



Bonsai Notebook

www.austinbonsaisociety.com

A Publication of the Austin Bonsai Society

September 2018 vol 94

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Calendar of Events

- **Wed September 12**
7:30pm - 9:00pm
Annual auction
- **Tues September 24**
7:00pm - 9:00pm
LSBF Visiting Artist
Tyler Sherrod—BYOT Workshop

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

Chris Frechette
Daniel Lara
Food

N/A
Trees

President's Message

By Simon Tse

Greetings! Our annual auction will be held on September 12th and I am looking forward to this event. Brandon, our vice president, will provide more details in his column. We will need support from each one of you to ensure this is a successful event! Silent auction items will also be featured in the annual auction. It should be an exciting and fun event for everyone.

We are also pleased to announce Tyler Sherrod's BYOT workshop on September 24th (please refer to the flyer on page 7 for more information). As a North Carolinian, Tyler trained with Boon Manakitivipart, then entered an apprenticeship under Shinji Suzuki. He received his professional certification from the Nippon Bonsai Association five years later. Tyler worked on a variety of coniferous and deciduous trees. His main responsibility is to refine and prepare the trees for Japan's top bonsai competitions, namely Kokufu-Ten, Taikan-Ten, and Sakafu-Ten. Several of his trees won top prizes. Tyler is now the proud owner of Dogwood Studios. You do not want to miss this opportunity to learn from Tyler. Contact Brandon and sign up today.

On September 15th, Texas Shohin Society will meet at Persimmon Hill, 12001 Red Hawk Cove, Austin TX. The topic of the meeting is "Bring a nursery tree to start a Shohin with John Miller". If you are interested, please contact Steven Hendricks at stevenhendricks@sbcglobal.net or call 817-239-7210.

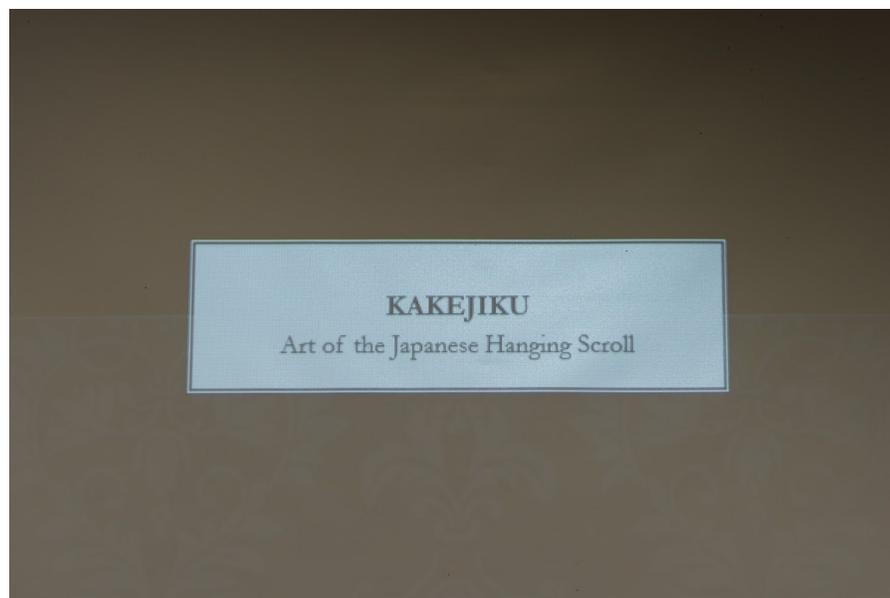
Hope to see all of you at our next meeting!

Cheers,
Simon

August Meeting

(Kakejiku)

The Austin Bonsai Society welcomes
John Borusheski



(Photos by May Lau)



August Meeting

Raffles items and
winner!



Congratulations Lawrence!



(Photos by May Lau)

Rescue Mission

Last minute effort to rescue Yaupon Holly



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Vice President's Message

By Brandon Baldauf

Greetings ABS Members,

What a treat having John Borusheski last month with his scroll demonstration, I almost feel like I could approach the making of scrolls after that session. I hope to see some really interesting Austin Bonsai Society crafted scrolls in future shows... =] This month we officially kicked off the 2021 LSBF Convention Planning Committee and big thank you to all the individuals who volunteered their time to help plan the future event. It will be a fantastic opportunity to represent the art of bonsai in the state and show how Austin Bonsai Society and The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit are continuing to grow the art in our city! More details in future times and anyone interested in lending a hand please reach out.

