

Bonsai Times

Bonsai Society of the Lehigh Valley

B S L V

February 2007

“To return to my own trees, I went among them often, acknowledging their presence with a touch of my hand against their trunks.”

Ruskin Bond



David Easterbrook at BSLV September Meeting



David Easterbrook sizes up the potential of a nursery stock willow he styled at a fall meeting.

“Je vais coucher moins naiseux ce soir,” or, “I went to bed less stupid than I woke up”...this was the case for each of us, I think, after Canadian David Easterbrook’s lecture/demo on willows. He told us to “do the opposite of everything you were trained to do” when styling one: First of all, don’t have an apex! And, after wiring a branch, bend it UP first before bending it downward. He also said that the first branch, instead of starting one-third the way up the tree, should be higher in order to give the illusion of a dramatic “spill” of the cascading branches. David made styling willows seem very doable and we all left there wanting to have at least one willow in our collection. You can’t beat them for quickness of growth and “poetic grace”...they always stand out in a show! On the very first meeting she ever attended, new member Marietta Stanz won the raffle for the beautiful *Salix babylonica* ‘Rokkakudo’ our guest speaker styled for us. Congratulations!

Message from the President

Welcome to the new year everyone. It has been a very strange winter so far. Very warm then very cold. Since the trees are dormant at this time, the most important thing to be concerned about is watering the trees during continued warm spells. We do not want the soil to be saturated, damp is fine. Be careful though, since watering a bonsai that has a frozen root ball could break the pot! It is also a good time to clean old pots and clean and sharpen tools. Be ready - spring re-potting time will be here before you know it!

Dave

BSLV BOARD

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BSLV New Year's Banquet



Thirty-three BSLV members enjoyed a big night out at the Ichiban Steakhouse on January 23. We partied heartily around the sizzling hibachi grill and savored an array of Japanese foods. Door prizes donated by Dave and Mary Ann Tetteimer, Linda and Jim Brant, and Jim Gillespie were happily won by members with the right numbers on their tickets. Thank you to Dave Tetteimer for arranging the get-together and to all who came out of winter hibernation to be there! For more pictures, see pages 3 and 4.



"Experience Art in Nature"

Jim Gillespie
3183 Pine Rd.
Danielsville, PA 18038

(610) 837-6688
jagill@verizon.net

Please Note:

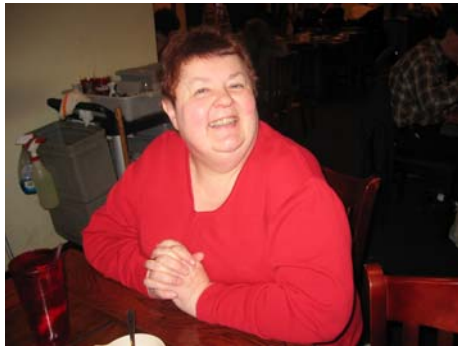
As of April 1, 2007, BSLV dues will be

\$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

BSLV New Year's Banquet



BSLV New Year's Banquet



Our waiter graciously translates Japanese words on a door prize won by John Harper as Crystal DeGre looks on.

迎春

Happy New Year!

Jim Brant's Winter Storage Presentation

Someone finally removed all those nagging doubts we had about how, where and when to overwinter our trees! Jim Brant showed his own-designed Power Point Presentation which laid out, step by step, how to prepare your bonsai trees for dormancy. The program also outlined all the possible storage locations and methods, then explained the advantages/disadvantages of each. Though I missed the meeting when Jim presented the show, I was lucky enough to see the presentation on disk at a later date and was struck with how nicely it was composed and all the information it contained! Loads of great pictures as well. Once a teacher, always a teacher! Thank you from all of us, Jim! Please see page 8 for more of Jim's information on winter storage.

BSLV 2007 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 Joe Sauer @ 610 262-9796 or Roger Krauss @ 610 867-5797

Note: No smoking anywhere on BAVTS campus!

February 27 (Tuesday)—Intro to Suiseki/Viewing Stones by Jim Gillespie and Dave Tettermer with member display and critique. Also: *MidAtlantic Saturday Registration Raffle!!!*

March 27 (Tuesday)—BYO Workshop. Bring your own tree, pot, soil, tools, wire and style, prune and re-pot with the experts.

April 19th (Thursday)—Lecture/Demo by Robert Steven from Jakarta, Indonesia. Material to be raffled.

May 22 (Tuesday)—Robert Mahler Lecture/Demo on Japanese White Pine—material to be raffled.

