



David Knittle on Azaelas

Brandywine Town Center

Saturday, February 21, 2015, 10:00 am

Pre-meeting tree counseling will be available with any of the willing members present.

David Knittle became interested in bonsai after being introduced to William Valavanis who had a tremendous influence on his bonsai and work. Bill taught him much about refining and displaying bonsai, leading to building tables, stands, and items used in displaying bonsai, suiseki, and other art objects. Classes and seminars on Keido, the art of display, conducted by Susumu Sudo and Kunio Kobayashi were particularly informative. One of the personal highlights of his business career was partnering with Jim Doyle and Don Gould to create Keystone Arts to jointly market Jim's tools, Don's containers, and David's woodworking.

His interest in bonsai led him to found and operate Tansu Unique Horticulture along with Tansu Woodworking. Based in Erie he developed and imported bonsai and related products. His focus today is working with artists to design and build custom pieces to display their art. It is most important that the display table or stand should enhance and not distract from the object being displayed. He also continues to design and build gallery furniture which, along with bonsai, allows him to keep artistically creative.

His program at Brandywine Bonsai Society will focus on his particular interest in all aspects of azaleas – horticulture, design, and display. We know they are in winter storage, but please take the opportunity to bring in some of your azaleas – they may enhance the discussion.

Dues are Due

If you haven't already, plan to get dues paid soon – this month preferably! The deadline is the end of March at which time the membership roll will be cleaned up. Also, make sure your checks/cash are accompanied by the information sheet so we can maintain accurate records. Please complete the form and return it with a check (made out to Brandywine Bonsai Society) to:

Steve Ittel.
7 Barley Mill Drive
Wilmington, DE 19807

MABS Spring Festival

Spring Festival fliers were distributed electronically before the last meeting. Paper copies were also available during the meeting. If by chance you didn't receive one, or have misplaced the one sent to you, they are available at <http://midatlanticbonsai.org/registration.htm>.

When you register, be sure to specify that you are a member of BBS

East Hanover, NJ is not too far away so plan to get to the whole weekend of events. It is likely that the venue will be moved farther north in coming years. Study the listing of events carefully to plan your time. Of course, the shopping is unbeatable.

Inclement Weather Policy

The weather has not been too bad this year, though there have been some scares. Over the years, we have had a few cancellations due to the weather, but sometimes we get caught in a storm or the heat is just too much. If we are faced with a cancellation, the following procedures will take place.

If you are on the email list for newsletters - you will receive cancellation notice by email.

For the few of you who do not have computer access, a board member will attempt to contact

you by phone. but we would also appreciate other member friends to attempt notification.

If you are in doubt about a meeting taking place, be sure to check before leaving home. As a last resort, call Steve Ittel or his wife at 302-778-4546 or Nancy Klabunde at 610-692-7599.

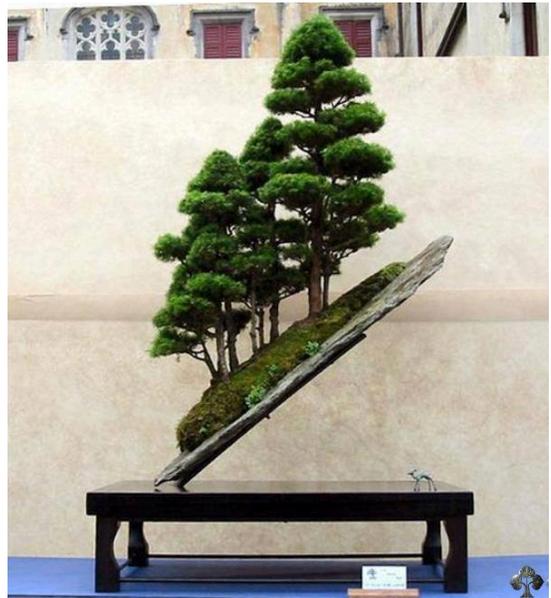
Silent Auction

At most meetings we have silent auctions of trees, books, pots, and other bonsai-related items. Please make your unused tools, books, trees, etc. available to newer members at coming meetings. You should be a paying member to participate.

March Scrolls

Please remember that the March meeting will be Sean Smith reprising his scroll meeting. Please be prepared to bring in your scroll from the last session so that others can see them. Also think about artwork that you might want to include in a scroll – Sean will provide some, but maybe there is something that will be more meaningful to you.

Internet Selections to Make You Think



Tired of plain old pots or slab plantings? Here is a different approach.



Azaleas should be on your mind as we approach the next meeting



Chrysanthemum bonsai – started from seed, fresh every year

