

NBS Links

[NBS Website](#)
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Upcoming Events*Club Tree Work*

8/3/19, 10am-2pm
 @ John Cole's

August Meeting

8/13/19, 6:30pm-9pm
 @ Cheekwood

Workshop – Andy Smith

8/22/2019

Spacing limited \$60 +
 material price, NBS members
 only.

Session 1: 8:30am – 12:30pm

Session 2: 1:00pm – 5:00pm

Meetings

2nd Tuesday of every month
 @ Cheekwood, Massey Hall

2019 Dues

\$30 per member

or

\$40 per family

Blog Roll

[Bonsai Tonight: Tips for
 Anchoring Bonsai Wire](#)

[California Bonsai Art: The
 Dreaded Fungus](#)



Hello to all the Members and Guests of the Nashville Bonsai Society!

July Recap

Our first Tree Work day was lots of fun. Members of all different levels were there to work on trees together and get advice from each other. John Cole had some awesome pre-bonsai available. If you are looking for a juniper, you must see what he has. And I found an amazing Japanese Black Pine at Arthur Leago's place. We had lots of fun networking and preparing our trees for the show. Owen even stopped by to put the polish on a few of our show trees. Thank you to one and all.

I hope you will join us on Saturday, August 3rd from 10-2 at John's for our next Tree Work Day. You can get John's street address by emailing him john.cole3829@comcast.net

July Meeting

Our July meeting featured the inimitable John Wall doing what he does best: working up a Bald Cypress. John went over the



best methods of care for this species as he and Owen Reich defoliated the tree completely in front of our group. John spoke about stylings and timing on major work on this tree. In the quiet spaces during John's demonstration, our board

spoke about the upcoming NBS club show and reminded folks of the best setup and breakdown times. John generously spent the last part of the meeting answering individual questions and showing off the demo Bald Cypress. As always, our awesome vendors had display tables set up with pots, trees, and display stands for the upcoming show.



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Tokaname, Erin Pottery, Sara Rayner pottery, bonsai, soil, wire, tools, stands, misc. supplies

August – Care Calendar

<p>Driest month</p> <p>Avg. Low 68° Avg. High 88° Record Low 47° Record High 106°</p>	<p>Tree Talk:</p> <p>Our trees are deep into their summer dormancy. Water uptake will vary day to day and tree to tree. Check each tree carefully. Fertilizer is no longer breaking down.</p>	<p>How to Respond:</p> <p>We need to watch our watering technique carefully because the trees will be taking up water unevenly. Not too wet and not too dry. Watch for spider mites. They love this type of weather. Begin to check wires weekly. Do not prune foliage. The trees need all of their foliage to help them stay cool. Do not add more fertilizer. Fertilizers are salts and will capture water needed by the tree.</p>
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Annual Club Show

Our Annual Club Show was a big success this year! We filled up the meeting hall with displays and had a huge public turnout to see our work. This year with our regular displays, we also featured a Kusamono and Suiseki table, both of which were hits with both club members and the public.

Our guest judge was none other than Brussel Martin, who kindly took the time to drive to Nashville for our show. He also put on a Bonsai Demonstration that drew quite a crowd. The Juniper that he worked on was later auctioned to add some money to the club's coffers. We want to thank Mr. Martin for the great demonstration and judging this year!

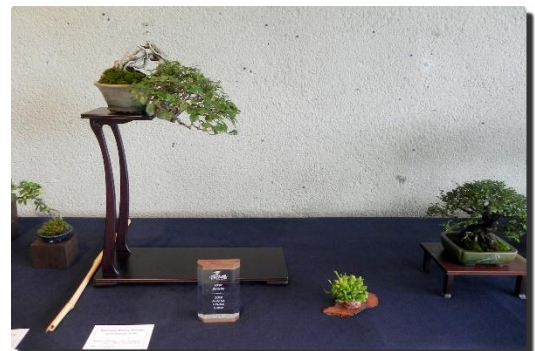


Congratulations to Amy Blanton for racking up the wins for Best Shohin, People's Choice, and Best in Show! Amy put together some lovely displays with high quality trees front and center.

Best in Show:



Best Shohin:



People's Choice:



Former club president Mike Brown walked away with multiple awards as well. He really showed off what he can do when hes not swamped with club duties!

Best Display:



Best Evergreen:





Not to be outdone, our educational director Eileen Knox won the award for best deciduous.

Best Deciduous:



We also had a raffle for the Brussel's Azalea during the show. A surprising number of tickets were even purchased by non club members inspired by all of the great trees on display. Our very own Libby Jackson won the raffle. That Azalea is going to be happy and well cared for in her Bonsai garden.

We want to thank every single person who volunteered, set up a display, participated in the raffle, and who just showed up. These shows are a success because of YOU!



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2019 Calendar

All events in the “Other Event” and “Mentorship” categories are member’s only events. All monthly meetings are open to the public.

	January	February	March	April	
Monthly Meeting	N/A	Topic: Collecting Trees 2/12/19, 6:30pm-9pm	Topic: Repotting Demo’s 3/5/19, 6:30pm-9pm	Topic: Deciduous Demo w/ Owen R 4/9/2019, 6:30pm-9pm	
Other Event	N/A	Lawn & Garden Expo 2/28/19-3/2/19, 8am-5pm	Lawn & Garden Expo 2/28/19-3/2/19, 8am-5pm	Member Garden Tour 4/27/19, 10am-2pm	
Mentorship	101 Class 1/5/19, 10am-2pm	101 Class 2/2/19, 10am-2pm	101 Class 3/2/19, 10am-2pm	101 Class 4/6/19, 10am-2pm	Pines (SF) Class 4/13/19, 10am-2pm
	May	June	July	August	
Monthly Meeting	Topic: Deciduous Discussion **@ Eisei-en** 5/14/19, 6:30pm-9pm	Topic: Crepe Myrtle Discussion & Show Prep 6/4/19, 6:30pm-9pm	Topic: Bald Cypress Demo w/ John W 7/9/19, 6:30pm-9pm	Topic: Bonsai Pottery 8/13/2019, 6:30pm-9pm	
Other Event	Open House, Turnbull Creek Bonsai 5/4/19, 1pm-5pm	BYOT Workshop w/ Owen R 6/1/19, 8am-12pm	NBS Annual Show 7/13-14/19, 10am-4pm	Workshop: Andy Smith – Golden Arrow Bonsai 8/22/19 Session 1: 8:30am – 12:30pm Session 2: 1:00pm – 5:00pm	
Mentorship	N/A	Pine (MF) Class 6/15/19, 10am-2pm	Tree Work 7/6/19, 10am-2pm	Tree Work 8/3/19, 10am-2pm	
	September	October	November	December	
Monthly Meeting	Topic: Juniper Discussion 9/10/19, 6:30pm-9pm	Topic: Tree Talk, Winter Edition 10/8/19, 6:30pm-9pm	Topic: Conifer Demo w/ Bjorn B 11/12/19, 6:30pm-9pm	N/A	
Other Event	Cheekwood Moon Viewing TBD	Fall Picnic TBD, 2pm-6pm	N/A	N/A	
Mentorship	Tree Work 9/7/19, 10am-2pm	101 Class 10/5/19, 10am-2pm	101 Class 11/2/19, 10am-2pm	N/A	

Branching Out

At the request of many club members, our Educational Director Eileen Knox will periodically be writing up some educational and editorial pieces for our newsletter. In this first piece, she wanted to tell us all a little about the beginnings of her Bonsai journey. Enjoy!

I became interested in bonsai when I saw my first bonsai forest in a close-out-sale at a florist shop. I was stunned by its beauty. So much so that I bought the Larch Grove, even though I had no idea how to care for it. The florist told me to keep it outside and water it from time to time. Sound familiar? Well, I did and it stayed alive despite me. After a year or two it didn't look like a bonsai any more. It looked a lot more like a bonsai bush. So, being 1980, I looked in the Yellow Pages for bonsai and found one listing for Japan Bonsai. I took my bush into the shop, which was behind a strip joint. I walked in and put the grove on his counter. Then I asked the gentleman if he could help me. He waged his finger sternly and glared at me all the while scolding me in Japanese. I smiled and nodded and said, 'arigato.' Which was the only Japanese word I knew at the time and walked backwards out of the shop. My Larch Grove still sitting ashamedly on his counter.



A few weeks later I had built up my courage enough to returned with cash in hand. This time he smiled at me and handed me a bill for more than I paid for the grove in the first place. Right then I figured out I needed to learn how to take care of the thing myself! I had kids to feed. Years later I ended up studying with this rather stern gentleman. I never understood much of what he was telling me, but I learned a great deal from watching him work on my trees. LOL I still love to watch a master make their magic.

The next year I was visiting the Portland Japanese Garden on Mother's Day and saw a real bonsai exhibit. I was blown away! I picked up their card and vowed to attend a meeting. Well, after a few more yearly visits with Masa at Japan Bonsai and after many shaking fingers, stern looks and scoldings, I finally went to a meeting. They were meeting in an old, dark church basement. The room was horrible but the people and trees were fantastic! They were so friendly. They encouraged me to attend their Mentorship Program. And I did. Unfortunately, it was the month they were making 'poo-ball' fertilizer cakes. I was assured, "the organic ingredients were guaranteed to grow great bonsai." My neighbors threatened to move to avoid the smell from my rather small bonsai collection fertilized liberally with poo-ball fertilizer cakes.

The following month one of the senior club members taught the Mentorship Class and we learned about branch selection. It made no sense to me because it was the first time I had heard any of this information. He was very nice. But, once again, there was a lot of finger waging and stern looks and scolding because my tree 'would never make a good bonsai'. (I still have the tree on my bench) It is there to remind me that 'never say never' to a stubborn Irish lassie. Is it a great bonsai? No. Is it a good bonsai? Humm. Is it one of my favorite bonsai? YES. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder!

August Meeting

In our August meeting, Zach Kent and John Cole will be discussing bonsai containers. Bonsai containers should be near and dear to all of our hearts as they are an integral part of any finished bonsai. Zach has years of experience in matching trees to great containers, while John designs, builds, and fires containers like crazy! This going to be a meeting you won't want to miss as it is not often that you get this much passion and experience happening in once place. We will discuss how the containers are made and how to choose a container for your tree. We encourage everyone to bring a tree you'd like advice on pairing with a container, or an existing tree in a container you'd like critiqued. See you there!

August Workshop – Andy Smith; Golden Arrow Bonsai

Andy Smith from Golden Arrow Bonsai has been kind enough to come do a workshop with the club this month. He will be providing material to work on in the range of \$75 to \$150. Andy is a well known collector of Black Hills Spruce and Ponderosa Pine yamadori. For this month's workshop, he will be bringing Ponderosa Pine, which will be more hardy to our USDA Agricultural zone. This workshop is open to members only and spacing is limited.

Boxwood Blight

Unfortunately, Boxwood Blight has been sighted in Tennessee. Many of you have had questions about how to identify blight and how to keep your trees safe. We will have a downloadable .pdf in the newsletter section of the website where you can get this information. Please don't hesitate to let us know if you have any additional questions!



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