



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

NOVEMBER 2015

VOLUME 40 NUMBER 11

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, **NO WORKSHOP**. Workshop in Bonsai, everyone is welcome, 7 pm at Lions Field. GREAT TIME FOR MEMBERS TO BRING IN A TREE TO WORK ON —

Mini-Show – No show this month due to auction

Nov 12th - Club Meeting at the Lion's Field; 7 pm

November Food Host: Ryan O. and Virgie V.

Nov 25th - NO BONSAI WORKSHOP DUE TO HOLIDAY

Dec 10th - Club Meeting at the Lion's Field; 7 pm

Dec 23rd - NO BONSAI WORKSHOP DUE TO HOLIDAY



President's Message

By Ryan O.

bonsaiode@gmail.com

IT'S AUCTION TIME!!!!

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. I want to get started right away as it takes nearly the full two hours to get through all the items.

I kindly ask ALL buyers to arrive early to receive your bidding paddle. No paddle = no bidding. Selling tags are attached to THE EDITOR'S EMAIL!

SABS had a great time at **The Garden Center** in October. The weather was perfect and the food provided was great too. I presented two demonstrations and raffled off the trees to members of the crowd. The group and I passed out 5 membership applications. Thank you to Donna, Oscar, Sally, Steve, and Virgie for assisting me and participating in our lecture/demo and exhibit.

November is "Questionnaire Month." Well, at least with SABS it is. As I did last November, this November meeting, I will be asking all attendees to complete a simple questionnaire.

Continued next page

I (and your **SABS** Board Members) want to know if you have been happy with 2015's events, topics, and activities and if not, what we can do to make it better. We also want to know what interests you and what topics, activities, field trips, etc you would like to see for 2016. The Board Members of **SABS** meticulously goes through the answers you provide to plan the following year's events. We work together to enhance your bonsai experience and education such that your skills keep improving while enjoying the art of bonsai.

I will also be passing out voting ballots for **board membership**. The board currently has one position open and you will be able to nominate anyone for a position or choose the current member.

Ryan O.
President

PROGRAM CORNER

David W.

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

.This year we are having our annual Auction at this November's monthly meeting. Auctions are one of our clubs' big 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 contribute by purchasing the items, we contribute by bringing in things that you no longer need OR want, have multiples of, or whatever.....

.....reason, that you'd like to donate. You can bring anything that is bonsai or garden related, new or gently used. Pots, plants, books, tools, decorative items bring one or ALL!! Looking forward to seeing all the goodies y'all bring!

AN EDITED RE-CAP OF DAVID'S APPROACH TO WINTERIZING YOUR BONSAI

Here is how I winterize. I start by bringing them out into 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. 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 I return them back to their sunny place. My larger trees that are difficult to move stay in the greenhouse and the smaller trees go in and out as cold fronts pass & the weather warms back up. While in the greenhouse, I keep the lows above 45 degrees at all times. This winter plan works best me, I have less leaf drop as I'm not moving 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 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 inside....

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. 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. Watch for Red spider mites, especially for your "indoor Bonsai". 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 super-glue!?*) A Happy bonsai is a cared for bonsai!

DAVID



We are very pleased to offer
The Bonsai Beginner's Course
ABS Book Store

<http://www.absbonsai.org/store>
Exclusive—10% OFF to our ABS Members

Created by

Bonsai Empire / Oscar Jonker Bjorvala Bonsai Studio / Bjorn Bjorholm

Oscar and Bjorn both known for professional videos, have surpassed themselves in creating one of the best learning tools for beginners

They teach you the basics of Bonsai in this course using video-tutorials, text guides and a quiz. Everything they do is practically oriented; they assist you in growing and styling your very own Bonsai tree.

***Exclusively* @ our Bookstore For \$27.00 regularly \$29.99 you get unlimited Access to the online course, without any recurring fees or hidden costs.**

The ABS has obtained the ***exclusive right*** to offer these at a **Members Only discount of 10% off the regular price.** Check out the **ABS / Bookstore web site.**

CLUBS—you might want to mention this in the club newsletters. This is an excellent beginners course.



Black Pine, Summer 2015



Black Pine after Owen Reich completed the styling

TA DA!!
Marty and her Black
Pine in a feature
Article, published in
The San Antonio
Light newspaper
On
May 1, 1988.

