

2010 Officers

President, Phil Krieg

[phil@bhpk.com](mailto:phil@bhpk.com)

239-489-3238

Vice President, Jim Gehring

[GJGehring@embarqmail.com](mailto:GJGehring@embarqmail.com)

239-772-1411

Secretary, Becky Bodnar

[beckybodnar@earthlink.net](mailto:beckybodnar@earthlink.net)

239-463-4102

Treasurer, Sandra Bishop

[SandraCB@embarqmail.com](mailto:SandraCB@embarqmail.com)

239-466-5939

Board Members

Virginia Boka

[gboka1@aol.com](mailto:gboka1@aol.com)

239-995-3558

Ernie Fernandez, Past President

[erniesbonsai@earthlink.net](mailto:erniesbonsai@earthlink.net)

239-947-3552

David Hamera

[david.hamera@yahoo.com](mailto:david.hamera@yahoo.com)

239-233-1177

Greg Lignelli

[glignelli222@gmail.com](mailto:glignelli222@gmail.com)

239-560-3275

Doug Suitor

[dgsuitor@earthlink.net](mailto:dgsuitor@earthlink.net)

239-334-2138

Cel Luke

[Jelcel661@aol.com](mailto:Jelcel661@aol.com)

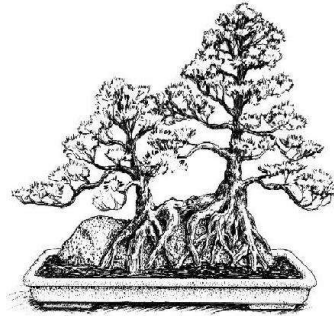
239-472-9281

# Bonsai Clipper

*Newsletter of the Bonsai Society of Southwest Florida*

*Online Newsletter, Issur 5*

*May 2010*



## May Meeting

Saturday, May 15, 2010

9:00 AM

SPALC Building, 6281 Metro Plantation Rd.

### GET READY FOR AN ALL OUT WORKOUT!!

The program started out to be a 5-tree round robin; but, with more discussion, it turned into a 10-tree Extravaganza. When our Club was on the bus trip to the East coast, I asked Turner's and Smith's to select 5 trees each for our May club project. They left the selecting up to me, and I really got some terrific material. The idea is to divide those attending the meeting into small groups of 3 or 4 people; these groups will work styling their tree. At the end of a set time, the trees will be judged and auctioned. Be ready to work, bring your tools, your ideas, your money and get ready for a fun, fun time. If you should buy one of these trees, know that each needs to be repotted. I have them on my drip system and have been feeding them. Some of the people who have looked at them in my yard have already picked favorites--I have one or two myself. My granddaughter is getting married that day in Minnesota so I won't be at the meeting, now I'm trying to figure a way to put in an absentee bid on those plants. HAVE A GREAT DAY!

**PICNIC REPORT:**

Everyone had a great time at the Bonsai Club picnic at Lakes Park on April 17. The hamburgers and hot dogs prepared by the "Clowns in the Kitchen" and the side dishes, salads and desserts prepared by Club members made for a terrific picnic meal. Members generously donated auction items, and the Club made \$760 on the auction, which we traditionally use to supplement the cost of our Annual Show. Our auctioneer urged the crowd to open up wallets and bid.

**Special Thank yous:**

Our special thanks goes to Sara Vera who generously donated the cost of the Lakes Park Pavilion; and to Judy Gore, our quintessential auctioneer, and her assistants, Justin Michael and Zoe Hillabrant.

**BSSWF - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS****LAKES PARK PICNIC - 04-17-10**

President Phil Krieg announced that three of our Club members: Phil, Judy Gore, and Mike Knowlton, have been chosen to exhibit their trees at the Second National Bonsai Exhibition in Rochester, New York.. Expenses to get the trees there would amount to approximately \$1,200. Martha Goff recommended that the Club support these members by contributing to their costs. *David Hamera moved that the Club donate \$600 toward the expenses. Peter Shawinsky seconded the motion.* John Bishop suggested that our Club receive a byline in the Program in recognition of our contribution. *The motion passed unanimously.\**

There were several suggestions made about alternative places to have the Annual Show instead of at the Church. The people who made the suggestions have agreed to follow up and find out about availability and cost of these venues:

Peter Shawinsky suggested the facility at Reflection Lakes;

Martha Goff suggested the pavilions at Lakes Park;

Greg Lignelli suggested the facility at Shellpoint; and

Robin Choinski suggested the Hilton Garden Inn across from Gulf Coast Town Center Mall.

