



# Bonsai Notebook

*A Publication of the Austin Bonsai Society*

*December 2007*

## **December Programs** by Joey McCoy

Our last program of the year happens Saturday, December 1st - Austin Bonsai Society's annual Christmas party from 6:00-9:00pm. There will be Bonsai, food and prizes and even a raffle! The meal is potluck, so everyone should bring a dish to share (turkey and ham will be provided by the club). My memory of wintertime has always included Junipers, since my grandparents always had a freshly cut Ashe Juniper from the fields as their Christmas tree. The texture and smell of these trees has always felt like the holiday season, so the unofficial theme of the evening will be Junipers, and Chuck Ware will lead a discussion about this fantastic Bonsai variety. I encourage everyone to bring their favorite Juniper (or another tree if you don't have a Juniper to share) to decorate the tables. Bonus points for dressing them up in the holiday season (door prizes will be awarded). If the food and friends aren't enough, there will be a very old collected Juniper, originally styled by Cheryl Manning (with sketches by Cheryl included) to be raffled off to one lucky person at the end of the evening. Also to be raffled: a large established Staghorn Fern, a beautiful specimen! Someone will go home with Christmas presents early! Friends and family are welcome to join in the fun, so don't miss the party. See everyone there!

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## Calendar of Events

**Dec 1 Christmas Party - Potluck Dinner  
and raffle**  
**Zilker Garden Center 6:00 - 9:00 PM**

*There is no Monthly Meeting, Member's Workshop, or Board Meeting this month.*



*Members contemplating a bonsai during November's Monthly Meeting.*

## **Austin Bonsai Society Board of Directors**

**Jim Trahan**

President

**Joey McCoy**

Vice President

**Charlotte Cranberg**

Secretary

**Pat Ware**

Treasurer

**Els Ulug**

Member at-Large

**Collin Murphy**

Member at-Large

**Mike Watson**

Member at-Large

**Carl Quisenberry**

Past President

## **TTSBE Sponsored Dig**

by Michael Hansen

I recently received some exciting news that I want to pass along. A customer of ours invited me and 6 to 8 of my closest friends to dig on his relatives' ranches near Eagle Pass, TX. This would be a 3 day trip leaving the morning of Friday January 18, 2008, and returning Sunday evening January 20.

The land is described as brush land that is home to many South Texas plant species popular for bonsai. To name a few: Texas ebony, Texas huisache, kidney wood and desert Yaupon. You may want to check out this web site for more information on species in the area. [http://nativeplantproject.com/Shrubs/desert\\_yaupon.htm](http://nativeplantproject.com/Shrubs/desert_yaupon.htm)

These properties have not been previously scouted for bonsai material so we may spend a day or so looking for appropriate plants before we dig. This trip will be a great adventure and it is likely to involve a lot of walking over hilly terrain. We have a choice of good over night accommodations in Eagle Pass and an invitation for breakfast tacos on the ranch in the morning.

If you are interested in joining us please contact me at: [mbpbonsai@hughes.net](mailto:mbpbonsai@hughes.net). We still have room for 3 more die-hard bonsai collectors.

The second collecting trip is in west San Antonio at a familiar location for Some, Red Bird Ranch. We are being Allowed to return for more spectacular Specimens, (we were obviously well behaved Guests). Many of you may have seen Some rescued examples on: [www.bonsaitalk.com](http://www.bonsaitalk.com)

The weekends available are January 19 and January 26th. This has to be by Invite only so contact Donna Dobberfuhl For details. 210-224-0220 or M# 210-326-0860 or [two2views@yahoo.com](mailto:two2views@yahoo.com)

The TTSBE are pleased to offer these activities free of any cost and for the benefit of bonsai enthusiasts residing anywhere in Texas and surrounding states.

"Bonsai Notebook" is the monthly newsletter of the Austin Bonsai Society, Inc., and is provided to its members without cost.

