



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.
<http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

MARCH 2017

VOLUME 42 NUMBER 3

BONSAI CALENDAR

All meetings are held on the second Thursday, 7 pm, at Lions Field Adult Community Center, Broadway at Mulberry St., SA, TX. 78209

BONSAI 101:—HELD EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY, 7 PM, LIONS FIELD. New members receive a tree to work on. All members are invited—bring in trees to work on, experienced members are there to help.

BONSAI WORKSHOP: —HELD THE SATURDAY AFTER THE THURSDAY NIGHT CLUB MEETING. LOCATIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED. Topic of discussion will be a follow-up to the Thursday night presentation. See website for locations. <http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

March Mini-show – No show due to Auction

March Food and Beverage Host – Virgie V., Evelyn K., & Roberto M.

March 9th – Club Meeting, 7 pm

March 11th – Soil Mixer at Ryan's house

April 6th to 9th – LSBF Convention

April 13th – Club Meeting, 7 pm



YEAR OF THE ROOSTER

President's Message

By Ryan O.

bonsaiode@gmail.com

ONE NIGHT ONLY!
ONE 2 HOUR TIME FRAME ONLY!!
ONE LOCATION ONLY!!!
IT'S AUCTION TIME!!!!

The club auction is a great way to buy/sell bonsai related items and make lots of money or spend lots of money..... I mean gain great trees and/or supplies!!!!!!

This spring's auction will also have a **silent auction** where members can write in bids on certain items within a designated time frame. At the end of the time frame, the highest bidder wins the item. If anyone has any "special" items that they would like to include in the silent auction please let me know. Same 80/20 payout as in the auction. We will have separate tables set up with bid sheets for the silent auction items.

Start looking over your collection if you have items to sell. For those of you buying, start your paperwork on loans or begging family and friends for money (just kidding). I kindly ask that ALL sellers have their selling tags filled out and attached to their items prior to arriving to the meeting. I want to get started right away as it takes nearly the full two hours to get through all the items. I kindly ask ALL buyers to arrive early to receive your bidding paddle. No paddle = no bidding. **Selling tags are attached to Donna's email.**

Saturday's Workshop (3/11) is our second annual "Soil Mixer" at my house. We will combine our ingredients, mix them up, and package up in buckets. I will have munchies and drinks on hand. PLEASE BRING A SHOVEL TO HELP MIX. MY address is . The fun begins at 9 am.

Thank you to all those that assisted during the Spring Home and Garden Show. Thank you to Kevin P. for redesigning our booth to fit the 10x10 space. We received lots of compliments on our space and our trees. We meet thousands of people, collected emails addresses of people interested in bonsai, and we hope to see a few new faces to our club.

We are still in need of **monthly host volunteers** for June, July, and September. A full meal is not needed, but small nibbles to feed the group is required. Remember you could always share a month with another member to help with costs/cooking and set-up.

Please pay Leydana your membership dues. **All due must be paid for by March 15th.** If you are unable to attend an upcoming meeting, you may mail your fees to Leydana R-M.

MARCH 2017 Program Corner

David W
redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

March 09, 2017 - This month's meeting we will be having our spring club auction; this is one of our major fundraisers! So bring your bonsai or pre-bonsai, extra plants; garden or bonsai related items (tools, books, pots etc); or whatever you think someone else will want to (buy) bid on. Oh, and definitely be ready to bid on items that you'll want! Get your bid paddle and sign in as soon you arrive. Early arrival is advised as we want to get busy and down to business ASAP.

Saturday March 11, 2017 09:00 – We will be doing another soil mixing party at Ryan O's casa. This is the soil mixture that I and other bonsai nursery peeps use.

The dig in New Braunfels went awesomely, so well we're doing it again next year some time January to early Feb 2018!! Look for the signup sheet coming soon. Please let Skip and Pam know how much we appreciate them hosting our dig! Here is his FACEBOOK page. <https://www.facebook.com/SkyPilotWoodWorks/>

MARCH Monthly Tips David W

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

March 2017 Winter has pretty much passed for me here but, we got to keep a close eye on the weather and don't let a late season cold front catch us off guard. After the hard freeze we had on Jan 8th, it's been a pretty normal late winter, some of my deciduous have started to bud so fast that I've missed their window of opportunity to root prune. And speaking of budding.... have you started repotted your bald cypress, elms, and other deciduous trees? It's been pretty warm and it may be getting too late if there are signs of new growth. The best time to root prune/repot deciduous trees is right **before** the buds swell or start to open, you have to watch them closely and you can see them open within a couple weeks, some can open in just a few days. Repotting and root 

Pruning.

