



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://bonsai-satx.org>

MARCH 2014

VOLUME 39 NUMBER 3

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

NEW...Each month will have a "mini-show" of bonsai that anyone can bring in to talk about

MARCH 29: Lecture/Demo at SHADES OF GREEN NURSERY WITH A BONSAI DISPLAY.

MARCH 13:

APRIL 12: SABS Bonsai show at the SA Botanical Gardens.

APRIL 10-13: East meets West, LSBF convention, Houston Bonsai Society hosting the 2014 bonsai convention. www.houstonbonsai.com

May 23rd – May 26th , Brussels's Rendez-vous, Olive Branch, Mississippi, see their website for registration, workshops are filling up quickly. <http://www.brusselsbonsai.com/annual-rendezvous.cfm>

JUNE 7: SABS Lecture/Demo at RAINBOW GARDENS NURSERY (2 locations) Bandera rd. At 10 am & at Thousand Oaks, 1 pm.

President's Message

By Ryan O

bonsaiode@gmail.com

Is it winter, spring, or summer? With these crazy weather patterns I can't answer my own question and I bet our bonsai are equally confused. Trees are budding one day and the next have icicles hanging from them. I thought I moved away from the ice and cold temperatures!!! The point of all this is to remind everyone to be watching the weather reports and make sure you bring in those bonsai on cold days/nights. For some of us, this may be our form of exercise!

I have confirmed with the Botanical Gardens that SABS will be displaying trees on Saturday April 12th. Please let me know if you can participate and/or donate trees that I can show. I am hoping to get about 12 to 15 trees to showcase our work and showoff our club.

SABS has also been asked to display and provide a lecture/demo at Shades of Green Nursery (334 W Sunset Rd, San Antonio, TX 78209) on Saturday March 29th. I will be looking for volunteers to provide a few trees and participate in the lecture/demo. I will provide more information at the club meeting on the time. Thanks Donna for setting this up for the club.

On June 7th, we have been asked to provide a lecture/demo at two locations of **Rainbow Gardens**. SABS is providing a lecture/demo at Bandera Rd at 10 am and Thousand Oaks at 1 pm. We are looking for a few volunteers to help with this too. Thanks Kevin for setting this up.

February's Richard Hayes Bonsai 101 workshop was well attended by existing members, new members, and by the patrons of the Lion's Club. Kevin (aka – Dad) and I shared a wealth of knowledge, answered many questions, and assisted our new members with creating their first bonsai.

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Kevin and I welcome all new and existing members to attend. The workshop is a great 2 hour time frame to work on tree maintenance if you are too busy to work on your bonsai during the week and/or weekend or would like suggestions from experienced members.

Please remember to help support the club by bringing in donations for the raffle. 1 item equals 1 ticket, up to 5 tickets per month!!

Please take a look at the end of the newsletter as our monthly events have changed due to scheduling issues. Be sure to save the page within your club member book so you are up to date on events. Sorry for the inconvenience.

This month's mini-show will be all about junipers. It will coincide with March's event on styling junipers discussed in David's (our VP) column.

PROGRAM CORNER

David W

redhawk1yo@aol.com

After searching for a bonsai teacher, the Smiths began seriously studying with Boon Manakitivipart in 2001 and continue to meet with him several times a year. They're his 1st and 2nd intensive student graduates respectively. They've traveled with him to Japan to study the fantastic **Kokufu** display.

Honors include trees placing in the top 100 in the **World Bonsai Contest**, Best Medium Conifer Display at the **BIB exhibit** in 2003, Best Conifer at the **Lone Star Bonsai Federation** Convention in 2007, "**Best Damn Bonsai Award**" in Dallas 2008, including client trees.

Howard and Sylvia displayed 7 trees plus a Shohin display at the 1st Annual **National Bonsai Exhibit** in Rochester, New York in 2008, Best in Show in **Fort Worth** 2009 and Best Tree In Show at the **Lone Star Bonsai Federation** Convention in 2010.

Sylvia will be presenting a slide show on the various techniques Howard and her use and have refined over the years when styling junipers.

