



the TREE LINE

the official monthly publication of the BONSAI SOCIETY of PORTLAND

January 2011

Schedule of Upcoming Events

January 11 7 pm **BSOP Board Meeting**
Don Howse condo - 503 668 5834

January 25 - 7 to 9pm **Monthly BSOP Meeting**
St. Philip Neri, St. Paul Rm 2408 SE 16th Ave. Portland

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

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

Mentorship Meetings

There will be no Mentorship meeting during
January. *Scott Tice*

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*

January Meeting Agenda

The January meeting will be our annual
business meeting. Club officers will provide a
year in review and we will walk through club
financials for 2010. We will also be having a
silent auction of trees and pots from the Heri-
tage group. Details from Bob Laws on auction
items follow.

Long time club member Elsie Hatch, is liq-
uidating her bonsai inventory, consisting of her
surviving trees, display stands, mostly small,
(one made by Bob Sigourney), tools, almost 90
pots, from 1" to 15" in size, almost all Japa-
nese, books, and misc. items.

This is a dramatic illustration of why you
need to join the Heritage Group. Because
Elsie's daughter was unaware of this program,
by the time we were involved, only five of the
trees were still alive.

These surviving trees are not terrific, but
there are a lot of nice pots (especially shohin),
and other quality items, so come, bring money,
or a credit card, I think that it will be worth
your while.

Alan Taft will be bringing in some Ilex ser-
rata (holly) that are the club's trees he has been
caring for. He will be bringing six pairs (you
need male and female to get the red berries) to
January meeting that will be for sale--most @
\$50 or less/pair. All money received from the
sale of these trees goes to benefit the club. So,
show your support for the club and get a nice
tree in exchange, while also taking some of the
load off of Alan.

Rotuy

NOW IS THE TIME....

The title of this article was the by-line of a whole series of articles by Dr. Bert Bruenner of Seattle years ago. He wrote: "Now is the time to make New Year's resolutions re: your bonsai. A few come to mind." (I think the timing is right for another reprint, so enjoy, with a few additions by Anne Spencer. 12-2010)

-I will not buy or collect any new material until I have tended to what I already have.

-I will, as a newcomer, attend the beginners' class offered by the club. I will also attend the workshops as an observer. No other gathering offers as many opportunities to learn.

-I will rotate my trees at least once monthly. No areas should be shaded by a neighboring tree.

-I will never neglect watering. Feeling the top of the soil is not enough. Lift the pot; if light, it needs water. If very dry, the pot should be submerged in water for 20-30 minutes. Wisteria should stand in a saucer of water all summer. (Note: If you use the Boon mix or something similar, push a dry chopstick to the bottom of the pot, pull out and judge wetness. AS)

-I will not allow infestations of mites, aphids, scale, or whitefly (or fungus, etc. AS), to get ahead of me. I will check weekly and apply the proven remedies..

-I will not neglect fertilizing every two weeks during the growing season (March through July). Some species, like Junipers, want weekly feeding.

-I will remember to pinch new growth on mature trees weekly. Trees in training should be allowed to put out long shoots before cutting them back.

-I will try to find the best location for each individual tree. Some will do better in half or full shade. I will pick a special place for the 'hospital' for those trees needing special attention.

-I will not forget to label trees with dates of transplanting and wiring. The labels can be fastened to the trees with fine copper wire. (Also, write plants' names on the tags, and take yearly pictures in November. AS)

-I will protect my trees properly for winter...in the ground or heavily mulched on the ground is best.

And now to be more practical....Get ready for transplanting. Have soil, tools, and pots ready. Start with the most needy trees first (those breaking dormancy early and those that are rootbound). And now my personal New Year's resolution: enjoy not the year, the month, the day, or the hour but...NOW IS THE TIME.

By Dr. Bert Bruenner Puget Sound Bonsai Soc.

Anne

Out On A Limb

In the words of a famous Roman philosopher, “Tempest Fugit!”. Yes time flies by rapidly. It is hard to believe that 2 years have passed by since I agreed to be the President of BSOP. I am amazed at all that we have accomplished during this time period. It would be easy for me to take the credit, when in reality I know, and many of you do also, that it is the volunteer effort of many people who have made this tenure so successful. BSOP is a successful organization because so many folks eagerly take on the various tasks and see that the many facets of BSOP are fulfilled and complete.

I have been fortunate to have these folks taking on the numerous tasks that have made the job of President easy. The list of names involved in the many activities is long and I am sure that I will leave someone off here. Please forgive me if I miss you, when you know that you contributed significantly to the various events of the past two years. Our organizational structure is made up of committees with Committee Chairs who report to a Board of Directors. The various committees function with a Chair person, and usually several committee members. Following is the committees and the key individuals who have given their time, talents, and efforts to make this such a great organization.

