

## Branching Throughout Minnesota

# The Arborescence

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE MINNESOTA SOCIETY OF ARBORICULTURE

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Winter 2006

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### '07 Arborist Exams

January 12  
St. Louis Park

February 16  
Rochester

April (first week)  
St. Paul

June  
Minneapolis

September 28  
Braham

November 9  
Andover



Your MSA representatives on the 2006 Tour des Trees- Paul Buck (left), Jim Zwack (right) Brian Asmus (not pictured)

## TREE FUND BUDDIES

Thoughts From a Rider

With over 60 riders, this article could be from any one of them. But Paul Buck jotted down a few notes about this 570 mile

adventure. From "Up North" to Minneapolis, there were the "grueling days, sweaty clothes & sore bodies".

This absolute blast made many lifetime friends from within the experiences they shared. How-

ever, "what happens on that ride, stays on that ride". Not more to say except the words escaped them when trying to describe their feelings after reaching their final destination (Loring Park).

Relief, pride, sadness, fatigue and thankfulness it was over were just a few. Except most importantly, a huge thank you to everyone who supported us, financially & emotionally.

If you've ever thought of participating, get a hold of one of the riders for pointers & encouragement. And remember, MSA will financially support you with some seed money to get you started for the N. California ride in 2007!

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*President's message, Paul Buck*

**It's the midpoint of my presidency and I want to look to the past, the present & the future.**

This past year was like no other year in the history of MSA. We hosted the International Conference without missing a beat on all our other events. Events such as EHAP, TCC, Festival of Trees, Day of Service, Certification exams & Fall conference were only accomplished with the dedicated volunteers of this organization. That we continued our tradition of outstanding local events/programs while adding an intensive International conference (which took every ounce of our volunteer efforts) is a huge organizational accomplishment. A special well-deserved corporate thank you to the following;

S & S Tree & Horticultural Specialists for hosting the Commercial day events,

MPRB Forestry for hosting the Municipal day events, and

Rainbow Treecare for sponsoring the Opening Reception.

Presently the Executive Committee is updating the MSA constitution & bylaws along with MSA goals & objectives. Please contact any EC member with your ideas, dreams and visions for the future of MSA. It's your organization and we need your help to maintain our position as the premier arboriculture organization in MN. Capturing the volunteer spirit and increasing member participation is my personal overall goal for this second half.

The future looks bright for this organization. Membership is increasing each year. Membership packets will be distributed in 2007 after a long absence. We are expanding our educational outreach efforts with programs in Cloquet/Duluth and Redwood Falls/Marshall. But much needs to be done to educate the general public about the importance of our chosen profession. That's were MSA needs your support & help. Each of you has creative ideas and unique experiences to share with other members. Please consider volunteering for one of the committees. Most are not year long commitments, but rather short, event-related commitments. Remember, many hands make the workload light.

It's hard to believe that my first year is already ending. Note to Don Mueller: Your time is coming sooner than you can imagine! In every event, I've seen the strong passion of our members and for that I'm eternally grateful to lead this organization. Only with your continued support and volunteering can we make even bigger strides to make our passionate voices heard.

**Remember, Trees are good & Fun is good!**



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# THE TREE OF LIFE

There was once an old and unhappy woman who lived alone in a small house. Her life had been fraught with many disappointments. Her husband had left her with two small children to raise, she didn't have much money, and her children had grown, gone off to college, married and rarely visited.

One day she noticed that a tiny stick of a tree had pushed its way up from underneath the house's crawl space and had threaded through a small hole in the floor. The old woman took note of the tree, but didn't think it would be there long because it was weak and sickly looking. Everyday the woman checked on the sapling and expected to find it had died. She was surprised to see the tree clinging to life, in spite of its less than ideal environment.

The old woman began giving the tree a little water and a bit of plant food. She also got a neighbor of hers to remove some of the floor boards and build a little frame for the tree



so it would have room to grow. And it began to grow and unfurl in ways that the old woman could not have imagined. It grew so beautifully in the light by the picture window in the window's living room that she brought in chairs, placed them in a circle around the tree, and began inviting people in so they could enjoy the tree with her.

When people stopped by to ask about the tree, the old woman told the story of the tiny stick that pushed up out of the crawl space and through the small hole in the floor. She made friends with some of these visitors, and her life was rich and full because of it.

**Sometimes the best opportunities come from the most unexpected places.**

Have a good holiday season.

Patty Nolt, MSA Executive Director

## The SCA Day event held 2006 during the ISA was a success!

Thank you to all who attended. It was great to see and interact with everyone. The day started out as any classic Minnesota day does: unpredictable. Luckily the rain subsided and the sun came to the rescue creating a beautiful day.

The speakers were wonderful – interesting and informational. Dr. Kathy Widin spoke on Oak Wilt, Jim Zwack spoke on Chlorosis, Dr. John Ball explained major safety issues within the tree care industry, and Mark Stennes focused on Stem Girdling Roots followed by a demonstration of the Air-Spade®.

### SCA Award Winners Presentations:

- Frank Gamma won the Lifetime Achievement Award
- Ward Peterson won the SCA Arborist Award
- Frank Gifford received an appreciation plaque for being President for two years

### The following people were elected to the SCA Board:

- Steve Geist: President for the next two years
- Tom Mugridge: President-elect

- Stephen Chisholm: re-elected to the SCA board
- Jim Zwack: elected to the SCA Board
- Jim Ostvig: elected to the SCA board

Attendees were then treated to lunch and a sundae bar all while listening to the music of the "Resistors" (a local band). There was equipment to try out, demonstrations to watch and friendships to be made. All in all it was a wonderful event.

