



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

JULY 2016

VOLUME 41 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

BONSAI 101:—HELD EVERY 4TH WEDNESDAY, 7 PM, LIONS FIELD. New members receive a tree to work on. All members are invited—bring in trees to work on, experienced members are there to help.

BONSAI WORKSHOP: —HELD THE SATURDAY AFTER THE THURSDAY NIGHT CLUB MEETING. LOCATIONS TO BE ANNOUNCED. Topic of discussion will be a follow-up to the Thursday night presentation. See website for locations. <http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

Mini-Show – Examples of tropical/sub-tropical bonsai.

JULY 14- Club Meeting at the Lion's Field; 7 pm. FOOD HOSTS: Raquel B-G. & Irene V.

Bonsai workshop at Kevin and Hattie's House from 9 am to 1 pm.

17 September 2016: **Shohin Society of Texas** meeting featuring set-up display for the convention & decide the 2017 schedule.

10-11 September 2016: **5th US National Bonsai Exhibition** at Rochester, NY. For additional information and to submit photos for entry contact: Wm. N. Valavanis, wv@internationalbonsai.com, '585-334-2595.

13-16 October 2016: **LSBF 2016 Convention—Bonsai: Living Art** hosted by the **Corpus Christi Bonsai Society** at the Emerald Beach Hotel, 1102 S. Shoreline Blvd., Corpus Christi, TX. 78401

President's Message

By Ryan O.

bonsaiode@gmail.com

Over the past year, Steve B. has experimented with trunk chopped Crepe Myrtles and their ability to re-root under various conditions. He will present his findings, in a short segment of July's meeting, by discussing the use of root hormone vs. a "secret ingredient." Steve is bringing examples of his experiment for all to see.

We had a great turnout to our Wednesday night Bonsai workshop in June. Kevin and I worked with 9 new and existing members with trees, concepts, ideas, and techniques. Throughout the night we worked on redesigning a Boxwood literati by beginning to infuse a few radical bends, a tall Ficus was defoliated and redesigned by cutting it down, new members worked on creating shohin and cascading bonsai, and another Ficus was severely cut back in hope of redesigning its canopy.

Also in June, SABS presented at **The Garden Center**. A whole host of us (Donna, Larry, Klaus, Diane, Rob, Carol, Virgie, and I) all battled the summer temps to provide a lecture/demo and an exhibit of well-crafted bonsai. Donna and I worked on two nursery stock trees while discussing bonsai and raffled them off to two happy audience members.

Continuation on David W.'s discussion on water quality, Al P. shared this article regarding **SAWS'** water quality reports. Feel free to view their report at <http://www.saws.org/waterqualityreport>.

SABS has scheduled our annual **Progressive Bonsai Tour and BBQ** for September 10th where we visit the backyards of three members, enjoy their bonsai, and have munchies along the way. Kevin and Hattie have volunteered their house as the third visit to also host the BBQ. **SABS is looking for two additional volunteers.** Please email Ryan O if you're interested.

NO WORKSHOP AT THE GARDEN CENTER IN JULY. We have changed the location for Saturday July 16th's workshop, on tropicals, to Kevin and Hattie's house located at

K&H are providing cold water, but snacks and other beverages are up to you.

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I'm in the process of updating **SABS'** records of member information. If you have not confirmed or made changes to the handout I've passed around the last 2 meetings, please email me with any changes to your home address, email address, and/or phone number. If nothing has changed in the past 2 years, you are good.

Ryan O., President

Program Corner

David W.

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

This July 2016 meeting I will be giving a demonstration on tropicals and the when and how to root prune and repot.

Also, everybody be ready with your smart phones as I will show everybody how to look up a species and to determine what type of plant and what are its needs. Learning the plant care basics of your trees goes a long ways to caring for them and knowing *when* you can do repotting and root-pruning.

DAVID

JULY Monthly Tips

David W.

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

July 2016: We are at the summer solstice as I'm writing this or as I like to 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 Black Olive, Buttonwood, Nia Buxifolia, Fukien Tea, etc) now through Aug/Sept, we want at least 4 to 6 weeks of very warm weather after we prune the roots of our tropicals to give the new roots time to establish. You can start on your Texas Ebony and other South Texas natives if you haven't already. It's also safe to keep on re-potting semi-tropicals like Ficus and figs.

OK I'm going 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.....Watch 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.

cont'd next column

I have several plants that need watering 2 times a day and a few that need 3 times. Inspect your bonsai from top to bottom, also inspect the drain holes. If your soil is not drying out daily, 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.

Watch out for the heat of the sun cooking your pots, soil and roots. The week before our Solstice we had a major heat wave here. The highs during the days was near 105 and the heat index during the days stayed around 118. 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 or 2 x 2s under the feet to keep them cooler and it allows for better air circulation under the pots too.

When inspecting for insects on trees, check all around the foliage or leaves, in-between twigs and in/or under the pot. Spider mites are very tiny bugs (about this size > . <) and will kill your trees before you know that they are there! The best way to find the smallest of the attacking insects (Spider mites) is put you tree over a piece of white paper and tap on all the branches, this will knock off some of the little critters onto the paper, if you can mash/smear the specks, then they need to be eradicated.

