



Bonsai Notebook

A Publication of the Austin Bonsai Society

November 2007

November Programs

By Joey McCoy

November and December see shortened meeting months for the Austin Bonsai Society. Cool, slow days lend themselves well to looking deeply to our Bonsai and taking stock of what moves us. On Wednesday November 14th we will revisit one of many people's favorite programs from last year: Green Tea and Bonsai Appreciation. Jim Trahan will lead us as we gain some insight into what motivates most of us in this art. Some specimen Bonsai will be set up to discuss and a hot cup of hot green tea, complimenting the senses will be provided to all participants. Come to share and to learn.

There will be no 2nd meeting in November.

Looking ahead to December, please don't miss our annual Christmas party we're having on Saturday, December 1st from 6:00-9:00 pm. Everyone should bring a side dish to share (meats will be provided by the club) and come for the evening. I don't want to give too much away right now (more details to follow in the Dec newsletter), but there will be a certain old collected tree raffled off to those present, which was styled by a visiting artist! Also door prizes will be available to those who bring in a decorated Juniper to show as the centerpiece for our tables. Start taking a look at those trees and share one which looks especially nice. This is the last meeting of the year, so plan on joining the celebration of another great year in Bonsai!

Calendar of Events

Nov 14 ABS Monthly Meeting Reception

**Hosts: Peter Shipman
& Jim Trahan**

Zilker Garden Center 7:00 PM

Nov 14 ABS Monthly Meeting

Green Tea and Bonsai Contemplation

Zilker Garden Center 7:30 PM

Dec 1 Christmas Party

Zilker Garden Center 6:00 - 9:00 PM

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



Several quality trees, tools, pots, and other items were auctioned at October'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



“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. Submit submissions by email to 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”.

September President’s Message by Jim Trahan

I want to thank everyone that contributed to the auction. Whether the contributions were great or small it all added up to be one of the most successful auctions in recent years. I see wonderful things playing-out at the auctions—we donate items to the auction not just to improve the ledger but also to share with other members; we purchase items during the auction not just to satisfy our want but to help the club grow.

When I look at the condition of bonsai clubs around the state I am grateful for our good fortune. It takes a lot to keep a club going, and for some of us it is close to being a part-time job. Without the selfless dedication of these individuals I am certain there would be no club at all. Over the years I have noticed how some members contribute to the club in tacit, almost invisible ways. They are not on the board, yet without the contributions of these individuals our meetings would be very difficult indeed. We are also fortunate to have members with great “tribal knowledge” of the club. As president I have been especially grateful for the assistance of these members, for without their knowledge I would be entirely lost.

Consider these pillars: generous members, a great stable of artists, hard working board members, cobbler’s elves (Alisan!) and active members with tribal knowledge. If any one of these pillars should fail, this would be a much different club. I wonder if we would suffer the fate of other clubs. I am grateful, but I am also more determined.

This coming year will require more volunteer effort from us than ever before. We are co-hosting the ABS convention, exhibiting at multiple events and continuing to promote bonsai through various speaking engagements. This is in addition to our normal set or programs. When I regard our good fortune I am even more committed to grow this club and promote the art of bonsai. I hope that you share this sentiment with me, to shoulder some small burden for the greater success of our club. The greatest reward is in the giving.

TTSBE Board of Directors Nominees

The following is a list of nominees to the TTSBE Board of Directors, along with a brief biography of each nominee.

Els Ulug - Austin:

I am doing Bonsai since 2000, and I am also a member of the shohin society.

Before Bonsai I did a lot of gardening, and dried flowers to make wreaths out of them.

I did a Master-garden course in Manhattan-Kansas what really helped to get some more horticulture background.

I am excited about the TTSBE, special now the land is bought, and I know we still have a long way to go.

