



the **TREE LINE**

the official monthly
publication of the

BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND

Upcoming Events

March
2016

- March 20 Sun **Mentorship 102** 10-2pm Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr.
March 22 Tue **Monthly Meeting** 7pm Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr.
March 26 Sat **Mentorship 101** 10-2pm Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr.
April 23 Saturday **Pacific Bonsai Museum** work party
April 26 Tue **Monthly Meeting** 7pm Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr.

Words From Your President

A pleasant and happy wet March to all of you. March is always a bit fickle and can't decide what to do here in the Portland area. The good news is I have a huge window in my office that looks down onto Broadway. The bad news is that it is raining and raining. Well, enough of that.

Once again we had a banner meeting last month. The 9 ring circus was highly active and it took three invitations to pull you away from the back of the room and take seats to hear announcements. To me, that is a good thing.

Scott Elser did his usual great performance and I heard from a lot of members about how much they learned. Much thanks Scott!!!

We set a new record for attendance: 124.....yowza! I think we will exceed that in March with our new special demonstration format with Ryan Neil working on five of our members trees. That equates to five styling lessons in one session....hope we have enough chairs.

Again, welcome all new members. Please feel comfortable in asking questions as you become acclimated to the BSOP. Our members are willing to assist and help you with questions.

Thanks, as always, to our magnificent volunteers. Take a moment and tell them you appreciate all their efforts. Without them, the club would fade into obscurity. THANK YOU ALL!

Last, don't forget to either attend our three mentorship meetings as a student or as an instructor. Everyone is learning and having fun while doing it. And to those of you who have been assisting at these, a huge thank you from me and the students.

Thank you for your trust, *Lee*

Buds Abound

The buds & leaves are coming fast and furious.... repotting is in full force! I find myself racing to get all the deciduous trees repotted before the buds get too far along, going out to the potting bench several times a day in between down pours. Soon it will be time to feed all the trees as they fully awaken (waiting a month after repotting). Using different fertilizers rather than the same one each time can be beneficial to your bonsai. If you have questions about fertilizers, we have resident expert Keith Wingfield manning the Q&A table at the meeting this month. He can answer your questions about what fertilizers to use. Bill Hettick will be taking orders again this year for Portland Rose Society fertilizer which has been found to be great fertilizer for Bonsai as well.

I would like to thank Scott Elser for his March repotting presentation on "Everything is Just Pines pt II". Scott will be back with us in April doing a demonstration on carving techniques.

This month Ryan Neil will be doing an evaluation and primary branch styling on 5 trees belonging to lucky members who were the winners of the raffles and auctions at the March Meeting. Hopefully everyone will take information away from this meeting that they can apply to their own trees. We will once again be using the overhead projector to allow those sitting at the back of the room to see the action going on.

Down the road in we will have Boon Manakitivipart from the bay area with us for the May meeting. We will also be offering some workshops or private visits with Boon as well...details on reservations coming soon.

In June we will once again be assisting the Portland Nursery with their annual bonsai show & demonstration. Look for details next month on the contest and recruiting help for the demonstration.

I'm always thankful for the help with meeting set up and re-setting after the meeting. This month I need to leave immediately following the meeting so your help will be extra appreciated. THANK YOU

Steve Seaming, VP Programs

Wee Tree Farm's "Dig your Own Bareroot Tree" sale! March 26th, 10a.m. to 4p.m.

We have a great selection of large-trunked, unstyled Japanese Black Pine and Trident Maple scheduled to move to a new grow location. We acquired these trees from grower/collector Randy Knight. They have been in our sawdust bed for one year developing great roots! They are being offered for \$35 per inch of trunk at the base. Shovels and bags provided.

Please call Rose at 541-971-8979 for directions.

Pacific Bonsai Museum Work Party

On **Saturday, April 23, 2016**, a small group of BSOP members will go to the Pacific Bonsai Museum in Federal Way, Washington. We spend a few hours working on the grounds, pulling weeds, trimming landscape plants and the like. In return, we get a close up look at the exhibit and a free critique by Curator Aarin Packard. Each worker may bring one tree for Aarin's styling suggestions.

We bring our own favorite gardening tools, such as loppers, pruning shears, rakes, buckets, gloves, knee pads, hat, rain gear and/or sun screen. Also bring a lunch, as there is nowhere nearby to buy one. We car pool from the north parking lot at Elmer's Restaurant by Delta Park (Exit 306b), meeting there at 7:15 AM. We're usually home by 7:30-ish in the evening, depending on if we stopped by Bonsai Northwest for quick shopping trip on the way home.

For more information, call Jan Hettick, 503-504-7760, or email at janhettick@comcast.net. Watch for a sign-up sheet at the March meeting.

Jan

FERTILIZER

Portland Rose Society 5-4-4 organic fertilizer with mycorrhizae is a specially blended organic fertilizer proven to be effective for bonsai, as well as other ornamental yard plants. The pelletized fertilizer comes in 20 pound bags, selling for \$17 per bag. Pre-order for delivery at the March 22 meeting. Contact Bill Hettick, 503-936-5629 or bhettickco@comcast.net.

Mentorship 101 Dates for 2016

Mentorship 101 met in January to repot maples. Our thanks to Joanne Raiton, Paula Bentley and Lee Cheatle. The bonsai turned out wonderfully. Our February 20th class will focus on Japanese Larch repotting. And March...do you hear the round of applause?... will feature Anne Spencer Elms with our guest artist, Robert Wofford!

