

Aug 2013
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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

Dog days of summer, **Forecast---HOT**, tomorrows forecast--**HOT**. Everyday is just a repeat of today or yesterday or tomorrow. It's almost to hot to go out and water, at least holding to water hose makes me feel cooler. I water, fertilize, I pull weeds and go in the house, even clipping does not appeal to me these days.

Six weeks ago I did snip all the figs off my Ficus trees with the idea the fruit was using to much of the energy the plant needed to keep the leaves healthy. Now the leaves have really greened up and the plants are starting to look really good. Maybe the move to the shaded area of the yard helped also. I have a Burt Davyi, Ficus that puts on more fruit than leaves. I read somewhere that the fruit is edible; I was not impressed with the tiny little pea size fruit. At least the Natal Plums puts on a pretty red fruit that is memorable and tasty.

Dale is working on collecting dues for next year and Yvonne is working on program ideas for next year. It takes a while to collect material for programs so if you have something you want a program on next year let her know soon. She has a great way of keeping an eye out for material.

The program this month is root over rock. Beverly and I will be working on a project that was started in March. If you have a root over rock please bring it to the meeting. We saw the one we did last year and it seems to be coming along nicely.

Don't forget Cheryl Manning will be here September 8 and 9, if you haven't signed up for her workshop do so at this meeting, she will be here two weeks after our meeting. We had her here several years ago and she is very talented... Cheryl has a great deal of knowledge about John Naka's work. She also does fine work with tropical plants.

See you at the meeting and keep cool.

Upcoming Events:

August 14th Wednesday
Workshop
Garden Senior
Center
7p.m.-9p.m.

August 22nd, Monthly
Thursday Meeting
Garden Senior
Center
7p.m.-9p.m.

Program Root Over
Rock

Speaker Versie Marks
& Beverly
Kemper

Tree Root Over
Display Rock Trees

Dates to Remember:

List for Hospitality
Host/Hostess for 2014

Idea List for 2014 Programs

Pay Dues for 2014

CCBC July 2013's Meeting Minutes

Penny Taber, Secretary

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00pm.

Versie thanked Rick Rendl and Linda May for refreshments.

We welcomed a guest for the evening "Mario"

Treasurer's report was approved as written by Dale Hernandez

Old business:

- None

New business;

- Yvonne spoke about workshop and lecture/demo ideas for 2014. We should all contribute ideas!
- We should all sign up for the 2014 refreshments list,
- We all need to pay our 2014 dues before Oct (\$15.00 per person or \$20.00 per couple).
- The nominating committee nominated, for 2014, our present slate of Officers who have accepted and will be staying in they're positions for 2014.
- David Falcon will step down as yearbook Chairman and newsletter publisher. New person for this position will be announced at a later date.

Cheryl Manning will be here on Sunday September 8th, for a workshop (bring your own tree), 1:00pm at the home of Betty Whitt. Address is in yearbook. also a workshop , Monday 9th. 1:00pm. at the senior center. and lecture demo. 6:30pm. same location. The workshop cost is \$10.00 ea. to be paid (in advance) to Dale Hernandez.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 for refreshments and video demonstration on Jin and shari presented by David Falcon. Nice little bonsai juniper was raffled and won by Rick Rendl. Congrats Rick Rendl.

2014 PROGRAMS: Yvonne Padilla will make a final pass of the forms for 2014 Program Suggestions and 2014 Hospitality Duty. Please make your Program suggestions and sign up for Hospitality Duty.

**. 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.

Cheryl Manning – Biography 2014 LSBF Touring Artist

Cheryl Manning has been passionate about the art of bonsai for over thirty years. She was fortunate enough to become a student and close friend of John Naka, the father of American bonsai. She also spent a year in Japan as an apprentice to bonsai master Yasuo Mitsuya, owner of Tokai-en in Toyohashi.

Cheryl has conducted bonsai demonstrations and workshops in the United States, Canada, and Australia. An artist's eye makes design her forte. Her other strengths include carving, refinement, and presentation.

She's written more than fifty articles for major bonsai publications including a quarterly column "Trash to Treasure" for *Bonsai: Journal of the American Bonsai Society*. Cheryl has also edited *John Naka's Sketchbook* (National Bonsai Foundation, 2005) and is contributing "Sketchbook Stories" (anecdotes about the trees featured in *John Naka's Sketchbook*) for the *NBF Bulletin*. She's currently researching and writing a biography of John Naka.

