



# MAC-ISA

Mid-Atlantic Chapter  
International Society of Arboriculture

**"Promoting Safety and Science in Tree Care**

# 2018 Annual Report

## **Staff Changes**

Staff changes at MAC-ISA happened in November of this year when Candance Teates, our administrative assistant, left for a full time, benefited position. After 16 plus years working part-time for MAC-ISA, she will be missed a lot, but not forgotten. Candi was originally hired to do data entry and book keeping. She was the second paid staff position. Over the years she took on other tasks, such as helping with program logistics. Many of you met her when she cheerfully greeted you at one of our programs or helped you when you called the office. Her friendly calm manner, organizational skills and dedication to MAC-ISA will be hard to replace. She will always be part of the MAC family and plans to attend the 2019 Tree Climbing Championship in Leesburg. Her job duties will be re-evaluated and probably split up and we will be hiring a part-time book keeper and also a part-time event planner in 2019.

## **Bonnie Appleton Memorial Fund**

Since we met our initial goal of \$100,000 in 2017, the first annual Bonnie Appleton Memorial Fund (BAMF) scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 was awarded by the TREE Fund in 2018 to Rebecca Sara Pobst at Michigan State University. Unfortunately there were no applications from any students at the great universities in our membership area and thus it went to the deserving student who applied! The purpose of this Fund is to provide scholarships for students majoring in urban forestry, arboriculture, horticulture, or nursery management. We continued with the Annual Meeting Golf Tournament, as well as the Motorcycle Ride benefitting the BAMF to increase the amount of future scholarships. The TREE Fund is accepted applications from January 15, 2019 to March 15, 2019. We are hoping that students from our Chapter area will be applying for this scholarship.

## **TREE Fund Support**

Wayne Noll, Elise Polydoroff and Doug Petersen put together a wonderful Golf Tournament at the

Annual Meeting, which raised \$2100 for the TREE Fund. This year we had 32 players! Gary Mallow and Chris Klimas organized another Motorcycle Ride, which raised \$2000. We had a record number of 7 riders this year. Special thanks to Lewis Tree, Columbia Union Conference and Davey Tree for sponsoring the ride. All in all, our Chapter donated almost \$11,000 to the TREE Fund in 2018 through our annual fundraisers the golf tournament, Motorcycle Ride, a raffle at the Day of Safety and direct donations.

## **Commitment to Safety – MAC-ISA Day of Safety**

The 9th Annual Day of Safety (DOS) was held June 16th at the Northern Virginia Community College in Sterling, VA and was a big success. We went back to a Saturday date and over 110 people registered (including speakers) representing 50 different companies/organizations and 5 states. The evaluations were very good with lots of ideas for future topics. It was wonderful to see such a commitment to safety! Special thanks to our speakers Don Blair, Steve Connally, Andrew Dunavant, Ron Muir, Rob Springer and Rachel Griesmer-Zakhar. Also a Thank You” to the Day of Safety Committee Members; Toni Woods, Sue Dickson, Andrew Dunavant, Steve Connally, Don Blair and Candance Teates. Much appreciation to our DOS volunteer extraordinaire and MAC-ISA board member, Doug Petersen, for all his continued support.

We were fortunate to have Blair’s Equipment as our cash sponsor and Treestuff as our prize sponsor plus all the speakers donated their time and talents. Planning is underway for the 2019 Day of Safety to be held June 15th in Maryland. Other accomplishments with a focus on safety have been dedicated safety articles in *Canopy Coverage*, and a focus on safety at all of our events. The Board continues to apply our adopted safety policy to make sure all safety standards are followed at our hosted events.



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## **Tree Climbing Championship (TCC)**

Jerry Langham and Donnie Osborn co-chaired the 2018 Chapter TCC event, which was held on April 14 and hosted by American University in Washington DC. Together with Steve Castrogiovanni, Head Judge, they worked hard to put together a championship of over 60 volunteers, including a dedicated team of judges 15 major sponsors and 10 exhibitors, and 40 competitors (35 men and 5 women) representing 18 different companies. Chris Coates, Advanced Arboriculture and Jocelyn Lohse, Riverside Outfitters, were the Chapter Champions. Chris represented the Chapter at the ITCC in Columbus, Ohio on August of 2018. New this year at our TCC was the fact that we invited two top climbers from outside of our chapter to compete in preliminary events; Jeff Inman from the Southern Chapter and Josephine Hedger who has been the women's world champion and hails from the UK.

