



# SNIPS 'N CLIPS

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

FEBRUARY 2018

VOLUME 43 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 8, 7 PM, MEETING NIGHT, BRING NURSERY STOCK BONSAI MATERIAL and CONTEST. Nick B.**

**FEBRUARY Mini-show - YOUR FAVORITE BONSAI, SHOW AND TELL.**

**Food and Beverage Host –**

**FEBRUARY 10--dig, collecting AT SKIPS.**

**FEBRUARY 17 - Asian Festival, San Antonio-all day. Shohin Society at Persimmon Hill, Austin, TX. 10 am to 2 pm**

**FEBRUARY 24– MONTHLY WORKSHOP**



## President's Message

Klaus C.

[collklaus@yahoo.com](mailto:collklaus@yahoo.com)

I heard great reviews about our tool maintenance and sharpening workshop. Joey got us ready to working on the trees that you should have purchased by now. Again, as promised we will have some more hands on as our focus. Nick will have us working on our trees for the meeting in February. Buy a tree and bring it with you along with your tools and see how you'll shine! This activity is always very enjoyable.

If you are still carrying your club dues bring those also, February is the deadline for dues.

Our raffles have been phenomenal, both in donations and in participation of raffle sales. PLEASE continue your contributions to the raffle

We are also soliciting items for our Auction in March and this is a lot of fun, with bidding wars and fantastic items to add to your collection AND this helps to fund our top quality speakers and workshops for the year.

We have an April convention we can attend in Longview. Buddy up with a fellow member and enjoy the fellowship. Its a great opportunity to see and learn with some fabulous bonsai artists.

Weather permitting we have some digs in Mathis, TX and in New Braunfels, both in February.

KLAUS

## JANUARY 2018 Program

Nick B.

[nick.browne637@gmail.com](mailto:nick.browne637@gmail.com)

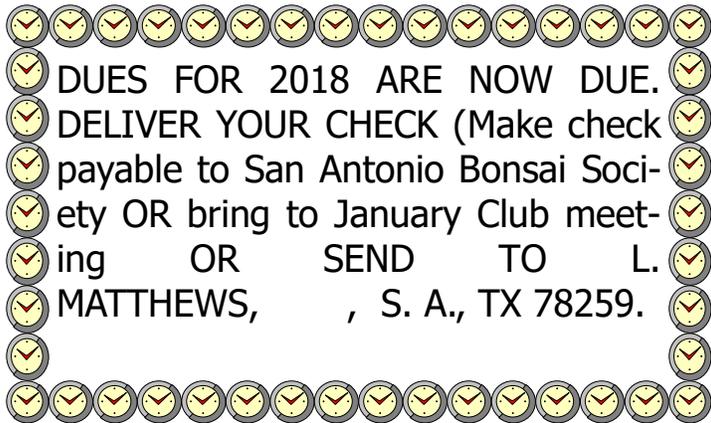
People born in the Year of the Dog are usually independent, sincere, loyal and decisive according to Chinese zodiac analysis. They are not afraid of difficulties in daily life. These shining characteristics make them have harmonious relationship with people all around.

### Strengths

Valiant, loyal, responsible, clever, courageous, lively

### Weaknesses

Sensitive, conservative, stubborn, emotional



### CURRENT MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY

\$30 individual  
\$50 family  
\$25 senior 60+  
\$40 senior family

**THE TEXAS STATE BONSAI EXHIBIT WAS  
ESTABLISHED IN 2000.  
IF YOU HAVE NOT OPENED YOUR TTSBE  
NEWSLETTER PLEASE TAKE THE TIME, IT  
IS OF UP MOST IMPORTANCE THAT EVERY  
BONSAI MEMBER GET BEHIND THE EX-  
HIBIT THROUGH DONATIONS AND/OR  
VOLUNTEERING !!!  
HAPPY NEW YEAR!!**

The Attendance at the Wednesday workshop was great last month. We had lots of great trees to work on and observe, many new faces, and even a reporter taking pictures for the Express News!

