



Bonsai Society of Dallas

From the Editor:

Keep those great articles coming, folks! I really appreciate them!

Please email any articles or artwork to me at potter@pegasuspottery.com

Message from the President:

By George Straw

I just spent all day Friday at the Fort Worth Bonsai Convention and I'm getting ready to head back over there as I write this message. What a great show! The Fort Worth club has done a wonderful job of pulling everything together! If you did not go, you missed a great opportunity to see some excellent trees and demos by very talented artists. It was also an opportunity to get the items that you needed from the vendors.

Bugs, black spot, dry soil. Does that sound familiar? We are all busy fighting these things and will continue through the summer months. Be sure to read John Miller's very informative articles to keep on top of things and when that should be done.

I regret that I had to miss the last meeting, but my mother would have been very upset if I had told here I could not come home for Mother's Day! I had a

great trip, but heard that I missed a wonderful presentation by Silvia. There are still openings for the pot making workshop so if you are interested, please let Sandi know. You can email her at potter@pegasuspottery.com or call her at 972-438-9782.

The July 7 Club Barbeque will be held at Sandi McFarland's house in Irving! Please see the last page of this newsletter for more information.

BSD Calendar

- Jun 2 - Jackie Paul and Bonsai on a Budget
- Jun 18 - Make Your Own Kusamono Pot Workshop
- Jul 7 - Club Barbeque
- Aug 4 - Shane Cary, Tropicals
- Sep 1 - Club Auction
- Sep 17 - Marc Noelanders Workshop
- Oct 6 - Marty Klajnowski, Shohin
- Nov 3 - Yvonne Padilla
- Dec 1 - Club Holiday Party



April Program By Daryl Le

Date: June 2, 2005
Time: 6:30 PM
Place: North Haven Gardens
7700 Northaven
Dallas, TX

Please join us on Thursday, June 2 for "Bonsai on a Budget" and Jackie Paul will be talking about the process of rooting cuttings. Jackie is a member of the Dallas club as well as the Fort Worth club. She has been rooting cuttings for many years and

has some very interesting insights to ways of getting cuttings to root. If you have ever wanted to try to start your own plants or have tried and not been successful, then be sure to attend this meeting. Jackie has some rooting tricks that some of the seasoned veterans had not even thought of!

Bonsai on a Budget

Hosted by
David Quisenberry
Bring your best bonsai for which you paid \$20 or less,

grew from a seed or cutting, or that you collected in the wild, for a little competition! We will have a People's Choice award for the nicest "bonsai on a budget!" A beautiful bonsai doesn't have to cost a lot, it just has to be "loved" a lot!



Other Dates of Interest:

- Jun 11 LSBF meeting 1PM Zilker Park, Austin
- Jun 18 Shohin Society, 10am, Persimmon Hill Bonsai, Austin
- Sep 17 Shohin Society, 10am, Persimmon Hill Bonsai, Austin
- Oct 22 LSBF meeting 1PM Zilker Park, Austin

June Bonsai By John Miller

You may still have time to leaf prune if you need to but be careful, it could turn hot in a hurry. Remember do it only on healthy vigorous trees. Put the tree in a semi-shaded location out of the wind until new foliage appears. Again never leaf prune the atropurpeum varieties of Japanese maples, they don't want to rebud.

When night temperatures stay above 60 degrees you can think about repotting some of the tropicals. I would wait another month, though, for the buttonwood.

It is important to continue the twig pruning of your trees on a regular basis. While doing this chore, look at the tree to see if there is a need to do some refinement pruning. Refinement pruning is a deeper pruning to replace a branch that has grown too long or too big with a smaller one. This is usually done with the secondary or tertiary branches, not the primary branch coming from the trunk. I prefer to do this refinement pruning on deciduous trees in the winter when I can see the branch structure. But on bonsai like the yaupon hollies, I like to do it at this time when the tree is actively growing so that any winter dieback is apparent. Trees that weep a lot from cuts, such as maples or pines, should not be done at this time.



