



November 2016

Bonsai Calendar

- **November Mini-Show** - No Mini-Show due to auction
- **November Food Host:** Ester R.
- **November 5th** - Board Meeting
- **November 10th** - Club Meeting – Fall Auction; 7pm
- **November 12th** - No Bonsai Workshop due to holiday season
- **November 23rd** - No Bonsai Workshop due to holiday season
- **December 8th** - Club Meeting – Holiday Party; 7pm
- **December 10th** – No Bonsai Workshop due to holiday season
- **December 28th** - No Bonsai Workshop due to holiday season

President's Message

AUCTION, AUCTION, AUCTION – IT'S AUCTION TIME FOLKS!!!!

The Club auction is a great way to buy/sell bonsai related items and make lots of money or spend lots of money..... I mean gain great trees and/or supplies!!!!!! Start looking over your collection if you have items to sell. For those of you buying, start your paperwork on loans or begging family and friends for money (just kidding).

I kindly ask that ALL sellers have their selling tags filled out and attached to their items prior to arriving to the meeting. Please make sure that you give a good description of the item you are selling. Please refrain from labeling your items as "Tree" or "Bonsai."

I also kindly ask ALL buyers to arrive early to receive your bidding paddle. No paddle = no bidding. I want to get started right away as it takes nearly the full two hours to get through all the items.

Selling tags are attached to my email.

Speak to me the night of for any items with a reserve.

SABS had a great time at **Rainbow Gardens-Bandera** and **The Garden Center** in October. The weather was perfect for both events. Kevin and I performed lectures/demonstrations and raffled off the trees to members of the crowd. We also collected over 20 signatures of people interested in the art of bonsai and gained a few new members as well. Thank you to those that assisted and listened to our lectures Al L., Dave B., Diane C., Evelyn K., Hattie P., John R., Kevin P., Klaus C., Rick M., Shigemi A., Virgie V. and Vivian N.

SABS Board Members would like to thank everyone that voted for your 2017 Board Members. Klaus C. was voted for and accepted the nomination to join our Board for 2017. 2017 Board Members include:

- Ryan O., President
- David W., Vice President
- Oscar G., Secretary
- Leydana M. Treasurer/Membership
- John R., Kevin P., and Klaus C., Directors at Large.

- Ryan O., President

Vice President's Message

This month we'll be having one of our Auctions for November's monthly meeting. Auctions are one of our Club's biggest fund raising events and where we get to find diamonds in the rough, so to speak. I have found some very good pre-bonsai at auctions and very reasonable prices also. Sometimes the auction goes so fast that, not everybody gets the chance to see the items that are in front of them so, get there early to check out the items before the auction starts. Bring your checkbook or a stuffed wallet. Not only do we



November 2016

contribute by purchasing the items, we contribute by bringing in things that you no longer need, want, have multiples of, or whatever reason, that you'd like to donate. You can bring items that are bonsai or garden related, new or gently used; you can bring in anything that you know will sell and bring in club funds! Pots, plants, books, tools, decorative items, bring one or several items! Looking forward to seeing all the goodies y'all bring!

- David W., Vice President

Member's Contributing Articles

Japanese Black Pine (JBP) Care Sheet

The below information was obtained through personal research and discussions with a friend of mine from Houston, TX. A lot of this information comes from him and I would like to give credit where credit is due. Thanks Scott for letting us use your information so members who choose to try JBP can benefit. This is my first year here in Texas and things are a little different from up north. Seeing things really start pumping up in December, I will begin my discussion there and work through the year. This is how I will work my JBP the first year. I may adjust my schedule back or forward a little depending on the growth of the tree the first year.

Before we begin, it must be mentioned the below information is based on your tree being in a more refinement stage of its journey. If you want your trunk bigger and want to point a sacrifice branch straight up wire it upward and let it grow. Nothing happens with the trunk until that branch is the tallest branch on the tree. If you have a lot of lower branches do everything and I mean everything to not let those branches die off. Those are gold to JPB growers. Also if you have a lot of branches down low you can start the refinement stage

on the lower tree, but leave the sacrifice branch alone to grow. Ok I've rambled enough. Lets get started.

December

1st week of December, needle pluck in this order:

- 1) 6-7 pairs of needles per shoot at the top of the tree
- 2) 7-10 pairs of needles per shoot in the middle of the tree
- 3) 10-15 pairs of needles per shoot in the lower part of the tree

By plucking I mean cutting. You can pluck with tweezers by grabbing the needles at the base and pulling in the direction the needle is growing, but you risk damaging needle buds between the needles. I prefer to cut my needles.

January

1st week of January remove to more pair of needles from each branch on the tree. This helps with the balance of the tree. You can wire after the second needle plucking, but care really must be taken not to damage or rub off any new buds that may have formed from the December needle plucking.

February

Repot in the middle of February. Some information I have received says anywhere from late January to early February. Scott told me to repot around the 10th of February. This window closes very fast in our long growing season. Also begin to lightly fertilize. Do not pluck needles or wire at this time.

March

Increase fertilizing and spray with fungicide as necessary.

April



November 2016

Full strength fertilizing and continue to spray fungicide as necessary. Buds should have turned to candles by this time.

May

Feed full strength, candles should have lengthened and needles are growing.

June

Middle to late June, candle prune in this sequence:

- 1) Bottom of the tree cut candles off at the base
- 2) Middle of the tree, leave the length equal to the diameter of the base of the candle
- 3) Top of the tree, leave half of the candle

Remove all candles at the same time. Monitor emerging buds and remove the stub if some branches are weaker than expected. New buds will appear in 10 to 12 days.

July

Water daily and relax.

August

Resume fertilizing and spray fungicide as necessary.

September

This is the time for me that's exciting, because this is the time your second flush of growth comes along. New buds will begin to look like candles. If budding is very heavy, remove the strongest growing buds.

Do not candle prune again.

October

Continue fertilizing.

November

Begin fertilizing with a low Nitrogen fertilizer, and continue throughout the fall. I

stop fertilizing the 2nd week of December and just water daily and the whole cycle starts all over again.

You can branch prune in late fall-early winter.

I really hopes this helps anyone who wants to try these beautiful tree.

- Rick M.

Thank you Rick for providing this information. All members may contribute articles for our newsletter. Feel free to send them to Ryan O. or Donna D. at any time.