The Library is one of the benefits of membership that many individuals in the club use. Barbara Devitt has been the Librarian, with the assistance of Jan Hettick and Karen VunKannon. Thanks need to be extended to these folks for the well organized and complete library that is available for the membership at our meetings and other events. Their attention to details has made this a valuable asset for the club.

Most months of the year there is a weekend event at which basic bonsai skills are taught to new, and experienced members. This is another valuable club asset. It has been well organized, and we are fortunate to have Scott Tice in the leadership role. I know that Steve and Deb Wilcox and Lee Cheatle have contributed significantly to the success of this endeavor. Thanks to all of you. Many members have taken advantage of this feature to learn and refine their bonsai skills.

The Heritage Committee is a rather new feature of BSOP, with the role of establishing a way we can take care of our precious collections during times of distress. With the capable leadership of Bob Laws this committee, with assistance of Joanne Raiton and others was established. Several members have agreed to participate and help take care of other member's Bonsai collections when illness, death, or other affliction should occur. I offer my thanks to each of you who worked diligently to create a format for this necessary task. You made up a contract with which participating members can join in and participate. You have assisted members in dispersing their collections when it is necessary.

Shows are one of the ways we reach out to the greater Portland community. With the able leadership of Scott Elser, and the help of folks like Joanne Raiton, Jan Hettick, Dennis Vojtilla, Alan Taft, Arlene Sigourney, Pat Foldi, Pat Frey, and numerous others we have had several outstanding shows at the Portland Japanese Gardens. Jan and Scott have contributed significantly in negotiating our relationship with the Japanese Garden Society of Portland. Our shows are always outstanding, and a treat for all who attend.

The Treeline is our printed newsletter that is published monthly, with Peter Pelofske doing an admirable job as Editor. We are proud of our newsletter, and members from other clubs have commented on the superior quality of our newsletter. Also I offer thanks to Margie Kinoshita who puts the newsletter on-line to the membership. Margie also sends out the e-mail blasts of pertinent information for the club membership, between issues of the newsletter. Arlene Sigourney manages the calendar, which can be accessed in the Treeline, and also on the club website. Thank you, Peter, Margie, and Arlene.

Chas Martin has recently developed a new website format for the club. It is an outstanding tool for the membership of the club. The new website is dynamic and a real benefit for members as well a way to entice new members by those who visit the site. Thank you Chas. Also, I offer my thanks to Craig Frank for the work he did to manage the old site.

We have a sub-club in BSOP known as Oregon Shohin Kai, with a focus on small bonsai. This group meets monthly and discusses and works together on this aspect of our passion. Ann Spencer and Jan Hettick are the principle leaders of this group. Barbara Devitt provides the space for the group to meet. Thanks to all of you. We have enjoyed your special shows at the occasional club meeting, and in the shows at the Japanese Gardens of Portland.

We currently have a group of volunteers who have taken on the task of organizing a convention for the PNBCA in 2012. This committee is very large and made up of numerous volunteers. This is a monumental task, and I know that under the capable leadership of Jan Hettick it will be very successful. Thank you Jan, and all of your committee members for this endeavor. We look forward to another outstanding convention.

At our monthly meetings we have refreshments served, thanks to our Hospitality Committee, headed up by Dorothea Lee. Assisting her are Charlene and Dennis Vojtilla who have provided special treats each month. Thanks to each and all of you, and others who also have brought treats to the meetings.

Jan Hettick led the nominations committee this past year and came up with a good slate of officers for the next two years. Thank you Jan, and your committee members who assisted you.

Another committee that has operated quietly behind the scenes is the Audit Committee, with Keith Wingfield, Arlene Sigourney, and Ann Spencer, which reviews the Treasurer's reports. The Treasurer's Advisory Committee advises the Treasurer for improved practices, and helps to establish a budget. Ron Cascisa has recently joined this committee.

We have had several special social events. During the summer breaks we have had an annual picnic at Creston Park in Portland. Patricia and Brian Daniels agreed to organize the potluck and other features of the summer picnics. Scott Tice participated as Chief Cook at BBQ Grills. Thanks to each of you and others who made the picnics a fun time for all. Also thanks to Dave and Donna Burnett for the Bonsai related games.

