



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

APRIL 2017

VOLUME 42 NUMBER 4

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>

APRIL Mini-show—Informal Upright.

APRIL Food and Beverage Host – Paul & Dawn T.

APRIL 13th – Club Meeting, 7 pm

APRIL 6th- 9th LSBF Convention DALLAS

APRIL 15th – Fertilizer cakes with Klaus at John R's home.

APRIL 26th – Bonsai Workshop, 7 pm



YEAR OF THE ROOSTER

President's Message

By Ryan O.

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IT'S CONVENTION TIME!!!!!!

If you are going to the Dallas convention in a few days, are your trees looking nice? Did you dress the pot by cleaning it; did you apply a top dressing of lava and moss? Remember to bring tools and a little more top dressing in case you hit a nasty bump, in the road, on the way and need to touch up your display. In addition, and more importantly, don't forget your toothbrush and a clean pair of underwear!!! To all those going, I hope you all have a great time, learn a lot in the workshops, buy a lot to support our Bonsai community, and bring back great photos and memories.

Thank you to all those that participated in March's auctions. The live auction had a smaller than normal attendance, but made up for with high quality bonsai related items leading to \$2,000 in net sales. We tried something different and in addition held a silent auction with some very nice items being offered. It went well also. Thank you to our Austin friends for attending as well. They battled a large thunderstorm to make it to our auction.

Chris L. was unable to attend March's auction due to health issues. To make up for his absence, he is bringing a few trees from his personal collection for a mini silent auction, in April. Be sure to bring your "game plan" for winning these trees.

Last month's soil mixer created nearly thirty 5 gallon buckets of club soil/substrate. A large group pre-sifted the materials prior to packaging. The Club recommends one final sift using your 5/8" screen before using. It takes about only 4 minutes to get through a 5 gallon bucket. I will bring a bunch of buckets to April's meeting for you to purchase. Cost is \$25 per 5 gallon.

RYAN

APRIL 2017 Program Corner

David W
redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

The 2017 LSBF convention in Dallas will be Thursday April 6th to Sunday April 9th. This year's Guest Artists will be Bjorn Bjorholm, Daisaku Nomoto, and Juan Andrade, along with others. For more information and registration, visit their website www.bonsaisocietyofdallas.com or the following link will take you to a PDF file -

<http://www.lonestarbonsai.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Registration-Form-and-Workshop-Listing-2017.pdf>

April 13, 2017 This monthly meeting we are having our very own board member Klaus C share with us about his knowledge on fertilizers and how, why and when we should use them. He will present us with numerous types and what they do. On Saturday April 15th Klaus will show us how to mix up some 'old school fertilizer cakes' from raw components over at John R's house in Spring Branch.

Klaus and Diane are fairly new to bonsai, they found our local Saturday L/D at **Rainbow Gardens** last year and joined our **SABS** then. Both are very active members and have been learning from every member everything they can about bonsai. Their knowledge on fertilizing had come from a number of questions and after long research with lots of trial and error. Klaus has a Dental practice and Diane is the office manager. They have 3 adult daughters and 4 grandchildren.

We will have signup sheets at this meeting for Guy Guidry's two workshops on May 11th. Guy is our visiting bonsai artist, more info in the May newsletter.

This is a recap of David's article on fertilizers, the intent is to help us review all the aspects of fertilizers for Klaus C's presentation this month.

editor

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.

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.

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FERTILIZERS CONT'D

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.

