

BONSAI SOCIETY OF THE CAROLINAS

March 2018 Newsletter



March Meeting Information:

Bonsai 101 Workshop

Saturday, March 17, 9-12

Bonsai Learning Center

142 Hidden Harbor Rd

Mooresville, NC 28117

by Gene Martin

We have filled all 10 slots for this Workshop. Bonsai professional Brad Russell will be leading the Workshop.

Experienced BSC members are needed to assist the students as they learn to choose a design, select branches, select a front and wire a bonsai. If you can assist, please contact Tammy ASAP. Her email is tammy.bates@usfoods.com and her cell is 980-621-8177. Members who assist will also go home with a young juniper to practice on..

The BSC Executive Board WILL meet after the March 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 17 – Bonsai 101 Workshop

Apr 14 – Bonsai 201 Workshop

May 12 – Danny Coffey

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

February Meeting Recap

Bonsai Aesthetics

by Gene Martin

Mike Brawley has been a BSC member since 1990 and has seen a lot of both good and bad bonsai.

A good bonsai is much more than just a “tree in a pot”. Mike discussed the shared characteristics of good bonsai – movement, proportion, balance, etc. Should your bonsai be tossed if the height is more than 6 times the trunk diameter? Not necessarily, but in most circumstances, it may not imitate nature enough to evoke the image of a large tree in nature.

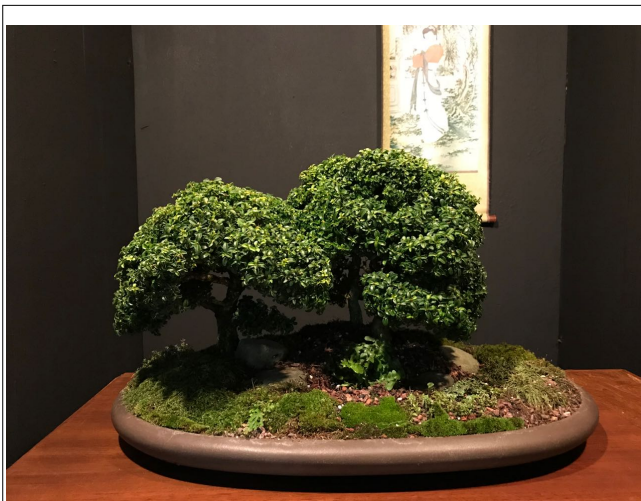
Are there exceptions? Of course! But the exceptions are the exceptions. A bonsai where the pot width plus the pot depth equals the height of the tree generally looks “better” than one that follows some other formula.

Mike also passed along info on horticultural issues – how to cut a trunk to encourage a broom style, for example. Don’t use copper wire under the soil.

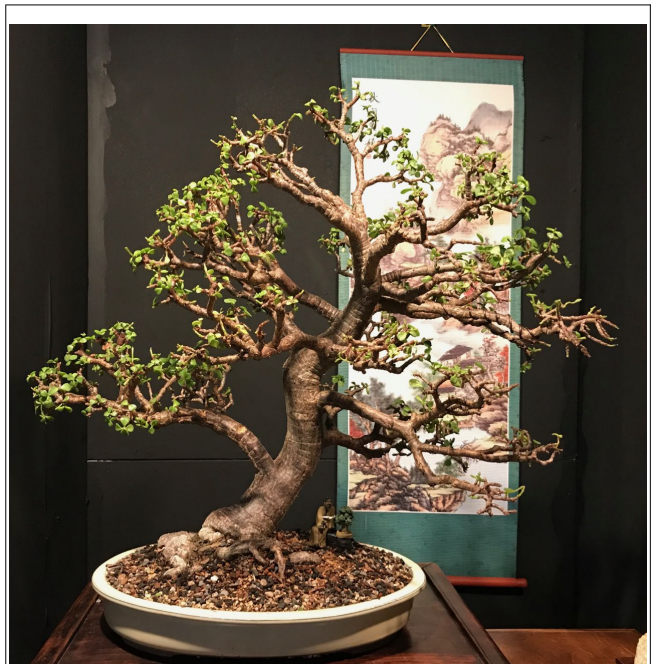
Mike wrapped up his talk by encouraging BSC members to “make your bonsai as good as they can possibly be.”

Southern Spring Show

The 2018 **Southern Spring Show** will be mostly history by the time you read this. Here are pictures of trees in this year’s exhibit.



Kingsville Boxwood - Bob & Pam Hampel



Dwarf Jade - Carl Maxwell



Shimpaku Tenuki - Bob & Pam Hampel



Caitlyn Elm - Jim Hanley



Satsuki Azalea - Brad Russell



Procumbens Nana Juniper - Brad Russell



Chinese Elm Landscape - Arthur Joura

The BSC is extremely grateful to everyone who worked the Southern Spring Show and to those who submitted and displayed trees! THANK YOU!

Obituary

Ben Oki passed away in late February. He is frequently referred to as a “respected and loved American Bonsai pioneer, teacher and friend to countless bonsai enthusiasts.” He was a student of John Naka. He was the curator of the bonsai collection at the Huntington Botanical Gardens and a well known landscape designer..

Other News

BSC member Scott Telk set up and staffed a bonsai display at [The Peaceful Dragon Charlotte Chinese New Year Festival](#) 2018 on February 10. He provided this photo of the display. Much like the Spring Show, he handed out brochures and answered questions about bonsai.



Raffle Reminder

The March meeting **will NOT** include a Raffle – save 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 Reminder

2018 BSC Membership dues are due. \$50 Bring a check to the next 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 GMartinMan@gmail.com by the 20th of each month for publication in the following newsletter.
