



# Bonsai Society of Dallas

## Message from the President:

By George Straw

Can you believe that we are having weather that is not over 100 degrees? My trees have all survived and doing good but not sure about me. If you have tropicals, and are like me, you need to start thinking about getting the greenhouse ready for the winter.

I am looking forward to a great turnout at the auction on Thursday. Everyone bring their trees to the meeting on Thursday and a fat wallet to bid on other trees and bonsai items to take

back home with you. Remember this is money that the club uses to bring in guest artists and also to help with the Convention coming up next April.

Andy Rutledge is doing a great job on getting the Convention information ready for the web site. It is looking great but not available to be viewed yet. We will let everyone know when it is up and running.

Be sure to read the article on page 3 of this

newsletter about the Cheryl Manning visit to Dallas.

We are still needing help with the Convention committees! The convention will be a lot of fun and a lot work so please give us all the help you can. We will be talking more about this during the year until the Convention in April.

George



### BSD Calendar

- 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

## September Program

Date: Sept. 7, 2006  
Time: 6:30 PM  
Place: North Haven Gardens  
7700 Northaven  
Dallas, TX

The September program is our annual auction! Please join us for a night of fun auction action with our fabulous auctioneer, Howard Smith!

Please volunteer your time to help us make this auction run smoothly and please donate bonsai related items to help make this the most successful auction yet!

And, of course, we couldn't have an auction without buyers -

so please bring your money, your friends, relatives, and neighbors!!

For more information and auction rules, please see page 3 of the newsletter.

See you then!

### Other Dates of Interest

- Sept. 16, SSOT - Austin Panel critique. Workshop, Japanese style scroll.
- Sept. 21-Oct.31 - Autumn at the Arboretum at the Dallas Arboretum
- Oct. 14 - Fall Plant Sale at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden
- Oct. 28-29 - Fall Festival in the Japanese Garden at the Fort Worth Botanic Garden
- Through Dec. 31 - Ultimate Tree Houses at the Dallas Arboretum

## September Bonsai by John Miller

The current heat wave can make for problems later on. Last year it lasted too long so my trees did their fall growth into November. Then they did not have sufficient time to harden before the first (hard) freeze early in December. Consequently some received a little damage. Just keep your eye on the forecasts and protect your trees to the best of your ability. Remember that even a thin cloth over the tree on the ground can raise its temperature a few degrees.



I find that the trees respond to two waterings a day. One, a good soaking watering, in the evening (4pm) to cool the soil, pot, and roots, with a reasonably strong foliage spray. This helps the plant get over the effects of 100+ temp and the hot sun and gives it all night to recuperate. In the morning I go through and touch up those that are a bit dry and give them another foliage spray. This works well on days of low humidity and/or brisk winds. If the humidity should be up (you don't need a gauge, you can feel it) do not spray the foliage in the evening so that it will be dry at night to prevent fungal problems.

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. You need to check them periodically over the winter also. Winter growth will usually be pretty slow but can occur, especially on the evergreens. Cut the wire off. You can easily break the branches trying to unwrap the wire and it's just not worth trying to save the wire. If you need to reapply some wire, take care.

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 usually be the first part of September in the Dallas-Ft Worth area. Out here in the boonies, I will stop before September 1. 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 one 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 through the winter will benefit from a low nitrogen or diluted fertilizer.

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. So check each one separately and water as often and as much as the individual tree requires.

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.

- (1) Make sure that it is clean
- (2) That you will be able to check the water needs of the trees.
- (3) It should be somewhat protected from winds but should have some air movement to help prevent molds from developing.
- (4) Having it in a location where you can see the trees will allow you to enjoy the winter silhouette, i.e. the branch structure and twiginess, that is a great part of deciduous bonsai.

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 Garrett Juice formula to control them. If we should have a stretch of damp weather you should be watching for fungal problems, leaf spot, mildew, etc. Treat fungal 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.

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 on it.

## **BSD Annual Auction** by Howard and Sylvia Smith

Get ready for our annual bonsai auction on Thursday, September 7! You are welcome to bring friends and family to our annual public auction, a fun event you won't want to miss. Here are a few simple guidelines to help us run this night as smoothly as possible:

- 1) Items brought to the auction can be donated (100% profit to BSD and a tax deduction to the owner) or they can be split with the owner at 20/80 (20% BSD, 80% owner).
- 2) Items for auction must be bonsai related: plant material, tools, books, pots, etc..
- 3) Items up for auction are to be brought between 5:00 PM and 6:30 PM for registration. PLEASE ARRIVE AS EARLY AS POSSIBLE. Your items will be registered as either donation or as a 20/80 split. If you are splitting the profits with BSD you may choose to set a minimum price for your item. Items for the 20/80 split will have an opening bid of \$50 or more. If the item is auctioned below your minimum the owner has the option of selling the item at the new price, or withdrawing the sale and taking the item back home. Since this is a fundraiser DO NOT SELL YOUR ITEM OUTSIDE OF THE AUCTION EITHER PRIOR TO OR AFTER THE AUCTION. This is not a venue for small business transactions that do not include BSD. It is the club's primary way of making money and keeping our programs running throughout the year.
- 4) Everyone that attends will be registered as a buyer. You will be given a number and a paddle. PLEASE RETURN YOUR PADDLE AT THE END OF THE EVENING AT CHECKOUT, EVEN IF YOU DID NOT MAKE A PURCHASE AS THESE PADDLES WILL BE USED AGAIN NEXT YEAR.
- 5) If you are the winning bidder your item will be taken by runners to our holding area. Please make a list of your items to corroborate with the cashier at time of checkout. We do our best to keep a high level of organization during the auction process. If you are concerned about the items you brought, or the items you just bid on, please feel free to monitor your holding area. You may NOT take possession of your items without a receipt from the cashier.
- 6) We will have early checkout available to avoid congestion at the end of the auction. Once finished making purchases, present your paddle to the cashier, pay (cash, check or credit card), and receive a receipt. Then take the receipt to George to coordinate location of your items with the runners.

Our annual auction has become a huge success. It is also a lot of fun and a great way to get new material or make room in your backyard. Your cooperation and patience is greatly appreciated, as we eagerly look forward to another great year.

We still need volunteers to help run this auction as well as auction items! Please bring auction items early so that they can be processed and so that the bidders can have some time to check them out! Please help us make this the best auction yet! Thank you!

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## **Cheryl Manning Program & Workshop** by John Miller

The Lone Star Bonsai Federation state tour speaker this year will be Cheryl Manning. The Dallas program and workshop will be on Saturday, October 14. There will be a lecture/demo in the morning and a "Bring Your Own Tree" workshop in the afternoon.

Cheryl 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 [www.betterbonsai.com](http://www.betterbonsai.com).

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 know:

email: [bonsaimiller@aol.com](mailto:bonsaimiller@aol.com)

phone: 903-776-291

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

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Sponsored by:  
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The Lone Star Bonsai Federation



## We need your help!

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

## 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

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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*

**Keep an eye on the club website, [www.bonsaisocietyofdallas.com](http://www.bonsaisocietyofdallas.com)! It should be updated with the new convention and registration information soon.**

## 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)  
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