Even if the days are relatively cool, the sun can still get the pot pretty hot. Not only does this dry out the soil very fast, but the tree roots don't like a hot soil. A temperature I have heard given is 120 degrees that will kill roots on most plants. I cannot give you a precise to-do list since your backyard is different from mine, but you should be sure that the sun does not hit the pots directly. If you use a cover of any kind, be sure that the side of the pot is protected also. A loose weave cover is preferable to solid paper or foil.

Get to know your trees like your children. Which ones use more water and which ones stay moist between waterings. If some are difficult to keep happy, you can try moving those to a cooler location (but be sure they get their sunlight). Another trick is to group these together so that you can hit them with a shot of water twice a day and not have to spend the time going through all your trees.

The extended cool and damp weather is good for fungal diseases like black leaf spot. Treat with potassium bicarbonate or sodium bicarbonate (baking soda). If the foliage is hardened a bit you can treat with 1% hydrogen peroxide (1 part peroxide to 2 parts water) weekly. Warm, damp weather will bring its own fungal problems like mildew. Same treatment.

Also watch for signs of insect problems. The spider mites will always be near. Others to look for are scale of various forms, aphids, and mealy bugs. I use the organic foliar feed (1 Tablespoon each fish emulsion, liquid kelp, molasses and cider vinegar per gallon water) to control all these. You can use some of the other organic controls or a chemical according to label directions. Read the label directions carefully and don't apply oil-based chemicals to buttonwoods.

All pathogen controls must be sprayed with a sprayer that has a nozzle which produces a fine spray in order to cover the entire leaf surface. You got to get all them bugs or they come right back! And you got to spray on a regular basis! Any hiding in cracks will repeat the infestation.

Even with the temperature below 90, the sun is getting quite intense. Most plants in pots will not enjoy a full day of this. Partial shade should be provided. A shade cloth awning is the best as it will protect in the middle of the day. Late afternoon sun will also hurt by heating the roots to the point where they will suffer.

Consider that here are two aspects to bonsai, the artistry in creating the bonsai and the gardening in keeping it healthy. The artistry you learn at the club, from demonstrations, or from books. The gardening aspect is no less important but is sometimes put on a back burner or ignored. You know that not watering will result in a 'finished' bonsai so that gets taken care of in some form or other. However many do not try to learn how plants grow, what their needs are, or how they are all made unique by nature in some way. To be really successful in bonsai, you need to study this aspect of our hobby also. One of the first places to start is by learning about the planting medium. What makes a good planting mix? How does the size of particles affect the plant? How do the various species require their own particular type of mix? Try finding some of these answers in the gardening section of your local library and watch your trees show their appreciation by being easier to care for.

Need a Membership Form?

Please contact Sandi McFarland by phone at 972-438-9782 or by email at potter@pegasuspottery.com.

“Make Your Own Kusamono Pot” Workshop!

Date: Saturday, June 18, 2005

Location: 1405 Limetree Ln, Irving

Time: 12:00-3:00 pm (or until we finish!)

Cost: \$15 per person (all materials included)

Sandi McFarland of Pegasus Pottery will host a workshop to make your own pot for a kusamono (the companion plants displayed with bonsai). You will learn the three hand-building methods of coil, pinch, and slab to create your own pottery masterpiece! Come play in the clay—it’s fun to get dirty!


The workshop is limited to six participants, so register today! You can contact Sandi by email at potter@pegasuspottery.com or by phone at 972-438-9782.

Generous Businesses Give Discount to BSG Members

Present your BSD membership card at the following participating businesses for a 10% discount on merchandise:

- The Bonsai Smiths
- Dream Gardens
- Ray Hernandez’s Bent Tree Bonsai
- Pegasus Pottery

We are so grateful to these businesses for their generosity to BSD members! If you have a business and would like to offer a discount to club members, please contact George Straw at GSTRA@aol.com or Sandi McFarland potter@pegasuspottery.com.



