



Bonsai Notebook

www.austinbonsaisociety.com

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Our News

President's Message
page 2

Whimsical Bonsai
page 3 - 4

Vice President's Message
page 5

Remembrance of George
Brown
page 6

January Bonsai
page 7-8

Calendar of Events

- **January 10, 2018**
Lecture / Demo with Juan Andrade
- **February 23 - 25, 2018**
Club dig at Nilda's ranch
(Contact Joey/Simon for details)
- **April 19 - 22, 2018**
LSBF Convention in Longview, TX at the Hilton Garden Inn
(<http://www.lonestarbonsai.org/2018-convention/>)

2018 Board of Directors

Simon Tse
President

Brandon Baldauf
Vice President

Mike Garza
Secretary

Gloria Norberg
Treasurer

Ruby Chaing
Member-At-Large

Daniel Lara
Member-At-Large

Pat Ware
Member-At-Large

Volunteers

Pat Ware
Alisan Clark
Food

Chuck Ware
Alisan Clark
Trees

President's Message

By Simon Tse

Happy New Year!!

I would like to express my gratitude to the 2017 board for their contributions and collaborations. We would not be able to achieve and execute smoothly without their tireless assistance and expertise. Thank you!

Now, it's my pleasure and honor to welcome our new board members who are ready to take on new challenges:

Brandon Baldauf (Vice President)
Mike Garza (Secretary)
Gloria Norberg (Treasurer)
Ruby Chaing (Member-At-Large)
Daniel Lara (Member-At-Large)
Pat Ware (Member-At-Large)

Juan Andrade will be our featured speaker in January. Juan is well known in the Latin Bonsai Circuit as 'Bonsai Tico'. This Costa Rican native studied bonsai under bonsai master Junichiro Tanaka of Aichi-en in Nagoya, Japan. He began his bonsai adventure at the age of 15 and studied under famous American bonsai masters, Pedro Morales and Boon Manakitivipart. Juan won numerous awards between 2005-2012 prior to pursuing his studies in Japan. Looking forward to having Juan next week!

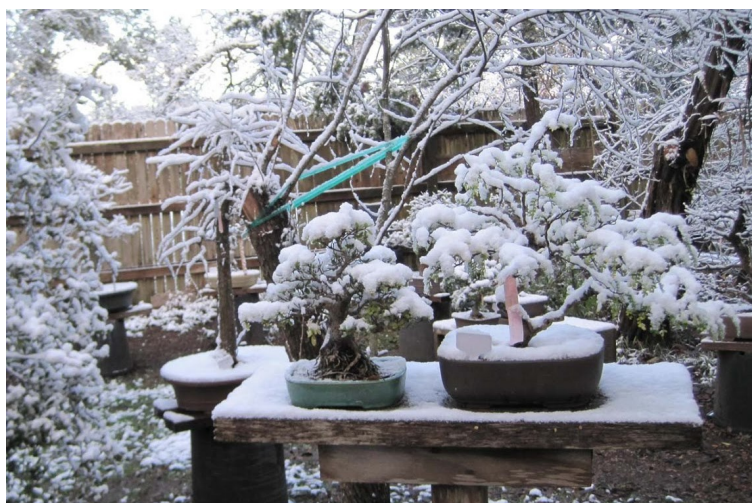
Cheers, Simon



Juan Andrade at the 2017 convention

Whimsical Bonsai

Enjoy!



(Photos by Terry Ward)





(Photos by Terry Ward)

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Or message Joey at:

jvmccoy@sbcglobal.com

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Vice President's Message

By Brandon Baldauf

Greeting fellow Austin Bonsai Society members,

Hope you had a delightful holiday season with your loved ones. First and foremost, a special thanks to the 2017 board and all the previous boards for their hardwork they contributed to making ABS the club that it is today. Another special thanks to all the club members as without a membership body, we would not have a club. Welcome to all the new members and we will remember those who are no longer with us as we continue to explore the art of bonsai in Austin in future years.

I'm proud to have been elected the vice president of the club and aim to make the year a memorable one. Please feel like you can reach out to me directly with any concerns, ideas, or the like at any point: theswift@gmail.com or 979-777-3395.

