

Bonsai Times

Bonsai Society of the Lehigh Valley

B S L V

P.O. Box 1684, Bethlehem, PA 18016

February, 2012

"There is nothing that can be done without the patient collaboration of time."

- Edgar Degas

Message From the President

Welcome returning and new members! First, I'd like to thank Dave Tetterer and Jack Kane for their service as president and vice president, respectively. They will still be serving on the board in other capacities.

Most of you know me as the ubiquitous presence at meetings and the person to blame for the programing. Well, I'll still be that... but now I'm your "Fearless Leader" again...for the 3rd time! My mission is to get you involved! If you're serious about bonsai and want our club to prosper and evolve, then consider volunteering to be on the board or pitch in to help with an upcoming event.

This Spring Semester we will continue to feature bonsai but will also explore auxiliary art forms. Last fall we investigated native plants for kusamano and this month we will learn more about suiseki from a respected European expert.

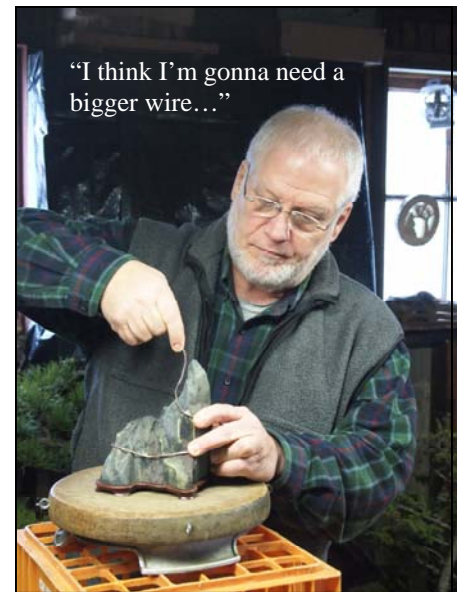
We experienced the bulk of our winter in October but more is likely to come our way. Why not spend some time preparing? Gather books and periodicals on techniques or on a particular species. Check the bonsai hardware: clean and sharpen tools, stock up on wire and soil.

What else can you do now? Well, keep a constant eye on your trees' moisture levels, especially with this mild winter. Desiccation is deadly! If it's frozen—DON'T WATER! If it's unfrozen and moist—DON'T WATER! If it's unfrozen and dry—WATER!

Most heavy pruning can be done now before sap begins to flow. If you wire your deciduous trees now, you won't have to deal with nuisance leaves. WIRE LOOSELY though, or you'll be removing it before May! This is all prep for your "assembly line" repotting.

A final soapbox: When eyeing up potential bonsai material, remember, YOU GET WHAT YOU START WITH! A bad sentence but a true sentence! Bargain material is good for novice beginners or for learning/experimenting. But if your goal is to have a few, QUALITY bonsai, then save up for some better starting material.

Enjoy Linda K.'s newsletter efforts and the Spring Semester.



Jim Gillespie

Jim G.

BSLV SPRING SEMESTER

All meetings are held at the Bethlehem Area Vocational-Technical School at 7:30 pm unless otherwise noted. In case of inclement weather, please call Roger Krauss @ 610 867-5797 or Jack Kane @ 610 691-2161

Note: No smoking anywhere on BAVTS campus!

February 21 (Tuesday) Chiara Padrini, Italy Continuation of our intro into one of bonsai's closest relatives, suiseki (viewing stones.) World-reknown suiseki artist, Chiara Padrini will present a program and, if time permits, she will comment on members' stones (members with an interest in stones may bring along 1 or 2 for possible evaluation)

Chiara Padrini Bio



Chiara Padrini became interested in bonsai in 1988 and suiseki in 1990. She was the first Italian on the Board of Directors of the European Bonsai Association and was treasurer for 4 years. She has organized and participated in numerous national and international exhibits including the first European Congress in 1990. Chiara was president of the National College of Bonsai and Suiseki Instructors. She received many awards for her writing and photography, as well as for her bonsai and viewing stones. She founded the first Italian suiseki school, "Suiseki & C" whose classes are attended by students from all over the world. www.padrini.it

*We will hold the raffle drawing for MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies Festival Saturday registration! Ticket sales began at the January dinner and will again be available for \$5/ticket. Value: \$120.

