

## **PHOENIX BONSAI SOCIETY NEW MEMBER**

On behalf of all the members of the Phoenix Bonsai Society, I would like to extend a warm welcome to you from our fantastic club! New club members come from all areas and thoughts of learning; whether it is a long lived dream to start Bonsai, or simply wanting to just check the club out, we have many activities every month to enhance all levels of learning. We are a busy and enthusiastic club, and want to promote your curiosity and bring forward what you most want to accomplish.

As a new member you will be happy to know we have a membership that centers around 80-100 people. We have two meetings a month and some weekend events, so we hope to accommodate everyone. Our first meeting of the month is a short business meeting and a topic of choice. The business meeting focuses on upcoming events and is important to attend to keep up on the latest information. After a short intermission, we discuss our topic of the month, hoping to highlight many areas of interest for everyone.

The second meeting of the month is an informal workshop. This is the time to bring in any trees you would like the mentors to assist you with. Don't have a tree? No worries, just watch and learn. Do not be intimidated to ask for help, we have tools, wire, and lots of wisdom! We are a fun-loving social club and can't wait to get to know you. Everyone has something to give. Sometimes we learn from you! We are a long-time club that has been around since 1962, so having new members keeps it interesting. Our biggest compliment as a club is to see the excitement and satisfaction of members owning and developing Bonsai trees that thrive and are successful in our desert climate.

Currently, we will be offering two additional weekend workshops specifically for beginners. The first will be a Fall workshop where you can secure a tree and have a mentor help with the aesthetics needed to style and wire it. The second is in the Spring, where we will focus on prepping a pot, and how to properly repot trees. Specific techniques will be taught for successful transition into bonsai soil mix, root work, and aftercare. These two workshops will have a reasonable fee and are fundamental in Bonsai Basics.

Please let me know if I can assist you with any Bonsai related questions. I am more than happy to give advice on trees, tools, or most anything else related to Bonsai. I am at the majority of most meetings. I am happy to assist you in your bonsai needs, just send me an email!

I hope you have a fantastic year and once again, welcome to the world of Bonsai!

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