



# Bonsai Society of Dallas

March 2006

## It's Membership Renewal Time!

The Bonsai Society of Dallas depends on your membership fees for continued operation and to bring you quality bonsai artists! Please fill out the enclosed membership form and send it in with your membership fee as soon as possible! **Thank you so much!**

## Message from the President:

By George Straw

Sylvia, Shane and I got back from the Kokufu Exhibit in Tokyo, Japan and what a trip. The Kokufu had trees in there that would make stand and look in amazement at the quality of the trees being exhibited.

We also had the opportunity to visit a number of bonsai nursery and private collections. While visiting these places we were given the opportunity to purchase antique and new bonsai pots.

This was an opportunity to not only see some amazing trees but to get to meet and see the collections of some of the great Japanese artist.

I apologize for the newsletter this month. Sandi is recovering from surgery and we

wish her a speedy recovery. She has been doing such a great job on the newsletter and getting it out on time. Thank you very much Sandi.

We will have the Dallas Arboretum show coming up on March 11 and 12. Sylvia is excited about the show after seeing the Kokufu in Toyko. She has sent an email out to all of the members about the show asking for help running the show and for trees to exhibit. We need help from all of the club members to make this a great exhibit so please offer your help and if you have a tree ready to exhibit, then let Sylvia know so that she can get everything arranged for the show.

George



Shane, Sylvia and George at the vendor area in Japan



Nursery Trees in Japan

## BSD Calendar

- Mar. 2 - John Miller - Japanese Maple Forest
- March 11-12—Dallas Arboretum Bonsai Show

## March Program

Date: Mar 2, 2006  
Time: 6:30 PM  
Place: North Haven Gardens  
7700 Northaven  
Dallas, TX

John Miller will be the guest artist for the month of March and will be doing a demo and talk on Japanese Maple Group Planting.

John has been a club member for 34 years. His contributes a monthly article to

the newsletter which gives all of us some direction on what to do with our bonsai month by month.

John is also the Vice President and Delegate for the LSBF.

You will not want to miss this very informative demo and lecture by John.

## Other Dates of Interest

- Apr. 22, SSOT - Austin raft style .
- June 17, SSOT - Austin tropical shohin refinement and air layering.
- July 14- 16 - State Bonsai Convention, Corpus Christi
- Sept. 16, SSOT - Austin Panel critique. Workshop, Japanese style scroll.

# March Bonsai

By John Miller

you have probably repotted the early sprouting trees like the chinese elms but may be waiting for repotting of cedar elms depending on where you live. You may continue repotting on deciduous species until you see a tiny bit of green on the tips of the swelling leaf bud. Be sure to keep the newly repotted tree out of the wind and late morning or afternoon sun.



Evergreen species will generally be okay to repot later on. Yau-pon do better if you wait until it warms a bit more. Even though its gets quite warm now, we can expect a freeze in March so you may have to protect trees that have started growth and those that have been repotted this winter.

Bonsai will start growing in late February or March in this area depending on your wintering techniques and on the species. After growth starts some species can take a couple degrees of frost but unless you know what your particular tree can take you should keep it from freezing. Also, newly growing roots are more tender. In this area you should keep the new foliage out of the strong winds however they should have some breeze to help harden the new foliage and to help keep insects and fungal diseases at bay.

Keep your tweezers and shears handy so you can keep the new growth on your trees pruned. The shoots of species with alternate leaf growth (like elms) should grow only to 5-6 leaves and be pinched back to 2 or 3 (depending on which direction you wish the new growth to take). Shoots of trees with opposite leaf growth (maples) should have the new tip pinched (tweezers work better than scissors for this) as soon as you can see it. Doing this regularly is the only way to keep the leaves small and give you nice twiginess (also known as ramification).

Make use of the plants physiology. Terminal shoots produce auxins which call for the plant foods to be delivered to them rather than to side shoots. Terminal shoots in the top of the tree usually produce more auxins than lower terminals causing the top to grow more vigorously than lower branches (known as apical dominance). By keeping the top terminals pinched you strengthen the lower branches. Also if you need to fill in an area, let the terminals in that area grow and keep the others pinched closely. The larger flow of food will be to that area and will then develop it more.

