the decision to look beyond the SMA for new members and to seek representation at other national meetings. For example, President Gaasland represented the SMA at a meeting in Nebraska with the National Arbor Day Foundation; in Washington D.C. he became a member of the A-300 Standards Committee responsible for rewriting national pruning standards; and he attended the ISA Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Vice President Mike Ganues was sent to Los Angeles to attend the fifth AFA Urban Forestry Conference. Andy Hillman represented the SMA at a New York State Urban Forestry Workshop while Dan Ostrander went to Bismarck to represent the SMA at the ISA Midwest Chapter Annual Meeting. All of these efforts resulted in more public awareness of the SMA plus a modest increase in membership. But more importantly, before this decade would end, this awareness would translate into the SMA's affiliation with the ISA, and for a far more significant role for SMA in the rapidly expanding urban forestry profession.

The 1992 meeting in Aberdeen focused on the SMA's role at a national level, detailed in a strategic plan as follows:

SOCIETY OF MUNICIPAL ARBORISTS VISION 2000

The SMA should encourage Municipal Arborists to:

- improve public relations efforts to promote the profession, their departments, and urban trees;
- educate the public about the value of trees;
- be up-to-date, ISA-certified, and SMA-accredited;
- make, update, and computerize their tree inventory and work records to become more productive;
- coordinate and cooperate with other municipal departments and other cities;
- select and plant the best varieties of trees available;
- prune young trees and maintain mature trees with proper funding; and
- participate in Urban Forestry Councils.

The SMA must:

- promote professionalism of municipal arborists;
- keep its national leadership;
- increase membership;
- promote more research, accreditation, and membership services;
- develop manuals and tips on municipal arboriculture; and
- communicate with cities and other forestry organizations.

The committee reports in Aberdeen were unprecedented in number and activity. Some of the more significant accomplishments included: six communities now had SMA-Accredited Forestry Departments; a tree was planted in Aberdeen; *City Trees* expanded to 28 pages; a new job opportunities service was started; membership was continuing to climb; the Tree Research Fund was up to \$752; and Len Phillips was awarded the SMA's Award of Merit.

The SMA visited Chicago, Illinois for the third time in 1993. Some of the highlights included tours of Chicago and the Morton Arboretum; a banquet aboard a ship in Lake Michigan; and Professor Chris Carlson receipt of the SMA's Award of Merit.

In 1994, the SMA 30th annual conference was held in Seattle, WA; the conference set a new record with 134 attendees. It was announced that talks would begin in 1995 regarding a merger between the SMA and MAUFS. Also, it was announced that the Metropolitan Tree Improvement Alliance (METRIA) intended to meet with the SMA at the 1996 conference.

In 1995, the 31st annual meeting was held in Chattanooga, TN. The host city provided an opportunity to visit the Tennessee Aquarium, Civil War battlefields, white-water rafting on the Ocoee River, and a stay at the Chattanooga Choo Choo.

Negotiations around the SMA/MAUFS merger continued and talks were scheduled for October 27-29, 1995. As a result of this effort, the SMA retained its name and separate annual meeting but became an ISA Professional Affiliate. As such, SMA agreed to provide a one-day municipal program at the annual ISA Conference. *City Trees* would continue and the officers of both organizations were to be merged into a temporary Executive Board of 14 members. After three years, the Board would through attrition return to its former size of eight members. The merger was approved by a mail-in vote of the SMA membership in the spring of 1996 and by the MAUFS membership at their annual business luncheon on August 14, 1996 (held at the Cleveland, OH ISA Conference).

SMA OFFICERS 1996-1997 (including merged offices and boards)

President	Bob Benjamin	Executive Board	Paul Blumhardt
Vice Presidents	Jim McGannon		Steve Cothrel
	Jon Thompson		Bailey Hudson
Past Presidents	Mike Ganues		Stephen King
	Ralph Sievert		Dan Ostrander
Executive Secretary	Norma Bonham		Joe Roush
City Trees Editor	Len Phillips		John Thompson

The 1996 annual meeting in Minneapolis focused on the merger and all of the changes that would be necessary. Also, a new SMA logo was approved by the membership and the organization launched its first website with the help of Dick and Sue Abbott.

City Trees returned to using some color in its ads and established a very popular Urban Tree of the Year program. The ISA began collecting SMA dues for members belonging to both organizations. Membership grew rapidly. In addition to the SMA objectives developed at the SMA's founding, several additional objectives were added:

- to sponsor *City Trees*
- to operate an SMA Book Club
- to promote professional awareness of the SMA online
- to be a Professional Affiliate of the ISA
- to administer a Forestry Department Accreditation program

The 1997 annual meeting was held in Baton Rouge, LA. Conferees heard about the Formosan termite and ways to enhance the growth of live oaks. Tours took members to cypress bayous to see alligators and learn about Cajun history and culture. The annual tree planting ceremony was held in a cypress/tupelo bayou next to a magnolia/beechn upland forest. It was announced that SMA membership had doubled since the merger and that the Society's financial situation was the best ever. A memorandum of mutual agreement was developed with the UK's National Association of Tree Officers (NATO). It was NATO that assisted the SMA with the ISA's PA day in Birmingham, England, at the ISA annual meeting.

From January 30 to February 1, 1998, the Executive Board held its first mid-year board meeting in St. Louis to discuss the large number of challenges before the SMA. The St. Louis annual meeting later that year produced a new mission statement for the SMA, "To Promote Professional Management of Municipal Forests." A new vision statement was adopted that stated, "To Lead the World as the Voice for Municipal Forestry." Highlights of the St. Louis conference included tours of the municipal operations in University City and Clayton, Gateway Arch Park and Forest Park in St. Louis and the Missouri Botanic Garden. The meeting was held in conjunction with METRIA. The annual meeting indicated a healthy balance in the SMA treasury of \$30,520. A study was undertaken to review the feasibility of hiring a part- or full-time Executive Director.

In 1999, Dick Meyer retired. Also in 1999, at the ISA PA Day and again at the SMA meeting in Vancouver, one talk stood out as a real scare to municipal arboriculture—Steve Bylina's presentation about the Asian Longhorned Beetle attack in Chicago. Conference attendance came in at the second highest of this decade. Other significant events of this meeting included the vote to hire an Executive Director and the streamlining of membership categories. Professional Members would now include senior and student members, and there would be Corporate Members. Dues were raised slightly to \$50 for Professional Members and \$125 for Corporate Members. Subscriptions to *City Trees* for seniors, students, and employees of Corporate Members were raised to \$25.00 a year.

Also at the 1999 meeting, for the first time ever, the Executive Board voted to seek a federal grant. A subcommittee sought to find grant funds to make possible the new Executive Director position and improvements to *City Trees*. The 1999 annual meeting noted that the SMA had a balance of \$36,558; the federal grant request was matched with the SMA's budget. The Book Club offered 28 new titles in 1999. President Jim McGannon spoke to the membership about the SMA being seen more and more as the voice for urban forestry. The organization was striving to have representation at every major national and international initiative that affected how municipal arborists conduct business.

Membership in the SMA grew substantially during the decade of the 90s.

Year	1990	1991	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Membership	139	146	175	189	194	174	377	511	611

CHAPTER 5

THE START OF THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY

The 36th annual meeting took place in Lansing, MI in 2000 in partnership with the Michigan Forestry and Parks Association. One of the features of the conference was a lively debate on the subject of cultivars vs. provenance. A ‘Heritage’ river birch was purchased by the SMA and planted in a park in Lansing. The Ways & Means Committee reported that the budget for the following year would be \$122,398. The year began with an opening balance of \$29,750 in the bank. Bandit Industries invited all the conference attendees to an all-expense-paid tour of their manufacturing plant an hour away from Lansing, which included equipment demonstrations.

