

# SHO FU BONSAI

July 2004 - Volume 6, Issue 7



Photo by Martha Goff

*Banquet Night. From left is Mary, Barb, Julie, Jean, Lois and Timmie. Missing here (but at our table) were Wallace and beautiful Jane (captured later below) Peter, and the Triggs' daughter Angie.*

## From the President

I can't believe the State Convention has come and gone and I am now doing the July Newsletter! May and June were busy months and July, August and September are shaping up to be just about as busy.

The convention was loads of fun. Sho Fu Bonsai was well represented and thank all of you who made the three-hour trip (one way). My daughter, Angie, joined me over there for four days. We had lots of fun and we both brought home lots of trees.

Timmie and I represented our club on club night (see our finished entry on page 2). We were hoping to win but Fort

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Photo by Julie Trigg

The winner! Congratulations Fort Myers!



Photo by Julie Trigg

## **Next Meeting July 1st** **Program: Alan Carver**

Alan, from Jupiter Bonsai, will be doing a forest planting on a handmade slab.

**Don't miss this one!**

**Meeting starts at 7:30 p.m. at Waterside**

4540 Bee Ridge Road, Sarasota

**Board meeting July 1st., 6:30**

# Minutes of Monthly Meeting

Minutes for June 3, 2004

Call to order: 7:32 PM

Secretary's report: Accepted as published.

Treasurer's report: Approved and applauded as read.

Vice President's report: Presented by Julie in Walter's absence.

Demo for July: Alan Carver, Jim Moody's grandson, will be doing a forest planting on a handmade slab at our July 1 meeting.

Membership:

The club has 22 new members. A new membership list was distributed by the membership chairperson.

Old Business:

1.) Club trips: Vito was thanked for allowing the club to come to his home to view his trees. Lisa Webber's home may be the next club trip.

2.) Selby show: The club now has the fabric for new table covers for the Selby show.

3.) State convention: A) Julie and Timmie were applauded by the club for their great job at the convention. B) Julie thanked the club for the support of its' members in coming to the convention. C) If there are any special trees that the members would like to work on for next year, let Julie know soon, since she is in charge of choosing the trees — and the traveling masters. They will be Chase Rosade, Jerry Meislik, Mary Madison, Mike Cartrett, Ed Trout, Jim Smith, and Jim Vanlandingham. D) Next year's convention will be on 4th of July weekend in Cape Canaveral.

New Business:

1.) Workshop: The workshop will not be at Tokonoma Nursery this weekend. They have been unable to complete their concrete work due to a shortage of cement. It will be held at the home of Treva Kurtz instead.

2.) Demo/workshop: Mary Miller will be invited to the club to do a demo/workshop.

3.) Trip: The trip to Jupiter Bonsai with Fort Meyers on the 5th has been cancelled.

4.) Reminder: Board members were reminded that the board will meet one hour prior to the next meeting, rather than one day before.

Program: The program, Care and Feeding of Unusual Plants For Bonsai, was given by Miriam Berninger, who was state president of BSF at one time, and served on their board for about 10 years, and members who owned unusual trees. Some of the trees exhibited and discussed were, tamarind, powder puff, Cherokee bean, crepe myrtle, Australian pine, and indigo.

Raffle: A number of items were raffled off, including, the tree done by Mike Cartrett — won by Julie and Peter Trigg. Congratulations Julie! A large notebook of bonsai information and articles on specific trees put together by Miriam was won by David Ebinger. Some smaller items were won by Gloria Champer, Barb Bauman, Thelma Thompson, and Heidi Micale.

Member news: Boudy reported that her dad, Doug Chapin was released from ICU today, and would probably be transferred to rehab in a few days.

