

ABOUT THE CONTESTANTS

WOMEN'S DIVISION CONTESTANTS

2013 ITCC Returning Women's World Champion New Zealand Chapter—Nicala Ward-Allen

Returning for her fifth International competition is last year's women's champion Nicala Ward-Allen of Eltham, New Zealand. Ward-Allen has been climbing for 12 years, and her fastest footlock time is 13.26 seconds for which she holds the ITCC Footlock World Record. She holds a Bachelor of Science in Materials and Process Engineering from Waikato University and has an Advanced Certificate of Arboriculture. Nicala works as an arborist for Taranaki Tree Services, Ltd. and volunteers for the New Zealand Chapter helping to set-up and run their regional tree climbing competitions. Married to husband Neal for 10 years, she enjoys looking after their three-acre property and spending time with their dog.

2014 Asia Pacific Champion Arboriculture Australia—Rebecca Barnes

Rebecca Barnes of Red Hill, Queensland, Australia is competing in her first International competition. She is both the Arboriculture Australia women's champion and the 2014 Asia Pacific Women's Champion. Rebecca has worked as an arborist for five years doing powerline clearing, consulting, reporting, and management plans and is currently employed by PowerClear as a climber. She has both a Cert III Horticulture (Arboriculture) certificate, and a Diploma of Horticulture (Arboriculture) from NMIT Melbourne. In her spare time, Rebecca loves big tree climbing, reading about trees, and seeing live music performances.

2014 North American Champion Ontario Chapter (Canada)—Krista Strating

Returning for her fifth ITCC, Krista Strating from Hamilton, Ontario, is this year's North American Champion. Strating is an ISA Certified Tree Worker, has a degree in Horticulture, and has completed an Arboriculture apprenticeship. She worked in landscaping for eight years prior to joining Arborwood Tree Service based out of Caistor Center where she has been climbing for six years and is a crew leader. In her free time, she enjoys all types of sports, hiking, camping, and rock climbing.

Denmark Chapter— Louise Sørensen

Louise Sørensen of Kobenhavn, Denmark is competing in her first International competition. She is training to be an arborist at K&S Tree Care. Louise enjoys bouldering and sports climbing.

Germany Chapter— Annette Neumann

This is Annette Neumann's second appearance at the ITCC. She is from Konstanz, Germany, has been a tree climber for five years, and works for Baumpflegeteam Bodensee. Neumann believes a "small tree can be a big one too," and she enjoys volunteering for the fire brigade, doing martial arts, and working on puzzles.

Illinois Chapter (United States)— Alex Julius

Alex Julius is the first female from Illinois to compete at the International competition and has been climbing for six years. She has a Bachelor of Arts from Smith College in Architecture and a Master of Science in Arboriculture and Urban Forestry from the University of Massachusetts. While in school Alex interned at the Smith College Botanic Garden, Arnold Arboretum, and Longwood Gardens. She is currently employed at ISA in Champaign, Illinois as an Educational Development Manager but previously worked as a tree trimmer for West Coast Arborists, Inc. in San Diego, CA. In her spare time, Alex enjoys slacklining, road biking, gardening, and crocheting.

Mid-Atlantic Chapter (United States)—Jocelyn Lohse

This is the fourth ITCC for Jocelyn Lohse from Richmond, Virginia. She has been climbing for five years, and works for True Timber Tree Service. Jocelyn also works as a climbing instructor at Riverside Outfitters, a tree climbing based summer camp. She is married to Scott Ross and enjoys sailing, gardening, and kayaking.

Minnesota Chapter (United States)—Rebecca Seibel

Rebecca Seibel of Minneapolis is making her third appearance at the ITCC. She has been climbing for 10 years and is an ISA Board Certified Master Arborist with a B.S. in Biology from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. For the past two years, she has been working as a field arborist at Bartlett Tree Experts in Plymouth, Minnesota. Rebecca volunteers at chapter competitions, and loves encouraging other women to climb trees. She enjoys spending time with her partner Beth, as well as, competing in triathlons, camping, gardening, sailing, and recreational tree climbing.

New England Chapter (United States)—Bear LeVangie

This is Bear LeVangie's fourth time competing at the ITCC. Bear, from Petersham, Massachusetts, is an ISA Certified Arborist and has been climbing for 10 years. She works as a tree climber do-

ing asian longhorned beetle inspections for USDA Aphis. Bear has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Montana School of Forestry and has previously worked as a consulting arborist and a production arborist doing tree inventories, ornamental pruning, and gathering leaf samples. She has held key volunteer positions with the ISA New England Chapter. In her spare time, Bear enjoys hiking, swimming, cooking, gardening, and reading.