March 27 (Tuesday) BYO Workshop with emphasis on potting. There will be a discussion/demo on forest/group and stone plantings. Come early (6:30pm) if you want to get a head start or if you want some personal help from our more experienced members. Bring all necessary materials: tree, pots, tools, wire and soil.



BSLV SPRING SEMESTER, CONTINUED

April 20-22
MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies 29th Spring Festival 2012
featuring
Isao Omachi (Japan)
John Thompson (California)
Chase Rosade (Pennsylvania)

Location: Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey
604 Station Road
Grantville, PA 17028
Phone: 717 469-0661

Only 75 minutes from the Lehigh Valley!!!!

www.midatlanticbonsai.freeservers.com

forms are on the way!

April 25 (Wed) or 26 (Thurs) (date to be determined—watch for email or phone call) **John Thompson, California, MABS speaker**



John Thompson Bio

John Thompson is a bonsai enthusiast, lecturer, demonstrator and artist who lives in San Jose. He writes a monthly care column for bonsai clubs in the Bay Area and has written articles for ABS and other publications. John likes to emphasize a tree's unique characteristics—even flaws—when designing. He focuses on transplanting, wound healing, grafting and effective wiring. Though very able with a wide variety of species, John is passionate about oaks, Sierra junipers, boxwoods, pines and other collected trees. He prefers to interact with his trees on a daily basis. He has been heavily influenced by John Naka, Kathy Shaner, Harunobu Tokita and Boon Manakitivipart.

May 5 (Saturday) * NEW*: Combo with PBS Bus Trip to Potomac Bonsai Association Festival at the US National Arboretum in Washington, DC. (see attached flyer) Minimum of 30 required in combo. Transportation is by tour coach (with rest room) Spouses and/or guests are welcome! To reserve a seat, please send CHECKS payable to PBS (signify that you are a BSLV member) to:

Linda Brant
 104 Henry Dr.
 Royersford, PA 19468

Deadline: March 30

May 19-20 (Sat-Sun): Club Exhibit at Herbein’s Garden Center in Emmaus

The venue worked well last year so we will repeat the event only earlier in the season for better traffic. Set-up will be on Friday afternoon. Like last year, Jack Kane will coordinate trees and sitters. Details will be forthcoming. All members should participate. We need approximately 30 trees, so please start thinking about which trees you would like to show. Trees must be in a bonsai container (pot, stone or slab.)

June 30 (Saturday) tentative: Picnic/Auction at the Kondikoff Farm... more info later in the spring.



A flaming Trident Maple in front of the “Wall of Thousands” at the National Arboretum in Washington, DC. Look closely at the top-middle of the wall and see the engraved “Bonsai Society of the Lehigh Valley.” In the second row you can see the name of former BSLV members Robert and Marguerite Braxmeyer!

BSLV BOARD

- President:** Jim Gillespie
- Vice President:** Paul Landis
- Secretary/ Treasurer:** Bob Ruhe
- Program/Education:** Jim Gillespie
- Newsletter:** Linda Kondikoff
- Director:** Jack Kane
- Director:** Greg Krause
- Director:** Roger Krauss
- Director:** Jim Heacock
- Past President:** Dave Tettermer



"I just dropped by to see if Linda K. needed any help pruning her bonsai"




"Experience Art in Nature"

Jim Gillespie
 3183 Pine Rd.
 Danielsville, PA 18038

(610) 837-6688
jagill@verizon.net

BSLV DUES

\$40.00/ individual
 \$45.00/ family
(still a bargain!)