With time permitting, Sylvia will review club member's trees and provide suggestions. She will spend roughly 1 minute discuss what she would do to a particular tree to advance its styling. With that said, club members are encouraged to bring in 1 or 2 junipers for Sylvia to critique and provide suggestions. Her suggestions will help members with young trees to begin styling them or help members with advanced styled trees bring them to the next level to happily display in the future.

Sylvia's efforts and assistance will be carried to Friday evening, where from 5 pm to 9 pm **eight** members are able to attend a **hands-on/one-on-one workshop with Sylvia**. The eight members who sign up may come at any time during the workshop hours. Remember to bring your tools, wire, turn table, etc. The workshop will be held at Donna's studio **Sculptural Design Atelier** (thanks Donna) at 1514 Broadway, SATX, 78215. Cost of this workshop is \$30. This helps cover the cost of a small meal being provided.

As always, this workshop is open to any members who would like to simply look and listen to the conversations going on. We kindly ask that you donate some money to cover the cost of food. Ryan will pass around a sign-up sheet during the club meeting for hands-on and look/listen participants or you can email him to secure your spot as well.

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY

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



Nice attendance for February, Ryan is discussing the mini-display of "Winter Silhouette"



David W demonstrating the beginnings of a group or forest planting with Pond Cypress.

I'm not sure what Ryan is thinking about—maybe someone should ask him at the next meeting.

Prepared bonsai pot for securing the group planting of Pond Cypress

Photos provided by Ryan A



Top photo: David secures his newly potted trees with screw-eyes and copper wire. He has to deal with strong winds in his area and this method prevents the trees from moving thus protecting the emerging roots..



Arranging the group planting with the most prominent tree in front, (the tree closest to David). This technique uses one point perspective.

The trees temporarily positioned.



Houston Convention Raffle request

"We are getting closer to the 2014 convention. It will be a great time. I have begun amassing items for the various raffles. The items include books, magazines, trees, pots, art works, handmade scarf, scrolls, an unused set of automobile speakers and a couple of other items. So far I have enough for about one good raffle. That's a good start, but we have 5 raffles scheduled. So, please continue to look into what you might be able to donate. Bonsai or garden related items are great, but other items around the house might also bring in some money. Items should be new or gently used. Feel free to send me an email listing what you have available. Pictures are great, but not necessary. And then remember to actually bring or send them along with someone when coming to convention! The auctions can be fun, plus they provide the money required to continue the LSBF activities for the year ahead. Many thanks, Terry D . tdubois1@comcast.net"

Several members from SABS will be attending the convention so any items can be transported to Houston. Look around and bring to the club meetings, your contribution helps bonsai events to live on.



Houston Bonsai Society
LSBF 32nd Annual Exhibit & Convention
2014



East meets West

Deadline for a lower registration fee is March 15

2014 NPSOT Spring Native Plant Sale

March 29 | 8 am to 2 pm
at Phil Hardberger Park East

The ***San Antonio Chapter of the Native Plant Society of Texas*** will be holding their annual Spring Native Plant Sale this year at ***Phil Hardberger Park East***.

As part of our effort to carry out **SAWS** mission of reducing turf in San Antonio, we will be providing education on native plants - as well as offering native plants that the public may purchase.

FEBRUARY

By Richard H

Because of our late winter weather and such good advice in this article...it is printed one more time for our guidance.

February finds the bonsai owner as busy as Santa is in December. There is all too much to do the last minute, yet, planning ahead and organizing can put the hectic, frequently helter-skelter flow of the month's rushing essential bonsai handling into a calmer, more methodic processing of the necessary potting and re-potting which all too often springs upon us unaware as we admire our Winter Jasmine and Forsythia blossoms.

No matter how warm or cold the month is, late or mid-February brings about the swelling of buds on our deciduous trees. It is the increased number of daylight hours rather than the weather which causes this phenomena, although material kept in the house or green house seems to bud out sooner! We burn our lights before daylight and after sunset causing dormant trees to react to our artificial spring. Many times elms kept in shelter all winter will not defoliate, but their foliage usually looks a bit ill with a number of yellow leaves.

