



Club Officers

President Mitch Thomas	985 960 2933	HylanderOB1@aol.com
Program Dir. Buck Lawrence	228 831 1107	mlawren@cablone.net
Librarian Lou Leger	985 892 6029	laleger@charter.net
Webmaster Lauralee Reugger	985 892 6029	dalady@charter.net
Newsletter Editor Patrick La Nasa	228 255 8735	msgcbs@live.com

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.

July 17 – Louisiana Day of Bonsai, Baton Rouge, La.

May 13 - Next meeting – Annual Elections

All elective positions are open, from President to Newsletter Editor. What are the qualifications? Confidence helps. Secondly, work ethic. Experience? This helps with the confidence but certainly not a requirement. The Nike Company has a good slogan that applies here – “*Just Do It!*”. Persons serve one year or more depending on re-election. If you’re interested in being a candidate suggest you notify the president by the start of the meeting (or start campaigning sooner). If you have ideas, directions that you would like to see the club involved in, there is no better way to lead, to implement than be the elected officer in that area you’re most interested in.

Seen at the 2010 Horticultural Show, Edgewater Mall, Biloxi, MS



Two Photos by Patrick La Nasa

Bonsai Display

Our bonsai club members put in extra hours to set up and still more hours talking to the public, styling junipers and offering bonsai, pre-bonsai and accessories for sale.

Despite the foul weather of rain, salt spray on our cars in the lot and gusts 30-40 mph the turnout of mall visitors seemed reasonably steady throughout the day.

Special thanks to all who participated- Mitch Thomas, Buck Lawrence, Keith Eleuterius, Blanca Vega, Ricky Berrigan, Lou Leger, Lauralee Reugger and Patrick LaNasa.

The nearly professional bonsai display with all the trees, viewing stones, complementary plants and the varied items for donations would not be possible without the unselfish efforts and hard work of these members for the good of the club. This completes our fifth bonsai show at the Edgewater Mall and our fourth coordinated affair with the other horticultural societies. Can't recall seeing as many persons in the past stopping, talking to each other and pointing to our trees on display.

Seemed to be more questions this year. Possibly because more tree varieties were displayed, both in species and size. However, it's getting so that I flinch when the perennial question pops up "*How old is that one?*". Just had to smile when more than one person asked "*Are these things real?*". That question, I believe, from the uninformed public, beats bright red and blue ribbons at shows. A left handed compliment. If it's good enough to be imitated it's unintended but sincere flattery.

I hope whoever is the chairman for this event in Spring 2011 takes note of the preparations, the coordination, the location of this year's event and will consider possible improvements. A ***show committee*** discussing these elements while we're only weeks away from the 2010 display could be more effective in contributing to the success of next year's event.

MSGCBS elections next week may be a good time to put a chairman and committee in place for the 2011 Edgewater Horticultural Show. A new and bold step for this club.

A word or two on Haiku

A couple of Tuesdays ago there appeared an article in the Sun Herald Newspaper on haiku showcased at the USM library in Long Beach.

All us bonsai nuts know, by now, that haiku is a form of Japanese poetry. Just to review, haiku poetry consists of seventeen syllables contained in three lines of five, seven and five. An art form hundreds of years old.

An especially interesting twist to this news article is the fact that the showcase of poetry, photographs and Japanese scrolls was and still is being displayed through May 16 by Frank Smith, a former member of our bonsai club. Frank, an active and serious contributor to the needs of the club joined around the end of '02. There's a record of this somewhere.

Below is Frank's poetry on Katrina's aftermath.



photo by Patrick La Nasa

*“Waves rushing onshore –
many memories are placed
on the old wrack line”*

EFS

“Each haiku should include a seasonal word to indicate what season it takes place”. Frank also said “I sometimes explain that collecting my thoughts is like trying to sweep ants into a pile- it can't be done”

Frank Smith retired from the US Army, having served in the intelligence field. He also retired from the railroad. Later, living in Okinawa, Japan for a number of years he studied bonsai and also took a strong liking to haiku. Frank is a graduate of USM in Hattiesburg.



photo by Sun Herald

*“Yellow butterflies
on the same colored flowers –
at the jungle's edge”.*

EFS

Bonsai Societies of Florida "Soul of Bonsai 2010"

It's getting later and later. If you're going to Orlando for the state convention hope you booked your hotel and workshop reservations by now.

The event this year is from May 28th to May 31st at the Ramada Resort & Convention Center in Orlando (down the street from Mickey's place). Featured artists include Robert Steven, Mike Cartrett, Alan Carver, Ed trout, Jim Van Landingham and a half dozen more.

For more information email BSF2010@cfl.rr.com .

Brussel's Bonsai Nursery Rendezvous 2010

This event, also during the Memorial Day weekend, takes place in Olive Branch, Mississippi. The nursery is the largest bonsai nursery in the USA.

The gathering attracts bonsai enthusiasts from around the country. Not sure if there is a poll on repeated attendance but from word around the water cooler many keep coming back. Reason could be the food which seems to be there most of the time, hospitality and help from the staff, abundant workshops and demonstrations and, the powerhouse of skilled bonsai artists over the years headlining the annual event.

Guests artists for May 28-31 include Peter Adams. Colin Lewis, Marc Noelanders, Kathy Shaner and Bill Valavanis.

Registrants can expect lunch Friday, Saturday and Sunday, dinner Friday and Saturday. In the past there have been snacks and drinks available all day. I'm glad, so glad, my next scheduled diet starts on the 1st day of June. Whew!

A MSGCBS Barbq in Poplarville



Photo by Sue Stevens

Mitch Thomas, Patrick La Nasa, George Stevens and Rick Berrigan feeding catfish at Rick's place. In all fairness to Rick, our host, he did feed us first- chicken, bratwurst, hot dogs and more, much more.

Last Issue from this desk

All good things come to an end. So do bad things and really, really bad things. However the case, this is my last club newsletter.

Last May, at my request, the MSGCBS made this position an elected office. The position of newsletter editor expires this month. Of the eight years this club has issued newsletters (some, just an email) I've scribbled for at least half that time. Some of it topical, some of it less so. Mailings went out to bonsai clubs in Lake Charles, Pensacola, Mobile and Ft. Walton Beach. Who actually read them, is well, one more thing I don't know.

No health problems, not moving out of the area and certainly haven't given up on bonsai. Will remain a member of this one club, MSGCBS, but will be taking a seat further back on the bus. My best to the next scribe.

Patrick La Nasa