



***Mississippi Gulf Coast
Bonsai Society***

*Photo by Patrick
LaNasa*

June 2010

www.msgulfcoastbonsai.org

Volume 9 Issue 4

Club Officers

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Webmaster / Newsletter Editor: Lauralee Reugger	(985) 892-6029	dalady@charter.net

Coming Events

- June 10th, 2010 – MSGCBS monthly meeting at MGCCC campus, Long Beach, MS, Espy and “B” Sts
- June 11-13th, 2010 - LSBF (Lone Star Bonsai Federation) 2010 'Cowtown Bonsai', Fort Worth, TX
- June 12-13th, 2010 - 2nd U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition, Rochester, NY.
- July 17th, 2010 - LABS 2010 Hosted by Louisiana Bonsai Society, Baton Rouge, LA.
- July 24-25th, 2010 - Southeastern Regional Bonsai Show Hosted by the Nashville Bonsai Society, Nashville, TN.
- August 14th, 2010 – GNOBS (Greater N.O. Bonsai Society) Annual Auction. Viewing from 4-6pm, Auction begins at 6pm at Audubon Zoo.*

*NOTE: GNOBS has a new meeting place. Their new location is Audubon Zoo, Nims Community Center, 6500 Magazine Street, New Orleans.

Meeting – June 10th

The meeting will be an open workshop. Please bring a tree that you would like to get help on, and wire and tools if you plan on doing any work on the tree at the meeting.

Elections

Elections were held at our May meeting. Mitch Thomas will remain as President, Buck Lawrence as Program Director / Contact Person, Lou Leger Treasurer, Lauralee Reugger Webmaster. Rick Berrigan will take over from Lou as Librarian. Lou and Lauralee will be Newsletter Editors.

In case you didn't notice there is one name missing from the line-up. Patrick LaNasa has decided to take a well-deserved rest from club duties. This is the first time since the organizations inception, in March 2002, that Patrick will not be holding some position in MSGCBS. Patrick is one of the founders of MSGCBS, has held the office of President for 4 out of 8 years, been Program Director, Contact Person and as of late, Newsletter Editor. We are in deep gratitude of Patrick for all of the knowledge, time and effort he has generously given to the organization as well as to each and everyone of us. Patrick, We Thank You.

Last Meeting

Last meeting we were once again without a classroom due do school closure and relegated to meeting in the school parking lot. Thank goodness for daylight savings-time and a cool breeze. This event and the recent request of the school that we move the day of our meeting from Wednesday to Thursday, prompted us to discuss the possibility of looking for another meeting place. Some of our members have other commitments on Thursdays which interfere with their attendance of our meeting.

While it would be nice to find a facility that would accommodate our choice of day and time and be more centrally located for the majority of the



membership, our biggest hurdle will be cost. We have been fortunate enough to be one of the few, if not the only bonsai club to have a rent free meeting place. This is a luxury that the school affords non-profit organizations and a necessity to our organization since we are a small club with limited resources. So, what are we looking for ? Ideally it would be,

- Free,
- Centrally located (between Diamondhead & Gulfport),
- Easy Access from the I-10,
- Good choice of Day/Times available,
- Tables & Chairs or Desks,
- Definitely have A/C
- and Oh, did I day Free?

Do you have knowledge of a place that might fit or nearly fit this bill? Give us your suggestions?

Potting Medium

Also at our last meeting, we had a discussion on aggregates vs lava rocks vs hadite and the cost and logistics of obtaining each. It was decided that hadite was the least expensive way to go. Much cheaper than the lava rock. Albeit, a little work involved. The club will purchase 2 yards of hadite and bags to put it in, a Bagster to transport on a trailer and pay for gasoline to obtain hadite. Mitch will transport the Hadite from Baton Rouge to Covington, where the membership will all help to bag the hadite, afterwhich the Hadite will be available for purchase.

Made an offer to sell some to Mobile at a considerably lower rate than the lava rocks they were considering, but they declined. Some Pensacola Club Members did take us up on our offer and will make the trip to pick it up when it becomes available.

Squirrely Situation

Do you have a problem with squirrels ? We Do ! This year we seem to have a bumper crop. The little buggers are everywhere. They're not satisfied with the seed that is dropped from the bird feeders. They are now trying to get to



the store of bird seed on the screen porch. Last week the door was left ajar and I surprised one of the brazen little vermin in the act of chewing a hole in the cover of a 5 gallon plastic bucket. But, be that as it may, that's not why I'm writing this article.

The little monsters also like to dig in the bonsai pots or sit there while nibbling on a tasty tidbit. That is usually the signal that we need to replenish our defenses. Instead of trapping or shooting the impudent rodents, we prefer chemical warfare. Moth Balls ! That's right, I said moth balls. So far moth balls are the best solution we have come up. We first



started putting a couple of moth balls in each pot a few years ago. At first the squirrels would play pitch and hurl them out of the pots. Now they avoid them and the digging. How long do they last, you ask. Well, that depends on the weather, whether or not we have had any rain and how much. The best we can say is that when the furry little creatures resume their digging or playing around the bonsai, we know it is time to renew each bonsai's supply of moth ball. It has worked for us, so it will hopefully work for you. Of course, that's dependent on how tenacious your diminutive varmints are !

Lauralee Reugger

Membership Form

Name:	<input type="text"/>	Date:	<input type="text"/>
Address:	<input type="text"/>		
City:	<input type="text"/>	State:	<input type="text"/>
		Zip:	<input type="text"/>
Phone:	Home <input type="text"/>	Cell:	<input type="text"/>
E-mail:	<input type="text"/>		
Dues:	Single: \$25.00 yr <input type="text"/>	Family: \$30.00 yr	<input type="text"/>
Send Check to:	Treasurer, MS Gulf Coast Bonsai Society 102 Big Pine Dr. Covington, La. 70433		