



Bonsai Notebook

www.austinbonsaisociety.com

A Publication of the Austin Bonsai Society

September 2017 vol 81

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Calendar of Events

- **Wednesday, September 13**
7:30pm **AUCTION! AUCTION! AUCTION!**
Come prepared to buy!!
- **Tuesday, September 19**
7:00pm BOARD MEETING
7:30pm MEMBERS WORKSHOP
- Development of auction purchases
- **Tuesday, October 10**
Workshop with Jonas Dupuich - Sign up NOW!
- **Wednesday, October 11**
Lecture / Demo with Jonas Dupuich

2017 Board of Directors

Simon Tse
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Zach Rabalais
Vice President

Brandon Baldauf
Secretary

Pat Ware
Treasurer

Ruby Chaing
Member-At-Large

Kevin Patureau
Member-At-Large

Vacant
Member-At-Large

September Meeting Volunteers

Angie Hewes
& Brandon Baldauf
Food

None
Trees

President's Message

By Simon Tse

The destruction caused by Harvey is heartbreaking. I am thankful that, along with the news of the storm's devastation, there are stories of hope — first responders putting themselves in harm's way to aid others, neighbors helping neighbors, and volunteers coming to the rescue of stranded people. This spirit of community is what Texas is all about. While it will take years for our state to recover, we will nevertheless show our true Texas character in these difficult times. My thoughts are with those impacted by this unprecedented storm.

I want to express my appreciation to our friend, Joey McCoy, for sharing his techniques, advice, and other practical ideas in our August meeting on tool maintenance. Joey has successfully demonstrated the proper way to sharpen your bonsai shears and provided many other useful suggestions. Please let me know if you would like to have a more in-depth view on a particular topic related to tool maintenance.

Our annual auction will be held on September 13th, 2017 (7:00PM) at Zilker. Be on the lookout for bonsai, pre-bonsai, bonsai accessories, and other bonsai related items to donate to this event. Prepare your donations with the auction labels provided and please be ON TIME, since you wouldn't want to miss any cool items!

Jonas Dupuich will be in Austin from October 10th to the 11th. We are excited to announce that he will host a bring-your-own-tree workshop (for members only) on October 10th and be our visiting artist at our regular meeting on the 11th. The maximum number of participants is 8 people and the fee will be \$50 per person. Please email Pat or I as soon as possible to secure a spot.

Cheers, Simon

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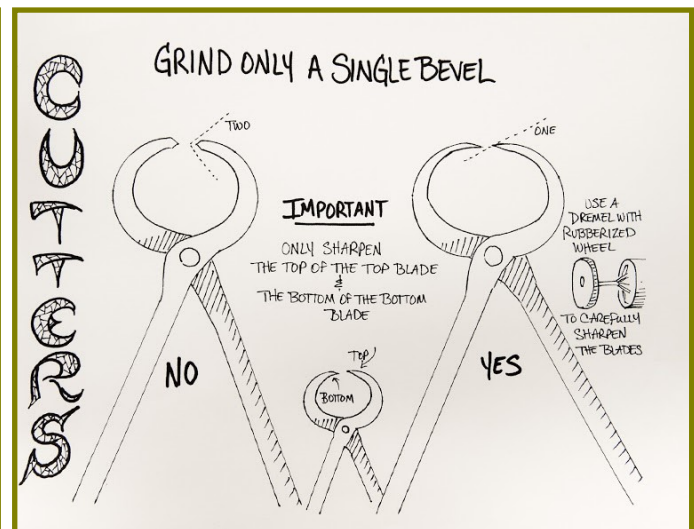
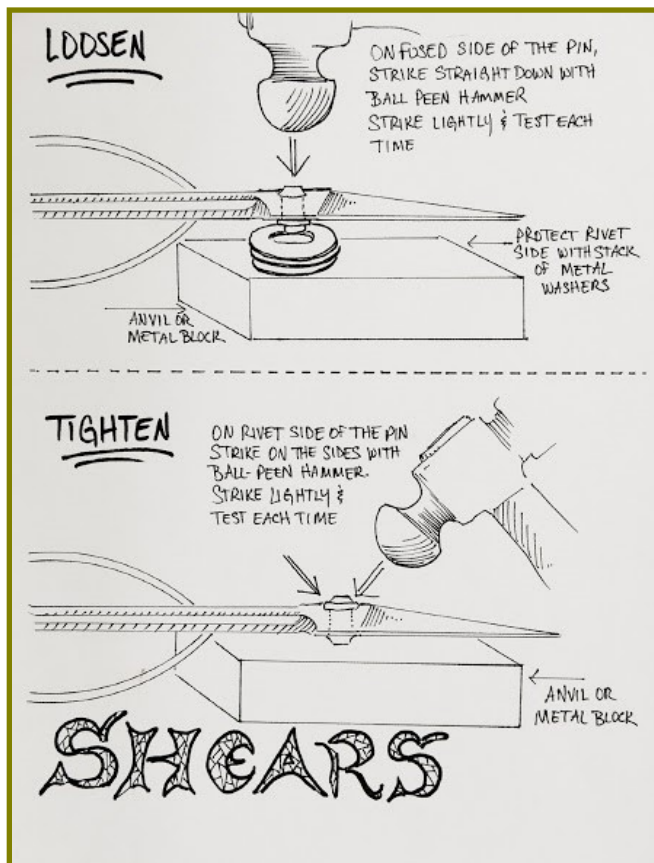
**Chuck
and Pat
Ware**



