

November
2009



Future Tense November Meeting

November 9, Monday 7 pm SBS Meeting – Last meeting of 2009. On agenda is 2010 Events planning and Election of Officers for 2010. Meeting will be held in the Exhibit hall of Washington Park Botanical Garden.

Please bring a small dessert to share; we will provide the coffee. More importantly please bring your ideas and suggestions for our meetings in 2010. While a couple of guest artist events are already planned for next spring, most of the meeting topics are still open. We will be hosting **Michael Persiano** on **Saturday April 17th**. Michael suggested a BYOT (bring your own tree!) workshop. April will be a great time to style and repot almost any deciduous or coniferous bonsai tree.

Cass Bonsai is hosting **Erik Wigert** on **Saturday May 8th** for a workshop with trees from Erik's Bonsai nursery in Florida (www.wigertsbonsai.com). Some of you attended Erik's demo and workshop earlier this year and know the quality of trees Erik brings. So mark your calendars and prepare for these outstanding Bonsai opportunities!

On behalf of all SBS officers I would like to say "THANK YOU!" to all the volunteers and attendees who made all 2009 SBS events a great success! We look forward to continuing in 2010 with new bonsai activities and events. If you would like to help the club either as a volunteer or as a club officer please attend the meeting and bring forth your ideas / nomination!



We have a new website for our club:
<http://www.bonsaisbs.com>

Yahoo closed down Geocities which hosted our previous free website. The new website is hosted on webs.com (formerly free-webs.com)

It has a lot of cool features like Photo Gallery, Discussion Forum etc. The site is still under development so please be patient while we update the pages. I will update everyone when you can sign up for the forums etc.

SPRINGFIELD BONSAI SOCIETY

Palmatum Press

Past Tense – October Meeting

The October meeting was very well attended. A few of us came in early to paint the pedestals for the Fall Show. Many thanks to all the volunteers – your help made the task much easier!

The meeting topic was conifer styling and each one of us had brought a tree to work on. A few members had picked up some bargain juniper / spruce at local nurseries / home improvement stores. Dr. Folse and Scott were out of town and could not attend the meeting. In their absence we all took turns going over each other's trees and offering suggestions.

David styled a juniper while Anne "supervised"! Chris Chapman, Kent Capps, Gary Trammell, Jay Gaydosh, Buddy and Lisa Dunn and myself all had trees that went through some styling. John Mori and his wife were visiting us from Morton, IL (near Peoria). John had brought in a Mugo pine along with some other conifers. We explored some styling options on the mugo but I mentioned the difficulty some club members have had in raising Mugo pines in our area. If you have any tips on Mugo Pines please post your comments to BonsaiSBS@yahoo.com. We discussed some new bonsai nurseries they visited in northern Illinois – Rock Valley Bonsai in Rockford, a nursery in Paw Paw, IL, Twin City Bonsai in Bloomington-Normal area etc.

Past Tense – Fall Bonsai Extravaganza - Bonsai Show and Auction

The show and auction at Lincoln Memorial Gardens were a big hit again this year. Dr. Folse appeared on the early morning program on WICS TV to promote our show and the newspaper also highlighted the event.

The setup for the show was done on Friday afternoon - so an extra thank you to the volunteers that did the setup on Friday! I heard the setup wasn't easy as there were no motorized carts available at the WPBG. Gary Trammell, Scott Day and Dick Adorjan had everything under control at the Lincoln Memorial Gardens.



A lot of new SBS members had trees on display this year. Quite a few members also donated trees and supplies for auction. The auction was carried out by Scott Day with help from volunteers. We used the system established by Dick and Bert Hendee and overall the auction went by smoothly.



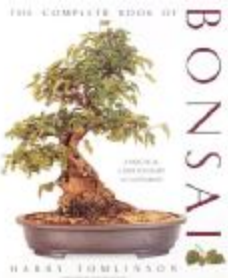
Check out the Photo Gallery at our new website (www.bonsaisbs.com) for more photos of the show.

John Mori has taken some digital close-ups of all the trees and I hope to upload it to one of our Bonsai Photo website.

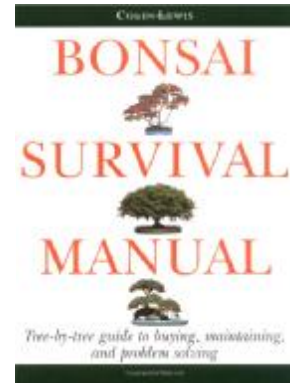
Holiday season Bonsai gift ideas!

