



ROCKY MOUNTAIN JUNIPER – ADAM JOHNSON

RMBS

July 2022

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President's Message

by David McPeters

Recently I had the pleasure of visiting Todd Schlafer at his new residence and the new location of First Branch Bonsai in Lakewood.

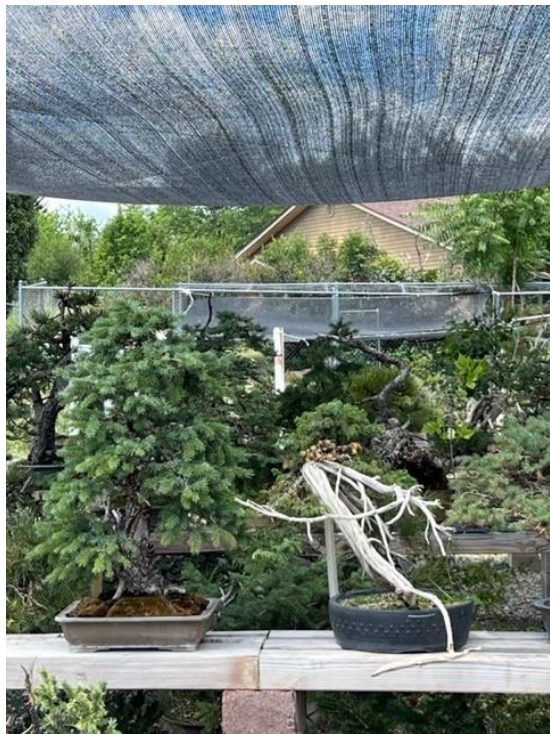
He and his wife Bridget purchased it earlier this year and moved in in April. Previously it was a horse property so there is open space for benches, a greenhouse, and lots of trees. An existing horse shed is being converted into a classroom/workshop. Needless to say, it is a work in progress. Listening to Todd's enthusiasm describing his plans is exciting. He has his work cut out for him in addition to his already full teaching and travel schedule.

The house is snuggled away on a typical Lakewood street. From the front it looks just like any other residence. It isn't until you head to the back yard that you see the space and the potential. They were definitely fortunate to find such a property. Below are some photos.

Looking toward the back.



More trees



Future classroom/workshop



You can find out more about Todd and First Branch at his [website](https://www.firstbranchbonsai.com).
<https://www.firstbranchbonsai.com>

Finally, a brief update on the planning for the 2022 annual show and the national convention in June 2023.

Annual show planning is proceeding. Connie Garrett will be providing updates as we get closer. Tree and stone registration will open August 1st. As in past years each member may show up to three trees.

Connie Garrett and Mike Britten have joined the 2023 core team with responsibility for the auctions/raffles and the vendors, respectively. The next need is for someone to take the lead on advertising which is starting this summer. If you are interested, please contact me. Someone with an advertising or marketing background will be a great commitment.

David
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Dues for 2022-2023

We will start collecting due for the coming 2022-2023 membership period that begins on July 1, 2022. You can bring a check to the meeting or pay on line, info on website under Resources for Members section.

Volunteers needed for the annual show.

We need volunteers for every position for the annual show to be successful from the setup that occurs most of the day Friday, to assisting with a nighttime event Friday evening including auction and some form of meal, then working Saturday or Sunday as a guest greeter, a security position, tour guide, assistant to photographer or the guest artists, then breakdown Sunday afternoon. Each shift will be scheduled for approx. 4 hours each.

Please be thinking about how you would like to contribute. Sign-up sheets will be available at the meeting on July 5 and you can also respond via email to RMBSquestions@gmail.com

RMBS Monthly meeting, Tuesday, July 5

Live at Denver Botanic Gardens 7PM

Our guest presenter will be Sergio Cuan

“Sergio Cuan is a visual artist who graduated with a BFA in Art and Design from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY. Sergio works professionally as a creative director for a major entertainment company in New York City. A highly multidisciplinary artist, he has worked on a diverse range of projects across the globe which include hotels and resorts, brand identity, consumer products, live events and theme parks. He also has a passion for painting and horticulture alike. Early on he realized that bonsai was the ideal synthesis of both. As a result he became fascinated with bonsai as an art form.