The upcoming month is going to be fun as we are having our annual auction on September 12th. Please remember that all the items which are up for auction are donated by fellow members and all proceeds go to support Austin Bonsai Society. Look through the wares and consider bringing in bonsai trees, prebonsai, bonsai supplies, books, tools, suiseki, pots, stands, and other bonsai related items. The workshop this month will be held on Monday September 24th and will feature the LSBF sponsored artist, Tyler Sherrod. See the below flyer for more information and contact me if you want to participate, seating is limited. Bring in your own tree to be styled, refined, and/or worked on with/by Tyler. Definitely a good learning opportunity to work with someone who studied in Japan. There will not be a workshop on the typical 3rd Tuesday... fyi. Enjoy!

Cheers,
Brandon

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Tyler Sherrod's BYOT Workshop

\$45

2016 Professional Certification
Nippon Bonsai Association

**TYLER
SHERROD
BYOT WORKSHOP**

2016 Started
Dogwood Studio
North Carolina

Bring your own tree

**SEPTEMBER 24TH
7-9PM
MONDAY**

**ONLY
8 SEATS!**

**AUSTIN
BONSAI
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5 Year Apprenticeship
with Shinji Suzuki

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 _____

Regular Meeting Minutes

August 8, 2018

- Simon started the meeting at 7:32 pm
- Recognized new members and thanked them for joining
- Thanks to Zerita and Elaine for all the food and goodies at tonight's meeting
- Monthly show trees were brought in by Elaine - brought in two ficuses, one being a root over rock
- Treasurer Report: Did well in the month of July; up a \$1,000; Gloria also reminded us of the auction tags for the auction in September
- TTSBE Update: Finally displayed the first set of trees; Joey says it's been a long time coming and it's beautiful; the pilot exhibition has 11 trees, including bougainvilleas, althea, and lantanas; looking good for summer time
- Joey also reminded the club that we exist because of donations; there is a \$25 TTSBE member cost; the only way we exist, is through your support; Kathy Shaner will be here October 12-14 and the topics will be on difficult trees and enhancing the age of trees
- Another reminder about the auction in September; silent auction items will include items with a minimum of \$100
- John Borusheski started his presentation on the history and making of Japanese scrolls at 7:42 pm

ABS Board Minutes

August 21, 2018

- ABS Board Meeting August 21, 2018
- Members in attendance- Gloria, Pat, Simon, Ruby, May, Chuck, and Brandon.
- Meeting Started at 7:10 PM
- Ruby presented name tag design and pricing, Ruby will collaborate with May on finalizing design.
- Tyler Sherrod will be our visiting artist on September 24th for the BYOT workshop.
- Gloria's Treasurer Update
- Board discussed about the LSBF convention, first committee was held at Brandon's residence with all key positions assigned.
- Gloria and Simon will share responsibilities and introduce a new system during Auction with the goal to expedite and streamline the checkout process
- Meeting was adjourned at 8:15

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and Pat
Ware**

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September Bonsai

By John Miller

After last months triple digits hitting 110 degrees and multiple daily waterings, I got low 90's and a week without turning the hose on. The best advice I can give you is that you have to know your own backyard, plan for the normal conditions, and expect and be ready for anything else.

I think plants are more attuned to the varying length of days than to temperature to set their life cycles--dormancy, flowering, etc. For example, the cedar elm sets buds in early August so they are ready to bloom with the first fall rain. That way its seeds have the best chance to get a root down far enough to survive the next summer. 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.

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 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.

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 like 0-10-10. They will need less water as they quit active growth but on warm days trees with green foliage will still transpire and will have need of 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.

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(call for directions)

New Members

Lizzie Chen and

Nathan Gaar

Kasey Hunter

John Pittenger

Welcome!

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. Winter growth will usually be pretty slow but can occur, especially on the evergreens. Cut the wire off. You can easily break the branches trying to unwrap the wire and its just not worth trying to save the wire. Work from the outside end back so that you do not overlook a small piece of wire. It would cut into the branch very soon. If you need to reapply some wire take care.

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.

Check on the place you expect to winter your bonsai.

(1) Make sure that it is clean. Debris harbors insects and other plant pathogens. A strong lime-sulfur spray can be used to disinfect the area as well as your growing area after the trees are removed.

(2) Be sure that you will be able to check the water needs of the trees.

(3) It should be somewhat protected from winds but should have some air movement to help prevent molds from developing.

(4) Having it in a location where you can see the trees will allow you to enjoy the winter silhouette, i.e. the branch structure and twiginess, that is a great part of deciduous bonsai.

There is not too much that has 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. This supposedly can be used as a foliar feed but I only consider it an insecticide.

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 you tree tell you when it is ok to operate.

Check nurseries for possible bonsai material. When the planting season is over they usually put everything on sale to clear it out so they can fill up with Christmas trees. Help your club officers by keeping a lookout for possible digging sites. Remember pastures and other open sites are usually better than forests for our type of material.

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!

Bonsai Notebook

Austin Bonsai Society
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.