



Bonsai Society of Dallas

Monthly newsletter

September 2010

Message from the President

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Message from the President
- September Program – Roy Nagatoshi Demo & Workshop
- October Club Auction
- Board Elections
- September Bonsai Care Tips
- August review
- Virtual Tour Reminder, Upcoming Events Info, Reminders, Plus More!

BSD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Chuck Talley, *President,*
Co-Program Chair
Chuck_Talley@tandybrands.com

Bill Weber, *Vice President,*
Program Chair
webwill1@yahoo.com

Diane Lowe, *Treasurer*
diane_lowe@tx.rr.com

James Bonney, *Secretary*
amy.james@gte.net

Jerry Riley, *Member Relations*
jafa999@yahoo.com

John Miller, *President Emeritus*
bonsaimiller@aol.com

Sylvia Smith, *President Emeritus*
slysmith@earthlink.net

Has your address changed?
Comments? E-mail the editor at
amy.james@gte.net

Would you like to get this newsletter via e-mail? [Become a member.](#)

I hope everyone and their trees are surviving this Texas heat. As I write this, we have just experienced our summer's highest temperature of 106 degrees at DFW Airport. I hope the weather forecasters are correct about the "cold front" coming and maybe we are past the 100 degree weather. We had a great August meeting featuring Timothy Phan's program on air layering, followed by Bonsai 101 "The Art of Bonsai" with Tim and Diane Lowe. Thanks to all of you who attended, provided input, asked good questions, and brought a tree to air layer. Be patient and I'm sure your air layer will take.

Our September program will feature Roy Nagatoshi, our guest artist from out of state. Roy owns a nursery in Southern California and provided the bonsai trees for the Karate Kid III movie. Most non-bonsai people immediately think of that movie series when they hear the word bonsai. Roy and Karate Kid have done a lot for our hobby the past 25 years. It will be a weekend to enjoy bonsai as you will read further in this newsletter. Roy will be styling a Juniper for our program, which we will raffle at the end of the meeting. Someone will go home a lucky winner of a beautiful tree. It could be you, so be sure to join us. Our workshop with Roy follows the meeting in the afternoon. We still have a couple of spots open so if you have a tree you want to style or re-style, please get in on the workshop. Also the next day he will be at the Ft. Worth club meeting doing another demonstration. Please don't miss out on seeing this renowned artist.

Remember that our October meeting will be the annual club auction, a member favorite. The auction is a great way for all of us to donate, buy, and find new material and supplies. As you think about growing your collection of trees, this is a wonderful source of material as well as tools, pots, and other bonsai related merchandise. It is also a great way to clear out some of the old material you may have and get new. We often have non-members come and join us so please do your best to make them feel welcome. The auction is our single annual event to raise money for the club so please support us in any way you can—buy, sell, volunteer to help, and spread the word to others to join us.

Fall is right around the corner, so be sure to read John Miller's September tips. Sylvia and Howard Smith recommend that in late September we clean up trees and prepare them for the changing fall weather. A 'top soil' change will help water flow and remove excess fertilizer. They recommend using bent nose tweezers to scrape off the top 1/2" to 1" (less on shohin or mame) of soil. Lightly work the roots (no major pruning), change out soil, and water. The trees will be happier through a fall growing spell.

Hope to see you at the next meeting!

Chuck

LSBF Guest Artist:

September Program with
Roy Nagatoshi
September 4th & 5th

Get ready for a huge program this month. Our September program will be conducted by one of the Bonsai Greats—Roy Nagatoshi. This is too big an opportunity to host just a regular one-shot program, so we've teamed up with the Ft. Worth club to share two programs and a workshop!

Roy started out working alongside his father learning the craft and techniques of making bonsai. His parents eventually opened a bonsai nursery outside of Los Angeles, Fuji Bonsai, where Roy and his father conduct classes. In 1975, Roy received a bachelor's degree in ornamental horticulture from Cal Poly University and shortly thereafter opened his own landscape contracting business. Around the same time, he began teaching bonsai classes locally. Now Roy teaches across the United States and abroad. Along the way, he has worked with the likes of the legendary John Naka and even been involved with a Hollywood production.



