



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

APRIL 2016

VOLUME 41 NUMBER 4

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 OTHER 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.

Mini-Show – No show this month due to club auction

April Food Host: Paul and Dawn T.

April 14th - Club Meeting at the Lion's Field, Community Center; 7 pm

April 16th – Bonsai workshop at Ryan O.'s house from 9 am to 1 pm

April 26th – Workshop with **LSBF** Artist at Donna D.'s studio from 1 pm to 4 pm and 7 pm to 9 pm

April 27th – Lecture/Demo with **LSBF** Touring Artist at Donna's studio 7 pm to 9 pm

April 30th – Lecture/Demo at **Rainbow Gardens**-Thousand Oaks by Ryan O. from 2 pm to 4 pm

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 Donna's email.**

For those of you that are care takers of Gary's and Ryan A.'s bonsai, please bring them into the auction. I will provide tags for those trees.

Back by popular demand is the **Bonsai Workshops**. The Bonsai Workshops are back on and scheduled for every other month on the 4th Wednesday. Our next one is on May 25th. You can also check the website for upcoming dates. This is a great time to bring in trees that you have questions on or need assistance with. This is also the time where new members receive their free nursery tree to work on with an experienced member.

Please note the dates for the LSBF Touring Artist. The dates have changed since the printing of the 2016 Events and Food Schedule.

On Saturday April 30th, I am presenting bonsai at the Rainbow Gardens-Thousand Oaks location from 2 pm to 4 pm. I encourage members to stop by and support our efforts. I could also use a hand or two to pass out fliers and raffle tickets.

Ryan O., President

Program Corner

David W.

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

April 2016 meeting we are having a **Live Auction**, so bring in your new, gently used, or unwanted items so we can generate some funds for our next convention and awesome upcoming events your Board has in store for all of us.

Also on the 26th and 27th we have the distinct pleasure of having **LSBF** touring artist Rodney Clemens to conduct 2 workshops and a Lecture / demonstration. Rodney is an expert on many species of bonsai, though he favors boxwoods, especially *Buxus Microphylla* the Kingsville boxwood. Rodney has also been a vendor at **LSBF** conventions.

On the 26th, Rodney will be conducting 2 hands-on workshop in which you can bring up to 3 trees to work on, the first workshop is from 1 pm to 4 pm. The second workshop is that evening from 7 pm to 9 pm, for a cost of \$25 for members on each workshop. On the 27th from 7 pm to 9 pm, Rodney will do a lecture/demo on a twin trunk Chinese elm that I field grew for 4 years and has been in a training pot for 3+ years, should be a nice tree when he does his bonsai magic. All events will be at Donna's studio at 927 N. Alamo 78215,.

DAVID

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY

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

APRIL Monthly Tips

David W.

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

April 2016 monthly tips: I think spring is here, it has been an average but long winter. Everything has been growing pretty well now. If you haven't already started repotting semi-tropicals you might want to wait a couple of more weeks. If you do, which you can do now but, you want to protect them from any cold fronts that come rolling in. It's been a longer than normal winter this year and it is safest to wait until ALL the cold fronts have 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, 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. 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, Ficus, 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. Placing 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. When the tree has pushed its buds open that is 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 the roots. Deciduous trees have very tender roots during the growing season.

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April can be a 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.

As I briefly mentioned in the past, "know your species". You should know the information of each and every type of plant you have! What it needs are as far as water, light (full sun exposure, shaded, morning only) placement through-out the seasons, is it tropical, is it deciduous, its max low and high temp it should be exposed to, when to & not to trim, when to repot, can it be defoliated, does it back bud, is the bud near the trunk or at the end of the branch, fertilizing, trimming, clipping, pinching, wiring... getting the picture?? We can find most of the information we need from our very own published **SABS' "Bonsai Tree Care"** book, this little green book has the low down on over 86 species and covers most of our well known species we use here! You can purchase this awesome bonsai book from our club; also, we still have bags of lava rock available for mixing your own special bonsai soil. See Ryan to purchase both.

