



Shreveport
Bonsai
Society

Hi Folks:

January 9, 2007

This month's meeting:

This month's meeting is scheduled for 1 pm January 13th at the Barnwell Center. The study group topic this month will be by Charles Canfield on how to appraise and style deciduous trees in the winter and he will be working on one of his elms.

Since the frosty days we have had, the deciduous trees have all lost their leaves and it is a terrific time to sketch the branch structure and make decisions about styling for the spring. For many of us, it is difficult to keep up with the trees we have during the growing season, so this is an opportunity to go through your collection and prioritize the work for the upcoming spring.

Immediately after the meeting we will have our first collecting trip of the New Year. Charles has discovered an urban collecting spot that is easily accessible and has a nice selection of trees, including crab apples, privet, eastern red cedars, hackberries and, I am sure, an elm or two. If you would like to participate in the dig, bring appropriate footwear, a shovel, gloves and a

garbage bag or two to transport your new treasures. People have been saying how much they are looking forward to a dig, so here is your chance.

We are fortunate in this newsletter to have an article contributed by Charles on collecting native Louisiana trees for bonsai. It is based on his study group topic in November. For those of you who missed his talk, this is a good opportunity to have access to the gist of the material.

Thanks to Charles for everything he is doing to help SBS continue to grow and thrive.

Contest:

In one of the recent bonsai publications, there was a short article about what a "Bonsai Optimists" is. Last month I announced a contest to come up with the best local slogans. There will be a prize (a tree or nice pot) as a reward to the member with the best slogan, so keep thinking about it and get your entries to me by email, or in person. Let your creative juices flow.

I am hoping to start a new trend for the newsletter. In last month's issue, Jeff White wrote and illustrated an article on how he made bonsai stands for his garden. I thought the article was great. Charles is continuing the trend in this newsletter. I am looking for contributors for upcoming newsletter, so if you are interested, please contact me. I am shooting for an article a month, so if you have ideas, please get them to me. I am particularly looking for authors to flesh out those ideas for the membership. I hope you enjoy this month's article and many thanks to Charles.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE:

We continue to pick up new members since the last full newsletter, so please help welcome:

Keith and Jakeitha Holt

Several others have expressed an interest, so things are going pretty well. Still, we are always looking for more members so tell your friends and anyone who shows an interest. Dues for the year are only \$20 for either an individual or family membership. This is a real bargain.

Website:

News about <http://shreveportbonsai.org/>

Web site modifications/improvements:

Newsletter area:

Past newsletters are now posted on our website.

Gallery expansion:

The gallery has been expanded to include photos from our annual show.

New ideas:

Jeff has been working hard on the website and has several improvements that should appear in the next month.

Happy web surfin'
Jeff White
Web Master

SBS Officers:

Bob Specian	227-0744
President	rspecian@sport.rr.com
Treasurer	

Jeff White	219-9618
Vice President	jt_white@bellsouth.net
Web Master	

Charles Canfield	798-7748
Show Chairman	cscanfield@bellsouth.net

NATIVE LOUISIANA TREES FOR BONSAI by Charles Canfield

Tired of the usual Junipers? Bored with the indoor Ficus? Frustrated with buying Bonsai trees by mail, only to have them die in the Louisiana climate? Why not look around our backyards or just down the road at the native trees available to the Bonsai enthusiasts in our area. Why do we go to the effort to collect Bonsai material when it is already available in the store or as near as our mail box? First is the joy of being outdoors with the anticipation of finding that little masterpiece on the next hill. Second, you find (and afford) a tree that has been trained for 20, 50 or 100 years? Third, every tree you

collect is guaranteed to withstand our harsh summers and mild winters.

I have listed below ten trees that I think are worthy of our consideration for Bonsai. The list is by no means complete, and some will take issue with the selection. Think "out of the box" and you might be surprised by what is waiting to be collected and trained as a masterpiece Bonsai.

BALD CYPRESS: This might be considered the premier Louisiana tree for Bonsai. It is normally found in swamps, creek bottoms, and areas subject to flooding. Good for up-right styles and forest plantings. (No cascade please.) Every Louisiana Bonsai collection should have at least one Bald Cypress.

ELM: There is a good selection of Elms to choose from: American Elm, Winged Elm, Water Elm, and Cedar Elm, with the latter being my favorite. The Cedar Elm has a smaller leaf and makes a great Bonsai. Elms are a good choice for beginners or pros and are my overall choice for collected material. Elms are found everywhere, but check out fence rows and old pasture land. Water Elms are near lakes and streams.

MAPLE: Tired of all those good looking Japanese maples burning up every summer? Well, let me clue you in on a little secret... Louisiana has some very nice native maples. The most common is the Red Swamp Maple. It is foundin swamps. Bottom land and flood areas are the places to look. The Southern Sugar Maple or Green Maple is a good choice. It is found in areas with a little better drainage than the Red maple, but I also have found them in bottom land. It looks similar to a Sugar Maple, but with a smaller leaf. If you are lucky enough to find a Chalk Maple, you have struck gold. They are very rare in Louisiana, but do grow in the Natchitoches area. They look very

much like the Green Maple, but with an even smaller leaf. I'm still looking!

HAWTHORNE: There are 1200 different species of Haws. I would recommend the Parsley Hawthorn for the foliage, fruit, and the nice bark. Look in old pastures and along fence rows. It does have thorns as the name implies. Mayhaw is another Haw to consider.

SWEETGUM: The poor man's Maple. They are everywhere, and most people consider them a trash tree. They make a great Bonsai.

IRON WOOD: Also called HOP HORNBEAM and related to the American Hornbeam. Most are found in low moist areas. Look for a smooth gray trunk.