In 2001, *City Trees* sported color photos on the cover, its size increased from 24 to 40 pages, and a regular feature called Research Briefs was introduced. The number of advertisers also increased. The Fargo conference opened with a tour of Grand Forks, which had sustained severe flood damage in 1996. The conference ended with a snowy tour of Moorhead, MN, twin city to Fargo, and Concordia College, where SMA’s annual tree planting ceremony took place. Many local officials attended the ceremony, as the tree was dedicated to a municipal arborist and all the others who lost their lives on September 11, 2001 in New York City. Travel by air to the conference was a challenge for members due to the precautions in place following September 11 (including armed National Guard members at the Fargo airport), and some of the delegates who drove were stranded in an October blizzard on their way home. Fargo conference speakers included Dr. Kim Coder who discussed soil health management, Bill Roesel who discussed the forestry program in Windsor, Ontario, and Gene Hyde who outlined forestry in Russia. Susan Ford of the US Forest Service discussed the “City Green” mapping program and Dr. Greg McPherson outlined strategies to reduce infrastructure damage to tree roots. Dave Draper presented a talk about insuring city trees.

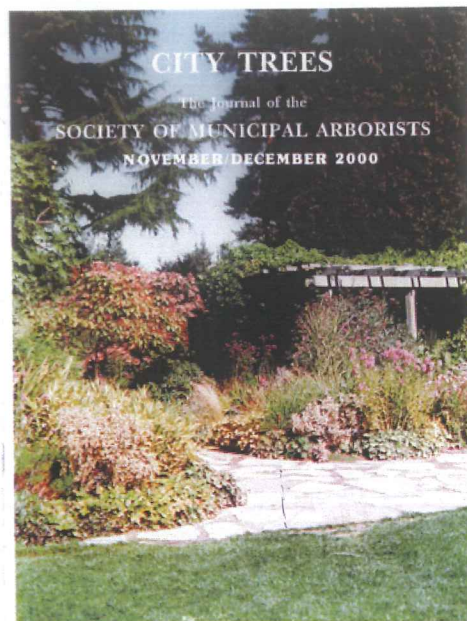


Figure 3: First *City Trees* color cover, 2000.

Also at Fargo, it was reported that two more cities became accredited. The federal grant continued to offset SMA’s budget, as income totaled \$68,965 and expenses were \$72,786. While 75 attendees were at the Fargo conference, over 200 municipal arborists attended the ISA’s Professional Affiliate Day program conducted by the SMA. The SMA Bylaws were modified to eliminate Board voting privileges of the *City Trees* Editor now that he was providing his services by contract. Another bylaws change established a progressive sequencing of officers serving as Vice President, President, and Past President. This change was to ensure that any member serving as President had as least one year of experience on

the Board before assuming office. The SMA’s ISA Liaison also became a member of the Executive Board.

In 2002, the National Affairs Committee worked on developing standard language for municipal forestry contracts. Another group of that committee’s members developed the international municipal arborist exchange program, an effort that took over one year from inception until the first list of exchanges was released in 2003. Still another group within National Affairs worked on developing a municipal arborist certification in conjunction with the ISA’s increasingly important arborist certification program. Other members worked on developing production standards for the municipal arborist. Lastly within the same committee, the A-300 subcommittee worked on the ANSI standards and a Z-133 subcommittee worked on safety regulations.

Throughout the year, President Paul Dykema worked to establish a suitable Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with and as requested by the ISA. This MOU was quite different from the agreement prepared in the 1995 merger and resulted in a substantial amount of concern among the SMA Executive Board and long-time members. Eventually, however, a version of the MOU was prepared that was approved by the membership.

The first decade of the 21st century saw SMA membership double.

Year	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Membership	533	726	816	640	739	962	1250	1324	1348	1293	1237

CHAPTER 6 AN ERA OF TECHNOLOGY AND GROWTH

With the new millennium came new technology, challenges, and opportunities. In 2000, ballots for elections and Tree of the Year were still tabulated by mail. However, organizational communications that had long been handled by the occasional letter or phone call were now being faxed or emailed. At the annual business meeting in Lansing, members approved bylaws changes to pave the way for electronic voting.

The Board and various committees also began using conference calls to facilitate business. The practice of storing and hauling books for the SMA Book Club was gradually rendered obsolete by online book sales, and by the end of the millennium's first decade the book club initiated in 1989 would be discontinued.

SMA COMMITTEES IN 2001

Accreditation	Ways and Means
Awards and Scholarships	Nominating
Editorial	ISA PA Day
Local Arrangements (Conference)	Book Club
Membership	METRIA Liaison
National/International Affairs	By-Laws and Code of Ethics
Public Relations	Historian/Archivist
Tree research	Audit

Also in 2001, SMA Executive Director Norma Bonham rode in the ISA Tour de Trees cycling event to raise money for research. Later that year at the Fargo conference, she announced her retirement from SMA. Ralph Sievert resigned as the SMA's inaugural ISA Board Representative/Liaison, and was replaced by Bob Benjamin. *City Trees* featured its first article on climate change. The editor position transitioned from a volunteer position to a paid contract position due to the increasingly complex and important duties entailed in producing the magazine.

A Board committee met in Denver in early 2002 to interview candidates for the position of Executive Director. Jerri LaHaie was hired as the first leader of the SMA who did not come from within the membership. Her administrative experience enabled the Board and committees to function effectively in an increasingly busy and complex era.

An SMA committee was appointed to work with ISA in the development of a Municipal Specialist certification credential. The annual conference in Ithaca included a tour of the Cornell University Plantations and several cooperative university-city research sites at Cornell and in Ithaca. In Ithaca, members approved the new Memorandum of Understanding with the ISA. The layout process for *City Trees* went digital. In the September/October issue of *City Trees*, the newly discovered pest emerald ash borer made its first appearance, and members outside the infestation zone in Michigan were encouraged to check their ash trees for any signs of trouble.

In 2003, *City Trees* was reformatted with the help of a US Forest Service grant to feature more full color pages and much-improved graphics. Many of the photos used in the magazine were still taken as film prints or 35 mm slides, so there were some growing pains in the process until digital photos became the norm. The first story about hemlock wooly adelgid appeared in the January/February issue, and another story described the federal plan to contain and eradicate the emerald ash borer from Michigan and Ontario.

The Board met to develop a new strategic plan. Jerri LaHaie spoke in Washington DC to the National Association of State Foresters Urban and Community Committee. Members continued to actively represent SMA's views on ANSI committees and in other national and state initiatives. The SMA continued to make great progress towards its vision of leading the world as the voice for municipal arboriculture.

Following a spark of inspiration by members Doug Still and Gene Hyde, the first Municipal Arborists Exchange program was initiated in 2003, between the cities of Chicago IL and Cape Town South Africa, and Fort Wayne IN paired with Wellington City, New Zealand. *Ad hoc* committees for the Exchange Program, Municipal Specialist Certification, Strategic Planning, and Model Specifications were added to the list of standing committees, and a Past Presidents' Council was assembled for the first time to better tap the wisdom and experience of past leadership.

At the SMA conference in Santa Monica, CA, delegates were treated to many memorable sights and experiences, and the members voted to approve an SMA Code of Ethics. A tree was planted within sight of the Pacific in honor of the conference.



Figure 4: Windsor, ON gave the SMA a colorful welcome in 2005.

In 2004, following a few initial forays into online communications, a listserv was developed for members, and the SMA's website was overhauled as Steve Shurtz succeeded Paul Dykema as SMA web master. Dues for professional members were \$60 per year. The SMA again went to bat for urban forestry funding within the US Forest Service's budget, and was again instrumental in preserving the federal program in the US. The SMA also encouraged the Canadian government to place a greater emphasis on urban forestry.

