



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

APRIL 2023

VOLUME 48 NUMBER 4

BONSAI CALENDAR

APRIL 13: Club meeting, 6:30pm Lions Field. Exhibit of Trees by members

APRIL 22: Bonsai L/D at The Garden Center Nursery, 9am: Ryan will raffle off the bonsai he creates following L/D. Bring any trees you have questions about.

APRIL 22: Advanced wiring course by Hurley Johnson, 8am and 1pm, Donna's Studio.

APRIL 26: Fourth Wednesday, workshop, Lions Field, 6:30pm.

APRIL 28: 1 to 5pm Guest Artist: Jose Orland Rivera, BYOB workshop at Donna's Studio.

APRIL 29: 4th Annual BBB (Bonsai, Booze, and BBQ) at Kevin & Hatties 9am to evening. BYOT workshop by Jose, 9-1 afterward Jose will do L/D on a Ficus Cascade, will be raffled.

MAY 5: Bonsai Mixer, 9am, Ryan's House. Bring supplies.



President's Message

Kevin P. hattiel@gvtc.com

Our auction last month was well attended and successful. I want to thank Ryan for being our energetic auctioneer, plus his helpers, Board member Gabe, vice-president David and bread maker Joe for assisting him, as well as Jay who collected everyone's money, Vicky (his Vanna White), and all of you who bought something, or just added to the camaraderie, Thank you all!

Hattie has spent several days bringing everything out of the greenhouse (she told me that winter is over and no more freezing). She's never wrong, just ask her!

This month will be quite busy, with our Bonsai Exhibit (please sign up through Sign-up Genius) at our regular meeting on the 13th.

April 22nd will have us attend two wiring workshops at Donna's studio Saturday morning and afternoon. Limit to 8 per workshop. I've been wiring bonsai for a couple of decades now and I still need help in order to not cross wires and how to correctly wire from branch to branch, and when to wire from above and below. Hurley Johnson from *Timeless trees* in Rosenberg (Houston area) will be instructing us as well as bring bonsai supplies to sell (wire cutters, other tools and who knows what else!).

Ryan is also conducting a L/D at The Garden Center Nursery as well as have a mini exhibit. Those wanting to assist Ryan shall contact him.

April 28th Friday 1-5PM, we will be having a guest artist from Puerto Rico, Jose Orlando Rivera, doing a BYOT workshop at Donna's studio.

Saturday, April 29th - SABS's 4th annual BBB (Bonsai, Booze, and BBQ) at our house 9am to evening. It will start with a BYOT workshop by Jose, 9 to 1. Following the work-shop, Jose will be doing a lecture/demo on a beautiful Ficus cascade that will be raffled off later in the day.

PROGRAM CORNER

V.P. David Whitaker

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

SABS has a busy schedule coming up between April and June with several events requesting attendees and/or volunteers as well as our Monthly Food Hosts. See all sign-ups below.

Starting off this month, on April 13th we are having a formal bonsai display at Lyon's Field, using formal stands and shitakusa (accent companion plant), suiseki or scrolls are an optional choice and are usually used together in harmony. Kusamono are stand-alone accent plants. Sign up below.

April 22nd, 10am-3pm. The Garden Center on Bandera Road, Ryan will be doing a Lecture/Demo

Exhibit (tree to be raffled off). Bring trees you have questions about and check with Ryan if there's space to exhibit some of your trees. Please contact Ryan if you can assist and/or attend.

April 22nd at Donna's studio, Hurley Johnson is leading 2 wiring class with bring-your-own boxwood trees.

Workshops are from 8am to 12pm and the afternoon is from 1pm to 5pm with limit of 8 per class. Sign-up is below.

April 26th is our monthly 4th Wednesday night bring your own tree workshop.

On the 28th at Donna's studio, Bonsai Artist Jose Rivera from Puerto Rico will lead our first workshop from 1pm to 5pm. His specialty is on tropicals so, you can bring up to 3 trees. Fee \$25, see sign up link below.

On the 29th at Hattie and Kevin's casa during the annual B&BBQ, Jose will lead his second workshop, remember tropicals (not pines or maples) starting 9am. Fee \$25, see sign up link below.

