



**August 2006 Newsletter**  
[www.trianglebonsai.com](http://www.trianglebonsai.com)

### **From the President...**

**Ready to escape the summer heat? Welcome and join us August 6<sup>th</sup> for a “cool” afternoon where you can show off your “hot” bonsai trees.**

**Remember, we will be pre-selecting bonsai trees for the NC Arboretum exposition (October 13–15), so please bring your favorite tree (or trees) which will give you the best chance of being selected for this beautiful show in Asheville. Please include a stand and an accent plant, as appropriate. In addition, the best TBS tree (which also will be displayed in Asheville) will win the President’s award (prize: hand made Tokonoma pot).**

**If you are not yet ready for Asheville, do not be discouraged. You have another chance to display your beautiful handiwork at the NC State Fair (October 13–22). You heard right – we are in again! So also please bring any bonsai trees which you might be interested showing to the public in October. Your tree can be displayed even though you might not be able to help with the display and/or are not able to visit the NC State Fair. TBS is considering displaying 10-16 trees (not all displayed at once, but rotated during the event). We are not necessarily looking for award winning trees at the State Fair – rather trees, which the public can relate to!**

**Remember the TBS mission statement? Public awareness! Once we spark the public’s interest, we will hopefully gain some new members who will want to join the TBS club for a great learning experience, and enjoy some great Sunday afternoons with some “cool” bonsai friends.**

**State Fair volunteer news: For those of you who have already volunteered, thank you for your willingness to help regarding set up, maintaining, caring for the bonsai’s and breakdown of the display at the NC State Fair. Please come to the August 6<sup>th</sup> meeting for more announcements, and I will explain what is expected from the club, what TBS plans for the fair, and what is expected from you as a volunteer. More volunteers are gladly welcome!**

**I look forward seeing you all on August 6<sup>th</sup> and hear your “hot summer” stories. Let’s keep in mind that fall is around the corner, with a lot of “cool” meetings, events, and**

**awards to look forward to – if nothing else, just spend some afternoons with your “cool” bonsai friends.**

**Ed Lauer**

## **TBS at the UNC Botanical Garden**

Bonsai touched the lives of seventeen “innocents” on Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>. Well, it probably touched more lives because family members of those in the workshop at the NC Botanical Garden, Chapel Hill will share the excitement of those in the room. Thanks to the ol’ pro, Tom Waldo, and my beautiful young assistant, wife Tina, we gave folks some background information on bonsai, demonstrated a few of the necessary skills needed to create a bonsai and helped them prune, wire and repot their very first bonsai. I think we hooked a few of them, too.

These new bonsai enthusiasts all left with a bonsai created from a narrow leaf ficus. With an age range of 13 to they-weren’t-telling years of age, it was an eclectic group. There were experienced gardeners, artists, and those who killed a gift bonsai and now want to know how to care for a tree. For the last group we had to immediately dispel the myth that all bonsai should be displayed in a place of honor such as the top of the television or on the coffee table.

Thanks to Tom who brought his **large** ficus forest, everyone was able to see what their little tree could grow up to be ..... sort of. There were those reluctant pruners, some who attacked with their shears and even a couple who needed one of us to make the first cut.

Transferring the trees from the roomy nursery containers to the “you-can’t-possibly-fit-the-tree-into- that-miniscule-bonsai-pot” was another moment of truth for the students. Much to their surprise, after shearing off most of the roots, their tree fit.

Each student received an application to join TBS and the web address for TBS along with a commercial for joining TBS and continuing their learning. I do hope we see some of the faces of our workshop participants at future TBS meetings.

**Harold Johnson**

## **News Flash!**

**Warren Hill, former bonsai curator at the United States Bonsai and Penjing Museum located at the US National Arboretum in Washington, DC, will be our visiting artist September 30<sup>th</sup> and October 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Warren developed an interest in bonsai in 1960 and has studied, practiced and taught bonsai since. Today, Warren is internationally recognized as a talented bonsai artist and most effective teacher. The Sunday, October 1<sup>st</sup>, presentation at the regular TBS meeting is a must for all members.**

**More exciting news: a small number of excellent quality junipers have been located for the one Saturday workshop Warren will conduct for TBS members. Junipers from this group recently became the demo pieces for the Atlanta Bonsai Society's visiting artists, Californian Roy Nagatoshi and Japanese artist Kenji Miata.**

**Please email Harold Johnson at [haroldandtina2@msn.com](mailto:haroldandtina2@msn.com) indicating your interest in reserving a slot in the workshop. Warren will only bring enough trees for those who register. The total cost of the workshop is projected to be in the \$135 to \$150 range.**

## **Bonsai Learning Center Workshops With Randy Clark**

As the temperatures continue to climb here in the Carolinas, it becomes clear that the "dog days" of summer are upon us. If you are looking for a little relief from the heat, we might suggest a class or workshop in the cool shade of the Bonsai Learning Center's studio. There are still a few spots open in our class schedule for July and August.

