



Bonsai Notebook

www.austinbonsaisociety.com

A Publication of the Austin Bonsai Society

September 2020 vol 120

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Calendar of Events

- **Virtual Exhibit**
Video available [here](#)
Slides available [here](#)
- **Sep 9, 7:00 - 8:30 pm**
Annual Auction

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,

Hope you were able to catch the Bjorn question and answer last month! We had a fun time chatting with him and learning about Juniper grafting. This upcoming month, the club is having our annual auction. Please see details below and consider adding an item or two to make the virtual auction to continue to help raise some funds for our club.

We only have a few events left for the year including the auction, the October meeting and our November event. From the discussions during our board meeting this last month, we are planning on having a virtual get together in November in lieu of the annual holiday celebration at Zilker. More details to come. The 2021 convention is still being actively planned by members of this club, thank you so much for your continued efforts and contributions in planning. Specifically thank you to Gloria, Quoc, Mike, Joey, Roland, Simon, May, Lawrence, Summer Chris, and Jakob. With their help, we have a plan in place and are preparing registration for the event. With the uncertainty of these times, we're also exploring alternatives. Looking forward to providing official details in the near future.

Auction Details

Each year, the society has an annual auction as our primary fundraiser. With Zilker closed, we are going to keep going forward with the digital version of the auction similar to how we tried it earlier in the year. Using the Austin Bonsai Society Slack application, interested bidders will be able to send their bids for items from the comfort of their own homes this year. Pretty novel! The club will host a Zoom call during the event on:

Wednesday, September 9th 2020 - 7:00 PM to 8:30 PM CST

Join the call as we all hang out and chat Wednesday evening. The auctioneer will verbally announce when an item is about to get closed and call attention to the item up for bidding in the #auction channel of Slack. All funds raised go to benefit our non-profit club. All items are donated by club members. There is an option for a club member to do a profit share for their donated item, it's a 50/50 split of the final sale price fetched at the event. Items with reserves will have their reserves published for awareness and efficiency.

Reach out to Brandon with pictures of the bonsai related items you are able to donate. If you want to profit share on an item, it needs to be at least \$100 of value. All in all, we're looking to have a fun time, share our bonsai, and raise some funds for the club. We will see you there!

As always, let me know if you have any questions via phone call, text, or email.

Cheers,
Brandon

President's Message

By Brandon Baldauf

Zoom Meeting Info

Topic: ABS Auction 2020

Time: Sep 9, 2020 07:00 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82453465836>

Meeting ID: 824 5346 5836

One tap mobile

+13462487799,,82453465836# US (Houston)

+12532158782,,82453465836# US (Tacoma)

Dial by your location

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+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 824 5346 5836

