



### ***Club Officers***

President Mitch Thomas	985 960 2933	<a href="mailto:HylanderOB1@aol.com">HylanderOB1@aol.com</a>
Program Dir. Buck Lawrence	228 831 1107	<a href="mailto:mlawren@cableone.net">mlawren@cableone.net</a>
Librarian Lou Leger	985 892 6029	<a href="mailto:laleger@charter.net">laleger@charter.net</a>
Webmaster Lauralee Reugger	985 892 6029	<a href="mailto:dalady@charter.net">dalady@charter.net</a>
Newsletter Editor Patrick La Nasa	228 255 8735	<a href="mailto:msgcbs@live.com">msgcbs@live.com</a>

### ***Bonsai Calendar***

April 8 – MSGCBS Meeting, MGCCC, Long Beach, Espy and “E” Sts.

April 10 & 11 – GNOBS Annual Bonsai Exhibit and Spring Flower Show, City Park, NOLA

April 10 & 11 – Bonsai Show, Garden Center, Independence Blvd. , Baton Rouge, La.

April 10 - Bonsai Auction, Okaloosa Ext. Annex, 127 Hollywood Av, Ft Walton Beach, FL

*\* (Hopefully sometime in the future, near or far, regional bonsai clubs will coordinate their most important fund raisers and annual exhibits with other regional bonsai clubs. I believe if the Saints can win a Super Bowl, , then most other things, with good faith, are possible on our Gulf Coast.)*

April 17 – Tri-Cities Bonsai Show, Regional Library, Mobile, AL..

April 24 - Edgewater (Mall) Horticultural Show, Biloxi, MS.

May 1 – MSGCBS Barbeque and picnic, Poplarville, MS. (see Rick Berrigan for details)

May 13 – MSGCBS Meeting and 2010-2011 Elections of officers.

May 28-30 – 2010 Rendezvous at Brussels Bonsai Nursery, Olive Branch, MS.

May 28-31 - Bonsai Societies of Florida State Convention, Orlando, FL.

## ***Our Next Meeting –***

At our next meeting we'll have the opportunity to try out the new club digital projector. The occasion will be a power point presentation on bonsai exhibits. Here's hoping we begin to justify the club expense for this training aid. Member's positive response to a graphic presentation will hopefully be more than low key entertainment, but informative in relation to their present and future bonsai collections. This is my third power point program, the others being "Bonsai Insects and Diseases" and "Beginning Bonsai".

"Bonsai Displays" program is timely, as we've been invited to exhibit our trees again this year at the Edgewater Mall in coordination with some other Mississippi Gulf Coast horticultural societies. Much credit for this fourth as well as previous horticultural shows is due to the accommodating Mall Promotion Manager, Michel Rogers.

Our bonsai exhibit has improved with each passing year, i.e., bonsai quality, presentation of the individual trees, stands and the increased number of tables. Also, last year more members were available for the set up and tear down.

As last year we'll have twelve tables for display and three tables for sales. This will be our third year to raise money for the club. As a fund raiser the club will eagerly accept trees, pre-bonsai and bonsai. Also, bonsai soil, magazines, accessories and other bonsai related material. Members with trees, stones to display are asked to bring their items to the mall the previous evening (between 6-7 PM). The mall provides security for display items. For your convenience suggest using the south east entrance (just south of the food court entrance). Parking will be permitted temporarily at this door for loading and unloading. Items for sale

will be accepted either the previous evening or Saturday morning, preferably 7-8 AM.

I hope to cover most concerns about bonsai display at our regular club meeting on Thursday, April 8<sup>th</sup>. This is the one time all bonsai growers, whether advanced artists or beginners, have the same problems or situations in displaying bonsai.

Preparedness for a bonsai display starts long before the exhibit date. A year ago and longer for most trees. Keeping them alive, keeping them healthy is our number one priority. But, that's not enough to make a bonsai *show worthy*.

Preparing a tree for display is fine tuning the whole presentation- the tree, the container and the stand. Some examples-

Conifers - needles or scales should be checked for browning from previous pruning and pinching.

Check also for insects, unnecessary and excessive wiring. Clean algae and moss from

branches and trunk. Soil surface should be cleared of fallen plant debris. Soil surface moss should be green, not brown or black.

Deciduous trees - Remove brown edged leaves and follow the above suggestions as applicable.

The container – A kitchen fabric pot scrubber and mineral oil will clean most containers without disturbing the tree. I also use powdered pumice for some of the more stubborn stains and water marks. Next remove excess oil and pumice with a dry cloth when done.

Moss will sometimes try to climb up on the inside edges of the pot. Suggest using a sharp blade and cut away this growth. Also remove soil that may have filled to the top of the container's edge. This looks untidy and on a daily basis allows the water to run over the edge of the pot and not down the inside edge of the pot each time we water.