The SMA also made unprecedented progress building bridges to other professional organizations. Speakers representing the SMA were featured at conferences such as the Florida Chapter ISA/Florida Urban Forestry Council, and the Southern Chapter

ISA. The annual conference in Denver was held in partnership with the Rocky Mountain Chapter of ISA. In Denver, members had the opportunity to be in the very first group to sit for the ISA Municipal Specialist certification exam. Judith O'Connor became the first woman elected to the office of President, and was inaugurated in October 2004 in Denver.

In the pages of *City Trees*, an article entitled "EAB: The Beginning of the End of Ash in North America?" gave members a grim report on the battle against EAB. After 20 years at the helm of *City Trees*, Editor Len Phillips announced his retirement. Executive Director LaHaie worked to influence public policy by participating in a "legislative fly-in day" through the American Society of Association Executives. She and other members also engaged in serious deliberations with USFS Urban Forestry Director Mark Buscaino regarding the future of urban forestry funding and policy in the US.

The year 2004 ended with Lloyd Burrige ascending to the Presidency following Jude O'Connor's resignation. He became the first Canadian to hold the top office. In 2005 the Board's new strategic plan was unveiled. Among other goals, the plan established five core committees, established the goal of conducting five Municipal Tree Academies, called for three municipal arborist exchanges, and began development of the Municipal Forester Institute, an innovative educational experience intended to help members excel in professional skills beyond tree care.

By mid-2005, Michelle Buckstrup (Sutton) was hired as editor of *City Trees*. Her skills as a writer, editor, and horticulturist enabled her to take the reins seamlessly. An SMA committee continued to work with the ISA to fine tune the Municipal Specialist certification exam, as over 100 people earned the credential during the program's first year.

The 41st annual conference in Windsor, Ontario was a big success, attracting over 150 delegates. Many at the conference got their first real look at the horror of emerald ash borer damage in the epicenter of the infestation. Awards plaques handed out at the annual banquet were shaped as classic Canadian maple leaves. The Windsor conference also featured the first silent auction, initiated to raise funds for the Arborist Exchange Program.

Hurricane Katrina along the Gulf Coast of the US brought renewed focus to the issue of mega-storms and how communities can both prepare for and restore after such inevitable events. In early 2006, volunteer teams of members and partners were organized to travel to hurricane-ravaged communities. These teams provided valuable peer support and service to several towns, and team members found the experience profound. Thanks to the support of numerous sponsors, the first week long Municipal Forester Institute (MFI) was held in California, graduating 77 students led by a talented 14-member teaching cadre. Soon after, this unique experience was renamed the Municipal Forestry Institute.

A 2006 story in *City Trees* informed members that emerald ash borer eradication plans in both Canada and the US had failed, and that a "slow the spread" campaign was being adopted. Members across North America now understood that EAB was to be the Dutch elm disease of their generation.

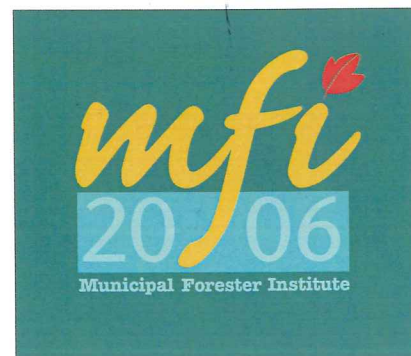


Figure 5: Original Municipal Forester Institute (MFI) logo, by Chris Dies, 2006.

The SMA joined a consortium of organizations in the i-Tree Cooperative to explore and promote the use of the increasingly sophisticated technologies available to urban foresters. The SMA's relationships with the American Public Works Association and the Utility Arborists Association were also a focus of improvement. Revised SMA Accreditation standards also included mutually beneficial ties to the programs of partners the National Arbor Day Foundation and the Tree Care Industry Association.

The Board adopted a new mission statement: "Leading the world in building the confidence, competence, and camaraderie of the family of professionals who create and sustain community forests." Past President Steve Shurtz was appointed by the US Secretary of Agriculture to the National Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council (NUCFAC) – the first SMA member to serve in this prominent capacity, and another milestone in the SMA's mission fulfillment.

The annual conference in Asheville, NC was another success. Highlights included tours of the historic Biltmore Estate and the Bartlett Tree Research Lab. Editor Michelle Buckstrup (Sutton) cemented her reputation for dramatic and memorable Tree of the Year announcements at the banquet by distributing fortune cookies that contained hints about the winner (baldcypress), which was planted by attendees at the conference site. Her Tree of the Year story in *City Trees* also helped to push this annual tradition into growing international prominence for the SMA.

In 2007, Accreditation requirements were streamlined, and a simpler application process via the SMA website was introduced. A second MFI class graduated following a transformational week in California. The 2007 conference drew members to the sunny shores of Hollywood FL, where members planted a new tree in the sand right on the beach. Professional membership dues rose to \$75 per year.

As a result of SMA's partnership with the American Public Works Association, the USFS, and Davey Resource Group, a set of "Best Management Practices for Urban Forests" publications was released. Regional tree academies in multiple states continued to draw enthusiastic attendees, and a new education committee was formed to coordinate MFI and the many other educational programs under the SMA umbrella. Well-traveled Executive Director Jerri LaHaie was featured on the cover of *Connections*, the magazine of the Georgia Society of Association Executives.

A partnership with the USFS in 2008 brought about the inception of the SMA Intern Program. The MFI was held in Texas and produced 74 inspired graduates. The ISA published the first edition of the *Municipal Specialist Certification Study Guide* supported by the contributions of many SMA members. Membership topped 1400 for the first time. A new website committee was formed to keep up with the growing need to conduct business online.

Following a summit and adoption of a memorandum of understanding with the Utility Arborists Association, a series of regional workshops was conducted, and articles were exchanged between the organizations' magazines. Partnerships with the California Urban Forests Council and California Releaf helped make the SMA's San Diego conference memorable and fruitful.

City Trees featured an article that accelerated the change in reputation for callery pear (a former SMA Tree of the Year) from "all-purpose urban tree" to invasive pest. The SMA also adopted a new logo, taking a cue from the website graphics developed earlier. Consultant Chris Deis, who was already responsible for the digital layout and look of *City Trees*, created the logo. The new logo soon led to cohesive branding of all SMA programs and publications with the signature gold script and red leaf.



Figure 6: The original SMA logo, adopted 1965.

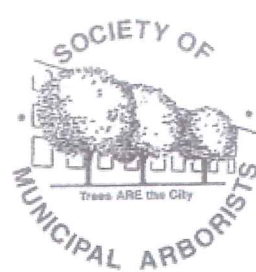


Figure 7: Revised SMA logo, adopted 1996.



Figure 8: Current SMA logo, adopted 2008.



Figure 9: A variety of SMA logos used to brand programs 2009-2014.



Figure 10: The original SMA Accreditation logo (L) and the current logo (R).



Figure 11: The UFF logo, adopted 2008.

Born on a frigid day in Kent, OH, the SMA also created the Urban Forest Foundation (UFF) in 2008. As a 501 (c) 3 organization affiliated with SMA, the mission of the UFF was to support SMA programs such as MFI and the Arborist Exchange. SMA Past President Steve Shurtz was appointed as President of the UFF.

By 2009, the administrative work of the SMA had grown to unprecedented proportions. As a result, additional contractual support was added to supplement the Executive Director and Editor. They included Roe Estand as website manager and Rachel Barker as committee coordinator. Mike Dirksen and Gordon Mann continued their long service representing SMA on the ANSI Z-133 and A-300 committees respectively, and Bob Benjamin continued to serve as the SMA's ISA Board Representative.

