



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

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

FEBRUARY 2017

VOLUME 42 NUMBER 2

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>

FEBRUARY 4th- Asian Festival

FEBRUARY 9th - Club Meeting, 7 pm

FEBRUARY Mini-show-Favorite display item (i.e., pot, stand, rock, figurine, accent)

Food and Beverage Host – Sally C.

FEBRUARY 11th – Repotting workshop at Ryan's house.

FEBRUARY 24 – 26th - Spring Home and Garden Show.



President's Message

By Ryan O.

bonsaiode@gmail.com

Welcome to Bonsai 2017!

Looking over the schedule of events it appears we have changed the spelling of “busy” to “February.” Every Saturday is filled with an event this month. In addition, it is time to get those tools and pots cleaned.

On Saturday **February 4** is the annual **Asian Festival** at the Institute of Texan Cultures. I am so excited to have over 10 members participating in this event with many of these members new or have never attended this event before. I recently found out an interesting fact that ties the Asian Festival with bonsai and SABS – 30 years ago, our very own Marty K. performed a bonsai demo at the Sunken Gardens alongside a woman that displayed the Japanese flower arrangement, Ikabana, and a few hibachi cookers. Little did Marty and the others realize the event would continue for the next 30 years into this Saturday's Asian Festival.

On **Saturday 11th**, I am hosting a repotting workshop at my house. All are welcome to participate. Bring any and all items needed including tools, pots, trees, soil, and wire. Feel free to drop by anytime from 9 am to noon. I'll have snacks on hand. My address is

David W. is hosting a dig on **Saturday 18th** for all those that have signed up. David will put out a separate email to those signed up for the address and time.

Also in **February, beginning on the 24**, we are exhibiting at the **Spring Home and Garden Show**. We are looking for a few volunteers to help and display trees. Due to the demand of exhibitors, SABS' booth was cut in half to just a 10x10 by the show's organizers. A sign-up sheet will be passed around at February's meeting.

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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.

RYAN

January 2017 Program Corner

David W
redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

Our monthly meeting on February 9th will be about proper pot selection, repotting, and root pruning, Donna and I will be co-hosting. Donna will be showing us different pots and how to choose the best one for the tree. I will show the proper repotting and root pruning techniques. This is very helpful information, especially for beginners.

On Saturday, February 11th, there will be repotting workshop at Ryan's house, from 9:00 to noon. Bring all the necessary items needed such as pot, soil, tools, and wire. Bring a deciduous tree that has NOT budded out yet or a broadleaf evergreen or a conifer. With the warmer weather, deciduous trees are trying to bud, this can be slowed down (short term) by keeping the tree out of sunlight and watering with ice (enough to hydrate the tree) instead of the hose. With cold roots and no sun, the tree thinks it's still winter weather.

This Saturday, February 4th 2017, the club will be putting on a display at the Asian Festival. This is one of our biggest displays for the club so try to attend! Contact Ryan for more information about trees for display, attending and helping with setup or breakdown.

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On Sunday, February 12th, there will be a meeting of the Bald Cypress Study Group at my house from 11:00 till whenever we finish, lunch will be provided.

The next Saturday, February 18th, the club will be having our second collection opportunity to collect native species, this time it is going to be in the Hill country outside of New Braunfels. This dig has a limit of 12 attendees, we have a couple of spots left. See me at the meeting, you also call or email me.

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And last but not least, we have the **Spring Home & Garden Show** on Friday through Sunday, February 24th-26th. We'll talk more about that at the meeting. Gonna be a busy month y'all!

Bonsai bio of David W.

I have been growing and enjoying bonsai for 40+ years. Because of 2 moves in /out of California over the years, I'm currently on my fifth collection of bonsai, though this is the longest time into a collection that started in July 1994 when I moved back home to Texas the 2nd time and settled down here in the coastal bend. Now we have reduced our collection to a few hundred plants. Some of them are starters, seedlings, cuttings and some nursery stock in various stages of growth. I have lots of show quality and collected specimens too.

I started bonsai as a project while in high school spring of 1976. My dad was retired from the Air Force and he sparked my interest, talking about when he was stationed in Okinawa post WWII and saw plenty of bonsai while there. After high school I lived in New Orleans until 1979, where I found the New Orleans Bonsai club and met Vaughn Banting and was introduced to the Bald Cypress trees as bonsai. My first move to California in 1980 is when I became REALLY introduced the world of bonsai!

