



# SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://bonsai-satx.org>

NOVEMBER 2014

VOLUME 39 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

*Each month the club features a "mini-show" of bonsai that anyone can bring in to talk about, **this month: ANY species That is showcasing seed pods/fruit.***

**NOVEMBER 13: PROGRAM:** Preparing your bonsai for the winter by Ryan O and pot swap to gather pots for repotting in the spring.  
**HOSTS:** Raquel B

**NOVEMBER 16: GRAPEVINE DIG FIELD TRIP TO VICTORIA.**

**NOVEMBER 26: RICHARD HAYES BONSAI 101:** Beginners Workshop in Bonsai, everyone is welcome, Newbies and members, 7 pm at Lions Field.

**DECEMBER 7: BOARD MEETING**

**DECEMBER 11: Special guest artist from Europe Walter Pall presenting to SABS AND the Annual Christmas Party,** please bring a covered dish and a contribution of canned goods for the Area San Antonio Food Bank..

## President's Message

By Ryan O

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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. I (and your **SABS** Board Members) want to know if you have been happy with 2014'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 2015. 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.

On October 25<sup>th</sup>, **SABS** was represented at the **Water Garden Gems** annual Koi Fish Show and Judging. Our presentation included 15+ trees and suiseki stones on display, in addition to club books and trees for sale. During the day, Oscar G Virgie V and I demonstrated turning Helleri Holly nursery stock into the beginnings of bonsai. David W presented the art of bonsai and the creation of a cascading juniper to a group of 20+ visitors. All in all, **SABS** raffled off five bonsai and a pair of bonsai related books to six lucky winners. Each winner also received a free 2015 membership to **SABS**. We hope to see new faces soon!

I would like to thank the following members for volunteering their time at the Koi Show, and they are (in no particular order): David W, Oscar G, Donna D, and Virgie V. We had such a great time showing and presenting, that **Water Garden Gems** asked us to participate in another show on April 25, 2015.

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With the help of David, **SABS** recently made a special purchase of 128 seven-pound bags of red lava rock. The lava rock is good to add to your bonsai soil mixture or use as a top dressing when showing trees. David has begun sifting some of his personal purchase and finding each bag contains very small amount of dust particles and generally the rock size is medium to small. I will bring the entire stock to November's meeting for any and all to purchase. The cost is \$10 per bag or three bags for \$25. All monies made from the sale goes into **SABS'** account.

As a reminder, **SABS** has recently released our newest edition of our **Bonsai Tree Care** booklet. Our latest edition includes a hard cover 3-ring binder stuffed with numerous informative sheets on a wide variety of species of bonsai. The 3-ring binder allows you to add additional sheet to take notes. Each binder is \$15.00 which goes to help support various club activities. Email me or see me at our meetings if you are interested in purchasing a booklet.

At November's meeting, we will have our Second Annual Pot Swap (no trips to Colorado please!!!!) This is a great time to pick up a few extra pots you might need for your spring repotting needs. You are free to also bring in any trees, tools, and anything else bonsai related. We will have tables set up for sellers. Unlike other sales/auctions, no proceeds go to the Club unless you specifically donate to the Club. The Club is not directly responsible for the sale of items, so if you are selling, bring money to provide change to the buyers. Price tags are the seller's responsibility.

Lastly, yours truly, will provide helpful tips and tricks to successfully "winterize" your trees during the meeting.

**RYAN**

## PROGRAM CORNER

**David W**

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Wow, where did this month go? Everybody look out here comes winter, I'm not totally ready, not even close! Are you prepared for this coming winter? Start cleaning out the area you are going to bring in your sub tropicals and tropicals for their winter slumber. I cannot stress enough that you must know what each of your plant needs are. Is it a native, tropical, conifer or deciduous, does it need protection from the cold or does it need a cold dormant rest? If you have not purchased our club "Bonsai Tree Care" book you should, it has information on several species that we all probably have and some you didn't know you needed or want.

Saturday October 25<sup>th</sup> our club had a very nice showing at the **23rd annual Texas Koi & Fancy Goldfish Society** annual show at **Water Garden Gems**. I want to thank Virgie, Trisha, Donna, Oscar and Ryan for their enthusiasm and help. Shane from WGG wanted to thank us very much, he said that everybody was very pleased we were there and our display was AWESOME! We all had a fun time and chatted with lots of people; hopefully we will see a couple of new faces in the upcoming meetings.

This month's meeting our President Ryan is going to go over winterizing our trees. Winterizing is very important as we need to know what, where and when to prep our trees for the dormant season. We also will have a questionnaire that we are asking members ideas for next year. See you at the meeting.