Roy Nagatoshi at the 2009 State Convention in Houston. *Photo courtesy Joey McCoy*

The Saturday morning program will be a lecture/demo on a juniper which at the end will be raffled off! The Fort Worth club is invited to come. The afternoon workshop will also be at NHG. The Sunday demo will be in Ft. Worth, and as with the first, the tree will be raffled at the end. The Dallas club is invited.

Saturday morning program:

What: Styling demonstration on juniper
Who: Roy Nagatoshi
When: Saturday, September 4th; 9 AM – 12 Noon
Where: North Haven Gardens

Saturday afternoon workshop (following lunch break):

What: Bring Your Own Tree Workshop
Who: Roy Nagatoshi
When: Saturday, September 4th; 1 PM – 4 PM
Where: North Haven Gardens
Details:

- Bring your own tree, tools, etc. Any species of tree welcome.
- RSVP to Diane Lowe (diane_lowe@tx.rr.com). Space is limited to just 10 participants (5 Dallas / 5 Fort Worth).
- Cost per participant \$45. Open to BSD/FWBS members only.
- Silent observation free. We do ask that observers remain quiet during the workshop as a courtesy to those paying members.

(Cont. on page 3)

Upcoming Events



Saturday, September 4th, 9–12 Noon
LSBF Traveling Artist: Roy Nagatoshi
styling demonstration – juniper

Saturday, September 4th, 1–4 PM
Roy Nagatoshi BYOT workshop
at NHG

Sunday, September 5th, 1–4 PM
Roy Nagatoshi styling demonstration

Saturday, October 2nd, 9–12 Noon
Club Auction

Saturday, October 15th–17th
Kathy Shaner 15th Annual Seminar
Austin, Texas

Saturday, Nov 6th, 9–12 Noon
Ground Growing with John Kirby &
Bonsai 101: Care of Bonsai, Part 2

Saturday, Dec. 4th, 9–12 Noon
Members' Virtual Garden Tour &
Bonsai 101: Artistics, Part 2

Link of the Month



Are you a fan of suiseki? If so, then you've probably heard of Felix Rivera. If you asked, "what's suiseki?" then Felix's website should prove to be of interest. Suiseki is the art of stone appreciation. Stones can be displayed by themselves, but are often paired with bonsai to create a display during exhibition. Felix's site has articles on aesthetics and evaluation of stones, profiles of some of the big names in suiseki, and galleries of some of the clubs and exhibitions he's gathered from around the World. See them here at:

www.felixrivera-suiseki.com

Saturday evening, is a “Dutch treat” dinner for members of both clubs with Roy at 7:00 p.m. at the Hard Eight Bar-B-Que near his hotel. The address is: 688 Freeport Parkway, Coppell, 75019. Phone number is 972-471-5462. They are located at W. Bethel Road (same as Bass Pro Drive) and Freeport Pkwy.

MapQuest Link to Hard Eight BBQ:
<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?name=Hard+Eight+Barbecue&city=Coppell&state=TX&address=688+Freeport+Pkwy&zipcode=75019&country=US&latitude=32.955471&longitude=-97.010659&geocode=ADDRESS&id=27111590>

Sunday afternoon demonstration:

What: Styling demonstration on juniper (different tree than in Dallas demo)

Who: Roy Nagatoshi

When: Sunday, September 5th; 1 PM – 4 PM

Where: Fort Worth Botanic Gardens (FWBS’ usual meeting place)

Link:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps?name=Fort+Worth+Botanic+Garden&city=Fort+Worth&state=TX&address=3220+Botanic+Garden+Bldv&zipcode=76107&country=US&latitude=32.74045&longitude=-97.3629&geocode=ADDRESS&id=9231329>

There will be a dinner after the Sunday demo as well at Hoffbrau Steakhouse. It’s the one just a few blocks south of the gardens on University (1712 S University Dr, Fort Worth, TX 76107) just across from the zoo.

