



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

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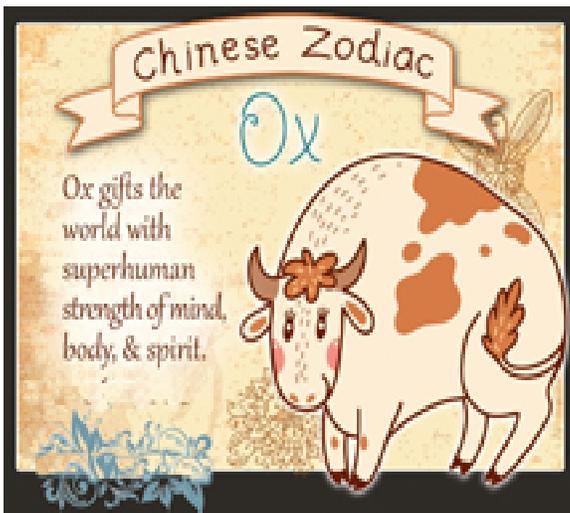
BONSAI CALENDAR

THE MEETING THIS MONTH WILL BE A ZOOM MEETING 11th 6:30 pm.

AN EMAIL HAS BEEN SENT OUT ON THE DETAILS TO ATTEND THE MEETING. IT WILL BE GREAT. SEE YOU ALL THEN!

Updates to "Bonsai Calendar"

- April 8th – Club Zoom Meeting, 6:30pm
 - April 17th – Tree Workshop at Don's Business, 10am
 - May 1st/2nd – Bonsai Exhibit at the SA Botanical Gardens, all day
 - May 8th – Pre-Mother's Day L/D at The Garden Center, 10am
 - May 13th – Club Zoom Meeting, 6:30pm
 - June 6th – Convention Meeting at Donna D's Studio, 9:30am,
 - June 19th – Pre-Father's Day L/D at The Garden Center, 10am
 - July 10th – Club in-person meeting (location TBD), 9:30am
- THE OX IS GOING TO MAKE THIS A GREAT YEAR



President's Message

BY RYAN O.

The Club is making strides to continue during the pandemic. We are adding events to our calendar, working on upcoming on-line zoom topics, and have chosen our first in-person meeting set for July. The Board has been meeting monthly since January to plan events that minimize COVID exposure and increase Club participation. We hope you are enjoying the topics of discussion and workshops being provided.

Our recent March push for new members combined with an increase in Facebook and Instagram posts has brought in eight new paid memberships; Mary Lou W., Mary I., Joe P., Justin H., Gabriel H., Krista S., Janet T., and Peter V.D. That puts our membership at an historical high of 76 members. To every and all members I and the Board Members sincerely thank you for your support of SABS. As of the authoring of this newsletter we have nearly 300 Facebook followers and 616 Instagram followers. **With your support of SABS and the art of Bonsai, we shall be able to continue the SABS legacy for another 43 years and beyond.**

We are looking for those willing to contribute an article(s) to the newsletter. If you have a piece that you would like published, even if it was published years ago (but is still relevant), please send your articles to Donna D. prior to the first of the month.

Our workshop scheduled for April 17th will be at Don's firm located at SATX. SABS will provide a main course for lunch. We are asking for those wanting to attend to bring a side item or beverages. Our focus will be to work on trees for those who want to display trees at the Botanical Gardens, though all are certainly welcome to attend.

