

BONSAI SOCIETY OF THE CAROLINAS

October 2018 Newsletter



October Meeting Information:

Asheville Expo Project Completion

Saturday, October 6, 10-12

Bonsai Learning Center

142 Hidden Harbor Rd

Mooresville, NC 28117

Assistance with the Club's Expo Project has, unfortunately, been scarce. I wish I could publish a long list of folks who have helped, but that isn't the case. Many thanks to everyone who did help.

For those of you who wanted to help but were not able to, you have one more opportunity. We will meet at the Bonsai Learning Center this Saturday at 10 to wrap everything up and prepare the project for transport to Asheville.

Please join us if you can. The officer slate for next year will be announced, there will be a Raffle and we'll discuss the possible swap of the Auction for November's planned Collecting Trip.

The BSC Executive Board WILL meet after the October meeting. All members are welcome to attend.

2018 At A Glance

Jan 13 – Dog Swap & Member Workday

Feb 10 – Aesthetics

Feb 23-25 & Mar 2-4 – Spring Show

Mar 17 – Bonsai 101 Workshop

Apr 14 – Expo Workshop

May 12 – Danny Coffey

June 16 – Picnic & Expo Workday

July 13-15 Member Show at DSBG

July 14 – Arthur Joura

Aug 11 – Bonsai 101 Workshop

Sept 8 – Chinese Elm Program

Oct 6 – Expo Project Workshop

Oct 13-14 – Bonsai Expo, Asheville

Nov 10 – Collecting Trip

Dec 1-2 – Winter Silhouette Show

Dec 8 – Holiday Party

September Meeting Highlights

Chinese Elm as Bonsai

Long-time BSC member Jim Hanley gave a program on Chinese Elm. Jim has years of experience working with Chinese Elm and shared his accumulated wisdom.

Jim began by listing some characteristics of Chinese Elm – small leaves, perfect for Zone 7, buds back on old wood, easy to style and easy to propagate if you want more.

One weakness is that fat trunks require some

time in the ground.

For cuttings taken after Labor Day, Jim suggests 2 weeks in a cup of water, or until white root nubs appear, then one more week in water. Move to starter soil and let them grow.

One unusual styling technique Jim described was to embed a heavy wire (bent to the desired shape) in the pot with a young Chinese Elm and use zip ties to conform the tree to the wire (see picture 3).

For root-clasping-rock style, Jim described using muck to create a trail for the root, wire the root in place and cover with moss. Repeat as necessary.

Jim suggests wiring in late summer and leave the wire on for 2-3 months. Bill Valavanis recommends removing wire only when it begins to bite into the bark and then only the segments that do so.

Chinese elm bonsai like high, open shade and part sun. Full sun will cause the leaves to shrink even more. Jim treats his plants with Malathion once or twice a year to eliminate pests.

For fertilizer, Jim prefers organics, like fish emulsion 2 or 3 times a year and Holly-Tone products in tea bags. Fall color is yellow.

If you're in the Hendersonville area, check out MrMaple for 1-gal dwarf Chinese Elm 'Hokkaido' - \$15 each. Online at MrMaple.com. (I'm not affiliated with them and don't receive any compensation, I just happen to have visited them recently.)

Following are pictures of some of Jim's CE bonsai.



Different perspective



Small leaves support very small bonsai.



Note the heavy insulated wire and the use of zip ties



Proof that patience is a virtue



Flexibility of the trunk is an asset



Twin trunk, mother daughter option



Root on rock example

Jim also extolled the virtues of restaurant chopsticks. He cuts them up and glues the pieces together to make small fence sections, bridges, gates, whatever.



View of the back, showing supports and glue



Finished product

Many thanks to Jim for sharing his knowledge of Chinese Elm in a very inspiring and educational manner!

And may thanks to Jim Hall for the dozen or so Chinese Elm seedlings he brought for members. I think Carl bought his remaining stock on the spot!

November Meeting Sneak Peek

Collecting Trip

Planning for this adventure is still in progress. Watch this space to see where we will be collecting trees next month.

2019/20 Officer Nominations

The Nominating Committee (Jeanne Anderson and Scott Telk) submit the following Officer candidates for 2019/20:

President – Carl Maxwell

VP – open

Sec – Jeanne Anderson

Treas – John Farrell

The floor will be open during the October meeting for additional nominations. If you plan to nominate someone, please contact them first to ensure they are willing to serve.

Raffle

The October meeting WILL include a Raffle – bring your Raffle items and a few bucks for tickets. You never know when a trash-to-treasure opportunity is going to present itself. Thanks for your support!!

Dues

Annual BSC Membership dues are \$50. New members who join during the second half of the year receive membership through the following year.

Executive Board of the Bonsai Society of the Carolinas

President – Carl Maxwell

Vice President –

Treasurer – John Farrell

Secretary – open

Show Chairman – Brad Russell

Newsletter Editor – Gene Martin

BSC Meeting Information

Monthly meetings are held at the McMillan Greenhouse on the campus of UNCC unless otherwise noted. Directions and parking information can be found on the [BSC website](#).

The BSC Newsletter is compiled and created monthly by Gene Martin. Contributions and feedback are welcome. Please email submissions or comments to BonsaiSocietyCarolinas@gmail.com by the 20th of each month for publication in the following newsletter.
