

BONSAI SOCIETY OF THE CAROLINAS

May 2017 Newsletter



May Meeting Information:

Member Workshop

Saturday, May 13, 10 – 12

UNCC McMillan Greenhouse

9090 Craver Rd

Charlotte, NC 28262

by Gene Martin

The May meeting was originally intended to be a Rock Planting Workshop by Ken Duncan and John Geanangel. But due to circumstances beyond anyone's control, it had to be canceled. We will use this time for a Member Workshop.

So go through your inventory and select a tree or three that needs some work and bring it/them to the Greenhouse, along with your tools and wire.

If you have a tree for the DSBG Display (see article later in the Newsletter), please bring it to the meeting or at least contact VP Carl about it.

The BSC continues to **Welcome** new members, especially those who recently completed the recent Bonsai 101 and 201 Classes. We sincerely hope you enjoy the art and practice of Bonsai for the remainder of your life!

The BSC Executive Board will probably meet after the May meeting. Members are always invited to attend.

2017 At A Glance

Jan 14 – Dog Swap

Feb 11 – Soil, Pest Control & Plant Science

Feb 24-26 & Mar 3-5 – Spring Show

Mar 11 – Bonsai 101 Workshop

Apr 8 – Bonsai 201

May 13 – Member Workshop

June 10 – Picnic & Member Tour

June 23-25 – US National Shohin

Bonsai Exhibition

July 8 – Arthur Joura

Aug 12 – TBD

Sept 9 – Design Challenge

Oct 7 – Auction

Oct 14-15 – Bonsai Expo, Asheville

Nov 10 – Collecting Trip

Dec 2 & 3 – Winter Silhouette Show

Dec 9 – Holiday Party

April Meeting Recap

Bonsai 201 Workshop

by Gene Martin

Bonsai Learning Center owner Brad Russell conducted a follow-on to the March Bonsai 101 class. He led a discussion of slightly more advanced techniques, including styling, wiring and care. The session was well attended; several new members brought their trees for follow-up

treatment. A number of BSC members also brought trees to work on.



Brad illustrating the art of creating deadwood.



Brad was able to create a nice little bonsai out of this raw material. Sorry, but I didn't get a photo of the finished product.



A table of bonsai and good friends - life is good!!

Many thanks to Brad for his usual mixture of patience and good advice!!

DSBG Display

by Carl Maxwell

The Display Committee would like to ask for your help by agreeing to display one or more of your bonsai specimens at the new Bonsai Display Area at the Daniel Stowe Botanical Gardens. The Display Area opening day was Saturday, April 15th. My son and I built wooden display benches that are 8 feet long and 20 inches wide and they will sit approximately 42 inches high, which should be near perfect viewing height. The benches are mounted on both sides of the East Pergola, directly behind the Garden Entrance and Main Building. The Pergola is about 100 feet

long. We will start with four benches and three to four trees per bench, so 12 to 16 trees will be on display. As trees are removed from the display, we would like to have a list of pre-approved replacement trees.

Your tree does not have to be a “masterpiece”. In fact, we will have a section for “beginner trees” to show what a tree is like when it is first styled and beginning training. So the display is open to all age groups, and experience levels, and virtually any type of tree. You can specify how long you are willing to loan your tree to the display, but we suggest a minimum of 30 days so that we are not constantly having to find replacements. The gardens staff will be watering and fertilizing the trees based on your specifications in the loan agreement. They will also monitor them for pests and disease, and advise you of any treatment they think is necessary.

We are holding a tree review and “spruce up” session at our meeting on May 13th at the McMillan Greenhouse. We ask that you bring any tree to the meeting that you want to loan to the Gardens so we can get a feel for the type and size of trees we will have for the display. If you cannot come to the meeting with your tree but want to loan it for the display, please take a few pictures and send them to me along with the Tree Loan Agreement and the Tree & Owner Information forms. I will call you to arrange for getting the tree to the Gardens.

On the BSC website (bonsaicarolina.org) you will find the “Tree Loan Agreement and the Tree & Owner Information Form” in MS Word format. You will need to fill out one of each of the forms for each tree that you want to display. There is also a version in Adobe PDF format if you do not have MS Word. The Society, the Gardens, and you will all retain copies of both forms so there is no question about the care specifications. Our new members, Jennifer Bueno and Tip Reburn, along with Gene Martin and myself, will be checking on the trees and the displays on a regular basis. And you have the option to go and

check on and maintain your own tree any time you like. We will provide you with a Membership Identification Card that will get you free entry into the Gardens to work on your tree.

If you have any questions, or would like to discuss loaning your tree for the exhibit, please do not hesitate to email me or give me a call on my cell phone anytime at (757) 575-9913. Thanks in advance for your help and we hope to see you at our meeting on May 13th.



Display bench at DSBG.



Smaller display bench at DSBG.

All DSBG Display bench photos by Carl Maxwell. Thanks for all your hard work on this project, Carl!!



Third display bench.

Learning More

Are you new to bonsai? Do you want to learn more about what good bonsai is and how to create it? Two books by John Yoshio Naka are almost universally recognized as premier references. Keep an eye out for [Bonsai Techniques I](#) and [Bonsai Techniques II](#). They are full of pictures, sketches and drawings to illustrate important points. Both are out of print and highly prized.

Other News

Bill Valavanis is producing a **US National Shohin Bonsai Exhibition**, June 23-25, at the NC Research Campus in Kannapolis. If that venue sounds familiar, it is the home of the Winter Silhouette Exhibition! Visit Bill's [blog](#) for information about the Show and how to register and/or submit a tree.

Raffle Reminder

The May meeting **will** include a Raffle – bring your Raffle items and a few bucks for tickets. The April raffle items did not meet the minimum standards for a raffle so there wasn't one. This month should be better. Thanks for your

support!!



A small sample of the Raffle items available in February!

Dues Reminder

2017 BSC Membership dues are overdue. If you've been enjoying the benefits of BSC Membership and have not paid your dues, you should correct that situation immediately. Bring a check to the April meeting or mail it to Treasurer John Farrell.

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

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 GeneMartin@carolina.rr.com by the 20th of each month for publication in the following newsletter.