I would say the tree
has matured quite
Nicely.
Thanks Marty
For being a
Great member of
SABS





**1ST PLACE, LSBF SEMINAR 2015
JUNIPER LITERATI**

**2nd PLACE, LSBF SEMINAR 2015
BUTTONWOOD LITERATI**



**3rd PLACE, LSBF
SEMINAR, 2015
TOKONAMA DISPLAY
LITERATI**

What to do with a poor nebari



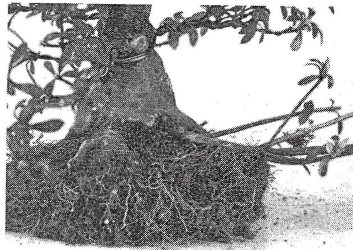
The surprises appear when you transplant.

Not all bonsai become works of art any more than a "David" can be sculpted from all blocks of marble. The advantage that bonsai has over the other arts is that the raw material is alive and continues to grow. You can always (or almost always) correct any defect with skill and patience. The most common defects in the *nebari* are:

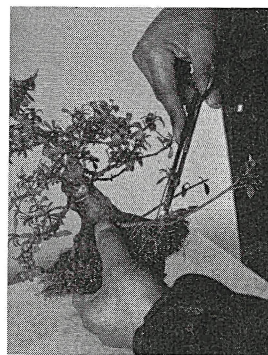
- Roots only on one side.
- An overly strong root on one side.
- Roots that cross over each other.
- Roots that turn upward and then bend down again to bury themselves in the soil, falling vertically.



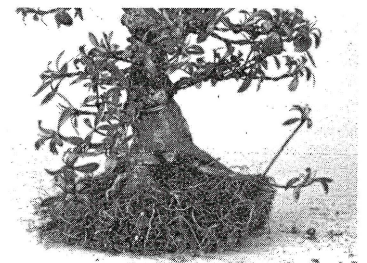
You can place a stone or plant grass on the side that has no roots.



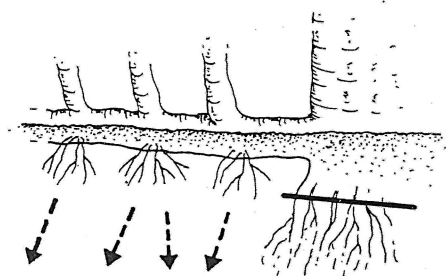
The strongest root has several shoots.



You can use them.

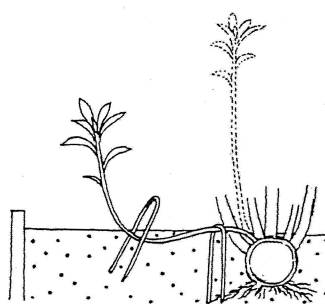
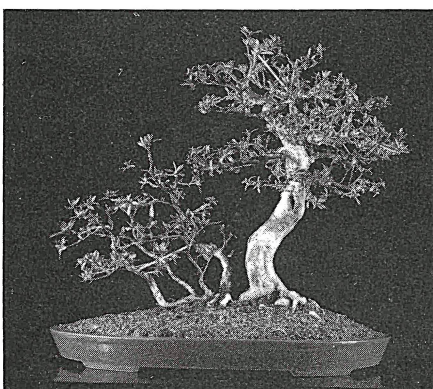


In this way a sinuous root style or *netsuranari* is started.



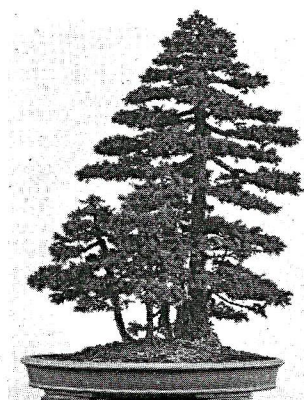
When they have grown roots, prune the roots of the main tree strongly.

To conceal a root that is growing very strongly on one side of the tree, you can change the design to a sinuous root style. This is especially useful for elms and fruit trees. If it does not issue shoots by itself, you can place seedlings of the same species next to the root which will eventually fuse with the root.



You can use wire hairpins.

If it is a species that tends to grow new shoots quite easily, you can let them grow on the side that is most interesting and then anchor them to the soil far from the trunk using some means of pinning the shoot in the soil. In time the shoot will root and can form a very attractive sinuous root style bonsai.



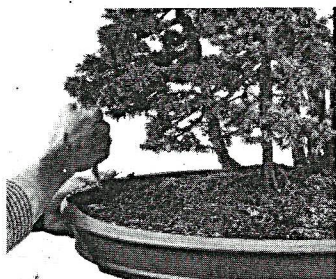
In this series of illustrations you will see the transplanting of this ancient forest of spruces.

