

BONSAI SOCIETY OF THE CAROLINAS

September 2016 Newsletter



September Meeting Information:

Member Workday

Saturday, Sept 10, 10-Noon
Bonsai Learning Center
142 Hidden Harbor Rd
Mooresville, NC 28117

by Gene Martin

Bring your trees, tools and wire to the Bonsai Learning Center Saturday and get advice from other members on wiring, styling and pruning. Of course, the advice is entirely optional and may or may not match your vision for the tree, but inspiration often comes from the most unusual place!

The BSC Executive Board will NOT meet after the September meeting. Members are always invited to attend.

2016 At A Glance

Jan 9 – Bonsai Begins with Wire
Feb 13 – Grafting & How Trees Work
Feb 26-28 & Mar 4-6 – Spring Show
Mar 12/13 – Bonsai Basics Workshop
Apr 9 – Masters' Garden Road Trip
May 14 – Master Workshop
June 11 – Member Picnic
July 9 – Arthur Joura
Aug 13 – Carving
Sept 10 – Member Workday
Oct 1 – Auction
Oct 8-9 – Bonsai Expo, Asheville
Nov 12 – Collecting Trip
Dec 3 & 4 – Winter Silhouette Show
Dec 10 – Holiday Party

August Meeting Recap

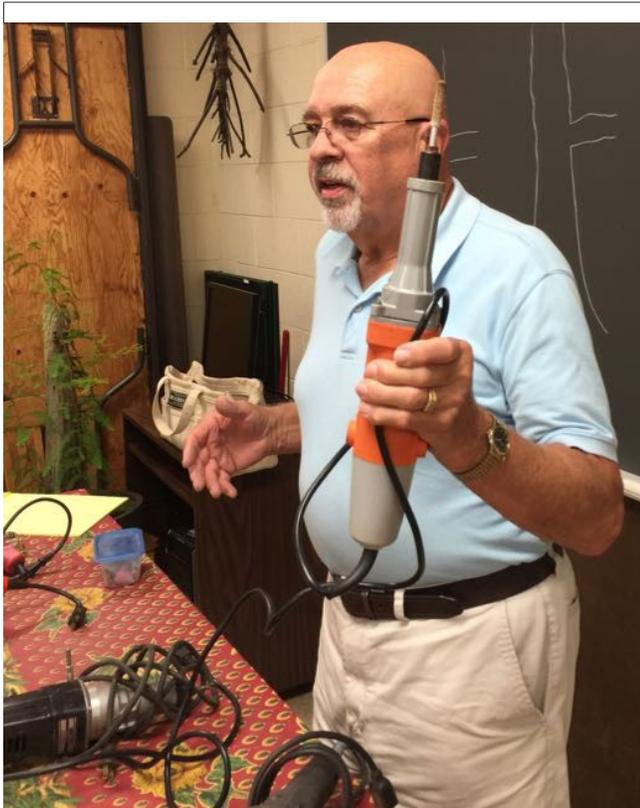
Carving Demo

by Gene Martin

Our own President Bob Hampel presented a program on carving tools and demonstrated how they might be used to enhance the aesthetics of a bonsai.

Bob brought a number of carving tools to the workshop. He recommended that small Dremel tools not be your first investment, as they will probably not hold up very long. Look for inexpensive die grinders and angle grinders at places like Harbor Freight or Northern Tool. You might also find them at yard sales (buyer beware) or consignment / recycle stores (ReStore, for example).

You will also need a collection of bits, wire brushes, and other abrasive attachments. Bob's collection is such that each tool has an attached abrasive implement and he changes tools rather than changing bits.



Pres Bob with one of several carving tools

Larry Morton was kind enough to provide a tree with multiple carving opportunities, so that Bob could show how to significantly enhance a bonsai in a very short period of time. My apologies for not noting the variety of Larry's tree.

Carving is a slow process and may require the use of numerous tools/bits to achieve desired results.



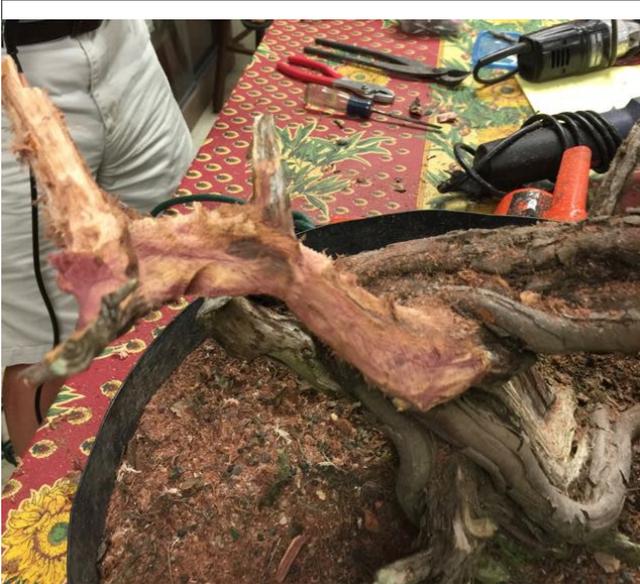
Larry's tree BEFORE carving



DURING carving

Bob also shortened and restyled some of the jin to fit the overall proportions of the tree and be consistent with the movement.

He also reminded everyone to wear eye and ear protection anytime you're using power tools.



The character of the tree is becoming more visible



After an hour's work, a much improved tree!

The BSC thanks Larry for providing the demo tree and Bob for showing us how-to!

October Meeting Tease

Member Auction

by Gene Martin

Do you have trees, tools, pots, stands, etc that need a new home? Would you like to add to your stash of items? The October 1 (note the unusual date) may be your best chance to accomplish that.

Round up your extra items and bring them to the October BSC meeting for a member auction.

Other News

Election of officers will be held this fall. Terms are 2 years and we will need candidates for President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. If you're interested in any of these positions, please contact a member of the Board.

Steve Zeisel's 2016 Winter Silhouette Show website is up and running. Logistics and Registration information can be found [here](#). Guest artists this year are Bill Valavantis, Owen Reich, Rodney Clemons and Adam Lavigne. Quite an impressive list.

Obviously you should be prepping your trees **now** for the December show.

Raffle Reminder

The September meeting **will** include a Raffle – bring your Raffle items and a few bucks. Thanks for your support!!

Executive Board of the Bonsai Society of the Carolinas

President – Bob Hampel
Vice President – Mike Brawley
Treasurer – John Farrell
Secretary – Tammy Bates
Show Chairman – Brad Russell
Newsletter Editor – Gene Martin

BSC Meeting Information

Monthly meetings are held at the McMillan Greenhouse on the campus of UNCC unless otherwise noted. Directions and parking information can be found on the [BSC website](#).

The BSC Newsletter is compiled and created monthly by Gene Martin. Contributions and feedback are welcome. Please email submissions or comments to GeneMartin@carolina.rr.com by the 20th of each month for publication in the following newsletter.
