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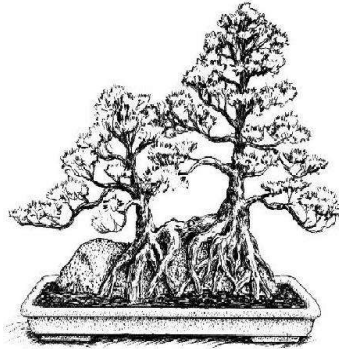
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Bonsai Clipper

Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Southwest Florida

Online Newsletter, Issue 5

May 2009



May Program

May should be very exciting. Once again, we get to work with Ernie on our problem trees or our trees for this year's show. So pack up your tools, your wire, and your tree and show up for this month's meeting. We don't always get an opportunity to work with an artist of this level. Take advantage. We will be back at SPALC for the summer. So plenty of air-conditioning should help. Let's get those show trees ready!

Also, this month, Erik will be bringing the raffle tree. This will be the club's first opportunity to get in on this great raffle. If you need any bonsai wire, soil, etc., contact Erik ahead of the meeting, and he can bring what you need.

Martha

Message from the Prez:

I hope that you have been as busy with Bonsai as I have. Here it is the fifth month of the year and we have only had our first meeting at the regular meeting place. Our last demo/auction/picnic at Wigert's Nursery seems to sum up the wealth of activities available at any given time. Attendance at each activity has been good, but not what I would call great. The strength of the club lies in its members and how well they participate. When you joined, I guessed that you would be involved. If you think that the program or activities should be changed and those changes would bring more member participation, talk to me and look forward to more busy times.

Spring is here, and the plants know it. They all seem to be crying out for attention, repotting, wiring, trimming, trying different soil, different fertilizer, whatever your trees need. If you have questions, problems, need advice, trouble with finding the front of the tree, branch placement, this month's meeting is designed to help you. All you have to do is bring the plant or plants to the meeting and the round-table discussion will help answer those questions. You are not one minute too soon to be working on the tree you would enter in the annual show.

Before our meeting in June, we have a visiting artist. Our club has Lance Laney at the Garden Center June 9th for the whole day. We have planned a demo for the morning and a workshop for after lunch. The workshop will be "a bring your own material to work on." There will be a sign-up sheet at the May meeting. I would like to see 10 or 12 members signed up to do the workshop. The better the participation, the lower each individual's cost. Remember that your dues help to pay for visiting artists, so use your money wisely and take advantage of this opportunity.

Prez Jim

Bonsai Buzz

Since this is the time of the year when many bonsais should be repotted, a good source of information is in the following book: According to Professor Amy Liang in The Living Art of Bonsai Principles & Techniques of Cultivation & Propagation:

"Transplanting and Repotting Techniques:

How often to repot the tree - Generally, the roots of trees being trained grow faster. Pines and junipers should be repotted yearly or once every other year. Miscellaneous varieties should be repotted yearly. For established bonsai and miscellaneous varieties, repotting should be done once every two or three years, and pines and junipers once every three or five years. The frequency of repotting also varies greatly with the species. Trees that produce fine roots vigorously should be repotted within a shorter period of time. Satsuki azaleas, for instance, will lose vigor if the roots in the pot become entangled. It is preferable to repot them after flowering. Other flowering and fruiting varieties should be repotted yearly or once every other year." (p. 242)

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