Reflecting on 2017, what were some of the favorite memories or experiences you have as it relates to your trees or ABS? Send them over! Hopefully the blistering cold right at the end of the year didn't do too much damage to your trees. If so, we can look at a cold preparation session towards the end of this year.

So far, we have an exciting year planned including guest artists, exciting demonstrations, 2 or more club digs in different parts of Texas, and plenty of giveaways, raffles, and prizes. We will be confirming and sharing the entire year agenda after our first board meeting this month.



Remembrance of George Brown

January 31, 1920 ~ December 26, 2017 (age 97)

George Brown was born 97.9 years ago in Champaign, IL as the middle son to George R. Brown and Marie Donaldson Brown. The Brown family had called LaSalle county, IL as home for many generations; however the railroad family moved from LaSalle county to Champaign and eventually settled in Alton, IL. In Alton, George became an active football player for East Jr. High, Alton High, (graduating in 1938), and Shurtleff College. He was also active as a newspaper boy, ice delivery boy for Klinke Ice Company while contributing service to DeMolay.

George joined the Army Air Corps, pre-war in early 1941 at Scott Field, IL as a private. George completed 31 years in the military and loved airplanes, and the mechanics of their operation. During WWII he served as a B-29 Flight Engineer, postwar transitioning to a B-36 as a Flight Engineer, and then to combat operations for B-47's and tankers with a transition to the SR-71 from Edwards AFB to Beale AFB. The SR-71 was a particular joy for George. He was affectionately known as "Mach 4 George", master crew chief / master recovery chief. His final duty station was Utao AFB, Thailand as maintenance commander. George retired as a Major in 1972 in Sacramento, CA.

George's next big adventure was bonsai, he practiced this art and science for over 40 years; with most of those years in partnership with his wife, Doris. Their home property in Carmichael, CA was covered with many bonsai from junipers to pines, wisteria, persimmon and satsuki azaleas. They had starter trees and mature trees and they loved all varieties and tree styles. In later years, George became fascinated with satsuki azaleas and that became his major focus. Active members in American Bonsai Association of Sacramento and the Satsuki Aikokai of Sacramento. At the death of his wife, Doris and then his son, Stephen; George relocated to Austin, TX with 30 bonsai of his collection and participated in the Austin Bonsai Society.

George was a warm, friendly, jovial man who never was without a story to tell or an experience to share with others. He was a wonderful husband, father, friend and always generous to every person. He married his great love in Alton, IL, Doris Lorch (Alton High graduate) in 1945 and they traveled throughout the US and Canada together while he served the USAF. He was predeceased by his wife of 52 years, Doris Lorch Brown, his son, Stephen, his brothers Roy and Walter Brown and their spouses, and his parents. He is survived by his daughter and son-in-law Deborah and James Van Cleaf of Buda, Texas. At George's request a memorial service is not planned, he will be buried later this year in a private service at Oakwood Memorial Park in Ottawa, IL with his wife, son, parents, grandparents, aunt and uncle. Any donations should go to the charity of your choice.

The family would like to express their appreciation to Dr. Steven Dobberfuhr and his staff and to St. David's South Austin Medical Center. To share memories and guestbook online at allfaithsonline.com

January Bonsai

By John Miller

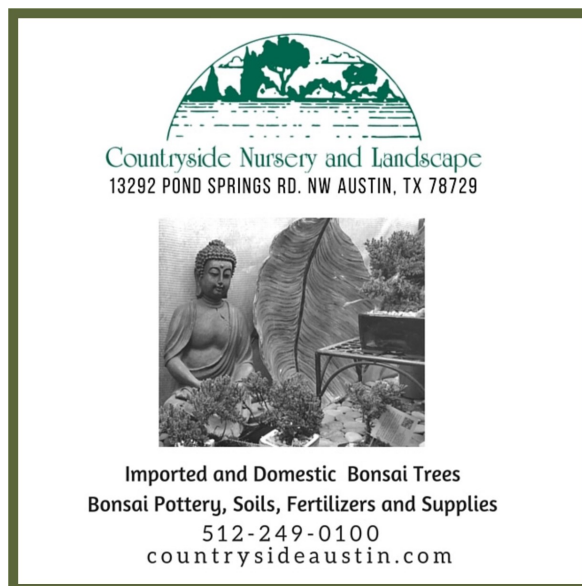
Time to get out and check your shovel, loppers, chain saw, and your other favorite collecting paraphernalia. Be ready to join the group when a dig is scheduled. That's the very best way to get old material that will do well in your area. If you are lucky you may just find one that nature, machinery, or cows have done most of the styling for you.

