



WAA TREE CLIMBING CHAMPIONSHIP AD-HOC COMMITTEE ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED AT THE WAA BUSINESS MEETING

FEBRUARY 8, 2010

The 2009 WAA TCC was held in Erb Park, Appleton, on Saturday, August 8th. Again this year, the event was scheduled on a Saturday along with ArborFest, increasing public awareness and viewing. Over 33 judges and volunteers worked together after a heavy morning rain shower for an abbreviated competition (no time for a Masters' Challenge). 21 individuals registered and competed (includes two guests from Minnesota, no women). Cash and prizes were awarded to the top five places in each of the 5 preliminary events, and the top three overall. The winners are as follows:

Men's Division

- 1st Place Secured Foot Lock.....Joe House
- 1st Place Belayed Speed Climb Chris Ruch
- 1st Place ThrowlineZac Eckberg
- 1st Place Aerial RescueJoe House
- 1st Place Work ClimbJamie Remme

- 3rd Place Overall PointsMike Stanonik
- 2nd Place Overall PointsAaron Schauer
- 1st Place Overall Points**Joe House** (2009 WAA-TCC Champion)

The WAA TCC committee sent 1 climber, Joe House, to the ITCC held in Provenance, RI. Joe had an excellent performance scoring 9th overall. Due to no women competitors from 2008, no women represented the WAA. The WAA will send Joe House to Chicago, IL, in July 2010 to represent the WAA at the International TCC. Our goal of attracting more women competitors continues as always.

The committee is aware that the ITCC will be in Australia in the summer of 2011. We will be formulating a plan to finance our champions' travel on this expensive trip. During 2009, Joe did not claim any expenses for travel to Rhode Island, saving the committee considerable expense.

The committee would like to thank all the volunteers and judges who make the TCC successful, particularly the set-up crew, and Jesse Zieminski for obtaining tons of prizes and donations.

My goal of finding a replacement chair was accomplished, as Gary Kohler of Wachtel Tree Science will co-chair with me in 2010, providing a seamless transition. I will continue to serve the WAA as a volunteer during events from 2011 and forward.

The location of the 2010 TCC has not yet been determined, as the board determines the future of ArborFest. However, we're shooting for the second or third weekend in mid-August, or combine the TCC with the summer conference in July. The competition will continue to be set up consistent with the International TCC rules and difficulty factor. The committee will review how to increase the amount of climbers this year. Registration forms will be available from the WAA website by late May. Competitors need to maintain their WAA membership. Volunteers and spectators are always welcome!

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Wendt- WAA TCC Chair

TO IMPROVE THE UNDERSTANDING OF TREES AND THE PRACTICE OF ARBORICULTURE,
AND PROMOTE HIGH ETHICAL AND PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS