

# Sho Fu Bonsai

August 2006 - Volume 8, Issue 8



*Visiting Bonsai Master Suthin Sukosolvisit (top row center) dealt with a variety of trees during a four-hour workshop in June. Top row left: Barbara Misantone, Judy Gore (visiting District Trustee from Fort Myers) Elly Keeffe, Suthin, Cindy Petterson, John Petterson, Vito Morrongiello & Marti Mumma. Bottom row: Roberto Gerpe, Carol Gruendl, Gerry Genn & Julie Trigg. Photo by Peter Trigg using John's camera.*

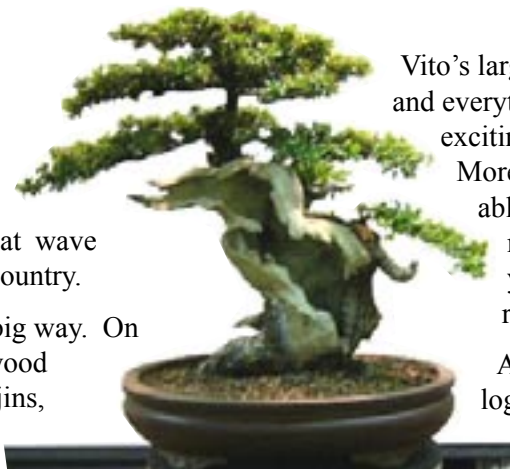
## From the President

By John Petterson

### Summertime Blues?

Bonsai must be the cure! And the weather maps on television this week showing a heat wave make Florida one of the coolest parts of the country.

Once again Suthin entertained Sho Fu in a big way. On Tuesday, June 27, he did a demo on a Hollywood juniper full of branches that quickly became jins, sharis, or wrapped in raffia. His charm and sense of humor enchanted everyone, even while he was wiring. The next morning he conducted a workshop at Julie Trigg's that ranged from



Vito's large ficus to Jerry Genn's shohin and everything in between, including some exciting power tool action on Joe Moreno's buttonwood. He was also able to help make some very raw material look pretty good. Save your trees for him to see and refine next year.

As you know, we finally have a logo tree (left) that we have seen, photographed, and on a few occasions actually touched (hope you were there to see

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## A Message From the President

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it “in person” last month). Mary Madison’s *bucida spinosa* (black olive) is a beautiful tree that Julie Trigg has drawn for reproduction for shirts, pins, wedding gowns, diapers, lamp shades, tattoos, thank you cards, towels, license plates – you get the picture. We are very fortunate to have a tree of this quality to identify with; hope everyone’s pictures turned out great, please share your best ones with the club. We’ll have the pins soon, as well as info on ordering shirts.

Mary Madison, who is a member of Sho Fu by the way, styled a couple of large trunked buttonwoods at our July meeting. With help from Joe Moreno, Mary ripped up deadwood, clipped and wired branches, and explained what had to be lime sulphured. What a smell! We had a raffle with the winner having a choice of either tree. Richard Dietrich won; Vito’s still trying to figure out what went wrong.

Believe it or not, the 2006 bonsai year is more than half over. It has been very busy, educational, interesting and FUN. One of the highlights of any year is a visit by the visiting masters. We have been fortunate to have Roy Nagatoshi, Ted Matson and Suthin Sukosolvisit. Membership in Sho Fu offers a lot of opportunities.

I want to thank Mike Knowlton for agreeing to fill the vacancy on our board of directors due to the resignation of Joe Moreno, who had to yield to the demands of work and the charms of his young family. The entire board thanks Joe for his years of service and looks forward to working more closely with Mike.

Don’t forget that July and August are the best months to root prune, trim and repot your tropicals. Also defoliating for leaf reduction. If you wire, keep close watch to make sure the wire doesn’t cut into the bark during this rapid growing season. Happy snipping.



*Joe Moreno was Mary’s assistant for the two demo trees. Good job Joe! Photos by Barb Bauman and John Petterson*



*This was the “before” juniper (below) that Suthin styled and the lucky winner was our new member, Barbara Misantone shown here with her husband Francis and Suthin.*



*Below: And Richard Dietrich was the lucky winner of Mary Madison’s Buttonwood demo. Mary did two trees that night and the winner got to select his choice.*





## Sho Fu Bonsai Society

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If you'd like to contribute to the newsletter, please send articles and or photos to Julie Trigg at:

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Deadline for each edition is the 15th of each month.

