

Oct. 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

Cool weather at last and a little rain to go with it, add coffee and you get a perfect day.

This bonsai year has gone by really fast. We have had some great programs and interesting workshops. I'd like to say my yard and bonsai are in good shape and right where I want to be this time of year. NOT so. Trimming and weeding always gets the best of me.

This up coming meeting we are lucky to have Chuck Ware from Jade Garden's. Chuck will be here to do the program on Fertilizers, Insecticides and Watering. This is a subject Chuck knows a lot about and he is always entertaining. If you have been having problems with any of these subjects write them down and bring them to the meeting.

November 2, is our Backyard Bonsai Tour. The first house on the tour is Jesse's. He has a fabulous collection. Jesse has been doing bonsai and collecting for about 10 years. The second house on the tour is Penny's. She lives in Orange Grove. (Addresses to follow). Very easy to find, look for the water tower, she lives across the street. Penny got hooked on bonsai while attending a convention with Beverly. Bring something to put on table, salad, dessert, pickles, fruit, whatever comes to mind. The club will be footing the bill for the hamburgers and hot dogs. No, a pig will not be roasted, Larry said so.

This is our last newsletter of the year and I would like to thank David for doing it the last few years, Thank You, David.

CCBC August 2013's Meeting Minutes

Penny Taber, Secretary

- The Sept. meeting was called to order at 7:02pm.
- We welcomed Sergio Vega Ruiz visiting our club from Monterrey Mexico.
- We thanked Jorge and Linda for the evening's refreshments.
- Last Meeting minutes were approved as read - no questions.

Upcoming Events:

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

Oct 24th,
Thursday Monthly
Meeting
Garden Senior
Center
7p.m.-9p.m.

Program Fertilizers,
Insecticides
and Watering

Speaker Chuck Ware

Tree Your Favorite
Display Tree

Dates to Remember:

Pay Dues for 2014

CCBC July 2013's Meeting Minutes (Cont)

- Treasurer's report was approved as Read by Dale. No Questions
- Old business; We gave a Big Thank you to Dale, Helen, Linda, and Beverly for helping at Yvonne's on Sept.7th -YAY LADIES!! Yvonne enjoyed it.
- New business; Mario has agreed to do our 2014 Newsletters. Yah!
- Sergio donated 2 books to our library. Thank you Sergio!
- Membership dues should be paid by this Oct. meeting, "Our last meeting of 2013".
- Linda let us know, the art center has invited our club to come and display a few of our Bonsai Trees, This subject will be discussed further, at a later date.
- The Backyard Tour will be held on Sat. Nov.2nd, Meeting at 9:00am. Jesses house, 4521 Orchid lane. Then Penny's house. Yes! Orange Grove, Tx. 302 S. Dibrell. Yellow House, Green roof, our driveway is right across from Water tower. We will have lunch here and a workshop after. Please bring a dish, and a Chair.
- The Christmas Party was discussed and we still need people to sign up to bring a dish. It will be held Fri. Dec.6th.6:30.
- Yvonne reminded us, Chuck Ware will be conducting a program on Fertilizers, Insecticides and Watering, at the Oct. 24th meeting.
- On Sat.Oct.5th, a board meeting will be held, at Versie's house to update the yearbook.
- Yvonne announced that on Sat Oct.19th, she will have a downsizing sale at her Home - Club members only.
- Our meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm, for refreshments and Yvonne's program on Bonsai display, and accent plants.
- A Cheryl Manning, styled Ficus was won by Helen and a John Naka poster was won by Versie.

**. 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.

October Bonsai

By John Miller

Now is the time to start your trees toward their winter siesta. If you wait until the temperature drops, you get too rushed and omit some of the little housekeeping duties.

When the leaves start turning the sap has quit for the year and you may check the branches and twigs to see if any need to be trimmed. Remove any wire that is too tight. Rewire if necessary cutting back any protruding branches will keep them from snagging and possibly breaking other trees when you put them down. Don't cut the buds off the spring flowering plants unless absolutely necessary if you want flowers next spring.

Remove the top half-inch of soil and replenish it with new soil. This will remove weed seeds that have blown in and will make next year's job easier. Of course if you plan on repotting next spring it isn't necessary.

Do you need to change the pot? Making notes at this time will give you 3-4 months to find the proper pot.

For the beginners, plants like the cedar elm, oak, maple that are hardy much further north can be set on a clean gravel bed. When the real cold (26 or lower) gets here cover the pots with fairly loose mulch. Plants that grow south of Dallas, crape myrtle, firethorn, some azalea, need to have root protection. I like to let them get frostbit but bring them in before freezing. Of course the tropicals need to be babied.

All this is basically talking about the broadleaf deciduous trees. Evergreens do not go dormant in winter. Some broadleaf types like boxwoods slow way down but still need sunlight. These broadleaf evergreens need the basic winter protection of deciduous trees but have a higher water need.

Cut back on the watering now that the temperature is a little lower but don't allow the trees to dry out. Trees require less water during the shorter days and lower temperatures. However you need

to remember that the wind can still stress the trees so water by checking the soil and not just on a given schedule.

Pests on deciduous trees are not usually of much concern in the fall since the leaves are about to fall anyway. Scale must be taken care of with an horticultural oil spray. On evergreen plants most problems are done for the year. Mites can be a problem if we get a few warm days in a row. The organic foliar spray with seaweed (kelp) will not only take care of them but will be beneficial to the tree as well.

Insects will continue to be present. Cooler (but not cold) days mean a resurgence of the aphids. Mites will also still be around. Scale also can be a problem. Treat with light horticultural oil which will kill the adults and also wipe out the eggs and over-wintering pupae. Be sure to cover all the cracks in the bark to get to the eggs. The organic spray (one tablespoon each liquid kelp, fish emulsion, apple cider vinegar, and molasses in one gallon of water) will work on evergreens and will also give them some nutrients. The dead scale will probably have to be removed physically. A soft toothbrush works for me (I sometimes need to wet the branch to loosen the scale shell).

Repot in the fall? The 'best' time to repot is when active growth begins. The plant tells you that conditions are right and it will respond immediately. However, your own schedule, business or personal events, or other reasons you may have to do it. Repotting means new root growth and new roots are usually very tender. You will need more protection for them and watch your watering carefully. This year I will be doing some repotting during the fall and/or winter.

Take a critical look at some of your trees. As time goes on with only refinement pruning the branches and twigs will grow beyond your original design. You may need to do some heavier pruning. No heavy pruning will lead to the lack of refinement and a top heavy tree with branches out of proportion. Do the rejuvenating pruning this fall and repot at the proper time next spring.

Creating some shohin bonsai can lead to some winter enjoyment. Since they do not take much room you can find a space in the house or a small greenhouse. Let them go dormant for a short period and you can take them in and have new growth in a very short time. Small elms are especially good for this. Then set back and enjoy your little fellows in the house while the winter wears on.

Time to take a good look at your tropicals. Before going into the dry low light conditions most of us have for winter quarters they need to be vigorous, pruned and free of problems. Give them a good feeding preferably with an organic fertilizer. If you use a water soluble type use a low dilution and feed every 2-3 days. Prune all new growth back to the trees best shape. Keep any new growth pinched to 2-3 leaves. Use your desired insecticide and/or fungicide now and again just before you take them in.

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