



Bonsai Society of Dallas

August 2006



Message from the President:

By George Straw

If you did not go to the Corpus Christi convention, you missed a great time! They had some wonderful workshops, trees and outstanding artists. I was very lucky and won one of the demo trees. It was a multi-trunk Texas Ebony designed by Bruce Baker. It was very exciting to win a convention demo tree.

Steven Hendricks, Ft Worth/Dallas club member won the BCI Best Of Show award with his wonderful Bald Cypress. Congratulations Steven.



John Uchida, Bald Cypress, Steven Hendricks, Bruce Baker, Ed Trout

Your convention board is working very hard to get things lined up for the convention in April 2007 here in Dallas. I had members sign up to help on the different committees and will be asking for more help at the meeting on August 3. This is a very big event and we need help from all of the club members.

September will be our annual club auction. Please start looking at your plants

and decide which ones that you would like to bring to the auction. **HELP IS ALSO NEEDED AT THE AUCTION.** We need people to help check in trees, collect money, and give out the auction paddles. This year we are going to change the split of the money on the trees. Anything under \$50.00 will go the club and over \$50.00 will be an 80/20 split. 80% going to the member and 20% to the club. Last year we had too many small items that people put in the auction and wanted an 80/20 split. It is a lot of work for the club to only be making .50 cent -\$1.00 on these small items. So please help us out and if the item is going to be under \$50.00, the club will get the total amount. We have this auction each year to help the club raise money to bring in artists during the year and, at the same time, it gives you an opportunity to sell some nice trees that you have been wanting to move out of your collection. **THANKS FOR THE CONTINUED SUPPORT THAT YOU HAVE GIVEN THE CLUB ON THE AUCTION!**



Dallas/Ft Worth members with guest artist at the Corpus Christie Convention
The members shown are members of both clubs.

August Program

Date: August 3, 2006
Time: 6:30 PM
Place: North Haven Gardens
7700 Northaven
Dallas, TX

A change has been made for our program in August. Our program on August 3 will start with David Quisenberry's "Bonsai on a Budget" Contest as originally scheduled.

Then Matt Ouwinga from the Chicago area will present a program on Trident Maple bonsai. Using a new PowerPoint program (complete with handouts), he will present an educational program explaining his thoughts, comments and techniques

for growing and training Trident Maple bonsai. If you would like to have a critique or help with your Trident Maples, please bring them to this meeting.

Mr. Ouwinga studied for one summer with Kunio Kobayashi at the Shunka en Bonsai Museum in Tokyo, Japan during which time he visited over 50 different bonsai growers, many specializing in training Maple bonsai.

Mr. Ouwinga started bonsai at 17 under one of the Chicago area teachers. He then became the bonsai production manager for a large greenhouse in Chicagoland. After

college, he went to Japan with Bill Valavantis and then studied with Kunio Kobayashi.

Don't forget to bring your entries for the **Bonsai on a Budget Contest** at the August Meeting!

The rules are simple:

- (1) Your tree must not have cost you over \$15.
- (2) The value of the container it is in does not matter.
- (3) You may bring up to 3 trees.

The trees will be set up around the room for viewing and, after the artist's presentation, we will vote and determine this year's Best Budget Bonsai and present the award.

BSD Calendar

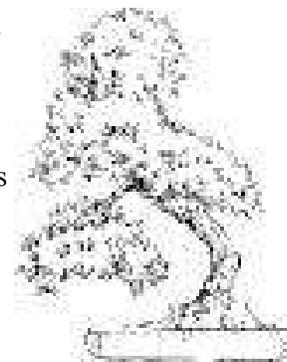
- Aug. 3 - David Quisenberry - Bonsai on a Budget
- Sept. 7 - Club Auction
- Oct. 5 - David Schleser - Lesser Known Natives for Collecting
- Oct. 14 - Sheryl Manning - Club Workshop
- Nov. 2 - Shane Cary - TBA
- Dec. 7 - Progress critique on the trees from the May program

Other Dates of Interest

- Sept. 16, SSOT - Austin Panel critique. Workshop, Japanese style scroll.

August Bonsai by John Miller

I hope your plants are not as confused as mine. Normally I would be telling you to quit pruning your azaleas because they have set buds for next years bloom. However several of mine are blooming (sporadically) and the live oaks did not change their leaves properly. Comes from a peculiar weather pattern: too hot late in the fall, not enough time, then before the first freeze to get dormant, and a warm winter with a late, late freeze. Since I can control the water, they are not as confused as my in-the-ground cedar elms. Those guys have been so hot and dry, they set buds early in June instead of August.



