The focus was on TREES . . . AND MORE TREES

Crowds watch spellbound as Tom Gosnell, left, and other field men demonstrate their skills at the Arborists' Jamboree.
"Trees Form an Archway to the Future" was the theme and St. Louis was the setting as nearly 1000 members and friends of the International Society of Arboriculture gathered Aug. 8-11 to talk trees.

It was the 52nd annual convention of the group, formerly called the International Shade Tree Conference. Why the new name? "We wanted to have a name that more closely reflected our purposes of promoting and improving the practice of professional arboriculture," explained Cal Bundy, the group's exuberant executive secretary.

But the name change wasn't all that was new. This year there was more emphasis on field techniques. "Too often when professional organizations meet to discuss new products and practices only the owners and managers are in attendance. We wanted to reach the field people too," Bundy explained.

A reflection of this philosophy and a highlight of the conference was the first International Arborists Jamboree held at the beautiful Missouri Botanical Gardens. Here, the group's members and families watched spellbound as the world's top field men demonstrated their skills in tree work competitions, including a western-style tree climb won by Tom Gosnell of Santa Barbara, currently the world's champion tree climber.

Outstanding educational programs with an emphasis on trees in the modern urban environment, 33 commercial exhibits and 12 educational exhibits formed the basis of this successful conference. WEEDS TREES & TURF will bring you more on the educational programs in a future issue.

Newly elected officers include: Hyland R. Johns Jr., Willow Grove, Pa., president; Yvon Fournier, Trois Rivieres, Quebec, president-elect; Roy Gustin Jr., Silver Spring, Md., vice president; and Dan Neely, Urbana, Ill., editor.

Recognition awards went to Dr. T. T. Kozlowski, Department of Forestry at the University of Wisconsin, Dr. Cynthia Wescott, retired plant entomologist, Croton-on-Hudson, N.Y., and Edgar G. Rex, retired plant pathologist, New Tripoli, Pa.

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