Members who attended the 45th conference in Savannah GA were treated to a city (and tour) of amazing canopy dominated by centuries-old live oaks. In a shocking upset, redbud edged out live oak as the SMA tree of the year. At the Savannah conference, conference delegates also had the opportunity to participate in the new UFF sponsored Fun Run, Walk, or Watch, a scenic trip around the city's historic Forsyth Park. Every participant received a custom event t-shirt, and winners were honored with "prestigious" ribbons at the finish line.



Figure 12: Screenshot of SMA website, 2014.

The SMA's international reach was growing steadily each year as evidenced by the many internationally flavored articles in *City Trees*. This trend accelerated in 2009 when a memorandum of understanding was signed with the Australian Chapter of the ISA. This soon led to the branding of SMA Australia, and shared publishing of articles in *City Trees* and Arboriculture Australia's publication *The Bark*.

Enhancements to the SMA website in 2010 included the addition of an online SMA store, offering logo wear such as shirts, hats, pins, and patches. Another valuable member benefit was established when ISA certification CEUs became available through SMA online. The Municipal Liaisons Program was initiated, with many MFI grads serving as conduits between SMA and state/regional professionals.

The SMA also expanded its social media efforts and began using Facebook and Twitter to reach new audiences.

In *City Trees*, articles began to feature keywords at the end, to better facilitate online searches. Editor Michelle Buckstrup became Michelle Sutton, and a digital version of *City Trees* was posted on the website. As the high cost of producing, printing, and mailing the magazine became more prohibitive, members were polled to seek their opinions regarding the digital edition of the periodical.

The fifth MFI took students and the dedicated teaching cadre to the National Arbor Day Foundation's Lied Lodge in Nebraska City, NE, where a snowy wonderland awaited. Albuquerque NM hosted the 2010 conference, giving delegates an in depth look at urban forestry in the arid world. Participants in the 2nd annual UFF Fun Run, Walk, or Watch were not well conditioned for the oxygen-depleted altitude, so the course was shortened to prevent casualties. The Albuquerque Hot Air Balloon Fiesta offered attendees a once in a lifetime opportunity to witness a colorful aeronautical spectacle.

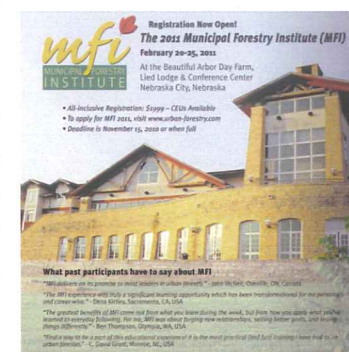


Figure 13: Print ad for the 5th Annual MFI at the Arbor Lodge in Nebraska City, NE.

SMA COMMITTEES IN 2010

Editorial Review	Awards
Municipal Arborist Exchange	Accreditation
Education	Online Education
Conference	Membership
Website	Exhibitor and Sponsor
Nominations	

CHAPTER 7 2011 THROUGH THE EARLY TEENS

Membership exceeded 1400 by 2011. After considerable debate, analysis, and research, the Editorial Review Committee, led by their technology-savvy Chair David Sivyver, recommended that *City Trees* move to a fully digital format. The Board concurred based on member support and the cost: benefit advantage of digital publishing. This was a difficult decision thanks to members' strong and ongoing affection for this iconic member benefit. The January/February 2011 edition was the last to be conventionally printed and mailed. The new digital format offered exciting opportunities for full color production, multi-device compatibility, website hyperlinks, archiving and browsing of past issues, easy sharing, international transportability, and enhanced advertising services.

City Trees regularly featured stories from affiliated partners including state urban forestry coordinators and utility arborists. A series of stories explaining i-Tree also caught readers' attention. The Municipal membership category was added to the existing categories of Professional, Senior, Student, Affiliate, and Corporate. Municipal membership provided one voting membership and five non-voting memberships per community. MFI 2011 returned to Nebraska City for a stimulating week of professional development. Executive Director LaHaie traveled to the ISA Conference in Australia to support the SMA Professional Affiliates' Day, and to strengthen ties with SMA Australia members.

The 2011 SMA conference was hosted by Milwaukee WI. The 3rd Annual UFF Fun Run, Walk, or Watch was to follow a scenic route along the lakefront, with sand volleyball waiting at the finish line. However, a pounding rain on the day of the event necessitated a change in plans. Participants thus ran up and down the conference center's parking garage repeatedly, testing their endurance on a very vertical course. Fortunately, vehicular traffic was light.

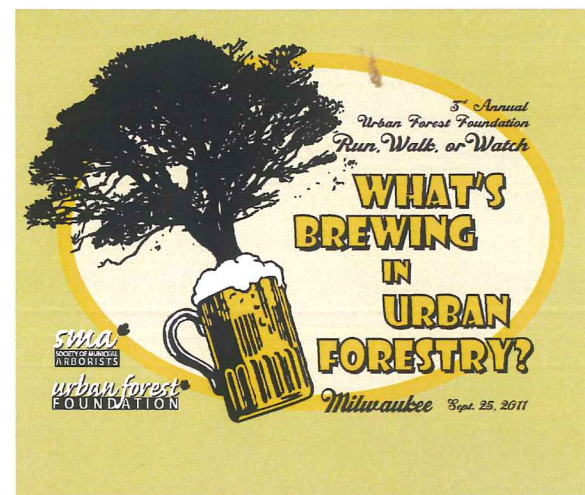


Figure 14: UFF Fun Run T-shirt design by Steve Shurtz, 2011.

Also in Milwaukee, delegates had the chance to hear reports from the five interns placed with various cities across the US and Canada as part of the new SMA Intern Program. The program was developed by a committee and supported with a grant from the USFS. The students (from various universities) had rich learning experiences with their summer hosts, and did a great job speaking at the conference. The SMA Tree of the Year ('Accolade' elm) was announced by means of an inspired musical performance at the banquet by Doug and the Treetops. Due to subsequent audience demands for encores, it would not be their last such performance.

By the September conference, the Board decided to experiment with conference partnerships again by merging the 2012 SMA conference into the relatively new Partners in Community Forestry Conference. The goals were to provide a wider set of contacts and opportunities for SMA members, and to get the SMA message out to the more diverse mix of urban forestry advocates and professionals represented at the Partners event. Veteran SMA member Walt Warriner was appointed to represent urban forestry interests on NUCFAC.

In 2012, John McNeil, the SMA's second Canadian president, took the helm. *City Trees* featured stories by the 2011 crop of interns. Back issues were available digitally on the SMA website. The 2012 SMA Intern Program placed 10 students from numerous schools with SMA hosts/mentors, and the program was a big success for all involved. The students again presented short reports at the SMA Conference, which immediately preceded the Partners in Community Forestry Conference (organized by the Arbor Day Foundation) in Sacramento, CA. The cross pollination between conferences was encouraging.

The host hotel was across the street from the California State Capitol & grounds, which provided a beautiful start to the UFF Fun Run, Walk, or Watch. The course became more urban as it proceeded, and the finish line was in an outdoor shopping mall. Participants were able to join revelers at the first MFI Reunion, hosted by a local watering hole. In another first, the SMA Conference educational sessions were live cast online, enabling members unable to travel to take advantage of the content without leaving home. The awards banquet featured a new award – the Legacy Project of the Year, which was presented to the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Forestry for their Ash Removal and Canopy Restoration Grant Program.



Figure 15: Promo for the first conference live cast, 2012.



Figure 16: Urban Forestry Best Management Practices brochures, 2012.