The rate of advertising in "Bonsai Notebook" is \$6.00 per month or \$35.00 per year, for two column inches minimum. Additional space must be purchased in increments of two column inches. Two column inches measure approximately 3 1/2 inches wide by 2 inches high. All ads must be camera ready and prepaid. Changes to ads must be received 30 days prior to the month of the desired insertions.

Articles may be submitted by the 15th of the month for publication in the next month's newsletter. Submissions by sent by email to [ckmurphy2000@yahoo.com](mailto:ckmurphy2000@yahoo.com) or by postal mail to the Editor, in care of the Austin Bonsai Society, 14601 Montoro Dr, Austin, Texas 78728. Original articles for "Bonsai Notebook" may be reprinted if credit is given to the author and to "Bonsai Notebook".

**Proposed TTSBE Bylaw Changes**  
by Donna L. Dobberfuhl, Secretary, TTSBE

The officers and directors of The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit voted to present to the voting membership two proposed changes to the bylaws.

**ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP**

**Section 5 Classes of Voting Membership**

- A. Officers and Directors of the Corporation.
- B. Members in good standing of the Austin bonsai Society.
- C. Lifetime Members. An individual who makes a one-time donation of two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2500.00) shall become a lifetime member.
- D. Donors shall become voting members of TTSBE by making a minimum annual donation. The amount of the minimum annual donation shall be determined from time to time by the Board of Directors.

It is the desire of the Board of Directors to make The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit, Inc. more inclusive and broaden the base of the voting membership.

**ARTICLE VII. OFFICERS**

**Section 2 Duties of Officers**

- A. Chairman: The Chairman shall be the Chief Operating Officer and preside at all meetings of the Corporation and Executive Committee. The Chairman shall be empowered to sign all legal documents for the corporation as directed by the Board of Directors.
- B. Vice Chairman: The Vice Chairman shall assist the Chairman as requested in the operation of the Corporation, and shall preside at all meetings in the absence of the Chairman. In the absence of the Chairman the Vice Chairman shall be empowered to sign all legal documents for the corporation as directed by the Board of Directors.

It came to the attention of the Board of Directors during the recent purchase of our land that the By-Laws were not clear on who is authorized to sign legal documents for the Corporation.

**Notes from TTSBE**  
by Joey McCoy

Thank you to all that are using [www.goodsearch.com](http://www.goodsearch.com) as your search engine and choosing The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit as your charity of choice. Every time a search is made 1 cent is donated to TTSBE. Doesn't sound like much, but with many people using the service, it can add up fast. Since it's powered by Yahoo, the searches are as good as any on the net. Also there is full disclosure of the amounts we're earning. Go to the site and click "amount raised" to see how we're doing for the month or the year. Spread the word to help raise the amount. Another timely feature of Goodsearch is that they have started a new service called Goodshop, where a percentage of the purchase of items at select stores can go to TTSBE. Go to the Goodsearch website and click "Goodshop" to see participating online stores and to see what percentage will go to us. It's always preferable to shop locally for gifts (especially at our hard working local Bonsai nurseries!), but if you're looking for an item at the stores listed, why not have it become a part of a charitable donation as well? Happy holidays to all!

I've been asked to clarify the relationship between The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit and the Austin Bonsai Society. TTSBE is a non-profit 501(c)(3) incorporated entity, existing independent from ABS and drawing its Executive Board from the entire state of Texas. The Austin Bonsai Society is the sponsor organization of the TTSBE that in the beginning was necessary for TTSBE to obtain its incorporation and as such, each member of the ABS is a voting member of TTSBE. In the bylaws, Article IV section 5: "Voting members shall be the officers and directors of the Corporation and all members in good standing of the Austin Bonsai Society."