Anytime there is new tender growth, the spring bugs like aphids will show up. If you have been doing a good organic program the ladybugs will keep the aphids and other soft bodied insects in check. The praying mantis come along later on when the weather is warmer. I am seeing a lot of mantis eggs since I quit using chemical sprays. My favorite control is the original Garret Juice formula for aphids, spider mites, bag worms, and even scale.

From time to time you will read about a new control for insects or fungal problems. I would suggest if you want to use them that you test the procedure on some unimportant plants first. An example, a few years ago I read to use a 1% solution of hydrogen peroxide to control fungus, especially black spot. The first time I used it, on mature foliage, it worked great. However when I used it on some new spring elm foliage, it caused considerable leaf burn.

Warm humid days favor the development of fungal diseases such as leaf spot on elms and yaupons. Again the organic program will work on them as well.

Fertilizing is necessary once the trees start to grow. Too many trees exhibited do not have a good dark green foliage. Since we are using soil less mixes for the most part, a different technique is required than used for most potted plants. Water soluble chemical fertilizers should be used at half strength and more often than labeled since they will wash out with the next watering. The same is more or less true with liquid organic fertilizers. The best technique is to use solid organic fertilizers. Fertilizer cakes on the surface is the best way. They break down slowly and a small amount is carried into the root zone each time you water. Palletized organic material can be spread on the surface

surface. Some are now working the palletized form into the top 1/4 inch of soil. This does work but if it dries out you may have a bit of trouble watering. Be sure that the material you use has a balanced formula and not high in nitrogen.

The original foliar feed formula given by Howard Garrett is one tablespoon each of liquid seaweed, fish emulsion, apple cider vinegar, and molasses in one gallon of water. Chelated iron and epsom salts can be added at 1 tablespoon per gallon. A commercial mixture is sold under the name of 'Garrett Juice' which you should be able to find at organic nurseries such as but it doesn't seem to have the insect control capability that the original formula does. It is fine as a fertilizer though.

Azalea usually have too many buds for the flower to open properly. It is a good practice to remove enough buds so that there is an inch or so between flowers. This can be done at any time. Then be sure to remove the spent flower after blooming to prevent any energy being wasted in producing seeds.

## **LSBF "Texas Visiting Artist 2006" - Cheryl Manning**

LSBF announced that their "Texas Visiting Artist 2006" will be Cheryl Manning. She will be joining us for a demo in October - more information to be announced.

Cheryl's love of bonsai began in 1981 with her first basic skills course from Murata Bonsai Nursery in Orange County. Since then, she has studied with bonsai masters such as John Naka, Ben Oki, Harry Hirao, and Jim Barrett. She is currently a member of several bonsai and suiseki clubs such as California Bonsai Society, Nambu Kai, Descanso Bonsai Society, Dai Ichi Bonsai Kai, Aiseki Kai, Kofu Bonsai Kai, and Santa Anita Bonsai Society. She is also a board member of the National Bonsai Foundation.

In 1994, Cheryl completed a one-year live-in apprenticeship with bonsai master Yasuo Mitsuya in Toyohashi, Japan. Her trip was sponsored by the Golden State Bonsai Federation as part of its Japan Internship Training Program. According to Cheryl, "It was a fabulous experience with an incredible amount of information presented during the course of 50-hour work weeks. Mitsuyasan not only taught me about the styling and maintenance of trees, but also shared his knowledge on special techniques, wiring, display, and accents, as well as the politics of bonsai. Mitsuyasan was generous enough to allow me to capture this once-in-a-lifetime experience in over 4300 slides – which I enjoy sharing with all who are interested."

Cheryl has given numerous demonstrations, workshops, and slide presentations to bonsai clubs in California, Illinois, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Texas, Washington, Wisconsin, Canada, and Australia. Her photographs and articles about bonsai-related topics have appeared in *Bonsai Today*, Bonsai Clubs International's *Bonsai Magazine*, the Golden State Bonsai Federation's bi-monthly journal *Golden Statements*, and the National Bonsai Foundation's *NBF Bulletin*.

Cheryl has also edited [\*John Naka's Sketchbook\*](#) (National Bonsai Foundation, 2005), a compilation of John's bonsai sketches from around the world. All profits from its sale go to the [John Naka Endowment Fund](#).

