

July 2013
Volume 3, Issue 7

The Corpus Christi Bonsai Club, Inc was organized in 1976 and is a member of the Lone Star Bonsai Federation, Bonsai Clubs International and The Corpus Christi Area Garden Council Inc. Individual Membership is \$15.00 per year (students \$5. 00). Membership for couples is \$20 per year. Method of Dues Proration for new members is detailed in the Bonsai Club Yearbook. Early payment of dues is appreciated and allows your name to be included in the club yearbook available in January. Meetings are held on the 4th Thursday of each month, January through October, at the Garden Senior Center, 5325 Greely Dr, Corpus Christi TX

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Contact: djfalcon87@gmail.com to submit articles, photos, comments or suggestions,

Corpus Christi Bonsai Club Newsletter

Message from the President

Versie Marks, President

On June 29, we met at World Headquarters for a Root over Rock workshop, temperatures got really high. We learned later that day that it actually got to 107, the next day we woke up to rain and it never got over 87. Only in South Texas. Wish we had worked on our projects Sunday instead of Saturday. Next year we won't plan any workshops after May 15. It was still a great day.

Cheryl Manning will be here September 8 & 9 for 2 workshops and a Lecture/ Demo. The first workshop on Sunday will be at Betty Whitt's house at 1 pm. Betty's address is 5130 Cape Ann. This is off Ocean Drive for those who have never been there. The second workshop will be at the Center on Monday, at 1 pm. The Lecture/Demo will be Monday night at 7pm at the Center. We will have sign up sheets at the meeting for the workshops. We usually have 10 participants per workshop, we would like to fill both workshops. Cheryl apprenticed in Japan under Master Yasuo Mitsuya. Cheryl edited John Naka's sketchbook. A compilation of John's bonsai sketches from around the world. (We have a copy in our library).

At this meeting Yvonne will have sign up sheets, one for refreshments and one for programs. She is looking for new and fresh ideas for next years programs. Yep, next year is already being planned. If you have an idea for a Lecture/Demo or would like to do one, please let Yvonne know.

The program this month is on Jin & Shari. David Falcon will do this program, this will be a great program. Most of us want to learn more about Jinning.

Happy Gardening,

CCBC May 2013's Meeting Minutes

Penny Taber, Secretary

- The Meeting was called to order 7:00pm. by Versie Marks.

Upcoming Events:

July 10th **Wednesday Workshop**
Garden Senior Center
7p.m.-9p.m.

July 25th, Thursday **Monthly Meeting**
Garden Senior Center
7p.m.-9p.m.

Program **Jin& Shari**

Speaker **David Falcon**

Tree Display **Jinned Trees**

Dates to Remember:

Report from Nominating Committee: Election of Officers

Start List for Hospitality Host/Hostess for 2014

Start Idea List for 2014 Programs

Pay Dues for 2014

- We had guest for the evening, Mario Jimenez and Sue Ellen Navarro.
- Versie Thanked Linda and herself for evening refreshments.
- Treasurers report was approved as read by Versie for Dale. Old Business; Root over We had guest for the evening, Mario Jimenez and Sue Ellen Navarro.
- Versie Thanked Linda and herself for evening refreshments.
- Treasurers report was approved as read by Versie for Dale. Rock this Saturday 29th. 9:00 am WORLD Headquarters.
- David informed us of the DVD player, converter & cable purchased by him with club funds for club use.
- Cheryl Manning will be coming Sunday Sept. 8th. She will be taken to lunch by the club, and will hold a workshop at 1:00pm at Betty Witt's house.
- She will also hold a workshop Mon. at 1:00 pm. and a Lecture Demo. at 7:00pm. both at the Senior Center.
- Workshops have 10 spaces ea. and cost \$10.00 ea. per person.
- Yvonne attended the Brainstorm Meeting in Wimberley along with Versie Marks and Dale Hernandez. She took notes and plans to compile a handbook. Yvonne also let us know, at next Months meeting we need to give her suggestions for programs for 2014. Also, she encourages us to sign up for the refreshments list for 2014 - we all enjoy the refreshments!
- We were also informed that the Garden Council will be welcoming, our own, Linda May as they're new incoming President in Sept. Congratulations Linda!
- No New business.
- Our meeting was adjourned at 7:25 for refreshments and then the program on Bahama Black olive was presented by Rick Smoll and Yvonne Padilla.
- The styled and potted tree was won by Linda May.
- Our pot swap of the evening was a success.

