

Bonsai Times

Bonsai Society of the Lehigh Valley

B S L V

August, 2006

"Nature, to be commanded, must be obeyed."
-- Francis Bacon



Marco Invernizzi Lecture/Demo



Italian native Marco Invernizzi swept through the area on April 27 during his extended tour of the US and spoke at a joint meeting of BSLV and PBS. He discussed bonsai trends of the last century and compared and contrasted some European and American approaches to bonsai design. He kept us all engaged with his continental charm and good humor. On creating jin, Marco advises to "be aggressive, as nature is unmerciful." Below see the dramatic jin which is the focal point in his styled tree. See his "Wiring Rules" on page 6.



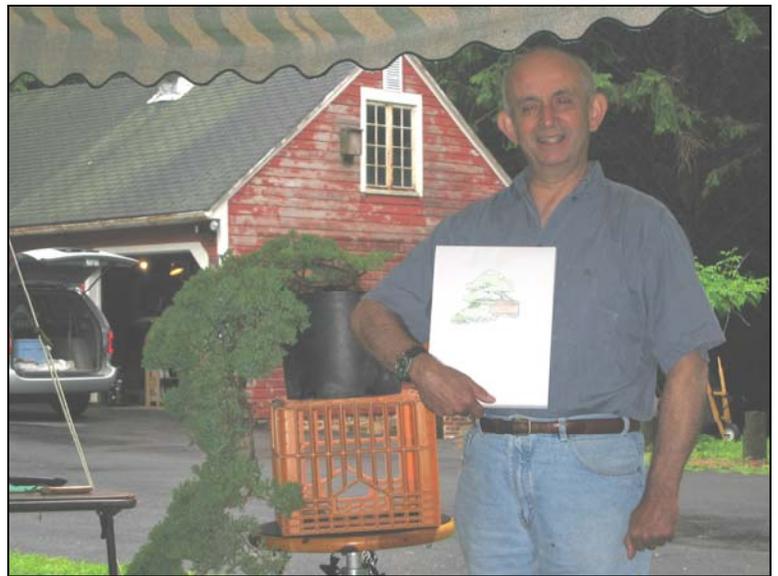
Message from the President

Isn't fall a beautiful time of year? In September, as the weather begins to cool, deciduous trees and larches begin to show their fall colors - one last display before winter sets in. Don't forget to check any wiring that you may have done earlier in the year. If it looks like it is cutting into the bark of the trees, it should be removed and, if necessary replaced. September and October is also a good time to get ready for overwintering your trees. Check them for fungus or bugs and have everything ready for November. It gets here fast. I hope to see you at the meeting.

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Peter Adams at the Annual BSLV Picnic/Auction



(Left) Peter Adams works on a *procumbens nana juniper* for 25 BSLV members who gathered at the Kondikoff farm for the picnic auction on June 24. (Right) Peter poses with one of three sketches to help us envision different styling possibilities.



"Experience Art in Nature"

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The first thing Peter Adams does when he confronts a bon-sai-to-be is to "get an impression" which sets the mood for his styling. He chose a radical design for demo juniper based on one of his beautiful drawings. To help us see where he was going with the tree, he used lots of poetic descriptors, likening the dominating bulky green mass of foliage to "a hunched sumo amidst the silver trails" of the long cascading branches he planned on jinning. As he worked, Peter shared many aesthetic notions such as the importance of toning down fresh jins with coffee grounds and lamp black. We even learned from him how to throw around the archaic Scottish word, "hoar" (mist that comes from the sea) to impress others in social situations. He fielded lots of questions, including the especially probing ones from "The Terrier" (Jim Gillespie) with indulgence! Noreen Enot was the lucky member who won the raffle for this interestingly-styled tree!!!!

Sincere Thanks.....

