



the **TREE LINE**

the official monthly publication of the **BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND**

November 2014

Upcoming Events

November 16 10am-1:30 **Mentorship** Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr

November 25, 7pm **BSOP Monthly Meeting** Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr

December 7 Sunday at 5pm **Holiday Party** Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr

January 3 10am-2 **Oregon Shohin Kai** Milwaukie Center, 5440 SE Kellogg Creek Dr

Membership Renewals Update

After much discussion about improving the member renewal process, the board has decided to continue renewing all memberships at the end of the calendar year. Our original goal was to simplify and speed up the process. While the renewal date has not changed, we have modified the website to accept renewals.

Online Renewal Now Available. Use these links to renew online: [Individual Memberships](#) or [Family Memberships](#). Complete the form to assure that our data base information is up to date. Upon completion of the form, you will receive a confirmation and an additional link to initiate a secure payment process using a credit card.

Printed Newsletters and Roster. If you wish to receive printed versions of our Newsletters and/or Roster you can also pay for this along with your member renewal. We are adding a small fee to cover the printing/ mailing costs for these items.

Holiday Party. I look forward to seeing everyone at the Holiday Party. If you're new to our club, come prepared for our best auction of the year. This is a great way to increase the number and quality of your collection while getting to know some of our members.

Chas Martin, President

Oregon Shohin Kai

Note - There will be no OSK meeting in December, but we can look forward to **Mugos in Miniature** by Lee Cheatle on January 3, 2015.

Jan

Exits and Entries: So Long, Dave.

Long-time BSOP member, vendor, and teacher Dave Burnett passed away earlier this month from lung cancer. The news hit Leah and me pretty hard; we've had the privilege to be friends with him and Donna, and hoped to build on that friendship as we welcome our own little one into the world this month. We did not know he had cancer.

When I first arrived in Portland and began to do bonsai, I made the short drive to Daybreak Gardens, where Dave was generous with his time and information about the art. I remember picking up some pots and tools from him, I remember his kindness and enthusiasm.

I'm sure there are many in the club who knew Dave better than I. But I am honored to have spent personal time with him and Donna and to have helped out a little at Daybreak along with Leah. If I were to sum up what I admired about Dave, I would use the following words: devotion, passion, kindness, vision, generosity, integrity, love, faith. I encountered all of these qualities in this sweet man.

Donna, our hearts are with you as you grieve your companion of so many years.

By the time this newsletter hits cyberspace, my daughter may already be born. And as my term as VP of Programs comes to an end, and with a little child to give my devotion and love to, my participation with the club may be limited for awhile, at least for the next few months.

I don't have too much to say about bonsai this month other than to keep up on winter protection and to tell you about our November guest, Larry Jackel. Larry is curator of the Denver Botanic Gardens and will be doing a presentation on the Natural Form of Bonsai. Author of "Ponderosa Pines and Bonsai," he is an experienced yamadori collector and horticultural expert. If you are a person who values the link between bonsai design and natural tree design, you will enjoy this program!

Whenever a loved one departs this life, it is a reminder to cherish the people around us, and to cherish life itself. If you were fortunate enough to know Dave Burnett, allow the kindness you experienced in him to flow through you into your own relationships. In that way, his memory and legacy will be most felt.

I miss you already, Dave.

Al Polito, Vice-President of Programs

Holiday Party & Auction

The BSOP Holiday Party is an exciting annual event celebrating another successful year of growing our bonsai and our friendships through programs, study groups, guest artists, and many other activities. Open to all BSOP members and their guests, the event consists of a dinner, auction and raffle.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2014

5:00 TO 9:00 PM

MILWAUKIE CENTER

The evening begins with a social hour and potluck dinner followed by our annual auction and a raffle. Admission is \$10 in advance or \$15 at the door. **Please note that if you buy a ticket at the door, you still need to bring a potluck item** (see details below).

Purchase tickets at the November 25th meeting, or contact Robert Wofford at wofford9694@comcast.net no later than December 1st. Please let us know how many will be in your party so we know how much food to order for the entrées.

CLUB PROVIDES:

- Entrée (ham, turkey, vegan)
- Dinner rolls & butter
- Non-alcoholic drinks, coffee, tea

MEMBERS PROVIDE:

Potluck item according to first letter of your last name (6-8 servings)

A-H Appetizer/Hors d'oeuvre

I-R Side Dish/Salad

S-Z Dessert

Optional Member Items:

- Holiday plate/silverware/tablecloth or place mat (BSOP provides these items as well, but if you have a festive selection you want to bring, feel free to do so)
- Bring your own wine or other alcoholic beverage
- Decorated bonsai tree (centerpieces for tables)—each person who brings a decorated tree will receive a free raffle ticket

COST:

\$10 per person purchased in advance

\$15 per person purchased at the door (potluck item still necessary)

The Holiday 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. Members may bring trees, pots, books, tools, etc. for sale to other club members. Please **bring no more than five items** per membership (individual or family).

Upon arrival you will be asked to fill out an auction tag for each item with some description, such as species, age, time in training, or anything else of interest. There will be both silent and oral auctions; you may choose which or someone will advise you.

Payment for purchases is to be made the evening of the auction. We will accept cash, check or VISA. BSOP will retain 10% of the sale price to help cover costs of the evening, and the remaining 90% will be mailed to sellers within a few days. Donations will also be accepted for the auction as space allows. It can get confusing when everyone is checking in, so please come around 4:00 with your auction items.

The evening will also include a raffle for which tickets will be sold. Donations are requested for this phase of the evening's entertainment. The raffle donations may be anything bonsai-related, including but not limited to raw tree material, older tools, training pots, etc. Remember, if you bring a decorated tree to the dinner, you will receive a free raffle ticket.

