



# the **TREE LINE**

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

May 2013

## Upcoming Events

May 16 6:30-8:30pm **Penjing Discussion Group** Mt. Tabor Middle School, Room 213, 5800 SE 58th Ave. Portland

May 18 2-5pm **Mentorship Meeting** St. Philip Neri 2408 SE 16th Ave

May 28 7-9pm **BSOP Meeting** St. Philip Neri 2408 SE 16th Ave

June 1 10-2pm **OSK Elite Care Center**, 12353 SW Grant Ave, Tigard

June 15 2-5pm **Mentorship Meeting** *Poo Balls*, Scott Tice residence

Sept 21 2-5pm **Mentorship Meeting** St. Philip Neri 2408 SE 16th Ave

May 28 7-9pm BSOP Meeting,

## Under the Spring Sun!

It has been a pretty exciting April, from a weather standpoint. I'm sure we've all stepped up our watering and fertilizing (especially for our trees in the developmental stage instead of the refinement stage), and now we're starting to see the fruits of our labors: lots of growth!

Speaking of growth, it's clear that the Bonsai Society of Portland is growing by leaps and bounds in our collective skill level, as evidenced by our show at the Japanese Garden last month. Michael Hagedorn, who critiqued our show, pointed out a very compelling thing: that not only were the trees and especially accent plants reaching a level of excellence that's rare for a Western bonsai club, but that many of the best trees in the show are in effect second-string trees. What he meant by that was that some of our members who always display trees in the show have already shown their best trees in the past few years, and that they prepped their next best for this show so as not to show the same tree too many years in a row. So if our second-best trees are among the best in the West, then we're really onto something here in Rose City, in Stumptown, in Rip City, in Bridge Town, in Bonsai Land! (There! Think the name will stick? Has a ring to it, doesn't it? Maybe Bonsailandia would be more relevant to the times.)

**May meeting details** : I digress. Our esteemed newsletter editor, Peter Pelofske, recently flew to Yangzhou China to attend Bonsai Clubs International's 2013 conference. And he took pictures. So our May program will take a break from the usual demo presentation for some inspiration as Peter shows does a brief presentation on his travels there. Besides that, bring a tree

or two, and some tools, for a whack n chat. What's a whack n chat, I hear some of you say! A whack n chat is the opportunity to hang out and work on your trees. It's a great opportunity to ask questions either about your own tree (What side do *\*you\** think should be the front?) or answer questions about the tree you're working on. Whack n chats are a great way to build community, to relax together and do what we enjoy doing most, make bonsai! And don't forget to bring some cash, because we'll be silent-auctioning about 25 bonsai pots, tools, etc. that have been donated to the club. The whole evening should be pretty fun!

And don't forget the inspiration area! Have a tree, kusamono, or accent plant that's looking particularly good? Bring it for the back table Inspiration Display. I prefer that you contact me ([politomail@gmail.com](mailto:politomail@gmail.com)) with the subject line Inspiration and let me know what you're bringing so that I can ensure there's room for all the trees that arrive.

**April gratitude:** I sure wish I could have been there to see Greg, Dennis, and Lee share their wisdom about selecting good bonsai material. I heard they did a great job, and I am so grateful to Chas for taking the reins for me.

**June and beyond:** It looks like we'll have John Thompson from Northern California as our guest presenter in June. John is well known for his work with oaks, among other things. We're not sure what the presentation will be but it will be fun. And even though BSOP has in the past taken the months of July and August off, we intend to bring you some programs to help you get your fix of bonsai and bonsai community.

**Artisan's Cup postponed:** Many of you have already heard that the Artisan's Cup has been delayed. We're all kind of bummed, but hey you can get plenty of bonsai inspiration from your own club. The Cup has been scheduled in 2015, to keep it from conflicting with the 2014 national show in Rochester, NY. More time to prep our trees and take them to even a higher level! Or maybe submit them for the National Show. Hmmm.