Adjourned: 9:30PM

Respectfully submitted, Thelma Thompson, secretary



Photo by Julie Trigg

*Timmie and Julie used locally collected Australian Pines to create Mossy Asylum II on a handmade slab. It was purchased at the auction by Eric Wigert of Wigert's Mango Grove & Nursery.*

## From the President

Continued from page 1

Myers won the night with their very unusual buttonwood planting on driftwood (see on page #1). I heard that we gave them a run for the money though. All six clubs that participated did a magnificent job. The competition was stiff.

You can check out all the entries on our website. Also would like to thank Larry Duke from Loxahatchee for generously sending his photos of convention to me to use on our website.

Next year, the convention will be held on the July 4th weekend at the same hotel in Cape Canaveral and the traveling masters will be Chase Rosade and Jerry Meislik.

Be sure to attend the meeting coming up on the 1st of July. Alan Carver will do a forest planting on a very large, handmade slab that I fashioned. Alan's creation will be raffled off after the meeting. I think Walter has agreed to take him fishing the next day. Thanks Walter!

Also please note that there will not be a workshop the following Saturday due to the holiday week-end.

In August, Walter has lined up Ernie Fernandez to do a root-over-rock demo and he will also be bringing some trees for sale.

Also, an early heads up for the September meeting. We have Mary Miller lined up for a three-day marathon event. A demo on Thursday night with workshops to follow on Friday and Saturday. More on the material etc., later.

Next month we need to form a nominating committee to find a slate of officers for next year. So, be thinking about it and do your share at leading the club into bigger and better things. I'll help the new president all I can and I'm sure Walter will also.

Happy to report that Dr. Doug is better and may be back with us in a few weeks. Yeah!! ..... Julie Trigg

## Bonsai Calendar for July - Zone 9

### ■ Weather Protection & Location

For tender leafed plants, the morning sun is best.

### ■ Watering

All plants should be watched carefully. They may have to be watered more than once a day. Heavy rains may cause erosion of the bonsai soil and it will need to be replaced immediately so the sun will not dry out exposed roots.

### ■ Feeding

Continue feeding program — either diluted once a week or every other week feeding.

### ■ Styling

Continue pruning for shape.

### ■ Repotting

Tropicals only for June, July and the middle of August..

### ■ Collecting

All tropicals. GOOD time for buttonwoods.

**Special Notes:** Air-layering can be done. Defoliating can be done in June (except Japanese maple). **NOTE:** The plant must be well established and healthy. Leaf prune two weeks after fertilizing. If air roots show on ficus, place where moisture can be contained around area of the roots. If buttonwood has leaf spot, use Benomyl as a soil drench and and foliage spray — follow label.

Compiled by Marian Borchers & Marian Rousseau of the Hukyu Bonsai Society of Tampa.

## Sho Fu Bonsai Society

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### Officers

**President:** Julie Trigg **Vice President:** Walter Hamm

**Secretary:** Thelma Thompson **Treasurer:** Treva Kurtz

**Directors:** David Ebinger, Larry Rogers, Lois Bennett, & Timmie Stewart

**Webmaster:** Steven J. Ackerman

**Newsletter:** Julie Trigg **Printing:** Lisa Webber/Classic Printing

**Historian:** David Ebinger

**Publicity:** Peter Trigg

**Librarian:** Phil Hummel

**Raffle:** Lisa Webber

**Membership:** Louise Cashman

**Hospitality:** Jean Schneeburger

If you'd like to contribute to our newsletter, please contact Julie Trigg at: [julie.trigg@verizon.net](mailto:julie.trigg@verizon.net)

## MEMBERS CORNER



Photo by Julie Trigg

*Heidi Micale, one of our new members attended the workshop in Treva's backyard recently. She showed great ability and lots of enthusiasm. Also attending the workshop were Thelma, Eleanor, Phil, Barbara and Julie.*



Photo supplied by Vito

*Vito brought his Crape Myrtle to our last meeting and it is a beauty. It measures 40" tall with a 16" diameter at the base. Vito has owned the tree 17 years. It was grown as a broom style but for the last two years, since he's been in Florida., he has been trying to make it into a weeping style. He says "it's still a work in progress." The tree is approximately. 20-25 years old.*

# Tree of the Month

## Lantana camara

By Walter Hamm

Considered by many to be a weed, it is perhaps one of the best flowering tropical bonsai. Originating in the West Indies, it is an evergreen annual in the Verbenaceae family which blooms profusely year round in South Florida. A stiff, stemmed shrub, it may reach 6 feet in height and often climbs on fences and other upright structures.