Also new this year was the fact that we tied the Field Arborist of the Year Award to the TCC and handed out the award for the first time at the TCC. Field Arborist of the Year Award for 2018 went to Billy Painter.

## **MAC-ISA on the worldwide web**

MAC-ISA continued to update their new website that was launched in 2017. We have enjoyed the updated design and have had good feedback. Registration for events on our website has been well received and has been easier for staff and registrants. MAC-ISA continued its social media presence in 2018 with our Facebook page. We continue to post upcoming events and things of interest to the community as it becomes available.

## **GoodTreeCare.com**

The [www.goodtreecare.com](http://www.goodtreecare.com) website, listing the professional services of ISA Certified Arborists who are MAC-ISA members to the general public, has reached a plateau despite our outreach effort. The site is definitely underutilized by our members.

## **2018 Annual Meeting**

The Planning committee with annual meeting chair Jenny Willoughby worked hard to make the 40<sup>th</sup> MAC-ISA Annual Meeting at the Clarion Inn and Conference Center in Frederick MD a success. It started on Sunday, Oct. 7<sup>th</sup> with the TREE Fund fundraisers: The Motorcycle Ride and the Golf Tournament at the Clustered Spires Golf Club. All events were a lot of fun and raised money for the Bonnie Appleton Memorial Fund. Monday had a great line up of informative speakers at our field day at Hood College, and the campus provided a great outdoor classroom. Exhibitors displayed current supplies, equipment and services. Tuesday, our indoors sessions featured another great number of speakers, and at lunch, our annual report presentation and Gold Leaf awards ceremony. We had lots of great items at our annual silent auction, which raised \$2,056 for the student scholarships. Excellent speakers and networking provided great opportunities for learning.

Without the help of generous cash donations from our sponsors, knowledgeable speakers, and all who attended, this meeting could not have happened. Special thanks to our planning committee and event day volunteers. Also thanks to our many exhibitors this year. With close to 400 people registered we were at capacity and had an all around successful event.

Invitations for college students to attend our annual meeting were sent to all universities and colleges in our chapter. We awarded 3 full scholarships to attend the conference. Scholarship winners included: *Dan Bluntzer, Maraea Harris, Sonu Shukla from NVCC*. We also awarded 5 Monday only scholarships to students from Allegany College of MD. The funds that covered registration were raised at the silent auction last year.

## **Frank Santamour Scholarships**

We awarded two \$1,250 Frank Santamour scholarships in 2018. They went to Amy Miller from WVU and Brittany Christensen, from Virginia Tech.



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## Urban & Community Forestry Assistance Program Grant

MAC-ISA received a grant of \$4,000 from the VDOF and USDA Forest Service U&CF Assistance Program this year for scholarships for professionals to attend certification and TRAQ courses.

### We Also ...

- Hosted Tree Risk Assessment Qualification courses in Richmond VA and Gaithersburg, MD, also TRAQ Renewal courses in Lynchburg, VA, Gaithersburg, MD and Gainesville, VA.
- Conducted Arborist Certification Courses in Gaithersburg, MD, Reston, VA and Charlottesville, VA.
- Held a Day of Arboriculture with the US National Arboretum on December 1<sup>st</sup>.
- In 2018 we again evaluated more than 100 different private and public courses, seminars, and events that requested ISA CEU credits. There are plenty of opportunities to obtain CEUs within our Chapter.
- Exhibited, co-sponsored or partnered with numerous organizations at regional events, such as Come to the Bay with Virginia Turf Council, Maryland Arborist Association Winter Meeting, Trees Virginia Roanoke Workshop and Montgomery County Parks Trees Matter Seminar.
- Continued with on-line election process where 98% of all votes were cast.
- Continued to offer the *Canopy Coverage* electronically and printed by request.

