

THE BONSAI Wire

UPDATE

September 2015

The Newsletter of The Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society

FROM THE President

Congratulations to Dawn Koetting for becoming our Johnny Martinez Award Winner. Dawn's beautiful Japanese maple was voted favorite tree by a very large GNOBS Auction audience.

Speaking of the Auction, last year we set a record, doubling our usual profit from the auction. This year we set a NEW record, improving that profit by almost \$1000 dollars. What that means to you as club members is that next years budget will have more than adequate funds to bring you a number of skilled bonsai masters for demonstrations and workshops and to host the annual Louisiana Day of Bonsai. I would like to thank all the members and their spouses who set up and broke down, manned tables, ran trees, cleaned, took care of food and of course our fabulous auctioneer. I would also like to thank everyone who donated such quality material and at such quantities and of course everyone that came and opened their wallets to purchase trees and contribute to the auction. The auction only works because we have so many members willing to donate their time and bonsai to the auction.



Kathy Barbazon,
GNOBS
President

MEETINGS & Events

Tuesday, September 8, 2015

Program: Open Workshop 7:00pm

This is your chance to bring in and work on one of your trees and get the help and collaboration of other members. Sometimes a second opinion can help you take your tree from good to great. It's also a good time for newer members to get the help of more experienced members. Club wire will be available for use.

Tuesday, October 13, 2015

Program: Lowell Tilley Boxwood Demonstration & Lecture 7:00pm

Lowell has over 20 years experience developing bonsai. He teaches bonsai classes for LSU Student Union Leisure Classes. He is the Vice President of Louisiana Bonsai Society, member of Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society, Gulf Coast Bonsai Foundation founder, member of American Bonsai Society, and member Bonsai Clubs International.

Saturday (NIGHT), October 24, 2015

Program: Guy Guidry Hinoki Cypress Workshop 7:00pm

Several spots are open for this workshop. Don't miss out on a reasonably priced workshop with Guy on some extremely nice material. **A sign up sheet will be available at the meeting for the workshop. Bring your checkbook, cash or credit card, you must pay when you sign up.**

Friday, November 13, 2015

Program: Dorothy Schmitz Juniper Demonstration 7:00pm

Dorothy Schmitz is a professional full time bonsai artist from Southwest Florida with a Southern European origin. Dorothy was elected twice among the national finalists of the New Talent Competition, won the open Florida BSF Instructor Scholarship Award in 2005 and the coveted Ben Oki Award in 2006. Dorothy is an active editor at the Knowledge of Bonsai Forum and the Art of Bonsai Project and owns a Bonsai Studio in Bonita Springs. She specializes in conifers and tropicals, as well as in carving with hand and power tools.

Saturday, November 14, 2015

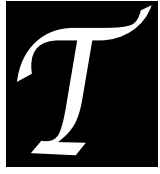
Program: Workshop Dorothy Schmitz Juniper - time to be announced

Details to be announced

Meetings take place on the second Tuesday each month at 7:30pm (pre-meeting activities begin at 7:00pm) at the **Marine Corps League Hall**, 2708 Delaware St., Kenner, LA. For more information, articles and everything bonsai, check us out on our website at www.gnobs.org.

September: THE SUCKER PUNCH MONTH

by Joe Day



he sucker punch comes along like this, you water like normal allowing the pots to become a bit dry before the next watering. The weather will become great. The temps will be in the 80's the breeze cool and the day entirely comfortable. The sucker punch is the very low humidity that will make the day feel so wonderful, the sky so clear and be breeze a thing of joy. The change from air off the gulf to air down from the north will suck moisture from your soil so fast you won't notice it happening until you see all the leaves curled up and turning brown. If you are away from home, at work or just busy in the house you can find the hours have brought about a very sudden change. Most of what we call Winter damage on our bonsai is actually Fall damage caused by the extremely low humidity and wind drying the twigs killing the buds. This warm, dry weather is spider mites

best friend, the last chance for all insects to take a bite out of your foliage and to lay eggs before winter.

Visit you bonsai often. Listen to the weather reports. Water deeply in the morning so your bonsai will start the day with plenty of moisture. Look extra close to find the beginning of any insect damage. A great Spring has a lot to do with a carefully maintained Fall growing conditions. It's difficult to tell if your bonsai are not in good health during the Fall months. The leaves on your bonsai are beginning to be aborted naturally by the tree. You can't depend on the leaves looking green and healthy. Pine will be aborting old needles, Juniper old growth will be turning brown. Learn to understand what is natural and normal during each season of your bonsai species life. Only alive and healthy plants make great bonsai.

Members are always encouraged to bring any tree to meetings that they wish to discuss or about which they need advice.



Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society

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BONSAI NEWS

Principles of Bonsai Design

Dave De Groot's new book *Principles of Bonsai Design* is now available from Stone Lantern. For those of you who don't know, Dave is a member and former president of GNOBS and curator of Weyerhaeuser Company's Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection near Seattle. I have this book on order so I can't give specifics other than it looks great - but I can tell you that I have Dave's original book on basic bonsai design and it was a wealth of great information. This book is described by Stone Lantern as "*The most complete bonsai tree design book we've seen in over 25 years. With over 500 photos and drawings, Mr. De Groot discusses aspects of art and aesthetics, traditional Japanese and Chinese styles, and new styles based on natural tree forms. Also covered are branch structure, deadwood features, initial styling, and container selection. A chapter on refinement is followed by chapters on display and collection management. Whether you're a novice or a skilled practitioner, this book will help you improve your bonsai. Hardcover, 8 1/2" x 11", 264 pages with over 500 photos & drawings.*"

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