We who participated and enjoyed the action and excitement of the "bidding wars" at the auction are all thankful for the upbeat auctioneering of Jim Gillespie! Thanks also

to our cashiers, Linda Brant and Joe Sauer, who had to keep focused on finances the whole afternoon. We got to relax in our chairs because Dave Tettermer and Jim Brant spent hours fetching and delivering auction items to us! Mike Fulmer, despite a dead battery, still managed to arrive with the much-anticipated food and cooked it with great panache. We certainly appreciated (*continued next page*)

all the desserts contributed by members. And where would we be on such a rainy day without the foresight of our “tent crew,” Roger Krauss, Jim and Alice Gillespie? Thanks guys! And thank you to my husband Jim, who helps me get the yard in shape and is an amiable host to boot! Personally, I always enjoy the esprit de corps demonstrated by all of our members who attend the annual picnic!

BSLV 2006 Fall 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 Joe Sauer @ 610 262-9796 or Roger Krauss @ 610 867-5797.

Note: No smoking anywhere on BAVTS campus!

September 14 (Thursday)—David Easterbrook Lecture/Demo on weeping style bonsai using slides and a demo on a dwarf Japanese willow (*salix babylonica*, ‘Rokkakudo’) to be raffled.

David Easterbrook Bio

David has been curator of the Montreal Botanical Garden's bonsai collection since 1982. Among the most prestigious collections in North America, it includes 30 masterpiece bonsai donated by the Nippon Bonsai Association, 40 dwarf potted trees from the collection of Hong Kong banker Dr. Wu Yee-Sun, over 300 penjing donated by the People's Republic of China, new specimens of Vietnamese bonsai and a North American bonsai collection featuring outstanding mature bonsai created by North American experts. David began growing bonsai in 1970 and is owner of a bonsai nursery. He studied bonsai in Japan in 1981 and teaches regular bonsai classes as well as being a well-known lecturer and demonstrator in northeastern US and Canada and also France. He served as president of the Montreal Bonsai Society in 1982 and 1983 and was chairman of the American Bonsai Society convention which was held in Montreal in July 1988. He has also authored two books on bonsai and bonsai care and techniques.

October 24 (Tuesday)—Design by Committee, small groups decide on how to style provided material which will then be raffled.

November 21 (Tuesday)—Power Point Presentation on Over-Wintering by Jim Brant with Andy Walsh tie-in.

January 23, 2007 (Tentative)—BSLV Annual Banquet at Ichiban Restaurant

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

Sept. 8-9—Wildlands Conservancy Fall Native Plant Sale, Pool Wildlife Sanctuary, Emmaus, 9 am-6pm.

Sept. 8-10—International Bonsai Symposium 2006, “Blossoming Bonsai,” Rochester, NY. *Registration/ no subscription required, fee: \$130. for 1st-timers.*

Sept. 2-24—National Bonsai & Penjing Museum Chinese Stone Exhibit, National Arboretum, Washington, DC.

Sept. 15-17—Pacific NW Bonsai Clubs Association 17th Convention, Sea Tac, WA. *Registration.*

Sept. 15-17—7th Crespi Cup, Parabiago, Italy.

***Sept. 16-17**—PA Bonsai Society Exhibit & Critique Tour, Shofuso Japanese Tea House, Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, 11am-5pm. *Admission, vendor.*

Sept 16-17—Bergen Bonsai Society/George LeBolt Bonsai Bus Tour of New England. *Bonsai nursery tours, hotel, meals, fee.*

Sept 22-23—Brussels’s Bonsai Nursery Open House, Olive Branch, MS.

Sept. 23-24—Brandywine Bonsai Society Weekend with Boon Manakitivipart **HAS BEEN CANCELLED!**

Sept. 23-25—African Bonsai Convention, South Africa.

***Sept. 28-Oct. 1**—International Stone Appreciation Symposium, Hershey, PA. *Registration.*

Sept. 30—PA Horticultural Society, “Japanese Gardening: Basic Design Principles,” Shofuso Japanese House & Garden, Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, 10am-12 noon. *Fee.*

Sept. 30-Oct 1—National Bonsai & Penjing Museum Ikebana 50th Anniversary Exhibit, National Arboretum, Washington, DC.

BONSAI-RELATED EVENTS, CONTINUED

***Oct. 6 & 7**—Rosade Bonsai Studio Open House, New Hope, PA, 11am-5pm.

Oct. 10—WBFF World Bonsai Contest 2006. *Entry Deadline.*

Oct. 14-15—North Carolina Arboretum Bonsai Exhibit, Asheville, NC.