Thank you to all who made this day HOPE TO SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!

*Sincerely, S and S Tree Care and Horticulture Specialists*

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The Vineland Group

## TIDBITS OF INFORMATION

### TCC COMPETITION

For those climbers who are interested in participating in the 2007 Tree Climbing Championship, the new address for Lynn Wells is listed below. Please forward this off to people who may be interested.

[fnlynn@comcast.net](mailto:fnlynn@comcast.net)

### ADDITION

Preventing Frost Cankers/Sunscald and Frost Cracks. Wrap or No Wrap?

The article highlighted in last quarter's newsletter was written by Gary Johnson, University of MN and Rebecca Koetter?

For more information on these topics please email them at:  
[johns054@umn.edu](mailto:johns054@umn.edu)  
[band0036@umn.edu](mailto:band0036@umn.edu)

### CERTIFICATION

Questions regarding certification tests, locations, requirements and qualifications can be directed to Gail Nozal. Her email address is:

[gnozal@frontiernet.net](mailto:gnozal@frontiernet.net)

### BOARD CERTIFIED MASTER ARBORISTS

Russell Kennedy and Ben Johnson of Rainbow Treecare have recently become the November's latest Board Certified Master Arborists.

They are both ISA and MSA members.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The MSA recognized outstanding service and efforts to some very special individuals and organizations at the recent MSA Fall Conference's Awards breakfast held October 27, 2006 in Mankato, MN.



**Distinguished Service Award**  
 From Left to Right: Paul Buck, Ken Holman, and Lisa Burban

The 2006 **Distinguished Service Award** was presented to **Ken Holman** in recognition of his leadership, outstanding commitment, and years of dedicated service to the Minnesota Society of Arboriculture, and the professions of arboriculture and urban forestry.



**Award of Merit**  
 From Left to Right: Paul Buck, Mike Schmidt, and Lisa Burban

The **2006 Award of Merit** was presented to the **Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board** in recognition of their outstanding service in support of the Minnesota Society of Arboriculture as the host for the International Society of Arboriculture annual conference and trade show.

Mike Schmidt, General Manager for Operations and Recreation accepted on behalf of the Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board.



**Corporate Award of Excellence**  
 From Left to Right: Paul Buck, Greg Krogstad, and Lisa Burban

The **2006 Volunteer Service Award** was given to **Pam Darnell**, a City of Plymouth resident and Plum Tree neighborhood group leader in recognition of her vision and commitment to initiate and lead the Plum Tree neighborhood planting project. Pam was unable to attend the Awards event and will be honored at a future meeting in the City of Plymouth.

The **2006 Corporate Award of Excellence** was presented to **Rainbow Treecare** in recognition of their long-standing support and commitment to both the MSA and the profession of arboriculture. Greg Krogstad, Production Manager at Rainbow Treecare accepted on behalf of the company.

Paul Buck, presented the **2006 President's Award** to **Lisa Burban** in recognition of long-standing support and volunteer service to the mission of the MSA.



**President's Award**  
 Paul Buck and Lisa Burban

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February 20-23, 2007  
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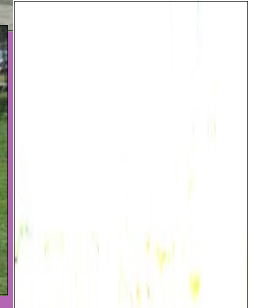
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## ISA CONFERENCE 2006

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**“Update” Tree Care Company Licensing & Regulation Task Force**

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has convened a Tree Care Company Licensing and Regulation Task Force. The objectives of the task force are to review and make recommendations on the following topics and practices: the need for the licensing, education, and training of tree care professionals; and the need for regulating employers offering tree care services or tree care operations, including the establishment of insurance and solvency protection for the public.

This has created quite an industry buzz surrounding the potential changes in how Tree Care companies might do future business in the State of MN. The Task Force has met four times and identified the perceived problems and four potential options to address the problems. The task force is researching the following four options (in no particular order):

- Create a sustainable program, based on cost-benefit analysis
- Work with existing laws & organizations
- Create an Industry-driven/oversight with partnership
- Create partnership of industry & public institutions to promote awareness of value of trees to public.

The ambitious goal is that MDA will prepare and deliver a report and list of its recommendations on behalf of the task force, not later than February 15, 2007, to the standing agriculture policy

committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives.

**Task Force Members**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Sen. Betsy Wergin	Agriculture, Veterans and Gaming Committee; Minnesota Senate
Rep. Ruth Johnson	Agriculture and Rural Development Committee; Minnesota House of Representatives
David Nordgaard	Large Tree Care Company
George Welles	Small Tree Care Company
Paul Buck	Municipalities
Gary Johnson	Minnesota Shade Tree Advisory Committee
Charles Klinefelter	Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Association
Gregory Krogstad	Minnesota/International Society of Arboriculture
Tim O'Hara	Timber Producers or Minnesota Forest Industries
Dennis Fallon	Utility Right-of Way Industry
Ken Holman	Minnesota DNR
Greg Wiese	Minnesota Department of Commerce
Terry McDill	Minnesota Department of Agriculture