

# IDAHO COMMUNITY TREES

News You  
Can Use

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2009

A NEWS BULLETIN FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF IDAHO, THE IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF LANDS—COMMUNITY FORESTRY PROGRAM AND THE IDAHO COMMUNITY FORESTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL

*Celebrating 50 consecutive issues  
See page 2.*

## Coordinator's Column

### **Idaho's Community Forestry Advisory Council — Transitions and New Opportunities**

The Idaho Community Forestry Advisory Council is a group of dedicated and passionate individuals who advise the Department of Lands on how best to manage the state's community forestry assistance efforts. The Council has been especially valuable over the past few years as we adjust to significant changes in the national program (see Idaho Community Trees No. 44, Fall 2007). A few long-time members have recently stepped down or transitioned off the Council, and deserve recognition for their time, energy and help over the years.

**Deborah Rudeen** joined the Council in 2001 representing Tree City USA communities in Southeastern Idaho. At the time of her appointment, she was mayor of American Falls and brought to the Council a strong knowledge of the many issues cities must grapple with, and identified ways in which we could focus our assistance efforts to better meet their needs. She was a strong voice for the value of working with smaller communities and a tireless supporter of the volunteers that make those efforts so successful. Though stepping down from her Council post, she remains an active and passionate volunteer in local community forestry efforts.

**Dennis Lukehart** came on board at the same time as Deborah. At that time, he was the chair of the tree committee in his hometown of Kendrick, and represented North Idaho Tree City communities. In addition to his volunteer service, Dennis' "real job" as a realtor working closely with developers

*continued on page 2*



Gerry Bates

*Winners of the 'Gold Medal of Horticulture' illustrate the range of interests that are helping to make Idaho's community forests safer, more beautiful and more beneficial. From left, Dave Kiesig, Twin Falls; Joan Mount and Mike Mount, Orofino.*

## **'Gold Medal of Horticulture' Winners**

The three winners of the 'Gold Medal of Horticulture' symbolize partnerships that are improving community forestry in Idaho. At the 'growing' end of the state's green industry are Joan and Mike Mount, long-time owners and operators of Green Things Nursery in Orofino. The Mounts were recognized for their commitment to advancing horticulture research and promoting the horticulture program at the University of Idaho. Dave "The Treeman" Kiesig, a former chair of the Idaho Community Forestry Advisory Council, is a professor of horticulture at the College of Southern Idaho and one of the reasons CSI is graced with its award-winning landscape. Dave is noted as an educator and advisor of young people in a quality program of horticulture and urban forestry. He also volunteers to assist 11 Wood River and Magic Valley tree committees and promotes tree care and improved arboriculture throughout the region.

The awards were presented at the Idaho Horticulture Expo in January by the Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association. This major annual event brings together all interests in the green industry with educational tracks ranging from nursery growers, wholesalers and retailers to arborists and urban foresters. The Idaho Community Forestry Advisory Council normally holds its semi-annual meeting to coincide with the Expo, further adding to the rich mix of interests and partnerships that have made major advances in our state over the past two decades.

Celebrating 50 consecutive issues!

This issue of the newsletter is something of a milestone in that it is the 50<sup>th</sup> consecutive issue. *Idaho Community Trees* as been published four times a year since the fall of 1996. It serves to provide news and information that will help improve the health, beauty and practical benefits of trees in Idaho's cities of all sizes. The newsletter is sent to all of Idaho's city councils and mayors, county commissioners, and to some 2,000 other individuals. We hope that you enjoy and benefit from this publication. Your feedback is always appreciated.

### Missing a Newsletter Issue?

Due to a changeover in our mailing process as required by the U.S. Postal Service, newsletters intended for many of our readers were returned because the address labels did not meet post office requirements. We are trying to comply, but it may mean that you did not receive the winter issue. To see what you missed, please go to Idaho Department of Lands' website: [www.idl.idaho.gov/Bureau/community\\_forestry/home/index.htm](http://www.idl.idaho.gov/Bureau/community_forestry/home/index.htm) and click on "Idaho Community Trees" and then the printer-friendly version. Back issues are also available. For free paper copies, you may contact IDL at the address below.

