

Ron Lang and Sharon Russell on "Bonsai Pottery" November 15, 2014, 10:00am Brandywine Town Center

November Program

Ron Lang and Sharon Russell, noted ceramicists and bonsai experts, will be the featured artists at the November meeting. Both will share their styles of working, and will give a PowerPoint presentation with images of their studio and wood kiln. They will share their design collaborations with artists such as Ryan Neil to create pots for specific trees. Further, they will provide guidelines for bonsai enthusiasts to study their own trees to determine the containers that would best complement their trees.

This program should leave all of us with a great deal to think about over the winter and to plan for when trees start coming out of storage for late winter/early spring work. If you receive the newsletter from the NBF, you will have seen pictures of their award-winning work. They have been regulars at the MABS Spring Festival.

November Business Meeting

The November meeting is when we quickly take care of administrative issues. The first item of consequence is the election of new officers. This process ought to take all of two minutes. We don't seem to have a bunch of people banging down the doors to step into positions as officers in the club. As a result, we have rounded up the usual suspects with a slight shuffle of the deck:

Nancy Klabunde – President Dennis Donald – Vice President Greg Kanaskie – Treasurer Steve Ittel – Newsletter and Webmaster Henri Vermeulen – Representative to the MABS board and Exhibits Chair

We encourage you to vote early and vote often.

We will also discuss programs scheduled for next year as well as take your suggestions for additional programs. Think about this ahead of time and if possible forward thought to Nancy or me. This will be our last meeting of 2014. Have a good winter. We can look forward to January 2015 for our annual Jack Billett Memorial Meeting on Winter Silhouette.

The Longwood Show

Once again the BBS Longwood Gardens Show was a resounding success due to the remarkable cooperation of the presenting members and the outstanding specimens of member trees. Thank all of you who had an exhibit.

A likely 3,000 patrons of the Gardens viewed and took flash drives full of images over the two days.

A special thanks to our demonstration masters Rick Kratz, Steve Ittel and Henri Vermeulen who shared their expertise with the Longwood patrons.

Thank you to the Ameriseki group, especially group leader Dennis Donald, who set a fine standard with their display of viewing stones.

A special thank you to those members who did not have a tree in the show but volunteered to 'tree sit.'

Thank you to Longwood Gardens for continuing our partnership. I'm looking forward to our Brandywine Museum Show in June of 2015.

— Greg

An Historic Recipe: Jack Billet's Fertilizer Cakes

While you have some leisure, and if you aren't too besieged by squirrels, (or even if you are), you may want to give this method of bonsai feeding a try.

7 cups cottonseed meal

3 cups bone meal

1 cup dolomite lime

½ cup sevin dust

2 egg whites, beaten to a meringue

1 and ½ ounces Elmer's Glue

Enough water to make the mixture

moist

Form mixture into small balls or cakes. Let dry completely; store in jars or tins. Depending on the size of your pot surface, place four to six cakes on the soil surface to gradually decay into the soil.

Moments from the Longwood Show







