

# Ramification

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR: HIRAM MACIAS



Way of bonsai

# PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Bonsai friends,

I am looking forward to the New Year and beginning a schedule of dynamic workshops, demonstrations, and more focused mentorship for those interested. The following are just a few of the great ideas being suggested by the veterans in our club:

- Focus the club's energy on the basic principle of enjoying the art of bonsai, by both teaching and learning from each other.
- Increase our representation at non-local shows including the state convention.
- Evaluate the success of past workshops by various artists.
- Increase the quality and number of workshops featured primarily by local masters such as Ed Trout, Jarbas, Mike Cartrett, Toby Diaz, Hiram Macias and Glen Hilton.
- Have Guy Guidry come every year and perhaps sharing the cost of visit with other local clubs.
- Have a workshop in Spanish led by Lourdes for those members that may prefer to be taught in their native language.
- We are having our board meetings on Wednesday night just prior to our meeting. I hope everyone will participate in the club decisions, and offer to help out with the many responsibilities that come with running a successful, enjoyable club.
- Reschedule the past fall auction for February or March of 2012
- Schedule our next show for sometime in the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2013.
- Have a progressive mentorship program for those beginners interested in developing their skills.
- Solicit an increase in member participation and activity; spreading small amounts work out among more people to keep a few people from doing all the work from burning out.
- Solicit support from other organizations and their local artists
- Enhance the club's website to encourage more people to communicate through the website, using it as a resource for club information as well as the art itself.

**The monthly meetings will now occur on the fourth Wednesday of every month** at Pinecrest Gardens in the same room in which we are currently meeting. A schedule for 2012 is attached to this email and it will be distributed by hard copy to those that attend the January meeting. The schedule will be posted on the club's website. Finally, please join Aaron and I in congratulating our outgoing board members on a tremendous run of success and determination. These few board members are the people that, for many years, consistently sacrificed time they could have enjoyed working on their trees or spending time with their love ones. They prepared everything that needs to be done "behind the scenes" to run the club and host the shows. Please also join us in welcoming the outgoing board back to the club as active, inspired members that can make their practice and enjoyment of the art a priority now. They are all experts in their own way and can provide outstanding support to other members.

Please do not forget to bring items for the raffle table, items for sale in our corner store table, and the most important thing to remember is to bring a tree for the display table. We will stop with enough time and discuss and study the display trees. Hope to see you all there in our first B.Y.O.T. of the 2012 season. Remember to always be "INSPIRED".

Thank you,

Toby Diaz

# CALENDAR

## 2012 Program Schedule

(Auction and Holiday Party Dates subject to change)

**January 25** – Overview of the 2012 Program Schedule & BYOT Workshop (Bring Your Own Tree)  
Random drawing for 3-month Apprentice/Mentorship Programs (open to all active members)

**February 22** – Introduction to the Mentorship Program 1 / Lesson 1 – *to be taught by President Toby Diaz* (please do not bring trees to this meeting unless they are for raffle or the sales table)

**March 28** – Mentorship Program 1 / Lesson 2 – Bring a tree you really want to work !! – *to be taught by a Mentor randomly drawn for you at the January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting - either Glen Hilton, Toby Diaz, or two others to be confirmed prior to the January 25<sup>th</sup> meeting*

**April 25** – Possible Date for the Club Auction (not final) or BYOT Workshop Taught by A Local Artist  
(to be determined)

**May 23** – Buttonwood Workshop #1 – Bring a *Buttonwood* you really want to work!! – *one of two progressive workshops - to be taught by one of the most knowledgeable and talented buttonwood bonsai artists – Jarbas*

**June 27** - Mentorship Program 1 / Lesson 3 – Bring the same tree back that you styled in Lesson 2 – *to be taught by your same Mentor from Lesson 2*

**July 25** – Mentorship Program 2 / Lesson 1 – Bring a *NEW* tree (different from Lessons 2 and 3) maybe one that you have initially styled, but you want to improve on ramification and wiring!! – *You will be assigned to a different Mentor for the next 3 progressive workshops , to be determined at this meeting*

**August 22** – Mentorship Program 1/Lesson 4 – Bring the same tree back that you worked on in Program 1 / Lessons 2 and 3

***September 26 - Buttonwood Workshop #2 – bring back the buttonwood you worked at May’s meeting!! – (the second of two progressive workshops) - to be taught by one of the most knowledgeable and talented buttonwood bonsai artists – Jarbas***

***October 24 - Mentor Program 2/Lesson 2 – bring the same tree back that you worked on at the July meeting (Program 2/Lesson 1) – to be taught by the mentor you were assigned to for Program 2***

***November 28 – Preparing Your Bonsai for Display at a Show – the seasoned bonsai artist **Mike Sullivan** will be visiting to teach us about how to prepare your trees, pots, stands, and backgrounds for a bonsai show.***

***December ?? (Date to be determined) – Holiday Party and Awards – join the club for a relaxing evening and dinner with awards and Bonsai Trivia (based on the lessons taught during the year).***

### **POSSIBLE ARTISTS TO BE INVITED FOR WORKSHOPS**

(to be discussed further and finalized at the January 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

***Guy Guidry***

***Ed Trout***

***Hiram Macias***

***Mike Sullivan***

### **POSSIBLE FIELD TRIPS**

(to be coordinated by Phil Spool and finalized at the January 25<sup>th</sup> Meeting)

***Jupiter Bonsai Nursery***

***Andy’s Pots***

***Mary Madison’s***

***Durastone (Jim Smith’s)***

***Bonsai Show for Southeast Club***

# Benoki 2012 visit



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