## ***April 10<sup>th</sup> Happenings***

So much to see and do today. Where's my piston pounding helicopter? I know I could make them all.

1. At the Botanical Gardens, City Park in *New Orleans* the GNOB will have a bonsai display and demonstration in conjunction with other horticultural societies and commercial nurseries. This is a two day affair (10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>).
2. In *Baton Rouge* that club will present their annual bonsai exhibit at their regular meeting place, Independence Park. In the past some bonsai material has been for sale.
3. Meanwhile in Florida, the Ft. Walton Beach Bonsai Society will have their annual Spring Bonsai Auction. The address is 127 Hollywood Blvd., *Ft. Walton Beach*. Starts at 6 PM.

## ***April 17- Tri-Cities Bonsai Exhibit***

This year the rotating display area is in Mobile, AL. The Azalea Bonsai Society will host this annual event. The participating clubs in Mobile, Pensacola and Ft. Walton have again invited MSGCBS to join in the fun. There is usually at least one vendor attending. This is a one day affair. Members who will showing trees are asked to inform the AZBS President, Joe Kuhn of tree (s) size and species. Coordinating between the clubs, making name tags and arranging the display area and rounding up volunteers at the Regional Library is not a piece of cake. Please contact Joe Kuhn ( [magsterone@msn.com](mailto:magsterone@msn.com)) if you have a tree to display. (Tip o'hat to Joe K. and their club on another full *Day of Bonsai* on March 20<sup>th</sup> .)

## ***April 24 – Our Turn***

Our annual bonsai show is in conjunction with a few horticultural societies on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. The Gulf Coast Orchid Society has always delighted the public with their display of beautiful tropical orchids in a rainbow of colors. Some other societies and organizations have included the Rose Society, Native Plant Society and the Master Gardeners. The invitation is always open to other Horticultural societies.

It's not too late to prepare our trees and stands for a public display. A focused, critical eye on each tree to be displayed is a good start. If that seems difficult pretend you're a judge, adding or subtracting points on someone else's tree. Then take action on those mental or penciled notes on what that critical eye sees.

If any members of nearby bonsai clubs wish to see our display note that the date is April 24<sup>th</sup>, one day only, and the time is 10 AM – 6 PM. The place is the Edgewater Mall, US 90, Biloxi, Mississippi. We'll be located exactly in front of Dillard's Department store inside the mall. This is the fourth location change over the last five years. Possibly the best one yet as there is much traffic in the center of the mall.

## ***Annual Dues***

April 1 starts another fiscal year for our bonsai club. Dues need to be paid to the treasurer this month.

The amount for a single person is \$25 and a family is \$30, not any higher, even if you're the "Octomom". Pay at the next meeting or send in the attached form, check made out to Treasurer, MSGCBS .

# Membership Form

Mississippi Gulf Coast Bonsai Society

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (C) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Dues \$25 Single \$30 Family (circle one)

Mail check to Lauralee Reugger, Treasurer, 102 Big Pine Dr., Covington, La., 70433-5331

Meetings are on the second Thursday of the month at the MS. Gulf Coast Community College Campus, Multi Purpose Bldg., Espy and "B" Sts., Long Beach, MS at 6:30 PM.

---

## ***Party Time***

It's been another full year since last May for club members. Bonsai shows, demonstrations, workshops, conventions, lots of wiring, transplanting, pruning, soil mixing, and in some cases tossing out "finished bonsai". We deserve a break. One of our newest Members, Rick Berrigan is putting on a barbeque / picnic for club members. This includes new members who join by the end of the month. The date is May 1<sup>st</sup>, at "Rick's Place" in Poplarville. It's on acreage with a pond and nearby woods. We're welcome to tie off trees for transplanting at the appropriate time. Rick's cell # is 601 463 0179.

## ***Rick's Directions -***

**“ Take I-59 north to exit 29 Poplarville-Wiggins and go right (east) on hwy 26 for about a quarter of a mile to the first blacktop on the right ( American Sand and Gravel ). Turn right and go about a mile (the blacktop turns into a gravel road and goes up a hill ) to the end of American Sand and Gravel road to Christa lane. Turn right on Christa and go to the end of the road to 49 Christa lane ( grey house on left at top of hill ) (H) phone # 601-463-0179.**

Barbecue chicken, hot dogs, and burgers will be provided, but everyone can bring a sidedish or a dessert. Spouses and friends welcome. There will be plenty of cold water, cold drinks, and cold beer.

There are plenty of woods surrounding us so we'll be finding and marking trees to dig later at the right time.” *Ricky Berrigan*

*Patrick La Nasa,  
Newsletter Editor*