



Bonsai Society of Dallas

November 2006



Message from the President:

By George Straw

Winter is just around the corner and all should be ready for the cold. I do hope that we have a mild winter although colder winters help get rid of some of the bugs that plague us during the summer.

To update everyone on the convention, the Vendor invitations have gone out and we are hoping for a big response back. Information is being forwarded to Andy Rutledge so that we can get the information updated on the web site. Please

remember to keep your calendar open in April for the convention. We need as much help as possible. It is a lot of work to get everything set up the day before the convention.

I would like to thank everyone who has been working very hard on the convention.

We still need air miles for the guest artists. If you have air miles, please let us know. It will help the club out. The miles for each artist would be 25,000. That

should be about \$625.00 for tax purposes but check with your tax person on this.

The Board has is asking the club to keep the existing Board of Directors on until May 1, 2007. We feel that it would be better because of the Convention for this Board to continue through April. We will take a vote on Thursday and if it passes, we will then plan electing new officers in March to take over on May 1.

BSD Calendar

- Nov. 2 - Shane Cary - Saunders Boxwood
- Dec. 7 - Progress critique on the trees from the May program
- Jan. 4 - TBA
- Feb. 1 - TBA
- Feb. 24-25 - Advanced Group Workshop 2007 at the Irving Community Center

BSD Member Tree Highlight

Ashe Juniper by Dave Schleser

November Program

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

For our November program we will have a lecture-demo by Shane Cary. Shane will be styling a Saunders Dwarf boxwood similar to the ones to be used at the convention next year. With Shane's expertise combined with his love

for the boxwood, this should be a very informative demo!

Shane was born and raised in Northwest Louisiana. His first encounter with bonsai was in 1990. By 1992, he would be practicing bonsai as a full time occupation and president of two local bonsai clubs. While performing a demonstration at the Lone Star Bonsai Federation Conven-

tion in 1995, his work was recognized by the American Bonsai Society and he received their Rising Star of Bonsai Award. From 1998-99, Shane had the opportunity to work with Atsushi Fukishima, a long time apprentice of Mr. Kimura. He has won two Chase Rosade Excellence in Design Awards and in 2005, founded Shane's Bonsai Studio.

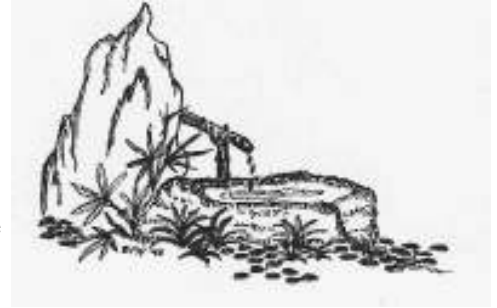


Other Dates of Interest

- Nov. 25-Dec. 31 at the Dallas Arboretum - Holiday at the Arboretum: The Artistry of the Nativity
- Through Dec. 31 - Ultimate Tree Houses at the Dallas Arboretum

November Bonsai by John Miller

Be sure to mark your calendar for the LSBF convention in April next year. It will be held in Dallas on April 20-22 at the Holiday Inn Select on Mockingbird Lane across from Love Field. Registration forms and info will be available in late October and also on the club website (www.bonsaisocietyofdallas.com). Headliners will be Marco Invernizzi, Boon Manakivisipart, Suthin Sukosolvisit, and Shane Cary. Michael Hagedorn, Howard and Sylvia Smith, and I will also be participating.



Not too much has to be done right now. That is if you prepared last month and you have no tropicals inside to care for. The big thing is to know what temperatures your trees can withstand and to remember that water is important in the winter time.

Since the trees are not using as much water during dormancy, it is easy to overlook checking on them. The low humidity usually found during winter helps dry the soil. Winter sun can be pretty hot and if it shines directly on the pot it will hasten the drying process. Winter will usually also be windier. Therefore, however you bed down the trees, you need to check the dryness often. The same trees that needed more water last summer will also need to be checked more often during the winter. I think that more trees are lost during the winter to having the soil dry out than from the actual cold.

Deciduous trees should not be placed where they receive winter sun. After a period of dormancy, the heating of the tree could possibly cause it to break dormancy prematurely. If that happened you would need to keep it above freezing the rest of the winter. After they go dormant they have no need for any sunshine.

