



Steve Ittel and Charlotte Smith on Refining Trees

Brandywine Town Center

Saturday, February 20, 2016, 10:00 am

Pre-meeting tree counseling will be limited because that is what the whole meeting is about

You have a bonsai? From collected or purchased material? Have you worked on it hard in the last year? Or two?

All of us have trees that can use some work, but a lot of times, that work doesn't get done. Here is a convenient list of excuses:

- We don't know what to do next;
- We think thought it is was fine as is;
- We didn't really notice that it needed a hair-cut;
- We are too busy
- Etc.

That is what this meeting is about. Charlotte has put together a handout about styling and refining trees; it will be distributed to all at the meeting. Steve has a short slide presentation with examples of how existing bonsai can be taken to the next level. After the presentation, there will be an open workshop whose purpose will be to plan and then start to accomplish that next level of refinement.

You are welcome to bring multiple trees to the workshop, but you or the instructors will choose one tree to work on for the first round. If time permits, then a second tree might be discussed.

It will help if you come to the meeting with your own ideas about what to do next on the tree, but also come with an open mind about where the design of the tree might go.

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

The annual MABS Spring Festival commences on Friday evening, April 15, and continues through Sunday afternoon, April 17. It will be held at:

Crowne Plaza Cromwell

100 Berlin Road
Cromwell, CT 06416

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. In addition, 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. Spring Festival fliers were distributed electronically

before the last meeting. Paper copies are also available. At present, we have only two people signed up from Brandywine Bonsai Society. If by chance you didn't receive a registration form, or have misplaced the one sent to you, they are available at:

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

Electronic registration is available at:

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

When you register, be sure to specify that you are a member of BBS. Early-bird prices are almost over; they will increase on March 1. If Steve Ittel is efficient, then online prices will also increase on March 1.

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.

Kunio Kobayashi

Kunio Kobayashi returns to MABS to share more of his remarkable bonsai skills. Hideko Metaxas will also return to translate for him. Kobayashi-san has been gathering awards in Japan and the world since the mid-eighties. His many awards have been garnered at Sakufuten (13 awards), Kokufuten (16 prize winners), and Kojuten. He has won the International Art and Culture Award twice. He is highly regarded as a teacher and demonstrator and has traveled widely in the world

Walter Pall

Walter Pall was born in 1944 in Austria. He is married to Hanna, with one son, living near Munich, Germany in sight of the Alps where he grew up. Since 1980, Walter has been busy with bonsai as a hobby. After a career as top manager in the Electronics and Consulting Industry, he finally decided to become a part time bonsai professional in 1999. Today, Walter is one of the most popular bonsai artists who has performed on most international stages. He has visited the vast majority of European countries and also South Africa, Australia, Canada and the United States; he even appeared in Israel and in Argentina and Brazil. He is known worldwide for the quality of his bonsai creations. Walter has received several dozen national and international awards for his beautiful and dramatic bonsai. He has won the most prestigious Crespi Cup Award of Italy for his well-known Rocky Mountain Juniper and has come in among the top six every time he has entered. He has also won second and third and other places in the Gingko Cup Awards of the Belgium bonsai competition held every two years. Walter was one of the first Europeans to work with indigenous species which he collects in his beloved Alpine

mountains. He now owns a collection of about 1000 quality trees in varying stages of development and keeps a store reserve of about 1000 handmade pots to compliment the bonsai. Besides his famous conifers he is also well known for his beautiful deciduous trees. Walter's bonsai usually are strong, powerful trees which he frequently forms in natural shapes. The longer he has been involved with tree development, the more he has moved away from traditional bonsai styling to his own concepts of design. Only those who have actually visited his garden know that he also has an impressive collection of shohin bonsai

Bjorn BJORHOLM

Bjorn BJORHOLM is the owner of Bjorvala Bonsai Studio and former apprentice of contemporary Japanese bonsai master, Keiichi Fujikawa. Bjorn spent nearly six years working at Mr. Fujikawa's nursery, Kouka-en (located in Ikeda City just north of Osaka). In 2015, he became a certified bonsai professional by the Japanese Bonsai Association, having completed his formal apprenticeship. Bjorn's experiences working with Fujikawa-san have necessarily shaped his approach to bonsai and furthered his never ceasing desire to improve the quality of western bonsai art.

BBS Inclement Weather Policy

The weather has not been too bad this year, only one big storm and since it was more than our annual average, there should be no more snow this year. Over the years, we have had a few cancellations due to the weather, but sometimes we get caught in a winter storm or the summer 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. So if there is any question at all, please check your email 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.

Brandywine Bonsai Society BrandywineBonsai@Comcast.net

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