



November 2007 Newsletter

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From the President

Congratulations to all the participants in the 2007 TBS new talent competition for a job well done. In alphabetical order, they were Nolin Barnett, Dan Cormican, Bill Dams, Martin Evans, David Fowlkes, Eric Hattaway, David Keller, Ken Lakin, and Spenzi Pugh, It was excellent material our organizer and VP Harold Johnson acquired, and provided everyone with a challenge. Everybody did a wonderful job and I believe all had a good time. But there is no competition without a winner, and that honor went to Ken Lakin who received a Japanese bonsai pot as well as certificate for first place. The runner-ups were very close: second place went to David Keller who changed his tree into a full cascade, and third place went to Martin Evans. Since some the participants actually ran out of time for all their finishing touches, next year we will look to increase the allowed time.

We recently got back from the 2007 North Carolina Bonsai exposition in Asheville and I must say that I'm really proud of what we accomplished. We had a wonderful display, which you can see on our website, with 5 excellent trees representing our club. No, we did not win anything, but in my heart I feel we won. And I believe we deserve a prize for teamwork. I have never seen a TBS activity (and I hope that I do not offend anybody) where so many people have come together and worked on a common goal. First I have to thank the board of directors for approving the new display, and then also a thank you to all the volunteers who helped in the design, building, transportation logistics, tree refinement, set up and tear down etc. I have also consulted with Brussel Martin and Arthur Joura about the President award: I will announce the winner at our November meeting.



On Wednesday, October 17th, I went to the North Carolina fair to do a demo and I was impressed at how good our booth looked. Brian and all of his volunteers did a wonderful job, and I would like to thank all the members who were willing to show their trees. Of course everybody there was asking me how old those little trees are. I actually talked to a few people who said that they only came to the fair to see the bonsai display. I do not know if I can completely believe this, but they seemed to be impressed, and of course I did promote the club just a bit. I'm sure we will pick up a few new members.

Just a reminder for those who have told us that they would sign up for the TBS school, now would be a good time to do so, so that Harold can finalize all the things that are necessary to run a smooth and well organized program next year. Keep in mind also that if you can't make it one day we will try as hard as we can to sell your slot to somebody else so that you can get reimbursed for your time missed.

Again thank you all for your wonderful support on all of TBS's program and activities, and I must say it is a joy to work with you all.

Ed Lauer

November 4th TBS Meeting

Arthur Joura once again brings his unique and welcome perspective on bonsai to the Triangle Bonsai Society.

So much is changing at the Arboretum, the bonsai garden and even with our membership that Arthur is bringing a presentation to share with TBS members. Following his visual update on the bonsai garden Arthur will tackle the design and styling of a significant juniper. Arthur's skills are sure to produce a bonsai that will elicit some competitive bids at a future TBS auction.

Please arrive at the Wake County Commons Building (our normal meeting location) before the 1:30 start time so you don't miss the presentation of the President's award; recognition of the participants and winner of the New Talent Competition; and Arthur's insightful presentation of the bonsai display garden.

Harold Johnson

Meeting Minutes

OCTOBER 7 MEETING:

Ed Lauer opened the meeting, with 24 members in attendance:

2008 club officer positions were discussed. Nominations were made and seconded. The nomination committee consisted of Tina Johnson, Sonny Poche and Steve Zeisel.

TBS is trying to find people interested in forming a tree collecting group. Anyone interested in collecting trees from the wild should contact Ed Lauer.

There was a reception at 6pm October 12th at the NC Arboretum in Asheville for all people whose clubs are displaying bonsai.

This is the second year TBS has held its new talent competition. On October 7th, two

judges (Ed Lauer and Merritt Barnett) and TBS members voted on the best bonsai in the competition. All of the participants did a great job on their trees!

12th ANNUAL CAROLINA BONSAI EXPO:

This year's event was another success! Brussell Martin was the guest artist. He conducted workshops and gave a lecture/demo using a Coastal Pine (Pinus contorta). Although TBS did not win any awards, our bonsai were as good as any at the expo. Everyone involved with this year's display should be proud of their efforts. Harold Johnson conducted a very informative lecture on displaying bonsai. The auction on Sunday afternoon raised over \$3500 for the upkeep of the bonsai display garden!

Merritt Barnett

858,611

That's the attendance at the 2007 North Carolina State Fair – a new record. TBS' exhibit at the Fair is one of our major ways of accessing the public and advancing our public education mission. No one knows for sure how many people passed by the bonsai exhibit, but estimates range as high as 25 percent of all fair goers. While that appears to be a bit optimistic, numbers in the tens of thousands seem entirely realistic. We know for sure that almost 2,000 people took one of our handouts.

Again this year, the public's response to the exhibit was terrific. Thanks to Jim Easterbrook, Dan Cormican, and Carl Barnett, the booth had a new paint job in a new color scheme that further accentuated the collection. The exhibit itself consisted of eight trees and several accent plants on loan from the collections of Don Kimball, Martin Evans, Ed Lauer, and Steve Zeisel. For those who couldn't attend the Fair, thanks to David Keller, photos of the exhibit will be posted to the TBS website in the near future.

In addition, as part of the Garden Club's program of lectures and demonstrations, we did five one-hour demonstrations on the art of bonsai, up from two last year. Harold/Tina Johnson, Ed Lauer/Sonny Poche, Carl Barnett, and Jim Easterbrook (he did two!) are to be commended for volunteering their time and being willing to subject themselves to public scrutiny. The demonstrations were very well-attended, and a number of the visitors even stayed for the entire hour, which is a real testament to the skill and presentation techniques of the demonstrators.

Finally, thanks to those who volunteered to set up or take down the booth, water or greet visitors during the Fair's 10-day run. They included: Ken and Shari Lakin, Pete Luter, Sonny Poche, Merritt Barnett, Dan Cormican, Jeanne Hiesel, David Keller, Carl Barnett, and Elliott Kopp. It was a great run and, from my perspective, great fun, too.

Plans are underway to do even more next year. Over the winter we hope to have the booth re-worked, to include a new roof and electrical wiring. Early next fall we'd like to replace the rotting bamboo and touch up the paint. And with another great set of trees to display, we'd like to get even more TBS members involved in educating the public about this amazing art form call bonsai.

Brian McCrodden

Editor's Note

We've had a lot of thank-you's in this newsletter regarding work for the Asheville Expo and the State Fair. But I believe the ones that need the greatest thanks are Ed Lauer for taking primary charge of the Asheville display (including design, construction, and assembly) and Brian McCrodden for the many hours he spent organizing the fair and then being on-site so frequently. We should all be very proud of our recent exhibitions! When you next see Ed and Brian, please let them know what a great job they've done.

Jim Easterbrook

Member Update!

For details see e-mail attachment; personal information not posted on the web

New Members:

Mark Franklin Gordon

Robert Meehan

Changes:

Ken and Shari Lakin have changed their email address

David Sabio has changed his email address

2007 Upcoming TBS Events

Dec 2 Holiday Party and auction

Jim Easterbrook