



# the TREE LINE

the official monthly publication of the BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND

April 2011

## Special Supplement

### Anne Spencer Shohin Award

Earlier this month the board approved the naming of our annual award for Most Outstanding Shohin Bonsai at our annual spring show as the Anne Spencer Shohin Award. The purpose of this award is to recognize and honor the outstanding and dedicated contribution of Anne Spencer to the Bonsai Society of Portland for over thirty years and her tireless promotion of Shohin Bonsai.

Anne served for many years as a board member and had been active in some capacity of the clubs organization since joining in 1978. Anne was a long time instructor, both within BSOP and throughout the Northwest.

Several years ago Anne was a founding member of the Oregon Shohin Kai (OSK), our own club within a club just for Shohin. This award aims to further forward her efforts to create world class Shohin Bonsai in the Bonsai Society of Portland. Not only will the winner receive a physical trophy but also a cash award of fifty dollars to contribute to their bonsai development.

All bonsai submitted for consideration must be eight inches or less in height from the top of the pot to the top of the tree. All bonsai must be in good health. All bonsai must have been in the possession of the submitting owner for at least two years.

Our only regret is that Anne will not be able to present the first award herself. She was very happy to learn of the creation of this award. Let's see if we can continue her legacy.

*Scott Elser*



### BSOP Mentorship Program

April 16th, 2011 - Styling

**When:** Saturday, April 16th - 2-5pm

**Where:** St. Philip Neri Church - St. Paul room

This month will mostly be a whack n chat.

Spring is a great time for maintenance. Clean up them pots and weed your soil. We will be getting ready for fertilizer right about now.

A bit late to repot most trees, although if you have a juniper it can be done. If you have deciduous that are not in leaf yet, it should be safe as well.

**Please RSVP** to Scott Tice via email at: [scotttice@mac.com](mailto:scotttice@mac.com)

Hope to see you there!

**May meeting:** Fertilizer Balls, Tice residence

*Scott Tice*

# Japanese Garden Spring Show

At long last it's finally here. You wouldn't believe it by the weather, but soon it will be sunny May and time for our annual Spring Exhibition at the Japanese Gardens. This year's show will run 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. Space will be limited, so sign up as soon as possible for your spot. I expect to see a lot of trees that we haven't seen before, or for quite awhile. The quality of the trees continues to grow each year (pun intended) so it makes for fun stuff.

There is nothing materially different than what you have come to expect in the past, which means of course that we will need lots of help putting this show together. First, there are the trees. I hope that you have already been working on them, repotting, pruning, trimming, cleaning, mossing (don't wait to the last minute!).

And with the trees, we need stands. All sorts of stands. Even if your stands don't fit your tree, they might fit someone else's trees, so bring them along and we'll swap stands for the weekend. It really makes a big difference in the quality of the show. Better yet is to arrange to borrow one ahead of time. And if you are really adventurous, put together a whole display. Six feet of pure bonsai pleasure. We'll talk more about that at our April meeting, but you can put together a whole display of tree, stand, accent plant, scrolls, etc....

Then there are the volunteers. Lots of 'em. I think we have most of our tree sitters signed up already, but there might be some openings for the two-hour slots. We'll also have need of folks to conduct docent tours at 11am, 1pm and 3pm each day, as well as our back porch demonstrators all day. This is pretty casual and a great hit not only with the public, but the artists who finally get some work done on their trees. And we will need some able hands to assist in set up and take down. If you have a van large or small available for transport, we might be able to use that too. There will be no Marketplace this year.

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 pin point 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. 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. See the accompanying article. 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. Be sure to get your tickets at the next meeting.

And be sure to contact me about showing trees - Scott Elser - 503-803-5343 and [selser@columbia.com](mailto:selser@columbia.com). Pictures are really, really helpful.

*Scott Elser*