We are excited about the February contest and I hope you have enjoyed the hunt for the perfect tree. There are many hidden treasures at the garden centers around San Antonio. I plan on going to each one. Also, lots of people liked the show and tell at the last meeting. So if you have a tree you would like to share please do!

In the meeting we will have tables setup in stations so we can all work on the trees together. Make sure to bring your tools! Judging will be at the October auction. I think this will be an interesting experiment and lesson in searching for bonsai stock.

The convention is right around the corner, and any trees we start this year will probably not be ready by the convention in Longview. So work on your collection and prepare for the next Convention in 2019.

I would like us to have a strong showing, we have a lot of talent and experience in our club and I want to make sure we showcase it as best we can!

NICK



PROTOCOL FOR THE WHYS  
AND WAYS OF CARING FOR  
OUR BONSAI TOOLS

JOEY M. WAS OUR PRE-  
SENTER FOR THE  
JANUARY MEETING.

JOEY IS A LONGSTANDING  
MEMBER OF THE AUSTIN  
BONSAI SOCIETY.

THE CHAIRMAN OF THE  
TEXAS STATE BONSAI  
EXHIBIT WHICH IS CUR-  
RENTLY BEING PLANNED  
FOR PLACEMENT AT ZILKER  
GARDENS IN AUSTIN.



HE WILL BE VISITING US  
AGAIN IN A FEW MONTHS TO  
TEACH US ALL ABOUT 'AIR  
LAYERING' FACTS AND PRO-  
TOCOLS.

ON A PERSONAL NOTE: JOEY RUNS  
THE FAMILY BUSINESS;  
"MCCOY JEWELCRAFT"  
OF AUSTIN, TX.

THANKS JOEY FOR YOUR  
GENEROUS OUT POURING OF  
INFORMATION ON THE  
DIFFERENT ASPECTS OF  
BONSAI.

**TEXAS STATE  
BONSAI  
EXHIBIT  
COLLECTION**



SINCE THIS IS THE MONTH TO CELEBRATE VALENTINES. I HAD TO RETAIN THIS IMAGE OF "BONSAI IN SNOW" FROM THE TEXAS STATE BONSAI COLLECTION. PERFECT COLOR TO BRIGHTEN UP THE HOLIDAY!!

**LIKE US ON  
FACEBOOK**



**THE NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY  
MEETS MONTHLY AT LIONS  
FIELD. A WONDERFUL  
SISTER CLUB. OFFERING  
INFORMATION ABOUT OUR  
ENVIRONMENT.**

**NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY**

**February 27th, 2018 CHAPTER MEETING:  
Helping All Wildlife Through the Mayor's Monarch  
C h a l l e n g e**

San Antonio was awarded the status of Monarch Champion City. San Antonio is facing the challenge to make our city a beneficial community to pollinators, especially monarch butterflies, whose populations have declined by 90% in recent years. Come hear Judit Green, Urban Wildlife Biologist for Texas Parks & Wildlife, describe the program and tell us what we can do to pitch in. San Antonio is on the IH35 corridor, which coincides with a major flyway of migrating monarchs. We can easily make a difference in our yards, school grounds, business landscape areas, and public city spaces

## FEBRUARY BONSAI TIPS, BY ALAN WALKER

Beware of complacency. Arctic fronts can zoom in without warning (and contrary to predictions of the Weather Channel, etc.) and severely damage or kill those trees you've been letting enjoy the balmy weather.

Elms typically sport with new leaves in late January in our neighborhood. Other trees have swelling buds. As delightful as it is to see this right now, it is really an indication that the trees may be less robust this year due to the brief dormancy period. These trees are at their greatest vulnerability for frost and freeze damage. A quick freeze after spring bud break will damage strong trees and kill weak trees. Forewarned is forearmed.

Typically February is the last month in which we can shape deciduous trees while they are still dormant. It is much easier to prune and wire trees in dormancy because the foliage is not there to hide individual branches and twigs. Be careful not to rub off any important buds as you work. If you are partial to lush foliage, you might find yourself less sentimental about cutting unnecessary branches while they are naked.