Come to one or come to all sessions...it’s going to be spectacular! ✍

Virtual Tour Program – Reminder

For those of you who’ve sent in photos for the virtual Member’s Backyard Tour, a big “thank you”. The others of you who’ve promised that you’d send some photos to me, I’m going to have to request that those be sent in soon. How about the rest of you? We still need more photos if we’re to fill up the December program. I’d like to have your submissions by October so Chuck and I have some time to put the program together.

You want to know how others are working with their setups? Well, they want to know what you do with yours too. So don’t be shy—send those photos in to amy.james@gte.net!

Left Over Pots

Many people turned out to claim their new creations from our pinch pot making class in July. However, Sandi McFarland has told the club that several pots remain unclaimed. She has requested that the owners of these pots contact her at 972/438-9782 or sandim@rdikids.org to arrange for their pick-up. Any pots not claimed by the October meeting will be sold off at our club auction!



The pots from our pot making class turned out beautifully.
Photo J. Bonney

Silence is Golden

We would like to apologize that some of our members had difficulty hearing Timothy Phan during last month’s program. It has become apparent that the acoustics in the new room amplify any side-talking or noises to the point that it makes it difficult to hear the speaker. We encourage socializing before and after the presentation; however, to ensure that members enjoy our presentations to the fullest, we must ask that from now on, any discussions during the presentation not involving the speaker be conducted outside the room. Thanks everyone. ✍



September Bonsai

Tips and advice by John Miller

September, football, and back to school makes us think summer and the heat is over. That is usually not a good assumption. There will be very hot days with us from time to time through October. Don't let your trees get caught unawares.

The following information regarding organic sprays is copied from a nursery bulletin. You can apply them to bonsai. Chinch bugs are beetles; Bt for any worm type larva; liquid seaweed is the basis for my foliar spray for insect control. Also look in the organics section for fungal controls.

“In terms of pest control, chinch bugs are a major lawn pest of St. Augustine in the heat of the summer. If patches look brown and dry even though turf is getting enough water, check for chinch bugs. Treat for chinch bugs with Spinosad, insecticidal soap or other insecticides recommended by your garden center. Treat your lawn for white grubs early in the month. Spray Bt (Thuricide) for tent caterpillars and webworms. Apply horticultural oils or other recommended insecticides for thrips, scale, spider mites, mealy bugs and lacebugs, which can all be a problem in the heat. Spray liquid seaweed on tomato plants to control spider mites.”

Check the trees you still have wire on. When the cooler days get here, some trees will expand their branches and get wire cuts rather quickly, especially at the junction with the trunk. Don't forget to check them periodically over the winter as well. Winter growth will usually be pretty slow, but can occur, especially on the evergreens. To remove the wire I usually cut the wire off. You can easily break branches trying to unwrap wire and it's just not worth trying to save the wire. Sylvia and Kathy Shaner say to unwrap it so that you do not overlook a coil and ruin that branch. Whichever way you go, take care to **do it methodically and to do it right**. If you need to

reapply some wire take care. Remember that the branches will be more brittle when the sap is not flowing.

Watering now becomes harder. As trees slow their growth they do not take as much water. Neither will they transpire as much on the cooler days, but on hot days you better check twice. So check each one separately and water as often and as much as the individual tree requires. It is easy to keep the soil too wet and develop root problems.

Tips of the leaves turning brown are indications of a water stress problem. Look at the following areas.

- evaporation—too much sun, too windy
 - watering—gets too dry between waterings (*the soil staying too wet may cause root problems which thus prevent uptake of moisture*).
 - soil or pots get too hot
 - water too alkaline



John inspects some raffle material. Photo J. Bonney

There is probably nothing you can do about the foliage this time of year. Problems that occur earlier in the year could be corrected by leaf pruning and growing new foliage. If you have these problems, determine the cause and try to correct for next year.

You should help the plant slow down and get ready for winter by not applying nitrogen fertilizer about 90 days before the first freeze. This would be the first part of September in the Dallas-Ft. Worth area. The reason is that nitrogen causes new growth to occur and it will not have time to mature before a freeze occurs. You may fertilize with fertilizer with a formulation like 0-10-10. The other two—phosphorous and potassium—help the general hardiness of the plant and can be applied now. Evergreens, both needled and broadleaf, and tropical species that will be kept growing thru the winter will benefit from a low nitrogen fertilizer.