Pegasus Pottery
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potter@pegasuspottery.com www.pegasuspottery.com



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Full page—\$35 per month

*For more information, contact Sandi McFarland at
972-438-9782 or potter@pegasuspottery.com*

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Come join us for the Club Barbeque!

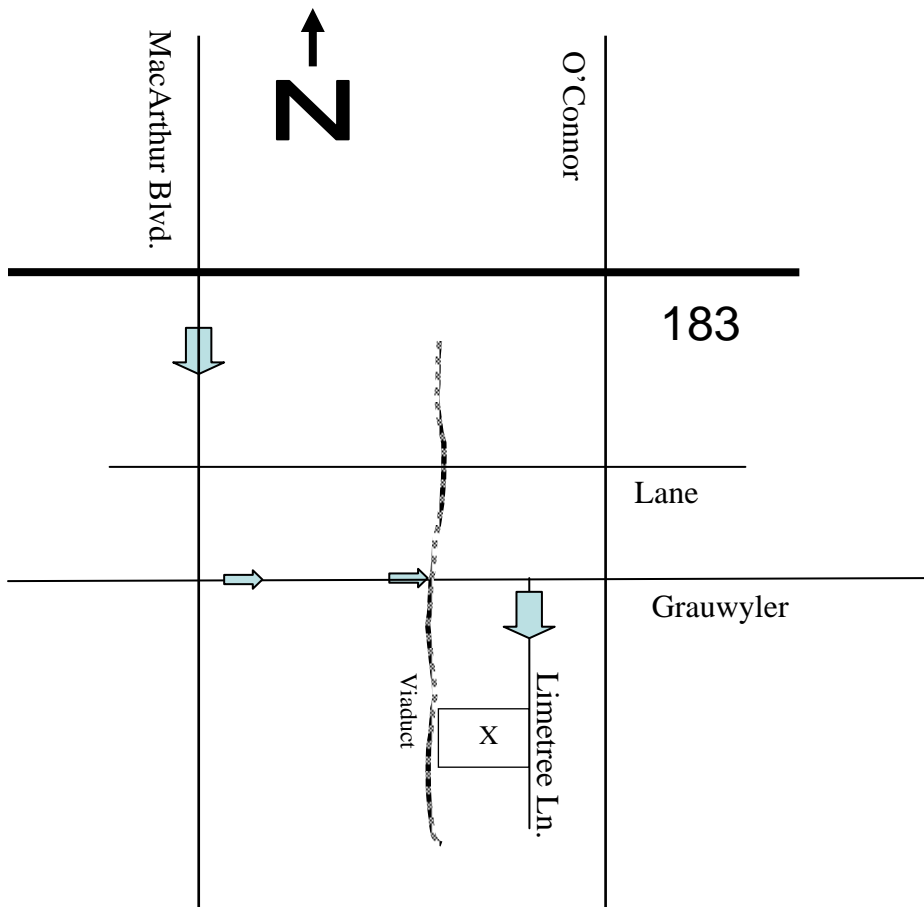
Thursday
July 7, 2005
6:30-9:30

The club is buying the meat—the rest is potluck!
Please bring a vegetable, drink, or dessert!

It will be held at
Sandi McFarland's house
1405 Limetree Ln.
Irving, TX 75061

Please RSVP to Sandi and
let her know what you will be bringing!
972-438-9782
potter@pegasuspottery.com

*you are welcome to bring your swimsuit and
jump in our pool for a cool-off!*



Grauwlyer is under construction at the time of publishing this newsletter and you can only drive one-way east on it. **Take MacArthur Blvd. south from 183 and turn left (east) on Grauwlyer.** Limetree is the first street to the right just past the viaduct (look for a concrete bridge railing) and is the last street on the right before O'Connor. Our house is about halfway down on the right – a red brick house with a brick mailbox in front at the curb. (It's the first brick mailbox on right)

If the construction is complete by the time of this event and Grauwlyer is open from O'Connor, I will note this in the July newsletter. You can also contact me before you come to see if the road is open.