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

»Apply a fungicide and insecticide at least once every 4 weeks.

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

Watch your training wires, so they will not cut into the branches. If you need to re-wire after you removed it (because the branch is 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 line.

I try to use a preventive insecticide and fungicide treatment every 4 weeks during the growing season, here that can be up to 10 months.

With indoor growing, insect inspection and prevention is an on-going job year around.

We all have their own methods of treating for insects. Regular spraying of the foliage when you water, especially on junipers, can help prevent the little critters from taking up residence on your trees.

REMEMBER:

- 1) Do not use Neem oil on any type of elms, it will defoliate them and can kill them.
- 2) Do not use Kelthane on any type of elms, it will defoliate them and can kill them.
- 3) Do not use Malathion on Buttonwoods, it can kill them.
- 4) Do not use Neem oil on Boxwoods, it can kill them.
- 5) Do not use Disyston on Fukien Tea, it can kill them.

Below are some of my GO TOs, remember that if it's labeled to use on roses it is probably ok to use on your trees. Just to name a few problems when growing bonsai down here in South Texas.



Aphids will be attacking flower buds before they start to open. Watch for ants moving up and down the branches and you will see aphids around the buds. Fire Ants are like "cattle ranchers". They will herd the Aphids up from the ant colony to the plant's flower buds and have them feed until they get fat, then herd them back to the colony's nursery to milk the sucrose from them to feed on. They do this over and over again until the aphids dies.

* Spider mites can attack very fast and this happens all growing season. Spider mites will kill them almost before you notice they are there. If you see the signs (webs) it's probably too late.

* Cuban Laurel Thrips can and will attack several different types of Ficus during the growing season. *Disyston can be used here*
 * "The Boogie worms" (little green worms) that ONLY attack bougainvilleas during the summer. *Disyston can be used here*

* White flies, scale, grubs and snails (not insects, but still a pest) come and go during our growing season.

DAVID

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY

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

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT:
 LSBF CONVENTION FOR 2016**

13-16 October 2016: LSBF 2016 Convention—Bonsai: Living Art hosted by the Corpus Christi Bonsai Society
 at the
 Emerald Beach Hotel, 1102 S. Shoreline Blvd., Corpus Christi, TX. 78401
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

BONSAI BIOGRAPHY
David W
redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

I have been growing and enjoying bonsai for 40 years. Because of 2 moves in/out of California over the years, I'm currently on my fifth collection of bonsai, though this is the longest time into a collection that started in July 1994 when I moved back home to Texas the second time and settled down here in the Coastal Bend. Now we have reduced our collection to a few hundred plants. But many of them are starters, seedlings, cuttings and some nursery stock in various stages of growth. I have lots of show quality and collected specimens too. I've collected yamadori in Texas from the Hill Country down through the Brush country and Coastal plains down to the Rio Grande Valley, in the Louisiana swamps, in the Florida Keys and in Northern California from the Sierras to the Pacific Coast.

I started bonsai as a project while in high school spring of 1976. My dad was retired from the Air Force and he sparked my interest, talking about when he was stationed in Okinawa post WWII and saw plenty of bonsai while there. After high school I lived in New Orleans until 1979, where I found the New Orleans Bonsai club and met Vaughn Banting and was introduced to the Bald Cypress trees as bonsai. My first move to California in 1980 is when I became REALLY introduced to the world of bonsai!

I was very fortunate to see awesome bonsai specimens and start an all new variety of trees. I went to several club meetings, shows and conventions in Southern California and from Sacramento to San Francisco to San Jose and pretty much of all the clubs in the Bay area. I met and took workshop/classes from people with names like John Naka, Ben Oki, Harry Hirao, Yugi Yoshimura, Bill Valavanis, Masahiko Kimura, Chase Rosade, Melba Tucker, Vaughn Banting, Dorie Froning, Shigeru and Roy Nagatoshi, Mas Ima-zumi, Johnny Uchida, Carl & Shin Young, Kathy Shaner, Terry Ward, Warren Hill, Mary Miller, and Mary Madsen.

In 1982 I moved back to San Antonio and found Leonard & Edith Sorge, owners of the **Bonsai Farm** just east of San Antonio.

My first time there was on a Saturday morning, just in time for a **SABS** workshop. I joined the workshop and club that day. I had the privilege of being a member of the **SABS** from 1982 – 88; I was part of the incorporating of the Texas clubs, the beginning of the **LSBF** and had the experience of a **BCI (Bonsai Clubs International)** convention from behind the scenes as a club member.

I have been a member of the **San Antonio Bonsai Society** from 1982 – 1988 and 2012 to present as VP and a Board member. While I visited several clubs and conventions in northern (and southern) California I never stayed very long in one place or had time to dedicate to a club. I was a member of Corpus Christi Bonsai Society from 2002 – 2011, was co-editor of their newsletter with my wife from 2005 – 2010.

My passion for bonsai is endless and one of my favorite things is introducing new people to the wonderful world of bonsai!

