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## ***The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit, Inc.***

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**TTSBE NEWSLETTER**

**MARCH 15, 2008**

**WELL, IT HAS BEEN SEVEN YEARS SINCE THE BEGINNINGS OF *THE TEXAS STATE BONSAI EXHIBIT*. SEVEN MUST BE A SPECIAL NUMBER BECAUSE IT HAS POPPED UP AGAIN. IT HAS BEEN SEVEN MONTHS SINCE THE PURCHASE OF OVER 12 ACRES OF LAND NEAR MUSTANG RIDGE, TEXAS.**

**MANY SMALL THINGS HAVE HAPPENED SINCE THAT FATEFUL DAY. THE LAND IS PARTIALLY FENCED! IT HAS BEEN MOWED- YOU CAN SEE THE SOIL (THE TEXAS YARN STARTS HERE... *THE GRASS WAS SO HIGH!!!*) THERE IS A DRIVE, CONCRETE CULVERTS, AND A SO CALLED GATE. THERE ARE SOME TREES ON THE LAND AND THEY WILL BE SAVED-*NOT A PRE-BONSAI ANYWHERE, DARN!* THE PLANS FOR SITE LAYOUT ARE BEING WORKED ON.**

**WE HAVE HIRED A FUNDRAISING CONSULTANT THAT HAS SEVERAL OF THE BOARD MEMBERS WORKING ON A DEVELOPMENT PLAN ON A BI-WEEKLY BASIS. I KNOW THIS DOES NOT SOUND SO SPECIAL BUT EVERY STEP BRINGS US CLOSER TO **RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY!!!****

**THE FIRST FUNDRAISING CAMPAIGN DIRECTLY LINKED TO THE LAND HAPPENED LAST FALL. PART OF THAT CAMPAIGN WAS A CATEGORY CALLED THE *PIONEER SOCIETY*. THEIR NAMES WILL BE PART OF THE EXHIBIT FOREVER-THEY HAVE THE SPECIAL PRIVILEGE OF RETIRING THE MORTGAGE.**

**WHAT HAPPENS NEXT? MORE FUNDRAISERS TO BE SURE. **"SURPRISE, SURPRISE"** (AS GOMER WOULD SAY). THEY HAVE A BIG SURPRISE COMING UP IN JUNE. VISIT THE BOOTH DISPLAY AT THE *ABS SYMPOSIUM IN SAN ANTONIO, TX., JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup> THRU THE 22<sup>ND</sup>*.**

***THE NIGHTWRITER***

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## NEWS FLASH!!! SEVEN AGAIN!!!

THERE ARE SEVEN, FOLKS! ACCORDING TO THE INFORMATION FROM TWO BOARD MEMBERS IT SEEMS THAT THERE ARE **SEVEN** BONSAI TREES IN THE PERMANENT COLLECTION. NOW ARE THERE SEVEN OR MAYBE MORE? ANYWAY, THEY ARE BEING CARED FOR BY MBP BONSAI AND PERSIMMON HILL BONSAI.

THE ROOT OVER ROCK JAPANESE MAPLE AT PERSIMMON HILL IS BEING STRENGTHENED. IT'S IN A LARGER POT AND IS BEING ALLOWED TO GROW WILD. THE CEDAR ELM FOREST (YOU HAVE PROBABLY SEEN THAT ONE WITH LORI HANSEN POSING WITH IT). IT'S A REPORTED 5 PLUS FEET LONG. THE TRAY WAS SPECIAL ORDERED FROM CHINA, SHIPPED TO HOUSTON AND BROUGHT TO MBP WITH NOT ONE INCIDENT. APPARENTLY, ACCORDING TO MY SOURCES, IT TURNED OUT TO BE AN EASY REPOTTING JOB. MAYBE WE MIGHT SEE THIS ONE UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL VERY SOON. THERE IS A FICUS RETUSA THAT STANDS NEARLY 40 PLUS INCHES TALL. WHEN I ENCOUNTERED THIS SPECIMEN AT THE CORPUS CHRISTI CONVENTION I COULD NOT GET MY ARMS AROUND IT. "SO NIGHTWRITER, HOW BIG IS IT?" "WELL, IT'S BIGGER THAN A OLD HOG IN A CORN BIN". SERIOUSLY IT IS A VERY NICE TROPICAL SPECIMEN.

THE OTHER SPECIMENS IN THE COLLECTION INCLUDING TWO BLACK PINES, INFORMAL UPRIGHT CEDAR ELM AND A SINGLE FICUS SUBULATA, IT'S ABOUT 30 INCHES TALL. HERE ARE THREE THAT I HAVE NOT SEEN FIRST HAND, "HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET PAST THE SECURITY", BUT I WAS ABLE TO ACQUIRE THEIR IMAGES (IT DIDN'T TAKE TOO MUCH DINERO).



Cedar Elm



Black Pine



Ficus Subulata

THE BLACK PINE PICTURED IS THE MOST RECENT ADDITION, NEARLY 28 INCHES TALL. IT WAS STYLED BY HIROYOSHI YAMAJI OF JAPAN AT THE ANNUAL DEMONSTRATION AT MBP BONSAI IN FEBRUARY. THIS TREE WAS SELECTED BY HIRO-SAN AND IT WAS DONATED BY MBP. HE SPENT SEVERAL HOURS AND AT THE END HE SELECTED A TICKET AND ELAINE WHITE WAS THE WINNER! SHE MOST GRACIOUSLY DONATED IT TO THE EXHIBIT.

