



December 2006 Newsletter

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## From the President

**Congratulation to Tom Waldo as the winner of the Inaugural 2006 President's Award!** Bill Valavanis, as the guest artist at last month's Asheville expo, chose Tom's ficus as the best TBS tree; Tom was awarded a plaque and a Tokonoma pot that I had donated. (By the way, as he announced in Asheville, Tom's tree is for sale). Also congratulations to Merritt Barnett as the runner up for his cascading satsuki azalea. Merritt received a plaque for his second place.

**More Winners:** Our beginners, with less than 5 years experience, also showed off their skills at the November TBS meeting. The five entries were judged by Harold, Tom, and Helen. The first place went to Mike Krogh for his wonderful Juniper and nice display (I especially liked the wild mushrooms as accents). Mike received a Tokonoma pot donated by Harold and Tina Johnson. The runner up was Martin Evans with a twin trunk juniper. I would like to thank all the participants for the work they have put into this competition, and hope that everybody enjoyed it and learned something from it so that they can apply their knowledge for the 2007 competition. Also watch out you "old timers" since it seems that we have a few excellent "diamonds in the rough".

**Joshua Roth new talent contest:** and since we are talking about contests, I would like to remind everyone about next year ABS (American Bonsai Society) Joshua Roth new talent contest which will be held in Virginia Beach. Anyone with less than 10 years experience can apply. If you need any help with the application, please contact me. By the way, Harold Johnson who is also on the Board of ABS will be the Chair person for that event.

On a personal note, Marianne and I will be going to Japan this week to visit some bonsai nurseries, shows, and private homes of bonsai masters. I will be thrilled to tell you all about it when I'm back, just in time for our December Christmas party and auction. So until then I wish you all a Happy Thanksgiving.

**Ed**

## **New Talent Contest Notes**

On November 5th the New Talent Contest was held for members with less than five years of experience. As a new member to the Triangle Bonsai Society this provided an excellent opportunity for preparing and refining a tree for competition. It was just what I needed to become more focused about the art of bonsai.

The Warren Hill Workshop held on September 30th provided me with a wonderful San Jose Juniper as my tree. With a lot of guidance from Warren Hill and other workshop participants, my Juniper "bush" was transformed into the makings of a windswept, semi-cascade with significant jinning. During the following weeks the jins were refined and aged with lime sulfur, the branches were wired, the roots trimmed, and finally the tree was repotted.

Finding an appropriate pot turned into quite a search exercise at numerous web sites and with other TBS members. I had ordered two different pots (one from Hollow Creek Bonsai and one from the Monastery), which was fortunate since my number one choice turned out to be back ordered until mid December. For an accent plant I chose a small cluster of wild mushrooms that were planted into a small handmade ceramic dish which was placed on a small bamboo mat.

I'd like to thank Ed Lauer and Harold Johnson for creating the contest and providing the prize, a beautiful Tokonome pot. Extra thanks also go to Harold for organizing the exceptional guest workshop, without which my Juniper would not have been possible.

Mike Krogh

## **December Party**

Circle December 3rd on your calendar if you haven't already. That's the date of the annual TBS Super Holiday Party! TBS is counting on members to bring lots of good things to eat and as usual, the club will provide drinks and all the plates and utensils.

What else happens at the Holiday Party? Your opportunity to reduce your inventory of bonsai related items and make someone in the club happy with their purchase. If everyone will bring at least one bonsai container, tool, book or tree we'll have a successful auction and raffle. The fantastic shohin juniper designed by Ted Matson earlier this year will be the featured auction item. There will also be a maple forest and no telling what else.

See you at the Commons Building, Wake County Office Park, Sunday, December 3rd, at 1:30 pm.

Harold Johnson

## Ted Matson in 2007

Ted will be returning to the Triangle for two workshops on Saturday, 31 March and a demo on Sunday, 1 April (no foolin!). As in years past, Ted will be available for private sessions with individuals; depending on the demand, possible dates would be Friday March 30, or Monday through Wednesday, April 2-4. Harold will need to arrange airline flights for him soon, so if you're interested, please contact Harold before December 1st to get on the schedule.

### Points of Interest

- It's official: TBS has elected Tom Waldo as a new board member, and Merritt Barnett as the new secretary. They will begin their terms in January.
- As 2006 comes to a close, it's that time to think about renewing your TBS membership. Since you'll have your checkbook at the December auction anyway, why not just include the dues and avoid having to think about it later?
- The 2007 ABS meeting will be held in Virginia Beach June 21-24, 2007. Start making plans now for what will be a premiere event. Visit the ABS website, or click on <http://freeplone2.openia.com/abs/abs-seminars>

### Member Update!

#### New Members:

Jennifer Stutzman

Shelia and Eric Hattaway

**Email changes:** Tom Robertson has changed.  
See the mailing or the new roster for current e-mail addresses.

### 2007 Upcoming TBS Events

<b>Jan 7</b>	<b>Novice Focus; BYOT and making fertilizer</b>
<b>Feb 4</b>	<b>Novice Focus with Steve Cratty</b>
<b>Feb 25</b>	<b>Lecture/Demo followed by a workshop with Bill Valavanis</b>
<b>Mar 11</b>	<b>BYOT and initial selection of Expo trees</b>
<b>Mar 31</b>	<b>Workshops (2) with Ted Matson</b>
<b>Apr 1</b>	<b>Lecture/Demo with Ted Matson</b>
<b>May 6</b>	<b>Picnic; member sale and TBS auction</b>
<b>Jun 2</b>	<b>Workshops with Jim VanLandingham</b>
<b>Jun 3</b>	<b>Lecture/Demo with Jim VanLandingham</b>
<b>Jul 8</b>	<b>Novice Focus</b>
<b>Aug 5</b>	<b>Final selection of Expo trees</b>
<b>Sep 16</b>	<b>Expo display setup</b>
<b>Oct 7</b>	<b>BYOT and new talent</b>
<b>Oct 13-14</b>	<b>2007 Asheville bonsai expo</b>
<b>Nov 4</b>	<b>Workshop followed by lecture/demo with Arthur Joura</b>

**Dec 2      Holiday Party and auction**

**Jim Easterbrook**