

# BONSAI SOCIETY OF THE CAROLINAS

## February 2019 Newsletter



### **February Meeting Information:**

### **Collecting Adventure**

Saturday, Feb 9, 10 - 12

9625 Surface Hill Rd

Mint Hill NC 28227

by Gene Martin

BSC Members will have the opportunity to collect native species from a Charlotte-area woodland this month.

On similar adventures in years past, we've come away with pines, American Hornbeams and Winged Elms. Larry says you can expect to find Carpinus, Callicarpa, Ulmus, Eleagnus, Ligustrum, Rosa, Nyssa, Liquidambar, Betula, Acer, Albizzia, Quercus, Cercis, Pyrus, Lagerstromia, Fagus, Juniperus (with deadwood), Pinus, Ilex, Cornus, Prunus, Baccharis, Oxydendron, Populus, Salix, Sassafras, Viburnum, Aronia, Rubus, Photinia, Rhus (shrubs and vines), Lonicera (shrubs and vines), Wisteria, Parthenocissus, Vitis, Celastrus, Campsis, among many others. You'll also find moss, ferns and plenty of gold tailings. Gold mining tools and Indian tools have also been found out there, even recently.

Most of the species we'll be looking for will have lost their leaves by now, so the burning question becomes how to identify the specimen

you're found. Field Guides were created just for this purpose. Online resources include [Virginia Tech's ID Keys](#) and the "Picture This" app. And pick up a Field Guide at your local bookstore.

For those members attending their first collecting adventure, wear old clothes & work shoes, bring tools to prune & uproot your treasures, something to "bag" the roots and WATER.

What happens if it rains, you might ask. Well, in that case, the collection goes forward as planned. Wear your rain gear and be prepared to get dirty.

**Larry Morton** is the author of the best selling book, *Modern Bonsai Practice*. He operates a wholesale bonsai nursery ([BellaBonsai.com](#)) with over 6,000 bonsai and pre-bonsai.

But you are not into collecting wild trees, you say. Well, there's a second reason to attend this month's meeting – Larry will provide an area for BSC members to work on their trees. Bring a tree or three that needs styling and work on it among friends.

So there's multiple good reasons to join us on Saturday's Collecting Adventure.

**The BSC Executive Board will probably meet after the February meeting. Members are always welcome to attend Board Meetings.**

### 2019 At A Glance

Jan 12 – "Dog Tree" Swap & Wiring Workshop

Feb 9 – Collecting Trees

Feb 22-24 & Mar 1-3 – Spring Show

Mar 9 – Bonsai 101 Workshop

Apr 13 – TBD

May 11 – Master Demo & Workshop

June 8 – Picnic & Auction  
June 28-30 – US National Shohin  
Bonsai Exhibition  
July 12-14 Member Show  
July 13 – Arthur Joura Demo  
Aug 10 – Bonsai 101 Workshop?  
Sept 14 – Styling Workshop  
Oct 5 – Expo Tree Selection & Prep  
Oct 12-13 – Bonsai Expo, Asheville  
Nov 9 – Master Demo & Workshop  
Dec 7-8 – Winter Silhouette Show  
Dec 14 – Holiday Party

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## January Meeting Recap

### “Dog Tree” Swap

by Gene Martin

The January meeting was well attended and a couple dozen trees changed hands. Many thanks to everyone who brought a tree. If you take a photo of the tree as you improve it, please forward and I'll include it in a future Newsletter.



*A few of the trees that found new homes at the January meeting.*

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## President's Corner

By Carl Maxwell

Punxsutawney Phil didn't see his shadow, which means it's only six more weeks till spring and that means repotting season. Unfortunately for me, that also means the middle of tax season, so I will be burning the midnight oil to work on my bonsai.

It's also a good time to do wiring, so I am thinking about doing a “Wiring Workshop” for our meeting in April. All the newbies that attend the Bonsai 101 class in March can bring their trees back in April to do some wiring, along with anyone else that wants to give some new shape to their trees. Will let you know the location for the meeting in the March newsletter.

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## March Meeting Preview

by Gene Martin

The March meeting is still in limbo. If we display trees at the Southern Spring Show and sign up new members, it will be a Bonsai 101 class or two for those new members. If the SSS falls thru, there will be no need for the 101 classes and March will probably be a Member BYOT Workshop. Watch your email for info about those events.

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## Other News

One of the challenges of collecting trees in winter is identifying the species of a particular tree one might want to collect. I found a YouTube video that helps identify a subset of trees that might be useful as bonsai. Check it out [here](#).

The Southern Spring Show will be the last weekend of February and the first weekend of March (see 2019 At-a-Glance for specific dates). Negotiations with Show Management are still in progress. But if we participate, signup sheets for

tree-sitting shifts will be email'd. This is an all-hands-on-deck affair, so be prepared to spend some time at the Show.

After a brief hiatus, John Geanangel is again posting pictures to Facebook. Check them out when you get a chance.

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## Raffle Reminder

The February meeting will NOT include a Raffle – save your Raffle items for a future opportunity. Thanks for your support!!

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## Dues Reminder

2019 BSC Membership dues are due. \$50. Bring a check to the January meeting or mail it to Treasurer John Farrell.

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## ***Executive Board of the Bonsai Society of the Carolinas***

President – Carl Maxwell  
Vice President – open  
Treasurer – John Farrell  
Secretary – Jeanne Anderson  
Past President – Bob Hampel (in lieu of Tammy's move to Chicago)  
Show Chairman – Brad Russell  
Newsletter Editor – Gene Martin

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## 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](#).

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The BSC Newsletter is compiled and created monthly by Gene Martin. Contributions and feedback are welcome. Please email submissions or comments to [GMartinMan@gmail.com](mailto:GMartinMan@gmail.com) by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month for publication in the following newsletter.

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