



the **TREE LINE**

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

February 2011

Schedule of Upcoming Events

February 19 - 2 to 5pm **Mentorship Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, St. Paul Room

February 22 - 7 to 9pm **Monthly BSOP Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16th Ave. Portland

March 1 - 7 to 9pm **BSOP Board Meeting**
Suite 500, 7800 SW Durham Rd, Tigard

March 12 - 10am to 2pm **OSK Meeting**
J. C. Kitchen Cabinets, Wilsonville

March 19 - 2 to 5pm **Mentorship Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, St. Paul Room

March 22 - 7 to 9pm **Monthly BSOP Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, 2408 SE 16th Ave. Portland

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

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

Next Oregon Shohin Kai

The next meeting of the Oregon Shohin Kai will be on a **second** Saturday, February 12, 2011.

We meet from 10 AM to 2 PM (bring lunch), in the workshop of J.C. Kitchen Cabinets, located west of I-5 on the east side of the Commerce Center South complex at the intersection of SW Boones Ferry Road, SW 95th Avenue and SW Elligsen Road.

Take the North Wilsonville exit 286 from I-5 and head west. Take the first right, then right again into the parking lot, around the complex to the sign.

Bring lunch and a chair. Call Jan Hettick at 503-504-7760 or Karen VunKannon at 360-609-5664 if you get lost or have questions.

Karen

February Mentorship

There will be a general whack and chat meeting from two to five in the St Paul room on February 19.

Scott Tice

Out on a Limb

As the buds swell and the days lengthen, excitement builds around the upcoming repotting season. A few final snips on my larch grove and I am reminded: "A leaf says,

... I am lowering my veins and roots like ropes with buckets tied to them into the earth's deep lake. I am drawing water that I offer like a rose to the sky. I am a singing cleaning woman dusting all the shelves in the air with my elegant green rags. I have a heart. I can know happiness like you." **A Singing Cleaning Woman** *By Hafiz*

It is so rewarding to be a part of a Bonsai community focused on learning and sharing an ancient art form that continues to evolve. Can you see yourself as the trunk of this community tree working in partnership with others? That is what we, our new board, see. Each member of BSOP brings their best to our meetings.

Eileen

BUDS

When it comes to communication, plants for the most part are silent to our ears, with the exception of a whispering pine as the wind blows through its branches. But our trees have other ways of letting us know what's going on and the swelling and breaking of buds is one of the most obvious signs they are waking up for the growing season ahead. As I write this report, my grass widows, prairie stars and manzanita are all blooming. Flowering quince, winter hazel, forsythia and many varieties of plum are starting to show color.

I invite you to share a tree for the "show and tell" table that is in its early spring glory. Don't be bashful! Our spring show is in May and we miss all those early spring bloomers. February is the month of the Kokufu Show in Japan for good reason. Deciduous trees can be seen in all their naked beauty with bare branches graced by the delicate beauty of blossoms. Late winter/early spring stands in spare contrast to summer's greenery.

If you suffer from "cabin fever" as much as I do this time of year, our February program may provide just the antidote. A re-potting "lalapalooza" lead by Dennis Vojtilla, Lee Cheattle and myself. Dennis will be re-potting a mature bonsai that has fully colonized its pot with roots and in need of extensive work. Lee Cheattle will be re-potting an established bonsai with roots fairly well along in their development with an eye toward maintenance on a root system. I will be potting a collected tree to its first bonsai pot. But wait! There's more! I've asked Steve Wilcox to MC the program--come watch the dirt fly. This should be fun!

Mark your calendars for March--Gary Wood from Alabama will join us to present a program with emphasis on plant physiology. He will share his knowledge of how far to take a tree and when to do it. Gary has a lot of practical knowledge about a lot of things bonsai

Greg Brenden



PETER ADAMS DESIGN PROGRAM

Internationally acclaimed Bonsai artist Peter Adams will be returning to Portland for 2011, and will again be presenting his design program for interested individuals. Peter's classes are designed to assist students who are new to bonsai or advanced students who would like to advance their trees to the next level. The dates for the first classes will be Saturday, March 5, 2011 at Wee Tree Farm in Philomath, Oregon (hosted by Diane Lund) and Sunday, March 6th, at the home of BSOP member Keith Wingfield in Newberg, Oregon. Additional classes will be announced for later in the growing season.