## Membership

With these accomplishments, we can provide you with the following statistics relating to membership and certification as of December 31, 2018:

- Membership stood at (approximately) 1200 members.
- The Chapter has:
  - 1729 Certified Arborists
  - 62 Board Certified Master Arborists

- 76 Certified Tree Worker Specialists
- 43 Municipal Specialists
- 137 Utility Specialists
- 435 Tree Risk Assessment Qualified arborists

## 2018 Gold Leaf Award Recipients

### Maryland

#### Outstanding Arbor Day Activities Award Town of Emmitsburg

On April 28th, 2018 the town held an Arbor Day celebration that focused on the importance of tree cover in its local community park along a small waterway known as Willow Rill. This stream connects two community parks and flows through the campus of the local elementary school, town office and library property and the Sisters of Charity property. It is a highly visible area and is in great need for this action. The Town secured a grant through the MD Urban and Community Forest Committee to purchase twelve larger caliper trees to plant along this waterway. They had many volunteers help with the planting, speakers to share their knowledge and inspire others. The Town is seeking additional partnerships and funding to continue the stream buffer planting project along Willow Rill.

#### Outstanding Landscape Beautification Award Friends of Waterford Park (Frederick, MD)

The Friends of Waterford Park continually work to plant and care for the trees in their park. Though City-owned, these residents take time to plant, water, weed, and mulch new trees each year at the park. In addition, they maintain a wildflower meadow for birds and butterflies, walking paths through the forest, and are overall terrific stewards of the park. Using their own funds, the Friends have placed identification signs next to many of the trees, making Waterford Park an ideal teaching space. With a focus on native trees, shrubs, and perennials, the Friends have created an oasis for the City's wildlife. Their love for the park and hundreds of



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hours of work each year make Waterford Park one of the City's most beautiful parks.

## **The Baltimore Wood Project**

The Baltimore Wood Project brings new partners and ideas together to be smarter and more thoughtful about urban wood "waste" in the city. Wood is salvaged from building deconstruction and urban tree operations and taken out of the city's waste stream. The wood is repurposed and resold locally, creating a closed loop system. Reclaimed and upcycled wood products are available for sustaining building, furniture, energy and other uses. More info at [www.baltimorewoodproject.com](http://www.baltimorewoodproject.com).

## **Virginia**

### **Outstanding Landscape Beautification Award**

#### **Town of Purcellville**

In 2018 the Town of Purcellville has been working on a variety of efforts to improve the environment, engage residents in being good stewards of the environment, and educate people about the environment. Here are a sample of some of their projects: Restoring the Riparian Buffer at the Chapman DeMary Trail; Hosting monthly nature walks, Hosting Annual Hail to the Trail, Receiving the Tree City USA Growth Award, Arbor Day Tree City Award, and the Virginia Go Green Award; and Conducting a Greenhouse Gas Emissions Study.

## **West Virginia**

### **Outstanding Landscape Beautification Award**

#### **Herb Peddicord**

Herb has made significant contributions to water quality and urban forestry through tree planting efforts across the Potomac River Basin of West Virginia. Herb has served as the Chesapeake Bay Forester for the Division of Forestry for many years. During this time, he has worked to increase canopy cover along riparian corridors and in urban areas by engaging watershed organizations, municipal and county governments, schools and many volunteer groups. Herb's limitless energy,

generous nature and dependable expertise has cultivated cooperative partnerships with government agencies and other organizations across the eight West Virginia counties in the Chesapeake Bay watershed. For more than a decade, Herb has connected landowners with responsible stewardship and created long-standing, productive relationships.

## **2018 Chapter Award Recipients**

### Field Arborist of the Year

- Billy Painter

### Volunteer of the Year

- Doug Petersen

### Lifetime Achievement

- Kevin Sigmon

### Award of Merit

- Rob Springer

- Susan Day

### President's Citation

- Jay Banks

### Special Recognition

- Joe Murray

## **Board of Directors Retreat**

Members of the MAC-ISA Board of Directors gathered at the Stonewall Jackson Inn in Staunton, VA for their annual retreat on December 6-7, 2018. The Board celebrated the chapter's accomplishments of the past year and developed a new 3 year strategic plan.