



the **TREE LINE**

the official monthly
publication of the

BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND

Upcoming Events

November
2015

November 24 7pm **BSOP Monthly Meeting**, Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr.

December 13 **Holiday Party**, Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr.

There will be no Mentorship meetings in December

Words From Your President

Last month's message was filled with a lot about our upcoming, now past, Fall Show. We announced at the general meeting that the event was a resounding success. The BSOP netted over \$6,000.00, all straight to the bottom line and into the treasury. This took a lot of volunteers. I encourage you to read the Fall Show article in this newsletter for more information.

I also mentioned in my last message that there would be an article about the revised verbiage regarding the Heritage Program, but I failed to get it in. Please look in this newsletter for it.

I want to thank Scott Elser for his excellent program on pines. I look forward to having him return regularly and share his talents and knowledge with us.

Now on to November's general meeting: We will have Ryan Neil doing a demonstration with us. As mentioned last month, I feel it would be a very nice tribute to Ryan and Chelsea if once again we wore our gray TAC volunteer T-shirts as an honorarium. Please see the message request in this month's newsletter.

I have been approached a lot lately about how well our club is progressing and all of the things we are doing and the energy it is creating. What we are witnessing, though, is not due to any single individual nor is it just the hard driving energetic new board you elected; we are only the current spearhead of a very stout shaft of hard working dedicated members who give so much of their time to something they really care about. But I tell you that, so I can say this: what we are witnessing is a gathering of all those who have served before us. Those who have continually and consistently stepped up to fill all the needs our society produces. We are who we are because of those that have served before us for the past 50 years, that's right, 50 years of dedicated members who we have the privilege to stand upon their shoulders. I believe they are very proud of what their initial efforts have created. Without those who came before us we would not be able to rise to the levels that we have.

I can't thank you enough for your trust, *Lee*

Winter is on the Way

As November brings us deep into fall it's time to think about putting the trees to bed for the winter months. Fortunately the cold has not come yet, giving me more time to get prepared, but I'm sure it is just around the corner. That lack of rain we had this summer has certainly been made up for this fall so in a short time I've gone from trying to get enough water on the trees to making sure they don't get too much.

Thanks to all of the members who have been placing the orders for akadama & kanuma. The response has been huge! I just hope I can get it all in my truck when I pick it up. If you haven't ordered yet, the deadline is November 15th . Email me at stevenleaming@gmail.com

For our program on November 24th, we are fortunate to feature world renowned, Ryan Neil, styling a Ponderosa Pine. For those who don't know Ryan, he spent six years apprenticing for Mr. Masahiko Kimura in Japan. After completing his apprenticeship, he settled in Oregon with his wife Chelsea. They began the lifelong pursuit of building Mirai, a bonsai wonderland located outside St. Helens where Ryan teaches and creates some of the world's most exquisite bonsai. Ryan and Chelsea produced The Artisan Cup which we all had the privilege of enjoying in September. To see some of his amazing work, visit his website at <http://www.bonsaimirai.com> or view one of his many videos on You Tube.

You won't want to miss this meeting!

Steve Leaming, VP Programs

Seven Bonsai Trees Stolen Out of Yard

Hello my name is Nickolas. I live near the Hollywood Fred Meyers. Keep your eye out if you are near by. On October 20/21 I had seven trees stolen out of my yard. Two **spruce** trees, a small birds-nest about 1ft tall in a dark clay pot, and large blue about 2ft trunk and about 5" in a large Mica pot), two **maples** (trident 1ft tall trunk 6" in a wood box, and tall red 3 ft trunk 3" in a large mica pot), one **boxwood** 1ft trunk 6" in a plastic pot. One **birch** 2ft trunk 5" in wooden box, and one grafted **nectarine** onto a dwarf variety in a nursery pot. If anyone sees anything, please let me know at defknik00@gmail.com Also if you know him/her please ask the person to bring them back no questions asked. Thank you for taking the time to help!

Nicolas DeFrieze

Help Wanted

We are looking for appx 5 to 6 volunteers to be table hosts at our holiday event at the Milwaukie Center on December 13.