New York Chapter (United States)—Rachel Brudzinski

From the Bronx, New York, Rachel Brudzinski is competing in her first International competition. She has been climbing for two years and recently began working for The New York Botanical Garden. Rachel is an ISA Certified Arborist and has an Associate Degree in Horticulture from Oakland Community College in Michigan and is pursuing a Bachelor Degree. Before becoming a climber, she started in arboriculture as a groundworker and also interned at Morris Arboretum in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Ontario Chapter (Canada)—Christina Blakoe

First-time international competitor Christina Blakoe is from Aurora, Ontario and is an ISA Certified Arborist. She works as an arborist and has been climbing for nine years.

Pacific-Northwest Chapter (US/Canada)—Emily Garlough

Emily Garlough, has been working as an arborist with Out on A Limb Tree Company in Seattle, WA, but recently started her own tree company, Missoula Tree Preservation. This is her second year at the International competition. She has a Masters in Forestry from the University of Montana, is an ISA Certified Arborist, and has been climbing for three years. Prior to working in arboriculture, Emily worked fighting wildfires for the US Forest Service. She is married to Megan Fisher and enjoys gardening, backpacking, and running.

Prairie Chapter (Canada)—Charlene Scott

This is the third time competing at the International competition for Charlene Scott of Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. She is an ISA Certified Arborist and has been climbing for eight years. Charlene works as a municipal arborist for the City of Fort Saskatchewan. With a Diploma in Ornamental Horticulture/Arboriculture from Olds College, she recently returned to college and recieved her diploma to be an Instructional Assistant in the Arboriculture Program. When not competing she often volunteers at other competitions. Charlene says that "like a true Canadian" she plays and watches a lot of hockey. She also enjoys hiking, fishing, camping, rock climbing, and orienteering.

Quebec Chapter (Canada)—Marilou Dussault

2011 and 2013 NATCC Women's Champion

Marilou Dussault of Montreal, Quebec is competing in her seventh international event. She was the 2011 and 2013 North American women's champion. Marilou has been climbing for nine years and holds a professional diploma in Arboriculture and Tree Pruning. She has been employed as a tree climber by the City of Montreal for the past eight years. Marilou has a 5-year old son, Liam, and enjoys hockey, and snowboarding.

Southern Chapter (United States)—Josie Spagnolo

Josie Spagnolo of Atlanta, Georgia is competing in her first international event. She works as a self-employed arborist.

Sweden Chapter—Anneli Lewis Skoglund

In her first ITCC is Anneli Lewis Skoglund of Odeshog, Sweden. She works as an arborist at Arboteket. Before becoming an arborist Anneli had experience in animal care/farming and carpentry. She also enjoys nature, training others, gardening, and growing vegetables.

United Kingdom/Ireland Chapter—Josephine Hedger

2008 and 2010 ITCC Women's World Champion

Past ITCC women's champion, Josephine Hedger, is no stranger to the ITCC having competed for the past six years. Josephine is the owner and primary climber for Arbor Venture Tree Care, and is an instructor and assessor for chain saw use in the UK through Arbor Venture Training. She has a National Certificate in Arboriculture and NPTC practical chain saw/tree climbing units. Josephine also helps organize and run chapter competitions, as well as, performs demonstrations at ISA and other trade events. In her free time, she enjoys playing the drums, mountain biking, and splicing ropes.

Western Chapter (United States)—Jamilee Kempton

Jamilee Kempton of Waimanalo, Hawaii, makes her second appearance at the International competition. Jamilee, an ISA Certified, works as a climber/crew leader for Oahu Tree Works. She was previously employed as an arborist at University of Hawaii's Lyon Arboretum where she still does volunteer tree work. Jamilee has a degree from Windward Community College in Subtropical Arboriculture. She is partnered with Steve Connolly and her hobbies include trail running with her dogs, and teaching women's tree climbing workshops.

Wisconsin Chapter (United States)—Shelly Wollerman

This is Shelly Wollerman's fourth ITCC. She is from Fitchburg, Wisconsin and works as a tree crew foreman for Steven R. Bassett, Inc. in Madison. Shelly is an ISA Certified Arborist who first worked for 10 years in the landscape industry. She earned a Bachelor Degree in Horticulture Landscape Design from the University of Wisconsin-River Falls. Shelly volunteers teaching advanced climbing classes at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, and as an EMT. She enjoys hanging out with friends, and running.

