



## **EBS Newsletter July 2019**



### **From the Chairman:**

*Dear EBS Members*

Here we are in July. How time flies. Feels like a few weeks ago we were in January. So much to do...so little time. This is also true in Bonsai. Now is the ideal time of the year to clean tools and sharpen tools if necessary. Pots can also be cleaned in preparation for the potting season.

For us humans, summer months are the best for babe watching or checking out the hunks when we shed our bulky clothes and show off our tanned, fit bodies (or in my case the winter Excesses). It is exactly the opposite for our Bonsai ...with a lot of trees without summer clothes , it is the perfect time to look at our trees bone structure and bodies...Time to see where you forgot to take off wire, and now have wire bite, see where branches died back or where there are gaps in structure that you didn't notice when your tree was in full summer glory. Where branches were allowed to grow too long and now have to be cut back or where you can work on better ramification. This is also the perfect time when trees are dormant and when you can see the tree without all its leaves, to do carving.

Soon the busiest time of the Bonsai calendar is upon us: the ideal time to pot. Some trees might be pot bound and need re potting. Figs and Privet –yearly. You might have spent time looking at your tree and want to reposition the tree or you have finally found that elusive perfect pot (in our EBS shop) for your tree. Maybe you just want to prepare and re pot for the upcoming convention

With all these upcoming activities and events, we have planned accordingly:

### **JULY 13th MEETING**

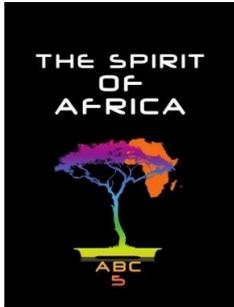
**Kathy Steyn**, the master/mistress of carving is coming to do a carving demonstration on some members trees. Members please to bring trees that they need help and advice with; either carving or refining existing carving. Remember carving is not a job started and finished in one session. Kathy Steyn also have the following Shohin size trees for sale to carve at the workshop: Pyracanths, Cotoneaster, Privets, Celtis, Olive, Buddleja, Juniper, Myrtle, Kunnibos and Boxwood In plastic bags R250 –R300 in bags depending on size. Same trees in pots R50 extra.

Members that want to order Shohin size trees from Kathy Steyn must please order them directly from Kathy Steyn at 083 710 4243 by no later than Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> July for Kathy to bring them with her to Demo. Members will pay Kathy directly for their purchases.

All members to bring trees with deadwood or carving or just a tree that you are really proud of, to show and stand a chance to win a R50 gift voucher from our EBS shop.

## **AUGUST 10th MEETING**

The highly knowledgeable Lynn Reynolds will present a talk /demonstration on potting and re potting. She will re pot some of her personal collection. Members please to bring trees to be re potted and Lynn will be on hand to offer advice.



## **ABC 5 – THE SPIRIT OF AFRICA- BONSAI CONVENTION**

Safari Garden centre 24-27 October Cost R2500 EARLY BIRD DISCOUNT by 31 JULY R1975

Deadline to submit photos of up to 10 WORLD CLASS trees to the selection committee for showing at the convention is 1<sup>st</sup> August.

*The month that was...*

## **EBS ANNUAL SHOW**

EBS held its annual Bonsai show on the weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June as a winter show due to the convention being held in October when we traditionally have our show. Thank you to the committee that worked tirelessly to do the set up on Friday. To Kathy T for all the labels and to all the EBS members that showed trees. Without you all it wouldn't have happened.

The show was slightly smaller than last year but none the less we had quality trees on show. Jan Neethling showed several large trees in a show that featured mostly smaller trees, and Jan's Chinese Hackberry was voted Best Tree. On Show by the public. Andre de Canha brought a big selection of Juniper and Fig trees on-, in-, and over- rock plantings. Both Lynn Reynolds and Yatish Poonee brought a big selection of Mame for display. There was also a good selection of trees in training, under 5 years, on display. Attendance was somewhat down from last year, but the weather played along and none of the frost sensitive trees got damaged. Thank you to each and every one for bringing a tree and helping make this show a SUCCESS.

AGM was held during our winter show and was very well attended. A full quorum of members was present and signed the attendance register. The Chairman's report and Financial report was presented. Outgoing committee and club members were thanked for their assistance Corrections in Constitution were proposed and approved. The entire committee stood down and with the exception of Tommy Ramiah that wasn't present, expressed their willingness to stand for another year, and were voted in. New members voted on to the committee were Keith Cosser, Gerhard Buchner and Vaughan Brenchley. Congratulations to all.



Jan Neethling-  
Public vote winner



Andre De Canha  
Fig root over rock



Set up



Exhibition



## **SHIBUI BONSAI KAI**

Shibui held their show 2 weeks after ours. Although it was slightly smaller than ours, there were more bigger trees on show. What made this even more remarkable was that none of the Heritage Bonsai Collection from Brenthurst was on show.

