



SNIPS 'N CLIPS

A Publication of The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc.

<http://sanantoniobonsai.org>

MAY 2016

VOLUME 41 NUMBER 5

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.

May 12: Sketching Bonsai, If you can write you name you can draw your bonsai. 7 pm, Lions Field Community Center. Hosts: Larry A & Tammy B. **Mini bonsai show: Flowering trees.**

May 14: Bonsai Workshop: learn to see, drawing bonsai, for anyone especially for beginners. To be held at 9 am to noon.

May 14/ 15: Asian Pacific Island Celebration, SABS is showcasing outstanding bonsai as well as selling an assortment of bonsai and accessories. 10 am to 6 pm at TRADERS VILLAGE. Free admission and \$4 for parking. Loop 410 S. at Old Pearsall Rd.

May 22: **10th South Texas Bonsai Kai and BBQ**, see ad on page 3

May 21-22: Austin Bonsai Society 45th annual bonsai show. Zilker Garden Center, Austin, 10 am to 5 pm daily. Free admission.

May 25: Bonsai workshop Lions Field, 7 pm

President's Message

By Ryan O.

bonsaiode@gmail.com

Thank You's...

April's auction was an outstanding success. Over \$XXXX worth of items were sold bringing in \$XXX to SABS. **Thank you** to all those that brought in items, to those that asked for no commissions, to all the volunteers that assisted during the auction, and to all those that purchased items and supported the Club.

Our workshops and lecture/demonstration with Rodney Clemons was also a huge success. I heard from many members that Rodney's lecture was very informative and thorough and he was a great speaker. In fact, the Board heard so much praise, we will ask Rodney to return, in the future. **Thank you** to all those that participated and donated for the food and beverages.

Gary M. graciously thanks all those that purchased his bonsai related items. Gary stated, "Glad that the bonsai and plants moved to people wanting them and able to help out the SABS treasury" in an email. With your purchases and Gary donated nearly \$XXXX to SABS. **Thank you** to all those that assisted with the inventorying and selling/buying of Gary's items and a special **thank you** to Gary for his huge donation to SABS.

IMPORTANT REQUEST – To all those that graciously have adopted Ryan A's trees to take care of during meetings, SABS is asking for you to bring them in during May's meeting so we may sell them at Traders Village and give Ryan what is owed to him. If you have trees and cannot make it to the meeting, please email Ryan to make arrangements to pick them up. We are missing 3 Plumeria, Ash Juniper, and 2 Chinese Rain Trees.

SABS is exhibiting and selling bonsai items at the **Traders Village** located at 9333 SW Loop 410, SATX from 10 am to 6 pm on Saturday and Sunday (5/14-5/15).

The Club is looking for volunteers to help set-up/tear-down and man the booth. We need a few to help set-up and are looking for others to assist following Donna's workshop. We are also looking for members wanting to sell trees. .

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Our set-up will be similar to the Home and Garden Shows. A sign-up sheet will be passed around during our May meeting.

The Bonsai Workshops is back on and scheduled next meeting is on May 25th

Ryan O., President

Program Corner

David W.

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

May 2016 Meeting Donna D will be demonstrating how to sketch our bonsai and talk about different ways we can see the tree's future growth using pencil, charcoal and paper.

Donna graduated cum laude with a Graduate Degree at the New York Academy of Art Graduate School of Figurative Art. She is the author of the National POW Memorial that was dedicated in 1996. She is a member of the National Sculpture Society. Drawing and painting is 2nd tier to her but Sculpting is her passion and Livelihood.

Donna has 40 years of sculpture, public and private around San Antonio, Texas and the US. As I am typing this, Donna's latest work is of the US Army Equine and Canine Veterinarian Service which is at the foundry now and is to be dedicated on June 3rd at Fort Sam Houston.

Donna's 1st bonsai was in 1978 that died sitting on her coffee table. Her next attempt was a Cedar elm in 1999 that is thriving very well and Donna joined the SABS that year. She has been past President and convention Exhibit chair at LSBF. Donna brings her very artful eye to every opportunity offered of any piece (or potential) of art, from bronze, paint to plants and paper and charcoal.

DAVID

MAY Monthly Tips

David W.

redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com

May 2016 Monthly tips: As I have mentioned "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, are the buds 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; see Ryan to purchase.

Well you can sure tell that the growing season is here, I've had to do a lot of pruning and pinching, it is a challenge to keep up with it. Everything is awake and growing, growing, growing! Keep on potting **semi-tropicals** like Ficus and figs (as temps stay above 65) but we still need to wait a few more weeks before repot Texas Ebony and other South Texas natives. A good rule to remember is when you know that the **lowest** temperature of the day/night stays above 70 degrees then it's a good time to root prune and repot our Southern Natives like Ebony, Colima, Kidneywood, Fiddlewood and Anacua. 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, Jaboticaba, Wrightia and Nea Buxifolia). When repotting, be sure to wire the tree securely in the pot to give it good stability against the winds. Putting rocks on top of the soil for a few days can also help brace the tree.

