



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

OCTOBER 2016

VOLUME 41 NUMBER 10

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>

Mini-Show – ACCENT PIECES, plants, stones, carvings and figurines.

HOSTS: Mike & Rosie G.

Sept. 30th to Oct 2nd – Fall Home and Garden Show. **BONSAI EXHIBIT!!**

OCT. 6: MEETING, Donna's studio, 7 pm.

OCT. 8: NO BONSAI WORKSHOP.

OCT 15: Bonsai Exhibit/ Lecture/Demo, at Rainbow Gardens, 10 am to 3 pm.

13-16 Oct. : LSBF 2016 Convention—
Bonsai: Living Art hosted by the **Corpus Christi Bonsai Society** at the Emerald Beach Hotel, see website for details.

OCT 28: Bonsai Workshop at Lions Field, 7 pm.

OCT 29: Bonsai Exhibit/ Lecture/demo/ sale at the **Garden Center, 9 am to 3 pm.**

President's Message

By Ryan O.

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OCTOBER'S CLUB MEETING IS ON THURSDAY 10/6 AT DONNA'S STUDIO.

Due to the convention, our meeting is one week earlier and will be held at Donna's studio. The studio's address is .

Progressive Bonsai Tour

August's Progressive Bonsai Tour was a spectacular hit. We had a turnout of over 20 members and it was awesome to see everyone enjoys the backyards, friendships, food, and bonsai. Thank you to John, Brenda, Kevin, and Hattie for opening their houses and backyards. *Who is ready to volunteer their backyard for next summer?*

Fall Home and Garden Show

At the end of September is the **Fall Home and Garden Show** at the **Alamodome**. We have a full list of volunteers for all three days. Thank you to all those that have signed up. Volunteers, please pay me for your parking passes as early as possible (\$10/day). All members are free to showcase a tree of their choosing during this 3 day event.

Exhibit/Lecture/Demo at Rainbow Gardens

I will be leading a lecture/demo at **Rainbow Gardens** on October 15th from 10 am to 3 pm. Set up begins at 9 am. I'm looking for volunteers to help assist me during the day. *Please let me know if you can help.*

Exhibit/Lecture/Demo/Sale at The Garden Center, October 29th.

SABS is participating in **The Garden Center's** Arts under the Oaks celebration. **TGC** invites local craft vendors to sell various items underneath their majestic oak trees from 9 am to 3 pm. Set-up begins at 8 am. We are also able to sell bonsai related items along with our exhibit. Those willing to volunteer to help, provide trees, and assist in a lecture please let me know via email or sign up at October's meeting.

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Fall Auction

Please begin going through your collection of trees, pots, tools, stands, etc. and looking for items to sell in November's Auction.

Ryan O., President

Program Corner

David W.

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

This month our President, Ryan O. will show us how to create and grow companion plants or Kusamono (pronounced Koo~sa~mo~no). Kusamono literally means grass thing, they can be potted plants of grasses, moss, lichen, bulbs, bamboo and even small flowering plant of which could include small "weeds". Formally the term Kusamono is used when displaying them as a standalone planting. Kusamono often displays the changing seasons. When displaying them with a bonsai they're called Shitakusa (pronounced shee~tah~koo~sa). Shitakusa literally means under grass. Either can be planted in typical pots or anything from hollowed out logs, trays, driftwood, rocks and handmade "pinch pots". The pictures below are some of the images that came up when goggling "Kusamono", there are endless possibilities when designing Kusamono.



OCTOBER Monthly Tips

David W.

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This will be the last monthly/seasonal care of the year.

No repotting until late winter/early spring unless in an emergency, but only in the same size or larger pot using fresh soil. *Absolutely no root pruning!* However, strangely enough, winter is a good time to collect specimens in the wild.

This is the time plants are slowing down for winter. We want to start slowing down the growth of our bonsai so that they are prepared for winter. The only "fertilizing" you will be doing this month is a couple of doses of phosphorus on your Native Per-simmons. Give a couple of doses of your go-to fertilizer at quarter strength to your tropicals and sub-tropicals also a few times during the winter. We are not trying to promote growth, just to keep up the nutrients.

"Winterizing" your bonsai... We're fortunate to be blessed with relatively mild winters with most of our cold snaps lasting hours or a couple of days at best. Our hardier specimens such as conifers, deciduous and others similar will benefit from the cold but be sure to keep the pots from hard freezes not going below the upper 20'ies – usually placing them on the ground is enough. Also with these hardier species watch for our "Winter-time heat waves" we so often get here, best place them where they only get morning sun. Now tropicals and sub-tropicals won't tolerate being too cold so fully protect them when the temperatures are going below 45°F (sub-tropicals) 50° (tropicals). ***Do indoor bonsai ring a bell?*** I try to acclimate my tropicals (&sub) to my area they seem to tolerate our winters better.