Look over your trees for any training wire which needs to be removed. As buds start swelling, so do the branches and twigs. Spring growth is often remarkably fast, particularly on relatively young material, and a branch can become scarred very quickly. Check any wired material for potential scarring at least once a week.

It's time to have your soil ingredients together for repotting. Our recent wet weather emphasizes the need to keep soil mixes light and quick draining. Make sure your soils are dry and sifted. Go easy on organic content for most trees. You can add nutrients in controlled amounts later by fertilizing. Vaughn Banting has made the follow "For deciduous material and most broadleaf evergreens use a completely dry mix composed of roughly one part leaf mold, peat moss or other decomposed organic material to three parts coarse soil, fine aquarium gravel or a baked clay particle such as 'hadite' along with two parts garden loam or unimproved potting soil.

All soil mixes need to be very dry, so that they can be worked in between the exposed roots and rootball of your tree. Dry soil worked in well with a chop stick or a pencil will eliminate dangerous air pockets.

For azaleas follow the above mix but increase the peat moss to four or five parts. Use only peat for the organic part of the mix as the slight acid reaction it provides is just what azaleas require.

If you plan to pot junipers, pines, cedrus, or other needle evergreens, use a mix of roughly one part organic material that has a minimal acid reaction, such as 'black cow' manure or leaf mold to five or six parts coarse sand or fine gravel with two or three parts garden soil." These are not the only successful soil recipes, but they will ensure a well drained soil.

You may want to start a little earlier on repotting this year due to the early budding of our deciduous trees. That seems to be a common occurrence resulting from the atmospheric changes called the "greenhouse effect". It is better to have repotting done early enough to allow the roots to start regenerating before foliage appears. Decide which trees you will be working with first and plan ahead which pots you will use for each.

Repot your early budding trees before late leafers such as cypress. Broadleaf evergreens can be done later, and evergreen conifers can be done last. February is a good month to use dormant oil spray prior to leafing out. Don't spray oilicide if the predicted low is less than 45°. Keep the spray off evergreen material as long as the danger of frost exists.

February is still prime time for collecting. Primed as they are for their annual growth cycle, trees can withstand more trauma now than any other time of the year. After bud break your risk goes up. If you have access to any area which may be collected, please call any club officer, so we can schedule a dig.

ALAN WALKER IS A MEMBER OF THE LAKE CHARLES BONSAI SOCIETY AND REGULAR CONTRIBUTOR TO THE LCBS NEWSLETTER.



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](http://sanantoniobonsai.org)

Webmaster: Ryan O.

President:  
Secretary:  
Publicity:  
Raffles

Klaus C.  
Sally C.  
Ryan O.  
Diane C.

Vice President:  
Treasurer/Membership  
Directors at large:

Nick B.  
Leydana M.  
Larry A., John R., Donna D.,

Snips 'N Clips is published monthly by The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.  
Subscription and membership is \$30.00 per year.

Advertising for Snips 'N Clips is based on the minimum size of 3 1/2" by 2 1/2" for \$45 per year. Single ads of the above size can be run for \$5. Ads must be camera ready. The Editor must receive changes in existing ads by the 20th of the month preceding the month of publication. Send ads and payment to San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc., Attn: Advertising, P.O. Box 6658, San Antonio, Texas, 78209. For situations other than the above, please contact the Editor, [two2views@yahoo.com](mailto:two2views@yahoo.com). Original articles from Snips 'N Clips may be reprinted only in their entirety. Full credit must be given the author and to Snips 'N Clips.

All correspondence should be addressed to:

**San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 6658**  
**San Antonio, Texas, 78209**

The *San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.* is a member of the *Lone Star Bonsai Federation, Inc.*  
*Bonsai Clubs International*, and the *American Bonsai Society*,  
*SABS is a non-profit 501c (3) organization*



Newsletter editor: Donna D, [two2views@yahoo.com](mailto:two2views@yahoo.com)