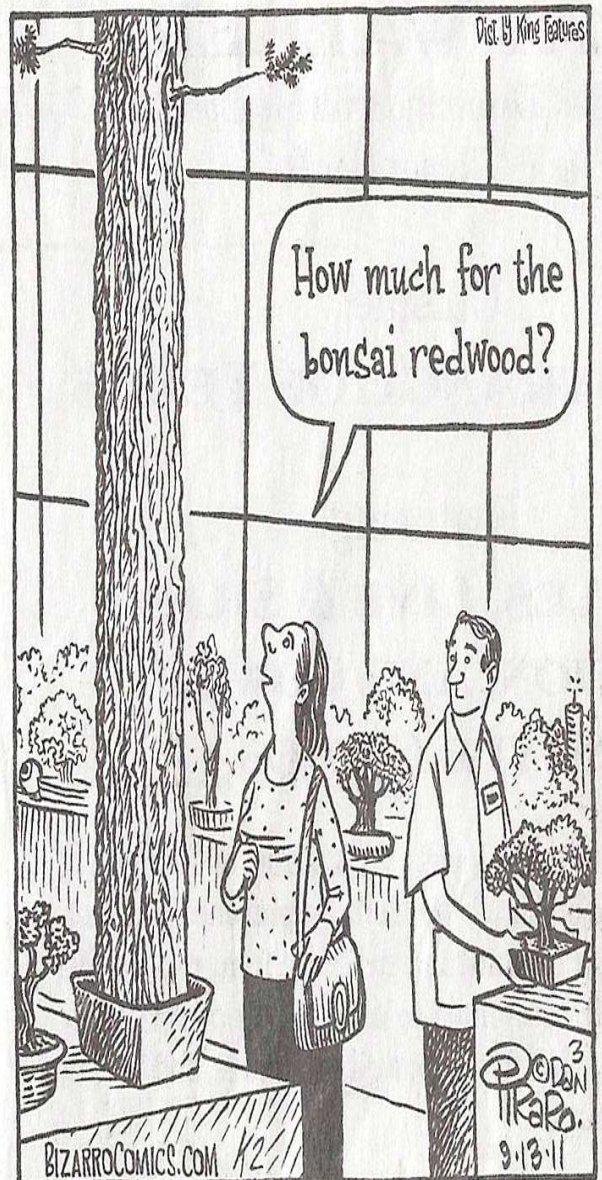
ALWAYS Read the application instructions on the container to determine how much fertilizer to apply, and how often. **Remember when applying fertilizers. "Not enough is always better than too much."**

DAVID

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BIZARRO





NOT A HUGE CROWD FOR THE AUCTION
BUT IN THE PRESIDENTS MESSAGE
THE FINAL TALLY WAS VERY NICE.
THANKS EVERYONE FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!!!



A FEW OF THE ITEMS OFFERED THIS YEAR.
THERE WERE SEVERAL HIGH QUALITY STAINLESS
STEEL TOOLS UP FOR GRABS.



THANKS BUNCHES TO OUR AUSTIN BONSAI BUDDIES, THEY CAME, THEY SAW, THEY
BOUGHT!!!

RYAN CONTEMPLATING THE NEXT BIG AUCTION
ITEM.
DONNA JUST EXCITED ABOUT THE BOOKS
OFFERED.



**RYAN JUST DECIDED HE HAD
TO HAVE THIS ONE.
GOOD THING!!
IT WAS A HEAVY CRAPE
MYRTLE!**

**WE ALSO HAD A "SILENT
AUCTION"
A NICE OLIVE GROUP WAS
ONE OF THE OFFERINGS,
ALONG WITH A WINE RACK &
BOX OF SMALL BONSAI POTS.**

LSBF Convention 2017

Ok, you've all read why you should come to the upcoming Dallas LSBF convention; the artists, workshop material, and viewing an amazing exhibition but now let's chat about the real purpose of a convention which is education and camaraderie.

Our headliners are some of the most talented bonsai teachers and artists of the time. All of them have studied under renowned masters in Japan and all have spent time learning the latest techniques and those once secret techniques passed down through the generations. Each of them continue to learn from their perspective teachers/schools to continue their education. For us this means watching and learning new techniques and improving on old ones.

Here is where you will see them in action. Friday night they all take the stage after dinner and do an initial styling on three very different trees. They include a huge Bald Cypress, a collected Ashe Juniper, and a Rocky Mountain Juniper. A good variety of trees that should encompass ownership from the far south to the far north. On Saturday afternoon, Full registrants and Observation Only registrants will have the opportunity to enjoy a dual rock planting demo with Bjorn and Daisaku with a lively and interactive Q&A opportunity. All four of these trees will be part of the auction on Saturday night. And finally, after our Sunday brunch Bjorn takes the stage again to create an almost show-ready Procumbens Juniper after working his magic. That tree will be part of the fifth and final raffle of the event after brunch. You can be part of any or all of these events – full registration covers it all or you can buy a ticket to any of them individually.

But the best part about this convention will be meeting up with bunches of bonsai enthusiasts and getting to know our very down to earth artists and have fun doing it! As an LSBF club member, you are most welcome to attend any day that weekend to enjoy the vendor area, the exhibit area, and be a part of the fun raffles at **no charge**. So head on up or over to Dallas for whatever time your schedule allows.



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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