

THE BONSAI Wire

May 2022

The Newsletter of The Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society

FROM THE President



he heat is on! I have started watering my trees everyday for a few weeks now.

It's been windy and dry around me lately. I especially have to watch out for my deciduous trees that I have in pond pots, they dry out very quickly. One I have in mind (American elm) I may slip pot it into a larger nursery container since it has been wilting daily and summer is not here yet. My Japanese Black Pines do very well in pond pots. I could get away with skipping a day here and there till the heat of summer comes along (with JBP only). If you are refining development on Japanese Black Pines this is the last month you should be fertilizing them before de-candling them in June. If you are still growing them out, continue to fertilize all summer.

I look forward to our next meeting with Robert Reed. Robert has been growing juniper for years and is considered a juniper expert in my book. If you have or are interested in growing juniper bonsai you don't want to miss our next meeting. Feel free to bring in your juniper(s) that you need help with or just to show.

It's time to start collecting or separating your donations for our annual auction. Starting

President cont. pg 6

MEETINGS & Events

Reminder - our new home for meetings is:
American Legion Hall
1225 Hickory Ave, Harahan, LA 70123

Tuesday, May 17, 2022

Intermediate Study Group: Dennis Burke
demo on air layering 6:00pm

Program: Juniper presentation by Robert Reed 7:00pm

Note: This meeting has been moved from May 10 to May 17 due to a scheduling conflict

Robert Reed will be doing a comprehensive lecture on junipers. Members who know Robert can attest that he is both an expert juniper stylist and well versed in their horticultural needs. Members are encouraged to bring in a juniper for display, questions or critique.

Note: A sign up sheet will be available for the July Water Jasmine workshop.

Tuesday, June 14, 2022

Intermediate Study Group: Wiring your Bonsai by Dennis Burke 6:00pm

Program: All About Tropicals (Multiple Presenters) 7:00pm

A number of more experienced members will be bringing in and discussing a wide range of different tropicals. Members are asked to bring in tropicals for display and questions. Members are encouraged to bring in a tropical for display, questions or critique.



Friday, July 8, 2022

Program: Demo/presentation on Water Jasmine by
Make Lane 7:00pm

Program: Initial Competition for Johnny Martinez
Award

Mike will be doing a demo on a nice water jasmine (flowering tropical) from Wigert's Bonsai. Mike studied and worked

Meetings cont. pg 6



BONSAI Events

Lone Star Bonsai Federation 2022 Convention

By Randy Bennett



One of three isles in the exhibit area

I had the opportunity to attend the 2022 Bonsai Convention put on by the LSBF and hosted by the San Antonio Bonsai Society. What a great decision it was to attend. It was two and a half days of non-stop activities and fun. I made new friends in the bonsai world and had the opportunity to talk bonsai with some fabulous Texas artists.



Roy Nagatoshi lecturing on an olive

Mr. Nagatoshi working on a live oak

The featured artists were Roy Nagatoshi, Boon Manakitivipart and Jennifer Price. But they also had other artists like Steve Young, David Whitaker, and Ryan Odegaard who conducted additional workshops. They had special guests like Stephanie Jones who presented



a lecture on Japanese Gardens and Tea Ceremony and Kristy Majeske who presented a program on Japanese scrolls.

There was a lot of fabulous material available in the workshops in addition to workshops where you brought your own tree to work on. One of the "Bring Your Own Tree" workshops was just on carving. And in addition to the workshops presented by the guest artists, there was a childrens' workshop, a workshop on creating saikei, and one on creating shohin bonsai. And what a privilege it was to watch the artists work.

There were morning and afternoon workshops each day and as an observer, I went from room to room watching and listening to their discussions on a wide variety of species. Friday's activities culminated in a lecture demonstration by all three guest artists up on the stage. Roy Nagatoshi styled a massive, collected dwarf yaupon.