The soil mix for a bonsai must necessarily be altered considering a number of factors: some of them, like the necessity for rapid growth and the development of ramification have already been covered in previous sections.

Another very important factor is the age of the tree and the pot in which it is planted. Certain pot designs drain better than others: for example, cascade pots drain better than flat trays. Certain styles also require more drainage: root over

rock styles tend to retain a great quantity of water under the stone.

The need for more drainage also increases with the age of the tree. The finer the roots, the more water they need and, at the same time, more drainage. For that reason, when they are older, you should incorporate a larger proportion of fine river sand in the soil mix ($\frac{1}{16}$ in. or 1 mm). The fine sand will retain enough water without diminishing basic drainage capability of the soil.



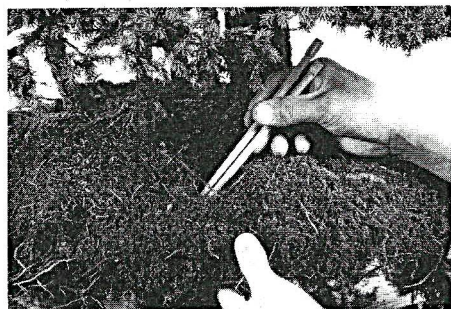
First, the roots are freed around the rim of the pot.



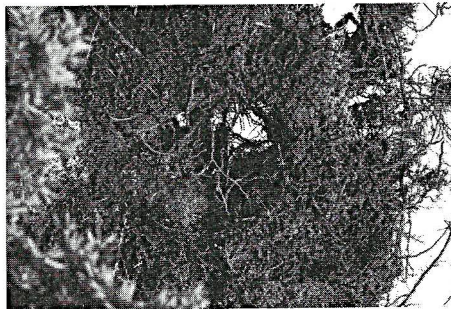
Soil is cleaned from the surface roots.



Comb out the lower part of the rootball.



Untangle the roots working from the inside toward the outside.



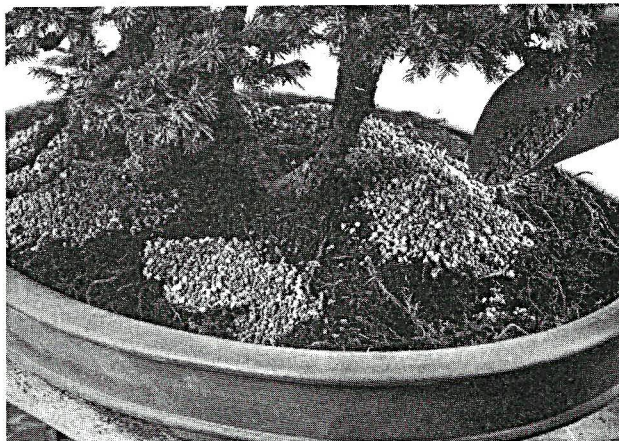
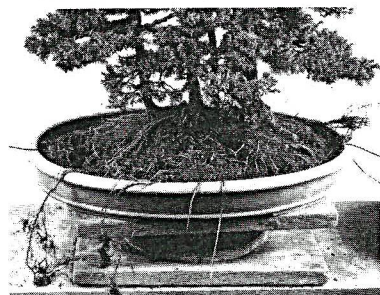
Several holes are created.



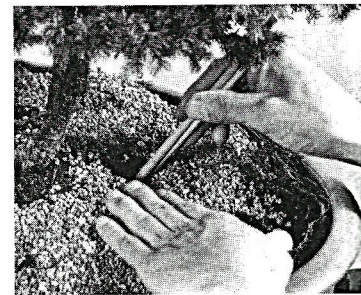
Remove the small dead roots.

New soil mix is added in the holes created in the rootball.

The tree is returned to the pot and excess roots trimmed.



Work the soil in well with the aid of some small wooden sticks or chopsticks. Finish by filling in the exterior portion of the rootball.



Preventing the withdrawal of sap



Above, the effects of the withdrawal of sap are clearly visible: death of branches, disruption of growth...