DAVID

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK



Japanese Shibori:
The Art of Pattern

Lynne Brotman



Suiseki Rocks 雅石:
Finding Your Universe

Marlon Chen



The Chrysanthemum Veil

Teruko Nimura

Big Medium

The Japan's Association of Artists for Cultural Arts Center
Office: City of Austin, Economic Development Department



Asian American Resource Center
8401 Cameron Road, Austin, Texas 78714
512.978.1700 | www.aarccenter.org
learnmore@aarccenter.org
The City of Austin is proud to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. If you require assistance for participation in our programs or use of our facilities, please call 512.978.1700.



THE EXHIBIT AT THE "GARDEN CENTER"

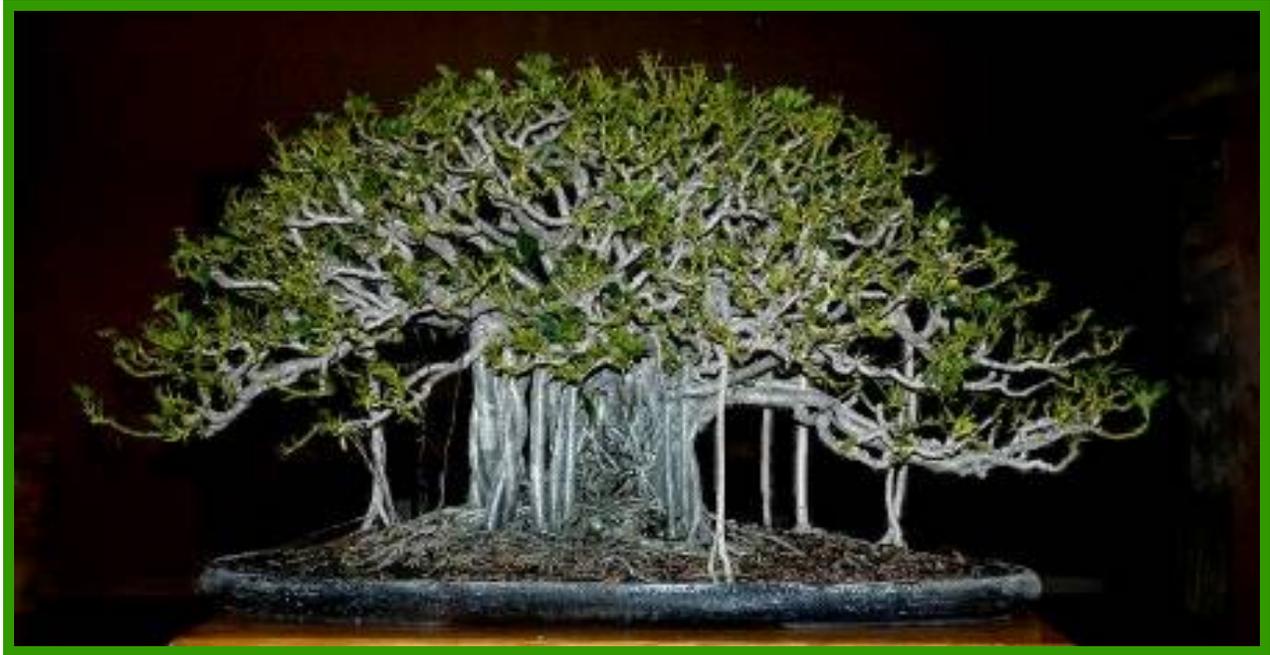
Common bonsai myths—from "Bonsai Banter"

"Pruning Roots will Kill the Tree"

Just the opposite! Trimming roots keeps any plant healthy in a container. If there is a tap root, *it can go first*; it is not necessary in a container. (This continues to be *one of the most consistent bonsai myths!*) Cutting roots (*even the tap root*) will not kill a tree if it is done judiciously and at the appropriate time of year. The "perfect" time of year to prune roots *varies from species to species*. Don't let this happen to your bonsai!

<http://www.bonsaimary.com>

BONSAI OF THE MONTH



“This bonsai was started from two single trunk dwarf Schefflera (2 gallon size) that I purchased from Walmart about 20 years ago. It is approximately 48” across and 24” tall.” - Andy G

Read more: <http://www.bonsaimary.com/schefflera-arboricola.html#ixzz4DRq6o5mq>

Andy Graham recently donated a substantial group of tropicals to “THE TEXAS STATE BONSAI EXHIBIT. SEVERAL OF THESE TREES WILL BE AT THE CORPUS CHRISTI CONVENTION IN OCTOBER.

More common bonsai myths—from “Bonsai Banter”

“No Fertilizer is Part of the Dwarfing Process”

That's a scary thought! Bonsai are living plants. Fertilizer is like *plant food*. Nature feeds plants in the ground. Plants in containers need to be fed by us. One of the *biggest bonsai myths about fertilizer* is to use weakened versions of the original instructions. In the beginning, I followed “half strength” advice. It seemed like a miracle when I began to use fertilizer according to package instructions!

Note: the web link listed above is outstanding for bonsai information.



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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All correspondence should be addressed to:

San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.
P.O. Box 6658
San Antonio, Texas, 78209

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Newsletter editor: Donna D, two2views@yahoo.com