



# the **TREE LINE**

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

October 2013

## Upcoming Events

Oct 22 7-9pm **BSOP Monthly Meeting** St. Philip Neri 2408 SE 16th Ave

Nov 2 10am - 2pm **OSK** Max's Fanno Creek Brew Pub, Tigard

Dec 7 **BSOP Holiday Party & Auction**

Oct 18 - 21, 2014 Intl Bonsai Art & Culture Biennale, Yokyakarta, Indonesia

## Working Organization

It's been a busy couple of months for the BSOP board. The pending move to a new space has consumed countless hours, spawned many phone calls and launched hundreds of mails – sometimes 20 in a single day. And that's just the communications between board members.

There is still much more to do. Jan Hettick has agreed to coordinate the transition into our new location: St. Mark's Lutheran Church, 5415 SE Powell Blvd, Portland. We do not have a move in date, but things are progressing. Getting the library moved and shelved will one of the important tasks. Jan will need some help. [Please volunteer.](#)

Another important tasks include filling several key positions. Last month I noted that **Mentorship**, **Heritage** and **Outreach** are in need of leaders. We have a few volunteers willing to participate, but to date, these three key critical functions are still without leadership. I could use some help in filling these positions. [Please volunteer.](#)

We have an outstanding series of programs for our monthly meetings. Attendance indicates that Al Polito's hard work is sincerely appreciated. Our mission, however, is not to entertain, but to expand the appreciation and understanding of the art of bonsai. The future of our organization depends on successfully reaching out to the community, mentoring new members and helping existing members manage their collections when they cannot. It's time for new volunteers to help keep our organization working.

Thanks, *Chas Martin*

## 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 Barbara Devitt ([bbd.jcgroup@yahoo.com](mailto:bbd.jcgroup@yahoo.com) or 503-764-8242) 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!

## Oversize oak leaves and other fall changes of note

The coming of fall brings the typical changes--flaming maple leaves and crisp, cool air, yada yada--and some other changes worth note. I like scarves, warm hearths, enterprising squirrels, and picking the neighbor's six-inch oak leaves out of my bonsais as much as the next guy--but perhaps the most exciting changes in the air aren't those specifically brought on by weather.

The "summer project" of finding a new home for BSOP is thankfully over, and we'll be setting up shop at St. Mark's soon. It will take some getting used to, but the club is ready for this change. I'm looking forward to the change of scenery (although as of this writing the move-in date hasn't been finalized), but even more than that I am looking forward to the fall program that's in store for all of us.

### **October: Ryan, Scott, and Douglas**

That would be Ryan Neil, Scott Elser, and Douglas-Fir. Ryan and Scott first took their hands to some Douglas-firs last spring as part of their four-part demo spanning two years with the same two trees. As a reminder, the first spring demo was an initial styling of these two *Pseudotsugas* (Ryan's is a Bigcone Douglas-fir [*Pseudotsuga macrocarpa*] and Scott's is the Pacific NW version, *P. menziesii*). The fall demo will give us a chance to see what these two trees did over the summer under the care of accomplished bonsai artists, and the kind of work required for such conifers in autumn.

### **November: Ted Matson**

Ted was my first bonsai teacher back in the 1990s when I lived in Southern California. Back then, like me, he was a professional writer who did lots of bonsai. Now I too am a professional writer doing bonsai, and Ted's a sought-after bonsai professional who travels nationally. He headlined at the PNBCA convention last year and did great work on a western hemlock. He was a popular demonstrator and it will be wonderful to have him teach us.

### **December: Holiday party and auction**

Plans are underway; not much can be said yet, but save Sat, December 7, on your calendar.

### **September wrap-up**

Thanks to all of you who came out to our September meeting and follow-up workshop, featuring Bob Shimon of Mendocino Coast Bonsai. Many of us, if we didn't already have a redwood collected by Bob's son, Zack, now have one. I learned what it will take to make my redwoods look as awesome as Bob's. For those who weren't there, it essentially boils down to feeding, pruning back to the lateral sprout, pinching new growth, and feeding. Did I mention feeding?

And special thanks to all the awesome BSOP members who helped me set up and break down the meeting. I appreciate you so much!

*Al*

## 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.

## Oregon Shohin Kai

The next meeting of the Oregon Shohin Kai will be November 2, 2013. Lee Cheatle will be doing a program on larches. He says “My feeling on larch is that if you do not have one in your collection then you are missing out on great season changes. One of the few conifers that pretends to be deciduous. Limbs more limber than a Limber Pine. One of our locals that you can collect as well. Go American Bonsai!”

So bring your larches, Shohin or larger, and we’ll talk about them. NOTE: If anyone has larches they want to sell, please contact me so I can organize a sale table.

Also, feel free to bring other species to work on, too. Winter preparation of light trimming and weeding must go on!

We will meet again at Max’s Fanno Creek Brew Pub in November, so we can enjoy their fantastic sandwiches one last time. Hopefully we will be able to use the new facility at SE Powell & 55th for the next meeting! Be aware that light is a little weak in Max’s meeting room, so bring a lamp. Phyllis brought a headlamp last time, and it seemed to work great.

OSK will benefit from the BSOP raffle at the October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, so if you have pots, plants or anything to donate, this is the time to bring them! This will help finance future programs. Also, we do need someone to help run the raffle at the meeting, which includes organizing the table and selling tickets. If you can do this, please let me know ASAP.

ANOTHER NOTE: There will be no OSK meeting in December, since the BSOP Holiday Party and Auction is scheduled for December 7th. I think one BSOP activity per day is enough, don’t you?

If you have any questions, contact Jan Hettick at [janhettick@comcast.net](mailto:janhettick@comcast.net) or 503-504-7760.

*Jan Hettick*

## NOTICE

### All BSOP Members

#### Time To Pay Membership Dues

Please bring your credit card, check or cash to the upcoming meeting.

Thank you for supporting your bonsai club.

Amur Maple, eight inch Shohin, one of Scott Elser’s wife’s trees



## Pacific Northwest Bonsai Convention 2013

The Spokane convention was a well attended success. The demo trees styled by the artists were dazzling. Even watching the demonstration, it was difficult to absorb the transformation from rough unkempt material to grace and beauty. Spokane club members were always present to help. It took the strength of four men to effect major bends on an Englemann Spruce that Robert Steven styled. Ryan Neil stood on the stage to style the top of his big cryptomeria. The historic Davenport Hotel provided an upscale venue.



Hemlock Best of show

Sunday morning critique



Boxwood





Juniper

Windblown style  
by Dave DeGroot

Exposed root pine



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Juniperus  
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Welcome to the Village



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

St. Phillip Neri Parish

2408 SE 16th Avenue, Portland OR

Northeast corner of SE Division and 16th Avenue

Visitors are always welcome!

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