



# SNIPS 'N CLIPS

January 2019

Volume 44

A Cutting Edge Publication by The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

Number 01

## What's New!

- HAPPY NEW YEAR AND WELCOME TO 2019!!!
- **2019 membership dues are due by January 10<sup>TH</sup>.** Please pay Leydana R-M. membership fees by/on the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting to ensure continued delivery of Snips 'N Clips. Rates are below.
- The newest edition of the **Bonsai Care Booklet** are here. Pick yours up at the January meeting from Ryan O. The new edition and binder cost is \$15. For those with the 3-ring binder already and want an updated version, cost is \$10.
- Should you have any comments or ideas regarding SABS, remember to direct such topics to your new 2019 Board Members:
  - **President:** Klaus C.
  - **Vice President/Recorder:** Nick B.
  - **Treasurer/Membership:** Leydana R-M.
  - **Secretary:** Bryan B.
  - **Raffles:** Diane C.
  - **Directors at Large:** Larry A., Carol B., Tammy B-R., and Jay N.
- Please see the three events slated for February concerning the 2020 convention. Events are listed on Page 2 under Convention Updates. A large participation is greatly needed for success!!!
- Ryan O. is collecting pictures of your trees to update the SABS' website. Please send pictures in jpeg format to [bonsaiode@gmail.com](mailto:bonsaiode@gmail.com).

All lecture/demonstration meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, 7pm, at the Lions Field Adult and Senior Center, 2809 Broadway Street, SATX 78209

Our Bonsai Study Group is held every 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday, 7pm, Lions Field. All members are invited to attend for hands-on assistance by experienced bonsai artists.

## JANUARY'S EVENTS

### Lecture/Demo:

January 10<sup>th</sup> – Repotting and Soils with John R.

### Food/Beverage Host(s):

Klaus C., Diane C., & Ryan O

### Mini-show Topic:

Winter Landscape

### Bonsai Study Group:

January 23<sup>rd</sup>

## FEBRUARY'S

## EVENTS

### Lecture/Demo:

February 14<sup>th</sup> – Pot Selection with Klaus C.

### Food/Beverage Host(s):

Sally C. & Steve Y.

### Mini-show Topic:

Special and/or Unique Pot(s)

### Bonsai Study Group:

February 27<sup>th</sup>

## MEMBERSHIP

Annual membership fees for The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc. are below and include our monthly newsletter, annual BBQ and bonsai tour, multiple auctions, special trips, and name tag.

Individual	Family	Senior (60+) Individual	Senior (60+) Family
\$30	\$50	\$25	\$40

# President's Message

Klaus C.  
collklaus@yahoo.com

Wishing all our members a Happy New Year!! We completed an activities filled year with a variety of hands-on topics. This new agenda should be equally of interest and participation oriented.

January and February will both include re-potting opportunities as part of the Lecture and some demos.

Set aside some donations for the March auction.

We are looking for a few that will assist with hosting the meals. Our goal is to have three individuals per meeting to assist with food and beverages.

Yamadori, are the trees collected out in the fields or your neighbor's yard. Don has a bead on a nice juniper. This is the time to collect. See the Convention Committee's advertisement for convention diffing in February below.

There is usually one member that still needs to pay dues... if it's you; you know what to do. Raffle in addition to Show and Tell for Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>.

## Convention updates!

Next Convention meeting will be held on **February 2<sup>nd</sup>**, at 9:30 am at the Lobby of the Drury Inn at 823 North Loop 1604 East San Antonio, TX 78232.

We will try to sneak in and "sample" the breakfast buffet.

Our showcased artists are Boon Manakitivipart, Arthur Joura, and Roy Nagatoshi.

Please mark your calendars for **February 16<sup>th</sup>**. The Convention Committee is hosting a convention dig of various trees in Boerne, TX. We are hoping to collect a bunch of tree that we can use for workshop trees and/or raffles. Time and location will be listed in February's newsletter.

On **February 17<sup>th</sup>**. Ryan O. is hosting a soil mixer and Vitex repotting event at his house. We need to mix soil for Club sales as well as for 17 5-gallon convention Vitex trees that need to be root pruned and repotted. Please bring tools and sifters. The fun will be rain or shine.

