

## Upcoming Bonsai Events

### April

**April 4<sup>th</sup>**

Kusamono  
Workshop with  
Young Choe,  
Lion's Field,  
6:30pm

**April 6<sup>th</sup>**

Bonsai and Booze  
Bash, Preston's  
House, 10:00am

**April 6<sup>th</sup>**

Kusamono  
Workshop with  
Young Choe,  
Preston's House,  
10:00am & 1:00pm

**April 11<sup>th</sup>**

Club Meeting,  
AUCTION!!!!,  
Lion's Field 6:30pm

**Additional April/May  
events listed on  
Page 5**

All above meetings are  
held at the Lion's Field  
Center 2809 Broadway,  
SATX 78209 (unless  
otherwise noted)



## In this issue...

President's Message **P.1**

Vice-President's Message **P.2**

Photos/Recognitions **P.3**

Bonsai Funnies **P.3**

Monthly Tips **P.4**

Other News **P.6**

## President's Message by Conrad Gamboa, [cgamboa013@gmail.com](mailto:cgamboa013@gmail.com)

Can you believe it SABS members? We are already starting the second quarter of the 2024 season, and what an incredible time it has been thus far. March gave us our first presentation and workshop by Evan Pardue of Underhill Bonsai, and we had a terrific turnout. The workshop was over-booked, the classroom lecture was incredible, and the information provided was very apropos to our region and the trees we work with. Not to mention the material that he brought for our workshop and the material he sold to us at a discount was incredible. From the feedback we have received so far, I'm sure we will have several opportunities to bring him back. Thank you, Evan and thank you Underhill Bonsai! Your contributions to our society are greatly appreciated.

As you will read in our VP letter to SABS, we have a lot of things going on in April, but please, please, sign up for our Young Choe Workshops coming up. It's not always that we can bring in a World Renown artist to provide a workshop to us, especially one that will directly help us with completing our exhibit presentations (or just some beautiful pieces of art that you will be able to take home). We still have spots open on Thursday, April 4th and Saturday, April 6th (keep reading this newsletter for all of the details).

Thank you all for your participation and attendance and we look forward to seeing everyone at the Young Choe workshops, the Annual Bonsai and Booze party, our April Bonsai Auction, the BYOT workshop, our San Antonio Zoo exhibit, and the LSBF Bonsai at the Bayou Convention. Until then, remember, the grass is not greener on the other side, it's greener where YOU water it! Peace, and may all your trees find good health and long-lasting life.



**Here are Conrad and Ryan  
providing a L/D to University of  
Penn Ivy League members!!!  
Workshop was coordinated by  
Kyle Jones.**



**Please  
Welcome our  
Newest  
Member(s)**

Aaron D.  
Dominic G.

*Those considering  
joining SABS may  
attend a free meeting.  
Membership forms  
available at each  
meeting and on  
website.*

**Congratulate  
these Members  
on their  
Membership  
Anniversary in  
2024**

**5 years**

Conrad, Joe,  
Gloria, &  
Veronica

**10 years**

Leydana

**15 years**

Evelyn, Roberto,  
Alberto, & Virgie

**20+ years**

Jay, Kevin,  
Hattie, Donna,  
Chuck, Pat,  
Alfred, David,  
Dawn, Paul, &



## Vice-President's Message

by Gabe Hernandez,  
gabriher@gmail.com

Spring is here! We have been getting rain and that's been helping the trees green up! Who doesn't like free natural fertilization? By now you should have finished repotting your deciduous/conifer trees. You can still slip pot trees, which consists of moving a tree to a slight bigger pot without disturbing the roots. Temperatures are still dropping to the high 40s, so if you have temperature sensitive trees, make sure to take care of them nightly. Do not repot tropicals yet. You will want to wait until nightly temperatures are above 60° consistently for 30 days. Feel free to ask other members or on our Facebook page if you have any questions.

Kusamono artist Young Choe will be having four workshops with a limited of 10 people per workshop. On April 4<sup>th</sup> at the Lions Field and Saturday April 6<sup>th</sup> at Hattie and Kevin's home. Workshop fees are \$35/pp for SABS members and \$50/pp for non-members.