Mentorship 101 will meet on the third Saturday of each month through June. Here are the dates. March 26th April 16th May 21st June 18th

Mentorship 102, 103

Mentorship 103 met on March 5. We did not have a formal lesson, rather Lee and Steve Wilcox were on hand to guide us in repotting trees. We all brought several trees to work on, along with our pots, tools, soil, and lunch.

Mentorship 102 will meet this month on March 20, and not on March 13. As usual, we will meet in the Oregon Grape room from 10-2, and we will continue to work on our trees. We have wire and soil if you need it. Also as usual, any seasoned members are encouraged to come share your expertise. All are welcome! This is an excellent learning experience.

See you there! *Elisabeth Hardy*

Bonsai Convention 2018

Creating a convention is a little like growing a bonsai. First you develop the roots – venue and headliners. Then you begin to fill out the branches – program design, workshop materials. The schedule of events is like applying wire – making all the activities move in the desired direction. Apply fertilizer (new ideas) and sunlight (convention attendees), and you have a successful bonsai ... convention, that is.

With any bonsai, the foundation which makes everything possible is the soil. It provides the nutrients and stability that make growth possible. In growing a convention, that foundation is the volunteers. In other words, **YOU**. Now is the time to begin considering how you might become involved.

There are many jobs that will not require involvement until later in the process, perhaps a year or so before the convention. Other jobs require intense involvement only during the actual days of the convention. Several committees have already begun operation, including artist selection (Scott Elser), program design (Dennis Vojtilla), hotel negotiation (Jan Hettick), and finance (Robert Wofford). One critical committee is selection of tree materials for the workshops. Lee Cheatle has agreed to chair the committee, but he needs volunteers to help research and purchase, and more important, care for the trees until convention time.

Already we are looking for volunteers for all the committees, and could use a person to be Volunteer Coordinator to identify help for the various committees. This person should be detail oriented, familiar with computer spreadsheets, and able to work closely with convention committee chairs to see what assistance is needed and when.

Another very critical position that should be filled as soon as possible is Registrar. This person is responsible for taking registrations and tracking workshop preferences. Preparations must be made in advance so registration can open a year before the convention. This person should be familiar with database options. In a very major sense, this person is the “face” of the convention, as they will be the one with whom the registrants interact.

At this point in time we can report that we are making good progress in growing our bonsai convention. The roots are coming along nicely; several hotels have been contacted to compare rates and several artists have been approached and expressed interest. We’ll give you details when they are confirmed. The Planning Committee has been working on the branches, meeting regularly to brainstorm ideas that will encourage attendance and participation, especially by local club members. These meetings are ongoing – if you would like to attend, contact Jan Hettick, janhettick@comcast.net.

Lee & Jan, Convention Co-Chairs

Membership Directory Booklets

Membership directory booklets will be going to press soon. They will be delivered at the March BSOP meeting. If you want a copy of the book, contact Jan Hettick, janhettick@comcast.net, ASAP. The cost of the booklets is \$5.00 each.



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PACIFIC BONSAI MUSEUM UNVEILS *DECKED-OUT: FROM SCROLL TO SKATEBOARD*

SEPTEMBER 25, 2015 - PORTLAND, OR - Pacific Bonsai Museum is excited to announce their 2016 exhibition, *Decked-Out: From Scroll to Skateboard*. The exhibit will run from April 30, 2016 - October 2, 2016.

Decked-Out: From Scroll to Skateboard features 16 tokonoma style displays, each with a custom skate deck painted by Seattle's most talented graffiti artists. The traditional environment for displaying a bonsai in Japan is a small interior alcove called a tokonoma. Much like the mantel above a fireplace, the tokonoma is a room's focal point where cherished art and objects are displayed. A tokonoma display consists of three elements: a bonsai, a hanging scroll, and a small accent plant or art object. The role of the scroll is to anchor the display both visually and thematically. *Decked-Out* aspires to reinterpret the traditional hanging scroll used in bonsai displays with modern skate deck art. Artists are paired with a bonsai to create a work that combines traditional motifs and modern graffiti styles, as a new interpretation of bonsai display is established. This groundbreaking exhibit combines the ancient beauty of bonsai with the emerging street art movement for the very first time.

"The concept for *Decked-Out* has taken nearly four years to become a reality," explains Pacific Bonsai Museum Curator Aarin Packard. "I am extremely excited to see my vision realized, as my love for bonsai and skateboarding are brought together for the very first time. I am hopeful that this exhibit will further establish the artistic merit of both bonsai and

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bonsai
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graffiti art within the 21st century."

"Pacific Bonsai Museum's 2016 *Decked-Out* exhibition interprets the ancient art of bonsai through the lens of modern skate culture," says Pacific Bonsai Museum Executive Director Kathy McCabe. "We are honored to partner with northwest street artists to bring a once-in-a-lifetime experience to long-time and newfound fans. Don't miss it!"

Pacific Bonsai Museum unveiled a preview of *Decked-Out* in Portland, Oregon at The Artisans Cup, a groundbreaking bonsai competition and exhibition. The competition features 70 trees from across North America judged by a panel of renowned bonsai experts with prizes awarded to the top submissions. Pacific Bonsai Museum has five trees in the competition.

Interviews available by request.



Preview of *Decked-Out* at the Artisans in Portland, OR



Tree swallows fire hydrant on NW Upshur. *courtesy of Scott Elser*






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The Bonsai Society of Portland meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month.

The Milwaukie Center
5440 SE Kellogg Creek Drive, Milwaukie OR 97222

Enter parking lot from Rusk Road

Visitors are always welcome!

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