

# SEMINAR DETAILS



**Seminar #1: Care and Maintenance of Bonsai Tools with Bill Boytim** - Longtime, Houston-area bonsai artist and Master Gardener Bill Boytim has worked on hand tools of all sorts for decades. Today Bill has combined his vocation and his avocation into a wonderful talk on the care, maintenance and repair of bonsai tools. We work with these tools on expensive trees - you want them sharp and tight to make clean cuts. Don't miss Bill's discussion on how to make adjustments and make minor repairs to produce clean, sharp edges on curved and straight blades.

**Seminar #2: Going Organic in Bonsai Care** - Harris County Master Gardener Angela Chandler is a highly sought-after speaker in southeast Texas. She is a lifelong gardener who maintains a homestead in Highlands, Texas where she tends her organic farm and collection of bonsai trees. She is the former president of the Harris County Master Gardeners Association, a well-known author and member of numerous organic gardening/farming groups in the area. Join Angela as she brings a lifetime of knowledge on the benefits of organic fertilization, pest and disease control to keeping your bonsai trees healthy and strong. She will also discuss collecting and using rainwater for your bonsai.

**Seminar #3: Elements of Shohin Display** - "In shohin, there are no rules, but..." It is everything that follows the last word in that statement that makes shohin bonsai display such a fascinating, fun and complex component of bonsai culture. Join Boon in the exhibit as he leads a stimulating discussion about the shohin trees on display as well as how to balance the elements of direction, rank, and location in order to create a top-notch shohin display.

**Seminar #4: Texas Natives in Bonsai Culture** - No, this is not a talk about native Texans who do bonsai. This talk will explore the rich, horticultural landscape of the Lone Star State. What Texas trees are known to be great for bonsai? What trees might be good but just haven't been tried? All of this and much more will be discussed by Austin-area bonsai artist, avid collector, and the President of The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit, Joey McCoy. Make sure to join Joey in this fascinating discussion about the art and culture of bonsai as expressed with native Texas trees.

**Seminar #5: The Spirit of Bonsai with Danny Coffey** - Join Danny as he discusses one of his favorite topics, "The Spirit of Bonsai". Through this discussion, Danny will draw from his studies and experiences at the National Bonsai and Penjing museum, as an apprentice in Japan and as an emerging artist on the front line of bonsai in the United States.

**Seminar #6: The Future of American Bonsai with Ryan Neil** - In this seminar, Ryan will share his perspective on how he sees the art of bonsai evolving through the dual influences of western culture and the introduction of western trees. He will discuss the

styles and morphology of trees that are uniquely American and how that is best expressed in bonsai. Don't miss this important and visionary talk.

**Seminar #7: Virtual Tour of Chinese Bonsai** - When we think of bonsai, we often turn our attention to Japan. But, the art originated in China, and there is a rich tradition of cultivating miniature trees and numerous regional styles that has evolved across Asia, creating a rich tapestry of living art. Join Houston-area artist and National Champion Dr. Hoe Chuah for this bonsai travelogue and take a virtual walkabout of some of the most beautiful and provocative penjing gardens in China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

**Seminar #8: Botany for Bonsai with Enrique Castaño** - Headline artist Enrique Castaño literally wrote the book on the intersection between the science of botany and the art of bonsai. Understanding how trees grow and develop is essential for developing healthy and beautiful bonsai. When you can predict and control your bonsai's growth, it is easier to plan and design superior bonsai trees. In this talk, Enrique provides the building blocks for deepening your understanding of what makes your bonsai tree grow and thrive.

**Seminar #9: Stand Design and Construction with Mark Rhyne** - Here is the art behind the art. Join Mark Rhyne as he leads a discussion on the methods and techniques of constructing stands that are understated, yet beautiful and are simple, yet complex. He'll discuss some of the different styles of stands, how to judge quality in stand construction and how to go about selecting one that best complements your tree.

**Seminar #10: Viewing Stones with Racie Rhyne** - Bonsai and viewing stones are closely related art forms, each reflecting a deep respect for nature. While a bonsai is cultivated to evoke the qualities of a venerable old tree, a viewing stone is usually displayed to suggest an aspect of the natural landscape, such as a distant mountain or a waterfall. Thus, when these small-scale forms are viewed together in a complementary arrangement, the whole of nature can be imagined. Join Racie as she introduces you to an art that's sure to fascinate anyone who loves bonsai. They're easier to water too.

**Seminar #11: Texas Ashe Juniper with Howard & Sylvia Smith** - Arguably the BEST native juniper for bonsai lives right here in Texas. *Juniperus asheii* or the Ashe juniper is considered a nuisance tree west of I35. But for bonsai artists it is an underexplored and underappreciated gold mine of bonsai material. With some of the finest foliage of any native juniper, it is most reminiscent of shimpaku in bonsai culture. Join Dallas artists Howard & Sylvia and gain an appreciation for the culture and care of this wonderful native juniper.

**Seminar #12: Automatic Irrigation Systems with Mark Bynum** - For those of us trying to balance career and family with a collection of bonsai trees that require daily care, an irrigation system is essential. But how do you go about building one? What are some special considerations for irrigation systems used for bonsai collections? Join Fort Worth artist and irrigation specialist, Mark Bynum as he discusses the design and construction of an irrigation system to keep your bonsai collection thriving, even through the hot Texas summers.