Stay hydrated,

*Al*



BCI 2013 Yangzhou, China

## Oregon Shohin Kai

Many thanks to Lee Cheatle for his presentation at the May meeting of the Oregon Shohin Kai (OSK) on how to make Shohin Saikei. He explained the basics, brought some books to show and some trees he had already prepared, and answered tons of questions. He was also helpful to those who brought single trees for development into Shohin. Thank you, Lee! Thanks also to Deb Wilcox of Apex Bonsai, who brought some much needed supplies.

The next meeting of (OSK) is **Saturday, June 1, 2013**. We meet between 10 am and 2 pm. Our speaker this month will be Roger Case, and his topic will be a couple of species very well suited to Shohin – cotoneaster and pyracantha. If you have some of these species, be sure to bring them, but if you don't have any (yet) just bring what you want to work on. It's a good idea to bring a lunch, too.

Because of pending changes at our regular meeting place, I'm not certain where we will meet. Please watch your email the last week of May, or check the website ([portlandbonsai.org](http://portlandbonsai.org)). Or contact me: Jan Hettick, [janhettick@comcast.net](mailto:janhettick@comcast.net), 503-504-7760.

*Jan Hettick*

Portland Rose Society 5-4-4 fertilizer with mycorrhizae is available by contacting Bill Hettick at [bhettickco@comcast.net](mailto:bhettickco@comcast.net) or phone at 503-936-5629.

## 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!

## TIME FOR MIDGE PATROL

Following up on the "Go Get 'Em, Midges" article in the September 2012 Newsletter, it is time to think about ordering *Aphidoletes aphidimyza* if past history indicates you have aphid-infested plant material.

This is a safe and effective treatment for annoying aphids without injury or death to the huge host of our necessary pollinators. (We heard rumors the people of China are hand-pollinating their food crops from results of over-use and mis-use of harsh pesticides – job security for their ag industry, I guess.)

Count on ordering *Aphidoletes aphidimyza* to allow time for shipping and emergence and then for release around summer solstice (late June) when their food supply (aphids) is optimal. Contact Evergreen Growers Supply, 503-908-1946, or [www.evergreengrowers.com](http://www.evergreengrowers.com).

*Dave and Donna*



## **POTTING PARTY – WAY BACK WHEN**

While searching for photos of past classroom activities at Daybreak Gardens, we happened upon these 2001 pictures showing a very crowded root-pruning session. Four 6-ft tables were end-to-end, almost down to the Ford tractor, with BSOP people packed together on both sides

just making a great mess. (Even the window sill was busy.) We should do this again some time!

*Dave and Donna*

## May Mentorship News

It looks like we have skipped spring and jumped right into summer. With 80 degree temperatures forecast for the next 10 days or so, daily watering is already upon us. I am already considering getting my shade cloth into place, a chore that I do not usually have to consider until early June.

Our May Mentorship Program will be another Whack and Chat (by popular demand), so if you missed our April session, you can still get some help with design, wiring, pruning and development planning. Bring a couple of trees you would like some help or advice about and join in the discussion. We will be meeting at St. Philip Neri Church on Saturday, May 18th from 2:00 p.m. until 5:00 p.m. Also, this time we will have some maple trees donated by Roger Case for everyone to pick from and to add to their collections. These are pre-Bonsai trees that Roger has had for a while and wanted to pass along.

For those of you who like to plan ahead on your calendar, our June Mentorship Program (June 15, 2013) will be about fertilization and we will be making Poo Balls. Scott Tice will be our host and will be preparing the mix in advance for the program. There is a small fee for this program, to cover the costs of materials. By the first of June, we will be asking for people to let us know if they are attending the program so we can gather the appropriate amount of materials, so watch your email for a notice.

The June meeting will be our last meeting as we break in July and August for the summer. When we start back up in September, (September 21, 2013) we will be offering a workshop to make your own turntable. This was a very popular class at the convention last year and we have had many requests from people who could not fit the convention class into their schedules. There will be a fee for this class to cover the costs of materials, so if you are interested, put the date on your calendar.