Her artistic philosophy: it doesn't matter whether you're a novice with beginning bonsai or an expert with masterpiece material. All levels of expertise should be appreciated and encouraged to grow. It's the journey one takes that sets the art of bonsai apart from all other arts.

August 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.

As I start this column the high temperatures have not reached 80 for three days, no rain just cool. But we have to make sure the bonsai will not suffer the rest of the summer from the merciless sun and ambient in triple digits.

During this time you will need to provide shade, check your watering habits, and maybe modify your fertilizing techniques.

A good many species could take the summer Texas sun if their roots were maintained in a normal soil temp less than 80 degrees. But since the their pots are in an ambient where even the August night temps may not get that cool, you have to take some heroic steps to care for them.

When you think about providing shade remember that the sun is constantly moving. The worst sun is in late afternoon when the ambient is very high and the air is usually very dry. If this sun hits the pots they will get very hot. Providing shade on the west is very important. You should cover your pots with a loose fitting cloth to allow air flow around them.

Special summer care needs to be given any kind of bonsai with rocks. That would include root over rock, tree on a rock, and a tree using a rock to mask a poor nebari. These rocks need to be shielded from the sun even more so than the bonsai pots as they are in intimate contact with the roots.

Watering usually presents a major problem, since most of us work away from home. The high ambient causes the trees to transpire heavily in the afternoon just when the soil is getting drier. The tree has difficulty in transporting enough water up the trunk.

Ideally you would be able to water three times a day. A morning watering would get the plant off to a good start. Watering at about 2:30pm would not only replace the water loss thru evaporation but would also cool the soil back to 60 or so refreshing the tree for its afternoon ordeal. Then again water at sundown which again cools the soil and lets the tree recover overnight. If the humidity allows (no fungal problems), you can spray the foliage.

If you have to use an irrigation system, it is best to not use drip emitters as they only create wet spots in these shallow pots. Better to use a loop of 1/4 inch soaker hose going all the way around the surface of the pot. With overhead sprinklers the tree may shed the water to the outside and may not get the soil wet.

Fertilizers, including the organics, and insecticides are chemical activities and as such are greatly influenced by the temperature. You still need to feed the trees and control the insects but read all labels carefully. You would be advised to use a lower application rate usually.

Meanwhile all the usual mundane things must be taken care of. The warm conditions are great for the bad things. Spider mites especially grow fast and are more damaging. Any problems you have had in the past, scale or other insects, will probably need to be attended to.

In the real world, plan your soil mix for your average conditions and then if you have a long wet spell tilt the pots for drainage and give an extra watering when hot and dry. Put loose sphagnum moss on the surface to keep it from drying out. Use some loose covering on the pot to shade it from the sun. A windbreak could help with tender leaved trees.

Remember to water twice. Wait a few minutes after the first watering for the dry soil particles to absorb some of the water on their surface. Then with the surface tension reduced the second watering gets the particle wet.

We can still to repot our Tropicals and Semi-tropicals like Fukien tea, Bahamas Black Olive, Buttonwood, Ficus. When repotting, be sure to wire the tree securely in the pot to give it good stability against the winds. It might be a good idea to also tie the pot to the bench also, especially if there is a lot of foliage or your pot and soil mix are lightweight. You should remember that even the tropicals do not like their roots hot. Sun on the pots may heat the soil and prevent new root development even tho the tops may break new buds.

Spring flowering species usually set their buds in the fall. Most azaleas set in July. For good flowering next year do not prune them and feed with a higher phosphorus mix. Some of the minor elements are needed for brilliant colors.

Deciduous trees usually slow (but do not stop) their growth during summer so you can do some pruning on them. Pruning can stimulate new growth that may not have time to harden before winter resulting in some dieback of the new growth. On these trees its better to wait until later. After leaves have fallen you can see where corrections need to be made more easily. However you should not let tip growth ruin the fine ramification on finished trees. Keep it pinched.

Help your club by noting bonsai related things while you are driving around. Any possible collecting sites, nurseries, sources for soil ingredients, people who could present an interesting program would be of use. Your club officials are usually not wellsprings of information and would welcome any inputs. Also write a short (or long) article for your local newsletter editor. It could be on a new or unusual species, where you saw something interesting, etc. Small things like that would be most welcome and make your club grow and keep it interesting both for you and others.

TIMELESS TREES

Education, Success, and Fun

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