



Alabama Bonsai Society Newsletter



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AlabamaBonsaiSociety.org

Alabama Bonsai Society

November 2011

Presidents Notes for November

At the last meeting Leo gave an excellent in depth program on preparing seeds and using them to start bonsai. Leo has a great deal of practical experience in planting and developing tree seeds in his nursery at work. I think everyone brought some new knowledge home from the meeting. Thanks to Brian for arranging this program.

Brian was able to get enough members to support an intensive workshop with Peter Warren at his house. All accounts report a successful workshop. Thanks Brian

The club should consider bringing in bonsai artists for intensive workshops with just a few members. A num-

ber of us have worked with Kathy Shaner in small group workshops at her house in Florence. Small groups are more expensive but you get more time with the artist.

As the season is winding down watch the watering of deciduous trees going into dormancy as they will require less water.

There will be a Saturday workshop following the meeting and we will need help putting the pavilion trees bedded into their winter place. This is early but we will not have meetings during the period when the weather really turns to winter. The workshop will also help members with their trees. So plan to attend and bring

your trees. We will start at 8:00 and we will need 3-4 people to help bed the pavilion trees. It should take less than 30 minutes if we have enough help.

SWAP AND SHOP is part of every meeting now.

Jack

ABS Officers

Jack Pierce
President

Brian Van Fleet
Vice President

Belinda Waldo
Treasurer

Marge Wirth
Recording Secretary

Marty Bostick
Corresponding Sec.

Directors:

John Walker
2011 – 2013

Sandra Haynes
2009 – 2011

Brian Van Fleet
2010—2012

Upcoming Events

Monthly Meeting
November 14th

Monthly Workshop
November 19th

November Agenda

6:00-7:00 Board Meeting and SWAP AND SHOP

7:00-7:10 President's announcements

7:10-7:20 Show and Tell

7:20-7:40 Tree Critique: Group discussion

7:40-8:00 Juniper bonsai: care and styling, presented by Jack Pierce

Don't forget our workshop on Saturday, November 19th

The Saturday workshop for November will be on seasonal care of trees. We will start at 8am. Please bring your trees to work on.

Also, we will need 3 or 4 people to help bed the pavilion trees, which shouldn't take more than about 30 minutes or so.

November Bonsai Care

We've seen a little frost on rooftops over the weekend, so the tropical trees should be inside now and until nights are predictably above 45, sometime in early April.

The combination of frosts and subsequent sunshine will bring on fall colors. Colors will be better if conditions remain dry in the month. If you are aiming for a great fall display, protect your trees from wind and rain and keep them in sunlight as much as possible.

As the leaves begin to fall, keep the soil surface clean to avoid fungus and keep air circulation good. Through the bared branches, you may notice some wire that should be removed. Now is a very good time to remove the wires that have cut in and done their job. Cut the wire with a good pair of wire cutters, perpendicular to the wire, and at each coil; giving a slight twist as you cut will pop the wire loose. It is not a requirement to remove wire for winter storage, so long as it's not embedding itself into the branches like the example below.



From: www.weetrees.co.uk

Older pine needles are yellowing and should be removed with tweezers; one at a time, since a bud is in the sheath between each needle pair/cluster that will be removed if you pull the pair/cluster and remove the sheath with it.



Photo from: www.bonsaibasho.com

Prepare your overwintering site, spray it with fungicides and insecticides when you spray your trees to reduce chances of problems when you put them away next month. Lime Sulfur diluted to 1:100 (about 1.25 oz per gallon) is a traditional Japanese all-purpose insecticide and fungicide. Other products are more effective and less offensive, so it's a matter of choice. Lime Sulfur also has the whitening effect that you'll notice on most trees in the Japanese books.

Finally, a couple "don't do" points for this time of year. Repotting should be avoided in all instances until spring. Watch closely for watering needs, they will sharply decline now that we've had some frosts. Also, don't do heavy pruning on trees just yet; sap is still flowing and a couple weeks of warm weather could inspire a tree to grow after a hard pruning.

Brian Van Fleet

www.nebaribonsai.com

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Upcoming Events

Monthly Meeting
November 7th

Monthly Workshop
November 19th

Recent Peter Warren Workshop

Below are some photos of Peter Warren working with some of our club members during a recent session.



November 2011

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14 <i>Club Meeting</i>	15	16	17	18	19 <i>Saturday Workshop</i>
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