Garden Center Clean Up

By Yvonne Padilla

When the Center reopened after being remodeled as a senior center one of the requirements of Council clubs was to clean the room before leaving. This included sweeping any dirt, trash and etc off the floor. Clean off tables picking up any trash such as cups, napkins and etc. That is very little to ask. We can be messy at times. The person doing the Lecture/Demo should not have to do this task. This also means cleaning up after all workshops. We have plenty of members who can take turns. We do not have to fold chairs or take down tables. However that has been announced and members still do it. That is O.K. Please let's do the clean up first

**. 2013 Kathy Shaner Seminar
October 18th–20th
Buda, TX**

* Seminar *
* Grafting Workshop *
* Bring-your-own-tree Workshop *

Registration available in August. To be notified when registration is open, email ckmurphy2000@gmail.com.

July Bonsai

By John Miller

John Miller, who writes a monthly column for the Bonsai Society of Dallas and Fort Worth Bonsai Society, has agreed to share his column with us. We need to make adjustments for our warmer and damper climate, with earlier springs, longer summers, late fall and erratic winters.

July and August are the two most stressful months for bonsai in our neck of the woods. Most healthy trees can take the full sun on their foliage. But the high ambient temperatures and the heating effect of the sun on the pots and soil create temperatures on the roots that they are not designed to cope with. Trees with thin leaves like the Japanese maple, Acer Palmatum, that are under-story trees, will probably scorch in full sun. They can also suffer from chemical burn from some fertilizers and insecticides which can be more damaging in the heat.

I cannot give you a precise to-do list since your backyard is different from mine but you should be sure that the sun does not hit the pots directly. If you use a cover of any kind be sure that the side of the pot is protected also. A loose weave cover that allows air flow is preferable to solid paper or foil. A solid cover or box over the pot would create an oven type enclosure. There should be room for air flow around the pot. A 30-40% shade cloth over pines, junipers, and elms and maybe 50%

over maples would be ideal. And don't forget to provide protection on the west side from that mean afternoon sun.

Check your water practices. Normally I prefer to water heavily in the evening. That gives the plant all night to renew itself without losing most of its water to evaporation. Then in the early morning, they get a quick foliage spray and wetting the surface of the soil which may have dried out overnight. This was what I did while working. Be sure to do the double watering bit--water thoroughly so that the dry soil particles will get moistened and after a few minutes water again so that they will soak up fully.

Pots out in the sun can get pot pretty hot. Not only does this dry out the soil very fast but the tree roots cannot live in a hot soil. A temperature I have heard given is 120 degrees that will kill roots on most plants. An article by Dr. Bill Cody suggests that his experiments show that an afternoon watering at 2PM will go a long way to keep the soil temperature in a desirable range while a box close around the pot does little to protect it. Therefore I now try to water at 2pm to cool and refresh the roots and again after sundown to get the night started right.

When the humidity is low I mist my junipers in the evening. I believe the story that in the wild junipers open their stomata in the cool of the evening absorbing any dew that may occur and close in the heat of the day to conserve moisture. The other species may get a foliage spray in the morning.

Also watch for signs of insect problems. The spider mite will always be near. Others to look for are scale of various forms, aphids, and mealy bugs. Preventative medicine is best, spray or a regular schedule. By the time you see signs, the damage is already done, especially from spider mites. I use the organic foliar feed (1 Tablespoon each of fish emulsion, liquid kelp, molasses and 5% apple cider vinegar per gallon water) to control all these. You can use some of the other organic controls or a chemical according to label directions. Read the label directions carefully.