With holiday season fast approaching it is time to make some lists. I have always put a bonsai book on my list as most of them are quite affordable and easy to pick up at local bookstore. (Barnes and Noble will order the book for you if they don't carry it, or you can order them online). Books are also easier to procure than trees or supplies. If you want to get a bonsai tree for someone contact Milt @ Cass Bonsai Gardens 618-656-9087 or look online at Brussels Bonsai www.brusselsbonsai.com

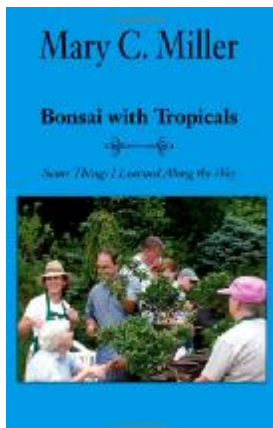
I did a quick search on Amazon.com for a list of popular Bonsai books and the following books came out on top!



The Complete Book of Bonsai (Hardcover) by Harry Tomlinson, \$27.47 on amazon.com



Bonsai Survival Manual: Tree-by-Tree Guide to Buying, Maintaining, and Problem Solving (Paperback) by Colin Lewis. \$15.61 on amazon.com

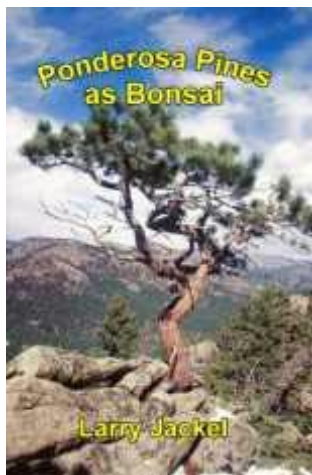


Bonsai with Tropicals: Some Things I Learned Along the Way by Mary C Miller. This book is slightly off the beaten path, but I find it has some interesting tips. Read the excerpt below "They're My Weeds", it's from her book! Some more tips from Mary can be found at the following website. <http://www.bonsaisocietyofmiami.org/Marys-ten-steps.html>

They're My Weeds

If you've had many bonsai, you've had many weeds. Many years ago I was walking through a fellow hobbyists' collection; without a thought I reached to pull a single weed. "No!" he shouted. I was totally embarrassed. He informed me the little weed was a barometer. It told him when to water that particular plant. I got over the embarrassment and now have a few barometers myself. Actually I have *quite* a few barometers, especially in summer.

Another good source for Bonsai books is the **American Bonsai Society's** website bookstore. I am highlighting some of the books that were published by ABS. Visit <http://absbonsai.org/books/bookservice.html> for these specialized books and booklets.



Ponderosa Pines as Bonsai by Larry Jackel

This book focuses specifically on *Pinus ponderosa, scopulorum*. Ponderosa Pine is one of the most wonderful pines to use for bonsai. It is a ruggedly handsome tree with thick, plated bark and vigorous needles. Collected old specimens are highly prized by knowledgeable bonsai collectors.

Softcover 5 1/2" x 8 1/2", 112 pages, color \$18.95 member price \$19.95 non-member price

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)



NEW!! "BONSAI Your Guide to Creating STANDS and BENCHES" by George Buehler
This unique book provides a detailed look at all aspects of displaying bonsai outdoors: choosing the right spot, designing the display area, and selecting the right materials for construction. It also includes construction plans and techniques for making your own attractive and inexpensive stands and benches in many of the more popular styles.

Softcover
8 1/2" x 11", 108 pages, color \$22.50 member price, \$24.95 non-member price

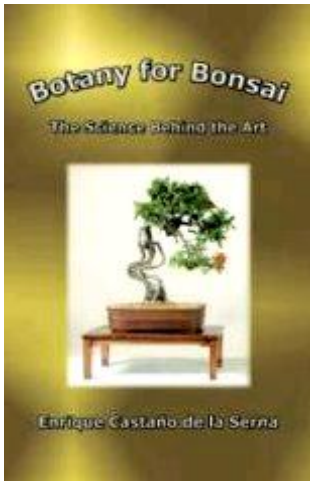
FICUS: The Exotic Bonsai
by Jerry Meislik

David DeGroot, author, teacher and curator of the Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection, has this to say...

"This book is the real thing, not a rehash of information gleaned from other books, but clear, practical advice.... It really is solid gold... If you don't have it - get it!" We second the sentiment and heartily recommend it to anyone who grows bonsai indoors or anywhere else..