Junipers can be repotted any time during March through early June. You can start repotting your broad leaf evergreens (holly, boxwood etc). Its too early in the season to root prune/repot your South Texas natives, tropicals and semi (sub) tropicals. We should wait until the lowest temperature of the day/night stays above 65-70 degrees for repotting South Texas natives and semi (sub) tropicals (Ficus, Barbados and Surinam cherry, Texas ebony and other natives). Tropicals should be repotted in midsummer (*Bahama berry, Bahama Black Olive, Buttonwood, Campeche, Fukien tea, Jaboticaba, Neea Buxifolia, Raintree and Wrightia Religiosa*, to name a few).

March and April are usually the windiest months of the year. Watch the soils every day so they don't dry out. When you repot, be sure to wire the tree securely in the pot to give it good stability against the winds. Putting rocks on top of the soil for a while can also help brace the tree. With spring (hopefully!) right around the corner, the bugs will be coming out in droves soon. Inspect the bonsai from top to bottom, also inspect the drain holes. Inspect for ANY and all insects and treat accordingly. I try to spray with insecticide and apply fungicide at least once every 4 weeks (these can sometimes be mixed with liquid fertilizers). If you discover an infestation treat according to the label of the pesticide. Watch your training wires, so they will not cut into the branches.

Look up your species in the *Green Book "Tree Care"* are very own reference manual for information.

Please note that this information is a suggested safe guideline for San Antonio and the South Texas area.

DAVID

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



Too much rain outside
Bonsai are not toads or frogs
Hello fungicide!

The leaves are too big
Defoliate! All are gone
Come back tiny leaves!

Bonsai is too tall
Will trim with sharp new cutters
Oops, is mame now.

Buzzing all around
Hummer on the cypress branch
She guards the bonsai.

TRW

FERTILIZERS

By David W

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

The secret to making your flowering bonsai trees, shrubs, annuals, and perennials bloom more –the answer is in the numbers. All fertilizers have analysis numbers on the package. These numbers represent the percentage of each chemical the product contains. For example, 20-20-20 is a typical garden fertilizer that would contain 20% nitrogen, 20% phosphorous, and 20% potassium.

Cont'd next paragraph

The quick explanation is; nitrogen produces vegetative, or top growth, phosphorous produces flower buds, fruit, and root development, while potassium builds strong healthy plants. Most lawn grasses are vigorous growers and therefore require significantly more nitrogen than the other plants in your yard. A lawn fertilizer has an analysis around 26-3-3, indicating a fertilizer high in nitrogen.

You would not want to use a fertilizer containing such a high percentage of nitrogen on other plants because it would be very easy to burn them. You must also keep in mind that many lawn fertilizers contain broadleaf weed killers. The fertilizer doesn't know the difference, and it will damage or kill ornamental trees and shrubs.

To encourage flower bud production you can apply a fertilizer that contains a small percentage of nitrogen, a higher percentage of phosphorous, and a little potassium. **Super Bloom** fertilizer 12-55-6 is a good brand because the product is sold as a bloom producer, the manufacturer also adds trace minerals like iron, manganese, and zinc, all good for your plants as well. Remember that fertilizers high in phosphorous will increase flower production. Most garden centers and nurseries carry similar products.

During the summer months the growth rate of most plants (not tropicals) slows down, and when plants are not actively growing, they need very little nitrogen. Although not vigorously putting on new growth, many plants such as **Rhododendrons**, **Azaleas** and some natives are quietly working to produce flower buds for next year.

Some choose a liquid fertilizer because liquid fertilizers are absorbed both through the roots and systemically through the foliage, so they work quicker. I use a sprayer that attaches to the end of the garden hose, but it's a little difficult to control the over spray. Do not use the same hose end sprayer that you use for lawn fertilizers. There could be residual weed killer still in the sprayer.