I was very fortunate to see awesome bonsai specimens and start an all new variety of trees. I went to several club meetings, shows and conventions in Southern California and from Sacramento to San Francisco to San Jose and pretty much of all the clubs in the Bay area. Over my time as a bonsai lover/ grower I met and took workshops/ classes from John Naka, Ben Oki, Harry Hirao, YugiYoshimura, Bill Valavanis, Guy Guidry, Masahiko Kimura, Chase Rosade, Melba Tucker, Dorie Froning, Mary Miller, Shigeru and Roy Nagatoshi, Mas Imazumi, Johnny Uchida, Carl & Shin Young, Mary Madison, Kathy Shaner, Terry Ward and Warren Hill.

In 1982 I moved back to San Antonio and found Leonard & Edith Sorge owners' of the Bonsai Farm.

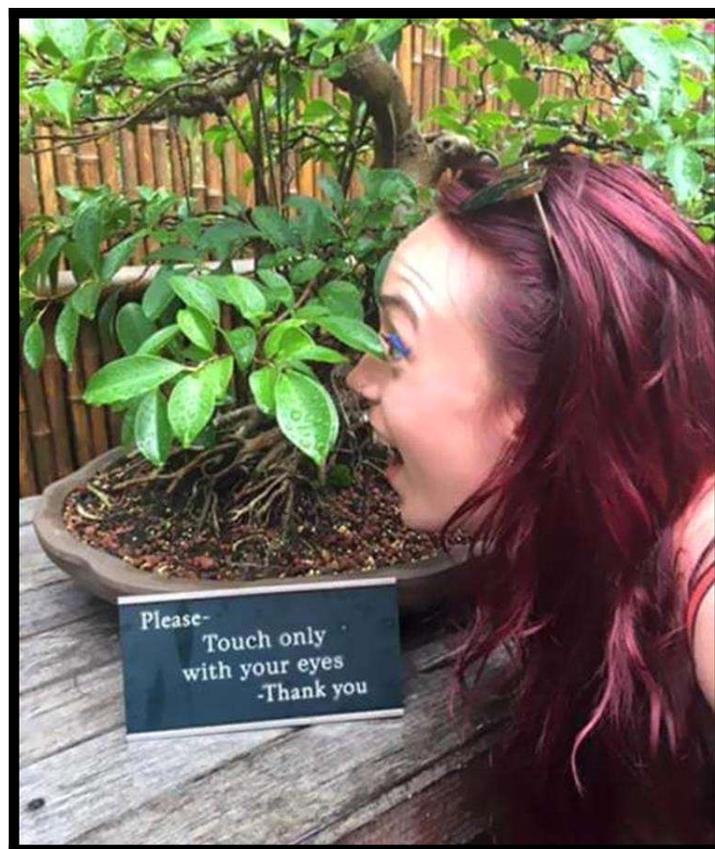
My first time there was on a Saturday morning, just in time for a SABS workshop. I joined the workshop (with Edith, Marty, Peg, Dawn, Paul, Denise, Larry and Richard) and club that day.

During the 1980s I had the privilege of being part of the Incorporating of the Texas clubs, the beginning of the LSBF and had the experience of a BCI and LSBF conventions from behind the scenes as a club and committee member. In 1988 SABS, LSBF, BCI cohosted the 1988 IBC. This was the first convention that I remember seeing a chainsaw used as a carving tool and behind it was the American Master himself John Naka!

I have been a member of the San Antonio Bonsai Society from 1982 – 1988 and 2012 to present, as member, VP and Board member.

While I visited several clubs in northern and southern California I never stayed very long in one place or had time to dedicate to a club. I was a member of CC group from 2002 – 2011, was co-editor of the newsletter with my wife from 2005 – 2010. I'm a founding and charter member of the South Texas Bonsai Kai.

I've collected yamadori in Texas from the Hill Country down through the Brush country and Coastal plains down to the Rio Grande Valley, in the Louisiana swamps, in the Florida Keys and in Northern California from the Sierras to the Pacific Coast. My wife and I enjoy collecting in the wild, it also gives us the opportunity to do bird and butterfly watching.



January Monthly Tips
David W
redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

Feb 2017 Well other than the 15 degree weather that we had on Jan 8th it has been pretty mild here, even so my native Anaqua and persimmons are pushing their buds right on out. Are you prepared for the new growing season? It is closer than you think! Keep your eyes on your deciduous trees, you want to root prune/repot them before the buds start swelling. It's risky if you do root pruning after the buds have opened and there is new growth of leaves. The window of opportunity can come and go real fast for us. If you have several to do, then you can do like I do and try to start repotting them in earlier and protect them from temperatures that get below 45.