Evergreen types especially and deciduous to a lesser extent should not have the root ball subjected to alternate freezing and thawing. That process tends to tear and damage the roots. Placing the trees on the ground and using a mulch will minimize this problem.

Plants have different degrees of hardiness for their top growth and their roots. The reason being that the ground acts as a large reservoir of heat and, here in Texas, it seldom freezes more than an inch or two down. Therefore, plants like the pomegranate and crepe myrtle which are at the northern extent of their range outside will not be hardy to freezing in pots. Any plant that you are unsure of should be protected from freezing. This can be a problem because if they are not kept cool after they go dormant they will break dormancy and start to grow too soon. Growing without sufficient light causes long spindly growth which you cannot control. My best solution for this when I lived in town was to have a long platform with two wheels that I pulled into the garage on nights where freezing was forecast and kept outside at all other times.

The cold weather will keep any insect problems under control outside. In winter, you should use a dormant oil spray to kill overwintering insects and their eggs. You can also use lime sulfur in a dormant spray solution which will also help with fungal problems. Be sure to follow the label directions when mixing and using the lime sulfur. It can be dangerous stuff if misused. You should watch for damage from rodent types, rabbits, squirrel, and rats. They will prune branches and strip bark rather quickly.

Bonsai in greenhouses or indoor bonsai will need to be watched for the normal indoor problems. Low humidity, spider mites and scales are the biggest problems here. Aphids can also show up. Trying to keep the humidity up by placing your trees on a humidity tray can possibly give you some soil problems, root rot or some other fungal disease. I use the same controls in the greenhouse that I use outside all year.

You can take advantage of the winter slowdown by spending your time getting pots ready for spring, clean and sharpen your tools, study what changes you would like to make on your trees and so forth.

On bonsai basics: Other than going to Bonsaismiths and buying a good bonsai, there are four steps to getting something to be proud of.

1. Obtaining good raw material: Go on club digs, scour nurseries (you got to really dig there too), look for material from growers.
2. Styling to realize the trees full potential: To learn, you must do lots of workshops and participate in round-robin discussions. Understand the why as well as the what of styling.
3. Development of the branches: Keep your shears with you when watering; keep after the trees when actively growing. Do not let new shoots get long. Lots of twigs mean smaller leaves.
4. Maintaining that development: This entails learning to do rejuvenation pruning and proper fertilization.

Of these four I consider the last one the most important. Not maintaining the tree properly is akin to obtaining a master's painting and then letting a two year old use crayons to 'improve' it. It grows out of shape fast.

Drawing by Estella Flather 2006 © All rights reserved

Lone Star Bonsai Federation Meeting Minutes

October 21st, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 by President, John Denton.

John called for any changes to the minutes of the last meeting. Pat Ware indicated that the end of the meeting should be around 3:00 and not 2:00 as indicated. A motion was made and carried to approve the minutes as amended.

Treasurer's Report

Pat Ware presented the Treasurer's Report. She reported that when all the outstanding bills were paid, the treasury would be down to around \$2,200. She suggested we wait until Corpus Christi gave their convention results before the board votes on whether to reimburse the clubs some money for the Cheryl Manning tour. A motion was made and carried to approve the Treasurers Report.

LSBF Conventions

2006 - Yvonne Padilla indicated that the LSBF Convention in Corpus Christi in 2006 had produced a profit of \$14,105.57. She presented the board with a check for \$7,05.78. Corpus was roundly applauded for the quality of the convention.

2007 – John Miller discussed the upcoming convention in Dallas. He indicated that a website was not up yet but would soon be available and that registration would be available on-line. At the Dallas convention they would like to have a more formal exhibit. They are trying to encourage more participation by offering awards for “Best of” trees. John delivered to each club representative copies of the registration forms for their members. More information will be forthcoming.

2008 - Marty Klajnowski discussed the 2008 convention which will be hosted jointly by San Antonio, Austin and the American Bonsai Society.

The convention will be held June 19-22, 2008.

They have a contract with the Tropicana Hotel on the river walk for \$119/night and have reserved a block of 245-250 rooms.

It will be a seminar with no workshops. Each registrant will pick the seminars which they wish to attend. All seminars are 3 hours.