In the real world, plan your soil mix for your average conditions and then tilt the pots on long wet spells and give an extra watering when hot and dry and use some loose covering on the pot to shade it from the sun. A windbreak could help with tender leaved trees.

Not only the heat gets to our plants, but the low humidity causes the plants stress by evaporating the water from the leaves faster than the plant can move it upward. Any wind that is present multiplies the problem. The sun shining on the pots will raise the soil temperature, causing both the soil to dry out and damaging the plant roots. Therefore you may need to water more than once a day. If so, my preference is to water heavily in the evening, letting the plant recover during the cool night and then to water lightly in the morning, spraying the foliage also. Partial shade, 50% shade cloth or afternoon shade will be great. Mulch on the soil will help but does not keep the sides of the pot from getting hot. Even the morning sun can be too much on the pot in August. A loosely woven cloth cover will work as will setting the pot in a good fitting box but some air space between the soil and/or pot should be left to aid in lowering the temperature by evaporation.

Remember to water twice. Wait a few minutes after the first watering for the dry soil particles to absorb some of the water on their surface. Then with the surface tension reduced, the second watering gets the particle wet.

The stress caused by the temperature will give any insects a chance to wreak havoc. Watch for the spider mites especially this month. The morning spray will help knock some off. The Garret Juice foliar spray will keep them down also. Chemical sprays are available but most chemical reactions are accelerated by heat and may damage plants. Read the labels!

Any rainy spell can bring some fungal problems. Powdery mildew or black leaf spot are a couple of them. That is why I use the foliar spray in the morning, so that the leaves will dry quickly. The organic websites say you can mix baking soda with the Garret Juice for fungal control. However I have decided to do separate sprayings. The GJ has an acid (vinegar) which would react with the baking soda thereby reducing the effectiveness of both. Anyhow all your trees would benefit from the GJ but not all would have a fungal problem. Potassium Bicarbonate (available in nurseries) would be a better choice than baking soda which is sodium bicarbonate.

Be careful about applying fertilizer in hot weather. Even organic fertilizers create some chemical reactions and the above remarks apply here too. By the end of the month, the nitrogen applied to the tree should be reduced. A little may be put on into September but the tree needs to be allowed to stop growth to get ready for dormancy. Evergreen trees benefit from a low nitrogen fertilizer through the winter.

Deciduous trees probably have slowed their growth so you can do some pruning on them. However pruning can stimulate new growth that may not have time to harden before winter resulting in some dieback of the new growth. On these trees its better to wait until later. After leaves have fallen, you can see where corrections need to be made more easily.

It's never too early to think about having your tree ready for a show. At the Fort Worth 4th Thursday open workshop night, one member brought a tree to discuss what improvements could be made so as to be shown at the convention next year. Bonsai is the ultimate plan ahead hobby.



We need your help!

You can help make this convention successful! Contact one of the convention chairs and offer your help today!!

Keep an eye on the club website, www.bonsaisocietyofdallas.com! It should be updated with the new convention and registration information in about three weeks.

Mark your calendars for the 2007 LSBF Bonsai Convention!

Your convention chairs are:

Chairmen:

George Straw

gstra@aol.com 214-357-3048

Howard Smith

bonsaismiths@earthlink.net 972-392-1430

Co-Chair:

John Miller

bonsaimiller@aol.com 903-776-2910

Registration & Display Chair:

Sylvia Smith

bonsaismiths@earthlink.net 972-392-1430

Vender Chair:

Shane Carey

shanesbonsaistudio@yahoo.com 318-272-4074

Marketing Chair:

Howard & Sylvia Smith

bonsaismiths@earthlink.net 972-392-1430

Raffle Chair:

Sandi McFarland

potter@pegasuspottery.com 972-438-9782

Website Chair:

Andy Rutledge

andy@andyrutledge.com

Sheryl Manning Program & Workshop by John Miller

The Lone Star Bonsai Federation state tour speaker this year will be Sheryl Manning. The Dallas program and workshop will be on Saturday, October 14. Times and place have not been established as of now.

Sheryl started bonsai in California and was part of the masters study group of John Naka. She studied in Japan under Mr. Yasuo Mitsuya, the same teacher as Kathy Shaner and Boon Manakitivipart. Consequently she is well versed in also aspects of bonsai. Some of her work can be found on her website at <http://users.ez2.net/manning/>.

I would suggest that to get the most out of her talents, you take to the workshop a plant that has pretty good possibility for being a bonsai, i.e. it has a trunk, decent nebari, and low branches and foliage to work with. The species of tree is relatively unimportant as she works with all kinds of conifers and deciduous trees.