As we will not be engaging in a detailed discussion on fertilized, I will close this article with a tip from our fall discussion on Winter Prep and Feeding. Use a balanced liquid fertilizer (20 - 20 - 20; or 10 - 10 - 10) mixed at half strength for your early spring feeding. Trees are getting very active now with all of the new growth pushing on and will need extra feeding. At this time of the year I have not yet introduced fertilizer cakes into my feeding routine but I am applying liquid fertilizer mixed with fish emulsion every 10 days.

So until next month, may the Bonsai God smile upon you and may your trees prosper and grow.

Best Regards,

*Keith Wingfield*

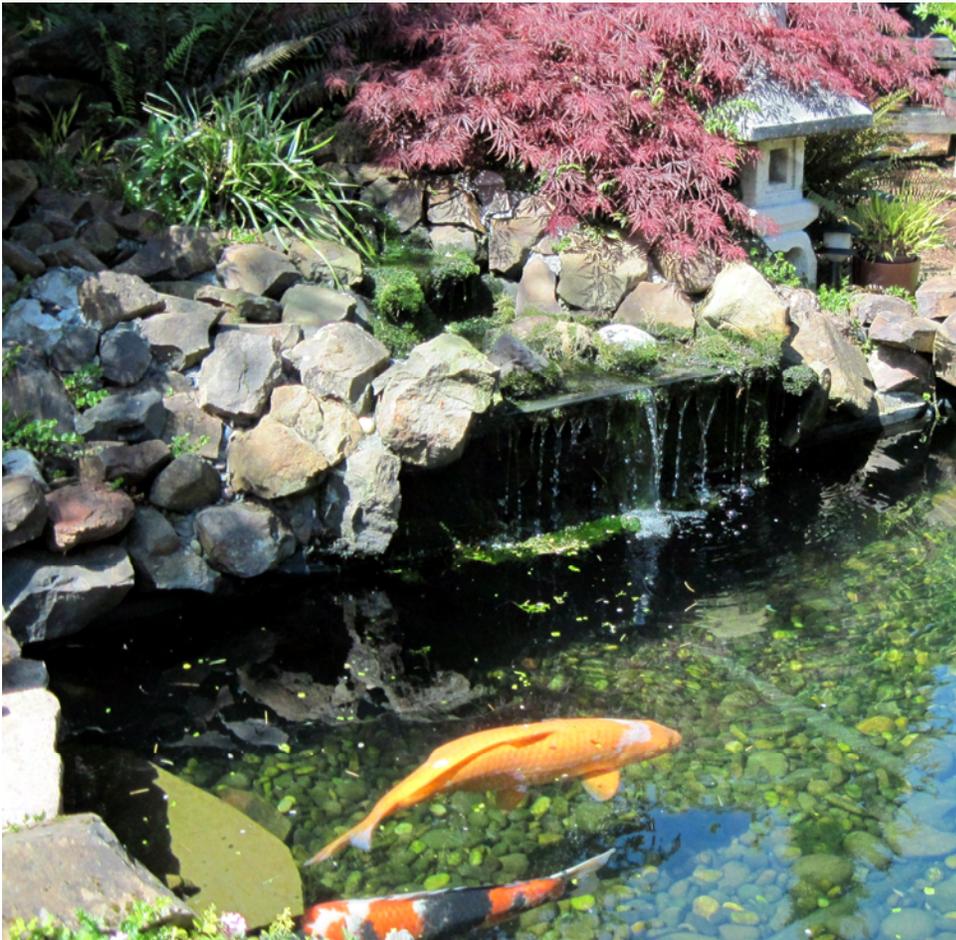
## Recycle Wire

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.