Boon Manakitivipart styled a large Japanese boxwood. And Jennifer Price (along with her able assistant, Dawn Koetting!) styled a large cedar elm. All three trees were auctioned off Saturday night.



Boon Manakitivipart in one of his workshops

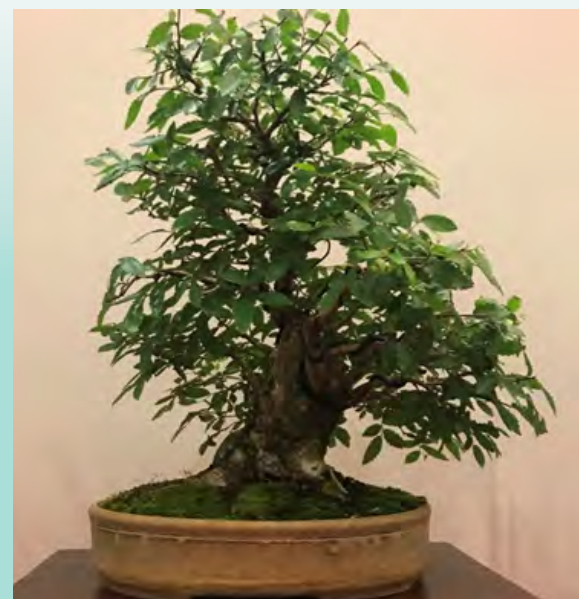


Jennifer Price in "BYOT" workshop

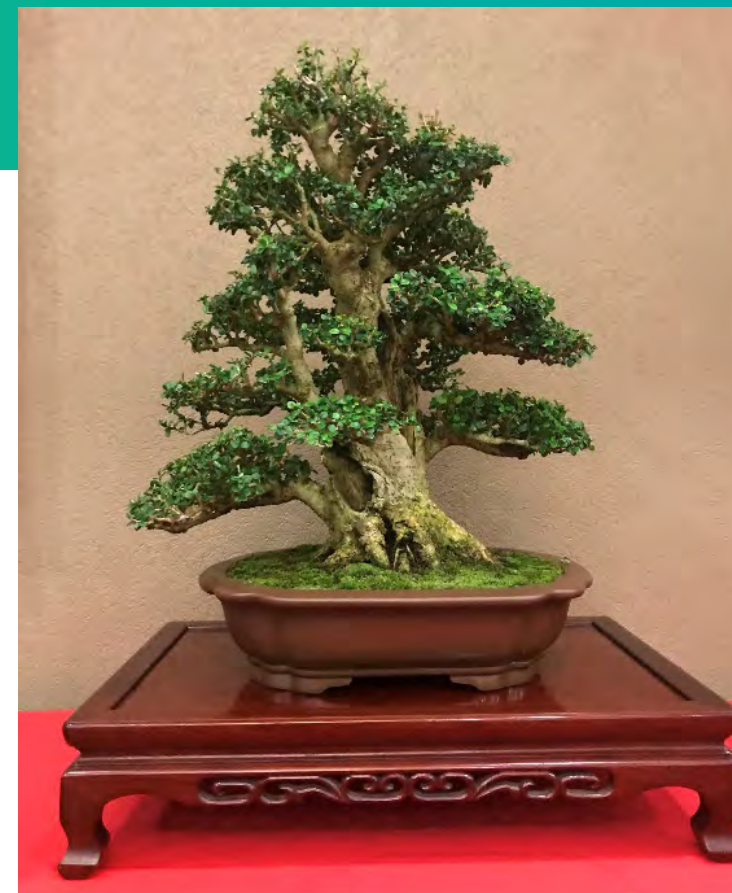
There was a vendor area packed with trees from field-grown stock to nursery stock to pre-bonsai and finished bonsai, bonsai pots, soils, suiseki stones, display stands and a fabulous array of vintage Japanese scrolls. The San Antonio Pond

Society was one of their sponsors and set up a koi pond at the entrance to the bonsai exhibit area. There were non-stop raffles with hundreds of items on all three days.