If you wish to reserve a space in the workshop (probably \$30) please let me or George know:

email: bonsaimiller@aol.com

phone: 903-776-291

address: 1655 C.R. 1121, Farmersville TX 75442

Please note, LSBF picks up the tab for all her transportation. Our club is only responsible for paying her speaker fee, meals, and room. If you would like to have her stay in your home, probably Friday and Saturday nights, you can save the club that much and also get a free critique of your trees and other interesting information about bonsai in general.

Lone Star Bonsai Federation Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2006

Pat Ware asked if there was a quorum was present. Four of the seven clubs were represented so the meeting was called to order at 1:15 by Vice-President, John Miller. Five board members and one visitor were present.

A motion was made to accept the minutes as published. Motion passed.

Pat Ware presented the budget. Because the treasury is low, she recommended that no decision be made until after the convention on the amounts to reimburse individual clubs for the LSBF Visiting Artist. The delegates agreed to postpone that decision.

2006 Convention – No comments. Corpus Christi was not represented.

2007 Convention – Among John Miller's comments:

The hotel is by Love field and has a shuttle to the airport.

Shane Cary is bringing the workshop boxwood which are the new sport of the Kingsville called Saunder's.

This sport, reportedly, grows significantly faster than the standard Kingsville.

Convention literature will be available before Christmas.

Suthin Sukosolvisit is bringing his own shimpaku for the workshop.

2008 Convention - No comments. San Antonio was not represented.

2006 LSBF Visiting Artist – It was noted by the delegates that no final itinerary had yet been distributed. Tour director Ron Smith was not present to comment. It was suggested that Ron should already be looking for the 2007 artist as he had volunteered to be the tour director for 2007 as well.

Pat Ware brought to the attention of the board that Zilker Park administration had been taken over by the city of Austin. The consequence is that the room will no longer be free. Under the new guidelines LSBF will be allowed one free meeting a year. All other meetings will be \$35/hour. Our typical meeting time is 3 hours or \$105. Pat suggested that other venues such as a private dining room at a local restaurant might be an alternative should we decide not to pay the rental charge. No vote was taken on the issue pending an investigation of other facilities. Pat has reserved the following dates for 2007: Jan 20, June 9, and Oct 13, but these can be cancelled should we find an alternate venue.

Pat also raised the issue of the LSBF Visiting Artist's stop in Dallas on October 14 being the same day as the October LSBF meeting. Pat volunteered to try to reschedule the October meeting. She will try for Oct 21st. Should that date be unavailable she will look at November 4th or 11th. She will provide John Denton with the new date for distribution to the delegates.

Carl Quisenberry, the editor of the LSBF newsletter, passed around a copy of the current issue containing color photos so as to compare with the current black-and-white version. He was curious if there was an interest in publishing with color pictures. The extra cost would be around \$300/year. While everyone agreed that the color photos added to the publication, Pat pointed out that the current budget does not cover the added expense. No motion was made at this time.

Steve Hendricks brought up for discussion the fact that LSBF dues had remained \$2/person for many years and, perhaps, it was time to raise the dues to \$3/person. The suggestion was left open for consideration at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00.

BSD Treasurer Position Open

Due to personal reasons, Jennifer Triptow has resigned from her position as Treasurer of the club. If you are interested in filling this position until the end of the year, please contact George Straw at gstra@aol.com or 214-357-3048.

Thank you, Jennifer, for your great help and efficient management of the Treasurer position! We appreciate all you've done for the club!

We Need Items for the Raffle! By Sandi McFarland

As the chairperson for the raffle at the 2007 Convention, I would like to ask you to donate one or more quality items for the raffle! Bonsai, plant, or oriental art related items are our biggest money makers, but we will accept almost anything! If you have something that you would like to donate, or if you have a question about the raffle, please contact me at 972-438-9782 or at potter@pegasuspottery.com. This raffle is one of the ways that BSD gains much needed funds for operations, so please help us out! Thank you in advance for all your help!

I am also looking for a couple of folks who would be willing to help me run the raffle. If you are interested, please let me know! Thanks!

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 or Sandi McFarland potter@pegasuspottery.com.



Howard and Sylvia Smith
www.bonsaismiths.net
bonsaismiths@earthlink.net
tel# (972) 392-1430
Fax# (972) 661-0694

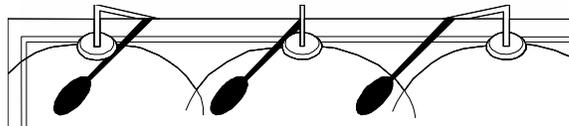
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