

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

After months of work and anticipation we anxiously prepared our respective emergency responses to the potential wrath of Joaquin and the possible cancellation of the Annual Meeting. Luckily our region was spared and we enjoyed beautiful weather for another successful event. It is amazing to consider the effort required to pull off the MAC-ISA Annual Meeting. Only our fantastic Executive Director, Nancy Herwig, understands all the moving parts. I feel it is appropriate to begin my service as MAC-ISA President with many thanks for everyone who makes our work possible.

First of all I would like to thank the members that participate in all of our programs, you make it possible and worthwhile. The MAC-ISA staff, volunteers and committee chairs did an excellent job organizing the Annual Meeting to insure that our members had the best experience possible. Our sponsors, exhibitors and hosts provided crucial support that helps us to meet the costs of such a large event. The time, effort and knowledge the presenters shared with the attendees of the various educational sessions was much appreciated. We have a wealth

of professional expertise in our Chapter that is enviable.

Special thanks go to Keith Forry, Past President of MAC-ISA. I have enjoyed serving on the Board during Keith's leadership. His efficient, no nonsense approach was critical to maintaining an engaged Board. Our organization is strong and sound and in position to provide continued services to our members. Outgoing Board Members; Peter Deahl, Doug Petersen and Kevin Sigmon have worked hard and contributed much to the Chapter. You will be missed! The Board Members are all valuable volunteers that help make MAC-ISA a great organization. Most of them continue to volunteer after they have served their terms.

With the Board's help, and the help of our volunteer members, I would like to focus on leveraging the experience in each of our areas of practice. The Annual Meeting reminds me of the diverse membership of MAC-ISA. We are commercial arborists and consultants, utility and urban foresters, academic researchers and non-profit advocates, as well as government natural resource managers. Our

efforts often overlap and we rely on each other's expertise to accomplish our work. What I enjoy most about being an arborist and urban forester is learning from others in allied fields. This helps me strengthen my skills and results in a better product for the customer, a well maintained, functional community forest delivering all the benefits we espouse.

I invite each of you, as members of MAC-ISA, to help build our Chapter. We need your input to deliver the best programming possible. The Board and our volunteers strive to provide opportunities that keep us safe and stress the latest arboricultural Best Management Practices. Volunteers are required to execute such programming. Collaborate with your colleagues to build our capacity as arborists to deliver healthier trees for our clients, residence, neighbors and families.

*Thank you,  
Robert Corletta  
MAC-ISA President*