We are inviting some of the Milwaukie Center staff and some seniors who use the center to our Holiday gala.

As a volunteer, your role would be to act as host to the seniors, making sure they feel welcome, help them get their food, and invite them to sit with you at your table.

If interested, please contact Pat Foldi. 503-635-7137

Thanks, *Lee*

It's The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

The BSOP Holiday Party is an exciting annual event celebrating a successful year of bonsai and friendships on December 13th 4:30 -8:00pm at the Milwaukie Center. The Holiday party is open to all BSOP members and their guests at \$15 per person until Dec 6th or \$20 after December 6th and at the door. RSVP by Dec 6th even if you are paying at the door.

Tickets can be purchased on the BSOP website <http://www.portlandbonsai.org/> and will also be available at the BSOP meeting on November 24th. All attendees will receive one free raffle ticket. Bring a small decorated tree as a centerpiece for your table and receive two additional raffle tickets.

- * 2:30 – 4:00 - Setup
- * 4:00 – 5:30 – Auction Registration
- * 4:30 – 5:30 – Social Hour & appetizers
- * 5:30 – 6:30 – Dinner
- * 6:30 – 8:00 – Auction & Raffle
- * 8:00 – 9:30 – Clean Up

DINNER

The event is a combination catered/potluck dinner with BSOP providing the following:

- * Roasted Turkey and Baked Ham is provided by and carved on-site by Huber's, a Portland institution since 1879. This was very popular last year!
- * Stuffing and Gravy prepared by BSOP President and chef Lee Cheatele.
- * Vegetarian Nut-Stuffed Delicata Squash with Mushroom Gravy prepared by BSOP members Dennis & Charlene Vojtilla. *Please let us now if you wish to have a vegetarian or vegan entrée. If no vegetarians sign up, the entrée will be made with dairy products.*
- * Mashed Potatoes
- * Coffee, tea and non-alcoholic cold drinks

BSOP members will provide delicious and creative potluck items. Our potluck items are assigned by the first letter of your last name as follows:

- * A-H Dessert
- * I-R Appetizer
- * S-Z Salad or Side Dish

If you have another specialty dish you would like to share, you are welcome to bring that too. Please bring your dish ready to serve (a microwave is available if it needs a quick heating) along with the appropriate serving utensil. Alcohol may be consumed but is not provided – so please bring your own.

This year we have asked seniors and staff of the Milwaukie Center to join us for dinner as a way of saying thank you for the service and cooperation they provide. We ask that members of BSOP consider hosting a senior which simply includes allowing them to sit with you at dinner and making them feel welcome. If you are interested in helping with that please contact our volunteer coordinator, Pat Foldi at 503-635-7137.

Auction & Raffle

The holiday party also features a silent and oral auction. The Holiday Oral Auction is a great way for new members to obtain good quality trees with some degree of styling and for more experienced members to move on to better quality stock. If you would like to sell on consignment, BSOP only charges a 10% fee and you receive 90% (This is an excellent way to thin your collection while earning some extra holiday cash). You can set the minimum bid on your tree and it will not sell for less than that minimum unless you okay it during the bid.

You can also donate your items outright to the club for the silent auction (like we do at the monthly meetings). If you choose this option, we can provide you with a tax receipt so you can write-off your donation.

The raffle donations may be anything bonsai-related, including but not limited to raw tree material, tools, training pots, etc. If you are bringing items for the oral or silent auction or raffle, please bring them between 4:00pm and 5:30pm so we can get them registered.

Help Wanted

As with any event we need your help to make this successful.

We need BSOP members to help with the following:

Set up

Raffle ticket sellers

Auction runners, bid spotter

Clean up Please mail Steve stevenleaming@gmail.com if you can help.

Thank You in advance for attending and Happy Holidays.

