Welcome to The Stump! Another newsletter? Yes! "The Stump" provides me a way to get information to you. I plan to send "The Stump" every two to three months depending on the timeliness and amount of information available. Expect to see meeting announcements, reminders, tree information, a calendar, poetry, quotations, web site and book reviews, and anything else that may be tree related.

To be fiscally responsible, I am requesting everyone with an e-mail address to e-mail me at: Jon.Skinner@mdc.mo.us. I will send you "The Stump" by e-mail once you do so. If you wish to be removed from "The Stump" mailing list, please contact me.

Winter Tree Identification Training

Ever want to know what that tree was without its leaves? Learn how to identify many trees without leaves. It is not as hard as you may think. You already possess the desire, now learn the way to identify trees whether or not you can get to the leaves. This public workshop is open to everyone. Please invite anyone interested and dress appropriately for the weather as we will be outside.

Come to Walter Woods Conservation Area Saturday, January 25 at 1:30 PM to 3:30 PM. Please call 417-629-3423 to pre-register and receive directions.

Midwest International Society of Arboriculture's Annual Conference, 'WOW! The Wonder Of Working with Trees' will be held at the beautiful Holiday Inn University Plaza Hotel in Springfield, Missouri, February 5 - 7, 2003.

The program features commercial, utility, municipal, research, and business tracks. The Arborist and the Environment is the theme of the conference. Dr. Lovett will share his nearly thirty years experience in the school of hard-knocks researching new conifers for the Midwest at the Lovett Pinetum. The new business track will focus on developing more effective organizations. The conference offers more than 10 ISA CEUs.

For more information and to register visit the conference website at: www.springfieldmogov.org/mwisa/ or contact Jim Rocca at: 636-386-8733, E-mail: jrdtree@juno.com

Community Forestry Leadership Workshop: Making Your City A Better Place is January 17, 2003 at the Discovery Center, 4750 Troost, Kansas City, MO from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M.

Ideal for municipal managers, representatives of city tree and park boards, neighborhood associations, garden clubs, service organizations, and other community forestry volunteers, the workshop will help you examine your community forest and find the resources to improve it.

Presented by Forest ReLeaf of Missouri and the Missouri Department of Conservation the topics include: What Can Trees Do For You?, Building A Good Community Program; Tree Inventory & Hazard Trees; How To Get Started; Finding & Utilizing Volunteers; and Show Me The Money!

Missouri Community Forestry Conference will be occurring March 6 - 7 at the Kansas City Crown Centre. The Conference provides everyone interested in community trees the opportunity to come together to learn, share, recognize accomplishments, meet new and old friends, and as always have fun. Several topics will be presented during the two day conference. This includes: Storms over KC summarizing the ice storm of last spring; Mulch, Mycorrhizae and Root Rot expounding the benefits of mulch to trees; Utilizing Municipal Trees - Ideas From Across the Country sharing ideas and success stories of wood waste utilization from around the nation; Tree Support & Protection Systems explaining modern cabling and bracing and lightning protection techniques; Killing with Kindness - Tree Fertilization techniques and benefits; Sustainable Design & Contracting alternatives to urban sprawl and how contractors can develop and provide green space for people and wildlife. Bioengineering for System Bank Stabilization providing methods to stabilize streams and improve adjacent habitat and; Neighborhood Residents Assessing their Urban Forests showing volunteers can do an inventory.

For more information and how to register contact: Justine Gartner, 573-751-4115 Ext 3116, gartnerj@mdc.state.mo.us
Virginia Tech Dendrology Fact Sheets are excellent resources for anyone trying to identify trees. The site lists trees alphabetically by scientific Family, Genus and Specie. Once a tree is selected, its individual page provides verbal descriptions of key identifying characteristics; photos of a branch with buds, bark, fruit, full plant, leaf, and flower; and a sound file pronouncing the scientific name. Some pages provide links to other resources, most often the native range map for the specie. Visit the Virginia Tech Dendrology Fact Sheets site at: http://www.fw.vt.edu/dendro/dendrology/syllabus/biglist_frame.htm

A YOUNG BIRCH

The birch begins to crack its outer sheath
Of baby green and show the white beneath,
As whosoever likes the young and slight
May well have noticed. Soon entirely white
To double day and cut in half the dark
It will stand forth, entirely white in bark,
And nothing but the top a leafy green-
The only native tree that dares to lean,
Relying on its beauty, to the air.
(Less brave perhaps than trusting are the fair.
And someone reminiscent will recall
How once in cutting brush along the wall
He spared it from the number of the slain,
At first to be no bigger than a cane,
And then no bigger than a fishing pole,
But now at last so obvious a bote
The most efficient help you ever hired
Would know that it was there to be admired,
And zeal would not be thanked that cut it down
When you were reading books or out of town.
It was a thing of beauty and was sent
To live its life out as an ornament.

-- -- Robert Frost

January 17
Community Forestry Leadership Workshop: Making Your City A Better Place, Discovery Center, 4750 Troost, Kansas City, MO, Preregistration and $5 fee required, Lunch included, contact Missouri Forest Releaf at: 1-888-473-5323 or moreleaf@anet-stl.com

January 25

February 4 - 9
NAA Winter Management Conference, Westin Rio Mar Beach, Rio Grande, PR, Contact: Carol Crossland, crossland@naturarb.com; 603-314-5380

February 5
ISA Certification Exam, Springfield, MO

February 5 - 7
Midwestern Chapter ISA Annual Conference, Springfield, MO, Over 10 ISA CEU’s available. Contact: Joe Payne, 417-864-1954, joe_payne@ci.springfield.mo.us

March 6 - 7
Missouri Community Forestry Conference, Kansas City Crown Centre Contact: Justine Gartner, 573-751-4115 Ext 3116, partnij@mdc.state.mo.us

March 7
ISA Certification Exam, MDC Discovery Center, Kansas City

March 11 - 13
National Arbor Day Foundation's 10th Annual Trees & Utilities National Conference, Arbor Day Farm, Lied Conference Center, Nebraska City, NE Contact: National Arbor Day Foundation, 402-474-5655, conferences@arborday.org

April 4
Missouri Arbor Day

April 17
ISA Certification Exam, Runge Nature Center, Jefferson City, MO

April 17
TRIM II Grant Application Workshop, Walter Woods Conservation Area, Joplin

April 25
National Arbor Day

June 14
Midwest ISA Jamboree & Tree Climbers Competition, Springfield, MO