



the **TREE LINE**

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

May 2011

Schedule of Upcoming Events

May 21-22 - **Spring Bonsai Show**
Japanese Garden, Portland

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

May 28 - 2 to 5pm **Mentorship Meeting**
Tice Residence see page 2

June 18 - 2pm **Mentorship Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, St Paul room

July 9 - **Multi-club Potluck**
Wee Tree Farm, Philomath, OR

September 3-5 - **PNBCA Convention**
Seattle, WA

Christmas in May ???

Not exactly. But I'm pleased to tell you we have reserved the same meeting hall as our monthly meetings are held--St. Philip Neri Parish for Saturday, December 17th, for our annual Christmas Party. This will be a substantial savings over Oaks Park Pavilion, where the party has been held the past few years. Our own Lee Cheatle, who also works for Typhoon will cater the event. Mark your calendars for what is in my opinion one of the better events our club hosts.

Our guest artist for the May program will be Michael Hagedorn, who will be sharing all he knows about working with deciduous trees for bonsai. For those who don't know, deciduous trees lose their leaves in the fall in temperate regions and are completely naked during winter. Maples, elm, crab apple, beech, the list goes on and on. And for those unfamiliar with Michael,

he is based right here in Portland and travels across the U.S. servicing client's trees in private gardens. He also teaches through study groups locally and in our region and out of state as well. Michael made his living making and selling bonsai pots professionally at conventions and online for several years before traveling to Japan to study with Shinji Suzuki in Nagano in 2003. Soon after he returned from his apprenticeship in Japan, he published a book about his adventures there. He will have copies available for sale at the May meeting and is always happy to autograph one for you if you wish. As a member of one of his study groups, I can tell you I always come away with something new and not found in books, magazines or online. This program is geared for all levels of experience and I can tell you there is something for everyone --don't miss it!

The program for our June meeting will be a Heritage Group Live Auction Event with Lee Cheatle as Master of Ceremonies. On the block will be some outstanding bonsai accoutrement from long-time BSOP member Jean Gratteri. There will be used pots with nice patina purchased 30 years ago that range in size from shohin to medium to a few large pots. For display we have some wood stands and slabs; there will be some tools, an antique copper watering can (Bob tells me it's really nice!) some really nice books and around 15 very nice Suiseki (Japanese for "water stone" also known as "viewing stones") And while we're at it, there will also be a silent auction for the rest of what's left from Anne Spencer's items. We will also have some tables set out for an informal "whack 'n chat" for something to do for those who don't have deep pockets. And we will also have our raffle and "show and tell" table. This our last meeting before summer break (we don't meet in July and August) and a good time to see everyone before we meet again in September.

Greg Brenden

Spring Exhibition at the Japanese Gardens

This is the week! This weekend, the annual Spring Exhibition at the Japanese Gardens. The show runs from Saturday May 21st through Sunday May 22nd, from 10am-6pm both days. Set up will be from noon to 5pm on Friday, May 20th, and take down after 6pm on Sunday. We are really looking forward to a great new show with even greater trees and displays than in the past. The lineup is being finalized, so be sure to contact me if we need to squeeze you in. Scott Elser - 503-803-5343 and selser@columbia.com; <https://webmail.columbia.com/owa/14.1.287.0/scripts/premium/UrlBlockedError.aspx>. Pictures are really, really helpful.

I hope that you all have your schedules down for volunteering - Set up and take down, tree sitters, demonstrators, tours, etc... don't forget to take in the docent tours at 11 am, 1 and 3pm both days, or visit those folks who will be demonstrating on the back porch.

And last but not least, there is our Saturday Night Critique. This year we have the extreme privilege of having Ryan Neil as a guest to critique the exhibit. He won't get to all the trees, but one of the great benefits of showing your trees is getting very pinpoint feedback from a world class artist. Most of you know Ryan by now, and won't want to miss this.

The show will close to the public at 6pm and we will begin setting up for the Finger Food and Dessert Potluck. Bring your favorites. The club will supply all utensils and soft drinks. You may bring other beverages, but nothing that can stain, like red wine. Starting at 6:30, we'll savor the treats, trees and each other's company for an hour, and then the critique will start at 7:30. Your tickets will say 7:00, but if you come then, you will miss a lot of the treats. At 8:30 we will wrap things up and be out by 9:00.

We will also continue our newer tradition of voting on awards for the best Shohin, best conifer, and best deciduous trees of the show. This will be the first time that the Anne Spencer Shohin Award will be given. Those awards will be announced at 8:30. And we might even have a door prize in store for you at the very end. All this will cost you only ten bucks - \$10. Quite a deal. See you at the show!

Scott Elser



Anne Spencer Shohin , 2009 Japanese Garden Show

May Mentorship

For immediate release... NOTE DATE CHANGE!!!

When: Saturday, May 28th - 2-5pm

Where: Tice Residence, 3236 SE Johnson Creek Blvd., Portland, OR 97222

Bring: \$10, Latex Gloves, Wax paper, Flat boxes to place finished balls, Snacks

I am in need of another 6-8' table as well.