And in the early afternoon, Jose will give a formal Lecture / Demo on a very huge green island cascade that will be raffled off afterwards (bring your cash for this)!

Club Meeting Food Hosting:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4BA8AF2CA1FF2-20231>

April Meeting Formal Exhibit:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4BA8AF2CA1FF2-formal>

Advanced Wiring Workshop with Hurley Johnson:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4BA8AF2CA1FF2-advanced>

Jose Rivera Workshops:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4BA8AF2CA1FF2-jose>

4th Annual Beer, BBQ, and Bonsai Event:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4BA8AF2CA1FF2-beer>

Soil Mixer

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4BA8AF2CA1FF2-bonsai1>

San Antonio Botanical Gardens Exhibit and Workshops

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0B4BA8AF2CA1FF2-sanantonio>

April Monthly Tips

By David W.

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April 2023 monthly tips: I think spring is here, it has been a typical sporadic stretched out long winter. Everything has been growing pretty well now. If you haven't already started repotting semi-tropicals you might want to wait a couple of more weeks. If you do, which you can do now but, you want to protect them from any cold fronts that come rolling in. It is safest to wait until ALL the cold fronts come through our area. A safe rule to remember, when root pruning/repotting semi-tropical and South Texas natives, is to wait until the lowest temperature of the night stays above 65 degrees. I and others have had success repotting at earlier dates in the season, when we do we have to give it all the things it needs like the correct high and low temperatures every 24 hours, the correct light and humidity. It's the same way you treat an "indoor bonsai" during the winter. I try not to take too many risks, I really don't like to lose a loved tree. We just need to be patient. It's too early in the season to repot your tropicals. Tropicals need to be repotted in summer (Fukien tea, Bahama Black Olive, Primna, Escambron, Buttonwood, Wrightia and Neea Buxofolia). When repotting, 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 few days can also help brace the tree against the seasonal winds.

It's **NOT** recommended to re-pot any deciduous trees that you need to root prune. When the tree has pushed its buds open that is the sign it is too late, they should be root pruned before this happens. If you must re-pot due to problems with a tree, change the pot or repot it in larger container with fresh soil all around, including the bottom and DO NOT prune the roots. Deciduous trees have very tender roots during the growing season.

April can be a windy month for us, watch the soils every day so they do not dry out. As the heat increases so will the water needs. Inspect the bonsai from top to bottom, also inspect the drain holes. Inspect for ANY and all insects and treat accordingly. If you discover an infestation treat according to the label of the pesticide. I try to spray with insecticide and apply fungicide at least once every 4 weeks.

As I've mentioned in the past, "know your species". You should know the information of each and every type of plant you have! What it needs are as far as water, light (full sun exposure, shaded, morning only) placement through-out the seasons, is it tropical, is it deciduous, its max low and high temp it should be exposed to, when to & not to trim, when to repot, can it be defoliated, does it back bud, is the bud back near the trunk or at the end of the branch, fertilizing, trimming, clipping, pinching, wiring... getting the picture?? We can find most of the information we need from our very own published SABS' "Bonsai Tree Care" book, this little green book has the low down on over 86 species and covers most of our well known species we use here! You can purchase this awesome bonsai book from our club.

Pretty much everybody's back yards are growing by now, so do not forget to prune, pinch and also fertilize. When trimming back on most trees (except junipers) you want to trim back to the second or third node of leaves to reduce leaf size and node length. Elm trees have alternating leaves and should be pinched down to the 2nd or 3rd leaf so it will grow back in the direction you'd want the branch to grow. Be sure to alternate the direction you pinch on different branches so all the branches don't end up growing into each other. Maples have opposing leaves and should be pinched to the second node. As the two buds emerge, pinch back the one you don't want or is growing in the wrong direction. The sooner you pinch the young, tender emerging leaves the shorter the nodes will be, I've used tweezers to get the very tiny leaves.

I've read that the Japanese also use a magnifying glass along with tweezers to see the emerging leaves. Flowering trees are either setting buds or are already starting to bloom. Feed them regularly with a good blooming fertilizer one that has a high phosphorus number (like Super Bloom) and stop feeding when you see the buds start to swell. Use Hasta-Gro, fish emulsion or a good organic on all others. A couple times a year, I'll use Ironite and Epsom salt to green things up and replace lost minerals caused by our frequent watering of bonsai. You can mix your fertilizers with fungicide when applying.