Pretty much everybody's back yards are growing by now, so do not forget to prune, pinch and also fertilize. When trimming back on most trees (except junipers) you want to trim 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've read that the Japanese also use a magnifying glass along with tweezers 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 at the time of application.

DAVID

The bonsai pictured below came from one of the club auctions a few years ago....so be prepared to find something special or that special bonsai pot that will go perfectly with the wonderful bonsai you have been working on.

I.e. I know about the pot....someone out bid me on in the last club auction!!

So my advice, be prepared, come early and bid high, its all really a lot of fun.

DD

BONSAI OF THE MONTH

Barbados Cherry
Malpighia glabra

It blooms with delicate pink orchid-like blossoms with the fruit a red cherry form.

And is that a hand the bonsai is sitting on?



RODNEY CLEMENS
LONE STAR FEDERATION VISITING ARTIST 2016

Rodney spent his formative years in the Florida panhandle, moving to Atlanta, GA when he was thirteen. He was captivated by bonsai in 1973 when he saw a Trident maple forest that struck chords in his heart and artistic nature. Bonsai has been his passion since that time. Rodney is a bonsai artist and instructor, specializing in Japanese gardens and natural water features. His work has developed his sensitive eye and skill with rock and plant placement which adds realism to his bonsai creations. He studied with **E. Felton Jones** and enjoyed workshops with many visiting artists like **John Naka** and **Yugi Yoshimura**. His style has been formed by studying nature, drawing heavily on childhood memories of coastal Florida. Rodney excels in capturing the tension in nature and translating it into bonsai. He is best known for his unique “rock plantings” and his love of “Kingsville” boxwood. When teaching his remarks are delivered with a liberal dose of humor. He has been an invited speaker to numerous Bonsai societies meetings and conventions.

A few of the highlights are: 1987 **BSF** Convention, Fort Walton Beach, FL; 1989-1997 **Southeast Bonsai Conferences**, Atlanta, GA; **1993 World Bonsai Convention**, Orlando, FL; 1996 **ABS Convention**, Hershey, PA; 1997 **International Bonsai Convention**, England; **1998 International Bonsai Symposium**, Rochester, NY; **2001 Mid Atlantic Convention**, Newark NJ; 2002, 2005 and 2009 **Brussel's Rendezvous**, Memphis, TN; **Expo 2005**, Asheville, NC; He has spoken at four **BSF Conventions**, the last one was Gainesville, FL in 2006. Rodney has been President of the **Atlanta Bonsai Society** three times since joining the organization in 1973. He was President of **Phoenix Bonsai Federation** in 1999. Phoenix hosted a convention with **Masahiko Kimura** as the exclusive speaker. Rodney continues traveling, teaching, judging shows and critiquing collections. He leads a study group at **Smith Gilbert Gardens** in Kennesaw GA, where he is the curator of their collection. He also is the curator of the collection at the **Monastery of the Holy Spirit** in Conyers GA. At present he is applying his talents at his nursery, **Allgood Bonsai**, designing trees and teaching advanced workshops. Rodney enjoys the opportunity to share and express his love of nature and bonsai with people in the hopes that he can influence them in a positive way.

LSBF is the state of Texas Bonsai Federation. It is our umbrella organization that brings talented bonsai artists from around the country and abroad that tour the state and surrounding areas for the benefit of each bonsai club. A portion of your dues and profits from the state conventions goes to the organization to facilitate these activities.



Bonsai

TODAY

1992 - 1

17

\$7.95

transplanting



HERE IT IS THAT OUTSTANDING MAGAZINE, Maybe there will be one at the auction??