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August Meeting: Tool Workshop

Joey explains how to properly maintain and repair tools in good and bad condition.



**Helpful diagrams
depicting proper
maintenance of tools**
(Photos by May Lau)



**Joey
adjusting a
tool**
*(Photos by
May Lau)*



**(Left) One of the unique
rocks in Jimbo's rock
collection**



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Join our online discussion
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Vice President's Message

By Zach Rabalais

The Austin Bonsai Society meeting this month will be held on September 13th, and will be our annual club auction. If you've never been to a club auction before you're in for a treat. There will be an enormous amount of bonsai, pre-bonsai, pots, tools, books, etc. up for auction on Wednesday. If you are just getting into bonsai then this is a great way to get a some high quality starter material, or fill in some of the holes in your tool kit.

Most of the items up for auction are donations from Austin Bonsai Society club members, so as always we encourage you to bring in donations to help make the auction a success. If there is something that you are not using, bring it in to the auction so that you can pass it on and maybe help someone who's just starting, and help the club raise money in the process. Make sure to get here on time for this one, you don't want to miss out on any of the great items that will be up for sale!

Cash or check is the preferred method of payment, but we can also take credit card transactions with a small processing fee attached.



RULES FOR SILENT AUCTION

1. A description of any item to be offered must be submitted to either the President or the Treasurer by September 6th so that sheets can be prepared. A form to be filled out is attached below and will show date & time received by either the President or Treasurer. Only 6 or 8 (depending on size) items will be accepted; so it is possible that the item will not be accepted if too many are submitted. It is understood that this is a 50% to club and 50% to owner of the winning bid unless the owner so states that it is a donation to the club, so that the club gets 100%.

Items must be worth \$100.00 or more; consequently, the opening bid is \$100.00

2. If there is a reserve, the bidding sheet is to be so marked and the Treasurer is the only one to know what the reserve is. If after bidding, the reserve is NOT met, the Treasurer will so announce and the item will be returned to the owner.

3. There shall be short breaks throughout the evening so that bids can be checked or added to.

4. At the prescribed time (tentatively set for 8:30 PM), the Treasurer will pick up the sheets and after the tallying, announce the winners. The winners can then pay, or add the amount to the total for whatever else they have won that evening.