In addition to supporting the SMA Conference and the ISA Conference PA Day, the SMA also became a partner in the 2012 Canadian Urban Forestry Conference, held in London, ON. The highly regarded MFI 2012 drew another enthusiastic group of students to Nebraska City, NE.

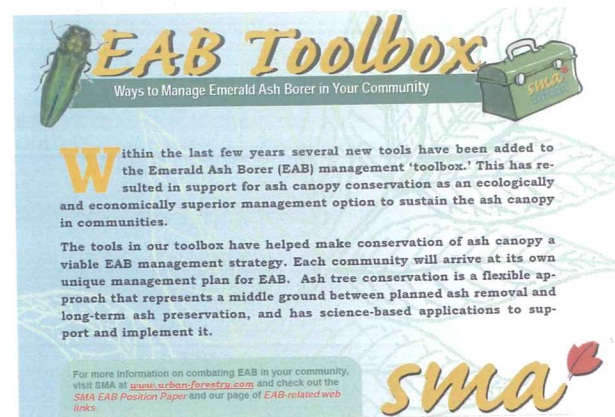


Figure 17: Promo for the first conference live cast, 2012.

The Past Presidents' Council produced the SMA's first position paper on Emerald Ash Borer Management with Gene Hyde and Steve Cothrel as lead authors, and also assembled an EAB tool box for members. The paper did not recommend any one strategy, but urged all communities to rely on the leadership of their city forester/arborist and to develop a plan prior to infestation. Another *ad hoc* committee developed a series of Best Management Practices brochures with funding help from a USFS grant. The colorful brochures addressed the topics of (a) why trees are important in a community; (b) where trees fit into communities; and (c) who manages the trees in a community.

Near the end of 2012, Hurricane Sandy dealt the eastern US quite a blow, and members again collaborated with colleagues to clean up and repair damage. The wide spread power outages and images of devastation were becoming more and more familiar to everyone thanks to the fast and visceral reporting by national news media following derechos (hurricane strength straight-line winds), ice storms, tornados, and other natural disasters of the past few years.

During 2013, *City Trees* continued to feature many international stories, including ongoing reports from the participants of the Arborist Exchange Program. Roundtable articles also remained popular, allowing numerous members to weigh in on the topic *du jour*. Stories on trees and gardens as storm water management tools and on invasive pests also made repeat appearances.

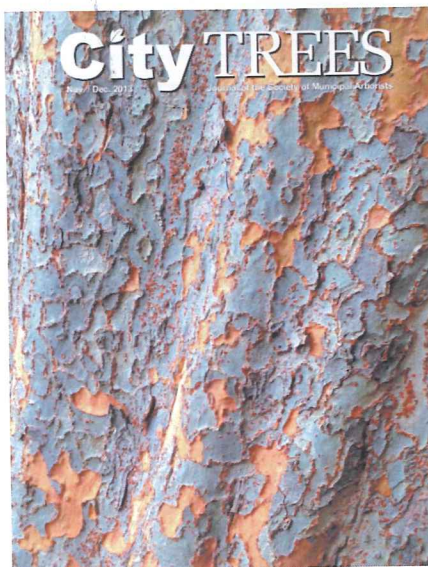


Figure 18: *City Trees* cover, Nov./Dec. 2013.

The 2013 class of 10 interns impressed everyone, serving with mentors across the northern hemisphere. They again presented at the SMA Conference which was held in (and live cast from) Pittsburgh PA in affiliation with the Partners in Community Forestry Conference. The riverfront location offered a stunning sunset course that crossed two iconic bridges for the UFF Fun Run, Walk, or Watch. Michele Palmer won the race with ease, despite taking a wrong turn and detour in the home stretch.

Also in Pittsburgh, for the first time all of the newly elected board members were MFI graduates (and were seated on a board dominated by MFI grads). Rachel Barker accepted the President's gavel, becoming the first woman to serve a full term in that post.



Figure 19: SMA 50th anniversary logo, designed by Steve Shurtz, 2014.

She and the Board immediately began planning for 2014, a momentous year for SMA, as 2014 marked the 50th anniversary of the organization. A 50th anniversary celebration committee was formed, along with a history committee charged with updating the very document that you are now reading.

The MFI class of 2014 experienced profound professional insights during their memorable week of February in Nebraska under the guidance of the dedicated MFI teaching cadre. The 50th annual conference was scheduled for Charlotte, NC and again segued into the Partners in Community Forestry Conference.

The early teens saw steady membership numbers.

Year	2011	2012	2013	2014
Membership	1198	1250	1166	

As of 2014, the following statements guided the SMA:

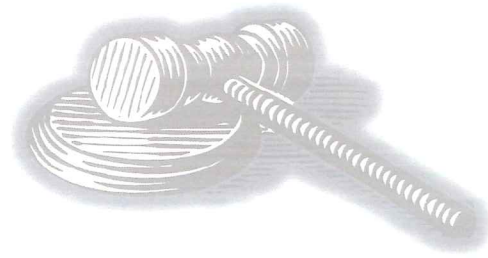
SMA Mission: Leading the world in building the confidence, competence, and camaraderie of the family of professionals who create and sustain community forests.

SMA Vision: Increased resources and support for community forestry worldwide.

SMA Objectives:

- To promote and improve the practice of professional municipal arboriculture.
- To stimulate greater interest in the planting and presentation of shade trees and landscape plants.
- To promote public awareness of the beautification of urban areas through proper arboricultural practices.
- To recommend and uphold a Code of Ethics.
- To initiate and support scientific investigation of problems concerned with municipal arboriculture.
- To sponsor an annual meeting and trade show devoted to the presentation and exchange of information of value to arboriculture.

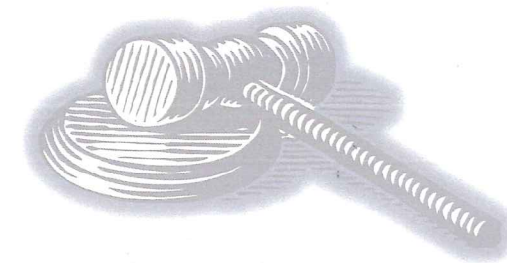
To be continued...



APPENDIX A SMA OFFICERS, STAFF, AND BOARD 1964 - 2014

SMA PRESIDENTS AND VICE-PRESIDENTS		
YEAR	PRESIDENT	VICE-PRESIDENT
1964-65	Frank E. Karpick	Robert Metz
1966	Frank E. Karpick	Robert Metz
1967	Earl A. Blankenship	Robert C. McConnell
1968	Earl A. Blankenship	James T. Oates
1969	Emilio L. Fontana	Peter Childs
1970	Emilio L. Fontana	Peter Childs
1971	Robert S. Miller	Darrel C. Middlewood
1972	Robert S. Miller	John G. Firsching
1973	Darrel C. Middlewood	Harold Robson
1974	Richard W. Boers	Floyd Roberts
1975	Richard W. Boers	Joseph H. Plante, Jr.
1976	Joseph H. Plante, Jr.	Edwin S. Drabek
1977	Edwin S. Drabek	Thomas Eaton
1978	Edwin S. Drabek	Thomas Eaton
1979	Alex Wynstra, Jr.	Robert A. Cool
1980	Alex Wynstra, Jr.	Richard Meyer
1981	Richard Meyer	John Gall
1982	Paul Blumhardt	John Gall
1983	Paul Blumhardt	Carl Holmes
1984	Robert Cool	Carl Holmes
1985	Robert Cool	Ed Olsen, Jr.
1986	Ed Olsen, Jr.	David Shaw
1987	Ed Olsen, Jr.	Dan Bruinooge
1988	David Shaw	Dan Bruinooge
1989	David Shaw	Dale Gaasland
1990	Dale Gaasland	John Sosnowski