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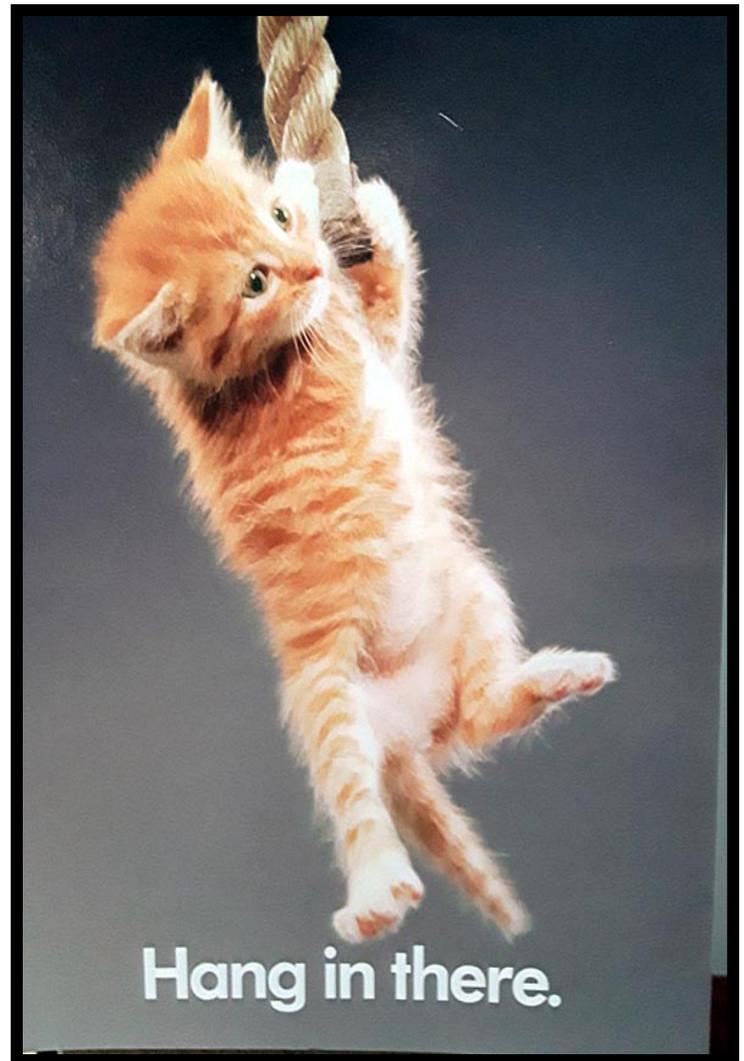
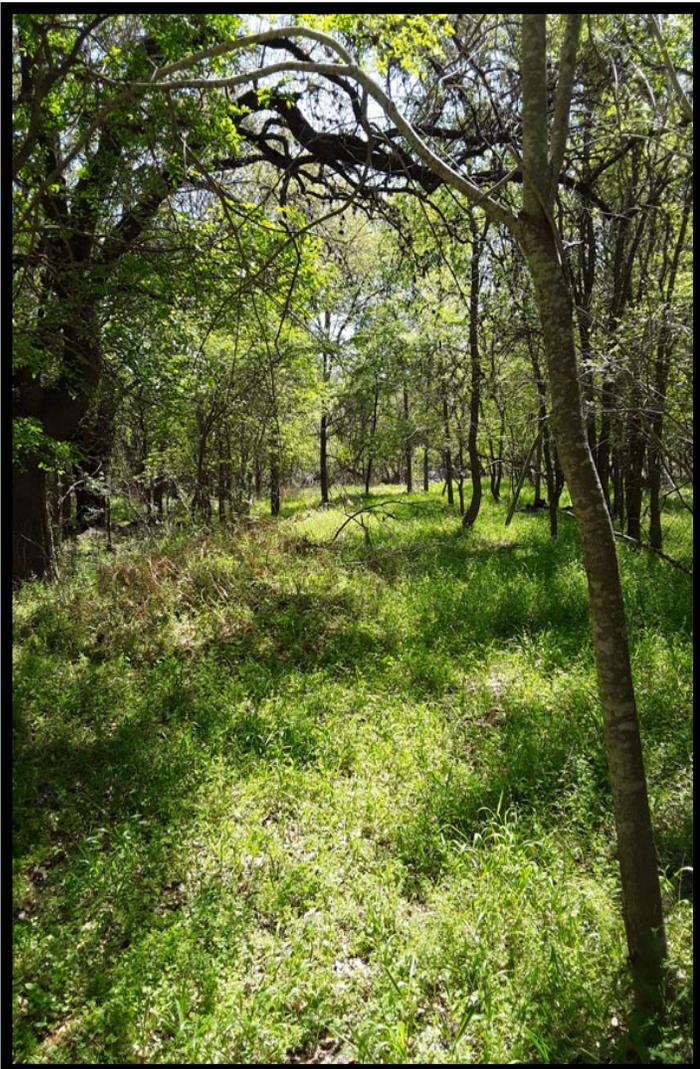
PRESIDENTS MESSAGE, PAGE 2

For the exhibit itself, we are looking to increase our display from October by having 40-50 trees on display. To achieve this, we need more volunteers willing to display their trees. We also need additional volunteers to watch over the trees, work the sales table, and to assist in the two workshops on Saturday. Shortly I will be sending out a sign-up sheet. I strongly encourage ALL members (new and experienced) to show trees. For those that are new to bonsai or have young trees please do not feel intimidated by other more refined trees being on display. Our viewers can learn how a bonsai becomes refined by looking at the various stages of development. Our display will be outside and masks will be required. I hope to see many of you as it has been a long time.