**IF YOU LOOK CLOSELY AT THE NUMBER ONE BRANCH IT USE TO BE ABOUT HALF WAY UP THE TRUNK. HIRO-SAN SPLIT THE TRUNK AND BENT THE LIMB INTO THIS MOST GRACEFUL POSITION. YOUR REPORTER IS HUMBLLED AT THE SKILL (AND NERVE) THAT IT TOOK TO DESIGN THIS TREE.**

***THE NIGHTWRITER***

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### **HIGHLIGHTS FOR THE YEAR 2007**

- **THE BOARD CONDUCTED SEVEN FUNDRAISERS DURING THE YEAR.**
- **NEW AND EXPANDED AND EASY-TO-UPDATE WEBSITE: [WWW.TTSBE.ORG](http://WWW.TTSBE.ORG).**
- **LAND WAS FOUND, 12.2 ACRES IN MUSTANG RIDGE, TX.**
- **SEPTEMBER AN ANONYMOUS DONOR GAVE \$25,000 TO FACILITATE THE PURCHASE OF THE EXHIBIT PROPERTY.**
- **MIKE HANSEN AND ELAINE WHITE CLOSED ON THE SITE FOR THE EXHIBIT IN MUSTANG RIDGE, TX.**
- **A INVESTOR (A PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL AND FRIEND OF BONSAI) STEPPED FORWARD AND OFFERED TO CARRY THE MORTGAGE AT 8 1/2 % FOR 15 YEARS.**
- **A VERY LARGE CERAMIC POT (65"x42"x3.5") WAS ORDERED FROM CHINA FOR THE CEDAR ELM FOREST PLANTING DONATED TO THE EXHIBIT BY THE PEPITONE FAMILY OF HOUSTON.**

### **WHAT IS IN-STORE FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR?**

**IN SAN ANTONIO, TX. THE BOARD MEMBERS ARE GOING TO HAVE A BEER BOOTH DURING TWO OF THE FIESTA PARADES. APRIL 25<sup>TH</sup> AND 26<sup>TH</sup>, THE LAST WEEKEND OF FIESTA. THEY ARE SOLICITING VOLUNTEERS RIGHT NOW. APPARENTLY THEY HAD A ROARING GOOD TIME LAST YEAR (NO DRINKING JUST SERVING) AND WANT TO SHARE THE FUN. A BUNCH OF DINERO IS MADE FOR THE EXHIBIT AND YOU WILL GET TO ENJOY THE 100 YEAR OLD PARADES. CONTACT DONNA 210-224-0220.**

**I HAVE WORD THAT THERE IS A MAJOR EVENT BEING PLANNED FOR THE FALL. MORE ON THAT LATER. SO FOR NOW IT'S THE FIESTA FUN AND THE SYMPOSIUM THAT HAS THE ATTENTION OF THE BOARD.**

***THE NIGHTWRITER***

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### **VOLUNTEERS+VOLUNTEERS**

**VOLUNTEERS ARE CONTINUALLY BEING SOUGHT. THERE ARE STANDING COMMITTEES, TWO BOARD POSITIONS AVAILABLE AND ITEM DONATIONS ARE ALWAYS WELCOME. THESE ARE SOME OF THE EASIEST WAYS TO HELP BUILD THE PERMANENT EXHIBIT.**

**THEN THERE IS THE ONE AREA THAT FACES THE BOARD EVERY MONTH—THE ACT OF RAISING MONEY. A FEW HAVE BEEN MENTIONED AND SO MANY SUPPORTERS HAVE STEPPED FORWARD.**

**ONE AREA OF IMMEDIATE NEED IS THE CONTINUED PREPARATION OF THE LAND FOR DEVELOPMENT. ONE OF THOSE "THINGS" THAT IS BEING SOUGHT IS THE FUNDS TO MOVE SOME MATURE TREES TO THE SITE. I AM TOLD THAT THIS IS A FUTURE ACTIVITY, MAYBE LATER THIS YEAR. ACCORDING TO MY SOURCE A MATURE TREE CAN BE MOVED FOR A MERE \$1000 A CALIPER INCH PLUS TRANSPORTATION. NOW WOULDN'T THAT BE NICE-A 10 INCH LIVE OAK NAMED AFTER ME...HMMMM.**

**BELOW YOU WILL FIND THE PERPETUAL FUNDRAISING FORM. THERE ARE SO MANY WAYS TO HELP THE EXHIBIT BECOME A REALITY WOULD YOU CONSIDER THIS ONE OF THEM?**

**SEE YOU ALL IN SAN ANTONIO. *THE NIGHTWRITER***

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-----*PRINT AND CUT AND MAIL*-----

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I wish to help in developing and maintaining a bonsai and suiseki exhibit in Texas. Enclosed is my contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ OR I pledge a total of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ be paid\_\_\_\_\_. My initial pledge contribution of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is enclosed.  
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CUMULATIVE		NON CUMULATIVE	
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\* Lifetime: Individuals who make a one time payment of \$2500.00 become a lifetime member with all rights and privileges stated in the current by-laws of The Texas State bonsai Exhibit, Inc.

**Please make your check payable to:** The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit, Inc. **Mail to:** Joseph McCoy, Treasurer, 13450 N. Hwy 183, Suite 116 Austin, TX 78750. **OR** visit the website: [www.ftsbe.org](http://www.ftsbe.org).

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

*(The Texas State Bonsai Exhibit)*

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