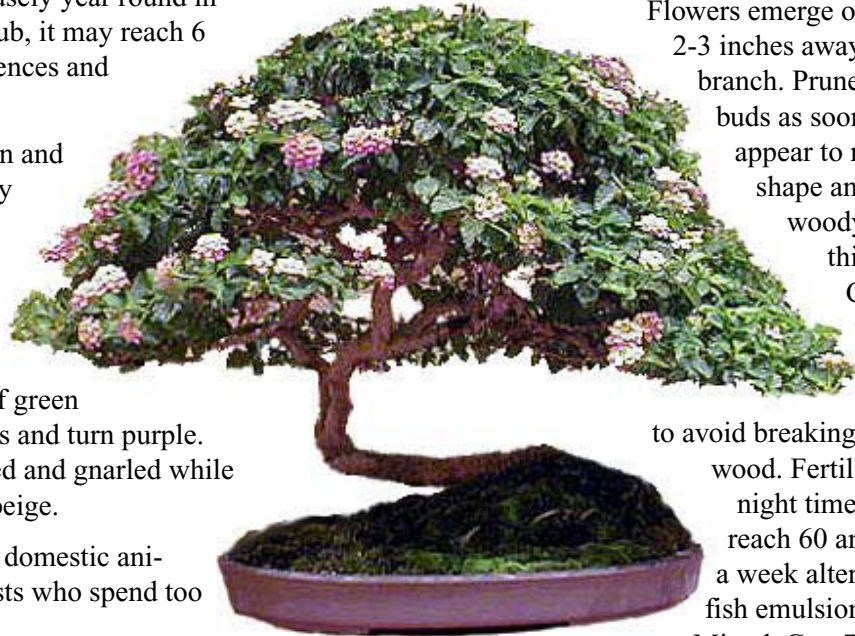
The leaves are 1/2" – 1" dark green and finely puckered with a slightly fuzzy undersurface. The flowers may be solid bright yellow or two flower arrangements of pink, white, orange and red. The flowers offer a pungent fragrance – pleasant to some irritating to others. Clusters of green pea-sized berries replace the flowers and turn purple. Mature trunks may be large, textured and gnarled while young plants are smooth and light beige.

This plant is poisonous, sickening domestic animals that eat it and bonsai enthusiasts who spend too much time carving on the wood.

The plant usually can be found growing in dry, sunny locations, very often in infertile soil and even in close proximity to salt spray. The lantana is a softwood tree.

Over watering may cause fungus problems and rotting of bark. Propagation is easy from softwood cuttings, air layering and seed. Over potting in initial training helps produce good rootage and in turn good top growth. Prune vigorous growth to keep branches from becoming long

and leggy. This will also produce very fine twig ramification. Leaf size will also be drastically reduced which maximizes beauty and visibility of the flower.



Jim VanLandingham's Lantana

Flowers emerge on long stems 2-3 inches away from branch. Prune the flower buds as soon as they appear to maintain shape and to form woody stems and thick twigging. Care must be taken during the application of wire

to avoid breaking the brittle wood. Fertilize when night time temperatures reach 60 and above once a week alternating with fish emulsion and

MiracleGro. There are several insects which prey on lan-

tana. Caterpillars roll the leaf and eat it, nymphs suck juice from leaf and cause mottled spots. White flies and mealy bugs cause the same damage.

The best styling for lantana is a upper level wide spreading canopy with fine twigging ramification on a tortuous trunk. This will show off the trunk and flowers to best advantage.

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