Sergio is a largely self taught bonsai artist. However, he has also taken workshops with prominent bonsai masters Bill Valavanis, Mauro Stemberger and Bjorn Bjorholm which he continues to take periodically to further his own bonsai education and skills. Although he works on a variety of conifers such as Engelmann spruce, Subalpine fir and Eastern white cedar, he has developed a particular interest and passion for a wide range of deciduous species which include maples, elm and beech among many others. In 2014 he built a bonsai garden in northern New Jersey in a beautiful setting surrounded by rolling hills, lakes and deciduous forests which continue to influence his work. The garden, inspired primarily by Japanese design aesthetics, features a diverse bonsai collection of species. Recently, Sergio started to conduct virtual consultations, workshops and lectures for groups as well as individuals from his own studio and garden. Sergio believes that bonsai as a true art form holds commonalities with painting, drawing and sculpture. Although the artist is bound by the physical limitations of the plant material itself, bonsai can be effective vehicles for self expression. But unlike other art forms, bonsai is alive and constantly evolving. The bonsai practice is an intimate and continued dialogue between artist and nature. This relationship gives bonsai its own unique dimension. Sergio also believes that one must allow for the tree to help guide us as we strive to evoke a clear and crystalized expression of nature in its most essential and simplest form.”

RMBS member and artist and designer, Linda Paul, hosted two workshops at her home/studio recently teaching other members how to construct concrete slabs or free form pots for bonsai or accent plants. Not only is Linda a very talented artist, she is an inspiring, creative, up and coming bonsai enthusiast and is happy to share her talents and knowledge of art forms with others in adapting to the bonsai arts. While our first creations might be a bit primitive, we all thoroughly enjoyed the experience and most likely some will pursue further development of the craft. Thank you, Linda, for your generosity and joy!



Workshops to bring your tree and work on with other RMBS members:

Saturday, July 19 at the home of Darrell Havener in Lakewood.

Saturday, August 27 at the home of Dan Kingerey

We will be sending our more info before these dates with the addresses and any needed things to bring.

The August workshop will be focused on getting your trees ready for the show!

Young Choe workshop - Kusomono

August 20 (Saturday) workshop at the Denver Botanic garden 9 AM -3 PM.

August 21 (Sunday) workshop with RMBS's Women's study group.

August 23 (Tuesday) The club presentation will run from 7:00 to 9:30 PM.

Regarding plant material and other items for the workshop and demo, I want attendees to bring their own plants even though I will purchase more plants from the Harlequin Gardens. It's better to have more plants so they can create as many kusamono as they can. They can find some ideas on my website (KusamonoChoe.com), Facebook, or Instagram

RESOURCES FOR MEMBERS

[Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society | Facebook](#) Post and view photos from RMBS members, post questions, comment

[Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society Forum](#) RMBS website forum has articles of interest

[Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society \(@rocky_mountain_bonsai_society\) • Instagram photos and videos](#) View or post photos

[Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society - YouTube](#) RMBS meetings recorded appear here, other videos of interest including RMBS show

[Rmbonsai.org](#) RMBS website – headers: News & Events, Galleries, Join, Blog, Forum, Education

Other resources

[Colorado Bonsai Ltd.](#)
[First Branch Bonsai](#)
[S&S Bonsai](#)
[RMBS Facebook Page](#)
[Mike Horine Website](#)

Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society Dues info.

Annual membership renewals were due July 1. Individual membership is \$35 per year, a family membership is \$50 per year. Since we are currently following social distancing measures, please send a check to:

Rocky Mountain Bonsai Society

c/o Membership Renewal PO Box 472361 Aurora, CO 80047-2361

This is our new mailing address.

Please be sure to include your phone # & email with your check so we've up to date contact info for you.