Benefits include:

- Educational Programs & Workshops
- International Speakers
- Newsletters
- BSLV Website
- 10% Discount on Sho-Fu-En Merchandise
- Auction/Picnic
- Annual Banquet
- Advice from seasoned members
- Bus Trips/Tours

BONSAI-RELATED EVENTS

.....compiled by Jim Gillespie

Contact Jim at 610-837-6688 or
jagill@verizon.net for more information



Jim inspecting a styled tree at MidAtlantic

February 3-5 California Shohin Society Seminar 2012, California de Oro Hotel, Santa Nella, CA, registration, www.calshohin.org

February 3-10 86th Kokofu Bonsai-Ten NBA-Nippon Bonsai Association National Exhibition, Tokyo Metropolitan Industrial Trade Center, Asakura, Japan \$\$\$

February 25-26 GSBF Bonsai-a-Thon XVI, Huntington Library & Botanical Gardens, San Marino, CA *free*

February 25-26 GSBF Bonsai Garden at Lake Merritt: Mammoth Fundraiser 2012, Lakeside Garden Center, Oakland, CA *free*

March 2-4 Lehigh Valley Flower and Garden Show, Ag Hall, Allentown, *admission*

March 4-11 2012 Philadelphia International Flower Show, PA Convention Center, Philadelphia, PA, "Hawaii: Islands of Aloha" with PBS Exhibit and Rosade Bonsai Studio Exhibit, *admission* www.theflowershow.com

April 11-15 California Bonsai Society 55th Anniversary Convention, Crown Plaza Anaheim Resort, Garden Grove, CA *registration*

April 20-22 29th MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies Spring Festival, Holiday Inn Harrisburg-Hershey, Grantville, PA, lecture/demos, critiques, workshops, vendors, 2 exhibits, dinner/auction *registration* www.midatlanticbonsai.freeservers.com

May 4-6 Potomac Bonsai Association Festival, National Arboretum, Washington, DC. *free*
www.usnagov/education/events

May 12 39th Nature's Way Spring Open House with Mauro Stemberger (Italy) and Yamil Collazzo (Puerto Rico), Linglestown, PA *free* www.natureswaybonsai.com

BONSAI-RELATED EVENTS, CONTINUED

May 13-25 Walking Tour of Kyoto, Japan, sponsored by Sukiya Living Magazine (JOJG) \$\$\$
www.rothteien.com

June 2-3 Brandywine Bonsai Society Exhibit @ Brandywine River Museum, Chadds Ford, PA *admission* www.brandywinebonsai.comcast.net

June 3 Great Swamp Bonsai Society Annual Exhibit @ Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown, NJ 10am-3pm, Sho Fu En Bonsai vendor *free*

June 9-10 3rd US National Bonsai Exhibition, Fair & Expo Center, Rochester, NY *admission*
www.wnv@internationalbonsai.com

June 16-17 Wildwood Gardens Bonsai Weekend, Cardon, OH www.wildwoodgardens.com

June 21-24 ABS/BCI Convention “Visions of the American West,” Denver Marriott Tech Center, Denver, CO *registration*

www.bonsai-bci.com

www.absbonsai.org

www.bonsai2012.org (Rocky Mountain Bonsai Site)

17-20 Pre-convention tour

24 River rafting trip

August 17-19 Mid-west Bonsai Show, Chicago Botanical Gardens, Glenn Cook, IL
www.midwestbonsai.org/august-show

September 14-16 Pacific Northwest Bonsai Clubs Association Conference “Imagine and Create,” Vancouver, WA *registration* www.portlandbonsai.org/bonsai-conference

**BONSAI SOCIETY
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY
c/o Linda Kondikoff
2135 E. Scenic Drive
Bath, PA 18014**

Bonsai Times

Art Inspired by Bonsai



“Peach Dream” Origami Bonsai Sculpture by
Ben Coleman www.etsy.com



Hand thrown ceramic bowl with attached cut-out by
Bonnie Belt
www.silverbonsai.com