

# BONSAI SOCIETY OF THE CAROLINAS

## January 2018 Newsletter



### January Meeting Information:

#### **Dog Swap & Member Workday**

Saturday, Jan 13, 10 - 12

UNCC McMillan Greenhouse

9090 Craver Rd, Charlotte, NC 28262

by Gene Martin

So what the heck is a “Dog Swap”? Everyone probably has a tree sitting on the bench that hasn’t seen any attention in a long time and no longer inspires you. Here’s an opportunity to move your dog to someone else’s bench and replace it with a tree in which you see potential.

How does it work? Bring your dogs (limit 3) to the meeting and receive a numbered ticket for each one. The tickets are all thrown into a bucket, well mixed and drawn out one at a time. Each ticket entitles the owner to select a tree from the available pool.

While that’s going on, members will have to the opportunity to work on a tree. So bring your wire, tools and a tree or two to work on.

**The BSC Executive Board will NOT meet after the January meeting. Members are always**

welcome to attend Board Meetings.

### 2018 At A Glance

Jan 13 – Dog Swap & Member Workday

Feb 10 – Aesthetics

Feb 23-25 & Mar 2-4 – Spring Show

Mar 10 – Bonsai 101 Workshop

Apr 14 – Master TBD

May 12 – Bonsai 201 Workshop

June 9 – Picnic & Member Workday

June 22-24 – US National Shohin

Bonsai Exhibition

July 14 – Arthur Joura

Aug 11 – Bonsai 101 Workshop

Sept 8 – Chinese Elm Workshop

Oct 6 – Member Auction

Oct 13-14 – Bonsai Expo, Asheville

Nov 10 – Collecting Trip

Dec 1-2 – Winter Silhouette Show

Dec 8 – Holiday Party

### December Meeting Recap

#### **Holiday Party**

by Gene Martin

Many thanks to everyone who brought tasty goodies and auction items to the Greenhouse in December.



*Some of the delicious goodies we shared.*



*VP Carl Maxwell holding court..*



*BSC members enjoying good food and fellowship..*



*A wide diversity of Auction items.*

## February Meeting Preview

by Gene Martin

The February meeting will be a presentation by our own Mike Brawley on Aesthetics. Wikipedia says this about bonsai aesthetics - "Over the centuries of practice, the Japanese bonsai aesthetic has encoded some important methods and aesthetic guidelines. Like the type of aesthetic rules that govern, for example, Western common practice period music, bonsai's guidelines help practitioners work within an established tradition with some assurance of success. Guidelines alone do not guarantee a successful result. Nevertheless, these design rules can rarely be broken without reducing the impact of the bonsai specimen".

Bonsai rules aren't hard and fast, but a small tree in a pot must exhibit certain characteristics to achieve the illusion of a full size specimen.

Mike Brawley, a long time member of the BSC, will share his knowledge of bonsai aesthetics.

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## Other News

One of the challenges of collecting trees in winter is identifying the species of a particular tree one might want to collect. I found a YouTube video that helps identify a subset of trees that might be useful as bonsai. Check it out [here](#).

The Southern Spring Show will be the last weekend of February and the first weekend of March (see 2018 At-a-Glance for specific dates). Signup sheets for tree-sitting shifts will be available at the January and February meetings. This is an all-hands-on-deck affair, so be prepared to spend some time at the Show.

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## Raffle Reminder

The January meeting will NOT include a Raffle – save your Raffle items for a future meeting. Thanks for your support!!

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## Dues Reminder

2018 BSC Membership dues are due. \$50 Bring a check to the January meeting or mail it to Treasurer John Farrell.

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## ***Executive Board of the Bonsai Society of the Carolinas***

President – Tammy Bates  
Vice President – Carl Maxwell  
Treasurer – John Farrell  
Secretary – open  
Show Chairman – Brad Russell  
Newsletter Editor – Gene Martin

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## 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](#).

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The BSC Newsletter is compiled and created monthly by Gene Martin. Contributions and feedback are welcome. Please email submissions or comments to [GMartinMan@gmail.com](mailto:GMartinMan@gmail.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month for publication in the following newsletter.

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