



Bonsai Notebook

www.austinbonsaisociety.com

A Publication of the Austin Bonsai Society

June 2025 vol 177

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Calendar of Events

May 31, 2025

- ◆ Shohin Society of Texas
- ◆ Topic: Developing a 2-3 year old trident maple to get taper and movement
- ◆ Time: 1 - 4pm
- ◆ Location: Spicewood Springs Library (8637 Spicewood Springs Road)

June 11, 2025

- ◆ Topic: Juniper
- ◆ Presenter: Sylvia Smith
- ◆ Location: Zilker Botanical Garden
- ◆ Time: 6:30pm (Mingling), 7:00pm (Meeting)

2024 Board of Directors

Eric B.
President

Sachin M.
Vice President

Simon T.
Secretary

Jonathan W.
Treasurer

Jorge M.
Member-At-Large

Ross C.
Member-At-Large

Ben M.
Member-At-Large

Volunteers

Refreshments
Matt S.

Tree Hosts
Shawn W.

President's Message

By Eric B.

Howdy, bonsai friends! It's June in Austin, which means one thing: it's hot. Oh, and the sun is just murderous. Ok, June in Austin means two things: it's hot and the sun is murderous. And it's really dry. Ok again, June in Austin means THREE things: It's hot, the sun is murderous, and it's dry. However, I am writing this in late May, so for all I know we may be having one of our occasional rainy Junes. If that's the case, I hope nobody has any flooding, or trees blown over or washed away.

As always, **Gilbert Cantu** provided a fun and informative presentation on the care and cultivation of dwarf jade at our May meeting. His demonstration tree was quite nice to begin with, but Gilbert quickly transformed it into something special. I look forward to seeing Gilbert again at this year's Lone Star Bonsai Federation Annual Convention in Corpus Christi. Oh, and congratulations to the lucky winner of the demo tree, **Abby Brewer!**

Once again, thanks to the effort of numerous volunteers, our annual Show and Sale was a resounding success. Setup went smoothly, and I believe we set a record for the speed of the tear down, clocking in at about 45 minutes. And we didn't break anything (I think). We had over 1,400 visitors over the weekend, which is about 200 more than last year. I think a big part of that is thanks to the efforts of board member at large **Ross Canlas and Simon Tse**, who are doing an excellent job getting our events and such advertised to the public. And if we're thanking specific people, thanks to **Joey McCoy** for once again being an outstanding show chair. We appreciate all of your hard work, Joey. And thanks to everyone who volunteered, none of it would have happened without your help.

For our next **Club Meeting on Wednesday, June 11, 2025**, we are delighted to welcome visiting artist **Sylvia Smith** from Dallas. Sylvia is an award-winning bonsai artist with 30 years of experience, and is a graduate of Boon Manakitivipart's Intensive bonsai program. She curates the trees for The Bonsai Collection, soon to be at the Fort Worth Botanic Gardens. For her Austin visit, Sylvia will be working on a large - we're talking juniper, which will be available in the raffle at the end of the meeting. Tickets for the demo tree will be \$10 each, 6 for \$50, and \$10 tickets will roll over to the \$5 raffle after the demo tree is won. I hope to see you there!

As I mentioned earlier, the **Lone Star Bonsai Federation's Annual Convention** is being held in **Corpus Christi, TX, Sept. 18-21, 2025**. The theme is **Bonsai on the Bay**, and tickets are currently available on Eventbrite. **Get tickets before July 8 for a discount**. The artists headlining the convention are **Jennifer Price, Mike Lane, and Jonas Dupuich**. The conventions are always great fun, so I hope to see you there!

I think that's probably enough for now. Thanks for reading, and I'll see you at the June meeting!

Eric

Vice President's Message

By Sachin A.

Dear Members,

As we settle into the heat of summer, our bonsai care routines shift into high gear. The long days and warm nights fuel growth, but also require more of us—more watering, more attention, more patience. It's a great time to refine your trees and deepen your relationship with them through consistent observation and gentle guidance.

Before we look ahead, I want to take a moment to recognize the tremendous success of our Annual Austin Bonsai Society Show. The trees were stunning, the turnout was excellent, and the spirit of community was truly on display. Thank you to all the volunteers who gave their time and energy to make it happen—from setup and hospitality to member demos and clean-up. A very special thank you goes to Joey, whose hard work and dedication were absolutely vital to pulling the show together.

Coming up this month, don't miss our next big event! On Wednesday, June 11th, we welcome guest artist Sylvia Smith to our monthly meeting at Zilker Botanical Garden. Sylvia is known for her skill with conifers, and she'll be demonstrating styling and seasonal care techniques. Whether you're currently working with conifers or just curious, this will be an informative and inspiring evening.

Zilker Botanical Garden
Wednesday, June 11th
6:30 – 9:00 PM

And mark your calendars for a very special workshop on Sunday, August 3rd with Andrew Robson of Rakuyo Bonsai. Andrew is highly regarded for his work with deciduous trees and his thoughtful, educational approach. This will be a limited-space workshop, with half-day and full-day participation options available. More details and sign-up info will be coming soon—be ready to reserve your spot!

Thank you for being part of this growing and generous community. It's your enthusiasm, your willingness to learn, and your support of one another that keep the Austin Bonsai Society thriving. I look forward to seeing many of you on June 11th!