**JADE GARDENS**  
HOME OF



Chuck & Pat Ware  
Owners  
Visa & MasterCard  
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Pflugerville, TX 78660  
(call for directions)

**The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit, Inc.**

**Bi-annual Report to the Membership**

Period January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006

The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit, Inc. is an IRS  
501(c)3 corporation

The newly elected Board of Directors took office effective January 1, 2006. They are as follows:

Buddy Allen, new member (Houston)  
Alisan Clarke, incumbent (Austin)  
Donna Dobberfuhr, new member (San Antonio)  
Candy Hansen, incumbent (Austin)  
Michael Hansen, incumbent (Austin)  
Audrey Lanier, incumbent (Austin)  
Joey McCoy, new member (Austin)  
David Reed, new member (Austin)  
Del De Los Santos, new member (Austin)  
Elaine White, incumbent (Austin)

The Board elected from within their ranks the following officers for two year terms.

Michael Hansen, Chairman  
Elaine White, Vice Chairman  
Del De Los Santos, Secretary  
Treasurer's positions was not filled

The Board conducted the business of the corporation in nine meetings throughout the year.

Our previous Treasurer, Dr. Cody, reported an opening balance in our treasury of \$18,205.73.

The mission of The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit, Inc. is to build a world class bonsai exhibit in Texas and provide the associated educational benefits that will come with the exhibit.

The second mission of The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit is to rescue bonsai in distress when individuals can no longer care for them. This can be short term during illness or permanent in the case of someone passing.

The first mission requires money and the second compassion and dedication. The Board of Directors dedicated a great deal of their time to raising funds for the corporation. Faced with the realization that donations had flattened over the year and the reality that donated

property for the exhibit was not going to happen and pressure to raise funds was ever-present among Board Members.

The annual garage sale, the TTSBE table at the LSBF Convention in Corpus Christi and a long term fund raising project called Sensei were selected as our fund raisers for 2006.

An opportunity to raise funds from within the bonsai community came in February when Mr. Kuniaki Hiramatsu, shohin bonsai expert from Japan, visited Mike and Candy Hansen. Shortly before to his visit he asked the Hansens if they could arrange a public demonstration for him during his visit. Mr. Hiramatsu requested that the tree he styled that day be auctioned and the proceeds be donated to The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit. Mr. Hiramatsu performed an all day public demonstration on a shohin size Japanese black pine. The tree was raffled at the end of the day and all of the proceeds, \$1640.00, were donated to TTSBE, Inc.

In April David Reed was elected Treasurer. The Board addressed IRS rules that limit annual donation by Board Members to 33 1/3% of all donations for a fiscal year.

In May Buddy Allen resigned his position on the Board. In the same month Mrs. Lea Pipitone contacted the Chairman, Michael Hansen, with a request from her late husband's estate in Houston to donate three imperial sized trees to the Texas State Bonsai Exhibit. The trees, a ficus retusa, ficus nerifolia and a cedar elm forest are magnificent and were gratefully accepted.

At midyear the Board realized that most of its fund-raising plans did not allow adequate time to implement for maximum effectiveness. Donna Dobberfuhr began work on a bronze bust of John Naka at a cost to TTSBE of \$850 for casting the bronze. The bust would be raffled on the anniversary of John's passing. This project was ambitious but we had almost a year to complete it.

Work also began on a White Paper of TTSBE's mission and how we plan to accomplish that mission, this being necessary to approach large corporate donors. The White Paper exercise consumed a great



deal of the Board's time for the balance of the year.

July marked the appointment of Mr. Michael McClusky from Houston to replace Buddy Allen on the Board.

By August the Board agreed that professional fundraising help was necessary to meet our goals. We began searching for non-profit fundraisers. Elaine White interviewed Ms Melda Benvides who was later rejected.

Michael Hansen and Elaine White interviewed Seeds for Change Consulting. The interview was quite positive. One prophetic comment from Seeds for Change Consulting during the interview regarding our permanent site dilemma almost immediately became a mantra for the Board and part of the solution to our way forward. The comment was, "Select a future date by when you will buy a permanent site and then stick to it."

In September TTSBE received notice of the donation of a significant portion of a living person's estate upon their death. The donor wishes to remain anonymous.