Cold weather is here again. Be sure your trees are well watered before going thru a deep freeze. They will be losing water to evaporation but will not be able to replenish it if the soil is frozen. Protection from high winds is also necessary so the tops will not dry out. Sunlight is not necessary on deciduous trees when they have lost their leaves. In fact, it can be bad for the tree because it may heat up the trunk and soil which could make the tree come out of dormancy too early.

I advocate placing the hardy trees on a well drained ground bed in a protected shady area. Then cover the pots with a shallow layer of mulch. You should know which trees have a greater need for water. If you put these trees together it will be easier to check your need for watering while they are in the bed.

I would treat the evergreens in a similar manner but put them where they can get some sun.

Of course the tender and semi-tender trees need protection. The semi-tender (e.g. crape myrtle, pomegranate and other 'natives' that are on the edge of their range) get left out for some frost but no freezing. When freezing is expected they need to be put in a cool area. If they show growth again they go to the greenhouse



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New Members

No new members

Tender or tropical trees that are kept indoors will be using more water to offset the lower humidity. Soil will also be losing water faster through its surface. Be sure to watch the indoor trees for insect problems. Most plant insects love a controlled atmosphere like the indoors. Spider mites seem to get the most attention here because they do great in a low humidity and the lack of foliage spraying. Scale can be an easily overlooked source of trouble. There is usually more severe problems with plants that have been kept outdoors in summer than brought in without any treatment. Indoor trees need to be fertilized regularly and will require periodic trimming as they continue to grow through the winter.

Greenhouses are much the same as indoors. However, most greenhouses are kept more humid. The higher humidity is to the liking of aphids and fungal diseases. It may also result in your keeping the soil too moist with associated root problems. Use your standard insect controls that you used last summer. I use my Garrett Juice mixture.

Back to the outdoor trees. Any long warm spells during the month could activate some of the insect problems but as a rule there are no special needs to look for in January. Spraying with a dormant oil spray will kill adults, nymphs, and eggs of any trying to over-winter on your trees. Some dormant sprays can be used on new growth but better results overall will be obtained if you do it before Valentines Day. A weak lime sulphur dormant spray will also get fungal spores and should be done before Feb 1 and not at all if any green is showing.

If you have your summer display and growing benches cleared, you could use a stronger solution lime sulphur to disinfect that area too. The underside of the benches should be sprayed also. Might even eliminate spider mites next year.

Styling can be done at this time but no repotting unless you are going to keep the tree from freezing after that. Repotting initiates new root development which is usually not very hardy.

A better approach would be to study one or two thoroughly each day making notes on what needs to be done. January is an excellent time to start any remodeling projects that may be necessary. While the trees are dormant you have better view of the branch structure. Do any need to be moved or removed? Do any coarse branches need to be cut back to a smaller side branch for refinement? Do any long straight branches need wiring to give them motion? Does the tree really need a drastic redesign? You can also trim the twigs back while you have them there.

Reminder for club membership

2018 DUES are DUE!! The cost of membership is \$30.00 for an individual and \$35.00 for a family. See Gloria at the meeting for old-fashioned payment systems and Simon for e-payment options!! You may also mail your payment to Gloria Norberg, 7413 Lady Suzanne's Court, Austin Texas 78729. New membership forms will be provided at the meeting for anyone who hasn't filled one out.



(Photo by Terry Ward)

MBP Bonsai

Studio would like to announce our Beginning Bonsai Workshop on January 20 and 21. The class provides 2 trees with bonsai pots and a book. The class fee is \$165.

The second event is our annual trident maple dig on February 3 & 4. This is a dig your own tree from our field the cost for this event is \$25 per diameter inch measured at the ground level.

People can contact us to register for either event by calling us at 512-989-5831 or e-mail us at mbpbonsai@suddenlink.net.

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P.O. Box 340474
Austin, Texas 78734



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About Us

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 \$30.00 for an individual and \$35.00 for a family membership. For additional information, contact the Austin Bonsai Society at P.O. Box 340474, Austin, TX 78734.