MEN'S DIVISION CONTESTANTS

2013 ITCC Returning Men's World Champion

2014 Asia-Pacific Champion

New Zealand Chapter—Scott Forrest

2011 ITCC Men's World Champion, 2013 Asia Pacific Champion

Returning Men's World Champion Scott Forrest is also this year's Asia Pacific Champion. Making his seventh trip to the ITCC, Scott has 17-years of experience in the tree care industry. Originally from New Zealand, he has been living and working in Long Jetty, New South Wales, Australia, as a self-employed contract climber. Scott is a Level 4 Certified Arborist in New Zealand, and also holds the European Tree Worker Certification. Besides climbing trees in his free time, he enjoys traveling, climbing, and walking.

2014 North American Champion

Western Chapter (United States)—Chad Brey

Chad Brey from San Francisco, California is this year's North American Men's Champion. He has competed four times before at the international championship. Chad has an Associate Degree in Science, is an ISA Certified Arborist and Certified Tree Worker, and is employed as a climbing arborist for Tree Climbing Team USA. He is active in volunteering for numerous chapter and other industry events including tree climbing competitions, promoting certification, and public education activities such as the Tree Circus Show. Chad had the opportunity to climb the tallest and biggest tree species which were growing in California while helping to film for a German public television nature series about sequoias and tree climbing. When he isn't working or climbing big trees, Chad enjoys hiking, camping, road cycling, scuba diving, and traveling.

Atlantic Chapter (Canada)—Keanen Jewett

Representing the ISA Atlantic Chapter is Keanen Jewett from Keswick Ridge, New Brunswick. Keanen is an ISA Certified Arborist and works as a forest tech for the City of Fredericton where he has been employed for 10 years. He has been climbing for 13 years and has a background in landscape horticulture. Keanen is married to Nicole and they have two children, Isabelle (5), and Addison (3). His hobbies include kayaking and snowshoeing.

Arboriculture Australia—Barton Allen-Hall

Barton Allen-Hall returns to the ITCC for his second time. From Melbourne, Victoria, Barton has been working as a climbing arborist for eight years. He has Australia's Cert 3 and Cert 5 in arboriculture. Barton often helps out with climbing demonstrations for Arboriculture Australia.

Belgian Arborist Association (Belgium)— Frits Van der Werff

Frits Van der Werff from Belgium is a self-employed arborist and has been climbing for seven years. He is married to Gwenaëlle and they have two children Tom (5), and Eva (4).

Denmark Chapter—Jacob Schwartz

This arborist from Kastrop, Denmark has worked as a contract climber for the past four years. Before becoming an arborist, Jacob Schwartz was educated as a blacksmith by the Navy and served as a soldier in the Danish Army. He spends time volunteering to help run the Danish tree climbing championship. Jacob and his wife, Matilde, have one daughter Laura who is two-years old. He enjoys diving, cave diving, and bicycling.

Florida Chapter (United States)—Jason Gerrish

Jason Gerrish of Miami, Florida is a self-employed arborist. This is his first time competing at the ITCC but has competed in chapter events for 10 years and has been climbing for 22.

Societe de Francais (France)—Romain Chignardet

This is Romain Chignardet's second trip to the ITCC. Romain has been a climber for six years and competing for four. He volunteers at local competitions in France. His hobbies include mountain biking, bee keeping, and trekking

Germany Chapter—Michi Hansch

2003 ETCC Men's Champion

Michael (Michi) Hansch is from Filderstadt, Germany and his making his second appearance at the international competition. He has been climbing and competing for 10 years. This year Michi became

self-employed as Hansch Baumtechnik. He and his partner, Andrea Roller, have been together for four years.

Illinois Chapter (United States)—David Meurer

From Belleville, Illinois David Meurer works as an owner/arborist at Meurer Brothers, Inc. He has been climbing for six years but this is his first international championship. Prior to becoming an arborist, David was a heavy equipment operator with the United State Marine Corps. He and his wife Jessica have been married for six years and enjoy family time with their two children, Nolan (4) and Morgan (2).