There are a number of activities which can help us prepare for the repotting of our numerous budding bonsai.

Pots need to be selected for those trees stuck into the empty near-at-hand container which was convenient rather than aesthetic. We all each have more pots than trees, yet, we never seem to have the container on hand needed for any specific tree. Organize and spruce up the pot collecting before re-potting, and go through catalogs, the paper and on-line, to find the ideal container for that good bonsai planted in an inappropriate pot. I have a number of bonsai of this type. Good trees have not been show due to the embarrassment at the container used.

Pots of trees which expired during the winter should be cleaned and soaked in a mix of one cup of bleach to one gallon of water. Let them dry in full sun.

Prepare soil now, mix or buy it ahead of the bud swelling. I usually have Chuck W bring a number of bags of his basic mix as well as a bag or so of akadama to the February meeting. My soil is Chuck's basic mixed three parts to one with medium size particle akadama. We also use this soil blend at our Sunday workshops.

Tools need attention: clean, disinfect and sharpen them before re-potting steals every moment left of the month. What puts a keen edge on kitchen knives will do so for bonsai cutting tools as well. There is a knife sharpening business on South Presa Street which will put a keen edge on bonsai tools for a reasonable charge. (I could never sharpen knives.)

Photograph your bare deciduous trees now. Referring to these photos after the trees are in full leaf will probably circumvent defoliating prior to lopping off branches.

This month also witnesses the presentation of some of the world's best bonsai in the *Kokufu Ten* exhibition in Tokyo. There is a beautiful photo album produced each year. Our SABS library has each of the albums for the last six shows as well as many from years farther back.

Look through one or two to gain inspiration and to gird your bonsai loins for developing your trees into art.

Richard

2014 REVISED SABS Calendar of Events

CUT OUT AND SAVE THIS CALENDAR

January: Joey M from Austin Bonsai Society will show us the proper way to **sharpen Bonsai tools**. He demonstrate the proper care we should be taking with the care of our tools.

February: Pond Cypress Forest Planting. David Whitaker will lead this class. The following Saturday, February 15th, David Whitaker will lead a workshop at Ryan O's house. The workshop is limited to 11 people who will be able to purchase 5 trees to be planted in the Forest Style. Cost is \$60.00 per person, trees food and drinks will be provided. Those attending will need to bring a pot 23" x 15" x 2".

March: Visiting Artist # 1. **Lecture by Howard and Sylvia Smith** (The Bonsai Smith's). Learn about advanced techniques with your Juniper, Cedar and Pines. The following Friday, there will be a BYOT (Bring in your own Tree) workshop from 5 pm until 9 pm at Donna's Studio. This is limited to 10 attendees.

April: **BYOTN (Bring Your Own Texas Natives)** or any other tree you want to repot. We will be repotting and trimming our trees. Bring your tools and soil.

May: Tips, Tricks, and follow up techniques on your Texas Natives that we worked on last month.

June: Tropicals. Join Jay N and learn the techniques on trimming, leaf and branch refinement, styling tips and tricks.

July: Auction and club picnic at Brackenridge park on the 7th or 21st. Real picnic tables—a *real picnic celebration!!*

August: Tropical repotting. Bring your own tree, tools, wire and soil.

September: BYOT (Bring in your own Tree) Bring your tree in for styling and wiring .

October: Visiting Artist 2. Join Peter Tea, the LSBF visiting artist tonight for a lecture-demo and maybe be lucky enough to walk out with Spectacular tree! The following Friday, there will be a **BYOT (Bring in your own Tree)** workshop at Donna's Studio Friday from 5 pm till 9 pm. Space is limited to 10 participants.

November: Preparing your **bonsai for the winter** by Ryan O and **pot swap** to gather pots for repotting in the spring.

December: Christmas Party. Please bring some canned food that will be given to the SA Food Bank to help those less fortunate.



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.

<http://bonsai-satx.org>

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