Each session runs from 10:00 a.m. until 4:30 p.m... Student's trees will be addressed in open session, a work plan for the future development of the tree will be established, and a pen and color chalk working drawing will be provided for the future design of the tree. Peter will discuss the horticultural needs of the tree and recommend care and development instructions for the student to follow. So if you are looking to advance that special tree this year; get a new tree off to a great start; planning to put a tree in the BSOP Spring Show; or looking at having a tree ready for the PNBCA Convention Show in 2012, here is the opportunity to work with one of the best in the business.

The cost for the program is \$95.00 per day.

Space is still available for all sessions but is filling quickly. The classes are limited to 7 students per session.

Interested individuals may contact Keith at 503-538-6118 or at keithwingfield@aol.com or they may contact Diane Lund at 1-800-638-1098 or at diane@weetree.com

or contact Peter Adams at Akadams2740@aol.com.

Bonsai Inspirations

As I'm sure you will already be aware I am publishing the first book from Bonsai4me.com "Bonsai Inspirations" with the first copies reaching customers on or around February 14th.

With 270 A4 sized pages, Bonsai Inspirations is a landmark book for the bonsai community. Rather than the typical encyclopedic format of ordinary bonsai books, Bonsai Inspirations is based around the progression of 12 bonsai, each chapter interspersed with articles describing aspects of bonsai technique and design in greater detail. Written to inspire and interest as well as educate bonsai enthusiasts of all levels, the book is only available via Bonsai4me.com.

For more details, please visit the [Bonsai Inspirations shop](#). After many requests from Bonsai4me.com readers, ALL books ordered before February 28th 2011 will include a Book Insert signed by myself. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at this address.

Harry Harrington, Bonsai Artist

Webmaster <http://www.bonsai4me.com>

The book 'Bonsai Inspirations' available now <http://www.bonsai4me.com/bonsai-inspirations/BIIndex.html>

Harry



Cotoneaster franchetti by Harry Harrington

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

Bon and Sai Sylvan came home from work on a cold, wet night. The first thing they did was to slide their feet into some nice, warm slippers. Bon liked his slippers furry, while Sai liked hers knitted out of fuzzy yarn. And so they spent the evening relaxing, thinking about the plants that needed transplanting in the garden this spring....WAIT A MINUTE! RIDICULOUS! TREES DON'T WEAR SLIPPERS!.....Well yes, they do; only their slippers are made of mycorrhiza fungus.

Just like people, trees have their preferred styles of footwear. As you rest in your easy chair, clad in your favorite slippers, you can spend the evening planning for all the repotting of bonsai trees that needs to be done in just a few weeks.

If you want to be sure to give your tree roots what they need, then see the wonderful color photos and learn about the various types of helpful fungi in an informative article called "Mycorrhiza Fungus" in **Bonsai Focus, 2010 No.2, Vol.126/103**. There's no need to think of it as science; just think about how good those slippers feel...

Karen VunKannon



Ligustrum ovalifolium/Common Privet Bonsai
Height 15"/37cm
Developed by Harry Harrington from an old hedgerow tree collected in 2004.
Planted in an Erin Pot

Seasonal Tasks

Marty Mann in Bonsai Ideas suggests:

- Clean the area around the benches,
- Clean pots,
- Mix soils,
- If any trees break from dormancy too early, protect them from freezing and give them light.
- Spray deciduous trees with dormant spray before any signs of new growth.

Herb Gustafson in Miniature Bonsai suggests:

- Wiring conifers, as they are more flexible before the sap starts to rise,
- Prune early-blooming deciduous trees after bloom
- Transfer field-grown conifers from the ground into containers,
- Check trees after a warm or windy spell to see if they need water,
- Grafting
- Prepare beds for cuttings.

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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