Indiana Chapter (United States)—Jeff Clark

Jeff Clark is a self-employed arborist from Romney, Indiana. Jeff has been climbing for 12 years and this is his second time competing at the ITCC. He has a B.S. degree in Forestry from Purdue University and has been married to his wife Sarah for 13 years. They have two children, Iris (9) and Elaine (7).

Italy Chapter—Sem Pagnoni

This is the first time for Sem Pagnoni to compete at the ITCC. He is a self-employed arborist and has been climbing for six years. Sem has volunteered helping at the Italian tree climbing competition and considers himself to also be mechanically adept. He is partnered with Elisa and enjoys slacklining, paragliding, and sculpturing.

Japan Arborist Association—Hideharu Matsuoka

Hideharu Matsuoka is making his second appearance at the ITCC. He is an ISA Certified arborist and graduated from MEIKAI University in Chiba Prefecture, Japan. While at the university he was a member of the soccer club. He has been working in forestry for 14 years and has been climbing for eight. Hideharu just started his own company in May of this year. He is married to Chito and they have a daughter Fuu (10) and a son Shou (6). Hideharu and his family enjoy fishing and swimming together, and he enjoys all outdoor sports.

Kentucky Chapter (United States)—Cory Petry

Cory Petry of Louisville, Kentucky is competing in his fourth ITCC. He has been a climber for 14 years and owns his own tree company, Limbwalker. Cory is an ISA Certified Arborist and has a Bachelor Degree in Sociology from the University of Kentucky. He has been in the tree care industry since 2000 and says he prefers pruning large trees but also enjoys challenging removals and storm damage work. Cory was the chair of the Kentucky Chapter competition for three years and continues to volunteer. He has been married to Jen for nine years, and they have two children, June (6) and Leif (2). Cory spends as much time with his family as possible, and he enjoys gardening and daily yoga.

KPB Dutch Chapter (The Netherlands)—Harrie Verbeek

Making his first trip to the ITCC is Harrie Verbeek of the Netherlands. He is a certified European Treeworker and has been climbing for nine years. Harrie originally worked as a landscaper with Soontiens Boomverzorging Eindhoven, the company where he now works as an arborist focusing on big technical removals and caring for trees on large properties. He took the Tree Technician course and is currently preparing for the exam. In his free time, Harrie likes to cross-country bike through the woods, or when on holidays he does Trans Alp biking in Austria and Switzerland. He also enjoys hiking, indoor bouldering, and travelling around Europe.

Michigan Chapter (United States)—Jack Richardson

Jack Richardson from Ann Arbor, Michigan returns for his fourth ITCC. Jack has owned Guardian Tree Experts since 2008 and has been climbing for 13 years. He has a B.A. in History from Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut. Jack and his wife Emily have been married for 10 years and have two children, Sophie (3 ½), and Nadi (3-months). He enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, sports, cooking, biking, and anything he can do that is out of the ordinary.

Mid-Atlantic Chapter (United States)—James Earhart

This is the fourth ITCC for James Earhart of Hustle, Virginia. James is an ISA Certified Arborist who has been climbing for 14 years and is owner/operator of Arbor Care Complete Tree Service. He is married to Stephanie and they have two children, Abigail (3) and Joslyn (1). Some of the hobbies James enjoys are bow hunting, wood working, playing bluegrass guitar, and spending time with his family.

Midwestern Chapter (United States)—Noel Boyer

From Springfield, Missouri Noel Boyer is returning to the ITCC for the seventh time. He is an ISA Certified Arborist and the owner of All About Trees, LLC which he bought nine years ago. Noel has been climbing for 18 years and has spent a lot of time volunteering for the Midwestern Chapter as a board member and financial officer, as well as, a trainer for ISA Certified Arborist training courses held by the chapter. He and his wife Myria have been married for 16 years and have two children, Mary (13) and Lilly (11). Noel says that even though his wife has encouraged him to find a hobby, he stays too busy for one, but he does enjoy hanging out with her and their daughters.

Minnesota Chapter (United States)—Pierce Wasmund

Pierce Wasmund is competing in his second ITCC. He is from St. Paul, Minnesota where he works as an arborist with Minneapolis

Parks and Recreation Board. Pierce, who has been climbing for 18 years, is an ISA Certified Arborist, and has a B.S. in Urban Forestry from the University of Minnesota. He has served on the Minnesota Chapter executive committee of which he was president for two years, as well as, chairing climbing and educational program committees. Pierce is a big and historic tree enthusiast and enjoys spending time with his family and friends, hiking, and running. He and his wife Sarah have two children, Tyler (8) and Emma (2).

