



Bonsai Notebook

www.austinbonsaisociety.com

A Publication of the Austin Bonsai Society

September 2019 vol 108

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Calendar of Events

- **Tues Sep 10**
7:00pm - 9:00pm
Andrew Robson - BYOT workshop (registration required)
- **Wed Sep 11**
7:30pm - 9:00pm
Deciduous styling with Andrew Robson
- **Tues Sep 17**
7:00pm
Board meeting - offsite
No members' workshop

2019 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

Pat Ware
Member-At-Large

Volunteers

Food

Quoc Hoang

Elliot Jarrett

Trees

Chris Freechette

President's Message

By Brandon Baldauf

Greetings Austin Bonsai Society,

With the end of August in sight, hopefully we start to see a reprieve in the triple digit summer heat! A special thank you to Chuck and Alisan (+ her family) for putting together such compelling events this last month! Your willingness to share wisdom and experience sets an example for our society to live up to, we had a great turnout for the Root Over Rock Presentation and the Scroll Crafting Workshop.



Remember this September is a bit different:
Our monthly Workshop on Tuesday, September 10th
Wednesday, September 11th is our regular meeting

On the horizon are some wonderful events for our club, October is the annual auction AND we get to host Kathy Shaner while November is the holiday party where we vote on the 2021 convention logo! There have been some interesting designs shown, the theme is "Deep in the Art of Texas" Looking forward to seeing the final designs!

Brandon

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Join our online discussion
page! NO SPAM!

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groups.yahoo.com/
group/austinbonsai/](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/austinbonsai/)

Official Website

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ABS Library

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

Vice President's Message

By Mike Garza

Bonsai friends,

Wow! Has it been hot out there. I hope y'all are keeping your trees cool and hydrated. I'm having to water almost everything twice a day. Some tricks I've been told are to place burlap over your pots or just make sure your sensitive trees get dappled shade over the hotter part of the day. I'd like to thank Chuck for presenting on his techniques on root over rock bonsai. I'd also like to thank Alisan for her workshop on scrolls. Next month we look forward to having Andrew Robson for our club workshop and demo. Andrew is a Bonsai Artist that specializes in deciduous trees. We look forward to see y'all there.

-Mike Garza

Reminder for club membership

2019 membership fee (After June 30)

Individual	\$15
Family	\$17.50
Newsletter monthly advertisements:	\$35
Directory advertisement:	\$10

Come to the meeting and pay by cash/check/credit card or send your payment to Gloria Norberg, 7413 Lady Suzanne's Court, Austin TX 78729.

August Meeting

Root over Rock
with Chuck Ware



Photos by Joey McCoy



Regular Meeting Minutes (Roland)

August 14, 2019

Announcements began at 7:33PM

Andrew Robson workshop – Waitlist available for club members who are interested

Quoc – New member announcement

Tree presenters – Jimbo and Evan

TTSBE – Kathy Shaner workshop, Amazon charity

Slack app announcement – Invitations sent to club members

LSBF 2021 convention announcements – Logo design contest, voting at our holiday party

American Bonsai Rewire wire recycling program announced

Raffle items donated by Marlon, thank you!

Chuck began his presentation at 7:49PM



ABS Board Minutes (Roland)

August 20, 2019

Attendance – Brandon, Lawrence, Chris, Mike, Pat and Roland

Meeting began at 7:06PM

Board reviewed last months meeting topics while Brandon was out

Slack – Board voted YES to implement app for club going forward

We will make club aware of access and utilization of app

Program updates – Chuck will host August workshop

Treasurer update

Logo design contest discussed – will vote at our holiday party

Meeting adjourned at 7:34PM



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.

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.



WHO WE ARE

THE TEXAS STATE BONSAI EXHIBIT (TTSBE)

There has been a large increase in membership of The Austin Bonsai Society in the past two years .
Do you know that you are also members of The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit at no additional charge?

This separate organization is also a non-profit founded in 2000 by 9 ABS members to care for and display to the public, donated bonsai from estates and others who can no longer care for their bonsai.

Last month we took two of our very large bonsai to the Houston/ ABS Convention where they were very well received with recognition of TTSBE.

We occasionally ask for volunteers for special projects, especially for lifting and moving our 4-10 man trees when trimming or re-potting. Volunteers are recorded on our Donor list for 1 hour=\$1 which starts at \$25.

A Master Plan for all of Zilker B.G. is in the planning stages and TTSBE hopes to become a permanent part of the plan. Meanwhile we have a Pilot Project of 11 bonsai on exhibit (changed seasonally)at the lower end of the Koi Pond. As part of our educational endeavors, we have flyers there to help answer the questions the public always has about bonsai. Please plan a visit soon!

Elaine



*The Texas State
Bonsai Exhibit, Inc.*

BRITE IDEAS



**AQUAPONICS
HYDROPONICS & ORGANICS**

Http://www.bihydro.com

Owner: Troy Smith

4201 S. Congress Ave.# 310 Austin, TX 78745 (512)444-2100 Manager:Tim Hill	2521 Rutland Dr. #475 Austin,TX 78758 (512)459-4353 Manager: Nick Snyder
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New Members

Jennifer Fries

Nance T Watson

Bob and Nancy Gordon

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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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.