Here is how I winterize.

I start by bring them out in full sun (if not already) or as much as I can give them. They stay in their place until the overnight temperatures falls below their lowest temperatures.

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I use 45°F as the lowest temperature for semi (sub)-tropicals and try to keep my tropicals above 50°F, though most true tropicals like to stay above 60°F to 65°F. Whenever the forecast predicts cold fronts I move them to a protected area (greenhouse or garage) until it passes, then they return back to their sunny place. My larger trees that are difficult to move stay in the greenhouse and the smaller trees can go in and out as cold fronts pass & the weather warms back up. While in the greenhouse, I keep the lows above 45 to 50 degrees at all times. This winter plan works best me, I have less leaf drop as I'm not keeping them indoors in the central heating. With Indoor Bonsai we have to provide the correct light, humidity and correct day/night temperatures and these are all difficult to provide adequately.

Now is a good time to start getting those areas ready that you'll use for when the bonsai need to come in– clear the area around your sunny windows or rearrange the garage to take advantage of the light. Perhaps even put up frame work to drape with plastic sheets, creating a greenhouse type area to shelter the trees. Remember do not let the plastic touch any part of the plants during a cold spell, frost (or freezing temps) on plastic will wilt and can kill any part of the plant touching the plastic. If you are covering just overnight, protect like you would protect yourself. I would rather cover up with a blanket, than a plastic sheet. If it's going to be a freezing rain then put a plastic sheet over the blanket. Remembering to uncover when temps rise or they will bake inside the tent.

Watch the soils every day so they do not dry out. With the cooler winter weather you probably won't have to water as often but remember those dry windy cold fronts can suck the moisture out of the soil very quickly. Inspect your bonsai from top to bottom, also inspect the drain holes. Inspect for ANY and all insects and treat accordingly. Watch for Red spider mites, especially on your "indoor" Bonsai.

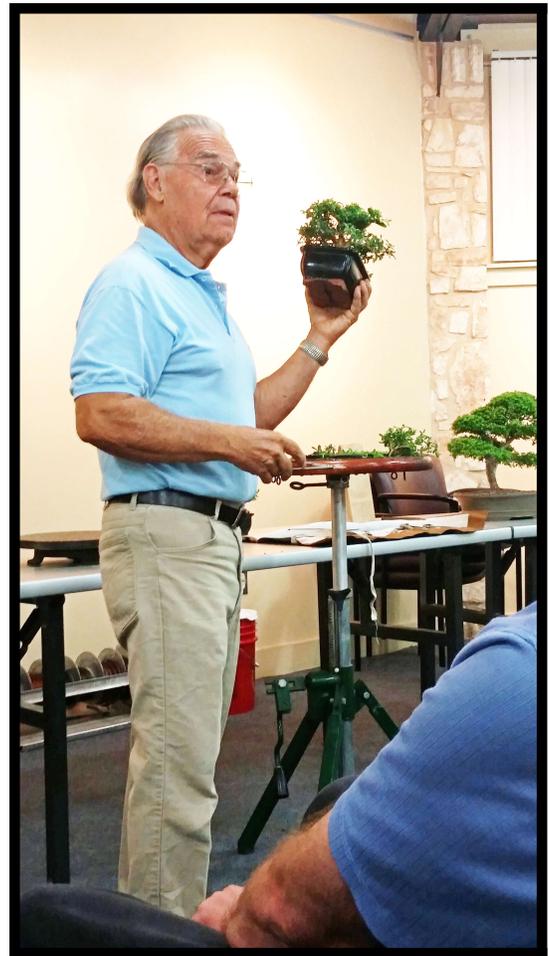
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Also try to spray with insecticide and apply fungicide at least once every month. If you discover an infestation, treat according to the label of the pesticide. When treating (always treat outside) spray the leaves (top and bottom) and thoroughly drench the soil, making sure the solution drains out the drain holes.

Check your training wires so they aren't cutting into the branches. If they are cutting in, remove them. If the branch did not hold, re-wire in a different locale, as not to put the wire in the same place. Use caution when wiring during the winter as the branches will be more rigid and brittle without the sap flowing and can break very easily. (*Honey, where's the superglue!?*) A Happy bonsai is a cared for bonsai!

I would like thank Chuck for giving us a very informative and interesting lecture demonstration on Shohin last month, he always keeps his demos quickly moving and entertaining. I don't doubt we'll start to see a lot more of our members trying Shohin now!

DAVID



While the program was on SHOHIN,

Chuck brought several Boxwood species for the demonstration.

A member, James H. helps the editor to give scale to one of Chuck's Larger Bonsai.



**Work in progress,
Completing the
Trimming on a
Kingsville box.**

**And the final re-
sults
(Inset photo to the
right)**

**There was a full
house
And many positive
comments
About the
Evenings' program.**





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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