If you have one please bring it and a blue tarp to cover it.

For info or directions:

Scott's cell is (503) 781-0310.

Please bring \$10 to contribute to the supplies.

Please RSVP to Scott Tice via email at: scottice@mac.com

C'ya Saturday!

Next meeting: Saturday, June 18 - Program TBA - St. Philip Neri - St. Paul Room - 2408 SE 16th Ave. - Portland, OR

Scott Tice

Japan Bonsai

Masa Furukawa
10813 SW Barbur Blvd.
Portland, OR 97219
(503) 245-4346
Open: 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
Closed Monday

NEW Consignments

Bonsai Pots - glazed and unglazed
Forest Planting Material: Cypress - singles, 3" and 4" pots
Fir - singles, 4" pots
Maple - singles, 2" pots
Cryptomeria Tansu - singles, 3" and 5" pots

Summer Exhibition at Portland Japanese Garden

Urban Green: Small Trees for Small Spaces

Kenji Kobayashi of Sinajina and Ceramic Artists of the Oregon Potters Association

May 27-June 19, 2011

The ancient art of bonsai meets contemporary design in the miniature landscapes of Tokyo's Kenji Kobayashi of Sinajina Studio, presented in ceramic vessels handcrafted by twelve artists of the Oregon Potter's Association. Viewed amid Portland's spectacular Japanese Garden in Forest Park, Urban Green presents this exhibit as a means of bringing people and nature together in a modern urban environment.

Kenji Kobayashi draws upon on the "Saikei, or Living Landscape School" of plant culture developed originally in Tokyo by Toshio Kawamoto after World War II and was taught for many years in Portland by BSOP member Masa Furukawa (who had been one of Kawamoto's students). Toshio Kawamoto was born in 1917, the son of one of Japan's greatest traditional bonsai experts, the owner of the prestigious Meijuen Bonsai Nursery. He sought to make bonsai more accessible to the general public and created the Saikei School in the early 1960s with this goal in mind.

To quote from Kawamoto's book "Saikei: Living Landscapes in Miniature" published in English in 1967: "Saikei embraces the aesthetic of traditional bonsai but allows a greater freedom in composition." Kobayashi himself often refers to his work as "keshiki (or landscape) bonsai."

As part of the Urban Green event, David DeGroot will lecture on June 16 at the Garden on the subject of "Saikei", a subject he suggested for his lecture and one in which he has great interest.

The exhibition is free with Garden admission. The Dave DeGroot lecture is \$10 for Garden members and \$15 for non-members. Reservations are required and can be made on our website.

For more information on the exhibition and related events, please visit: <http://japanesegarden.com/events/urbangreen/>



Out on a Limb

I hope all of your trees made it through the winter and your pest patrol is keeping your trees in leaf. I am considering installing grow lights over my bonsai tables, since mother nature has decided to hide our Spring Sun behind a bunch of all too familiar grey clouds. Our love of the art of bonsai and our dependence on the elements certainly gives us ample opportunity to practice the virtue of patience. I can hear Anne Spencer whispering in my ear, "...and then you wait."

May 21st - 22nd heralds the Spring Exhibition at the Japanese Garden. Thank you to the many hands that go into making this such an amazing annual event. If you have not purchased your tickets to our Saturday evening critique, you can still get them at the door for \$10. World class bonsai, Ryan Neil, yummy finger foods, friends...who could imagine a more entertaining evening. Mark May 21st at 6:30 on your calendars now! This is a wonderful mixer. I really hope our newer members will make a point to attend. I would so love to meet you since I do not have that opportunity at our meetings.

The other really fun event in May is the fertilizer ball Mentorship Meeting on Saturday, May 28th from 2:00 to 5:00 at Scott Tice's. The club has the Julia Childs' recipe for 'poo ball'. This stuff really bulks up the trees. Once again, this is a fabulous way to meet other members and talk about trees. Yes, the aroma is reminiscent of a junk yard, but the camaraderie makes for a lot of laughter.

Smiles,

Eileen



LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

If you are looking through the BSOP library hoping to find detailed information on growing a particular species, be sure to investigate the International Bonsai magazines.

Most of the issues concentrate on a single species, which is highlighted by the cover photograph. These issues usually contain two or more in-depth articles on developing trees of the selected species over several years, and one of these articles will often include propagation techniques appropriate to the species.

There will be one or more essays about styling, including information about how a "masterpiece" tree was styled. Often there is a column about shohin trees in the selected species.

Also, don't overlook the convention notes found in the back of the magazine; often these include summaries of valuable tips given by the headliners.

Karen

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If you need bonsai supplies, please call ahead for delivery at a BSOP meeting



The *Bonsai Society of Portland* has been an active group in the Portland area since 1966. It is organized to promote the art of bonsai through education, exhibits and social activities. The Society welcomes everyone interested in this unique and beautiful art form to share in the bonsai experience and develop both basic and advanced skills.



Official Website
www.portlandbonsai.org
portlandbonsai@hotmail.com

Mailing address
PO Box #10615
Portland, Oregon 97296-0615

TreeLine deadline: 10th of the month

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

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