Ernie Fernandez believes that the Church is an expensive place to have the show, and we can have the show there on Friday and Saturday, but not on Sunday. It would be possible to have the show at Erik Wigert's nursery, but there would be no other vendors at the venue. Discussion will continue at the next regular meeting on May 15, and a decision will have to be made soon.

\*In an email following the picnic, Phil thanked the Club for offering to share expenses to get the trees to Rochester, but declined the offer in favor of using the money for the benefit of all Club members.

Becky Bodnar  
Secretary, BSSWF

**Bonsai Library:**

Jim Bremer requests members to bring bonsai nursery catalogs to our library where we will keep a file on them.



## **Bonsai Buzz:**

### **ANOTHER FEW HAIKU:**

I shelter, nurture  
feed and water many months.  
Tree grows, ..... slowly

My little trees will  
teach me patience yet, I think-  
given enough time.

NOT HAIKU, BUT FOOD FOR THOUGHT-

BONSAI: A thing of beauty that's a job forever

(derived from *Pickles* cartoon)

JB

Jim Bremer

### **Peace and The Living Art of Shohin Bonsai**

Bonsai is 'Living Art', someone once told me. In the strict sense of the word this description holds many truths. Attending a sidewalk art fair I was amazed at all the forms and different mediums used to express ones self. The elements and nature are captured in so many different expressions of art. There were stone carvings, wood sculptures, metal pieces, blown glass, pictures of nature, all once in their purest form had a life. Nowhere did I see living art. Oh sure, there were pieces that moved with the wind and even gave a sense of wonder. Nothing living, ever changing.

The art of raising a bonsai is much more than just taking care of a tree in a pot. Put the human ego aside for a minute. Forget about winning a contest, picking that perfect pot or even attending the next workshop for more bonsai trees. You are the caretaker of 'Living Art.' You are creating a relationship with the tree, accompanied with the natural elements: wind, rain, sun and drought. It is cultivating the inner spirit of the trees. To truly gain knowledge, sit with your trees, let them tell you what they need. By observing and recreating the results of nature in your trees, you are brought closer to both tree and nature. You will gain peace of mind.

A Shohin Bonsai and nature can be taken into your hand. You can sit in your Bonsai garden and study, or you can even take your tree into the house to observe it for a time. My greatest pleasure is watering and observing my trees. Peace is found by spending time with my trees.

Bonsai, 'Living Art' is never finished. It is a time-consuming study of nature. The ramification of branches, trimming of leaves and needles, future development, watering, watching the change of seasons all together put life at a distance for a time.

Bonsai is an enriching, enlightening, expressive, ongoing experience. Water flows and sculpts the rivers, the land succumbs and the shape and destiny is formed. Let your trees follow their natural destiny, and you will find the peace that flows and sculpts a 'Living Art' Shohin Bonsai.

Pete Shawinsky, April 2010

***Upcoming Events:***

**Rendezvous 2010**

When: May 28, 29 and 30

Where: Hampton Inn

3579 Hacks Cross Road

Memphis, TN 38125

901-754-8454

Cost: \$200

Full registration includes: All lectures and demonstrations, (2 days) continental breakfast, (2 days) catered lunch, Friday night reception, and Saturday Southern Style Dinner

Brussel's BONSAI is hosting the annual Rendezvous convention over Memorial Day weekend and want to make sure that you and your fellow club members were aware of our unique event. Rendezvous features demonstrations and workshops from some of the world's best bonsai artists as well as some great southern food and hospitality. We are privileged to present Peter Adams, Colin Lewis, Marc Noelanders, Matthew Ouwinga, Kathy Shaner and Bill Valavanis as this year's guest artists. Call Brussel's Bonsai Nursery at 1-800-582-2593 for the calendar of events and the workshop registration.