



BRANDYWINE BONSAI SOCIETY



Annual Billet/Froning/Morris Memorial Meeting on Winter Silhouette

Brandywine Town Center

Saturday, January 28, 2017, 10:00 am

Please note that this is the 4th Saturday rather than our normal 3rd Saturday!

Pre-meeting tree counseling will be available

Since 2007, our January meetings have been dedicated to Jack's memory and we have recently expanded it to memorialize a number of our founding members. Club members are asked to select deciduous trees out of winter storage for display in their winter grandeur. We can discuss the future direction of the tree as it develops.

These programs have been occasions for exchange of knowledge about many species, and about the traditions of display. This has been one of our most popular programs and new members are urged to attend to get a valuable overview not only of the art of bonsai but also the development of deciduous trees when their full ramification can be observed.

The fellowship and learning that are hallmarks of these meetings are much in the spirit of the contributions of Jack, Dorie and Pat. Many of us have fond memories of their unfailing willingness to share their great knowledge of horticulture and styling, as well as their respectful support of our efforts. As we are thinking and planning for the bonsai ahead, keep in mind Jack's admonition if we hesitate to make a big styling or horticultural decision: "If not now, when?" Many times he bolstered spirits and kept members from losing another season to faintheartedness.

Membership

The January meeting would be a good time to fill out the attached membership form and pay our low annual dues. Return the form and your remittance to either Steve Ittel or Greg Kanaskie and relax – you won't have to think about it again for another year! No wondering in late spring if you did or didn't.

It is important that we receive a form from each of you simply as a matter of bookkeeping. Steve Ittel admits membership errors in the past, but they were often due to incomplete or non-existent forms. The deadline for renewing is the end of March. It is important that we know the membership roster by then, and have our finances in order.

Participation in the silent auctions (and there will be some important ones starting in January this year) and the big July picnic/auction requires current membership. Don't be left out!

Directions to the Brandywine Town Center Meeting Hall

The meeting hall is a stand-alone building, removed from the commercial area, with a large glass dome on top.

From Route 202 Southbound: Shortly after crossing into Delaware on Route 202 southbound, turn left onto Naamans Road at the intersection bounded by an Exxon station and the Days Inn. At the second light, turn left into the Brandywine Town Center (You will see a large Target store) and follow the outer parking lot road right to the meeting hall.

From I-95 Northbound and 202 Northbound: Take Exit 8 Concord Pike North. Just beyond Concord Mall at the Days Inn, turn right onto Naamans Road and follow the directions above.

From I-95 Southbound: Take the I-495 and Naamans Road exit just after passing into Delaware. Take Naamans Road westbound. After passing Grubb Road, you will take the next right into Brandywine Town Center. Look for the meeting center described above but you will go left on the circling road. These directions and a

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detailed map are available all the time on the directions page of the new BBS Website.

This Month's Unusual Date

Sorry about the fact that our meeting is a week late this January. When we were signing up for dates for this year, January 21 was already taken by another group. We had the option of renting space elsewhere to maintain the date but instead, opted to keep our usual location but postpone it by a week.

Officers

You might be getting tired of the same old meetings, but that is what comes of using the same old officers for the club. And if no one steps up to be a new officer, you are going to get the old ones again. We would welcome some new blood into the officer corps. Please volunteer to replace one or more of us. Or volunteer for a new position such as "Tour Arranger" or "Program Manager." **Make BBS Great Again!**

Pre-Meeting Tree Counseling

We are continuing our custom of having pre-meeting tree counseling. It has proven to be useful and enjoyable for all involved, so we are continuing the practice in 2012. More experienced club members will be on hand to give advice about growing practices and styling, so don't miss this opportunity. Though this service is directed mostly to new and inexperienced members, old hands might like to bounce ideas about, too. And it is an opportunity for those who have some experience to test their skills or thoughts by commenting before in front of an experienced member. All will certainly learn. This month, it is a warm-up for the main portion of the meeting.

2016 Brandywine Bonsai Schedule

The preliminary schedule for this year's meetings is given below.

January 28: Winter Silhouette, BTC

February 18: Program on Display by David Knittle, BTC

March 18: Workshop, hopefully, club-wide, BTC

April 8: MABS in Cromwell, CT

April 15: BBS Alternative to MABS (Shopping expedition with Charlotte, Rob?)

May 20: Bob Mahler presents latest thinking on juniper, BTC

June ? : Show at Brandywine River Museum

June 17: Picnic/auction at Anson Nixon Park

July 15: Young Choe presents workshop on kusamono, BTC

August 19: Workshop mainly for new/less experienced members Anson Nixon

September 16: TBA, BTC

October 21: Program on standards for BBS bonsai exhibit at Longwood, or,

November 18: TBA

MidAtlantic Bonsai Societies

The annual MABS Spring Festival commences on Friday evening, April 7, 2017 and continues through Sunday afternoon, April 9. Renowned international professional bonsai artists present lecture/demonstrations, workshops, and critiques of bonsai. Registrants have weekend-long opportunities to observe and spend time with the artists at breakout sessions between demonstrations, and to view the MABS member clubs' Bonsai Exhibit.

A wide range of bonsai vendors are on site offering a large selection of bonsai, bonsai-related plants, containers, tools, books and other supplies. Each featured guest artist presents two lecture/demonstrations. Each bonsai creation is raffled following the completion of styling by its respective artist. There are also silent auctions and a very active live auction of donated bonsai materials at the Saturday night banquet.

Details can be found at

<http://midatlanticbonsai.org/guest%20artists.htm>

And it is possible to register online at

<http://midatlanticbonsai.org/digitalreg.htm>

We looking for volunteers to show trees at the display, so it is time to start thinking about whether you have anything that can be in shape to show. There will be further descriptions of the meeting in future newsletters.

Historic Treasurer's Records

In cleaning up my basement, I have come across the treasurer's records for BBS starting on July 26, 1975. I will be making a few comments over the next several newsletters.

The starting balance was \$322.55. Dues were \$10. Jack Billet and Dorie Froning figure prominently as do Fred Knobloch and Dennis Donald. There are many with names that I do not know and others whose names I have heard but never met.

There were several large communal purchase of pots from Keith Valley Nursery (more to come about that). While there were generally around six individuals involved in the various purchases, Dennis Donald always single-handedly accounted for over half the purchase. Thus there is little wonder that Dennis is now in the process of reducing the size of his collection of pots.