

SOUTHERN BONSAIST

A publication of the Azalea City Bonsai Society Mobile, Alabama

Notice!!!!!!

The ACBS monthly Regular Meeting Has Been Moved to The 11th due to the Presidential Election

Ben Oki Workshop February 4th

This will be the first time we have Ben Oki in February. This tour he starts his tour in south Florida and comes north. This will be a week night workshop so we will open the doors at 6 P.M. If you plan to work with Ben e-mail President Joe Kuhn or sign up at the November Meeting.

POTS FOR BONSAI SHOW TREES BY RUSSELL COKER ACBS NOV 11TH.

You can find a lot of a pictures of great combinations of show trees and great pots but the reason behind the choice of that individual in almost never explained. Russell has a great understanding of bonsai pots. This program will stimulate your senses and knowledge about bonsai pots just before you start your potting duties for this winter. I "Joe Day " just received a great gift of many very nice bonsai pots. The best use of these bonsai pots to enhance my collection depends on selecting the best container for each individual bonsai. A great pot used wrong is a larger mistake than a cheap pot used wrong. Cheap pots are great growing pots so you use them as the best choice for growing. A very good pot is a "display" choice even on your bench. It makes a big statement about your ability to create "style". I will certainly be seated up front and listening very close to this presentation.

Joe Day

ACBS
November 11th
Regular Meeting
Mobile Botanical Gardens
7 P.M.
Bonsai Show Pots
By Russell Coker
Host : Mike & Christina Burke
Tokanoma:

December 2nd
ACBS
Christmas Dinner
At
Mobile Botanical Gardens
Doors open at 6 P.M.
A Covered dish dinner

January 6th
ACBS
Regular Meeting
Mobile Botanical Gardens
7 P.M.
A repotting "How To"
Program to show the what to do and what not to do.

THE AZALEA CITY BONSAI SOCIETY CHRISTMAS PARTY

December 2nd, the first Tuesday at the Mobile Botanical Gardens the wonderful ACBS Christmas Party will be held. Members should bring either a salad, vegetable or sweet something covered dish. ACBS will furnish the meat, drinks and table settings. As

This is Christmas meeting so a nice raffle item would make for a extra nice Christmas raffle and perhaps bring in enough funds to cover the out lay for the dinner-and it makes the night a bit more special. We will open the doors at 6 P.M. to set up so

We can start eating a bit after 7 P.M. and get the old folk and school children home at the regular bed time. This meeting is open too old members, new members, past members and members of our sister bonsai societies.
Joe Day

LOUISIANA DAY OF BONSAI HOSTED BY NORTSHORE BONSAI

The 08 Louisiana Day of Bonsai will be hosted by Northshore Bonsai Nursery owned by Guy Guidry. The event will be held on November 8th from 10 A.M. to 4 P.M. The fee is \$12. this includes a nice buffet of roast and red gravy over pasta, bread, salad, fruit and desserts and your drinks. Demo's will take place, a design contest. You can bring a tree and take a chance to win the Vaughn Banting Award. This all sound like a great deal of fun. It 's exactly a two hour trip over to Northshore Bonsai Nursery and gas prices are low. It will be a great way to see the bonsai artist from all the

Louisiana bonsai societies. You can find the nursery on the net and Map Quest will show you the way. Northshore Bonsai Nursery will be open for purchases. The actual Day of bonsai will be held behind the nursery under tents so rain or shine it will go on as planned.

The Back Yard Tour Review

The day was as perfect as a Fall October day can be. Sunshine, 70's and no wind. A whole bunch of folk showed up to walk among the bonsai in the yards of Joe Day and Joe Kuhn. This was a Q & A

back yard tour. I know I got some wonderful questions from almost everyone. I hope my answers were helpful. I would like to see a spring back yard tour that included more back yards. Past years we had some great back yard tours that provided lots of inspiration as a person walk among the bonsai of a lot of very capable bonsai artist. Spring is a very busy time but it's also a wonderful time to look at bonsai.

Joe Day

THE ACBS FALL AUCTION REVIEW

The Thanks go out to a whole bunch of bonsai folk who donated items, food, drink, bid on items, cleaned up and make it a wonderful and productive night. No problems just fun. Randy Raga again did a great job of handling the gavel and keeping it moving along while bringing in the money. Jeff and Robin Lignell

did a great job of keeping up with winning bids and money using a laptop computer. Check out was fast and smooth. We ended up with about \$1,200. added to the ACBS bank account. This is very close to the amount of money ACBS spends each year on rent and visiting teacher fees. ACBS pays rent

and buy a few food items but everything else is donated by wonderful bonsai artist. A lot very high quality bonsai stock material and bonsai items were available at this auction. A lot of bonsai artist can now upgrade their collections knowing they did it at a very reasonable cost as the help ACBS continue for another year.

Joe Day

A WHOLE BUNCH OF "THANK YOU" TO

I use this space for a rather personal reason. My ability to do bonsai -as I do bonsai- is directly related to the help of many individuals during each and every year. This is my THANK YOU to those individuals who, without promise of a return good deed, did indeed, go beyond the call of mere casual friendship , more or less to help move my bonsai work forward with many forms of assistance and bonsai

items. I don't name names simply because I'm old and I might forget someone .