**David**

**TREE  
CARE  
BOOK**



by Crataegus Bonsai  
The hype about 0-10-10 fertilizer  
Oct 2014

The urge to outthink how a plant works is fairly common to most who grow plants. We all do it. Certainly this is where the miss-use of 0-10-10 for bonsai started.

0-10-10 has no nitrogen in it (nitrogen is the first number of the three).- *And yet every cell process, even those going on in the fall, require nitrogen.* The building blocks of life are carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, and nitrogen. That's what makes up your amino acids, which run the ball game. Potassium and phosphorus are necessary too, but they come into the game later.

Fear of tender growth late in the year is at least one of the claims in support of using 0-10-10. *But if you've used a fertilizer with all three macronutrients present consistently throughout the growing season, continuing to do so in the fall will not bring about a flush of growth in the fall that is susceptible to cold.*

After all, nitrogen does not disappear in the landscape in the fall. The use of fertilizer cakes or something similar (roughly 5-5-5) throughout the growing season, *and in the fall*, is the accepted standard of bonsai professionals in Japan, and will never push late growth.

So nitrogen is necessary for your plants in all phases of growth, even during the fall. Bonsai are no different than any other plant. Don't be lured into thinking, 'Oh gosh, I don't SEE growth happening in the fall therefore they must not need nitrogen.' Everything that goes on in a plant requires it.

'Everything in moderation' is a good Greek standard to apply to fertilizing. And 'everything' would definitely include nitrogen.

On the other hand even moderate amounts of Twitter would kill me, so maybe the Greeks were daft after all. Oscar Wilde modified the original idea by saying 'Everything in moderation, **including** moderation,' which sort of gives us free reign to live expansively, but this has nothing to do with fertilizer and should be reserved for dancing, ridiculous dinner parties, movies featuring Judi Dench, etc.

## BONSAI BANTER

### Post about Shohin



A mini display of Shohin Bonsai in China. Visit [www.bonsaimary.com](http://www.bonsaimary.com) and check out her blog...***bonsai banter***. Lots of good information. She resides in an area of Florida that conforms closely with our weather. The information in the last newsletter about the product *ScanMask* came from her blog.

**BOOTH PREPARED AND READY FOR VISITORS, THE WEATHER WAS PERFECT AND VISITORS ENJOYED OUR DISPLAY**



Membership dues will be coming up in January. Check the information to the right and find your designation. Oscar G is our treasurer and he can help you out.

Become a member at such a modest price—Learn about the wonders of Bonsai, a delightful and rewarding activity. San Antonio Bonsai Society is a non-profit 501c (3) organization.

**CURRENT MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR  
THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI  
SOCIETY**

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

## Bonsai terms – can you match the correct term to its' meaning??

_____1	suiseki	a. Hand-carved wooden stand for stones
_____2	dai – za	b. collected trees
_____3	moyogi	c. informal upright style
_____4	Yamadori	d. Phoenix graft
_____5	Tanuki	e. surface roots
_____6	nabari	f. Abstract and free style
_____7	haiku	g. Japanese non-rhyming verse)
_____8	Bunjin	h. bonsai (8" height maximum)
_____9	Shohin	i. viewing stones

A comprehensive list of terms related to bonsai can be found in the April 2012 edition of Snips N' Clips.

*These are some of the more common Japanese terms that you will hear some of the members using on a regular basis. Match them up and keep the list around until you are comfortable and can use them with confidence.*

### WINTER IS COMING

Prepare: clean benches, check wire, remove and/or replace, clean debris from the surface of the soil of your trees. Ready the space that will shelter your tropicals and subtropicals. Be ready for the very cold night or two—cloth coverings & placing trees on the ground with mulch protection. Finally ready your supplies for re-potting chores that will arrive sooner than you think—many of our trees are repotted from February on. The tropicals await for the very hot weather.

## UPDATES TO THE MEETING CALENDAR FOR 2014

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

**December 10: Special Guest Artist: Walter Pall** from Europe, He is presenting a lecture/demo to SABS. This is a very special opportunity as Walter was to attend the New Braunfels Convention in 2013, but had to cancel. More info in the November newsletter.

**December 10:** Christmas Party. Besides your party food contribution—***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.

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### THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY, INC.

<http://bonsai-satx.org>

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**The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc. is a member of the Lone Star Bonsai Federation, Inc.  
Bonsai Clubs International, and the American Bonsai Society,  
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