The convention begins on Thursday with an all day styling competition of 10 artists sponsored by Joshua Roth Tools.

ABS will handle the registration, airline tickets, and contracting with artists.

San Antonio and Austin will handle goodie bags, raffles, and the convention pin.

The split of proceeds will be 40% ABS, 20% San Antonio, 20% Austin, and 20% LSBF.

The ABS requested that we provide the names of several artists that we would like to see present seminars at the convention. Marty took down several names and will pass them on.

Convention Attendance – Buddy Allen was not present to discuss this issue with the board.

LSBF Speaker Tour

2006 - Ron Smith was not present to discuss the speaker tour but all agreed that Cheryl Manning was personable and a skilled artist. A motion was made and passed by a vote of 6 to 1 that the LSBF reimburse the clubs \$150 each for the tour.

2007 – John Denton announced that Ron Smith had resigned as chairman of the 2007 tour and asked for volunteers. Yvonne Padilla said that she would arrange the tour if we invited Pedro Morales as the visiting artist. It was moved and approved before she could change her mind.

Expanding the LSBF

Marty Klajnowski presented a proposal for the LSBF to consider expanding the federation to include adjoining states. This was presented as one means of fighting the decline in clubs and memberships in the past few years. The LSBF had, in the past, been approached by outside clubs to join the federation. She proposed that the LSBF would retain the same name but include other clubs in full or associative memberships. Yvonne proposed that we take this issue back our respective clubs and bring their questions and concerns back to be discussed at the next meeting.

Next Meetings

Pat Ware canvassed the attendees on their impression of the suitability of the LCRA Board Room as an alternative to Zilker Park. Pat indicated that, while a kitchen is not available, it is still workable for her for serving a light lunch. It was then suggested that the members could eat before arriving and give Pat a break in her lunch preparations. All agreed, so there will be no lunch served before subsequent meetings.

Dates were proposed for the next year's (2007) meetings. They are:

January 20, 2007

June 9, 2007

October 13, 2007

All meetings will begin at 1:00 and will be held at the LCRA Board Room located in the Hancock building at 3700 Lake Austin Blvd.

A motion was made and passed to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 3:06.



**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:

Howard & Sylvia Smith

bonsaismiths@earthlink.net 972-392-1430

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

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 soon.

LSBF SILVER ANNIVERSARY CONVENTION by John Miller

You will find some of the old and some new things at the 25th LSBF convention to be held in Dallas next year. It will be held on April 20-22, 2007, at the Holiday Inn Select, 3300 West Mockingbird Lane, across from Dallas Love Field. This happens to be the same hotel as the first Dallas LSBF convention, but was then the Executive Inn.

We will return to the original format of having evening demonstrations after the Friday and Saturday dinners. There will also be other lectures and demos during the day.

The convention theme, Art Education & Excellence, points to the convention being more than cutting on trees. The exhibit is planned to be more formal - along the lines of Kokofu-ten in Japan. We wish something like a three point display (tree, accent, and companion with appropriate stands). We also wish to encourage all LSBF members to consider displaying as was done in the early years. There will be prizes for the best displays. Exact details have not been completed but should be like best in show, 2nd and 3rd or possibly best in show, best evergreen, best deciduous, etc. Also, it may well be that the best display will be the winner, not the best individual tree.

Convention registration forms and information are available from your club LSBF representative. Information will be available also on the Dallas club website: www.bonsaisocietyofdallas.com. You can get questions answered by the registration chair: Sylvia Smith, 972-754-9883, *slysmith@earthlink.net*, or any other member of the committee as noted in the advertisement above.

We Need Your Frequent Flyer Miles!

We will be bringing in four artists for the Convention in April. Would you be willing to use your frequent flyer miles to get a ticket for one of the artists? The club will pay taxes on the tickets! It usually takes 25,000 miles for a round trip ticket. We have one ticket donated already so we just need three more!

Please contact George at 214-357-3048. Thanks for your help!




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Howard and Sylvia Smith
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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 at potter@pegasuspottery.com.



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BSD Board of Directors

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Acting Vice President—John Miller, President Emeritus, bonsaimiller@aol.com
Treasurer—Open
Secretary—Sandi McFarland, potter@pegasuspottery.com, (972) 438-9782