



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

NOVEMBER 2020

VOLUME 45 NUMBER 11

BONSAI CALENDAR

**THIS MEETING TO BE HELD AT DON B'S
FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER.**

**NOV. 12: NOVEMBER PROGRAM:
PREPARATIONS FOR THE EXHIBIT AT
THE SAN ANTONIO BOTANICAL
CENTER.**

**To be held at Don B's business
1924 N. Main Ave.
San Antonio, TX 78212
Time: 6:30 to 9 pm.**

**KEEP THE FAITH WE WILL BE TOGETHER
AGAIN AND SABS BONSAI WILL LIVE ON.**

**THE BOARD MEMBERS ARE LOOKING AT
ALTERNATIVE WAYS WE CAN SOCIALIZE
AND CONTINUE LEARNING ABOUT
BONSAI.**



President's Message

Jay N. [bonsai-jay @satx.rr.com](mailto:bonsai-jay@satx.rr.com)

Happy November Everyone!!

The next San Antonio Bonsai Society meeting is on November 12th on the outdoor patio at Don's office located at 1924 N. Main St., S.A., TX 78212. Meeting starts at 6:30.

Voting on the new members of the Board of Directors took place prior to and at the October meeting. Combining the online and in-person vote totals during the meeting. Joining the remaining Board Members of David R., Jim H., Kevin P., and Vicki A. are Ryan O., Chancy B., Steve B., Conrad G., and Don B. Your new officers for 2021 are: Ryan – President, David – Vice President, Kevin – Treasurer, and Vicki – Secretary.

The main focus of November's meeting will be to discuss and plan for the Bonsai Exhibit the following weekend. The San Antonio Botanical Gardens has requested the San Antonio Bonsai Society to hold exhibits (yes, more than one) within the Gardens. The first of these will be November 14th & 15th. The society will need volunteers of both trees and people for this event. Please consider helping any way you can.

See you soon!

Be safe, stay healthy!! Jay

**TO RECAP THE NEWLY ELECTED AND CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS
FOR 2021**

NEW: RYAN O. PRESIDENT

DON B.

CHANCEY B.

CONRAD G.

STEVE B.

CURRENT: VICKY A. SECRETARY

JIM HINKLE

DAVID R. VICE-PRESIDENT

KEVIN P. TREASURER

**THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR YOUR WILLINGNESS TO SERVE.
IT IS GOING TO BE A GREAT TIME HAD BY ALL!!**

THINK GREEN!!

**ANOTHER MONTH TO BE ABLE TO WORK
TOGETHER, PLANNING THE EXHIBIT AT THE
SAN ANTONIO BOTANICAL CENTER
NOVEMBER 14TH & 15TH.**

SEE YOU AT DON ' S

NOVEMBER 12TH

NOVEMBER Bonsai Care by John Miller

You may need to reconsider your preparations for taking your bonsai into winter this year. If they were damaged with the high temperatures they may be growing new roots or the new foliage may not get sufficiently hardy. If you had damage I would suggest you work on the safe side and give those trees a little more protection and care. New roots would require closer attention to watering. Have your winter quarters clean and ready so that you can put your trees there quickly in the event a freeze is forecast. But don't put them there too soon as they are easier to care for up on the bench. Some use an unheated garage. I prefer to set the pots on a gravel area on the ground. This utilizes the ground heat to keep the roots from freezing. The pots can then be covered with a loose mulch for insulation.