There was also a beautiful Suiseki collection (viewing stones) shown in a separate display area. Some displayed on their own specially made wooden Dai (wooden Beds) or in sand filled Sui ban (Flat low trays).

The Japanese and Chinese always held rocks/stones in high regard. I have often wondered why South Africans don't appreciate stones more as we have such beautiful old mountain ranges here.



For the Chinese rocks symbolise Mountains and the Japanese interpret beautiful stones in many ways such as an island, cottage, waterfall etc. There was a particularly fine waterfall stone on show. Both Derry Ralph and Erica Kohler had fine Suiseki displayed in magnificent bronze trays less than 1 cm deep from Japan.

Something that stood out at the Shibui show was the attention to detail: - Table cloths were all draped to the same length and all tablecloth edges lying on floor neatly pinned back. Almost all trees not only had a suitable stand for display purposes, but a large number of trees had an accent or companion plant to compliment the Bonsai.

Congratulations to Ruza, Derry and Shibui on a show well done!

## **BRAT DAY 29th JUNE**

Hosted by Midway Bonsai at Keith Kirsten's venue.

Hannes and Stefan from Suikerbossie Bonsai Kai (Heidelberg) worked on 3 Celtis trees in their talk on Winter Silhouette. Hannes refining his two Yamadori trees that he has been working on for the past 20 years Stefan removed a major branch and rewired 2 other branches on what he always considered his most prized tree in his collection.

Dorian presented a very interesting talk on using rocks in a different way. He uses a diamond blade or stone cutter (following the correct safety procedures) and cut the best pieces out of Pellendaba etc rock, obviously using the most textured and characterful pieces. He has 40-50 pieces of similar coloured rock ready. He then "glues" these pieces on to a roughly shaped piece of slate with a product called "Steenvas" (like a strong cement type Putty) to form walls/cliffs etc. The spaces inside cliff are then filled with soil, trees planted and covered in moss. He also painstakingly pushes little pieces of moss between the rocks to create a natural look. The imitate miniature landscapes or trees growing on rocky outcrops.



Detail of layered rocks and moss

Tony Mortimer air layered a grafted a red Japanese Maple.

The extremely knowledgeable Welma, from Protec spoke about their pesticides, fungicides and feeds suitable for Bonsai. Each guest received a Goody Bag with amongst others a bottle of Guanoflo (which I personally can recommend) as well as a 4kg bag of Gwano pellets.

BRAT trophy awards. Out of the 15 categories it seems that (and I stand under correction) Suikerbos Kai won at least 6- and Addicts 2- categories. Very much like a lottery –you can't win if you don't enter. Congratulations to all the winners. The New Talent BRAT Regional competition was also held with the best from each club in the region competing. Our own Jennifer G and the other contestants' trees were all of a high standard but finally the top 3 were: 1<sup>st</sup> place Dean from Midway, 2<sup>nd</sup> Joshua of Addicts and in the 3<sup>rd</sup> position Troy from Midway.

Congratulations to the New Talent winners and to Hennie Reyneke and his team for putting together a successful BRAT day.

*Until next month. Happy Bonsai -ing and enjoy the journey.*

*Anthony.*

**AFRICAN BONSAI CONVENTION (ABC5)** 24-27 October 2019  
To be held at Safari Garden Centre in Lynnwood, Pretoria

Three international artists will be in attendance, over and above several local artists and promises to be an exceptional experience. Please visit the website for more information

# CONVENTION PROGRAMME

Dorlan Fourle - Master of Ceremonies

## THURSDAY 24 OCTOBER 2019

- 08:00-09:00 Registration
  - 09:00-09:15 Welcome speech (Org Exley Committee Chairperson & Jonathan Cain ABA President)
  - 09:15-09:30 Opening
  - 09:30-10:00 Tea break
  - 10:00-12:00 Demonstration (Rafael Torres)
  - 12:00-13:00 Lunch break
  - 13:00-15:00 Demonstration continued (Rafael Torres)
  - 15:00-15:30 Tea break
  - 15:30-17:00 Demonstration (Vian Herbst and Mack Boshoff)
  - 17:00-18:00 AGM
  - 18:00-21:00 Welcoming party (Cocktail)
- 13:00-17:00 New Talent
  - 10:00-15:00 Workshop (Mauro Stemberger & Robert Mahler)

## FRIDAY 25 OCTOBER 2019

- 08:00-08:30 Registration
  - 08:30-10:00 Demonstration (Mauro Stemberger)
  - 10:00-10:30 Tea break
  - 10:30-12:00 Demonstration continued (Mauro Stemberger)
  - 12:00-12:15 Raffle
  - 12:15-13:00 Lunch break
  - 13:00-15:00 Demonstration (Robert Mahler)
  - 15:00-15:30 Tea break
  - 15:30-17:00 Demonstration continued (Robert Mahler)
  - 17:00-17:15 Raffle
- 08:30-12:00 Workshop (Rafael Torres & Robert Mahler)
  - 13:00-17:00 Workshop (Rafael Torres & Mauro Stemberger)

