



Bonsai Society of Dallas

Message from the President:

By George Straw

Well, we survived the auction and it turned out great! I want to thank those who helped pull this off. A big thank you to Sylvia who got it all coordinated and the reason everything ran so smooth and of course Howard, our resident Auctioneer. Thanks also to Randy, Tom, Paul, Ben, Carlos, Jennifer, Diane, John and Daryl. If I forgot anyone, please forgive me. The auction was a great success as the club made \$1,785.39 this year. It was a little less than we brought in last year but still a good auction.

We did get several new members from the auction. Be sure to mention the club to others interested in bonsai.

We would like to get our membership up some more. With Dallas the size it is, we should have a larger membership. The Board is always open for suggestion on increasing the membership.

We are getting ready for a fall show and Sylvia Smith has sent out several emails asking for help with the show and also display trees. Please contact Sylvia about the show at bonsaismiths@earthlink.net or 972-392-1430

We are starting to get things pulled together for the 2007 convention to be held here in Dallas. If any of our members has hotel contacts, we would appreciate all the help

we can get. Sylvia and I have been checking on hotel and conference room pricing and we are finding that it is expensive and we want something that will be reasonable for the club to make money.

We are getting great response from our web site. Keep checking back as we are adding new things to it.

I do hope that everyone is taking the time to read through the Newsletter. Sandi spends a lot of time working on the Newsletter and there is always some great information inside.

I hope to see everyone on October 6!

From the Editor:

Hey, ya'll! How about another article from one of you wonderful club members? I would love to publish some new articles! Got a great black and white picture of one of your bonsai or a picture of a bonsai that you drew? I'd be happy to put it in the newsletter!

Please email them to me at potter@pegasuspottery.com! Thank you!!



BSD Calendar

- Oct 6 - Marty Klajnowski, Shohin
- Nov 3 - Yvonne Padilla
- Dec 1- Club Holiday Party

October Program By Daryl Le

Date: Oct. 6, 2005
Time: 6:30 PM
Place: North Haven Gardens
7700 Northaven
Dallas, TX

Our speaker for the October meeting will be Marty Klajnowski.

Ms. Klajnowski is very well versed on all phases of bonsai. She gives programs on large standard

bonsai and tropicals, as well as shohin. She is a regular contributor to the Shohin Society of Texas meeting in Austin.

Marty is a retired military nurse and has been everywhere and seen everybody. She has been a bonsai artist for 30+ years and is now a member of the San Antonio Bonsai Society. In the past she has held office in national,

state, and local bonsai organizations.

Marty will discussing shohin and will bring a variety of tree specimens such as Azalea, Elm, Serrissa, Sweet Gum, etc. to show and to demo at the meeting.

We hope you will join us for this great lecture and demo!

Other Dates of Interest:

- Oct 7-9 Kathy Shaner at Per-simmon Hill Bonsai, Austin
- Oct 8 - Fall Plant Sale at the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens
- Oct 22 LSBF meeting 1PM Zilker Park, Austin
- Oct 22-23 FallFest at the Japanese Gardens at the Fort Worth Botanical Gardens



October Bonsai

By John Miller

Time to take a good look at your tropicals. Before going into the dry, low light conditions most of us have for winter quarters, they need to be vigorous, pruned and free of problems. Give them a good feeding, preferably with an organic fertilizer. If you use a water soluble type, use a low dilution and feed every 2-3 days. Prune all new growth back to the trees best shape. Keep any new growth pinched to 2-3 leaves. Use your desired insecticide and/or fungicide now, and again just before you take them in.

Remember that some tropicals do not like to go below 50 degrees while others are only semi-tropical and will take a frost, but do not want their roots frozen. The buttonwood is an example of the first group and the crepe myrtle would be in the second. Here in the Dallas-Ft Worth area, we will probably not see a freeze until late in November but there may be some cool nights in October. I prefer to leave the tropicals out as long as possible. I want the semi-tropicals to go dormant and then put them in a cool location to stay dormant all winter.

I have tried to get some others to write an article on caring for pines, but no luck. There seems to be an endless number of ways to train pines. Ernie Quo references a Japanese article "88 Ways of Pruning Black Pine." I think you need to find one mentor and follow her/his method. We have a couple of good pine people here in Texas to help you. That said, I am going to jump in (backwards?). I try to do it like Quo who was our advanced group leader. Decide whether you are still developing your tree or are you trying for needle reduction. The methods are different, however following the development technique will result in somewhat smaller needles also. Needle reduction is a springtime activity. For development, that is to produce more twigs as rapidly as possible (2 or 3 splits per year instead of just one), you start in late autumn. Remove all needles except 5 (on a strong twig) or 8 pair (on a weaker twig) on the end of the twig. When new buds form, remove all but 2. Next spring when the candles start to grow but before the needles break out, break the stronger candles back to the same length as the weaker ones. This helps distribute the trees energy evenly. After the needles open fully, repeat this process. If you are lucky, you may get to do it again later in the year giving you 8 twigs instead of only 2. You can see this will make your tree look good fast.

Now is the time to start your outdoor trees toward their winter siesta. If you wait until the temperature drops, you get too rushed and omit some of the little housekeeping duties. Start now by making sure that the area will be free of insects and other vermin.

When the leaves start turning, the sap has quit for the year and you may check the branches and twigs to see if any need to be trimmed. Cutting back any protruding branches will keep them from snagging and possibly breaking other trees when you put them down close together. Don't cut the buds off the spring flowering plants unless absolutely necessary if you want flowers next spring.

