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www.msgcbs.com

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(Post on any friendly fridge door)

Events

- February 4 - Ben Oki Workshop at ACBS, Mobile, AL., BSF master's Tour.*
- February 11 - MSGCBS meeting, MGCCC, Long Beach, Multi Purpose BLDG., 6:30PM*
- February 27, 28, March 1-MS. Nursery and Landscaping Association. Patio and Garden Show, Biloxi*
- March 14 - ACBS "Day of Bonsai", St. Lukes Hall, Mobile, AL.*
- March 19-23 - Bonsai Societies of Florida Convention, Orlando, FL. www.bsf-bonsai.com*
- April 18 - ACBS Annual Bonsai Exhibit, West Regional Library, Mobile, AL*
- April 25 - Edgewater Mall Horticultural Show, Biloxi, MS 10-6 (one day affair for our bonsai)*
- May 2 - Gulf Coast Regional Bonsai Exhibit, Westwood, Ft. Walton, FL.*
- June 11-14 - ABS Learning Seminars, Boise Idaho ABS@pfmbonsai.com*
- June 19-21 - BCI Annual Convention, City Park, New Orleans, La. www.bci2009.com*

Unless noted, all photos and articles are the credit or blame of the newsletter editor, Patrick LaNasa.
Send daises or daggers to msgcbs@bellsouth.net

January 17, 2009

Winter Workshop in Baton Rouge, La.

Lou Leger, Lauralee Reugger, Buck Lawrence and myself, Patrick LaNasa attended the second annual Winter Workshop hosted by the Louisiana Bonsai Society. Directed by Lowell Tilley and attended by members of four Louisiana bonsai societies and us, bonsai enthusiasts from the Magnolia State.

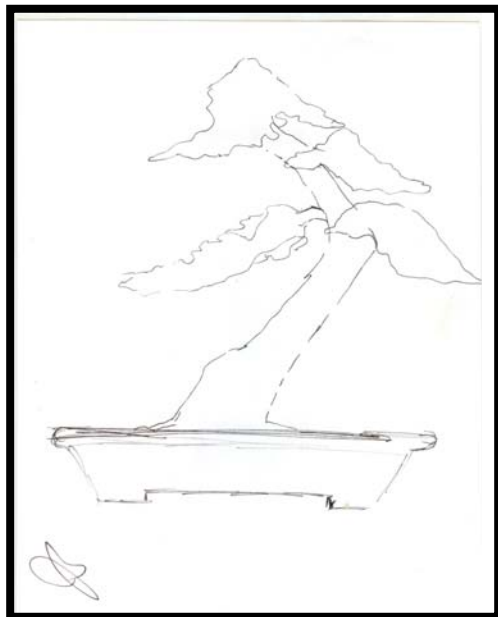
The workshop, headed by Joe Day of the ACBS (Mobile) being the main attraction. A silent auction and raffle rounded out the day.

Joe certainly earned his keep as he juggled the critique, guidance and sketching of (lost count) well over a dozen trees plus directing the planting of two large Trident Maple forests on his large flat stones in between the individual workshops.

All was kept in balance including socializing between the members of the various clubs. Good hot food, a constant pot of coffee didn't hurt the reputation of this event.

Guy Guidrey of Northshore Bonsai displayed 'finished bonsai', some the size of a man's fist to large rough stock in 5 gallon nursery containers - something for everyone.

If there is one sour note to that day it's only that I had expected to win something really, really, really good in the raffle. Next time!



Joe Day sketch of a future view of this Trident Maple



↑ Displaying a healthy root system, as purchased from the October '08 bonsai auction in Mobile (minus the nursery container).

↓ Following Joe's verbal guidance and his sketch, (and, not breaking critical branches) this is how we look after repotting in new soil, raffia tying, wiring and bending. Check back w/ me after 3-4 years.



Mississippi Nursery and Landscaping Association annual Patio and Garden Show

The last weekend in February is the target date for this 3 day event in Biloxi. As in years past the show will display the newest flowers, shrubs and trees from the Mississippi nursery growers. These display areas range in size from 10-30' booths and include representatives in the commercial, non profit organizations and plant trouble shooters from the statewide Mississippi University Extension.

As in year's past, Norman Winter, veteran Horticulturist with the MSU Extension Team is the event Director.

Except for a brief Katrina hiatus period, we, the MSGCBS, have participated in this event since '03 in the old Food World building in Gulfport.

In addition to manning a complementary booth for the weekend our involvement usually included a presentation to the public. The combination of both endeavors always resulted in a membership boost.

Sometimes a demonstration, sometimes a talk. One particular year we added 12 members to our roster as we offered a one year membership with a basic bonsai class.

Free meeting rooms, allowing massive droppings of soil and foliage clippings, for this particular effort were easily available, first at the improved Train Depot in BSL and then the "fish building" at MGCCC, Long Beach. As Archie Bunker sang "...*those were the days*".

This year, Norman Winter, asked for a Power Point presentation on "Growing Bonsai". He wants the 10AM Saturday audience to walk away anxious to grow or buy or collect or join a bonsai club as they leave the lecture hall.

Ohh, boy. Persuasion, persuasion. Branishing a pistol OK?

Our participation in the complementary booth will require orderly shifts of active participants during the 3 days. Our newly elected Show Chairman, Josh Richey is saddled with that responsibility and a dozen or so other details.

Let's support Josh and this annual opportunity to gain membership, show a few of our trees and more

importantly, ourselves as bonsai growers to the Mississippi Gulf Coast folks.

Coming up- Wednesday, February 4

Ben Oki Workshop - Mobile, Alabama

Ben is back. The Master Bonsai Artist from Los Angeles, California is capping a BSF Florida wide tour with a one evening workshop in Mobile, Al.. Not limited to bonsai members in that city, this workshop is open to all- as participants or viewers.

The usual gathering place, the Garden Center, is located at the corner of Ziegler and Forest Hill Drive. Come a little early if you like but the workshop kicks off at 7PM.

Viewing or admission is \$3 or if you have a tree for the workshop the cost is \$20. Lesser costs for a workshop in the 21st century is almost unheard of.

There are few, if any living Bonsai Masters in the USA, who have pruned, styled or wired more bonsai trees in this country than Ben Oki.

Topical Bonsai Interest

Early February (Zone 8B) - It's almost past time to be locating ingredients and mixing bonsai soil for this year's temperate plant repotting.

It is time to start transplanting - those that need it. Bonsai falls into that large category of "timing is everything". We often hear this from someone after we fail at some attempt. This time you're hearing this advice before the event.

Start repotting deciduous trees- Chinese Elms, Trident and Japanese maples. Next Boxwoods, Junipers, Pines and other evergreens. Near the end of February finish up with the sub tropicals. Hold off on transplanting tropicals until the night time temperatures average close to 70 degrees - could be as late as April.

Patrick LaNasa

Coliseum on the Beach

MS Coast Coliseum & Convention Center

2350 Beach Blvd, Biloxi, MS 39531

Facility is located on the beach, off Highway 90

From I-10 East: Take exit 46A to 110

South, turn west on HWY 90