Warm regards,
Sachin Attavar

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discussion



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ABS Board Meeting Minutes

Date: May 20, 2025

Location: Virtual

Meeting Attendees:

- ♦ Eric (President)
- ♦ Sachin (Vice President)
- ♦ Simon (Secretary)
- ♦ Ross

President:

- ♦ Talked about club show
- ♦ Greeter team: All board members with Ross, Caleb and Jorge as leaders
- ♦ Reservations with Zilker regarding 2026 ABS meeting dates
- ♦

Vice President:

- ♦ Confirmation on programs and preparation for the rest of the year
- ♦ Updates on scheduling and other essential topics
- ♦ Sylvis Smith's presentation
- ♦ Andrew Robson visitation details

Secretary:

- ♦ Meeting starts at **7:35 pm**
- ♦ Last report was accepted without edits

Treasurer:

- ♦ N/A

Meeting adjourned at **8:15 pm**

Reminder for club membership and advertisement

2025 membership fee

Individual	\$35.00
Family	\$40.00
Newsletter monthly advertisements:	\$35.00
Directory advertisement:	\$11.00

You may contact payments.austinbonsaisociety@gmail.com for convenient electronic payment options (processing fee will be added).

Gift certificate for memberships is also available, please send inquiry to payments.austinbonsaisociety@gmail.com

Bonsai Calendar – Looking Ahead

**** Calendar subject to change in 2025- Please review dates in each future Newsletter ****

Date	Event Type	Artist / Presenter	Topic	Location	Approx Member Cost
Saturday 5/31/25	Bonsai Meetup: Shohn Size Trees	Shohin Society of Texas May L., Joey M. and Simon T.	Developing a 2-3 year old trident maple to get taper and movement.	Spicewood Springs Library 8637 Spicewood Springs Rd, Austin, TX 78759 (1pm - 4pm)	Free to attend
THURS thru SUN 9/18/25 9/19/25 9/20/25 9/21/25	Bonsai Convention	Pre-Registration is encouraged (for both the convention and hotel!) Come for 1 specific day or join us for all days! Workshops fill up fast and tend to be first come, first served with paid registration	September 18-21, 2025 LSBF “Bonsai on the Bay” Convention in Corpus Christi. Featuring Jonas Dupuich, Jennifer Price and Mike Lane – Unique Pots, tools, supplies, bonsai material AND quality Bonsai workshops. Jointly hosted by the Corpus Christi and San Antonio Bonsai Clubs!	Holiday Inn Corpus Christi Downtown Marina 707 N. Shoreline Blvd Corpus Christi, TX 78401	Pricing will be released a few months prior to the event

ABS Show 2025 (Setup)



ABS Show 2025 (Vendors and “Visitors”)



ABS Show 2025 (Artists and Displays)



ABS Show 2025 (Artists and Displays)



ABS Show 2025 (Artists and Displays)



ABS Show 2025 (Artists and Displays)



ABS Show 2025 (Friends and Guests)



ABS Show 2025 (Demonstrations)



ABS Show 2025 (Post Show/Cleanup)



Reminder: 2023 CLUB MEMBERSHIP FEE AMOUNT INCREASE

Beginning in January 2023, ABS will charge an annual membership fee of \$35 for an individual and \$40/couple pursuant to the vote taken by the ABS Board on May 17, 2022, the discussion by attendees at the June 22 ABS meeting, the newsletter announcement dated June and July, 2022 and the regular meeting vote taken on July 13, 2022. Fees for electronic payments will be added to those amounts.

Memberships are annual and need to be renewed each year by the end of February in order to receive a copy of the 2023 Directory.

New/Renewed Members for 2025

May and Simon T.	Matt S.	Phina & Marlon C.	Lizzle and Nathan G.
Jonathan W.	John M. and Blake S.	Eric and Leigh B.	Ross C.
Ruby C.	Alisan C., and Lynn H.	Mike and Candy H.	Julia and Betty D.
Quoc H.	Debbie and John H.	Hunter J.	Jacob K.
Roland L. and Krystal W.	Joey M.	Andrew M.	Michael and Gloria N.
Lyon O.	Corbin C.	Wyatt S.	Spindel, Abraham, and Kelly S.
Jorge V.	Chuck and Pat W.	Janelle W.	Fred w.
Elaine W.	Shawn and Chris W.		

Recruiting Authors

With a nod of respect to John Miller, who has been diligently writing monthly columns for our newsletter, we would also like to take this time to invite interested members with knowledge and experiences of local Austin conditions to write articles for beginners and potential aspirants keen on raising bonsai. The Bonsai Notebook is looking for a new voice to author a column providing helpful reminders and tips dedicated to caring for bonsai. Be it a monthly routine or winter procedures, we'd like to welcome new perspectives and experiences to be shared in this newsletter. If interested, please contact: webmaster.austinbonsaisociety@gmail.com.

A warm thank you to John Miller for writing the latest columns. Even I, as the editor, may have taken these last months for granted and have been reminded that life is a charming companion that deserves to be appreciated every day. Thank you for your helpful words!

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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 6:30 pm, followed by our program at 7:00 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.

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

Email: webmaster.austinbonsaisociety@gmail.com