Kevin P. and I are getting back into our local nursery lecture/demos by starting at The Garden Center for the Saturdays before Mother's and Father's Day. If you are free, come out and support us.

SABS has a few buckets of soil left for sale - \$25/5.5 gallon. Email me if you are interested.

For our 2022 Convention Committee members, we will have our first meeting on Sunday June 6th at 9:30am (Donna D's Studio) to begin our work we left off in August of 2020.



APRIL MONTHLY TIPS

By David W.
redhawkbonsi.com

Well, you can sure tell that the growing season is here, I've had to do a lot of pruning and pinching, it's a challenge to keep up. Everything is awake and growing! If you have not already started semi-tropicals (Ficus and figs) you might want to wait a couple of more weeks. If you have started, you want to protect them from any cold fronts that come rolling in. It's been an unusual winter this year and it's safest to wait until **ALL** the cold fronts come through our area. **A safe rule to remember**, when root pruning/repotting semi-tropical and South Texas natives, is to wait until the lowest temperature of the night stays above 65 degrees. I and others have had success repotting at earlier dates in the season, but when we do, we have to give it all the things it needs like the correct high and low temperatures every 24 hours, the correct light and humidity. It's the same way you treat an "indoor bonsai" during the winter.... Well on second thought we might as well wait until that "65 degrees" to be safe. I try not to take too many risks. I really don't like to lose a loved tree. We just need to be patient. **It's too early in the season to repot your tropicals.** Tropicals need to be repotted in mid-summer (Fukien tea, Bahamas Black Olive, Buttonwood, Wrightia and Nea Buxofolia).

When repotting, be sure to wire the tree securely in the pot to give it good stability against the winds. Putting large rocks on top of the soil for a few days can also help brace the tree against the seasonal winds.

It's **NOT** recommended to re-pot any deciduous trees that you need to root prune that have broken dormancy. When the tree has pushed its buds open that's the sign it is too late, they should be root pruned before this happens. If you must re-pot due to problems with a tree, change the pot or repot it in larger container with fresh soil. **DO NOT** prune any of the roots. Deciduous trees have very tender roots during the growing season.

April can be windy month for us, watch the soils every day so they do not dry out. As the heat increases so will the water needs. Inspect the bonsai from top to bottom, also inspect the drain holes. Inspect for ANY and all insects and treat accordingly. If you discover an infestation treat according to the label of the pesticide. I try to spray with insecticide and apply fungicide at least once every 4 weeks.

Pretty much everybody's back yards are growing pretty vigorously by now, so do not forget to prune, pinch and also fertilize. When pinching back on most trees (except junipers) you want to pinch back to the second or third node of leaves to reduce leaf size and node length. Elm trees have alternating leaves and should be pinched down to the 2nd or 3rd leaf so it will grow back in the direction you'd want the branch to grow. Be sure to alternate the direction you pinch on different branches so all the branches don't end up growing into each other. Maples have opposing leaves and should be pinched to the second node. As the two buds emerge, pinch back the one you don't want or is growing in the wrong direction. The sooner you pinch the young tender emerging leaves, the shorter the nodes will be. I've used tweezers to get the very tiny leaves. I read that the Japanese also use a magnifying glass to see the emerging leaves.

Flowering trees are either setting buds or are already starting to bloom. Feed them regularly with a good blooming fertilizer one that has a high phosphorus number (like Super Bloom). Feed others with 20-20-20 or a good time released fertilizer. Fertilize all others with their appropriate type. You can mix your fertilizers with fungicide when you are applying.

Have fun with your trees, a little work everyday makes the tasks easier and you will not get overwhelmed.

**You use a mirror to
see your face; you
use art to see your soul.**

☺ **George Bernard Shaw**

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**Bonsai Nurseryman
South Texas Bonsai Kai
Lecture/Demo & Workshops**

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CURRENT MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR
THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY

\$30 individual

\$50 family

\$25 senior 60+

\$40 senior family



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

FACEBOOK: @sanantoniobonsai TWITTER: SATXBonsai

INSTAGRAM: @sanantoniobonsai

THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY, INC.

sanantoniobonsai.org

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