HACKBERRY: Related to the Elm, they have a gray warty bark. Look along fence rows where birds drop the seeds.

AMERICAN BEECH: A great looking tree for forest plantings. It is found along creeks and bottom lands.

BLACK GUM: The growth pattern of the limbs is horizontal and looks good on the big trees. It is found in bottom lands.

RIVER BIRCH: This tree could look great in a forest planting. It has nice trunks with exfoliating bark. It may only live 30 or 40 years, but at my age who cares.

Upcoming Local Event Calendar:

January 13, 2007:

Regular meeting at the Barnwell Center at 1 pm. The study group topic will be on styling deciduous in winter, led by Chales Canfield, followed by a dig. Bring a tree to work on.

February 10, 2007

Regular meeting at the Barnwell Center at 1 pm. The study group topic to be determined later. Bring a tree to work on.

March 10, 2007:

Regular meeting at the Barnwell Center at 1 pm. The study group topic will be styling a trident maple. There will be two beginners workshops. Styling a small trident maple (0.75-1.25 " diameter trunks). Pots, trees, soil and wire provides, for \$35 dollars. Also creation of an accent plant (pots, plants and soil, for \$5). If you are not doing the workshop, bring a tree to work on.

April 7, 2007:

Annual Spring show at the Barnwell Center, 9-5: guest artist Colin Lewis. Colin will be doing a demonstration tree and two workshops. Get in touch to reserve your spot now. Space will be limited.

May 12, 2007:

Regular meeting at the Barnwell Center at 1 pm. The study group topic to be determined later. Bring a tree to work on.

June 9, 2007:

Regular meeting at the Barnwell Center at 1 pm. The study group topic to be determined later. Bring a tree to work on.

Upcoming Regional, National and International Events

January 20-21, 2007: Noelanders Trophy

VIII of the Bonsai Association Belgium will be held at Cultuurcentrum, Heusden-Zolder, Belgium. For details visit <http://www.bonsaiassociation.be>

February 9-16, 2007: 81st Kokufu-ten

Bonsai Exhibition at the Tokyo Metropolitan Museum in Ueno Park Sponsored by the Nippon Bonsai Association. Telephone 81-3-3821-3059.

March 23-25, 2007: LCBS Annual Exhibit

at the SW LA Garden Festival 2007 at Burton Coliseum. More information can be obtained at <http://www.gardenfest.org>

April 20-22, 2007: Mid-Atlantic Bonsai Society's 23rd Anniversary Convention

at the Ramada Hotel and Conference Center in East Hanover, NJ. Featured artists are Robert Steven, Ted Matson and Guy Guidry. Details can be found at <http://midatlanticbonsai.freeservers.com/fescurr.htm>

May 17-20, 2007: European Bonsai

Association Convention will be held at Thermae Palace, Koningin Astridlaan 7B 8400, Oostende, Exhibitions by European Bonsai Association, European Suiseki Association, and Association of Belgian Bonsai Clubs. A large trade area will be featured, as well as the EBA new talent contest, calligraphy and ikebana demonstrations. Among the featured artists will be Patrizia Capellaro, Takeo Kawabe, Hotsume Terakawa, Danny Use. Hotel information may be found at www.thermaepalace.be and convention information may be found at www.ebabonsai.com

May 31- June 4, 2007: The California Bonsai Society will hold its 50th Anniversary Convention at the Crowne Plaza Anaheim. Featuring Hiroshi Takeyama who is chair of the Nippon Bonsai Association. Also planned is a giant exhibition of bonsai, outstanding workshop material with small workshop sizes, live auctions, demonstrations, a large vending bazaar, bus trips and a "Monte Carlo Night." For more information visit <http://www.california-bonsai-society.org/> or call 909-473-0099.

June 8-10, 2007: BSF 2007: A Cypress Celebration featuring David DeGroot, Guy Guidry, Mike Cartrett, Toby Diaz, Dorothy Schmitz and Ernie Fernandez. Hosted by Bonsai Societies of Florida at The Morikami Museum in Delray Beach, FL. For additional details and registration contact: BSF 2007 Convention, c/o Louise Leister, 7 Cloverdale Court South, Palm Coast, FL 32137-8340 or e-mail: conventionteam@bonsai-bsf.com or <http://www.bonsai-bsf.com>

June 21-24, 2007: ABS Learning Seminars 2007: Bonsai on the Beach at the Virginia Beach Cavalier Hotel, VA. Details will be announced at <http://www.absbonsai.org>

July 10-16, 2007: BCI 2007 at the Wyndham Condado Plaza Hotel & Casino (only \$125/night!) in San Juan, Puerto Rico featuring Shinji Suzuki, Marco Invernizzi, David Benavente, Bill Valavanis, Arthur Skolnik, Suthin Sukosolvisit, William Acosta, Yrene C. Vasquex, Xenio Baron, Milagros Rauber, Pedro J. Morales, and Sean Smith. For registration and other details visit <http://bcifelab2007.com>

September 15-16, 2007: Ginkgo Awards at Bonsai Center Ginkgo at Heirweg 190 (N445), 9270 Laarne, Belgium. Acclaimed by many as the premier bonsai event outside Japan, this event is held every

other year. For more information visit http://ginkgobonsai.be/index_uk.htm

March 20-24, 2008: BCI 2008 at Salle du Canton-Fontvieille in Monaco featuring Masahiko Kimura and Seiji Morimae with Hideko Metazas, Pauline Muth, Rob Kempinski, Nikunj and Jyoti Parekh, Salvatore Liporaci, Sandro Segneri, Michello Andolfo, Patrizia Cappellaro, Baudouin de Lorgeril, and Chiara Padrini with a host of other talented artists. Check for details at <http://www.BCI2008.com>