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It's **NOT** recommended to repot any deciduous trees that you need to root prune. If you must repot due to problems with tree, change the pot or repot it in larger container only. DO NOT prune the roots. These deciduous trees have very tender roots at this time of year.

Everybody's back yards gardens should growing 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 (or trim) on different branches so all the branches don't end up growing into each other. Maples have opposing leaves and should be pinched (or trim) to the second node. As the two buds emerge, pinch back the one you don't want or is growing in the wrong direction. If you see yellowing on the leaves, I remember Terry Ward told us that if the yellow is on all leaves it's a lack of nutrients, on the edges it is a lack of magnesium and potassium, between the veins its iron and manganese deficiency, on older leaves its low on nitrogen or potassium and on young leaves it is lack of iron or manganese. Epsom salts (magnesium sulfate) and/or Ladybug Glittering Greensand (6% iron) can be used to help replace missing minerals and bring some color back to your leaves.

Watch the soils every day so they do not dry out. With the rains and spring time effect our trees are growing fast so do not forget to watch out for the insects that will be running everywhere. 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. Watch your training wires, so they will not cut into the branches.

Please note that the information and repotting schedules are suggested guidelines for the Hill country down through South Texas.

DAVID

The 10th South Texas Bonsai Kai and BBQ

IS Sunday May 22nd 2016, from 10:30 am till? No theme for the Kai this year, just bring anything you feel like working on, or may want some help with, or just come to hang out and talk bonsai!

☆ **RAFFLE** ☆

everybody bring any Bonsai or Garden related raffle items - pots, pre- or finished bonsai, suiseki stones, yard décor, plants, etc., for the raffles. *Remember, all tickets go into one big pot at the end for the Split-Up-The-Pot (money) drawing!*

Location:

CURRENT MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR THE SAN ANTONIO BONSAI SOCIETY

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



Tropical Bonsai School, with Pedro Morales

First Year Class (Year of the Saw)

June 2nd – June 5th

Classroom portion

Thursday, 9 AM – 6 PM

Hands – On work

Friday, Sat. and Sunday

9 AM – 5 PM

Held at "Timeless Trees" in Rosenberg, TX.

Four days of intensive instruction, lecture, videos, and hands-on work with the world renowned Bonsai artist Pedro Morales. Just bring your tools and wire. Lunch on Fri, Sat and Sunday, is included. Hotels and restaurants close by, we will assist you with arrangements.

The best instructional value in the U.S.