The trees in the exhibit were truly fabulous. I kept going back through the exhibit over and over again, looking at the trees on display. There was a display of shohin trees and every other size imaginable. There were displays of kusamono (accent plants) and suiseki (viewing stones) from around the world. Dawn Koetting, Evan Purdue and myself decided to enter trees in the exhibit. To enter a tree in the exhibit, you had to select a category for your tree. There were several categories to choose from including Tropical and Semi-Tropical, Broad-Leaf Evergreen, Conifer, Deciduous, Shohin and Texas Natives. There was even a category for Kusamono and one for Suiseki. **Dawn Koetting put her Neea buxifolia (Nia) in the exhibit as a tropical. But alas, she didn't win Best Tropical. That's because it was such an excellent tree, she won "Best in Show"! Congratulations Dawn! And it was certainly a tree that deserved the honor. I put a bald cypress in the exhibit and won "Best Texas Native".**



Evan Purdue's Winged Elm



Dawn Koetting's Nia "Best in Show"



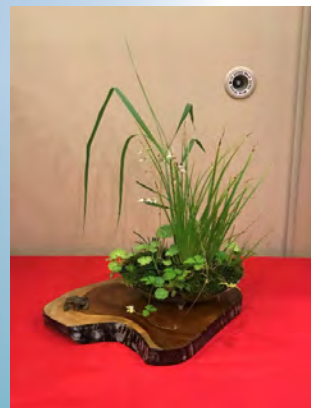
Randy's Bald Cypress "Best Texas Native"

BONSAI Events

Lone Star cont. from pg 3



Jennifer Price and Dawn with Cedar Elm



To sum it up, it was a great convention! I would encourage our members to try and attend state, national and international conventions whenever possible. The experience and opportunity to learn is immeasurable.

Meetings cont. from pg 1

under Erik Wigert and had additional training with Mauro Stemberger, Min Lo, Robert Steven, Vlad Novak, and Enrique Castano. He began teaching and doing workshops in 2012. He specializes in Shohin and tropicals. (He did a demo for GNOBS in 2020 and was very entertaining and informative.)

All members (including beginners) are asked to bring in their best trees (limit 2) for a friendly competition. All members present will get 3 votes for their favorite trees. The 3 trees with the most votes will be displayed at the Auction. Auction attendees will vote for their favorite tree from the 3 for the Johnny Martinez Award. We ask that you not bring in a tree from a workshop done in the past year. Time permitting, Mike will provide a constructive critique.

Saturday, July 9, 2022

Program: Water Jasmine Workshop with Mike Lane 9:00am

Water Jasmine is a flowering tropical tree that produces fragrant white flowers that hang down below the foliage. They bloom in spring and in fall. A sign up sheet for the workshop will be available at the May meeting. Price for the workshop will be available then. Take this opportunity to add this unique flowering tree to your collection.



Saturday, August 13, 2022

Annual GNOBS Auction

VFW Hall - 1133 Hickory Ave, Harahan, LA 70123

Get your donations ready! Now is the time to go through that overcrowded bench and decide which of your trees should go to the auction for a new home. All donations contribute to the operating budget of the club. (Please take the time now to root some cuttings, do air layers etc for the bargain table)

President cont. from pg 1

now on getting them ready will help GNOBS make it a great fund raiser. This is how we as a club get to bring in various artists throughout the year for the benefit of the entire club. The last two auctions have been record breakers for GNOBS, I hope we can continue that progression to allow us to make our club event filled. Please note we have a new Location for our auction (VFW hall) which is a block away from our new monthly meeting place.

Dennis Burke
GNOBS President

Congratulations to

Dawn Koetting
for winning "Best in Show"

and

Randy Bennett
for winning "Best Texas Native"
at the Lone Star Bonsai Convention

Evan Pardue for completing a week
of studying with Michael Hagedorn at
Crataegus Bonsai
(He has also been invited back.)

Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society

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