More Trees Coming

Thus far the club has generated a substantial income from the trees that Steve Longenecker was so generous to donate to the club. The members have also received quite the bargain as well.

Well, more bargains are coming your way: We will have appx. 30 more of these trees at our next BSOP meeting on November 25. There are going to be some smaller ones as well.

Most will be available via a silent auction and a few maybe as an oral auction.

Hope to see you there.

Lee

Recycle Wire

Please bring your used copper wire to the monthly meetings. Roger Case will have a five gallon bucket available to collect used copper wire to turn in for cash for the club. Take advantage of the fact that he has volunteered to do this for the club to generate income for BSOP.

How to Renew Library Materials

If you have library materials checked out and will not be at the meeting when they are due to be returned, you can renew them. Simply call or e mail Jan Hettick at 503-504-7760 or jan-hettick@comcast.net BEFORE THE DUE DATE and tell her you want to renew your items. That's all it takes. Just say "renew" and you are good to go!

Upcoming Mentorship Meetings

The mentorship will be meeting at the Milwaukie Center for the next several months. Set up starts at 9:30am. Meeting goes from 10am to 1pm. Cleanup is from 1pm to 1:30pm.

November: Sunday the 16th we will be demonstrating saikei and raffling off the results. I would encourage you to bring in a saikei of your own or a forest planting. We will help you with your creations as time allows.

December: Sunday the 14th will be working on any tree(s) you bring in. There will be a short demonstration on first time wiring of a shimpaku cutting.

Lee



Princess Persimmon. My first fruit, ever, and there are about half a dozen. The plant is small and I purchased it about ten years ago as a seedling in Santa Rosa. The brilliant fruit is about an inch long and is the first time I have seen blossoms - at least now I know for sure that it's a girl. Persimmons are dioecious (single sex per tree) and since I only have the one tree, the only question becomes, who is the father?

Scott E

Scott's BRANCH TIPS

BONSAI TECHNIQUE & PHILOSOPHY

Thanksgiving

I started going through my bookshelves a few weeks ago to make a purge of the things that I no longer needed or valued. This move was of course necessitated by the fact that the accumulated volume of my bonsai, graphics design, and other miscellaneous books far exceeded the current allotted space of two floor-to-ceiling repositories in my office. While gleaning the shelves I even found two of the same volume.

One book in particular that caught my eye was the 1967 first edition of *The Master's Book of Bonsai* compiled by the Directors of the Japan Bonsai Association. This was one of the very first English language books available for information on bonsai. It contained a How-To section and photos of what were then considered masterpieces of bonsai. When I flipped the book open, inside the front cover I found a photo taped to the fly leaf. The handwritten note labeled it as 1973.



John and Alice Naka, June and Timothy Boyle - 1973

The four individuals pictured were John Naka and his wife Alice, alongside Timothy Boyle and his wife June. So that was over forty years ago. Tim was an early member of the BSOP. Although he was not a founding member as such, he came along shortly after and served two terms as our president. Even though he started his bonsai hobby in his fifties, he managed to squeeze out almost forty years of loving trees in pots. Along the way he was instrumental in guiding the BSOP in its artistic and horticultural endeavors. He had a MAJOR impact on where our club is today. His heavy involvement with the Japanese Gardens and bonsai exhibits with Hiroshi Ueno are largely responsible for our partnership with the Gardens and our fabulous Spring Exhibit. He also designed and constructed the Tokonoma that we use in those exhibits.

This photo attests to the early support that Portland gave John Naka as he ventured out of his southern California home to give lectures and demos. You'll notice the palm trees in the photo shows that Tim and June had traveled down for a visit. At one of Naka's trips up here to Portland, my grandfather, Mark Emmert, purchased a copy of Naka's Bonsai Techniques I. It was that copy that I studied intently whenever I visited Grandpa. That book and Grandpa's backyard is where my interest in bonsai sprouted. The time was somewhere back in the early eighties, but I didn't start growing trees until ten years later.

As I studied the photo last week, I began to realize that next year the BSOP enters its fiftieth year of existence. I think about how people did things when I joined the club, and what the trees looked like. And I think about where we are now. How fortunate we are now to have so many resources, from trees and raw materials to expertise and knowledge. Think about life without Akadama, bonsai wire – copper or aluminum, or even a decent pot. No Ryan Neil, Mike Hagedorn or Joe Harris. No magazines and very few books. Unlike some other west coast cities, we had very little direct Japanese influence on the club – people who were taught bonsai at home or brought it with them overseas.

Folks like Tim, Hiroshi, Maggie Drake, Tom Keefe, and Ron Yasenchak were true pioneers for us, and a few of these folks are still around. I have several of my grandfather's trees and I know that many of you have some of Tim Boyle's trees. No doubt some of you have trees that were crafted in one of the many workshops with John Naka, the father of American Bonsai. I appreciate what these folks did for our club and for American bonsai and the path that they left before us. A living legacy in trees, and a tradition of excellence at whatever level we may be able to attain. Our job is to continue that legacy and evolve our art to its next level. Happy Bonsai!

Scott E



The Golden State Bonsai Federation's exhibit Black Pine from Bonsai Tonight by Jonas Dupuich

Bonsai Supplies from Wee Tree Farm

We have a large selection of pottery, trees of all sizes and price range, tools, soils and miscellany. Our retail store is located inside **Garland Nursery** which is a destination in itself with 5 acres of plants and displays to delight and inspire. Come see us, we promise it is worth the drive!

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Dave & Donna Burnett

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Welcome to the Village



BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND

P. O. Box 21271
Keizer, OR 97307

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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