Make sure that your tropicals are in good health and growing vigorously. That will help them withstand the change of climate when you bring them indoors.

Two things you can do now: You should prepare your winter quarters and you should study your evergreen trees to determine if you need to do any restyling later on this fall.

Check on the place you expect to winter your bonsai. Make sure that it is **clean** and that you will be able to check the water needs of the trees. It should be somewhat protected from winds but should have some air movement to help prevent molds from developing. Having it in a location where you can see the trees would allow you to enjoy the winter silhouette, i.e. the branch structure and twiginess, that is a great part of deciduous bonsai. Treat the greenhouse to kill any lingering bugs, eggs or fungi.

There is not too much to be done on deciduous trees at this time. Bugs and other problems are usually not a matter of concern since the foliage will be dropping soon. Evergreens and tropicals will still need to be watched for their insect problems, especially the spider mite which will be active into fall. Use the organic spray formula to control them. Horticultural oil spray may also be used. If we should have a stretch of damp weather you should be watching for fungal problems; leaf spot, mildew, etc. Treat fungal diseases with potassium bicarbonate (*baking soda—sodium bicarbonate—will work about as well*). I would be okay with using a 1% hydrogen peroxide solution at this time of the year for fungal control (*organic spray: 1 tblsp each of liquid seaweed, fish emulsion, molasses, and 5% apple cider vinegar in one gallon of water*).

Pruning and trimming can be done any time that there is not a lot of sap flowing. Sap flow is indicated by the foliar activity of the plant, like in the spring. If your tree went into summer dormancy, which occurs during hot weather, then the cooler weather might result in a larger sap flow in late summer or early fall. If your plant gets a flush of new growth, it would be advisable to postpone large pruning cuts for a while. Basically, let your tree tell you when it is OK to operate. Pruning spring blooming plants (*e.g., azalea*) may remove buds that have already formed. ✍

Kathy Shaner's 15th Annual Seminar

I recently received word from Terry and Sheila Ward that Kathy Shaner's 15th Annual seminar has been set for October 15th through the 17th. They promised more details in early September when the registration packets are ready. This year Kathy's seminar is a two-part program chosen by last year's attendees. If you haven't been to one of Kathy's seminars, give it some serious

consideration. Dave Schleser, amongst others, says her seminar one of the highlights of the year. ✍

Board Elections Coming in December

It seems like only yesterday that our current board took over the reins of the Bonsai Society of Dallas. However, this December marks the end of their two-year terms in office. The commitment they've shown to serving you and keeping the club running smoothly has been remarkable. Elections will be held in December and now is the time to start thinking about who our next leaders will be.

Being a board member is rewarding and includes many wonderful opportunities for the active bonsai hobbyist. Board members influence the direction of the club, make policy and get to participate in some cool decision-making positions—like selecting the guest artists that are brought in to teach. And let's not forget the feeling of satisfaction gained by contributing to a hobby we all love. If you've been thinking you'd like to contribute to the club and the hobby in a positive and meaningful way, this is it. Below is a brief description of our Board positions with some of their duties. I encourage those of you wanting to take the next step to discuss it with President Chuck Talley or a board member.

President — The president presides over general and board meetings of the Society; appoints committee chairs and calls board meetings; performs all duties of chief executive officer of the society.

Vice President—The vice president assists the president and presides over meetings in the president's absence; serves as the program chair for the society; reserves facilities and equipment for all club functions.

Secretary—The secretary records and files minutes for both the general and board meetings; keeps a current list of membership; notifies president of new members for welcome letters; and is the newsletter editor for the term unless a separate newsletter editor is appointed.

Treasurer—The treasurer is responsible for all deposits, collection of dues and other funds for the Society; keeps record of all receipts, disbursements, payment of debts and bills; and provides a quarterly report to the society and board.