New England Chapter (United States)—Shane Lumbra

Making his first appearance at the ITCC is Shane Lumbra of St. Albans, Vermont. Shane has been climbing for seven years, is an ISA Certified Arborist, and the owner of Sunset Tree Care. He attended Paul Smiths College Urban Tree Management Program. Shane's hobbies include hunting, riding his 4-wheeler, hiking, and camping.

New Jersey Chapter (United States)—Dan Lawton

Another ITCC first-timer, Dan Lawton of Stockton, New Jersey has been climbing for 6 1/2 years. He has worked for the last three years as a lead climber and tree work foreman for Goldenberg's Estate Management, LLC. Before becoming a tree climber, Dan worked as an electrician. He volunteers annually for the chapter's work day that helps New Jersey parks that cannot afford to maintain their trees. Dan and his fiancé, Audrey Hall, will be getting married August 16. He enjoys hiking, kayaking, bike riding, splicing, fine woodworking, and of course climbing trees.

New York Chapter (United States)—Lawrence Schultz

Lawrence Schultz of Brooklyn, New York is an ISA Certified Arborist and he will be competing in his first ITCC. He has been a tree climber for 10 years working mostly freelance but began working for Central Park Conservancy about a year ago. Lawrence has a Bachelor Degree in Environmental Science and often volunteers to help at various tree climbing competitions. His hobbies include recreational (ninja) climbing, traveling, camping, hiking, snowboarding, making YouTube videos, seeing live music, and basically enjoying life.

New Zealand Chapter—James Kilpatrick

2011 and 2012 Asia Pacific Champion

Representing New Zealand for the fifth time is James Kilpatrick of Tauranga. James has been climbing for eight years and works as a self-employed ISA Certified Arborist, most recently working in Hamburg, Germany. He holds the current World Record in the ITCC Men's Footlock with a time of 13.65 seconds. James has a Diploma in Arboriculture from Waikato Institute of Technology. Kilpatrick likes to volunteer at tree climbing events and enjoys speed walking.

Norway Chapter—Ian Hollows

Ian Hollows is from Oslo, Norway and is employed by AB Trepleie AS.

Ohio Chapter (United States)—Nick Marley

This competitor from Madison, Ohio will be competing at the ITCC for the first time. Nick Marley is an ISA Certified Arborist and has been climbing for four years. Nick was originally a rock climber, but began working at a small tree company in 2010 where he grew his skills and he now works as a production climber at Independent Tree. In his spare time, Nick likes riding BMX bicycles, motorcycles, snowboarding, rock climbing, and recreational tree climbing.

Ontario Chapter (Canada)—Riley Brown

Riley Brown of Toronto, Ontario is an ISA Certified Arborist and owner of Elite Tree Care where he does production climbing. This is his first ITCC but he has been climbing for 10 years. He has worked for other tree care companies since 2003 but in 2013 started Elite Tree Care. Riley is married to Krisztina and enjoys crossfit, stand-up paddle boarding, and recreational climbing.

Pacific Northwest Chapter (US/Canada)—Robert Bundy

Competing in his second ITCC is Robert Bundy of Milwaukie, Oregon. He is an ISA Certified Arborist working for Peacock Tree Preservation. Robert has been climbing for nine years and has competed numerous times at the chapter level. He is married to April and when he is not working he enjoys rock climbing.

Penn-Del Chapter (United States)—Aaron Feather

This newcomer to the ITCC, Aaron Feather, is from Shippensburg, Pennsylvania. He is an ISA Certified Arborist and works as a safety/training supervisor with Cumberland Valley Tree Service. Aaron has been climbing for nine years and has an Associate Degree in Forestry from Penn State. He has been married to his wife, Laura, for seven years and they have two children, London (7) and Liam (4). Aaron says his hobbies are hunting, fishing, family time, and worshipping God.

Prairie Chapter (Canada)—Jesse Antonation

Jesse Antonation of Grand Pointe, Manitoba has been climbing for 14 years, and this is his fourth time competing at the ITCC. He is an ISA Certified Arborist and owns Trilogy Tree Services. He and his wife Carla, also an ISA Certified Arborist, have two children. In his free time, Jesse enjoys woodturning.