The following 2 pages is information pertaining to our Guest Artist Jose O. Rivera. Mr. Rivera is an outstanding bonsai artist from Puerto Rico. Mr. Rivera graciously translated his resume from Spanish to English for us.

Jose Orlando Rivera



BIOGRAPHY

My name is José O. Rivera and I started in the art of Bonsai in September 1984. After attending a conference given by the Master Mr. Adán Montalvo in Plaza Las Américas Mall, I became interested and became a member of the Club de Bonsai De Puerto Rico.

Within the Bonsai Club of Puerto Rico, he reached the Presidency of the San Juan Chapter four times. I took the Basic, Intermediate and Advanced courses with my master at the time, Mr. Adán Montalvo. My beginning in this art was with a Ficus Microcarpa which I still have in my collection, which is the logo of the Bonsai in the Tropics Forum and Study Group which I direct.

I have participated in several Bonsai conventions inside and outside of Puerto Rico:

2009- 10th Asia-Pacific Bonsai Suiseki Convention & Exhibition en Taiwan in which I had the honor of assisting my current teacher Salvatore Liporace on stage.

2012- FELAB 2012 in Brasil

2012- Participation in the 2nd Tatsugoro Congress, Fortín de las Flores, Veracruz, Mexico

2012- Demonstrator at X FEMEXBO National Convention in Chapala, Jalisco Mexico

2011 y 2012- I have been working every six months on the Bonsai of the different species of Ficus for the Tatsugoro Museum, located in Fortín de las Flores in Veracruz, Mexico.

2014- Demonstrator in Mexico for Club Bonsai Monterrey

2016- Demonstrator for the Dominican Bonsai Club

February de 2019- I was able to go to Italy to complete my 4-year Master's degree from the European School in Bonsai Botanical Studio with Master Salvatore Liporace. While in Milan, Italy, I visited Belgium to attend the convention "The Best 20 Years Trophy"

September 2019- Visit to Havana, Cuba as Demonstrator and lecturer for the clubs, Bonsai Habana and Cuba Bonsai Club Online

February 2020- I attended the most famous bonsai exhibition at a professional level, the Kokufu-ten in Tokyo, Japan.

Enero 2023- I attended the IV UBE Bonsai Convention, in Aranjuez, Madrid

Jose Orlando Rivera



EDUCATION

2009-2012– Advanced Bonsai studies at the European Bonsai School of Puerto Rico by Salvatore Liporace.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

2009– Bronze Medal at WBC 2009 Olympics Shohin Bonsai Photo Contest

2009– Honorable Mention in “The 2009 WBFF World Bonsai Photo Contest”

2010– Honorable Mention Photo Contest BCI 2010

2010– First place in the Pedro J. Morales Award 2010

2014– Photographic Contest “Felab Photo Contest 2014”

I had the following recognitions:

Best Joki-zukuri on Contest Arthur Adkinson Price

Best Banjan on Contest Emigdio Trujillo Price

2018– Best Shohin Bonsai in Bonsai Symposium 2018

2019– Honorable Mention in World Shohin Photo Awards 2019 in Japan.

Workshops and Demonstrations taken with Masters of Bonsai:

Salvatore Liporace

Suthin Sukosolvisit

Nacho Marin

Juan Andrade

Min Hsuan Lo

Felipe González

Pedro J Morales

Marco Invernizzi

Robert Steven

Luis Vallejo

As leader of the Bonsai in the Tropics Forum and Study Group, we organize two annual Bonsai Exhibitions at the Plaza Centro De Caguas Shopping Center in PR. At the National level in the month of June 2019 we organized the 10th Anniversary of the Bonsai Study Group in the Tropics at the Luis Muñoz Marín Foundation in San Juan.

I currently work on private Bonsai collections in Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic.

Bonsai in the Tropic

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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



Redhawk
BONSAI

Cultivating Bonsai Since 1976

Nursery Floral Class 2 Lic #0822998

DAVID WHITAKER

*Lone Star Bonsai Federation Artist
Lecture-Demos & Workshops*

*South Texas Bonsai Kai Founder
3rd Saturday of September*

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THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY, INC.

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