This is just a partial description, and the new board will have the right to make changes that they see fit. (For instance, the member relations officer was added by the current board.) ✍

2010 BSD Club Auction

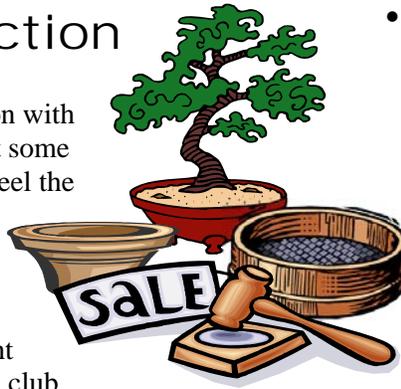
Are you looking to expand your collection with some quality trees? Or maybe you've got some old supplies or stock that you just don't feel the love for anymore? Then the Bonsai Society of Dallas' annual auction is the ticket!

That's right folks; the club auction is right around the corner. Every year, the bonsai club dedicates a program to helping members beef up (or slim down) their collections. October has been picked for this year's auction. Fabulous deals and wonderful items are the order of the day when we have an auction...and they keep getting better *every year*.

Now is the perfect time to start gathering items that you'd like to sell and items that you'd like to donate to the club. Remember, this is the club's number one money generator. Funds acquired during our auctions are used to bring in top-notch out-of-town artists like Roy Nagatoshi, Peter Warren, and Roberto Martinez Acosta, and local stars like Howard and Sylvia Smith, Ray Hernandez and Timothy Phan.

Here's how the auction works:

- You may bring any bonsai or bonsai-related item(s) for the auction.
- Items worth over \$50 are sold on an 80/20 split. This means the member gets 80% of the bid price, the club gets 20%. These items must have a *minimum* reserve price of at least \$50. (No items may be sold prior to or after the auction unless you have worked this out with the auctioneer.)
- Items under \$50 value are considered donations to the club—no split.
- All items to be brought to the auction should be delivered between 8:30–9:30 AM the day of the auction. If you cannot bring your items at this time please make arrangements with a friend to bring them for you as we do not have a place to house items before the auction. Items will be checked in at this time and no item will be accepted after 9:30.
- Everyone must sign in and get a paddle. Please return these when you are done bidding or when you are ready to check out.



- At this time we can only take cash or checks. (This may change by the time of the auction, but for now, this is how it stands.) If you are selling items, you will be mailed a check from BSD at a later time and please be patient with us. It takes time to coordinate schedules with our volunteers so that we can count up the totals after the auction is through.

We do ask that everyone bidding have a paddle and if they are bidding for a non-attending friend, that they establish a maximum bid ahead of time so as to not disrupt the flow of the auction. Volunteers helping with the auction *can* and *are* encouraged to bid on items for themselves. We would like everyone to be able to enjoy this event!

Speaking of volunteers, in order to run our auction more smoothly, we need volunteers to fill the spots of **runners** (those who bring items up for auction), **registration**, **checkout**, and **auction** logging. Please contact Sylvia Smith at slysmith@earthlink.net or (972) 754-9883 if you are able to fill one of these posts. ✍

August in Review

by James Bonney

President Chuck Talley opened the program with a few notes about upcoming programs. First, is that the number of slots for the Roy Nagatoshi workshop have been changed from 12 to 10. Half of those slots go to Ft. Worth club members, so if you plan to participate in the workshop, get your reservation in now. Diane Lowe is the contact for Dallas club members (Dan LeBlanc is the Ft. Worth contact in case any dual-membership types want to sign up on the Ft. Worth side). Last month it was reported that silent observation would have a fee associated with it. *That has changed*. Silent observation will be free to members. Chuck also wants us to know that the Dallas and Ft. Worth clubs are sharing the lecture/demo portions of Roy's visit, as we've done with LSBF artists in the past. In other words, both clubs are invited to both lectures.

Chuck also announced that the club auction is coming up in October and it will be held in the large meeting room as it was last year.

For our main program the BSD played host to Timothy Phan, a BSD member and bonsai practitioner since 1988.

Tim has an online business, www.bonsaiware.com. Timothy came in to instruct members on the benefits and technical aspects of air-layering. His lecture portion included a detailed PowerPoint presentation. After the presentation, Tim opened up his tool bag and performed a sample air layer so members could see first-hand the techniques he discussed during the lecture.

