



Bonsai Notebook

www.austinbonsaisociety.com

A Publication of the Austin Bonsai Society

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Calendar of Events

- **Virtual Exhibit**
Video available [here](#)
Slides available [here](#)
- **June 10, 7pm**
Mike Lane - Zoom meeting
Crafting Shohin
- **June 21, 9am - 4pm**
Vincent Le - Oleas/Kingsville boxwood workshop
Registration required

2020 Board of Directors

Brandon Baldauf
President

Mike Garza
Vice President

Roland Lopez
Secretary

Gloria Norberg
Treasurer

Lawrence Priest
Member-At-Large

Chris Frechette
Member-At-Large

Summer Lee
Member-At-Large

Volunteers

N/A

President's Message

By Brandon Baldauf

Greetings Austin Bonsai Society,

Happy beginning of summer! I hope you are all finding your quarantine groove and staying safe. We went a bit stir crazy and ended up taking a road trip to Colorado to visit the grandfather mountains, catch some fresh air, and visit the Olea bonsai expert I posted photos of in Slack.

Thank you to everyone who participated in our first Virtual Exhibit. A special thanks to Joey, May, and Simon for helping organize and publish the album/video! The youtube video can be [found here](#). Our Member at Large - Chris Frechette [shared his experience in working with Ficus](#) trees as well! Thanks Chris! If you have an idea for a youtube video, let me know and we can collaborate to get your content published on Austin Bonsai Society's channel. How about that online auction? Kinda fun! The annual auction later in the year should be a blast based on our learnings from the one this month. We did raise \$500+ dollars which helps with artist fees and other events!

Our June events are going to be a bit different than normal. Austin Bonsai Society is proceeding with hosting minimal and isolated events in accordance with the guidance of local and federal entities. For the upcoming month, this includes two things to be aware of:

All events are subject to change based on current events...

- Mike Lane - Crafting Shohin - Virtual Demo/Presentation and Zoom Meeting
Date: 6/10 - 7:00 PM
Will send an email with Zoom info
Will auction the shohin created during the demo in #auction of Slack
Send interest to Brandon for private study with Mike
- Vincent Le - Advanced Olea Workshop - Social Distance Workshop
Date: 6/21 - 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM (current working date)
Location: Summer's or Brandon's
Workshop stations are 6+ feet apart
Can explore Oleas provided by Vincent (\$specimen)
Can Bring your Own Olea
Can opt for a supplied Kingsville Boxwood (\$90)
2 spots open - let Brandon know if you want them
Send interest to Brandon for private study with Vincent



Keep your chin up and your trees trimmed! Thank you all for continuing to support ABS! It's been a fun challenge to keep our club operating during these COVID times!

Cheers,
Brandon

Get Connected!

Join our online
discussion



Official Website

Visit our website at
austinbonsaisociety.com

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Like our Facebook page
/AustinBonsaiSociety



Twitter

Follow us on Twitter
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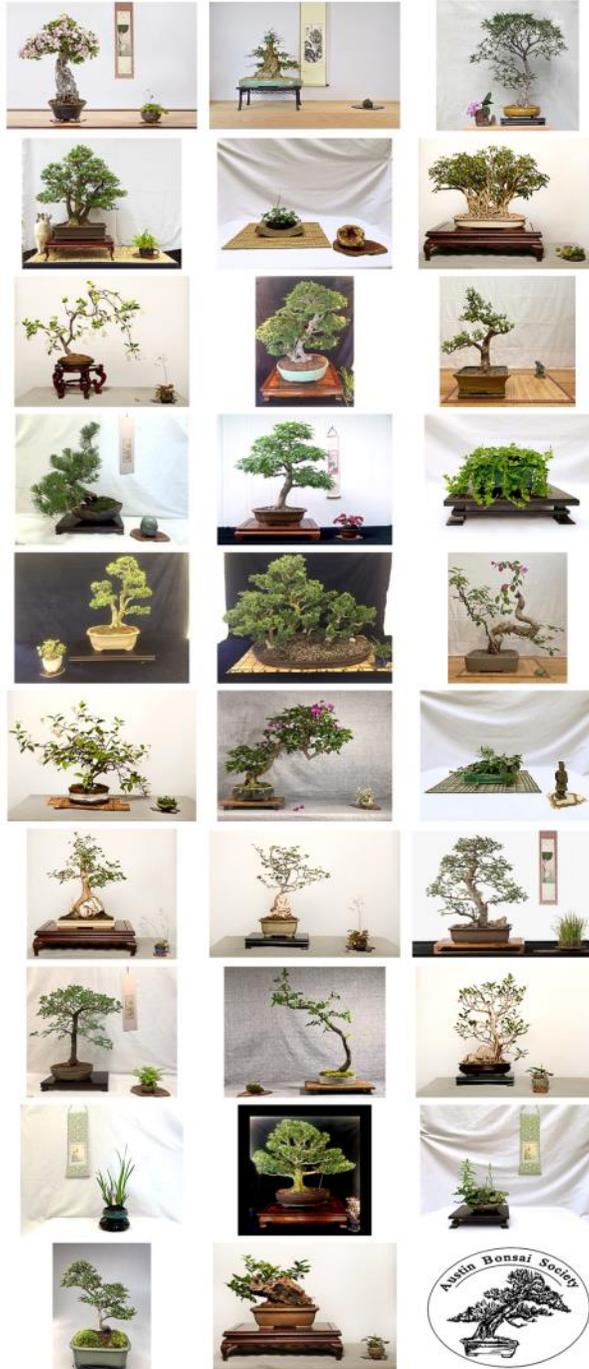


ABS Library

<https://abslibrary.libib.com/>

Virtual Exhibit

Austin Bonsai Society Virtual Show 2020



Regular Meeting Minutes (Roland)

May 2020

No meeting minutes

Reminder for club membership

2020 membership fee

Individual	\$30
Family	\$35
Newsletter monthly advertisements:	\$35
Directory advertisement:	\$10

You may contact Simon to pay electronically, pay in person at the meeting or mail a check to me at Gloria Norberg, 7413 Lady Suzanne's Court, Austin, Texas 78729.