Please visit Cheryl's website at <http://users.ez2.net/manning/>

## **BSD EXHIBIT AT THE DALLAS ARBORITUM**

By Sylvia Smith

Hello everyone,

Just got back from a wonderful experience at Kokufu and am looking forward to applying some of the things I learned to our Bonsai show. Our show will take place on the weekend of March 11-12. Set up will be done on Friday March 10 after 5:00pm (more specifics to follow). I am glad to say that more and more people are participating in this semi-formal show and we seem to be getting better every year. I hope that the displays that have been set up at our meetings have given everyone fresh new ideas as well as encourage more of us to add companions plants, stands and other accents to our collection. Please limit yourself to one or two displays so that everyone has space to participate. Let us know if you have extra stands, scrolls or accents that you can let us borrow.

At this time I would like to hear from everyone who would like to bring a tree(s) for display. I will need the following information on each tree:

Species / Common name: \_\_\_\_\_

Age and / or How long in training: \_\_\_\_\_

How it was obtained (ie: nursery stock, cutting , seeding, collected specimen): \_\_\_\_\_

Those of you who would prefer helping run the show, we very much need your help as well. Please let me know if you are able to work on Saturday, Sunday, or during set up on Friday. We have less than a month before our show so please get back with me ASAP. I will be breaking down the times that need to be covered per day as soon as I get confirmations from the arboretum

# **Lone Star Bonsai Federation Meeting Minutes**

## **January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2006 – 1:00 PM - Zilker Garden Center, Austin, Texas**

LSBF President John Denton called the meeting to order at 12:55.

The president called for approval of the minutes. Yvonne Padilla indicated that she was in contact with Mary Miller and not Mary Madison about a training program. The motion was made and carried to approve the minutes as amended.

### **Beaumont Club**

Dennis & Lisa Corley announced that the Beaumont club would not be renewing their membership in LSBF for the time being. The Corleys are stepping aside after several years of service and no Beaumont club member was willing to volunteer to be LSBF representative. Part of the reason is because of the severe hit the area took from Hurricane Rita. All club members have been affected to some degree. In 6 months or a year they will reconsider joining. John offered them a warm thanks for their service to a round of applause.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Pat Ware passed out the treasurer's report. Because the treasury has gotten low Pat suggested that the LSBF may not be able to offer a reimbursement to the clubs for the LSBF tour this year. After income from the Corpus Christi Convention we will have a better idea. Pat indicated that the books had been audited by Marty Klajnowski. A motion was made! and seconded to pass the budget as presented. The motion carried.

### **Falling Membership**

John Denton expressed concern with the loss to two clubs recently and the falling membership statewide. He asked for ideas on how to stimulate interest and recruitment of new members. John threw out the idea of subsidizing the local clubs in their advertising of the LSBF convention. A separate club sign-up booth at conventions was discussed as well. No motions were made.

### **LSBF Conventions**

2006 Convention - Yvonne Padilla talked about this year's convention in Corpus Christi and urged other club members to bring trees, stones, and grass plantings for display. Marty Klajnowski suggested that each club commit to bringing 2-3 trees for the display.

Yvonne displayed a new credit card imprinter that they will be using for the convention, acquired through Merchant Services. There is a \$15/month charge but only in months when the imprinter is used. There is still an % charge for each transaction and a separate transaction fee. She felt that it would save money if we discontinued the use of our current machine which has a monthly charge of around \$37 whether it is used or not. In addition, Yvonne indicated that they have had trouble with the machine in the past. After much discussion it was moved and passed to discontinue the account with our current credit card company. Since LSBF owns the current machine Pat Ware agreed to store it.

2007 Convention - John Miller revealed that the 2007 convention will be held at the Holiday Inn Select, 3300 West Mockingbird Lane, across from Love Field. The dates are April 20, 21 & 22. The guest artists will be Marco Invernizzi, Boon Manakitivipart, and Suthin Sukosolovisit. In addition, Shane Carey will be doing a workshop and Michael Hagedorn will be giving a talk or demo. Howard and Sylvia Smith will likely do a workshop as well. The hotel cost will be \$79/night.