Charlene Vojtilla & Steve Leaming co-chairs



Ponderosa Pine No. 2

Pinus ponderosa

Height 28" Width 34"

Bonsai Mirai



Mentorship 101

Mentorship 101 met in October and November learning wiring skills on Junipers and Black Pines. The enthusiastic sixteen BSOP members are quickly developing their horticulture knowledge base and bonsai skills. Thanks to Lee Cheatle, Jan Hettick, Paula Bentley and Joanne Raiton for helping to create such a fun learning environment along the way.

Mentorship 102, 103

Mentorship 103 (previously known as Oregon Shohin Kai) met Saturday, November 7 in the Oregon Grape room at the Milwaukie Center. The well-attended group focused on wiring. Lee Cheatle gave a presentation on wiring techniques; then he and Steve Wilcox helped everyone with their trees. Many thanks to Lee and Steve!

Mentorship 102 (previously known as Mentorship) met on Sunday, November 15 from 10:00 to 2:00. The focus was on creating Jin and Shari. The group were encouraged to bring trees to add or improve the Jin and/or Shari. As always, they could bring any tree they wanted help with. They were not limited to bringing trees that pertain directly to the lesson of the day. Members were encouraged to bring several trees to work on, and a sack lunch. There will be no mentorship meetings in December!

Elisabeth Hardy

\$6,372.43

This number says a lot but it does not say it all!

but

It does say that financially, the Fall Show was a resounding success!!!!!!

The number is what we netted for the 2015 Fall show. What it does not say is

THANK YOU!!!

Thank you to our two chair people, Jan Hettick and Steve Leaming for organizing and pulling off such an outstanding event.

Thank you to John Thomas for running such an efficient cashier station.

Thank you to Eileen Knox and Wayne King for the Children's Kusamono fun.

Thank you to Debbie Nisely for coming through on the show hospitality, to Pat Foldi for recruiting so many great volunteers and Shannon Wells for organizing the Raffle and, and, and... there are too many wonderful people to mention but you know who you are.

Thank you to all the generous members who donated trees and materials for the club to sell; again too many to mention.

Thank you to all the vendors who created such an important aspect to the show's success.

See

One More Time Please

Let's let the wall of gray once again make a statement at our meeting on November 24th.

We will have Ryan Neil doing a demonstration with us at this meeting. As mentioned last month, I feel it would be a very nice tribute to Ryan and Chelsea, if once again, we wore our gray TAC volunteer T-shirts as an honorarium to what they do for bonsai, American bonsai and for our fantastic NW bonsai culture.

Please join me in honoring them by once again presenting the wall of gray.

See

BSOP Heritage Program GUIDELINES, ORGANIZATION AND POLICIES

Revised for All Members

The Goal:

The Heritage Program is formed under the auspices of the Bonsai Society of Portland to provide care for members' bonsai collection in the event of an emergency, sickness, age deterioration, or death. On occasion this service is also provided for non-members for a fee.

How it will work:

1. A member in need (or their designated representative) contacts the committee.
2. Heritage Program contact information will be listed in each newsletter.
3. The member (or rep) will be visited by the Heritage Program and a plan will be composed. The member will always be in complete control.
4. Once agreement is reached, the Heritage Program will carry out the plan.

Requirements for Participation:

1. Must be a member of BSOP in good standing.
2. If not a member, must be willing to donate items to BSOP or pay a reasonable and agreed upon fee, typically a percentage of sales.

BSOP Obligation:

The BSOP agrees to provide, through the Heritage Program, the services as outlined in this document. The Heritage Program assumes the responsibility for the care of the member's trees, but neither the BSOP nor the Heritage Program assumes any liability in the performance of these services.

Member Obligation:

The member agrees to assist the Heritage Program in caring for the trees of members in need to the best of their ability.

The Plan: Three general alternatives:

1. Short term temporary care: The Heritage Program will arrange for care at the member's home.
 2. Tree care at owner's home by the Heritage Program; disposition by owner or family:
 - A. The Heritage Program will arrange for care at the member's home.
 - B. All donations or sales will be the responsibility of the owner.
 - C. The Heritage Program will assist owner in any way possible, as needed, including announcement in BSOP Newsletter, if requested.
 3. Relocation, care, and sale of trees by the Heritage Program.
 - A. The Heritage Program will identify the trees and other materials and record the collection.
 - B. The Heritage Program will be responsible for getting the trees picked up and cared for until sold.
 - C. The Heritage Program will organize an auction at a regular BSOP meeting or BSOP function.
 - D. A sales report will be provided to the owner and proceeds distributed to owner or if material is donated, to organization receiving donation.