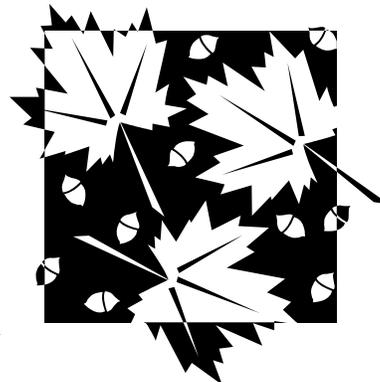
Kathy Shaner suggests removing the top half-inch of soil and replenishing it with new soil. This will remove weed seeds that have blown in and will make next year's job easier. Of course if you plan on repotting next spring, it isn't necessary.

Winter quarters: Remember that here in Texas, more trees are lost in the winter due to drying out than to the cold. Of course, that does not mean for you to leave the tropicals out or to let the roots freeze on southern trees like the crape myrtle. Even in a greenhouse or sunny window, the soil can dry out amazingly fast. The wind in winter has amazing drying powers too. (Ask your grandmother about hanging the wash and letting it dry while frozen stiff.) So while you are protecting the roots, be sure to give it a wind screen and make sure that you can check the soil for watering needs. (It helps here if you know which particular plants dry out faster and so you can situate them together. Winter kill usually comes because the soil has frozen and the sun or wind is removing water from the tops. The roots cannot obtain water to replenish the loss and the top desiccates to the point of death.

For the beginners, plants like the cedar elm, oak, maple that are hardy much further north can be set on a clean gravel bed. When the real cold (26 or lower) gets here cover the pots with 3-4 inches of a fairly loose mulch. Plants that grow south of Dallas, crape myrtle, firethorn, some azalea, need to have more root protection. I like to let them get frostbit, but bring them in before freezing. Of course the tropicals need to be babied.

All this is basically talking about the broadleaf deciduous trees. Evergreens do not go fully dormant in winter and need to be exposed to sunlight. Some broadleaf types like boxwoods slow way down but still need sunlight. Some leave the needled evergreens on top of benches all winter but I prefer to give the roots the same basic winter protection of deciduous trees but they have a higher water need.

Pests on deciduous trees are not usually of much concern in the fall since the leaves are about to fall anyway. Scale must be taken care of with a horticultural oil spray. On evergreen plants, most problems are done for the year. Mites can be a problem if we get a few warm days in a row. The organic foliar spray with seaweed (kelp) will not only take care of them but will be beneficial to the tree as well.



Need a Membership Form?

Please contact Sandi McFarland by phone at 972-438-9782 or by email at potter@pegasuspottery.com.

FALL SHOW AT THE DALLAS ARBORETUM by Sylvia Smith

BSD will be having a one day fall show at the arboretum on **Saturday, October 8th**. We will have about half of the tables that we have during our spring show. These will still be set up in a semi-formal fashion. The other section in the room will be set up as an educational section with trees in training and club members to answer questions.

If you are interested in helping out or if you have a tree you would like to display, please contact me (Sylvia Smith) ASAP.

I will need the following information on your tree:

Species Name:

How many years in training:

How obtained (ie: collected, grown from seed, cutting etc.):

Age or tree:

Thanks,

Sylvia Smith

bonsaismiths@earthlink.net

972-392-1430

TEXAS STATE BONSAI EXHIBIT by John Miller

TTSBE is again having a drawing for a Caribbean cruise as a fund raiser. The 7 day cruise will depart from Galveston on January 8 on the Royal Caribbean Line. Stops will be in Montego Bay, Jamaica; Georgetown, Grand Cayman; and Cozumel, Mexico. Drawing tickets are \$10 and the drawing will be held on Nov 9 in Austin. Tickets will be available at the October meeting or by calling John Miller 903-776-2910 or e-mail at bonsaimiller@aol.com.

Prizes to ticket sellers:

- The club that sells most receives a free demonstration.
- The individual that sells most receives a bonsai.
- The person that sells 10 tickets receives one free.

Last year, Dallas received the free demo which was Mike Hansen in January. The person selling the most tickets was our Paul Surratt. The winner of the cruise was Mark Bynum, a member of both Fort Worth and Dallas clubs.

A suggestion to sell more tickets--take some to work . Also use for presents, birthday, Christmas, etc. Anything you can do will help further the building of the exhibit in Austin.

TTSBE ELECTION by John Miller

The nominating committee for the new directors of The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit would like representatives from your club to place their name on our ballot as a nominee for Director. Since time and distance would be a consideration in attending meetings, we have arranged to schedule three meetings, one hour before the regularly scheduled meetings of the LSBF Board at Zilker Park in Austin.

Some accepting the nomination might be coming to the LSBF meeting anyway and others could possibly car pool with those that are coming. The Executive Board can meet between director meetings of course, and you can be kept informed by email.

Nominees will be elected at the regularly scheduled meeting of the Austin Bonsai Society, November 9th. and must be announced in the November newsletter.

We hope you all will give this position serious consideration as we will value your ideas and those of your club members in building this garden for Texas.

Please respond before October 15th. so the ballots can be prepared.

Contact Greg Setter, Nominating Chair at: Sheila@airmail.net



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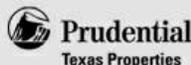
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Present your BSD membership card at the following participating businesses for a 10% discount on merchandise:

- 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.



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