The April 4<sup>th</sup> workshop will have its first class from 4pm-6pm followed by second class from 6:30pm-8:30pm.

The April 6<sup>th</sup> workshop will have its first class from 10am-12pm followed by second class from 1pm-3pm.

Space is limited for the workshops, so make sure you sign up! A genius sign up is on page 6! This will be a great opportunity to learn from Young. Our member Karin Kohler will be providing her amazing pots for the Kusamono workshop. Many thanks to Karin for her talent and work!

Workshops include one pot, soil, and some plants! Please feel free to bring another pot and your plants if you have an idea of what you would like to make.

*Vice-President's Message continued on Page 6.*





# Monthly Food/Bev. Hosts

**April**

Bruce B. & Joe H.

**May**

Volunteer(s) needed!

## 2024 Soil/Book Sale



Club Soil  
\$25/five gal.



APL Soil  
\$75/five gal.



Care Book \$30

Email Ryan O. at [bonsaiode@gmail.com](mailto:bonsaiode@gmail.com) for details



## Photos/Recoanitions

Photos from the Evan Pardue Workshop



## Bonsai Funnies





## Monthly Tips by Jonas Dupuich of Bonsai Tonight

### Early Spring Work

March 17, 2024

If you ask me what my favorite time of year in the garden is, I'll say early spring, right after repotting. It's the one time of year when everything looks good and there's little work to do.

Or so I used to think. In recent years, I've found that spring is a busy time for maintenance tasks and a key season for setting up trees for success over the remainder of the growing season. Here are some of the tasks that require attention as trees start growing in spring.

**Replace top dressing** – Surface soil can break down, collect weeds, and become crusted with broken down fertilizer over the course of the growing season. For trees that aren't repotted, replace the top 1/2" or so of old soil with fresh soil (and moss, if needed) to facilitate watering.



**Pinching** – For mature specimens where the goal is to improve branch density, pinching begins as soon as trees start growing in spring on species like Japanese maple and Japanese beech. Pinch new shoots on vigorous areas of the tree (often the upper branches) and let weaker areas (like the interior shoots) gain vigor.



**Removing flowers and fruit** – For species that produce fruit or seed pods after blooming, remove any flowers when they start to fade (or fruit if you don't remove the flowers in time). Chojubai, wisteria, and plums commonly produce fruit or seed pods if the flowers aren't removed quickly so checking these trees frequently through the blooming season can help you prevent fruit from forming.

Redhawk  
BONSAI



Cultivating Bonsai Since 1976

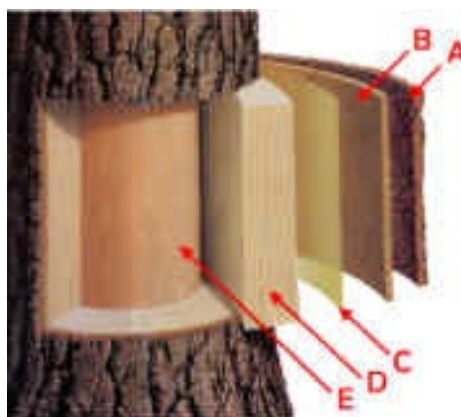
Nursery Floral Class 2 Lic #0822998

**DAVID WHITAKER**

Lone Star Bonsai Federation Artist  
Lecture-Demos & Workshops

South Texas Bonsai Kai Founder  
3rd Saturday of September

San Patricio, Texas  
361-688-0109  
redhawkbonsai@yahoo.com



## Bonsai Term(s) of the Month

### Anatomy of a Tree

#### A) Outer Bark

- tree's protection from world. Continually renewed from within. Keeps out rain but prevents evaporation. Insulates against cold & heat. Wards off insects.

#### B) Inner Bark

- or "phloem", pipeline through food is passed to rest of tree. Short lived before becoming bark.

#### C) Cambium

- growing part of trunk. Produces new bark & wood in response to hormones (auxins) that pass down through phloem with food. Auxins stimulates cell growth & are produced by leaf buds.

#### D) Sapwood

- tree's pipeline for water moving to leaves. New wood that turns to heartwood.