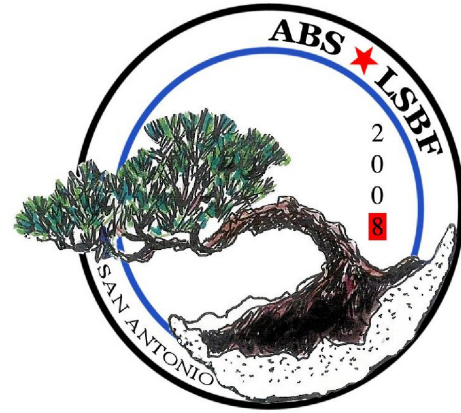
Del De Los Santos resigned his position on the Board sighting health reasons. Donna Dobberfuhr was appointed interim Secretary.

Of the three trees donated by Mrs. Pipitone, the cedar elm forest did not have a proper container as it was still growing in the same wood box it came to TTSBE in. Because the planting is of the quality that we will show regularly in the permanent exhibit, the Board voted to order a custom made pot through MBP Bonsai Studio.

TTSBE also received three boxes of old bonsai pots from the George Gray collection donated by Sheila and Greg Setter

In summary the Board worked very hard to get the word out, get money in and to plan for our future. By the end of 2006 our advertising was spreading the awareness of TTSBE around the country and the world. Also our planning pointed us in the direction of professional fundraisers. Last but not least our net fund raising gain was about \$4000. (Sorry, we do not have a year end Treasurer's report for 2006.)

Michael Hansen, Chairman



### **2008 ABS/LSBF Convention Update** by Collin Murphy

Planning has already begun for the 2008 ABS/LSBF convention that will be hosted jointly by the Austin and San Antonio clubs. The convention will have an raffle similar to past conventions.

To conduct the raffle we need containers into which participants can place their raffle tickets. Two or three pound coffee containers have been useful in the past. Any similar size container can be used. The container does need to have a lid in which a slot can be cut to deposit the tickets.

The other requirement for a raffle is raffle items! We are now collecting items for the raffle and we welcome any donations of items. Those of you who have attended past conventions know that almost anything can show up in the raffle. Keep an eye out for items on sale at stores, good quality items from garage/estate sales, or items of your own you wish to donate.

If anyone has any containers suitable to hold the raffle tickets, or donations of items to be raffled please contact Bill or Nancy Moore, or Collin Murphy.

**Monthly Meeting**  
Green Tea and Bonsai Contemplation  
November 14, 2007  
Photos by Bill Boytim





**Monthly Meeting**  
Green Tea and Bonsai Contemplation  
November 14, 2007  
Photos by Joey McCoy



**The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit, Inc.**

**Bi-annual Report to the Membership**

Period January 1, 2007 – November 17, 2007

The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit, Inc. is an IRS 501(c)3 corporation

The Board of Directors in office effective January 1, 2007. They are as follows:

Michael Hansen, Chairman  
Elaine White, Vice Chairman  
Donna Dobberfuhr, interim Secretary  
David Reed, Treasurer  
Alisan Clarke, Director  
Candy Hansen, Director  
Audrey Lanier, Director  
Joey McCoy, Director

The Board conducted the business of the corporation in eleven regular and two special meetings throughout the year. It is difficult to summarize the effort of this all volunteer Board in a few paragraphs. Their indomitable spirit and determination stands out above all else. They have persevered when many would have quit. All of this is for the love of bonsai and to assure its preservation for everyone for generations to come.