1991	Dale Gaasland	John Sosnowski
1992	John Sosnowski	Michael Ganues
1993	John Sosnowski	Michael Ganues
1994	Michael Ganues	Robert Benjamin
1995	Michael Ganues	Robert Benjamin
1996	Robert Benjamin	Jon Thompson/Jim McGannon
1997	Robert Benjamin	Jon Thompson
1998	Jon Thompson	Jim McGannon
1999	Jon Thompson	Steve Cothrel
2000	Jim McGannon	Andy Hillman
2001	Steve Shurtz	Steve Cothrel
2002	Paul Dykema	Steve Cothrel
2003	Steve Cothrel	Steve Shurtz
2004	Steve Shurtz	Judith O'Connor
2005	Judith O'Connor / Lloyd Burrige	Andy Hillman
2006	Lloyd Burrige	Andy Hillman
2007	Andy Hillman	George Gonzalez
2008	George Gonzalez	Dan Hartman
2009	Dan Hartman	Gene Hyde
2010	Gene Hyde	Doug Still
2011	Doug Still	John McNeil
2012	John McNeil	Nick Kuhn
2013	Nick Kuhn	Rachel Barker
2014	Rachel Barker	David Lefcourt



**EXECUTIVE SECRETARY,
SECRETARY-TREASURER
or EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

CITY TREES EDITOR

Edward Scanlon
Secretary-Treasurer 1964-1976

Edward Scanlon
1972-1985

June Scanlon
Secretary-Treasurer 1976-1978
Treasurer 1978-1981

June Scanlon
1976-1978

Robert Miller
Secretary 1978-1981
Executive Secretary 1981-1984

Robert Miller
1978-1981

Dale Gasland
Executive Secretary 1984-1988

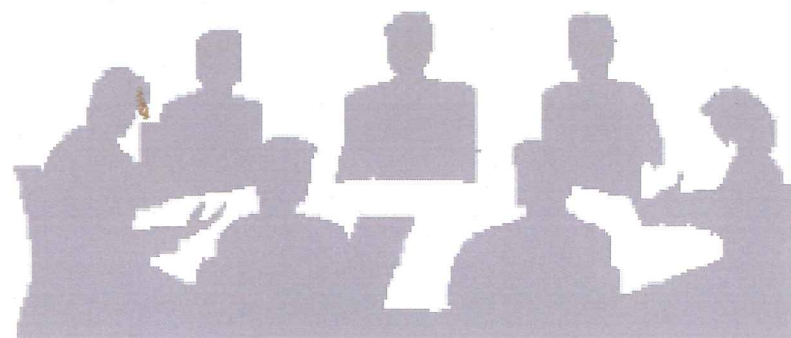
Ed Olsen
1982-1985

Norma Bonham
Executive Secretary 1988-2001
Executive Director 2001-2002

Leonard Phillips
1985-2005

Jerri LaHaie
Executive Director 2002 - present

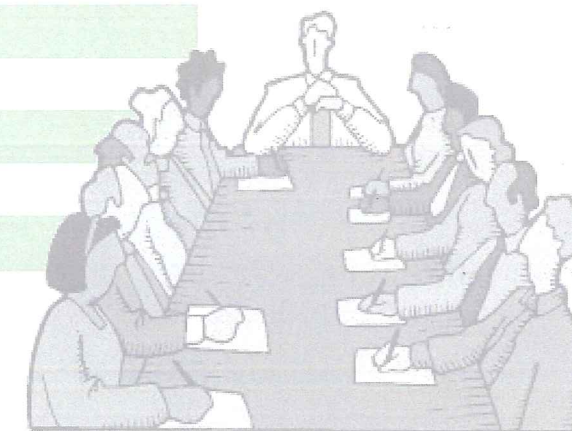
Michelle (Buckstrup) Sutton
2005-present



SMA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EXECUTIVE BOARD) MEMBERS

(in approximate chronologic order)

Robert S. Miller	Paul Blumhardt	Doug Still
Arthur A. English	David Shaw	George Gonzalez
Darrel C. Middlewood	Robert Cool	Gordon Mann
James T. Oates	Bruce Vawter	Don Goulding
Victor J. Jarm	Dan Bruinooge	Gene Hyde
John G. Firsching	Robert Benjamin	Paula Chope
Edward J. Schrader	Michael McNamara	John McNeil
Jacob Gerling	Eric Faaborg	Tami Sadonoja
Joseph H. Plante, Jr.	Skip Kincaid	Nick Kuhn
Loring E. Clark	Mike Mosher	Chris Pargoff
Frederick C. Burk	Rick Tagtow	David Sivyer
Dennis Ceplecha	John Sosnowski	Henry Wallace
Ralph Vaverka	Michael Ganues	David Bienemann
Edwin S. Drabek	Dan Veresh	Peggy Drescher
Richard W. Boers	Jon Thompson	Lance Davisson
William Hartman	Bailey Hudson	Tom Hoerth
Harold Robson	Steve Cothrel	David Lefcourt
Floyd Roberts	Stephen King	John McNeil
Robert Streji	Andy Hillman	Steve Shurtz
F. Phillip Neuman	Bob Slack	Joe Benassini
Alex Wynstra	Owen Croy	Jeremy Barrick
Leroy H List, Jr.	Stephen Shurtz	
Dante Dell'oroso	Paul Dykema	
Richard Meyer	Dan Hartman	
John T. Gall	Judith O'Connor	
Gerald LaRue	Lloyd Burrige	
Edward Olsen, Jr.	Rachel Barker (Buice)	



APPENDIX B AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS 1964 - 2013



Award of Merit

The Award of Merit, the highest honor the Society can bestow, is to recognize outstanding meritorious services in advancing the principals, ideals, and practices of arboriculture and is presented to one who has contributed materially to the promotion of the Society. The Award shall be granted only to members of the Society who have made material contributions to the advancement of arboriculture either through internal organization, general research, invention, promotion, or field practice. The Award of Merit is not awarded every year.

AWARD OF MERIT RECIPIENTS

1975	RICHARD BOERS	1992	LEONARD E. PHILLIPS, JR.
1980	ALEX WYNSTRA	1993	CHRISTOPHER CARLSON
1981	JUNE SCANLON	1999	NORMA BONHAM
1984	ROBERT S. MILLER	2000	JEFF ILES
1985	PAUL BLUMHARDT	2001	ROBERT COOL
1985	ROBERT COOL	2002	NINA BASSUK
1985	RAYMOND E. BLAIR	2004	ANDY HILLMAN
1987	ED OLSEN, JR.	2005	GENE HYDE
1988	DALE GAASLAND	2006	BOB BENJAMIN
1988	JOHN SOSNOWSKI	2007	STEVE SHURTZ
1989	DAVID SHAW	2008	MICHELLE SUTTON
1989	DAN BRUINOOGUE	2009	TAMI SADONOJA
1989	KEN BEATTIE	2010	JOHN GIEDRAITIS
1990	MICHAEL GANUES	2011	OWEN CROY
1991	DALE GAASLAND	2012	DR. JIM CLARK
1991	JOHN SOSNOWSKI	2013	WALTER WARRINER
1991	DONALD GANE		

Award of Achievement

The Award of Achievement may be granted to any individual or firm who has, through specific projects or programs, contributed to the advancement of the use and/or maintenance of shade trees and other landscape plants. The person or firm being considered for this award is recognized for outstanding accomplishments during recent years.

