

2008 Officers

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Bonsai Clipper

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Southwest Florida

Online Newsletter, Issue 11

November 2008

November Meeting

The meeting will be held on Saturday, November 22, 2008, at 9:00 AM at the SPALC Building, 6281 Metro Plantation Road (off Metro Parkway between Daniels Parkway and Colonial Boulevard). Please note that the meeting will be on the fourth Saturday this month due to the annual show on November 14 and 15.

Program

Our program for November will be the three-tree demo. We will be using some special material (new) and hopefully, creating shohin or at least small trees. We will have three groups working in isolation unseen by each other. They will have the full time to work, taking turns within their group on their tree. At the end, all trees will be displayed together to see what each group accomplished. The trees will be for sale if anyone chooses to buy them or they will be raffled at a later date.

Annual Show

Friday, November 14, and Saturday, November 15, 2008, at St. John the Apostle Church, 3049 McGregor Blvd., Fort Myers.

"For more info regarding our Annual Show, please check our website."

The set-up for the show will start at 11:00 AM on Thursday, November 13. **E v e r y o n e**, bring an appetizer, dessert, and/or sodas as we will have a "culinary exhibit opening" just for the clubmembers right after we have finished our preparations.

Anyone needing help with their exhibit tree is to call Martha Goff at 239/332-3850 and she will get them help in their area. Also, she still has an opening for the Ed Trout "Bring Your Own Tree" workshop at \$50 per person. Email her directly to sign up at marthagoff50@comcast.net
Don't forget to bring in those raffle items.

Christmas Party

Saturday, December 6th at 6:00 PM at Ann Miller's home

Annual Show 2008 Schedule of Events

Friday:

- 10 AM:** Round Robin Demonstration
Featuring: Erik Wigert, Mike Cartrett, Ernie Fernandez
- NOON:** Exhibit Critique
Featuring: Mike Cartrett
- 1 PM:** Demonstration
Featuring: Ernie Fernandez, Ed Trout
- 3 PM:** Public Workshop—Everything Included \$25
Featuring: Erik Wigert
- 3 PM:** Forest and Seiki Plantings
Featuring: Ginny Boka and James Michaels

Raffles, Sales, Exhibit throughout the day.

Saturday:

- 10 AM:** Demonstration
Featuring: Ed Trout
- NOON:** Exhibit Critique
Featuring: Ed Trout
- 1 PM:** Round Robin Demonstration
Featuring: Martha Goff, Dorothy Schmitz, Justin Michaels
- 3 PM:** Public Workshop—Everything Included, \$25
Featuring: Erik Wigert
- 3 PM:** Bring Your Own Tree Workshop, \$50
Featuring: Ed Trout

Raffles, Sales, Exhibit throughout the day.

We still have an opening in the Ed Trout workshop on Saturday at 3:00 PM. This is a bring your own tree, tools, and turntable. This is a great opportunity to have Ed work on your tree. The cost is \$50, and all of it goes to the Club. Just email me marthagoff50@comcast.net and you can pay at the show.

Also, anyone having trouble finding moss, try looking in heavily wooded areas with a lot of slash pines. These areas tend to stay wet. A great cover moss grows around the bottom of the pine trees and also on the bark. This moss would be very difficult to keep alive a long time so make sure you collect Tuesday or Wednesday of show week.

Have any friends who want to take a public workshop? Let them know about Erik's workshops on Friday and Saturday at 3:00 PM--Cost: \$25.

Gather those raffle items. Robin can pick them up if necessary. Call her at 333-8550.

BSSW3 Nominations Slate of Officers – 2009

Executive Board:

- President: Jim Gehring
Vice-President: Martha Goff
Secretary: Becky Bodnar
Treasurer: Sandra Bishop

Board of Directors:

- Board member: Virginia Boka
Board member: Phil Kreig
Board member: Celestine Luke
Board member: Bob Schneider
Board member: Erik Wigert

Message from the Prez:

WOW!!! Where do I start this Message from the Prez? Terrific Demo by Erik (the tree is to be raffled at the show); the basic wiring review by Justin; the new portable PA worked better than my expectations; all in all, just another SUPER SATURDAY meeting. I hope that it didn't go unnoticed that Ernie agreed to stay on the Board as Past Past President. He is a man of exceptional talent and bonsai wisdom; our Club is blessed to have him as a active member.

Now it's time to get ready for the ANNUAL SHOW. By the time you are reading this, we will have only a few days until Showtime. I can't urge you strongly enough to participate. Here is a chance to watch Demo's; listen to critiques; view other members' trees; get new material and supplies; and, most importantly, a chance to share your love of bonsai with others and the community.

Set-up starts at 11 o'clock on Thursday the 13th. There is no getting around it, it's a BIG job, but many hands make light work of it. All helpers gladly accepted. With an earlier start time this year, we shouldn't run so late into the afternoon. Correct me if I'm wrong; but, once started, it does become lots of fun with the final results always surpassing everyone's expectations.

