



the TREE LINE

the official monthly publication of the BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND

December 2011

December 17 - 6 to 9pm **Annual Holiday Party**
St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16th Ave. Portland

HAPPY NEW YEAR

January 7 - 10am to 2pm **OSK Meeting**
Elite Care Center, 53 SW Grant Ave, Tigard

January 21 - 2 to 5pm **Mentorship Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16th Ave. Portland

January 24 - 7 to 9pm **BSOP Monthly Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16th Ave. Portland

Note - Not the last Tuesday

September 14-16, 2012 - **PNBCA Convention**
Hilton Hotel, Vancouver, WA

Want to make a small fortune at Bonsai?

Start out with a large fortune! I can't take credit for that one (Ron Martin, an old-timer from the Bonsai Talk forum days, used this phrase with his avatar) but I just had to share that at some point with you all and now seemed as good a time as any.

I was messaging with a relative on facebook about the rough year I'd been having and she said "get rid of those bonsai and plant a vegetable garden and get some chickens." Ouch!

I know I'm preaching to the choir here, but most people don't understand why we keep bonsai if it doesn't make us any money! We do it because it feeds our soul. It satisfies that part of our being in a way that food and money can't; I think music does the same thing for us. And other forms of art.

In these tough times my trees are a source of strength for me and not a burden even if they require some money to maintain...I'll find a way to stay addicted to this esoteric yet wonderful art.

Let's support one another in the ways that we can since we've all got this strange affliction for the little trees. I thank you all for the support you've given me throughout the last year and ask again for the year that lies ahead.

A bit about our upcoming **Holiday Party** again--at the risk of being redundant. It will be at Carvlin Hall at St. Philip Neri Church; the same place our monthly meetings are held. It's on Saturday, December 17th and here is the timeline for the festivities:

- Tickets at the door are \$17.50; \$15 if purchased in advance--contact Margie if you haven't done so for the lower price.
- If you have auction items (limit of 5 trees/person please) arrive at 5:00 p.m. and see myself or Jo Ann Raiton before bringing your items in.
- The silent auction will open at 6:00 p.m.
- Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m.
- Oral auction featuring Chris Kirk will start at 7:15 p.m.
- We will have a raffle again this year, so please check in with Al Polito with your donated raffle items.

This is the first year for us to have the party at the church so please bear with us as we work out all the little glitches. Let's make this year live up to--even exceed--the fine event it has been the years past!

Lest you think 2012 is going to be dull, I'll reveal I've got Mr. Alan Taft lined up for January's program. I've asked him to build on the excellent presentation he gave on bonsai tools and touch on how to sharpen them. I've had a lot of requests the last year on this subject and for those of you that asked YOU BETTER BE THERE. Here's hoping I'll see all of you at the Holiday Party to wish you Merry Christmas and for those who can't be there HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Greg

BSOP MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Our November program on "Pests and Diseases" was a great success and well attended. Lyle Feilmeier provided an excellent and informative talk on identification and treatment of pests and diseases affecting our trees. The general discussion included both chemical control and eco-friendly options. Did you know that Lady bugs were natural born killers from their larval stage throughout their adult stage, (as infants, they also kill just for fun) and that ants maintain herds of aphids just like dairy farmers? Amazing what you can learn. To supplement his lecture and discussion Lyle provided all attendees with copies of his informational slides.

Stay tuned for our January **Treeline** as by then we will have an extended schedule of topics and dates for upcoming **Mentorship Program** presentations. The list currently includes winter protection, repotting, wiring, pot selection, soils, soil porosity, pruning, grooming and fertilizing. BSOP members will be presenting on these topics as well as providing help and assistance during our Wack and Chats session. So whether you are a newbie or an old hand, there will be a program which all BSOP members can benefit from, or contribute to.

I wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Remember, spring is just around the corner.

Best Regards,

Keith



Sierra juniper 5 from Ryan Neil's International Bonsai Mirai website where you can learn this tree's history.

Library Highlights

If you happen to have a collection of small pots on hand waiting for just the right accent plant, or if you happen to be one of the lucky members who made a pinch pot at the recent Shohin Kai meeting, take a peek at the article on wild flowers in Bonsai Today, 2003 vol. 86. If the beautiful arrangements therein have you wanting more, then look for these other articles on accent plants:

- For bamboo, see International Bonsai 2001-3
- For ferns & grasses, see the "Grass Plantings" series in International Bonsai 1998-4, 1998-3, 1997-2, & Bonsai (BCI) 1992-Nov-Dec
- For saxifrages, see Bonsai (BCI) (look under: "Kusamono") 2003-Jul-Aug
- For water plants, see Bonsai Today ("Small Worlds") 2004-Sep-Oct Vol. 93 & International Bonsai 1996-2
- For a gallery of photos, see Bonsai Today ("Gallery") 1994-Nov-Dec Vol. 34
- For a series of articles on kusamono, see: Bonsai Today 2003-May-June Vol. 8, Bonsai Today ("Shohin") 2006-Sep-Oct Vol.105, Bonsai (BCI) 2003-May-June, 2003-Nov-Dec, 2002-Jul-Aug, & Bonsai & Stone Appreciation 2010 Vol.49/2
- For several articles on Boston Ivy, see: International Bonsai 1999-4, 2002-1, 2001-4, 1998-1

Karen VunKannon

Oregon Shohin Kai

Creative juices were flowing at the December 3rd meeting of OSK, as nine club members created shohin and mame pots out of raw clay, as well as a few larger pots and some especially for kusamono. As it turns out, we have some very talented potters in our midst! Hopefully the pots will be dry in time to be fired and ready for glaze at the January 7th meeting.

Also on January 7th Alan Taft has agreed to come help us with shohin design. Each member can bring five or six trees they think might be shohin material. Then we will take turns discussing each tree and Alan will offer his opinion about the tree's potential and how to get the desired results. Alan will not actually work on the trees, but will try to give us as many ideas and as much information as possible. Then he'll come back on February 11th for follow up discussion.

We'll meet again at the Fanno Creek Elite Care facility, 12353 SW Grant Avenue in Tigard. Watch your email for details.



Chris Julhes makes a pot using a sand form.

Notum



Barbara Devitt adds a dragon to her pot.



Jim Wilson works on adding feet.

Out on a Limb

During this month of giving, I want to thank Nature for this fabulous Fall. The nights have become increasingly colder allowing our bonsai to harden off for a successful, dormant Winter. I am sure our trees appreciate the gift, after such a wet Spring.

This month heralds our big social event of the year, the Holiday Party on December 17th. I hope you have your tickets or have contacted Margie Kinoshita youngkinoshita@msn.com to make your reservations for the evening.

Please take time to stop and thank Margie for arranging the catering, Greg Brenden for managing the physical set up and auction, Lee Cheatle for our delicious entree and thinking to move from the old Oaks Park building to the Hall at St Philip Neri and Deb Wilcox for our creative center pieces.

Let the Party Begin!



Eileen

Recycle

Please bring your used copper wire to the monthly meetings. Roger Case will have a five gallon plastic 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 a little income for BSOP.



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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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Mentorship: Scott Tice 503 781-0310 scottice@mac.com
Shohin Kai: Arlene Sigourney 503 667-0148 asigourney@aol.com
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Webmaster: Chas Martin 503 459-1009
Chas.Martin@innovativeeye.com
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