AWARD OF ACHIEVEMENT RECIPIENTS

1988	DR. ALEX SHIGO	2005	STEVE COTHREL
1996	JOHN ROSENOW	2006	MARK BUSCAINO
1997	WILLIAM KRUIDENIER	2007	JENNY GULICK
1998	DICK & SUE ABBOTT	2008	DR. GREG MCPHERSON
1999	JON THOMPSON	2009	LANCE DAVISSON
2000	DAVE SHAW	2010	DAVID SIVYER
2001	DAVE DRAPER	2011	IAN HANOU
2002	THOMAS SMILEY	2012	GORDON MANN
2003	BOB COOL	2013	PAUL RIES
2004	DOUG STILL		

Honorary Membership

Honorary Membership shall be limited to individuals who are not members of the Society, to recognize those individuals who have shown continued interest and who have given outstanding service in promoting arboriculture. Recipients will have given material contributions to the advancement of arboriculture either through research, field practice, promotion, invention, or literature.

HONORARY MEMBERSHIP RECIPIENTS

2000	GORDON KING	2009	DR. KATHLEEN WOLF
2001	FRANK SANTAMOUR	2010	DR. DAVID BLONIARZ
2003	ELAINE POLACHEK	2011	DR. J. MORGAN GROVE
2004	GARY JOHNSON	2012	DR. DAN HERMS
2006	GREG MCPHERSON	2013	LISA CEOFFE

Honorary Life Membership

Honorary Life Membership shall be granted only to members of the Society who have contributed materially and substantially to the progress of arboriculture and have given unselfishly of their efforts in supporting and promoting the objectives of the Society over time.

HONORARY LIFE MEMBERSHIP RECIPIENTS

1965	JUNE SCANLLON	1994	RONALD MORROW
1967	EDGAR G. REX	1995	BAILEY HUDSON
1968	DR. JOHN A. WEIDHASS	1996	RICHARD RIDEOUT
1978	JAKE GERLING	1997	JACK KIMMEL
1978	FRANK E. KARPICK	1997	ROBERT NOBLES
1983	DAVID SHAW	1999	LEONARD PHILLIPS
1984	ROBERT S. MILLER	2000	PAUL BLUMHARDT
1984	MARTIN E. BENUM	2001	MIKE GANUES
1985	JERRY PRESLEY	2002	DICK ABBOTT
1986	ROBERT SKIERA	2003	BOB BENJAMIN
1987	DAVE DEVOTO	2004	NORMA BONHAM SCHECHTER
1988	PHIL HOFER	2006	STEVE SHURTZ
1989	HAL ROBSON	2007	STEVE COTHREL
1989	ERWIN PAGE	2008	LLOYD BURRIDGE
1989	JAMES EVANS	2010	ANDY HILLMAN
1990	JOHN MORELL	2011	BOB COOL
1991	DENNIS CEPLECHA	2012	GENE HYDE
1992	JAMES ROCCA	2013	DOUG STILL
1993	KEN OTTMAN		

Service to SMA / President's Award of Appreciation

Given annually at the discretion of the sitting SMA President.

SERVICE TO SMA / PRESIDENT'S AWARD OF APPRECIATION RECIPIENTS

1991	MICHAEL GANUES	2006	DON SADLER
1992	DANIEL OSTRANDER	2006	RACHEL BARKER (BUICE)
1993	STEVE BYLINA	2006	DOUG STILL
1993	JOHN SOSNOWSKI	2006	DAVEY RESOURCE GROUP
1995	GENE HYDE	2007	STAN OKA
1995	JOHN THOMASON	2007	PATRICK CHING
1995	MICHAEL GANUES	2007	SCOTT MACO
1997	BOB BENJAMIN	2007	JENNIFER STATZ
1997	STEVE SHURTZ	2007	PAULA CHOPE
1997	MICHAEL GANUES	2007	GENE HYDE
1997	RALPH SIEVERT	2007	JERRI LAHAIE
1998	ROB EMMETT	2008	DREW POTOKI
1999	OWEN CROY	2008	MIKE PALAT
2000	PAUL DYKEMA	2008	LYNETTE SHORT
2000	JIM MCGANNON	2008	WALT WARRINER
2001	SCOTT LIUDAHL	2009	ANDY HILLMAN
2001	STEVE SHURTZ	2009	GEORGE GONZALEZ
2001	NORMA BONHAM	2009	BOB BENJAMIN
2002	DOUG STILL	2010	KEITH KLINE
2002	ANDY HILLMAN	2010	DAN HARTMAN
2002	PAUL DYKEMA	2010	JEFF SHIMONSKI (Author's Citation)
2003	OWEN CROY	2011	GENE HYDE
2003	LEN PHILLIPS	2011	GORDON MANN (Author's Citation)
2004	DON SADLER	2011	DICK MEYER (Pioneer Recognition)
2004	PAUL DYKEMA	2012	BOB BENJAMIN
2005	LEN PHILLIPS	2013	STEVE SHURTZ

Legacy Project of the Year

Begun in 2012, the Legacy project of the year recognizes a community, agency, or organization that has raised public awareness of, and appreciation for, urban trees. The project must demonstrate innovation, partnerships, and community engagement. It should also include an ISA Certified Municipal Specialist, and promote and implement best management practices such as interdisciplinary cooperation, low maintenance design, or enhanced biodiversity that enhance the long-term sustainability of the urban forest.

LEGACY PROJECT OF THE YEAR RECIPIENTS

2012 OHIO DIVISION OF FORESTRY: Ash Removal and Canopy Restoration Grant Program

2013 CITY OF PITTSBURGH and TREES PITTSBURGH for their Pittsburgh Urban Forest Master Plan

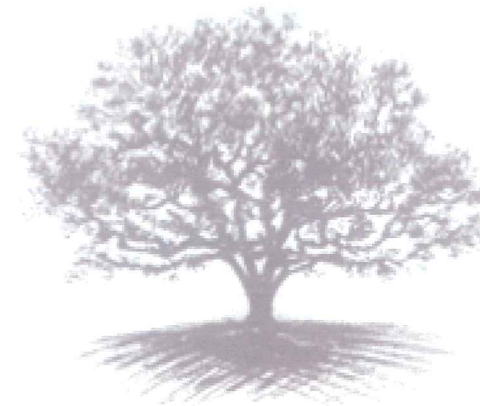
SMA Municipal Accreditation

The SMA Accreditation Program is a peer-reviewed program that formally recognizes urban and community forestry programs for implementing excellent and comprehensive management practices.



SMA ACCREDITED MUNICIPAL FORESTRY PROGRAMS

1990 Town of Wellesley, MA	2006 Village of Downer's Grove, IL
1990 City of Modesto, CA	2009 City of Aspen, CO
1991 City of Chicago, IL	2009 Village of Glencoe, IL
1991 Village of Oak Park, IL	2010 City of Atlanta, GA
1991 City of Lansing, MI	2010 City of Arlington, TX
1992 City of Toledo, OH	2012 City of Sacramento, CA
1993 City of Boise, ID	2012 City of Upper Arlington, OH
1995 Village of Mt. Prospect, IL	2013 City of Homewood, IL
2000 Borough of Wyomissing, PA	2014 Village of Mount Prospect, IL
2001 City of Ithaca, NY	



SMA Urban Tree of the Year

Originally chosen by *City Trees* Editor, Len Phillips, and now selected by vote of the SMA membership, the Urban Tree of the Year represents a particular species, variety or cultivar that possesses qualities making it a valuable choice for use in urban planting environments.

