



TREE PRESS

December 2020



*"He asked if I would sell my Christmas trees;
My woods—the young fir balsams like a place
Where houses all are churches and have spires.
I hadn't thought of them as Christmas Trees.
I doubt if I was tempted for a moment
To sell them..."*

Robert Frost, *Christmas Trees*

Visit our Website

Building Sustainability: Our 2020 Year-End Appeal

The TREE Fund's year-end appeal is still in progress--and will be until Jan. 8, 2021--so there's still time to support our mission of funding research and education in the science of planning, planting, and managing community trees and urban forests.

The TREE Fund is an effective nonprofit business. The more than \$4.5 million it has given in grants and scholarships since 2002 has acted as seed money--every \$1 given for research brought in an average of \$2.63 additional funding--resulting in nearly \$12 million of support for the research that supports trees and our work among them.

We need, however, to strengthen our capacity to cover the full cost of our grants and scholarships, respond to the emerging economy, and build for a sustainable future. When the TREE Fund can cover its full costs and maintain a reserve for crises, it will be a healthy, resilient nonprofit business on which we can depend for decades to come.

That's where you come in. Please visit treefund.org today and help us help you. Thank you.

The Board of Trustees Welcomes New Members

At the December meeting of the TREE Fund Board of Trustees, the following members were elected. Their term begins Jan. 1, 2021. Trustees are elected to two-year terms and may serve three consecutive terms.

Our board members share a passion for healthy trees in our communities and healthy growth in the tree care industry. Our all-volunteer board represents a broad spectrum of expertise in commercial, municipal and utility arboriculture, academia, research, manufacturing, law, and communications. The TREE Fund embraces diversity to ensure that a range of perspectives and experiences are incorporated in the work of its board; arboriculture experience is not required. See the full board [here](#).



Rachel Barker
ArborMetrics Solutions, LLC
Tallahassee, AL
[Biography](#)



Patrick Franklin
Bartlett Tree Experts
Charlotte, NC
[Biography](#)



Dan Herms, PhD
The Davey Tree Expert Company
Kent, OH
[Biography](#)

2020 Ottman Award: Volunteer of the Year

Steve Geist's tireless efforts as a member of the TREE Fund Board of Trustees, an enthusiastic planner and participant of the Tour des Tress, and a faithful committee member echoed his efforts in his many previous years of service to the TREE Fund and earned him this year's award.



"Steve has been invaluable to me during my first year here" said Russell King, TREE Fund president and CEO. "His institutional memory, keen insight, and subtle humor are surpassed only by his wisdom and generosity, and I've had

opportunity to call on each of these traits more than once. It's no surprise that the committee of previous Ottman Award winners picked him. It's a well deserved honor."

2021 Board Officers

At the December meeting of the TREE Fund Board of Trustees, the following members were elected as officers. Officers are elected annually.



Wilbur Nutter, Chair
Wright Tree Service
Des Moines, IA
[Biography](#)



Brett Heinrich Chair Elect
Vedder Price P.C.
Chicago, IL
[Biography](#)



Sharon Jean-Philippe, PhD, Vice Chair
University of Tennessee
[Biography](#)



Ray Henning, Treasurer
Austin Energy
Austin, TX
[Biography](#)

2021 Committee Chairs

At the December meeting of the TREE Fund Board of Trustees, the board also elected the following committee chairs. Committee chairs are elected annually.

Audit and Finance Committee: Ray Henning

Communications Committee: Jeff Edgar

Development Committee: Jim Urban, FASLA

Executive and Governance Committee: Will Nutter

Research and Education Committee: George Hudler, PhD

ISA Council of Representatives: Arnold "Beau" Brodbeck, PhD

Canadian TREE Fund Celebrates 25 years



Scientific research and education evoke, from me, a sense of awe. They are how we best discern how best we may live and work, and how we see our place in the intricate beauty and subtlety of life and the passing of the ages. Practical and poetic; serviceable and spiritual. In my awe, I am moved to embrace and encourage the seeking and sharing of science--and the science of trees in particular.

For those who work and live among the trees, science is essential to both safety and success. That fact compelled me to stand and applaud, with respect and gratitude, the Canadian TREE Fund on its 25th anniversary on Nov.13, 2020.

The Canadian TREE Fund and its family of volunteers have been incomparable icons of what is most admirable in our species. I'm celebrating 25 years as a non-profit executive, and that experience allows me to say that what the Canadian TREE Fund volunteers have accomplished isn't simply vital to the tree care industry and important to all of us who love trees, it's inspirational. Few are as efficient and effective.

Happy 25th!

*--Russell King
President & CEO*

Lead Donors

We are deeply grateful to the following people and organizations who contributed \$2,500 or more to the TREE Fund in November 2020:

Green Manufacturing, Inc.
International Society of Arboriculture
PacifiCorp

See the full list of lead donors who make our vital tree research and education work possible on our [website](#).



2021 WEBINAR SERIES

treefund.org/webinars



Loading of a Tie-in Point While Climbing

Tuesday, February 9, 2021, at 12 p.m. Central

Brian Kane, PhD, University of Massachusetts Amherst



LIDAR based urban tree inventory permits a better evaluation of tree services: an example from Montréal Canada

Tuesday, May 11, 2021, at 12 p.m. Central

Dan Kneeshaw, PhD, University of Quebec, Montreal



Why do some trees transplant better than others?: a look at some new research on water uptake

Tuesday, June 22, 2021, at 12 p.m. Central

Nina Bassuk, PhD, Cornell University



A Three Pronged Approach to understanding the defensive mechanisms in Green Ash resistant to EAB

July 2021

Jeanne Romero-Severson, PhD, University of Notre Dame



Long term effects of electrical right-of-way vegetation management on floral and faunal communities

Tuesday, September 14, 2021, at 12 p.m. Central

Carolyn Mahan, PhD, Penn State Altoona



Growing trees in paved sites

Tuesday, November 15, 2021, at 12 p.m. Central

Alessio Fini, PhD, University of Milan

TREE Fund Achieves Highest Rating

For the second consecutive year, the TREE Fund has reached GuideStar's highest level of achievement for nonprofit transparency--the platinum award. GuideStar is the world's largest and most authoritative source of information on nonprofit organizations. Major donors tend to look to GuideStar as the "seal of approval" before making donations.



THANK YOU TREE Fund Crown Partners!



TREE Fund

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[Donate now](#)

TREE Fund is a 501(C)3 nonprofit with a mission to support scientific discovery and dissemination of new knowledge in the fields of arboriculture and urban forestry.