Pat Foldi's  
Azalea

And



Koi pond

## **In Our Own Backyard...Pat Foldi**

As I head toward Pat Foldi's house, the wooded hillsides ripple gently down to the banks of the Willamette River. Houses nestle in wooded dells on quiet lanes with names like "Hidden Springs," "Lazy River," "Shady Hollow," and "Underhill." There is no sound or sight of the big city in West Linn. Pat's home is one of the many charming older homes in the town. The interior has a gracious, inviting atmosphere that flows toward the back deck, the bonsai and the koi pond with its waterfall. The house is a lot like Pat—warm and welcoming, easy-going and beautiful, filled with memories that come with a smile or a chuckle.

Pat is a strong, remarkable woman who embraces life with confidence and a wonderful sense of humor. She appears to be a delicate flower, but she is so easy to under-estimate. Here is a woman who helped rebuild a half-ruined 1935 rental house, extending it and adding a garage and the pond. Here is a woman who has collected bonsai from the wild while hunting mountain goats. She is a retired teacher and social worker who collects friends, plants and funny stories. Pat has been a member of BSOP since 1997, and has filled a number of volunteer roles in the club. She started by providing refreshments. Then she was drafted to serve as Vice-President for Membership. She recalls how challenging that was, since she had never used a computer before. We share a laugh at her memory of Jan Hettick trying to teach her basic computer skills, discovering Pat had done all the corrections to the membership roster but did not know to save them!

Pat credits her husband Frank for encouraging her to pursue her passion for plants. He has always been supportive, and waters her trees when she is away on her travels. Whenever Frank is asked if he too is involved in bonsai, he replies, "Yes, I carry the trees from the stands to the car and from the car back to the stands."

Her first tree, a mountain hemlock, came from a garage sale and is still thriving. A friend took her to a lesson with Ed Wood, and then she studied with Masa Furukawa. Chris Julhes brought her into BSOP. There she discovered the joy of raising deciduous and shohin trees through Ann Spencer. She still favors junipers, but seems to have a green thumb for all kinds of trees. Pat recalled going to an early exhibition and feeling her heart race when she saw elm bonsai. Whenever she walks into an exhibit of bonsai she says there is a deep feeling of joy that flows through her, right down to her toes. Over the years she has spent a lot of time with the Oregon Shohin Kai group and has attended all the Santa Nella shohin conventions with her BSOP friends since she joined the club. Convention memories trigger another funny story—at the last one, the ladies discovered that the hotel had changed hands and their reservations had disappeared, and they ended up being given a derelict room that looked and smelled like it had been a crime scene. They stayed anyway, and discovered that, if you use enough of it, Febreze really does work. Pat has also traveled to China for an international bonsai convention, which brings back the memory of the blind massage therapists....

For Pat, bonsai means wonderful friendships. Although she did not say it, I believe it also means adventure, because Pat is a lady who looks forward in life, who enjoys exploring each new opportunity as it arises.

*Karen VunKannon*



Collected tree shaped by truck tires



Accent plant



Enjoying some Spring sunshine

# Pacific Northwest Bonsai Convention 2013

We have the convention information up on our website here [www.inlandbonsai.com](http://www.inlandbonsai.com) , and we have set it up so that people can register on line, so no need to print and mail registration forms. There is still a version of the registration form that can be printed and mailed for those who prefer to do that.

As you know we have an exciting lineup of guest artists, including Robert Steven, Ryan Neil, Michael Hagedorn and David DeGroot.

Our workshops feature excellent material, and a couple of them are already filled after the early registrations at last fall's convention. People who want to take a workshop should register soon while space is still available.

Also this year we are planning a world class exhibit, and as an incentive for registrants to submit their best trees to the exhibit we are offering cash awards in various categories. The awards so far include:

**First Runner Up:**

300 from Inland Empire Bonsai Society  
Gift Certificate from Telperion Farms

**Second Runner Up:**

\$200 from Inland Empire Bonsai Society  
Gift Certificate from Telperion Farms

**Wee Tree Farm Best Deciduous Tree in Show Award:**

\$200 from Wee Tree Farms

**Telperion Farms Best Pine in Show Award:**

\$200 from Telperion Farms

**Other Awards:**

Sculpture from Legendary Art

More awards are being added, so check the website for updates.