ALWAYS Read the application instructions on the container to determine how much fertilizer to apply, and how often. **Remember when applying fertilizers. "Not enough is always better than too much."**

**A SEA OF PHOTOS:
FEBRUARY WAS A BUSY MONTH FOR
SABS!**



DAVID DID THE DEMO
AND

GABE H.
WAS THE
WINNER!



THE YEAR OF THE ROOSTER THE ASIAN
FESTIVAL

AND THE
BONSAI EXHIBIT WAS READY!



12,000 PEOPLE ATTENDED
THE FESTIVAL!

GUESTS SIGNED UP ON OUR EMAIL
LIST. WE COLLECTED 4 PAGES OF

INTERESTED PEOPLE, MAYBE A
FEW NEW MEMBERS WILL BE
SHOWING UP FOR THE NEXT

MEETING!



DAVID AT IT AGAIN,
THIS TIME WE ALL

GOT TO GO
COLLECTING



THE TEXAS
PERSIMMONS

WERE
POPULAR!



LAST BUT NOT LEAST,
SABS ATTENDED THE

HOME &
GARDEN SHOW

LSBF Convention / Dallas 2017

by Sylvia Smith, Convention Chair

If you wondered why we chose the material we did for our bonsai convention, wonder no more. Here is a highlight of our available workshop trees!

Brazilian Raintree: It is a tropical, with a sinuous, exfoliating trunk that develops with age. The foliage folds its leaflets in half at night as if in prayer. This incredible specimen pictured, started life out not looking like much, but with time and good care developed into the beauty you see now. Follow the link below to see how it was accomplished, then sign up to add one to your collection!



<http://www.bonsaiempire.com/inspiration/progressions/brazilian-rain-tree>



Yaupon Holly: Very hardy trees that back bud readily and develop relatively fast. What more could you want from bonsai...except about a 5" or larger trunk base like the ones we have to for our workshop. How is this for a before and after transformation?! Check out this link to learn more about this great species.



Before

After

[holly-bonsai-a-tale-](#)

<https://bonsaitonight.com/2016/07/26/developing-yaupon-of-when-not-to-cut/>



Dwarf Yew: They have the potential for nice readily bud back and develop quickly. It is difficult to specimen but we've got them. Tony Tickle has a the progression of a yew on the web using the link workshop trees have amazing root bases making candidates for awesome *shohin* trees!

m/amp/s/yamadori.co.uk/2013/08/05/progressive-styling-on-the-tall-yew/amp/



Kashima Maple - Kashima maple by Bill Valavanis. Need we say more? How about the tiny leaf and its beautiful color?



LSBF Convention / Dallas 2017

Continued

Exposed Root Azalea: These Japanese imports are pretty much ready to style, pot and show! David Kruetz is the go-to-guy when it comes to azaleas. He imported these and they were in quarantine for 2 years. Since then he has cared for them and gotten them acclimated to our climate. Sign up soon for his workshop before these beauties are all gone too!



Literati Black Pine: We start with JBP that are strong, hardy conifers with aged bark at 15-20+ years. Below is a picture from Bill Valavanis' blog from the 33rd Nippon Bonsai Taikan-ten Exhibition. *Literati* style trees depict and with the right material, age and beauty. Our workshop trees (left) have great *nebari*, good trunk girth and enough back budding to start styling and preparing to groom into a fine show worthy *literati*!



So, don't delay. Register for the convention, sign up for any of these workshops and you will go home with fine bonsai to add to or start your collection!



SHARE IN THE FUN AND JOIN US IN DALLAS!!!



The informal upright style (Moyogi) is considered the most popular shape in all bonsai, especially suited to our native Ashe Juniper.

Our logo, represented by this informal style stands for the informal nature of the San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc. This popular, interesting style depicts the objectives of the Society—promoting participation and enjoyment of Bonsai. The emblem was adopted as the official logo in September, 1977.

THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY, INC.

sanantoniobonsai.org

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The *San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.* is a member of the *Lone Star Bonsai Federation, Inc.*
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