



# SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

JULY 2015

VOLUME 40 NUMBER 7

## 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

**RICHARD HAYES BONSAI STUDY GROUP:** FOURTH WEDNESDAY, Workshop in Bonsai, everyone is welcome, 7 pm at Lions Field. GREAT TIME FOR MEMBERS TO BRING IN A TREE TO WORK ON —

July Mini-show – No mini-show due to guest speaker

July Food and Beverage Host – Tom and Pamela N

July 9<sup>th</sup> - No club meeting due to guest speaker's schedule.

July 15<sup>th</sup> – Workshops with Owen Reich; 1 pm and 7 pm, **Sculptural Designs, 927 N. Alamo, SA, 78215**

July 16<sup>th</sup> – Club L/D Meeting at **Sculptural Designs, 927 N. Alamo, SA, 78215; 7 pm**

July 22<sup>nd</sup> – Club Workshop Meeting at the Lion's Field; 7 pm

July 31 – Aug 1 – Bonsai Exhibit at the 2015 CTF National Test.

Sept 13<sup>th</sup> – South Texas Bonsai Kai Annual Event.

## President's Message

By Ryan O

[bonsaiode@gmail.com](mailto:bonsaiode@gmail.com)

WHAT A BUSY MONTH!!!!

First, our June meeting was held at **Rainbow Gardens** (RG) – Thousand Oaks as a nice change in scenery from our traditional meetings at the Lion's Field. Our meeting was held on a small hill in the back of the nursery that overlooked hundreds of trees/plants for sale. The sun was shining, but we had a huge oak tree protecting us from the sun and providing a touch of cooler shade. For this event, I asked four unsuspecting experienced members to bring their tools, but did not tell them why.

These four tool-holding members were teamed with four inexperienced members and/or RG customers and worked on nursery stock. While the teams worked on their trees, they spoke about the techniques they were using to create their style of choice. Once the four teams finished, the trees were judged with the winners receiving a gift certificate to RG. Each of the four trees were raffled off to members and/or RG customers. Thank you to all participants, to all that brought food, and to **Rainbow Gardens** and their helpful staff.

The following Saturday included an exhibit and lecture/demonstration (L/D) at **The Garden Center** (TGC). Rain did not hinder customers and bonsai enthusiasts in attending the L/Ds. Kevin and I lectured on the history and art of bonsai and demonstrated typical techniques in creating a bonsai from nursery stock. Kevin and I gave two L/Ds and raffled off four trees to the attendees.

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Club members sold trees and the Club sold club books. The staff at TGC enjoyed our L/Ds so much, SABS was asked to do it again in October. Thank you to Kevin, Hattie, Donna, Virgie (who is responsible for connecting me with TGC), and to **The Garden Center** and their helpful staff.

Our last huge event in June included our Progressive Bonsai Tour at Paul's and Oscar's backyards. In total, we had 24 members participate in this event. Despite a high chance of rain that day, the weather was great with warm sunny skies. Thankfully, Paul's and Oscar's backyards were heavily shaded. Following Oscar's house, the event continued to my backyard where participants enjoyed looking at my trees and eating the BBQ feast I prepared. Thank you to Paul, Dawn, Oscar, Paloma, and my wife for opening their backyards and homes for the awesome event. Thank you too to all that participated and assisted with the dinner preparation. I look forward to this becoming an annual event. Any volunteers for next year??

It appears many nurseries are starting to put their trees/plants on summer clearance. Be sure to pick up new plants at cheap prices to make into bonsai.

It is time to start planning for the **2018 Bonsai Convention** hosted by **SABS**. It takes nearly two years of planning to pull off great convention. SABS Board Members are looking for volunteers and ideas for our convention including topics of discussion, event location, guest speakers, theme, etc. Watch our newsletter as the Board will be holding a Convention Planning Meeting within the next few months. All SABS members are welcome to participate in this meeting.