To pay electronically you must have your own **PayPal** account or **Venmo** account set up and linked to a credit card or bank account. It's very easy to do on their websites.

With **PayPal**, you can send money or make a payment to anyone with an email address or mobile number.

From your **computer**, Smart Phone or iPad here's how to send money:

Log onto your PayPal account.

1. Click [Send & Request](#) at the top of the page.
2. Enter rockymountainbonsaisociety@gmail.com
3. Enter the amount, choose the currency, add a note (if needed) and click **Continue**.
4. Select "Sending to a friend."
5. Select how you want to pay and click **Next**.
6. Review the information and click **Send Payment Now**.

Venmo is an APP available only for smartphones or iPads. You can set up a Venmo account through the app and pay directly from there.

The name of the account in Venmo to send to is: Rocky Mountainbonsaisociety

2021 SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS AND ACTIVITIES

Date and Location	Agenda or Program
<u>July Workshop</u> Saturday July 2, all day Denver Botanic Gardens	<u>SERGIO CUAN</u>
<u>July Monthly Meeting</u> Tuesday, July 5 Denver Botanic Gardens- Auditorium	<u>SERGIO CUAN</u> DECIDUOUS BONSAI
<u>July members workshop</u> Saturday, July 9 Darrell Havener home - Lakewood	<u>MEMBERS WORKSHOP</u> WORK ON YOUR TREES
<u>August Workshop</u> Saturday, August 20, All Day Denver Botanic Gardens	<u>YOUNG CHOE</u> CREATING KUSAMONO
<u>August Monthly Meeting</u> Tuesday, August 23, 7PM Denver Botanic Gardens	<u>YOUNG CHOE</u> CREATING KUSAMONO
<u>August Members workshop</u> Saturday, August 27 Dan Kingery home	<u>MEMBERS WORKSHOP</u> PREPARING FOR THE SHOW
<u>Annual RMBS Bonsai Exhibit</u> Friday Sept 2 – Set up and member’s event Saturday Sept 3-Sunday September 4 - exhibit open Denver Botanic Gardens	<u>ANNUAL SHOW</u>
<u>September Monthly Meeting</u> Tuesday, September 27 Live Stream	<u>RYAN NEIL</u> ROCKY MOUNTAIN PINES
<u>October Workshop</u> Saturday, October 22, All Day Denver Botanic Gardens	<u>JENNIFER PRICE</u>
<u>October Monthly Meeting</u> Tuesday, October 25, 7PM Denver Botanic Gardens	<u>JENNIFER PRICE</u>

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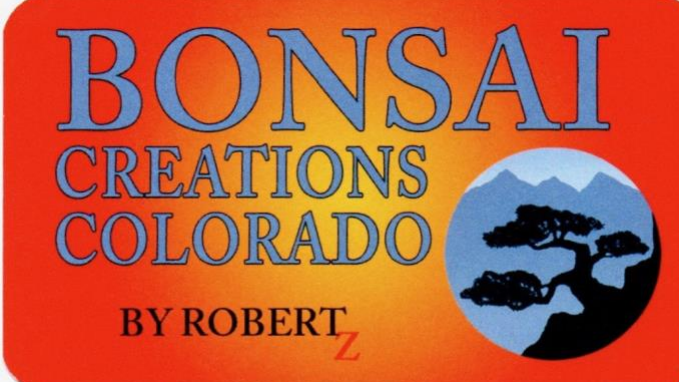
Do you need a gift for a hard-to-shop for bonsai enthusiast? We offer Individual Bonsai Instruction Sessions and we have **Gift Certificates!!** Use them for *anything* (supplies, classes, etc.) and at *any time*.



First Branch Bonsai
world class raw stock & bonsai
from the rocky mountains
www.FirstBranchBonsai.com

We're located on the west side of the Denver Metro area, near I-70 and Youngfield.

Email us at: co.bonsai.ltd@gmail.com



**BONSAI
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BY ROBERT Z

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