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## 'I think that I shall never see a poem as lovely as a tree' ... Joyce Kilmer

Book by Scott Zanon focuses on best trees for the Midwest



Scott Zanon

By **Rex Huffman**  
The Times-Reporter  
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Thanks to a native of the village of Tuscarawas, and a 1979 graduate of the former Indian Valley North High, there now is a book focusing on trees most suitable for this part of the country.

Scott Zanon is the author of "Desirable Trees of the Midwest," a book designed to help individuals make the right decision when planting new trees or replacing existing trees.

Zanon provides information on 50 of his personal favorites and also helps the reader make the best decisions based on beauty, hardiness, site location, and the ability to grow turfgrass.

Zanon is the son of Isabel and Pius "Pio" Zanon, who still reside in Tuscarawas. He also has twin sisters, Jayne Huebner of Gnadenhutten and Janet Roth of New Albany.

He is a 1983 graduate of Ohio State University's College of Agriculture, where he majored in agronomy (turfgrass science) and horticulture (landscape horticulture). He currently is chair of the Green Committee at the OSU Golf Club and is the newest member of the Upper Arlington Tree Commission.

Zanon and his wife Susan reside in the Columbus suburb of Upper Arlington, a Tree City USA community.

Recently, Scott took time to answer eight questions for The Times-Reporter. Here's what he had to say:

Q. Can you tell us about your book?

A. When I was asked to chair the Scarlet Restoration Committee at The Ohio State University Golf Club in 2003 by then Director of Athletics Andy Geiger, little did I know that it would lead me to write this book. We removed quite a few trees from the Scarlet Golf Course and I quickly realized there were no guides or writings listing desirable trees for use in a wide range of areas. Trees are continually being removed because they: Obstruct a view or are overgrown, provide too much shade leading to a poor environment to grow grass, promote poor air circulation which encourages grass disease issues, are in decline because of age, or are diseased. It made sense that anyone should have a reference guide for re-planting if warranted with the idea to plant trees more suitable to the selected site.

The book is very user-friendly to all readers whether it is golf

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Q. How long did it take to write the book.

A. I worked on the book more off than on for four years.

Q. Did you have any particular habits when writing, such as writing at a particular time, etc.?

A. No not really.

Q. Do you have plans to continue writing?

A. Not at this point but you never know as I have many interests.

Q. How much research was involved in writing the book?

A. A very easy, short answer that should not surprise ... a tremendous amount of research and time in many different aspects.

Q. What words of advice would you have for someone interested in writing a similar type of book?

A. Writing a book takes discipline and requires much patience. It was a long journey; one that took longer than anticipated but nonetheless is very rewarding.

Q. Once the book was written, what was your next step?

A. To get the book published at an affordable price. After much research, I decided to self-publish. I had a clear vision of how I wanted the book to be formatted and presented and this allowed me to do such. The comments so far have been incredibly positive.

Q. Since the book focuses on "Desirable Trees for the Midwest," do you have a favorite tree?

A. Not a fair question (laughing). I have many.

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