Do not cover the ground with plastic, it will hold puddles of water. Watch the weather so you can protect tender and semi-hardy plants. I prefer to keep them outside as long as possible but you should remember that frost, which can damage tender leaves, can occur at temps in the upper thirties. I watch the dew point temp which is when the moisture condenses out of the air. ***Clear nights with no wind along with that low dew point really spell trouble.*** Most important in winter is to keep the soil moisture at a proper level. This sometimes is hard to do because the trees do not use as much water as when they are growing. However the cold winds will dry out the tops quickly. ***I believe that most winter damage in Texas is due to the lack of water rather than low temperatures.*** Mulch helps keep the roots warm and retards evaporation but it makes for difficulty in seeing if the soil is damp enough. Most soils with enough organic material to keep the tree happy in the summer will be too wet, if watered daily in the winter and wet cold means root rot. Try to position them so you can check the soil. If you are not watching the soil in their pots you may either get root rot fungus or it dries out, either way — you have a finished (***for you beginners that reads dead***) bonsai. It is easier to care for if you have them under roof, that way you know you need to tend to watering. ***Fall is an important time in controlling pathogens.*** Try to get any eggs, over-wintering insects, and fungal spores. A horticultural oil spray should be applied (***but not on buttonwoods***) during the winter to control scale. It will also get any over-wintering insects or eggs. This purpose is what lime-sulphur was first used for, and some Japanese still use it, but the oil is safer on bonsai and may be used on evergreens where the lime-sulphur should not be used. Again, do not use oil based spray on buttonwoods. After moving the bonsai, it would be a good idea to spray the benches with a stronger lime-sulfur to kill insect eggs and mold spores.

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NOVEMBER BONSAI CARE, CONT'D

If you will be putting the trees back under the benches for the winter, move the trees away and spray them. It would be good to have enough cold to stop the insect activity on the trees so you will not re-infest the area when the trees go back to await the cold weather.

By this time any tropicals you have should be under cover. Most do not like the temp below 50 degrees. All tropicals should be checked and treated for any insect problems since any insects will multiply fast when they get into warmer quarters. Spider mites and scale can be especially damaging if the plant is moved in the house where the humidity is low. The semi-tropical plants like crape myrtle, pomegranate and pyracantha need to go dormant to stay healthy over a long time but they cannot take much cold on the roots. They will be killed by temps somewhere between 25 and 30 degrees. These I set down on the ground and mulch for light freezes and then bring into a protected area for the colder winter. Sometimes I will let them go dormant for a month and then take them and some Shohin into the greenhouse to start early and I can enjoy their new foliage in January.

The general wisdom is that dormant trees need no fertilizer. However, as long as the soil is not frozen there will be some root activity. I do not add any fertilizer to dormant trees but I will leave the organic fertilizer cakes on until spring in case they happen to get some good out of them. The organics will not break down much in cold weather anyway. Evergreen types (e.g. pines, junipers, yaupons and live oaks) however continue some activity and therefore can use a small amount of low nitrogen fertilizer ***BIG NOTE:*** If you have a tree that is weak and unhealthy you should not attempt to style it in any way, just get it happy by adjusting its soil, feeding, and getting rid of any parasites. Styling just adds to its stress and problems. Fall and winter is the proper time to do wiring, styling, and plucking work on pines. Repotting is saved until growth starts in the spring and candle pruning in summer. Other conifers may also be worked on. When trees go dormant which indicates a reduced sap flow they may be pruned, ***that is having major limbs removed.*** Trimming may also be done while the leaves are off the trees and you can see what you are doing. Evergreen types will probably still be active. Pruning them should be held until later. Take advantage of the slowdown in bonsai care to determine your repotting needs? Be sure to label the use of each type of mix so you won't forget what is what. ***THE END***



THIS IS ACTUALLY A TREE IN TEXAS, YES! SAN ANTONIO,
PHOTO TAKEN NOV. 4TH!!

**REDHAWK
BONSAI** Bonsai Nurseryman
South Texas Bonsai Kai
Lecture/Demo & Workshops

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CURRENT MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR
THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY

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



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

FACEBOOK: @sanantoniobonsai TWITTER: SATXBonsai

INSTAGRAM: @sanantoniobonsai

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.**

Bonsai Clubs International, and the **American Bonsai Society**,

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Technical Support to Board of Directors Ryan O.