## SATURDAY 26 OCTOBER 2019

- 08:00-08:30 Registration
  - 08:30-10:00 Demonstration (Rafael Torres)
  - 10:00-10:30 Tea break
  - 10:30-12:00 Demonstration continued (Rafael Torres)
  - 12:00-12:15 Raffle
  - 12:15-13:00 Lunch break
  - 13:00-15:00 Demonstration (Mauro Stemberger)
  - 15:00-15:30 Tea break
  - 15:30-17:00 Demonstration continued (Mauro Stemberger)
  - 17:00-17:15 Raffle
  - 17:15 onwards Braai and prize giving
- 08:30-12:00 Workshop (Mauro Stemberger & Robert Mahler)
  - 13:00-17:00 Workshop (Rafael Torres & Robert Mahler)

## SUNDAY 27 OCTOBER 2019

- 09:00-09:30 Registration
- 09:30-11:00 Demonstration (Viky Petermann & Brett Simon)
- 11:00-11:30 Tea
- 11:30-13:00 Presentation on how to show trees (Robert Mahler)
- 13:00-13:15 Raffle
- 13:15-14:00 Acknowledgements / Farewell

# THE SPIRIT OF AFRICA



24 – 27 OCTOBER 2019  
SAFARI GARDEN CENTRE,  
LYNNWOOD ROAD, PRETORIA  
REGISTRATION:  
CONVENTION FEE- R2500  
EARLY BIRD-31 JULY- R1975  
[www.abc5.co.za](http://www.abc5.co.za)

The Selection Committee is looking for world class trees to show;

Each paid up SABA individual may show up to 10 trees, any size or species. Deadline to submit photos is 1 AUGUST 2019. Photos to be accompanied by name of artist, tree species, size, height, width, depth and estimated age. Please email all submissions to [hannesthel@gmail.com](mailto:hannesthel@gmail.com)

## General:

### Workshops

The club offers a workshop every meeting and members are encouraged to bring trees for working on and advise.

*Remember bonsai is best supported through doing.*

### EBS on the web

Website: <http://www.ebs.org.za/>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/easternbonsaisociety>

### Shop

The Club shop will be open from 11:30 - 12:30hrs, preceding a club meeting, at Hospice.

### Library

In July the library will be open from 11:30 - 12:30hrs preceding a club meeting, at Hospice. Please note books are taken out on a monthly basis. Kindly return books on time.

### Brat News

2019		
29 June	Midway	AGM & New Talent
31 August	Shibui	Top 10
24-27 October	Pretoria	ABC 5 Convention

Brat attendance fee is R120, which includes tea and lunch.  
Brat Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/Brat.page>

### Cake Roster

Name	Month
Keith	July
Volunteer needed	August
Volunteer needed	September

Contact Kathy T

### Every meeting is a mini show

Lucky draw on all trees brought by members to work on. Prize R50 voucher for EBS shop.

### Raffle table

Any of those trees or pots that are in your way could find a happy new owner via the raffle table. Any bonsai or non-bonsai related items are welcome.

Thank you to people who brought items for the raffle table. It is highly appreciated. Raffle tickets are still R5.00 each. The raffle table will have plenty of items available- support the club and buy raffle tickets.

### Things to do for July

- Check for scale, woolly aphids and leaf fungus on figs.
- Prune and design all deciduous trees.
- Wire all deciduous trees.
- Cut back longer shoots on Junipers until end of July.
- Prepare soil mix, mesh pots, and wire for repotting.
- Repotting of swamps, celtis, elms, privets, oaks, beech etc. Cape starts now. Just before bud breaks. Watch carefully.
- After repotting put in shade for 6 weeks. No fertilizer.
- Water all flowering, fruiting, trees without leaves sparingly.
- \*Conditions differ from region to region. Consult with local club.

### Cups and teaspoons

Should any member have spare coffee/tea mugs and teaspoons at home that they would like to donate to the club it would be much appreciated. Hospice crockery and cutlery is not always available and polystyrene cups and plastic teaspoons are really only for emergencies.

## **Committee Members:**

Chairman	Anthony Bosman	084 557 7348
Vice Chairman	Dave Wilson	082 923 2538
Secretary	Kathy Tinney	072 999 9672
Treasurer	Alan Russell	082 766 0670
BRAT Representative	Dave Wilson	082 923 2538
New members & Membership	Jennifer Georgeson	082 336 5425
Website	Naseem Ebrahim	084 401 2379
Raffle & Tree Sales	Yatish Poonee	
Committee member	Clive Cosser	083 876 4581
Committee member	Gerhardt Buchner	082 805 2037
Committee member	Vaughan Brenchley	
SABA Representative	Hansie Bekker	082 820 4306
Facebook	Annetia Russell	

**Next committee meeting is on Saturday 13 July 2019, at 11:00hrs.**