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## **NO SABS MEETING ON JULY 9<sup>TH</sup>. OUR MEETING HAS MOVED TO JULY 16<sup>TH</sup>.**

July's guest speaker is **Owen Reich**. He will be working on a nice Jaboticaba from Brussels on the 16<sup>th</sup>. SABS is hosting workshops at Donna's studio (927 N. Alamo Street SATX) on the 15<sup>th</sup> at 1pm and 7 pm. You are free to bring up to two trees for Owen to work on. Cost is \$30 to participate and \$5 for observing. Email Ryan if you would like to sign up for either time. Space is limited.

If you would like Owen to make a special visit to your private collection, he is free all day Tuesday, and the mornings of Wednesday and Thursday. Cost is \$300 for Owen to work with you one-on-one in your backyard. Email Kevin if you are interested as Kevin is hosting Owen while in San Antonio.

**SABS** is showcasing bonsai at this year's **Chin Mu Kwan Taekwon-Do Federation (CTF) National Testing** for Taekwon-Do. The show is on July 31<sup>st</sup> to August 1<sup>st</sup> at the **El Tropicano Riverwalk Hotel** (110 Lexington Ave. SATX). Set-up for the exhibit is on Friday at 9 am and take-down is Sunday at 12 pm. This is a stand-alone exhibit so we do not need volunteers during the event, though David and Trisha will be present at all times. David is looking for volunteers for set-up and take-down. David is also looking for additional trees to show from any member. Contact David if you can help.

David's annual **South Texas Bonsai Kai** event held at his house in Mathis, TX is scheduled for Sunday September 13<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 5 pm. Similar to last year's event, there will be a demonstration, items for raffle and a huge BBQ lunch. More information and a sign-up sheet to come closer to the date. Mark your calendars now!!!

*RYAN*

## PROGRAM CORNER

David W

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

## JUNE MONTHLY TIPS

David W

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

This month we have the distinct pleasure to have for our **LSBF** touring artist Owen Reich. On Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>, there will be two workshops at Double D's Studios that day, the first from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm and the second from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. Members may bring 2-3 trees to the workshops for critiquing and working on. On Thursday, July 16<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Reich will be conducting a lecture-demo during the club meeting at Donna's studio, 927 N. Alamo, 78215, 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The demo tree will be raffled off afterwards.

Here is Owen Reich's Bio –

From an early age, Owen Reich has been enchanted by the natural world around where he lives in southeastern US. While studying Horticulture at The University of Georgia, a classmate introduced Owen to bonsai and the dream of having a bonsai nursery of his own began. After graduating, Owen worked at Samara Farms in Nashville, TN as the manager for the next 5 years. While there he refined his understanding of horticulture. Owen also studied under Keiichi Fujikawa, the owner of ***Kouka-en Nursery*** and gained experience with a wide variety of species.

Studying bonsai in Japan has been a stepping stone to creating bonsai using not only Asian species, but also to applying those techniques and design principles to our American trees. Deciduous trees and broad-leaf evergreens have always held the most interest for him when it comes to bonsai, especially maples, fruit trees, and flowering species. Owen says that "This area of bonsai is where I hope to have the greatest impact by sharing techniques for their creation and maintenance." He refers to his teaching style as "laid back and practical", and says that "the most important thing about bonsai is that this stuff should be fun!"

**DAVID**

t's the summer solstice as I'm writing this or we can call it "Tropical Time". We can now start root pruning/repotting our tropicals, if have not started already. It's safe to root prune our tropicals ( Bahamas Berry, Bahamas Black Olive, Buttonwood, Campeche, Fukien Tea, Jaboticaba, Nia Buxifolia, Raintree, Wrightia Religiosa) now through Aug/Sept, we want at least 4 to 6 weeks of warm weather after we prune the roots of our tropicals to give the new roots time to establish. It's also safe to keep on re-potting semi-tropicals like South Texas natives and Ficus'.

OK I'm going to repeat myself over again and again, kind of like when we have fire drills in school, we will be so use to it, it will become second nature to us... Keep an eye on the soils every day so they do not dry out. In these dog days of summer the soil can sometimes dry out quicker than 24 hours. I have several plants that need watering 2 times a day. Inspect your bonsai from top to bottom, also inspect the drain holes. If your soil is staying wet for too long, there might be something wrong and you should investigate why. Insects are always on the move during the summer. Inspect for ANY and all insects and treat accordingly. If you discover an infestation, treat according to the label of the pesticide. Applying an insecticide and/or fungicide every four weeks is good preventive maintenance for your bonsai.

