

# South Dakota Arborist Association

## Tree Climbers Workshop

April 14 -15, 2010

9 am to 3:30 pm Wednesday,

9 am to 2 pm Thursday

Held on the grounds of South Dakota State University  
Rm 107, Horticulture-Forestry Building, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD

### **Come learn from the best – Donald F. Blair**

Don Blair is probably one of our best known and most respected arborists. He really did write the book as he is the author of *Arborist Equipment*, one of the top selling tree books published! Don Blair began climbing trees for a living with the M.F. Blair Tree Experts in Palo Alto, California and he is well known for 'big' tree work, removals and pruning including redwoods. Don is famous for his innovative climbing and rigging techniques and has been a featured, and much in demand presenter at climbing workshops throughout the world. Don is also the owner of Sierra Moreno Mercantile Company, an arborist equipment and supply company known for its unique and well-crafted climbing and rigging gear.

The workshop will begin at 9 am on Wednesday and start with some of the most critical, and often omitted, skills of climbing - site inspection and risk assessment. Next Don will go over personal protective equipment and how it should be utilized to truly be protective. The other topics to be covered during the two days include:

\*Basic line use and care as well as instruction on the most common climbing hitches, end-line and mid-line knots used in tree work.

\*Tree access with climbing lines and throw lines. The best techniques for gaining entry into the tree and the best places to tie-in to work a tree.

\*Work position in the tree. The best techniques to safely and efficiently move through the tree.

\*Proper use of chainsaws and hand saws on the ground and in the tree and basic rigging.

\*Descending techniques and aerial rescue.

Participants will receive much hands-on experience during this workshop and are encouraged to bring their own climbing gear, however helmets, harnesses, climbing lines and lanyards can be borrowed from the University for the two days. Everyone is expected to come with eye protection, work gloves and boots. Boots should be cut resistant, provide ankle support but not have a tall heel that may interfere with footlocking.

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## REGISTRATION FOR CLIMBING WORKSHOP

### Workshop registration

Name \_\_\_\_\_ SDArA member # \_\_\_\_\_ (not required)

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Phone number \_\_\_\_\_ home cell work

SDArA workshop **registration** @ \$69.00 (if postmarked before March 5, 2010, \$80 afterward) \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
(includes break refreshments, but lunches are on your own)

Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration may be faxed to 605-773-4003 or mailed to SDArA, P.O. Box 3, Pierre, SD 57601-0003. If you wish to be invoiced please return a copy of your completed registration with billing information.

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