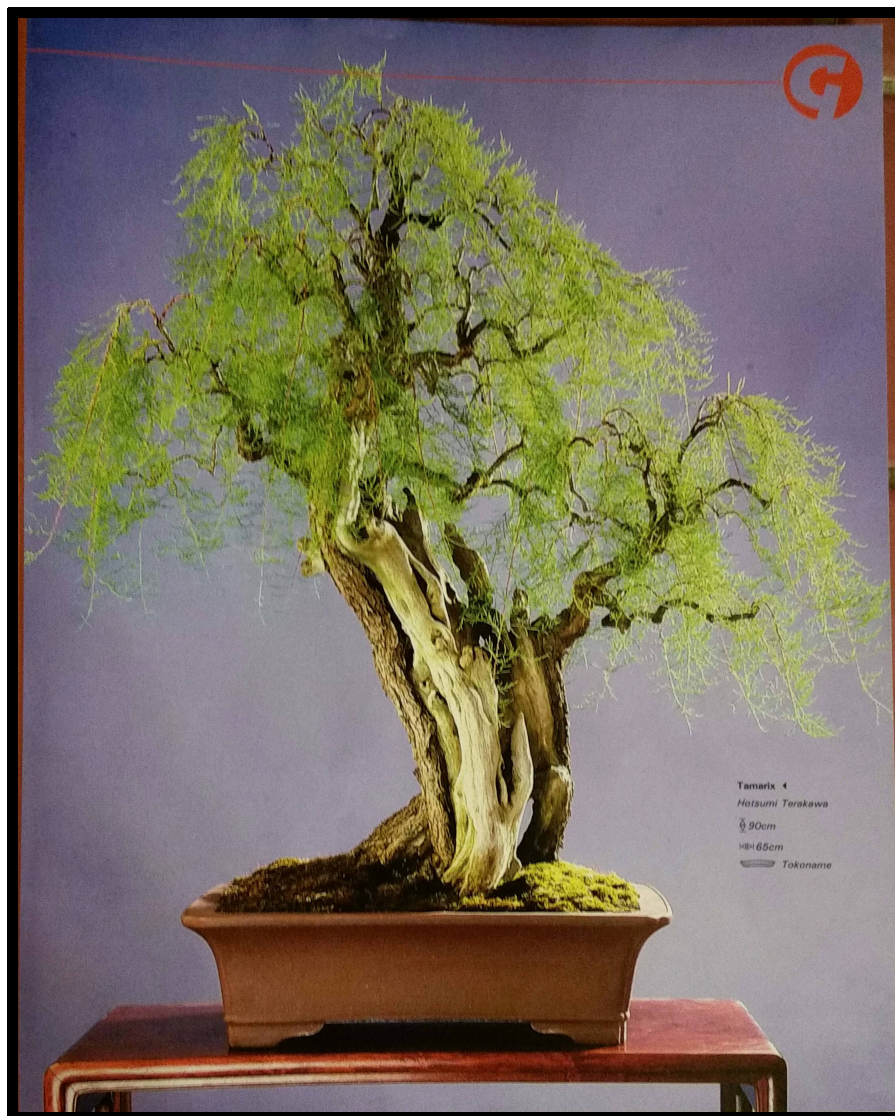
\$395.00 per class

Contact Hurley Johnson to sign up, 832-526-5962 or hurley@ali-tex.net



Rodney Clemons was outstanding with each of the members that attended the two workshops at Sculptural Designs. The last event was well attended and also was held at Sculptural Designs was a lecture demonstration by Rodney with a Kingsville Boxwood. The final product was raffled off with our smiling VP winning the tree. It was a great evening and Rodney continued to pass on tremendous amounts of information throughout the evening.

BONSAI OF THE MONTH



A most exquisite
bonsai featured in
Bonsai Europe Sep-
tember/October
2003
Issue 64

Tamarix

By
Hotsumi
Terakawa

Featured
In a
Tokoname
Pot
90 cm tall
By
65 cm wide

In Texas we have a
tree that would be
perfect for this type
of work that is the
Salt Cedar

The Austin Bonsai Society

Over
50 Bonsai
on display



Members
available
to answer
question
about this
ancient
art

45th Annual **BONSAI SHOW** and sale
www.austinbonsaisociety.com

ZILKER GARDEN CENTER
SATURDAY, MAY 21, 2016 10am-5pm
SUNDAY, MAY 22, 2016 10am-5pm

Raffles!
Demonstrations Daily 2pm
Free Admission to the show

GO SURFING ON THE NET AND YOU DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU JUST MIGHT FIND. ENJOY THE POEM.

*Tom M
Greener Thumb*

Location: Cedarville (SE of Utica) NY, USA

ROSES ARE RED, BONSAI ARE GREEN
NOT ALWAYS THE CASE
YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN
ROSE BUSH IN A POT
NOT PLEASING TO SOME
YET SOME WILL BE PLEASED
YOU MIGHT SAY "WHY NOT?"
MOST ROSES ARE RED, MOST BONSAI ARE GREEN

THIS ART FORM OF OURS
ALLOWS IN-BETWEEN
IF RULES CAN BE BENT
JUST LOOK TO NICK LENZ
TAKE TREES TO EXTREME
CREATE WITH YOUR EYE
AT PEACE WITH NATURE, MAKE BONSAI SUPREME.

IF YOU CARE Feed your bonsai

Most people don't fertilize nearly enough. Contrary to what many people believe, you want your bonsai to grow vigorously. The more they grow, the sooner they develop that all important aged, powerful look. Even *mame* (miniature) or *shohin* (small) bonsai look best with heavy trunks and well-developed branching.

This doesn't mean you want to jack your trees up with nitrogen. Excessive nitrogen causes too much top growth. What you want is balanced growth, with vigorous roots, and trunks and branches that develop girth and fine ramification.

Though there are too many variables to give detailed instructions here, there are a few points worth emphasizing.

During the growing season, especially the spring, feed generously. We like plenty of slow-release pellets supplemented with weekly applications of a mild liquid or a fish-seaweed.

Balanced growth is achieved by using balanced fertilizers. Fertilizers that have NPKs like 7-9-5 or 10-10-10, or 4-6-4.

In the spring, it is okay to use a little more nitrogen, like 10-5-5 for example. But taper off as the season wears on. By late summer, apply very little nitrogen. Some people even switch to 0-10-10, or something like 2-6-5.

If you use strong chemicals like 20-20-20, be sure to dilute adequately. Too much can burn the roots.

Minerals are important for long-term health. Use fertilizers that have a full range of minerals. Seaweed or fish-seaweed is particularly good.

Don't forget feed generously—and intelligently—during the growing season. Your bonsai will look and feel much better.

BONSAI TODAY
January/ February 2007
Issue 107



Some members have found great success with “Happy Frog” and “Marine Cuisine”. These fertilizers can be found at most of the nurseries in town.



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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**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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