



# Green Country Bonsai

June 2010 Newsletter

Volume 30, Issue 6

## May Meeting Notes

Pres. Justin Lovelace called the meeting to order and announced that the evening's program will be presented prior to the business meeting. (See report on Page 2.)

### New Business:

After the program, Showmaster Tom Howard reported on the Spring Show.

- Attendance (based on People's Choice ballots) was 467 for the two days.
- We had sales of \$245.
- Forty-four trees from 8 contributing members were exhibited.
- For the first time, every tree received at least 1 vote.
- Mike Flanagan's Chinese Elm won the Showmaster's Award.
- Frank Kohn's driftwood style Juniper was the People's Choice.

Tom thanked all those members who helped with the show.

**Our thanks to Tom for his work as Showmaster.**

*(Editor's note: With 30 members in our club, it would be great if we could get more than 8 members who bring trees to the show. Let's keep this in mind for our Fall Show in October.)*

Treasurer Donna Hardin reports a balance on hand of \$1816.36

The Garden Fair at Utica Square will be on May 15<sup>th</sup>. Members who are able can show up to help at our table. It is a good opportunity to meet the public and discuss the art of bonsai.

The location of the Member's Workshop on May 29<sup>th</sup> has been changed.

Neil Dellinger has offered his covered patio for our get together.

It will still be on the 29th, but from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., and Neil plans to cook 'Brats' for lunch.

Potato salad will be provided, and another side dish or two would be welcomed.

As a courtesy please RSVP Neil by 5/22, so he can plan accordingly

918.636.1724 or [dellinger\\_neil\\_a@cat.com](mailto:dellinger_neil_a@cat.com).

Bring your tools and a tree that needs work. Club wire will be available.

If your preference is other than soft drinks, bring your own.

Bring a folding chair just in case.

Great opportunity for socializing while working on / getting help with your tree.

### Show and Tell:

Neil Dellinger brought a couple accent plants and a miniature rose in bloom..

Mike Flanagan brought 2 Azaleas and a Wisteria.

### Raffle:

Some books and a pot from former member Herb Martinez.

A Juniper and a pot from Neil, and Mike Flanagan contributed a Chinese Juniper.

Justin brought Lacebark and Corkbark Elms.

### Program:

Thanks to Neil Dellinger for his interesting and informative demo on air layering.

### Officers:

Justin Lovelace, President  
Neil Dellinger, Vice Pres.  
Donna Hardin, Treasurer  
Sara Kilpatrick, Secretary

### Board Members:

Marcus Bush, 3 year  
Ken Cole, 2 year  
Tom Howard, 1 year  
Mike Blake, Webmaster  
Frank Kohn, Newsletter Ed.

### June Meeting:

Monday June 7, 2010,  
7:00 pm,  
Tulsa Garden Center,  
2435 S. Peoria

### June Program:

*Trident Maple . . .  
development & maintenance*  
by: **Neil Dellinger**

If you have a computer you may wish to check this link:

<http://www.bing.com/images/search?q=Bonsai&FORM=MFEIMG&PUBL=Goo&CREA=userid1743e82b8590b34fa4c160ec0aa3de922e61c#>

for a bunch of neat bonsai pictures.

## AIR LAYERING by: Neil Dellinger



Neil returned with the Japanese Maple that he used at the last meeting when he demonstrated grafting techniques. After grafting branches above the tree's base in preparation for a future shohin style bonsai, Neil now wants to air layer the top section to create another bonsai.



Neil cleans away all unnecessary foliage and branches in the area of the trunk where he plans the air layer.



A band of bark and cambium is removed. The length of the band is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  times the diameter of the trunk. As with last month's grafting, a very sharp knife is required to insure clean cuts. Neil scrapes away all of the bark and cambium.



Two wires are used to girdle the air layer. The first is applied just above the top cut. The second is applied under the top cut and about a wire thickness below the upper wire. Twist on both wires and tighten. Then rooting hormone is applied around both wires.



Neil forms a plastic bag around the trunk below the air layer, and secures it to the trunk with a wire. The top of this bag remains open to accept the peat moss.



Neil fills the bag with *long fiber* peat moss which he has soaked in water for a day or two to make sure it is totally saturated; then he cuts it into 2"-3" lengths. Be sure to completely encircle the trunk with the peat moss in the area where the cut was made.



Once sufficient peat moss has been packed into the bag, the top of the bag is loosely wired shut to hold it in place and still allow for watering of the peat moss. *Don't let it dry out.*



Neil has added another wire to the center of the bag for added security. In approximately 2 months, there should be sufficient root growth to warrant separation and potting of the layered section.