Following is our Treasurer's Report

TTSBE Annual Treasurer's Report For The Year 2007  
By Joey McCoy, Treasurer

Opening Balance for 2007: \$20,668.46

During the year of 2007 we have had 5 fund-raisers:

- 1.) Hiroyoshi Yamaji Kingsville Boxwood style and raffle at MBP
- 2.) Ficus Bonsai raffle at ABS Show
- 3.) Randall's "Remarkable Card" donation (6)
- 4.) Sensei (John Naka sculpture) raffle (1)
- 5.) Fiesta Biergarten in San Antonio
- 6.) Goodsearch.com (2)
- 7.) Pioneer Society direct mail (3)

Independent from the projects, we have had these expenses:

- 1.) Hiring a fundraising consultant, Stacy Ehrlich from Seeds for Change Consulting. (4)
- 2.) New expanded and easy-to-update website contracted through t2fish (5)
- 3.) Deposit and closing on the new land in Mustang Ridge, TX. (7)
- 4.) Ordering an extra large ceramic pot for the donated Cedar Elm Forest

Ending Balance (Oct 2007): \$13,328.43

Notes:

I was appointed Treasurer in August, and this report reflects the records transferred to me since August 2007.

(1) The raffle project of Sensei began in 2006, but ended May 19, 2007. 250 tickets were sold at \$10 each (\$2,500.00)

(2) Texas State Bonsai Exhibit is paid \$.01 for every web search on goodsearch.com if you select our organization as your donation of choice. You can always see our totals for the month, and the year on that site as well. As of this writing, TTSBE has made \$32.88 without expense. Thank you to all who use Goodsearch.

(3) Our newest fund-raiser, the Pioneer Society direct mail has taken in as donations and pledges as of Oct 31st, \$2,750.00.

(4) Hiring a fundraising consultant was started to maximize income from each of our projects and to help focus the board's energies on those projects that would ultimately help pay for the permanent exhibit.

(5) When it was discovered that updating our website www.ttsbe.org was unmanageable by the average computer user it was decided to redesign the site in a simpler style so that board members instead of diminishing volunteer webmasters could load important updates. Visit the site!

(6) The Randall's "Remarkable Card" donation (from Safeway, inc.) has earned us \$26.11 so far in 2007.

(7) In September an anonymous donor gave \$25,000.00 to TTSBE to facilitate purchase of the Exhibit property. The funds were received and were spent in the same month and therefore do not affect the beginning or ending balances shown in this report.

2007 has been a year of action, a year of maturing and a year of accomplishment.

The Board realized that fundraising efforts in previous years did not yield the amounts of money that would lead to building the exhibit. Early in 2007 under the fundraising leadership of Joey McCoy the Board supported several projects. The Sensei project, e-bay auctions, Mission Fish, and Good search. Stepping out of the box into a potential opportunistic fundraiser, under Donna Dobberfuhr's leadership we sponsored a beer concession at San Antonio's Fiesta Parades.

Again while each fundraising project netted some income the results continued to disappoint the Board. In June the Board signed a contract with fundraiser Seeds for Change Consulting. Their influence began to impact the Board's approach to fundraising increasingly throughout the year to the launch of the Pioneer Society direct mail appeal in early October.



With some effort and the help of Debra Van Cleaf, Volunteer, we organized a database of names and addresses of people associated with bonsai. We hired an outside web site developer to develop a new web site that is easier to maintain and reflects current TTSBE activities. All were required to make a successful launch of our first real fund raising campaign.

As the realities of finding a site for our Exhibit came to bear, the Board had to broaden its horizon with respect to potential locations. Our bylaws did not specifically provide authorization for the Chairman and Vice Chairman to sign legal documents for the Corporation. Also, the Board desired to expand the voting membership to include donors who contribute annually to the Exhibit. All have resulted in bylaws changes on two occasions. Each of these may easily be brushed off as housekeeping issues but more significantly they are sign of maturing within the organization.

The incredible effort of the Land Committee members Elaine White and Alisan Clarke during the year can only be appreciated when observed from within. They were truly on a mission. They investigated over 30 properties, driving literally hundreds of miles only to find disappointment after disappointment. Then in August when Elaine White called the Board to look at the land for us we all knew that she and Alisan had found something that was very hard to find.

The land was actually two side by side parcels located in Mustang Ridge, TX, from which we could choose. We chose one but before the offer went through another party purchased that parcel. We immediately made an offer of \$80,000 on the second parcel which was accepted.