*Roger Snipes*, Convention Chair



**BCI 2013**

# Apex Bonsai Supply

Custom Soils • Akadama  
Japanese, Korean & Chinese Pots  
Tools • Copper & Aluminum Wire  
— Lessons available —  
*Family Run, Locally Owned*

分  
盆  
栽



Steve & Deb Wilcox

(503) 848-2638

(503) 720-9028 cell

apexbonsaisupply@verizon.net



**BCI  
2013**

## Bonsai Supplies from Wee Tree Farm

Not only do we have a large selection of pottery, trees, tools, etc., but Garland Nursery has 5 acres of plants to browse through. Please come see us, I promise it is worth the drive!

*Our Retail location located at:*

### Garland Nursery

*HWY 20 half way between Albany and Corvallis*

Hours: M-F 9-6, Sat 9-5, Sun 10-5  
541 753 6601



Please call Diane with any questions at 800 638 1098

### PRE-BONSAI PLANTS · BONSAI TOOLS

High-fired Pots • Mica & Plastic Training Pots  
Wire • Classes • Organic Fertilizers

New: Mazama Pumice (1/16-3/8")

New: Diatomite Rock from Nevada, USA

Superior Black Compost • Red Cinder Rock (1/4-5/16")

Est. 1978



25321 NE 72nd Avenue  
Battle Ground, WA 98604

Phone (360) 687-5641

**Dave & Donna Burnett**

Need supplies?  
Call ahead for delivery at BSOP meetings.



## Home of El Dorado Bonsai NW

Dedicated to growing trees specifically for bonsai, combining the best of traditional Japanese techniques with the proven technology of the Oregon nursery industry.

Over 50 of the most popular species plus some unique and rare offerings.

Black pine, white pine, mugo, Scots pine, & Japanese larch

Maples, elms, crabapples, quince & hornbeam

### Satsuki Azalea

Through our partnership with El Dorado Bonsai we are able to offer one of the finest selections of satsuki azaleas whips and specimens in the USA.

### Soils

Master Nakayama's personal brand of Kanuma and Akadama.  
\$24.00 for the 12 quart bag.

### Wire

Aluminum wire \$25 per kilo.  
Ask about copper wire.

### Pots

Full line of mica pots  
Low priced pots from Korean kilns  
Hand made pots from American potters

### Tools

Yoshiaki, Nakayama, Masakuni

-and-

Hard to find items such as camellia oil, HB 101

Ask about bonsai society member discounts.

To contact us, please call or email

Chris & Lisa Kirk • (503) 859-3697 • tfarms@wvi.com



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!

**Board of Directors**

President: Chas Martin 503 459-1009 chas-martin@comcast.net

Past President: Eileen Knox 503 466-2964 eileenknox@frontier.com

VP-Programs: Al Polito politomail@gmail.com

VP-Membership: Margie Kinoshita youngkinoshita@msn.com

Treasurer: Robert Wofford 503 304-0996 wofford9694@comcast.net

Secretary: Karen VunKannon kvunkannon@gmail.com

**Committee Heads**

Librarian: Barbara Devitt 503 764-8242 bbd.jcgroup@yahoo.com

Mentorship: Keith Wingfield 503 538-6118 keithwingfield@aol.com

Shohin Kai: Jan Hettick 503 540-7760 janhettick@comcast.net

Newsletter: Peter Pelofske 503 704-3891 pelofskepj@juno.com

Webmaster: Chas Martin 503 459-1009

Chas.Martin@innovativeye.com

Club Email: Arlene Sigourney 503 667-0148 asigourney@aol.com

Heritage Group: Bob Laws 360 574-0166 rklaws@comcast.net