Mike Watson - Austin:

Although I have only been studying bonsai for less than 2 years, I have immersed myself in it. From reading everything I can lay eyes on, to serving on the Austin Bonsai Society board and conducting the monthly raffle, I constantly try to stay involved in everything “bonsai”. I love growing my trees and caring for them as best I know (or can learn) how. I’ve made some mistakes and I’ve made some forward progress as well. To quote a local bonsai artist friend, “Mike has got the bug bad!!”

I am excited about the purchase of the land for The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit and look forward to the chance to serve in it’s future development.

Bill and Nancy Moore - Austin:

It all started with a “beginner bonsai class” at Sunken Gardens in St. Petersburg, FL. about 2 ½ years ago. Right then and there we knew we were hooked! Bonsai fascinated us so much that we immediately joined the Suncoast Bonsai Society. The St. Petersburg club has many very knowledgeable members that have been doing bonsai for 30+ years and love to teach as well as socialize. Soon after joining, I became the newsletter editor. We were very active in the club, attending meetings regularly and participating in many other club events, always eager to expand our knowledge and help the club flourish. These events included shows, mem-

bership drives, fundraisers, demonstrations, classes and parties. There were numerous road trips to Florida bonsai nurseries, giving us the opportunity to build a nice collection of tropical pre-bonsai/bonsai and pots in a short period of time. The Florida convention in 2006 in Gainesville was a wonderful learning experience. After arriving in Austin with a UHaul full of tropical bonsai during the infamous ice storm in January of this year, we joined ABS and have been trying to “Texan-ize” our mostly tropical collection, learning more and more from each ABS event we attend, and enjoying every aspect of it. We have learned over this period of time that bonsai is not just a hobby, it’s an addiction!

Marie Breyer - San Antonio

No biography available

Gregg Setter - Austin

No biography available

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(call for directions)

Annual Club Auctin
October 10, 2007
Photos by Joey McCoy



Member's Workshop
Building Bonsai Stands by Bill Boytim
October 16, 2007
Photos by Joey McCoy



October 2007 ABS General Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Trahan at 7:30 PM at the Austin Area Garden Center. He thanked hosts Collin Murphy and Bill Boytim for refreshments.

Nominating Committee Chairman, Mike Watson presented the slate of officers for '08-'09: Pres. Jim Trahan, VP Joey McCoy, Sec. Charlotte Cranberg, Treasurer Pat Ware, At Large Collin Murphy and Mike Watson. There were no nominations from the floor. One more member at large is needed. Members were asked to volunteer or recommend someone.

The auction followed. It was very successful and many happy members could be seen carrying their booty to their cars after the meeting. A big surprise (and good reason not to miss another auction) was the major contribution by Bill Cody of quite a few of his collected ash junipers ranging in size from shohin to 8 feet or more. They had a lot of shari and great trunk movement.

Charlotte Cranberg
Secretary

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e-mail: bonsaijg@wimberley-tx.com

web page: <http://www.wimberley-tx.com/~bonsaijg>

October 2007 ABS Board Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 PM in the Austin Area Garden Center by President, Jim Trahan. Present were Jim, Joey McCoy, Pat and Chuck Ware, Els Ulug, Mike Watson, Collin Murphy and Charlotte Cranberg.

Treasurer, Pat Ware reported \$2507.56 expenses over income for the month. Pedro Morales cost \$97.50 because of room rental. The auction brought in \$1900.

Minutes were approved as published.

Collin Murphy brought in the completed newsletters.

The board approved a letter to be sent to the Austin Parks and Recreation Dept. to differentiate the Texas State Bonsai Exhibit from the Austin Bonsai Society.

A member at large is still needed to fill the board for 2008.

The Christmas party was discussed with ideas for doing something special to get members to come to this gastronomic event. Discussed were decorating bonsai as Christmas trees, having a lecture demo by one of our members and raffling the tree.

Pat asked that any outstanding bills be given to her before January 1, 2008.

Charlotte Cranberg
Secretary

Directory Additions

There are no directory additions this month.



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

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