

# BONSAI CLIPPER

## Newsletter of the Bonsai of Southwest Florida

Online Newsletter, Issue 7

July, 2008

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The July meeting will be at St. John the Apostle Church, 3049 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers, on Saturday, July 19, 2008, at 9 AM. The program will be an Exhibit Tree Critique. The club will have its usual general raffle, show and tell, display examples, in addition to the critique. The club wants 100 percent participation in this year's exhibit in November. Please plan to show one or more of your trees. Be proud of your tree. You do not think your tree(s) are up to the standard? Not to worry. We will have a section for trees in training, (the area would not be in a forgotten corner); plus at the meeting this month and next month, there will be plenty of help for you to get your tree show-ready. Bring your tools and materials to prepare your selection for the exhibit.

### **BSF STATE CONVENTION:**

#### **Convention Tidbits:**

The event was held June 6-9 in Cape Canaveral. The Fort Myers club participated in Club Night with a very artistic and well-presented Hon Non Bo creation. Justin Michael won the BSF Instructor Scholarship Award this year, and we all congratulate him on this outstanding achievement! Justin will be a presenter at the 2009 BSF State Convention in Orlando. Martha Goff was awarded the 2008 District 7 Award for general outstanding service acknowledgment for the Fort Myers Club.

### **MESSAGE FROM THE PREZ:**

Wow! It was nice to be back in St. John's for the June meeting, like old home week. We have a new member who has been showing up there every month hoping for our return. Say Hi to David Hays at our July meeting. Welcome David, and thanks for your persistence.

A new and less expensive meeting place is being worked out, talk of increased club dues, the Annual show plans are well underway, next month's program can only benefit the trees people plan to show, so bring them in for critique and work, support the raffle, (Mike Hagedorn's tree should be raffle-ready at this meeting), talk of a bus trip to the East coast still lingers. All in all, it is a very exciting time.

Hope to see you at the next meeting, Prez, Jim

### **MINUTES OF THE BSSWF MONTHLY MEETING**

June 25, 2008

President Jim Gehring called the meeting to order at 9:40 AM. The reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was waived.

#### **Reports:**

Jim gave a report on the BSF State Convention. Justin Michael won the BSF Instructor Scholarship. Erik Wigert did an outstanding demo on a bougainvillea, which did very well in the raffle. Martha Goff, James Michael, and Justin Michael did a Vietnamese landscape, "Mountains in the Sea," for Club Night that was very well received. Judy

Gore designed an Ikebana centerpiece of papyrus for the banquet tables, and Gail Gehring, Ginny Boka, and Cindy Lignelli assembled them on the day of the banquet. They received many compliments for the centerpieces. John Bishop and Robin Choinski each received a Certificate of Appreciation from BSF for their contributions to our Club. Martha Goff received the District 7 Award for her ongoing commitment to our Club. Jim asked members to bring to the July 19 meeting any books they had borrowed from the library. *Doug Suitor made a motion to increase dues in 2009, Judy Gore seconded the motion; after discussion, the motion received unanimous approval.* The Board will discuss the amount of increase. The Annual Show will be held at the church on November 14 and 15. Setup will start at 10: AM on Thursday, November 13. Sandra Bishop announced that there is presently a balance of \$9,138.61 in the Treasury. Sara Vera offered to pay for the \$40 cost of the picnic pavilion at Lakes Park for next year's picnic. Martha Goff would like to have every member bring a tree for the show. There will be no field trip in September. At that meeting, members will work on preparing their trees and display for the show. Bonnie Zeff will take over newsletter duties.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Becky Bodnar, Secretary, BSSWF

#### **MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

June 21, 2008, St. John the Apostle Church

President Jim Gehring convened the meeting at 1:25 PM and called for approval of the agenda. (See attachment I.)

**Old Business:** Bonnie Zeff has volunteered to take over the job of newsletter editor. The Annual Show will be on November 14 and 15, with setup starting at 10:00 AM on Thursday, November 13. The rent will be \$2,000. Bob Schneider will find out if the food vendor from the church will be there again for the show. *John Bishop moved that the 2008 show be at St. John the Apostle Church, Ernie seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.* Justin Michael should have been given a \$200 stipend as the Club representative for the Instructor's scholarship, but had received \$100. He was given an additional check for \$100.

#### **Annual Show Assignments:**

**Chair** – Dorothy Schmitz

**Program** – Martha Goff

**Publicity** – Martha Goff, assisted by Becky Bodnar

**Raffle** – Robin Choinski, assisted by Charles James

**Vendors** – Jim Gehring

**Hospitality** – Cel Luke

**Greeters** – John and Sandra Bishop

**Setup** – Bob Schneider

**Tree Placement** – Ernie Fernandez

**Education** – Millie Lugo, assisted by Becky Bodnar

**Photography** – Dorothy Schmitz and Ernie Fernandez

**Printed Material** – Martha Goff

**Certificates** – Bob Schneider

Dorothy discussed offering vendors the chance to place an ad, for a fee, in our email announcement of the show and in the program. Members and/or businesses who donate up to \$100 would be listed as “Donors” in the show program, and those who donate over \$100 would be listed as “Sponsors.” *Dorothy moved that vendors can place an ad in the email announcement and program for a fee and that members or businesses can be listed in the program as Donors, for a gift of up to \$100, or Sponsors for a gift of more than \$100, Bob seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.*

Board members are in favor of a field trip but will discuss this matter with the membership. Dorothy will be the coordinator for the web site and will assist Bonnie Zeff with the newsletter. The Club will not agree to be linked to net bonsai supplier, Joe Bonsai. Fort Myers-Lee County Garden Council sent Jim a “wish list” of items it would like member clubs to contribute. *Martha Goff moved that our Club contribute \$50 for an engraved brick for the walkway, Ernie seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.* James Michael has suggested an alternative meeting place for the Club's monthly meetings. The building houses Support Personnel Association of Lee County (SPALC) and is located at 6281 Metro Plantation Road, off Metro Parkway between Daniels and Colonial. The cost per month would be \$50. The place has adequate facilities, including a kitchen and some storage area. *Jim moved that the Club have monthly meetings at the Metro Parkway location, beginning in August, John Bishop seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.* John needs to get a copy of the Club's insurance contract to James, whose wife works at the business (SPALC) in this building.

**Directions to SPALC building:**

**From the North:**

Drive South on Rt. 41, turn left onto Colonial Blvd., turn right onto Metro Pkwy., turn left onto Metro Plantation Rd., end at 6281 Metro Plantation Rd.

If driving South on Rt. 75, exit at Colonial Blvd., drive West to Metro Pkwy., turn left onto Metro Pkwy., turn left onto Metro Plantation Rd, end at 6281 Metro Plantation Rd.

**From the South:**

Drive North on Rt. 41, turn right onto Daniels Pkwy., turn left onto Metro Pkwy., turn right onto Metro Plantation Rd., end at 6281 Metro Plantation Rd.

If driving on Rt. 75, exit on Daniels, turn left on Daniels, turn left onto Metro Pkwy., turn right onto Metro Plantation Rd., end at 6281 Metro Plantation Rd.