#### E) Heartwood

- central, supporting pillar of the tree. Though dead doesn't decay or lose strength.

<https://www.arboday.org/trees/ringstreenatomy.cfm>

## Upcoming Bonsai Events

### April

**April 13<sup>th</sup>**  
BYOT

Workshop/Training  
at Café College,  
9:00am

**April 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>**

Bonsai Exhibit at  
the SA Zoo, 9am-  
5pm

**April 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>**

Houston Bonsai  
Convention

### May

**May 4<sup>th</sup>**

Soil Mixer, Ryan's  
House, 9am-3pm

**May 9<sup>th</sup>**

Club Meeting on  
Bald Cypress with  
Randy Bennett,

Lion's Field,  
6:30pm

**May 10<sup>th</sup>**

Workshop for  
Group 1 Cypress  
Members, Ryan's  
House, 6pm

**May 11<sup>th</sup>**

Workshop for  
Group 2 Cypress  
Members, Café  
College, 9am

## Monthly Tips, cont.

**Removing suckers** – Some species (like chojubai or coast redwood) produce shoots from the roots when they start growing in spring. Remove unneeded suckers as soon as they appear.



**Fertilizing** – Young trees, species that will be decandled (like black or red pine), and species like plums appreciate receiving additional resources early in the season. Fertilize evergreen bonsai when they start growing in spring (or earlier if temperatures are mild). Wait a few weeks after repotting for trees you need to repot.

**Catching up on fall work** – If you haven't finished pruning, plucking, and wiring everything in the garden, now's a good time to do it. Hold off when there's enough new growth that it would be difficult to do the work without damaging new shoots.

Depending on your weather and the species you work with there may be many more tasks to do in your garden as trees wake up from dormancy.

## Vice-President's Message (cont.)

On April 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be having our Bonsai and Booze Bash! That's right! We are partying with Young! Please feel free to bring a side dish or dessert. A SignUpGenius link is on page 6 so you can sign up to bring a side dish. This will be a great time to meet other members and pick their brains for ideas and thoughts about your trees.

**We will have a one-day sale of rocks and slabs from Paul T.'s collection. Photos are provided in the email for this newsletter.**

On April 11<sup>th</sup>, we will have our spring auction at the Lions Field. We will be starting at 6:30pm. This is a great opportunity to purchase trees, pots, books, tools etc... This is also a great time to clean out your areas and sell stuff. An attachment will be included so you can fill out information if you are going to be selling. The split is 80%/20% (seller/SABS). We take cash, cards, and Venmo. Come early to check out the trees you will be bidding on!



On April 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>, the San Antonio Zoo is inviting SABS to display trees during their Spring "Party for the Plant" event. We are looking for members from all levels to display their trees. This is your chance to show your hard work off! (Accent plants/stones are optional). We are also looking for volunteers to help educate visitors and set up and tear down. Sign up on page 6.

April 25<sup>th</sup>-28<sup>th</sup>, Houston will be hosting Bonsai on the Bayou with major guest artist like Bjorn Bjorholm, Sergio Cuan and Min Hsuan Lo. Attend a workshop, see what



the vendors are offering or just make friends with other bonsai members from our sister clubs. This will be great opportunity to buy trees, stands and pots.

On May 4<sup>th</sup>, we will be having a bonsai soil mixer at Ryan's house from 9am-2pm. We will be mixing multiple components of our Club Soil. Please bring sifting screens, gloves, scoops, empty soil buckets, large containers, cement mixers, and wood-chippers, if available. This is a great opportunity to also take home some soil fresh out the sifters!

On May 9<sup>th</sup>, we will be having guest artist Randy Bennett working on Bald Cypress during a lecture and demo! We will be raffling the tree Randy will be working on. Randy is in Louisiana and has been working on bonsai for over 50 years! Randy works on hackberries, water elms, bald cypress, and other Louisiana natives!

May 11<sup>th</sup>, Randy Bennett will be having a bald cypress workshop at Cafe College from 9am-2pm. This will be the start of Group 2 for the Randy Bennett Bald Cypress Study Group/Workshop. This is open to all members not currently enrolled in the first group. Randy will review multiple slides pertaining to Bald Cypress and you will begin to work on your tree that afternoon. Workshop cost may fluctuate but has been around \$300-\$400 per person (Ryan will have a more accurate value closer to the event).