Oct. 20-22—10th Anniversary of IBS, Rivalta, Italy.

***Oct. 21**—Nature's Way Nursery Open House with David Prescott (UK), Harrisburg, PA, 9am-6pm.

Nov. 2-5—Golden State Bonsai Federation XXIX Convention "Bonsai by the River," Sacramento, CA. *Registration.*

Nov. 18-25—International Bonsai Japan Tour, Taikan-Ten in Kyoto with Tokyo Extension 25-28. \$\$\$

***Dec. 2**—Rosade Bonsai Studio Holiday Celebration, New Hope, PA. 10am-4pm.

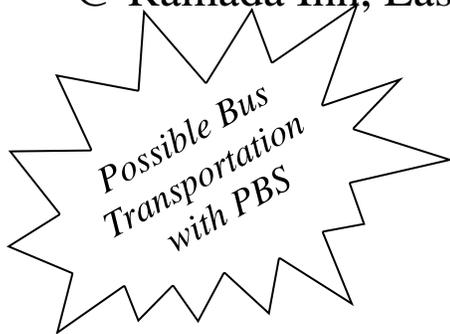
**events of local interest*

PLAN AHEAD FOR FUTURE EVENTS

This is it!!!!!! Mark Your Calendars for

April 20-22, 2007

MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies Spring Festival
@ Ramada Inn, East Hanover, NJ *Registration*



*Speakers: Robert Steven (Indonesia)
Guy Guidry (LA)
Ted Matson (CA)*

June 15-17—American Bonsai Society Learning Seminars, Virginia Beach, VA. *Registration.*

For more information contact Jim Gillespie

Bonsai Wiring Rules – Marco Invernizzi – 4/27/2006

1. Size of the wire is 1/3 the size of the branch for copper wire. Aluminum wire is slightly larger.
2. Apply wire at a 45 degree angle to the branch. 50 degrees is better.
3. Spiral gap between wire loops should be equal.
4. Spiral should be closer to the way the branch bends. Never leave gaps between wire and branch.
5. Change the thickness of the wire as the branch thickness changes.
6. Wire heaviest wire first to the thinnest wire.
7. Wire 2 branches with one piece of wire, not far apart or too close.
8. End of the wire always faces backward and upward. End of the wire faces upward to support the tip (bud) of the branch.
9. Positioning of your hands and body is fundamental to wiring because it is important to achieve the 45 degree angle of wire placement.
10. Hold branches underneath when wiring.
11. Hold wire from the end to keep wiring hand free of the tree and not to disturb buds. Hand tension holds the branch bottom while the other hand holds the wire.
12. The left hand is stiff while the right hands are loose when wiring (Right handed people).
13. Never move both hands at the same time. Move inside to outside when wiring.
14. Over wire thick branches and under wire thin branches.
15. Wire on the outside of the branch where pressure is to be applied.
16. Always support the weakest part of the branch when bending.
17. Wire from the thickest branch to the thinnest branch.
18. Wire from the bottom of the tree to the top of the tree.
19. Start wiring from the inside to the outside of the branch.

Invernizzi Wiring Rules, continued

20. Always bend the branch first, not the wire.
21. Wire the branch to bend it in the direction of your intended movement, i.e. wire on top to bend the branch downward, wire on the bottom to bend the branch upward, wire the back to bend the branch forward, and wire the front to bend the branch backward.
22. Wiring at the branch junction is very important.
23. Crossing wires should be avoided. This causes gaps between wire and the branch and it could result in damaging parts of the tree when underneath wires are removed.

Thanks to Joe Sauer and Jim Gillespie for compiling these rules from their notes.



An exquisite tokonoma in the home of Dave and Mary Ann Tetteimer featuring a ponderosa pine and tiger scroll.

**BONSAI SOCIETY
OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY**
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Bonsai Times



Joe Sauer and Jim Gillespie determining branch distribution of a bonsai during a BSLV panel discussion.