As this land deal was developing a donor, who wishes to remain anonymous, came forward with a gift of \$25,000 that was dedicated to the acquisition of land for the Exhibit.

Between the time we made the offer for the land and closing we began searching for financing. As a non-profit organization with no credit rating we were learning some harsh realities when it came to mortgage lenders. Again when things were looking difficult, a private individual, a friend of bonsai and an investor came to us and offered to carry our mortgage at 8 ½ % for 15 years.

Prior to closing, Michael Hansen, Chairman and Elaine White, Vice Chair appeared before the City Council of Mustang Ridge to present our vision for development of the property. We asked for and received a variance on the zoning for that property so we can build our Exhibit there.

During the year we lost two valuable members of the board. Michael McClusky, Director, resigned in April for health reasons. David Reed, Treasurer, resigned in July also for health reasons.

The Chairman appointed Els Ulug as Nominating Committee Chair in April. She was charged to find at least six candidates for the Board to stand for election in November. The following nominees were elected on the evening of November 14.

Elaine White, incumbent (Austin)  
Alisan Clarke, incumbent (Austin)  
Joey McCoy, incumbent (Austin)  
Donna Dobberfuhr, incumbent (San Antonio)  
Marie Byer, new member (San Antonio)  
Greg Setter, new member (Austin)  
Mike Watson, new member (Austin)  
Bill Moore, new member (Austin)  
Nancy Moore, new member (Austin)  
Els Ulug, new member (Austin)

Please join me in wishing them the best of luck and our support in the New Year.

Thanks to the current Board who achieved incredible advances for TTSBE three people short handed. If anyone asks for a model of commitment I will show them your picture.

Michael Hansen, Chairman

## December Bonsai

by John Miller

*Editor's Note: John Miller, who writes a monthly column for the Bonsai Society of Dallas and the Fort Worth Bonsai Society, has agreed to share his column with us. We need to make adjustments for our warmer, climate, with its early springs, long summers, late falls and erratic winters.*

The needle plucking on pines is not such a mysterious operation, it closely follows what happens with deciduous trees. All evergreens replace their foliage on a regular basis just as the deciduous trees do. Some like the live oaks do it just as the new foliage is coming out. Others on a longer schedule. The needles of the pine do almost all their work the first year but hang on for a year or two longer. Removing the older needles accomplishes a couple of things. First, it improves the overall look of the tree by getting rid of the ratty fading foliage. More important, it opens the interior of the tree to the sunlight which stimulates growth of dormant buds. These dormant buds are what you need to replace branches that are too large or too long later on.

After opening up the pine, late fall or early winter is the proper time to do pruning and/or styling. That also applies to junipers. I prefer to do broadleaf evergreens closer to their growing season.

Work on the deciduous trees is much easier when they are devoid of leaves. You can readily see crossing branches, branches that have gotten too heavy, vertical growing twigs, and even if the tree really needs a different style. There will be no sap flow to contend with.

Not too much has to be done outside 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 more windy. 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 trees 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 a large reservoir of heat and here in Texas the soil 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 will cause 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 over-wintering 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. Try to keep the humidity up by placing your trees on a humidity tray but do not let the pot touch the water. That can possibly give you some soil problems, root rot or some other fungal disease. I use the same insect 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.



**November 2007 AAGC Report**  
by Charlotte Cranberg, Secretary

The treasurer's report was questioned by Craig Nazor of the Cactus Society. He asked about the process being used in organizing the Dino Exhibit. The Board approved \$15,000 in the spring (which is the total we were being called upon to raise) and since then another \$35,000 has been assigned to the Exhibit without Board approval. The treasurer said that the money came from other areas of the budget and was legitimate and not needing approval. Our bylaws say anything over \$1000 should get board approval.