FOR SILENT AUCTION - SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE # _____

DESCRIPTION OF ITEM: _____

CHECK ONE: ☐ 50/50 split ☐ DONATION TO CLUB

WILL THERE BE A RESERVE? ☐ YES ☐ NO RESERVE PRICE: _____

RECEIVED BY: _____ DATE: _____ TIME: _____

Auction Item Tag

Item_____

Donor_____

Approx. Cost_____

Item_____

Buyer #_____

Final Bid_____

Auction Item Tag

Item_____

Donor_____

Approx. Cost_____

Item_____

Buyer #_____

Final Bid_____

Auction Item Tag

Item_____

Donor_____

Approx. Cost_____

Item_____

Buyer #_____

Final Bid_____



Auction Item Tag

Item_____

Donor_____

Approx. Cost_____

Item_____

Buyer #_____

Final Bid_____

Auction Item Tag

Item_____

Donor_____

Approx. Cost_____

Item_____

Buyer #_____

Final Bid_____

Auction Item Tag

Item_____

Donor_____

Approx. Cost_____

Item_____

Buyer #_____

Final Bid_____

September Bonsai

By John Miller

Looking at some of my latest issues of BCI magazine I was struck by the quality of artists at the LSBF Convention. Our headliners have done some big world conventions. E.g., Golden State and Asian conventions artist Boon Manakitivipart will be at Longview in April, Dallas's Bjorn and Juan at World Bonsai Friendship Fed. in Japan 2 weeks later, Nomoto at Noelanders Convention in Europe in Feb., John Naka, Walter Pall, Kathy Shaner, and many other great ones over the years. Also our fees are much cheaper so make plans now to enjoy Longview in April.

During September your main job is to get your stuff ready for winter. Do not encourage new growth, hold back on the fertilizer and pruning. Get winter quarters ready. Be sure the tropical are healthy, no bugs or other pathogens.

If it rains days on end, tilt the pots to aid drainage and make sure the drains are not stopped up. When it is hot and dry, maybe water 2-3 times a day and protect plants and especially the pot from direct sun.

It is probably not late enough for the bonsai to go into their pre-dormancy slow down period. If they are still growing, continue twig pruning and other summer care. If air layers have developed roots they may be separated and potted.

In Sept and Oct there will still be some days with pretty hot temps. So as the sun changes its angle make sure that the pots do not get too hot in the late afternoon sun. Also 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.

New business

**Daniel Pintauro -
Tabares**

***Offering beginner
and intermediate
Bonsai.**
***Maintenance,
trimming and
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***Vacation Boarding**
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tools from
Japan: Kikuwa,
Tsurumaki, and
Osuka**
*** Wire! Soil!**
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HOURS: THURS-SUN 12-8

New Members

Welcome!!

Rod Rice

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. 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. Work from the outside end of the wire back so that you do not overlook a small piece of wire. If you have trouble seeing each twist of the wire don't cut, just unwrap the wire (with care). If you miss a turn of the wire you will make an unsightly bulge and the limb will probably have to be cut off. If you need to reapply some wire take care to not follow the same path.

Help your trees go into dormancy. The general rule of thumb on fertilizers is to stop giving nitrogen early in September and fertilize with one that has a formulation with 0 first number, like 0-10-10 or 0-0-10. They will need less water as they quit active growth but on warm days trees with green foliage will still transpire and will need that water. Most tropicals have a dormant season also but it is usually caused by dry conditions rather than cold. These types need to be hardened also by cutting the fertilizer to halt active growth and give them lighter watering. This will enable them to withstand the transfer to the greenhouse better.

Fruiting bonsai spend a lot of energy growing fruit. They should not be allowed to fruit heavily each year. They benefit from a light fertilization at this time. Flowering bonsai especially need to receive the minor elements. Get a good fertilizer, such as the Espoma plant-tone fertilizers, that include them in their mix for good color development. They should be listed on the label.

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 organic spray 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.

The organic spray formula is one tablespoon each of liquid seaweed, fish emulsion, 5% apple cider vinegar, and molasses in one gallon of water. Spray top and bottom of leaves and trunk thoroughly on a regular basis (7-10 days). If you miss getting scale in their vulnerable crawler stage, you may have to go to a systemic.

Pruning and trimming 'can' be done any time that there is not a lot of sap flowing but is usually advisable to do it during dormancy. Sap flow is indicated by the foliar activity of the plant like in the spring. If your tree went into summer dormancy which sometimes 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.

Two other 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. Bonsai in Texas should be a year around sport, you don't need to cover them completely like up north. Try to put them where you can see some of them. Just remember that they will still need to be watered and evergreens will need some sun. A mulch cover over the pots on the ground will minimize temperature extremes.

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



Ruby Chaing's

Wisteria

(Photo by May Lau)

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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.