



September 2006 Newsletter

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From the President...

Many thanks to everyone who brought a tree (or trees) to the August 6th meeting. It was certainly appreciated. And no, it's not too late to bring more trees to be considered for the Asheville expo, the President's award, and for the North Carolina State Fair! On September 10th we will put together our final Asheville show display with the trees from our TBS members, so please bring the trees that were chosen at our last meeting, and or any other ones you think would be a nice asset to the display!

The September 10th meeting will also be a BYOT. There will be plenty of experienced members to offer suggestions and help, and I personally hope that I can give some advice again since I had a wonderful time during our last BYOT meeting.

This is also a great opportunity for the new talent contestants to get advice on their trees, since there are only two months left before judging and presentation of the new talent award on November 5th. Please don't be shy. We are not looking for a perfect tree. You have nothing to loose but only to gain: experience and a nice pot. Also, I heard through the grapevine that some trees initially considered for the competition have somehow died! Therefore the competition has shrunk and you have a better chance to win.

So I hope to see you all with lots of trees on September 10th at 1:30pm.

Ed Lauer

August 6 Meeting

Ed Lauer announced some major news: TBS will once again have a display at the NC State Fair, October 13 – 22. Sixteen trees (two displays of 8 trees each) will be shown over the ten-day period. Club members will also provide demonstrations to the public. Currently 12 members have volunteered to help, but additional volunteers are required to make sure our trees are watered and happy. Please contact Ed Lauer to help.

The annual Bonsai Expo at the NC Arboretum in Asheville, NC will be held October 14-15. TBS members brought a wide variety of trees to be considered for the club display, including ficus, Brazilian rain tree, junipers, pines, pyracantha, azalea, Chinese elm, Japanese maple, and forest plantings of trident maple and spruce. Members voted for their favorite trees; using that information, the judges decided on bonsai that could work together, in the context of the overall display. Trees under further consideration for Bonsai Expo were Tom Waldo's large ficus, Keith Smith's informal juniper, Don Kimball's

shohin Japanese maple, Sonny Poché's Chinese elm, and Merritt Barnett's cascade azalea. All others were snapped up for display at the NC State Fair.

What's happening in September?

The September 10th meeting at 1:30pm will combine two themes. Additional trees will be considered for the Bonsai Expo and the overall display will be revisited. So if you still have that specimen tree hiding in your collection, this will be your last chance to get it to Asheville, at least for this year! Members will see how trees are fit together to make a cohesive display and hear comments about why particular trees are chosen.

This meeting is also a time for members to bring their trees for advice on pruning, wiring, general care and pot choices. While this is not the time to repot trees, you can never start the search too soon for that ideal bonsai container for your favorite tree.

Bring your trees!! While the advice is free, the value of the advice will be priceless.

Warren Hill Update

TBS has purchased a significant San Jose juniper for Warren Hill's lecture and demonstration at the October 1st meeting. The resulting bonsai will be a collector's piece and will be auctioned at the December Holiday Party or the Spring Picnic. Watch the website for photos. Don't miss the opportunity to learn from the former curator of the U.S. Bonsai and Penjing Museum at the National Arboretum, Washington, D.C.

And a first for TBS: the Warren Hill workshop has already been sold out! For the lucky 10 of you, the workshop will be from 9am to noon on Sep 30. I expect that some of these trees will be vying for future President's awards, and for shows at Asheville over the next few years.

Points of Interest

- Ed Lauer sends a reminder that there is a 10% discount on any purchase at the Painted Lady in Wilmington by mentioning his name.
- And from Arthur Joura: Information pertaining to this year's Expo will be posted on the Arboretum's website by Friday, September 1st: <http://www.ncarboretum.org>
- Our own Keith Smith is retiring from the bonsai business, in order to have more time with his family and his real job. For any of you, or anyone you know, that might be interested in the production and distribution of bonsai soil for many of the major bonsai outlets up and down the east coast (and including Puerto Rico, I understand), contact Keith at youkoubonsai@youkoubonsai.com. The business includes an automated mechanical sifter, mechanical mixer, chipper, raw materials, and customer list.

Member Update!

My apologies to Leodyne: I've had her name incorrectly in the roster, which should be Alsbach. Sorry.

Email changes: see the mailing for Leodyne Alsbach and Howard Bemus

Upcoming TBS Events

Sep 30 **Warren Hill workshop 9am to noon**
Oct 1 **Warren Hill demo 1:30pm**
Nov 5 **BYOT and winter care; New Talent Award**
Dec 3 **Holiday Party and Auction**

Jim Easterbrook