ABS Board Minutes (Brandon)

May 2020

Meeting start 6/19 7:07

- June workshop plans
- June meeting, Mike Lane will be joining us for Shohin presentation
- Virtual Auction was a success where we raised over \$500
- 2021 LSBF planning for convention is continuing
- Virtual Exhibit has been published on Youtube!
- Monthly income over expense is ~\$500/\$19.95, purchase for Bonsai Heresy

Meeting end 8:06

New Members

Gerrit Clemence



BRITE IDEAS
AQUAPONICS
HYDROPONICS & ORGANICS

[Http://www.bihydro.com](http://www.bihydro.com)
Owner: Troy Smith

12110 Menchaca Rd. Ste.103 2521 Rutland Dr. #475
Austin, TX 78748 Austin, TX 78758
(512)444-2100 (512)459-4353

June Bonsai

By John Miller

If ants, or any other creature, are building nests in the soil, the tunnels and cavities will prevent proper watering and result in loss of roots. After you get rid of the ants be sure to grab your chopsticks and work the soil down and eliminate any holes. You will probably need to add a little more soil on top.

Some tropicals can be leaf pruned all summer. The *Ficus nerifolia* especially benefits by leaf pruning and can be done more than once each summer. That will develop the heavy twiginess you see in the *Ficus* bonsai from the Far East.

When night temperatures stay above 60 degrees you can think about repotting some of the tropicals. I would wait another month tho for the buttonwood. I am going to work on some *Grewia* that need it but missed earlier due to con-vention and flu. I will strip all the leaves and then repot. Ask me next month how they did.

It is important to continue the twig pruning of your trees on a regular basis. While doing this chore look at the tree to see if there is a need to do some refinement pruning. Refinement pruning is a deeper pruning to replace a branch that has grown too long or too big with a smaller one. This is usually done with the secondary or tertiary branches not the primary branch coming from the trunk. I prefer to do this refinement pruning on deciduous trees in the winter when I can see the branch structure. But on bonsai like the yaupon hollies I like to do it at this time when the tree is actively growing so that any winter dieback is apparent. Trees that weep a lot from cuts such as maples or pines should not be done at this time.

The extended cool and damp weather is good for fungal diseases like black leaf spot. Hot and damp bring other fungals like mildew. Treat with potassium bicarbonate or sodium bicarbonate (baking soda). After the foliage is hardened a bit you can treat with a 1% hydrogen peroxide (1 part 3% peroxide to 2 parts water) weekly.

Also watch for signs of insect problems. The spider mite will always be near. Others to look for are scale of various forms, aphids, and mealy bugs. I use the

organic foliar feed (1 Tablespoon each fish emulsion, liquid kelp, molasses and cider vinegar per gallon water) to control all these. It also get any caterpillars and even bagworms. You can use some of the other organic controls like horticultural oil or a chemical according to label directions. Read the label directions carefully and DO NOT apply oil based chemicals to buttonwoods.

It does not do much good to spray if you do not do it cor-rectly. Hose end sprayers have too coarse a spray and usu-ally do not cover very good. All pathogen controls must be sprayed with a sprayer that has a nozzle which produces a fine spray in order to cover the entire leaf surface, top and bottom. You must get all them bugs or they come right back. And you need to spray on a regular basis. Any bugs or spores hiding in cracks will repeat the infestation.

Even if the days are relatively cool the sun can still get the pots pretty hot. Not only does this dry out the soil very fast but the tree roots cannot live in a hot soil. A temperature I have heard given is that 120 degrees will kill roots on most plants. I cannot give you a precise to-do list since your backyard is different from mine but you should be sure that the sun does not hit the pots directly. If you use a cover of any kind be sure that the side of the pot is protected also. A loose weave cover is preferable to solid paper or foil. Leave an air space between the cover and pot and soil.

Most plants in pots will not enjoy a full day of 90 plus sun. Partial shade should be provided. A shade cloth awning is the best as it will protect in the middle of the day. A shade cloth on the west side will protect from the late afternoon sun. This is the worst sun as the temperature is already high and the drier air makes the rays more intense.

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June Bonsai

By John Miller

that the side of the pot is protected also. A loose weave cover is preferable to solid paper as it lets you water more easily. Leave an air space between the cover and pot and soil. Do not use foil, it reflects rays back up into the underside of the leaf giving it a double dose of too much sun.



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 Simon Tse at tse_simon@hotmail.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!

JADE GARDENS
HOME OF THE

Owners  Chuck
and Pat
Ware

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Organic Bonsai Fertilizers
Imported and Domestic Trees
Bonsai Pottery, Soils and supplies
Classes & Seminars
Open Tuesday Through Sunday



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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.