# Program Corner

Nick B.

Nick.browne637@gmail.com

Ready to get dirty? Lots of bring your own tree, hands on demos this year. We still would like to have more Club digs so if any know of any willing donors with property please let me know. I have a few individual trees scoped out in a few different places but nothing big enough for a club dig.

This month John R., assisted by a few other members of the Club will be discussing repotting while touching on soil. Please bring your own tree so we can repot together! Most trees can be repotted now, refer to your greenbook if you are not sure.

Excited to continue to grow with you guys!

## You Speak... Editor Prints...

### Darwin Was Right

#### Reposted from Snips 'N Clip February 1983

Observing that many plants align their leaves vertically at night, Charles Darwin theorized that the plants did so to keep warm; however, this theory was ridiculed by his contemporaries and succeeding botanists throughout the years. Re-examining this idea, Dr. James T. Enright of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography has proven Darwin was right in a series of experiments in which he took plant leaves' temperatures. Horizontal leaves radiate more heat, thus getting colder at night than their vertical counterparts. It has been observed that vertical leaves grow faster and are fitter to survive.

### Haiku

Sleep well in your soil  
foreign tree in my garden-  
the sky is the same.

Margot Bollock

## A Little Known Native Texan

The Texas Madron (*Arbutus texana*) hardly ever grows over 30 ft tall and one foot in diameter, and it is often shrub-like. It is easily identified by the very smooth pink or white bark. The old bark scales off in papery layers. It is a rare tree with a crooked trunk and a stout spreading branching structure. The wood is reddish brown, close grained, hard, and heavy. This tree is invariably found growing in dry soil on limestones or igneous hills and mountains.

The genus name, *Arbutus*, is the classical name of a European species, and the species name *texana*, refers to the State of Texas. It is a member of the Heath family (*Ericaceae*) with more than 1,500 species. All have simple, and in most cases, alternate leaves. Most are shrubs: blueberries, cranberries, rhododendrons, and hesthers are among the great variety of familiar plants in the family.

Our Texan Madrone is also known as Texas *Arbutus*, Madrono, Naked Indian, Lady Legs, Manzanita, and Nuzu-ndu.

A tree of many uses, its wood has been used for tools, handles, rollers, fuel, and charcoal for gunpowder. The bark and leaves are astringent and have been used in Mexican medicine. The fruit is sweetish and is eaten by a number of species of birds. It is also browsed lightly by cattle and heavily by goats.

- from Utopia Footprints

- Reposted from Snips 'N Clips January 1983

## Bonsai Techniques

Courtesy of John Miller  
from the Dallas Bonsai Society

The next 5 weeks should be good for dormant oil and lime sulphur dormant sprays, especially so if you had any problem last year. Kill the over-wintering eggs, pupae, or adults. Be sure what you use is labeled for your species of tree and always follow label instructions carefully.

It would be nice to be able to put your trees into 2 or 3 groups--outdoor trees, indoor trees, flowering trees. But nature has not done anything so simple. Some outdoor trees survive a lot of cold and others want to go dormant but can't have their roots frozen at all. Your job is to learn their foibles and work around them.

In general, you start by knowing that deciduous trees will go dormant and stay that way until something awakens them. Some are temperature sensitive, they go dormant when the temp drops in the fall and awaken when they get warm. These should be kept in a shady area to keep them cool. Others are sensitive in the change in day length: they go dormant when daylight gets short and will break buds when they sense the days getting longer. These are not so hard to care for.

Evergreens do not go fully dormant. They slow their processes but still use sunlight and some nutrients. However they still need their roots protected to prevent alternate freezing and thawing.

All outdoor trees, both deciduous and evergreen, need to have their soil moisture maintained and their roots protected from deep freezes. Since their sap flow is diminished, they cannot replace moisture lost to winds so

they should be protected from a lot of wind. The plants can be protected by using ground heat to minimize the low and high temps. Set the pots on or in the ground and cover with mulch.

