

# THE BONSAI Wire

January 2019

The Newsletter of The Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society

## FROM THE President



he January program at GNOBS will indeed be memorable; if not for you, then

at least for me. I have not had an opportunity to hear David in quite a while and I sure do miss that. I started my journey into bonsai in 1971, trying to learn from books. And it was not until 1980 that I found out about the existence of the Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society. My wife read in the paper that the club was hosting a bonsai convention at one of the downtown hotels and had an exhibit.

We entered the exhibit and I was captivated by the quality of bonsai I saw. In particular, I stood in front of one specimen for at least 20 minutes, admiring it and making mental notes on every detail of the styling. I later found out that it was one of David DeGroot's. I joined GNOBS that day and signed up for a Beginner Course, taught by who else..... David DeGroot.

He taught me a great deal over the next few years until he left for Washington state to take

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## MEETINGS & Events

*Note: Study Groups are for signed up participants. Programs are open to ALL members.*

### Tuesday, January 22, 2019

**Intermediate Study Group (for signed up participants) 6:00pm-7:15pm**

**Program: Dave DeGroot 7:30pm**

Dave DeGroot, Former curator of the Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection (which included tending the collection of more than 120 trees, managing the facility, and operating an educational program that included approximately 20 lectures and several special exhibits annually), noted lecturer, author of two outstanding bonsai books and one of the original members of GNOBS (and former president) under the tutelage of Vaughn Banting will do a lecture and demonstration (topic to be determined)!

### Tuesday, February 12, 2019

**Intermediate Study Group (for signed up participants) 6:00pm-7:15pm**

**Program: Silhouette Show and Lecture on How to Prepare Your Trees for a Show 7:30pm**

The Silhouette Program is a study of branch ramification and evaluation of plans for further development of our deciduous bonsai. Bring in a deciduous tree for display and discussion. There will also be a lecture on preparing your bonsai for showing in advance of our Spring Garden Show participation.

**Bonus:** There will be a door prize raffle for all **dues paid** members.

### Friday, March 15, 2019

**Intermediate Study Group (for signed up participants) 6:00pm-7:15pm**

**Program: Brussel Martin 7:30pm**

Brussel Martin, bonsai artist and owner of Brussel's Bonsai will be visiting to do a lecture/demo on black pine in the bunjin style.

### Saturday, March 16th, 2019

**Brussel Martin Black Pine Bunjin Workshop 8:00am**

Brussel Martin will conduct a workshop on Black Pine in the Bunjin style. Sign up sheets will be available at the meetings.

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Meetings take place 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 Tips for January

by Randy Bennett

I love January! It is my opportunity to go collecting and to start repotting conifers and other evergreens. Some of the tasks you should be attending to during this month are:

1. Preparing soil mixes in preparation for potting and repotting
2. Cleaning and sharpening your tools
3. Making sure you have the correct pot(s) for those little gems you plan on moving into a container
4. Ordering a full complement of wire sizes
5. Be sure and check you trees daily. Don't think that because it's winter and you don't have to water as often, that your trees don't need any. Wind is your enemy during the winter months. A stiff wind can literally suck the moisture out of foliage and damage your trees. Continue to mist foliage, especially on windy days. Check soils with your finger to check the amount of moisture in the soil.

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**Tuesday, April 9, 2019**

**Intermediate Study Group (for signed up participants)**

**6:00pm-7:15pm**

**Program: To be Announced 7:30pm**

**April 6 & 7, 2019**

**Mark your calendars for our club participation in the Spring Garden Show at City Park.**



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over the Weyerhaeuser Collection. Lowell Tilley did such a great job talking about Dave's visit, I decided to steal from him for the following.

David De Groot is Curator Emeritus of the Pacific Bonsai Museum in Federal Way, WA where he served as managing curator for 25 years. He is an award-winning designer and author, who has been studying and practicing bonsai since 1972.

He has studied bonsai in Japan with Yasuo Mitsuya at Tokai-en Bonsai Nursery. He studied satsuki (azaleas) with Tatemori Gondo and Hayata Nakayama at Suisho Nakayama Nursery, and formal bonsai display with Uhaku Sudo. at Chikufu-en Bonsai Nursery.

His educational journal articles have been published throughout the U.S. and in eight other countries, and he is author of two books published by the American Bonsai Society - Basic Bonsai Design and Principles of Bonsai Design, now in its second printing.

David travels widely to lecture, and has presented programs on five continents. He is active with several bonsai organizations in the Puget Sound area and serves as Secretary for Bonsai Clubs International.

I am truly looking forward to seeing my mentor once again.

You should make a point of attending.

**Randy Bennett**  
**GNOBS President**



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