Lest we forget, this was a BYOT (bring-your-own-tree) workshop as well, so after the demonstration, Timothy assisted several members while they performed air-layers on their own trees. With Tim's expertise and practiced hand the air layers were taken care of in short order.

By 11am the class was ready for the next installment of *Bonsai 101: The Art of Bonsai – Part I*. Diane Lowe and Timothy began to explore more of the artistic side of bonsai. Much of the presentation dealt with the “rules” of bonsai design; essentially, what artistically constitutes good bonsai design and why it's important to pay attention to these guidelines when working on your own trees. They also discussed some of the specific techniques used to achieve and maintain our artistic creations. Thank you, Timothy and Diane, for your time and the sharing of your experience.

At the end, several plants were raffled off, and Timothy donated a pair of shears and a Japanese pot to the raffle that everyone received a free ticket for a chance to win. Congratulations to all the winners! ✍



The cambium needs to be removed all the way around or it could callus over. *Photo J. Bonney*



Rooting hormone is applied to increase the chance of success—wear gloves! *Photo J. Bonney*



The cuts are made at least as wide as the diameter of the trunk or branch to be layered. *Photo J. Bonney*



Tim wraps the air layer “like a snowcone” and applies sphagnum moss. *Photo J. Bonney*



Cell: (469) 648-8202

BENT TREE BONSAI

wide range of quality
Indoor and Outdoor
Bonsai & preBonsai

Instruction-Tools-Pots
Supplies



Ray Hernandez-owner
By appointment only

5915 S. Cockrell Hill
Dallas, Texas 75236

Bent Tree Bonsai: (469) 648-8202



BonsaiWare
Timothy Phan
www.BonsaiWare.com
BonsaiWare411@gmail.com
972-679-0384

*Bonsai, Japanese & Chinese Pots,
Stands, Tools, Books, Suiseki,
Pre-mixed Bonsai Soil, Akadama,
Lava, Pumice*

www.bonsaiware.com



**Bonsai
Smiths**

Howard and Sylvia Smith
www.BonsaiSmiths.net
bonsaismiths@earthlink.net
Tel# (972) 754-9883
Fax# (972) 661-0694

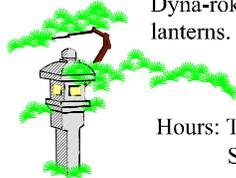
- Cultivators of fine trees
- Collection maintenance
- Private instruction
- Classes, lectures & demos

www.bonsaismiths.net

Sanderson Creek Bonsai

— 1634 Stella Street, Fort Worth, Texas —

Bonsai, collected and pre-bonsai trees, sieved soil,
lava, pumice, exp-shale, kanuma, akadama, pots,
Dyna-rok, Joshua Roth tools, classes and granite
lanterns.



☀ You are welcomed! ☀

Hours: Tuesday thru Friday 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Saturday 10:00 am to 5:00 pm

e-store www.sandersonbonsai.com ph# 817-534-3220

www.sandersonbonsai.com

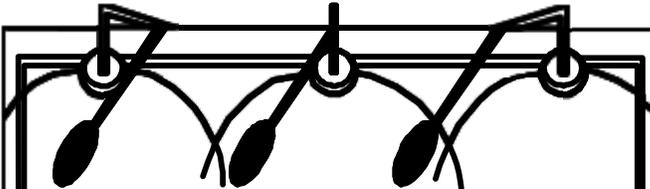
"We have 1/8" black lava that is just marvelous for shohin size bonsai. The bags are from 39 to 40 lbs and retail for \$16.00; That's \$14.40 for members!"
—Jerry Hammack, Sanderson Creek Bonsai

**Generous Businesses Give Discounts
to BSD Members**

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

- The Bonsai Smiths
- Sanderson Creek Bonsai
- Ray Hernandez's Bent Tree Bonsai
- Dallas Bonsai Garden

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 James
Bonney at amy.james@gte.net.



Place Your Ad Here!

Business card size – \$5 per month
Half-page – \$20 per month
Full page – \$35 per month

For more information, contact
James Bonney at amy.james@gte.net