Do not apply oil based chemicals to buttonwoods. A hose end sprayer does not work very well, its droplets are too large and you have little control over where it goes. Use a pump sprayer with a fine spray and cover both top and bottom of leaves.

When checking the results on your plants after spraying remember that the spray usually will not remove the 'evidence' of problems. The webs will still be there after the mites are killed, the shells of the scale will be attached to the leaf or stem. These will have to be removed by hand, by a jet of water, or some other way. A soft toothbrush works good on the scale shells. There is no damage from this leftover evidence but it prevents you from seeing any new infestation that may occur.

The humidity in summer varies quite a bit but when it sticks around for a few days look for fungal problems to appear, mildew being the most prevalent. Black spot will show up if the foliage stays wet very long. Foliage watering in the morning will usually not be a problem because it dries pretty quickly. Treat with potassium carbonate which you can find at any nursery with a decent organic section. There are several chemical sprays available too.

As a rule we do not feed our trees enough. Since the mix we use has very little nutrient value, we must make up with our fertilizer practice.

Water soluble fertilizers will be quickly washed out. The best “rule” I have heard was given by Matt Ouwinga who primarily grows trident maples.

Matt’s rule:

- A. Apply organic fertilizer balls each 6 weeks. Discard old balls.
- B. Apply fish emulsion every two weeks.
- C. Apply liquid plant food on alternate weeks.

You can fertilize with most organic type fertilizers without worrying about burning the roots in hot weather. Do not use hi-powered types tho, such as bat guano or one made heavily with chicken manure unless you use them very lightly. If you use chemical types follow the label. If they do not specify any temperature restrictions try using a weaker solution than normal. Without a lot of organic material in your soil you should use a weaker solution but more often to provide a more even feeding.

Many spring flowering plants will be setting buds for next years flowers. Azaleas will set theirs toward the end of July. If you prune tips after that you remove the new buds.

Now that night temperatures are staying above 60 degrees you should think about repotting some of the tropicals. Most tropicals do well with an annual repotting. I would emphasize to check the wires on your trees and also see that the drains are not blocked in any way. Especially check them after a rain to be sure that your pots have drained properly. Keep the tropicals trimmed as they will be growing like crazy. However, if you want flowers on those that produce on the end of the twigs, bougianvilla-pomegranate-crape myrtle, you will have to forgo the bonsai shape to let them flower. These species should be pruned more drastically before the growing season starts so they can still be in a pretty good shape.

Your trees too keep growing and need their periodic beauty treatment. Keep the ends trimmed and the stray shoots cut out. It’s not that bad when you can sit in the shade with a big lemonade and really enjoy being with your bonsai. That way you will have your tree ready for the fall show or you will be ready to enjoy it when the change of seasons give it pretty colors.

TIMELESS TREES
Education, Success, and Fun

<p>Trees</p> <p>Supplies</p> <p>Workshops</p> <p>Hours: Wed - Sat 9:00am - 3:00pm And by Appt.</p>	<p>Hurley Johnson</p> <p>2707 David St Rosenberg, Texas 77471</p> <p>832-526-5962 timeless-trees.com</p>
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Tropical Bonsai School

By Pedro J. Morales

Year 1

June 22nd – June 28th
9 am – 5 pm

Year 2

July 27th – August 2nd
9 am – 5 pm

Held at “Timeless Trees” in Rosenberg, TX.

Seven days of intensive instruction, lecture, videos, and hands-on work with the world renowned Bonsai artist Pedro Morales. Lunch and supplies included. The best instructional value in the U.S.

\$600.00 per class

Contact Hurley Johnson to sign up, 832-526-5962 or hurley@all-tex.net