SMA URBAN TREE OF THE YEAR SELECTIONS

1996 Princeton Sentry® Ginkgo	2005 'Chanticleer' Flowering Pear
1997 'Ivory Silk' Japanese Lilac Tree	2006 Kentucky Coffeetree
1998 Swamp White Oak	2007 Baldcypress
1999 'Skyline' Honeylocust	2008 Black Tupelo
2000 'Redmond' Linden	2009 Chinkapin Oak
2001 Bur Oak	2010 Goldenrain Tree
2002 Heritage® River Birch	2011 Accolade® Elm
2003 'Allee'® Lacebark Elm	2012 Live Oak
2004 Autumn Blaze® Red/Freeman Maple	2013 'Vanessa' Persian Parrotia



APPENDIX C

SMA ANNUAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES 1964 - 2014



#	LOCATION	DATES	ATTENDANCE	HOST
1	Philadelphia, PA	Sept. 30 - Oct. 2, 1965	40	Robert McConnell
2	Rochester, NY	Oct. 6-8, 1966	39	Jake Gerling
3	Richmond, VA	Oct. 4-7, 1967	45	James Oates
4	Dayton, OH	October 2-4, 1968	70	Robert Miller
5	Providence, RI	Oct. 1-3, 1969	80	Joseph Plante
6	Middlebury Hts., OH	Oct. 6-10, 1970	73	Ralph Veverka/Ed Scanlon
7	Asbury Park, NJ	Oct. 6-8, 1971	71	David Shaw
8	Buffalo, NY	Oct. 4-6, 1972	78	Edwin Drabek/Paul Eastbury
9	Flint, MI	Oct. 3-5, 1973	108	Thomas Tapp
10	Chicago, IL	Sept. 29-Oct. 2, 1974	91	John Morell
11	Hartford, CT	Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 1975	90	Victor Jarm
12	Toledo, OH	Oct. 5-8, 1976	40	Richard Boers
13	Fort Dodge, IA	Oct. 4-7, 1977	14	Art Davis/Roland McKay
14	Portland, OR	Oct. 3-6, 1978	80	Alex Wynstra/Lyle Hintz
15	Wichita, KS	Oct. 1-3, 1979	40	Carl Holmes
16	Bismarck, ND	Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 1980	55	Paul Blumhardt
17	Milwaukee, WI	Sept. 27-30, 1981	100	Richard Meyer
18	Dayton, OH	Oct. 6-9, 1982	69	Lash LaRue
19	East Lansing, MI	Sept. 25-28, 1983	89	Robert Cool
20	Freehold, NJ	Sept. 30-Oct. 3, 1984	78	David Shaw
21	Chicago, IL	Sept. 22-25, 1985	75	Robert Benjamin
22	St. Louis, MO	Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 1986	65	Bruce Vawter
23	Waterloo, IA	Oct. 25-28, 1987	32	Rick Tagtow
24	Detroit, MI	Oct. 16-19, 1988	126	John Sosnowski

SMA ANNUAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES (continued)

#	LOCATION	DATES	ATTENDANCE	HOST
25	Regina, SK, Can.	Sept. 10-13, 1989	95	Daniel Bruinooge, Ken Beattie
26	Toledo, OH	Oct. 7-10, 1990	88	Michael Ganues
27	Niagara Falls, NY	Sept. 22-25, 1991	52	Donald Gane
28	Aberdeen, SD	Sept. 20-23, 1992	38	Daniel Ostrander
29	Chicago, IL	Sept. 26-29, 1993	105	Steven Bylina
30	Seattle, WA	Oct. 2-6, 1994	134	Jerry Clark
31	Chattanooga, TN	Sept. 24-27, 1995	95	Gene Hyde/John Thomason
32	Minneapolis, MN	Sept. 22-25, 1996	97	Ralph Sievert
33	Baton Rouge, LA	Sept. 28-Oct. 1, 1997	65	Steve Shurtz
34	St. Louis, MO	Sept. 27-Oct. 1, 1998	97	Rob Emmert
35	Vancouver, BC, Can	Sept. 19-22, 1999	127	Owen Croy
36	Lansing, MI	Oct. 1-4, 2000	180	Paul Dykema
37	Fargo, ND	Oct. 22-24, 2001	75	Scott Liudahl
38	Ithaca, NY	Oct. 13-16, 2002	145	Andy Hillman
39	Santa Monica, CA	Oct. 5-8, 2003		Walt Warriner
40	Denver, CO	Oct. 3-6, 2004		Jim McGannon
41	Windsor, ON, Can.	Sept. 18-21, 2005		Lloyd Burrige
42	Asheville, NC	Oct. 1-4, 2006		Mark Foster
43	Hollywood, FL	Sept. 16-19, 2007		Don Goulding
44	San Diego, CA	Oct. 12-15, 2008		Walt Warriner & Team
45	Savannah, GA	Oct. 4-7, 2009		Bill Haws & Staff
46	Albuquerque, NM	Sept. 3-6, 2010		Nick Kuhn
47	Milwaukee, WI	Sept. 25-28, 2011		David Sivyer
48	Sacramento, CA	Nov. 12-14, 2012		Joe Benassini
49	Pittsburgh, PA	Nov. 4-5, 2013		Lisa Ceoffe, Matt Erb, Pam Louks
50	Charlotte, NC	Nov. 3-4, 2014		Nick Kuhn



APPENDIX D MUNICIPAL ARBORIST EXCHANGE PARTICIPANTS

Municipal Arborist Exchange

Designed to foster communication and the exchange of ideas and techniques among municipal practitioners worldwide, the Municipal Arborist Exchange Program allows fellow arborists to visit and learn from their peers in other cities around the globe.

YEAR	SPONSOR	
2003	SPONSOR: ACRT, Inc.	
	Shirl McMayon	Chicago, IL
	Felix Barends	Cape Town, South Africa
	William Diedrichs	Ft. Wayne, IN
	Mike Esson	Wellington City, New Zealand
2004	SPONSOR: SMA	
	Thomas Hoerth	Bath, ME
	Mark Minkley	Bath, England
	Sarah Anderson	Charlotte, NC
	Tami Sadonoja	Hamilton, ON, Canada
2005	SPONSOR: Altec Industries, Inc.	
	Ainsley Caldwell	Washington, DC
	Bill Stephen	Vancouver, BC, Canada
	Wendi Crabill	Lebanon, OH
	Jude O'Connor	Denver, CO
	Shawn Dickerson	Evansville, IN
	John McNeil	Oakville, ON, Canada
2006	SPONSORS: Amereq, Inc., Asplundh Tree Expert Company, and City of Windsor, ON, Canada (Silent Auction)	
	Scott Wheeler	Newport, RI
	Andy McCutcheon	Guernsey, UK

MUNICIPAL ARBORIST EXCHANGE PARTICIPANTS (continued)

YEAR	SPONSOR	
2007	SPONSOR: City of Asheville, NC (Silent Auction)	
	Aurelio Magezzini Welland	Ontario, Canada
	Winfried Funke Bottrop	Germany
	Matthew Wells	New York City, NY
	George Gonzalez	Los Angeles, CA
2008	SPONSOR: City of Hollywood, FL (Silent Auction)	
	Lisa Olson	Cheyenne, WY
	Lena Marion	Ljubjana, Slovenia
2009	SPONSOR: Davey Resource Group & City of San Diego, CA (Silent Auction)	
	Delia B. Juncal	Oceanside, CA
2010	SPONSORS: Davey Resource Group & City of Savannah, GA (Silent Auction)	
	David Sivyer	Milwaukee, WI
	Gian Michele Ciruli	Turin, Italy
2011	SPONSORS: Asplundh Tree Expert Company & City of Albuquerque, NM (Silent Auction)	
	Joe Benassini	Sacramento & San Francisco, CA
	Flavio Pereira Telles	Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
2013	SPONSORS: City of Sacramento, CA (Silent Auction)	
	John Saylor	Lexington, KY
	Simon Wallace	Kildare County, Ireland