Cost to Member:

1. BSOP Members in good standing - no charge, other than direct expenses incurred by BSOP, e.g. Visa/MC expenses, etc.
2. For non - BSOP members, trees and materials may be donated to BSOP or a fee will be negotiated, typically a percentage of sales.

Organization:

1. Chairperson
 - A. Overall responsibility

- B. Act as contact person
 - C. When contacted, meet with person in need
 - D. Reach agreement as to what is to be done
 - E. Refer to Emergency Care Committee and/ or Records Committee
 - F. Assist Records person in setting up inventory
 - G. Arrange pickup and care
 - H. Refer to Auction Committee
2. Emergency Care Committee
 - A. Responsible for appointing volunteers to give emergency care at the member's home.
 - B. Comprised of members appointed by Chairperson
 3. Records Committee
 - A. Responsible for naming trees and recording the collection.
 - B. Responsible for recording and reporting disposition of each item in collection.
 - C. Comprised of members appointed by Chairperson
 4. Auction committee
 - A. Responsible for organizing an auction at a regular BSOP meeting.
 - B. Comprised of members appointed by Chairperson
 5. Caregivers
 - A. When assigned, Heritage Program caregivers assume responsibility, but not liability, for the trees. (They will be given a list of the trees, and will be responsible for an accounting of all of the trees.)
- Policies:
1. Urgency is a key issue. Contacts must be followed up as soon as possible, and plans carried out with diligence.
 2. Collections are to be disposed of as rapidly as possible.
 3. The usual method of disposal would be to have an auction at the earliest possible BSOP function.
 4. The owner, member or representative does not lose control and will be able to make changes in the plan up to the time of disposition. Any changes are to be reported to the Heritage Records chairperson.
 5. Any gifts of recorded materials made by the owner are to be reported to the Heritage Program Records chairperson for accounting purposes.
 6. It is the goal of the Heritage Program to keep the trees alive and healthy, not to groom or style them.
 7. Accurate records will be kept of all trees and items, with each identified and cataloged at first contact.

Scott's BRANCH TIPS

BONSAI TECHNIQUE & PHILOSOPHY

Pine Redux

Each month when I sit down to write this column, I have the same goal. To empower each and everyone of us to create beautiful trees. Sometimes that entails talking about bonsai philosophically, and at other times we cover specific techniques. My intent to make all of the principles apply as broadly as possible, so we can learn to cook. Cooking? What does that have to do

with it? Have you ever seen some of the cooking shows like Chopped? Contestants are presented with a basket of obscure and oddly paired ingredients that they must take and make into an award-winning dish. There are no recipes, and they can add ingredients. The main requirement is that they transform the ingredients into something different. This means relating the ingredients to each other and thinking about how they might compliment the dish. In my parlance, this is cooking, and not merely following a recipe. Relying on recipes is what I have done most of my bonsai life, and I had some quite tasty ones. But now I am to the point where I need to think on my own. Case in point. I have been growing Douglas Firs for about ten years now. The Artisan's Cup presented the first Doug Fir I have seen on display. No one has been doing them, yet I have to figure it out. I have had to observe, experiment, regroup, and forge ahead. That is how you create art and that is how we learn to cook. We take what we already know and synthesize it with something new. So that is what I was up to last month with the year-long Growth Chart and Attributes Chart for the pines. Here is what we know, now can we apply this knowledge to other species, or refine what we know? So for this month's column, I thought I would recap, review, and extend a few of the concepts that I shared in, 'Everything's Going To Be Just Pine,' at last month's meeting.