2008 Convention - Marty Klajnowski talked about the possibility of having the American Bonsai Society (ABS) as co-host with the San Antonio and Austin clubs in 2008. ABS indicated an interest and there has been some correspondence on the matter. The format for the convention is still undecided and there are a number of other questions that must be addressed but the LSBF representatives responded positively to the suggestion. Marty will continue in talks with the ABS.

### **LSBF Newsletter**

Carl Quisenberry passed out the first group of post Terry Ward newsletters. It was mentioned that not all clubs are sending out their newsletters to the other LSBF reps. It was urged that each rep. insure that their newsletter editor has the address of the other LSBF reps.

### **LSB F Speaker Tour**

Ron Smith announced Cheryl Manning as the 2006 LSBF Tour artist. Cheryl's charge will be \$250/event. Ron agreed to send out a link to her web site and to provide a biography for club newsletters. Ron also volunteered to serve as the 2007 tour director.

Dennis indicated that Beaumont would not participate in the LSBF tour and suggested that the Lake Charles society indicated an interest in participating. There is an open day in the middle of the tour but the representatives indicated a preference for Lake Charles to take a date at the end of the Texas tour if Cheryl Manning is agreeable. They should also agree to some contribution to travel expenses. Ron Smith will talk to Cheryl about it. Steven Hendricks reminded that each club member should provide Ron with a contact point so that he can supply Cheryl a list of contacts

### **LSBF Web Site**

Steven Hendricks asked that each club provide a link to the LSBF home page on their club web site. The web site address will be mailed out with the minutes from the meeting. He noted that the Shohin and Longview clubs were the only two that did not have home pages for the LSBF site to link to and invited them to provide meeting and contact information to be put on the LSBF web page. Steven also invited each club to provide any "Special Event" information that can be put on a like-named page on the LSBF site. This could include information such as the dates for club displays or special guest artists that might be of interest to members from around the state.

Pat Ware announced that the next meeting will be on June 10th.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30.

# LONE STAR BONSAI FEDERATION CONVENTION

The 2006 LSBF convention will be held in Corpus Christi on July 14-16. Guest artists include Johnny Uchida of California, Bruce Baker of Michigan, and Ed Trout of Florida. It will be at the Holiday Inn, 5549 Leopard St, Corpus Christi. Reserve that date on your calendar, details and reservation sheets will be available after the LSBF meeting January 21 or may be available sooner on their website at [www.corpuschristibonsaiclub.com](http://www.corpuschristibonsaiclub.com). Some of the material for workshops will be Brazilian Raintree, Natal Plum, Water Jasmine (Wrighti Religiosa), Dwarf Yaupon Holly Fiddlewood, Surinam Cherry, Kidneywood, Texas Ebony, and a mixed group of other Texas Natives.

## BSD Vice-President Position Has Been Filled

By George Straw

Mike Smoller has taken on the position of Vice President and we are very happy to have him on the board. Mike was one of the original members of the Bonsai club and has been very active in the club and club activities. Thank you Mike for stepping up and taking on these responsibilities.

### Generous Businesses Give Discount to BSG Members

Present your BSD membership card at the following participating businesses for a 10% discount on merchandise:

- The Bonsai Smiths
- Dream Gardens
- Ray Hernandez's Bent Tree Bonsai
- Pegasus Pottery

We are so grateful to these businesses for their generosity to BSD members! If you have a business and would like to offer a discount to club members, please contact George Straw at [GSTRA@aol.com](mailto:GSTRA@aol.com) or Sandi McFarland [potter@pegasuspottery.com](mailto:potter@pegasuspottery.com).



Howard and Sylvia Smith  
[www.bonsaismiths.net](http://www.bonsaismiths.net)  
[bonsaismiths@earthlink.net](mailto:bonsaismiths@earthlink.net)  
tel# (972) 392-1430  
Fax# (972) 661-0694

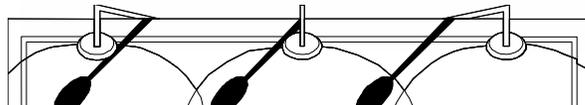
Cultivators of fine trees  
Collection maintenance  
Private instruction  
Classes, lectures and demos



**Pegasus Pottery**  
By Sandi McFarland  
"Specializing in carved stoneware"  
Cups, plates, bowls, etc.  
And now creating small bonsai pots!  
Let me make something special for you!