We would like two members to bring trees to display and talk about them so other members can see the progress you have made! New members are encouraged to participate.

## Other News

- Don't forget to sign up to host snacks and beverages for our main monthly meetings. We would like to have two members donate. Please get with Joe H. to find a date that works with you! The club provides plates, plasticware, cups and ice!
- Feel free to bring old pots, books or young trees you would like to donate for our raffles during the monthly meetings. We appreciate the help as it helps us raise money for future artists and events.
- Café College is located at 131 El Paso Street, SATX 78204
- **2025 Bonsai Convention Updates** – Our Convention Committee is expanding, but we still need a few more volunteers from SABS for Exhibit Co-Chairperson, Registration Co-Chairperson, and Marketing Co-Chairperson (see sign up link below). We have selected our event location which is the Holiday Inn in Corpus Christi. It is a very beautiful hotel and venue!!!! We are currently working on our Logo, advertisement to be distributed at the Houston Convention, and our guest artists. Please let me, Ryan O., know if you are interested in joining this committee.
- If you have any raffle items to donate to the Convention, Kevin will begin accepting them at the BBQ.
- The Lion's Field is asking all attendees to register with the City of San Antonio prior to entering the Lion's Field in April. Please arrive earlier than normal to complete this paperwork.
- **Upcoming events to sign up for:**
  - **2025 CCBC/SABS Bonsai Convention Positions** – [2025 Bonsai Convention Positions Sign Up](#)
  - **Bonsai and Booze Bash** - [Sign Up Here to Bring a Side Dish](#)
  - **Young Choe Kusamono Workshops** - [Sign Up Here for Kusamono Workshops](#)
  - **Exhibitors for the SA Zoo on April 20 & 21** – [Sign Up Here to Exhibit at the Zoo](#)
  - **Soil Mixer** - [Sign Up Here to Help at the Soil Mixer](#)
  - **Group 2 Randy Bennetts Bald Cypress Program** – [Sign Up Here for Bald Cypress Workshop Group 2](#)



San Antonio  
Bonsai Society,  
Inc. (SABS)

All correspondence  
should be  
addressed to:

San Antonio  
Bonsai Society,  
Inc.

27925 Bonn  
Mountain

San Antonio,  
Texas, 78260

The informal upright style (Moyogi) is considered the most popular shape in all bonsai, especially suited to our native Ashe Juniper.

Our logo, represented by this informal style stands for the informal nature of the San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc. This popular, interesting style depicts the objectives of the Society - promoting participation and enjoyment of Bonsai.

The emblem was adopted as the official logo in September 1977.

For additional information please visit SABS at

**Website: [Sanantoniobonsai.org](http://Sanantoniobonsai.org)**

**Facebook: [@sanantoniobonsai](https://www.facebook.com/sanantoniobonsai)**

**Instagram: [@sanantoniobonsai](https://www.instagram.com/sanantoniobonsai)**

**Annual Membership Due:**

Individual	\$30
Family	\$50
Senior (65+) Individual:	\$25
Senior (65+) Family:	\$40
Individual Nametag:	\$15

**The San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc. is a member of the Lone Star Bonsai Federation, Inc., Bonsai Clubs International, and the American Bonsai Society.**

**SABS is a non-profit 501c (3) organization.**

**Newsletter editor: Ryan O. at [bonsaiode@gmail.com](mailto:bonsaiode@gmail.com)**

Advertising for SA Bonsai News is based on the minimum size of 3" by 2" for \$35 per year. Single ads of the above size can be run for \$5. Ads must be camera ready. The Editor must receive changes in existing ads by the 20th of the month preceding the month of publication. Send ads and payment to San Antonio Bonsai Society, Inc., Attn: Advertising, 27925 Bonn Mountain, San Antonio, Texas, 78260. For situations other than the above, please contact the Editor, [bonsaiode@gmail.com](mailto:bonsaiode@gmail.com). Original articles from SA Bonsai News may be reprinted only in their entirety. Full credit must be given the author and to SA Bonsai News.