



MAC-ISA

Mid-Atlantic Chapter
International Society of Arboriculture

"Promoting Safety and Science in Tree Care"

2020 Annual Report

Staff

Our staff rose to the COVID-19 reality and occasions by adapting to a virtual world! Events Manager Andrea Rizzoni, with the help of other staff and volunteers, worked diligently on switching our training and other events to virtual platforms. Home offices were established while response to our members continued uninterrupted. Thanks to the support from our sponsors, postponement of some new projects, and the success of programs we were able to hold the budget in the black this year.

Bonnie Appleton Memorial Fund

Since we met our initial goal of \$100,000 in 2017, the third annual Bonnie Appleton Memorial Fund (BAMF) scholarship in the amount of \$5,000 was awarded by the TREE Fund in 2020 to a student from Coyuga Community College in Ohio. The TREE Fund is accepting applications from January 15, 2021 to March 15, 2021. We are hoping that students from our Chapter area will again be applying for this scholarship.

TREE Fund Support

Doug Petersen continued to be our TREE Fund Liaison. Unfortunately, all TREE Fund live events were cancelled this year. A very successful Virtual Tour de Trees was held and the MAC-ISA team was one of the top 10 fundraising teams.

Commitment to Safety – MAC-ISA Day of Safety

Unfortunately, we had to cancel our Day of Safety this year due to Covid-19. We are planning for a live event in August 2021. Safety topics were included in the annual meeting program.

Tree Climbing Championship (TCC)

After lengthy deliberations of the board and the TCC committee we cancelled our 2020 Tree Climbing Championship. The event was scheduled for Druid Hill Park in Baltimore and was ready to go. Sue Greeley chaired the 2020 Chapter TCC with

the help of committee members Randy Fackler, Jerry Langham, Donnie Osborn, Lawrence Wynter, and Steve Castrogiovanni as the head judge.

The International Tree Climbing Championship was cancelled as well. We are hoping that spring 2021 brings new opportunities to show off the climbing strengths of our chapter members.

MAC-ISA on the worldwide web

MAC-ISA's website continued to be updated throughout the year. Registration for events on our website continues to be easier to handle for staff and registrants. The only exception has been our Virtual Annual Meeting. We choose a platform that included registration and it worked well.

MAC-ISA continued its social media presence in 2020 with our Facebook page. We continue to post upcoming events and things of interest to the community as it becomes available. We started a Tree Thursday post mid-year, which highlights interesting information on a variety of trees. We also began posting on Twitter and Instagram. We hope for a continued stronger presence on social media and hope to get volunteers to contribute posts or reshares.

2020 Virtual Annual Meeting

The Planning committee, with annual meeting chair Toni Woods, worked hard to make the 42nd MAC-ISA Annual Meeting a success. We switched from our proposed Solomons, MD location to two virtual days of talks on the Pheedloop platform. Switching to a Virtual Annual Meeting required a completely different approach. Setting up the meeting platform involved a steep learning curve for our staff. Andrea Rizzoni and Ineke Dickman rose to the challenge and the meeting was a big success. We had more than 200 attendees and a schedule of 6 talks each day. People were able to sign up for as many sessions as they wanted. We kept the fee per session low. A virtual exhibit hall, chat rooms and question and answer sessions after the prerecorded talks made for a lively event. Tuesday, during lunch, we held our annual report presentation and awards



MAC-ISA

Mid-Atlantic Chapter
International Society of Arboriculture

"Promoting Safety and Science in Tree Care"

2020 Annual Report

ceremony. We had some great giveaways for visiting the exhibit hall. There was no silent auction this year and we did not give out student scholarships, thus last year's money will be used for next year's annual meeting scholarships. Without the help of generous cash donations from our sponsors, knowledgeable speakers, exhibitors and all who attended, this meeting could not have happened. Special thanks to our planning committee and event day moderators. We are looking forward to an in person meeting again next year at Solomons, MD.

Frank Santamour Scholarships

We awarded two \$2,500 Frank Santamour scholarships in 2020. They went to Erica Wright, Virginia Tech and Cora Hedrick, Glendale State College.

Urban & Community Forestry Assistance Program Grant

MAC-ISA received a grant of \$3,300 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 2 Tree Risk Assessment Qualification (TRAQ) courses and 3 TRAQ Renewal courses.
- Conducted 2 Arborist Certification courses one of which was held virtually.
- Evaluated over 65 different private and public courses, seminars, and events that requested ISA CEU credits.
- Continued with on-line election process, where 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 12/18/2020:

- Membership stood at (approximately) 1219 members.
- The Chapter area has:
 - o 1864 Certified Arborists
 - o 69 Board Certified Master Arborists
 - o 76 Certified Tree Worker Specialists
 - o 48 Municipal Specialists
 - o 143 Utility Specialists
 - o 533 Tree Risk Assessment Qualified Arborists

2020 Gold Leaf Award Recipients For Outstanding Landscape Beautification

- o Old Goucher Community Association, Baltimore, MD
- o Mount Olivet Cemetery, Washington, DC
- o Capital Trees, Richmond, VA

For Outstanding Arbor Day Activities

- o Terri Batchelor
- o Perry Point Veteran Affairs Medical Center (VAMHCS)

2020 Chapter Award Recipients

Field Arborist of the Year

- o **Jason Perry**

Award of Merit

- o **Randy Fackler**
- o **Stephen Connally**

President's Citation

- o **Steve Genua**

Board of Directors Retreat

Members of the MAC-ISA Board of Directors held a virtual meeting on December 4th. The Board celebrated the chapter's accomplishments of the past year and developed a new annual action plan based on their 3-year strategic plan. Since many action items were postponed due to Covid 19, the executive board decided to continue the current strategic plan through 2022.