Another social event each December has been the annual Holiday Party at Oaks Park. Rory Zabel, our 1st Vice President organized the events, with the able assistance of Jan Hettick, Brian Daniels or Robert Wofford, Joanne Raiton, Pat Foldi, Lee Cheadle, and many others. Both Holiday Parties during the past two years have been well attended and were fun for all involved. The auctions were successful too. Thanks to everyone who participated, either year.

We have had many outstanding monthly programs during the past two years. I must recognize our 1st VP, who organized the programs, set up the rooms with the church where we meet, and kept us well entertained. Thank you, Rory for doing an outstanding job. We have had a wonderful assortment of programs. The growth and retention of membership is testimony to the high quality of the programs that have been offered.

Margie Kinoshita, our 2nd VP has kept the membership rolls up to date, sent out the annual renewals, and is that friendly face that greets us at the front door each month at our general meetings. Margie has been instrumental in many aspects of club activities. Thank you Margie for doing such a fine job. Also a note of thanks is given to Pay Frey who often assists Margie at the greeter's desk.

Brian Daniels and Robert Wofford have served as Treasurers during the past two years. Beside setting the budget, keeping the books, writing the checks, and making monthly reports, they have dealt with the credit card machine problems and found solutions. They have also managed our savings and checking accounts for us, keeping the club in the black. Thank you Brian, and Robert.

Patricia Daniels and Karen Vun Kannon have served as Secretary to the Board, keeping and reporting the minutes. Thank you each for the fine jobs you have done.

I know there are many individuals who have voluntarily served on various committees or taken on special tasks that I have not mentioned here. The folks who set up chairs and tables before the meetings, and those who sweep the floors, and clean the tables after the meetings, I thank each of you too. We are very fortunate that there are so many individuals who help out whenever there is work to be done. I also thank those talented individuals who willingly offer and share their bonsai skills, and assist other members.

There is one individual without whose assistance I could not have functioned as President. Our immediate Past President, Jan Hettick, has made my job simple. BSOP has benefited immensely from Jan's attention to detail and dedication to the ongoing success of the club. Thank you Jan for all you do for BSOP.

My job as President has been easy because of all these fine individuals who have taken on the many tasks. I am sure that the new Board will continue to function well. Congratulations to you, the membership of BSOP for electing such a fine group of people to serve you and offer their dedicated service. The Committees will continue to function well too because of the many individuals that also volunteer to serve.

Thank you BSOP for giving me the opportunity to serve and be part of such a great organization.

Best regards,

Don

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHTS

As a little girl, I remember hearing a song called "Stars Fell on Alabama." Recently, a pair of bright stars soared high above the Portland area. International Bonsai Magazine has highlighted the talents of BSOP's own Scott Elser and Dennis Vojtilla. Scott's Ponderosa Pine won the Meco Bonsai Kiku Tool Award as "Finest Evergreen Bonsai" in the 2nd U.S. National Bonsai Exhibition in Rochester, New York, in June 2010. Dennis's European White Birch was given a full-page portrait right beside the masterpieces of Kunio Kobayashi—quite a compliment.

Be sure to admire these beautiful trees in International Bonsai 2010 No. 3.

Karen VunKannon

Study Group Opening

The Joe Harris III study group is looking for a few new members. We meet on the fourth Sunday of the month in Boring, Oregon from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm. The cost is \$55.00 per session. Please contact Bob Laws or Alan Taft if interested.

Holiday Party 2010

The following two pages contain photographs taken at the Holiday Party.

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November Headliner

BSOP was fortunate to have Marco Invernizzi present at a regular club meeting on November 29 after Marco's workshop the previous day. The room was packed as members fit chairs into every space.

Marco styled a juniper collected by Randy Knight. He discussed styling with the audience before beginning. Styling options offered by the audience were considered and we learned the pluses and minuses of different possibilities. The juniper styled by Marco was auctioned at this year's Christmas party.



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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

President: Don Howse 503 668-5834 don@porterhowse.com
President emeritus: Jan Hettick 503 504-7760 janhettick@comcast.net
VP-Programs: Rory Zabel 503 690-4332 rzabel@standard.com
VP-Membership: Margie Kinoshita 503 652-1959
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: Scott Tice 503 781-0310 scottice@mac.com
Shohin Kai: Arlene Sigourney 503 667-0148 asigourney@aol.com
Newsletter: Peter Pelofske 503 704-3891 pelofskepj@juno.com
Webmaster: Chas Martin 503 459-1009
Chas.Martin@innovativeeye.com

Club Email: Arlene Sigourney 503 667-0148 asigourney@aol.com
Heritage Group: Bob Laws 360-574-0166 rklaws@comcast.net