TRANSPLANTING

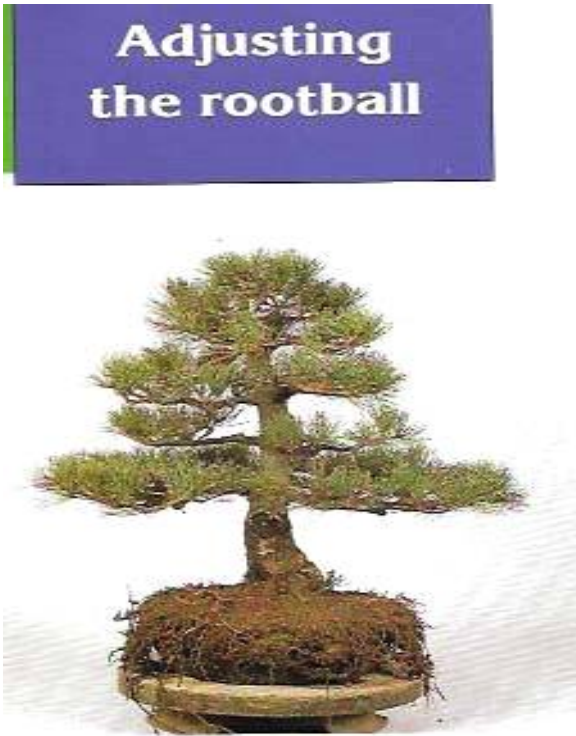
a series developed and presented in *BONSAI TODAY*, Issue 17, 1992-1

Authors:

Ioo Nishikawa, Taisaku Nomotoo, Akira Kansaku, Toshio Onishi, Tokuyi Yoshioka, Eiji Sueda, Hideyi Kanda, Taiyu Ezaka, Hiroshi Takeyama, Noboru Futayama, Saburo Kato, Noboru Kaneko, Sugi Mitsuya, Koji Kubota, Kihachiro Kamiya, Goro Innan, Juyo Ioneia, Mikio Oshima, Tokugiro Ocutani, Sugi Yoshida, Kooji Onishi, Masahiko Kimura, Kioyi Yoshida

WHAT FOLLOWS IS THE LAST OF THE SERIES

Adjusting the rootball



Now you have to review all the work that has just been done. It is preferable to do it now, since once the tree is in the pot, you will have to wait until the next transplanting to make any corrections. It is good practice to place the tree in the position that it will be in when it is placed in the pot and then verify that the base of the rootball sits flat on the turn-table. If it does not, prune the roots wherever it is necessary until the base of the rootball is flat.





Once the drainage layer is placed in the bottom of the pot, before actually planting the tree, verify that the tree will fit in the pot without problems. If it does not, prune the rootball again until the tree will fit properly at the correct position.



Put in the drainage layer.



The tree is temporarily positioned leaving its mark on the drainage layer. The imprint shows if additional root pruning is needed.

Before planting



Make sure the wires that will be used to secure the tree are free.

Preparing the pot



If a long root remains that you prefer not to prune at this time...



Place a heap of basic soil mix on the imprint. This way the soil will enter evenly into the lower part of the rootball.

Securing the tree



The next to last step is the securing of the tree to the pot with the wires that had previously been inserted through the drainage holes. If these touch any root, protect it with a piece of rubber or leather.

Roots that are too high can be pulled down and secured with wire clips.



Finishing touches

THANK YOU "BONSAI TODAY" for a fantastic and informative publication!!



Before transplanting, in the training pot in which it was trained for three years.

After transplanting, in the new pot in which it will remain for three more years.



**After
trans-
planting**

Immediately after transplanting, it must be watered thoroughly, making sure that the water runs out through the drainage holes.





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

Webmaster: Ryan O.

President:
Secretary:
Publicity:

Ryan O.
Oscar G.

Vice President:
Treasurer/Membership
Directors at large:

David W.
Leydana M.
Roberto M, John R. Kevin P.

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All correspondence should be addressed to:

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

**The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc. is a member of the Lone Star Bonsai Federation, Inc.
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Newsletter editor: Donna D, two2views@yahoo.com