## IDAHO COMMUNITY TREES

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#### Field Contacts

Northern Idaho: Northwest Management, Inc., W. 21 Commerce Dr., Ste. G, Hayden, Idaho 83835. Ph. 208-772-8554 ([colla@consulting-foresters.com](mailto:colla@consulting-foresters.com))

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## Cities Awarded Arbor Day Grants

Thanks to three of Idaho's power companies, 40 communities received \$300 grants to help celebrate Arbor Day this year. The Idaho Nursery and Landscape Association coordinated the grant process that was made possible by Avista, Rocky Mountain Power, and Idaho Power. The utilities have a large interest in both the use of trees for energy conservation and making sure that the right trees are planted in the right place.

Communities that benefitted from the grants are:

Aberdeen	Mackay
American Falls	Melba
Ashton	Mountain Home
Bovill	Mullan
Burley	Nampa
Cascade	Nez Perce County
Coeur d'Alene	Payette
Culdesac	Pierce
Downey	Placerville
Dubois	Potlatch
Emmett	Priest River
Genesee	Rockland
Georgetown	Salmon
Grangeville	Shelley
Hailey	St. Anthony
Heyburn	Sugar City
Iona	Twin Falls County
Kimberly	Ucon
Kooskia	Victor
Lava Hot Springs	Worley

### Coordinator's Column continued from page 1

provided valuable insights. Dennis is a strong believer in designing our cities to incorporate green space and trees, and advocates for stronger policies that will guide the kind of development and growth that result in healthier communities. This, of course, means ensuring trees are integral to our cities, and that new developments have the spaces and conditions in which trees will prosper.

Joining the Council in 1994 representing city forestry programs, **Mike Bowman** has been the Council's strategic thinker for the past 14 years. After a career with the U.S. Forest Service, Mike spent 15 years developing an

urban forestry program in Lewiston that continues to be a model due to its many innovative projects and partnerships. Often a few miles further down the road than the rest of us in thinking, Mike pushed us past the traditional boundaries of community tree management, helping us see the greater potential of community trees as valuable and necessary assets, not simply amenities. He continues to work hard to incorporate scientific forest management principles into urban forestry and to engage, educate and mentor youth in these efforts.

With the departure of these three from the Council

come opportunities for new member involvement. We are seeking Tree City USA and city forestry program representatives, as well as folks representing disciplines and organizations such as planning, public works, utilities, environmental quality and transportation. If you are interested in serving, would like more information, or know of others who would provide value to the Council and Idaho's Community Forestry Program, please let me know.

— David Stephenson,  
*Community Forestry  
Coordinator*

## Calendar–Spring/Summer 2009

### May 12-13

**Tree Risk Assessment Course & Exam**, Boise, ID. (Download information and registration information at [www.pnwisa.org/TRACEUSWait2009.pdf](http://www.pnwisa.org/TRACEUSWait2009.pdf).)

### May 15

**North American Training Solutions** – Climbing Seminar, Boise, ID. (Contact Roger Cauffman at 208-463-4573 for more information.)

### May 20

**I-Tree version 3.0 Update webcast** (8:00-9:00 PDT). (Navigate to [www.unri.org/webcasts/](http://www.unri.org/webcasts/) for information on how to connect. Click on the *2009 Webcast Schedule* at the bottom of that page for a list of upcoming seminars by the Urban Natural Resources Institute.)

### July 24-29

**International Society of Arboriculture Annual Conference and Trade Show**, Providence, RI. (Conference information is at [www.isa-arbor.com/conference/](http://www.isa-arbor.com/conference/).)