We started with a broad approach to pines. We talked about the energy level of different species throughout the year and how that can guide us in the techniques we use and the timing to apply them. Higher energy pines, like Japanese Black, and to a slightly lesser degree Red Pines are described as Double Flush, or Coastal species. Both are two needle pines. These trees produce an excess of energy which leads to long needles and leggy extension of shoots. To manage this energy to our advantage, we decandle the trees in mid-year, forcing it to regrow, or reboot as it were, to produce shorter needles and internodes. This process shifts the fall work calendar for these species. We have to wait longer for the new needles to harden off so that we can work on them – usually October.

By contrast, lower energy pines are often described as Single Flush, Alpine, or Mountain species and would include all of the five-needled or white pines, Mugo and Lodgepole pines, Ponderosas, and just about anything other than the Japanese Black and Red Pines. We use all of the energy that these trees produce during the year. We manage water and fertilizer to keep growth in check, and pinch candles rather than wholesale cutting. That means that we can start working on them as early as August.

All of the pines species have distinct attributes and we should be prepared to take advantage of what each has to offer, and learn to deal with any disadvantages they possess. For instance, we know that black pines grow really fast, which is great when we want to grow a trunk, and not so good when we want to keep it exactly as is. We can take the sure knowledge we have for one species and apply that technique and knowledge to species with similar properties.

Maybe we can apply what we know about Japanese White Pine to similar species here like Limber Pine. Or maybe we can treat Mugo, Lodgepole, and Scots Pines similarly, even though they are from different continents. I have yet to find the person with extensive experience with all of these different species. So with that in mind, I put together a chart to help relate these different attributes in different species to one another. This is based mostly on my own experiences and what I have gathered from others. I have a good amount of experience with Japanese Black, Red, and White Pines, along with our own native Lodgepole and Ponderosas, but not a lot beyond that.

Pine Species	Strength	Moisture Level	Cold Hardiness	Habitat	Flexibility	Needle Length	Feeling	Deadwood
Japanese Black Pine	Very Strong	High	Medium	Coastal	Medium	Long	Masculine	No
Japanese Red Pine	Strong	Medium	Medium	Mountain	Low	Medium	Feminine	No
Japanese White Pine	Weak	Low	Medium	Mountain	High	Short	Feminine	Yes
Zuisho White Pine	Medium	Medium	Medium		Medium	Short		
Ponderosa Pine	Medium	Low	High	Mountain	Highest	Long	Masculine	Yes
Lodgepole Pine	Medium	Medium	High	Mountain	High	Short		Yes
Shore Pine	Medium	Medium	Medium	Coastal	Medium	Short		No
Limber Pine	Weak	Low	High	Mountain	Low	Medium	Feminine	Yes
Mugo Pine	Medium	Medium	High	Mountain	High	Short		
Scots Pine	Strong	Medium		Coastal	Medium	Short		

Take a look at the attached chart and see if you can use it for your own work. If I have left a space empty, I really don't have much info for you. Better to say I don't know than to give you incorrect information. Of course, this assumes a healthy and vibrant specimen. Unhealthy trees are very unpredictable, except that they will not follow the rules! There are certainly more columns that could be added, like bark texture, heat resistance, etc... But at least this will point you in the right direction.

And now, few points to remember as we firmly land in fall and gear up for the winter months. This is a great time to work on pines. Actually, we are a little past. So if you do some extreme bending, or thinning of the trees, be sure to give them some winter protection. If you are not sure, leave more foliage, as this will leave more solar collectors operating all winter and help to buffer the challenges of winter.

Other than that, clean out old, withering needles, but be sure to leave some of last year's needles on each branch. They will continue to produce hormones that help the tree know what to do. Whenever you wire a branch, make sure that both the needles and the buds point up. That will keep them healthy.

The work that you do now on any tree to wire and organize the branches will set the tree up for a successful growing season next year. Without this work, the tree can never really progress as a bonsai. It will not automatically begin to ramify and back bud on it's own. We have to help. And that is what bonsai is all about, helping a tree be all it can be.

Scott

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Welcome to the Village



6707 SW Pine Street, Portland, OR 97223

The Bonsai Society of Portland meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month except in summer, when other group outings are arranged.

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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