

EASTERN BONSAI SOCIETY

P.O.Box 2116,
Houghton 2041

NEWSLETTER

July 2010

041-531-NPO

Dear Member

Sadly only +/- 25 members turned up for our AGM in June. I've heard the excuses, but I think the main reasons were not the "colds and flu's", but more like Soccer World Cup and Test Rugby!

The BRAT Day hosted by EBS on the 29 May was a very successful one with 78 people attending. Carl Morrow, our headliner from Cape Town, shared his skills and ideas with us. He worked on a very difficult twin trunk *Pyracantha* and used a steel bar, turnbuckles, cable ties and a substantial amount of elbow grease to turn it into a beautiful finished product. We had 8 members who joined us on Sun, 30 May, for a workshop with Carl. Thanks to those loyal members who helped over the weekend. A special thank you to Sonia Michael for transporting and accommodating Carl over the weekend. Errol (root grafting) and John Essey (trunk splitting and bending) did a great job on their mini demos. Thanks to Alan (who was away) for sending those 2 young men (Wesleigh & Peet) to help in the shop.

New Talent: Well done to Kappie and Gina who represented EBS. Sadly Kappie, who turned out a brilliant tree, was asked by Duncan to remove the piece of driftwood that he had used in his design. We need guidelines as to what you can & cannot use at a New Talent Competition. How about repotting into a bonsai pot? What about the use of moss and gravel? Please make suggestions, as asked for by Duncan, so that we can submit them to SABA and maybe we can have more clarity on guidelines. Remember: "If we do not question the way we do things, how are we suppose to improve? – (Accenture's Letterhead). Well done to Jonathan & Cecil who came 1st and 2nd respectively.

We welcomed a new member Clarence (aged 98) who comes from a long line of horticulturists, adding that his dad & grand dad planted all the pavement trees that you see around JHB. Clarence stated that he worked as a lumber jack around the world including the Knysna Forest, the Redwood Forest in California and the Sahara Forest. When I pointed out that the Sahara was not a forest but a desert, he duly replied: "Well, now it is!!" Clarence wanted to share his bonsai skills with his presentation titled "Old Talent". Quite a few members were perplexed when Clarence showed us some of his tools: an axe, garden shears, etc. He then proceeded to namely "style" his juniper, with foliage and branches flying all over. Eventually Clarence showed us his finished product: the poor juniper had been butchered right down to soil level with nary a hint of foliage to be seen!! Well members, I think Clarence could do with all the help we can give to assist him with bonsai.

Adrian was next on our programme to talk to us about "Literati" but unfortunately his laptop and camera with his prep on them were stolen. Not one to disappoint, Adrian spoke to us about the "Art of Presentation". Amazingly, only 7% of people listen to the spoken word. Sorry, Adrian, what was that you said?? Adrian will be doing his Literati demo in the near future.

Library: Unfortunately Kathy has resigned as librarian due to work commitments. Thanks to Kappie for volunteering to fill in.

Rustenburg Dig – 4 Sept 2010: We have organised a Dig with Koos Robertse. Please let us know if you'd like to go along (Front desk) maybe we could get together and share a vehicle and costs.

Parking & Speeding: I know, I know, yet again the Estate has had complaints about parking and speeding. Park in "visitors" bays only and the speed limit is 20km/h. Not parking on lawns/driveways/ramps or verges.

Shirts – Badges: Please place orders at Front desk as we are ordering shortly. Don't forget to pay upfront when you place your order.



BRAT DAY: 31 July, Waterberg Bonsai Kai (Naboomspruit). Contact Hansie Becker (082 820 4306). Remember Entrance is FREE and Lunch will be provided. It's a long way to go alone, so maybe a few of us get together and travel in one vehicle and share costs. Let's go and show our support to Hansie and his Club. Sarah and Lynn will be demoing.

Workshops: Please bring wire and tools (obtainable at our shop)

3rd Saturday from 14:00 - Errol Rubin 083 419 3109, 13 Buffalo Road, Gallo Manor

4th Saturday from 12:00 – Tommy 082 451 6283, 57 Eckstein Street, Observatory

Trees in Winter Silhouette: Dave suggested we bring trees in the winter starkness (deciduous trees) to our July meeting. So come along, bring those stinkwoods, maples, acacias. It could be a great time to wire and winter prune these trees at the Club Workshop (from 12:00)

Obituary: Our Condolences to the family and friends of Eddie v.d. Westhuizen who passed away recently.

Our Programme:

10 July: Dave Wilson – His trip to Puerto Rico

Errol – repotting the Club Maple (Please bring in trees that you need assistance with repotting.)

Alan Russell – “100 days to show”

14 Aug: Dave to contact Org Oxley

11 Sept: Tommy – Driftwood and Planting/Grafting

9/10 Oct: Annual Show

9 Nov: Adrian Literati

11 Dec: Year End Party: Any suggestions for programme: - does not necessarily have to be bonsai related.

Membership: Remember you are all ambassadors for EBS and bonsai in general. What can you do to keep our wonderful hobby alive? Invite friends/relatives/colleagues to come to one of our meetings as guests. Maybe they may like to do bonsai and possibly join the club.

Regards

Tommy

Contact a Committee Member

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|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| Chairman : | Tommy Ramiah | 082 451 6283 | Treeview Ed : | Committee | bonsai@pixie.co.za |
| Vice-Chair : | Errol Rubin | 083 419 3109 | Membership : | Clinton Posen | 083 300 9192 |
| Secretary : | Peggy Sing | 011 435 3360 | Front Desk : | Angela Laughton | 082 926 6236 |
| Treasurer : | Alan Russell | 082 766 0670 | Members : | Andre de Canha | 011 648 3920 |
| Program : | Tommy Ramiah | 082 451 6283 | | Arthur Sing | 011 435 3360 |

Our Bank. ABSA Sandton City. Acc. Name Eastern Bonsai Society. Acc. No. 711951156

Please use your name as *Reference* when transferring.

Family Membership R200; Ordinary Membership R150; Pensioners R120