Watch out for the heat during the summer as the sun can cook your pots, soil and roots. Our highs during this time of year can get in the 100s and the heat index during the heat of day time can be a scorcher. I've lost trees due to not watching closely. Covering the edges of your pots with anything you can to keep the heat off them, I use 1x2s and 1x4s cut to the length of the pots. Also check your stands during the heat of the day with your hand to see how hot it is. If it's hot to the touch then it is probably too hot for your bonsai. When this happens then try raising your pots off the benches, here again I use 1x2s under the feet to keep them cooler and it allows for better air circulation under the pots too.

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Also, remember some tropical trees are under-story trees (in their "native" homes) and may benefit from some shade during the harsh afternoon sun.

Continue to pinch and clip according to species, to develop new branching.

A regular fertilization schedule should be continued at this time of year.

Watch your training wires so they do not cut into the branches. Bark is growing rapidly at this time of year and can quickly overtake the wires. If you need to re-wire after you removed it (because the branch is still not staying in place) do not put the wire over the same "line", place it over another area of the branch as not to scar the previous wire area.

*DAVID*

### 2015 Kathy Shaner Seminar

October 16<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>

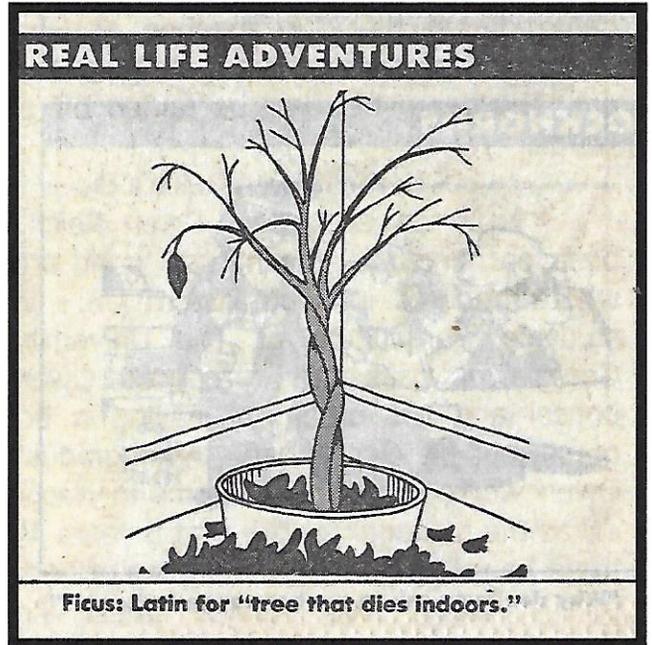
Buda, TX

\* Seminar \*

\* Home-cooked Dinner \*

\* Bring-your-own-tree Workshop \*

Registration available in July. To be notified when registration is open, email [ckmurphy2000@gmail.com](mailto:ckmurphy2000@gmail.com).



## SOME THOUGHTS

In the iconic movie "**Gone with the Wind**" two lines ring true with me regarding **SABS**. The first line, "***I don't know nothing about birthing no babies***" refers to my initiative to ask Donna if **SABS** could establish a mini storage area within her studio. I also donated the wood and plastic to construct the storage area. While I certainly am not a pediatrician, I gave birth to our old storage space that continues in Donna's new studio. The second line "***frankly I don't give a [darn]***" came to mind when it was time to relocate the storage area to Donna's new studio and sadly only four members showed up to help. Now I understand we all have other commitments in life other than thinking about bonsai 24/7, but I was saddened by the low turn-out that day.

The reason I bring this up today (the storage area was actually relocated August 2014), is to assist Ryan in his quest for asking for additional volunteers for club activities and club meeting hosts. As a longtime member of **SABS**, it has been an honor to play a part in keeping the legacy of **SABS** and the art of bonsai going for so many years and I hope with the many club members we have today that the legacy of SABS continues for another 35 years and beyond.