Visit Sho Fu on the Web  
[www.shofubonsai.com](http://www.shofubonsai.com)

## Next Sho Fu Meeting Aug. 3rd.

**Demonstration:** Our very own **Roberto Gerpe** will be working on a bucida spinosa forest planting.

Program starts at 7 PM Waterside

4540 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota

(Board meeting at 6 PM)

**Free Club Workshop August 5th:** Barb Bauman will conduct the workshop for members at Tokonoma Nursery, 6611 14th St. W. in Bradenton.

Please note: no workshop if it rains.

## Minutes: Sho Fu Bonsai Society

Minutes of the July 6 Meeting

Call to Order: 7:06 PM New Business:

1 ) Recognition announcements:

Erik Wigert recently won second place in the national Joshua Roth New Talent competition held in New York. The tree he styled was a Mugo Pine, a tree unfamiliar to an expert in tropical trees.

Mary Madison was presented with the Legends Award from the Bonsai Society of Florida.

2 ) Workshop: Barb Bauman will chair a workshop at Tokonoma Nursery this Saturday.

3 ) Backdrops: John would appreciate it if anyone with carpentry skills, or who might be interested, would contact him about constructing backdrops for our trees for use during shows.

4 ) Dig: Lois Bennett's daughter has several large ilex schilling in her yard. They are available for a club dig. A date for the dig will be announced.

5 ) Member's death: Bill Powell died on June 26. He and Kathy joined the club this Spring. A card will be passed for any member wishing to do so to sign.

6 ) Club shirts: Julie has a source for club shirts. The colors available are black or putty. The membership voted to use the putty colored shirts. A list was circulated for those who were interested to sign up and state a size so that a group price might be obtained.

7 ) Reference material: Mike Knowlton has obtained a CD rom called "Indicis 2006" which is an excellent source of information of all sorts on bonsai.

8 ) Logo tree: Mary Madison very kindly brought her signature tree to the meeting so that the members could see the real tree from which Julie did the design for the club logo

9 ) Cindy showed a beautiful ink painting (Ferrying Across the Mulberry River), of a Chinese scene which she had received as a birthday gift from John. The painting was done by our own Ellie Keefe, and was exhibited at the Asian Festival this year .

10 ) Trident maple: After the Selby show the club purchased Mike Knowlton's trident maple which we will allow to grow out and use as material for a visiting master.

11 ) Visitors: Willie Weber's 11 year old grandson, Steven Mc Curry, was visiting. He has 6 bonsai plants.

Program: At the beginning of her presentation, Mary Madison told the story of her signature tree. It was dug in the Bahamas more than twenty years ago. She took it to a workshop where a bonsai master did the original carving on the dead portion of the trunk. Mary has refined this over the years.

The evening's presentation was two radically different buttonwood trees, one with a graceful trunk with excellent taper, and the other a tree with a massive base and almost no trunk. Mary styled both trees with the raffle winner to get whichever tree they chose.

Announcements: 1 ) Club trip: There may be a club trip to Lake Placid to Mary's house in August.

2 ) Extravaganza: The second weekend in May, 2007 will be the date of the annual extravaganza at Erik's nursery. Pedro Morales and Suthin Sukosolvisit will be the visiting masters who will be doing the workshops.

3 ) Refreshments: During the break, John announced that Julie had brought a cake with the club logo tree on it. Chocolate! The cake vanished quickly, - logo and all. Thank you, Julie.

Raffle: Richard Deitrich won the raffle (his choice) for one of the buttonwoods that Mary had styled. Marilyn Deren won the "bonus bogie".

Adjourned: 9:22 PM Respectfully submitted, Thelma Thompson, secretary.



Photos by Agnes Gerpe



*Top left: Roberto “rescued” this strangler fig and cut it down to shohin size. Suthin (top right) removes a large root and some branches and the final fig is pictured above.*

## **Lost and Found**

**Lost:** Miriam reports that she lost 2 stands used at former Sho Fu exhibits. One is round about 10” with curved legs, the other is a large oval with legs made by Matt Sadowski.

**Lost:** Gerry G. reports that he lost a pair of jinning pliers at Suthin’s workshop.

**Lost:** Vito reports that he lost a pair of wirecutters at the Mary Madison workshop.

Everyone please check your tools to see if any of these got mixed up with your supplies.

If you have an item to list in this space, please send to the Sho Fu editor.

**Sho Fu Bonsai**

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