When root pruning, remove 1/3 to 1/2 of the roots and leave the fine hair roots. If the branches need wiring or pruning, do it before you repot, because it is easier to shape them without leaves (remember to check the wire throughout the growing season as they will "cut in" as the tree swells with new growth).

Make sure you tightly wire your repotted trees into their pot. We want to protect our newly potted tree from the seasonal high winds. Along with wiring the bonsai into the pot, I add the support of rocks around the base of the tree, be careful not to harm the roots. The first few weeks after repotting are a crucial time for the new roots; you must anchor the tree to the pot securely! The newly growing roots are delicate, so do NOT fertilize for a few weeks, the new soil will have plenty of nutrients.

After you repot, bring it out to get some well deserved filtered or shaded sun for few days, and then place it accordingly to the needs of the species. Watch out for cold weather that might come screaming in during the end of winter, be prepared to shelter those trees if needed.

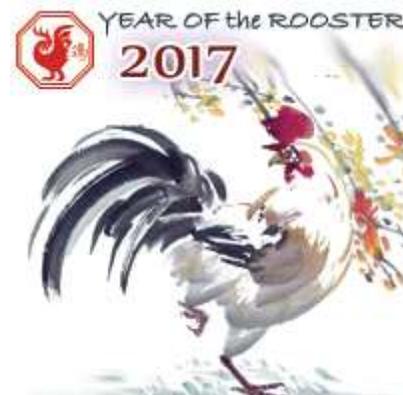
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Wait for a few weeks or so before you start trimming and pinching the new growth. Trimming branches increases branching and lets the light in so your plant will stay healthy. The more you trim and pinch, the better the ramification gets. Trim the new branch down to 2 or 3 leaves; continue this throughout the growing season. When trimming remember the basics, remove crossing, spokes, and the up & down branches. **Before trimming, check a species reference guide to see when it should be trimmed, we don't want to cut off any branches too soon that might be flowering &/or fruiting.**

Watch the soils every day so they do not dry out. All soils must be free draining. It is best to screen all your soils to promote good drainage, air flow and to get rid of the "fines" or dust. A good mix should be around 50% organic such as pine bark or fir bark and/or Akadama, some good potting soil, and 50% inorganic such as, granite, Haydite, Kanuma, expanded shale, or coarse sand. Adjust your formula accordingly to suit each species and keep in mind of your water pH and quality. Experiment with your own combinations and see what works best for your trees.

Inspect the bonsai from top to bottom. With the *warmer* weather we have during "winter" we should inspect for ANY and all insects and treat accordingly. I try to apply the practice of "an ounce of prevention", I treat with insecticide and apply fungicide at least once every 4 weeks. If you discover an infestation, treat according to the label of the pesticide.

DAVID



LSBF Convention / Dallas 2017

By Sylvia Smith, Convention Chair

Want to know more about our guest artists at the 2017 Convention in Dallas? Here are a few links to introduce you to this fantastic line up.

We are thrilled to host **Daisaku Nomoto**, winner of Kokufu Ten 2004, from Kyushu, Japan! The link below will take you to a fun Q&A hosted by Jonas Dupuich that was held early last year. If you scroll down a bit, it will then take you to several more links including Mr. Nomoto's garden and the work he has done.

<https://bonsaitonight.com/2015/01/16/ask-daisaku-nomoto-anything/>



Another artist that hardly needs an introduction and is probably one of the most humble guys I've met in bonsai is **Bjorn Bjornholm**. Referred to as the Brad Pitt of bonsai by Architectural Digest, one only need to scroll down to his CV and be blown away! Here is a link to his awesome website, who knows, you might even come out with some extra videos to boot.

http://www.bjorvalabonsaistudio.com/bjorn_bjorholm/



Although Juan Andrade is the newest face in bonsai, it's not because he's the least studied. Known as Bonsaitico in his home country of Santa Anna, Costa Rica, Juan just finished an apprenticeship at Aichi-en in Nogoya, Japan. A young, kind and fun guy, with a hunger for bonsai and talent to match! Below is a link to his Facebook page where you will see many of his fine before and after pictures.

<https://m.facebook.com/juan.andrade.bonsai>



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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