I'm often ask how to work with so many plants. I have help. Not someone showing on a regular basis but individual acts that over time make a difference in my ability to do bonsai.

I would hope that my time that I can spend freely will increase allowing me the

chance to do a whole lot of pay back to a whole lot of nice folk.

Take a few moments during this coming holiday season and think about all those acts of kindness that have were given to you by someone during the year. It makes you want to be a bit better person during the upcoming months. Might even make that my New Years resolution.

Joe Day

JIM VANLANDINGHAM WORK SHOP

Jim Vanlandingham will visit ACBS and hold a workshop on Sunday November 9th. The workshop will be from 11A.M until 3 P.M. at the Garden Center. ACBS will provide the food and drink for this workshop. We will try for something a bit more filling than chips and cookies. The Garden Center has another group meeting at 4 P.M. so we will need to finish up the workshop and clean up by 3 P.M.

We will have a sign up sheet for all who want to work with Jim. Jim is a fun artist to work with so sign up and enjoy. The Fee to work with Jim is \$20.00.

Jim Vanlandingham works with tropical bonsai most of the time but can and will work on any species. His last workshop with ACBS produced good bonsai, and a very fun 4 hours. You can e-mail Joe Kuhn for a slot in the workshop or sign up at the November ACBS meeting.

Ben Oki Workshop Feb 4th.

Sign up at the November ACBS meeting for the Ben Oki workshop. This is a chance to work with one of the best and best known

bonsai artist in America. The fee to work with one of the best known bonsai artist is America is still a small \$20.00. The Ben Oki workshop is limited to 10 people.

When you come to a workshop be certain your material is free of dead leaves, insects, dead twigs. It's a good idea if it is nursery material to remove the soil down to the root level. Bring your tools and wire.

Joe Day

NOVEMBER-THE FLIP FLOP MONTH

Every day can be very different in November. We can expect our first below freezing but we might not get it until December. We can expect cool weather but it can stay hot. We usually get more rain than September or October or it can be a very dry month. Things that will definitely happen are Low humidity that

feels good to you but will rapidly dry your bonsai. Shorter daylight hours and a sinking sun. That will change the shade pattern so adjust where your sun loving bonsai sit on the bench. The leaves on your bonsai will continue to change color and fall off. Some species will push some new growth on branches. This

is usually not a problem. New growth will actually be slow to react to the first couple of light freezes. Now is the time to place all your tropical bonsai and accent trees close to each other. You might have to react very quickly to the first freeze with almost no time to search out the location of all the tropical material you have. Joe Day

BETWEEN FOOTBALL AND EATING WHAT BONSAI WORK SHOULD I DO DURING NOVEMBER

Some bonsai have lost all or most of their leaves wire those bonsai but take care not to crack the branches. They will have to wait until March to start healing. Got any carving to do? November is a good time for that because you can start and stop as many times as you need as you go along. This also gives the lime sulphur time to soak in and not smell so strong before Spring show time. If

you know which bonsai pots you are using and they are empty so ahead and put the screens in the holes and place the time down wire in place. This saves a lot time during potting season. Remember, January and February potting days are short, daylight around 7 A.M. and too dark to work outside by 4:30 P.M. It can also be cold and damp. Productivity depends on being organized with everything you need at hand.

Almost all the new information I read about Juniper Bonsai says they do best if you spread out the trimming, wiring and repotting over weeks or months. Starting you trimming and ending up with the repotting between November and March should give your Juniper time to get over any procedure before starting the next procedure. Read all the bonsai material you can on the species you have in your collection.

Joe Day

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Dedicated to the art of bonsai

The Who's

They are not always the person standing in front of the meeting, written about in the newsletter or giving a lot of programs at meetings. They often serve in a position and then fade back into the membership. They are the who's that keep bonsai societies going. Their reward is the reward they give themselves. My recent visit with the Greater New Orleans Bonsai Society and the South Georgia Bonsai Society proved the love of the art form and willingness to keep showing up and doing what needs to be done keeps bonsai societies alive year after year. From the depths of membership comes new leaders. Bless them all. The New Orleans Fall Auction was a showcase of a bonsai society that wouldn't be kept down. So many members that have served for many, many years. They make a great team. New Orleans will host the BCI convention next June. This would not be possible at all without a core group of people who can get it done with a minimum of instruction. When you go to the BCI 09 Convention you are supporting BCI but you are also supporting and saying thanks to a great group of bonsai artist who have had to come back from the edge. Bonsai societies don't make bonsai artist. Bonsai artist make up bonsai societies. Their individual contributions both support the society and assist other artist to improve their ability to create great bonsai. Good bonsai are the only product of a bonsai society. Enjoying the other bonsai artist as people you enjoy interacting with is the grease that keeps a society running smooth. Probably the greatest contribution you can make to a bonsai society is to be the grease not the grit.

Joe Day
