

# THE BONSAI *Wire*

## UPDATE

December 2015

The Newsletter of The Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society

## FROM THE President



his is my last newsletter as President of GNOBS and I have to say I have enjoyed

the experience thoroughly. Participating in the decisions of the club can be very rewarding and I have had the good luck to be surrounded by some excellent officers. I would like to thank Jim Osborne and William Majoue as they step down from their board positions and welcome our new board members - Chris Knowles (Secretary), Gino Monaco (Vice President) and Peggy Howard who is moving into the President position as well as Masters Programs. I will be staying on in my other board positions. Gerald Nolan, Bill Butler and Rick Hamilton also remain on the board.

I hope to see everyone at the Christmas Party on December 8. We always have a good time and it's also one of the few times we get to hang out with everyone's spouses and guests.

During this holiday time of thankfulness I just want to say that I am grateful for the friendliness and generosity of all our members, many who have now been my friends for years and I look forward to many more years of association with GNOBS.

Kathy Barbazon,  
GNOBS  
President



## MEETINGS & Events

### Tuesday, December 8, 2015

#### Annual GNOBS Christmas Party 7:00pm

Annual Christmas Party: Bring your spouse or plus one and your favorite covered dish (side dishes, entrées, desserts) for our annual potluck Christmas party. Call Bill Butler (504) 455-5282 and let him know what you are bringing if possible. The club will supply a ham, beverages and plates/utensils. Everyone attending gets a free raffle ticket for door prizes. Featured this year will be 2 raffle trees and lots of wrapped "mystery" prizes.

### Tuesday, January 12, 2016

#### Club Giveaway and Rob Kempinski 7:00pm

Annual dues are due in January but this year we have a **special surprise** for members. The first 30 members that pay their dues and show up at the January meeting will receive a free **Kingsville box-wood**. You may have seen these trees at a previous meeting when they came in. If not, I can attest to the fact that they are really nice trees.

For our program - our friend **Rob Kempinski, award winning bonsai author and past president of Bonsai Clubs International**, has agreed to do a presentation on *Bonsai of the World*. Rob is not only an expert on bonsai but has personally visited many of the other countries known for bonsai.

### Tuesday, February 16, 2016 (note: later date due to Mardi Gras)

#### How and why to draw your bonsai - Kathy Barbazon 7:00pm

#### Open Workshop with assistance- 7:30 pm

Kathy will do a short presentation on how and why to draw your bonsai with guidelines and suggestions on computer programs/methods etc that those members without drawing ability can use. For the rest of our program we will have an open workshop with advanced members available for advice. Kathy will draw or help members draw different suggestions for the workshop trees. Try to bring material for which you either need styling direction or for which you would like to see some other styling options.

### Friday, March 18, 2015

#### Demo by Brussel Martin 7:00pm

Species/details to be announced.

### Saturday, March 19, 2015

#### Workshop by Brussel Martin 7:00pm

Species/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](http://www.gnobs.org).

# BONSAI Basics

## Recovery Time

by Joe Day

Every time you expose the roots of any bonsai, trim the roots either just a bit or severely the bonsai will need extra care. Bonsai in stress from any reason will need to be placed into semi-shade, away from any wind, and kept moist, not wet. Never fertilize any bonsai that has had its roots trimmed or shows signs of stress for any reason. Any fertilizer is a type of salt solution and will have a drying effect when it touches any new root growth that is very soft. Some bonsai artist like to use a root

stimulator. They help reduce transplant shock. The cost when it's mixed correctly is small. Mixing correctly is very important. Root stimulator also contains some fertilizer so it must be diluted enough to not harm the new roots.

Keeping roots moist isn't easy when the plant is growing in a good bonsai soil that is made up to drain fast and have good air circulation. At our meeting Russell talked about using long fibered Sphagnum moss cut into small pieces and soaked in water to cover the surface of the soil to retard the drying process. The moss will not hamper watering. As the bonsai puts out new roots some will stay in the upper layer of the soil creating a spreading root mass. The moss will give green moss a receptive environment to grow.

Our normal spring weather is a mixture of warm days with almost no wind and high humidity, rain days, and days when the wind blows from the north and the humidity drops down to 15 or 20 percent. Those low humidity, windy days are a plant killer if the plant does not have a great root system that can constantly draw moisture up to the buds or new growth. Once you loose all your new growth and buds the tree has no recovery left. It becomes a finished bonsai for the wood pile.

*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

PO Box 13212  
New Orleans, LA 70185

## GUY GUIDRY nola bonsai

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