Charlotte Cranberg agreed that decisions were being made, where Board approval would have been desirable and that the original parameters had changed drastically and should have been taken back to the clubs. We have to raise over \$150,000.00 now and supply much of the manpower for a 3 month exhibit. This in addition to the Spring Festival which has yet to find a publicity chairman. Charlotte and Craig are concerned about procedures that exclude the members input. They felt that the more the members are involved in decisions the more likely they are to become excited about the project and work for it.

The Cactus Society gave a check for \$5000 to the garden center from their recent show and sale.

Members from the Ikebana Study Group spoke about why they had to cancel the Moon Festival. They felt the group was treated poorly by PARD and had last minute problems thrown at them that were entirely due to PARD not reacting months ago to their suggestions. They hope to have the festival next year when problems have been addressed.

Fifteen of the most recent bricks installed in the Walk of Friends will have to be replaced due to the inability to read them. We will be charged at a reduced rate but will have to pay for them because the AAGC representative chose them over other bricks which the company recommended, when it was necessary to change suppliers.

The group voted to spend \$3,268 on lighting the gardens to supplement \$25,000 being provided by the LCRA and \$31,250 from PARD and another \$10,000 on inkind trenching work by the staff.

We were told that the City of Austin is asking all businesses to water only on Tuesdays and Fridays and is including Zilker Botanic Gardens in that edict. This will hurt the garden because most of the pipes are old and weak and can not all be running at once. It will be impossible to keep our valuable collection alive and well. This will be appealed.

Be sure to visit the garden center in December. Our club tree will be up and the Christmas display is nice to see.

**November 2007 ABS General Meeting Minutes**  
by Charlotte Cranberg, Secretary

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by president, Jim Trahan. Guest, Jane Constable was introduced. Peter Shipman and Jim Trahan were thanked for being hosts. Jim brought unusual oriental teas and cookies to fit the program.

Charlotte Cranberg gave the Garden Council report.

Pat Ware announced tickets for sale for a drawing on a Masakuni tool set. Only 300 tickets total are being sold for \$10 each or 3 for \$20. The drawing is in January.

Mike Watson, Chairman of the nominating committee for the ABS presented the nominees for 2008. They are Jim Trahan president, Joey McCoy vice president, Charlotte Cranberg secretary, Pat Ware treasurer, members at large Mike Watson, Collin Murphy and Nancy Moore. All were elected by acclamation.

Els Ulug, Chairman of the nominating committee for the TTSBE presented the nominees for 2008. They are Mike Watson, Greg Setter, Nancy Billmoor and Marie Beyer. All were elected by acclamation.

Pat announced the Christmas party will be held Dec. 1st. everyone bring a side dish and the club will provide the meat. Bring a tree to show, decorated if you wish. A raffle will be held on an old tree to be styled by a member.

The meeting adjourned and Jim talked about green tea and its benefits for contemplation and relaxation. Everyone drank tea and split into groups to contemplate bonsai displayed at different stations around the room.

**November 2007 ABS Board Meeting Minutes**

*No ABS Board Meeting was held in November.*

**Directory Additions**

James Costabile  
2402 Hunters Creek Cove  
Cedar Park, Tx. 78613  
512-336-8688  
texas4ever@netscape.com

**Directory Corrections**

*There are no directory corrections this month.*

The Austin Bonsai Society is a nonprofit organization which exists to help in providing guidance and education for individuals in their desire to learn and expand their knowledge and skill in the arts of bonsai.

The Society holds regular meetings, twelve months a year, on the second Wednesday of each month. Our social period begins at 7:00 PM, followed by our program at 7:30 PM. Normally, unless announced otherwise, these meetings are held in the Zilker Garden Center building, located on Barton Springs Road in Zilker Park, Austin, Texas. We offer a monthly program of interest to the general membership.

The cost of membership is presently only \$25.00 for an individual and \$30.00 for a family membership.



For additional information, please contact the Austin Bonsai Society at P.O. Box 340474, Austin, Texas 78734

# Bonsai Notebook

**Austin Bonsai Society  
P.O. Box 340474  
Austin, Texas 78734**