Our regular meeting for the month will be on the following Saturday, Nov 22. I know this is close to Thanksgiving, but Martha has a program planned that will involve you and any new members. By this time John and Sandra should have show bills paid, etc., and we will find out the success of the ANNUAL SHOW.

In closing I want to mention The CHRISTMAS PARTY on SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6, at ANN MILLER'S. You will hear more about it as we get closer to Christmas, but pencil it on your calendar now, it's always a GOOD time. Prez, Jim

Minutes of the Meeting of the Bonsai Society of Southwest Florida

Date: October 18, 2008

Location: SPALC Building, 6281 Metro Plantation Road

Present: See Attendance Roster (31 Members attended)

President Jim Gehring called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM. Becky Bodnar read the Minutes from the September 20 meeting. The Minutes were approved as read. Sandra Bishop gave the Treasurer's report. There is presently a balance of \$6,995.33 in the Club Treasury. Sandra asked members to sign up to be greeters at the Annual Show. Jim thanked Robin Choinski for supervising our Club's booth at the Home and Garden Show. Martha Goff would like members to submit photos to her for the Club calendar. Martha reminded members about the Sho Fu Bonsai Society show, "Bonsai Under the Banyans," on November 1 and 2 at Selby Garden in Sarasota. Our next Club meeting will be on November 22 because the Annual Show is on our regular meeting day. Vendors for the show should sign up with Jim. Martha would like members to distribute show announcements at various locations around town. If members have raffle items and need to have them picked up, call Robin at 333-8550. Setup for the Annual Show will begin at 11:00 AM on Thursday, November 13. Dorothy Schmitz hopes all Club members will be there to help. All Club members should have a tree in the Exhibit. Presently, there are 25 trees in the Exhibit, and there should be at least 50. Martha has a form for Exhibit trees which gives the name and size of your tree so that she can plan its placement in the Exhibit. Martha also has sponsorship forms. There are presently three Show sponsors at \$25. each. The Club will vote on officers at the meeting on November 22. The slate is in the newsletter. Ernie Fernandez will continue on the Executive Board as Past President if Jim is re-elected as President. Anne Miller will host the Club Christmas party at her home on December 6 at 6:00 P.M. Daniel Sifford

volunteered to bring Dana Harpster from the News-Press to do an article on Ginny Boka's bonsai collection two weeks before the show. Dan also said that Chris McClure from Waterman broadcasting would come to the show on Friday.

Respectfully submitted, Becky Bodnar, Secretary, BSSWF

Lecture by Erik Wigert

Erik Wigert will be giving a "Lecture on Bougainvillea Bonsai" (development, care, and refinement) at his Punta Gorda Client's Medical Office Complex. He has an outstanding display of about 25 very large Bougainvillea Bonsai on site for viewing as well as more in the works at Erik's nursery. He has a large conference room, and appetizers and drinks will be provided. Erik will give a power-point lecture, and people will be able to view his collection on the attached balcony area. The lecture will be open to all interested persons, the room holds 300 so there is plenty of room. No reservations are required. See below for more info, or contact Erik at 239-896-5549.

Time and Date: Wednesday, November 12th at 5:30 p.m.

Address:

713 E Marion Avenue, top floor
Punta Gorda, FL 33950
941-637-7000
No entrance fee
Free appetizers and beverages

Bonsai Buzz on Pots

According to Professor Amy Liang in The Living Art of Bonsai Principles & Techniques of Cultivation & Propagation:

"Choosing the Pot"

"Bonsai is a form of landscaping that uses trees and rocks as the subject...The selection of the pot is important because it allows the viewer to imagine the potted tree growing in its natural environment. The pot is one of the three essential elements that constitute a bonsai...(1)Harmony between the size of the tree and the pot: The ideal proportion of the width of the pot is $\frac{2}{3}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ of the height of the tree, and the depth should be about $\frac{1}{2}$ of the height of the tree. The height of the pot should be equivalent to the diameter of the trunk. These proportions are best to display harmony and stability...(2)Harmony between the color of the tree and the pot: Though the tree is the main element in bonsai creation, the pot is a supporting one...the color of the pot is very important and should not detract from the beauty of the tree...(3)Harmony in the shape of the tree and the pot: The shape of the pot suggests various kinds of terrain. Deep pots suggest overhanging cliffs and precipices and are suitable for cascades. Semi-deep pots carry the feeling of hillocks and are suitable for slanting styles. Shallow pots represent extensive plains and should be chosen for group plantings and upright styles because they help to reinforce the illusion of massiveness. Quadrilateral pots imply undulating terrain and are ideal for strong and dominant varieties such as pines and junipers. Round pots suggest tender beauty and can be appreciated from all angles; they are suitable for flowering trees and grasses. Rectangular pots have distinct sides and a front and display the feeling of high mountains; they are suitable for strong and imposing trees. Oval pots represent riverside and lakeside scenes and are suitable for the soft and light styles of miscellaneous varieties." p.258-261

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