On Saturday, July 22, we have two openings left in our Firethorn (Pyracantha) class. We have got some dandy specimens with large trunks (quarter to half dollar diameter) which we hand picked last winter. Cost of the class is \$95 and includes the tree. Firethorns are a favorite subject with bonsaists because they flower in the springtime and produce red and orange berries in the fall.

We also have three openings in our Detail and Refinement class scheduled for July 29. We think it's a class everyone should take, because the way to award winning bonsai is by learning to give attention to styling details. This class will show you how. We handpicked some excellent Shimpaku Junipers which are already in bonsai containers and have been partially styled. We will be concentrating on showing you how to do refinement wiring and get the whole plant ready to go to your next bonsai exhibit. Total cost for the class is \$145.

Then in August we still have two openings in our Literati/bunjin class scheduled for August 19. We guarantee this is going to be one of the best workshops we have had all season.

Our Stone Carving weekend set for August 26 and 27 still has six openings left as do our Open workshops on August 5 and October 21.

If you would like to enroll for one of our upcoming classes, I would appreciate hearing from you as soon as possible. You can send an e-mail, give me a phone call or just stop by the Studio and sign up.

**Randy T. Clark  
Bonsai Learning Center  
4416 Beatties Ford Road  
Charlotte, NC 28216**

## Bonsai Pots

Don Kimball has put together a list of sites for bonsai pots. So if you're looking for something special for one of your trees, you might want to look through the following. And don't forget Keith Smith handles Certré pots from Italy.

[www.erinpottery.com](http://www.erinpottery.com)

[www.chinamist.co.uk](http://www.chinamist.co.uk)

[www.johnpittsbonsaiceramics.co.uk](http://www.johnpittsbonsaiceramics.co.uk)

[www.jimgremel.com](http://www.jimgremel.com)

[www.langbonsai.com](http://www.langbonsai.com)

[www.hhpots.com](http://www.hhpots.com) (Horst Heinzlreiter)

[www.redwing.net/~daalms](http://www.redwing.net/~daalms) (Sara Rayner)

[www.castlepots.com](http://www.castlepots.com)

[www.rockportpottery.com](http://www.rockportpottery.com)

## Points of Interest

- So what does Harold Johnson, a headliner at the 2006 ABS convention in Saratoga Springs, NY, do for an encore? He becomes the next chairman of the Joshua Roth new talent contest at the next ABS meeting, to be held in Virginia Beach in 2007. I'm sure Harold has his eye out for TBS talent, and will be gently twisting some arms, so be prepared. And with such a major convention so close to us, lots of members should be able to attend—know that it's coming, and start making plans.
- It seems that having e-mail addresses posted on a web page will eventually lead to spam mail, since spammers are now sophisticated enough to crawl web pages (yes, even the TBS site) to get valid addresses. So from now on, I'll include member's e-mails only in direct mailings, and these (hopefully) will not appear on the web site. If any of you are trying to keep an up-to-date roster, be sure to check the monthly e-mail I send; otherwise, you'll be getting a roster sent as an attachment yearly.
- The Pacific Rim Bonsai Collection will be presenting an ongoing series of exhibits titled "Best in the U.S." to attract and educate the public on bonsai as an art form. David DeGroot is calling for all bonsai artists to submit photos of their specimen trees through their clubs. Individuals will receive a certificate of appreciation, and the clubs will be featured in their directory and on the web site. Exhibits are planned for June and October, 2006, with respective submission deadlines of April 15 and August 15. Too late for the first, but let's get some TBS submissions for the second! Contact Ed or Harold.
- Ed Lauer sends a reminder that there is a 10% discount on any purchase at the Painted Lady in Wilmington by mentioning his name.

## **Member Update!**

**New Member:       Howard Bemus**

**Email changes:     Katherine McClung's and Mike Krogh: see mailing**

**Spelling correction: Shari and Ken's last name is Lakin (not Larkin, as previously published). Sorry.**

### **And Welcome Back:**

**Fortin, Mike  
1600 Wheelwright Place #102  
Cary, NC 27519  
Hm: 919-466-7567  
e-mail: see mailing**

**McMahon, Barbara  
1705 Lyon Road  
Fayetteville, NC 28303  
Hm: 910-437-5115  
Wk: 910-527-1410**

### **Upcoming TBS Events**

<b>Sep 10</b>	<b>Bring-your-own-tree meeting</b>
<b>Sep 30</b>	<b>Warren Hill workshop</b>
<b>Oct 1</b>	<b>Warren Hill demo</b>
<b>Nov 5</b>	<b>BYOT and winter care; New Talent and President's Award</b>
<b>Dec 3</b>	<b>Holiday Party and Auction</b>

**Jim Easterbrook**