FICUS
The Exotic Bonsai
Jerry Meislik

Softcover 8" x 10", 144 pages, color **ON SALE** -
\$20.95 member price \$22.95 non-member price Prices good through November 30



Botany for Bonsai
by Enrique Castano
When we can predict what happens in a week, month, year, etc., it will lead us to a better planning of the design that our trees can achieve as they change over time. To better plan the designs of our trees some information is required. We need to acquire the skills to predict what will happen if we apply a specific treatment to the tree. This is important knowledge in developing a further understanding of our bonsai. Here the author is providing the basics for some of the physiological nature of the trees we cherish so much.

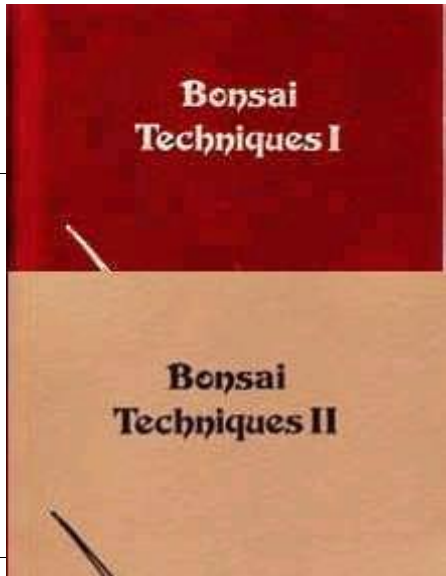
Softcover 5 1/2" x 8 1/2", 124 pages, color - **ON SALE** - \$15.95 member price \$16.95 non-member price Prices good through November.

Last but not the least!!

Bonsai Techniques I & II - John Naka

The best books in the English language on Bonsai (Naka I and Naka II)...NO EXCEPTIONS. John Yoshio Naka is our American Treasure Bonsai Master. This book is jammed packed with information that you won't find other places. A treasure trove of Bonsai Wisdom.

#I Softcover 8 1/2" x 11", 269 pages #II Softcover 8 1/2" x 11", 442 pages
\$73.50 member price \$85.00 non-member price



Bonsai News from around the web - Manish Sumant

Email from Pauline Muth, ABS President. "Dear Bonsai People: The American Bonsai Society wants to hear from Bonsai people all over North America. Would you please complete the following survey on line? ABS will draw one of the surveys and award a bonsai pot to the lucky person (just a little incentive) Thanks a bunch!! Go to <http://www.absbonsai.org/questionnaire09.html> to complete the survey. "

Pauline Muth
ABS President
7 Western Avenue
West Charlton NY 12010 USA
ABS@pfmbonsai.com
www.absbonsai.org

David Kreutz from St. Louis area is (Satsuki Bonsai nursery) is organizing a bonsai instructional tour for Marco Invernizzi of Italy. <http://www.marcoinvernizzi.com/> Marco is a very talented bonsai artist so if you would like to attend his workshop keep tuned in to St. Louis Bonsai's website (www.stlbonsai.org) or Cass Bonsai's website (www.cassbonsaigardens.com).

The Farmer's almanac (and other weather sites) are predicting a lot of snow this winter.

<http://www.farmersalmanac.com/weather/USA-Midwest-weather>

By the looks of this fall our winter might be very wet and snowy. Or so I hear...

The picture here was borrowed from a website:
http://www.bonsai4me.com/Basics/Basics_WinterCare.html

While some folks leave their trees out in snow (snow cover being a good insulator) prolonged exposure to below freezing temperature and wind can be damaging to the trees.



Winter Bonsai Care Tips

Disclaimer: This is a general guide. Times can vary as much as a month depending on the weather trends. Some species of trees do not follow the general category guidelines of deciduous, evergreen or tropicals. Know your trees!

November

- Anything repotted at this time should be protected from hard freeze all winter.
- Wiring and pruning can lead to die back.
- Prepare for early freezes.

December

- Be prepared to move quickly with anything remaining outside and unprotected.
 - Water and mulch plants well prior to hard freeze.
 - Keep plants moist but not wet through winter.
 - Continue to check plants weekly for moisture through winter.
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SPRINGFIELD BONSAI SOCIETY

Gary Trammell, President

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Upcoming Events

November 9, Monday 7 pm SBS Meeting – Last meeting of 2009. Election of Officers and 2010 Events planning meeting.



Administrivia

Your 2009 Officers are:

President – Gary Trammell 217-741-4849 (M)
Vice President – Scott Day 217-585-8473 (R)
Treasurer – Tom Applebee
Secretary – Manish Sumant 217-652-9619 (M)
& newsletter editor

Annual membership is \$20 (family \$30).

Email msumant1@netscape.net to sign up or visit
<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BonsaiSBS/>