1405 Limetree Ln.  
Irving, TX 75061  
972-438-9782

[potter@pegasuspottery.com](mailto:potter@pegasuspottery.com)      [www.pegasuspottery.com](http://www.pegasuspottery.com)  
*10% Discount to BSD Members!*



**Place Your Ad Here!**  
Business card size—\$5 per month  
Half page—\$20 per month  
Full page—\$35 per month  
*For more information, contact Sandi McFarland at*

### BSD Board of Directors

President—George Straw, [GSTRA@aol.com](mailto:GSTRA@aol.com), (214) 357-3048  
John Miller—President Emeritus, [bonsaimiller@aol.com](mailto:bonsaimiller@aol.com)  
Vice President—Mike Smoller, [utarch@yahoo.com](mailto:utarch@yahoo.com) (972) 783-8109  
Asst. Vice President—Tim Phan, [phantosme@gmail.com](mailto:phantosme@gmail.com), (972) 618-7134  
Treasurer—Jennifer Triptow, [triptow@sbcglobal.net](mailto:triptow@sbcglobal.net), (972) 437-1930  
Secretary—Sandi McFarland, [potter@pegasuspottery.com](mailto:potter@pegasuspottery.com), (972) 438-9782

# Membership Renewal

If you have not already done so, please renew your membership in BSD today! Your membership dues allow BSD to continue to bring quality bonsai artists to our meetings for lectures and demonstrations. Please fill out the membership form below and mail with payment to:

Bonsai Society of Dallas  
P.O. Box 836922  
Richardson, TX 75083-6922

Or you may turn it in to Jennifer Triptow at the next Club meeting. Thank you!

## BONSAI SOCIETY OF DALLAS

[www.bonsaisocietyofdallas.com](http://www.bonsaisocietyofdallas.com)

### MEMBERSHIP FORM

**Bonsai Society of Dallas meets on the first (1<sup>st</sup>) Thursday of each month.**

**Time: 6:30 PM**

**Place: North Haven Garden Center**

**7700 Northaven, Dallas, TX**

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Individual Membership: \$25.00

Joint Membership: \$30.00

\_\_\_\_\_  
Renewal

\_\_\_\_\_  
New Membership

-----  
**Do Not Cut: For Treasurer Use Only**

Member Receipt:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Membership Year: \_\_\_\_\_

*Thank you so much!*

## **Dinner and a Demo?**

by Jennifer Triptow

The board group has discussed the possibility of offering a unique evening for our membership: A gourmet 3-course meal and a demo! You see, amongst our membership we have a very talented chef who is the Saucier at the Mansion on Turtle Creek restaurant here in Dallas. His food is top-notch, mouth-watering, elegant, divine, and irresistible. Ok, so I am biased---he is my husband. But what I said about his food is still true!

A little about the chef: Richard has spent two decades perfecting his skills and techniques in Dallas, Denver, Aspen, and Eugene, OR. He has prepared formal and intimate private dinners for some of the world's most prominent politicians, businesspeople, actors, and musicians. His cooking style incorporates the techniques of classic French cuisine with the flavors of the American Southwest and Rocky Mountains. Richard began working for the Mansion on Turtle Creek in June of 2004 and was appointed the restaurant's first official Saucier in its long history in January 2005.

We are proposing the idea to the general membership and would like your feedback. Here are the specs: It would be open to a limited number of people (to be determined) and we would charge a fee in the \$40/\$50 range. It would be held at Howard & Sylvia Smith's house. Richard will serve up a salad course, a main course, and a dessert course. Wine would also be included. During the dinner Howard and Sylvia would be educating us with a bonsai demonstration. This would be a unique opportunity to enjoy a gourmet meal at a very low cost, observe a professional bonsai demonstration, get to know other club members, and an opportunity to bring a spouse or loved one who otherwise doesn't understand this obsession you have with trees! Oh, did I mention that the demo tree will be given away to one lucky dinner guest as a door prize?

So that's the idea. We want you to read about it, think about it, and tell us at the February meeting whether it is something you would consider attending. All bias aside, you certainly would have a great time!