Quebec Chapter (Canada)—Leilak Anderson

Competing in his sixth ITCC is Leilak Anderson of Farrellton, Quebec. He is an ISA Certified Arborist, has been climbing for over 10 years, and owns his own tree care company, Leilak Anderson Tree Service. Anderson has a degree in business administration from Dawson College but credits his father, Jeb Anderson, for teaching him everything he needed to know about tree climbing. He says his father took him to his first ISA competition and now is his coach. Leilak is in the process of building a log home, but in his free time he enjoys snowboarding, baseball, and being a volunteer firefighter.

Rocky Mountain Chapter (United States)—Luke Glines

Luke Glines from Greeley, Colorado is competing in his seventh ITCC. He is an ISA Certified Arborist who runs his own business, Luke Glines Tree Experts. Luke has been climbing for 20 years and has a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and a Masters in Theology. In his spare time, Glines enjoys reading, riding motorcycles, and spending time with his daughter Hannah.

Southern Chapter (United States)—Aquilino Amador Cruz

Coming from Springfield, Tennessee, Aquilino Amador Cruz is competing in his first ITCC. He has been climbing for 13 years and has worked for Davey Tree Experts' Nashville office for eight years. Aquilino has two children, Maena (13) and Shania (10). He enjoys music especially keyboard, guitar, and bass; and does martial arts.

Sweden Chapter—Johan (Gustavsson) Pihl

2012 ETCC Men's Champion

Johan Pihl, from Jörlanda, Sweden, competes in his eighth ITCC this year. Johan has been climbing for nine years and is an ISA Certified Arborist, ISA Certified Tree Worker, and a European Tree Worker. He got his start as a climbing arborist in 2005 when he helped with damage from a storm that passed through Sweden, prior to that he worked as a groundsman from the time he was 14-years old. Johan has a Degree in Arboriculture and Science. He and his wife Lisa have been married for two years and are currently renovating their new house. In his free time, he enjoys motocross and windsurfing.

Texas Chapter (United States)—Vicente Pena-Molina

This is Vicente Pena-Molina's first year to compete at the ITCC. From Dallas, Texas, he has been climbing for nine years and works for Arborilogical Services, Inc.

United Kingdom/Ireland Chapter—Matt Glen

Matt Glen of the United Kingdom has been climbing for eight years, and this is his first trip to the international competition. He is self-employed and has worked as a lead climber in the UK, Germany, Sweden, Norway, New Zealand, and Australia. Matt has a National Diploma in Arboriculture. He enjoys camping, extreme sports, and riding his motorbike, as well as, travelling the world and seeing the sights.

Utah Chapter (United States)—Jake Bleazard

This competitor from West Jordan, Utah is competing in his first international competition. Jake Bleazard is an ISA Certified Arborist who works as a utility arborist for Murray City Power and has been climbing for 16 years. He has worked in utility arboriculture since 1998, and was a crew foreman for 11 years. Jake serves as a board member of the Utah Community Forest Council. In his spare time he still enjoys climbing trees, but he also plays guitar in a band and enjoys writing his own songs. Jake also enjoys family time with his wife Valerie and their three daughters, Carly (15), Randy (13), and Boston (7-months).

Western (United States)—Jared Abrojena

2009 ITCC Men's Champion and 2011 NATCC Men's Champion
Past ITCC men's champion, Jared Abrojena, is from Antioch, California. He is an ISA Certified Arborist and has worked 16 years as a climber/foreman for his family's business, Evergreen Tree Care. Jared began climbing with his dad when he was only eight-years old and has worked for the family company since he graduated high school. This is the eighth year he has competed at the international competition. Jared volunteers regularly for chapter workshops and seminars. He and his wife Kati have two children, Austin (7) and Kiley (5). When he is not working, Jared enjoys camping, boating, cycling, and spending time with family and friends.

Wisconsin Chapter (United States)—Aaron Schauer

Aaron Schauer of Stevens Point, Wisconsin has been climbing for 12 years and will be competing in his first ITCC. He is an ISA Certified Arborist and has a B.S. in Urban Forestry and Forest Management from the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Aaron has worked for a variety of tree companies but started his own company, Trees 4 Life, in 2006 that primarily provides subcontracted climber services. He enjoys his work because it has given him the opportunity to travel and see many different tree species. Aaron is working on earning his MS in Forestry at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. When he is not working or traveling, Aaron enjoys camping, hiking, road/mountain biking, splicing, gardening, and food preservation.