

*Mississippi
Gulf Coast Bonsai Society*



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www.msgcbs.com

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(Post on any friendly Fridge Door)

May 13 - MSGCBS Meeting and annual elections

May 22-24 - Brussel's Rendezvous, Olive Branch, MS

June 10 - MSGCBS Monthly Meeting

* June 11-14 - ABS Learning Seminars **Event cancelled**

June 19-21 - BCI Convention, City Park, New Orleans, LA. www.bci2009.com

Edgewater Horticultural Show

Our MSGCBS participated in the annual event on Saturday, April 25. at the south end of the mall. The bright red clothed sales table being the first object shoppers were exposed to as they entered through the Beach Road entrance.

The revised location paid off handsomely for our club. All the club's share of the receipts earmarked for the purchase of a digital projector.

The members made an especially grand effort in setting up the area the evening before the show and displaying the trees and accessory plants early the next morning. Some twelve black clothed tables were shielded by stanchions and guard belts to keep out the occasional over zealous viewer. Still one managed to pick up a tree with one hand and wave dollar bills in the other.

An addition to the Horticultural show this year- A button microphone and stage for the societies. Joshua Richey and Patrick LaNasa styled a three gallon juniper during the first hour followed by Glen Ladnier who represented the Orchid Society and then representatives from the Renaissance Garden Society told children's stories. Fay Browne, although a member of our club, represented the Native Plant and Rose Societies on stage.

Compliments abounded from viewers, many who hadn't seen bonsai on display until that day as well as members of the other participating societies and visiting Bonsai Artist Joe and Xuan Day from Mobile, AL. Apparently we don't show it enough but we sincerely appreciate the encouragement from all.

All of us have seen good intentions but poor preparations and half hearted follow ups from other clubs, as well as our own, and witnessed the sad results. Sad because honest, added efforts can make memorable presentations out of mediocre exhibits.

My hat is off to Joshua Richey who juggled the coordination of participating societies, the ever-fluid mall arrangements, setting up the tables and support equipment and handling the responsibilities of a new (again) parent. On exhibit day we met the newborn, eight day old Bethany Jade Richey.

Also to Mitch Thomas who drove over to Biloxi from his home in Slidell twice for this event. Mitch displayed a couple of big trees and worked on another during the show to gear up bonsai interest for the curious. Thanks also to our president

Lauralee Reugger and Lou Leger who handled the sales area.

And to all who supported, showed trees and helped to unload and load up again. Tip o'hat you all !



Lauralee Reugger's exhibit of a *Ficus nerifolia* forest designed in '05.

Upcoming Events – Rendezvous '09

Brussel's Nursery in Olive Branch, Mississippi is at it again. This three day event, May 22-24, showcases on Memorial Day weekend with renown artists Kathy Shaner, Dana Quattlebaum, Marc Noelanders and Brussel Martin for an assortment of bonsai workshops. Some of the trees to be worked on include 'Saunders' variety of boxwood, 'Blue Alps' Juniper, Gardenia, Trident maple, Shimpaku Juniper and Japanese black pine.

And, just like those Caribbean cruises, expect to eat more than your mom advises.

For more information or to register go to www.brusselsbonsai.com and click on 'special events'.



Regional Bonsai Show Ft. Walton Beach, Florida

Bonsai Enthusiasts from clubs in Pensacola, Mobile, MS Gulf Coast and the host club Fort Walton exhibited bonsai trees, accessory plants and viewing stones at the Westwood Retirement Center, Ft Walton Beach, Florida.



A mini MilkyWay candy bar helps us appreciate the mini Bonsai displayed by Lee Vanderpoole



Ed and Lynn Fabian displaying an outstanding 'Kingsville' bonsai



Next Meeting –

Ms Gulf Coast Bonsai Society will meet at our regular time, 6:30 in the Multi-Ed Building, MGC Community College, Long Beach on May 13th. The program for the night will be by Mitch Thomas.

And, lest we forget, it's election night- President, Program Director, Treasurer and Contact person.

To have a bonsai club, support your club.

To Drill or not to drill.....

At our last meeting Mitch Thomas introduced us (assuming all of us) to the skill of drilling ceramic containers. A couple of us had requested the diamond glass drill bits. Mitch brought four which were eagerly snapped up after the demonstration.

It's one thing to own a new toy (in this case a drill bit) it's another to use it without destroying the ceramic pot or the drill itself. Or worse, electrocuting yourself. That last sentence, hopefully, got your attention.

As Mitch told us "electricity and water don't mix".

The instructions were simple enough and, unlike art appreciation, absolute. Skip or ignore any, well, you might make an expensive 'start over'.

The scenario is use a cordless drill. Drill wet. Do not backup, support the object with material that will gum up the drill bit. This will easily ruin a \$10 tool. Also important is removing the drilled material before it solidifies inside the hollow shaft of the bit. In the case of a three quarter inch slab that would be about 3-4 times. When timely, the material is easily pushed out of the hollow area of the bit with a piece of 3mm aluminum wire.

The day after the meeting I drilled five $\frac{1}{4}$ " holes in a stone slab made by Joe Day.

One particular need for this drill bit is to improve the poor drainage on some ceramic pots. Which is exactly the case of this ceramic container -



$\frac{1}{4}$ " Diamond Glass Drill mfg. by
C.R. Laurence Co. (800) 421-6144



**Ceramic debris pushed out of the
hollow glass drill by a 3mm wire**



**Cordless drill with diamond drill bit attached,
drilling wet**

Mitch pointed out at the meeting the glass drill bit doesn't have a centered point or any point to guide the driller (that's you and me) to a specific location. Suggestion - go slow and steady or the drill bit will meander around the material like a cowboy on Saturday night.

Patrick LaNasa