*Chris L. , Board Member*

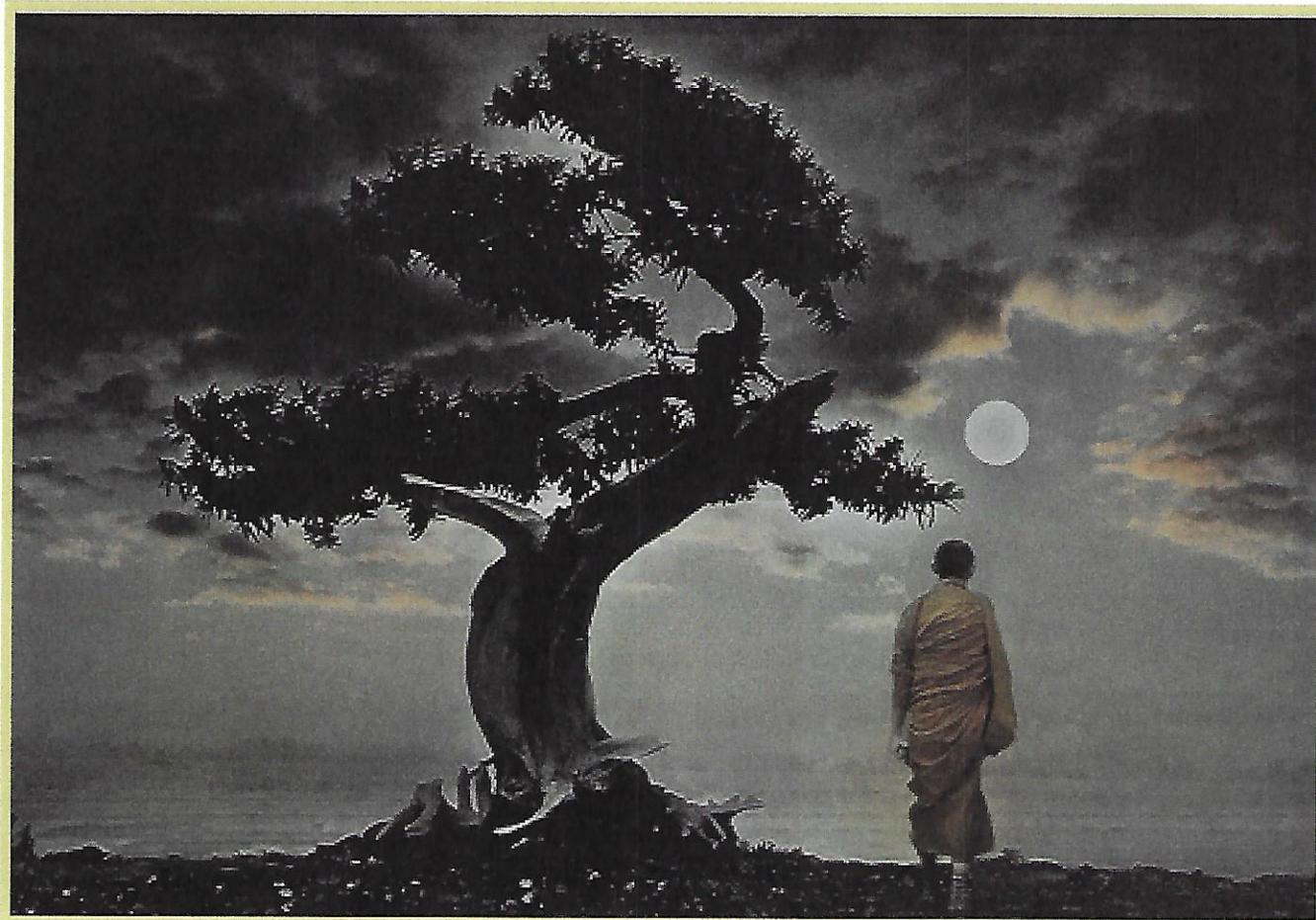


Photo credit: h.koppdelaney via Compfight cc  
BONSAI OF THE MONTH, OH, NOT REALLY, BUT A BEAUTIFUL TREE NON THE LESS.

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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.

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sanantoniobonsai.org

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