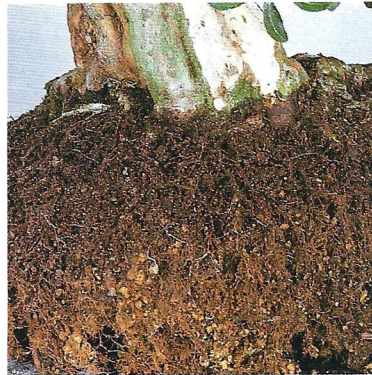
On reaching a certain age, some bonsai tend to withdraw sap. Although there are some species with which it is advisable to take greater precautions (prunus, pomegranates), generally the withdrawal of sap is associated with poor healing after pruning or with the rot of some old root.

Besides those species most susceptible to this weakness, it occurs commonly with collected trees in which the original taproot has rotted. It also occurs if the center of the rootball does not get wet with watering (or the opposite condition, where it always remains in a pool of water); for that reason it is so important to make periodic transplantings in which you also clean, slowly, the soil from the central rootball, especially if that central rootball contains the original soil from the place where it was dug up.

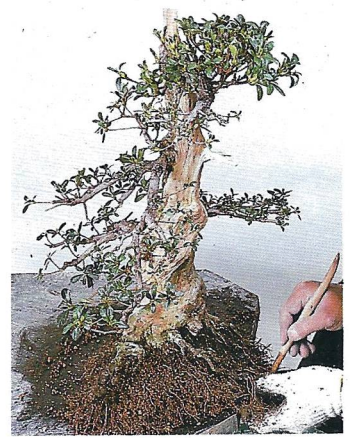
The illustrations of this section show how this problem is solved with a collected azalea.



With scraping of the bark, a large white-colored part appeared: dead.



The dead area reached as far down as the roots at the base of the tree.



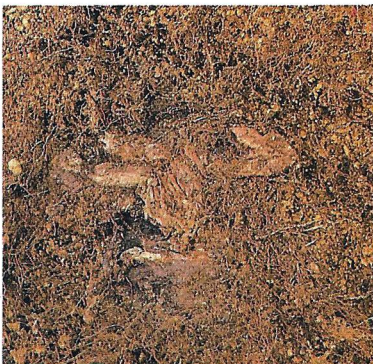
The immediate response was to clean the rootball of soil in order to observe the damage in the roots.



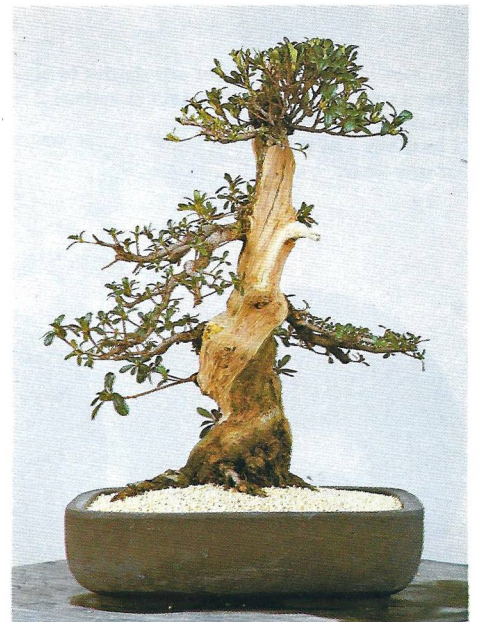
This portion of taproot was the source of the rot.

After the crown was pruned, the tree was planted in pure coarse river sand.

Here was the damage: a rotted section of root.



It was cleaned down to the white, living, area.



TRANSPLANTING

a series developed and presented in *BONSAI TODAY*, Issue 17, 1992-1

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THE PREVIOUS SECTIONS 39, 40 and 41 are part of the continuing series on TRANSPLANTING. In SNIPS n CLIPS FOR 2015 THE EARLIER SECTIONS HAVE BEEN INCLUDED. There are several More sections to go before the series is complete, stay tuned for they will continue into 2016.

24 SHOHIN



After the leaves drop

Pruning before the dormant season for deciduous trees



Text and photography: Kinbon magazine, Japan
Skills: Mr Hiroki Miura (Miura Baijyuen)

According to Hiroki Miura, 'Once all the leaves have changed colour is the ideal time to start pruning. If performed at this time, the buds will not start to move, nor will the tree bleed from open wounds'

Trident Maple (*Acer Buergerianum*)

The trunk and main branches have been set, now the tree needs some ramification. It has been worked on relatively well and there are no overly long branches or areas that are too dense.



Trident maple, height 14 cm / 5½", front before work.
All of the leaves have turned to red. After enjoying the autumn shape and colour, remove the leaves just before the leaf drop and start to prune the branches



Prune to thin out fine branches just as leaves are dropping



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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