For those with tropicals, care at this time depends on your facilities for giving them heat and light, the two things usually in short supply in January. I merely try to keep mine alive with the greenhouse at 50 degrees. Be sure to monitor them for aphids and other problems. They do not get enough light to actively grow anyway. When the same size shohin elms have had a month of dormancy I bring them into the greenhouse before the temps get to the lower twenties. They respond by starting growth so I have them for 'soul food' through January.

Styling can be done at this time but no repotting unless you are going to keep the tree from freezing after that. Repotting initiates new root development which is usually not very hardy.

A better approach would be to study one or two thoroughly each day making notes on what needs to be done. January is an excellent time to start any remodeling projects that may be necessary. While the trees are dormant you have better view of the branch structure. Do any need to be moved or removed? Do any coarse branches need to be cut back to a smaller side branch for refinement? Do any long straight branches need wiring to give them motion? Does the tree really need a drastic redesign? You can also trim the twigs back while you have them there. You can also decide if that tree will need to be repotted this spring, is the present pot good or should you find a more appropriate pot for it.

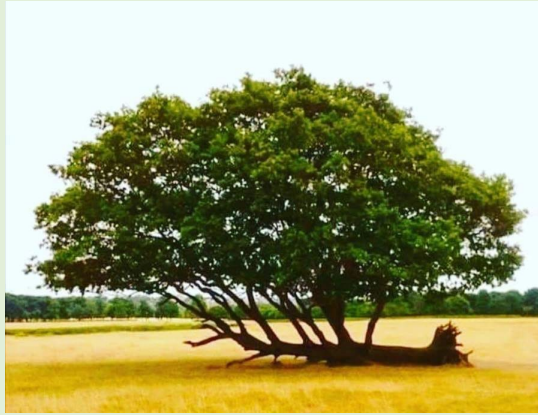
Indoor trees will be using more water to offset the lower humidity. Soil will also be losing water faster through its surface. Be sure to watch the indoor trees for insect problems. Most plant insects love a controlled atmosphere like the indoors. Spider mites seem to get the most attention here because they do great in a low humidity and the lack of foliage spraying. Scale can be an easily overlooked source of trouble. There is usually more severe problems with plants that have been kept outdoors in summer than brought in without any treatment. Indoor trees need to be fertilized regularly and will require periodic trimming as they continue to grow through the winter.

Tender or tropical trees that are kept indoors will be using more water to offset the lower humidity. Soil will also be losing water faster through its surface. Be sure to watch the indoor trees for insect problems. Most plant insects love a controlled atmosphere like the indoors. Spider mites seem to get the most attention here because they do great in a low humidity and the lack of foliage spraying. Scale can be an easily overlooked source of trouble. The flat green kind can be hard to spot on the underside of leaves or tight against the stem. Indoor trees need to be fertilized regularly and will require periodic trimming as they continue to grow through the winter.

Warm greenhouses are much the same as indoors. However, most greenhouses are kept more humid. The higher humidity is to the liking of aphids and fungal diseases. It may also result in your keeping the soil too moist with associated root problems. Use your standard insect controls that you used last summer. I use my organic foliar spray all winter.

## BONSAI FUNNIES

**Fell years  
ago.  
Never gave  
up.**



## 2019 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- ◆ President: Klaus C.
- ◆ Vice President/Recorder: Nick B.
- ◆ Treasurer/Membership: Leydana R-M.
- ◆ Secretary: Bryan B.
- ◆ Raffles: Diane C.
- ◆ Directors at Large: Larry A., Carol B., Tammy B-R., and Jay N.

### Technical Support to Board of Directors

- ◆ Webmaster/Editor/Publicity: Ryan O.



The informal upright style (Moyogi) is considered the most popular shape in all bonsai, especially suited to our Texas 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. This emblem was adopted as the official logo in September 1977.

### The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

Snips 'N Clips is published monthly by The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc., a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, who maintains membership in the Lone Star Bonsai Federation, Inc., Bonsai Clubs International, and the American Bonsai Society.

All correspondence may be addressed to:  
The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.  
P.O. Box 6658  
San Antonio, TX 78209