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kevNjCZHL8>

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discussion



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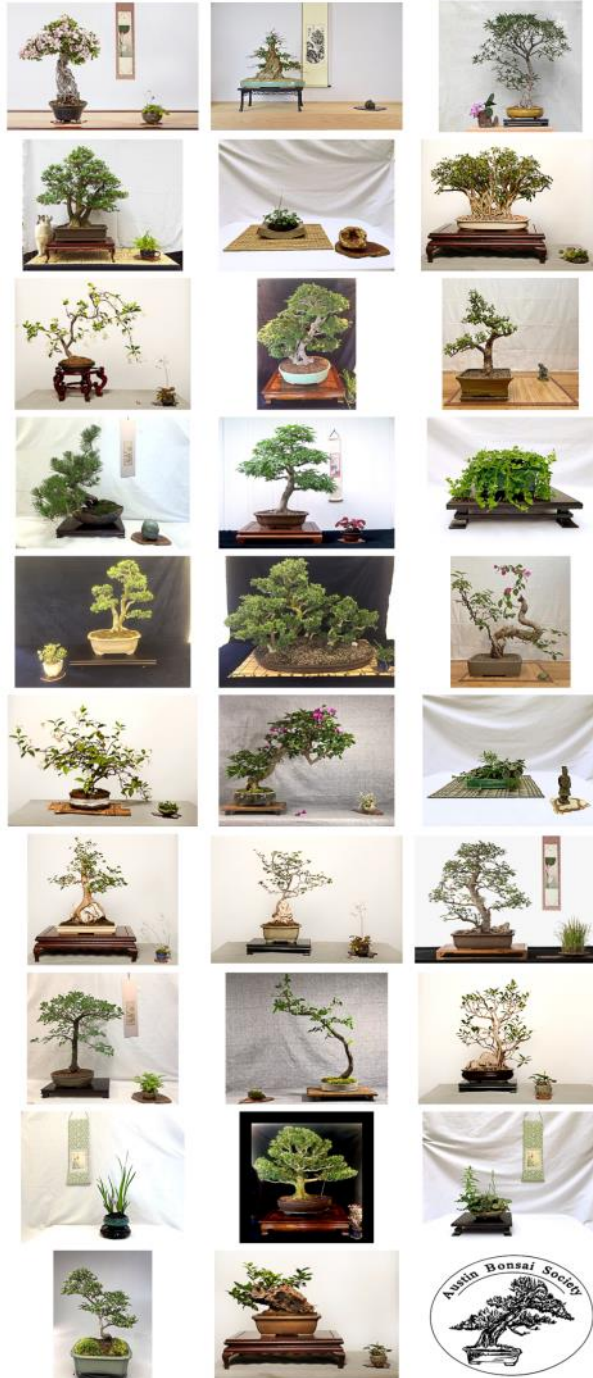
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Virtual Exhibit

Austin Bonsai Society Virtual Show 2020



Regular Meeting Minutes

August 2020

No meeting minutes - Zoom meeting

Interactive Q/A

Online chat

Raffles

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 or mail a check to me at Gloria Norberg,
7413 Lady Suzanne's Court, Austin, Texas 78729.

ABS Board Minutes (Brandon/Roland)

August 2020

The meeting began at 7:05 PM

Brandon, Roland, Chris, Gloria, Summer and Lawrence were present.

Auction - board agreed on a 50/50 split for auction items. Auction is to be held on Slack.

Board Election - The board discussed 2021 board members. We will ask a member to elect potential club members.

2021 Convention - Convention during the pandemic is an issue we are preparing for. A virtual convention is a possibility. Board will discuss further.

October Meeting - plans were arranged to find a speaker for our Oct club meeting. Roland will reach out to artists to commit.

November Meeting - The board discussed a possible Zoom meeting for our holiday meeting in November. More details to follow.

2021 Club Events - Summer and Roland will meet to discuss the 2021 schedule.

Meeting ended at 8:20 PM

New Members

Zach Adamz

September Bonsai

By John Miller

This has been a horrific summer for bonsai. I have not lost anything but some really look bad. This year I was forced to really take care of them and consequently I proved to myself something I had kinda surmised but that does not agree with popular opinion. Trees do not go into summer dormancy. All my trees have continued to grow throughout the heat (100+ in daytime and above 80 at night). The elms, Chinese Catlin Cedar, and the oaks, (live oak, shumard, post oak), seem to relish the added watering. The only bad thing is that the Japanese maples continue to grow but the new tips get scorched.

The forecasts are indicating some relief soon but there should still be some days with pretty hot temps. Keep after the extra care. And as the sun changes its angle make sure that the pots do not get too much afternoon sun.

A strange item to be talking about with the temp outside now at 103 but the situation may change in a hurry so be ready. Help your trees go into dormancy. Withhold fertilizers from those outdoor trees in mid Sept. They would need less water as they quit active growth but on warm days trees with green foliage will still transpire and need that water. Most tropicals have a dormant season also but it is caused by dry conditions rather than cold. These types need to be hardened also by cutting the fertilizer to halt active growth and lighter watering. This will enable them to withstand the transfer to the greenhouse better.

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. 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.

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) Also 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 sil-houette, i.e. the branch structure and twiginess, that is a great part of deciduous bonsai.

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. Scale on the stems must be taken care of. 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% hydro-gen 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 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 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

September Bonsai

By John Miller

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 season is over they usually put ev-erything on sale to clear it out so they can fill up with christmas trees.



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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!

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and Pat
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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.