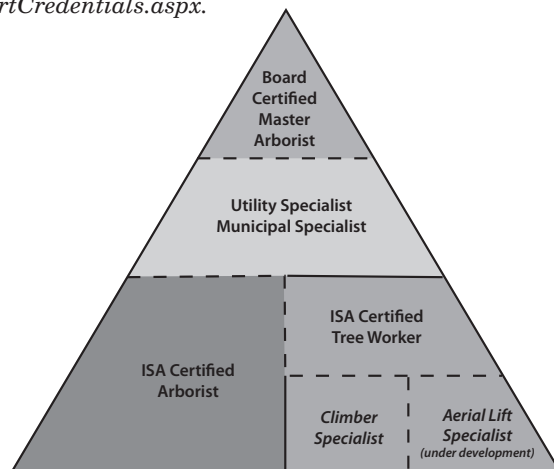
Roger Blanchard

**Another good reason not to chain your bike to a tree!** In this case, the unfortunate bicyclist had his or her bike go skyward when a truck ran off the street and splintered this young oak in downtown Moscow last summer. Bike and tree are lodged under the overhang of a building on Third Street. Currently, Moscow is considering an ordinance prohibiting chaining bicycles to sign posts and trees. The reasons are to prevent obstructing pedestrian traffic and in the case of trees, to help protect the bark from cuts and gouges.

## Gerry Bates Exemplifies Professionalism Through Continuing Education

Gerry Bates, Community Forestry Assistant for southern Idaho, was recently awarded Municipal Specialist Certification from the International Society of Arboriculture. To achieve this higher level of certification, Gerry demonstrated knowledge in the following areas: Communication Skills, Public Relations/Education, City Administration, Risk Management, Arboricultural Practices, and Policy/Planning. According to ISA, one of the goals of this certification is to provide the public and those in government with a means to identify professionals who have demonstrated, through a professionally developed exam and education program, that they have a thorough knowledge of establishing and maintaining trees in a community.

In the accompanying pyramid, the various levels of ISA certification are illustrated. For more information on any of these, please visit: [www.isa-arbor.com/certification/certCredentials.aspx](http://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/certCredentials.aspx).



## Upcoming Certified Arborist (CA), Municipal Arborist (MA), Utility Arborist (UA), and Certified Tree Worker (CTW) written Exams

**May 14** – Orem, UT (CA, MA, UA)<sup>1</sup>

**June 6** – Twin Falls, ID (College of Southern Idaho – CA, MA, UA)<sup>2</sup>

**June 6** – Lewiston, ID (Lewiston Community Center – CA, MA, UA)<sup>2</sup>

**June 20** – Boise, ID (Idaho Power Building – CA, MA, UA, CTW)<sup>2</sup>

**August 20** – Orem, UT (CA, MA, UA)<sup>1</sup>

**September 26** – Pocatello, ID (Zoo Education Building – CA, MA, UA)<sup>2</sup>

**November 6** – Salt Lake City, UT (CA, MA, UA)<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>For information or to register, contact: Utah Chapter, International Society of Arboriculture at 801- 446-8229 or email: [Lisa\\_UCFC@Yahoo.com](mailto:Lisa_UCFC@Yahoo.com).

<sup>2</sup>For information or to register, contact: Pacific Northwest Chapter, International Society of Arboriculture at 503-874-8263 or 217-355-9411 or email: [info@pnwisa.org](mailto:info@pnwisa.org).



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## Tree tip

### Heading for Trouble



James R. Fazio

*These spruces provide a great screening effect, but show a lack of long range planning.*

Everyone knows the phrase by now – Plant the Right Tree in the Right Place! Then why do we keep on planting inappropriate tree species underneath utility lines? The trees in this photo provide very nice screening for a motel parking lot, but very soon they will either be topped and deformed, or removed. Either way, you can be sure there will be grief and a public outcry. The solution to such dilemmas is simple:

- Plant trees that will mature at a height well below any overhead lines, roof eaves, or other objects. Examples: crabapples, redbud, purple-leaf plum.
- If screening is desired and labor is available, select evergreen species that can take shearing well to maintain a low height. Examples: arborvitae, hemlocks, boxwood.

Local tree guides are usually available from your city forester or park manager that can provide a more complete list of species suitable for planting under utilities in your area. If not, please contact any of the Idaho Department of Lands community forestry representatives listed in the masthead on page 2.