June 16 (Saturday)—tentative-Picnic/Auction

Robert Steven Bio

Robert has been involved with bonsai since 1979. He currently maintains a bonsai center in Indonesia with over 300 trees. Robert won the Bronze Award at the 2006 BCI Convention, the Runner-Up Award in 2003 at the World Bonsai Contest and the Entry Award in the JAL World Bonsai Contest in 2002. He was also the Runner-Up winner in the 2002 Ben Oki International Design Award. In addition to writing many articles for the BCI magazine, Robert is currently BCI Director. In 2005 he published Visions of my Soul and is currently co-authoring Bonsai Art, the Styles, Appreciation & Technique. Robert was also a presenter at the 5th World Bonsai Convention in Washington, DC.

Robert Mahler Bio

Robert got interested in bonsai in 1985. He studied with Chase Rosade for 4 years and from 1989 to 1993 was an apprentice to Uhaku Sudo in Tochigi-ken outside of Tokyo. From 1995 to 2006, Robert was the Curator of Bonsai at the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens. Currently he is maintaining Doug Paul's "Kennett Collection" in Wilmington, DE.

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

Feb. 24—Ameriseki Meeting, 1:00pm, Brandywine Town Center, Wilmington, DE

March 2-4—Allentown Flower Show, Ag Hall, Allentown, *admission*

March 4-11—Philadelphia Flower Show, PA Convention Center, “Legends of Ireland,” PBS exhibit, Rosade Bonsai Studio exhibit, *admission \$ 22.00 (in advance,) \$28.00*

March 24 & 25—Ameriseki Show at Longwood Gardens, display of viewing stones, 9:00am-5:00 pm, Kennett Square, *admission*

April 20-22—

This is it!!!! Mark Your Calendars for April 20-22, 2007

MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies Spring Festival

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

Ramada Inn,
East Hanover, NJ

May 4-6—Wildlands Conservancy Native Plant Sale, Pool Wildlife Sanctuary, Emmaus, 9:00am-6:00pm (also May 12 & 13, 9:00am-3:00pm)

(events continued next page)

BONSAI-RELATED EVENTS, CONTINUED

May 4-6—Potomac Bonsai Association Exhibit/Festival, National Arboretum, Washington, DC (dedication of Jack Billet bench-Friday)

May 11 & 12—Nature's Way Open House with Suthin Sukosolvisit, Linglestown, PA

May 19 & 20—International Bonsai Arboretum Spring Open House & Sale, W. Henrietta, NY

May 31-June 4—California Bonsai Society 50th Anniversary Convention, Anaheim, CA, *registration*

June 2—Great Swamp Bonsai Society Annual Exhibit at Frelinghuysen Arboretum, Morristown, NJ, 10:00am-3:00pm with Sho Fu En Bonsai vending

June 2 & 3—Brandywine Bonsai Society Annual Show at Brandywine River Museum, Chadds Ford, PA

June 8-10—Bonsai Societies of Florida Convention , Morikami Museum, Del Ray Beach, FL, *registration*

June 21-24—ABS Learning Seminars 2007 "Bonsai on the Beach," Virginia Beach, VA, *registration*, www.absbonsai.org

July 7 & 8—Rosade Bonsai Studio, Visiting Master Series with Min Hsuan Lo (Taiwan,) New Hope, *registration*

July 11-15—BCI-FELAB, Puerto Rico, "Tropical Enchantment," *registration* www.bcifelab2007.com

July 28—Ameriseki Meeting 1:00 pm, Brandywine Town Center, Wilmington, DE

August 10-12—Montreal Bonsai & Penjing Exposition, Lanaudiere, Quebec, Canada

September 6-9—Shohin Bonsai Symposium, Rochester, NY, *registration*

September 15-16—PA Bonsai Society Exhibit at Japanese Tea House, Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, *admission*

September 15-16—6th Ginkgo Bonsai Award, Laarne, Belgium, *admission \$\$\$*

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



Bonsai Times

Bonsai Winter Storage Information Courtesy of Jim Brant

Winter Storage: Major Considerations

- *Protection from wind, sun
- *Constant root temperature
- *Hardiness of species
- *Provisions for air circulation
- *Accessibility
- *Number of trees involved
- *Tree styles
- *Monitoring moisture
- *Protection from animal damage

Basic Location Options for Winter Storage

Indoor Storage (unheated garage, attached porch, unheated basement, sun porch)

Outdoor Storage (bench, cold frame, cold greenhouse, hoop house, in a "pit," heeled-in).

Preparation of Trees For Winter Storage

- *Removal of moss and weeds from soil
- *Removal of moss and weeds from trunk
- *Inspection for insects and/or egg cases
- *Application of fungicide and/or horticultural oil
- *Thorough watering before freeze sets in
- *Consideration of tree hardiness